PIONEERS TANGLE WITH WILDCATS

It was a historic night in Lexington’s Rupp Arena on November 2 when the Transylvania men’s basketball team took on the Wildcats of the University of Kentucky for the first time in 100 years. Although outmatched by the nation’s preseason No. 2 Division I team, Transylvania’s disciplined team played impressively in the early going and held 11-4 and 19-17 leads before falling to the talented Wildcats 97-53 in a game that was marked by goodwill from both schools and great community interest. It was a good showing for the Division III Pioneers, whose stated objective was to play hard and help UK improve as the Wildcats begin a season in which they seek an eighth national title. The overall record between the two teams now stands at 8-7 in favor of UK.

To see a photo gallery of the game, visit our new athletics web page at www.transysports.com. For this page, see captions on facing page.
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Esi Kalefe ’15 took an interesting route to Transylvania, leaving her native Togo in Africa with her family in 2006 to move to America and complete high school in Bronx, New York. See story on page 17.

Photo by Joseph Rey Au
Transylvania welcomes four faculty members

Four professors have joined the Transylvania faculty for the 2011-12 academic year.

* * *

**Henry Berlin**, assistant professor of Spanish, earned his B.A. in Spanish language and literature from Earlham College in 2002, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in romance studies from Cornell University in 2009 and 2011, respectively. His research interests include late medieval literature in Spanish, Catalan, and Portuguese, and working on notions of moral philosophy, and theology.

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**Paul M. Duffin**, assistant professor of biology, earned a B.A. in biological chemistry from Grinnell College in 2005 and his Ph.D. in microbiology from Northwestern University in 2011. His research is in molecular microbiology, studying the obligate human pathogen, Neisseria, and gonorrheae.

* * *

**Qian Gao**, assistant professor of Chinese language and culture, most recently taught at the University of Redlands and Oakland University. She earned a B.A. in English language and literature from Northwest University in 1995 and her M.A. in Asian studies and Ph.D. in Chinese language and literature from the University of Oregon in 2003 and 2007, respectively. Her research interests include the study of new romanticization of the Cultural Revolution and language teaching.

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**Ashley Rondini**, assistant professor of sociology, earned her B.A. in sociology from Clark University in 1997, an M.A. in women’s studies from the University of Sussex in 1999, and an M.A. in social policy and Ph.D. in sociology and social policy from Brandeis University in 2006 and 2010, respectively. Rondini’s research interests include race and ethnicity, qualitative research methodology, gender and sexuality, assets, social stratification, and educational mobility, social policy and social justice, and health, identity, and the body.

Renowned opera singer teaches students art of classical singing

**Gregory Turay** has taken his opera talents all over the world, and his latest stop is Transylvania as Kenan visiting artist in music for the 2011-12 academic year.

Turay spent the last 15 years performing at opera houses around the world, including Japan, Poland, Spain, and England. He’s earned numerous accolades, notably the prestigious 2000 Richard Tucker Award, which is presented to an artist who, in the opinion of a conferral panel from the Richard Tucker Music Foundation, is on the threshold of a major international career. He was described by the London Times as “one of the brightest natural talents to have emerged from the U.S. in recent years.”

Turay, a tenor, graduated from the University of Kentucky and is currently teaching at UK part time while working toward a Ph.D. in vocal performance. He comes to Transylvania to teach voice classes and offer workshops for students studying vocal performance. In his short time at Transylvania, he has been pleased with the quality of the music students he’s worked with. “I’ve been quite impressed with the level of the students here,” he said. “They work hard, and they’re really smart. I’ll have students in my 9 a.m. classes show up 15 minutes or even a half hour early. They’re so disciplined—just all-around great kids. Quite a few could have careers in music.”

And Turay knows his fair share about music careers. In 1995, he won the Metropolitan Opera National Council Auditions at 21 years old and then won the 1996 Young Concert Artists International Auditions. That launched his professional career, which saw him perform in productions including Don Giovanni, Così Fan Tutte, Rigoletto, A View from a Bridge, and Street Scene.

His opera background allows him to help students master the classical technique of singing, in which singers lower their larynx for a larger sound that allows them to sing unamplified by a microphone. It is a foundation of opera, but it can also be used in pop music. “There’s the ‘old school,’ where they sing legitimately, and the ‘new school,’ where they sing pop,” Turay said. “Some of our students like the musical theater style, and you can still sing pop with a classical technique, but you can’t sing classically with a pop technique.”

Although he has reduced his number of performances recently due to his study and teaching schedule, Turay continues to perform in Lexington and abroad, including a performance last year in Bordeaux, France, a concert with the Atlanta Symphony in April, and a starring role in the UK Opera Theater production of Romeo and Juliet in October. He plans to do a recital at Transylvania early in winter term with music professor Greg Partain accompanying on piano.

“It’s a real treat being at Transylvania,” he said. “The talent level and the number of students here are great, which is pretty rare at a school like this. But I’ve always maintained there are opera singers everywhere; they just haven’t tapped into it. If the students are hard-working and driven, like ours are, that’s a good recipe.”
Blankenship leaves Transylvania for Lexington Theological Seminary

Mark Blankenship ’81 had many rewarding, sometimes humorous experiences during his 26-year tenure at Transylvania, which came to a close in early November. The associate vice president for development left the university to accept a position as vice president of advancement and external relations at Lexington Theological Seminary.

“One of the first things I learned as a young Transylvania admissions officer was how to get lost on the way to a high school,” Blankenship quipped in recalling his early years with the university. “I did that quite well on a number of occasions. We traveled a lot, and my territory included Kentucky, Virginia, and the Washington, D.C., area.”

That anecdote speaks to the appealing style of one of Transylvania’s much loved and respected graduates and now former staff members. Quick with a smile and a joke, Blankenship has a gregarious and easy-going personality that won many friends for the university over his nearly three decades of association with the school as student and staff member.

As an undergraduate, Blankenship majored in psychology and was president of his fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha. He was involved with the Interfraternity Council and the Student Activities Board, and won election as Mr. Pioneer his senior year.

He was also Peppy Pioneer, a now-defunct tradition that had a student wear a coonskin cap and generate spirit at basketball games.

“I had to borrow a cap from a former Mr. Pioneer, Bob O’Brien (’79), and I dressed in jeans and suspenders to try to look like a pioneer,” Blankenship recalled. “I had a big drum I beat just to annoy the fans.”

After graduation, Blankenship worked in admissions for several years at a Lexington business college and at Berea College. He returned to Transylvania in August 1985 as assistant director of admissions.

When he moved into the alumni office in 1991 as assistant director of programs, Blankenship began working more directly with the late chemistry professor Monroe Moosnick, who had left the science department in 1984 to become director of alumni programs and special assistant to the president. Over a 50-year career at Transylvania, Moosnick became one of Transylvania’s most well known and respected faculty members and administrators.

The working relationship Blankenship enjoyed with Moosnick is one he still draws inspiration from many years after Moosnick’s death in 1995.

“It was the essence of Monroe’s personality to care deeply and sincerely about the individual,” Blankenship said.

“I learned it was a key Transylvania value and a distinguishing characteristic of anyone who’s going to be successful in admissions or advancement.”

Moosnick was also willing to do whatever was required to get the job done, regardless of one’s title.

“Monroe would see something that needed doing that was not directly related to his assigned area, but he knew it would make a difference,” Blankenship said. “That attracted me. It meant you weren’t tied down to just one kind of work. In the alumni and development office, for instance, everyone worked on the annual fund. While in the alumni position, I was given the opportunity to do things more related to development work. It was that variety of activities that was a big reason I stayed at Transylvania all those years.”

The regeneration of regional alumni clubs—now called chapters—is an accomplishment that Blankenship takes great satisfaction in, though he is quick to say it was far from a one-person job.

“It was sad to leave a place that basically was Monroe’s family,” said Kirk Purdom, who came to Transylvania in 2010 as vice president for advancement, relied on Blankenship to help him get oriented to the position and to Transylvania and its traditions.

“Mark was a valuable resource for me in my transition to Transylvania,” Purdom said. “His knowledge and expertise are greatly missed by all of us who worked with him. I am grateful that he remains in Lexington and is willing to continue to share his institutional knowledge. We all wish him the very best in his new role at the seminary.”

Blankenship admits to mixed feelings at leaving Transylvania, where he had spent most of his adult life, met his wife (Kimberly Noss Blankenship ’81), and saw his three children (Kelsey ’07, Stephen ’09, and Julia ’11) educated.

“It was sad to leave a place that basically formed and educated me and my family,” he said. “But I feel good about where Transylvania is at this point, and I’m looking forward to the next chapter in my life. I will certainly continue to support the university in any way I can. I’d like to think in some small way that this is another Transylvania success story. Or as some of my fraternity brothers would say, ‘Mark’s finally graduating after 26 years.’”

“I’d like to think in some small way that this is another Transylvania success story. Or as some of my fraternity brothers would say, ‘Mark’s finally graduating after 26 years.’”

Mark Blankenship ’81 visits with Emrised Cole and Wandaleen Poynter Cole ’67 during an Alumni Weekend 2007 event.

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Senior music major Caleb Ritchie scored the short film Waterbody, which was based on a poem by Bianca Spriggs ’03. Waterbody was screened as part of a larger concert at the Lexington Downtown Arts Center, in which Ritchie and other artists performed.

Caleb Ritchie performs an original arrangement at a student showcase in April.

Transylvania will launch an ambitious three-week academic and cocurricular program designed to introduce first-year students to what a liberal education means when it debuts August term as part of the 2012-13 school year.

Students in August term will take only one course, an intensive seminar titled First Engagements: Enculturation into a Scholarly Community, that will focus on a theme selected by a faculty committee each year. Each section of the course, numbering about 16 students, will look at common texts, which will be supplemented by material from each professor’s discipline. Besides course content, the emphasis will be on learning how to be a critical reader and thinker, which are seen as core skills in a liberal education.

“The course is designed to model Transylvania’s commitment to its liberal education mission,” said William F. Pollard, vice president and dean of the college. “Students will have three weeks set aside for them to take on the challenge of a college seminar, build academic skills and confidence, and get to know faculty and one another as members of a new first-year class. It will help them define their role as active participants in the intellectual life of the college.”

August term will allow all first-year students to learn what is expected of them as scholars before they take on the full course load of the regular fall term, and before they plunge into the social life of the larger university community.

“Before everything starts up with fall term, we want the first-year students to have this pure moment to themselves and to cut their teeth, so to speak, on some broad questions that impinge on what it means to be a human being,” said classics professor John Svarlien, faculty director for the August term project. “We want them to learn how to take creative and intellectual risks.

“This course will allow them to discover a different relationship to knowledge from their high school days, where they mostly absorbed information and gave it back in papers and on tests. Through critical reading, they will learn how to have a dialogue with the text, and then expand that into a dialogue in the class with their fellow students and professors. They will learn how to ask the large questions that are at the center of a liberal education.”

The First Engagements course is the central element of Transylvania’s Quality Enhancement Plan that was submitted to the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools as part of the university’s reaffirmation of accreditation process. SACS members go through this exercise every 10 years.

Michael Covert, associate dean of students, is administrative director for August term and coordinated development of various cocurricular programs that will be an integral part of the students’ overall experience. The initiative will include traditional orientation events, but also outside-the-classroom academic elements to supplement the First Engagements course. The course itself will meet every day from 9 a.m. to noon, with 1-2:30 p.m. set aside for required cocurricular events.

Options will be offered for the remainder of the afternoon, which will also allow students-athletes practice time.

“The early afternoon sessions may feature book lectures, a film, or small group discussions,” Covert said. “These elements will be chosen to complement the particular learning theme chosen by the faculty each year for August term. We’ll also use that time for traditional orientation sessions on such topics as alcohol awareness, academic integrity, the Green Dot program for sexual assault awareness, and other topics.”

In an overall sense, Covert said the three weeks in August will be an ideal time for the first-year class to adjust to all of the factors involved in a transition from high school to college life.

“It’s our chance to really work with them and help them learn what’s expected of them at Transylvania, to help them feel comfortable in their role as a Transylvania student and scholar. We want it to be an enriching educational experience, but we also want it to be fun and enjoyable. We need many things going on to develop the total student.”

Entering into that larger Transylvania community also has a very intellectual purpose, Svarlien said.

“A scholar is a public individual,” he said. “For knowledge to be valid, it has to be tested by other people, by other critical opinions. It’s a skill and an attitude that one acquires by doing it, and August term is our way of beginning that process in each student. You can hear the definition of a liberal education, but you can only experience it in face-to-face conversations. You can’t Google a liberal arts education.”
Whiddon scores documentary film on 1930s Appalachia

Writing, rhetoric, and communication professor Scott Whiddon was searching for something unique as he worked on the music to accompany a documentary film on Appalachia. He found his inspiration by going back to the music of the 1930s, the era portrayed in the film, and specifically to what the people of a particular region of Virginia were listening to at the time.

“I wanted to see if there were any recordings of musicians from that area and that period, and there are—a very few,” Whiddon said.

The film, *Rothstein’s First Assignment*, tells of the forced displacement by the Commonwealth of Virginia and the federal government of 500 families living in the mountains of Virginia in an eight-county area that was targeted to become part of Shenandoah National Park. It was directed by photographer, writer, and filmmaker Richard Knox Robinson.

Whiddon used the Digital Library of Appalachia and the Special Collections and Archives of Berea College to locate the recordings of J. W. “Peg” Hatcher, an old-time fiddle music player of the region and era. He also spoke with Hatcher’s daughter, Irene Burnett, who allowed the filmmakers to use her late father’s music.

As he composed original music for the film, Whiddon worked with Duane Lundy, owner of Lexington’s Shangri-La Studios, to create the recording. Whiddon’s own music makes up about 60 percent of the score, with the remainder being archival recordings. His compositions, all instrumental, use piano, guitar, violin, and banjo in various combinations, with Whiddon playing the guitar. Josh Motley ’10 contributed some de-tuned banjo parts.

“I wanted to respect the traditional music, but also do something different,” Whiddon said. “Duane and I gave my music some interesting sound design elements—ghost tones and echo and feedback. The result is music that builds off those traditional Appalachian forms, but is more textural.”

At one point, Whiddon sent Robinson a portion of the recording that he felt very good about, but the director was not satisfied. “He wanted a darker hue, something more jagged,” Whiddon said.

The end result, however, was very pleasing to Robinson.

“The archival piece of music by Peg Hatcher that Scott’s diligent research uncovered set the tone for the film,” Robinson said. “Beautifully recorded, Scott’s piece then meshed perfectly with Hatcher’s recording, providing the bridge I was looking for between past and present.”

The film’s title refers to New Deal photographer Arthur Rothstein, who was sent to the mountains of Virginia in 1935 to photograph the residents of the Appalachian backwoods and hollows before they were displaced for the national park. Robinson retraces Rothstein’s steps by interviewing descendents of the mountain people and weaving those pieces together with a 1964 audio interview with the photographer, archival newsreel footage, and clips from the 1964 documentary *Hollow Folk*.

Robinson uncovers evidence that Rothstein’s images were not always pure documentation—that some were staged for the camera. This creates an aura of propaganda that suggests complicity between Rothstein’s work and the involuntary displacement. The film also digs further into the forced institutionalization and sterilization of mountain people, done in the name of eugenics.

“This is a highly disturbing film,” Whiddon said. “It’s a scary story about a complex moment in our nation’s history. Richard has done a masterful job of telling not only the story of this event, but of how truth is constructed rhetorically.”

The film draws extensively from the writings of Katrina Powell, whose books *Answer at Once*: *Letters of Mountain Families in Shenandoah National Park, 1934–1938* and *The Anguish of Displacement: The Politics of Literacy in the Letters of Mountain Families in Shenandoah National Park* chronicle the stories of the displaced families. Powell was Whiddon’s dissertation director at Louisiana State University and the one who called Whiddon to offer him the film work. She is co-producer with Robinson on the film.

This was Whiddon’s first film score, though he’s been a musician since childhood, has played with several bands over the years, and has been involved in four or five major recordings.

“Working on this project was easily one of the most amazing experiences of my artistic life, my research life, and my intellectual life,” he said.

Scott Whiddon works with junior Bobby Puckett, left, and senior Erin Brock in the Transylvania Writing Center.

Parents giving now contributes to Annual Fund

For the past several years, the Parents Fund has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Transylvania’s J. Douglas Gay Jr./Frances Carrick Thomas Library. Last year, the fund raised a record $104,015, helping secure a $1 million challenge grant as part of a $6.2 million initiative to reinvigorate the library.

This year the Parents Fund has become the Parents Annual Fund and is now part of Transylvania’s overall Annual Fund. Instead of gifts from Transylvania parents and grandparents going only to the library, money raised will go toward improving all facets of campus life.

“The Parents Annual Fund enhances time in the classroom, supports extracurricular activities, provides scholarships, and strengthens the Transylvania experience,” Rikki Starich, major gifts officer, said.

This year’s Parents Annual Fund goal is $105,000, up from $100,000 last year. Parents Council co-presidents Scott and Carmen Jagoe, parents of Lindsey Jagoe ’12, hope to see that number bested again and the relationship between Transylvania and its parents to grow.

“Anything extra that people can give is a huge benefit,” Carmen Jagoe said. “And I would encourage every parent to be involved in any way they can, even to volunteer for an hour.”

For more information about the annual fund, or to make a contribution, visit www.trans.edu/giving or call the development office at (859) 233-8275 or (800) 487-2679.

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Washington teaches students about medical injustices

Author Harriet Washington spoke about medical history and ethics for the fall convocation address September 11 in Haggan Auditorium.

The presentation served as an extension of the First Engagements reading, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot, which chronicled the story of a poor African American woman's cells being harvested without her knowledge and revolutionizing cancer study. Washington’s latest book, Medical Apartheid, tells more stories like Lacks’s involving mis-treatment of African Americans in the name of medical science. She had studied Lacks in the 1990s, and when Skloot came to her about the book idea, Washington told her, “You’ve got to write this book.”

Washington said that medical science is still guilty of taking advantage of people in order to further research and make money. Only today, the victims are the uninformed—she dispelled the idea that the problem is white doctors mis-treating black patients.

“The real division is not between white and black, but rather the guilty and the inno-cent,” she said. “It’s between people who are ready to accept this state of affairs and those who are not. The goal is to let people choose.”

She used the example of “informed consent” versus “presumed consent,” a subtle difference in language that is actually a huge difference in implications. Presumed consent means that studies may be conducted on patients without their knowledge, as long as they give implied approval. That can be as simple as holding a town hall meeting in the area the study will be conducted, and as long as there are no serious objections, it is assumed that the entire area agrees to submit to the studies. Those tend to happen in low-income communities where many people do not have access to information regarding studies’ risks. The same thing goes for trauma victims, according to the Code of Federal Regulations 21 50.23, which says that if a patient is unable to communicate, consent is assumed.

“We’re vulnerable today because of presumed consent laws,” Washington said. “Coroners can take our parts and sell them to corporations for profit. We sign many consent forms before surgery, and you may not know one form is consenting to have tissue taken. These are the kinds of issues that confront us today.”

Washington challenged students, both those who are considering medical professions and those seeking careers elsewhere, to have an open mind and to know when to challenge customs when those customs may be causing injustices.

“We as a country have to be much more acutely aware of the things that threaten us in the medical field,” she said. “I challenge you to work within your profession and respect its traditions, but more importantly to know when to question them.”

Medical Apartheid won a National Book Critics Circle Award, the 2007 PEN Oakland Award, and the 2007 American Library Association Black Caucus Nonfiction Award. Washington has been a fellow in medical ethics at the Harvard Medical School, a senior research scholar at the National Center for Bioethics at Tuskegee University, a fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health, and the recipient of a John S. Knight Fellowship at Stanford University.

Rudolph coordinates digital recruitment

We’re not just trying to keep up with our competition from other colleges; we’re providing additional funnels for students to have a dialog with us.”

The admissions Facebook and Twitter pages are in addition to the university’s already strong social media presence, including the official Transylvania site administered by the public relations office and pages for alumni, athletics, sustainability, and the library. The admissions section of www.transys.edu includes links to the admissions Facebook and Twitter pages.

“Our theme this year is ‘Be a Pioneer,’” which was inspired by Virginia Hamilton, the student speaker at commencement 2011,” says Rudolph.

Drawing on Transylvania’s mission of preparing students to be critical thinkers and problem solvers, Hamilton challenged fellow graduates to “Don’t just be an optimist, be a leader. And don’t just be a leader, be a pioneer.”

The admissions Facebook homepage changes weekly to reflect various aspects of that theme. One week it said, “Don’t just be a scientist, be a pioneer,” with a photo of a student in a lab. Another week’s theme was, “Don’t just be an athlete, be a pioneer,” with a student-athlete photo.

The admissions office also has a Class of 2015 Facebook page that has been extremely active, especially last summer after room assignments were posted. “Students were asking each other what residence hall they would be in—what floor and room,” says Rudolph.

“Making connections before they arrive on campus makes their transition to college easier.”

Plans are in the works to further develop the admissions Facebook presence. “We’re testing out all the time to ask students what they want to see there,” says Rudolph.
Wieck explores moral issues in first Harlan Lecture Series presentation

John Marshall Harlan, an 1853 graduate of Transylvania's distinguished nineteenth-century law department, was raised in a slave-holding Kentucky family and held racist views for much of his early life that were typical of the era. Yet he went on to become one of the U.S. Supreme Court's most respected early champions of civil rights during the later decades of that century.

Before his moral conversion that occurred around 1867-68, Harlan had opposed abolition and the Emancipation Proclamation. Yet in 1863 he had raised a regiment to fight for the North and was considered instrumental in keeping Kentucky in the Union.

How does such a walking contradiction of a man forge a reputation on the Supreme Court as a stalwart defender of the rights and freedoms of all Americans regardless of skin color?

Exploring those ideas formed the heart of historian William Wieck's presentation, "John Marshall Harlan, Race, and the United States Supreme Court," delivered on September 26 in Carrick Theater as the first speech in the John Marshall Harlan Lecture Series.

Wieck is professor emeritus at Syracuse University College of Law, where he held the Congdon chair in Public Law and Legislation from 1984-2010. His book The Birth of the Modern Constitution: The United States Supreme Court, 1941-1953 (volume 12 of the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise History of the Supreme Court of the United States) won the John Phillip Reid Prize from the American Society for Legal History for the best book in legal history published in 2006. He is a graduate of Harvard Law School and received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Wisconsin.

After tracing Harlan's early life and education, including his many unsuccessful attempts to win political office, Wieck focused on Harlan's change of heart that led to his famous Supreme Court dissents.

"When Harlan changed his views on race, critics charged him with being an opportunist seeking only to win an election," Wieck said. "Harlan's answer was, 'I would rather be right than consistent.' I believe he did undergo a genuine conversion in his thinking and that he deserves his reputation as a prophet on racial issues."

Wieck traced the 13 major cases involving race that came before the Supreme Court from 1873-1914 and noted that Harlan dissented in nine of those cases. Perhaps his most famous dissent came in the 1896 Plessy v. Ferguson decision, which upheld Southern segregation statues. Harlan wrote that "Our Constitution is color-blind...in respect of civil rights, all citizens are equal before the law."

"Justice Harlan stood out from the dominant trend of his time in race issues," Wieck said. "His picture of the Constitution as color-blind is a noble vision. In his dissents, he showed a lonely moral grandeur."

In speaking of Harlan's Transylvania education, Wieck noted the prominence of the university's law department.

"From 1799-1858 Transylvania shone brightly as a center of American legal education," Wieck said. "Harvard and Transylvania had the field of university-affiliated legal education to themselves in antebellum America."

The John Marshall Harlan Lecture Series is made possible by a generous gift from McBrayer, McGinnis, Leslie, & Kirkland, PLLC.

Transylvania once had the nation's most important law department

Transylvania University's pioneering nineteenth-century law department was a national leader in the development of university-affiliated legal education during its 1799-1859 lifespan. At one point, it was the nation's largest law department, and is credited with giving birth to Transylvania, go to: http://bit.ly/harwood_williams.
**Entering class is academically talented, racially and ethnically diverse**

This year’s entering class of 259 is the most academically accomplished in Transylvania history. Class members bring with them an average high school GPA of 3.76 and an average ACT of 27.

“There is much to be excited about with this group of new students,” said Brad Goan, vice president for enrollment and dean of admissions. “With credentials slightly higher than last year’s record-setting class, they are the most academically talented group Transylvania has ever welcomed to campus, and also the most diverse: 11 percent identify themselves as members of a racial or ethnic minority.”

The class of 245 first-year students and 14 transfer students includes 34 Kentucky Governor’s Scholars and Governor’s School for the Arts participants and six National Merit Finalists. Eighteen percent come from 18 states outside of Kentucky and from four foreign countries—China, Hungary, Nigeria, and Taiwan. These new students bring overall fall enrollment to 1,029.

**Course looks at asset-building strategies for the working poor**

Well-intentioned government programs aimed at alleviating poverty can actually have the opposite effect by discouraging recipients from building assets for a prosperous future.

That was one of the conclusions emerging from a May term 2011 economics course titled Asset Building for the Poor. The class was team-taught by economics professor Alan Bartley and President Emeritus Charles L. Shearer, whose Ph.D. from Michigan State University is in economics. It was supported by a grant from the Jesse Ball duPont Fund.

The course looked at the difference between income-based welfare programs and recent proposals based on asset building. In the former, the emphasis is on sustaining a person from day to day with welfare assistance based strictly on the income level of the family. The asset-building approach aims to help people accumulate financial, educational, or job-related assets that will help them over the long run.

“Our current system discourages people from bringing themselves up out of poverty,” said Ruth Kloha, a senior mathematics major from Ashland, Ky. “It gives people only enough money or food stamps to survive on a daily basis. Then there’s nothing you can put back on reserve to eventually build your own foundation of wealth.”

Lyman Stone, a junior economics major from Wilmore, Ky., said the class looked at successful micro-financing programs in developing countries such as Bangladesh, where loans to small farmers have put them on the road to economic independence.

“We associate micro-financing with the third world, but it’s being tried in the United States as well,” Stone said. “Even people stuck in poverty who we think can’t contribute in an economic way to society can be brought back into the marketplace if we structure incentives correctly. You have to have a government or a generous private donor, but in the long run it’s less expensive than giving them a check every week when a larger sum now will help them create sustainable economic growth for themselves. Then you don’t have to finance them, their children, and their grandchildren.”

The class surveyed a variety of ways to “front-load” the poverty-relief programs to focus on benefits that will lead to long-term prosperity for the recipients.

Shearer pointed to a United Way program that supports the working poor who want to save by matching their savings efforts on more than a dollar-for-dollar basis. “Building assets is what will pull you out of poverty, not just living on welfare checks. The idea is to move people away from pure consumption and toward the creation of their own assets.”

“We went with the premise that a lot of working poor people sincerely want to generate assets,” Bartley said. “That’s seen as the way to a life of responsibility and respect. If that’s the case, then the question becomes how we as a society change our policies to encourage that.”

The course was taught as a seminar and required the 11 students in the class to fulfill daily reading, writing, and class presentation and discussion requirements. There were also a number of outside speakers from agencies such as the Mountain Association for Community Economic Development and the Federation of Appalachian Housing.

“This was my favorite class so far at Transylvania, and I really liked the way it was conducted,” said Kloha. “They gave us very pointed and interesting reading assignments, and the class sessions were discussion-based. It was a lot of reading and writing, but you wanted to do it so you could participate in the discussions.”

Both Stone and Kloha said the class had a positive impact on their career thoughts.

“I don’t know exactly what I’m going to do after Transylvania,” Stone said, “but this course was a good grounding in welfare policy in general, not just asset building, that I believe will be helpful for any type of work I might chose to do in the public sector. The outside speakers showed us how these ideas could have immediate applications.”

The course influenced Kloha to apply with Teach for America, a federal program that places teachers in very rural areas or inner-city neighborhoods where teacher shortages typically exist. It also drew her attention from world poverty issues to the situation in parts of America, especially her native Kentucky.

“This course took away some of the naiveté I had about poverty in Appalachia,” she said. “We read some texts that talked about Appalachia and Kentucky as the eyesore of America and how some people from across the country see Kentucky as a third-world nation. That completely floored me. I couldn’t fathom that we have these issues right here in America.”

Whatever she winds up doing, Kloha feels the class was an asset-building experience for her personally.

“The course will make me a better citizen of Kentucky and the nation. It inspired me to be aware of the community I live in, how I vote, and the schools I will send my kids to.”
Transylvania hosts seminar on liberal education

Seventeen professors from around the country participated in Transylvania’s summer liberal arts seminar, Twenty-first Century Liberal Education: A Contested Concept, in July. The seminar was sponsored by Transylvania and its Bingham Program for Excellence in Teaching and coordinated by Transylvania professors Jeffery Freyman, Ellen Cox, and John Svarlien. Participants included, front row, from left, Jonathan Isham, Middlebury College, economics and environmental studies; Katherine Singer, Mt. Holyoke College, English; Annette Aronowicz, Franklin & Marshall College, history of religions; Richard Meagher, Randolph-Macon College, political science; Cecilia Con- rad, Pomona College, economics; Christian Hoekley, Westminster College, philosophy; middle row, John Svarlien, Transylvania, classics; Ellen Cox, Transylvania, philosophy; John Rudisill, The College of Wooster, philosophy; Anne Harris, DePauw University, medieval and general art history; Reid Golden, Hartwick College, sociology; Scott Cohen, Stonehill College, English; back row, Peter Gottschalk, Wesleyan University, religion; A.J. Senchak, Southwestern University, business management; Fernando Lozano, Pomona College, humanities; Pam Luecke, Washington and Lee University, journalism; Linda McGuire, Muhlenberg College, mathematics; Donal O’Shea, Mt. Holyoke College, mathematics and statistics; Jeffrey Freyman, Transylvania, political science.

Not pictured: Michele Intermont, Kalamazoo College, mathematics.

Transylvania launches upgraded Transy.edu with new design, features

After more than a year’s worth of design and content upgrades, Transylvania has rolled out the first phase of a redesigned transy.edu, featuring improvements created to enhance the website’s role as a tool for the world to connect to the university.

“Our new homepage has sliding photos with taglines and links to feature or news articles or videos to continually promote Transylvania people and events,” Sarah Emmons, associate vice president for communications, said. “We’ve transformed a static homepage to be more dynamic and encourage visitors to come back.”

The three main goals were to simplify the design to enhance visual appeal, improve the text to effectively represent Transylvania, and streamline the pages for easy navigation.

“All aspects of a website work together to make it effective,” Web Development Manager Mariana Shochat said. “A lot of work went into not just the design, but improving the overall experience. That means increasing site functionality and cohesion for all types of visitors, primarily prospective students and their parents.”

Transylvania considers its website to be one of its most effective recruiting tools. Questions high school students typically have about the university are answered quickly and clearly with just a few clicks around the About Transylvania page, which was beefed up significantly to offer a comprehensive picture of the university and Lexington. Students can go to transy.edu/about/downtown.htm for an interactive map of downtown Lexington attractions.

On the Student Life section, prospective students can learn about housing options, ways to get involved, campus services, sustainability, wellness, and other benefits of being a Transylvania student.

“We did a lot of work to the student life section with prospective students in mind,” Web Writer/Editor Jesse Darland said. “We think this is a good picture of what life on campus is like for students.”

Other sections of the site have adopted the design change, including the academic, friends and donors, and alumni pages, and the athletics site has moved to its own location, transysports.com. The events calendar, which has a link at the top of the front page, also received a facelift. Users can browse events by moving back or forth 30 days at a time, or they can search for an event and filter their results by type of event—lecture, theater, academic, etc.

Another important feature is a gray “Have a question?” button that hangs on the bottom right of the window and pops out into a text box where users can leave questions, comments, or suggestions to the web team.

“Those responses come directly to us as an e-mail, and we have made changes and clarifications based on feedback we’ve gotten from that box,” Darland said.

Other elements under the hood have been improved as well, including browser compatibility, loading time, a 404 error page that suggests links, and quick searching in the A-Z index.

Phase two of the redesign is now underway, including new academic program and faculty pages, an enhanced campus map, a virtual tour, photo galleries, and more video.

“The website is an extension of our campus,” Emmons said. “Whether you are an alum, friend, or someone who knows nothing about the university, it’s a wonderful way to pay Transylvania a visit.”

What’s that weird box?

Launching further into the age of social media, Transylvania is beginning to use the QR code in publications to direct people to our Facebook page, Twitter, and main website. Short for Quick Response, the QR code is easily read by smart phone cameras and can store data such as website URLs.

To use the QR code, download a QR code or barcode reader to your smartphone. Launch the application, and point the camera to the code. Your phone’s web browser will be automatically directed to the link.
Board of Trustees is smaller after major restructuring

A major restructuring of the Transylvania Board of Trustees has resulted in a smaller group of active board members who will become more involved in the governance of the university, plus the creation of a Board of Regents whose members will act in an advisory capacity.

Other significant changes to the operation of the board include a term limit of five years, a 10-year limit on board service before sitting out a year, more meetings, and longer meetings that will likely stretch over two days.

“The committee, which included President R. Owen Williams and members of the faculty and staff, wanted to preserve the spirit of the existing mission statement while more closely aligning it with the university’s new slogan”—“Question everything, accomplish anything.”—“The members worked together and wrote a succinct description of Transylvania’s role as an institution. The committee, which included President R. Owen Williams and members of the faculty and staff, wanted to preserve the spirit of the existing mission statement while more closely aligning it with the university’s new slogan”—“Question everything, accomplish anything.” The members worked together and wrote a succinct description of Transylvania’s goal as a liberal arts college:

Through an engagement with the liberal arts, Transylvania University prepares its students for a humane and fulfilling personal and public life by cultivating independent thinking, open-mindedness, creative expression, and commitment to lifelong learning and social responsibility in a diverse world.

“This mission statement is a clear representation of the benefits students receive from a Transylvania education,” Williams said. “Not only do they expand their knowledge of a wide range of academic subjects, they learn to become citizens who can use their ability to learn to impact the world.”

The mission statement was rolled out during Williams’s presidential inauguration speech and can be found at transy.edu under About Transy.

Transylvania unveils new mission statement

As part of Transylvania’s rebranding efforts over the last year, the branding committee and faculty approved a new mission statement that clarifies Transylvania’s role as an institution.

The committee, which included President R. Owen Williams and members of the faculty and staff, wanted to preserve the spirit of the existing mission statement while more closely aligning it with the university’s new slogan—“Question everything, accomplish anything.” The members worked together and wrote a succinct description of Transylvania’s role as a liberal arts college:

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Three coaches join Transylvania staff

New head coaches in women’s lacrosse, softball, and men’s and women’s cross country and track and field have recently joined the Transylvania staff.

Former University of Cincinnati standout Haley Marvine is Transylvania’s first women’s lacrosse coach. She is a 2011 graduate of Cincinnati, where she was a four-year letter winner and a team captain for the Bearcats. She has extensive experience working lacrosse camps in the South and Midwest as well as at Duke University and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

“I am looking forward to the challenge of getting the Transylvania women’s lacrosse program started,” Marvine said. “My knowledge of lacrosse in Cincinnati and throughout the Midwest will be an asset in bringing talented players to Transylvania.”

“Haley impressed us with her background and coaching experience,” said athletics director Jack Ebel ’77. “She brings a lot of confidence and energy to the position, and she has a very strong work ethic. Haley is a tremendous addition to our staff.”

Heidi Pinkerton, a former team captain at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and head cross country coach for Guilford College, is the new men’s and women’s cross country and track and field coach. She replaces Jason Moncer, who held the position the past three seasons.

While earning her bachelor’s degree at UNC-Greensboro, Pinkerton ran cross country and track, and was a two-time All-Southern Conference selection. She set the school record in the steeplechase.

“I think we have the potential to become one of the premier programs in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference and in the region,” Pinkerton said. “This is a great opportunity and challenge that I very much look forward to.”

“Haley was an accomplished runner in college and had great success coaching at Guilford, where she produced two NCAA Division III All-Region performers,” said Ebel. “She is a young coach with a lot of knowledge, enthusiasm, and passion for her sport. She is a real asset to our staff.”

Kim Tackett, a former All-American at Muskingum University, is the new softball coach, replacing Michelle Manning, who held the position for three years. She played for the late Donna Newberry, winningest NCAA Division III coach in history, and was a second-team All-American and three-time All-Region and All-Tournament selection.

Tackett earned her bachelor’s degree from Muskingum and a master’s degree from John Carroll University, where she was an assistant coach for three seasons and a member of the Ohio Athletic Conference Coaching Staff of the Year.

“I’m excited about the opportunity to coach at Transylvania, which has a strong history of success in softball,” Tackett said. “I look forward to the challenge of building on that success.”

“Kim was a four-year starter for a perennial NCAA Division III World Series team,” said Ebel. “She has been a part of two highly successful programs and will be a tremendous role model for our student-athletes. I believe she is one of the top up-and-coming young coaches in America.”

Competitive cheer, dance added to intercollegiate sports lineup

Transylvania will add competitive cheerleading and dance to its intercollegiate sports lineup with the start of the 2012-13 season. These teams will eventually compete for post-season bids to national championships, while “spirit” cheer and dance squads will continue to perform at men’s and women’s basketball games, campus activities, and community service events.

Teams can qualify for national competition after attending camps run by the National Cheerleading Association and the National Dance Association, or by videos submitted to those organizations.

Tora Carter, who has coached both spirit teams at Transylvania for eight years, will also lead the competitive squads. Recruiting is underway, targeted at between 12 and 20 members for each team. Athletes can be members of both the spirit and competitive teams.

Carter is also program director at Legacy Cheer and Dance of Lexington, where she works with over 400 cheerleaders and dancers from age three to 25. She is certified by the American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors.

“This is an exciting time for Transylvania,” said Carter, who graduated from the University of Kentucky, where she was a member of the UK Danzers. She also coached at UK from 2004-05. “There has always been interest at Transylvania in having these competitive teams, so I feel we can get the programs up and running quickly. Very few small colleges in this area offer both competitive and spirit teams, so Transylvania is definitely on the cutting edge.”

“These programs will provide a great opportunity to attract the highest caliber cheerleaders and dancers in the region,” said athletics director Jack Ebel ’77. “We think Transylvania is a place they will want to attend and that Tora is the perfect person to grow the programs.”

With the announcement earlier this year of the addition of men’s and women’s lacrosse to Transylvania’s lineup, the university will be sponsoring 22 intercollegiate sports programs with the 2012-13 school year.
Nino-Moreno uses global experience to promote understanding

Eduardo Nino-Moreno chuckles when you ask where he’s from.

The Uruguayan citizen, born in Colombia, married a woman from Panama after she graduated from a Mexican university. Holding an undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College and a graduate degree from Cornell University, he worked for the United Nations for almost three decades, working in 14 countries and carrying out missions in many more.

Now Nino-Moreno brings his impressive résumé to Transylvania, where he became the university’s first director of campus diversity and inclusion September 5. He was working for the UN on a consulting basis and wanted to find a place where he could use his background in diversity and global relations. After several months of research, he sent in just one application.

“I was looking for a challenge—not a job,” Nino-Moreno said. “There were around 17 positions dealing with diversity available. I researched them, went to websites, asked friends, and decided that this was my application. The challenge was that for the first time in its long existence, Transylvania created an office to deal with issues that are so dear to me.”

Nino-Moreno works with all areas of Transylvania to promote a culture of diversity on campus, from spreading the word about the college to other countries to organizing events on campus that foster provocative discussion and better understanding of...
other cultures, races, religions, disabilities, and anything else that can allow a person to see the world from a different viewpoint. Diversity in an academic setting is crucial to helping students become the most well-rounded citizens possible.

“Diversity and inclusion are issues you cannot escape from—they are present wherever you go and in whatever you do,” Nino-Moreno said. “I learned through my years of international service that the more diverse the teams I work with, the better the results in the end. That gave me a fantastic perspective. I feel as if I have prepared for this particular job all my life.”

Although he has been on campus just a short time, Nino-Moreno has done a lot of listening and has identified areas Transylvania can capitalize on now as well as in the long term. But he is quick to note that while his job is to stimulate and facilitate diverse discussion on campus, everybody must pitch in for a culture to change.

“We should all become recruitment officers,” he said. “It’s not only the admissions office—we can all participate. Connection doesn’t cost anything; conversation doesn’t cost anything; kindness doesn’t cost anything. Those three things go a long way toward creating a climate of inclusion.”

While Nino-Moreno saw Transylvania as a challenge, he is greatly encouraged by what he has already seen. He noted Transylvania has lots of assets that will be paramount to the success of diversity on campus. He gave as an example a story of when he was carrying personal items into his office on a rainy day, and a poster of Martin Luther King Jr. he has taken all over the world with him began to slip out of his hands. A student came over to offer a hand, helped him carry his things inside, and stayed to talk with him.

“Look at Transylvania,” he said. “I was totally different, and he helped me. That illustrates the spirit I’ve found here. You cannot imagine the long list of people who have offered their help.”

Nino-Moreno praised the commitment to diversity he sees from the administration, and he said he has heard concerns and encouragement from faculty, staff, students, and alumni, showing him that this is a place move to forward.

“We are not starting from scratch—there are many things that have already been started,” he said. “Transylvania has done a lot of things since 2007 when I started to review the literature. The Diversity Action Council has produced excellent results. I remember reading one of President Williams’s first newspaper interviews, and I think he is very committed.”

Nino-Moreno has met with community leaders, forming a two-way relationship that he hopes to use in the future to benefit both Transylvania and Lexington. He has met with students in the Alternative Winter Break program, which is traveling to the Dominican Republic this year, and he is setting up a meeting with Dominican officials so the students can tell them about Transylvania. He plans to hold a town hall meeting and conduct a campus-wide survey on diversity, set up an interactive diversity website, and create a “diversity nook” in Old Morrison where anyone can come and engage in conversations and ask questions about diversity on campus and off. His office will sponsor workshops on delicate subjects and address the issues of social justice and power and privilege. Those are just baseline projects that will get the ball rolling on transforming the campus culture, which he says is so important for students to experience now.

“I have heard college students say they are sometimes afraid to talk to people who don’t look like them or think like them,” he said. “But you have to take risks, take advantage of this huge privilege of being here. Four years is just a whisper.

“We as a campus can promote understanding. The idea is to have as much difference as possible, until difference doesn’t make any more difference.”

Bingham is excited about the future of diversity at Transylvania

Vince Bingham ’98, Transylvania’s coordinator of multicultural affairs, has worked for the past 10 years to spread the discussion about diversity and inclusion around campus. He has scheduled presenters, raised awareness about multicultural events, and advised campus diversity groups while cultivating relationships with outside diversity groups in Lexington and elsewhere.

There’s a lot for Bingham to be proud of over the decade, and now the reinforcements have arrived in the form of new staff and a renewed vigor on campus for the spirit of diversity. His job description is not changing, but Bingham now has a team of people to discuss ideas with and help with programming. And he could not be more excited.

“If you’d asked me a year ago what Transylvania needed as far as diversity staff, I would have said they needed someone in admissions, and we need another person in administration,” he said. “Now I can honestly say we’re doing it. We’re getting it. Now we get to put these people together and make a plan. Jonah (Brown, assistant director of admissions and multicultural recruitment) is going to be great in admissions, and Eduardo (Nino-Moreno, director of campus diversity and inclusion) is monumental to Transylvania—he’s definitely going to bring something we haven’t seen before.”

Bingham’s position serves as support and leadership for diversity groups and initiatives. His four main duties are advising, educating, training, and outreach. He advises the Diversity Action Council, T’Unity, Black Student Alliance, and other groups on campus, ensuring that they have the support they need. He puts together events on campus for celebrations such as Free Trade Week, Women’s History Month, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day. He trains campus groups, including student orientation leaders, resident advisers, and department of public safety officers, on inclusion issues. And he is involved with organizations like Urban League of Lexington, the YMCA, and Black Achievers.

Through those roles, he gets a good read on the pulse of campus and the students, and he has seen a great improvement in the level of awareness and interest among Transylvania students since he arrived in 2001.

“Students are becoming more inquisitive about diversity issues,” he said. “That speaks to a new generation of students that isn’t accepting the way things are. When I make presentations, they come question me—‘Why is this?’ At one time you didn’t
have that. The students have taken charge, and they’re starting to fully embrace how diversity plays into the liberal arts culture.”

Faculty and staff also play a big part in promoting inclusion, and Bingham sees growth in that area as well. He noted as an example head men’s basketball coach Brian Lane ’90 taking his players to a march downtown on Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

“That’s something that’s never been done before,” Bingham said. “But to me, that’s awesome. People are making an effort, and the little things mean a lot.”

Bingham said the Transylvania community can expect a significant increase in the amount of programs offered both for diversity awareness and for minority students. Bringing more recognizable figures to campus to hold lectures or panels encourages more people to attend those events and get involved, and he intends to improve those offerings, as well.

“It increases the learning environment,” he said. “You’re not going to get anywhere trying to solve increasingly complex problems with a group of one-track-minded people. Diversity is a commitment to academic integrity.”

DAC students step up to promote appreciation for culture

As important as it is for diversity and inclusion to be discussed and encouraged by faculty and staff, Transylvania students must take charge and be leaders in promoting those values for them to be successful.

The Diversity Action Council is leading the way in that charge. Created to plan events and campaigns on campus, the council is made up of students who strive to provide opportunities to learn about other cultures and lifestyles on campus. It also oversees three other diversity organizations—TUnity, which seeks to unify Transylvania’s gay and straight communities; Black Student Alliance, an African American student leadership group; and VOICE, a new feminist organization.

This year’s Diversity Action Council is bringing back many programs that have been successful in the past, including Diversity Dialogues, a program where professors give lectures on diversity issues outside their academic fields, and Diversity Week, which promotes international studies.

“Our goal this year is to increase student awareness and student participation and membership in the organizations we’re involved with,” said Quanta Taylor ’12, student coordinator of diversity. “We’ve had a lot of success the last couple of years with the programs we’re bringing back.”

Plans are underway for several new events, such as a Privilege Dinner, which seeks to visually represent socio-economic status in terms of world hunger.

“Say you have 100 people come, 75 of them will eat rice and water for dinner,” Taylor said. “Twenty will have a normal plate dinner, and six will have steak for dinner.”

The council is planning Cultural Awareness Week, seeking to bring cultural groups to campus like Step Afrika, a dance group from Washington, D.C., that specializes in step dancing.

It also plugs itself into the Lexington community, working with organizations like Black Achievers to go into schools and help students with college applications, essay writing, and projects in their classes. Vince Bingham ’98, Transylvania’s coordinator of multicultural affairs, advises the groups, helping them with service and learning opportunities locally.

“Vince has done a great job in linking us to outside organizations—bringing them to campus and taking us to them as well,” Taylor said.

All of the planning and programming work together to further the discussion of diversity on campus, a purpose that Taylor says equips Transylvania students with an appreciation of culture that will greatly benefit them in their personal and professional lives.

“When we talk about these issues—not necessarily race, but gender issues, veteran status, socioeconomic status—those are issues that hit everyone in some way, shape, or form,” he said.

“Big-time programming is a recruiting tool. That makes Transylvania desirable. I think for Transylvania’s goal of focusing on creating a new level of civic engagement, increasing discussion and awareness of those issues will provide our students the chance to have a greater impact on the world. It makes Transylvania an important piece of a very attractive puzzle.”

Brown takes the Transylvania message on the road

To Jonah Brown, learning on a diverse campus with a variety of backgrounds and cultures isn’t a luxury for students—it’s a necessity.

Transylvania’s new assistant director of admissions and coordinator of multicultural recruitment is working to attract a more diverse population to Transylvania. His role was created to have an admissions representative dedicated to traveling around the country to tell the Transylvania story to students of varying racial, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds.

“My role is new, and we’re still shaping it as we go, but my focus is targeting ways Transylvania can do a better job of broadening our funnel of students that are interested in coming here,” he said. “We’ve been very successful in our percentages in getting interested students to commit to Transylvania—our problem has been getting students to take a look in the first place.”

That means Brown spends a lot of his time in large metropolitan areas like Chicago, Dallas, and New York City, where the minority populations are substantial. Instead of a typical recruiting pitch, he is finding ways to get those students excited about Transylvania, a school many may not have heard of. One of the major selling points he’s discovered early on—particularly with guidance counselors—is the appeal of Lexington as a city where students used to big-city living could feel comfortable.

“We have growing name recognition among high school teachers and guidance counselors, and we want them to think of us as a great option for their students who are looking for a
smaller, private school but in a big city,” he said. “That’s what we’re really trying to sell—if you’re a student coming from one of these larger cities, Lexington is a very realistic option for you.”

A big part of Brown’s role in those cities is changing the perception of Transylvania and other small, private schools as places for rich, white students. While that’s an unfair assessment, his job is to show that minority students can get the best impact for their money from Transylvania, through scholarship opportunities, financial aid, and Transylvania’s reputation for a high rate of students graduating in four years and going directly to graduate school or the work force.

“We’re trying to explain to students the value of Transylvania—that you’re going to get more out of it as a long-term investment,” Brown said. “It’s very easy to look at some of the larger schools that are offering more money. Turning down that money when you’re 17 or 18 years old can be difficult. That doesn’t apply only to students of color, but it’s a hurdle we’ll be facing in the African American and Latino communities.”

Brown, who is from Richmond, Ky., has a strong background in presenting compelling arguments. He came to Transylvania from the Fayette County Circuit Court, where he was a staff attorney for Judge James D. Ishmael. He earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Kentucky and a J.D. from the UK College of Law, and he was student government president and a UK ambassador, recruiting and representing UK at functions.

“I felt like my experience as a very involved student who tried to take advantage of everything college had to offer would make me effective at selling the college experience,” he said. “Transylvania has a lot to offer, and it’s a great opportunity for me to continue that work.”

One of his most memorable experiences was his summer in the Governor’s Scholars program during high school, where he first got to meet students from other parts of Kentucky. Learning from his peers what life was like in western Kentucky, eastern Kentucky, Louisville, and other regions made a big impact on how he views learning.

“College isn’t just the faculty we have here or the classes we have set up—it’s the students providing experiences for each other and with each other,” he said. “And we need to provide an environment where students can share and learn from each other and grow.”

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Wheeler deepens her understanding of civil rights at NEH summer institute

Education professor Tiffany Wheeler ’90 thought she had a pretty good understanding of the civil rights struggles of African Americans, and then she attended a 2011 summer institute at Harvard University on the subject.

“It certainly expanded my understanding of the civil rights era, to include much more than what we think we know from the 1950s and ‘60s movements,” Wheeler said.

Before high-profile 1960s groups like the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and the Freedom Riders got their start, there was the Southern Negro Youth Congress, founded in the 1930s. And long before that, civil rights issues were being confronted well back into the nineteenth century.

The title of the institute—“African American Struggles for Freedom and Civil Rights, 1865-1965”—aptly sums up the scope of the four-week academic exercise, which was sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for College Teachers and by the W.E.B. Du Bois Institute at Harvard.

Wheeler was one of 25 professors chosen for the prestigious four-week residential institute from among more than 100 applicants nationwide. The purpose of the program is to train professors on how to integrate more black history in their classrooms and research projects.

The institute’s curriculum began with the early civil rights efforts that took place in the years just after the end of the Civil War. Coincidentally, this time period was included in Transylvania President R. Owen Williams’s doctoral dissertation at Yale University titled “Unequal Justice Under the Law: The Supreme Court and the First Civil Rights Movement, 1857-1883.” Historian Eric Foner, author of A Short History of Reconstruction, among other books, was on the institute’s faculty as well as Williams’s dissertation committee.

“Eric Foner was but one example of the brilliant historians and scholars who were our teachers,” Wheeler said. “There were also a number of people taking part in the institute who were involved with civil rights movements in the twentieth century, and it was thrilling to have personal contact with them.”

Prominent among those people was Esther Cooper Jackson, a 94-year-old activist whose mother was president of the Virginia chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Jackson was friends with intellectuals and activists such as author W.E.B. Du Bois, concert singer and actor Paul Robeson, and author Langston Hughes. With Du Bois and his wife, Shirley Graham, Jackson edited Freedomways, a cultural and literary journal that ran from 1961-85.

Wheeler also had the opportunity to meet Robert Moses, who was prominent in the SNCC, and Martha Norman Noonan, an editor of Hands on the Freedom Plow, which published first-
person accounts from women involved in the SNCC.

Wheeler said the most immediate application of what she took from the institute will be an enrichment of her course Race, Ethnicity, and Social Class in American Education.

“We study the civil rights movement in that course, but now I’ll be adding a lot of understanding to that subject, especially what preceded the movements of the 1950s and ’60s,” she said.

“Another course, Schooling in American Culture, looks at marginalized groups like African Americans and Asian Americans. The Harvard experience will help me explain how these historical problems can still affect my students as teachers today.”

Wheeler would also like to see an African American Studies minor created at Transylvania, along with a course on the history of African American education. The summer institute gave her excellent background for those projects.

“Being at Harvard this past summer among all those scholars and social activists has given me new direction for both my teaching and my personal scholarship, plus my sense of activism as a community citizen,” Wheeler said. “It was one of the most beneficial experiences I’ve ever had, personally and academically.”

### Intellectual engagement with differing views is fundamental to creating a truly diverse campus

As Transylvania works to create a more diverse university in all respects, Kathleen Jagger imagines a time when the subject will no longer require the kind of conversations and initiatives that are now taking place on campus.

“If we work hard to create a mindset of curiosity about other ways of viewing the world and make sure that perspective is infused throughout the curriculum and throughout every student’s experience here, we should reach a point where we don’t even talk about diversity anymore because it’s everywhere,” said Jagger, associate vice president and associate dean of the college.

That intellectual engagement with the myriad of differing views of the world is the true meaning of diversity, Jagger believes. Such a state goes far beyond the visible signs of having students, faculty, and staff members of various races and ethnicities, or observing events such as Women’s History Month.

“Even when we reach the point of having a very representative campus community, we can’t be satisfied,” Jagger said. “We have to look much more deeply than appearances. We have to look for the depth every person has to offer, the talents every person has to offer. Our conclusions should be based on our interactions with individuals, not on assumptions based on superficial information about where they are from or what they look like. I think it’s a constant struggle to keep your mind open to others’ points of view.”

As she works to bring about a more diverse faculty, which is one of the areas of involvement she is focusing on, Jagger sees many other initiatives as having significant impacts on diversity. The single most important happening, she feels, is the appointment of Eduardo Nino-Moreno as director of campus diversity and inclusion. (See page 12.)

“Eduardo’s office will be the catalyst for continuing change in every single area of campus,” she said. “He was brought to Transylvania as a change agent, as someone who will foster the discussions that need to happen, connect the people who need to be working together. He has done this at the global level, with his 27 years of experience working with the United Nations.”

Jagger also pointed to the addition of Nancy Jo Kemper ’64 to the staff as interim associate dean of interreligious life for the 2011-12 academic year. Kemper, former executive director and spokeswoman for the Kentucky Council of Churches, is charged with creating an interfaith dialogue on campus that will explore the history and practices of many religious traditions.

“I see a lot of strengths in things that are happening right now, including recent speakers like Randall Kennedy and Harriet Washington,” Jagger said. Kennedy, a Harvard University law professor, delivered a Kenan lecture on the history of nomenclature related to Americans of African descent, while author Harriet Washington addressed convocation this fall on medical injustices perpetrated on African Americans. (See page 6.)

Other groups and committees are addressing the need for more international students, changes and additions to the curriculum to reflect a more diverse spectrum of course content, and aspects of student life that can be educational vehicles for diversity enlightenment.

“From an academic point of view, we have a way to go to really infuse diversity into the curriculum,” Jagger said. “We need to have more courses on the African American experience or the Hispanic American experience if we expect to attract those students.”

In the end, Jagger believes creating a true culture of diversity is the responsibility of all Transylvania campus citizens.

“When we reach the ideal environment in terms of diversity and inclusion, we will have developed a genuine interest in, and curiosity about, every student, every faculty member, every employee, and work to be supportive of all of them. No one should ever feel marginalized or excluded in any way.”

### Admissions identifies strategies to reach underrepresented students

A significant portion of Transylvania’s new Strategic Enrollment Plan is dedicated to reaching minority students to offer them a Transylvania education and enhance the level of multiculturalism on campus. Taking the Transylvania story to a larger number of students in diverse populations and thus widening the enrollment umbrella is an overall theme of the plan.

“Transylvania has always done a good job of getting students to apply once they learn about the college,” said Brad Goan, vice president for enrollment and dean of admissions. “The problem has been reaching those students to be able to tell them
Sophomore Esi Kalefe’s path to higher education began in Togo, a nation of seven million on Africa’s west coast, and ran through Bronx, New York, before ending in Kentucky at Transylvania. Those experiences give her a little different perspective compared with that of many of her Transylvania classmates.

“At my high school in Bronx, there were students from 46 countries,” said Kalefe, who can handle three languages—English, French, and Ewe (a Togo dialect). “We were all just trying to learn from each other and share opinions.”

In New York, Kalefe’s path also crossed that of Jeff Briggs ’00, a chemistry and mathematics teacher at New World High School who was her teacher for trigonometry her sophomore year, an advanced placement pre-calculus class her junior year, and chemistry as a senior.

“In high school, I wanted to go into biochemistry,” said Kalefe, a chemistry major and possible math double major or minor. “Mr. Briggs (a Transylvania chemistry major with history and math minors) said Transylvania would be a good fit for me because they have good chemistry professors. He talked to me about the professors he had here and said I should apply.”

That suggestion did not come lightly from Briggs, who said he weighs student achievement very carefully before committing to recommend a student.

“I am very sensitive to students who will not be able to handle the work demanded by a good private college, who borrow a lot of money, and then waste a year and end up far behind in their college journey,” he said. “Esi, on the other hand, was one of the three or four students who, based on their development, attitude, and work ethic, I felt could go to a school like Transylvania and would make me proud. Writing a letter for her really meant something to me.”

Kalefe had lived in New York City with her parents and brother since leaving Togo in 2006 at age 12. Coming to America, language was never a problem for her.

“In my country, you start with French in elementary school, then begin English in middle school. Also, my father is half Ghanaian, and they speak English in Ghana. I went on vacation there, and that helped me understand English better.”

Sophomore Esi Kalefe is pictured with Mary Blanton Cotton and Wayne Bell ’40 at a scholarship donor-student recognition reception and dinner held September 21 in the Campus Center.

When Kalefe flew into Lexington for her student orientation and registration event in the summer of 2010 and saw the city and the surrounding countryside for the first time, she was momentarily stunned.

“For a second, I thought I was back home in Togo,” she said. “I lived in a city, but not such a big city, and Lexington is like that. And I like the farms. We had a horse park not so far from my home that I used to go to every summer.”

Kalefe was part of Crimson Crew in the admissions office her first year, and was also a work-study student in the development office, a position she is continuing this year. As she began her sophomore year, she was also involved with the Diversity Action Council.

“I’m really looking forward to this year,” she said. “I’ve gotten used to the classes and am getting to know some of the professors. I want to be an orthopedic surgeon, but after seeing all the opportunities in the sciences, I’m not sure of the path I will take to get there. I didn’t know much about research when I walked into Transylvania, and now I’m growing to love it. Chemistry and math are tough subjects, but they are tough subjects that I love.”

“Our hope is, if we develop relationships with 15 or 20 of these organizations, and we’re visiting them on an annual basis, we’ll build these relationships, and students will be aware of Transylvania and apply and come,” Goan said.

As a bonus, Transylvania will provide scholarships for students who choose to attend Transylvania and have been full participants in these organizations or students in the school districts.

Transylvania is also enhancing international recruitment, which will bring more students from minority populations, and making bigger pushes in larger urban markets, such as Chicago and New York City. Associate director of admissions Ingrid Allen ’89 is doing a lot of the work in international markets, and Brown, who started at Transylvania over the summer, is working in the urban markets. In both of those areas, the staff explains to the students, many of whom come from poor financial backgrounds, that Transylvania can be an affordable choice for them.

“Among underrepresented populations, there is a perception that private higher education is not affordable,” Goan said. “So
K. Jane Grande-Allen ’91 can’t help but laugh a little when she points out that her A.J. Durelli Award is given to young investigators in experimental mechanics.

“It’s flattering because I’m not eligible for a lot of young investigator awards anymore,” Grande-Allen, 41, said after being presented the award June 15. “But I am really, really proud of it.”

Winning the Durelli Award, which has now been presented five times by the Society for Experimental Mechanics, serves as a prominent acknowledgement of the 20 years of work Grande-Allen has done in heart valve research. An associate professor of bioengineering at Rice University in Houston, Grande-Allen has spent her research in a field that hasn’t received a lot of attention, but her persistence has helped make headway in searching for treatments and cures for heart valve disease.

The four valves in the heart open and close to control blood flow through the heart. When working properly, the valves open to approximately the diameter of a quarter and close tightly to prevent blood from leaking. A valve can develop two kinds of problems: stenosis, when the valve does not open wide enough and only a small amount of blood can pass; and regurgitation, when the valve does not close all the way and blood leaks backward. With both afflictions, the heart has to work much harder to compensate for the erratic blood flow. Approximately 100,000 people each year in the United States undergo heart valve replacement or repair surgery, and many more are estimated to be afflicted with some form of valve disease.

Grande-Allen, who graduated from Transylvania with majors in biology and mathematics, began studying heart valves when she started her Ph.D. research at the University of Washington in Seattle. At the time, the majority of the research being done was focused on improving replacement heart valves instead of the disease itself and possible treatments or cures.

“That kind of stifled study into what causes valve disease because the (replacement valve) surgeons are excellent, and the replacements are awfully good,” Grande-Allen said. “So they weren’t really asking, ‘How can we prevent this disease in the first place?’”

But Grande-Allen did ask that question. Even though replacement valves have become so effective, the surgery is still invasive—although work is being done to begin widely implanting them in a non-
surgical manner with a stent—and finding treatments for valve diseases remains an appealing goal. That’s why she has spent all this time on just that problem.

“We’re trying to improve the range of options for treating people with heart valve disease,” she said. “Some of my work is targeted to helping find new medications so people could just take some pills instead of having to have surgery.”

The work has taken her from Seattle to the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio, for five years, then to Rice in 2003. Her research includes creating complex computer models of the valves that she uses to simulate not only the valve and its function, but diseases, abnormalities, and even surgeries.

She began by working with a tissue bank to get donated human heart valves that were not able to be used in patients. She did magnetic resonance imaging on the valves and was able to learn a lot about the size and geometry of normal valves. She took the results and entered the data into a computer application to render a simulated heart valve.

“For my Ph.D. research, I was creating rather complicated models, and we had to run them on supercomputers, and it still took days and days for them to solve,” she said. “Now you can do it on a laptop.”

She took that rendered valve and was able to simulate numerous factors, including birth defects, diseases, and even surgery.

“I applied blood pressure to the valve within the modeling software and the valve would close and stretch in response to the blood pressure,” she said. “I simulated valve disease, valve surgery, and replacement of the aorta that surrounds the heart valve with different types of artificial blood vessels. It was a really rich project, and we published a lot of papers out of it.”

One of the more common diseases is calcific aortic valve disease, which is when the aortic valve turns into a mineralized, bony structure. The valve does not open and close properly because of the calcification, and blood leaks backward against the normal flow of blood. Often the only symptom a person feels with the disease is tiredness or shortness of breath, but the disease can cause much more serious cardiovascular problems.

“The heart has to work really hard to compensate for having a leaky heart valve,” Grande-Allen said. “There’s not enough oxygenated blood moving forward—much of it is trickling back.”

Most people would have the aortic valve replaced, but Grande-Allen’s research is dedicated to fixing the problem at the source. Some aspects of the disease are similar to atherosclerosis, the disease where blood vessels fill up with plaques and slow blood flow. But similar treatment has not proven to be effective.

“Statins like Lipitor are wonderful for treating atherosclerosis, but they’ve been found to be pretty useless in calcific aortic disease,” Grande-Allen said. “So these diseases are unique enough that they need to be studied on their own, and that’s one of the things we’re doing.”

But progress has been made in searching for other chemicals that will have a comparable effect on valve calcification.

“My students and I have found some neat things,” Grande-Allen said. “We’ve found that certain chemicals will inhibit the calcification of heart valve cells, but these chemicals are also known to be things that would cause other problems if you gave them to patients. So we haven’t found some magic cure drug yet, but we’ve found some novel directions for studying the way cells are behaving.”

Another treatment method Grande-Allen is developing uses living valve replacements that are tissue engineered.

“Tissue engineered valves could actually grow and heal inside the patient, as opposed to an artificial valve,” she said. “We have some promising research in my lab on that, too.”

Grande-Allen works closely with cardiac surgeons and cardiologists along with other bioengineers. Most of her work has been in medical centers, including the University of Washington’s department of cardiothoracic surgery, the Cleveland Clinic, and now Rice University, which is part of the Texas Medical Center in Houston. The Texas Medical Center has 49 institutions and is the largest in the world, and Grande-Allen has collaborators in several of those institutions. One of them, The Methodist Hospital, even appointed her director of heart valve bioengineering.

The recognition she’s gotten has served as an encouragement to continue battling the valve diseases. With as much progress as she’s made—she has published approximately 70 papers and counting—she is able to look fondly on her career so far.

“It’s been fulfilling, especially when I see how many people have read our papers over the years and built upon that work,” she said. “I’ve learned a lot along the way and have worked with some wonderful people.”

One of the people she credits for steering her in the direction she went is Transylvania mathematics professor David Shannon.

“He was my mentor when I was at Transylvania, and he really impressed upon me that I should continue doing something that had a mathematical component,” she said. “So I was attracted to a project I saw on computer modeling of heart valves, and I signed on for that research project. I learned that it was a really compelling problem, and I’ve wanted to keep working on it ever since.”

In fact, several Transylvania professors left an impression on Grande-Allen’s education and career.

“Without question, all of the support I got from my math professors was exceptional,” she said. “I absolutely loved the classes I took from (former mathematics professors) Jim Miller and (the late) David Choate. In biology, I really enjoyed (late professor) J. Hill Hamon’s classes—it was such a lively atmosphere. Even the labs were fun. We studied together, we worked together—I just loved being at Transylvania.”

Alumni and other visitors to the new alumni and development building are greeted by a spacious facility that gives the staff more room and amenities with which to serve the many constituencies of the university.

Meeting space for alumni reunion committees and other groups that is outfitted with technology for presentations, larger offices that can accommodate more visitors, a reception area with guest seating, and an office specially for student workers are among the advantages the new dedicated location on the north side of campus has over the former office suite on the first floor of Old Morrison.

“This building gives us the opportunity to really expand our programming in fund-raising and alumni relations,” said Kirk Purdom, vice president for advancement. “We have a lot more flexibility now. It’s also a very inviting building for alumni and friends to visit, and for our students. It’s just a more professional space in all respects.”

The 5,670-square-foot building, which faces North Broadway just two doors north of Fourth Street, includes offices and meeting rooms on the ground level and a basement currently being used for storage that will eventually be finished for purposes such as phonathons.

Alumni have made good use of the office since its August opening. The Bluegrass Alumni Chapter and the Transylvania Women’s Club board held meetings that used both the conference room and a large meeting and work-space area in the rear of the building. Both spaces include projectors and large screens for presentations.

“The executive board and members of the Bluegrass Alumni Chapter were really pleased to have this kind of meeting space that is part of our offices, instead of having to meet elsewhere on campus,” said Natasa Pajic Mongiardo ’96, director of alumni programs. “We also have the capability for conference calls and Skype to accommodate people who can’t attend in person.”

Phonathons are a major fund-raising tool for the annual fund. The training required for them to be successful can now be accommodated in the new offices. A large area in the back of the suite, circled by offices, can handle sessions for students, faculty, and staff who take part in phonathons. With the completion of renovations in the lower level, phonathons themselves will take place there.

As Transylvania moves forward with fund-raising efforts designed to support a planned increased enrollment to about 1,500, along with the expansion of academic and student life programs to accommodate that growth, the development staff is spending more time on the road visiting current and potential donors. Still, there are always opportunities to host donors.
in the alumni and development offices, and that’s another area where the new facility really shines.

“When donors come to see us, they expect a certain type of atmosphere,” Purdom said. “When you enter our building, we project a very professional, business-like environment, probably similar to what they have in their own businesses. We can also plug the computer in and show them a presentation on screen. When we’re working with an individual or corporations and foundations about a potential gift, all of these factors are significant.”

Donors, alumni, and others coming to the alumni and development offices can now come directly to a discrete building, as opposed to locating the offices within a larger building. Parking is available in the front and rear of the building. When they arrive, they find a reception area and seating that the former location could not offer.

“I just love the fact that when we have alumni visitors, we have a place for them to sit and browse yearbooks while they’re waiting,” Mongiardo said. “It’s such a community space where they may also interact with more staff members and get to know us better. We certainly welcome all alumni to pay us a visit.”

Student philanthropy is another area where the new facility is having a positive effect. The Student Alumni Association and the Senior Challenge committee can meet in the offices, and all students who visit the area come into more contact with the professional staff and have exposure to the concepts and benefits of philanthropy.

In their everyday work situations, members of the alumni and development staff are enjoying and benefitting from the more spacious offices and work areas.

“This is my second experience at moving out of a main administration building and into a facility just for alumni and development,” Purdom said. “I feel we’re now getting our jobs done a little more quickly and efficiently.”

“In our old offices, our refrigerator was in a filing cabinet,” Mongiardo laughed. “We now have a nice kitchen area, and also a separate room for our main files. With the space between our offices, I can leave my door open and not be distracted by people outside my office. It’s really a nice environment where people enjoy coming to work.”

From the mundane—more storage space and room to expand—to the conceptual—a more professional space and appearance that stimulate staff and create better visitor impressions—the new alumni and development office is fulfilling its role to enhance fund-raising and alumni relations to advance Transylvania in all respects.

“I love this building,” Purdom said. “I hope we get to stay in it a long time.”
A New Dimension

Chris Begley takes his scanner and his students to the jungle

BY TYLER YOUNG

The water that surrounds him is at once silent and deafening. He kicks his feet, slowly making his way deeper, when the beam of his light suddenly reveals a giant anchor, long buried but easily recognizable. He takes out his scanner to document the artifact—complex algorithms will soon digitally recreate it to the minutest detail.

Chris Begley is preparing for class.
Begley ’90, an anthropology professor at Transylvania, is an archaeologist, traveling around the world to research and excavate. This particular underwater experience took him to Spain over the summer, where he and a student, sophomore Anne Wright, along with a group of researchers, documented items from Mediterranean history, dating back to pre-Roman times in 250 B.C.

Begley is a firm believer that only a part of education happens in the classroom, and he routinely takes students on digs both in the United States and abroad.

“I try to let them see the whole process, to see how they could do this when it comes their time,” he said. “Sometimes they get to excavate, sometimes they get to do whatever kinds of field work we’re doing. They get to interact with local scholars, which I think is really important, to see that wherever you go, there are a whole lot of dedicated experts that are doing great work.”

Much of Begley’s research takes place in the jungles of Central America, particularly in Honduras, a Spanish-speaking nation with a rich history of indigenous cultures that fascinate him. But to get to some of the places he goes, he has to travel for days on foot or in canoes, reaching the remotest areas of the country with two weeks supply of food and water and hundreds of pounds of research equipment. Once he gets to the sites, many of the artifacts are fragile or so lightly preserved that any contact can be irreparably damaging. Both are common problems for archaeologists, and Begley is working on a way to solve them.

Eli Crane, then a graduate student at the University of Kentucky College of Engineering, and his professor, Larry Hassebrook, worked with a three-dimensional scanner that used normal light instead of lasers and expensive equipment to make renderings of objects. It was developed as a way to fingerprint Muslim women at airports and borders without touching them, so it had to be accurate to the tiniest detail—as small as 20 microns. Begley asked Crane if he thought it would be possible to take that idea further and create a scanner big enough and rugged enough to be used on archaeological digs and digitally document artifacts without contact.

At its core, the scanner is a projector that uses a 35 mm slide and light to project a pattern onto an object. When it lands on a flat surface, you see an undistorted pattern, and when it is projected onto an object, the lines distort and are captured by a digital video camera. Later, a computer will analyze and measure the pattern and create a perfectly accurate 3-D rendering of the object, which can be manipulated to observe details that can’t be seen with the naked eye.

Crane and Hassebrook developed a model, and in 2009 Begley took it to Honduras to test it in the jungle. It worked perfectly. The team made it lightweight, and its energy consumption was so low that it went the whole two weeks without needing a charge. It didn’t require a computer to store the images, so the files could be sent off later and processed. It worked so well they went back and made it waterproof so it could be used on dive sites.

“I think this is really important for archaeologists and any other field researchers that need accurate 3-D maps of objects they’re going to take in hostile environments,” Begley said. “What we’re envisioning is a system where archaeologists could buy the equipment cheaply, take the data, and send off what you want to be processed. I see a lot of potential for that in places like Honduras that don’t have a lot of resources.”

In Spain, he scanned two caves to look for tool marks or modifications that had possibly gone unnoticed. He also scanned underwater artifacts and items from a Roman city that was in the process of being excavated. Artifacts included jewelry, war helmets, and coins, including one coin that was the subject of a disagreement about whether or not there was a faint engraving of a cross on it. The scanner showed there was.

He then went to Sicily to scan a bronze ram that would have been on the front of a warship during naval warfare in the Mediterranean. Up until a few years ago, there had been only one ever recovered. Begley scanned the ram, and the team was able to read and see inscriptions and artwork that would have been impossible to study otherwise.

As a result of his work with the 3-D scanner, Begley received a grant from National Geographic Transylvania anthropology professor Chris Begley '90 uses a 3-D scanner on a huge eighteenth-century anchor in 80 feet of water off the coast of Menorca, Spain; left, Begley tests a prototype underwater scanner in waters off Trinidad in the Caribbean.
that focuses on pilot programs using new technologies. The grant sent him and a team back to Honduras for a month with a filmmaker, Josh Howard, to scan petroglyphs, ancient rock carvings that historically have been difficult to document. They also looked at river erosion to get an idea of conservation and preservation issues.

From that experience, Begley and Howard decided to team up again to work on their current project—a documentary on the legend of a lost city hidden in Honduras’s Mosquito Coast.

For centuries, there has been talk of a lost city somewhere in the rainforest on the northeastern coast of Honduras. People have come from all over looking for it—it is a kind of El Dorado for Spanish and American explorers. Begley has heard the legend many times during his work around the Mosquito Coast.

“Everybody knows about it and talks about it, and they have for hundreds of years,” he said. “Some of the places formerly thought of as the lost city are now just villages. The city just moves, retreats into the jungle. There’s always a lost city around the next corner, just out of reach.”

While he doesn’t believe it exists, he is searching for funding to shoot the film because he wants to know why the story has persisted for so many years.

“That’s part of the question for this film—what function does it serve for the people who have this legend?” he said. “For the indigenous people, it seems to refer back to a time when they had greater autonomy—the glory days. For non-indigenous people in the area, it’s the open frontier. It gives them hope that there’s something still there undiscovered. For treasure hunters, it represents fame and glory.”

Part of the reason the legend has survived, Begley has surmised from his research, is because of the spectacular limestone cliffs over the river that look like buried palaces, barely visible. That feeling is enhanced when the limestone sediments that make straight, horizontal lines intersect with water stains flowing vertically down the cliff. The resulting rectangles look like they could have once been windows or doorways.

Other projects Begley is working on include cave archaeology in Missouri and underwater research in the U.S. and jungle rivers in Central and South America, which have not been studied extensively because of low visibility and difficult diving. He has been working with a portable x-ray fluorescent machine, a spectrometer that can be pointed at an object and will read its elemental makeup.

Much of Begley’s research makes its way into his class. He likens it to, instead of being a reporter who writes about the news, creating the news yourself.

“Research is not something I do that is ‘extra,’” Begley said. “This ought to be fundamental to what we do as faculty. This is what makes me valuable and creates opportunities for my students. If you are in the midst of it, then you present it in a totally different way, and I think that’s important. While teaching is the central thing we do, it’s not enough.”

That’s why he spends so much time taking students off campus to get hands-on experience, particularly in his archaeology courses. He has held four archaeological field schools at four different central Kentucky sites—Camp Nelson Civil War camp, Lexington’s first Catholic cemetery, an early pioneer station, and a historic stagecoach stop and tavern on an old route between Lexington and Washington, D.C.

And when he takes students abroad, they not only get archaeological experience, they learn how different research can be for scholars in other countries.

“In many cases, they’ll see how it’s kind of an unfair situation,” Begley said. “They don’t have the same resources, in some cases, the same opportunities to publish to a big audience or present their work. They get to see that we’re a part of this community. They get to interact with other scholars, and now all of those people who were part of the project know about Transylvania, our students, and

Begley trails Kristin Geil ’11 and Chase Pugh ’10 as they descend from the summit of Yanapaccha, an 18,000-foot peak in Peru, on an alumni trip led by Begley.
VanMeter wins age group in Ironman Brazil 2011

George VanMeter ’77 (above, center) won the 55-59 age group competition in the 2011 Ironman Brazil, held May 29 on the island portion of the city of Florianopolis in southern Brazil. The win qualified VanMeter for the 2011 Ironman World Championship in Hawaii October 8.

Competing against 27 entrants in his age group, VanMeter covered the 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride, and 26.2-mile run in 10 hours, 57 minutes, 59 seconds. This was 19 minutes ahead of the second-place finisher. Overall at the Brazil meet, there were 1,823 men and women from 39 countries.

VanMeter, a member of the Transylvania Board of Trustees, entered his first triathlon in 1984. Last year, he won his age group in the Ironman held in Louisville in a time of 10:56, then finished 13th in his age group in the Hawaii competition with a time of 11:15. This year, he finished 45th in Hawaii with a time of 12:42.

“I love the competition,” VanMeter said. “It’s been a progression over the years to get to this point. Hopefully, I have more good years in front of me.”
Matt Jones '00
TURNING UK COVERAGE UPSIDE DOWN IN ‘RIDICULOUS MANNER’

Kentuckysportsradio.com may not look like a media powerhouse, but the site, founded by Matt Jones '00, is one of the most popular independently run college sports websites in the country. Jones, a political science major who earned a J.D. from Duke University Law School, started the website in 2005 with a partner, Rob Gidel, hoping to use it as an online radio show about University of Kentucky sports. The pair did a couple of shows and decided it wasn’t feasible, so Jones began using KSR to keep up with some of his Transylvania friends, including Andrew Jefferson '04, Chris Mosley '02, Chris Tomlin '98, Jason Moore '01, and Duncan Cavanah '99. The crew had spread out from Lexington, but still had three common bonds—UK sports, Transylvania, and making each other laugh.

"Howard Dean had run for president in 2004 and used this notion of blogs as a way to communicate," Jones said. "So my buddies and I began using the blog just as a way to communicate with each other. There was no notion that it was going to be a popular thing, but within a month we were getting 200 to 300 hits a day, and we thought, ‘Let’s see what we can do with this.’"

The site slowly began attracting more visitors, but even when it reached 5,000 hits per day, Jones still didn’t think it had much of a chance to be widely read.

That changed in 2007 after former head basketball coach Tubby Smith left Lexington and Billy Gillispie was hired to coach the Wildcats. Jones had gotten a radio show at a struggling Louisville station, mostly so he could receive a press pass to UK media events. At Gillispie’s first press conference in Lexington, which was televised live, Jones raised his hand to ask a question, and thousands of famously basketball-crazed UK fans glued to their TVs saw an unfamiliar, and oddly disheveled, head pop out of the crowd of media members.

"It was really windy that day, and I had a lot of hair back then," Jones said. "My hair was everywhere, literally could not have looked worse. People were like, ‘Who in the world is that guy?’"

Now with his hair and his blog on fans’ radars, Jones took his opportunity to make a name for himself. He met Patrick Patterson, a prized recruit from West Virginia who fans desperately wanted to commit to Kentucky, and Gillispie. Patterson liked the fact that Jones and his crew were young guys like him who were having fun covering Kentucky sports, and he would only talk to them, coming on Jones’s radio show and granting him exclusive access to one of the biggest recruiting stories in years. When he signed with Kentucky in May 2007, KSR got 20,000 hits, crashing the site and proving that Jones had arrived as a player in the Kentucky sports media world.

Since then, KSR has exploded, now getting around 175,000 hits per day during the season, and as many as 250,000 per day on big news days, like when John Calipari was announced as basketball coach in 2009. Jones parlayed his newfound popularity into a statewide weekday radio show in Louisville and a weekday television show, aptly titled Kentucky Sports Television. In 2010, he left the law firm he opened with a partner to focus full time on KSR.

Kentucky sports coverage has long been run by traditional media—newspapers, radio, and television. The fact that a fan-operated website has inserted itself as a new pillar is sometimes a controversial one. KSR’s motto is “University of Kentucky basketball, football, and recruiting news brought to you in the most ridiculous manner possible,” and its content is openly written from a fan’s perspective. Jones has had plenty of detractors decrying the merits of KSR’s journalism—which Jones passionately contends is solid, with credible sources and insightful writing.

“Back when we started, what I was doing was essentially funny commentary,” he said. “We still do that, but what makes you a powerful outlet is that you have to report. What bothers mainstream media people is that we do both. I don’t think you have to choose, as long as you’re clear about which you’re doing at a given moment.”

Jones constantly looks for the best ways to push the KSR brand. He covered recruiting when that was an overlooked aspect of college sports, and he was an early adopter of Twitter, which he says “changed everything.” His page, which has more than 30,000 followers, was named best Twitter page in Lexington by Ace Weekly in 2011. No matter what trend is out there, Jones says KSR will be a forerunner.

“The website is our bread and butter, but we don’t even know what the Internet will look like in 10 years,” he said. “We just want to make KSR the best at whatever it is. We have the highest share of any sports radio show in Louisville in 15 years. We got the KSR brand on television. And whatever the next thing is, we won’t fight it. We’ll make KSR the best.”

Jones said the site got the voice it did because Transylvania helped him and the other founders develop their own voices through professors encouraging strong discussion in the classrooms. In particular, political science professor Don Dugi made a big impact on him, following his career and offering help and encouragement the whole way.

“Don Dugi encouraged me to go to Duke, and then once I went to Duke he encouraged me to apply for a clerkship, which I never would have thought I’d have the chance to do,” he said. “Then when I told him I was thinking about quitting law to do this, he was encouraging. (Political science professor) Jeffery Freyman and (writing, rhetoric, and communication professor) Gary Deaton were both very influential as well. I had a great time at Transylvania.”

—TYLER YOUNG
Lino Nakwa 
achieves citizenship

His dream finally came true. **Lino Nakwa ’09**, a refugee from Sudan who endured years of uncertainty and anguish over his immigration status—including during his time at Transylvania—took the oath of allegiance and became a United States citizen on September 2 in a naturalization ceremony in Louisville.

Nakwa had been abducted at age 12 in his native Sudan by a terrorist group. Because of the military training that was forced upon him for a month while in captivity, federal immigration authorities initially denied him residency. While he was at Transylvania, the campus community rallied to his cause, embarking on a letter-writing and telephone campaign on his behalf. This past May, Nakwa was finally granted his green card.

“I will never forget the outpouring of support from the people on the Transylvania campus,” he said. “I know that it had a significant impact on the success of my case.”

Nakwa was among a group of 268 people from many nations who became U.S. citizens in a special naturalization ceremony held at the Galt House in downtown Louisville. The event was planned to coincide with WorldFest 2011, a three-day celebration of Louisville’s international culture.

“This is a special thing for me,” Nakwa told *The Courier-Journal*.

“Finally getting my citizenship means I finally have a home for the first time since 1992, when I became a refugee.”

In the same week of his naturalization, Nakwa, a business administration major at Transylvania, was promoted to general manager of a KFC restaurant in east Louisville. He told an Associated Press reporter that he would like someday to pursue a master’s degree in agribusiness and use that knowledge to help relieve hunger in his native Africa.

Dermaesthetics of Louisville with offices in Frankfort, Prospect, and downtown Louisville. His wife, **Jean-Anne Jensen ’02**, is an orthodontist with BracesBracesBraces Orthodontic in Shelbyville and Valley Station.

Lindsay McWilliams Workman, Fort Mitchell, Ky., has been promoted to group manager for tax audit at Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati. She started with the company as a tax analyst in December 2005.

**M. Shayne Gallaher**, Paris, Ky., is serving as a foreign service officer with the U.S. Consulate in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Emily Heady Morris, Lexington, has been named associate in the Lexington office of Littler Mendelson, P.S.C., the nation’s largest law firm dedicated exclusively to the representation of management in labor and employment law matters.

**Cordell G. Lawrence**, Louisville, has been named senior consumer relationship marketing communications specialist for Brown-Forman in Louisville.

Joseph P. Berry, Owensboro, Ky., has been named project manager for downtown development by the Greater Owensboro Economic Development Corp.

Amy Shupe Kerner, Edgewood, Ky., has been promoted to supervisor, commissions in the Western Southern finance and accounting department at PriceWaterhouse Coopers. She has her CPA and is currently working on her M.B.A. at Western Kentucky University.

Candace Maeser Livingston, Hinckley, Leicestershire, United Kingdom, and her husband, Adrian, completed a 1,200-mile trek on foot from the southernmost point in England, Land’s End, to the northernmost point in Scotland, John O’Groats. Their three-month walking expedition raised money for the Association for International Cancer Research. Candace’s mother, **Elizabeth Underwood Maeser ’78**, of Leitchfield, Ky., is a breast cancer survivor.

Tyler M. Smithhart, Hopkinsville, Ky., has been named head basketball coach at Christian County High School.

Patrick N. Coleman, Smiths Grove, Ky., a CPA in the audit area in the Bowling Green, Ky., office of Holland CPAs, has been promoted to supervisor.

**B. Trent Fucci**, Lexington, earned his M.F.A. in performance from the University of Central Florida and plans to relocate to New York City.

Langdon S. Ryan, Lexington, is an attorney with the Lexington law firm of Golden & Walters.

Zachary A. Davis, Lexington, a realtor and principal auctioneer, has been elected to the board of trustees of the Lexington History Museum. To find out more about the museum, visit www.LexingtonHistoryMuseum.org.

Lauren T. Covert, Washington, D.C., has been named center administrator for Georgetown University’s National Security Studies Program.

**Marriages**

**Stacey Ann Dixon ’00** and Charles William Turvey, February 23, 2011

Ryan T. Garrett ’97 and Nicole Vaccaro, September 3, 2011

Erin Elizabeth Weaver ’97 and Travis Geesaman, May 14, 2011

Christopher Allen Carter ’98 and Lauren Mabry, April 30, 2011

Erin Elizabeth Moran ’01 and Wes Keltner, June 10, 2011

Heather Marie Rowland ’01 and Jay Gough, June 10, 2011

David Bradley Horton ’03 and Ashley Marie Crawford, May 14, 2011

Amy Elizabeth Musterman ’03 and Brian Oates, June 11, 2011

**Correction**

An article in the summer *Transylvania* magazine (page 26) about the presentation of the Morrison Medalion to trustee Joe M. Thomson ’66 should have stated that he co-founded PLANCO in 1977 and that the company was acquired by Hartford Life Insurance Company in 1998, at which time he continued as president through August 2000. He was senior vice president and director of business development for Hartford Life from 2000-05. Thomson is now president and chief executive officer of Pacer Financial, Inc., which he established in 2005 as a hedge fund development and financial products distribution company. *Transylvania* magazine regrets the errors.
Chad Needham renovates historic Spalding’s Bakery

When Spalding’s Bakery moved from its North Limestone and Sixth Street location after more than 70 years, the building sat vacant for five years until Chad Needham ’94 saw a chance to move in on the historic property and contribute to the urban renewal taking place around downtown Lexington.

Needham, a developer, gutted the inside of the building, tearing out walls to reveal the original brick, restoring the doors and molding, and installing new floors, appliances, HVAC, and plumbing. He converted the first-floor bakery into a studio now leased by local artist John Lackey, and the second-floor apartments the Spalding family lived in became office space.

He became the third owner of the building, which was constructed in 1880 and operated as a meat market, saloon, and coal yard before being purchased by an upstart doughnut baker in 1934. Spalding’s quickly became one of Lexington’s most famous and beloved bakeries. Now Needham hopes to preserve the building’s history while reintegrating it into Lexington business.

Needham, who describes the renovation as “contemporary rustic,” said that when he was a student in the early ’90s living in the soccer players’ house on Constitution Street, the area around Transylvania wasn’t always well suited for college students. The surrounding lots that had pawn shops and a liquor store want to see North Limestone get better, I think things will flourish and continue the renewal process of downtown Lexington.

He said that while many of the buildings in the area have lots of need for restoration and renovation, the time is ripe for other developers to come in and capitalize on low prices and a good location to buy property on North Limestone. He thinks business will flourish and continue the renewal process of downtown Lexington.

“With a little effort and a group of people who want to see North Limestone get better, I think we’ll get there,” he said.

Photos by Tyler Young

Chad Needham is the third owner of the 131-year-old building on North Limestone.

Local artist John Lackey rents the first floor of the building as an art studio.

Helen Elizabeth Beaven ’04 and Patrick Bischoff, June 18, 2011
Haley Christine Trogden ’07 and James Mason McCauley ’07, June 11, 2011
Thomas Scott Lefler ’07 and Maggie Alexandra Davenport ’10, June 25, 2011
Mary Ruth Barger ’08 and William M. Dixon, July 6, 2011
Tiffany Dawn Blackburn ’09 and Nick Tackett, August 20, 2011
Katherine Renee Davis ’09 and Andrew Bryan Crowe, June 4, 2011
Lindsey Ellen Roberson ’09 and Jason Adams, June 12, 2011
Nicholas Ryan Ledgerwood ’10 and Emileigh Lucille Burns ’11, June 18, 2011
Jeffrey Brent Gullet ’11 and Lacey Alanna

Napper ’11, July 23, 2011

Births

Donal P. Cashman ’89 and Casandra Cashman, a daughter, Vera Celeste Cashman, May 21, 2011
Robin J. Bowen ’90 and Daniel Bucca, a daughter, Emma Diana Bernice Bucca, June 25, 2011
Angela Logan Edwards ’91 and Brian Edwards adopted a son, Coleman Wright Edwards, born February 1, 2011
Elizabeth Grugin Burton ’92 and John Burton ’92, a son, Eli John Hughes Burton, August 29, 2011
Evelyn Freer Gee ’92 and Shawn Gee, a son, Beau Wesley Gee, April 18, 2011
Amy Adams Schirmer ’92 and Peter Schirmer, a son, Adam Ryne Schirmer, August 29, 2011
Martha Phyllis Bertram-Arnett ’93 and Mark Arnett, a daughter, Ava Josephine Arnett, July 3, 2011
Carmen Hall Caldera-Brazoska ’94 and Wayne Brzoska, a daughter, Chloe Alexander Brzoska, April 22, 2011
Daniel F. Swintosky ’94 and Ann Wirth Swintosky ’96, a son, Aiden Charles Swintosky, July 24, 2011
W. Justin McDonald ’96 and Andrea McDonald, a daughter, Landry Kate McDonald, September 5, 2011
Tracy Todd Blevins ’98 and Frankie C. Blevins Jr., a daughter, Tessa Louise Blevins, December 28, 2010
Mary Kay Pendley Kasiborski ’98 and John Kasiborski, a daughter, Sara Kathryn Kasiborski, June 29, 2011
Ann-Phillips Mayfield ’99 and Jay Ingle, a son, Franklin Holman Ingle, July 29, 2011
Kristina Felblinger Bolin ’00 and Jeffrey Bolin, a son, William Christian Bolin, December 10, 2010
Sherri Swift Crossett ’00 and Jason Crossett, a son, William Silas Crossett, July 19, 2011
Travis A. Crump ’00 and Faith Hawkins Crump ’02, a son, Langdon Aaron Crump, May 20, 2011
Johan F. Graham ’00 and Aimee Hicks Graham ’03, twins, Charles Johan Graham and Noah Oliver Graham, May 8, 2011
Kimberly Ehret Jones ’00 and Adam D. Jones ’00, a daughter, Eden Ruth Jones, June 17, 2011
Nicholas M. Holland ’01 and Sarah Stewart Holland ’03, a son, Amos Edward Holland, June 3, 2011
Joshua P. Morris ’01 and Emily Heady Morris ’03, a daughter, Hadley Grace Morris, January 29, 2011
Sally Francisco Billings ’02 and Nathan Billings, a daughter, Elizabeth Faye Billings, August 2, 2011
Támara Bentley Caudill ’02 and David Caudill, a daughter, Willa Jane Caudill, August 22, 2011

Evelyn Freer Gee ’92 and Shawn Gee, a son, Beau Wesley Gee, April 18, 2011
Amy Adams Schirmer ’92 and Peter Schirmer, a son, Adam Ryne Schirmer, August 29, 2011
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Ellen Furlong ‘03

MONKEY BUSINESS: THE SERIOUS STUDY OF PRIMATE COGNITION

Ellen Furlong ‘03 came to Transylvania knowing she wanted to be involved with animals in some way for her career, but she was a little vague on just how that would work out. “I worked with dogs all through high school, in obedience training and in shows, and was interested in how they learned,” Furlong said. “So I was interested in animal cognition at a very basic level, very early on. But at that point, I thought if you worked with animals, you had to be a veterinarian.”

After a summer internship at the Louisville Zoo that was facilitated by her adviser, art professor Nancy Wolsk, Furlong saw the light. While sweeping out straw around the orangutan cage one day, she witnessed a demonstration of cognitive ability that was totally unexpected. It left an lasting impression.

“I didn’t want to get too close to the cage and have them grab the broom or me,” she recalled. “As I was hemming and hawing about what to do, the orangutan came over, sat down, and sort of assessed the problem, and then reached out with her arm under the bars and swept the straw. In that moment, I thought, what is going on here?”

Finding answers to that question is one way of defining what Furlong is now devoting her career to. She focuses on primate cognition in her work as a post-doctoral fellow in the psychology department at Yale University and plans to become a full-time college professor in that subject.

Furlong works primarily with brown tufted capuchin monkeys in her research, but her interests in primate cognition are broad, reaching across the primate spectrum and throughout evolution, and include humans.

“I’m interested in the cognitive skills that underlie our decisions and how they changed across time and across evolution,” Furlong said. “I take a developmental and comparative approach. You can do that in a small sense, in terms of going from two to five years old, for instance, or in a large sense across the primate order, looking at chimpanzees and humans.

“Humans stand apart from all other animals in their level of cognitive abilities, yet there are basic foundations of our reasoning and thinking abilities that we can see across species in a comparative sense, and across time in an evolutionary sense. Chimps and humans have a common ancestor, maybe 15 million years ago, and we believe the kinds of commonalities we see in the ways that humans and chimps think are common to that ancestor.”

Furlong majored in mathematics at Transylvania and completed a minor in psychology. She earned a master’s degree and a Ph.D., both in developmental psychology, at The Ohio State University, where she also was a lecturer in the psychology department for two years before securing fellowship funding at Yale.

At first glance, mathematics might not seem the best choice for a career that involves so much psychology. Furlong’s answer to that question shows both the value of math discipline to her career as well as the essence of a liberal arts preparation for a continuing education.

“What I find exciting about math is all the logic and proofs and theoretical thinking about the world that it entails,” she said. “Every time I write a paper now, I write a math proof first, and then just flesh out the paper from there. And I do statistics every day in my research. I study number cognition in primates and deal with mathematical models.

“But my Transylvania undergraduate work also demonstrates that what you need to succeed in graduate school are not the little bits of knowledge about your particular field. It’s knowing how to do research, how to construct an argument, and how to talk with your faculty adviser, who is incredibly important. You get good training and a solid foundation at Transylvania. It was never a problem that I didn’t have a degree in psychology when I went to Ohio State.”

Furlong is thrilled to be at Yale—“It’s like Disneyland for scientists”—and working with Laurie Santos, a prominent scholar in primate cognition. Her current research looks at how bonuses affect performance. The experiment varies the size of the bonuses—in this case pieces of cereal—given to monkeys who are playing a computer game. She is seeing a disconnect from the idea that larger bonuses always result in superior performance.

“When we give them the largest bonus, their performance actually drops,” Furlong said. She relates this to a classical psychological finding known as the Yerkes-Dodson law, which reveals that we all have an optimum level of stress. The large bonus equates to increased expectations and heightened pressure to perform.

Studying primates with a leading scholar in the field at Yale is a long way from the dog obedience training that Furlong cut her teeth on as a high school student. She perhaps unintentionally summed up the fascination she holds for her work when she described a research experience involving a 260-pound chimpanzee, the largest primate she has worked with:

“They’re big, they’re scary, they’re aggressive—and they’re awesome.”

—WILLIAM A. BOWDEN

During a lecture visit to Transylvania in February 2011, Ellen Furlong ‘03 stopped by the Primate Rescue Center in Nicholasville, Ky., where she worked while a Transylvania student. She’s shown with a brown tufted capuchin, the species of monkey she now works with in her research as a post-doctoral fellow at Yale University.
Mathew B. Mattingly ’02 and Alexis Rowland Mattingly ’03, a son, Rowland Pratt Mattingly, September 1, 2010
Lindsay McWilliams Workman ’02 and Thomas Workman, a son, John Thomas Workman, June 8, 2011
Stephen E. Kreyenbuhl ’03 and Sidney Allen Kreyenbuhl ’04, a son, Edward Allen
Kreyenbuhl, August 25, 2011
Sara Morton Spencer ’03 and Aaron J. Spencer, a son, Jackson Davis Spencer, May 22, 2011
Robin DeBolt Fink ’04 and Justin Fink, a son, Wyatt Matthew Fink, August 10, 2011
Lisa Taylor Warpinski ’05 and Nick Warpinski, a daughter, Eleanor Laurene Warpinski, May 9, 2011
Whitney Smith Nordmoe ’06 and Matthew Nordmoe, a son, Sebastian Miles Nordmoe, May 14, 2011

Obituaries

Only alumni survivors are listed.

Zelmer W. Pique ’33, Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., died January 14, 2011. A humanities major, he worked in technology sales and marketing at companies including General Electric, Westinghouse, and Texas Instruments. He retired from Ameron Corp. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and continued in the Army Reserve, retiring as a Colonel. He received an honorary doctor of humanities from London University in 1973.

Eleanor Miller Russell ’36, Glasgow, Ky., died July 22, 2011. She spent her life as a homemaker.

Frank Allen ’38, Long Beach, Calif., died July 15, 2010. The biology major was a member of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity, Books and Bones, and was a tenor in the A Cappella Choir. He earned a master’s degree in education from Arizona State University and was a retired music educator and founder and music director for the Long Beach Bach Festival.

Susan Sweeney Schultz ’39, Springfield, Va., aunt of Margaret Foley Case ’76 and Mary Ellen Foley ’79, died May 31, 2011. She was a social science and history major, a member of Chi Omega sorority, and a member of the 1939 Transylvania Day Court of Honor. A pianist, she performed “Rhapsody in Blue” with the Transylvania Symphony Orchestra and regularly accompanied the glee club and choir. She served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II and was a retired real estate broker.

Caswell P. Lane ’42, Mr. Sterling, Ky., died May 28, 2011. He was a member of Kappa Alpha Order and was inducted into the Robert Barr Society in 1992. He graduated from the University of Kentucky Law School, practiced law in Mt. Sterling, and served as police judge, Montgomery County judge, and circuit judge. He received the Kentucky Bar Association Special Service Award.

Hazel Wilson Sawyer ’42, Lexington, died June 17, 2011. She was a member of Phi Mu sorority and the Y.W.C.A. She and her husband helped start the First Church of Christ in Highland, Ind., and she served there as a teacher, youth worker, and women’s ministry leader.

Louise Linville Hill ’46, Hamilton, Ohio, died May 26, 2011. She was inducted into the Robert Barr Society in 1996.

J. Robert Jones ’51, Paducah, Ky., father of Stanley F. Jones ’80, died July 22, 2011. He was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and a U.S. Army veteran, where he served in the Korean War.


Frances McGuire MacKenzie ’51, Louisville, died May 25, 2011. She was a member of Beta Sigma Phi sorority and former office manager for Christian, Brown and Ruber.

Natalie Brower Sherman ’51, Lexington, wife of Albert L. Sherman ’49, died May 18, 2011. She was a sociology major. During World War II she was a stenographer, clerk typist, and translator for the War Department.

Joseph A. Cuzner ’57, Grandbury, Tex., husband of Barbara Noteboom Cuzner ’58, died July 25, 2011. He was a chemistry major and was vice president of Rycoline Products.

Robert L. Hayes ’58, Mt. Sterling, Ky., died August 30, 2011. He was a retired Disciples of Christ minister, farmer, and businessman and served churches in Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. He was also an Army chaplain for 30 years, including a year in Vietnam.

Reba Nell Mayfield Jones ’59, Hollister, Calif., died May 1, 2011. She was a college professor, conducted cancer research, and was a retail antique dealer and appraiser. She was also active in the San Benito County Republican Women Federated and served as president. She was inducted into the Robert Barr Society in 2009.

George E. Crow ’65, Savoy, Texas, husband of Janice Ebs Crow ’66, died July 31, 2011.
Recommendations sought for awards and Alumni Executive Board

Alumni are encouraged to submit recommendations for several awards that are presented during Alumni Weekend each year 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 in most cases recognizes an alumnus or alumna who has been out of school 10 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 Mongiardo ’96, director of alumni programs, at npajic@transy.edu.

Transylvania Golf Classic set for May 31, 2012

Join Transylvania’s athletics department and the alumni office for the 2012 Transylvania Golf Classic, a four-player scramble set for May 31, 2012, at the University Club of Kentucky Big Blue course. 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 or jebel@transy.edu.

Strong finish needed to retain title in Battle of the Bumpers

With the help of alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents, and friends, Transylvania was once again the winner of the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities Battle of the Bumpers in 2010. The 2011 license plate competition began on January 1, and you can still make a difference by the end of the year. For more information, including contact information for your county clerk, visit the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet’s Division of Motor Vehicle Licensing at http://mvl.ky.gov.

Ways to stay connected

There are lots of ways to keep up with your alma mater and fellow alumni:

- www.alumni.transy.edu — alumni online community where you can register for alumni events and browse the alumni directory for the latest news on classmates.
- www.facebook.com/TransylvaniaUniversityAlumni — the quickest way to get alumni news and information on events.
- linkd.in/TUAlumni — If you’re interested in professional networking, join the Transylvania University Alumni group on LinkedIn.

To contact the Alumni Office:

Natasa Pajic Mongiardo ’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
He was a business and economics major and member of Kappa Alpha, where he served as treasurer. He earned an M.B.A. from Cornell University. He was vice president of Sun Oil Lubricants and Quaker State Oil and was president of Cross Oil.

Anne Marlowe Shurling ’69, Louisville, died August 17, 2011. A music major and member of Chi Omega sorority, she returned to Transylvania in 1982 as a psychology professor for nine years. She earned a master’s degree in counseling from Florida State University and a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Kentucky. In addition to her time at Transylvania, she was a private practice psychologist and musician.

Robert W. Schwartz ’75, Lebanon, Tenn., died August 13, 2011. He played soccer and was involved with music ensembles, playing drums for several campus and Greek functions. He continued playing in bands and in studios in the Nashville area.


Jeanette Collins Unsell ’81, Springfield, Mo., died February 16, 2011. She earned her M.Ed. degree from Drury University and served in several state and area organizations including Valley Watermill Park and Watershed Committee of the Ozarks.

Alice Feagin Brooks ’83, Memphis, died April 28, 2011. She was an English major and was involved in several campus organizations, including serving as president of the campus chapter of the National Organization for Women and editor of the Rambler.

Christopher A. Fox ’04, Lexington, died August 15, 2011. He earned degrees in medical laboratory science, biology, and chemistry from the University of Kentucky.

The summer 2011 issue of Transylvania incorrectly identified Nell Robinson Waldrop ’59 as Miss Transylvania in 1959. Joyce Thaman ’59 was 1959 Miss Transylvania. Waldrop’s date of death was also May 5, 2011, not May 4, as it appeared in her obituary.
MUSIC AND TECHNOLOGY MEET AT STUDIO 300 FESTIVAL

Transylvania’s Studio 300 Digital Art and Music Festival was held September 16-17 and featured more than 60 concerts and exhibitions of digital art and music in the form of art installations, interactive pieces, and works of video and sound. Transylvania students showed and performed their works, as well as professional artists and musicians from eight countries including the U.S., Canada, Norway, the United Kingdom, Australia, Switzerland, Italy, and Germany. The Studio 300 Festival was held in various venues on and off campus and was coordinated by music professor Timothy Polashek (above, right). Photos by Joseph Rey Au and Helena Hau.
The Canadian Brass were not above spoofing various performing arts genres, including this inspired take on ballet, during their performance in Haggin Auditorium on September 21 as part of the Dorothy J. and Fred K. Smith Concert Series at Transylvania. Right, sophomore Matthew Durr takes advantage of a workshop offered by the ensemble members to improve his trombone technique. *Photos by Joseph Rey Au and Helena Hau*