

SKIDMORE COLLEGE UWW NEWS!

April 2002

University Without Walls Office of the Dean of Special Programs Skidmore College
815 N. Broadway Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 Toll free 1-866-310-6444 www.skidmore.edu/uww

GRADUATE SPOTLIGHT: Chris Humphrey

Like winds and sunsets, wild things were taken for granted until progress began to do away with them. Now we face the question of whether a still higher "standard of living" is worth its cost in things natural, wild and free. For those of us in the minority, the opportunity to see geese is more important than television, and the chance to find a pasque-flower is a right as inalienable as free speech.

The above quote from conservationist Aldo Leopold served as the introduction for my final UWW project. Additionally, the statement poignantly captures a vision of conservation and wildlife that I have held since my boyhood.

I was born and raised in the town of Boonton, New Jersey, a small New York suburb approximately thirty miles west of Manhattan. It was during my childhood when I developed a passion for the outdoors, a love of nature, and a deep appreciation for the importance of conservation. My days were often spent fishing and boating in the nearby Rockaway River, or hiking and hunting along the Appalachian Trail.

In search of education and independence, I entered the United States Naval Nuclear Power Program after graduating from high school in 1988. Following two years of training, I reported for my first sea duty tour on board the

nuclear submarine, USS Lewis & Clark (SSBN 644), where I served as a Nuclear Chemist and Radiological Controls Technician. Needless to say, life on board a submarine was the antithesis of my nights spent under the stars in the peaks of the Appalachians and Catskills, and my days spent scouring the banks of the Rockaway for turtles, salamanders or frogs.

Following a second sea-tour on board the USS Santa Fe (SSN 763), in 1995, I reported to Ballston Spa, New York, to serve as an instructor at the Navy's Nuclear Power Training Unit. My assignment to Ballston Spa was the last step in my Naval career, and was the first step towards reaching my goal of completing my formal education and transitioning into civilian life. Additionally, and most importantly,



my new assignment presented me with the opportunity to live in the nearby town of Saratoga Springs, a town rich in history and culture, and only a short drive from a hiker's heaven - the High Peaks of the Adirondacks. I truly felt at home.

Aside from the culture, history and endless activities, living in the "Spa City" introduced me to her most valuable asset - Skidmore College. Following a short meeting with Christopher Whann and Ken Klotz, I was easily convinced that Skidmore's UWW program would enable me to reach my goal of graduating college prior to my scheduled discharge from the Navy in 1998. Before meeting with Chris and Ken, I explored a number of alternatives for completing my undergraduate degree. All of the options, however, were lacking and failed to offer the quality and breadth of education I desired.

The UWW program opened doors and interests in my life that may have otherwise remained shut had I elected to attend a nearby engineering institution. The liberal arts curriculum at Skidmore enabled me to explore a variety of subject areas and newfound interests. Prior to entering the program, I had not envisioned participating in classes focusing on Religion,

Humphrey cont'd...

Women's' Studies, Multiculturalism, Existentialism or Opera. The breadth of the curriculum is the UWW program's greatest attribute and participating made an incredible difference in my life.

In addition to opening new areas of interest, the UWW program also gave me the tools and courage to pursue my dream of attending law school and becoming an environmental attorney. As my Navy career came to a close, and graduation from Skidmore approached, I began to prepare for the law school entrance exam. Faced with a great deal of uncertainty, I pushed forward with the help of my lifelong friend, and now wife, Megan. I was working fifty hours a week as an instructor, completing my final UWW project and studying independently for the LSAT.

After receiving my Bachelors of Science in Environmental Studies & Policy in March 1998, and following my discharge from the Navy in August of that year, I enrolled at Seton Hall University School of Law. Throughout law school, I relied on the broad education I received while attending Skidmore. Research assignments, projects, and class discussions all assisted me as I pushed my way through the trials of 1L, and the challenges of my final two years.

I graduated from Seton Hall Law in 2001 and, thereafter, was admitted to the New Jersey and New York State Bars. With the help of Skidmore College, I have finally achieved my goal and now practice as an environmental attorney with the Summit, New Jersey law firm of Cooper, Rose & English. My practice areas include Brownfields Redevelopment, Site

Remediation, Regulatory Compliance and General Litigation. As an environmental attorney I am able to make a difference - albeit small - in the natural world in which we live.

In addition to my legal practice, I serve as an active member of a number of state and local bar organizations, City of Summit Environmental Commission, Rotary International and Worrall F. Mountain Inn of Court. My wife Megan and I reside in Summit and are expecting our first child in August.

Like the "road less traveled" in Robert Frost's famous poem, Skidmore College and the UWW program "have made all the difference" in my life and in my career. Many thanks to Skidmore College, its faculty, and staff and best of luck to my fellow UWW Students - Always follow your dreams!

Notes from the Director

Spring seems finally to have arrived in Saratoga Springs. Much needed rain and warm days have brought the crocuses to bloom and the tulips at least above ground. We here at UWW continue to work at accomplishing the goals of the Sloan

Foundation grant. The most important single development allowed by Sloan funds is the expansion of our asynchronous on-line

courses. In 1996, when I arrived at UWW, on-line learning was an untested idea with more skeptics than supporters. Today, these on-line courses, whose pedagogical heart is the asynchronous seminar space, have become a crucial feature of UWW's ability to serve you, our students. As rapidly as we offer new on-line learning experiences, they fill up. Even local students, who could attend our campus evening seminars, are



attracted to their convenience and quality. The ability to stay at home with your families, not to have to go out on a cold winter evening, to be able to access your course anytime day or night, makes these experiences very attractive for our UWW adult learners.

Equally important, every measure of assessment, including extensive student and faculty evaluations, suggests that these on-line learning experiences are just as exciting and rigorous as traditional classes. Faculty and students alike comment on the stimulating conversations that occur in the "seminar space." Faculty are appreciative of the ability to have a permanent record of students' participation, while students and faculty both enjoy the opportunity to gather their thoughts while engaging others in a critical dialogue about the issues the course presents. Our own local findings are supported by important other studies, including the positive report issued by (initially skeptical) University of Illinois faculty members (*Teaching at an Internet Distance: the Pedagogy of Online Teaching and*

Learning: The Report of a 1998-1999 University of Illinois Faculty Seminar, December 7, 1999).

Other news: Tracy Riley has joined our staff to help us with the increased administrative burdens associated with more on-line class registrations and expected increases in new student enrollments. For the same reasons, we are in the process of hiring a new academic advisor in order to ensure that UWW continues to offer our students the same high quality advising and service for which we are recognized. As always, I'm happy to talk with any of you and can be reached, when not on the road for information sessions, at 518.580.5459 or creinhar@skidmore.edu.

Corky Reinhart
April 15, 2002





On the Technology Side...

Greetings All!

It has been a busy semester, with five online courses going full speed. If you haven't seen this semester's offerings, go to the online course sites and look around. (www.skidmore.edu/administration/uww/online.html)

Speaking of the Web, UWW will be redesigning its Web interface over the summer. We're working toward more integration between the student data and the Web pages. Wouldn't it be nice if you could access all of your information over the Web? If you have any advice for the interface, please drop me a line at pbanner@skidmore.edu.

Or you can contact me on AOL Instant Messenger (IM)! It's not my nature to promote a specific product, but I've found that IM has great poten-



tial in the distance education environment. Imagine being able to ask a classmate, professor or advisor a quick question and get an instant response!

All you need to do is download the free software and register online. You can even add me to your buddy list (I'm phylisebanner). If you're interested, go to www.aim.com and follow the

instructions. Feel free to try it out with me!

For communication in our online classes, we rely on asynchronous technology (not same-time). This semester, we rolled out Phorum, a Web-based discussion software application. More robust than other applications we've used in the past, Phorum allows the user to search through postings and sort by author, topic and keyword. It also archives all of the postings for future use.

The UWW office will be sponsoring a Student Resource Fun Day in the early summer. Look forward to a day of guidance in the areas of technology and information resources. I hope to see you there!

Phylise



The Antigua Collaboration

UWW proudly announces the enrollment of fifteen teachers from the island of Antigua. Experienced early childhood teachers, teachers of Spanish and mathematics, and officers of the Teachers' Union of Antigua & Barbuda are studying Rousseau and John Dewey, St. Augustine and Tolstoy, in pursuit of a Skidmore degree.

One of their classes meets in Antigua. Professor Charles Ephraim, a philosopher from Antigua with a Ph.D. from Yale and an award for teaching excellence from Mercy College, conducts a weekly seminar on Philosophy of Education. Students describe the lively class exchange among enthusiastic teachers and a dynamic professor as exhilarating.

Professor Francois Bonneville recently traveled to Antigua to launch a distance course, [Growing up in Literature](#). His visit brought reality to analyzing texts with a professor over a thousand miles away. Francois

joined Dr. Ephraim and the Philosophy of Education seminar for a spirited exchange.

Assisted by a generous grant from The New World Foundation that will make additional network computers available at Teachers' Place in Antigua, UWW hopes teachers will soon be able to benefit from on-line courses such as [Multiculturalism and National Identity](#) and [Organizational Behavior](#) developed in conjunction with the Sloan Foundation grant.

Two Skidmore graduates pioneered this relationship. Mr. Austin Josiah, now Commissioner of Labor in Antigua, completed his baccalaureate degree through UWW in 1990, when he was president of the Teachers' Union. Mr. Colin Greene, the current President of both the Antigua and Barbuda Union of Teachers and the Caribbean Union of Teachers, completed his Skidmore degree last year. Passionate about education, both men completed UWW final projects

that affected how children learn and how teachers are trained in Antigua.

Colin Greene's efforts brought Skidmore to Antigua. Eager to offer a means for dedicated teachers to complete a bachelor's degree without leaving the island, Colin invited Corky Reinhart and Deborah Meyers to speak to an enthusiastic audience of over 700 teachers at the Teachers' Professional Day in Antigua last May. We are excited to announce that Professor Joyce Rubin of Skidmore's Education Department has been invit-



Antigua cont'd...

ed to address this year's assembly and conduct workshops with teachers.

Attending the workshop will be Mrs. Lois King, an experienced early childhood educator who worked closely

with Joyce Rubin. Lois King, who graduates this year, will be honored as our third Skidmore graduate in Antigua. With the support of the Education Department faculty at Skidmore, and with able assistance

from Foster Roberts and the staff of the Teachers' Union, we look forward to honoring many more graduates from Antigua!

News from Students & Alumni

Students...

"She is someone of rare courage and can-do thinking..." High praise from Executive Director of WAMC Public Radio and SUNY Political Science and Communications professor Alan Chartock, for new student **Amanda Root**. Professor Chartock dubbed her "Barrington's Joan of Arc," for her tireless youth project efforts, in his *Berkshire Eagle* newspaper column. *"She was instrumental in starting the Railroad Street Youth Project, which is making waves around the world...she has fought with every tool at her disposal to take pushers off the street, make police do their jobs, and organize young people into sensible businesses and activities that impart a sense of dignity and offer an alternative to doing nothing."* Chartock also noted that Amanda is interested in running for office. It is also worth mentioning that Amanda is just twenty-one.

In a *Post Star* article by Geraldine Freedman, **Wendy Candiano** was given credit for implementing the Cultivate Community Garden Project in the town of Moreau. Wendy is a nutrition program assistant at the Saratoga County Cornell Cooperative Extension in Ballston Spa, NY and was impressed by a letter printed in the Moreau Community Center Program's newsletter suggesting a

community garden. Last year, Wendy worked with 3 senior centers starting their own gardens, providing tips on composting, growing and cooking. *"If enough people, churches and centers get involved this year, [I] can use the area as a successful test pilot to obtain more funding next year to expand the garden program to other communities in the county."*

Joaquin Chavez authored and/or edited two new books, *Tierra, conflicto y paz*, and *Seguridad Juridica de la tenencia de la tierra*, both concerning land issues in Salvador.

Courtney Peldon and sister **Ashley Peldon** recently finished the movie we reported on last year, Courtney is anxious to review the rough cuts, which should be finished this summer. You may have also caught Courtney in several episodes of the WB Network's series *Raising Dad* which were broadcast April 12 and April 26.

Laura Rhoades is working as a teaching intern while pursuing her certificate through the University of Colorado's masters program in Educational Psychology.

Lee Zimmerman competed in the WNPF Ironman Nationals and took first place in both benchpress and deadlift events. Lee also set the Pennsylvania state record in

the powerlift event at 125lbs. He will be representing the United States at the world championship August 3rd in Lancaster, PA., where he hopes to beat his personal best.

Mario Macaluso was in an episode of the new NBC comedy series, *Watching Ellie*, with Julia Louise-Dreyfus, on April 16. He played Luigi the angry pizza delivery guy.

Olivia Greer recently completed a series of performances in the play *Icarus* at Inverse, named last year as New York City's best downtown theatre. Olivia played Icarus's blind twin sister, Matina, in a cast of 30 exuberant young actors.

Alumni...

The photography of **Patricia Older '95** was recently shown at Adirondack Community College's First Annual Alumni Photography Exhibit, *Living Our Dreams*, February 14th - March 8th. Patricia graduated from ACC before transferring to Skidmore. In 1996, Patricia was awarded a NYS Council of the Arts grant for the exhibit, *Emotions in Motion*, which was also shown at ACC. Her photographs can be seen in *A Year in the Life of Saratoga County*, the *Sun*, and the *Ballston Journal*, where she is currently employed. Her free-lance work, six-hour course through ACC's

Alumni cont'd...

Continuing Education program, *How To Take a Better Picture*, and work as wedding photographer for John Connors Photography have kept her very busy since graduation day.

Sandra Giovanna Giacomazzi '97 writes, *"I am teaching Law and Economics at the Liceo Classico Europeo Umberto I in Turin. It's a five year public high school. [The school] is called European because some of the subjects are taught in a language other than Italian. Mine, for example. By Law, they mean government, civics, political science, besides some elements of law. The courses are meant to be comparative. There is no textbook in English that corresponds to the program set forth by the Ministry of Education, so I've had to create my own material for all five years."*

Since receiving his degree **Barry Jeshurin '00** has been working hard to make his final project, a business plan to open a new car dealership, a reality. *"I'm in the final due diligence phase to receive a \$2 million line of credit to open and should be in business by April '02. I hope you are well and continuing to inspire people like me. It was no walk in the park but worth every bit of the effort."*

Paula Luciani '01 was accepted as a member of both the Association for Investment Management and Research and the Stamford Society of Security Analysts, *"something I would not have been able to do without my degree! It hangs proudly in my office and whenever the market goes to hell or a client get difficult I glance over at it and smile. It's a great source of pride and achieve-*

ment to me."

We received news that the newest book by **Roger Fulton '98**, *Practical Law Enforcement Management*, has just been released by Gould Publications. Roger graduated from UWW with a degree in Law Enforcement Administration. This is his fifth book. For more information, you can go to his webpage at: <http://www.RogerFulton.com> or you can go through his primary distributor at <http://www.ptrbooks.com> for a list of all of his titles.

The United States District Court of the District of Columbia offered **Joseph Simpson '00** employment as intern for Judge Henry H. Kennedy, Jr., a position Joseph's advisor called *"wildly prestigious."*

Ginnie Lupi '01 gave us an update on her graduate work. Her artwork was recently selected to be included in two juried shows. At Ayers Lofts Art Gallery in Lowell, Massachusetts, February 28th - March 10th, her ovarian cancer pieces were shown in *Women, Struggle, Survival, Triumph*. Two pieces at the statewide show, *Lakeside Stateside*, were shown at the Oswego Civics Arts Center in Oswego, NY, March 16 - April 21.

Liz Turner '00 writes in a recent e-mail, *"In June 2000, I began working at AOL/Time Warner's Turner Broadcasting on Fifth Avenue in NYC. Turner handles all AOL/TW television properties such as CNN, TBS, TNT, Cartoon Network and the WB. I was hired to assist in Public Relations and the Turner Broadcasting Knowledge Center, which is the corporate library. It was certainly an exciting place to*

be! My interest in Library Science peaked, and I left in late October 2001 to explore graduate school options and a job in central NJ. I am now working at the Eastern Branch of the Monmouth County Library System, seeking a master's degree in Library and Information Science at Rutgers University."

Jim Mielty '00 accepted a job with Herff Jones Yearbook Division teaching young kids how to design their class yearbooks. In this job Jim is able to utilize all of his talents in design, printing, publishing, sales and communications. He enjoys summers off and the ongoing education in new software programs and sales techniques.

While in Texas, **Kathy Durivage '98** was Executive Director of a 3000 page web site for women entrepreneurs. Since moving back into the area she has begun work with Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as an Advancement Officer for foundation and contribution to the university.

UWW Faculty & Staff

Academic Staff

Cornel Reinhart ~ Director
Deborah Meyers
Chris Whann
Sarah Stebbins
Ken Klotz
Kirsten Mishkin
Ann Knickerbocker

Administrative Staff

Mary Cogan
Mary Moore
Lisa Foss
Phylise Banner
Kirstie Szlasa
Tracy Riley
Ellen Eldredge

Faculty News

Amy Godine, researcher, UWW instructor and curator of a new exhibition, *Dreaming of Timbuctoo*, was featured in an article by Nichole M. Christian in *The New York Times Metro* section in February. The exhibition centers around 120,000 acres of land just east of Lake Placid which, beginning in 1846, was given to thousands of African-American families as a gift from abolitionist Gerrit Smith. The dream of Mr. Smith was to “offer refuge to black families eager to leave the poverty of urban cities and to acquire the means to vote (At the time, state law required African-Americans to own at least \$250 in real estate to vote.)” Unfortunately, due to rocky soil, lack of funds for taxes or to clear the land and fear of the Fugitive Slave Law and bounty hunters, the dream was shortlived and within twenty years most of the families had gone. But not before drawing the attention of many supporters of the time, including Frederick Douglas and John Brown. Amy is quoted: “This was a movement that offers a crucial index of black life in New York State in the mid-19th century. It’s sad that so little remains and that it has been ignored.” The exhibition is on a two-year tour and is currently on display at the Brooklyn Public Library’s Central Library.

In Memoriam

Erwin L. Levine 1926 - 2002

Professor emeritus of government and long-time friend of UWW, Erwin L. Levine died at his home on Saturday, January 12, 2002, after an extended illness. Skidmore President Jamiene Studley writes, “Erwin epitomized the faculty ideal of teacher, scholar, and citizen. He was passionate about his teaching, insightful and productive in his scholarship, and effective and tire-

less in his service to the Skidmore and Saratoga Springs communities. Erwin was demanding of and devoted to his students, and generations of Skidmore students responded with respect, loyalty and gratitude.”

Bulletin Board

~To all students and alumni~

If you have news you would like to share with the University Without Walls Skidmore community, or there is something you would like to see in this newsletter, please e-mail <kszlasa@skidmore.edu>. We look forward to hearing from you.

Summer Programs

The Office of the Dean of Special Programs will be offering it's **Summer Academic Sessions** and **Summer Six Art Program** from May 28th - June 28th (Session I) and July 1st - August 1st (Session II), including four online courses. For full descriptions, registration deadlines and eligibility requirements, please contact the UWW office.

Summer 2002

UWW Course Offerings

On-line Courses

Online courses begin May 28th. Students must have access to the internet and e-mail.

UWW 0626 - **Love in Art & Idea**, Prof. Francois Bonneville.

UWW 0627 - **Multiculturalism & National Identity: Global Perspectives**, Prof. Chris Whann.

UWW 0628 - **Italy, Fascism & Jews**, Prof. Shirley Smith.

UWW 0629 - **Organizational Behavior**, Prof. Mary Correa.

On Campus Courses

UWW 0630 - **Psychological Anthropology**, Joylin Namie. Begins Wednesday May 29th.

UWW 0631 - **Social Psychology**, Prof. Sheldon Solomon. Begins Tuesday May 28th.

For detailed descriptions of our courses, visit the Course Offerings page of our website.

Welcome New Students

Jim Ewing, RI
Roseanne Perini, NY
Martina Swiers, NY
Sally Scott Loughborough, CT
Edward Fredrich, NY
Patti Ivory, NY
Donna Bove, NY
Sarah Koonce, NY
Steve Werner, NY
Joan Sawyer, TX
Lisa Good, NY
Jessica Houghton, CA

Muhammed Ali, NY
Jay Grove, CA
Amanda Root, MA
Foster Roberts, Antigua
Sandy George, Antigua
Roberta Henry, Antigua
Sharon Stowe, Antigua
Lois Drew, Antigua
Rita Lovell-Browne, Antigua
Joyce Browne, Antigua
Rosalind Nathan-Browne, Antigua
Maudlyn Brown, Antigua
Daphne George, Antigua

Alther DeSuza, Antigua
Mel Ellington, FL
Judith Esther Hughes, Antigua
Di-anne Christopher, Antigua
Rolston Nickeo, Antigua
Jonathan Parker, CA
Franz Ladoo, Antigua
Macarena Camunas, Spain
Leah Dann, NY
William Foley, IN
Matt Frazer, NY
Julia Bookout, NY

2001-2002 UWW Scholarship Winners

Sara Lee Schupf '62 Scholarship

Teva Glueck & Kathleen Lortie

Dan and Ada Rice Scholarship

Susan Bartscherer

Patricia Trbovich '85 Memorial Scholarship

Tania Flavia

Margaret Martin Scholarship

Mary Scriber

UWW Scholarship

Kelly Cooper, Rebecca Englehardt, Rachel

Gardey, Kathryn Shay, Anthony Angelo

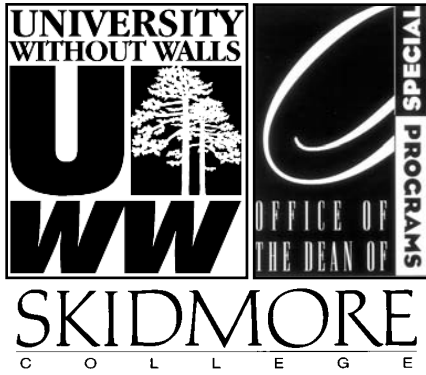
Nancy Simon and Charles G. Cooper

Scholarship

Dalia Rawson

Williamson Scholarship

Johanna Hill



Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Fax: 518-580-5449

Toll Free 1-866-310-6444

www.skidmore.edu/uww

e-mail: uww@skidmore.edu

*University Without Walls
Skidmore College
82nd Commencement
Exercise*

Sunday, May 19, 2002

1:00 p.m.

Saratoga Performing Arts Center