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In South Sudan, Global Women’s Institute Director Mary Ellsberg (far right) met with International Rescue Committee workers to help plan a study of gender-based violence.

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The Science and Engineering Hall is set to open to a mosaic of researchers—from biologists to aerospace engineers—seeking common ground in pursuit of uncommon solutions. / By Lauren Ingeno /

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Esteemed realist painter, teacher and “incurable people-watcher” Bradley Stevens, BA ’76, MFA ’79, gives us a view behind the brushes. / By Bill Glovin, BA ’77 /

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On the sidelines of the civil strife that has long embroiled the people of South Sudan, women and girls are in the crosshairs. / By Danny Freedman, BA ’01 /

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In the remains of a 3,800-year-old palace, archaeologists seek clues about social, political and economic life in ancient Canaan. / By Lauren Ingeno /

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Photo illustration by William Atkins, John McGlasson
SIGN UP TO RECEIVE THE LATEST NEWS from GW Today via e-mail
A ‘Fair Trade’ Comes to Life

It’s hard to imagine now, but there was a time when I held the Science and Engineering Hall in my hands.

Of course, it was maybe a foot tall and made of wood. But even then—before approval from the city, before the old parking garage came down and the cranes came up, before the fancy microscopes moved in, when it was just a model held up by glue and grand ideas—it still felt like something big.

Five years later, it finally is. In fact, the whole operation has been enormous. Architects and engineers labored over the delicate nature of large-scale construction in the middle of a city, bounded by residence halls, a busy thoroughfare and a subway stop. The building rose with the help of a crane so large that another crane was needed to assemble it—and that crane was built with the help of a third crane. Hundreds of construction workers helped give shape to the building, as did hundreds of administrators, faculty members and staff.

While it soon will be occupied by a remarkably diverse array of scientists and engineers, and their work rightly shines in talk of the building, in the end this is a building for all of us. Its specialty labs, like the three-story “high bay” and the imaging suite, are GW-wide facilities that could spark creative endeavors from other academic corners of the university. For students it will be a place to be exposed to new things, or simply a place to be—as one architect put it back in December 2010, the building was conceived of as “a pathway and also a destination.” And the discoveries made within the building stand to benefit everyone in the GW community, whether you’re an alumnus, a staff member or a patient at the hospital.

There are a lot of reasons to feel good about the building, and countless others we’ve yet to find out. But the most elegant I’ve heard is also the simplest.

At a city zoning hearing in March 2011, where the university was making its case for the building and the future it could bring, a neighborhood resident told the commissioners that the Science and Engineering Hall was “a more than fair trade for a parking garage.”

It is learning where there was none, momentum where things only stood still.

Danny Freedman, BA ’01
MANAGING EDITOR
POSTMARKS

A Smash Hit at Lisner

I enjoyed your overview of seven decades of Lisner Auditorium (“Stage Presence”) in the fall issue. One major event you overlooked, however, was when the Hulk nearly destroyed the building, as documented in the May 1972 issue (#151) of *The Incredible Hulk*.

As you can see in the newspaper ad in the second panel of the first page, Ant-Man was scheduled to appear at Lisner. When he failed to show, Bruce Banner became angry, turned into the Hulk and nearly wrecked the auditorium. I’m glad they were able to repair and restore the building.

Stuart Gorenstein, BA ’74
Guilderland, NY

Of all the big appearances at Lisner over the years, perhaps none has been as large—or as berserk—as the Incredible Hulk, who showed up at the auditorium in a 1972 comic book.

**SPRING 2015 ISSUE PREVIEW**

... And the Baby Makes Three

For our spring issue, we’re opening time capsules from the day that sons and daughters became mothers and fathers, and we want to hear from you.

Tender or funny, sweet or sad, we’re asking GW alumni to take us inside the day that it all changed—in 300 words or less—and we’ll publish some of the responses in GW Magazine and online. (Submissions may be edited for space and clarity.)

Send us your stories at magazine@gwu.edu or go to the Contact Us page on our website, magazine.gwu.edu.

**Can’t-Miss Wednesdays**

Reading Mary Dempsey’s article on Lisner Auditorium in the fall issue brought back such great times and memories of my days at GW.
There would be concerts on Wednesday evenings that cost $2 and we never knew who would be performing. I recall seeing the Lettermen, and the place going crazy with dancing in the aisles with the Four Tops. Perhaps the best surprise of all was when the curtain opened one Wednesday evening and we were treated to Joe Cocker, on his “Mad Dogs and Englishmen” tour along with some 20 musicians, including future greats Rita Coolidge and Leon Russell.

Thanks and keep it coming!
Bernard J. Peters, BA ’68, MS ’73
Vero Beach, Fla.

It’s About Being Present, Not Presents
As a recent alumnus I am pleased to hear of the university’s successful fundraising campaign (“Making History, One Experience at a Time”). As an environmentalist I am overwhelmingly proud of this issue’s article regarding GW’s investment in solar power (“Here Comes the Sun”). As a compassionate being I find the inclusion of a gift-giving guide (“A GW Gift Guide”) hypocritical to the highest degree.

How can one tout progress towards sustainability then shamelessly endorse gluttonous consumerism a few pages later? Regardless of the item’s relation to alumni or their philanthropic impact, our consumer society perpetuates impure motivations of materialistic “happiness” that rob our planet. Furthermore, gift-giving guides dilute the holiday season, placing importance on impermanent items, detracting from the lessons of altruism the season is meant to imbue.

Stephan Franke, BBA ’14

ILLUSTRATION: JAMES SURDAM

When we profiled GW astrobiologist Pascale Ehrenfreund in the spring 2014 issue (“Plenty of Space but no Room for Error”), excitement was budding anew for her and the other scientists working on the European Space Agency’s Rosetta mission. After reawakening Rosetta from a two-and-a-half-year, deep-space hibernation last January, excitement reached a global fever pitch in the fall as the Rosetta orbiter chased down the comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko and, in a stunning first, landed a probe, named Philae, on its surface.

Follow the latest from the mission at rosetta.esa.int.

Museum studies professor Mary Coughlin offers tips on caring for paintings at home.
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Obama, Colbert Pack
Lisner Auditorium

Two political icons of a generation matched wits and squared-off on national issues during a live taping of The Colbert Report at GW.

Stephen Colbert was running through a tongue-in-cheek opening segment on Barack Obama’s executive powers when the president of the United States walked onto the stage at a packed Lisner Auditorium.

“I’m thrilled that you’re here but I did not expect you for another three minutes,” the host of Comedy Central’s The Colbert Report deadpanned.

“You’ve been taking a lot of shots at my job,” Mr. Obama said. “I decided I’m going to...”
go ahead and take a shot at yours.”

With that, Mr. Obama sat in Mr. Colbert’s chair at the Dec. 8 filming of The Colbert Report at GW and hosted a rollicking version of the show’s popular segment “The Word”—renamed, in this case, “The Decree.” The segment involves messages on a screen that undercut what the host is saying. Mr. Obama poked fun at a few hiccups throughout his term, joking that his health care rollout inspired Disney’s Frozen. (“Let it looad,” a screen next to him read.)

The two then sat for a lengthy interview that covered the midterm elections, the economy, the Keystone XL pipeline and Mr. Obama’s executive order offering temporary legal status to millions of illegal immigrants, among other topics.

For many of the cheering students in audience, who vied for tickets in a lottery, the pairing of the president for whom some had cast their first-ever vote and a late-night icon of their generation was a heavenly match. They began to line up outside Lisner more than four hours before the doors opened, clutching coffee cups and huddling together against the 38-degree weather.

“We just wanted to make sure we had the best seats possible,” said freshman Catie Jennetta, there with classmate Erica Monical.

The wait paid off. When ushers began letting in a slow stream of people, the pair snagged seats in the fifth row. “It’s completely surreal,” Ms. Jennetta said.

Four School of Media and Public Affairs seniors, though, got much closer to the action: They were picked up as production interns for the taping. Over two long days, they worked alongside more than 50 crew members that milled about the set tweaking sound equipment and lighting, and hanging diaphanous portraits of Mr. Colbert dressed up as American presidents.

—James Irwin and Julyssa Lopez

GW Students, Officials Add Voices to Campaign Against Sexual Assault

The lines represent more than personal resolutions. They are part of a community call to action. Dozens of GW students participated in videos released this fall for “It’s On Us,” a White-House-facilitated national campaign against sexual assault on campus.

The seven videos feature students from across the university and from individual student groups.

Studies estimate that one in five women is assaulted during her time in college—and that most of those women know their attacker. “It’s On Us” is a grassroots-level effort to bring those numbers down by shifting the preventive focus from the victims to their entire community, reminding students to be protective of and responsible for one another.

“A culture change involves an entire university. It’s not just about university administrators and survivors. It’s about our community refusing to tolerate sexual assault and violence,” says GW President Steven Knapp, who attended the campaign’s launch event at the White House in September, along with Student Association President Nick Gumas, Athletic Director Patrick Nero, Vice President for External Relations Lorraine Voles and other campus leaders.

Mr. Gumas says participation in “It’s On Us” is an important part of student organizations’ ongoing efforts to combat sexual assault on campus. Last year, students spearheaded the effort to update GW’s sexual harassment policy with no statute of limitations for reporting sexual assault.

This year, Mr. Gumas says, student advocacy efforts will be focused on creating a blueprint for “a comprehensive, universal sexual assault education system” for incoming students.

“When we’re welcoming people to GW, we also want to be saying, ‘This is one of the expectations we have of you as a member of our community,’” he says. “‘It’s On Us’ is just one part of that larger conversation.”

—Ruth Steinhardt

To see GW videos from the initiative, visit youtube.com/user/gwitsonus.

The people on-screen don’t all look, speak or dress alike, but they all do the same thing. Looking steadily into the camera, they make pledges: “To not give our friends a pass.” “To never blame the victim.” “To be more than a bystander.”

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The new, 46,000-square-foot museum building, at 21st and G streets NW, will serve as an arts hub on campus.

**MUSEUM**

Opening Date Set for GW Museum Complex

The new George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum, a custom-built structure on the corner of 21st and G streets NW, will open March 21.

The 46,000-square-foot facility will serve as an arts center on campus, displaying The Textile Museum’s globally recognized collection of more than 19,000 objects, the Albert H. Small Washingtoniana Collection, comprising nearly 1,000 objects documenting the history of Washington, and pieces owned by the university.

Major construction on the space concluded last summer, and the university got a first look at the museum during a sneak peek event in June. The museum staff has been putting the finishing touches on the building, conducting extensive testing and calibration of sensitive climate control systems to ensure objects are well protected. Others have been working to transport objects to the conservation and collections resource center, a 22,000-square-foot facility on the university’s Virginia Science and Technology Campus.


The Textile Museum’s collection includes some of the world’s finest examples of rugs and textiles from the Near East, Central Asia, East and Southeast Asia, Africa and the indigenous cultures of the Americas, some of which date back to 3000 B.C. The exhibit “Unraveling Identity” will be an exploration of the ways in which self and status are communicated by more than 100 pieces of clothing, fabrics and other adornments.

That exhibit “will present some of the greatest treasures from The Textile Museum’s permanent collection, representing more than 2,000 years of human history, while also emphasizing the ongoing relevance of textiles in our daily lives,” says curator Lee Talbot. “Through intriguing objects and an active, participatory format, the exhibition will demonstrate how all of us communicate messages about our identity through clothing and accessories.”

The new museum also boasts a special gallery that will showcase Albert H. Small’s trove of historic Washington maps, documents and rare treasures.

Mr. Small, a 2009 recipient of the Presidential Humanities Medal, donated his collection to the university in 2011. The Albert H. Small Gallery runs alongside a glass bridge in the museum that connects to the 160-year-old Woodhull House, renovated to serve as exhibition space for the Washingtoniana collection.

– Julyssa Lopez

For more info, visit museum.gwu.edu.
A Sitting President

Mr. Shenkman also provided funding for a bronze statue of George Washington, which was installed in October in Kogan Plaza. The “George Washington Bench” is the work of sculptor Gary Lee Price of Utah, who has thousands of sculptures in public and private collections around the world.

Shenkman Hall Dedicated in Honor of Alumnus, Trustee

The university dedicated a Foggy Bottom Campus residence hall in September in honor of a university trustee, alumnus and parent whose financial donations provide a major boost to university career services.

Mark R. Shenkman, MBA ’67, and his wife, Rosalind, donated $5 million in May to support the GW Career Services Enhancement Initiative and the F. David Fowler Career Center at the School of Business. In recognition, the GW Board of Trustees voted to rename the Ivory Tower residence hall Shenkman Hall.

At a ceremony, held during Alumni Weekend, GW President Steven Knapp said the dedication honored Mr. Shenkman’s “long and distinguished association with the university” and his “unwavering commitment” to it.

GW created the Career Services Enhancement Initiative in 2012 as an effort to strengthen the career culture for students, alumni and employers. The initiative aims to empower students and alumni to translate their academic and co-curricular experiences at the university into a lifetime of productive and engaged citizenship.

Additional funding will enable the Fowler Career Center at the School of Business and GW career services to provide services and resources to students, alumni, faculty and staff for strategic career planning and lifelong experiential learning.

“The real intent of our family gift is to facilitate and help GW students launch their professional careers,” Mr. Shenkman said. “Given the complex and competitive world we live in, students today need more frequent and formalized advice, guidance, coaching and mentoring in their career planning. Students should be afforded a greater opportunity to develop the required personal skills and marketing techniques necessary to secure a meaningful job upon graduation.”

Mr. Shenkman, founder of Shenkman Capital Management Inc., has made several gifts both individually and through his company in support of the university. In 2013, he established the Shenkman Seminar Series at the Graduate School of Political Management and funded the move and expansion of Veterans Memorial Park to its new location on Kogan Plaza.

– James Irwin
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chair Joins GW

Allison Macfarlane, chair of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, will join the Elliott School of International Affairs in January as director of the Center for International Science and Technology Policy and the related Master of Arts program.

“I am delighted to be joining the Elliott School. It provides a wonderful interdisciplinary environment whose faculty I have long admired,” she says. “I am looking forward to returning to my academic research and to training a new generation of leaders in science and technology policy.”

Dr. Macfarlane, who focuses on nuclear waste issues, became chair of the commission in July 2012 following her nomination by President Barack Obama and confirmation by the U.S. Senate. In that position, she has been responsible for the safety and security of the nation’s 100 civilian nuclear reactors, as well as oversight of the safe use of radioactive materials for medical and other civilian purposes. From 2010 to 2012, she served on the White House’s Blue Ribbon Commission on America’s Nuclear Future, tasked with creating a strategy for dealing with America’s high-level nuclear waste.

The Elliott School has significantly expanded its work on nuclear issues in recent years. Its Nuclear Policy Talks series, launched in 2009, has sponsored more than 100 events focusing on nonproliferation, energy, disarmament and arms control policy. The school’s Institute for Security and Conflict Studies supports a major research project on nuclear weapons and nonproliferation, and its Sigur Center for Asian Studies sponsors a “Nuclear Debates in Asia” project. Last fall, the school launched a new field of study on nuclear energy policy in its international affairs graduate program.

Stephen King Takes Fans Behind the Terror

Most of the time, Stephen King has no idea how his books are going to end. When he’s writing, he follows his protagonists like a looming shadow, quietly observing as they wind their way through the twisted challenges he puts in front of them.

That meandering, explorative approach has resulted in more than 50 books, making Mr. King one of the most prolific fiction writers of his era. In an event presented by Politics & Prose in November, he appeared casually at Lisner Auditorium in a red T-shirt and jeans, looking more the part of a good-natured father than a sinister mastermind known for dropping characters into storylines teeming with terror and gore.

The packed audience of screaming fans made it clear that the 67-year-old with a penchant for silly humor was, in fact, the same cult hero who’s achieved rock-star status in the world of suspense and science fiction.

His love for music fueled a lot in his latest novel, *Revival*, which follows 6-year-old Jamie Morton into adulthood, chronicling his drug-addled career as a musician and his re-encounter with a preacher he befriended as a child.

The book draws inspiration from Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* and the rise of the technological age. *Publishers Weekly* calls the ending one that “stuns like lightning,” yet the person most surprised by the jolting apex is Mr. King himself.

“You have to follow the characters and the story where it leads ... I’m not a fan of plot. I’m a lot more interested in character and situation and where it goes,” he said.

– Julyssa Lopez

**GW, Koç University to Open Student Exchange**

Leaders from the George Washington University and Koç University, located in Istanbul, signed an undergraduate student exchange agreement in November that will allow students at each university the opportunity to study abroad at the other for up to one academic year.

GW President Steven Knapp and GW alumnus Mustafa Koç, BBA ’84, chairman of the board of Koç Holding and grandson of the founder of Koç University, introduced the agreement at a GW alumni reception in Istanbul. There, Dr. Knapp also participated in a three-day conference at Boğaziçi University for the Global Humanities Project, a partnership between Boğaziçi, Al Akhawayn University in Morocco and GW that held its first conference at GW in March.

“This new agreement will provide students with educational opportunities that will prepare them for active and productive lives as global citizen leaders,” Dr. Knapp said.

More than 150 alumni, students, prospective students and others attended the reception, held at the Elgiz Museum of Contemporary Art.

“On behalf of myself and Koç University’s esteemed faculty members, I would like to express my sincere enthusiasm for our current and future collaborations with GW,” said Mr. Koç, who was the 2008-09 Robert P. Maxon Lecturer at the GW School of Business. “I am very happy to see all of you here and to feel a part of GW again, which brings back all the good memories. Your attendance here this evening reaffirms your commitment to our valuable community and gives all of us an opportunity to further strengthen our relations.”

Turkey is home to more than 200 GW alumni, and the university has participated for many years in academic exchanges with Boğaziçi University and other institutions, including semester-length and short-term study abroad opportunities, visiting faculty arrangements and research projects.

**Speakers**

**Stephen King**

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– Julyssa Lopez
GW Gets to Work at Freshman Day of Service

The university’s annual Freshman Day of Service and Convocation drew more than 2,400 GW freshmen to serve on community projects throughout the D.C. metro area as part of the September 11th National Day of Service and Remembrance.

“George Washington spelled out his vision for a university that would educate citizen-leaders in his last will and testament,” GW President Steven Knapp said at the Sept. 6 event. “Today, we draw our students from all 50 states and from more than 100 countries around the world. But we still preserve the spirit and tradition and culture of service as part of the heritage of our founding.”

GW volunteers attended a morning convocation at the Charles E. Smith Center that featured speakers including Jay Winuk, co-founder of the nonprofit My Good Deed, Corporation for National and Community Service CEO Wendy Spencer and urban revitalization strategist Majora Carter.

“As you work today, think of the value you place on work,” said Ms. Carter, a public radio host and founder of the nonprofit environmental justice solutions corporation Sustainable South Bronx. “Whose life is going to change? What benefit is created, and who knows and values that benefit? What you love and what pays the bills doesn’t have to be mutually exclusive.”

Armed with water bottles, box lunches and sunblock, GW students, staff and faculty headed out to work alongside 44 local partners on projects focused on environmental sustainability, veterans’ affairs, community beautification and healthy living.

Around 300 GW volunteers, including Dr. Knapp, worked with local senior citizens to complete community asset surveys in D.C. Wards 5, 6 and 7, where they documented issues that impair healthy living and mobility as part of GW’s involvement in the city’s age-friendly initiative.

“I’m from the district, so being able to highlight some of these problems—or bring them to someone’s attention—has been a great opportunity,” said freshman Detrick Campbell. “It’s allowed me to get more involved in my hometown community.”

In McLean, Va., a group from the university helped document the stories of veterans and family members of veterans living at Vinson Hall Retirement Community for a Library of Congress military history project. Another group of volunteers in Prince George’s County, Md., participated in a sustainable urban farming project at ECO City Farms.

“One thing all the convocation speakers highlighted was that this is about a community coming together to create something in the long run,” said sophomore Sherin Nassar. “At GW so much of our work is dedicated to community service, and getting involved gives you an idea of the long-term effect of what you are doing.”

—James Irwin
As they created a classroom guide inspired by Malala Yousafzai’s 2013 memoir, *I Am Malala*, GW faculty members—and even Ms. Yousafzai’s father—began to re-examine their assumptions about the 17-year-old Nobel Peace Prize winner.

At one point, when the guide’s writers were reviewing a passage with Malala’s father, Ziauddin Yousafzai, and Jahan Zeb, a Pakistani scholar, Mr. Zeb stopped and said, “I’m not sure about this part that calls Malala a ‘feminist leader.’ Is she a feminist?” Mr. Yousafzai nodded in agreement. “I was wondering about that myself,” he said. “So, I asked her.”

Malala’s response? “If feminism means equality for all people, then yes, I am a feminist,” she told her father.

A full Jack Morton Auditorium erupted in applause as GW’s Global Women’s Institute Director Mary Ellsberg recounted the story during an event in November celebrating the launch of the free online resource guide. Created through a partnership between the institute, publisher Little, Brown and Company and the Malala Fund, “I Am Malala: A Resource Guide for Educators” is targeted to high school and university students, and draws lessons based on eight themes from the memoir.

Ms. Yousafzai’s book chronicles the Muslim teenager’s journey from schoolgirl to women’s rights activist, including her survival after a Taliban gunman shot her in the head in 2012 for speaking out about the right of girls to be educated.

Speakers at the event emphasized that the lessons in the resource guide are intended to give students an opportunity to challenge assumptions and to gain a greater understanding of Ms. Yousafzai beyond the headlines.

“It is intended as a tribute to Malala, to honor her courage and to further spread her message about girls’ education,” Dr. Ellsberg said at the event. “Our hope is that the resource guide, along with her memoir, will be used here and in classrooms around the country and the world.”

Mr. Yousafzai, who contributed to the resource guide’s production, reminded the audience that though his daughter’s memoir may be about his family, it is “not one family’s story.”

“It is the story of the millions of children all around the world. Fifty-seven million children are out of school. Out of those 57 million children, half of them belong to conflict areas,” he said. “It is the story of the children who are in the camps of Jordan and who are the refugees from Syria. It is the story of the 300,000 children in Lebanon.”

—Lauren Ingeno

For more on this story and video of the event, visit go.gwu.edu/gwtodaymalala; to download the guide, visit malala.gwu.edu.

Ziauddin Yousafzai, father of 17-year-old Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai, greets students during his visit to campus.

—James Irwin
Two George Washington University deans are stepping down from long-standing administrative roles at the university.

Michael E. Brown, who brought global recognition to GW’s Elliott School of International Affairs during almost 10 years of leadership, announced this fall that he will step down from his position at the end of this academic year to focus on teaching and expanding his work as a tenured faculty member in the school. And School of Nursing Dean Jean Johnson, who announced her retirement in 2013, concluded her 33-year career at the university in December.

Under Dr. Johnson’s leadership, the School of Nursing’s enrollment doubled to more than 750 students since its establishment in May 2010. It is now recognized in the top 50 schools of nursing in the country with a fourth-ranked online Master of Science in Nursing program, according to U.S. News & World Report. The school served as an early adopter of online programs, increasing educational access for military service members, parents and working professionals.

Dr. Johnson, who plans to take a yearlong sabbatical to pursue a project with colleagues at the University of Cape Town in South Africa, said she will return to the university in some capacity.

The Elliott School, during Dr. Brown’s tenure, added 20 new faculty members who have strengthened the school’s expertise in key regions—including the Middle East, Latin America, Asia and Africa—and critical areas of global development, international security and global women’s issues. The school has sponsored major research projects in democracy, climate change, U.S.-China relations and nuclear issues.

These enhancements have had marked results: The Elliott School is considered the ninth best undergraduate school and seventh best graduate school for international affairs in the country, according to a survey of international affairs experts and scholars published in Foreign Policy magazine.

Only seven schools in the United States are recognized in the top 10 in both categories.

– Lauren Ingeno and Julyssa Lopez

Irish step dancer Kevin Doyle performs a traditional Irish step dance and an American tap routine from the movie Yankee Doodle Dandy in September at Lisner Auditorium, during a National Endowment for the Arts showcase of the 2014 National Heritage Fellowship winners.
Aspiring Artists Convene for National Portfolio Day

High school students touting thick portfolios and sketchbooks showed up in droves at GW’s Corcoran School of the Arts and Design, forming a line that wrapped around the 17th Street building.

They arrived that Saturday morning in November to participate in a National Portfolio Days event, which provides a venue for high school students interested in arts education to meet with representatives from colleges and universities and have their work reviewed by professionals in the field.

GW’s Corcoran School hosted more than 50 institutions accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, which set up tables throughout the building.

The Corcoran School provided a panel of its own faculty members to meet one-on-one with prospective students and their parents.

“One thing I emphasize is that the Corcoran School is surrounded by dozens of museums, galleries and cultural institutions—it really is located in a central arts hub in Washington,” said Georgia Deal, professor and printmaking head at the Corcoran School.

While National Portfolio Day helps high school upperclassmen narrow down the colleges they want to apply to, many students attended just to have their work examined by new audiences.

Sophomore Priya Kral, from Arlington, Va., won’t start the college application process for another year, but her teachers urged her to get a fresh pair of eyes on her art. She came armed with linoleum prints, examples of her watercolor technique and countless pencil figures on loose-leaf sketch paper.

“I feel like this event gives you a really good assessment of where you are in your work,” she said. “You get to compare yourself to other people and see what schools want versus what you have. Going as a sophomore, you can prepare yourself for the next two years and grow as an artist.”

—Julyssa Lopez

“Despite his central role in winning independence for the American colonies, [George] Washington was shaped in fundamental ways by his English heritage and traditions. For much of his life he strove to be a model English gentleman.”

Barbara Lucas, regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association, speaking at October’s Sulgrave Symposium, which highlighted the history and joint contributions of the United Kingdom and the United States in diplomacy, government and academia over the 200 years since the War of 1812 ended.
“In the CIA, they have a term. It’s called ‘let the silence suck out the truth.’ It’s the hardest thing to do—to shut up. It is often the most effective.”

Renowned Washington Post journalist and author Bob Woodward, speaking to students in an investigative journalism class taught by School of Media and Public Affairs Professor Cheryl W. Thompson, who like Mr. Woodward is a Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter.

“‘We need to deliver the message that groups like ISIL are not Islamic and are not a state. ISIL does not defend Muslims; ISIL kills.’”


“You want to know what the worst national security threat we face is? It’s dysfunction in Washington.”

Leon Panetta, former director of the CIA and secretary of defense, in an October interview with School of Media and Public Affairs Director Frank Sesno centered on Mr. Panetta’s provocative new book, Worthy Fights: A Memoir of Leadership in War and Peace.

“‘When people ask us what UNESCO does, they say, ‘Oh I thought you were about education: no science, no culture.’ I say to them, ‘They are connected because education is culture.’”

Irina Bokova, director general of UNESCO—the United Nations’ scientific and cultural organization—speaking at a GW event hosted by the Graduate School of Education and Human Development to celebrate the installation of GW’s UNESCO chair in international education for development. The appointment places GW among a consortium of 760 UNESCO chairs and 812 institutions in 128 countries working to build peace, combat illiteracy and empower communities in conflict.

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“There is nothing ideological about curing cancer. There isn’t a Democratic or Republican way to stop the Ebola virus from spreading. There isn’t a liberal or conservative way to prevent suicide.”

Sylvia Mathews Burwell, speaking in September at Jack Morton Auditorium, her first major public address after being sworn in as secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

“I love being in Washington, D.C. You can just feel the energy of things not getting done.”

Late Night host and Saturday Night Live-alum Seth Meyers, performing at the Charles E. Smith Center during Colonials Weekend, in October.

“We had become a U-Haul trailer of cash for a presidential nominee—that’s a loser strategy.”

Republican National Committee chairman Reince Priebus, speaking in October at Jack Morton Auditorium about a re-focus of the RNC’s data and digital strategy that was forced by election losses in 2008 and 2012. A month later, the GOP scored a huge midterm election victory, claiming a majority in the Senate.

“I have been fantastically lucky to be born when I was and to be in the right place to help advance this movement for women’s equality.”

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, speaking at Lisner Auditorium during the Sixth Annual Capital City Constitution Day. Justice Ginsburg discussed how the 227-year-old document has evolved to include women, and the steps still needed to ensure equality.
**AT A GLANCE**

**INDONESIAN UNIVERSITY, GW PAVE WAY FOR PARTNERSHIPS**
In September, during Republic of Indonesia President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono’s visit to the United States, GW President Steven Knapp met with Desi Albert Mamahit, rector of the Indonesian Defense University, to sign a letter of intent signifying future cooperation between the two institutions.

**BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT LAUNCHED**
The School of Engineering and Applied Science launched a Department of Biomedical Engineering this fall as well as a PhD program in the field, which joins existing bachelor’s and master’s degree programs. To chair the department, the school recruited a leader in cardiovascular disease research, Igor Efimov, who comes to GW from Washington University in St. Louis. A rapidly growing field, biomedical engineering is changing modern medicine. Researchers at GW, for example, are improving heart disease therapies, developing imaging instruments to detect cancers and building handheld medical diagnostic devices.

**HONORING VETERANS**
Members of the university community honored GW’s veteran and military population on Veterans Day with a campus ceremony that included the presentation of the colors by the ROTC color guard and a wreath laying. Around the same time, the university was named to Military Times’ “Best for Vets 2015” rankings and was designated as a 2015 “Military Friendly School” by G.I. Jobs magazine. The School of Nursing also recently received $1 million from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration for a project designed to reduce barriers for veterans who wish to become nurses.

**$2.7M AWARDED FOR MIDDLE EAST, ASIAN STUDIES**
The Elliott School of International Affairs received three federal grants totaling more than $2.7 million in November. The awards, part of the U.S. Department of Education’s Title VI program, will support the work of two research institutes at the school: the Institute for Middle East Studies and the Sigur Center for Asian Studies. The Department of Education also designated IMES a National Resource Center for Middle East studies.

**FIRST MOOC, IN SCIENTIFIC COMPUTING, HELD IN FALL**
GW hosted its first-ever “massive open online course” this fall, a class aimed at first-year graduate engineering students and advanced college seniors that provided a foundation for tackling computational modeling problems using the programming language Python. The 12-week, noncredit course, called Practical Numerical Methods with Python, was developed through a collaboration between GW’s School of Engineering and Applied Science and three other institutions across the world, and was led by GW mechanical and aerospace engineering professor Lorena A. Barba.

**GW AMONG TOP TEACH FOR AMERICA CONTRIBUTORS**
For a third year in a row, GW was listed among the top 20 medium-size universities that contributed students to Teach for America. The 5,300 individuals who made up the 2014 Teach For America corps include 35 GW alumni—third-most among colleges and universities with 3,000 to 9,999 undergraduate students.

“We see this worrying trend in relations between Russia and Europe, between Russia and the U.S., between China and the U.S.”

President of the Republic of Indonesia Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, urging global powers to preserve cooperation and the harmony that he said had allowed his country to prosper. He spoke in September at Jack Morton Auditorium—his only public address while in D.C.—the month before the end of his term.

2014 list of greater Washington’s healthiest employers. GW’s comprehensive health model focuses on helping employees with their physical health, personal and family life, financial wellness, connection to the community and workplace fulfillment. One of the most successful programs, Smoke-Free GW, prohibits smoking on GW-owned outdoor spaces, as well as public spaces adjacent to all residential, academic, athletic, recreational and administrative support buildings.

“...we see this worrying trend in relations between Russia and Europe, between Russia and the U.S., between China and the U.S.”

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On Fear and Epidemics in America

This spring will mark a largely forgotten centennial in the history of American medicine: On March 27, 1915, Mary Mallon, a cook and asymptomatic carrier of typhoid fever popularly known as Typhoid Mary, was forced into her second quarantine on North Brother Island in New York’s East River. She would remain there until her death in 1938.

Vanessa Northington Gamble, University Professor of Medical Humanities and professor of health policy and American studies, explains why—in the age of AIDS, H1N1, and the Ebola virus—Mary Mallon’s story still matters.

In your class on the history of American epidemics, you make a point of referring to Mary Mallon by name, rather than her better-known sobriquet. Why is that?

In history, stories matter. People’s lives matter. Mary Mallon was a person: a woman, a cook, an Irish immigrant. She suffered notoriety and the loss of her livelihood and 26 years of isolation. And the name “Typhoid Mary” makes her sound like a pest—a germ, a virus—rather than a human being.

This happens over and over again. We want to blame the disease on someone, because it’s comforting: “I won’t get sick, I’m not like them.” But when a person or group of people, rather than a disease in itself, is framed as the problem, people act on fear rather than information. And their fear might be directed at the wrong things.

How does that fear affect the way these epidemics progress?

It takes our energy away from where it needs to be. We try to suppress the fear, rather than the disease. Take Ebola as an example. When you start talking about “West Africans” carrying Ebola, some people suggest solutions like “Let’s stop all air travel from West Africa.” OK, but then you can’t treat the disease. You can’t get equipment or supplies or medicine into affected areas; volunteers aren’t willing to go, because they might not be able to get back; healthy people can’t get out. So the untreated epidemic spreads.

Do you see this happening today?

Absolutely. When we’re afraid, we want to feel that something is being done. So we take people’s temperatures at airports, which is probably an ineffective gesture; an infected traveler might not be symptomatic yet.

Meanwhile, we’re not worrying about the real dangers. The measles and influenza are much more infectious and deadly than Ebola, and increasing numbers of people aren’t vaccinating their children against them. But because we’re not as scared of those diseases as we are of Ebola, they don’t get the attention they need.

How can health care authorities fight fear?

The No. 1 way is to share information without creating stigma. Uncertainty breeds fear. In the late 1890s there was a smallpox epidemic in Milwaukee. Authorities hauled off immigrants and the poor to isolation hospitals—and they rioted, in part because the wealthy were allowed to be quarantined in their homes. In 1947, there was fear of another epidemic, but this time the head of the Department of Public Health gave as much information as possible to as many groups as possible. And people lined up to be vaccinated.

What lessons can we draw from Mary Mallon’s story?

We have to remember to be careful about our responses. Are we responding to reality, or to stigma? Public fear led to Mary Mallon’s exile, but by the end of her life, many prominent health authorities thought she should be released.

Stigma is a form of victim-blaming. I read a story about a man who was dying of Ebola, in isolation, and a health worker in a hazmat suit was the only person with him. How must it feel to die alone, your hand being held by a stranger in a spacesuit? That patient was a person. It’s crucial to remember that.

—Ruth Steinhardt

Read more from this interview at magazine.gwu.edu.
The Case of the Traveling Terrapin

In the fall semester of 1948, a mysterious kidnapping rippled through the D.C. college community. The crime was unmistakable: At over 400 pounds of solid bronze, the victim could hardly have crawled off by himself. Testudo, the University of Maryland’s mascot, had vanished from his pedestal in College Park, Md.

Suspicion turned quickly to GW, which would be meeting Maryland on the gridiron in October for GW’s homecoming. The president of Maryland’s Student Government Association published a letter in The Hatchet asking, “Do YOU have Testudo?” According to the paper, the letter was followed up by “a task force of some 500 College Park stalwarts,” who arrived on campus determined to search the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity house.

The search was fruitless, but Maryland would have its revenge. Three days after Testudo returned home unharmed, the rivals’ football game ended in a gruesome 47-0 defeat for the Colonials.

Testudo’s own homecoming, however, was less of a victory. By the next night, The Washington Post reported, the terrapin “was on the loose again.” —Ruth Steinhardt

Top and left Photos of shenanigans with the massive, bronze Maryland mascot appeared in the 1949 edition of the GW yearbook, The Cherry Tree, including Testudo as a dissolute gambler in a picture captioned simply, “In Reno.” Right Among the memorabilia of Testudo’s adventure was this mocked-up application to GW, sternly marked “Rejected.”
On Their Best Bee-havior

“Once you get to know them, you can’t help loving them,” Hartmut Doebel says. “They’re like little puppies.”

The “fuzzy and docile” little beasts he’s talking about are honeybees, and Dr. Doebel, an entomologist and assistant professor of biology, wants “getting to know them” to be easy. Students don’t even need to venture to the 10-hive apiary atop Lisner Hall: In a second-floor laboratory next door in Bell Hall, a unique glass-walled hive lets watchers observe these furry wonders in their own habitat.

About one mouthful in three of the American diet benefits from honeybee pollination, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the species’ mysterious decline threatens flora across the continent. By observing bee colonies firsthand, Dr. Doebel and his team hope to discover ways to get them flourishing again. — Ruth Steinhardt
The original plan was to write about Boston’s subway system, which opened on Sept. 1, 1897. But a year into his research, Mr. Most knew that New York—which struggled with the same street congestion and wrestled with the same economic, political and social pressures in launching its own subway—needed to be a part of the book.

Following a colleague’s advice, he created a timeline and recorded every date he came across in his research—all told, some 2,000 entries, he says. The effect, which weaves together a staggering amount of detail and teases out fascinating character overlaps, recalls James Joyce’s Ulysses.

Many of Mr. Most’s protagonists are obscure, but others are famous: Thomas Edison, William Magear “Boss” Tweed, and the brothers Henry and William Whitney, who, in some ways, found themselves competing to create America’s first subway.

In that great expanse no detail is lost. The book recounts, for instance, the 1883 death of William Whitney’s 6-year-old daughter, Olive, and how, before her funeral, Mr. Whitney “clipped a lock of Olive’s blond hair. He placed it inside an envelope and would hold on to it for the rest of his life.”

The focus on such intricate details avoids a textbook feel and, as Mr. Most says, makes it “almost like a fictionalized tale, but all true.” (This fall, the book was named one of Amazon’s “Best Books of the Year So Far.”)

So how does researching a book that covers everything from the march of technology to 19th-century anxieties about going underground—at the time associated with corpses and worse—and aboveground-but-no-less-shady political maneuverings, affect its author? “I will never look at subways the same way again, because I don’t take them for granted.”
The Traumatic Colonel: The Founding Fathers, Slavery, and the Phantasmatic Aaron Burr (NYU Press, 2014)
Michael J. Drexler and Ed White, BA ’87
Aaron Burr is best known for being the third U.S. vice president, for killing Alexander Hamilton in an 1804 duel, and for his 1807 arrest for treason. But reading about the Founding Fathers can yield both titillating gossip and distorted views that turn men into myths, Drs. Drexler and White observe. The two study Aaron Burr’s life through the lens of literary analysis, exploring fiction and other period writings for broader meaning behind the myth that came of the man.

Srebrenica in the Aftermath of Genocide (Cambridge University Press, 2014)
Lara J. Nettelfield and Sarah E. Wagner
When they gather annually for a Peace March commemorating the more than 7,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys killed in the Srebrenica genocide, mourners are “intervening” in the space, write Dr. Wagner, assistant professor of anthropology at GW, and Dr. Nettelfield. In their analysis of this march and other postwar responses to the genocide in Bosnia, the authors note that interventions are complex enterprises that are more ambitious than mere reaction.

Barely There: Short Poems (Wipf and Stock, 2013)
Yahia Lababidi, BA ’96
Mr. Lababidi’s LinkedIn profile identifies him as a “Thinker, Poet, Seeker,” and it’s easy to see why from his poetry. His latest volume includes references to “the heavy breath of the very earth/carrying along the prayer of all things.” A particular focus within the book of poems is poetry itself: Mr. Lababidi notes that “Bodies are like poems,/a fraction of their power/resides in their skin,” and elsewhere, “I cannot bear/the perfumed air/of certain poets.”

Character: The Ultimate Success Factor (Fortis, 2013)
J. Phillip London, DBA ’71
When Jack London, the executive chairman and chairman of the board of the $3.8 billion company CACI International, considers his rise from humble beginnings, it boils down to “character.” Informed by his years in the Navy and as an executive, parent, student and teacher, he cautions that the term is not the same as personality. The book, he writes, was spurred by seeing many books focused on getting ahead, but little mention of things like taking responsibility.
Hoops and Hollers

The ball sailed down from the mezzanine and onto the court, bouncing into the hands of a leaping Patricio Garino, who nabbed it and polished off this dunk-contest-winning alley-oop.

Fans cheered, the bench cleared.

It was a raucous, rousing finale for the 2,800 students, family members and friends who came to the Charles E. Smith Center in October for Colonials Invasion. The annual, GW Athletics-sponsored event serves as the kickoff for Colonials Weekend and marks the start of basketball season at GW.

To see slow-motion video of Mr. Garino’s dunk, visit go.gwu.edu/dunk2014. For photos from Colonials Invasion, visit go.gwu.edu/invasion2014.
Gymnastics Gears Up for 30th Season Under Head Coach Foster-Cunningham

Ronald Reagan was president, Lionel Richie’s “Say You, Say Me” was the No. 1 song on the Billboard Hot 100 list and Rocky IV was the top movie at the box office the first time the GW gymnastics team competed under head coach Margie Foster-Cunningham, in January 1986. Just four years after earning her undergraduate degree from Penn State, Ms. Foster-Cunningham was leading a Division I gymnastics program. Thirty years later, the Colonials open their 2015 season in January under the guidance of the same head coach.

Over the past 29 years the gymnastics program has seen tremendous success under Ms. Foster-Cunningham, including four Atlantic 10 Championships, eight straight appearances at NCAA Regionals, from 1991 to 1998, and scores of student-athletes who have garnered both academic and athletic awards from a variety of governing bodies.

Despite all the individual accolades, championships and record-setting performances, the most lasting and evident feature of Ms. Foster-Cunningham’s run as head coach is the vast network of gymnastics alumnae who are spread across the country.

CEOs, doctors, investment bankers, lawyers and teachers are among the dozens of gymnastics student-athletes who have passed through George Washington. Many view their time as a gymnast under Ms. Foster-Cunningham as a defining moment in their lives. In recruiting student-athletes, Ms. Foster-Cunningham is known to use the line that when one makes a commitment to GW, it is not a four-year decision. “It is a 40-year decision,” she has said. That mantra rings true when gymnastics alumnae are asked about her impact on them.

“When my mother met Margie in the summer of 1992, she looked at me and said, ‘This is where you are going to school,’” says Lori Chaitman, BA ’96, MBA ’99. “My mother saw something in Margie, something that I didn’t appreciate until I became a mother myself. “Margie has been an incredible mentor, friend, confidant and role model,” she says. “But most importantly, she knows how to find the best in her athletes, appreciate the meaning of a team and family, and what it means to dig deep during stressful times and overcome any obstacle that comes along. I have carried Margie’s life lessons with me for over 20 years—as a friend and colleague to others, as a daughter and sibling, as a wife and as a mother. These lessons define who I am today.”

“I wouldn’t live in Washington, D.C., today if it wasn’t for Margie,” says Susan Block Moores, BA ’90. “I had the privilege of being on Margie’s first recruited team. There is so much to thank her for. I will never forget her loyalty, support and her ability to take me in and make me a part of a family.”

“Whether it is reciting the ‘attitude statement’ or understanding that sweaty hands and butterflies in my stomach means that what I’m about to do is important and I’m prepared for it, not a day goes by without the use of a life lesson from Margie,” says Stephanie Stoicovy, BS ’13.

“While coaching us at practice to become better gymnasts, she was also preparing us for the real world, whether we realized at the time or not. The only part that has changed since graduation is no longer seeing Margie almost every day. She continues to be there to answer questions, give advice and celebrate the milestones of life. Having Margie as a coach has changed my life, and for that I will be forever grateful.”

Fans of GW gymnastics—and of Margie Foster-Cunningham, of course—can catch the Colonials in action on five occasions this season at the Charles E. Smith Center, including as host to the East Atlantic Gymnastics League Championship on March 21. For ticket information and more on the GW gymnastics team, visit GWsports.com.

Stars Beck, Brown to be Honored as Atlantic 10 Legends

She was the leader of the GW women’s basketball team during one of the storied program’s most dominant eras. He was known as “The New Washington Monument,” a force to be reckoned from day one and a future NBA draft pick.

Now Kimberly Beck and Mike Brown will be recognized as Atlantic 10 Basketball Legends during the women’s and men’s championships in March.

Ms. Beck, a point guard, was the floor general for four straight NCAA Tournament teams, leading the Colonials to 101 wins, four Atlantic 10 regular-season titles and back-to-back Sweet 16s in 2007 and 2008.

“There have been so many amazingly talented players that have played in the Atlantic 10 over the years, so just to be thought of [as an A-10 Legend] is a huge honor,” says Ms. Beck, BA ’08. “Honestly, I just have coach Joe McKeown and my teammates to thank, because without them I could never even dream of such an honor. I am completely humbled and thankful.”

A two-time Honorable Mention All-American and three-time Atlantic 10 All-Conference First Team selection, Ms. Beck is one of the most decorated women’s basketball players in GW history. She was named the 2005 A-10 Rookie of the Year, the 2007 A-10 Defensive Player of the Year and the 2008 A-10 Player of the Year. Also a three-time A-10 All-Defensive Team honoree, Ms. Beck is GW’s all-time...
earning either first team or
amassing 64 double-doubles,
points and 10.5 rebounds while
in 111 games, Mr. Brown averaged 17.3
(1,395 points).
Mr. Brown was drafted in
the third round of the 1985 NBA
Draft by the Chicago Bulls and
went on to enjoy a successful
11-year, five-team career in the
league as well as stints as a
pro abroad. He says his time at
GW helped prepare him for his
career as a professional athlete
and, now, as co-founder and vice
president of The Embracing
Project, from his adopted
hometown of Las Vegas.
“GW is a very diverse
university, and the exposure
to different languages, people
and cultures as an 18-year-old
from Newark changed my life. It
gave me a strong platform that
continues to help me build my
global business relationships
to this day.”
Despite being 30 years
removed from his playing days
and 2,000 miles from Foggy
Bottom, Mr. Brown continues
to follow the Colonials and even
had the opportunity to meet
coach Mike Lonergan at an AAU
tournament in Las Vegas this
past summer.
“I went over, introduced
myself and congratulated him on
a great season,” Mr. Brown says.
“We talked and laughed as if
we were friends for years. The
future of GW basketball is in
good hands.”

The East Orange, N.J.,
native, who arrived on campus in
1981, led the team in both
scoring and rebounding in
each of the next four seasons,
becoming one of just three GW
players with 1,000-plus points
and rebounds in his career
(along with Joe Holup, AA ’55,
BBA ’56, and Gene Guarilia,
BS ’59). Over the course of 111
games, Mr. Brown averaged 17.3
points and 10.5 rebounds while
amassing 64 double-doubles,
earning either first team or
second team All-Atlantic 10
honors all four seasons, as
well as being named the 1982
A-10 Rookie of the Year and an
Associated Press Honorable
Mention All-American in 1984.
Mr. Brown’s stats were
recognized 30 years later as
A-10 Legends.
“It’s special,” says Mr. Brown,
a 1994 inductee to GW’s Athletic
Hall of Fame. “I didn’t think
about my accomplishments
as a player, but to have them
recognized 30 years later is a
blessing.”

The water temperatures for
Mr. Shipp’s swim ranged from
62 to 64 degrees Fahrenheit, and
while he faced a relatively calm
sea, he had to deal with thick fog
that reduced visibility to about
50 feet. He credits much of his
success to his pilot and support
crew, who directed his guide boat
and coordinated eating. By the
rules of the contest, swimmers
are not allowed to touch or hang
on to the boats at any time, and
are only allowed to wear one
swim cap, a pair of goggles and a
brief-style bathing suit.
Mr. Shipp, who is the
managing director of the law
firm O’Malley, Miles, Nylend
and Gilmore, previously completed,
among other swims, a double
crossing of the Chesapeake
Bay and the 25-mile In Search
of Memphremagog between
Newport, Vt., and Magog,
Quebec. In July Mr. Shipp took
home first place in the eight-


Alumnus Bill Shipp’s cap and goggles, which made the 20.6-mile trek with him across the English Channel.

Alumnus Bill Shipp’s cap and goggles, which made the 20.6-mile trek with him across the English Channel.
Socializing May Be Key for Male Chimp Development

Baby male chimps have more mingling opportunities than their female peers, and these early social interactions may influence their temperaments later in life, according to new research.

Analyzing 37 years of data on chimpanzees in Tanzania’s Gombe National Park, a GW-led research team found that mothers with sons were more social than those with daughters, particularly during early infancy. Scientists say this enables the sons to observe and absorb social behaviors such as grooming, aggression and mating.

The results were published in November in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

“It’s been known for a long time that there are sex differences in adult chimpanzee behaviors. Males are more gregarious, they form stronger social bonds with each other and they are more physically aggressive,” says GW anthropology professor and lead author of the study Carson Murray, who is affiliated with GW’s Center for the Advanced Study of Human Paleobiology. “We wanted to understand when and how these sex differences develop and to what extent mothers influence those differences.”

Chimpanzees, like humans, form temporary social subgroups within their larger communities throughout the day. Since infant chimps are dependent on their mothers for at least five years, social interactions are restricted to those individuals with whom the mother spends time. So the researchers investigated differences in mothers’ subgrouping patterns based on the sex of infants.

They hypothesized that mothers with sons would socialize more, since male offspring would need to rely more on social skills and bonds to integrate into the adult male hierarchy. Forming strong social bonds is less important for adult females, which spend most of their time caring for dependent children.

The data from Gombe National Park used in the study dates to celebrated primatologist Jane Goodall’s research from the 1970s.

“There have been other studies on infant chimpanzees, but the depth of information that the Gombe data set provides allows us to ask more detailed questions than ever before,” says Maggie Stanton, a postdoctoral scientist at CASHP. “We could look within individual mothers to examine if and how their behavior changes in different circumstances, so we could compare how the same mother behaved with her sons versus with her daughters.”

They found that mothers with sons spent an average of two hours more per day with chimps beyond immediate family members—25 percent more social time than mothers with daughters.

Additionally, mothers with sons spent more time around adult males during the infant’s first six months than those with daughters, which suggests that having the opportunity to observe adult models may facilitate development of social skills important for success as an adult male.

In future studies, Dr. Stanton and the research team hope to investigate that outcome—whether males that have more social exposure as infants are more successful as adults. – Lauren Ingeno

**[T]he depth of the information ... allows us to ask more detailed questions than ever before.”**

*Postdoctoral scientist*

*Maggie Stanton*
Marketing Genius

During six-week “boot camp,” researchers learn to think like entrepreneurs.

As new medical technology, the iDx might seem like a slam-dunk. A handheld in vitro diagnostic system, it can quickly provide lab-quality medical test results of emergency room doctors with federal research labs. The discovery came from Mr. Li’s participation in the D.C. I-Corps Boot Camp, a six-week course to help academics think like businesspeople. His team, which included professor Zhenyu Li of GW’s Department of Biomedical Engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, was one of several dozen in the cohort.

I-Corps teams are either academics paired with seasoned entrepreneurs or business students paired with federal research labs. The course emphasizes flexibility and interviewing as many prospective customers as possible, with the goal of ensuring that the problem a given product purports to solve is something potential buyers are even looking to address.

At the boot camp’s closing session in November, at Johns Hopkins University’s Montgomery County campus, teams from GW, Johns Hopkins, the University of Maryland and Virginia Tech laid out their processes, their pitfalls and the evolution of their products, ultimately coming to “go” or “no go” decisions on continuing to try to market their technology.

Narine Sarvazyan, a professor of pharmacology and physiology in GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and her team have been working on their blood circulation aid, the MiniHeart, for months. But the I-Corps experience, she said, taught her some surprising things about her own technology.

For example, the market segment she had assumed the MiniHeart would target—

“As engineers, we’re taught to solve every possible problem instead of looking at what people actually want. In this program we learn ... how to ask the proper questions.”

Doctoral candidate Ivan Suarez Castellanos, BS ’10, MS ’12

Baichen Li, a researcher in GW’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

Doctors, under pressure to make quick decisions, “don’t care that much about accuracy,” said Baichen Li, a researcher in GW’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

The discovery came from Mr. Li’s participation in the D.C. I-Corps Boot Camp, a six-week course to help academics think like businesspeople. His team, which included professor Zhenyu Li of GW’s Department of Biomedical Engineering in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, was one of several dozen in the cohort.

I-Corps teams are either academics paired with seasoned entrepreneurs or business students paired with federal research labs. The course emphasizes flexibility and interviewing as many prospective customers as possible, with the goal of ensuring that the problem a given product purports to solve is something potential buyers are even looking to address.

At the boot camp’s closing session in November, at Johns Hopkins University’s Montgomery County campus, teams from GW, Johns Hopkins, the University of Maryland and Virginia Tech laid out their processes, their pitfalls and the evolution of their products, ultimately coming to “go” or “no go” decisions on continuing to try to market their technology.

Narine Sarvazyan, a professor of pharmacology and physiology in GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and her team have been working on their blood circulation aid, the MiniHeart, for months. But the I-Corps experience, she said, taught her some surprising things about her own technology.

For example, the market segment she had assumed the MiniHeart would target—

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elderly patients with deep-vein problems—was actually not a good fit, since those patients often are battling additional complications and may be hesitant to try new solutions. The team found a much more promising market in younger patients whose sedentary lifestyles have led to circulation problems, and in patients with lymph-circulation disorders like lymphedema, for which there currently is no effective treatment.

“As engineers, we’re taught to solve every possible problem instead of looking at what people actually want,” says Ivan Suarez Castellanos, BS ’10, MS ’12, a doctoral candidate in the engineering school. His team, Sonoinsulin, worked with ultrasonic stimulation of pancreatic beta cells as a potential new treatment for diabetes. “In this program we learn how to really create a specific ecosystem of our customers and how to ask the proper questions.”

After completing the boot camp, teams that decide to move forward on their products can apply for D.C. I-Corps’ Accelerator program for ongoing support.

“What we’re fundamentally trying to do here is change the way people do research,” says Edmund Pendleton, director of the D.C. I-Corps node.

“We’re not trying to pick individual winners or to say, ‘This technology is better than this technology.’ We’re trying to create a cohort of winners,” says Jim Chung, GW’s founding executive director for innovation and entrepreneurship and a co-principal investigator for the D.C. I-Corps regional node.

“So if they find that the product they’re working on right now isn’t a solution to an existing problem, we teach them to find the problems they can solve, so they can have a real-world impact.”

—Ruth Steinhardt

### Pitting Science Against Aging

David Mendelowitz is competing against scientists from around the world in a race against time—or rather, the effect of time: aging.

The professor of pharmacology and physiology in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences has tossed his hat in the ring for the Palo Alto Longevity Prize, which was launched in September. It was created by former Washingtonian Joon Yun, a radiologist and president of Palo Alto Investors, who is hoping the contest will lead to scientific innovations that reduce diseases associated with aging and increase human life expectancy.

“I feel like it is inevitable that we’re going to solve aging,” Dr. Yun says in a video on the contest website. “All we’re really doing is pulling up the timeline.”

The $1 million prize total is sponsored by the Palo Alto Institute and split into two $500,000 awards. The first will go to the team that can successfully “restore homeostatic capacity”—or improve the ability to maintain the stability of the body’s inner workings—in an animal, as judged by measuring changes in heart rate. The second will be awarded to the scientists who can extend an animal’s life span by 50 percent of accepted norms. Teams may compete for one or both prizes.

Dr. Mendelowitz’s team, one of 11 that have signed up to date, is competing for the prize in homeostasis, which will be awarded in June 2016.

He studies the autonomic nervous system, a primitive part of the brain that regulates functions of internal organs, such as the heart, stomach and intestines. The system is divided into two components: parasympathetic and sympathetic activity.

“The sympathetic system is activated when you’re in ‘fight or flight’ mode—when you think you ran over your neighbor’s cat or you realize you have an exam in two hours, and you haven’t studied. It increases your heart rate,” Dr. Mendelowitz says.

“The parasympathetic system is activated when you’re reading a book in the library, and you’re relaxed.”

Humans likely are born with a good balance of activity between the two, Dr. Mendelowitz says. But as people age, sympathetic activity increases, putting them at high risk for cardiovascular diseases. The team is studying the neurons in the brain that generate parasympathetic activity in the heart, in the hopes of understanding how it degrades and approaches to reverse the process.

Federal research funding “is extremely competitive now, so people feel like they need to produce results immediately. This prize has allowed some people, myself included, to take a look at the bigger picture and to ask what could be important six years down the line rather than six months,” Dr. Mendelowitz says. “And every scientist loves a challenge.”

—Lauren Ingeno

## Students Keep Sights on Space

**Experiment destroyed in October rocket explosion may soon get a second chance.**

When an unmanned NASA rocket exploded seconds after launch this fall, Shayda Shahbazi’s science experiment...
also went up in flames. But the GW senior is confident that her team’s project will eventually make its way to space.

“Of course it was upsetting, but things don’t always go the way you anticipate. It’s part of a researcher’s job description,” says Ms. Shahbazi, a student in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

Ms. Shahbazi and her collaborators—SEAS student Xixi Ni and two Georgetown University students—were hoping to assess the effects of microgravity, or weightlessness, on seed germination. Theirs was among 18 student research projects on board an Orbital Sciences Corp. Antares rocket that was bound for the International Space Station on Oct. 28. A company spokesman said in the days after that an operator had destroyed the rocket after it became apparent there was a problem.

GC/Georgetown team is exploring whether chrysanthemum plants can serve as air purifiers in space. Astronauts who spend extended periods of time enclosed in space vehicles are susceptible to indoor air pollution. Previous research has found that chrysanthemums can act as purifiers, but in order to ensure that the plants can last on long-term space missions, chrysanthemums must be able to reproduce in microgravity conditions.

Hope is not lost, though. Students were told that their rebuilt experiments will be loaded on to another spacecraft in the near future, as room allows.

Ms. Shahbazi, who dreamed as a little girl of becoming an astronaut, is excited to shoot for the stars one more time. “If I can’t go to space, then I definitely would love the opportunity to send a project there,” she says. “And you never know—with commercial space travel starting up, I may find my way there too.”

—Lauren Ingeno

**Law**

**Study to Test Court Handling of Abuse Allegations**

GW Professor of Clinical Law Joan S. Meier has received a $500,000 grant from the National Institute of Justice to fund research into how family courts decide custody cases involving abuse allegations.

For the three-year study, Ms. Meier and her team will analyze around 2,000 state court custody cases from a 15-year period, looking at a spectrum of factors including the allegations of each party, the court findings and the custody or visitation order that was issued.

The study, she says, comes amid growing concern from domestic violence scholars and advocates that family courts are awarding unsupervised access or custody to abusive fathers.

The GW Law School professor is the founder of the Domestic Violence Legal Empowerment and Appeals Project, or DV LEAP, a nonprofit that provides free legal representation in domestic violence appeals.

She says her organization and others receive numerous pleas for help from women who say that judges do not believe their claims of abuse and instead seek to maximize fathers’ access to children. But relatively little data indicate how prevalent the problem is.

“Most people assume ... that courts are sympathetic to the mothers who complain of abuse. But in our experience, they’re much more reluctant to believe abuse claims,” Ms. Meier says.

Rather, she says, theories like parental alienation—in which a mother is making a safety claim merely to alienate children from their father—have had a large impact on family courts.

Results from a pilot study, in which Ms. Meier analyzed 240 custody opinions involving abuse allegations, indicated that mothers who alleged child sexual abuse lost primary custody 20 percent more often than mothers who did not allege abuse. The findings also showed that even when courts validated adult domestic violence allegations against fathers, the fathers received a custody outcome in their favor more than 40 percent of the time.

“I don’t believe that these mothers are fabricating abuse, but I think the system thinks that they are,” she says. “The numbers may provide powerful evidence that the system is too skeptical.”

—Lauren Ingeno

**Zoology**

For 500 million years, the nautilus has survived shifts in its deep-ocean habitat. But as the mollusk faces man-made extinction, it’s also dying in the refuge of zoos and aquariums. Forensics professor Mehdi Moini is working with a Smithsonian-convened team to figure out why. For more, visit go.gwu.edu/nautilus.
The new Science and Engineering Hall opens to a mosaic of researchers—from biologists to aerospace engineers—seeking common ground in the pursuit of uncommon solutions.

/ BY LAUREN INGENO /
When the doors of the Science and Engineering Hall open in January, it will signal the culmination of nearly a decade of planning and four years of construction—a demolition, a dig and a steady climb skyward from the bottom of a 75-foot hole. But the new year brings the start of something even bigger.

For some academic departments, the building’s opening marks a reunion, reconnecting colleagues and experiments scattered among the nooks of a space-squeezed city campus. It also will be a place to build new connections and cover new ground. And for many faculty and student researchers, the building’s long-awaited opening, ahead of an official ribbon-cutting ceremony, marks the start of something even bigger.

For years, the growth of the university’s research profile outpaced its infrastructure. Engineers converted dusty storage rooms into makeshift laboratories. Scientists conducted experiments in crowded basements and carpeted labs. Graduate students traveled four times per week to build nanodevices at the National Institute of Standards and Technology, 25 miles from campus. GW’s only transmission electron microscope—for viewing fine details in minuscule specimens—lived underneath the Lisner Auditorium stage.

And yet, they made it work. The university has climbed into the top tier of research universities, as counted by the influential Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. And research expenditures—a key measurement of an institution’s research activity—ballooned by 80 percent between 2003 and 2012, to nearly $200 million.

“The one thing that connects generations of GW engineers and scientists is that we studied in really crummy facilities. And it made us scrappy,” Board of Trustees Chair Nelson Carbonell, BS ’85, said in 2011, then as vice chair, at the building’s groundbreaking.

“GW scientists and engineers can do a lot with a little,” he said. “But just imagine what we can do with a lot.”

THE NEW BUILDING—eight stories above ground and six below, including four levels of parking—is located on the former site of the University Parking Garage at 22nd and H streets. It brings together research and teaching spaces previously spread across a dozen buildings. And it nearly doubles the space on campus available to a variety of science and engineering programs.

The Science and Engineering Hall will initially house around 140 faculty members from 10 departments, including all six from the School of Engineering and Applied Science and four disciplines from the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences. The mix will range from computer scientists and aerospace engineers to physicists and biologists. They’ll be joined, likely in 2016, by some of the researchers from the Milken Institute School of Public Health and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences when the top two floors are completed.

“This building likely will hold the most diverse amount of combined science and engineering of any building that you could find in the United States,” says Rob Voss, a project architect at Ballinger, the firm that designed the new building.

Faculty members will share four specialized labs: a three-story “high bay” for large-scale experiments, an ultraclean nanofabrication lab, a greenhouse and an imaging suite equipped with microscopes for viewing objects at resolutions better than one billionth of a meter.

The building will put the university and the city “at the center of scientific innovation,” GW President Steven Knapp said after the concrete structure reached its full height, in late 2013.

“Washington, D.C., is often thought of a city of power and policy,” he said. “But for us to have credibility in the future in the policy realm, we need to also have authority in the realm of technology, science and engineering.”

The city is very much what distinguishes this facility from research buildings at other college campuses throughout the country, officials say. Dr. Knapp has mused that it’s the largest science and engineering research building within blocks of the White House. And that proximity to corridors of power—including Capitol Hill, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies that are a subway ride away—is already a tangible advantage.

The building has not only attracted researchers to GW, officials say, but it’s also a magnet for equipment manufacturers and other potential industry partners looking to have a presence in a brand-new, high-visibility space. It has already resulted in deals involving showcase-level microscopes.

“It’s an impressive building in an impressive location,” says Can Korman, associate dean for research and graduate studies at SEAS, and the lead academic representative from SEAS in the planning of the building. “There are a lot of great opportunities at GW that, until now, they could only dream about.”
"You can't underestimate the importance of geography ... And that's the point of the building—it might actually induce biological anthropologists to have lunch with electrical engineers. And then who knows what might happen?"

ANTHROPOLOGY PROFESSOR CHET SHERWOOD

buildings in the middle of cornfields."

But GW's largest capital construction project didn't come without challenges. The construction site shared a city block with three residence halls, a D.C. traffic artery and, below ground, a Metro tunnel. The building required elaborate planning and delicate maneuvering by engineers, architects and construction crews.

The imaging suite and nanofabrication lab, for instance, are engineered to dampen vibrations from the Metro. Instruments that use electrons for imaging and etching nanoscale devices are specially shielded from the magnetic fields produced by the subway's high-voltage rails.

"Whether you're trying to see things or build things at the nanometer scale, you want to make sure those little electrons are going right where you want them to go," Dr. Korman says.

On top of that, the university challenged designers to build the nearly 500,000-square-foot facility without multiplying GW's carbon footprint. The end result is an academic building that is unparalleled at GW in scope and function, as well as eco-friendly. Among the building's sustainable features, the roof protects the building from the heat of the sun, heat from the building's exhaust air is captured and transferred to incoming air, and rainwater is collected and reused to flush toilets.

AS MUCH AS

the Science and Engineering Hall is about new facilities and bringing together departments, it's also about looking beyond the bounds of traditional silos. In an effort to encourage that, many of the building's work spaces are surrounded by glass, putting research and classroom activities on display.

"We want people to be curious, to look in and say, 'Hey, what are you doing in there? Maybe I can help you,'" says Jason Zara, a professor in the Department of Biomedical Engineering. "With funding getting tighter every year, research is really moving in a much more interdisciplinary direction."

Faculty members will be grouped into "research neighborhoods," which concentrate researchers with overlapping interests, like researchers from the Center for the Advanced Study of Human Paleobiology. After outgrowing their townhouse office and being scattered around campus, they'll be together and surrounded by chemists, biologists and engineers.

One of the center's researchers, anthropology professor Chet Sherwood, is on a floor that shares a kitchen and common space with the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department on the floor below.

"You can't underestimate the importance of geography," he says. "And that's the point of the building—it might actually induce biological anthropologists to have lunch with electrical engineers. And then who knows what might happen?"

Officials say that combined with the building's shared specialty labs, the university is now positioned to propel the innovative ideas that could result from those collaborations.

In the past, GW researchers often were "supporting actors" on larger institutions' multimillion-dollar grants—not because of "lack of brainpower," says Dr. Korman, but rather, lack of proper facilities.

"Now we're in a position to be a major player for these larger grants," he says.

The nanofabrication lab, for instance, will allow engineers like Volker Sorger to conduct his research in Foggy Bottom, instead of traveling to federal labs or outsourcing to other universities. After completing a PhD at UC-Berkeley in 2011, Dr. Sorger says the promise of the Science and Engineering Hall is part of what attracted him to the electrical and computer engineering faculty.

Dr. Sorger works in nanophotonics, or light at the nanometer level, a space about 100,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair. He is seeking to develop technology that could harvest its energy to power laptops or smartphones. Other GW researchers are building nano-scale sensors to detect small volumes of toxins or to enable devices to diagnose medical conditions using a single drop of blood or urine.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, the Science and Engineering Hall's three-story high bay will allow engineers like Sameh Badie, in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, to work on outsized projects that will help build safer, more earthquake-resistant bridges and buildings. Dr. Badie conducts experiments on reinforced and prestressed concrete structures that are sometimes in the range of 45 feet long and 8 feet tall. Since the facilities at the engineering school's Tompkins Hall could not accommodate those large structures, Dr. Badie often needed to hand off his projects to other institutions with larger facilities.

The enormous room also could benefit researchers like Philippe Bardet, in the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, who needs a high ceiling for...
his studies on the fluid dynamics inside nuclear reactors.

**FOR STUDENTS, TOO,** the building will offer exposure to new research opportunities and modern learning spaces.

“Instead of this being a drag that you have to go to lab for four hours, you are going into a lab that inspires you, a lab where you want to learn,” says chemistry professor Susan Gillmor.

All chemistry classes will be taught in the building starting in 2015. With larger labs the Chemistry Department will offer more spots in introductory classes. And the new teaching spaces create “few barriers among students, and also between the students and the instructor,” professor Cynthia Dowd says.

In a departure from the traditional lab layout—rows of workstations arranged behind one another—the new chemistry rooms have lab benches that line the perimeter. Tables for discussion and collaboration sit in the center, intended to encourage more face-to-face interaction.

The building also features a reconfigurable engineering “studio lab” on the ground floor, a lab/lecture hybrid space designed to encourage hands-on activities. The studio lab has room for 72 students and can be switched from, say, a mechanical engineering lab to one for electrical engineering, by pushing carts of equipment into storage space in the walls. It also can be divided into three separate rooms.

The glass-walled, collaborative atmosphere of the building will also make it easier for students to find research opportunities, says student Elizabeth Hubler, BS ’14, who is staying at GW to pursue a master’s degree. After a freshman year class with Michael Plesniak, chair of the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, she became involved in Dr. Plesniak’s fluid dynamics lab, and has stayed ever since. There, she is working to improve a simulated human vocal tract, which could be used to treat voice disorders.

“I think the new building will bring a lot more chances for undergrads to get involved in research, just because there will be so much more visibility. Our lab now is in Staughton Hall—most people don’t even know where that is,” Ms. Hubler says. “Since the labs are so fragmented, it’s hard for undergrads to really see the types of projects faculty are working on.”

The building will also have a scaled-down teaching version of the superclean nanotechnology lab—a rarity on college campuses, officials say—that will be used to train researchers and expose students to the art of nanofabrication early on in their academic careers.

A grant from the National Science Foundation will fund a new nanofabrication course co-taught by three SEAS faculty members, as well as a nanotechnology fellowship program led by Dr. Sorger, the nanophotonics researcher. The grant will allow 10 freshmen and sophomores to work in the teaching clean room this summer and learn the techniques of nanotechnology.

“We really want to create nanotechnology ambassadors. We want to win them very early on,” Dr. Sorger says. “And once we hook them into nano, they don’t leave.”

That potential surrounding the Science and Engineering Hall is part of the energy that drew him to GW in the first place. Dr. Sorger sees the building as a launchpad, and he’s in good company around campus: Among administrators and the researchers who will be in the building, the word “transformational” tends to follow “Science and Engineering Hall” like a last name. That excitement has seen the building through lines on paper to concrete pillars and, finally, to bright new labs and classrooms awaiting occupants. The outcomes that will be forged there are unknown but, for many, the possibilities seem endless.

“The size, the investment and the momentum behind the building … it’s very exciting,” Dr. Sorger says. “We can really build something here.”

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**The expansion of research facilities and opportunities for students and faculty members is a pillar of GW’s $1 billion philanthropic campaign. For more details, visit campaign.gwu.edu.**

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**Bernard Wood**

[ANTHROPOLOGY]

**HUMAN ORIGINS**

Studying how to better classify and reconstruct evolutionary relationships among hominini, the lineage that led to our own species, *Homo sapiens*, with a particular focus on skull and tooth fossils.

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**Rumana Riffat**

[CIVIL & ENVIRO. ENGINEERING]

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT**

Finding solutions for water pollution and shortages in communities around the world, from developing a small-scale water treatment and reuse system in Pakistan to current research evaluating a high-rate process for removing carbon and nitrogen from wastewater in D.C.
The PORTRAIT MAKER

Behind the brushes of “incurable people-watcher”
Bradley Stevens, BA ’76, MFA ’79

By Bill Glovin, BA ’77
hen Bradley Stevens was introduced to Hillary Clinton in 2007, he offered to paint her presidential portrait someday. He watched as she howled with laughter.

“She reacted like it was the funniest thing she ever heard,” says Mr. Stevens. “Trouble is, I was serious.”

And it wouldn’t be a stretch. After all, the encounter with Ms. Clinton occurred at the unveiling of one of Mr. Stevens’ paintings—a portrait of political power broker Vernon Jordan—at the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery. His work hangs in the Capitol (the House and Senate) and the State Department. It’s in George Washington’s Mount Vernon estate and Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello.

Mr. Stevens, BA ’76, MFA ’79, has painted politicians and banking tycoons, educators and judges, among them a former U.S. Supreme Court justice. He gave Georgetown hoops phenomenon Allen Iverson the shape-up-or-ship-out warning during a drawing class he taught in the 1990s; he hand-delivered Felix Rohatyn’s portrait to the legendary financier at the Lazard Frères headquarters on the top floor of 30 Rock in Manhattan; and he’s had to ask Virginia Sen. Mark Warner, BA ’77, an old GW buddy, to sit still while painting his official gubernatorial portrait, which will hang in perpetuity in the Virginia State Capitol building in Richmond.

His portrait of Albert H. Small, whose Washingtoniana Collection will serve as an anchor of a new GW museum complex, will hang in the new building.

“Painting a U.S. president would be the pinnacle of my career,” he says. The clout of the person sitting for a portrait, naturally, has a tendency to rub off on the painting. “How much higher can you get than painting the leader of the free world?”

It’s a pinnacle, though, that would be one more peak in a career crowded with high points: Mr. Stevens, considered among the nation’s leading realist painters, has won praise not just for his original portraiture and sanctioned copies of great works, but also for his landscapes and cityscapes. From the warmth of the sun to a face in the crowd and the visage of a president, he seems to find inspiration equally.

“I’m an incurable people-watcher. I find people endlessly fascinating,” Mr. Stevens says. “Everybody is so unique. It’s the job of the portrait painter to seize
COURTESY BRADLEY STEVENS

upon what makes someone special and different.”

RAISED IN WESTPORT, CONN., an affluent suburb that is about an hour by train to midtown Manhattan, Mr. Stevens’ father was a Madison Avenue adman and his mother an elementary school teacher. At Staples High School, he played guitar in rock bands and was a starter on the basketball team.

“I’m sure my hometown had an influence on my path towards the arts,” he says. “It’s a culturally progressive place with many New York-based artists, illustrators, writers, actors, musicians and the like.”

Drawn to GW by the world-class art museums and cultural opportunities surrounding Foggy Bottom, Mr. Stevens thought as a freshman that he might major in economics. But he found the abstract theories of macroeconomics far less inspiring than his studio art classes.

“My professors—William Woodward, Frank Wright and Arthur Hall Smith—were superb and generous about sharing their lives as artists,” he recalls.

Mr. Woodward, now a professor emeritus of fine art, remembers Mr. Stevens as “patient, methodical and modest … a very bright guy.” And Mr. Stevens’ time at GW would be foundational to the painter he would become.

At Mr. Woodward’s encouragement, he enrolled in a summer painting program in Brittany, France. There, “a whole other world opened up to me and gave me my love of France that continues to this day,” Mr. Stevens says.

His most recent exhibit—in October and November at the Warm Springs Gallery in Charlottesville, Va.—consisted of paintings of Paris and Provence created with a mind toward avoiding “postcard images” of France in favor of scenes from everyday life. “As travelers, we often see places through the eyes of a tourist without actually experiencing the place,” he says.

At GW, where the lanky, 6-foot-5 Mr. Stevens played lead guitar in the comedy band, the Dogmatics, he also got his first professional art commission: The athletics department hired him to paint a caricature of George Washington running and dribbling a basketball on the court of the newly built Smith Center. “I had to paint with the same liquid rubber that the court was made out of at the time, before they switched to wood,” he recalls.

And, while completing an MFA at the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Mr. Stevens was accepted into the National Gallery of Art’s copyist program, affording him an easel in the museum on which he copied hundreds of paintings by Old Masters.

“This was something that artists had done for centuries as part of their education but that had fallen out of favor in the contemporary art world,” he says. “I loved it, and it’s where I learned so much about painting.”

He became so good at re-creating the techniques of Degas, Monet, Manet, Gilbert Stuart and others that, in the decades since, the National Gallery and other institutions, enterprises and individuals have commissioned him to replicate works. Among them: His reproduction of Gilbert Stuart’s famous, full-length Lansdowne portrait of George Washington, commissioned by the Smithsonian Institution, now hangs at Mount Vernon.

He’s also re-created paintings of Thomas Jefferson for Monticello, James Monroe for the State Department, James Madison for the U.S. House of Representatives and Benjamin Franklin for the U.S. Embassy in Paris.

After graduate school, Mr. Stevens also went on to teach evening art and anatomy classes at GW and Georgetown for nearly two decades, before deciding to devote all his time to painting in 2000.

But in 1980, the year after he finished at GW, there was one more seminal moment for the young painter. The National Gallery of Art mounted a major exhibition of 19th-century landscapes, called American Light. Mr. Stevens, who had a studio within walking distance, visited practically every day.

“It changed my life; for the first time I felt where I really fit in as an artist because these artists were motivated by the same things I was seeing in the landscape,” he says. “Invariably, what inspires me the most in my landscape painting is a certain quality of light that imparts a mood to the subject. Everything else develops from there.”

Mr. Stevens’ mural in the U.S. Capitol commemorating the Connecticut Compromise of 1787, which ironed out the issue of how states would be represented in Congress. The painter’s dentist and art agent modeled in costume for the piece.

COMMISSIONS HAVE A WAY of leading the Gainesville, Va.-based artist through doors without knowing what to expect on the other side. One reproduction project required that he spend several days working as the sole occupant in the White House’s Map Room, complete with a U.S. Marine guarding the door; another took him to headquarters of real estate and banking magnate B.F. Saul, during which Mr. Stevens mentioned that 35 years earlier, as a GW student, he had lived in one of Mr. Saul’s apartment buildings and wrote rent checks to him; yet another commission took him to the Fifth Avenue duplex of Helene and Michel David-Weill, where more than a dozen original paintings of French masters peered down while Mr. David-Weill posed in an antique French brocaded chair given to his father by Coco Chanel.

The opportunity to interact with and learn from “luminaries … people that you might not normally have the opportunity to associate with,” he regards as an enormous benefit of the job. From one day to the next, he may be talking about news in the Middle East with U.S. Rep. Howard P. “Buck” McKeon, chair of the House Armed Services Committee; California versus French cabernets with David Trone, founder of
“You go to any museum, and a good percentage of the works are portraits of one kind or another. I revere those examples passed down to us. They are my teachers.”

Total Wine; or heart stents with biomedical engineer Robert Fischell.

For each client, Mr. Stevens provides a seven-step document that outlines “working procedures” such as a photo/sketching session, the client’s approval of the final compositional and scheduling several “life sessions,” or actual sittings.

“It’s important for me to get my subjects to relax and feel comfortable,” he says. “The best portraits don’t look posed. I spend time with the person, getting a sense of their personality and spirit, which I try to capture in the portrait.

“I once had a commission to paint a doctor in Richmond,” he recalls. “Before the doctor started posing, we sat around his office and casually talked—all the while, I was secretly studying his mannerisms and gestures. Suddenly I said, ‘Freeze!’ I instinctively knew the pose he was in would be perfect for the portrait because it was utterly natural and reflected who he was.”

Portrait painters, he says, “should have a certain lack of ego, which may sound odd because we think of artists as being all about ego. But the painting should be about your subject and not about you. Sure, all artists have their own vision and style, but those qualities need to be subservient to capturing the person being painted.”

Portraiture links the present to the future, Mr. Stevens says, and so he feels responsible for creating a work of art that will be an heirloom over many generations.

A portrait he painted of his wife’s mother, who died in 2007, “proudly hangs in the family home,” he says. “In a strange way it’s like her presence is still there, which speaks to the power of portraiture.

“A testament to portraiture’s grand tradition,” he says, “is how humans have been compelled to capture their own image since the beginning of civilization. Go to any museum, and a good percentage of the works are portraits of one kind or another. I revere those examples passed down to us. They are my teachers. I like to think that we are all
part of one long continuum. Too many artists ignore art history, I believe.”

This appreciation for the great masters was a subject Mr. Stevens explored in his 2013 exhibition *Museum Studies*, a series of 13 paintings portraying people admiring famous works inside renowned museums around the country. It was, he says, a natural evolution of his time spent in museums copying paintings and one of his most ambitious projects to date, taking him a year to complete.

The series, which was exhibited at the Warm Springs Gallery and given front-page treatment in *The Washington Post*’s Style section, was Mr. Stevens’ way of paying tribute to John Singer Sargent, Gilbert Stuart and other inspiring artists and works.

While the paintings also very much focus on architecture and geometry of the museum spaces, he calls the series his “most intimate and psychological work to date,” reinforcing his belief that “all art is autobiographical in some way or another. These paintings are born out of personal experience, things I’ve seen or felt,” he says.

Portraits may mostly drive his commissions, but Mr. Stevens’ love for painting landscapes has never waned. An avid hiker and camper since boyhood, he says that he feels most spiritual in the presence of an awe-inspiring landscape.

He has painted scenes from his rafting and hiking trips through the Grand Canyon, as well as trips through almost every national park west of the Rockies and parts of Hawaii, British Columbia and much of California. He and his wife, artist Patricia Skinner, spend part of every year in Seattle, where she grew up, and for 20 years they have annually returned to their honeymoon spot, Orcas Island, Wash. Mr. Stevens calls the island, in Puget Sound bordering Canada, “incredibly beautiful, wild and unspoiled, a place we go to unwind and recharge.”

Since the epiphany at the *American Light* exhibition in 1980, he has mixed genres and has sometimes found confluence.

“Each genre or subject matter in which I work serves to assist the others,” says Mr. Stevens. “The portrait work helps when I put figures in my landscapes or cityscapes. My portraits will occasionally have a landscape in the background and so forth. The natural overlap between areas of concentration hopefully makes me a better artist.”

The overlap has trained an eye for subjects that is as enamored of “endless fascinating characters” as it is a snowy, sun-dappled field or the wake of a kayaker plying the Potomac.

“I used to have students come up to me and say they don’t know what to paint. I could never understand that,” Mr. Stevens says. “You paint your life. If you are a living, breathing, thinking, feeling person, subjects are everywhere.”

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*Where’s the best place to hang a painting at home? A professor offers tips in Institutional Knowledge, Pg. 76.*
ON THE
SIDELINES OF
THE CIVIL STRIFE
THAT HAS LONG
EMBROILED
THE PEOPLE
OF SOUTH
SUDAN, WOMEN
AND GIRLS
ARE IN THE
CROSSHAIRS.
The world’s newest nation is also one of its most volatile. South Sudan emerged in 2011, rising from nearly a half century of civil wars. But by the end of 2013, ethnic conflicts had erupted again in warring that has been marked by gender-based violence. “The bodies of women and children are the battleground of this conflict,” the United Nations’ special representative on sexual violence in conflict, Zainab Hawa Bangura, said this fall after visiting one of the war’s hot spots.

GW Global Women’s Institute Director MARY ELLSBERG and research director Manuel Contreras traveled to the fledgling country in August. They were preparing for potentially groundbreaking research that aims to estimate the scope of gender-based violence in South Sudan, and to better understand its causes and consequences, while also attempting to create a standard for measuring this kind of violence in conflict zones the world over. The study, proposed during South Sudan’s window of peace, is now taking on new dimensions of urgency, danger and complexity, as the researchers try to measure the violence of war in real time.

Shortly after the trip, Dr. Ellsberg spoke with GW Magazine about the project and its relevance. —DANNY FREEDMAN

What do we know already about violence against women and girls in conflict zones?

We’ve known for a long time that rape exists in war. Now there’s a recognition that, in some cases, it’s on a massive scale and used as a tactic of war. We saw it in Bosnia and Herzegovina, we saw it in Rwanda, we’re seeing it in Democratic Republic of Congo and in South Sudan.

In many places, rape is not just an opportunistic crime, it’s actually part of fighters’ tactics to demoralize villagers and to terrify them. And it’s done in horrendous ways that are meant to completely devastate families and whole communities.

Domestic violence also increases in times of conflict, and when women are getting displaced, for example, this gets piled on to their already extreme vulnerabilities to child sexual abuse and to sexual assault in communities.

So that’s what we do know; there’s a lot that we don’t know.

We have pretty good methods now for doing this kind of research in non-conflict circumstances. We’ve also done some research in postconflict settings. But how to apply those methods to an area that’s in complete upheaval—I think there’s been some skepticism about whether it can be done.

But the fact is: If you don’t have good data, it’s much harder to convince people to invest in solutions. So what we’re doing is figuring out how to adapt and apply some of these tools, this rigorous scientific method, to an area that’s so fluid.

What’s the goal of the study?

We’re trying to understand the prevalence, the triggers and the characteristics of gender-based violence in both the most recent conflict and earlier conflicts in South Sudan. That’s going to be going on for a couple years. Then we’re going to help design and evaluate an intervention for violence prevention.

The research is part of a broader five-year program led by the International Rescue Committee, along with us at GWI and CARE International, called “What Works to Prevent Violence Against Women and Girls in Conflict and Humanitarian Emergencies,” which is funded by the United Kingdom’s Department for International Development.
There are no measures for this kind of violence in war zones?

Only a few studies have been done. And here’s another problem: Everybody’s using different questionnaires, their methods are different, so the results aren’t comparable. That’s the problem we had with studying domestic violence years ago. As a result, there was the World Health Organization’s Multi-country Study on Women’s Health and Domestic Violence against Women in 2005, which I was a part of, that was really the first effort to have a standard methodology that would allow us to compare the levels of violence across different settings.

For the South Sudan study, to ensure that we’re building on best practices for this kind of research, we are convening a meeting in February with researchers and other stakeholders from all over the world. They’re going to share their experiences with interviewing methods, like face-to-face with iPads or on paper; ways to make it safe and comfortable for people to disclose violence; safety issues; how we measure and how we define violence, those kinds of things—so we can try to develop the gold-standard instrument. That’s our goal here.

Why South Sudan?

In July 2013, we proposed a set of different studies that we thought would contribute to the gaps in the evidence, and we wanted a place where we could conduct both qualitative and quantitative research on the prevalence and drivers of violence. We thought of South Sudan because it was newly independent, and we were hearing really positive stories. There was a feeling that the people there had been through so much, and here they are finally getting a chance to move forward as an independent country and live in peace. It was a real time of optimism.

There also were no data on gender-based violence, the government was interested in learning more, and it’s a place where they could actually use the data for programs.

That’s how we proposed it. In November we got word that we received the contract, and in December everything blew up and civil war was back on. In some ways the research is just as important, or even more important, but it’s definitely more challenging to do the research than we initially expected.

When we were there, the hardest thing was to choose where we would be able to do an ethnically diverse, representative study in six to eight months, because nobody knows where anybody’s going to be then, or what places it will be possible to enter. It’s just so fluid.

Hence calling this a feasibility visit.

What did you find when you got there?

We were going to find out whether and where there were conditions on the ground to be able to do this research. With the conflict ongoing we had real doubts, we thought that it would be impossible to do. But talking to people on the ground, they wanted us to do the study. People felt it was important to document what was happening and to do it in real time, not wait till years later.

The first week we were in Juba, the capital, meeting with the rest of the local and international research team, government officials—we’re working closely with the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare and the National Bureau of Statistics—United Nations agencies, health care workers and women’s groups. We also went to possible study sites, including a Protection of Civilians camp in the surrounding county.

What was that like?

Everything is tense. People are living in very small tents, basically, each made out of one big sheet of canvas. It’s hot, dusty; there’s not a lot of food. Women have to leave the camps to look for food and firewood, and that’s a big risk for getting raped. People are just hugely frustrated over the situation. It’s a tinderbox, and that breeds more domestic violence.

In the second week, Manuel Contreras, our institute’s director of research, traveled on to Rumbek in the central state of Lakes, to continue the assessment. Things are very tense there, too.

It was a packed trip. While we were there,
and in our ongoing efforts with the technical advisory team I mentioned earlier, we're trying to get everybody's buy-in that what we're doing is useful and appropriate, both scientifically and culturally. At every step we're trying to do a lot of consultation to make sure that we're getting it right.

One of the lines we have to walk carefully on is: We're not doing this as human rights activists. The IRC is a humanitarian actor, and they have to be very careful not to appear to be taking sides. And we are public health researchers; we're trying to document the problem and, based on that, to raise the flag of awareness.

We also have to collect the data in a way that is completely impeccable, in terms of its transparency, its rigor, its objectivity, or it won't have credibility.

**In the end, how are you going to be conducting the research?**

Choosing the sites was important, because we had already decided that it would not be possible to carry out a nationally representative survey. We needed to find places that represent at least the three main ethnic groups: the Dinka, Nuer and Murle.

We ultimately settled on doing a door-to-door field survey in Juba County and the state of Lakes. Juba County is ethnically diverse and includes urban and rural areas, including two Protection of Civilians camps, while Lakes is largely rural and most of the people are Dinka. Lakes hasn't seen the kind of fighting that's going on in other areas, but there are conflicts between communities related to cattle rustling and bride prices that also increase women's risk of violence.

Those two sites will have both the quantitative study and qualitative work—interviews with survivors, humanitarian and health care workers, and others, maybe even perpetrators of violence. We'd planned on a third site, Unity state in the north, but that's one of the areas most affected by the war now. Going door-to-door would be too dangerous. So in order to try to still represent that state, which is mostly Nuer, we'll conduct only the qualitative piece there.

For the population survey, which will likely begin next summer, we'll be interviewing 2,000 women and 1,000 men. A few studies have reported sexual violence against men during conflicts, and though most of the people we talked with in South Sudan hadn't heard of incidents like that, it may be that it goes unreported because of stigma. We'd like to gather data and see, one way or another.

So we'll be asking women and men about their experiences with domestic violence, sexual abuse in childhood and other violence they've witnessed or experienced during and before the current war.

**The survey is door-to-door?**

You get maps of each village and neighborhood—and the last census was in 2008, before South Sudan was even a country, so we'll be updating the maps as we go—and you randomly select, say, every sixth house systematically through the neighborhood. You find out who lives there. We're looking for women and men age 15 or older. If they have more than one, then we randomly select one and interview him or her.

The trick, then, is getting them alone. Sometimes you take them outside, you go sit under a tree, you go to the river where they're washing. That's a key piece of this, so they can feel comfortable talking about violence. It's such a stigmatized, sensitive issue that people often won't talk about it. But that secrecy is also important so the person doesn't face reprisals afterward.

We have a whole set of safety measures, developed by the World Health Organization, and that involves having dummy questionnaires, or if somebody walks into the room you change the subject and start talking about breast-feeding or immunizations, and these are all things that you discuss with the woman beforehand.

We don't tell the family that we're talking about violence. We tell them it's something about women's health and then when we get her alone we tell her what we're going to be talking about. We'll also have basic psychological and social services available, directly or by referral, both for the women in the study and for the interviewers. It's hugely stressful for interviewers to be listening to these stories, and a lot of times they've suffered abuse, too, so they need counseling as well during the process.

For everyone's safety and for the comfort of the people in the study, this piece will be done by trained local interviewers, matched with respondents by gender and ethnicity.

**Is there anything that works to prevent this kind of violence?**

We just published a review paper in a special issue of [British medical journal] *The Lancet* that looks at the effectiveness of different programs to prevent all forms of violence, including female genital mutilation, child marriage, domestic violence and sexual assault. And what we found was pretty interesting.

We did a review of all the rigorous studies we could find that aimed to reduce violence against women and girls. Most of the studies in the U.S. and Canada involved screening women for domestic violence or treatment for batterers through the justice system. We found that there is almost no evidence that these programs actually prevent future violence. They may have other benefits but, for the most part, relying on screening programs and batterers' treatment does not work to reduce violence overall.

We also now know a lot more about the drivers of violence. A big reason why there's more violence in one country than another, or even one community to another, has to do with social norms. When you're in a setting where 50 percent of the men are beating their wives, it's not because 50 percent of the male population are monsters. It's because it's socially acceptable, and if you don't beat your wife you're not considered to be a man. So deterrents through stronger laws—"you'll go to jail if you do this"—or better services are not going to change that. You have to work on making it not OK to beat your wife and talking about gender equality.

That sounds kind of touchy-feely. But now there have been a few rigorous, randomized, controlled trials that have shown that it is possible to prevent violence against women by changing social norms. One community mobilization program carried out in Uganda, called SASA!, reduced domestic violence by 50 percent in the study communities in two years. They just saturated the communities with messages about how harmful domestic violence was, not only to women but to families and communities. While many programs have focused on women, this one also included everyone from men and children to religious leaders, police, teachers and health workers. It has been hugely successful and is being adapted and scaled up in many countries. These are the types of interventions we think have the potential to make a lasting impact on violence worldwide.

The evidence showing that violence can be prevented sends a very powerful message. We're hoping to show that programs like this can be successful in postconflict settings, too.

In conflict settings, like South Sudan, our emphasis is on documenting the magnitude and types of violence women and girls are facing, and the kinds of basic measures that can make a difference in the acute phase, such as ensuring safe access to firewood and water. Often, women in refugee camps are raped when they have to leave the camps to look for firewood or food or to carry water. Humanitarian groups are also paying a lot more attention to issues like sanitation. If the toilets are too far away, or if the women's toilets are too close to the men's toilets, or if people have to go at night and there's no lighting, that's when women get raped.

So even pretty simple measures around infrastructure and lighting—like access to charcoal, so women don't have to get firewood—can actually make a big difference in terms of women's safety in the camps.
In the remains of a 3,800-year-old palace, archaeologists seek clues about social, political and economic life in ancient Canaan.

BY LAUREN INGENO
In bare feet and socks they dug, from before dawn until dusk.

Inside the ruins of a Canaanite palace, an international team had unexpectedly uncovered a three-foot-long ceramic jar on day two of a six-week expedition in northern Israel. A few more days of digging revealed that the room held 39 others, delicate and cracked but mostly intact. Then the summer 2013 excavation turned into a frenzied race against time.

“It was both a curse and a blessing,” says GW professor of classics, anthropology and history Eric Cline. He is co-director of the dig at Tel Kabri, the one-time capital of a Canaanite territory and now one of Israel’s most elusive archaeological sites. “This is the type of thing you want to find, and yet, by the time we realized how many jars were in there, we were halfway through the season. Once they were exposed, we had to get all 40 of them up, since they wouldn’t have survived the winter.”

To complicate matters, the 375-square-foot storage room could accommodate only around 15 people. So the group did something unorthodox: Half of the more than 60 volunteers dug during typical hours—from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m.—while the others worked during the afternoon, enduring the grueling July sun. Shoes and sandals were left behind to prevent damage to the fragile artifacts.

With two days to spare, the group successfully excavated and preserved each of the 40 jars. An initial analysis of organic residues confirmed what the archaeologists suspected: They had struck wine.

Results published this past summer, in the journal PLOS One, indicated that the ancient wine contained additives such as honey, cedar oil, juniper and perhaps even mint or cinnamon.

The 40 jars have a combined capacity of around 2,000 liters, or the equivalent of 3,000 wine bottles, meaning the team dug up what could be the oldest and largest palatial wine cellar in the Near East.

“It is a wine cellar that, to our knowledge, is largely unmatched in its age and size,” says Dr. Cline.

Scholars have long recognized the importance of wine production, distribution and consumption in relation to ancient civilizations, the researchers write in their paper. However, until now, direct archaeological evidence has rarely been able to support this.

The discovery deepens the intrigue of a 3,800-year-old archaeological site that has baffled Dr. Cline for the past decade. Though relatively unimpressive on the surface, Tel Kabri is best known as one of only four sites in the eastern Mediterranean that seem to bear the influence of Western art, stemming from modern-day mainland Greece and the Aegean Islands.

Tel Kabri also offers insight into the little-understood life of the Canaanites, and just the right amount of mystery: Despite no clear signs of destruction, the site was abandoned after just 300 years of Canaanite occupation, never again to be populated.

“Who were the people who lived there? And why did they leave?” Dr. Cline muses. “Who ruled the palace? And why were they so preoccupied with Aegean art?”

Dr. Cline and a new group of volunteers will seek answers when they return to the site this summer.

MISSING PIECES

To find Tel Kabri, travel north.

The 75-acre site, surrounded by lush plantations of bananas and avocados, is located in the western Galilee region of Israel, less than three miles inland from the Mediterranean Sea and a 10-minute drive from the modern resort town of Nahariya.

Tel Kabri is Israel's third largest site from the Middle Bronze Age (2000-1500 B.C.), following Hazor and Ashkelon. Much is still unknown about its history, including the city's ancient name. Its main structure, which dates around 1800 B.C., is presumed to be a palace based on its enormity—roughly the size of two football fields—though evidence of a king or queen has yet to be found.

“Somebody had to have the manpower and the money to build it. And usually, only a ruler could do that,” Dr. Cline says. “Personally, I think it's royal. But there's no proof for it—yet.”

Archaeologists are certain that a Canaanite civilization built and inhabited the palace for about 300 years during the Middle Bronze Age, or in biblical terms, the time between Abraham and Moses. Canaan was a large and prosperous country that included present-day Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Israel, until the territory was conquered by Israelites during the second millennium B.C.

But Tel Kabri is highly unusual in that after it was abandoned no other settlements were built on top of it. Other archaeological sites might have a dozen or more layers of ruins left by many generations rebuilding on the same spot.

“I don't know why no one ever reoccupied it, especially since there is plenty of water there,” says Dr. Cline. “We also don't know how or why it was destroyed. There is no evidence of an earthquake, a fire or any other great destruction. They just stopped living there. It's very strange.”

Because of that, Tel Kabri is the only Canaanite city from the Middle Bronze Age that can be excavated in its entirety. And since so little is known about Canaanite society—including its status groups, political structure and economy—excavating one of the world's best-preserved Canaanite palaces is critical to understanding the ancient civilization, says Assaf Yasur-Landau of the University of Haifa, who co-directs the dig at Tel Kabri with Dr. Cline.

“Kabri is also a fantastic case study to learn about the development of Canaanite urbanization and rise of political power,” Dr. Yasur-Landau says, “as we can follow the rise of [the] Canaanite palatial elite from its humble beginning at private houses to the rise of the palace, all during the Middle Bronze Age.”

LOST AND FOUND

Tel Kabri was first discovered in the 1950s, when members of Kibbutz Kabri found 3,000-year-old stone artifacts near a local spring. In 1961, the Middle Bronze Age palace gained attention again, when the national public water company stumbled upon it while installing a pipeline.

Aharon Kempinski of Tel Aviv University and Wolf-Dietrich Niemeier of Heidelberg University led the first comprehensive dig at Tel Kabri in the mid-1980s.

In 1989, the archaeologists uncovered an elaborate, painted floor in the palace's ceremonial hall. It depicted a red checkerboard motif, with pictures of irises and crocuses painted into the squares in a distinctive Aegean style.

Before the discovery, Aegean-style artwork—characterized by breezy depictions of nature, fluid figures, and bright colors—had never been found beyond the Aegean Islands, which includes Crete and the Cyclades, and the Greek mainland. Regional artistic influence in Canaan typically came from Mesopotamia to the north, where present-day Iraq is located, not from the Aegean Sea to the
The archaeologists also uncovered around 2,000 colorful fragments. The fragments have string impressions, which artists once used in fresco painting as guiding lines—a technique not commonly found in eastern Mediterranean art. The archaeologists compared the fragments found at Tel Kabri with other Aegean wall paintings that depicted similar motifs, colorings and line shapes. They were then able to reconstruct hypothetical miniature frescoes, which showed hill and sea landscapes.

To date there are only three other sites where Aegean-style artistry has been found—Tell el-Dab’a in Egypt, Qatna in Syria and Alalakh in Turkey.

“In archaeology we refer frequently to what’s called a koiné, a Greek word meaning ‘commonality.’ We’re wondering if there was some kind of artistic koiné, where people in the eastern Mediterranean were looking to the Aegean for influence, for whatever reason,” Dr. Cline says.

The Tel Kabri excavation project came to a sudden halt when Dr. Kempinski died in 1994. Though he never saw his final published findings, the archaeologist considered the Tel Kabri site to be “one of the most important in Israel,” Dr. Niemeier writes in the introduction of Tel Kabri: The 1986-93 Excavation Seasons.

The site remained untouched until 2003, when Dr. Yasur-Landau of the University of Haifa returned to the western Galilee to conduct remote sensing at Tel Kabri. He discovered that the palace was twice as large as Dr. Kempinski had originally thought.

When he approached Dr. Cline about the possibility of reopening the site, the offer was too good to pass up: Dr. Cline had never led his own dig. And the excavation would give him the rare opportunity to open a window into the Canaanites and their interaction with the Aegean world.

“Assaf came to me in 2004 and said, ‘You want to reopen Kabri?’ And I said, ‘Sure, I’ll be in touch,’” says Dr. Cline. “That was that.”

Since excavations restarted, taking place every two years since 2005, each digging season at Tel Kabri has proved more successful than the last. On the summers that Dr. Cline is not excavating at Tel Kabri, he co-directs another dig in Israel, at Megiddo—the site commonly known as Armageddon, considered to be the crown jewel of biblical archaeology. For more than 6,000 years, the city dominated international traffic, as it was located above the most important land route in the ancient Near East. Within its 25 layers of settlements, archaeologists have uncovered chariot stables, gold jewelry, monumental temples and remarkably engineered water systems.

With Kabri, though, it’s precisely the lack of layers and context that makes it significant.

“At Megiddo we’re more filling in the gaps,” Dr. Cline says. “At Tel Kabri, it’s really a blank canvas.”

A LINK TO GREECE

During the 2009 and 2011 excavations, Dr. Cline and his team uncovered more fragments of Aegean-style painted wall
An aerial view of Tel Kabri, a 75-acre site in northern Israel that houses the ruins of a Canaanite city dating to around 1800 B.C., during the Middle Bronze Age.

Inset: Team members remove debris from one of the wine jars.
Residue analysis of the jars found a hallmark of wine, as well as additives like honey. Just before the dig season ended, other chambers were discovered with more jars that now await the team’s return.
plaster and another painted floor. The fragments vary in quality and size but add valuable information about the artistic plan of the palace and its sources of artistic influence. Of these, the most intriguing collection is five bright blue fragments, which, when pieced together, depict part of what is likely an animal painted in black ink. Dr. Cline says the blue paint is the first of its kind found in Israel from the Middle Bronze Age. Without all of the pieces, he is not certain what the image once depicted. Judging by the thinness of the lines and the precision of the brushstrokes, it’s clear to the researchers that this is the work of a skilled artist.

Who traveled all the way from the Aegean Islands or Greek mainland to paint the walls and floors at an eastern Mediterranean palace? And more important, why? Dr. Cline admits that he may never be able to definitively answer those questions, but he can make some educated guesses.

In the Middle and Late Bronze Age, rulers in Egypt and the ancient Near East often sent artisans on short-term loan to each other, so it’s possible that Aegean rulers were part of a similar exchange network in the east. Despite its prominent position as a gateway community, Kabri was only a “secondary player” compared with other commercial cities, such as Hazor. Dr. Cline and Dr. Yasur-Landau write in a 2011 paper published in the American Journal of Archaeology. The archaeologists suspect that the Kabri rulers wanted to show that they belonged to a “cosmopolitan” Mediterranean club and had connections to places outside of the Near East.

Recent excavations at Tel Kabri also revealed that the palace underwent significant architectural renovations, which resulted in the creation of a much larger building. The palace’s fresco fragments were found facedown in the palace, which suggests that the Aegean-style art was torn down and discarded after the remodeling. Some of the art was even reused, seemingly without sentiment, as patching on the plaster floor. “It’s as if they thought, ‘Well, this is garbage, and we have a hole that needs to be filled here, so let’s just use it here,’” Dr. Cline says.

Aegean art may have simply gone out of style, or perhaps a new ruler moved in. Politics could also have been at play, but Dr. Cline says the paintings just as likely could have been removed for functional reasons. In Greece, he says, frescoes stuck easily to the stone walls used there. By contrast, the Tel Kabri palace walls are made of mud brick, which does not hold plaster as well. Once the frescoes began to peel, the Canaanites may have decided to rip them off the walls.

TO BE CONTINUED

In summer 2013, with grants from National Geographic, the Israel Science Foundation, Bronfman Philanthropies and the Institute for Aegean Prehistory, Dr. Cline and his excavation team were tasked with investigating the palatial economy of Kabri—to look at the haves versus the have-nots—by comparing findings from inside and outside of the palace.

The archaeologists aimed to locate the western edge of the palace, but were surprised to instead hit the remains of a storage room, where they found the 40 wine jars. To date, it is the largest concentration of restorable pottery found in the palace and the only place on site where an entire room full of artifacts has been discovered. The early testing of organic residue in the jars, by Kabri dig colleague Andrew Koh of Brandeis University, found the presence of tartaric acid—a “surefire” marker of red wine, he says.

“This wasn’t moonshine that someone was brewing in their basement, eyeballing the measurements,” Dr. Koh said when the team announced their initial findings in fall 2013. “This wine’s recipe was strictly followed in each and every jar.”

Many of these ingredients, like honey, mirror the additives that are detailed in ancient 1700 B.C. texts from Mesopotamia. “We have a physical manifestation of what you can read about,” says Dr. Cline. He admits that it is not necessarily an indication that the wine found at Tel Kabri was imported from the Euphrates. “But it is still cool that something we’ve known about only from texts for decades, we now have scientific proof of its existence.”

The additives of the Kabri wine suggest the Canaanites had a sophisticated understanding of the botanical landscape and skills necessary to produce such a complex beverage, the researchers wrote in their new study. And while 3,000 modern bottles of wine seems like a large collection, it is not enough for widespread distribution, they note. The number of jars as well as their location next to the palace’s ceremonial room indicates that the archaeologists found the private reserve of a ruler.

What other relics are hidden in the palace ruins? And how will the new discoveries help to tell the history of Tel Kabri? When the excavation team returns in June, there will be plenty to look forward to.

Just days before the archaeologists wrapped up their last season, in the summer of 2013, they discovered two doors in the storage room leading to other chambers, one to the west and one to the south. In those rooms they spotted even more ceramic jars. “Those are the first things we’ll go after,” Dr. Cline says.

If the jars contain something other than wine, perhaps olive oil or wheat for instance, that could for the first time shed significant light on the Canaanite economy, he says. He’s hopeful, and the excitement is palpable in his voice—in spite of the knowledge that the rubble may keep as many Canaanite secrets as it gives up.

“What it boils down to is that we need a time machine,” says Dr. Cline. “They can’t come back to tell you if you’re right or wrong.”

Two of the 40 three-foot-long ceramic jars discovered during fieldwork in the summer of 2013.

For more on Tel Kabri, ways to support the dig and details on participating in fieldwork this summer, visit go.gwu.edu/digkabri. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until March 1.
TRUSTEE DONATES $2.5M TO ENGINEERING SCHOOL

Gift will support undergraduates, create endowed professorship.

A $2.5 million donation from GW Trustee Terry Collins, DsC ’76, and his wife, Alisann, will create scholarships for students and endow a faculty position in the School of Engineering and Applied Science.

The couple is donating $1 million to create an endowed professorship in biomedical engineering or a related discipline, and $1.5 million to establish the Alisann and Terry Collins Endowed Scholarship. The scholarship will support eight SEAS undergraduates, with preference to first-generation college students. Mr. Collins was the first in his family to attend college.

“Alisann and I were motivated by the current momentum in SEAS and the need for science and engineering leadership in the nation’s capital,” Mr. Collins says. “We all know that science and engineering are critical to solving many current and future problems, and we want our students to be able to lead in solving these problems.”

A graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Wisconsin, Mr. Collins completed a doctorate at GW and taught part-time in SEAS from 1976 to 1979 before beginning a career that included time with Engineering Research Associates, E-Systems and Raytheon. In 1997, he and colleagues Vic Sellier and Tom Murdock formed Argon Engineering Associates (later Argon ST), which was purchased by Boeing in 2010. A member of the SEAS National Advisory Council, Mr. Collins was elected to the SEAS Hall of Fame in 2010.

“Terry and Alisann have made the sort of gift to SEAS that truly accelerates the school’s ongoing transformation,” SEAS Dean David Dolling says. “Drawing top faculty and students to the school is an essential part of that, and Terry and Alisann’s generous gift helps us to do both.”

Mr. Collins says GW’s recent investments in SEAS, including construction of the Science and Engineering Hall and an emphasis on research and development, played a role in the decision to make the gift. “We see this as a start to greatness if our many alumni recognize the need and continue to support SEAS as we are doing,” he says.

DECADES LATER, TUCKER DELIVERS AGAIN FOR GW BASEBALL

Trustee’s $2 million gift to support athletes, law and business schools.

“It’s a great institution, and I want to help GW make history in my own little way.”

Avram S. “Ave” Tucker

“Clutch Double by Tucker Buffaloes Bison, 6-5” read a game recap in The GW Hatchet on April 8, 1976. Thirty-eight years later, GW baseball’s star center fielder has done it again, this time driving home a $2 million gift to the university. Avram S. “Ave” Tucker, BBA ’77, now a GW trustee, has committed $1 million to the Department of Athletics and Recreation, with half going to the Buff & Blue Fund for unrestricted support of student-athletes and half for construction of a baseball clubhouse. An additional $1 million will support summer research by School of Business faculty members and the Government Contracts Associate Dean endowed fund at GW Law School.

In recognition of Mr. Tucker’s generosity, the GW Board of Trustees voted to rename the home of GW baseball Tucker Field at Barcroft Park—an honor Mr. Tucker said he is sharing with his first batting coach: his father.

At the dedication in October, GW President Steven Knapp called Mr. Tucker “a valuable and trusted adviser to me and a great supporter philanthropically to the university.” He noted Mr. Tucker’s “unwavering commitment and the inspiring
example he’s set for all Colonials.”

Mr. Tucker attended GW for his junior and senior years on a baseball scholarship. At the dedication ceremony, he recalled the days of racing across the Ellipse—located between the Washington Monument and the White House—which served as GW’s baseball field at the time. “It wasn’t much of a stadium, but it had some very unique aspects,” he said. “Games would be stopped for the president’s helicopter to land. The national Christmas tree was there. And I’d say you’d get unusual bounces that sometimes were helpful and would sometimes decide games.”

Barcroft Park, in Arlington, Va., has been GW’s baseball field since the team left the Ellipse in 1993.

Mr. Tucker, now a renowned forensic accountant at the top of the business and litigation consulting company TM Financial Forensics, LLC, said he knew long ago that he wanted to give back to his alma mater. “It’s a great institution, and I want to help GW make history in my own little way,” he said. “I vowed when I was here in the ’70s to pay them back for taking a chance on a short center fielder.”

Read the full story at go.gwu.edu/tuckerimpact.

HANDS-ON HISTORY

At Albert H. Small Symposium, celebrating a deep, one-of-a-kind historical archive

When the new George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum opens in March, its renovated Woodhull House will be home to Albert H. Small’s unparalleled trove of rare Washington maps, documents and other exceptional artifacts—and already, students and faculty are discovering just how much this historic collection will enrich research at GW. At the annual Albert H. Small Symposium in October, members of the GW community celebrated the role of the Washingtoniana Collection—which Mr. Small donated to the university in 2011—in expanding scholarship and inspiring cross-disciplinary collaborations.

“Albert’s quest when collecting these items of historic significance wasn’t just to put them on the wall. But a priority he had was to share it with current generations and future generations,” said former GW Trustee Robert G. Perry, BS ’70.

Mr. Small said he hopes the collection will “enable students, teachers, visitors of the museum to learn about the capital of our country and the development of the city of Washington.”

Among the speakers, history professor Christopher Klemek thanked Mr. Small for “a whole spirit of excitement descending on the campus right now.”

Students in his course Washington, D.C.: History, Culture, Politics created and contribute to DigitalDC, an online exhibition about specific areas of Foggy Bottom, rather than writing papers that would languish in his file cabinet.

Two of Dr. Klemek’s students—junior Nicholas DiNella and Ryan Jones, a high school student attending GW through the Early College Program—talked about using the collection to find that the Watergate Complex site was once an industrial hub, and that the site of the Foggy Bottom Whole Foods once housed Camp Fry, a temporary military base established during the Civil War.

—Julyssa Lopez

To read more about the symposium, visit go.gwu.edu/handsonhistory.
Incoming freshmen marked their first night at GW with a trip to George Washington’s historic Mount Vernon estate.

Alumni answered the call and made 1,662 donations, totaling $2,172,477, as part of the challenge. The winner, the Class of 2009, topped its participation goal by 28 percent.

“Young alumni can absolutely make an impact, and we came out in full force to demonstrate that we are invested in the future of this university,” says Julie Silverbrook, BA ’09, chair of the Class of 2009 reunion committee. “It is clear to me that alumni are committed to ensuring that GW continues to serve as an incubator of great ideas and a hub for educating future generations of national and global leaders.”

Among the more than 60 events for GW alumni, family and friends during the weekend was a reception to honor and thank members of the Luther Rice Society and the new GW Loyal society, which was attended by dozens of alumni donors and their families.

GW SAILING CROSSES FINISH LINE

In the fall of 2013, the GW sailing team launched its “Raise High the Sails” fundraising campaign with the goal of replacing boats and building an 18-boat fleet to help the Colonials better compete against the nation’s top teams.

In less than a year, thanks to generous contributions from a variety of supporters, the team has reached its target of $180,000 and will “raise high” new sails during the 2014-15 season.

The new boats arrived in October and will allow GW sailing to host its first regatta as a varsity program on March 7-8. The sailing team calls the Potomac River home—specifically, the Washington Sailing Marina on Daingerfield Island in Alexandria, Va.

“This historic place and GW are linked through George Washington,” Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs Steven Lerman said. “We hope that this is the start of a process for students that will last all four years of inculcating the values that Washington exemplified as a leader.”

The GW Division of Student Affairs’ Administration and Hallmark Programs organized the event with the generous support of D.C. Scottish Rite, the Masonic and Eastern Star Homes and GW parent Mario Grauso, as well as in-kind donors: bocce and bowling bistro Pinstripes, the Corner Bakery, the GW Campus Store, Coca-Cola and Sodexo. DSA also worked closely with Jamie Bosket, MA ’08, vice president of guest experience at the Mount Vernon estate.

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ALUMNI ANSWER THE CALL OF FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE

As part of the excitement surrounding September’s Alumni Weekend—which drew some 2,000 GW alumni back to campus—an anonymous reunion donor put forth a challenge: $25,000 to GW in honor of the reunion class that beat its donor goal by the highest percentage.

The sailing team took to the water in new boats this fall after reaching its fundraising goal in less than a year.

FRESHMEN COMMEMORATE ‘FIRST NIGHT’ AT MOUNT VERNON ESTATE

Incoming freshmen this year for the first time kicked off their college careers with a trip to George Washington’s historic Mount Vernon estate on their first night at GW. The visit, part of First Night at GW, marked the start of Welcome Week and, perhaps, the beginning of a GW tradition.

Nearly 2,000 members of the Class of 2018 enjoyed exclusive tours of the estate and grounds and participated in a George Washington-themed “Colonial Quest.” Students also interacted with re-enactors posing as historical characters, including George and Martha Washington.

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**A MODERN CLASSIC**

**Alumnus brings Greek sculpture ‘Poseidon’ to Foggy Bottom Campus.**

Movement frozen in time—like a dancer mid-sissonne—*Poseidon* stands over 12 feet tall, its polished metal arcing toward the sky in the courtyard of the Milken Institute School of Public Health Building.

The emblematic stainless steel work by Greek sculptor George Zongolopoulos was installed permanently this summer thanks to the generosity of the George Zongolopoulos Foundation and the efforts of GW alumnus George Stathopoulos, JD ’60.

“Placing *Poseidon* in such a prominent location in Washington, D.C., is a wonderful way to promote the cultural heritage of modern Greece,” said Mr. Stathopoulos, a U.S. and Greek national, international lawyer, and art collector and curator. “The collaboration between GW and the George Zongolopoulos Foundation is a perfect example of what two great organizations can accomplish together.”

An art lover and passionate alumnus, Mr. Stathopoulos wanted to ensure that his alma mater could call itself home to a work by one of Greece’s finest modern sculptors, and he worked closely with the university and the George Zongolopoulos Foundation to finalize the gift and oversee its installation.

The sculpture was originally included in Mr. Zongolopoulos’ award-winning composition created in 1960 for Omonia Square in central Athens, although it was never installed. *Poseidon* is the first modern Greek sculpture to be placed on public grounds in Washington.

Poseidon is the first modern Greek sculpture to be placed on public U.S. grounds in Washington, D.C.

**Provision Steven Lerman, Michael and Lori Milken, Dean of Public Health Lynn Goldman and representatives of the George Zongolopoulos Foundation gathered on Oct. 1 to celebrate the installation.**

“Zongolopoulos’ *Poseidon*, after crossing the Mediterranean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, is standing proudly in the heart of the capital of the world,” said Nicos Theodoridis, the president of the George Zongolopoulos Foundation and nephew of Mr. Zongolopoulos. “Today, the sculpture is not in Omonia Square in Athens, but it has been placed in front of a wonderful building, for which they can live together so well.”

Director of University Art Galleries Lenore Miller said that the sculpture “represents the best aspirations of grace and beauty.”

*Poseidon* is one of 25 outdoor sculptures on GW’s Foggy Bottom Campus.

**You help me Make History**

**Emanuel Johnson, BA ‘15**

Chicago Native · Public Servant · Veteran, U.S. Navy

“I did not come to GW simply to receive a degree. I embarked on this journey not for myself, but for the individuals I will represent in the future, for the people in my neighborhood who have not had the same opportunities I have had. I came to this university to equip myself with the tools to take on any challenge this world has to offer. GW was the perfect fit because GW is a community of individuals who care.”

Support students like Emanuel at go.gwu.edu/gwcares
Taking the Campaign on the Road

Hundreds gather in New York, Philadelphia and Miami to celebrate the launch of the university’s $1 billion philanthropic campaign.

Since a formal launch this summer from George Washington’s grand Mount Vernon estate, university leaders have taken the $1 billion philanthropic campaign on the road, personally introducing the endeavor in cities with large alumni populations.

In New York City in October, nearly 500 alumni, trustees, parents and friends gathered in a spectacularly restored building that once housed the Cunard Steamship Line to celebrate “Making History: The Campaign for GW.” Since the campaign’s official start, in July 2011, more than $626 million has been raised.

The city is home to more than 17,000 alumni—the largest concentration outside of D.C.—and New York state continues to be the top feeder for undergraduate students.

“This monumental campaign will help us achieve our aspirations to become the university that George Washington envisioned,” Dr. Knapp said in thanking the local community for its rousing reception.

At a Philadelphia celebration in November, held at the Franklin Institute, junior William Murphy told his story to a crowd of around 90 people. Mr. Murphy, a student and budding cancer researcher in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, had received a merit scholarship and an alumni grant, but was still short of what he needed to attend college in 2012. He penned a letter to GW’s financial aid department, explaining his situation and informing them he wouldn’t be able to attend the university.

“A week later, my mother received an emotional call from the financial aid department, a woman who personally read my letter,” Mr. Murphy said. “During that phone call, my mother was told that I would be receiving the Nelson and Michele Carbonell Endowed Scholarship. I wouldn’t be here today without the extreme generosity showed to me by the Carbonells.”

Mr. Carbonell, BS ’85, chair of the GW Board of Trustees, told how he also attended the university on a scholarship and charged attendees to invest in the future of the university.

“Now is the time to get involved or re-engage with GW,” he said. “Volunteer, attend an event, and really—make a gift. I can’t tell you where or how much to give, that part is up to you. Make a gift to support future students like William. Together, we will make history.”

In Miami the following month, inaugural Campaign Chair B.J. Penn, MS ’80, echoed that sentiment before a group of more than 80 supporters.

“GW changed my life, and my own history,” he said. “What I learned as a student—and as a volunteer and a trustee—enabled me to be a leader, to be successful. I’m enormously grateful for that. I stood on the shoulders of many people to get to where I did. And this campaign is about all of us being those shoulders for others.”

To view photos and learn more about these events, including the upcoming April 30 event in Southern California, visit go.gwu.edu/campaignontheroad.
Easing Veterans’ Pain Through Art Therapy

The soldier fidgeted nervously. This was the last place he wanted to be. He could have been back home with his family in Kentucky. Or even back in Afghanistan with his infantry unit. Anywhere but here: a makeshift art room at a hospital in Fort Belvoir, Va., surrounded by jars of paint, wooden brushes and colored pencils. Jittery and uncomfortable, he shook his head and sighed, thinking there was no way this was going to work.

Jackie Biggs, MA ’13, has seen this reaction before. As an art therapist at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital’s National Intrepid Center of Excellence, she has clients who are combat veterans returning from harrowing tours of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq. Some suffer from brain injuries and psychological conditions like post-traumatic stress disorder. They struggle with issues of loss, grief and transitioning to life back home. And after years of risking their lives in a war zone where they could trust only their buddies, they usually have little faith that Ms. Biggs’ canvases and brushes are going to make them whole again.

“Most walk in here hesitant and kind of weirded out,” Ms. Biggs says. “They haven’t created art since they were 5. They’ve just returned from combat. When they pick up a brush, there’s an awful lot of skepticism.”

In many ways, Ms. Biggs has spearheaded the hospital’s art-therapy-for-soldiers initiative. After graduating from Columbian College’s art therapy program, she approached the National Endowment for the Arts with a grant proposal to integrate art therapy into treatment for active-duty military patients at Fort Belvoir. After a three-month pilot project, the treatment has become a standard component of caring for soldiers at the hospital.

Alongside neurologists, physical therapists and other health care providers, Ms. Biggs uses tools like visual arts and mask-making to help combat veterans process traumatic events.

“This is a group that tends to internalize their trauma; they hope it will go away if they just don’t talk about it,” she says. More often, she says, the results are tragic: depression, isolation, substance abuse and even suicide.

“Art therapy helps you access painful memories in a nonthreatening way,” says Heidi Bardot, director of the GW program.

Sitting across from the reluctant Kentucky soldier at her Fort Belvoir art table, Ms. Biggs encouraged him to relax and be spontaneous. “Grab a palate knife and a color you’re drawn to,” she calmly instructed. “Don’t think, just do what feels right.”

The soldier used his tools to apply seemingly random splotches of red and blue paint across a canvas. The end product stunned both of them: The soldier re-created what he had seen through his sniper rifle’s scope just before he first killed someone.

“It was amazing,” says Ms. Biggs. “He was expressing the anger and regrets he’d been holding inside. That’s the thing about art therapy. Your subconscious gets going and reveals what’s going on inside your head.”

—John DiConsiglio

Jackie Biggs, MA ’13, is an art therapist working with veterans of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.
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Greetings, fellow Colonials!

As I partook in a number of events during Alumni Weekend—with more than 40 close friends from my Class of ’79 experience at GW—I was reminded what an impact my beloved alma mater had on all of us. Not only are we blessed to remain friends after more than 40 years, but we are successful in our lives, personally and professionally, thanks to our shared experiences. I am the envy of many non-GW friends who have lost touch with their college friends. Not me; not us.

I have been so proud to introduce those friends to the value of remaining connected to the university through our GW Alumni Association. We connect and reconnect with colleagues, and we also share in the opportunities to volunteer and give back alongside more than 270,000 alumni throughout the world. Service is such an important part of the GW student experience—why should that stop after graduation?

My personal connection is enhanced by both my proximity to campus (I live in D.C.’s West End) and my participation in events put on by the Office of Alumni Relations and the GWAA. Whether interacting with current students at Speed Networking Nights or the Dinner with Alumni program, which assists in preparing students for their careers, or socializing with fellow alumni at a Nationals game or a food and wine event, our options to stay engaged abound.

And these programs are not limited to the D.C. area. There are networking events and student send-offs around the country. And for those, like me, who feel tethered to their desks at times, there are virtual gatherings through our fantastic GW LinkedIn Virtual Networking Hours held throughout the year. I’ve connected with GW alumni all over the world from my desk!

Sometimes “you don’t know what you don’t know,” so visit alumni.gwu.edu for more information on all that is available to us.

I’ve taken the next step and now proudly serve on the GWAA Board of Directors. After two years chairing the Career Services Committee, I now serve as chair of the Nominating Committee. I want to invite you to get involved with our board. Our member-at-large nominating process kicks off in January for the term beginning in June.

Members-at-large serve as representatives of the alumni community on the Board of Directors and comprise approximately half the board membership. Any alumnus/a of the university is eligible to serve as a member-at-large, though consideration is given to those able to represent a unique constituency of the alumni body, especially geographic region or affinity/interest group. It’s your opportunity to have your voice heard and to make a difference.

So I implore you: Get engaged. Get involved. And most important, Raise High!

Keith J. Greene, SPHR, BBA ’79
Vice President, Nominations
GW Alumni Association
kginarlington@hotmail.com

Nominations to the GW Alumni Association Board are open! Submit yours today at go.gwu.edu/gwaanom2015.
Alumni Weekend 2014

Nearly 2,000 alumni returned to campus in September for GW’s annual Alumni Weekend. More than 60 events were held, ranging from a Smith Center concert by 2014 Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees Daryl Hall and John Oates to a “Taste of GW” event, featuring alumni-owned restaurants and catering businesses. Other highlights included academic gatherings, networking receptions, tours of campus and, of course, reunions. Milestone celebrations commemorated the 85th anniversary of WRGW and the 25th anniversaries of the Presidential Administrative Fellows program and Colonial Inauguration.

From top Newly-minted Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductees Daryl Hall and John Oates rock the Charles E. Smith Center on Friday night; the Class of 2014 celebrates its 10-year reunion; Sigma Chi’s Epsilon Chapter marks its 150th year; the School of Engineering and Applied Science’s barbecue brought out Colonials, present and future.

Honored to help @GWSigmaChi @GWAlumni & Students Celebrate 150 Years of #GWGreekLife at #GWU, #GWANNUAL, & @GWIPC.

GWPeterK, 3 MONTHS AGO
CLOCKWISE FROM TOP “Taste of GW” included the stylings of a caricature artist; alumni enjoy the event “A Celebration of Diversity,” co-hosted by the Asian, black, Latino, and LGBT alumni associations; a GW backpack “that I literally take everywhere” gets outfitted with a “5-year reunion” pin; alumni celebrate Colonial Inauguration’s 25th year and toast the same milestone for the Presidential Administrative Fellowship program.
GW Honors Six With Alumni Achievement Awards

The university and GW Alumni Association honored six graduates in September at the 78th annual Alumni Achievement Awards, including an acclaimed political analyst and the CEO of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

Mark Plotkin, BA ’69, former political analyst for WTOP Radio, and Neil Portnow, BA ’71, who oversees operations for the Grammy Awards, were joined by Alan Burgess, MS ’74; Lawrence Deyton, MD ’85; Gerardo Lopez, BBA ’80; and Adam Conner, BA ’06, as 2014 honorees at the reception, which kicked off Alumni Weekend.

The first five were given the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, created in 1937, which recognizes graduates who have distinguished themselves through notable achievements, personally and professionally. Mr. Connor received the Recent Alumni Achievement Award, created in 2007.

Mr. Burgess and Dr. Deyton both have forged careers in public health. A retired Air Force medical officer, Mr. Burgess was the CEO of Tehachapi Valley Healthcare until his retirement in 2013 and is the former chairman of the American Academy of Medical Administrators. Dr. Deyton, the senior associate dean for clinical public health at GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences, has been a leader of health policy and research at several public health agencies, including the Food and Drug Administration, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the National Institutes of Health.

The other three Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award recipients all have media ties. Mr. Lopez serves as CEO, president and director of AMC Entertainment. Mr. Plotkin, an advocate for D.C. voting rights and statehood, is a contributor to the BBC and TheHill.com. Mr. Portnow, in addition to his work on the Grammy Awards, also serves as CEO of the Academy’s charitable affiliates, MusiCares and the Grammy Foundation.

Mr. Conner, who received the Recent Alumni Achievement Award, is vice president of politics and head of the D.C. office of Brigade, a civic engagement startup founded by Sean Parker, the founding president of Facebook.

The awards are the highest form of recognition given annually by the university and the alumni association to a GW graduate. Past recipients include 16-time NBA champion Arnold “Red” Auerbach, BS ’40, MA ’41; Nobel Prize winner Julius Axelrod, PhD ’55; and former U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell, MBA ’71.

“I’m thrilled, and really in awe by some of the people who have been honored,” said Mr. Plotkin, who was joined by a large contingent of friends and family. “I’ve lived [in D.C.] for 50 years, and GW’s been a major part of my life. I invited 80 people to this dinner. This is bar mitzvah, wedding and birthday—a great night.”

at 100, alumnus reflects on time at gw

When Wilbur Garrett, BS ’36, attended GW in the 1930s, the country was in the midst of the Great Depression, FDR had just taken office and Quigley’s was a great place to meet girls.

Nearly 80 years after his graduation, a lot has changed at GW, but some things have stayed the same—the sting of economic downturn is fresh again, presidential inaugurations are always a big deal and Quigley’s (now Tonic) is still a great place to meet a date.

A proud alumnus who celebrated his 100th birthday in 2014, Mr. Garrett has a lot of life experience to share with GW students and alumni alike.

WEB EXTRA

For more on Wilbur Garrett’s story, including his “only at GW” moment from the 1933 presidential inauguration, visit go.gwu.edu/wilburgarrett.
Curating a New Arts Partnership

Alumnus will lead programs for the university’s new museum complex.

As a museum education curator, Tom Goehner has a philosophy about how to tell stories centered on the arts: Start with an object, and work your way back.

Within The Textile Museum’s collection of treasures, two 16th-century panels stick out vividly in Mr. Goehner’s mind. Intricately woven from silk and metallic yarns, the panels once adorned the tent of Ottoman Empire sultan Suleiman the Magnificent, experts believe. A Turkish grand vizier maintained the fabrics until 1683. The pieces later made a transcontinental trek into the hands of Polish Prince Sanguszki, who repurposed them as a blanket for his family’s sleigh.

For Mr. Goehner, MA ’93, the process shows the allure of textiles: In addition to their tremendous versatility, functionality and aesthetic beauty, they boast individual histories and numerous stories.

“They have more than one life—in fact, they have several, and what often saves them is their sheer beauty,” he says.

Now, as the George Washington University Museum and The Textile Museum prepares to open on March 21, Mr. Goehner is charged with bringing the museum’s myriad stories to the GW community. He’ll lead educational programs centered on the museum’s collection, which includes The Textile Museum’s trove of more than 19,000 objects dating from 3000 B.C. to the present, and Albert H. Small’s Washingtoniana Collection, which comprises nearly 1,000 historic D.C. maps, documents and other ephemera and was donated to the university in 2011. (To develop programming around the Washingtoniana Collection, Mr. Goehner will be working with another alumnus, curator Jane Freundel Levey, MA ’91.)

While Foggy Bottom may be a change for some museumgoers, who visited The Textile Museum at its former S Street NW location, Mr. Goehner is well acquainted with the neighborhood. He completed a master’s in museum education at GW and went on to work at the Woodrow Wilson House, the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the American Red Cross before joining The Textile Museum.

He notes that while most people understand how a painting is created, few can recite the manufacturing techniques behind textiles. He found it important, then, to include programs focusing on the art of construction—a feltmaker, for example, taught museum guests how to make iPhone cases out of matted wool fibers; a Japanese textile expert demonstrated traditional shibori dying techniques.

“You might know that an object is a photograph, but until you press the lever on a camera, you won’t know what it’s like to be a photographer,” he says. “Until you experience using a shed and pulling all the threads, you don’t know the weaving process at a richer level.”

The new museum will retain that same energy and effective mix of informative and hands-on styles, offering daily programming inspired by its unique diversity of art and history-focused objects.

He already has scheduled several events, including weeklong programs in March that will coincide with the museum opening and the launch of its first three exhibitions: “Unraveling Identity: Our Textiles, Our Stories,” “The Civil War and the Making of Modern Washington” and “Seat of Empire: Planning Washington, 1790–1801.” Two of those were designed by GW students and curated by faculty members.

It helps that the university abounds with art and culture experts and history scholars; there are opportunities for collaboration at every turn. Mr. Goehner recently bonded with a chemistry professor who analyzes how color is perceived through light—perfectly applicable to the discourse many textile makers have about the radiance of dyes.

“There are plenty more partners and friends to make. I’m just starting,” he says.
—Julysa Lopez

SEAS Inducts Six Into Hall of Fame

Six alumni, including an aeronautics vice president at Lockheed Martin, the head of a leading Internet company in China and a dean at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, were inducted into the GW Engineering Hall of Fame in October.

Jennifer Byrne, PhD ’12, vice president of engineering and technology for aeronautics at Lockheed Martin, Ya-Qin Zhang, DSc ’90, president of Baidu Corp. in Beijing, and Ian Waitz, MS ’88, dean of the School of Engineering at MIT, were joined by Pradman Kaul, BS ’76, Laird Moffett, DSc ’76, and Nayereh Rassoulpour, MS ’90, as 2014 honorees at the ceremony, held at the National Air and Space Museum’s Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Va.

“The doctoral program taught me to make sure that if I did something, I did it right the first time,” said Dr. Moffett, now chief scientist at Envisioneering, a company that provides support and technology development for U.S. national security.

Ms. Rassoulpour, the president and chief executive officer of NSR Solutions, called her SEAS degree “essential” in launching and building her information technology company from one employee in 1990 to more than 300 today.

Mr. Kaul, the president and chief executive officer of Hughes Communications and a 2004 inductee of the National Academy of Engineering, said he felt humbled by receiving the honor. “When you get recognized, it makes the [hard work] worth it, and I think this is one of those recognitions I truly treasure.”

The school also recognized Clark Construction with a Distinguished Industry Partner Award. Clark has built or renovated several buildings on campus, including construction of the Science and Engineering Hall, scheduled to open this winter. The company established the first endowed professorship at SEAS, the A. James Clark Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, as well as the Clark Engineering Scholars program and Clark Construction Engineering Scholarship.
—James Irwin

For more on this story visit gwtoday.gwu.edu/seas-inducts-six-hall-of-fame.
A House Divided

Five Colonials had ties to the Royals and Giants as the teams vied in the World Series.

Former GW baseball coach John Castleberry won his third World Series ring in October as the northeast region scouting supervisor for the San Francisco Giants. To earn it, his team had to survive a seven-game thrill ride of a Fall Classic against the Kansas City Royals—and three George Washington University alumni.

Former GW baseball player and coach Mike Toomey, BS ’74, former assistant coach J.J. Picollo, MS ’98, and former player Scott Sharp, BA ’95, work in the Kansas City front office, where they helped construct one of the most unlikely American League pennant winners in recent memory, piloting the Royals to their first World Series since 1985.

The series, which ended with Giants star pitcher Madison Bumgarner stranding the tying run on third base to preserve a 3-2 Game 7 win, had the feel of a GW reunion. In addition to the four men with ties to the baseball program, Giants team orthopedic surgeon Ken Akizuki, MD ’93, is a graduate of GW’s School of Medicine and Health Sciences. —James Irwin

President’s Medal Awarded to Simon Lee

Simon Lee, founder and chief executive officer of STG Inc., was awarded the George Washington University President’s Medal at a ceremony in November, becoming the first Korean-American to receive the honor.

Mr. Lee, MS ’05, has been a university volunteer and an influential advocate for GW for more than a decade, playing a critical role in the growth of the School of Engineering and Applied Science and serving as a resource for student, parent and alumni relations in the Republic of Korea.

A $1 million gift from Mr. Lee and his wife, Anna, in 2010 endowed the Korea University Undergraduate Exchange Program, which provides financial assistance for GW engineering students to study abroad at Korea University. Another gift of $1 million in 2014 to Korea University funds an exchange program for graduate students and professors between the two universities.

GW President Steven Knapp called Mr. Lee “a faithful friend and alumnus,” and said he was “proud to bestow this special honor on him for his unwavering dedication to the George Washington University, his achievements as a visionary entrepreneur and his leadership in fostering educational exchanges between his two alma maters and the great capital cities in which they reside.”

The President’s Medal is the highest honor the university president can award.

Mr. Lee said he launched the exchange program to “build a bridge between … two universities that have had a major influence on my life. I know, someday, the students that enter this program will turn into successful world leaders and entrepreneurs themselves and will also give back, creating more opportunities for students and a stronger bond between the two universities and the two countries I love so dearly.”

After emigrating to the United States in 1979, Mr. Lee launched STG Inc. in 1986. Since then STG has grown into a company of more than 1,300 employees that works with more than 50 federal agencies.

—James Irwin

“Serving on the GWAA board has allowed me to come full circle—giving back to my alma mater while continuing my Colonial spirit.”

-Kristine Esposo, CCAS BA ’07

Nominations to the GWAA Board are open—submit yours today.
go.gwu.edu/gwaanominations

“I was very involved on campus during college, and after graduation I felt something was missing....”

Sound familiar?
CLASS NOTES

Myles Garrigan, AA '47, BA '48, was featured in The Republican in September, recounting the time he spent as a U.S. House of Representatives page in the 1940s. The article is available at masslive.com.

Howard Fischer, LLB '63, wrote, produced and directed They Died Before 40, a documentary on eight golden-age jazz musicians—including Fats Waller, Chick Webb and Bunny Berigan—who died before reaching the age of 40. The film, Mr. Fischer writes, will feature a version of the song “Stardust” edited together from individual performances.

Randy Swart, BA '64, received the Award of Merit and the title of Fellow from ASTM International’s Committee Fo8 on Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces and Facilities. Mr. Swart was specifically recognized for his work in the development of standards and testing for headgear and helmets. Mr. Swart is founder and director of the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute, a nonprofit organization that serves as a consumer advocacy program and as a technical resource for bicycle helmet information.

Robert Barbuto, BA '67, and his daughter Gabriella Barbuto, currently a freshman at GW, took a GW banner with them on a summer cruise through the Mediterranean, posing for a picture in front of the Hagia Sophia. Ms. Barbuto joins the GW community as part of a family tradition: her father, grandfather and two uncles are alumni.

Scott L. Baena, BBA '70, JD '74, senior partner at Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod, was appointed to the Florida Board of Bar Examiners for a five-year term by the Florida Supreme Court. Mr. Baena is the chair of the business finance and restructuring practice group at Bilzin Sumberg.

Charles Sevilla, LLM '71, a partner at Brooks Pierce, was recognized in the 2015 edition of The Best Lawyers in America as an individual leader in the field of litigation and tax law.

Daniel H. Black, JD '76, was named to the 2015 Best Lawyers in America list. Mr. Black serves as chair of Greenberg Traurig’s West Coast entertainment and media practice.

Steven Goldman, JD '76, a partner in the New York office of Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel, was appointed by President Barack Obama to the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts’ Advisory Committee on the Arts.

Marvin Dang, JD '78, was appointed to a three-year term on the 12-member Council of the Fund for Justice and Education. He is the managing member of the Law Offices of Marvin S. C. Dang in Honolulu. The fund supports more than 200 ABA public service and educational programs.


Todd Nichols, JD '81, was elected president of the Washington State Association for Justice, formerly the Washington State Trial Lawyers’ Association.

John O. Aje, MS '83, ScD '88, was a guest editor of a special issue of Technovation on security in the cyber supply chain. Dr. Aje is dean of the School of Applied Science and Technology at Thomas Edison State College in Lawrence Township, N.J.

Gregg Berman, BA '84, JD '87, was recognized by The Legal 500 2014 U.S. directory, published by Legalaease, for his expertise in mergers, acquisitions and buyouts. He was also listed in The Best Lawyers in America for 2015.

Kathy Harmon-Luber, CERT '84a, this fall mounted an exhibition of her photography, entitled Venice: Whispers, at Artspresso Art Gallery in Idyllwild, Calif. She describes her work as “double exposures of Venice scenes, with a whisper of another image... musical scores, handwriting, brocade patterns, flora and fauna, and more.” Ms. Harmon-Luber’s online gallery is KathyHarmonLuber.com.

Peter A. Rome, JD '84, was recognized in the 2015 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Mr. Rome serves as chair of Ulmer & Berne’s business department. He was also recognized by Chambers USA as one of Ohio’s leading corporate and mergers and acquisitions lawyers.

Matt Allen, BBA '85, was promoted to vice president of U.S. sales for Timberland. In this role Mr. Allen will oversee Timberland’s wholesale business in the United States for both footwear and apparel. Mr. Allen has held several leadership roles during his 14-year tenure with Timberland and brings 30 years of sales and sales management experience to his new position.

Jane A. Lewis, MS '85, published Forensic Document Examination Fundamentals and Current Trends (Elsevier, 2014). The book, a reference for forensic document examiners, forensic investigators, attorneys and others, reviews the scientific methods by which questioned documents are examined.

Donna Malvey, MS '85, published mHealth: Transforming Healthcare (Springer, 2014). The book examines trends in mobile health and discusses how those technologies offer opportunities for innovation and entrepreneurship.

Dong-Keun Shin, MS '85, ScD '91, recorded an album of Christian music entitled Dr. Dong-Keun Shin’s Songs for the New Millennium: Praise the Lord, O My Soul. His website is dlkeun.com.

Ian Ballon, JD '86, was named on the 2015 Best Lawyers in America list. Mr. Ballon is an intellectual property and Internet litigator with Greenberg Traurig, dividing his time between the Silicon Valley and Los Angeles offices.

Mary Wakefield Buxton, MA '86, released The Private War of William Styron (Brandylane, 2014). Ms. Buxton, who married into Mr. Styron’s family at an early age, describes the Sophie’s Choice author as a “lifelong writing mentor and friend.” Through Ms. Buxton’s intimate viewpoint, the reader is afforded “an insider’s perspective into the painful power struggles that...”
plagued the life of the Pulitzer Prize-winning author.” The book also includes a never-before-published letter written by Mr. Styron himself. **Heide (Koenitzer) Clark, BA ‘86, MA ‘89,** published *Monsignor* (CreateSpace, 2014). The novel explores the life of a young priest as he endeavors to change his poor parish for the better. **Kyle Zimmer, JD ‘86,** was awarded the 2014 Literarian Award for Outstanding Service to the American Literary Community. Ms. Zimmer is co-founder, CEO and president of First Book, a nonprofit that distributes quality new books at little or no cost to millions of underserved children in communities throughout the United States and Canada. Previous winners of the Literarian Award include Maya Angelou.

**Sandra Sheets, JD ‘87,** was recognized in Florida Trend’s *Florida Legal Elite* special report. She is an attorney in the Lakeland, Fla., office of GrayRobinson. She was also named a Florida Super Lawyer in estate and probate and was included on the 2015 *Best Lawyers in America* list.

**Stephen Welch, JD ‘87,** was named chief prosecutor of Kent County, Del., by Delaware Attorney General Beau Biden. He is responsible for directing the 40 prosecutors, legal support and victim services personnel who prosecute criminal cases throughout the county.


**David Richards, BA ‘88,** is the author of *Swords in Their Hands: George Washington and the Newburgh Conspiracy* (Pigsash Press, 2014), a historical account of “a plot that can be described as the closest thing to a coup that the United States has ever experienced.” The book is available on Amazon and at swordsintheirhands.com.

**Peter D. Russin, JD ‘88,** was recognized as a 2014 Florida Super Lawyer in the category of bankruptcy/business litigation. He is currently a shareholder at Meland Russin & Budwick.

**John C. Stringham, JD ‘89,** was recognized by *Best Lawyers in America* in litigation, intellectual property, patent and trademark law.

**Ingrid Wicker-McCree, BA ‘89,** in October received the 2014 NCAA Division I FCS Administrator of the Year Award from the National Association of Collegiate Women Athletics. Now in her 20th year at North Carolina Central University, Dr. Wicker-McCree was named NCCU’s first permanent female director of athletics in 2008.

**Herbert Hedden, JD ‘90,** was included on the 2015 *Best Lawyers in America* list. Mr. Hedden is a partner in the Columbus, Ohio, office of Vorys.

**John Lewis Jr., JD ‘90,** serves as head of global diversity for Coca-Cola Legal. He previously was the company’s senior managing compliance and global anti-bribery counsel, leading compliance programming for Coca-Cola’s North America business operations. Mr. Lewis, who joined the company in 2002 as litigation counsel, created Coca-Cola’s Legal Division Diversity Council in 2005, which he led until June 2013. Under the LDDC’s leadership, Coca-Cola Legal has built an award-winning supplier diversity program, increasing fivefold the company’s spending with Minority and Women Business Enterprise law firms since 2005.

**Robert M. Bauer, JD ‘91,** was listed in the 2015 *Best Lawyers in America* in the information technology law category. Mr. Bauer is a registered patent attorney with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. His practice focuses on patent litigation, licensing disputes, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office procedures, the use of patents to secure financing, and other information technology matters.

**Jody Boudreault, BA ‘91,** has joined the antitrust and competition practice group at Squire Patton Boggs. Her practice focuses on antitrust counseling, mergers and acquisitions practice before the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission, and antitrust litigation.

**Eugene H. Grayson Jr., MA ‘91,** a retired colonel, was presented with the Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander Award during Fourth of July festivities at Bisset Park in Radford, Va. Over the course of his 30-year military career, Col. Grayson was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Legion of Merit (twice), three Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Bronze Stars, the Air Medal for heroism with 18 oak leaf clusters and the Army Commendation Medal for heroism with four oak leaf clusters. **Douglas J. Zeltt, JD ‘91,** is a managing partner of the Princeton, N.J., office of Fox Rothschild, and was elected to the board of trustees of Greenwood House, a skilled nursing, rehabilitation, and assisted living center in Ewing, N.J.

**Jeffrey Goldfarb, BBA ‘92,** is now U.S. editor of *Breakingviews,* the financial commentary arm of Reuters, where he writes about subjects including mergers and acquisitions and investment banks, and coordinates coverage across the region. Mr. Goldfarb is on Twitter at twitter.com/jgfarb.

**Lori Johnson, JD ‘92,** recently joined national law firm Chamberlain, Hendricks, Williams & Aughtry as an equity shareholder in the Atlanta office. She was previously a partner in the Atlanta office of Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garet & Dunner.

**Asim Kamdar, BBA ‘93,** MBA ‘95, was promoted to senior vice president of strategy and innovation for Summly Worldwide, a consumer research and marketing analytic consulting company to Fortune 100 companies.

**Gwendolyn Roberts Majette, JD ‘93,** published a chapter in *Law and Global Health* (Oxford University Press, 2014) in June. The chapter, “Global Health Law Norms: A Coherent Framework to Understand PPACA’s Approach to Eliminate Health Disparities and Address Implementation Challenges,” examines how domestic and international legal mechanisms can be integrated to use as tools to reduce health care disparities that disproportionately affect people of color. In March, Ms. Majette was promoted to associate professor of law with tenure at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

**Andre M. Forte, JD ‘94,** was named 2014 Lawyer of the Year by the D.C. Defense Lawyers’ Association at the organization’s annual banquet in June.

**Susan Branco Alvarado, BA ‘95, MA ‘97,** a licensed professional counselor in Virginia, has been selected by the National Board for the Certified Counselors Minority Fellowship Program. As a fellow, Ms. Alvarado will receive $20,000 to support her education and to facilitate her service to underserved minority populations. She is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in counselor education and supervision at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

**David Clark, JD ‘95,** was promoted to partner in global law firm DLA Piper’s San Diego office. Mr. Clark represents public and private emerging growth companies in mergers, acquisitions, dispositions, financings and general corporate matters.

**Jamillia Padua Ferris, BA ‘96,** a partner at Hunton & Williams, accepted an appointment with the Federal Communications Commission, where she will lead the competition law aspects of the FCC’s review of AT&T’s proposed $48.5 billion acquisition of DirecTV.

**Luis Suárez, MBA ‘96,** was appointed by Florida Governor Rick Scott to the state’s Eleventh Judicial Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission. Mr. Suárez is a partner with Boies, Schiller & Flexner.

**Kelly Jennings Yeoman, JD ‘96,** was named to the 2015 *Best Lawyers in America* list. Ms. Yeoman is a partner in the Columbus, Ohio office of Vorys.

**Carey S. Roberts, JD ‘97,** has joined Marsh & McLennan Companies as deputy general counsel and corporate secretary. Ms. Roberts will be responsible for overseeing a team of lawyers and paralegals.

**Margaret Rosenfeld, JD ‘97,** a partner with Smith Anderson in Raleigh, N.C., was included on the 2015 *Best Lawyers in America* list for banking and finance law, corporate law, and securities and capital markets law.

**David E. Grogan, LLM ‘98,** retired as a captain in the Navy Judge Advocate General’s Corps on July 1, 2014, after nearly 27 years of active duty. His first book, a legal thriller entitled *The Siegel Dispositions* (Camel Press, 2014), was released in November. The book, he says, was inspired by GW Law
Matrix R. Kreutzer, JD '98, was appointed a commissioner of the California State Board of Legal Specialization. Mr. Kreutzer, an attorney in the Las Vegas office of Howard & Howard Attorneys, also was recently named to the 2014 Mountain States Super Lawyers list.

Dinesh C. Verma, JD '98, an attorney with Nankin & Verma, was elected treasurer of the Washington, D.C., chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers Association. The chapter has over 1,000 member attorneys in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia.

Paul Barger, JD '99, was elected to the Friends of Karen board of directors. Friends of Karen provides support to New York tristate families caring for children battling cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. Mr. Barger is an attorney whose practice focuses on children with special needs.

Kathleen Hayes, MFA '00, interned with Floura Teeter Landscape Architects this summer. Also a LEED Green Associate, she primarily assisted FTLA with the Baltimore Red Line Art in Transit program. Ms. Hayes is working toward a master’s degree in landscape architecture from the University of Maryland.

Jens C. Jenkins, JD '00, was recognized by Best Lawyers in America in copyright and patent law.

Jose Lizasoain, MS '00, has joined the Orlando office of GRAEF, an engineering and consulting firm, as a senior mechanical engineer and mechanical department manager. Over the course of his 18-year career, Mr. Lizasoain has worked on facilities projects ranging from equipment replacement design to new facility system design, including more than 80 school projects.

Nefertiri R. Sickout, MA '00, has been chosen as a member of the 2014-2015 class of the Pennsylvania Bar Association’s Bar Leadership Institute. An associate in Pepper’s commercial litigation practice group and resident in the firm’s Philadelphia office, Ms. Sickout concentrates her practice on commercial litigation matters.

Amy Sullivan Cahill, LLM '01, was named to the second edition of Managing Intellectual Property’s “Top 250 Women in IP” list. Ms. Cahill is a partner with Stites & Harbison.

Jason Day, JD '01, was named a 2013 Colorado Lawyer of the Year by Law Week Colorado. He is a partner with Perkins Coie in Denver.

David Holt, BA '01, was named a “Republican Rising Star” by Chuck Todd of NBC News. Mr. Holt also was re-elected to a second four-year term in the Oklahoma Senate.

Oscar Ramirez, JD '01, MA '01, was appointed to the Chesapeake Bay Trust board of trustees. He is a principal at the Podesta Group. Mr. Ramirez previously served as special assistant

If you have a retirement plan, it’s easy to help deserving students receive a world-class education in the nation’s capital. You can name the GW School of Engineering and Applied Science as a beneficiary of some or all of the funds that may remain in your IRA, 401(k), or other retirement plan after your lifetime. Just complete a new beneficiary designation form that includes the GW School of Engineering and Applied Science and its Tax ID number (53-0196584) and submit it to your plan administrator.

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Alessandro Chierici, SEAS BA ’65, MA ’67
“I left Italy in 1960 with $20 in my pocket. SEAS accepted me with open arms and provided scholarships and work programs. I am profoundly grateful and want to help a young person achieve his or her professional dream and one day continue the tradition of giving.”

Alec Chierici is supporting the GW School of Engineering and Applied Science with a gift through his IRA. His estate will receive a significant tax deduction, and GW will receive the designated portion of his IRA tax-free.
and chief of staff to Rep. Hilda Solis (D-Calif.), deputy chief of staff to Rep. Al Green (D-Texas), and legislative director to Rep. Joe Baca (D-Calif.). He served two terms as president of the Congressional Hispanic Staff Association and was named by Washington Life magazine as one of Washington, D.C.’s most influential movers and shakers under 40.

Michael Bennett, BA ’02, was recently granted tenure and promoted to associate professor of English at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. His fourth book, The Cambridge Introduction to the Absurd (Cambridge University Press) is scheduled for publication in 2015.

Eric Berman, JD ’02, joined Venable as counsel in Washington, D.C. Previously, Mr. Berman worked for Williams Mullen, where he served as a partner and chair of the firm’s antitrust and trade regulation practice.

Jeffery Cassin, BA ’02, Keith Bishop, BA ’03, and Greg May, BA ’03, founded Manhattan’s only board game cafe, The Uncommons. Colin D. Cook, JD ’02, joined INPEX Corp. as senior legal counsel. INPEX is a Tokyo-based oil and gas company.

Nicholas E. Johansson, JD ’02, was appointed to the Maryland Economic Development Commission. Prior to joining Whiteford, Taylor & Preston as an attorney in 2004, he served as an attorney for the Baltimore City Solicitor’s Office. He is the author of several articles on elder law issues.

Andrew Hartman, MA ’03, PhD ’06, is the author of A War for the Soul of America: A History of the Culture Wars (University of Chicago Press, upcoming in spring 2015). As the publisher describes the book: “As an ever more partisan but also an ever more diverse and accepting America continues to find its way in a changing world, [the book] reminds us of how we got here, and what all the shouting has really been about.”

Chad Nydegger, JD ’03, was recognized by Best Lawyers in America in litigation, intellectual property and patent law.

Devon Tutak Steven, BA ’03, and her husband John welcomed their first child, John Tutak Steven, at the George Washington University Hospital on May 19, 2014. They reside in Washington, D.C., where Ms. Steven is project manager for Ready To Learn at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

David Lee Brown, BS ’04, recently published Transfigured to Serve: A Glimpse of Eternity (WestBowPress, July 2014). The book “explores the fictional life of a Christian man ... and provides a glimpse of his life before, during and after the rapture.”


Joseph Saka, BA ’04, joined Lowenstein Sandler as counsel in the firm’s newly-opened Washington office. Mr. Saka will continue representing corporate policyholders in complex disputes with their insurance companies. He was previously with Dickstein Shapiro, where he helped clients obtain significant recoveries from their insurers.

Michelle Stevens, MPA ’04, is releasing her first children’s book, Bentley’s Premie Blessing (Michelle Marie Stevens, 2014). The book, drawn from Ms. Stevens’ own experience with her daughter Emily, is intended to generate a discussion with a child who was born prematurely about his or her personal neonatal intensive care unit journey.

Geoffrey R. Cleveland, BBA ’05, and his wife, Joy, welcomed their first child, Geoffrey Ross Cleveland Jr., on Dec. 1, 2013.

Thomas A. Janczewski, JD ’05, has been named partner at the Milwaukee office of Michael Best & Friedrich. He practices general commercial litigation in both state and federal courts.

Michael B. Greenwald, BA ’06, works for the U.S. Treasury Department in its Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence. In August, he was part of a U.S. delegation visit to Kiev, Ukraine, where he met with Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk and other Ukrainian cabinet members to discuss issues of coordinating sanctions application.

Wes Johnson, BS ’06, and Yin Hou, BS ’08, MS ’10, are happy to announce their engagement as of July 2014. Their wedding is planned for the summer of 2015.

David Kim, JD ’07, an attorney with Armstrong Teasdale in St. Louis, was selected for inclusion in the Regional Business Council’s Young Professionals Network Leadership 100 for 2014. A member of Armstrong Teasdale’s intellectual property practice group, Mr. Kim counsels clients through various phases of product design and development.

Jason Louis, MS ’07, recently published a children’s book titled Marco’s Travels: Hello, Brazil! (Lincoln J. Louis, 2014). Marco’s Travels is a children’s picture book series “chronicling the journeys of a young boy as he travels the world to reunite with friends in their home country. On these visits, his friends expose him to the rich culture of the country including food, music, festivals, history, landmarks and language.”

Kate Roche, BA ’07, was appointed president and CEO of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Roche is the youngest person to serve in this position and the first woman.

Bryan King, JD ’08, is an associate at Bass, Berry & Sims in Washington, D.C. He joins the firm’s government contracts practice group, which launched in early 2014.

Katherine MacCue, BA ’08, is publishing a book of poetry titled I Am No Timid Electra (ELJ Publications, 2014). The book was released in October.


Katie-Beth Baker, BA ’09, is publishing a book of poetry titled A Divisive War Changed American Public Memory (University of Massachusetts Press, 2014). Dr. Kieran analyzes how the contested memory of the Vietnam War has affected the commemoration of other events and how those acts of remembrance have influenced postwar debates over the conduct and consequences of American foreign policy.

Robert Platt, BA ’09, MPH ’13, JD ’13, is an associate at Bass, Berry & Sims in Washington, D.C., where he is a member of the firm’s compliance and government investigations practice group.

Amanda Hogue, LLM ’10, is a family law attorney at Conroy Law Firm. She is also an expert in commercial and business litigation.

Lindsey Martinez, JD ’10, is one of nine recipients of the 2014 President’s Pro Bono Service Awards for her commitment to pro bono legal services for the Public Law Center in Orange County, Calif.

Mary Candler, MFA ’11, Adam Donshik, MFA ’11, and Gwendolyn Kelso, MFA ’11, have started a theater company in New York and were selected to perform at NYCFringe. The troupe’s website is hedgepigensembletheatre.org.

Ian Steff, MA ’11, will serve as senior adviser of nanotechnology and advanced manufacturing at the Indiana Economic Development Corp. He moves to the IEDC from the Semiconductor Industry Association in Washington, D.C.

Emma Clark, BA ’12, is one of 31 residents selected for the Richmond Teacher Residency program at Virginia Commonwealth
University. This is a four-year service commitment to Richmond Public Schools, where the first-year residents co-teach alongside a master teacher for an entire school year while taking graduate coursework with VCU’s School of Education. Emily Morgan Clark-Youngblood, BS ’13, MPH ’13, became a fellow with Princeton in Latin America. PiLA placements offer field experience in Latin America to recent college graduates who are eager to pursue careers in international work. Ms. Clark-Youngblood will work with the World Food Programme in Ecuador.

Christopher Jordan, MS ’13, has been appointed director of quality resources for St. Joseph’s Hospital Health Center. Prior to joining St. Joseph’s, Mr. Jordan worked at George Washington University Hospital, where he started as a critical care registered nurse, becoming a quality improvement specialist and ultimately the director of quality improvement and infection control. Angela M. Kilbert, ’13, joined Babst Calland as an associate in the firm’s environmental services group. Ms. Kilbert assists clients on a wide variety of environmental matters. Previously, she worked as a law clerk for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU? Submit your own class note, book, or Artists’ Quarter update:
EMAIL magazine@gwu.edu MAIL Alumni News Section GW Magazine 2121 Eye Street, NW Suite 501 Washington, DC 20052

IN MEMORIAM
Barbara Mills Timberlake-Haller, AA ’51, BS ’52
June 2, 2014 Naperville, Ill.

James Ralph Beaird, LLM ’53

Stewart F. Moore, JD ’53
June 22, 2014 Queensbury, N.Y.

Stanley I. Bregman, BA ’56, LLB ’58
May 8, 2014 Albuquerque, N.M.

Richard Cahill, LLB ’64
Nov. 25, 2013 Colleyville, Texas

William D. Duffy, MS ’73

Leonard C. Eppard, RESD ’67
March 26, 2014 Middleburg, Va.

Chung-wen Shih
Professor Emeritus of Chinese Language and Literature July 6, 2014

Facility, Staff and Trustees
Judy Arkes
Academic editor Nov. 13, 2014

Morton Hyman
Former trustee Nov. 17, 2014

REMEMBERING
Michael Shanahan, SMPA Professor
Seasoned political journalist and decorated Vietnam veteran Michael Shanahan, an assistant professor of media and public affairs, died Nov. 22, following an ischemic stroke earlier in the week. Mr. Shanahan, who brought to the classroom experiences from his 40-year reporting career, started teaching at GW in 1999 as an adjunct professor. He became an assistant professor in 2005 and also served as the school’s assistant director for student affairs, taking on admissions and advising responsibilities. “In his classes and through the internships he managed, Professor Shanahan pushed students to be better journalists, writers, reporters and citizens,” says SMPA Director Frank Sesno. “He was an unshakeable friend and will be missed tremendously.”

For more on Michael Shanahan, visit gwtoday.gwu.edu/memoriam-michael-shanahan.
Dorothy needed three clicks to get home. You just need one.

Revisit your favorite locations on campus and see what’s new through our University Virtual Tour.

virtualtour.gwu.edu
Kaitlin Jencso’s image Swingset is part of her series that was honored at FotoWeek DC.

Photo Finish

Photographs by Corcoran alumnae Kaitlin Jencso, BFA ’12, and Lauren Schneiderman, MA ’13, were selected as “curators’ picks” at the main competition of the annual FotoWeek DC festival in November.

Ms. Jencso and Corcoran professor Benjamin Tankersley also received honorable mentions for their work.

Curators George Hemphill, Jeanne Modderman and Lucian Perkins pored through submissions for the main competition, choosing curators’ picks in the categories of fine art, photojournalism and photographer’s choice. A set of images from Ms. Jencso’s collection Gossamer Thread received the top honor among fine art series. On her website she describes Gossamer Thread as “an exploration of the emotional territory of [the] ever expanding and evolving course of a relationship. Loss, movement, memory, nostalgia, sweat, humidity, ephemera, artifacts, the land—connections between sisters.”

Separately, she also won an honorable mention for a single fine art image.

The series is “an exploration of the emotional territory of [the] ever expanding and evolving course of a relationship. Loss, movement, memory, nostalgia, sweat, humidity, ephemera, artifacts, the land—connections between sisters.”

In the category of single photojournalism images, Ms. Schneiderman won for a photo that was part of her Corcoran thesis project, called Living Coal. It depicts several generations of the Jarrell family, who live in southern West Virginia. Once home to a booming coal industry, the region now faces rampant unemployment. The project, she says, sheds light on families living in the shadow of coal companies.

Mr. Tankersley received a fine art series honorable mention for pieces from his collection, Breezewood, which explores small-town life “where seemingly no one lives,” and people are just passing through.

—Julyssa Lopez

To see all the honored photos from FotoWeek DC, visit fotodc.org/foto-galleries.
**TAKING CARE OF YOUR ART**

So you’ve read all about Bradley Stevens, BA ’76, MFA ’79 (“The Portrait Maker,” Pg. 40), and are ready to buy a painting. But how to ensure your investment lasts? Museum studies professor Mary Coughlin, a former objects conservator at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History (where she worked on objects ranging from Franklin Roosevelt’s leg braces to *Star Wars* robot C-3PO), offers tips for keeping your heirloom painting as vivid as if it just left the artist’s brush.

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**Consider where you hang a painting.**

While the layers of a painting can adjust to slow seasonal changes in temperature and humidity, rapid fluctuations—from, say, a heating vent, an air conditioner, an active fireplace, or a shower or bath—can cause cracks, distortion and other damage.

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**Aim for natural, indirect light.**

The sun’s ultraviolet rays can cause fading, as can ultraviolet from fluorescent lights. Picture lamps, like those mounted to the tops of paintings, often have incandescent bulbs that burn hot, which can cause paint to crack and flake.

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**You see a doctor for injuries, so should your art.**

If there’s a tear in a painting, don’t try to glue or tape it. Commercial adhesives will become discolored and increasingly difficult to remove. Call a conservator.

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**If you must clean, do it gently.**

Cleaning solvents and even water can dissolve paints or affect surface coatings. The most a non-conservator should attempt—if there’s no flaking—is cleaning with a soft brush, like a sable brush used for watercolors. Wrap masking tape around the metal edge at the foot of the bristles to avoid scratching the painting. Use the brush to dislodge surface dust, ideally right into a vacuum so it is not redistributed.
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This season, GW Basketball holds court on a national stage.

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