President’s Message

WISH FREELY
AND WISH BIG

BRIAN C. MITCHELL

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Beginning with this first issue of Bucknell World of the new year, I will share my thoughts about the many things taking place at the university through this “President’s Message” column. I hope you find this helpful and will take the time, as an issue moves you, to share your observations and ideas.

Although a historian by training, I must admit that I am uncertain when the first 100 days of a presidency became a milestone for reflection. Nonetheless, as the first 100 days as Bucknell’s 16th president have just passed, I can truthfully say that it has been a full and exciting time. Maryjane and I are beginning to feel quite at home in Lewisburg. Every day we learn something new about this beautiful campus. And, most important, our network of Bucknellians — students, alumni, parents, and friends — grows seemingly without limits.

In my convocation address to the Class of 2008 — arguably the strongest entering class in the university’s history — I recounted an experience I had during the search process last spring when I answered the question “Why do you want to come to Bucknell?” with what I considered a direct and truthful response: “Because Bucknell is Bucknell.” After all, my years as the head of Pennsylvania’s Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, then as the president of another national liberal arts college, taught me how brightly the Bucknell star shines within the constellation of premier institutions of higher education. My first 100 days at Bucknell have reinforced for me the university’s reputation as a highly selective liberal arts university, further convincing me that the beauty of Bucknell is that it is Bucknell.

The theme of the convocation address is one that you will hear more about as the strategic planning process unfolds: The Promise of Bucknell. I am reminded about this promise every day as I work alongside a team of dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators. But where this concept really becomes manifest is in the lives of the outstanding students who come to our university for their higher education. Having entertained hundreds of students in the president’s house this semester, we are constantly impressed by the quality of these young Bucknellians. It is impossible to broadly and convincingly tell the stories of the students we have met in this brief column. Our central purpose as a university continues to be to provide them with an unparalleled education and prepare them to be lifelong learners and contributing members of society.

Bucknell’s history of transformation is impressive. Growing from a regional university in the 1980s to a respected and nationally recognized liberal arts university known for its outstanding educational programs and competitive athletics programs was a great achievement that happened rather expeditiously. The university’s visibility greatly improved and our “stock” rose sharply among the higher education community.

Most recently, however, Bucknell’s growth and the enhancement of its reputation have been tempered as the campus community settled into doing what we do well. During the last decade, Bucknell endured transition more than transformation and successfully weathered the changes to remain a respected national university. Some may ask, “Can we be any better than ‘great?’” My answer is yes. And, we must strive for this. To do anything less is to not honor the dedication of those that came before us. To do anything less is to never fully realize the promise of Bucknell — our true potential. As strategic planning begins and the stage is set for the next comprehensive campaign, Bucknell’s transformation begins again as we envision Bucknell’s ascent within the top tier of national liberal arts universities.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan.” Strategic planning is vital to the university’s future as it provides us the opportunity to determine as a community our identity and our next great achievements. Although frequently considered an administrative exercise, Bucknell’s next strategic plan will be developed as a community to best reflect the collective vision we have for this great university.

As Eleanor Roosevelt’s quote above so aptly states, the time has come for Bucknell to direct energy toward channeling wishing into acting. Many of Bucknell’s faculty, staff, students, alumni, parents, and friends have communicated to me in the last several months what some of those wishes are, and the strategic planning process is designed to encourage dialogue on the possibilities that lie before us. It also has been said that planning is dreaming with a deadline and that, too, is appropriate for our next planning effort. Without a commitment to a strict timeline and firm end date, the planning process will fall short of our ambitions and, most important, prevent the initiation of Bucknell’s comprehensive campaign.

As currently conceived, the strategic plan will be completed in April 2006. To meet that deadline, the process will be conducted in three-month segments, which allow ample time for community dialogue. You will be hearing more about the strategic planning process in the near future. For now, wish freely and wish big. The only limit before us is our belief in what we can achieve.

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**Editor's Note:** We encourage letters to the editor related to topics discussed in the most recent issue of Bucknell World; matters that relate to university news or policies, or that are of interest to a segment of our readership. Letters should be no longer than 300 words and may be edited for length, clarity, and civility. Letters can be mailed, faxed, or sent via email to bworld@bucknell.edu. Letters received between now and Feb. 10 will be considered for the April issue. Additional letters will be posted on the Bucknell World website. The complete letters policy can be read at www.bucknell.edu/BucknellWorld.

**Readers Write**

**GOOD WORKS**

I always enjoy Bucknell World and was pleased to read about the clinic at Nueva Vida in Nicaragua. I visited this facility under construction while working a nearby clinic and later visited it again while doing another clinic in Managua. Keep up the good work!

Paul Susman
Lewishaw, Pa.

**BRIGADISTA PRIDE**

I was a joy to come home from work to see the delightful faces of three Nicaraguan children on the cover of the November Bucknell World. As a former brigadista who was lucky enough to participate in two trips (January ‘01 and January ‘03), I was proud to see the Brigade receive such fantastic recognition.

I find it of utmost importance that Bucknell alumni know about this remarkable program and how it has grown since its beginnings.

The Brigade helped me commit to a major my sophomore year, confirmed my belief that experience is often the best education, and brought me closer to other students, professors, and faculty in a way unlike any other I experienced in my four years of college.

My gratitude goes out to Jamie Cistoldi-Lee ’99 for taking her passion as a student and creating something that makes me proud to be a Bucknellian. Thank you to all the members of the Brigade who continue to bring hope to Nicaraguans and a unique educational experience to our students.

Katie Kohn ’03
Washington, D.C.

**HOORAY FOR THE BRIGADE**

Thanks so much for the wonderful focus on the Bucknell Brigade [November 2004]. The Brigade means so much to me, and seeing the fine coverage, including the opening essay, makes the dream seem possible of extending this kind of learning experience across the university.

Paul Susman
Lewishaw, Pa.

**A COMMON SPIRIT**

I WANT TO RESPOND to the beautifully written essay "A Pin and a Promise." I never get the chance to read this publication when it arrives, and it customarily gets buried somewhere in the pile of things to-read-when-I-have-more-time. On this particular day, however, as I flipped through the mail, the picture of Gene Robinson (and, in particular, the gorgeous stole with autumn leaves) caught my eye. This prompted me to take time to read the back cover — what a blessing! Thanks to Judith Esmy ’54 for sharing her gift of writing with the wide community of Bucknellians across the United States and around the world. I immediately shared it with my husband, a minister in the United Church of Christ, as we had a quick lunch together, and he, like me, was moved to tears. Her “heart” and spirit are obviously where her “treasure” is also. Although she has celebrated a 50th reunion and I am only coming up on my 25th, we share some very important understandings of community and group process, and I am grateful to be a part of this community.

Debbie Greenawald ’80
Robesonia, Pa.

**TAKING A STAND**

I JUST READ the latest issue of Bucknell World and was so excited by reading Judith Esmy's ’54 wonderful piece about her involvement with Bishop Robinson ['World's End," November 2004]. I was so proud of her stand about membership in her sorority. I was at Bucknell in the early '40s, and, thankfully, we didn't have that problem. I am proud to say that Pi Phi has no such covenant.

Phoebe Follmer Bacon ’45
Towson, Md.

**DISAPPOINTED**

I HAVE BEEN with great sadness for me to realize how far the chasm has grown between Bucknell and myself regarding social issues. I've been amazed how one-sided the reporting has been concerning the issue of homosexuality in recent articles over the past year alone. The last straw for me was the recent essay titled "A Pin and a Promise" [November 2004]. Why is it that every article that I've read regarding the issue of homosexuality and its acceptance in the Episcopal church — a Christian denomination based, historically, on what the Bible teaches — fails to mention what the Bible says regarding homosexuality?

Personal opinions are provided, emotional arguments are provided, touching anecdotes are given, but I have yet to see a Biblical argument addressing homosexuality in any of the articles I've read addressing this issue.

Gary Comparetto ’78
McLean, Va.

**FINE BY ME**

S THE GAY FATHER of a straight Bucknell student, I was particularly pleased to see the "Gay? Fine by Me!" article in Bucknell World article in the September 2004 issue. The support of LGBT efforts on the Bucknell campus reported in the article reflects well on the university.

Thank you for the fine reporting.

David S. Madsen P’08
Walnut Creek, Calif.

**NOT FINE BY ME**

SOME TIME BACK, I expressed concern that Bucknell was medicalizing gay/gay lifestyles by listing their gatherings in the alumni activities. I indicated that I would no longer financially support Bucknell. Recently, I was reconsidereing my stance, reasoning that a mere recording of an event was not an endorsement.

However, the recent article about the “Gay? Fine by Me!” T-shirts is clearly an endorsement of the homosexual lifestyle. While I believe Bucknell and indeed any credible learning institution should encourage understanding and empathy for diverse individuals, I don’t think the school should affirm particular sexual behaviors. Many in our society are opposed to the practice of homosexuality (not homosexuals) on the basis of religious, moral, and medical grounds. The T-shirts and their advertisement by Bucknell representatives are insensitive and disturbing.

Gays and lesbians certainly have the right to a quality, supportive education. But to validate and promote a questionable lifestyle goes far beyond support and runs counter to the values and morals of many.

Barbara Hart Yorks ’76
Elizabethtown, Pa.

**HOORAY FOR THE BRIGADE**

I was happy to note the endorsed wrestling program at Bucknell. Across academic America, one can find with ease the new and substantial constructions of athletic arenas. Bucknell and Susquehanna universities do not stand alone with brilliant athletic-recreation facilities that support at least two dozen varsity teams with big annual budgets. To reach the really large figures, one must turn to some of the Big Ten schools to appreciate expenses and fundraising for athletics.

Bill Wilkins
Lewisburg, Pa.

**LETTERS**

**Your Mother's Wrong. It's Not about Money. Who Needs Aspen when Lewisburg has So Much Snow during Winter Break?**

Barbara Hart Yorks ’76
Elizabethtown, Pa.

Editor’s Note: For a longer version of this letter, go to the Bucknell World web page, www.bucknell.edu/BucknellWorld, click on the cover of the current issue, then on “Letters” in the menu on the left.
The Politics of Food

“WE DON’T THINK ABOUT FOOD because it’s plentiful, available, prepackaged, disconnected from our lives,” says Kim Daubman, associate professor of psychology. “But my students are absolutely shocked when they learn what goes into the process — how much pollution agribusiness causes or how badly animals are treated on factory farms.”

Daubman, who teaches a course called Food & Society, has coordinated a focus-year speaking series of the same name as a part of the annual Science, Technology, and Society colloquia. She says that the lecture series came out of discussions with Gary Sojka, professor of biology, Ben Marsh, professor of geography and environmental studies, Peter Wilshusen, associate professor of environmental studies, and Gene Chenoweth, professor emeritus of political science, all of whom have an intense interest in food issues. She says, “People are very concerned with the directions of agriculture and the issues we don’t often talk about — the environmental impact, labor issues, animal welfare issues, and food security.”

That Bucknell is sponsoring a yearlong series devoted to these issues is especially pleasing to Sojka, who raises endangered breeds and brings students to his farm to instruct them on how to inoculate animals or trim their hooves. He says, “This lecture series is very neat — there aren’t a lot of liberal arts schools offering opportunities like this for students. People usually associate the big state schools with agricultural issues. It’s very telling of Bucknell that there are so many people here interested in this subject.” Sojka himself is moderating one of the events, a panel discussion on concentrated animal feeding operations on March 8.

The first speaker in the series was Anuradha Mittal, who had co-directed Food First/Institute for Food and Development Policy. She addressed the issue of food sovereignty, saying that the relationship between farmers and the community has become decentralized because of agribusiness. She said that the largest job losses between 1998 and 2008 will be in farming: “Our agriculture has become about commodities, not sustainability.” She urged the audience to become more proactive about food choices and suggested that new food economies be established, based on not patenting life (that is, not genetically modifying organisms) and limiting trade agreements. “Food,” she said, “is really a political stance.”

Satish Kumar, a former Jain monk and editor of the magazine Resurgence, which focuses on sustainable agriculture, was the second speaker. He discussed the philosophy of food, saying, “Food is not only to feed your body but is a spiritual, cultural, and social experience.” Like Mittal, Kumar discussed some of the political aspects of food and production, claiming that the poor are without food “because they have been denied land.” Both advocated local access and supporting regional agriculture. Kumar said, “When you are able to transform your culture from a consumer-based activity to a participatory process, you can build a sustainable future.”

The third speaker, Eric Schlosser, author of Fast Food Nation and Reefer Madness, talked about the “dark side of the all-American meal,” pointing out how the fast-food industry has, in the last 25 years, industrialized food, driven down the minimum wage, and contributed to obesity, particularly among the poor. He says, “In the fast-food kitchen, you have frozen food, dried food, powdered food, and syrup that’s brought back to life. It’s not even real food but an industrial commodity.”

Daubman’s hope for the colloquia is that students will begin to be more thoughtful about their food choices. At the end of the semester when she is teaching the Food & Society course, she holds a potluck dinner for the class. “Last semester,” she says, “the students sought out free-range chickens and fresh and local produce on their own. I didn’t even suggest it to them, but it was a nice ending to the course.” Like Kumar, she believes in the idea of the philosophical aspects of food: “The celebration of life begins with the celebration of food.” — Gigi Marino

Fast Food Author: As a part of the Food & Society speaking series, investigative journalist Eric Schlosser spoke to a packed auditorium on Nov. 15, 2004.
Not So Tech

Can modern-day citizens survive without technology? How would we fare if, say, time were pushed back a century? Should such a daunting event come to be, the members of this year’s Society and Technology (SoTech) Residential College will have an advantage. SoTech College explores the role of technology in contemporary society, investigating how technology has evolved and the resulting benefits or drawbacks.

Throughout September, students had the chance to learn traditional skills at the university’s Craft Center. Local craftsperson Ruth Burnham taught knitting; graduate student Clint Baclawski demonstrated pottery making; Craft Center coordinator Gretchen Heuges showed students how to sew; John Rickard, professor of English, taught bread baking; Amy Wolaver, assistant professor of economics, instructed students in rug-hooking; and Donna Spangler, local resident, explained frakturs — the traditional Pennsylvania-German art of documenting important events.

Wolaver, one of the originators of this traditional-skills program, was excited to expose her students to a hands-on experience beyond an academic understanding. “The main idea was to give students the experience of making something by hand that is now mostly machine/mass-produced. We thought it would be a neat idea for students to experience how time-consuming and difficult hand production is.”

Michelle Kanga ’08, who participated in rug-hooking, appreciated how her experience illuminated class material. “I understood a different lifestyle, in which simple trades are the only way to support yourself and family,” she says. “It relates directly to the unit we are doing on the Amish culture.”

Not only did students experience an aspect of a different way of life, they came away from this program with a skill that they can enjoy and develop on their own.

Elizabeth Molzon ’08 shared her enthusiasm for her newfound talent of knitting: “It is something I don’t want to forget how to do. Crafts are something that allow you to be creative and have fun.”

The members of the residential college and the Craft Center were equally excited about working together on this project. “Exposing students to the Craft Center provides a dual common social and academic experience,” Wolaver says.

Heuges hopes that the greater academic community will take advantage of the Craft Center, as SoTech College has. She enjoys being able to facilitate the coming together of faculty and students to explore these mediums and learn from one another outside of the classroom.

“This activity was the most involved partnership yet between the Craft Center and faculty. I invite all faculty members to take advantage of our space and resources,” she says. “The Craft Center is a rich facility that has enormous potential for serving many creative and academic needs.” — Stephanie Malenich ’05

Not So Tech

• In October, Jim Owens ’86, a seven-year brain cancer survivor, was one of 20 cyclists — chosen from 1,200 nationwide — to ride with Lance Armstrong to raise awareness for clinical trials in the Bristol-Myers Squibb Tour of Hope. The sojourn took place over eight days and covered 3,500 miles, from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C. Several Bucknell alumni greeted him on the National Mall. At this writing, Owens is starting a new clinical trial. For more, go to www.tourofhope.org/team/2004_riders/owens.htm.

• The borough of Lewisburg was placed on the National Historic Register in October. According to Ken LeVan, chair of the Historical Architectural Review Board, “Lewisburg in its entirety is considered worth preserving.” A review of existing structures was done for the historical review. There are 21 buildings built between 1773–1824; 399 between 1825–1870; 226 between 1871–1910; and 99 between 1911–1953. Says LeVan, “Lewisburg is one of the best preserved 19th-century communities in the United States.”

• Doug Lebda ’92 finished his first CEO Ironman Challenge in Lake Placid, N.Y., in July. Competitors were required to swim 2.4 miles, bike 112 miles, and run 26.2 miles. Lebda completed the three events in 11:51. He says, “The experience far exceeded my expectations. I can’t get over how great the day was. I found myself overjoyed as I realized I was finally going to make it. I was finally going to become an Ironman!” For a photo, go to www.ceochallenges.com/images/2004%20Finisher%20Pics/index.htm.

• Turn, Turn, Turn: Graduate student Clint Baclawski demonstrates how to throw and shape clay to make pottery.
myBucknell... a click away from campus

Log on to myBucknell This month, alumni will receive log-on passwords and information for the university’s newest and most innovative communication tool, myBucknell. This is the campus portal system, which will give alumni access to directories, calendars, online groups, class notes, and more. For more information, log on to mybucknell.bucknell.edu (note that there is no www in this address).

O Giving Tree, O Giving Tree More than just a holiday decoration, the Giving Tree, which appears in early November in the Elaine Langone Center, embodies the spirit of generosity. Last year, the tree held hundreds of snowflakes, each bearing the name, gender, age, and a few things desired by someone who might not normally receive gifts to brighten her or his holiday. Students, faculty, and staff bought presents for these individuals, and 12 local agencies, helped distribute the gifts. Through the efforts of Kristi Cashman ’06, Susan Damaschke ’06, and volunteer coordinator Tina McDowell, as well as 400 volunteers, the program delivered gifts to 650 people.

Presidential Inauguration Plans are underway now for the inauguration of Brian C. Mitchell as Bucknell’s 16th president, to be held on April 30. A reception will follow the ceremonies, which begin at noon. In his inauguration address, President Mitchell will reveal his vision for Bucknell’s future. The inauguration will take place during Trustee Weekend, the day after the annual Chrysalis Ball. The town of Lewisburg also will be celebrating its annual Spring Arts Festival. All alumni are invited to attend Chrysalis and the inauguration. For more information about the inauguration, go to www.bucknell.edu/inauguration.

Gadd Memorial Dedicated In a special pre-game ceremony during this year’s Homecoming football game, the university unveiled a memorial in honor of former head football coach Tom Gadd. His widow, Carol, and their sons, Jeff (left) and Dan, returned to campus for the ceremony. The memorial is located at the closed end of Christy Mathewson–Memorial Stadium.

Homecoming 2004 Homecoming 2004 was picture perfect — blue skies, warm weather, a 21–20 Bison football victory over Fordham — as 3,000 alumni returned to Bucknell for the weekend. The Bison Chips gave a 30th-anniversary reunion concert, and hundreds attended a memorial plaque dedication for the late football coach Tom Gadd. Hundreds more attended the 40th-anniversary service at Rooke Chapel. A reception for donors to the Christy Mathewson Committee of One Thousand also was held. For more photos, go to www.bucknell.edu/alumni.

Field Hockey Dedication On Oct. 3, Bucknell thanked the family and friends of Dorothy Lloyd Harvey ’53 for memorializing her by establishing the Dorothy H. Lloyd Memorial Field Hockey Endowment, a fund for the Bison field hockey program that is the first endowed operating fund for a Bucknell women’s sports program. Lloyd, or “Bugs,” as she was known to her 1953 classmates, was one of the pioneers of the sport of field hockey at Bucknell. The office of the head women’s field hockey coach has been named in memory of “Bugs,” and a commemorative plaque has been placed outside the office in Davis Gym. Shown here, from left to right, are husband Arthur Lloyd ’53, daughter Virginia Lloyd, head field hockey coach Heather Lewis, and son Tom Lloyd.

O Giving Tree, O Giving Tree

Studying in Spain Officially launching in fall 2005, Bucknell en España is the newest addition to the university’s extensive study-abroad program. Each semester, participating students, who have completed intermediate Spanish or its equivalent, will travel to the Andalusian city of Granada, accompanied by a Bucknell faculty member. Students will live with a host family and will be able to enroll in classes of varying subject matter at the Universidad de Granada and its Centro de Lenguas Modernas. This academic work will be supplemented by an introduction to life in Spain and by expeditions to other key Spanish cities, including Madrid, Sevilla, and Cordoba.

Field Hockey Dedication

Irish Ayes For the fourth straight year, Brian Kelly, the pro at Bucknell’s Golf Club, has taken a team to Ireland to compete in the Philadelphia PGA Ireland Pro-Am Golf Tournament. And for the second year, the team has brought home a first-place trophy. Shown here at Tralee Golf Course, from left to right, are Michael Craig ’71, Brian Kelly, Lock Haven (Pa.) resident Rob Emert, and Jim Cotner, the Bucknell men’s golf coach.

Creamer Signs with NWBL Molly Creamer ’03, Bucknell’s all-time leading scorer in women’s basketball, has signed to play with the Lubbock Hawks of the National Women’s Basketball League (NWBL) in 2005. Previously, Creamer played for the WNBA’s New York Liberty and the Hapoel Petah Tikva in the Israeli League. The 2005 campaign marks the first season in the NWBL for Lubbock.

Creamer Signs with NWBL

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Facility Profile: ADRIAN MULLIGAN

The Geography of Space “Most people think what geographers do is study maps,” says Adrian Mulligan, assistant professor of geography. Although a love of maps first led him to geography, Mulligan considers himself “a political geographer, so I’m looking at questions of politics.” But, he says, “I’m a sort of cultural geographer as well. I’m interested not only in big politics, but also in issues of power that happen on a daily basis. I’m looking at the ways in which space gets nationalized.”

The concept of nationalism intrigues Mulligan because, as he says, “I’ve been nationalized from so many different angles.” He was born in England, was raised in both England and Belfast, Northern Ireland, and was a student in Wales, the south of Ireland, and the United States. Historically, he says, nationalism has been defined only within the territorial boundaries of the nation-state. He contends that nationalism should be re-examined in the context of globalization and transnationalism.

He has researched the transatlantic development of Irish nationalism in several contexts. For example, he examined the role of women as nationalists in a study of the Ladies’ Land League, a late-19th-century transatlantic Irish nationalist organization. Under the leadership of Anna Parnell, this group resisted both British rule and the gender norms of Irish society and redefined the Irish concept of nationalism to include women.

In class, Mulligan offers his students a framework within which they can examine the concept of spaces in a new light. Is there, for example, such a thing as a gendered space, and what might the characteristics of such a space be? What could make a space Irish, middle-class, Muslim, white, gay, black, public, private? “A lot of the work that I do is looking at space and the role that spaces and places play in our identities,” he says.

Mulligan asks his students both to address large geopolitical issues and to study the spaces in their own lives. For example, students examine spaces at Bucknell, and they discover, among other things, that the gym at the athletic center is divided into gendered spaces: Upstairs, in the weight room, one finds a majority of males, bulking up; downstairs, on the machines, one sees a majority of females, slimming down.

Public spaces, Mulligan says, are “where democracy happens. If we’re going to retreat into our own little communities, and we don’t see the other, then what road are we going down?” He believes that making people aware of the ways in which space is defined, of the restrictions and divisions in our public and private spaces, “at the ways in which space turns into territory,” fuels resistance and ultimately brings change. — Pat Parker

All That Glitters

For three Bucknellians, all that glitters really may be gold. Nortey Yeboah ’06, Emily Winer ’05, and Daniel Leppert ’06 spent last summer working for Gold Fields Ltd., a worldwide gold-mining company. The geology majors worked in South Africa, where they conducted research that complemented their specific interests.

This new opportunity is available to geology students through the generosity of Marine Capt. Jeff Walsh ’96 and his family. The International Geology Internship program will send up to three students abroad to work in a geology-related position during the summer of their junior year. For the next five years, the positions will be with Gold Fields Ltd., the company for which Walsh himself interned as a geology student at Bucknell.

Yeboah, Winer, and Leppert, the program’s first recipients, lived on-site in an apartment complex provided by Gold Fields Ltd., and a large part of the internship was sharing the experience with one another.

Winer worked at one site, and Leppert and Yeboah at another, where they analyzed data collected by miners and created contour maps illustrating the distribution of gold in the area, thus facilitating the most efficient mining of available gold.

Originally from Botswana, Yeboah had never been to South Africa for an extended period and values this aspect of the internship as much as any other. He says, “We were in a different country with different terminology and with that came different methods and standards than the American practices we have been taught. It was a combination of everything we have learned in textbooks, from classifying rocks to statistics, all being applied in the field.”

Back at Bucknell, Winer is analyzing the data she collected on sinkhole hazards at two of the main mine shafts for her senior thesis project. Her work is enhanced by the knowledge that it addresses a critical problem and could have a real impact upon mining in South Africa.

“This project is really interesting because sinkhole formation is devastating in the area in which I was working. The worst incident happened at an adjacent mine shaft in 1964, when a sinkhole swallowed a three-story crusher plant and killed 29 people. Hopefully, my project will give the mine managers enough information to prevent that sort of damage.”

Winer says, “The influence of the internship on my life is unquestionable.” — Stephanie Malenich ’05

The Gift of Gold Fields: Daniel Leppert, Emily Winer, and Nortey Yeboah were the first recipients of the International Geology Internship.
Creating a Better Digital World

IN AN EVER-EVOLVING DIGITAL SOCIETY, we have begun to take many things for granted. Making a home movie and emailing it to your family five minutes later. Snapping a photo of a car you like and sending it to your best friend over the phone. Downloading your favorite songs onto an iPod and playing them in your car. All of this would be impossible were it not for the complex application of data compression algorithms.

Welcome to the world of Maurice Aburdene, professor of electrical engineering and computer science, and his students. “Do you ever wonder how videophones, digital cameras, and iPods work? How you can transmit images so quickly? How you can get so many pictures and songs into such a small space?” asks Aburdene. “We have faculty and students at Bucknell working on techniques even as we speak, developing new algorithms to be implemented in hardware for speeding up the compression and decompression processes used in these hi-tech devices and gizmos.”

Over the past several years and continuing through this past summer, Aburdene has been working with students and colleagues to increase the accuracy of the compression/decompression processes and to streamline the transmission and increase the quality of images. To accomplish these tasks, they are employing the most widely used compression method, the discrete cosine transform (DCT).

Aburdene says that his students are looking at different ways of computing DCT, and he’s proud of the results. “Others have implemented our techniques,” he says. “People have started using our technique to minimize the amount of hardware needed.” Last summer’s group included students April Luczywek ’05, Hoang Le ’07, Hsiang-Lin Yang ’06 and Brian Strojny ’03. Says Le, “I feel very proud and lucky because I had a chance to contribute something to this novel technique right after my freshman year.”

Two other students, Tom Goodman ’05 and Ali Al Toukhi ’05, have been working with a new method for image processing and digital watermarking, which is based on Pascal’s Triangle. Watermarking embeds a hidden logo in an image, enabling creators to protect their copyrights.

This new technique is also used to process images for the detection of “bumps” on smooth surfaces, such as lenses, mirrors, and painted surfaces. Says Aburdene, “The research is fun and exciting, and getting our students involved in groundbreaking work is even more rewarding.” — Gigi Marino

**Student Profile:** KERIM URALLI ’05

**Wall Street Bound** Most members of the Class of 2005 are busy worrying about themselves — what they will do after graduation, where they will live, how they will survive in the real world — but Kerim Uralli ’05 has been thinking about his fellow Bucknellians. After spending the summer in New York City interning for Morgan Stanley, he wanted to use the relationships he had formed and the expertise he had gained to help other students embarking on the job search. To that end, he approached Bucknell’s Career Development Center and several connections on Wall Street and helped create the “Intro to Wall Street” panel, through which five financial professionals came to Bucknell to share information about their own career paths and offer guidance to students wishing to forge their own way in the financial industry.

Uralli was thrilled to have been able to have such an impact on campus. “I wanted to add value to our campus through arranging something like this meeting, and not to help only one student but all Bucknellians who wanted to participate. Frankly, I didn’t have this kind of opportunity provided to me last year when I was looking for jobs. It feels good to be able to do it for the next generation.”

Uralli himself had little trouble acquiring a job. Upon graduation, he will relocate to New York City to work as an investment banking analyst with Morgan Stanley. As an accounting major and philosophy minor, he is excited about the opportunity to apply the skills he has gained in a field more diverse than straight accounting.

“When I stumbled across investment banking, it seemed to be a good fit for me. I don’t want to limit myself to a specific industry, and investment banking will give me this freedom.”

In addition to his studies, Uralli devotes his time to the Bucknell Student Government appropriations committee and, having been born and raised in Istanbul, Turkey, to the Turkish Student Association. He also was selected for and participated in the Institute for Leadership Technology Management. This experience, he says, “was eye-opening in terms of deciding what I wanted to do after college.” In four years, Uralli has left his mark on Bucknell. He is passionate about giving back to a school that he feels has given him so much.

“Bucknell has made me the person that I am now. I am a very happy individual because of it. I believe that Bucknell is, at the end of the day, what you make it. We, as students, all have to find what we love, and the rest is easy.” — Stephanie Malenich ’05

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A SENSE OF PLACE

MARY CSERNICA '90

There's just something special about Bucknell — something indefinable, yet no less real, that remains a part of all those who have ever lived, worked, or studied at the university. President Brian Mitchell is quick to point out that his new home has “one of the most beautiful campuses in the country.”

and while many would agree with that description, there’s something that transcends beauty alone. It’s a combination of elements — geography, architecture, history — that each add something to create a whole greater than the individual part. In short, Bucknell has a true sense of place.

Maintaining that sense of place is one of the challenges facing Mitchell and the facilities department as they look to the future of the university and how best to both utilize recent land purchases and configure the current campus to meet future needs. The university has been working with the Philadelphia consulting firm H2L2 Architects/Planners, LLP since the late 1990s to develop a campus Master Plan that will guide future decision making. A detailed proposal, issued in 1998, presents historical background, analyzes past and present campus use, and recommends future modifications. Additional drawings and recommendations have been generated since Bucknell’s 2003 acquisition of 50 acres of farmland between Fraternity Road and the Susquehanna River. “The Master Plan is a living, evolving blueprint, which needs to be both strong enough to follow and flexible enough to modify,” says Mitchell. “It is an expression of what the university is — a statement to the world of who we are and what we value.”

In the Beginning From its inception in 1846, the University at Lewisburg used building design and the topography of the land to send a message about itself. The initial campus consisted of three primary structures: the College, the Academy, and the Female Institute. The College building, Old Main, where lofty academic endeavors took place, was built in distinguished Georgian Revival style and set high on the hill overlooking the town below. The Academy, a preparatory institution for young men not yet ready for the rigors of college, was further down the hill (housed in what is now Taylor Hall). The Female Institute, a finishing/preparatory school for women, was at the bottom of the hill, somewhat incorporated into the town (in what is now Larison Hall).

As the university expanded and acquired more land in the early 20th century, administrators wanted to ensure that future growth occurred in a logical fashion. The university hired Jens Frederick Larson, a consulting architect for the Association of American Colleges, to issue the university’s first Master Plan in 1932. Larson also contributed to the campus plans of Dartmouth, Colby, and Wake Forest and was author of the handbook Architectural Planning of the American College. He personally designed many of the campus buildings, including Vaughan Literature Building, Bertrand Library, and Davis Gym.
Georgian Collegiate  The campus today bears a striking resemblance to the plan first laid out by Larson back when there was almost nothing but farmland between Old Main and the stadium. The centerpiece of Larson’s proposal was an academic quad, anchored by a grand library, with athletic facilities at the foot of the hill directly opposite the library. Larson also envisioned a secondary quad behind the library, which would consist of additional academic buildings lining a pathway down to the Susquehanna River. Fraternities and residence halls were slated for the spaces between the quads and the stadium.

While the specifics of the plan were not adhered to completely, the general philosophy behind the plan — lots of open spaces; core areas for academics, athletics, and residences; pleasant pedestrian thoroughfares — has been followed to this day and continues to guide current campus planning efforts. “Today’s Master Plan is really an extension of Larson’s vision,” says Dennis Hawley ’72, associate vice president for facilities.

Recent additions have been built true to these principles. Closing all but perimeter roads has allowed the formation of new quads — pleasant, self-contained outdoor spaces in which students and faculty can interact. The parking lot between Dana Engineering and Olin Science, for example, was converted to green space in 2002 to create a science quad. Road closures have enhanced the pedestrian feel of the campus and allowed greater opportunity for members of the campus community to connect with the area’s picturesque scenery and with each other. New athletic areas on the Bucknell West fields across Route 15, such as the William Graham Field and soon-to-come soccer venue, maintain athletics in their own areas close to campus. The placement of McDonnell Hall, Bucknell’s newest residential facility, on the old Swartz field created a cohesive uphill living community and shifted the perceived campus center closer to the main academic quad.

All the new buildings, including the recently completed Breakiron Engineering Building, utilize the classic “Bucknell Red” brick and share with other campus buildings design elements that might be called “Georgian Collegiate” — rigid symmetry, pitched roofs, stone accents. “The consistency in architecture gives a feeling of unity to the campus,” says Hawley.
Integrated Planning Any changes to the campus in the near future will be determined by the university’s strategic plan, which will be developed over the next 18 months, after a broad-based conversation with the Bucknell community. “The strategic plan will define the academic programs and establish priorities for the upcoming comprehensive campaign,” explains Mitchell. “We’ll also take a look at the current physical layout of the university. How does the residential environment relate to the academic environment to become an integrated learning environment?”

The strategic plan and the Master Plan work in conjunction with each other to guide Bucknell’s development. The strategic plan considers such questions as: What programs will Bucknell offer? How can we improve current offerings? Do we want enrollment and staffing to remain the same? Do we want or need new housing options and, if so, what type? What kind of relationship should Bucknell have with the Susquehanna River? The Master Plan provides guidance for campus development once these questions have been answered. If the strategic plan, for example, indicates that a new academic building is needed, the Master Plan recommends sites that might be suitable for construction, based on Larson’s campus development philosophy of open spaces and core academic areas.

A solid Master Plan can provide ideas for the Strategic Planning Committee, as well. For example, one recommendation in the 1998 H2L2 proposal is to replace the “mods” of Bucknell West with new housing in the core campus area. The temporary look of the units detracts from the overall architectural integrity of the campus, and the location far from the main campus is not in keeping with Larson’s original vision of an integrated residential/academic center. An entirely new residential community could be created on the recently purchased farmland. Historic Integrity

Future Gateways Another recommendation in the 1998 report is to improve the campus “gateways,” the entrances to the university. Although not directly impacting academic or residential programs, gateways play a critical role in establishing a sense of place. Distinctive gateways provide a definite contrast between being off campus and being on campus and are a natural location for large-scale maps orienting visitors to campus.

In the early days, a gate and flagpole at the end of University Avenue near the president’s house formally delineated the edge of campus. Over the years, the emergence of the automobile caused Route 15 to become a significant entry point to Bucknell. However, no corresponding gateway was created to herald the entrance.

One vision for this future gateway involves the realignment of the Moore Avenue/Smoketown Road intersection with Route 15. Relocating the traffic light a bit farther north, where the mods now stand, would place the intersection directly in line with the entrance of Rooke Chapel. This would allow a stunning view of one of Bucknell’s signature buildings to create a dramatic visual identity for Bucknell along a heavily traveled road. In addition, the change would give north-bound trucks additional stopping room and make safer an intersection that has been the site of numerous accidents involving members of the Bucknell community.

Future needs will not be met only with brand new buildings and construction. Bucknell is the recipient of a $150,000 grant from the J. Paul Getty Trust to develop a comprehensive historic preservation plan. Over the next year and a half, a team of consultants working with faculty, staff, and students will make a detailed study of the oldest buildings on campus and recommend how to preserve them. Exterior restoration and/or interior renovation might be recom-
recommended to maintain historic integrity while adapting to the needs of a new century.

An interesting edifice to consider in this context is the Carnegie Building, built in 1905 as the college library. The original building was a bright, open space with a mezzanine surrounding the large reading area and an abundance of natural light provided by skylights and high windows. Larson’s vision called for the Carnegie Building to be demolished upon the completion of Bertrand Library in 1951 so as to create another quad between Roberts Hall and Bertrand Library. However, the building was instead renovated to create space for the Alumni Association office, the placement office, and the student bookstore.

These renovations drastically altered the interior, eliminating the open space, mezzanine, and skylights. In 1996, a feasibility study again recommended demolition of this building, but the idea met with resistance from the campus community and was rejected. Recognizing the historic significance of this building and its position of prominence near the campus core, the Master Plan recommends that the Carnegie Building be restored to a state approaching its original form. The new area might be used as a study area or art gallery.

Envisioning new uses for old spaces is just one aspect of the Master Plan. Recognizing that little touches can make all the difference, the planning committee looked at a number of physical elements, such as signage, lighting, walkways, landscaping, and information kiosks. Consistency in these areas helps create a more uniform campus and contributes to the overall image of the university.

Though it is impossible to predict what the campus might look like for Reunion 2025, today’s planners are working to ensure that it will still feel like the same Bucknell that has captivated prospective students, parents, and visitors and has kept alumni coming back year after year. “Bucknell is a wonderful institution,” Mitchell says. “We want to do everything we can to preserve its beauty and sense of place.”

Mary Cormica ’90 is a frequent contributor to Bucknell World. For a look at Bucknell’s growth and development over the years, check out www.departments.bucknell.edu/edu/photo_history.

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**Downtown Dreams**

SimCity is a popular computer simulation game that allows users to create their own cities, converting a serene and untouched landscape into a thriving metropolis. If the campus Master Plan can be thought of as a kind of SimBucknell, then a group called the Lewisburg Neighborhood Task Force has been playing SimLewisburg.

In 1998, the Board of Trustees recommended that within 15 years all students reside on campus. Recognizing that the removal of over 350 students from downtown Lewisburg would have a profound impact on the town, the Lewisburg Neighborhood Task Force was created to define this impact and generate future development strategies that would be beneficial to both town and gown. “Our job was to imagine what the neighborhood might be like if students were no longer the primary residents,” explains Wayne Bromfield, general counsel of the university and chair of the task force. “Then our results would help Bucknell policymakers in deciding to proceed with the plan to end off-campus living or to change it in any way.”

Made up of representatives from Bucknell and Lewisburg, the task force conducted community workshops and held focus group sessions with students, neighborhood residents, borough officials, business owners, landlords, and others. In addition, task force members visited several other college towns to see the results of revitalization efforts in neighborhoods immediately surrounding the campuses.

Although the task force’s official report was presented to Bucknell’s Trustees at their April 2004 meeting, the public discussions leading up to the report have already prompted some improvements to the downtown area. For example, says Bromfield, a Landlords’ Association was established to improve the quality of off-campus housing and to educate students in neighborly relations. Borough regulators and investors worked together to create new uses for vacant structures such as the old Reed’s Laundry building, now a bright yellow bistro called Zelda’s on the Park.

So what might the neighborhood look like in the future? “We’re strictly in the imagination stage,” cautions Bromfield, but one vision includes townhouses, a community center, and the university bookstore.

One major concern of any development in the area is the potential for flooding from Bull Run Creek. Sixth Street lies within a designated 100-year flood plain, and buildings located there have regularly sustained water damage. A long-term solution might involve watershed planning and/or the redesign and realignment of the creek. In the short term, developers might build housing units in which potential flood damage would be minimized, such as “carriage house” residences in which only the garage is at ground level and all other living space is on the second floor.

Because most of the properties in this area are privately owned, attaining any future vision will require a level of cooperation not typically seen among landowners and governmental agencies. However, the potential benefits of creating a vibrant connection between downtown Lewisburg and the Bucknell campus could prove to be the incentives needed to work together.

In the meantime, the dreaming continues, with an added bonus: If the dreams do come to fruition, then, unlike in a computer game, real people will benefit. — M.C.
The oldest surviving organization on campus, The Bucknellian, boasts a long tradition of training students to report, write, and design.

THE PEN IS MIGHTIER

Brian Watson ’01

Most Bucknellians go through four years without ever entering the basement of Roberts Hall. Most don’t know what’s down there. Most don’t have a reason to.

But each semester, a group of students gather in a cluttered four-office suite to plan upcoming issues of The Bucknellian.

Over the years, hundreds of graduates have passed through those doors. As a news editor, Doug Adams ’89 covered a campus controversy that taught him more about professional journalism than any other experience. In the late 1980s, students protested against the university’s investing endowment funds in companies doing business with then apartheid-dominated South Africa. Adams interviewed Bucknell’s president and provost, asking tough questions and learning what it takes to be a professional reporter. When Pete Van Emburgh ’02 took the reins as editor-in-chief in spring 2001, the paper was going through an enormous transformation. Under his direction, The Bucknellian introduced color pages and restructured its editorial management. This experience, Van Emburgh says, boosted his leadership abilities and taught him how to manage a changing organization.

Started in 1896 as the Orange and Blue, the newspaper has grown in many ways. Its name was changed to The Bucknellian, then, more simply, to Bucknellian, and back to The Bucknellian. At one time, it even published twice a week. Former advisers to the paper talk about how the news content has changed through the decades, how the layout has become more professional, how technology has sped up production.

These advisers also say that most of the editors and writers saw The Bucknellian as just another activity. They didn’t have professional ambitions, although many went on to successful careers in the field. But, overall, The Bucknellian simply wasn’t a springboard for aspiring journalists. Times have changed. In recent years, a slew of its editors and writers have gone on to the country’s most prestigious journalism graduate schools, while others have jumped right into professional careers.

An Incredible Commitment

James Lee, the newspaper’s adviser, meets more and more students interested in careers in the news business. He says that The Bucknellian plays a huge part and that the advent of the 24-hour news cycle has grabbed their interest.

Working on The Bucknellian, he says, gives students the chance not only to learn about journalism, but also to understand what goes into leading a media organization. “The students run the paper all by themselves,” Lee
Van Emburgh, who served as editor-in-chief for two-and-a-half semesters, worked as recruitment manager for the Fund for American Studies, a Washington, D.C.–based nonprofit that runs several journalism-related programs throughout the world. He also served this fall as an adjunct instructor with American University's journalism program. Carmen Mauriello ’02, a longtime sports editor, has written on-staff for The Daily Item in Sunbury, Pa. and the Annapolis (Md.) Capitol. Krista Reisdorf ’02 earned a master's degree from Syracuse’s Newhouse School.

Rachel Laskow ’03, who succeeded Van Emburgh as editor-in-chief in January 2002, writes for Scholastic.com, a web-based news service for teachers, educators, and children. Helen Hunt ’03, who was a top photographer for The Bucknellian, earned her master's degree from Medill this past summer.

Trade-offs These and other student editors and writers work on a voluntary basis. None get paid for their work — which, for some, can take around 45 hours of their week.

“The best thing you can tell anyone who's going to be a writer is to just do it,” Crawford says. “I got a tremendous amount out of [working at The Bucknellian]. It gives you an idea of how newspapers work — how editorial decisions are made, how you do your job, and how you deal with people.”

Doug Adams ’89, a producer with NBC’s Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, says he transitioned to television easily. "It's not a completely different world," he says. "If you're a good writer and a good reporter, that's what's most important.”

The best thing you can tell anyone who’s going to be a writer is to just do it.

Bill Saporito ’76, a former editor-in-chief and current editor-at-large with Time, says he learned a great deal with The Bucknellian that helped his successful career in magazine journalism. “It certainly teaches you the concept of thinking about the totality of everything: photos, captions, stories, headlines,” he says. “As a magazine editor, no matter where you are, you have to think in those terms.”

Rachel Laskow, whose work is web-based, finds herself using many of the technological and design skills she learned as a top editor. “It's all similar in a way,” she says. “If you know one, it's not that difficult to transition into another.”

Overall, Lee says the newspaper provides a great opportunity for anyone interested in professional journalism. “Many students who are interested in writing often look for a career that is not academic,” he says. “The Bucknellian provides that outlet.”

Brian Watson ’01, a former Bucknellian editor-in-chief, is pursuing his master's degree in journalism at Northwestern University.
EVERY GENERATION ASKS, WHAT OF ITS EXPERIENCE will be remembered, who among its writers will endure? With the arrival of another acclaimed novel by Philip Roth ’54 as “Books” slides to deadline, the answer seems assured. Roth, winner of major awards across his prolific career and the subject of contemporary scholarship, has in his later work probed 20th-century events with startlingly original insight. The latest, the alternative history *The Plot Against America* (Houghton Mifflin), portrays Roth’s own family and childhood community being threatened by the anti-Semitic administration of President Charles A. Lindbergh, who defeated Roosevelt in the 1940 election. This book should keep everyone up late.

Roth’s new book leads a list of recent literary accomplishments from the Bucknell community. Meredith Sue Willis ’68 has delivered a new collection of short fiction, *Dwight’s House and Other Stories* (Hamilton Stone Editions). Known for pitch-perfect rendering of her native Appalachia, she is in top voice, pitting the familiar against other American subcultures and threats ranging from surreal air attacks to the specter of death in old age. She creates messy lives hurtling toward even worse complications, but they always release a slyly reassuring spirit, as when a scandal-ridden narrator concludes, “I don’t know. I’m worn down by loneliness and fear. I’m afraid I may be on the verge of trying altruism, the last, the greatest, perversion.”

*Betsy Neary Sholl ’67 articulates the world’s myriad scrambled messages in poetry staked in strong rhythms and diamond-cut imagery. She frames the poems in *Late Psalm* (University of Wisconsin Press) with visits to the public market, where seafood vendors and produce stands deliver her straight to Dante and back. In between, backyards, local landmarks, and readings of classics and local news launch profound journeys. When she worries, “And I almost see you in the dark,/ on the fringe, though I can hardly say/what you mean,” she provokes the reader to respond, “But you do.”

Sally Keith ’96 elicits a similar response. Her second collection of poetry, *Dwelling Song* (University of Georgia Press), is conveyed in forms that dance restlessly on pointe, making the sight of a page as startling as the language it contains. She creates walls, rooms, and roofs but spars with the wind and rain that resist her effort to house truth. *The Annie My Angel Poems: Second Series* (Oracle), by Kaviraj George Dowden ’57, finds Brighton, England’s latter-day Whitman singing the transactions of his life and heart in effluent prose poems. This...
volume sorts out the preoccupations of war, terrorism, his aging health, and the absence of his muse-wife, who is stateside with family.

**Nonfiction Round-up** A paradox burgeoning with each passing generation is that while all adults have experienced life as teenagers, few understand them. Society readily subscribes to the malevolence of youth culture. Sharon Nichols ’91, co-author of America's Teenagers — Myths and Realities (Lawrence Erlbaum Associates), finds that perception not only untrue but dangerous, influencing detrimental public policy.

Nichols, recently appointed to the educational psychology faculty at the University of Texas at San Antonio, has studied this phenomenon since 1998. The most chilling finding is that it is not out of dislike that adult society has conjured the teenage monster but a “careless indifference to youth.” Into the void, the media has rushed with disproportionate representations and powerful marketing ploys that exploit children. American teens are, in fact, high performers, their achievements all the more impressive given how they exist in a social pressure cooker, generating alarming rates of self-destructive behavior. Nichols charges policymakers with doing harm and makes recommendations for nurturing a significant national resource.

More than one Bucknell alumnus has been active in lifting the centuries-old veil of secrecy surrounding Armenia. While Peter Balakian ’73 has focused on the historical experience, Matthew Karmanian ’82 has documented the contemporary land. The Stone Garden Guide to Armenia and Karabagh (Stone Garden Productions) is the second travel guide and third book on the region he has co-authored with Robert Kurkjian.

Their 2002 guide, Edge of Time, introduced the region as a travelers’ destination, and the new book emphasizes the ecology and conservation of the rocky terrain. In addition to updating information on food, lodging, transportation, communication, and sightseeing, it offers a nature guide and introduction to environmental issues and policy. It is generously illustrated with maps and the elegant photography that distinguished the authors’ first collaboration, the coffee-table book Out of Stone.

**She’s Back!** Susan Sullivan Dunlap ’68 has a new novel, Fast Friends. Known for mystery series featuring strong, unconventional female sleuths predating those of Sue Grafton and Sarah Paretsky, she jumped genres and is taking a whirl in crime thriller territory. She hits the ground running with a heroine escaping from her husband’s killers and corrupt police, her only companions a reluctant school friend and a pet pig (Dunlap may have left behind the whodunit tradition but not California eccentricity).

**The Children’s Corner** Pamela Love ’88 is fast establishing herself as an author of quality children’s literature emphasizing the wonder of the natural world.

Love’s first picture book, A Loon Alone, illustrated by wildlife artist Shannon Sycks’, evoked the wilderness of the northern lakes, following the realistic adventures of a loon chick separated from its parents. In A Cub Explores (Down East Books), which also features Sycks’ artwork, children (age 4 and up) experience close up the life of a young bear. In the course of a day, they forage for berries with him and encounter many animals, including a mother bobcat protecting her babies.

“No one should go near a bear cub,” Love warns in a fact sheet that follows the story, because of the ferocity with which a mother bear defends her offspring. Thanks to the author, however, young readers have an opportunity to safely investigate wild animals in their habitat.

First-time author P.J. (Pamela Jane) Lyons ’79 has joined the company of Love and other alumni writing for children. Inspired by the rhythm and rhyme of the classic tale “The House That Jack Built,” Lyons retells the creation story in The Wonderful World That God Made (Kregel Kidzone). Her bright imagery — jeweled flowers, dancing trees, swimmy things, and skies flecked with birds — is complemented by Lois Esposito’s illustrations that build on blues and violets, progressively adding warm earth tones to a rich, harmonious palette as the seven days unfold.

Brian Rock ’88 is another first-time author, debuting with Don’t Play with Your Food! (First Light Publishing). Each chapter is made up of light verse, with playful poems like “Spud Love” and “Clair Eclair.”

Claudia Ebeling reviews books in January and September.
DANCES, DINKS, AND PARADES

SAM ALCORN

MARION STONE WRIGHT '39 still recalls the pomp and circumstance of Bucknell's annual May Day Celebration. The annual spring festival, which continued for more than a half century, featured the crowning of a queen and her court and a formal dance at Loomis Field, complete with big band music, song, skits, field games, and a traditional Maypole dance that circled a pole trailing colored streamers.

Wright was in the queen's court in 1939 and likes to open her scrapbooks to reminisce about those times. "The dinners and dances," she says, "were always a big time. We got all dressed up, and it was very exciting."

A generation earlier, her mother, Helen Cliber '09, took part in another tradition. "When Mother was at Bucknell, they had afternoon teas, and she didn't have a gentleman to escort her to one in Larison Hall," she says. Dances, Dinks, and Parades

The remedy: Wright's grandmother sent her mother's brother, Frank, by train from Hollidaysburg, Pa., to Lewisburg to provide an escort. He arrived with flowers in hand.

Tradition can mean different things to different people.

For John Zeller '41, tradition "means the love of the place, the feeling of nostalgia you have for the way it was when you were an undergraduate."

He remembers freshman dinks, the skimpy blue caps that newly arrived freshmen wore on campus. Being caught without one could hazard an upperclassman's request to sing the school's alma mater.

"The first few weeks you were here, you had to wear a dink. The first week you had to wear a sign with your name and where you lived," says Zeller. "You couldn't walk on Senior Path. You had to sing the alma mater if demanded. You wore the dink until something happened, and that something usually occurred around Homecoming."

That's when the Frosh-Soph Class Scrap took place, a tradition that continued into the mid-1940s.

"It was held down on Loomis Field. The freshmen would line up on one side of the field and the sophomores on the other side," says Zeller. "Given a signal, they would go at each other and drag each other across their goals."

That evolved into a tug-of-war on the football field, with one class struggling to pull the other through an open fire hose. The dink regulation, of course, would be relaxed early if an enterprising freshman could shinny up a pole coated with axle grease to claim the trophy at the top.

A co-May Queen in 1939 and the first female drum major in Bucknell's then all-male marching band, Bernice Rathmell '39 recalls house parties in the elaborately decorated fraternities. Live bands supplied the music for dancing. Dance cards were required.

"It was very formal," Rathmell says. "When you were invited for dinner, you had to dress for dinner — long dresses for house parties. It was a very dressy time — a very special time. Girls had to be in by 10 o'clock during the week and by 11 o'clock Saturdays. If you went to dances later than that, you had to sign out with the house mother."

Zeller, who grew up in Lewisburg, remembers house parties well. "You had a formal dance one night,
attempt to paint their class graduation date over the sophomores’ numbers.

Ask Clavin Fisher ’34 about traditions and what comes to his mind is Red Rock, the sandstone projection by the Susquehanna River that served as an informal social hot spot. “You’d walk your date down there, sit on the rock, and bathe in the sunshine and watch the Susquehanna. It was just wonderful. I belonged to the YMCA, and we would have breakfasts at Red Rock before classes — even church services.”

Fisher, too, remembers serenading — with a twist. “During fraternity initiation, we made the freshman pledges sing underneath the windows, and the girls were primed to throw water on them,” he chuckles.

Both Zeller and Fisher remember the long-standing Hello Tradition.

“Everyone spoke to everyone on campus,” says Zeller. “If you were walking on the campus and passed someone, you’d say hello.” Says Fisher: “On passing a student on campus, you always greeted him and said hello, whether you knew him or not. It was a friendly procedure.”

Homecoming, says Charles Vogel ’37, was a popular tradition. Fraternities built floats or, as he did, borrowed an old car from one of the fraternity cooks and paraded across campus. At its height, it included a town march with the community’s Boy Scouts, fire engines, and high school band all joining in. “It was a big deal,” says Vogel.

Some recollect marching by class and wearing straw hats or T-shirts painted with their class year. Before football games, there were bonfires — fueled with scrap wood that freshmen were obliged to gather in town.

There was also another freshman–sophomore rivalry in which second-year students defended the campus water tower from the new students, who would attempt to paint their class graduation date over the sophomores’ numbers.

Many remember the all-class dance traditions — the Freshman Hop, Sophomore Cotillion, Junior Prom, and Senior Ball. During the 1930s and 1940s, big names like Glenn Miller and Jimmy Dorsey played the all-class dances.

For Vogel, there are memories of traveling glee clubs and East Coast radio appearances and trophy competitions, some of which were held in the Lewisburg High School auditorium. There were simpler traditions, too.

“A big date was going down to Bechtel’s on Market Street and having a Coke for a nickel. You’d sit there all night over two Cokes and spend a dime,” he says. “Or, you’d go to Pardoe’s. They had a nickelodeon, and you’d get a nickel Coke and play some music and dance. We had a good time. That was part of the fun.”

Thinking about it now, Vogel says some of the old traditions, which were common throughout the campus world during his undergraduate days, “might be looked at as being kind of corny today. It’s a different world now. But they had a great deal of meaning.”

After World War II, some traditions started to change.

“When the guys came back, they had an entirely different mentality about things,” says Vogel. “They said they’d lost a lot of years and had to get their education. They said, ‘Forget this stuff.’”

Today, Wright still owns some of the dresses she wore at Bucknell formal affairs. “They’re up in the attic. When my family is here at Christmas, they’ll go up and get them and parade around. One is beautiful lavender with purple velvet edging and straps. I just thought it was the most glorious thing. It still is.”

A yearbook snapshot also shows her in an elegant white evening gown. “I still have that one, too,” she muses. “We really dressed up. And those big bands, they were wonderful.”

Sam Alcorn is a frequent contributor to Bucknell World.
MARY BELLE HARRIS ASSOCIATES

In 1932, MARY BELLE HARRIS became the first alumna to be voted to the Board of Trustees. Graduating in 1894 with an education in languages, she was an original member of the women’s basketball team and a charter member of Pi Beta Phi sorority. She embarked on a career in penology, where she developed modern ways of treating prisoners.

The Mary Belle Harris Associates honors donors who contributed $2,500–$4,999 between July 1, 2003, and June 30, 2004. The substantial contributions these leadership donors have made to Bucknell’s educational mission is gratefully acknowledged.

We apologize that the wrong list of donors was published in the October Honor Roll of Donors and Volunteers.
“LET JUSTICE ROLL DOWN like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream!” So thundered the prophet Amos against the ancient people of Israel, calling them to judgment for their social injustices. Martin Luther King Jr., too, was a prophet of justice, denouncing the massive evils of our time. Like Amos, he knew that the structures of oppression and suffering that plague the world are not matters of historical necessity but of human decision. But what exactly was his mission as a prophet of justice?

Consider two ways of construing that mission — microscopic and macroscopic. Both indicate the serious social problems that beset us, but only the latter captures the full breadth of his vision.

In the microscopic view, King’s mission concerned relations among persons of differing racial identities. So in his famed “I Have a Dream” speech, he proclaimed, “I have a dream that one day . . . little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls as sisters and brothers.” King struggled to make that dream come true, making considerable strides in public accommodations, public transportation, political organization, and voting rights. Yet now, nearly 40 years following his assassination, America remains deeply divided by racial tensions and inequalities.

In the macroscopic view, King’s mission was far more encompassing; he called for a “revolution of values,” a comprehensive reconsideration of the fundamental purposes that govern our actions. He called for the creation of a “beloved community” across the world.

The concept of a beloved community, as King presented it, is not merely sentimental rhetoric. It is a moral axiom giving rise to a principle of social justice that runs against the grain of our ordinary life. It stands in stark contrast particularly to three massive evils that work against the creation of the beloved community: racism, poverty, militarism.

Racism is more than a matter of personal disposition; it cannot be overcome by a warm smile, a hearty handshake, a change of language, or living room dialogue. Racism is a pattern of domination, entrenched in cultural expectations and institutional forms. Neocolonialism is “racism in its more sophisticated form.” We can imagine King demonstrating against that kind of globalized corporativism that sustains an imbalance of economic power and results in the exploitation of local economies for the benefit of gigantic corporate entities, largely controlled by white people. Until we come to grips with the causes and effects of economic imperialism, we cannot begin to deal with the structural evil of racism.

Hence the second grave evil plaguing the human community: poverty. As King observed, although we have the scientific and economic wherewithal to overcome poverty, millions upon millions of people suffer every day from hunger, disease, malnourishment, lack of shelter, and the most basic necessities of life. “There is no deficit,” he wrote, “in human resources; the deficit is in human will.” Repeatedly, he proposed programs supportive of economic rights for everyone. At the time of his assassination, King was planning a “Poor People’s Campaign,” a march on Washington by thousands of the poor to press for a fundamental transformation of the nation’s economic priorities.

The third massive evil King cites as contrary to the beloved community is militarism. King was a staunch advocate of nonviolence during civil rights struggles, partly as strategic counsel, but especially as moral principle. Violence in all its forms — personal, official, military — is dehumanizing and degrading. Even employed for defense, it violates our highest sensibilities. If peace is our goal, peace must be our means. Violence simply begets more violence. But nonviolence does not acquiesce in oppression; instead, it organizes, it calculates, it disrupts when it must be disruptive; it strikes powerfully and precisely at forces that militate against human dignity. But it is never disrespectful. It will neither kill nor injure. As such, it takes greater courage than any imaginable military operation.

If we would honor Martin Luther King Jr. as a prophet of justice, we must heed his judgment against all these massive evils — racism, poverty, militarism. We must undertake a complete revolution of values, reordering our propensity to pursue business as usual. We must comprehend that purity of heart is to will one thing: the beloved community. That and that alone is worthy of our energies. That and that alone informs us of what is just and what is unjust. To honor King, we must give ourselves to the struggle against all those forces that diminish our stature as participants in a beloved community that constitutes our true destiny.

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