

BOLDLY BALDWIN

THE MARY BALDWIN COLLEGE MAGAZINE

VOL. 28 NO. 1

2020 Vision

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A Conversation

Faculty members Bruce Dorries and Chandra Mason discuss their recent work and how it factors into the future for Mary Baldwin students. / p. 18

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BOLDLY BALDWIN

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FROM THE **PRESIDENT'S** DESK



PHOTO BY SERA PETRAS

Happy New Year!

As we enter a new calendar year and start a new semester of academic work, this moment contributes in exciting ways to the ongoing story of Mary Baldwin College:

- We have just adopted a new strategic plan, *Mary Baldwin 2020*, which is both practical and visionary. The result of hundreds of hours of work involving virtually every faculty and staff member, it builds upon the strong foundation we have already established to position our entire institution to thrive — to fully support each program and each student.
- Last June, the Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences welcomed its inaugural classes with the maximum number of students we could

accommodate. In August, we launched the College of Education, bringing together our signature education programs to better serve our students and lift a longtime academic strength into a flagship program.

- And, in 2017, we will celebrate our 175th anniversary — our quartoseptcentennial. It's an important milestone.

As I reflect on how this institution has evolved in scope and ambition since its founding in 1842 — when a visionary Presbyterian minister organized classes in rented rooms in downtown Staunton for a small group of young girls (the 13-year-old Mary Julia Baldwin among them) — I am struck by the great extent to which that founding spirit is still with us. Rufus Bailey and Mary

DR. FOX *heads to* WASHINGTON



As one of 149 college presidents invited to the December 4 White House College Opportunity Day of Action, Pamela Fox helped put Mary Baldwin College on the national stage with a commitment to support minority women in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields. The event — a follow-up to President Barack Obama's higher education summit in January 2014 — focused on building networks of colleges to promote degree completion, invest in high school counselors as part of the First Lady's Reach Higher initiative, create "K-16" partnerships to foster college readiness, and increase the number of college graduates in STEM fields.

MBC's commitment calls for the launch of a new initiative, Advance Achievement for Minority Women in STEM, which will support persistence, graduation, and preparation for graduate-level work. Through the initiative, MBC will provide scholarships, research collaboration opportunities with faculty mentors, and travel for participation in professional conferences. The goal is to increase the total number of minority women graduating with majors in STEM fields by 30 percent within a three-year time frame.

Julia Baldwin both insisted that students receive not only an excellent education, but also one that prepared them for productive and fulfilling futures and that built their capacity for making a positive difference in the world. Both took risks, successfully working to increase the school's reach and effectiveness.

Today, this spirit is demonstrated in so many ways, including the faculty's deep personal commitment to the wellbeing and success of its students. In this issue of *Boldly Baldwin*, professors Bruce Dorries and Chandra Mason talk about teaching, research, and helping students transition from college to career. They and their colleagues follow in the footsteps of previous generations of gifted and dedicated faculty who inspired, cajoled, and guided Mary Baldwin students to achieve more than they thought possible, both while in college and throughout their lives. People like John Mehner, Ashton Trice, Joe Garrison, Mary Humphreys, Fletcher Collins Jr., and Ethel Smeak — and so many others — are still held dear by generations of students.

While the dedication of individual faculty members is a key

aspect of the Mary Baldwin ethos that results in such exceptional outcomes for students, there must also be commitment and specific initiatives at the institutional level. One such initiative was announced at the White House College Opportunity Day of Action in December. I brought with me to that summit MBC's commitment to increase the number of minority women in science, technology, engineering, and math. We already boast a most impressive record of mentoring, supporting, and conducting research with undergraduates, most of whom are women and many of whom are members of underrepresented populations. Like many of our initiatives, this commitment is built upon a solid foundation.

Our college has deep roots, roots that empower us to create a bold future. Every member of our extended community has a place in that bold future, and I invite you to join in making it a reality.

Dr. Pamela Fox



"It was an honor to represent Mary Baldwin in Washington. I am proud of our commitment to increase the number of underrepresented women in STEM degrees. The President, First Lady, Vice President Biden, and Secretary of Education Duncan offered inspiring challenges to increase access and opportunity for a broad range of learners — exactly what MBC does so well. The summit also emphasized one of Mary Baldwin's core values — partnering with our city and community."

— Dr. Pamela Fox

In This Section

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A bite-sized round-up of the news-makers and events that captured the attention of the MBC community this summer and fall.

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New leadership and a renewed focus on MBC fundamentals are guiding success in admissions.

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Brig. Gen. Terry Djuric brings years of experience to the commandant's desk at VWIL.

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New model transforms strong MBC education curricula into a flagship program.

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This summer brought prestigious international recognition to an alumna who helps translate big ideas and a professor who has helped make Shakespeare more accessible.

In Memory p.12

Paying tribute to two members of the Mary Baldwin family who recently passed away.

On the Podium p.13

A spotlight on the campus guests and special events that enhance living and learning at MBC.

NEWSNOTES



1 / OPEN DOORS

Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences welcomed the first class of 70 PT and OT students to its flagship building in June. The 55,000-square-foot facility provides educational features such as technology-enhanced classrooms, collaborative study spaces, and a simulation suite and life skills laboratory for patient care.

2 / ATOP CANNON HILL

Several Staunton Military Academy alumni have donated benches, and members of Staunton's chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution presented the college with a certificate to recognize its patriotic display of the American flag.

3 / HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Dining hall staff, with help from the Alleghany Mountain School, started an on-campus vegetable garden to provide produce, including lettuce, tomatoes, onions, cabbage, and carrots.

4 / CHANGEMAKERS IN THE MAKING

MBC students participated in George Mason University's Social Innovation Program, the world's longest running institute that trains university students to become the next generation of social entrepreneurs.

5 / FIT FOR A LEADER

The college held its inaugural home cross country meet on August 30 on a new 4K course at Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences. Before the race began, President Pamela Fox announced that it would be named the Brenda Bryant Fitness Trail, in honor of the late MBC vice president, dean, and founding director of the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership.

6 / BALDWIN TO THE CORE

October 7 brought MBC's annual Apple Day celebration — students gleaned 4,590 pounds of apples to donate to area food pantries and then enjoyed an apple-themed brunch and afternoon carnival on campus.

7 / REPRESENTING SCIENCE

Three MBC undergraduates presented research posters in December at one of the largest scientific gatherings in the world, the Society for Neuroscience annual meeting.

‘Back to Basics’ Approach Works in MBC Admissions

This fall, the total number of freshman students in the Residential College for Women (RCW) is significantly higher — a 20 percent increase over last year. The college has more than doubled the number of students in the top academic tier this year, and the Virginia Women’s Institute for Leadership started the fall with a strong class of more than 50 students, much higher than in recent years.

College officials are confident that the new students who were welcomed to campus this fall are the best fit for Mary Baldwin — the ones who will gain the most from their experience and enrich the college in meaningful ways. That makes all the difference.

“It’s so important as a small institution to enroll students who will find their niche and stay with us,” said Roberta Palmer, director of admissions. “We have worked hard to develop targeted materials and to recruit in important locations, and it is paying off.”

The total number of applications for

the Residential College for Women remained constant between 2013 and 2014, but deposits — a sign of a genuine commitment to attend MBC — increased by more than 30. Admissions staff attributes that marked increase to new print materials, a revamped website, and refreshed talking points that focus on academic excellence, rich campus life, personal attention from faculty and staff, and solid financial aid for deserving students.

“These are not new concepts; they are the historic strengths of Mary Baldwin,” Palmer said. “Refocusing our message has helped us funnel our resources to students who will thrive here.”

Recruiting was also more effective in a wider geographic range. Students who live 150 miles or more from campus represented the biggest growth both in the applicant pool and among those who were accepted. Significant increases in deposits were seen in students from Texas — a state with a large, active MBC alumni community — and Georgia.



Anneliese Slaton is
becoming her best self
at Mary Baldwin College.

#mbcselfie

The MBC Office of Communication, Marketing, and Public Affairs developed a postcard series that encouraged prospective students to picture themselves on campus by taking “selfies” during campus visits and to share those pictures on various social media outlets.

Experienced Admissions Exec Guides Recruitment



PHOTO BY SERA PETRAS

Welcoming a new admissions leader in August — veteran higher education administrator Lois Hicks Williams — further strengthened MBC’s recruitment efforts. Williams, who most recently worked at Catawba College in North Carolina, oversees admissions and financial aid operations for all Mary Baldwin academic programs as vice president for enrollment management. It is the first time someone in a cabinet-level position has oversight of enrollment for the entire institution.

“The Mary Baldwin admissions office has made great progress this cycle to enroll a solid incoming class for the Residential College for Women,” she said. “My plan is to continue that momentum and sharpen the focus on a few specific audiences.”

Williams brings experience in undergraduate, residential recruitment, retention, and

financial aid; with adult and non-traditional students on campus and in off-site centers; as well as in graduate recruitment.

After earning her BA in mass communications at Emory and Henry College, Williams earned a master’s degree in counseling and human development from Radford University. She served as director of financial aid at Pfeiffer University in North Carolina and as dean of admissions and financial aid at Stetson University in Florida before assuming her position at Catawba in 2009, where she assisted that college in reaching record enrollment.

“Lois is committed to the personalized, transforming education that is the core of our mission, and she understands the connection between the liberal arts and career skills as the strongest preparation for life in our current world,” said MBC President Pamela Fox.

» REFER A STUDENT

Do you know someone who would be a perfect fit for any of Mary Baldwin College’s programs? Log on to www.mbc.edu/magazine for a referral link.

Promoting a Culture of Respect

Experience guides Djuric's first year as VWIL commandant

Brig. Gen. Terry Djuric's office is filled with mementos. Keepsakes from former jobs, gifts from speaking engagements, diplomas, awards, badges, photos, flags, souvenirs from her father's military service, tributes from students, and a framed letter from President Obama.

The display mirrors Djuric's vast experience and impressive résumé — including her most recent position helping lead planning and programming for the nation's \$12 billion defense space program — and reflects the value she places upon past experiences. Lessons learned, insights gained, impressions made.

Djuric arrived at Mary Baldwin College in October 2013 as only the second commandant of cadets in the history of the Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership (VWIL) after the retirement of Brig. Gen. N. Michael Bissell. And MBC, grounded in a rich history, was the right fit for her.

"That history is very important ... but at the same time, so is the fact that the faculty, together with the administration, has the courage to forge a future," Djuric said, reflecting on this past year's development of a new college-wide strategic plan.

And in building the future of VWIL, Djuric sees leading the corps of cadets as similar to commanding a small Air Force squadron — she wants to have a big impact on students' lives while forging ahead. So far, she has immersed herself in the job by tackling matters both large and small, categorizing that work into what she calls The Five R's: Reach, Retain, Recommit, Recruit, and Reduce. (see opposite page)

"I love every bit of it," Djuric said of the work completed in her first year.

In fact, a sixth "R" could easily be woven into Djuric's blueprint: Respect. She shows great respect for VWIL and

college-wide traditions. She also wants to emphasize a culture of respect within the corps, not only among cadets, but also among faculty, staff, and students. Changes that have been made since her arrival last October have been purposefully accomplished within the VWIL structure through negotiation and discussion. Djuric is also finding new ways in which students can take the reins and inspire confidence throughout the corps.

Djuric has tackled fleet management, carefully negotiating the purchase of a new van and putting in many hours personally cleaning VWIL vehicles that are used to transport students to the Virginia Military Institute each week for ROTC training. She has also promoted safety, offering recognition and rewards for safe driving records, and is exploring ways to keep the vehicles at a high standard of safety and cleanliness.

The avid HGTV watcher assembled cadets to take inventory of necessary improvements to the main VWIL house, prioritizing them by safety, energy efficiency, and image. Next, Djuric wants to tackle upkeep and improvements to the VWIL supply house.

Djuric has also taken a serious interest in assisting the Admissions Office and was excited to welcome the Class of 2018 in August — the first group of students she has had a hand in recruiting — which includes a higher number of cadets (51) than in recent years and students with higher grade point averages and standardized test scores, and more extracurricular involvement.

"We were very deliberate on who we accepted into the program," she said. "I want to see cadets who come to VWIL and all students at Mary Baldwin have confidence in themselves, and succeed in college and beyond."



PHOTO BY SERA PETRAS

EDUCATION

- Bachelor of science in computer science, Mary Washington College
- Master of arts in curriculum and instruction, University of Colorado
- Master of strategic studies, Army War College

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Commissioned through Officer Training School
- Operated space systems at three space wings
- Deployed to Southwest Asia as director of space forces for operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom
- Commanded at the squadron, group, wing, and education center levels, and served on staffs at the Air Force Personnel Center, U.S. Pacific Command, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, and Office of the Secretary of Defense
- Deputy director, Space and Intelligence Office, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, the Pentagon

AWARDS

- Distinguished Service Medal
- Defense Superior Service Medal
- Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster
- Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters
- Joint Service Commendation Medal
- Air Force Commendation Medal
- Air Force Achievement Medal
- Gen. Jerome O'Malley Distinguished Space Leadership Award

» www.mbc.edu/magazine

Watch Djuric talk about the Class of 2018



Getting it Done: Djuric's Five R's

Djuric values the opinions and experiences of former VWIL cadets and hopes to **REACH** these alumnae and encourage them to share and give back to the corps. She has already begun tapping into the alumnae network with a survey of 362 VWIL alums to spur ideas about how to **RETAIN** students and to address what is required of them during their years in the corps. This year, for example, Djuric has gone back to housing nULLS, or first-year cadets, in freshman residence halls with general RCW students. It is something that VWIL alumnae say they remember fondly and — with closer proximity to the dining hall, Francis Auditorium, and the library and with more resident advisor support

— the move should help nULLS integrate more fully into RCW campus life.

Following another tip from alumnae, Djuric wants to breathe new life into the leadership certificate available to cadets, now called the advanced leadership certificate. With adjustments to a few of the **RECOMMIT**ments necessary to earn the credential, the “highly coveted” award will once again become a priority for students in the corps.

When it comes to **RECRUIT**ment, Djuric's philosophy extends beyond VWIL.

“I want to be a helpful spokesperson,” Djuric said, describing a recent VWIL enlistment trip to Houston, in which she volunteered to visit two local high schools to recruit generally for the Residential College for Women.

That same kill-two-birds-with-one-stone philosophy applies to Djuric's bud-

get sense as she works to **REDUCE** VWIL spending. A self-described “steward of the dollar,” Djuric is hawkish on where money is spent, how it can be saved, and how it is best invested for the good of the corps and college.

“I come from a budget world,” Djuric said. “I’ve been trained throughout the military that budgets aren’t growing.”

Whether it's for a new van or a replacement trumpet for the band, Djuric is looking carefully at every penny spent, negotiating where feasible, in order to absorb enrollment growth in the corps from 95 today to 175 by 2020. That doesn't stop her from investing where it counts, though — such as in new, high-quality uniforms for cadets, right down to the boots, which she has personally researched to find the best rate possible.



Djuric's late father, John W. Hudachek, was a Vietnam War veteran who retired as a major general after 33 years in the Army.



Leading Learning

New College of Education Aligns Resources, Improves Visibility

Turning out exceptional teachers was one of the primary goals during Mary Baldwin's early years as a seminary, and education continues to be among the college's most popular and best-known programs. Recent efforts to align the undergraduate, graduate, and professional arms of the discipline in a College of Education highlight the program's strengths and pool resources to train first-class educators for the classroom and other diverse learning environments.

"Our most important goal is to deliver the highest quality instruction possible through the most effective programs, and to make the path clear for all of our education students," said Rachel Potter, dean of the College of Education.

Officially launched in August with the start of the 2014–15 academic year, the College of Education includes multiple programs that have been part of education at MBC for several years: an undergraduate degree with teacher licensure; master of arts in teaching (MAT); master of education (MEd); post-baccalaureate teacher licensure (PBT); and non-licensure certificate and professional development offerings. While the new model consolidates resources and streamlines curriculum development processes, the most important outcomes include aligning personnel to best serve students and elevating a longtime strength into a flagship program.

A new interdisciplinary major approved in spring 2014, liberal arts and educational studies, provides a new route

for undergraduate students to pursue Virginia teacher licensure. The major is most appropriate for students seeking an elementary education endorsement, because "they have to be skilled generalists in the classroom," Potter said.

The college encourages students to become endorsed in areas with the highest demand in Virginia, such as special education and secondary math and science. MBC



PHOTO BY LINDSEY WALTERS

is also developing an add-on endorsement in English as a Second Language, which is a growing need in the Shenandoah Valley. Recent expansion in the MEd has included adding concentrations in Adult and Higher Education and Applied Behavior Analysis.

Monica Roth earned an endorsement in special education — currently the education program's second most popular area — with her MAT in 2013. In addition to methods specific to her field, Roth says that the most valuable skills she learned were how to adapt and collaborate.

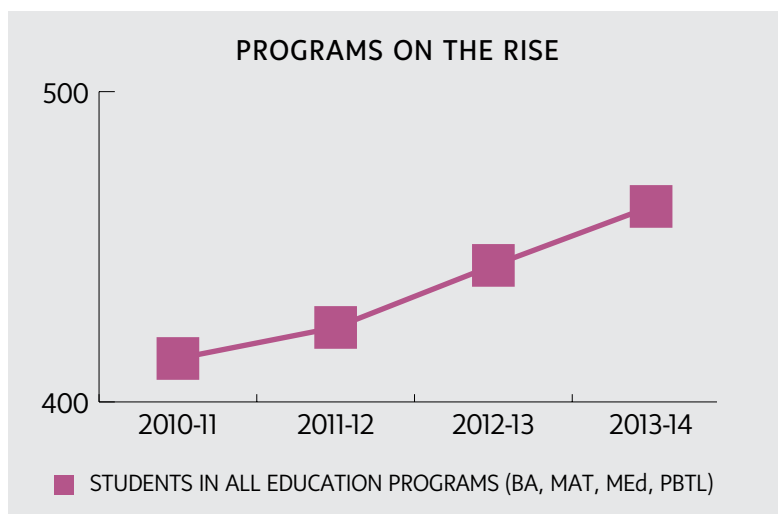
"MBC inspired me to be teachable, knowledgeable, and adaptable in the rapidly changing educational climate. Professors and teaching partners modeled ways to establish and build truly collaborative relationships with students, parents, and other educational professionals," said Roth, who also completed the Comprehensive Certificate in Autism Spectrum Disorders through Mary Baldwin.

Under the new College of Education, all education faculty will have a voice on policy and instructional goals that influence the undergraduate, graduate, and non-degree programs. New faculty hires will be brought in based on their expertise, not which program they will teach in or facilitate, Potter explained. This all-institution focus has already played out with two recently hired instructors: Pamela Bailey, a secondary mathematics professor based in MBC's Richmond regional center, and Emily Ely, a reading and literacy specialist who primarily works with students in Staunton.

Another driving force for establishing the College of Education was to better support a common experience for all education students at Mary Baldwin that enhances inquiry and reflection, theory and practice, and exploration and innovation. This change may also encourage more students to earn both an undergraduate and graduate degree at MBC through the BA/MAT and BA/MEd paths.

"Higher standards in education and increased demands placed on teachers require us to be highly trained," Roth said. "MBC provided the highest quality of collaborative instruction and learning

100% of all MBC education program completers earn passing scores on Virginia licensure assessments.



experiences that prepared me for the challenges in my first teaching position.”

Also on the horizon is a physical relocation of College of Education, which will both centralize operations and improve visibility as well as add instructional spaces. Faculty members are eager to help design rooms that reflect contemporary work environments, such as an elementary or

secondary classroom.

“A new space will give us the opportunity to develop instructional areas better attuned to our mission, allow us to work closely with our colleagues, and offer a ‘home base’ for our faculty and staff who primarily work in the college’s regional offices,” said Professor of Education James D. Harrington.



POTTER NAMED DEAN

In tandem with the creation of the comprehensive College of Education, longtime educator and administrator Rachel Potter was chosen to fill its new top position as dean. Potter taught Mary Baldwin education courses as an adjunct instructor before serving full-time as director of the graduate teacher education program from 2011 to 2014.

“This is an exciting time for all of us associated with education programs at MBC,” said Potter, who recently earned board certification as a behavioral analyst. “I’m looking forward to guiding the college during this transition.”

Potter is a graduate of the College of William and Mary and the University of Virginia, and her experience includes working as a special education teacher in the Shenandoah Valley and as principal of a juvenile detention facility in Central Virginia.

MBC Launches Online Degree



New to Mary Baldwin College this fall is an expansion of the institution’s distance-learning program to include its first all-online degree. Baldwin Business Online gives students the flexibility of online learning while they earn the same respected degree as on campus. The bachelor of arts in business administration offers concentrations in entrepreneurship, management, and women’s leadership. College officials say that with current technology, these online classes are not only small and personalized, but also highly interactive and rigorous, with demonstrable outcomes.

The new pathway is available to students of any age, and is administered by MBC’s coed Adult Degree Program (ADP).

The general trend in higher education has moved toward online course work, which is already offered at MBC through ADP. Up until now, however, students taking online courses would have to make an appearance in the classroom, whether to attend orientation, make presentations, or deliver his or her senior thesis.

“We’ve been in distance learning for over 30 years at this point, and our course delivery has evolved with improvements in technology,” said Robert Klonoski, associate professor of business administration. “The difference for this program is that it can be conducted entirely online. It will be more convenient for people whose jobs or family situations make it difficult for them to attend class. It also means that people who live in Virginia, but who are not near any one of our regional centers, will be able to attain this degree.”



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Coeducational
- Ideal for students who have transfer credit
- Financial aid available
- All classes needed to graduate are available online

France Bestows Top Honor on Alumna

Martha Matheny '70 recognized for service at World Bank and IMF



For 25 years of dedicated service at the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Martha Carolyn Matheny '70 was awarded one of the highest honors bestowed by the French government, the National Order of Merit.

M. Amboise Fayolle, head of L'Agence France Trésor at the French Ministry of Finance, presented the award during a ceremony with Matheny's family, friends, and colleagues at the headquarters of the World Bank in Washington DC.

Matheny is the first American at the World Bank and IMF to receive the award in 25 years. The honor is usually reserved for French citizens and for those at the highest level of administration in French organizations. In receiving the award, she is in the company of such notable Americans as General Wesley Clark, world-renowned humanitarian scholar Theodor Meron, and General Anthony Zinni.

Matheny was recognized as the "soul" of the World Bank and the IMF for her tireless work in presenting important French thoughts and ideas to the English-speaking world. Fayolle said that upon Matheny's retirement from the World Bank and IMF, there was no one more deserving of this award and recognition by La République Française for such exemplary work.

Matheny's path to receiving the National Order of Merit began at Mary Baldwin College, said classmate Stephanie Shearer Timm, who attended the presentation on July 7. She recalls living in the French House in Rose Terrace and spending a year in Paris with Matheny in 1968–69 — the first year of the MBC junior-year abroad program in France.

"Looking back, I realize that we embraced the unknown as if that were the most normal thing in the world to be doing at 20 years old," Timm said.

After graduation from Mary Baldwin, Matheny became a Peace Corps volunteer assigned to Niger, where she used her French daily as a teacher. In 1984, she secured a job at the World Bank and IMF and joined the French office of the organization in 1988.

Throughout her career, Timm said, Matheny was also a single mother. She "kept her infectious laugh, beautiful smile, and sense of humor while balancing her love for her children, her parents, and her challenging work for the French government."

"In the 47 years since living in adjacent rooms at the French House," Timm said, "there is no one in our group of French majors who has accomplished so much."



(left) MBC alumna Carolyn Matheny '70 poses with son Moustapha "Mous" Halidou, daughter-in-law Angela Halidou (wife of Ismael "Izzy" Halidou, not pictured), and grandson Aidan. (middle) With classmate Stephanie Timm. (right) With Mous in front of the globe at The World Bank and IMF in Washington.

And the Award Goes to ...

Cohen Honored by Globe Theatre

Ralph Alan Cohen, Mary Baldwin College's Virginia Worth Gonder professor of Shakespeare and Performance and director of mission for Staunton's American Shakespeare Center (ASC), recently became the first American to receive the prestigious Sam Wanamaker Award from the London-based Globe Theatre.

"Like Sam [Wanamaker], Ralph passionately believes in making Shakespeare accessible to as wide an audience as possible," said Patrick Spottiswoode, director of education at the Globe, when introducing Cohen at the award ceremony June 14. "[Ralph] is determined to eradicate what he calls 'ShakesFear.'"

The award recognizes Cohen's contributions to the study and appreciation of Shakespeare in the States and worldwide. After establishing the successful traveling troupe Shenandoah Shakespeare Express in the late 1980s, Cohen was instrumental in the vision and creation of the Blackfriars Playhouse in downtown Staunton, and

he co-founded the American Shakespeare Center headquartered in that building. The same year that the Blackfriars venue opened, the first students enrolled in MBC's Master of Letters and Master of Fine Arts program, guided by many of Cohen's ideas. Cohen has been a member of the Mary Baldwin faculty since 2003. He also launched the Blackfriars Conference to draw Shakespeare scholars from around the world to Staunton, and he has directed more than 30 productions of plays by the Bard and his contemporaries.

"I hope that Sam would have liked the fact that this year the award ... goes to an American," Cohen said. He added that ASC actors and educators, the Blackfriars Playhouse, and Mary Baldwin's MLitt and MFA students are all "children of Sam Wanamaker's vision."

He was also quick to point out that the award — established in 1994 in memory of the American actor and director who moved to Great Britain and spent a quarter-century campaigning



for the creation of the Globe — was an honor for the American Shakespeare Center as a whole, not just himself.

The Wanamaker Award is the latest in a series of notable recognitions Cohen and others associated with the ASC have earned:

- **2008:** Governor's Arts Award (Cohen and ASC co-founder Jim Warren)
- **2009:** Theo Crosby Fellow at Shakespeare's Globe (Cohen)
- **2013:** Shakespeare Steward Award from the Folger Shakespeare Library (Cohen)

Shakespeare's Globe Chief Executive Neil Constable presents to Ralph Alan Cohen the 2014 Sam Wanamaker Award, the most prestigious prize granted by Shakespeare's Globe to celebrate work that has increased the understanding and enjoyment of Shakespeare.

» Watch the award presentation at www.mbc.edu/magazine



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SHAKESPEARE'S GLOBE

A Champion of Student Life

Former Trustee William G. Pannill, whose generosity resulted in the creation of Mary Baldwin College's student center, passed away June 10, 2014. He was 87.

Beginning in the 60s, Pannill led his family's textile company during a boom in the sweatshirt industry, eventually building Pannill Knitting Company in Martinsville into the nation's most profitable producer of knitted-fleece sportswear.

During his tenure on the Board of Trustees (1986–97), he served as chairman of the student life committee and was soon caught up in the idea of creating a place that would fit students' social and personal needs. His encouragement and financial support led to the William G. Pannill Student Center, a 10,000-square-foot, Georgian-style building that opened in 1992 and quickly became a central part of upper campus and a hub of student activity. Pannill was quoted in one local newspaper saying that he wanted students to have a place where they could "eat French fries and drink Cokes and just hang out — what I did best in college."

Pannill attended Virginia Military Institute, the University of Virginia, and North Carolina State College School of Textiles. He was a three-year Army veteran whose service included time in occupied Germany after World War II. In addition to his business and civic leadership, Pannill was also an amateur botanist who hybridized, named, and registered more than 210 new daffodils that were grown in the Netherlands and sold around the world. One of his creations is a white variety named "Mary Baldwin," which he registered in 1977.



COURTESY OF THE RICHMOND TIMES DISPATCH

COLLEGE REMEMBERS FAMILIAR, FRIENDLY GROUNDSKEEPER



FILE PHOTO

In 2013 when Timothy Ray "Burt" Kennedy was recognized for 35 years of service at Mary Baldwin College, colleagues gathered inside Hunt Dining Hall gave a standing ovation in honor of the quiet, friendly man who was often seen working to keep the campus beautiful.

Known as the gentle giant on the MBC grounds crew, Kennedy, 58, passed away April 14, 2014.

By many accounts, Kennedy added a kind presence around campus and loved talking about his truck. Dozens of friends from all segments of the MBC family remembered him on the college's Facebook page.

"Burt will be missed. [He was] a fine example of a loyal person with integrity," said MBC security officer Nick Hall. "He loved his truck and Christmas. He was always someone you could talk to."

"I will forever have memories of those gorgeous, rolling, perfectly cut hills," wrote LaChondra Everett '98. "Thanks for your service, Burt!"

A member of Staunton First Church of God, Kennedy is survived by a brother, Gary Kennedy and wife Susan; a sister, Rose M. Wagner; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The college planted and dedicated an evergreen tree in Kennedy's memory in December.

ON THE PODIUM

MARY BALDWIN'S FEATURED EVENTS
AND GUEST APPEARANCES

MBC THEATRE

METAMORPHOSES

by Mary Zimmerman

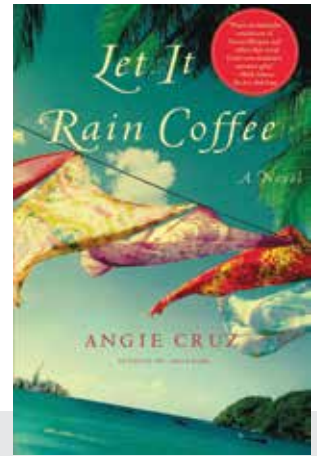
Fletcher Collins Theatre in Deming Fine Arts Center

Directed by Doreen Bechtol, MFA '12

Company Manager and Director of Training,
Shakespeare and Performance

February 11–15, 2015

Tickets: 540-887-7189 or www.mbc.edu/arts/theatre



A CONTEMPORARY RETELLING OF OVID'S

METAMORPHOSES, this award-winning play features archetypal characters who undergo extra-ordinary transformations. Bechtol, a skilled practitioner of physical theater, talks about her vision for the production:

“

In 2002, I saw *Metamorphoses*' Broadway debut a month before I moved to Staunton to join the resident acting troupe at the American Shakespeare

Center. Composed of beautifully evocative images, that production resonated with me, perhaps because of my movement background and love for theatrical spectacle, yet also because the production opened against the backdrop of 9/11 and stood in contrast to the devastation. At that time audiences in New York needed some sort of emotional catharsis, and what better play to find release than in *Metamorphoses*?

As its name implies, the primary theme in *Metamorphoses* is transformation and the majority of the action takes place within a shallow pool of water, which makes theatrical use of that element's changeable nature. While we may not be able to recreate a pool inside the black box theatre (... in February, mind you), I hope to re-imagine how we might use water in provocative ways that speak to, or help spur, a character's transformation. In addition, I am also excited to potentially work with multimedia such as projection, and I never tire of exploring my first love in the theatre: igniting and cultivating the performer's body, voice, and imagination through live performance — all of which requires supreme acts of transformation.”

”

SELECTED 2014-15 CAMPUS GUESTS

CONCERT: “GLOBAL RHYTHMS”

Srinivas Krishnan, Spencer Center artist-in-residence

VISITING FACULTY

Shiny John Vairamon, chemistry professor
Chennai, India

LECTURE: “ADVENTURES OF A PUBLIC SCIENTIST”

Gregory Petsko, Phi Beta Kappa visiting scholar

CARPENTER LECTURE IN HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

Sarah Frieberth, MD

BROMAN CONCERT

Yael Weiss, piano

DOENGES LECTURE: “THE POSSIBILITY OF FICTION”

Angie Cruz, novelist

HUNT GALLERY EXHIBITION

Passing Strange: New Work by **Adria Arch**

FIRESTONE LECTURE IN CONTEMPORARY ART

Josef Bolf, painter



2020 VISION

Strategic plan born of community input

By the time the Mary Baldwin College Board of Trustees voted to give final approval of the institution's newest strategic plan in July, over 150 faculty, staff, students, alumni, and administrators had already devoted hundreds of hours of study, conversation, and debate to its development — looking outward to assess shifting paradigms in higher education as well as inward to align Mary Baldwin's core values and strengths with societal needs.

"Almost every member of this community has participated

in crafting this plan" in study groups, public forums, and online surveys, President Pamela Fox reminded the crowd gathered in Francis Auditorium at the start of the 2014–15 academic year. The result of that cumulative hard work is an 18-page document that will guide Mary Baldwin College for the next six years.

Fox recently sat down to talk about the creation of *Mary Baldwin 2020* and how it will shape the future of the 173-year-old institution.



www.mbc.edu/strategic_plan

- Download the full document
- Watch the video
- Learn more during a special webinar
Saturday, January 24, 2015: 11 a.m. EST



Photos of President Fox are from the video shoot for *Mary Baldwin 2020*, which was attended by a small panel of alumnae from Richmond.

What is most important for the college community to understand about *Mary Baldwin 2020*?

Four things. First, this plan is built on what we call the “Mary Baldwin DNA.” It grows out of our shared values and stays true to Mary Baldwin’s legacy. Throughout its history, this institution has evolved in ways that connect an enduring heritage with a courageous, entrepreneurial spirit in order to serve new generations of students. The plan affirms our commitment, first and foremost, to teaching and learning that is academically rigorous, that is personalized, and that transforms lives. With great respect for the past, we innovate by aligning MBC’s strengths with what our students need, and with what our society and nation need from our graduates.

Second, the plan reflects who we are today — a constellation of communities. Classified as a master’s level university since 2001, MBC is a distinctive small university with five major academic units: the Residential College for Women (RCW), the Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences, the Undergraduate

Adult Degree Program (ADP), the College of Education, and Shakespeare and Performance. Each component is critical to our success. This plan provides a structure that will help each one flourish and will encourage building synergies among programs to the benefit of our students.

Third, this plan is about creating a thriving future for all our programs and ensuring that we serve all our students well. It is *not* about the RCW going co-ed or devaluing the liberal arts and sciences. We still believe with great conviction in the power of single-sex education for women, and that the depth and breadth of a liberal education is the best preparation for a life of purpose. Even with projected growth in graduate programs, in 2020 the majority of our students will be enrolled through the two undergraduate programs in the liberal arts and sciences — the RCW and ADP.

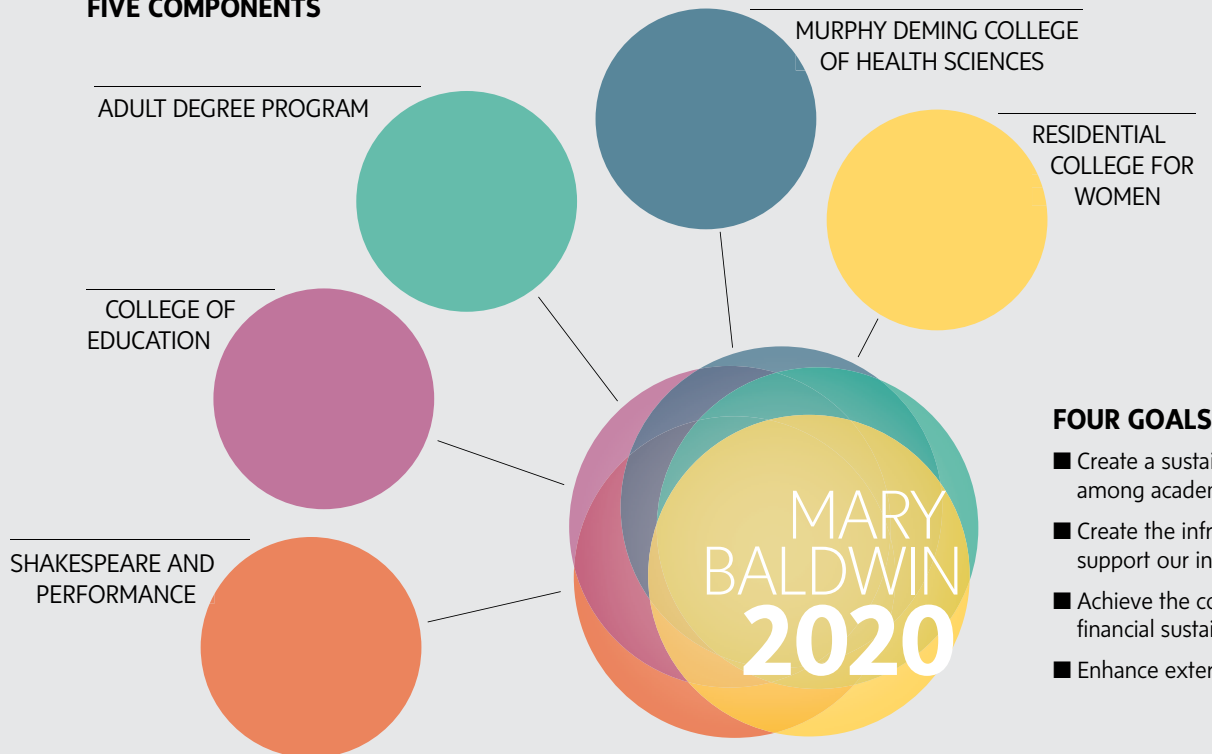
Fourth, *Mary Baldwin 2020* is a bold yet achievable blueprint. The result will be an institution that does an even better job of providing our hallmark personalized and transformative education.



THE VISION

In 2020, Mary Baldwin will be recognized as a distinctive small university, committed to academic excellence and united through a constellation of communities, that empowers a broad range of learners to exceed expectations and build lives of purpose.

FIVE COMPONENTS



FOUR GOALS

- Create a sustainable synergy among academic programs
- Create the infrastructure to support our institution of 2020
- Achieve the components of financial sustainability
- Enhance external funding

What will success look like over the next few years?

First and foremost, people in all segments of the college community will feel very deeply that this is still their Mary Baldwin — that through the institution's evolution and growth the essentials have been sustained and supported. For instance: personalized, transformative education; a supportive, inclusive, and welcoming community; and the empowerment of students to exceed expectations, become their best selves, and pursue lives of purpose.

We will see the connections between our academic programs strengthen. For instance, undergraduates can already earn a bachelor's degree plus a master's in either Shakespeare or education in five years, and there are spots reserved for qualified Mary Baldwin graduates in our Murphy Deming programs. We are now investigating development of an EdD (doctor of education), which will be particularly appealing for graduates of our physician

assistant program who seek the credentials necessary to teach in the health sciences.

As our strategies come to fruition and we grow toward our overall enrollment goal of 2,200 to 2,500, we will be able to invest more in teaching, student support, facilities, and our deserving faculty and staff. Much of the enrollment growth is projected for the Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences, where we are already filled with successful students, so I am confident we can achieve our goals. We will see improvements to our infrastructure, maintaining our historic campus and implementing new technologies to keep pace with best practices in our increasingly online world.

As a result, our broader community — prospective students, employers, alumni of all programs — will better understand what Mary Baldwin has to offer.

It has been more than 10 years since the college adopted its last strategic plan, *Composing Our Future: Mary Baldwin College 2014*. What successes has the college enjoyed since then?

Composing Our Future guided us well through what turned out to be a very challenging decade for the global economy and for higher education. In fact, Mary Baldwin ended the decade in a stronger position in many ways. We said we would make personal transformation our priority and sharpen our focus on academic excellence, and we implemented a number of nationally recognized best practices to accomplish those goals. For instance, we introduced first-year gateways, and they have been extremely successful — so much so that we are now taking them to the next level, extending the programming for all four years to help students connect their liberal arts education to success in careers and graduate schools. Mary Baldwin has always been good at that; now we're becoming better. We also bolstered our focus on, and funding for, undergraduate research and study abroad. Echoing a Mary Baldwin tradition from the early 20th century, every May our Capstone

Festival celebrates the best student scholarship and creative output of the year. In 2007 we established the Spencer Center for Civic and Global Engagement, which links teaching and learning with community service and international experiences. Again, this is a longstanding institutional strength that we have made more intentional and more visible.

More recently, we helped bring the Heifetz International Music Institute to Mary Baldwin. This year we launched the Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences, which brings the Mary Baldwin ethos to a whole new category of students who are becoming confident, compassionate changemakers.

Very importantly, MBC has also made significant progress on its largest fundraising effort to date — the \$80 million Ever Ahead campaign. We are very grateful for the gifts that launched new programs, supported student research and study abroad, and funded the new initiatives I have mentioned. And, of course, the funds that have gone into capital improvements — including the first phase of the Pearce Science Center renovation — have been vital.



Thank you.

I would like to thank the Alumnae/i Association Board of Directors for their engagement and wise counsel in the process of communicating the strategic plan as we share this vital information with our entire community. Also, none of this would be possible without the dedication and hard work of our entire faculty and staff. They give so much of themselves to the institution, and I am so very grateful. Their effort is made worthwhile by the transformational impact on students, and by all the ways that they in turn make a difference for others throughout their lives.



LIFE AFTER COLLEGE

Thanks to nationwide research, we know that a college degree is valuable for employment, earnings, and quality of life. And in-house studies show that the Mary Baldwin College experience leads to benefits such as career flexibility, self-reliance, leadership, finding a job that one is good at and passionate about, and a valuable network of classmates and professors.

But how does going to college affect students' plans, expectations, and drive for passion and purpose? And what is MBC doing right now to nurture their potential?

Beyond their efforts in the classroom, faculty members Bruce Dorries and Chandra Mason are addressing the issue of life after college.

A social-personality psychologist with broad research interests in social justice, social roles, and social neuroscience, Mason has studied the work-family relationship her entire career. While her previous research focused on individuals already occupying work and family roles, in recent years she has turned her attention to those who are actively preparing for work and

non-work roles (i.e., college students) and the role that educational experiences may play in shaping work-family plans and expectations. Her research brings together — perhaps for the first time — career development theory and work-family theory.

Increasingly during the past year, Dorries has sought to find ways to connect the MBC experience with life after college. While the effort became known simply as “College to Career” among faculty and staff, in reality, it encompasses much more. Dorries and his fellow committee members looked at how the college could help students connect their education and passion to their future plans. As a result of this work, MBC has announced that it will open next summer The Vantage Point — a new center near the heart of campus that will include student life offices, graduate school resources, civic and global engagement services, and professional development support.

Dorries and Mason recently met in Grafton Library to discuss their work and how it factors into the future for today's college students.

» Helping students explore, connect, and prepare
www.mbc.edu/college-to-career



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION
BRUCE DORRIES

Dorries earned his BA in journalism and history at Baylor University, his MA from Corpus Christi State University, and his PhD in communication from the University of Missouri. His interests include working with local environmental groups, managing a 33-acre wildlife preserve/family farm, gardening, outdoor sports, the study of Eastern thought, and traveling with family.



ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY
CHANDRA MASON

Mason earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Virginia, master's degree from James Madison University, and her PhD from The Graduate School and University Center at the City University of New York. She enjoys spending time with her family, reading, traveling, patronizing the performing arts, and watching (mostly) good television and films.

PHOTOS BY LINDSEY WALTERS

THE CONVERSATION

BD: What do you think the big issues will be for our students as they move into the work force?

CM: When you look at some of the research on millennials, you see that they are backing away from what a lot of us think of as the American dream. You hear a lot of them say they don't anticipate being able to purchase a home; you hear them say that they're not sure they're going to have a family. If they do say they're going to become parents, it's usually much later in life. And you find a lot of uncertainty around the exact timing of their work and family roles.

BD: There is a lot of focus nationally and at Mary Baldwin on career preparation. That is sometimes thought to be in conflict with a liberal arts education. How do you reconcile career preparation with the traditional liberal arts and broad worldview that we provide?

CM: Here at Mary Baldwin, it doesn't seem that those two things are mutually exclusive. We do a really good job of covering the

knowledge base in a field, but at the same time preparing students for what they are going to experience out there. I know that in the psychology major, for example, we have a Survival Skills in Psychology course that everybody must take. We teach them how to "survive" the psychology major, but a large part of that course is giving them inventories about their future careers. What do they want? What are they suited for? So there is quite a bit of emphasis on their future and on career preparation. At the same time, within the discipline of psychology, we make them take courses from all over [the major] and then, of course, we have the liberal arts education that we rely heavily on. We expect our students to be taking sociology courses and philosophy courses. So for us, in psychology — and I would argue it's true for everybody on campus — we need the broad liberal arts to help us train our students in an individual discipline.

BD: How important are those critical-thinking skills for students' futures?

CM: Critical thinking allows you to, first of all, look for evidence [that is] not based on your personal, anecdotal experience. That's

a real struggle that we all have as human beings, to hear something and say, “but that’s not my experience, so it can’t possibly be true.” To be able to realize that I can’t just go on what feels good to me, that I have to look a little deeper, I have to ask more questions. I can’t see the world in black and white, I have to see the shades of gray. To have that approach to your life — your career, your personal life, and social issues — I think it sets students up for success, and it makes society better.

CM: Turning the table on you, Bruce, talk a little bit about your college-to-career initiative.

BD: It’s the most enjoyable work that I’ve done on a committee, anywhere — in government or nonprofits. Anywhere. For the students it becomes more about pursuing life’s passion, finding larger purpose, and developing as a professional. I’m not sure how much — in the classroom — teachers should be teaching professionalism, but our students desperately need it.

CM: Why do you think our students don’t seek out the career center more? As a first-generation college student, I lived in the career center.

BD: [At other colleges our committee visited, career centers] are central; they are geographically unavoidable. That makes it possible for the staff there to just reach people who are going by. Or to make it clear that the role of the center is much like the Spencer Center. In fact, that will be how this kind of evolves ... to where we are trading some traffic [between the centers] by both being centrally located on campus. That profile, alone, is like any form of real estate — you see it, you see people using it, you become curious, and you’re more likely to use it.

CM: What about us as teachers, what is it that we should be doing? How should we be emphasizing this?

BD: Some disciplines are already doing a great job with that. Others haven’t had that role as part of their responsibilities, so it’s going to become an issue of informing and helping faculty see that this is not only good for students’ professional future, it’s also good for understanding how they are doing in the classrooms now, how well they are doing in terms of relating to you [as faculty], to understanding the importance of subject matter, and how it relates to their profession. I’m sure we’ll evolve our own system much like we did with civic and global engagement.

CM: That will be a challenge that I think we’ll want to take on. It’s one more thing that we have to keep in mind when we’re working with our students. It’s not just about ‘I’m teaching you stimulus and response.’ I think that is one of the beautiful things about Mary Baldwin. We see our students as whole people. There is always room for improvement to help them reach their potential.



PART OF THE PLAN

The college’s strategic plan, *Mary Baldwin 2020*, calls for supporting students through a college-to-career center, which complements the Spencer Center for Civic and Global Engagement.

COLLEGE TO CAREER COMMITTEE

During the 2013–14 academic year, Mary Baldwin College assembled an eight-member, faculty-staff task force charged with finding ways to integrate career development and preparation into many aspects of the college experience — from civic and global engagement to academic majors and minors. The committee also looked at ways to improve the visibility of career prep for freshmen and for prospective students and their families.

Out of this effort, the committee developed several initiatives to help students plan for the future — some are already in place while others are still in development.

Beginning this fall, administrators replaced the intro-to-college class MBC 101 with Baldwin Opportunities for Learning and Development, or BOLD 101, which focuses on connecting a liberal arts education to a meaningful post-graduate life. The BOLD classes will be available for a student throughout her time at MBC, with curriculum tailored to what she should be doing during each year she is on campus — from declaring a major to searching for a graduate school. The curriculum is designed to help students first explore their passions, then connect with purpose, and finally, develop professionalism.

There are also recruitment materials and a new portion of the Mary Baldwin website that help prospective and current students navigate the multiple pathways toward a chosen career and help parents understand how opportunities at MBC lead to career success.

SOCIAL MEDIA CONVO

Alumnae weigh in on Facebook about what Mary Baldwin experiences had the most positive influences on their lives.

Driving home from my first law school exam, I realized it was very similar to Miss Smeak's 16th Century Prose and Poetry exam: here's a poem; now go to work on it and tease out everything you can and analyze. I use those skills every day as I practice law.

Valerie Wenger '81

Signing the Honor Code. Small classes with thoughtful professors who entertained eager students. Being collegial in the best sense of the word.

Charis Caldwell '83

Great professors who truly cared about their students and were passionate about teaching. I think of Drs. Irving, Venn, and Trice who instilled in us their passion for their fields, which I continue to have in my 30th year of teaching.

Beth Slusser Hall '83

MBC touched my personal life in a couple of elemental ways. First, I majored in psych, with an emphasis in child psych. I had no way of knowing that both of my children would be born profoundly autistic and that I would use much of my education in my own home on a daily basis. MBC also instilled in me a knowledge that I can do anything I want/need to do if I work hard. There are no limits. This knowledge has helped keep me moving throughout the hardest days of my kids' condition. Finally, I was a military wife and because of my kids, was not always free to get out and make friends. I have found that I [run into] a fellow alum almost everywhere I go and they are nearly always ready to give a hug, a hand, or simply silent support, and that is a gift no money can buy.

Belynda Randolph '93

I learned how to be a professional. Dr. Mosher required professional attire in our senior seminar. At the time it seemed like a hassle. Now I recognize the value in his teaching us how to interact as professionals and colleagues.

Emily Bertsch '99

The same things that bring me back to visit: events like Ajani and Kwanzaa that teach creativity, leadership, and unity.

Nerissa Davis '06

Since I went to grad school after Baldwin, I'd say my data collection thesis, Institutional Review Board exposure, and research paper formatting/citation training are the ultimate skills I learned as an undergrad.

Jo Forrest-Stuart '10

Being a part of VWIL put me heads above my peers in the civilian world with the instilled professionalism, military bearing, and work ethic.

Jess Mays '05

[My professors] taught me that a strong work ethic and a respect for the work you do will get you further than the perfect answer. [Now] I approach work projects as I did at Baldwin, making sure I understand my boss's expectations of the outcome and process.

Daryn Cazin '14

Being able to go to school with all different types of people really prepared me for the cultural differences in the military.

Ashley Langston '09

JOIN THE CONVERSATION AT

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» Watch a student-produced video of the conversation
www.mbc.edu/magazine/conversation



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MESSAGE FROM THE 2014–16 ALUMNAE/I BOARD PRESIDENT

CHRISTY HAWKINS HOWELL '93

Change. Even when we speak of money, something is lost and something is gained with this word.

In most cases, experiential change is hard. It's hard to leave home for the first time, hard to move on your own for the first time, hard to watch your children grow from infant to adult before your eyes, and hard to watch as life takes you down paths you never expected.

Many times, the surprising thing about change is what happens after the transitional period ends. Somehow through the process, we become more aware, more educated, and stronger as a result of change. At the same time, the most powerful parts of who we are remain uncompromised and, in most cases, fortified. The core of who we are is steadfast.

Many of us who have been part of the Mary Baldwin College family for many years are now being called upon to support the institution through a time of change. This requires all who love MBC to heed those lessons we have learned along the way — to trust in what the college is, allow it to change, and embrace what it is becoming.

I so admire the leaders who are guiding Mary Baldwin College toward the future. I take joy in the fact that our roots are firmly planted and that those who are responsible for its future know how those roots have shaped the college. To loosely quote President Pamela Fox, Mary Baldwin College is a place "founded in tradition, but focused on the future."

I encourage you to stay connected and stay informed about what is going on at our place on the hill. You will be awed and amazed, as I am, by what we are capable of.

IN THIS SECTION:

- Profiles: Lael Adams Mohib '08 | David Beebe '90
- Why I Volunteer: Nicole Brenner '07
- Why I Give: Emily Parker '13
- Class Columns, including shares from the online forum
- Submitted photos

SECTION EDITOR: AMANDA MINIX, ADVANCEMENT WRITER

To these halls where Wisdom reckons, To these hills where Beauty dwells.

Come home to Mary Baldwin



To up-hold that light for-ev-er, Ma-ry Bald-win

REUNION 2015

APRIL 9-12

WE WELCOME BACK THE CLASSES OF
1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000,
2005, 2010, AND THE GRAFTON SOCIETY,
WITH SPECIAL EVENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF
1945, 1950, 1955, AND 1960.

Young Alumna Builds Charity in Afghanistan

BY AMANDA MINIX

To say that life since graduating from Mary Baldwin College in 2008 has been busy for Lael Adams Mohib would be an understatement. In six years, she has managed to earn a master's degree, complete an international internship, establish a career in sustainable development, cover a variety of international relations issues for outlets such as *Foreign Policy* and *The New York Times*, produce a documentary film on Afghanistan, and — something especially close to her heart — establish a children's charity.

Mohib created the Enabled Children Initiative after a meaningful volunteer experience at Window of Hope, an orphanage in Afghanistan. When she moved from Kabul to London with her husband in 2011, she was sure of two things: that she would return, and that she wouldn't be leaving those children behind.

Even while in London, Mohib pursued that goal. Working for BBC Media Action, she managed sustainable media development projects in Afghanistan, India, and Nepal, creating platforms that empowered local people to bring about change. With the children at Window of Hope always on her mind, the idea for Enabled Children Initiative was born. Mohib established a board of trustees and mobilized resources — starting with a simple fundraiser and eventually securing grants — for what is now a United Kingdom-registered charity with a goal to raise about £24,000, or \$38,000, annually.

"We fully fund 12 disabled orphans at Window of Hope as well as several disabled adults living in government orphanages," Mohib said. "We're also starting a new pilot program that advocates support for children in their homes. A core principle of our organization is that the best place for a child is in the home, not in an institution — especially in Afghanistan, where institutions are vastly under-resourced."

Mohib made good on her vow to return to Kabul as well. Back in a developing country struggling to stabilize its government, she is constantly reminded that it is up to the people to serve the country's least protected groups. Through Enabled Children Initiative, Mohib

seeks not only to meet disabled children's basic needs, she also hopes to connect caregivers to the resources they need because there is a lack of education about congenital disabilities, not to mention a shortage of social services and care facilities, especially in rural areas. Disabled children are sometimes abandoned by their families if they cannot afford to care for them.

"I was shocked to find that the government was providing no support for its most vulnerable constituents," Mohib said.

The children are a constant source of inspiration for Mohib, fueling her passion to help. One of her favorite stories is how Ahmad, a 15-year-old boy with severe cerebral palsy, came back from the brink of death after being found abandoned in a public park. He was malnourished, nearly frozen, and immobile. After receiving proper care and attention, Ahmad made an astounding recovery. "This is a child who nobody thought could eat anything by mouth, and now he's walking," she said. "He proves what some food, care, and a little kindness can do."

When asked about her life in Kabul, Mohib describes a cultural epicenter that, in many ways, resembles most cosmopolitan cities around the globe. "It's vibrant and thriving, with beautiful gardens; carts of fresh, delicious fruits; and friendly, hospitable people," she said. "There is a lot more to it than bombs and insurgent attacks. It has a beautifully redone national museum, a national archive, a national art gallery, the historic Babur's Garden on the hillside, several cultural centers, as well as a range of different types of restaurants and cafés. I think the future is bright ... I certainly could not and would not want to live in the Kabul you see on the news — all bombs, killings, corruption, and messy politics — that's only a small part of the picture here."

Mohib first traveled to Kabul in 2009 for an internship at the Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development, where she worked in international donor relations. She learned about the internship from fellow MBC alumna, Azada Hussaini '08. Mohib was earning a master's degree in international relations with a focus on Afghanistan, so it seemed like the perfect next step.

"I was very scared," she said. "From the news in the United States, you think you're coming into a war zone, and while there is a war, Kabul — the capital — is not like that. I



Above: Lael Adams Mohib '08 (center) visits friends Fariba and Sharifa at an orphanage in Afghanistan. Below: Mohib plugs in wires to start up a microhydro power plant that she project-managed in the Panjsher Valley.

just loved it and knew I wanted to come back."

She earned her master's degree at Boston University and then returned to Kabul to work for FLAG International Afghanistan, a rural development firm. In 2011, she produced a documentary, *Voice of a Nation: My Journey through Afghanistan*, which featured interviews with Afghans from seven different provinces.

In August, she took on a new role at the American University of Afghanistan, serving as communication director and journalism instructor. Visits to Window of Hope are frequent for Mohib and her family — husband Hamdullah and toddler Mariam — and she looks forward to the work ahead. As civic organizations continue to raise awareness, support for disabled people at the government level may increase in time. For now, Mohib keeps a realistic outlook and — with the help of dedicated volunteers, donors, and caregivers — does what she can.

"Enabled Children Initiative is my small way of doing something good for people, and it means a tremendous amount to me," she said. "I never went out looking to start a charity, but these kids just fell into my lap, and once that relationship was established, I couldn't just walk away."



THE ENABLED CHILDREN INITIATIVE partners with the United States-based charity ForgetMeNot International to raise funds for disabled orphans in Afghanistan.

» Learn more at enabledchildren.org and fmni.org.

WHY I VOLUNTEER

"Giving back has always been a valuable part of my life"

Nicole Brenner's volunteer spirit was nurtured at a very early age. As a child, she often volunteered her time, and her parents opened their home to foster children. Her mother also set a positive example as a volunteer coordinator in Northern Virginia. Today, Brenner's efforts touch many lives in Richmond, where she lives and works as an attorney. "I have not known a time when I wasn't volunteering in some way," she said. "Giving back has always been a valuable part of my life."



So when Brenner '07 was asked to join the MBC Advisory Board of Visitors, the alumna did not hesitate, and has since found other ways to support her alma mater. For the past two years, Brenner and classmate Alison Kaufmann have hosted well-attended Apple Eve/Day events in Richmond.

"I always enjoy hosting an alum event and talking to women about the experience they had, the traditions they remember, and how they are so excited to come to an event," she said. "I believe that coordinating events builds and sustains the connection that we each feel with Mary Baldwin."

In keeping with the community service element of Apple Day, last year Brenner and Kaufmann asked for participants to donate hats, scarves, and gloves for children at schools in the East End of Richmond. This year, they asked for nonperishable donations for FeedMore, the Central Virginia Food Bank.

"You get back what you put in — that is my volunteering mentality," she said. "You never know what great opportunity may come out of giving back and volunteering, but it is always worth the effort."

Organic Farming, Alternative Medicine Provide Alum with Teachable Moments

BY DAWN MEDLEY

Just before Christmas in 1987, recently laid-off landscaper David Beebe picked up the phone to call the Virginia Employment Commission to file for unemployment. But he misdialed. Instead, he reached Robert Lafleur in Mary Baldwin College's Adult Degree Program (ADP) office, and they started a conversation that refocused Beebe's life.

"In the most cheerful voice, [Robert] asked whom I was trying to reach, and when I said the employment commission, he took the opportunity to explain how MBC could help me finish my college degree and get me on track for more permanent employment," said Beebe, who met with Lafleur, then associate professor of history, that same day.

Beebe's original undergraduate plan in the late 1960s was derailed by the Vietnam War and the untimely deaths of a close friend and his mother. After becoming lost in a sea of students at a large Virginia university, Beebe earned his associate's degree at Dabney Lancaster Community College, but it turned out that life was to be his main learning laboratory for the next few decades. Eventually moving to Albuquerque by way of Florida, Beebe worked stints as a surveyor, miner, landscaper, plant shop co-owner, machine shop operator, car spray painter, truck driver, and — two positions that would come into play again later in his life — lab technician at the University of New Mexico and organic farmer.

Beebe's fortune began to turn. He fell in love and married, and the couple bought their dream farm in Rockbridge Baths and welcomed two children. But stable employment continued to elude Beebe, who bounced from job to job during the economic recession of the late 1980s.

He was at a low point when he inadvertently called Mary Baldwin College.

"I was amazed at how easy it was to work with ADP faculty and staff," said Beebe. "They set me up with the financial aid, loans, and grants I needed for continuing my education to really make sense."

More than two decades after starting his undergraduate journey and years of being passed up for more stable positions because he didn't hold a bachelor's degree — Beebe,

then 40, graduated cum laude in 1990 with a BA in biology and teacher licensure with plans to teach high school science. He used his MBC senior thesis project to study whether Round-Up could be used as an organically approved herbicide on his farm.

While a long-term classroom teaching position was not in the cards for Beebe, he used his MBC degree to forge his own path and make unique educational contributions.

While growing his business at Cherry Ridge Organic Farm, Beebe worked as a quality control lab technician at a Harrisonburg turkey feed mill. He took the position to provide a predictable paycheck and health insurance while he navigated divorce and single parenthood, but — as is characteristic in Beebe's life — it led to an auspicious connection.

He was introduced to an electrical engineer at Cornell University who had learned of Beebe's background in microbiology and asked him to help design in vitro studies to test the efficacy of metal colloids — suspensions of microscopic particles of metal in distilled water — on various bacteria. During the next four years, Beebe worked with the engineer to make and test colloids of different metals and they found that colloidal silver killed bacterial, fungal, and yeast cultures in the laboratory.

After making many adjustments to the process, the pair was convinced of their product's safety and effectiveness and began testing it on themselves as well as some of the animals at Cherry Ridge. Partnering with a homeopathic doctor in Charlottesville, Beebe invested all of his resources into building a small laboratory in his 100-year-old farmhouse and in 1996 began marketing colloidal silver supplements and creams under the name Electro-Pure, Inc. Although the business took a hit during the most recent economic downturn, Electro-Pure products are sold in all 50 states and nine countries around the world.

"I owe much of the success of this business to my MBC education," he said. "More than providing me with knowledge about a

specific subject, the instruction and discovery at Mary Baldwin impressed upon me that an education is a tool for finding the truth through good science and good judgment."

On the farm, Beebe continues to experiment with crop production techniques, canned products, and raising animals for food — all using organic methods. His most popular products include vegan-fed tilapia and free-range rabbits, heirloom pickles, pepper jelly, brown turkey figs, ginger, and sauerkraut.

Beebe oversees a fleet of young volunteers from around the world through the program Willing Workers on Organic Farms. He teaches them skills such as mechanization, plumbing, animal husbandry, aquaculture, greenhouse maintenance, solar and wood-fired heating systems, composting, veterinary medicine, timber framing, and construction as they come up with alternatives to conventional agri-business.

"I feel like I ended up being a teacher after all. Every day, I guide young volunteers on the farm to ask, 'Why is this relevant?' in the same way MBC professors guided me," Beebe said. "Organic farming and alternative medicine are endeavors that offer daily challenges. Earning my degree certainly gave me the confidence and the critical thinking tools to face those challenges."

David Beebe '90 credits his biology degree with helping him run his organic farm and developing a colloidal silver supplement that he says can help relieve dozens of ailments from colds to skin infections.





"More than providing me with knowledge about a specific subject, the instruction and discovery at Mary Baldwin impressed upon me that an education is a tool for finding the truth through good science and good judgment."

— DAVID BEEBE '90



WHY I GIVE

"I am doing my part"

Emily Parker '13 fell in love with Mary Baldwin College during her first campus visit.

To show her dedication and loyalty to MBC, she made her first gift during her junior year as a member of the Student Alumnae/i Relations Society. She still continues to give back what she can, knowing that every contribution makes a difference at MBC.



"When I made my first gift, I didn't view it as a chore but as something I should have been doing all along," she said. "And as an alum, I couldn't wait to write my first check to give."

Parker made her first gift as an alumna last spring during Mary Baldwin's Day to Lead the Way — a social media campaign for the Baldwin Fund, the college's annual fundraising effort. Enjoying the interactive atmosphere and finding inspiration in fellow donors, she made multiple contributions that day.

"Why not give back to the institution that gave you so much? MBC gave me the tools to grow and become the best possible version of myself, and I am doing my part to make sure Mary Baldwin's legacy continues," she said.

Originally from Long Island, New York, Parker came to MBC at 16 and earned her degree in arts management. She now works at another Virginia college as an admissions counselor. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering for the American Cancer Society and hopes to attend graduate school within the next few years.

"I came to MBC as a girl and left as a confident, compassionate, changemaking woman," she said. "It means a lot to me that by donating, I'm making sure another young woman has access to the wonderful opportunities I had."

CLASSCOLUMNS

ALUMNI IN ALL CLASSES are encouraged to post news on their MBC class pages on the online Class Acts forum www.mbc.edu/class, where class secretaries will lead the forum and periodically request updates. Notes from the class celebrating its 50th Reunion and members of the Grafton Society will continue to be printed in the magazine, as well as selected notes and photos from the online forum.

CONTACT US

Classes with a secretary should continue to submit notes to her when requested. If you have questions about **how to continue to submit updates**, please contact the Office of Alumnae/i and Parent Relations.

- 800-763-7359
- alumnae@mbc.edu
- Mary Baldwin College
Office of Alumnae/i and
Parent Relations
Staunton, VA 24401
- www.mbc.edu/class

GRAFTON SOCIETY

1947

COURTENAY PLASKITT Hansen, her husband, and 2 daughters visited classmate **SALLY BEALS Holzbach** on May 10, 2014. They enjoyed reminiscing and their visit to the Mariner's Museum. Courtenay and Sally had not seen each other since 1945!

1956

Send your class notes to:
Elaine Baldwin
7395 Sedgefield Avenue
San Ramon, CA 94583
elainebaldwin@comcast.net
ELAINE BALDWIN writes: "I just celebrated my 80th birthday, an occasion that prompted me to much reflection. I feel very grateful for many things: good health, especially for bionic hips that enable me to travel, hike, swim, practice yoga, and garden; great health care, thanks to excellent benefits earned through more than 22 years of employment at the National Institutes of Health that cover virtually everything Medicare doesn't; the satisfaction of having had 2 diverse, immensely challenging and successful careers while holding positions of leadership in the communities where I have lived; 2 daughters who have persevered through

their own particular trials and are admirable, humorous, and wise women; and my 3 hard-working, smart, and beautiful college-student grandchildren. I am also very thankful for good and faithful friends with common interests; for good books, music, and art that add so much richness to my life; for my own continuing intellectual curiosity and my unquenchable passion for liberal politics, social justice, and environmental causes; for the beauties of the natural world and the delights of organic food that my older daughter, Catherine, and I cook together nearly every night; and for this amazing northern CA climate I have enjoyed for the past 11 years.

JEANETTE FISHER Reid lives in Black Mountain NC, where my younger daughter, Stephanie, her 2 daughters, and my great-granddaughter also live, so I have wonderful, stimulating visits with her when I go back East once or twice a year. Jeanette is a volunteer community mediator and enjoys writing and studying poetry; she lives at Highland Farms, a retirement community in a beautiful setting. In 2001 she and Jim Lenhart, a true soul mate, joined in a commitment ceremony. They had more than 12 years together before he died. 2 of her children and their spouses live in Asheville, and that is a great blessing." **SUE BERRY**

CLASSACTS >> from the online forum at www.mbc.edu/class



A Gathering in Memphis

A gathering at Ciao Bella in Memphis: Back Row L to R: **BEVERLY MATTHEWS Williams '59**, **BARBARA JOHNSTON Ogles '68**, and **DIANE HILLYER Copley '68**. Front Row L to R: **IVY KOSTER '67**, **MARY COCKE Read '92**, **LUCIE MAY Thompson '73**, **KATHERINE BROWN '92**, and **KAREN MATTHEWS Winchester '79**.

McMurray writes: "I currently do educational consultant work under my shingle, Educational Design Services, having graduated from Duke's Center for Documentary Studies here in Durham. I have produced 5 DVDs, and several articles and 1 book have been published. 2 sons.

Keep up with **MARGARET NEAL QUERY Keller '55** and **JEANETTE FISHER Reid**, plus **KATHERINE KANTNER '76**." **JANE PERKINS Jones** writes: "I have 2 girls and 2 grandchildren. One daughter is a doctor, and one is a banker. My husband died several years ago. I'm lucky to be healthy and

well. I love to travel. My last trip was on Cunard's Queen Mary 2; 2 friends and I took a month's tour of the Mediterranean, with stops in a new port every day. It was glorious! I've also toured Europe 4 times, the Caribbean several times, Canada, and Hawaii." **SALLIE TUCKER Anderson** writes: "I am now a widow and am retired from 42 years of business at Boll Weevil Antiques. I have 3 children (living), Jane, Will, and Tucker. And I have 7 grandchildren, Catherine, Mallory, Alberto, Sallie Jane, Amelia, Madolyn, and Wesley. Our family continues to own

and operate farm and ranch land in Calvert TX, where I reside to this day. All my best to Mary Baldwin College!" **MARY COLONNA Robertson** writes: "I continue to enjoy living in Virginia Beach at Westminster Canterbury. I have found that as I have grown older and have slowed down a bit, I have come to enjoy many simple pleasures in life, such as time spent with friends and family. I treasure the times with friends eating dinner, playing bridge, going to plays, and walking around the property, especially going to the seawall by the beach. I spend most of my days with my husband, John, who has moved to the Alzheimers unit here. We participate in all the activities and try to get out and walk each day, usually to one of the gardens, where we enjoy the fish and turtle pond. My daughter, Jane, and her husband, Dan, come often to visit." **BETTYE ANNE HURT Ingram** writes: "I, too, am having an 80-year birthday this month. This is really the 1st birthday I have approached that is a shock to my 'being.' When our minds think we are 20 years younger, our birth certificates say otherwise. I stay so busy that I actually have to keep a calendar planner ... maybe that says something about my memory. My monthly activities and interests are Book Club, Woman's Club, Library Board, and church pianist and treasurer. I also go to Body Recall exercise 3 times a week. With other community happenings, John and I stay

busy and involved. It has been interesting to see the pictures of the Murphy Deming College of Health Sciences opening. What a change MBC has made in the last 58 years. The students now look back at 'our' day like we looked back at the Mary Baldwin Seminary days. Wow! I would love to hear from fellow classmates." **BLANCHE GAMBRILL Stockbridge** writes: Becoming an octogenarian is a shock isn't it? But the alternative is worse. Ed and I have lived in Acton MA for 42 years. Ed retired a number of years ago, though he works 2 days a week to keep busy. We have 2 daughters, both of whom live an hours' drive away, so we opted to stay here, rather than move away, despite the winters. We both do volunteer work to have fun."

1960

SALLY SQUIRES Erickson writes: "My exciting news is that my daughter, Emily Erickson Smith, and her family are moving back to Richmond from Brisbane, Australia, the 1st of the year. After 20 years, January 2015 promises to be the beginning of a long-awaited return of 4 very special people. Our oldest grandson, Denton Smith, just completed his freshman year at JMU and is beginning to settle in. He loves life in the Valley as much as I did several years ago. His younger brother, Lauchlan Smith, completes high school in Australia this November. His future is undecided at this time. They have

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2004 Classmates Travel to Africa

MEGHAN WARD and **ERIN BALLEW O'Reilly** pictured at Mikumi National Park in Tanzania in July. O'Reilly and her family are living in Dar es Salaam, and Ward visited them for three weeks this summer.

Career News from '02 Alumna

CARA COSTIGAN writes: "I am in Columbia SC and am the regional executive administrator and career recruiter for AFLAC. I'm super excited as we are the No. 1 region. Our state is a top performer within the company, and I will be heading to Dominican Republic in January."

purchased a home just 3.1 miles from us. Can you believe it?"

1961

PATRICIA LIEBERT "PATTY"

Riddick writes: "Greetings classmates! I want to thank **CAROL STONE Stickney** for her immeasurable help with locating classmates and correcting email addresses, and I want to thank each of you for helping me as well. At the end of May, my husband, Larry, and I met **LOIS WILLARD "FRANKIE"** Daniel and husband Randy for a delightful lunch in Elliott City MD. The occasion — we each

had grandkids graduating at the same venue from different local high schools that day! I want to offer sincere sympathy to **JANICE PARKER Gregory** on the recent loss of her husband, Bob, and to the family of **STELLA FARWELL**. Stella passed away this past January of ovarian cancer. You may appreciate viewing a YouTube video Stella made in her fight against this cancer, which has been posted on the Class of 1961 page on the Class Acts Forum. Not to end on a terribly sad note, I wish to share that **SHADE THOMAS Cronan** and **CAROL STONE Stickney** have each said they'd love to



Plan a gift today. Support MBC tomorrow.

The contributions of Charlene Kiracofe '25 were modest, but faithful, and she created a legacy by committing most of her worldly possessions to Mary Baldwin College. Share her pledge by exploring the ways to include the college in your financial and estate planning.

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see classmates. Shade lives in Harwich MA on Cape Cod, and Carol lives in Fairhope AL on Mobile Bay. And I live close to the Historic Triangle of Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Jamestown, so give me a call. And, lastly, this will be my final column of alumnae news. I am passing the baton to the next secretary of the Class of '61, and I hope one of you will carry on. It has been a pleasure to connect with each of you. Best wishes to all! **KATHERINE BONFOEY "KAM" Bergdorf** says she hasn't much news, but she shares that, "Our 3rd grandchild just graduated from high school. She is going to NC State next year. I am taking my 4 girls to the Greenbrier this fall for a get-together. The husbands' noses are a little out of joint. Carl and I are planning a quiet summer. Next spring we are going on 2 cruises. I am still playing duplicate bridge. My 2nd daughter and her family are going to England and France. My oldest granddaughter, an upcoming junior at Chapel Hill, is going to Spain in August for a semester abroad. My 2nd grandson is a rising sophomore at Christopher Newport University. He and his sister are working at Busch Gardens this summer. She will be a senior in high school this year. My youngest is 12, and he is going into 7th grade in the gifted school in Hampton. Keeping up with them keeps me busy." **ESTHER DOUGHTIE French** writes that she keeps in touch with **NANCY WOLFF Rupert** at Christmastime and that she lives in Sanford FL. Also she keeps in touch with **MOLLY MONITOR**, who lives in Little Rock AR but does not do the "computing thing." Esther says, "We had a great week in March — rented a villa on the beach in St. Martin and spent a week there with children and grandchildren." **BARBARA WILLIAMS Craig** shares that "Living in NC and my MBC roommate (**PATTY LIEBERT Riddick**) living in VA has made getting together great. Phil and I and Patty and Larry have season tickets to the East

Carolina University Playhouse so we are definitely together 5 times during the season and numerous times throughout the year. Need to go back to 2013 — scratched 2 things off my bucket list — successfully completed a 5K in June and in July went on a 10-day safari in Africa. Now to 2014 — as a result of our trip to Africa, we have an exchange student from Uganda with us. She is attending our local community college. Our big news: Phil and I became great-grandparents on June 2." **JUDITH MCENTIRE "JUDI" Creason** shares: "Bill and I went to St. Lucia and stayed at the Sandals Grande for my 75th birthday. We also celebrated Bill's birthday as we have the same birthday, different year. We had a fun time, a beautiful place. We will be going to Vail CO the month of July to get away from the AR humidity. I am looking forward to reading about all of our classmates." **MARY CLOUD HAMILTON Hollingshead** shares that she visited with **AGNES DICK Kump** and **CAROL WORNOM Sorensen** here in Tidewater.

1962

MARY NELL WILLIAMS Mathis writes: "What a wonderful class we had, and professors/mentors as well. I particularly remember a physical chemistry lab with Mr. John B. Daffin, MS, professor of chemistry, making potassium permanganate (a combination of one clear liquid and a drop of another clear liquid that turned the whole beaker-full a beautiful purple!) I don't use such info much in my CPA practice, but I do try to be as kind and instructive to my clients. A special hello to **SALLY SWINDELL Rinehart** and **LINDA KIEFFER Scott**, friends who shared their homes with me." **SALLY HELTZEL Pearsall** writes: "I have been enjoying being friends on Facebook with **FRANCES WENTZ Taber** and **NELSIE HODGINS Palmer Petersen**. David and I stay very busy with church activities (Meals

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1983 Classmates Visit

Former dean of students Mona Olds, **CHARIS CLADWELL Bucchin**, **EMILY SHORE Reeve**, and **GABBY GELZER McCree** gather for dinner and reminiscing.

Career News from '12 Alumna

MEAGAN SEAL is the manager and lead designer of a floral design shop, Evergreen Florist.

on Wheels, homeless breakfast, and church — I am clerk of session). We recently attended David's 55th class reunion at Davidson College. We're planning a trip to ID to visit David's sister. We're looking forward to Yellowstone and Old Faithful. I had a wonderful Road Scholar trip to Berlin in September 2013, and we enjoyed our trip to Miami in March for the Sony Tennis Tournament. We saw all the top players compete. We enjoy seeing our 3 granddaughters and 1 grandson as they grow up."

1964

VIRGINIA ROYSTER "GINNY"

Francisco writes: "Not much new here since I saw classmates at Reunion 2014. I'm so sorry that I didn't get to talk to everyone! Between giving Staunton tours and being present when my show was performing, I missed several events that weekend. I acted in the Oak Grove Theater (founded by Fletcher Collins in the 50s) in *Fools* by Neil Simon. I haven't acted in a long time, so it was fun to be the most foolish of the fools, appearing dragging a full-

size cow on a farm wagon. Now that was a work of art. **TERRY KOOGLER Southerington '72** played the title role in *Honour* last summer. Those of you who saw *Whispers and Lies* during Reunion by alumna **AMY CUOMO '85** will be interested to know that she has a new play in a playwriting competition called *Trafficked*, which is about trafficking women. I directed at MBC again in fall 2014, a play called *These Shining Lives*, a social justice piece, which is what I most like to direct. It's about the women employed just before and during World War I to paint the first luminous watch and clock dials. The soldiers really liked the comfort of a glimmer of light on a dark battlefield. But the paint contained radium, and the women literally shined after using it for a few weeks. They also died from radiation poisoning, some within a very few years, many of cancer of the jaw. The most exposed were women who pointed their brushes in their mouths to get a more perfect line. I know you're enjoying this cheery missive. But I'm so grateful to still have work in my field — it's also my hobby. Love to all."

50TH REUNION

1965

ANN MEBANE Levine writes: Just before Christmas 2013, I posted news from **JUDY BRYANT Skinner** on her retirement, **SUSAN BROWNE Webb** about a new grandchild, and news from **PICKETT CRADDOCK**. Visit the Class of 1965 page on the Class Acts Forum online to see those postings, and be sure to note the one about Pickett's Bed and Breakfast in Cluster Springs and its receipt of a prestigious Virginia Green Travel Star award for environmental commitment, including newly installed solar panels. **SARA JANE BEABOUT Hartman** writes that the group of Spanish majors who spent their junior year in Madrid planned a 50th reunion in May 2014, which was to be held at Pickett's B&B. **ELIZABETH BROWN McKell** reports that she and husband Jay enjoyed an incredible

almost month-long adventure in New Zealand in the fall. They got home in time to enjoy Thanksgiving with their family. After a fun Christmas, she reports that they were soon heading to Mexico for a wedding and then a week in St. Croix with friends. She also reports that she made an incredible herb cheesecake appetizer from **PAULA STEPHENS Lambert's** cheese cookbook — to great reviews! I hope everyone saw the great profile of Paula in the fall 2013 issue of *Boldly Baldwin*. **EMY MARTIN Halpert** writes that it has been a slow recovery from an accident last fall when she was knocked from her bicycle and suffered a badly broken ankle which required surgery. She reports that she is now walking, slowly, but no longer needs crutches or a cane. It's been a long ordeal, as I well know, having suffered a badly broken ankle and surgery myself in 2009. **POLLY DOVE Lamal**, an artist and teacher in Charlotte

NC, reports that a piece of her art, "Pigs with Cell Phones," has recently gone up on billboards all around Charlotte. If you live in that area, or pass through and have seen these billboards, let us know. You might not have realized the art was by our own Polly. As for me, I enjoyed a week-long trip between Christmas 2013 and New Year's with all my family to Costa Rica. I joined my 2 daughters, their husbands, and 2 children each at a resort area in Guanacaste province called Playa Conchal. We rented 2 condos near each other in this fabulous resort area, and enjoyed fun days at the pool, the beach, and just hanging out together. One day we took a 4-hour drive to the Arenal volcano area where, among other things, we went zip lining through the canopy of tropical trees. It was exciting. I'm glad I did it, and now I don't have to do it again! I'll cross it off the proverbial bucket list. By the way, I learned last fall in an

email from **FAITH NEUSCHEL Burke** that she lives full time in Costa Rica. I hope Faith will post to this blog and tell us about her life there. I know I would really like to learn more. After traveling to Costa Rica, I took a 13-day South America cruise from Buenos Aires to Valparaiso Chile on Holland America Line in March. I will report on that next time. 9 of us "Reunion planners" had such a great trip to Pickett's B&B in early April. Starting with a beautiful drive north — the red buds were gorgeous — it was a great weekend! In addition to Pickett and me, others attending were **JUNE EARLY Fraim**, **KAY EARLY Dougherty**, **JO AVERY**, **ADELE JEFFORDS Pope**, **JUDY HOFFMAN Roy**, **EMY MARTIN Halpert**, and **MEREDITH CARTER Patterson**. Don't forget to mark April 9–12 on your calendars. Our 50th Reunion will be here before you know it! We have a special dinner on Thursday night, April 9.

CLASSACTS » from the online forum at www.mbc.edu/class

■ Staunton Luncheon

The Staunton alumnae/i chapter met for their annual spring luncheon on May 3 at Aioli in downtown Staunton. Attendees included **JANE PROFITT Pruett '46**, **STEPHANIE MONTGOMERY Loving '12**, **NANCY PAYNE Dahl '56**, **NANCY KUNKLE Carey '51**, **JOAN DOVE Wray '57**, **MARY MARGARET BEALE Black '56**, **BECKY CHAPMAN Williams '68**, **MARIE MCCLURE Beck '50**, **ELEANOR JAMISON Supple '42**, **GAIL ADKISON Adams '06**, **SHARON KNOPP Bares '68**, **GINNY ROYSTER Francisco '64**, **ANNE HOLLAND '88**, **EMILY BASZNER Johnson '10**, **SUSAN MYERS '72**, **CINDY ROBERTS '95**, **TOMMIE HORNBARGER Scott '55**, **ETHEL SMEAK '53**, **ANNA TAYLOR '13**, Forester Taylor, Gillian Taylor, **BETTY VAN FOSSEN '82**, MBC President Pamela Fox, Office Manager for the Alumnae/i Office Angela Cline, Director of Alumnae/i Engagement Kim Hutto, and Vice President for Institutional Advancement Sherri Mylott.

Keep in touch with your MBC family!

Make sure you're getting
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CLASSACTS » see more photos at www.mbc.edu/class



1. **LAUREN DALEY '06** and Jim Galvin welcomed their first child, Noah Edward, on March 6. | 2. **NERISSA DAVIS '06** married Christopher Stewart on June 5. Pictured are Amy Tillerson-Brown, The Rev. Andrea Cornett-Scott, **CHRISTINA RUSSELL-Cain '06**, the bride, **LE'ANNE BAILEY Hayes '08**, **JOANETTE RODRIGUEZ '08**, and **ANA RODRIGUEZ '14**. | 3. Randy Daniel, **FRANKIE WILLARD Daniel '61**, **PATTY LIEBERT Riddick '61**, and Larry Riddick met for lunch in Elliott City MD, while attending granddaughters' high school graduations. | 4. **COURTENAY PLASKITT Hansen '47**, her husband, and two daughters visited classmate **SALLY BEALS Holzbach '47** on May 10, 2014. They enjoyed their visit to the Mariner's Museum and reminiscing. Courtenay and Sally had not seen each other since 1945. | 5. **ANNE MEBANE Levine '65** went zip lining on a recent trip to Costa Rica with her family. | 6. **GRETCHEN DOMALESKI '11** wed Clayton Parker on July 6, 2013. | 7. **DARA YOUNG Renaghan '07** and husband Brian welcomed a baby girl, Adalie Mae, on May 19. | 8. **ALISON KAUFMANN '07** and **MARTY TELFER '61** bumped into each other while on a Danube River cruise from Budapest to Nuremberg. | 9. **AMY WILLIAMSON '12** and **TIFFANY PARSHALL '12** congratulate classmate **JESSICA HARTZOG**, who married Jonathan Goldman on June 28. | 10. **LAKEN HOPKINS Harrell '07** and her husband, Brack Harrell, welcomed baby girl Aubie Brynn on July 4, 2014. | 11. **MALLORY ANDERSON Cromer '06** and Adam welcomed a son, Carter Stihl, on May 7.

ARRIVALS

JENNIFER CHEATHAM Rew '03 and Jeff: a son, Zachary Lawrence, May 26, 2013
MALLORY ANDERSON Cromer '06 and Adam: a son, Carter Stihl, May 7, 2014
LAUREN DALEY '06 and Jim Galvin: a son, Noah Edward, March 6, 2014
LAKEN HOPKINS Harrell '07 and Brack: a daughter, Aubie Brynn, July 4, 2014
MOLLY STARKS Longmire '07 and Chris: a daughter, Lorelei, November 26, 2013
DARA YOUNG Renaghan '07 and Brian: a daughter, Adalie Mae, May 19, 2013
CASBY STAINBACK Stahlman '09 and Kent: a daughter, Meredith Paige, May 14, 2014

MARRIAGES

CARY OSBORNE '81 to Roland Hervig, April 11, 2014
HEATHER FULOP '99 to Scott Palumbo, April 29, 2014
TANYA BOYCE '01 to Jeffery Johnson, November 12, 2013
KIRA CHERRIX '06 to Shane Sobers, May 24, 2014
NERISSA DAVIS '06 to Christopher Stewart, June 5, 2014
CARRIE CAMDEN '10/'12 to Brian Boyd, April 30, 2011
GRETCHEN DOMALESKI '11 to Clayton Parker, July 6, 2013
JESSICA HARTZOG '12 to Jonathan Goldman, June 28, 2014

DEATHS

MARY ARTIS DANNER Dennis '26, January 10, 2014
JEAN BREHM-Coffman '33, June 4, 2014
JACQUELINE CRINKLEY Maddex '34, December 8, 2013
AMINE COSBY Kellam '35, June 14, 2014
ELIZABETH FULTON Moody '35, May 28, 2014
NANCY MARKLEY Pascal '36, July 31, 2013
SARAH DUDLEY WHITMORE Ricks '36, April 16, 2014
ETHEL RAY COFFEY Strawn '37, May 20, 2014
MARGARET KELLER Pearson '38, April 6, 2014
SARAH MAUPIN Jones '39, April 20, 2014
ELIZABETH CLEVELAND Welch '39, November 13, 2013
KATHERINE HOLT "KITTY" Dozier '40, June 16, 2014
JULIA RAMSAY Mead '40, May 6, 2014
MARY THOMPSON Molten '41, February 28, 2014
NELL ABBOTT Emrey '42, January 17, 2014
KATHRYN HEEP Powers '42, March 29, 2012
KATHRYN SMITH "KAY" Underwood '42, March 29, 2014
MILDRED PROFFIT "MIMI" Batson '43, June 21, 2014
EVA VINES Eustler '44, May 25, 2014
MARGARET ROCKAFELLOW Fanning '44, February 22, 2013
HELEN GANSMAN Graves '44, April 24, 2014
MARGUERITE HARWOOD Kreisle '44, September 22, 2012
LOUISE HUNTER Price '44, January 2, 2014
SHIRLEY DOCKLER Cook '45, December 17, 2013
DARCY SCUDDER Kirk '45, July 1, 2014
BABETTE SELLHAUSEN Trader '45, May 12, 2014
BARBARA WRENN Graves '46, March 28, 2014
IRENE EAST Lerner '46, May 7, 2014
ALICE PARSON "AP" Paine '46, May 10, 2014
MARY ARMISTEAD Bear '47, February 3, 2014
ANN BEATTIE Henshaw '47, December 24, 2013
LOUETTA YOUNG Holst '47, July 7, 2014
ELIZABETH LACY "BETTY" McClure '47, January 11, 2014
MARGARET CHURCHMAN Moffett '47, May 24, 2014
EVELYN COX Washington '47, November 6, 2014
ANNE MONYHAN Chambers '48, May 26, 2014
LUCIE ACORD Ludwig Kirby '48, June 13, 2014
KATHARINE ADAIR Woods '48, January 24, 2014
ROSA HUTSON Blankin '49, January 20, 2014
MARY DOREMUS Burgess '49, June 2, 2012
CHARLOTTE OWEN Hardin '49, December 26, 2013
BETTY JANE SHANNON Ecton '50, December 18, 2012
MARY WYSOR "KENT" Ivey '50, April 19, 2014
VIRGINIA SMITH Massey '50, December 25, 2013
GENEVIEVE COURTNEY Ames '51, April 10, 2014
MARY ANN TUCKER Barker '51, December 8, 2013
LECK PASCHAL Mason '51, January 15, 2014
BETTY STALL Mullikin '51, December 31, 2013
ELIZABETH MARTIN Mish '52, February 21, 2014

ANN TAYLOR Hedrich Hanak '53, December 1, 2013
ELMA ROLLINS Proffitt '53, April 27, 2014
CHARLOTTE SHEFFER Reid '53, August 3, 2014
MEGAN DUNBAR Turner '53, March 14, 2014
DONIA CRAIG Dickerson '54, February 28, 2014
FRANCES BRADFORD Hathorn '56, January 2, 2014
ALINE POWERS Hudson '56, May 4, 2014
FRANCES WILLS Delcher '57, August 19, 2013
JANICE GREGORY Belcher '58, August 11, 2014
EDWINA WESTBROOK "ANNE" Evans '59, May 20, 2014
PATRICIA CHIPMAN Lewis '59, August 20, 2012
STELLA E. FARWELL '61, January 27, 2014
JUDITH ELLIS Pratt '62, March 3, 2014
HERMINE COPELAND Welch '62, June 1, 2014
SUSAN WELKER Sudderth '63, February 8, 2014
MARGARET JACKSON Woodcock '65, January 13, 2013

SANDRA LENNON Price '66, June 29, 2014
MARY ANTLE "CATHERINE" Wieczorek '68, January 8, 2014
CAROLINE COBB Schooley '69, January 2, 2014
BRYCE OLIVER Lambden '70, June 14, 2014
JANE SHEFFIELD MADDUX '72, June 7, 2014
MARTHA WAGONER Vines '73, April 8, 2014
JUDY DURHAM '74, February 3, 2014
SUSAN WALTON Wynkoop '75, April 7, 2014
ISABEL YATES Kirkpatrick '78, April 4, 2014
BETTY JO HAMILTON Olson '81, January 27, 2014
DIXIE LEE MORRIS '90, April 12, 2014
ETHEL WOLFE Born '91, March 26, 2014
KIMBERLY PRICE Lapsley '94, March 2, 2014
NAIMA SCOTT-Brunson '02, February 26, 2014
BETH L. MOORE '05, January 8, 2012
CHARLOTTE K. "AMANDA" MILLER '12, May 12, 2014
EDMUNDA RICHARDS Flake, ADP Student, December 8, 2013

OUR CONDOLENCES

to members of the community who lost loved ones

JANE PROFFIT Pruett '46, **SUE PROFFIT** Yeatts '36, **BRAME PROFFIT** Spessard '39, **NANCY PROFFIT** Shelor '41 and **CINDY BATSON** Anthony '69, on the passing of their sister and mother, **MILDRED "MIMI" PROFFIT** Batson '43 on June 21, 2014.
ELEANOR ARMISTEAD Knipp '47, on the passing of her sister, **MARY ARMISTEAD** Bear '47, February 3, 2014.
JANICE PARKER Gregory '61, on the passing of her husband, Robert K. Gregory Jr., May 14, 2014.
LUCINDA BEVERIDGE Wilds '67, on the passing of her father, Dr. John H. Beveridge, May 28, 2014.
KAREN BURTON Johnson '73, on the passing of her mother, Helen Torrence Burton, April 15, 2013.
ELIZABETH DUDLEY Landes '82, on the passing of her husband, Robert S. Landes Jr., March 20, 2014.
MARY KATHERINE MOORMAN Morris '84, on the passing of her mother, Mildred Cheves Moorman, September 14, 2013.
SUSAN ANN STOVER '85, on the passing of her father, Albert P. Stover Jr., July 29, 2014.
DONNA SHARP Suro '93, on the passing of her father, Richard L. Sharp, June 24, 2014.
JESSICA PASINI Elsass '02, on the passing of her father, Joseph Pasini III, January 17, 2014.
EMILY SIKORSKI '14, on the passing of her grandmother, Estelle Szachta Sikorski, May 31, 2014.
Suzanna "Sue" Howdyshell, support services clerk, on the passing of her husband, Timothy Howard Howdyshell, January 6, 2014.
Edward S. Balthrop, on the passing of his wife, former Spanish instructor Sarah Jane "Sally" Banks.
The family of **Mabel E. R. Hirschbiel**, wife of former Trustee Paul Hirschbiel and honorary alumna, who passed away April 17, 2014.
The family of **William G. "Bill" Pannill**, former Trustee (1986–1997), who passed away June 10, 2014.
The family of **James F. "Action" Jackson**, a 35-year member of the Mary Baldwin security office, who passed away July 29, 2014.

You can lead the way!

MBC's campaign for the Baldwin Fund is under way, and we're inviting **you** to participate.

When you make a gift, you open a world of discovery for our students. Lead the way at:

www.mbc.edu/BaldwinFund

BETWEEN THE LINES: Judy Beene Myers '61

AN OCCASIONAL FEATURE HIGHLIGHTING
ALUMNI AUTHORS



The following is an excerpt from Judy Beene Myers' first book, Blackbird Fly! A Mother's Story of Grief, Love, and Hope, which she wrote after the sudden death of her adult son, Trey, from a heart attack on Christmas Eve.

The book describes Myers' journey through the two years following his death, a narrative of sorrow, acceptance, and love that hopes to aid those who have suffered similar loss.

Myers '61 — who lives in Austin, Texas — has written poetry and prose for many organizations, as well as family and friends. Her second book, Ripples, was published this fall.

When death occurs, when someone or some circumstance in one's life drops away, an opening is left for something new to emerge. I believe we each have a role in co-creating with the mystery of creation something fresh, vibrant, grand, and full of wonder. Eight months after Trey's death, I was asked to be in a writing group. During those first few sessions and for the first six months, I was unable to do any more than just show up.

I remember when I first came into AA over 26 years ago, they told me, "Just don't take a drink and get to a daily meeting." They said, "Just keep coming back. It will get better. You'll always be an alcoholic but you don't have to drink."

It is the same with grief. Those who guided me said, "It will get better. You will always be the mother of a son who died but your life has not ceased. You will learn to integrate this loss into your life. You will see the light again."

It is the same with the writing group. I was encouraged to keep coming back. Something within me told me, "Just show up even if you say nothing, even if you write nothing: just be there."

Eventually I did begin to say something. Eventually I did begin to write. From a small beginning, I wrote more and more. I began to give myself through my writing to others. I continue to write as my offering to whomever might benefit from my experience as a gift in gratitude for my son's life.

BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE

When I began teaching 13 years ago, I took my students outdoors each week, simply because I enjoyed the fresh air. Most of our outdoor activities involved science experiments, reading from the text, and recess. As the years progressed and fourth grade teachers became more accountable for students passing standardized tests, we began spending less time outside. Even I spent less time outdoors because most of my weekends were consumed with planning lessons in front of a computer. I created a few hands-on activities and several smart board lessons to teach the skills needed, and students typically performed well on tests. I often wondered, though, if they would actually remember the information after fourth grade or be able to apply the content in real-life situations.

The thoughts took me back to my college days and I remembered why I began teaching in the first place. Back then, I did not have dreams of giving out worksheets, sending home repetitive homework problems, or forcing my students to read boring passages. I had dreams of teaching to students' interests, not teaching to the test. I knew in my heart that learning did not have to be a stagnant relationship between a student and a book, but I needed something to rejuvenate my teaching. Fortunately for me and my students, I discovered and applied to the Environment-Based Learning (EBL) program at Mary Baldwin College.

The courses I have completed so far have totally changed the way I teach, and through interactive lessons involving outside resources, every student is engaged. With each experience, scent, sound, sight, and feeling, these children are making new connections. I have realized that the more connections we can create when learning something new, the more likely that information is going to stick with us. I could read a book on how to fish several times, but I do not think I would ever become an accomplished fisherman unless I went to a water source, baited my own hook, cast, and reeled in a fish. Reading might give me some pointers, but the experience would make the information come to life. Mary Baldwin's EBL program introduces educators to resources and skills that motivate them to get out of the classroom and make learning a part of life's adventures.

With each completed course, I have developed more ideas to enhance learning through outdoor education. My students and I completed macro-organism studies in our local river and streams, and we have created a beautiful garden that incorporates several units of study. This hands-on approach to investigation has stimulated higher-order

questioning in students. They also appear to understand the skills learned outside far more than those I present to them as they sit quietly at their desks. When the students actively engage in digging, measuring, and sorting organisms, and in working together to solve problems, I know they are learning.

The outdoors can be used for more than just science experiments and recess. After I had a difficult time getting my students excited about writing, I decided to purchase blank journals for each of them and take them outside for writing assignments. We personalized our journals, and twice a week the students would spread out over the school's large front lawn to complete essays from a writing prompt. Several students went from writing only a couple of sentences to filling full pages with exciting and descriptive tales of adventure. It became the highlight of our days and students would beg, "Can we just have a few more minutes to write?" The fresh air sparked creativity and motivation, and we all felt more energized for the rest of the day.

As I continue to participate in EBL graduate courses, I learn more and more each semester about how to be a truly effective teacher. Interactive lessons are only the beginning. Children today need to be active. They need to get out of the classroom, experience the information we provide, and explore their world to spark further questions and ideas. An effective teacher motivates students to inquire, think, develop new ideas, and grow beyond the level of simply memorizing facts.

I am grateful for the opportunity to continue my education through Mary Baldwin College. Several people have told me that I am crazy for trying to complete a degree while teaching full-time and caring for a growing family. These courses not only continue to help me grow as an educator in a public school system, but also encourage my own young children to be lifelong learners and environmental stewards.



SALLY HELLER, a mother of three, is a fourth-grade teacher at Fallon Park Elementary School in Roanoke, which has a high population of English-language learners and where nearly all students receive free or reduced lunches.

PHOTOESSAY

HOLDING (NORTH) COURT



Edward Scott's Introduction to Philosophy students enjoyed a lesson on North Court one morning this fall. The associate professor was recently named recipient of the Virginia Foundation for Independent College's 2014 H. Hiter Harris Jr. Award, which includes a stipend to support scholarly research or professional development activities. Scott's influence has resonated with hundreds of MBC alumni over the years, including Aubrey Sparks '13, who said Scott "seamlessly integrated life into teaching and teaching into life until the sun in my window in the morning reminded me of Plato and the tree changing colors outside of our classroom window inspired me to contemplate Kierkegaard."





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