

Student Musings



Hayes Gardner '15, of Lexington, Ky., is a history major, Grinnell men's basketball player, and coeditor-in-chief of the Scarlet & Black.

Academic Tweeting

How a technological time-waster can be a useful utility

When writing a paper or struggling through a dense reading, sometimes it is helpful to turn to another resource for assistance. Unfortunately for me, that resource is often Facebook or Twitter, and very rarely do I find a profile picture or trending topic that allows me to better understand what role the Kansas-Nebraska Act had in the Whig Party's demise or how James K. Polk's aggressive expansionist tendencies disrupted the drowning economy of Mexico. However, occasionally social media comes to my aid.

This past summer, I stayed in Grinnell and completed a mentored advanced project (MAP) under the supervision of my adviser, Sarah Purcell '92.

The focus of my MAP was Civil War and the Digital Humanities, meaning I studied the Civil War era — in my case, the interaction of two political parties in antebellum America — but also explored a digital aspect of historical research. And although my research consisted of hundreds of newspaper articles, speeches, personal letters, and secondary sources, Twitter proved to hold one of the keys to my project.

I wanted to use a social network analysis program called NodeXL for my research, but could not figure out how to operate it. Social network analysis is a tool used to demonstrate interactions between people using points and lines. For my purposes, I hoped to create a map with NodeXL that showed how often members of the Know-Nothing political party and members of the Republican Party crossed paths in the mid-1850s. However, the tutorials online were not relevant for my goals, and no one in Grinnell was familiar with the program.

Instead of continuing to search for tutorials, I decided to procrastinate on Twitter – where I was hit with an epiphany. I'd received responses from a couple of my favorite athletes and musical artists on Twitter; why not take a shot at a leading researcher? So, I tweeted Marc Smith, whose YouTube tutorials I had watched and whom I would later find out was the inventor of the NodeXL program, asking for some guidance. I had started doing some other research when I was disrupted by my phone. I expected to see that someone had "favorited" or "retweeted" one of my poorly structured attempts at humor that I call my tweets, but instead had a response from Marc Smith saying he could help. We exchanged email addresses, and within 24 hours, he had given me step-by-step instructions to achieve what I wanted with his program. Although Smith lived in California and had no idea who I was, he was friendly and willing to help me from across the country – we even discussed his recent trip to my hometown. For

once, Twitter proved to be the opposite of a black hole for productivity.

With the help of my newfound proficiency in NodeXL, I was able to create a NodeXL map, as well as a 30-some-page research paper titled "Republicans and Know-Nothings: The Courtship that Never Happened." The piece argued that the Republicans did not concede any of their ideology to attract Know-Nothing voters.

By the end of the summer, I had spent 10 weeks reading and analyzing a couple of years in American political history by immersing myself in the literature on the topic and forming opinions based on my knowledge. Multiple times, my research led to frustrating dead ends, but much more often, my findings kept me wanting to continue to read and explore.

It may seem monotonous to spend a summer in a small town at a small college that is not currently in session, but it was far from mundane. My successful research was only one of the reasons why my "Iowa Summer" was an amazing experience. I also enjoyed learning about my peers' MAPs, touring various Grinnell restaurants with my adviser and MAP group, playing pickup basketball with the locals of Grinnell, perusing primary documents in between rounds of sharks-and-minnows at the Grinnell community pool, leisurely enjoying classics such as The Catcher in the Rye on the front porch of our house overlooking Park Street, insisting my housemates read Perks of Being a Wallflower so we could discuss it, and taking weekend trips to Midwestern cities for ballgames and concerts, all the while tweeting along the way.

On June 2, 2013, I drove from my home of Lexington, Ky., to Grinnell to begin my summer in Iowa. When I took exit 182 off I-80, drove four miles down Highway 146 and pulled up to the house where I would stay all summer, I was hit with an intense feeling of giddy anticipation of the summer ahead of me. I remember drafting a tweet – "And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, just as things grow in fast movies, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer" – a quote from *The Great Gatsby*. Twitter's character count prevented me from tweeting F. Scott Fitzgerald's words, but it did not stop the prophecy of a memorable summer from happening. My summer in Grinnell was one full of research discoveries, but also one full of appreciation for the College, the town, and the academic experience with which I was provided; also, for the knowledge that anything – even Twitter – can be used as a tool to advance your knowledge.



Sunset at CERA.

Photo by Justin Hayworth

ESSAYS:

Inside front cover Student Musings:

Academic Tweetingby Hayes Gardner '15

2 EditorNotes:

Exploring Innovation — and the Evils of Cherry Tomatoes by Perry Beeman

24
Blog Excerpt:

The Story after the Story by Tessa Cheek '12

Inside back cover Alumni Musings:

Theatre of Social Responsibility by Leda Hoffmann '09

FEATURES:

11 Neverland Comes Full Circle

by Luke Saunders '12

Independent theatre group born at Grinnell hits a milestone.

14

The Grinnell Beowulf

by Luke Saunders '12

Six students publish a new teaching edition of the epic Anglo-Saxon poem.

16

Social Impact in the Windy City

by Luke Saunders '12

Students travel to Chicago to witness life after Grinnell.

19

President Howard Bowen and Corporate Social Responsibility

by Doug Caulkins

The 60th anniversary of Howard Bowen's seminal work on corporate social responsibility brings renewed attention to the man and his message.

22

Why Cherry Tomatoes are Evil ...

by Luke Saunders '12

Lessons from the Center for Careers, Life, and Service's dinner-etiquette training for students.

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Departments

Remembering Peg Stiffler '63 , Death and Religion, Raising Livestock isn't Agriculture, and One Step Ahead	
Campusnotes	5
Financial Future Update	
And the Winners Are	
Honoring Service	
Attracting Top Talent	
At the Faulconer Gallery	
Emmy Shines on Grinnell	
Schwab Alumni Grant	
A Different Look at Disaster Movies	
Welcome Kate Walker	
Grinnell Gets TEDx Mention	
Town Hall Summaries	
Science Group Excels	
Classnotes	5
Notable Alumni Dulani Helps the Powerless Jeetander Dulani '98	
Bumper Crop in Food Desert Justin Booz '10 and Monica Wizgird '09	
iPhone Innovation Kenji Yoshino '11	
Publications, Productions,	
and Exhibitions 30)
In Memoriam	1
Alumni Council 32	,

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Mission Statement

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

Central Switchboard

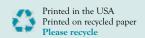
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On the cover:

Kenji Yoshino '11 created a microscope with a smartphone and \$10 worth of materials. Photo by Justin Hayworth.





EDITORNOTES

Exploring Innovation – and the Evils of Cherry Tomatoes

Inventiveness is in Grinnell College's DNA.

The creative approaches our faculty, staff, students, and alumni employ in problem-solving, research, career development, and social responsibility are so well-developed, global, and engaging, it is difficult even to keep up with the news.

In these pages, you'll read about some of the more recent examples of Grinnellian ingenuity. **Kenji Yoshino '11** turned a smartphone into a microscope using \$10 worth of hardware-store parts. **Kyle Espinoza '12** won an Emmy for Outstanding Creative Achievement in Interactive Media for his part in a developing a Nickelodeon smartphone app.

A nonprofit won the Grinnell Prize for helping Rwandan women go into business making low-cost menstrual pads out of banana fibers. And Grinnell got a nod at TEDx for its innovative biology classes.

This kind of global view and strong work to invent could be expected from Grinnellians. The College emphasizes – among other things – social responsibility with a world view, and innovation across all disciplines.

President Raynard S. Kington told audiences during his fall speech tour and at events in Grinnell, that innovation continues to be a prominent part of the College's culture. He has stressed that innovation is as important to the humanities as it is to the sciences, and referred to emeritus trustee and Nobel laureate Thomas Cech '70's description of "intellectual cross-training."

"Just as mathematics is considered to be good exercise for the brain even for those who will never use calculus in the future, so the study of great books, history, languages, music, and many other nonscience fields is likely to hone a scientist's ability to perceive and interpret the natural world," Cech wrote.

In his speeches, President Kington noted that innovation is one part of Grinnell's overwhelming success. "The first three years of my time at Grinnell have been a period of tremendous change," the president said. "We are taking on financial sustainability, diversity, academic excellence, and innovation, and competing in the ranks of the finest colleges and universities in the world."

That mission is evident in the overwhelming successes described in these pages.

Perry Beeman, editor magazine@grinnell.edu www.grinnell.edu/magazine

P.S. This issue marked our first chance to fully deploy **Luke Saunders '12**, our resident editorial fellow, actor, and etiquette authority. You'll see he wrote most of the major features in this edition, and we thank him for the grace, humor, and Grinnellian propensity for debate, so wonderfully embedded in his powerful writing.



One wonders if the best
death offers is a "Haagen-Dazs"
and "a margarita."
Is that all there is, Alfie?
Is there not at least a
Mozart requiem or a
John Donne poem?

-David B. Bowman

LETTERS

Remembering Peg Stiffler '63

It was with tremendous pleasure that I read the second article pertaining to Peg Martin
Stiffler '63's wonderful gift to Grinnell's endowment in honor of Waldo Walker. Not only was her gift extraordinary and her relationship with Dr. Walker one that many of us at Grinnell experienced with our selected "gifted" professors, but its inclusion just two pages prior to the insightful article by Karla Erickson ("Eight Lessons from

the End Of Life") was simply glorious. I was so happy to learn that Peg had worked hard in communicating her desires with the staff at the College shortly before her death. Erickson's advice to, "recognize that the dying have choices," would have put a smile on Peg's face - because she knew that, and embodied it. Having been Peg and Joe's nextdoor neighbor in Tacoma [Wash.] for many years, it is such a pleasure to have known them, and a true celebration of life - her life and her gift to the college.

> -Thomas Somerville '64 Teguesta, Fla.

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

Death and Religion

Apropos the essay in the Fall 2013 issue titled "Eight Lessons from the End of Life," allow me the following brief observations.

As an ordained minister I have attended many families approaching and during the time of death. During six years of ministry in a Grinnell congregation during the 1980s, I officiated at funeral/memorial services an average of once per month.

I find helpful a number of Professor Karla Erickson's "lessons." It is the purely analytical and secular approach that gives me pause. It's as if the mystery of death is solved. The author mentions that "there is nothing particularly sacred about pulling up the covers." True. But what if someone were to hold a hand and offer a sacred prayer once the cover is arranged? The author advises to "keep up the rituals," but suggests no rituals. What about reading a devotional passage from a sacred text? Rituals devoid of content grow tawdry.

One wonders if the best death offers is a "Haagen-Dazs" and "a margarita." Is that all there is, Alfie? Is there not at least a Mozart requiem or a John Donne poem? Once upon a time at Grinnell, "historic figures" (See Fall 2013 issue, Page 20–24) harbored faith providing vision beyond an Iowa cemetery. Of course, we moderns are wiser. Are we not?

-David B. Bowman Saratoga, Calif.

I just received my copy of the Fall issue of *The Grinnell Magazine* and read the terrific article by **Karla Erickson**. I plan to make copies and send them to my fellow board members of the local chapter of the Funeral Consumers Alliance. We encourage our members to preplan.

-Richard J. Raridon '53Oak Ridge, Tenn.

The web of civilization and the human overpopulation it engenders is rapidly unraveling the web of life ...

-David Cantor '77

Raising Livestock isn't Agriculture

I find it interesting to learn of fellow Grinnell alumni working in agriculture and other forms of food production (Summer 2013). As a Grinnell English major who earned a graduate degree and for the past quarter-century has worked full-time as an animal advocate dedicated to changing food policy, I feel compelled to point out that raising animals for food is not agriculture, though The Grinnell Magazine implied that it is. Agriculture means cultivation of fields. Meat, dairy, fish, and eggs are therefore not mentioned along with the crops, seeds, soil, and water in the 1862 law establishing the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Humans have an innate affinity for other animals, as well as an herbivorous nature, and intermittent public attention to human-health, ecological, and humane problems with the meat, dairy, fish, and egg industries. This leads the industries' promoters at our agriculture colleges, in our government, and in news, advertising, marketing, and PR

to go to great lengths to suppress our understanding that animals are sentient beings — not plants — which do not experience fear, pain, deprivation, loss, and other aspects of animal life. Hence the industry's obfuscating talk of "growing" and "harvesting" animals.

I wouldn't blame or judge fellow Grinnellians or anyone else for their way of making a living. After all, the entire economic system is rooted in injustice toward nonhuman animals — as well as the cultivation of fields with its millennia of tree-felling and "pest" extermination, and enough toxic chemicals to create more than 140 vast ocean dead zones.

The web of civilization and the human overpopulation it engenders is rapidly unraveling the web of life that made it all possible. The Grinnell-style liberal arts education enables us to assess the situation truthfully and perhaps find our hapless species' best way out of the conundrum.

–David Cantor '77 Glenside, Pa.

One Step Ahead

In the Spring 2013 issue, theneditor Dan Weeks '80 reassured readers that *The Grinnell Magazine* would continue printing hard copies and would not evolve into an online-only publication as so many other magazines have in recent years. I support this decision.

However, I believe this longterm commitment to printing warrants a discussion about the paper used to create the magazine. The inside cover of each issue states that the magazine is printed on recycled paper. But how do we know that's true? Whose definition of "recycled" are we using? And is there a more sustainable source of paper available?

Over the past several years, an increasing number of peer institutions such as Macalester, Haverford, and Harvey Mudd have begun printing their alumni magazines on paper that is Forest Stewardship Council-certified. The Forest Stewardship Council is an independent, nonprofit organization whose mission is

to promote environmentally sound, socially beneficial, and economically prosperous management of the world's forests.

The contents of this magazine are selected to stimulate thought and discussion. ... It seems appropriate for this thought and discussion to begin with the paper itself.

Hannah Yourd '09Oakland, Calif.

Editor's note: We welcome all discussions about sustainability. Thanks for your input. Grinnell College has a long history of green practices and our magazine stock is no exception. Our issues have been printed on paper certified by the Forest Stewardship Council since 2008. We hope you enjoy this issue just a bit more knowing we have sustainable printing practices.

CAMPUS NOTES

Financial Future Update

In February 2013, the Grinnell College Board of Trustees approved a historic motion regarding Grinnell College's financial future.

The vote came after months of open discussion about how Grinnell will financially support its world-class students, who come from diverse financial backgrounds.

Board Resolution: Retain Need-Blind, Reassess in 2015

Grinnell affirms its two closely paired commitments: to need-blind admission, and to meeting 100 percent of demonstrated financial need for domestic students. We will conduct an annual assessment of endowment performance, philanthropic support, net tuition revenue, and cost structure. If we have not demonstrated significant progress toward resolving the structural imbalance in our operating budget by the fall of 2015, we will determine at that time whether to pursue more aggressive enrollment management strategies or become openly need-aware, effective with the entering class of 2017.

The Grinnell Magazine will offer updates on the situation in each issue through the fall 2015 vote. The first update was in the Fall 2013 issue. The matter also has been discussed in President Raynard S. Kington's speeches, at campus meetings, in Pioneer Fund letters, and in the Grinnell College Honor Roll of Giving.



UPDATE:

\$4 million

Grinnell College needs an additional \$4 million a year in net revenue to continue the current admission and aid protocols.

\$203,889

Donations for need-based aid from July 1, 2013 through Nov. 22, 2013 totaled \$203,889 from 594 donors. Gains in net tuition revenue, combined with endowment proceeds and philanthropy, must cover a \$4 million annual gap if current policies are to remain.

Fall 2015

In February 2013, the Board of Trustees voted to continue the policy of need-blind admission and meeting 100 percent of domestic students' financial need. The trustees will revisit the issue at their fall 2015 meeting. Philanthropy will be one of the metrics assessed.



Photo by Justin Haywort

And the Winners Are ...

Grinnell Prize honors work to aid refugees, support women in business

Grinnell hosted its third annual Grinnell Prize symposium Nov. 3–9. Winners of the Grinnell College Young Innovator for Social Justice Prize were selected from more than 1,000 nominees from 66 countries and spent a week on campus discussing their work with the campus community.

Recipients included Elizabeth Scharpf and Julian Ingabire Kayibanda of Sustainable Health Enterprises (SHE) and Emily Arnold-Fernández, founder and executive director of Asylum Access.

Scharpf is SHE's founder and chief instigating officer; Kayibanda is SHE Rwanda's chief operating officer. A social venture that invests in overlooked ideas that can have a significant positive impact, SHE increases women's access to affordable menstrual products by

Emily Arnold-Fernández, founder and executive director of Asylum Access poses with President Raynard Kington and Julian Ingabire Kayibanda and Elizabeth Scharpf of Sustainable Health Enterprises (SHE).

Honoring Service

Wall Service Awards nominations due

The application period for the **Joseph F. Wall '41** Sesquicentennial Service Awards for 2014 is fast approaching.

The awards were established during the College's sesquicentennial celebration in 1996 to honor Grinnell's commitment to social responsibility and public service. They were named in honor of Wall, the late Grinnell history professor who inspired an ideal of social responsibility in his students.

The College typically gives awards of \$25,000 to each of two graduates to carry out a service project that is of tangible benefit to others. Since the inception of the Wall awards in 1996, more than \$850,000 has been distributed to the service projects of more than 36 Grinnellians. Applications must be sent to **Doug Cutchins '93**, **cutchins@grinnell.edu**, by 5 p.m. CST on Wednesday, Feb. 19, 2014.

Jenny Dale '06 and Latona Giwa '09 received Wall Service Awards in 2013. Dale, who now lives in Xela, Guatemala, is using



Jenny Dale '06

her Wall award to support Una Vida Digna (A Dignified Life), a program that helps educate and find jobs for returned young immigrants through workshops, internships, and mentoring. Dale has been deeply engaged in issues of immigration and human rights since she was a student at Grinnell. She was active in immigration issues for many years in the Chicago faith community and recently moved to Guatemala



Latona Giwa '09

to be closer to her work. Una Vida Digna is a project of DESGUA Sustainable Development for Guatemala, a grass-roots network of community groups in Guatemala and the United States working to create opportunities for Mayan communities in Guatemala.

Latona Giwa is the founder of the Birthmark Doula Collective (BDC) in New Orleans. She is using her Wall award to launch the New Orleans Community Doula Program, allowing the BDC to provide quality doula support on a larger, more systematic scale. Through this effort, the collective will build relationships with hospitals and insurance companies in order to make doula care part of mainstream perinatal support in the region. Giwa was active in service as a student at Grinnell. After graduation, she moved to New Orleans to work as a Grinnell Corps fellow. She currently is studying to become a nurse midwife.

The Wall Alumni Service Awards are open to all graduates of Grinnell College with a service commitment to benefit others. Projects may be original or supplement existing projects or programs; they may be local, regional, national or international in scope and may be carried out domestically or internationally. For more information, go to http://bit.ly/1qKJHi3

manufacturing low-cost maxipads using local agrowaste, primarily in Rwanda, but soon globally.

Millions of women in developing countries lack access to affordable menstrual pads. Most girls and women simply stay home from school or work while menstruating, missing up to 50 days of wages or school time each year.

SHE is investing in women entrepreneurs to jump-start businesses selling and distributing the pads. It is replicating its patent-pending technology on an industrial scale during a pilot project. Early work includes the manufacture of 300,000 pads for 3,000 Rwandan students.

Arnold-Fernández is founder and executive director of Asylum Access, the only international organization solely dedicated to supporting refugee rights in countries of first refuge in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Instead of the traditional humanitarian aid approach, Asylum Access' innovative model helps refugees rebuild their lives through access to safety, legal work opportunities, education, and the ability to move freely and make empowered choices for themselves.

The organization uses four tools to help refugees access social justice: individualized legal counsel or representation, community legal empowerment, policy advocacy, and strategic litigation. The group has advocated for major reforms regarding the legal standing of refugees in Ecuador, Thailand, and Tanzania. The keynote address at the Grinnell Prize ceremony this year was given by Sister Helen Prejean, the anti-death penalty activist whose experiences were portrayed in the film *Dead Man Walking*.

Attracting Top Talent

Trustee, husband spur interest in education careers

Penny Bender Sebring '64, a Grinnell life trustee, and her husband, Charles Ashby Lewis, conceived and provided initial funding for the Grinnell Careers in Education Professions program. The program will provide access to speakers, internships, and other opportunities to help students explore education as a career option.

The couple believes that improving public pre-K-12 education is one of the nation's most pressing needs. "It's both a social justice issue and an economic competitiveness issue," Lewis says.

Sebring co-founded the University of Chicago Consortium on Chicago School Research, and Lewis is also deeply involved in education improvement.

In other countries with the best educational outcomes, top college students are encouraged to pursue teaching as a career, Lewis notes. That is not true in



the United States, Sebring and Lewis say.

Even when students pursue an education career, there are challenges. Often, young teachers leave the profession just as they begin to excel at it, leaving behind an open position and classroom instability. Ashley Schaefer, the College's Lawrence S. Pigeon Director of Careers in Education Professions, says helping students build connections and skills through the program should not only help change the perception of teaching as a worthwhile endeavor, but also lift the trajectory of students'

career paths. "Today, teaching is often one of the last things that students consider doing," she says. "We want to make it one of the first things they consider."

The couple recently helped start companion programs at the University of Chicago and Amherst College.





Greg Smith, Breakdown Lane, 2013. Video still.

Quality Uncertainty: The Market for Lemons

Jan. 24-March 16, 2014

New York-based artist Greg Smith draws inspiration from Nobel Prize-winning economic research, American car culture, and classic "road movies" for a video installation opening in the Faulconer Gallery in late January.

Smith received his Ph.D. in physics from Harvard University in 2000 before pursuing a career as an artist. He received a 2013 Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship based on his proposal for the video that debuts in this, the artist's first solo museum exhibition. It features many of the makeshift cameras used in the filming, as well as plastic lawn furniture, a bathtub, and a used Lexus ES300. After appearing at the Faulconer Gallery, the exhibition will travel to Susan Inglett Gallery,

Emmy Shines on Grinnell

Nickelodeon digital team features recent alumnus

One year out of Grinnell, **Kyle Espinosa '12** has an Emmy.

"I feel pretty ecstatic to win an Emmy for a project in which I had a significant role," he says. "The statue is for the team, but if I had a spare \$2,000 lying around, I could get mine."

Espinosa is part of Nickelodeon's digital team, a group that recently won an Emmy for outstanding creative achievement in interactive media — user experience and visual design. Their Nickelodeon app for iPad goes beyond free video viewing, offering a movable tile layout with original videos, polls, games, and interactive content, as well as full episodes of Nickelodeon programs and specials.

Espinosa and his supervisor were responsible for populating the video content. He also reviewed the quality and functionality of the app, worked with the development team on technical issues, and had creative input on written copy and editorial issues.



The project added up to long hours; he also monitors the **Nick.com** site to ensure everything is working. "I watch Nick TV for a living," he says.

Espinosa has been working with the digital team in New York since graduation, when he started in Viacom's summer associate program. In the program, he worked with Nick Digital and MTV Digital Music Production, accepting a position with Nick Digital when the program ended.

Schwab Alumni Grant

Alums Provide Books for Afghan Children

Derek Westfall '95, U.S. State Department representative to the provincial reconstruction team in Kunduz Province, Afghanistan, received a Lori Ann Schwab Alumni Grant.

Westfall will work with his wife, Shayne Beschta '95, to purchase books in Farsi and English for the Children's Support Center of Kunduz. The center was founded with a grant from the U.S. State Department to provide shelter and education for the children of prisoners.

The grants, named for the late Lori Ann Schwab '95 — who died in 1994 while a student at Grinnell — are presented annually to people who graduated from Grinnell between 1992 and 1998 and who are staff members or volunteers in nonprofit service organizations and public schools. Megan Lewis '95 and Kristin Stuchis '98 also received Schwab alumni grants this

year. Partnering with Friends of the Children in Portland, Ore., Lewis will use the grant to provide vulnerable children with a professional mentor. Stuchis, of Duluth, Minn., will use the grant to support training that will allow her to teach yoga to people of all ages and abilities through Udac, Inc.

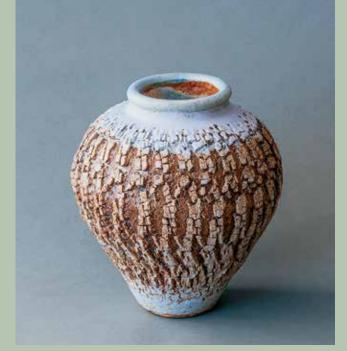


Jill Davis Schrift: Works in Clay

Jan. 24-March 16, 2014

In her second solo exhibition at the Faulconer Gallery, Jill Davis Schrift, lecturer in art, creates ceramic work to transform and enrich the daily routine of eating and drinking to an artful experience. In the vase series, Schrift brings together traditional vessel forms with contemporary techniques to activate the surface of the clay.

Schrift has been a lecturer in art at Grinnell College since 1988, teaching ceramics and drawing. She has a master's in fine arts, with a specialization in ceramic sculpture, from Purdue University, and a master of science in teaching from State University of New York at Potsdam. Her solo exhibitions included pastel drawings and collages at the Bibliothèque Marguerite Audoux, Paris; Les Vergers de l'Art, Paris; and of her ceramic work at the Grinnell (Iowa) Regional Medical Center.



Jill Davis Schrift, *Untitled*, 2013. Stoneware, sodium silicate process. 8 x 7 in.

A Different Look at Disaster Movies

Can we evolve during climate change?

Srinivas Aravamudan is a Duke University professor of 18th-century English literature with wide-ranging interests and an unusual approach to contemporary issues. On Oct. 9, Aravamudan presented this year's Connelly lecture, "On Climate Change and Contemporary Disaster Movies." Clips from popular disaster movies such as Roland Emmerich's 2012 and The Day After Tomorrow were displayed because they showed a manifestation of the perception of climate change in the public consciousness.

The only way the movies can process climate change is as a weather event or series of weather events rather than as a structure, according to Aravamudan. It is very hard to show the "slow violence" of climate change in a narrative film, much less a blockbuster action/adventure movie. All the films discussed,

from Beasts of the Southern Wild to 2012 to Ice Age, show the complete or nearly complete destruction of the world, but allow the survival of a nuclear family. Most films that depict climate change either exempt the family from destruction or demonstrate that humankind can evolve and survive. Aravamudan brought up the alternative: What if we can't evolve?

The Connelly lecture series is named for Peter Connelly, a popular Grinnell English professor who died in 2000. Aravamudan is a professor of English and dean of the humanities at Duke and has served as president of the Consortium of Humanities Centers and Institutes. His specialties include British literature, 18th-century literature, postcolonial literature, critical theory (modern to contemporary), and novels.

Welcome!

Kate Walker joins Grinnell as vice-president of finance

Kate Walker was named vicepresident of finance and treasurer at Grinnell College in October. Walker will succeed vice-president and treasurer Karen Voss, who retired. "Kate Walker brings to the position strong analytical skills and a reputation for enthusiasm and integrity," says President Raynard S. Kington. "We are excited about the perspective that she brings to this important position."

"It's not often that one gets an opportunity to serve an institution of the caliber of Grinnell," Walker says. "I'm honored to become part of Grinnell's leadership team as we work together to prepare the next generation of world leaders."

Formerly assistant vicepresident for finance at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn., Walker has significant experience in higher education and in private foundations. Before joining Macalester in 2007, she held leadership positions at the Northwest Area Foundation in



Kate Walker

St. Paul and at the Minnesota Council on Foundations. Her experience includes accounting and finance, budgeting, forecasting, human resources, and technology work at nonprofit and for-profit organizations in Minnesota, Illinois, and Alaska.

Walker earned a B.A. at St. Mary's University of Minnesota and received her M.B.A. from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota.

Grinnell Gets TEDx Mention

Speaker calls biological inquiry course a model

Grinnell's Introduction to Biological Inquiry courses got a shout out from Ariel Diaz at TEDx-Cambridge in September. Diaz is CEO of Boundless, which produces low-cost online textbooks coupled with study tools.

By inverting the standard educational process and beginning with big questions and real-world research challenges, Grinnell's Biology 150 gets students excited about biology, Diaz says. It helps some students discover a love of biology and allows others, who have no desire to major in biology, to gain some appreciation and understanding of the subject.

Science classes elsewhere sometimes don't instill the excitement, Diaz adds. "We're forcing students to memorize seemingly irrelevant, and mundane, and boring details before allowing them to see the beauty and excitement intrinsic to every subject that they're about to study."

He blames the "curse of knowledge," by which experts in a field have difficulty understanding how their subject is understood by novices. Instead of beginning a course with rote memorization and a focus on minute details, Diaz advocates beginning a course with the beauty of a big picture and with lab work. From there, an inquiry-based learning path like Grinnell's can lead organically to expertise and deep learning.

Town Hall Summaries Speakers address diversity, technology

This fall, Grinnell College began a series of town hall meetings to encourage transparency and frank, civil discussion of topics that faculty, staff, and students consider important. Each town hall has sessions at noon and in the evening.

Here are summaries of the first two town halls:

Tuesday, Sept. 24

Harm Reduction, Title IX, Diversity

Discussions were overwhelmingly respectful and revealed a number of concerns, even anxieties, about campus issues, including:

- The College's commitment to racial, ethnic, religious, political, and socioeconomic diversity.
- Potential effects of changes in Grinnell's enrollment policies on students of various backgrounds and levels of need.

- The role of the Black Cultural Center within the present-day context of a diverse campus.
- Implications of Title IX for students engaging in sexual activity under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- The need to help students manage the stress of being involved in campus conduct hearings.
- Perceived racial and gender biases in the conduct process.
- The right of police to enforce laws on campus, including in campus buildings.

Wednesday, Nov. 13 Technology and Learning

The College's Ad Hoc Committee on Technology-Rich Learning is trying to understand technology's impact on liberal learning, residence life, and a Grinnell degree. Some of the points discussed:

- Additional staff and infrastructure would be needed to support future technology initiatives.
- Many are debating how professors will think creatively about incorporating technology into their courses without substituting technology for teaching.
- There is a trend on campus away from lectures in the classroom. Studies in education and learning indicate that an interactive environment in the classroom is far more useful.
- Grinnell uses both opensource and proprietary software.
- There is interest in making sure current technology on campus works before expanding into new areas.

Science Group Excels

"Grinnell's Chapter is Outstanding"

The Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) has given Grinnell its Outstanding New Chapter award.

The organization said the Grinnell chapter's efforts for 2012–13 "are exemplary of the type of accomplishments and activities that are in line with the SACNAS mission, vision, goals and values." The awards recognize and showcase outstanding chapter programs or activities and provide an opportunity for other chapters to see what can be done at the chapter level.

The number of SACNAS chapters nationwide grew to 90 this year, up from 60. The chapters represent a national network of talent, energy, community, and passion to develop the next generation of diverse scientists, the group says.



by Luke Saunders '12

Grinnell College has graduated a number of alumni in recent years who work in theatre. One alum, whose theatrical work is accomplished and affecting, noticed that her Grinnellian friends were doing great, world-improving things such as teaching or helping foreign-born orphans get adopted by American parents. While her peers were doing inspirational work that was inarguably good and useful, she feared she was merely trying to get better at pretending.

Such career anxiety is not uncommon. Fortunately, there is an independent theatrical institution that began at Grinnell nearly 10 years ago that provides an excellent example of theatre that helps. That's why it started, and since then it has expanded to help more people in Grinnellian ways.

Neverland Players' approach to theatre is one reason for the popularity of the performance group based on Grinnell's campus. Its members turn stories penned — or crayoned — by students at Davis Elementary School in Grinnell into frequently moving, always-funny skits. For as lighthearted and happy-go-lucky as it is, Neverland Players took to the stage during a dark period in the College's recent history.

GROWTH FROM TRAGEDY

Kat Henry '06, founder of Neverland Players, was a first-year student during the 2002–03 school year. That year, three Grinnell College students committed suicide. The pall these deaths cast over the College stood in stark contrast to Kat's vision of Grinnell as an "awesome place full of bright, down-to-earth people." She also was dealing with the death of both a close family member and a pet.

Although she had always loved theatre, Kat's options for theatre department productions then weren't exactly uplifting. She performed in Chekov's *Uncle Vanya*, which was produced in the fall semester. She took on the challenging dramatic role of Kate Mundy in Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughnasa* in the spring. Both were well-executed productions, but neither seemed to break the bleakness that hung over the College and its residents.

One night, she was talking to a friend and telling him she hoped the theatre department would put on a musical

or a comedy, and she remembered seeing Griffin's Tale, Northwestern University's children's repertory theatre company, with him. The show served as a blueprint for the Neverland format and fit the bill as a theatre outlet that could provide a little levity. Kat's first year was especially heavy, but every Grinnellian can admit the need to "temper the heavy with the trivial."

By the fall of 2004, Kat had coordinated with the principal of Davis Elementary, arranged a modest budget for costumes (which are still in use today) and obtained construction materials for a simple backdrop. The final piece she needed to complete her vision was a keyboardist. Jisoo "Ben" Kim '07 was a perfect fit. "His love for the children's stories was unwavering. He laughed at every scene, every time, and he really meant it," Henry says.



Photo courtesy of the Chicago Fringe Festival, photographer, Geovani Galvez

THE NEVERLAND EXPERIENCE

The process of creating a Neverland performance is intense, but stress-reducing. The performers bring stories written by elementary school students to life through a rigorous improvisational process. Story content ranges "from purple cows to planets filled with root beer or even the evil literary designs of the conniving 'lidrarian' (an original spelling mistake from a Davis student that was lovingly readapted as the linguistically misunderstood villain)," says Lexy Leuszler '12. Sometimes the stories are used as a framework, but other times they are reproduced verbatim. The performers spend three hours each night developing a performance from a handful of stories, sometimes creating mash-ups, and always including one epic musical skit. As Leuszler describes it, "Rehearsals consist of long periods of pretend bent on crafting the liveliest interpretation of the author's ingenious characters."

Kat Henry shepherded the Neverland Players for her remaining years at Grinnell, but after she graduated, the program struggled and then went dark for a couple semesters. Barbara Monaco '10 and Mitch Avitt '10 took it upon themselves to resurrect the Neverland Players. Says Monaco, "Mitch and I loved Neverland; it was something that brought us a lot of joy and made us significantly closer friends, and we also made lots of close friends. We wanted to do something for Neverland since it had done so much for us."

They had both auditioned and performed in a Neverland show their first year at Grinnell. Avitt was similarly resolute. "The semester that Barbara and I found it wasn't happening, neither of us had a question of whether to revive it or not, we just knew that we would," he says. "We put our heart and soul into the group. I would argue that we got our heart and soul back out of the group freshly polished and reinvigorated."

Julianne Thompson '15 and Phoebe Mogharei '16, the directors of this fall's Neverland Players show on campus, also joined Neverland early in their Grinnell careers. They are perpetuating both the process and the ethos they discovered upon joining the group. "Once you're in Neverland, you're always in Neverland," Mogharei says. They stressed that the audition process was fun and exciting, which is a departure from most auditions. Typically they're nerve-wracking and potentially egoshattering. Lexy Leuszler recalls her audition: "I was asked to read as a fish out of water, a lisping rabbit, and a witch—easily the most enjoyable audition one can take part in."

TO THE COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

In 2010, the Neverland Players struck up a partnership with the Grinnell Area Arts Council. The Neverland leadership submitted a proposal to the arts council to become the new children's theatre of Grinnell, replacing the Missoula Children's Theatre, which previously had a residence in Grinnell supported by the council, with a more cost-effective model. Groups of elementary and middle school students meet for a weeklong camp consisting of writing and performing. The program and its participants are called Neverland Jr.

"We made sure each student had a significant role as a writer, actor, and collaborator," says Leuszler, who co-founded Neverland Jr. with Amanda Borson '13. In addition to teaching theatre techniques and writing skills, the College students who participate in Neverland Jr. foster strong relationships with children and families in the community. "We also had a long-term relationship with many Grinnell-area elementary students who were thrilled to create their own Neverland after having supported us year after year with stories and fandom," Leuszler says.

The Neverland Players first ventured outside Grinnell in 2012, working with stories from students at Highlands Elementary in Edina, Minn., which performer Teddy Hoffman '14 had attended. The group performed the new works at the Minnesota Fringe Festival in Minneapolis. Their show was the 10th-best-selling show per seating

capacity, the fourth highest-rated show, and touted as "Best kids' show of the Fringe!" Barbara Monaco, who lived in the area at the time, made the programs and housed performers, and Kat Henry went to the opening performance and voiced her approval.

FULL CIRCLE

The most recent series of performances outside Grinnell came over the summer and brought the Neverland Players full circle. This year, six Grinnell alumni — Dane Haiken '12, Erik Jarvis '12, Ben Tape '12, Anika Manzoor '13, Leuszler, and Borson — took Neverland to the Chicago Fringe Festival. Their stories came from a group of fourth- and fifth-graders at Pulaski International School in the Bucktown neighborhood of Chicago. Kat Henry, who gathered the stories, teaches a special education class there.

The stories included in the show ranged from a noir skit about a candy-stealing bully to a Super Mario Brothers rap. It was a very musical show, with parodies of "Mirrors" by Justin Timberlake, "At Last" by Etta James, "Get Lucky" by Daft Punk, and "Creep" by Radiohead. Tape, who sang the "Creep" parody, says, "Lyrics-wise, there's just something great about taking a song the BBC refused to play because it was too depressing ('Creep') and turning it into the Tooth Fairy's lament about not being able to see the [Chicago] Bulls play."

The Neverland Players performed at the Pulaski school as well. Henry arranged three back-to-back assemblies during which Neverlanders performed the students' stories for first-through sixth-graders. "The chance to honor the authors, sitting in their own school among their teachers and young siblings and older siblings, while they were cheered on by their classmates reinforced for us why Neverland is important," Borson says. The authors were even invited to take a bow onstage at the end and were thrilled to do so. "Not everyone would want to be asked to 'write about anything that comes to mind,' but for some, this seems to be the perfect point of entry into something awesome," Henry says. The alumni Neverlanders unanimously agreed that performing for the authors and their classmates was the high point of their Chicago experience.

Now the alumni Neverland group is looking to develop an infrastructure for Neverland in Chicago that resembles a nonprofit, education-based company. Kat Henry has expressed a desire to collaborate with Neverland Jr. to start a program with them.

The creation and progression of the Neverland Players is characteristically Grinnellian. It began as a therapeutic response to tragedy and continues to function for the betterment of all involved — authors, actors, and audience. Neverland serves as a validation of the importance of theatre. It is a highly practical, direct, interactive means of social improvement.

MY NEVERLAND EXPERIENCE

by Luke Saunders '12

I've always wanted to be a Neverlander. They're Grinnellians taken to the next level — serious and silly, interested in expressing themselves while improving the world, and comfortable talking to 9-year-olds and professors at the top of their fields. I've come close, but something always got in the way of being a true Neverlander — of performing with the group. I have done just about everything short of performing, though, including helping the Neverland Players take its first steps outside of Grinnell.

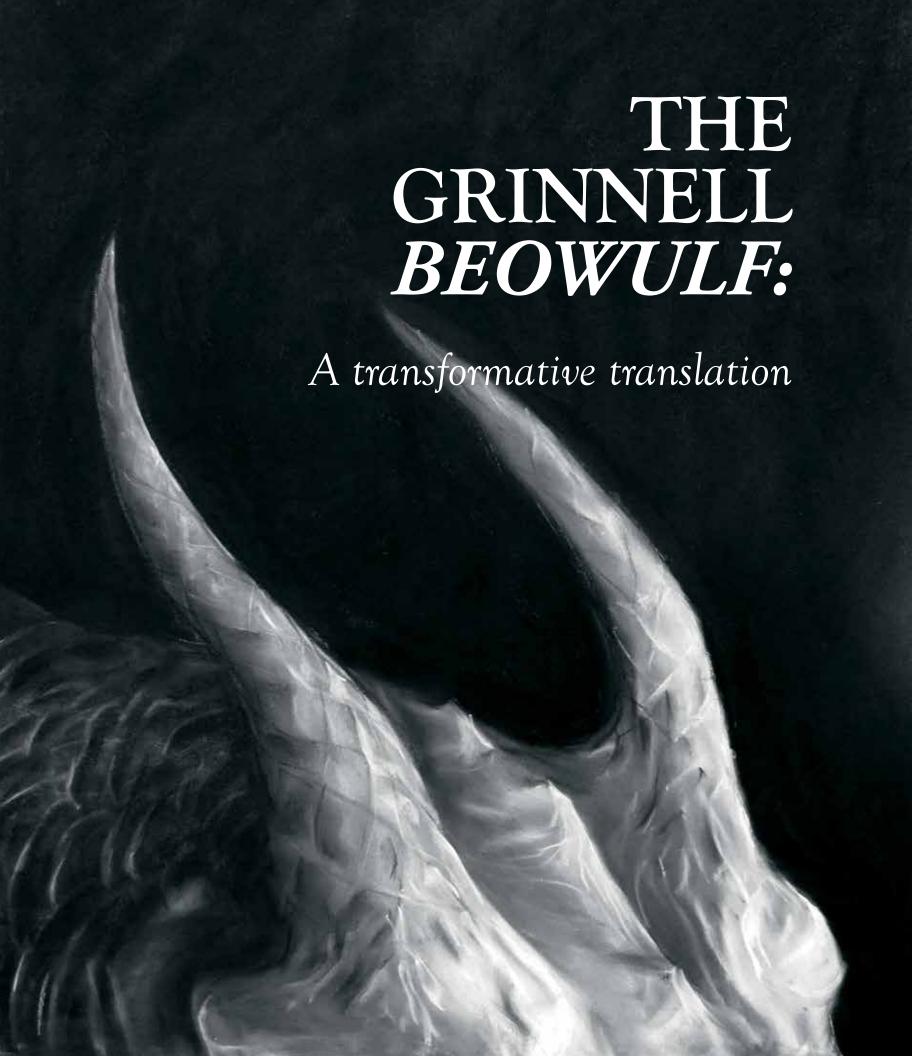
I'm convinced it would have happened anyway. My name just happened to be on the form that was submitted to the Minnesota Fringe Festival. I had originally signed up for the festival with the intention of writing a play that my co-producer, Ben Tape '12, and I would perform. When time started running short, the plan changed to performing an existing play. After poring over one-acts without satisfaction, Ben suggested Neverland.

I drove up to Minneapolis twice to aid the Neverland Players' Fringe campaign. A week before the first performance, I brought 50 feet of PVC pipe to make a portable frame from which the Neverland curtain would hang. It was also the first day in Minneapolis for all the performers. As we were tie-dyeing T-shirts — part of the official Neverland costume — stories from students at Highlands Elementary in Edina, Minn., which Teddy Hoffman '14 had attended, were distributed.

Everyone had seen them before but there hadn't been much discussion regarding which ones to adapt. Immediately, the entire cast — Erik Jarvis '12, Lexy Leuszler '12, Amanda Borson '13, Kate Doyle '13, Tape, and Hoffman — began pulling the stories apart and analyzing them. Within seconds there were concise arguments for the inclusion of this one and the exclusion of that one, and suggestions to do a mash-up of these two or three similar ones. It was impressive to watch. They broke down those stories like professionals. Soon a preliminary rundown was established. Not long after that I had to head back home.

One week later I returned to find a fully fleshed-out 45-minute show. I know the process they used to make it happen, but it still seems a bit uncanny to me. They worked on the show eight hours a day, workshopping characters, creating scenes, and writing song lyrics. They ran through the show a couple of times after I arrived so I could give them an outside perspective. I was grateful to be trusted with a pseudo-directorial role.

That show was an incredible success. It led to the show at the Chicago Fringe Festival earlier this year, which I attended. I remember walking into the theatre with two rows of seats and seeing the Neverland curtain hanging on the wall. It was like coming home. Even though I had never been a "true Neverlander," it gave me the sense that I belonged — to the Neverland community, to the Grinnell alumni community, and to a world of theatre that's vital and new.



Six Grinnell students have discovered that the translation process is as transformative for the translators as it is for the text. **Eva Dawson '14, Emily Johnson '14, Jeanette Miller '14, Logan Shearer '14, Aniela Wendt '14,** and **Kate Whitman '14,** along with **Tim Arner**, assistant professor of English, have been working on an annotated modern English translation of the epic poem *Beowulf* since the summer of 2012. The process began when Arner and Whitman discussed the possibility of a *Beowulf*-related Mentored Advanced Project (MAP). Arner sent emails to students, and eventually the group came together.

by Luke Saunders '12

The students have varied backgrounds — linguistics, sociology, creative writing, Latin — that aided in the ambitious and painstaking translation process. Using spreadsheets that listed each word, its meaning, and its grammatical role, the students translated the words of the poem. Word order in Old English is very different from modern English, so the initial translations had to be tinkered with until they both made sense and reflected the meaning and ambiguities of the original text.

Translation by committee is an uncommon practice; although this group worked well, there were inevitable arguments. Squaring seven different opinions, all of which may be valid, is a lengthy process, but the group never moved on until everyone was satisfied. By the end of the summer of 2012 they had finished translating all 3,182 lines of *Beowulf*. According to Arner, that was the easy part. That was also the well-funded part

During the 2012–13 school year and the summer that followed, the students continued to work. They had decided that what they were working on could be much more than a translation. It could be an edition with notes, and it could be a real, physical book they could hold in their hands. This project was no longer just a MAP, and these students kept working for more than a year with minimal funding. They enlisted the help of Caleb Neubauer '13, a postbaccalaureate fellow, to create artwork for the book based on this new translation.

The group partnered with Press, a group on campus that publishes several books written by students each year. The Grinnell Beowulf is the first academic work the organization has published. The book has also been published digitally on Digital Grinnell (go to digital. grinnell.edu), which will allow anyone to read it or use it to teach. One of the group's hopes is that this edition will be used by high school teachers and college professors to teach Beowulf. There aren't a lot of open access, online Beowulf

translations, let alone annotated versions with accessible and poetic modern English.

At the release event in October, Arner attested to the significance of this new translation of *Beowulf*. "It's the edition I've always wanted to have in my classroom," he said, "and it's unlike any other translation or edition. It was produced by undergraduate students *for* undergraduate students." He intends to use this book when teaching *Beowulf* and to recommend it to colleagues.

This process produced more than a translation of *Beowulf* with notes; it transformed the students both as scholars and as people. At the outset, Kate Whitman "knew something special had started. I could not, however, have anticipated just how much every 'Beowulfer' has taught me as a scholar, a student, and a friend." Eva Dawson considers this project to be one of her greatest academic achievements: "I have never worked on an academic project for this long, or with this much continuous effort, in my life." Several of the students said that this project has changed the way they read, write, and research. Having to parse every word of a text deepens the level of analysis the students engage in. They also feel more a part of the scholarly community, rather than like students.

The friendships formed during this project are even more precious to these scholars than any other result. "I have found some of my best friends through this project, and I am perhaps most grateful for that. I often reflect on this project, and as much as I love the work we did, I cannot imagine doing it with any other people," Emily Johnson says.

This has been their defining experience at Grinnell. These scholars began their project after their second year at the College, and this year they're graduating. "As rewarding as this book is, I've been rewarded a hundred times over with the relationships built because of it," Johnson says.



Social Impact in the Windy City

A glimpse of Grinnellians after Grinnell

by Luke Saunders '12 with photos by Justin Hayworth

In 2012, the Center for Careers, Life, and Service (CLS) and the Office of Development Alumni Relations took a group of students to Silicon Valley on its first industry tour. They met with several successful Grinnell alumni and friends of the College and examined startups at different stages of development. If there was a lesson to the trip or a concept that the CLS (formerly CDO) wanted to convey, it might have been that it is perfectly

fine to be a Grinnellian and work in business. In the fall of 2013, the center put together another industry tour to Chicago, where the focus fell on nonprofit organizations. Far from being antithetical to the first industry tour, the social impact tour in Chicago demonstrated that business acumen, innovation, and entrepreneurship are crucial to nonprofit management, and that there are countless ways to make a positive social impact.



Mark Peltz, dean for career development, explained that the overarching goals for these industry tours are to help students develop a richer understanding of industries, to provide them with content in the tour that juxtaposes their motivations in doing this work with reality, and to help students broaden their professional network with connections. The CLS chose Chicago because it is a popular post-graduate destination for Grinnellians, and it has a large number of alumni involved in social causes.

There is a perception among alumni that the College stresses graduate school and service work over other postgraduate options. Alumni backgrounds are far more diverse than those two options, as the tour participants realized. Thomas Neil '14, political science major and Student Government Association president, who went on the tour, was especially interested in the work of Jacques Sandberg '86. Sandberg is a vice president at real estate developer Related Midwest and heads its affordable housing division. According to Neil, Sandberg is working on "the next era of project housing, Section 8 housing, and mixed development housing."

Both Sandberg and Joe Neri '84, CEO of IFF, a nonprofit community development financial institution, which helps other nonprofits through real estate consulting and lending, are prime examples of alumni who operate one or two degrees away from direct service but still make



Top photo, left to right: Thomas Neil '14, Noah Sebek '17, Sophie Neems '16, Carmen Nelsen '14, Chi Nguyen '15, Lily Jamaludin '14, Sami Rebein '14, Anya Vanecek '15, Lucy Marcus '14, Naomi Ramsay '14, Emma Lange '16, Ashraya Dixit '14.

Left: Brenda Cora '07, principal of Rowe Clark Math and Science Academy.









Clockwise from top left: Dr. Mike Ison '93, an infectious disease specialist at Northwestern Memorial Hospital; Josh Tepfer '97, clinical assistant professor of law and project co-director at the Center on Wrongful **Convictions of Youth** at Northwestern University; Christa Soule Desir '96, founding member and board chair of The Voices and Faces Project and a young adult novelist; and **Dr. Robert Benjamin** Johnston '85, emergency medical physician at Morris Hospital and board member of the Morris **Hospital Foundation.**

a positive social impact through their work. The same applies to Alli Johnson Henry '04, who works with A Better Chicago, helping people and companies invest in nonprofit organizations doing work in Chicago. Most Grinnellians realize that direct service and volunteer work aren't the only ways to have an impact, but seeing Neri, Sandberg, and Henry in action helped that lesson hit home for political science major Carmen Nelsen '14. "I do want to have a social impact, but I also want to make a living," she says. Having a positive social impact and being able to support herself financially are not mutually exclusive.

Christa Soule Desir '96 is a founding member of The Voices and Faces Project, which helps rape victims tell their stories. The path that took her from being a theatre major at Grinnell to writing workshops to help rape victims and writing her own young adult novel was hardly linear. "In terms of career plans, it became clear that no path was straight for any of these alums," says Lucy Marcus '14, an English major who went on the tour. The same is true of Sandberg, who told the tour group that he dug ditches for a couple of years after graduating.

One lesson that seemed to permeate the tour was the value of business knowledge. Even though nonprofit organizations aren't bottom-line driven, an understanding of business practices is essential. Thomas Neil observed that a lot of Grinnell graduates pursue business in the first few years after graduating, then transfer the skills they learn to nonprofits. "Doing business after graduation isn't selling your soul," he says. Instead, it can be a means of gaining skills that can be applied in government services, policy, and other areas.

Marcus says the tour helped take her out of her critical mindset — or at least helped balance it with observations she was able to make of the world outside the Grinnell bubble. Nelsen agrees with the value of going to see the alumni where they work rather than just inviting them to campus. "These kind of trips are important ... it is completely different seeing them in their work environment because you can kind of imagine yourself sitting at that desk," she says. If there was a lesson from this tour, it was that what you do doesn't matter as much as that you work to have a positive social impact.

The CLS hopes to take students on more industry tours in the future. Peltz has discussed the possibilities of a biotechnology tour in the Midwest; a performing arts tour in Los Angeles; or even a large, multisubject tour in New York. Wherever the tour goes next, the students who participate will gain perspective and get their first look at the Grinnell community after graduation. To echo a sentiment Lucy Marcus expresses, the four years each Grinnellian spends on campus are, "just the tip of the iceberg of the Grinnell community."

President Howard Bowen & Corporate Social Responsibility



Book anniversary brings renewed attention

by Doug Caulkins, professor emeritus of anthropology, and Brianne Evans '13, Chen Liang '14, and Josephine Chaet '16

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the publication of an important — and until recently neglected — book by **Howard R. Bowen**, president of Grinnell College from 1955 to 1964. *Social Responsibilities of the Businessman* (1953) is considered the foundation for the study of corporate social responsibility (CSR).

By social responsibility of businessmen, Bowen meant "the obligations of businessmen to pursue those policies, to make those decisions, or to follow those lines of action that are desirable in terms of the objectives and values of our society."

Since the 1960s, both the scholarship and the practice of CSR have expanded exponentially, and women became more visible in business. The discourse of social responsibility now routinely refers to the "triple bottom line," including not only the economic but also the social and environmental outcomes of enterprise.

Corporate social responsibility in the 21st century is a global business norm, although the debate continues concerning the efficacy of CSR and the degree to which it is used principally as a form of advertising or marketing.

Bowen's book received routine and honorific mention for several decades. However, following Archie Carroll's statement that the book should be considered the seminal book on the subject, it has been cited with increasing regularity during recent years. Carroll is Scherer Professor Emeritus of Management at the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business.

Bowen's book was particularly thrust back into the center of CSR scholarship by an article entitled "Rediscovering Howard R. Bowen's Legacy: the Unachieved Agenda and Continuing Relevance of Social Responsibilities of the Businessman" in the journal Business & Society, December 2011, vol. 50, no. 4.

The authors contended that, "Bowen's institutional perspective on social responsibility is an authentic treasure that can be fruitfully exploited for future theory building and empirical studies in the business and society/CSR field."

With increased interest in Bowen's book, the price of the used hardback edition had gone up to more than \$1,000 in October 2013. Fortunately, the book has just been republished in paperback by the University of Iowa Press with introductory essays by one of the authors of the aforementioned article and by Bowen's eldest son, Peter Geoffrey Bowen. Royalties from this republished book will go to Grinnell College, Claremont Graduate University, and the University of Iowa, the three institutions where Howard Bowen was president or chancellor.

Meager use of this landmark book has been made at Grinnell College in recent years. According to Burling Library records, the single copy of Social Responsibilities of the Businessman in the circulating collection has been checked out only four times since 1989, when digital records were first kept. More importantly, Bowen has not been recognized as an important spokesperson for Grinnell's social justice tradition.

A prolific scholar, Bowen probably did not speak much about his 1953 book at Grinnell. Former Grinnell President George Drake '56, a student during Bowen's early tenure, doesn't recall hearing about CSR at the time. Rather, Bowen is best known for his scholarship on higher education, including several important books, such as *The Costs of Higher Education* (1980) and *American Professors: A National Resource Imperiled* (1986).

Bowen's distinguished early career was in several government posts, followed by a relatively brief time as dean of the School of Commerce at the University of Illinois. Bowen later taught at Williams College before coming to Grinnell.

"As president of Grinnell College, he probably was, at least in part, responsible for eliminating the business focus of the economics department and was a champion of the campuswide liberal arts focus of the curriculum," according to Waldo Walker, Bowen's associate dean at Grinnell. Beryl Clotfelter, professor emeritus of physics, and his wife Mary Lou remember Bowen as kind and welcoming to new faculty families who, like themselves, were starting at the college.

Bowen did much to build Grinnell's reputation. He became chancellor of the Claremont Colleges in 1970, where he served for four years. He received numerous awards, including the Distinguished Career Award of the Association for the Study of Higher Education. Walker remembers Bowen as a "very moral person with a rather Spartan perspective about college education." Following Bowen's death in 1989, Clark Kerr, former president of the University of California, described Bowen as, "the moral mentor for all of us."

Bowen's book does much to fill a gap in the Grinnell tradition of social justice by extending the domain of moral responsibility into the territory of corporate capitalism. David Morris '92 worries about "the inherent aversion many (most?) of the U.S. students at Grinnell have to forprofit business," presumably because of a moral preference for nonprofits. Morris notes that his perception also is based on his "prior experience introducing for-profit careers at Grinnell."

Some Grinnellians think of for-profit and nonprofit enterprises as different moral universes, but this kind of dichotomous thinking oversimplifies the complex continuum of organizational structures and guiding principles or missions that include social businesses, social enterprises, B corporations (certified for their social and environmental performance), and other organizations with strong social responsibility principles. Bowen concluded in his 1953 book that:

As major objectives I suggest a concerted attempt to eliminate the excessive display and conspicuous waste that result from large incomes; an all-out effort to establish codes of practice for business that will mitigate the harshness of the competitive struggle — in other words, to eliminate unfair

practices instead of depending on the government to do it; a resolute undertaking to outlaw the exploitive aspects of advertising and make it in reality a form of service to consumers; encouragement, in all sectors of the economy, of the nonfinancial human incentives which temper acquisitiveness and make for social harmony; a bold attempt, in cooperation with labor, the community, and government, to tame that most dangerous enemy of our economy — the business cycle of boom and depression.

In the wake of the growth of economic disparities in the United States as well as the financial crisis of 2008, Bowen's book assumes a new relevance for scholarship and civic discourse concerning the social responsibility of businesses. In the opinion of the authors, Bowen also deserves a more central place in the history of Grinnell's dialogue on social responsibility, in all sectors of the economy, within a strong liberal arts tradition.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:

Ben & Jerry's, Pfizer continue the work

Economist Milton Friedman, writing in *The New York Times Magazine* in 1970, famously asserted that "the social responsibility of business is to increase its profits." However, corporations today must be responsive to an increasingly diverse audience, made up of individuals and stakeholders they previously might have been able to ignore. In addition, ethical standards of companies have changed dramatically on a global scale and will likely continue to do so in this century.

Corporate giving takes diverse forms. Ben & Jerry's mission statement includes social goals, including: "To operate the company in a way that actively recognizes the central role that business plays in society by initiating innovative ways to improve the quality of life locally, nationally and internationally."

Many grocery stores donate 2 to 5 percent of each purchase to local causes. Pfizer Pharmaceuticals donates drugs to the uninsured, while Goldman Sachs supports international development organizations.

Cash donations from America's 180 largest companies equaled \$4.9 billion in 2010. Pfizer Pharmaceuticals gave the most — more than \$3 billion in cash and products combined.

Wells Fargo has an extensive policy and reports donations averaging of \$865,200 per day to nonprofit organizations and causes. In the 2012 social responsibility report, John G. Stumpf, Wells Fargo president and chief executive officer, explained that the corporation is a learning organization: "We're committed to connecting with



Chen Liang '14, Josephine Chaet '16, and Doug Caulkins, professor emeritus of anthropology,

our stakeholders and communities, and to listening and understanding, to doing what's right, to admitting mistakes and learning from them."

In Iowa, Wells Fargo funds or contributes to nearly 200 nonprofit program and activities.

Together, the corporate social responsibility and socially responsible investing movements have led to substantial improvements in the triple bottom line performance of corporations. Still, controversies continue to rage over the appropriate approach to corporate philanthropy. Many corporations are consistent in their annual donations to environmental and social causes.

Goldman Sachs' philanthropy, in contrast, has varied widely, creating some suspicion about a major gift in 2012 from the Goldman Foundation, their main vehicle for CSR. "Is Goldman Buying Redemption?" asked The New York Times on Sunday, Oct. 27. In this article, Susanne Craig explored the possibility that Goldman Sachs is attempting to ward off criticism of Wall Street's behavior during the economic crisis. Before the crash of 2008, Goldman gave less than 1 percent of its annual pretax earnings to charity; after the crash, the contributions shot up to more than 6 percent of its earnings, supporting highly publicized programs for small businesses and women in developing countries. Warren Buffett, famed investor, philanthropist and a former trustee of Grinnell College, has noted that it is rare for corporations to donate more than 2 percent of their profits to social and environmental causes.

In an opinion survey for *Forbes Magazine*, the top social responsibility firms according to the public include such iconic brands as Microsoft, Google, Facebook, Apple, BMW, Amazon, and Disney Co. This would not be surprising to Howard Bowen, who contended in his 1953 book: "The businessman had been subjected to pressure originating from the new social climate in which he operates, and at the same time he himself has assimilated many of the values and attitudes that are characteristic of this new social climate."

The Nov. 2 issue of *The Economist*, commenting on the partnerships between nonprofits and corporations, contends that "the benefits of partnerships will never be uniform, smooth, or even very satisfying," and concludes that corporate-nonprofit partnerships are messy, but "on balance they are forces for good." That conclusion would have pleased Howard Bowen.

This article was written by Doug Caulkins, professor emeritus of anthropology, and his students, Brianne Evans '13, Chen Liang '14, and Josephine Chaet '16. They thank Peter Geoffrey Bowen for his assistance. They are planning additional conference presentations and articles on Howard Bowen and corporate social responsibility and invite alumni to contact them with their relevant memories of Howard Bowen. Email caulkins@grinnell.edu.

Why Cherry Tomatoes are Evil ...

AND OTHER LESSONS IN DINING ETIQUETTE

What I remember most about the etiquette dinner thrown by the Center for Careers, Life, and Service was not the dinner, although it was quite good. My most vivid memory from that night was a particular piece of advice and the cautionary tale that followed.



by Luke Saunders '12

According to our host, Lowell Olivier-Shaw, conference coordinator at Central College in Pella, Iowa, you should never eat cherry tomatoes. It seems unfair, but they are apparently hard to get on a fork and problematic if you pop a whole one into your mouth. Olivier-Shaw described an incident in which an acquaintance of his was at a business dinner and bit

down on a cherry tomato without completely closing his mouth, sending a jet of fresh-squeezed tomato juice across the table. I see this as an unjust vilification of the cherry tomato. The issue to raise should have been the partially open mouth, which if closed would have rendered the tomato mostly harmless.

This evening was all about teaching Grinnellians how to behave at a business dinner so as not to have tomato disasters or any other distracting troubles.

Walking into the Joe Rosenfield '25 Center's Room 101, where the dinner was held, was like stepping into a spacious, high-ceilinged bistro. Five tables were set out, each equipped with eight place settings on top of a thick, white tablecloth. As I pulled out my chair I took stock of the excess on the table in front of me: two forks, two spoons, two knives, a small plate, a cup and saucer, a water goblet, and a red cloth napkin. It was a scene that could make any Grinnellian uncomfortable. Just think of all the water needed to clean the duplicate dishes and the energy needed to heat it. I sat down nonetheless, hoping that my future wouldn't hold too many of these dinners.

Once everyone had taken their seats, we put our

napkins in our laps and were instructed that they were to stay there. You can bring a corner up to dab your lips before you take a drink, in fact, you must do so every time you take a drink. It makes sense, in a way. If you have a particularly insensitive face, or a beard that catches your food, and you don't use a napkin before you drink, you could end up with anything from crumbs to half a salad floating in your beverage.

The salad course arrived, and we were instructed to pass the dressings around the table counterclockwise. We did the same with the bread, which went on the small plate on the left side of the place setting about the same distance from the edge of the table as the water goblet. If you sit down at a restaurant and don't know which bread plate and water are yours, we learned, you can make a circle with your index finger and thumb and make a b and d with your hands. Your bread, "b," will be on your left side and your drink, "d," will be on your right. It's probably best to perform this trick mentally.

During the salad course, we were lectured on the importance of the bite-size piece, which should be about the size of a quarter. I would argue that a bite-size piece of food is the same volume as my mouth, but there is a sound reason for small bites. The setting we were simulating was a business dinner, and the point of a business dinner is conversation, not food. Bite-size pieces keep you from appearing gluttonous and allow for easier conversation without wasting precious seconds chewing. We were encouraged to ask our tablemates questions as soon as one of them took a bite to demonstrate the hazards of eating mouth-sized pieces.



Photo by Saw Min Maw '16

The archaic rules about how one should interact with the server were troubling. Olivier-Shaw pointedly said that one should not speak to the server unless ordering or sending back food. Specifically, you should not thank the staff every time they bring you a new course or refill your drink. That didn't sit well with me or, from what I could see, anyone else at my table. It seemed classist and rude. I do recognize the fact, though, that I am from Iowa and haven't ventured into many elegant restaurants in many big cities. So, it may well be that showing gratitude to a server is perceived as wide-eyed, small-town naiveté. Regardless of its perception, I intend to maintain my defiance of this rule against the acknowledgement of the waitstaff's existence and maintain my defense of cherry tomatoes.

Part of his point about not speaking to the staff may have been his perception that such overt communication with the server would be redundant in the face of the nonverbal communication that apparently all waitstaff are trained in. For instance, if you have to excuse yourself temporarily, you put your napkin on the left side of your place setting. If you're leaving permanently, you put it on the right side. Eye contact is critical if you want anyone to help you. If you would like someone to pass the salt and pepper (always both, never one or the other), you have to get their attention by making eye contact. The same applies if for some reason you feel the need to talk to your server. If you are finished eating the current course, there's a sort of silverware semaphore that signals the server that you're done. In the American style, you place the knife and fork across the middle of the plate with

the tines of the fork facing left and the blade of the knife toward you. In the continental or European style, you cross your fork and knife over the center of the plate.

The continental method of dining offered some challenges to my tablemates, who dined American style. They would steady an item they were about to cut with a fork in their left hand and cut it with a knife in their right hand. Then, to eat the quarter-size piece they cut, they switched the fork to their right hand. The pseudo-ambidextrous continental method, which I switched to years ago due to an excess of pretention and a desire to eat with ruthless efficiency, involves no swapping. Instead, you simply eat left-handed.

We weren't served soup, but we were educated about it. If you are eating soup, do not crush up your crackers and put them in the bowl; you can only float whole crackers. Always move the spoon from front to back and use the rim of the bowl to prevent drips from forming.

Our main course, for the omnivorous among us, was chicken with mashed potatoes, spinach, and squash. It was followed by an extremely rich chocolate dessert and coffee. The experience was, in all, helpful and informative, not to mention delicious. I'm glad to have attended and hope that students will take advantage of the opportunity. And I feel far more confident in my ability to attend a business dinner and not feel like a child. All that remains is to offer my thanks to the College — the CLS in particular — for hosting this event, my compliments to the chef, and my gratitude to the servers for everything, but especially for the precut cherry tomatoes in our salads.

Blog Excerpt



Tessa Cheek '12 graduated from Grinnell College with a philosophy degree before moving to China to write a book about villages and farmhouses. Great Wall Style, part architectural monograph, part profile, and part lyric essay, is now available from Images Publishing. Tessa now writes for The Colorado Independent and lives in downtown Denver.

This essay is reprinted with permission from the website of *The Colorado Independent*, with minor changes for style and length.

The Story After the Story: Remembering Armando Montaño a Year Later

Armando Montaño '12 was a journalist whose work had been published in *The New York Times*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, and *The Seattle Times*. During his time at Grinnell he also wrote for the *Scarlet & Black*. Montaño died in 2012, a little more than a month after graduating from Grinnell College. He had been working as an Associated Press intern in Mexico City. The circumstances of his death are still uncertain.

A YEAR AGO, I found myself in Shove Chapel on Colorado College's campus where, at roughly age 10, Mando and I had snuck in with the idea of drinking from the baptismal font. We had goaded each other right up to that moment, but for whatever reason, it didn't quite pan out — either the stone basin was dry or we couldn't find it. The truth is, I already can't remember. Regardless, we gave up on the font sipping and moved on to the trees outside the chapel, a grove of them, easy to climb, that offered high shade between the buildings in which our parents, CC professors, roamed offices, classrooms, pages.

Mando would say I've buried the lead. I have been told, and I've read in the newspapers, that he was found the morning of June 30, 2012, at the bottom of an elevator shaft in Mexico City, where at age 22 he was working as an intern for the Associated Press. He was wearing his grandfather's Members Only jacket. His wallet was missing, his phone was with him. I had texted him that night, "See you soooooon." Terrible foreshadowing in the extended Os.

The case remains open. He wasn't in his own apartment building, and no one living where he was found seems to have known him. Mando had been reporting on drug-related violence, but his own death didn't bear the hallmarks of the drug war. The case is unresolved, and the loss unresolvable.

A Large Life

Outside last summer's memorial service in the bright sun, I watched our first-grade teacher, whom Mando and I adored, chat quietly with the Grinnell College professor who taught us that creative nonfiction was our shared home in writing. I met friends of Mando on that day who loved and had shared pieces of their lives with him, but whom I'd never known.

In just more than two decades, Mando led a very large life. The ripples are still felt. They shake us. We shake the water. We remember him in slow circles, waves, footsteps, words, and conversation. No memory makes living of the dead. Still, his story grows.

"The thing that always struck me was how alive he was, how excited he was, how much his excitement motivated everyone else," says Don Hecker, director of The New York Times Journalism Institute, a training program for some of the country's most talented young news gatherers, which Mando attended in 2010. "It was like being there at the Institute lit him up somehow. It was just extraordinary."

At a time when the prospect of a long and successful journalism career for a young and ambitious reporter seems unattainable, to say the least, Mando bounded along with confidence and joy in the work of asking people questions and reporting their stories.

"I'll cut to the quick here, the guy was infectious — enthusiastic, smart," says Jim Anderson, news editor for the Associated Press in Colorado. "For those in the business, he was a wonderful reminder of why we started in journalism in the first place."

"He was in it for all the right reasons," adds Richard Berke, another of Mando's mentors and executive editor of Politico. "In so many ways he was a good role model of how you grow as a young journalist and a young person. ... He showed that you don't need to be afraid to talk to people, try things, be out there and be adventurous, learn."

From as far back as I can remember, Mando loved hearing people's stories, which he coaxed out through unassuming openness and sincere interest. For the first paper we worked on together, the *Palmer High School Lever*, he wrote a piece about immigration, getting to know immigrants in our city and educating himself on policy and its local impact. He knew since roughly age 7 what I'm starting to figure out at 23 — that people yearn to tell their stories and are capable of revealing the most intimate facts of their lives if asked by someone who's capable of really listening. Less than a month into my new job as a reporter for *The Colorado Independent*, where Mando interned in 2010, I'm working to approach stories, and the people they're about, with Mando's empathy and insight.

It takes courage to ask questions and lower the volume in our heads enough to really hear the answers. Mando was brave in that way. He was similarly unafraid of speaking his own truths. That quality enabled him to come out as a gay 15-year-old in Colorado Springs just months after our high school's Gay-Straight Alliance was protested by Westboro Baptist Church. That was in 2005, when the number of openly gay or lesbian kids in our school could be counted on one hand, and when in our hometown, the word "fag" often went over easier than the phrase "God dammit."

The Story After the Story

For a recent college grad, Mando had racked up a lot of news clips — articles ranging from coverage of the legalization of gay marriage in Argentina for the Associated Press to the Republican Caucus in Iowa for *The New York Times*. And although there is no more Armando Montaño byline to follow, his memory is enabling others to keep reporting.

"Mando brought so much outside experience to the paper, and we really did turn to him for advice," says Alyce Eaton ['13], a former editor-in-chief of Grinnell College's Scarlet & Black, for which Mando wrote, edited, and finally informally mentored during his last year. "Our thought was to do something that would incorporate Mando's relationship with the paper into a program that will bring experienced journalists, including alumni, together with student journalists on campus."

Eaton, along with many other writers and editors of the paper, worked with Mando's family and friends to establish a memorial fund "to help students at the Scarlet & Black pursue Mando's ideals as a journalist: to produce a newspaper that seeks truth, accuracy and independence in the pursuit of excellence."

At The New York Times Institute, which Mando attended in 2010, a scholarship in his name recognizes

emergent journalists who approach stories with that same conviction and openness to learn.

Mario Koran, the first recipient of the scholarship, didn't start off as a journalist. He was a high school teacher in Denver's Watkins neighborhood before a drinking habit ultimately resulted in felony charges.

Incarcerated in Wisconsin, Koran enrolled in a study-release program. Randomly, he signed up for a journalism course, where he learned the craft — and privilege — of reporting.

"In jail, the biggest thing I felt was dehumanized. I was just a number," says Koran, 31, now an investigative reporting intern for the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. "Journalism was empowering for me, and I realized I could also give that power to other people who were disenfranchised by helping tell their stories."

While at the institute, Koran covered a small sheriff station's attempts to navigate the unforgiving intersection of national drug and immigration policy on the United States-Mexico border. His piece was ultimately published in *The New York Times*.

As a relatively new reporter committed to making an impact with his work, Koran carries the weight of living up to Mando's legacy.

"There's a certain gravity to it, a responsibility that comes with the honor of becoming a part of the narrative around Mando and the people like him who were willing to take this profession, this ideal, as far as they could," Koran says. "It would feel like I was walking away from something big, something that could make a difference, if I left journalism now. It has truly inspired me and given me motivation to keep searching for those stories that need to be told."

Last year, Mando's story was national news. He trended on Twitter, which would have amused him. The story after the story is something Mando knew — that the news of ongoing life, of memory, can be just as vital and just as timely. Like Koran, I'm starting out in an uneasy time for journalism when newsrooms are shrinking, standards are shifting, and scores of seasoned journalists have been nudged out because of budget cuts or their insistence on speaking truth to power.

At least for now, I'm trying my hand in the work Mando cared so deeply about — not just asking who, what, why, where, when, and how, but also addressing why any of it matters. Hopefully, like Mando, I'll help give voice to people whose voices might otherwise not be heard. And maybe, like Mando, what I write will make a difference while there's still time to act. Everywhere, every day, there are stories upon stories that, if covered the way Mando covered the news, turn strangers into members of a family of humans.

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Dulani Helps the Powerless

D.C. lawyer upholds rights, social justice

Jeetander Dulani '98 spent four days at Grinnell College this fall lecturing and meeting with students. His visit comes near the end of a five-year legal battle that resulted in two major appellate court victories and the impending release of a wrongly convicted man.

Dulani graduated from University of Michigan law school in 2007 and joined a large international law firm in Washington D.C. A year later, he asked to take on, without pay, a seemingly unwinnable habeas appeal in the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals. Dulani's client, Elliot Ray, was one several people who had been convicted in a much-publicized case in Milwaukee, in which an 11-year-old girl was killed when a stray bullet from a gunfight between two groups of young men came through a window at her grandmother's house.

There was no evidence placing Ray at the scene of the shooting. The prosecution secured a conviction only by introducing — through the testimony of police detectives — alleged statements made by two participants in the shooting that placed Ray at the scene of the crime.

CLASSNOTES



Nicholas Piediscalzi '52

received the 2013 Distinguished Achievement Award issued by the religion and education special interest group of the American Education Research Association. Piediscalzi was chair of the Department of Religion at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, from 1968 to 1981. He also cofounded and codirected the Public Education Religion Studies Center and coedited and contributed to 10 books on education, social ethics, and religion and sexuality.

1960

"Virtuoso Herbie Hancock still hitting all the right notes" by Andrea Daniel in *The Detroit News* featured **Herbie J. Hancock**, October 2013.

1963

Peter L. Kranz was promoted to full professor in the department of educational psychology, University of Texas-Pan American, September 2013.

1964

University of North Carolina-Asheville named the fitness area of its Sherrill Center the Samuel Schuman Fitness Area in a dedication ceremony, August 2013. Schuman is known for his contributions as the university's third chancellor. He has served as dean of faculty during the search for the new provost.

1965

John F. McDonald received the American Real Estate Society's David Ricardo Medal in "recognition of his outstanding and long-term influence on real estate research and thought as evidenced by his extensive and well-cited publication record," according to the society, April 2013.

1970

Merryll S. Penson received one of 15 Georgia Governor's 2013 Awards for the Arts and Humanities, October 2013. The awards, presented in partnership with the Georgia Council for the Arts and the Georgia Humanities Council, recognize significant contributions to Georgia's civic and cultural vitality through service to the humanities or excellence in the arts.

1973

Irma P. McClaurin accepted the position of faculty member at the Federal Executive Institute, Charlottesville, Va., May 2013. McClaurin will focus on leadership and diversity, crisis, and leadership for the next generation. McClaurin completed FEI's four-week Leadership for a Democratic Society Executive Training Program in June 2013.

1975

Scott J. Frankel was named a 2013 Top Doctor by U.S. News & World Report/Castle Connolly, August 2013. Frankel is a board-certified allergy, asthma, and immunology physician at Kansas City Allergy and Asthma, Overland Park, Kan.

1979

The Frank Theatre, a Minneapolis-based company founded by artistic director **Wendy K. Knox**, celebrated its 25-year anniversary in 2013.

Kevin J. O'Brien was named director of the Institute of East Asian Studies and Walter and Elise Haas Professor of East Asian Studies, University of California, Berkeley, July 2013.

1982

Mitchell Channon Design, Chicagobased interior design firm owned by Mitchell E. Channon, received "best of show" in residential design from the Illinois chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers at its annual Design Excellence Awards Gala, October 2013.

1985

Janet Kock Nizam became a nurse navigator specializing in cancers of the head and neck with the Winship Cancer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, April 2013. Nurse navigators help cancer patients manage the complexities of their disease and treatment. Nizman was in oncology for 22 years prior to her specialization.

Neither of the participants testified. Such statements should have been disallowed under the Sixth Amendment, which grants criminal defendants the right to confront the witnesses against them. But every appeals court that had considered Ray's case had either ignored or downplayed the Sixth Amendment violation. The 7th Circuit was Ray's last chance.

In 2010, Dulani convinced the 7th Circuit that there was a critical confrontation clause violation and that the violation seriously affected the fairness of the trial. The 7th Circuit's decision closed a key loophole in the constitutional protection afforded by the Sixth Amendment. Two years later, Dulani convinced the same 7th Circuit panel to extend a well-known federal protection — the mailbox rule governing when a document is considered filed — to Ray and other state prisoners. This led the court to grant Ray complete habeas relief. The U.S. Supreme Court let the 7th Circuit decision stand in June 2013. Ray expects to be released from prison in the coming year.



1988

Kyle D. Torke recently accepted a positon as associate professor at Waldorf College, Forest City, Iowa.

1998

Karl Gerth of the University of Oxford accepted University of California-San Diego's offer of appointment as professor of history and holder of the Hwei-Chih and Julia Hsiu Endowed Chair in Chinese Studies, April 2013

2001

Tammy Baker Dann completed her fellowship in interventional pain management at the University of Iowa, July 2013. She is now an attending physician in anesthesioslogy and pain management at St. Mary's Center for Pain Relief, Huntington, W. Va.

2002

Rob X. Barron was elected to the Des Moines (Iowa) School Board, September 2013. Barron is state director to Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin. He and wife, Angela D. Matsuoka '04, live in the Beaverdale area of Des Moines.

Elizabeth A. Paesch has been promoted to assistant professor at the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, July 2013. She is a comprehensive care physician in the of hospital medicine section at the University of Chicago.

Katharine B. Simmons completed her residency on obstetrics and gynecology at Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, June 2013. She is completing a fellowship in family planning and is pursuing a masters of public health at OHSU.

2012

Luke Saunders joined the staff of the Office of Communications at Grinnell College in August 2013. As a full-time editorial fellow, he writes for *The Grinnell Magazine* and other campus publications, and also assists with internal communications, news releases and speechwriting. Saunders earned a bachelor's degree in English.

Degrees

Aimee G. Tabrizi '10, master's in teaching in adolescent science education, specialization in biology, Brooklyn College, City University of New York, September 2013.

Marriages and Unions

Glynis J. Kinnan '81 and Michael Conyers, Sept. 27, 2013.

Lois M. Harrison '86 and Caroline Clarke Michaels, Aug. 1, 2013.

Pamela H. Feinstein '87 and Edward Brown, Sept. 14, 2013.

Shanna M. Dooley '98 and Duncan York, Oct. 5, 2013. Shanna was promoted to captain at the Minneapolis Fire Department, May 2013.

Rebecca J. Asch '01 and Paul Kendrick, May 4, 2013. She is a resident in pathology at Johns Hopkins.

Katharine B. Simmons '02 and David Rathmann, Sept. 20, 2013. Attending were Jesse A. McClelland '01, Uriah Melchizedek '01, Erik E. Noftle '01, M. Angela Buenaventura '02, and James R. Edwards '03.



Gary M. Giddins '70

Author Giddens received a grant from the Williams-Lewellin Family Foundation in San Francisco as a thank you for the contribution to a sense of community made by his body of work and to encourage him to continue his labors as an interpreter of jazz and film culture. Giddins wrote a jazz column for The Village Voice, starting in 1973, for 30 years. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1986, and in 1998 received the National Book Critics Circle Award for his work Visions of Jazz.





Alan L. Cohen '72

President Obama nominated Cohen to serve as a member of the Social Security Advisory Board on Sept. 30, 2013. Cohen served as the chief counselor for Social Security and senior budget adviser for the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance from 2001 to 2012. Previously, he was senior budget and economics adviser to the secretary of the Treasury. Cohen continues a Grinnellian connection with Social Security, established with the leadership of Harry Hopkins 1912.

Molly C. Quinn '05 and Neil Eichstadt, March 24, 2012.

Jennifer N. Reece '06 and James D. Herbst, May 25, 2013. Attending were Alison E. McQuillan '04 and Patrick H. Hall '06.

Melinda J. Schindler '06 and Robert Perez, July 6, 2013.

Amanda R. Smith '07 and Elizabeth M. Swanton '07, Oct. 11, 2013. Attending were Shannon Hammen Miner '01, Caitlin Raich '06, and Rachel F. Marek '06.

Christine A. Boeckholt '08 and Matthew M. Remissong '08, Sept. 1, 2013.

Elizabeth Brock Bowen '10 and Nathan Iyer Krishnan '12, July 21, 2013. Attending were Sarah T. Brilliant '10, Whitby V. Eagle '11, Thomas E. Rothe '11, and Robert D. Stewart '12. Bowen is enrolled in the doctoral program in clinical psychology at George Washington University, and Krishnan is in medical school at Georgetown University.

Nathaniel D. Hoch '11 and Katherine A. Rowe '11, Sept. 27, 2013. Attending were Nora B. Colter '10 and John C. Hereford '10; Lucy E. Bloch-Wehba, Elizabeth N. Davis, Ellen P. Deal, Ryan J. Fletcher, Scott A. Kaitz, Kale D. Knisley, Erin M. Labasan, Patrick J. Mahaffey, Alexander C. McDonald, Kelsey L. Montgomery, Andrew M. Mullins, Ross K. Noecker, Tasha H. Popkin, Clarissa A. Reeder, Mark G. Rosenberg, Matti H. Sahel, Aaron E. Swaney, and William J. von Geldern, all class of 2011; Daryl R. Brost, Hannah M. Campos, Kate L. Duran, Gregory P. Fox, Benjamin T. Schemper, Benjamin N. Tape, Olivia K. Wilks, Molly A. Wingfield, Evan R. Wright, and Brooke E. Yoder, all class of 2012; and Kelsey E. Scott '13.



Susan T. Bart '82

A partner in the private clients, trusts, and estates group in Sidley Austin LLP's Chicago office, Bart received the 2013 Austin Fleming Award from the Chicago Estate Planning Council. The award is presented annually to a person regarded by practicing estate planners as an expert in the field who has made a significant contribution to the improvement of estate planning practices. Bart is the 40th estate planner and fifth woman to receive the award.

Bumper Crop in Food Desert

Two Grinnell alumni help feed a Chicago neighborhood.

In a historic neighborhood on Chicago's South Side, Grinnell alumni **Justin Booz** '10 and **Monica Wizgird** '09 have transformed a long-vacant lot into a thriving urban garden. The Pullman neighborhood is one of Chicago's "food deserts," areas without ready access to grocery stores. The Cooperation Operation — founded earlier this year by Booz, Wizgird, and several other social and food justice activists from the area — works to curb hunger, promote nutritional education, and create a positive social center for Pullman residents.

The 23,000-square-foot lot where the Coop Op now grows foods such as corn, beets, cucumbers, and lettuce once was home to a paint-mixing factory. The edible crops are grown in raised planters constructed of anything from cinder blocks found at the site to old boats donated from the local harbor. Many of the plants are heirlooms, and everything the garden produces is organic. The gaps in the concrete slabs were sown with wildflowers and sunflowers, which absorb toxins from the soil and beautify the space.

"This entire lot is two-an-a-half acres. On one acre, we can feed this entire neighborhood," Booz says. "On a half-acre you can feed hundreds of people." Residents are offered free plots and produce, but the garden does more than feed Pullman. People from the community can learn to grow their own food in the garden, becoming more self-sufficient. Using a social and ecological landscape that already existed in Pullman, Booz, Wizgird, and volunteers from their community built an empty space into a positive, sustainable center to engage and inform local residents.

Looking to the future, the Coop Op plans to keep transforming vacant areas into green spaces for educational and economic empowerment. "We're also looking forward to becoming an official 501(c)3 within the next few months," Wizgird says. The Pullman garden was clearly just the beginning. They've already raised \$10,000 on the crowd-funding website Kickstarter. Now it's a matter of fostering further growth in their garden and their neighborhood.

- Luke Saunders '12

Births and Adoptions

Franklin E. Morton '76 and Rose Meechan Morton, July 31, 2013, their first child, a daughter, Ellis Morton.

Melissa Schwartz Chen '93 and Glenn Chen, June 11, 2013, their second child, second son, Noah Jonathan Chen.

Timothy D. Polashek '94 and Roseann Hara, February 2013, their second child, first son, Dashiell Theodore Polashek.

Mara Fishman Gossack '95 and Howard J. Fishman Gossack, June 17, 2013, their first child, a son, Joseph Irving Gossack.

Julia B. Tauber '95 and Rachel S. Weiss '98, Aug. 10, 2013, their second child, second daughter, Nora Ellen Tauber-Weiss.

Rachel Phillips Rigby '97 and Crispin Rigby, Oct. 13, 2012, their second child, second son, Vaughan Darren Rigby.

Sushant Malhotra '98 and Kimberly Goergen Malhotra '00, Sept. 18, 2013, their first child, a daughter, Scarlett Joy Malhotra.

Jennifer Loucks Buren '00 and Christopher R. Buren, Sept. 27, 2013, their second child, second son, Samuel Ryan Buren. Maternal grandfather is Carney D. Loucks '78, and great-aunt is Anne C. Loucks '77.

Nathan R. Corvino '01 and Elizabeth A. Paesch '02, May 5, 2013, their first child, a son, Elliot Joseph Corvino.

Adam J.V. Noyce '02 and S. Claire Matheny '04, Oct. 10, 2013, their first child, daughter, Phoebe Elizabeth Noyce. Paternal great-grandmother is Bettie Neville Noyce '46, paternal grandparents are Robert D. Noyce '71 and Lindalu A. Vognar '72, paternal uncle is Christian P. Noyce '15, and paternal aunt is Jennifer E. Noyce '05.

Emer Kate E. Griffin '03 and Molly Obsatz Griffin '05, July 4, 2013, their second child, first daughter, Lenore Sage Griffin. Elizabeth Clow Lawrence '03 and Collin Lawrence, April 7, 2013, their first child, a son, Alonzo Han Lawrence. Maternal grandfather is Roger P. Clow '67, maternal grandmother is Lynn Davidson Petersen '69, and paternal uncle is Noah M. Lawrence '02.

Adam T. Hoye '04 and Lauren Miller Hoye '04, Sept. 7, 2013, their first child, a son, Whitman Adam Hoye.

Sandra Kozlowski Faber '06 and Richard B. Faber, Sept. 19, 2013, their first child, a daughter, Aisley Cecilia Faber. Sadly, Aisley died Sept. 19, 2013.



Todd S. Young '94

Baxter International, a global diversified health care company based in Deerfield, Ill., elected Young treasurer and corporate vice president in September 2013. Baxter and its subsidiaries develop, manufacture, and market products to help those with hemophilia, immune disorders, infectious diseases, kidney disease, trauma, and other chronic and acute medical conditions. Young has been with the company since 2001.

iPhone Innovation

Grinnellian turns smartphone into microscope with \$10 in parts

Here's an eye-catching project by a Grinnellian that manages to touch on several of the College's key emphases, including innovation and a well-developed worldview.

Kenji Yoshino '11, a Science Learning Center post-baccalaureate assistant at Grinnell College, has created a digital microscope made from a smartphone, a cheap laser-pointer lens, and a few items from the hardware store. It's a contraption that anyone can construct in 20 minutes with \$10 worth of parts. He hopes the device can be used in places where money for full laboratories is lacking, whether Africa or Appalachia.

In fact, Yoshino shows you how on YouTube, in a video shot and edited by Luke Saunders '12, who works as an editorial fellow in Grinnell's communications department.

In a month, viewers watched the video just short of 1 million times. The microscope is made of Plexiglas, plywood, bolts, nuts, washers and the laser pointer lens. The smartphone sits on top and the wing

nuts allow the user to adjust the focus by changing the height of the platform holding the specimen. And, of course, it's easy to take photos or video.

This scope has an optical zoom of 40x, which is great for macro photos, but adding the phone's digital zoom makes the scope capable of 175x magnification. It is possible to view plant cells, see and record video of nematodes, and even perform biology lab work.

Yoshino had read online about someone using laser pointer lenses to turn a smartphone into a macro camera. Yoshino decided to play with the design, hoping to improve stability and focus, and ended up discovering that keeping the phone stationary and adding a light source would make the apparatus capable of functioning as a microscope.

It worked so well, Yoshino talked to Saunders – a friend from theatre productions at Grinnell – about making the video. Then the two

Publications, Productions, and Exhibitions

Scrambled Eggs Short Stories, by Merle Fischlowitz '53, AuthorHouse Publishers, August 2013.

They will never be forgotten: Serge and Beate Klarsfeld and Marceline Kogan, a sculpture by Harold "Hal" Goldberg '60, was installed at the Camp des Milles Holocaust Memorial Museum in France, September 2012. Serge and Beate Klarsfeld are famous Nazi hunters based in Paris; Marceline Kogan was a two-year-old child rounded up in the infamous Paris rafle in 1942 and killed in Auschwitz. Camp des Milles was a French internment camp in a former tile factory near Aix-en-Provence.

"Rethinking Marianne Dashwood's Very Strong Resemblance to Eliza Brandon," by Bonnie G. Nelson '69, Persuasions: The Jane Austen Journal, Issue No. 34, June 2012, pp. 164-178. The article presents new insights into Austen's first published novel, Sense and Sensibility.

Celebrating Bird: The Triumph of Charlie Parker, by Gary M. Giddins '70, 25th anniversary revised publication, University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, October 2013.

Cuban Missile Crisis, a Military Channel TV special by James H. Lurie '75, aired Oct. 22, 2013. Also, Camelot's Court: Inside the Kennedy White House, by Robert Dallek, narrated by Lurie, Harper Audio, October 2013.

"Ulnar Sided Wrist Pain: A Master's Skills Publication," edited by Jeffrey A. Greenberg '80, American Society for Surgery of the Hand, September 2013. Greenberg also co-authored Evolution of the Distal Radio-Ulnar Joint and Salvage of the Failed Darrach.

In Pinelight: A Novel, by **Thomas G. Rayfiel '80**, Northwestern University Press, Chicago, September 2013.

"The Goat Thief," by Jeffrey C. Dickey-Chasins '81, Blue Lake Review, December 2013.

"Going Long. Going Short," an essay by **W. Grant Faulkner '87**, opinion pages, *The New York Times*, Sept. 30, 2013. The New York Times Learning Network Blog featured the essay and created a lesson plan around it in October.

Artwork by Catherine M. Feiss '89 was featured at the 4th Ceramics Annual of America Free Art Fair and Exhibition, Civic Center Plaza, San Francisco, October 2013.

Winterreise D.911 by Franz Schubert, performed by baritone **Thomas J. Meglioranza '92** and pianist Reiko Uchida and recorded at L. Brown Recording, New York, January 2013.

CoffeeScript Application Development, by Ian G. Young '08, Packt Publishing, August 2013. The book gives you an in-depth look at the CoffeeScript language, while building a working Web application.

of them presented the model at the iExplore STEM Festival at Drake University in Des Moines, on Oct. 29.

The primary goal of this innovation is not to make money. He wants students and other residents in areas that don't have fully equipped laboratories to have a chance to explore science.

"I am a major proponent of making home science more accessible," Yoshino explains on the video. "My goal in designing and building this phone-to-microscope conversion stand is to provide an alternative to expensive microscopes."

"This setup is a viable option for underfunded science classrooms that would not otherwise be able to perform experiments requiring a microscope. But more than that, this device will allow people to rediscover the world around them."

See a video with instructions on how to make the device: http://bit.ly/1cluVgD

-Perry Beeman



Photo by Justin Hayworth

In Memoriam

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

George B. Barner '29, Kennebunk, Maine, Sept. 10, 2013.

Arthur M. Compton '39, Greenville, Mich., Oct. 13, 2013.

A. Jean Heinsen Cook '42, Middleton, Md., July 1, 2013.

Thomas R. Friedman '45, Highland Park, Ill., Oct. 14, 2013. Survivors include his son, *John R. Friedman '79*.

Scott E. Crom '48, Beloit, Wis., Aug. 1, 2013.

Imogene B. Kruse '48, Corpus Christi, Texas, June 6, 2013.

Corinne Scott Barber '49, Iowa City, Iowa, Aug. 12, 2013. Survivors include her husband, Stanley R. Barber '49.

R. Lucille Cottington Malmo '49. Silver Bay, Minn., Aug. 18, 2013.

Lorraine Hauser Perdue '49, Issaquah, Wash., Sept. 11, 2013.

Donna Jacobson Haeckel '50, Mesa, Ariz., Aug. 8, 2013.

Marilyn Walsh '50, New York City, Sept. 2, 2013.

David A. Dunlop '51, Sun Lakes, Ariz., Aug. 13, 2013. Survivors include his brother, John L. Dunlop '56, and sister-in-law, Matilda Surridge Dunlop '56.

Douglas S. Freyder '52, Springfield, Ill., Aug. 18, 2013. Survivors include his wife, *Joyce Stephens Freyder '54*.

Mary Jane Bender Pugh '52, Cary, N.C., Oct. 5, 2013.

Alyn Loeb Cooperman '53, Chicago, Feb. 26, 2012.

Ernest F. Webster II '53, Springfield, Ill., March 25, 2013.

Gretchen De Groot Deniger '54, Scottsdale, Ariz., Aug. 2, 2013.

Wayne A. Owen '55, West Hartford, Conn., July 26, 2013.

Elaine Barker Stauber '56, Seguin, Texas, June 9, 2013.

Suzanne Peterson Neumann '57, Richfield, Wis., May 26, 2013.

Harold T. Tanouye '57, Hilo, Hawaii, Sept. 23, 2013.

Dennis C. Watson '57, Bellevue, Neb., July 26, 2013. Survivors include his wife, *Jane Lefler Watson* '60.

Edward H. Hamlet II '59, Minneapolis, Sept. 6, 2013.

John R. Stocking '60, Langley, British Columbia, Aug. 4, 2012.

Robert W. Johnson '61, Attleboro, Mass., July 15, 2013. Survivors include his wife, *Maxine Frahm Johnson* '61, and daughter, *Brenda L. Johnson* '85.

John D. Tomasek '63, Grinnell, Aug. 13, 2013.

William F. Barnes Jr. '64, Washington, D.C., March 15, 2012.

William H. Hicks '64, San Leandro, Calif., July 16, 2013. Survivors include his brother, *J.K.* "Ken" Hicks Jr. '69.

Sandra Cisna Agvald '66, West Des Moines, Jan. 19, 2013.

Richard S. Reichmann Jr. '66, Matthews, N.C., Aug. 15, 2013.

Kathleen Wagner Row '68, Greenville, N.C., Sept. 21, 2013.

Wendy E. Geertz '70, Edina, Minn., Aug. 30, 2013.

William "Wilbur" Wright '72, Iowa City, Iowa, Aug. 17, 2013.

Shirley Johnson Jones '73, Nashville, Tenn., Aug. 12, 2012.

Mark A. Nissen '76, High Ridge, Mo., Aug. 6, 2013.

Adeena K. Swig '78, Glenview, Ill., April 27, 2013.

Miriam J. Goldberg '79, Evanston, Ill., Oct. 10, 2013.

Mark R. Finlay '82, Savannah, Ga., Oct. 6, 2013.

Alumni Council News

by Nancy Schmulbach Maly '61, president, Alumni Council

I would like to share a new and valuable tool to assist alumni engagement. The Alumni Council has arranged for a dedicated email address, **alumnicouncil @grinnell.edu**. Please don't hesitate to use this new avenue of direct communication.

Alumni Weekend review

What an exciting and invigorating experience it was to welcome nearly 100 volunteers to campus Oct. 11-13 for "Philanthropy at Grinnell," hosted by the Office of Development and Alumni Relations.

Speakers discussed Grinnell's need-blind admission and need-based financial aid policies, ways to discuss philanthropy, alumni networking on the Web, international experiences in education, and the power of a liberal arts education in career development.

Here is a summary of presentations in three key areas:

Institutional identity: Grinnell College is assessing its institutional identity. The institutional identity project is more than rebranding – it goes deeper, digging into the history and legacy of Grinnell.

Grinnell's brand is more than a logo or a tagline. It is the set of associations people make when considering our institution. The College is working with Crane MetaMarketing to determine and establish Grinnell's institutional identity.

Need-blind update: Grinnell College is one of 45 institutions that is need-blind and meets 100 percent of demonstrated financial need. Grinnell's percentage of full-pay students is around 10 percent; at peer schools, it's about 45 percent.

More domestic students are applying to Grinnell; the number needing a significant amount of financial aid nearly doubled over the past four years.

The College administration believes Grinnell must find a financially sustainable model that will support the policies of need-blind admission and meeting 100 percent of demonstrated need. We are an estimated \$4 million a year — or \$2,500 per student — short of covering related expenses. That shortfall will need to be covered through philanthropy, endowment proceeds and/or increased net student revenue.

Careers, life, and service: Liberal arts colleges, especially worldclass ones such as Grinnell, deliver well-rounded, educated job candidates with stellar skill sets and experience. At Grinnell, the Center for Careers, Life, and Service assists both students and alumni in career planning. Students can get help finding internships, externships, and job-shadows.

Those types of experiences are one reason Grinnell ranks seventh nationally in the percentage of students per capita who ultimately earn doctoral degrees.

We now look forward to another exciting year of alumni engagement.

Theatre of Social Responsibility

A Grinnellian's theatre production in a Milwaukee park reinforces her mission to promote social justice.

I arrived at Grinnell knowing only that, whether as a historian or a chemist or a theatre artist, I wanted to make the world a better place. My Grinnell experience intensified my desire to fight for social justice and made a commitment to social justice my primary factor in choosing a career. While it is obvious to me now that I have always been a theatre director, at Grinnell I continued to debate my career options and questioned whether theatre could really make the difference in the world that I wanted to make.

Thankfully, Grinnell also taught me to take risks and to search for positive opportunities. When I was explaining to one of my professors my concerns that a job in theatre was not "tied to social justice" (i.e., Grinnellian), she told me, simply, to "be on the side of good." From that moment, I launched into the world of being an artist and the world of trying to make the world a better place with stories.

A few months ago, I directed an all-women adaptation of the *Odyssey*, rehearsed and performed in an urban park, under a bridge. The production set out to be a small thing, but expanded into performances with audiences of more than a hundred people every night, crowded under the bridge to share in the story.

At the intersection of two different neighborhoods, the park has become a popular Milwaukee space and one that symbolizes the collaborative spirit of the city. It's the result of the combined efforts of architects who initially built park space with light-up benches under the bridge, and a group called beintween that installed tire swings throughout the park in one night, calling it a "pop-up park." The swings provided the perfect place for a play I had wanted to direct for a long time.

The play, Margaret Atwood's *The Penelopiad*, is a powerful story about class and gender dynamics. Atwood retells the *Odyssey* from the perspective of the 12 maids hanged at the end of the story for their supposed promiscuous behavior with Penelope's suitors.

Atwood sees them as victims, not whores, subjected to Penelope's requests to distract the suitors and the suitors' sexual advances.

In a space where most women would not feel safe alone at night and the ambient sound is the revving engines of motorcycles, 13 women told a story about mistreatment, misunderstanding, and sexual violence. How do ancient texts portray women? How do we treat women today?

The performance drew people who had been at the park on a Sunday afternoon and saw a rehearsal. People came who had never been to the park before, but who had seen an article in the newspaper. The people who built the swings came with a cooler full of picnic supplies. The homeless men who lived in the park supported us by telling everyone who passed by to come. Those men knew all the words to the songs and never missed a performance. In a park at a crossroads of neighborhoods in Milwaukee, the community came together for a story.

Rehearsing and performing under that bridge, I have never felt more Grinnellian. Grinnell challenged me to put social justice at the forefront and paved the way for me to do that with an art form that I know best (in the ways I know best). "Be on the side of good." That is we can all do.

In my current job in the artistic department of a major regional theatre, I help choose a season of plays that will reach more than 200,000 audience members. Reading new plays as well as classics in consideration for selection for our season, I spend my days looking for plays that continue conversations with our community and provide a platform for discussion on a diverse range of topics. Our mission statement says our productions must be vital. When we get it right, performance has the power to shake the foundations of a community and raise actionable questions about how we live our lives.

No matter how you uphold the social justice values of Grinnell, remember that theatre, too, is a vehicle for social justice. As arts funding decreases, we must be vigilant to maintain the opportunities for people to come together to tell stories. Whether under a bridge, in the back room of a bar, or in traditional spaces, theatre makes our communities stronger.

Alumni Musings



Leda Hoffmann '09 is a freelance theatre director in Milwaukee and also literary coordinator at Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. A dual citizen of the United States and Canada, she majored in theatre at Grinnell. Check out her upcoming theatrical efforts at www.ledahoffmann.com.



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Iowa View



This photo is five separate 30 second exposures merged together of the night sky over CERA during the Nightfall on the Prairie event Sept. 6, 2013. (Photo by Justin Hayworth)