“It’s important that people should know what you stand for. It’s equally important that they know what you won’t stand for.”
—Mary H. Waldrip, journalist

What we won’t stand for

The reality that millions of women suffer domestic violence at some point in their lives doesn’t always sink in until it happens close to home. And now a woman has died from domestic violence barely a mile down the street from Bucknell.

We shouldn’t wait for tragedies to happen before we take a stand against or take notice of domestic violence and sexual assault. This is why the WRC presents the Clothesline Project every other year in the Elaine Langone Center.

We are encouraged each time the project is held by the number of people interested in designing shirts and learning more about the initiative. However, it was disheartening when three shirts were found missing from the display. Whether someone removed the shirts because he or she was offended or because he or she had a lack of respect for the project, we don’t know.

But what we do know is what we won’t stand for: domestic violence of any kind.
—Susan Misur, Editor

Domestic violence murder

By Susan Misur, ’09

A Lewisburg mother of four died Sept. 29 after being shot in the head by her estranged fiance in a tragic case of domestic violence.

Police say Roderick Sims, 46, shot Charity Spickler, 27, Sept. 27 at 55 S. Water St., and she later died at Geisinger Medical Center, according to The Daily Item. Spickler was staying in the apartment with a friend, police said.

Spickler had filed a protection order against Sims in five years. Sims had abused Spickler over the past six years, as suggested by court documents, and the most recent case was Aug. 28 in a dispute involving jealousy over another man. Sims reportedly spit on, grabbed and struck Spickler, which prompted Spickler to file the second protection from abuse order against Sims in five years.

The murder was the first in the Lewisburg area since 1996 when Ronald Golder shot his estranged wife, his best friend and then himself in September of that year.

Continued on page 9
Interim director’s note

By Tracy Shaynak, interim director

In October, the Clothesline Project returned to Bucknell as a visual representation of the number and variety of lives impacted by domestic violence. Survivors, friends, family and those wishing to take a stand against domestic or relationship violence had an opportunity to create a t-shirt to be placed on a clothesline included in a display later this month in Hufnagle Park. If relationship violence is not an issue that’s personally affected you or someone you know, it may not be something you think about often. However, the recent murder downtown reminds all of us how pervasive this problem is and prompts many to wonder why senseless crimes of this nature continue to happen.

The truth is, you may not know the degree to which relationship violence and related issues may be impacting your life, as it can be seemingly so subtle, so insidious, that there may be those around you struggling without your knowledge. It’s not uncommon for someone who is abusive to encourage the separation of his/her partner from friends and family. What can seem like two people in love who want to spend a lot of time alone might be more than what you are seeing on the surface. It is easy to think, “I would never let that happen to me,” but there are individuals every day who have thought that, and still they remain in an unhealthy or abusive relationship. Below are some reasons why someone may choose to remain connected to someone who is physically or emotionally abusive:

—She’s attached and can’t imagine being without him/her.
—He may have a fear of being alone or of change.
—She may feel guilt or shame.
—He justifies the behavior as normal — “I know lots of people in relationships like this.”
—She might believe he/she will change one day.
—He may believe he is at fault for everything for which he is criticized.
—She is afraid of what will happen if she leaves. What will he/she do to her or him/herself?
—He does not believe he can do it. The relationship has caused poor self-image and low self-confidence.
—She loves him/her.

It’s vitally important that we acknowledge that relationship violence is a real issue affecting people of all walks of life. We need to believe and support those struggling with the decision to seek help, end a relationship, leave a marriage, and/or report an incident of abuse. It is certainly not wrong to care about someone, but love doesn’t exclusively exist between people who are in healthy relationships. If someone cares deeply about an abusive partner, it may be difficult for her to think about separating from him/her. However, it’s important she be encouraged to do what’s truly best for her to protect her well-being.

To seek assistance for yourself or a friend, please contact the WRC, 200A Roberts Hall, 577-1375.

Did you know...

... that on Oct. 26, 1916, Margaret Sanger, founder of Planned Parenthood, was arrested for obscenity for distributing birth control information.

... that Oct. 17 is National Mammography Day. The third Friday of October is typically designated as this day, as October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

...that Susquehanna Valley Women in Transition participated in a free clinic day Oct. 4 at Lewisburg Family Dentistry. University Hair Design then offered free hair care Oct. 6 for the women served by SVWIT.

...that Mae Jemison, the first African-American woman in space, was born in Alabama on Oct. 17, 1956. Jemison traveled into space in 1992.
It’s all Greek to me

Kelsey Wigggin, ‘11

Greek recruitment, more commonly known as rush, is unlike any other experience I have had in my life. I passed the summer by without many worries or thoughts about the whole thing—I tried my best to ignore the rumors.

Before I knew it it was the first Friday of the semester; I was back at school and already making the infamous trek from Larison to Hunt in a single file line of nervous young women. That’s when the nerves started.

A few minutes later I was awkwardly squished on the ground with my legs crossed while over a hundred sorority girls were screaming a song I couldn’t catch the words to in my face. I couldn’t stop smiling—I felt like I had never seen so much enthusiasm in my life.

After what seemed like fifteen minutes it quieted down, only for more songs to start. I was having fun so far… but this was the easy part. I had missed Open Suites in the spring so this was my first time experiencing the daunting conversations that loomed ahead.

Recruitment is a necessary yet infamous part of sororities at Bucknell. I don’t think you can truly understand how it works unless you go through it, but it is basically a method in which the potential new member can choose where she wants to be while at the same time the sorority is choosing her.

It lasts for about a week and there are four rounds. In the first round everyone visits all six sororities, while in the next the potential new member visits at the most five, then three and finally two.

The first two rounds are very long rounds, but after those two it only gets shorter and easier. The last is called preferential, or prefs for short, and it’s a more intimate round with only two sororities. A few more days pass before bid night and then you start the next journey of being a pledge.

After the songs ended on that first day of recruitment a girl pulled me out into the hallway and into a bedroom where we started talking. It was awkward, yet it was fun and interesting too. A few minutes later I was talking to someone else and then another person.

By the time an hour had passed my nerves had calmed and I had met some really nice girls. One sorority down, five more!

After that day the part that wasn’t easy was the waiting between sessions. Would my favorite sorority want me back? Would any sorority want me back? I quickly found it is best to just hang with your friends and not mention sororities at all—everything will happen for a reason.

Then the next day would come and we were given the list of sororities we would go to that day. It didn’t always work out as I’d hoped, but it was never too big of a deal. I only wanted to be in a place that wanted me to be there. Back to Hunt we’d go for another round, and before I knew it I was at the last round and I felt like I belonged.

Now it is a few weeks after the fact and I am so happy with where I ended up. Yet not only am I happy with where I ended up, I am happy to have the experience that got me here.

Recruitment is intimidating and nerve-racking, but it’s an experience that I’ll never forget and I already can’t wait to go through it again. I always wanted to go to school with my sister, and now I’m going to school with 150.
Domestic violence awareness
The Clothesline Project

By Emily Rath, '09

This year the Bucknell community is once again taking part in the Clothesline Project in order to raise awareness about violence against women. The Clothesline Project is a project started in Cape Cod, Massachusetts in 1990 with the goals of encouraging society to discuss the issue of violence against women and to act as a healing mechanism for survivors and family and friends of victims of violence.

Thousands of organizations, including many colleges and universities across the country and the world, take part in the project by creating shirts with testimonies of support and/or personal experience relating to incidences of violence against women, and then hanging these shirts in a display where community members can see, read and react to the sometimes very sad, sometimes very inspiring messages of grief and support. The Clothesline Project honors survivors of violence and commemorates those who have passed away at the hands of an abuser. More often than not, as in the case of the recent murder of Lewisburg's Charity Spickler at the hands of her ex, the abuser is someone the victim knows.

Members of the Bucknell community can participate by creating shirts in the craft center during the week of October 20 and viewing the project during the week of October 27. The Clothesline will be hung on the stairs of the downhill side of the Elaine Langone Center and information about violence against women, healthy relationships and important information especially pertaining to college students will also be available. For further information about the Clothesline Project, you can visit www.clotheslineproject.org and for further information about the Bucknell version, contact Tracy Shaynak, Interim Director of the Women's Resource Center, at tracy.shaynak@bucknell.edu or Emily Rath, Women's Resource Center Student Office Assistant, at emily.rath@bucknell.edu.

Each shirt color represents a form of abuse.

- **Black**  Attacked for political reasons
- **Yellow**  battered or assaulted
- **Purple**  Attacked for sexual orientation
- **White**  Died from violence
- **Red, Pink, Orange**  Raped or sexually assaulted
- **Blue, Green**  Suffered incest or sexual abuse

You may include:
- Shirts memorializing a woman killed
- Shirts showing support for survivors
- Shirts reflecting your experience with violence
- Statements of support for survivors
- Statements that promote the ending of violence against women

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<th>Shirt-making dates:</th>
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<td><strong>Friday</strong>             Oct. 17 1-4</td>
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<td><strong>Monday</strong>            Oct. 20 1-4</td>
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Body talk Q & A: Toxic Relationships

By Susan Misur ’09

Last year, Tracy Shaynak of Community Health Promotion and Renee Cardone of Psychological Services sat down with former WRC director Micheala Denny and students to discuss toxic relationships and how to help a friend who might be in one. Everything from stalking to domestic violence was covered. In lieu of Domestic Violence Awareness month, questions from the Q & A are being republished in this month’s newsletter.

What are the signs of a toxic relationship?
—“Spirit deadening” or when a person looks exhausted, worn-down and withdrawn.
—frequent injuries and excuses of accidents
—harassing phone calls
—fear of a partner
—reference’s to partner’s anger
—depression, low self-esteem

What are the most common types of abuse among students?
“Probably emotional and sexual abuse,” said Renee Cardone. Other types are verbal, physical and economic.

What’s the difference between emotional and verbal abuse?
Emotional is when someone makes a partner feel bad through subtle mind tricks. They might say you don’t know how to handle something or make you feel guilty for things like wanting to spend time with friends. Verbal abuse is putting a partner down and name-calling.

What do you do if someone is stalking you in person or on the internet?
Students can call the Dean of Students if they don’t want to get involved in judicial resolutions. The dean will sit with one or both parties to discuss the situation. If the contact persists, you can get a restraining order. “That is a definite jolt to some people because they realize they’ve gone too far,” Cardone said.

What happens if you get Public Safety involved? Does it go on the Public Safety log in the newspaper?
No, a private meeting with an officer will not go in the log.

How do you know when someone has gone far enough and it’s time to report their abusive behavior?
“When a person disregards your request to be left alone—then it’s a problem,” said Tracy Shaynak. As soon as you’re feeling uncomfortable or unsafe, it’s time to talk to someone. “Sometimes a person might be worried about getting their partner in trouble with Public Safety. But, again, filing a report doesn’t mean it ends up in the newspaper log,” Micheala Denny said. Students tend to think they need to handle things on their own but they can certainly ask for help.

Who on campus can help with abusive situations?
The Dean of Students, Public Safety and even the Sexual Assault Survivor Advocates on campus can all help. Each has other resources they can also connect you to.

Does an abuser ever have issues of their own causing this behavior?
Yes, the person might be depressed and feel powerful when they abuse a partner. People who already feel powerful and confident don’t need to use these tactics to feel good about themselves. But some who don’t feel adequate need to control the person they’re with to feel better about themselves. The person might even be sub-consciously planning in their head ways to abuse or manipulate a partner.

How do you help a friend who might be in a toxic relationship?
You might suspect a friend is in a damaging relationship but he or she hasn’t talked to you about it yet. Or, often there is a cycle of confiding in a friend and then pushing that person away and then confiding again. The number one thing is to listen to them. Don’t be judgmental—anyone can fall into a relationship like this. Let your friend know you’re concerned but don’t put yourself between the two people.
Charity Spickler Vigil

By Tracy Shaynak, Interim Director

A vigil was held Oct. 22 in memory of Charity Spickler, the 27-year-old Lewisburg resident and mother who was killed downtown as a result of a domestic violence-related incident at the end of September. The vigil was held in front of the McCann School of Business in Sunbury, where Charity had attended classes.

The vigil was led by professionals from Susquehanna Valley Women in Transition (SVWIT), who invited members of the community to speak. Others in attendance included Charity’s mother, friends of her family, members of the Bucknell University and Susquehanna University communities, members of CARE, and various members of McCann and local community.

Those who spoke included one of Charity’s friends and classmates, one of her instructors at McCann, and representatives from SVWIT and CARE. The Women’s Resource Center was asked to bring a small collection of T-shirts from The Clothesline Project, which were displayed in front of the school during the vigil.

While approximately 30 individuals were in attendance as the event began, additional students from McCann came out of the building to join in the vigil when the participants started to light candles, resulting in a gathering of nearly 50 people. The event was a heartfelt yet painful reminder that the loss of even one victim to domestic violence is one too many.
University community members were invited to design shirts for the Clothesline Project to be hung in the Elaine Langone Center.

Three shirts were then discovered missing Friday, Oct. 31. The Clothesline Project was taken down early instead of remaining displayed over the weekend to prevent more shirts from being taken.

Anyone with information on the missing shirts can contact the WRC. Shirts can be returned to the university switchboard or WRC anonymously, no questions asked.
First-year class addresses assault

By Ally Hopper, ’11

Sexual assault is a major issue on college campuses across the country, and Bucknell is no exception. In order to do what they can to help deter this reality, the university added a sexual assault session to the Transition to College class that every first-year takes.

I went through the session as a first-year last year, and this year I had the opportunity to co-teach three classes, providing what insight I had on this prevalent issue to the new female members of our community.

The sexual assault class is separated by gender in order to keep conversation as honest as possible, and make it comfortable for any one of either gender who may not be willing to say something with members of the other sex in the class.

This also makes it so that the approach to each gender is slightly different. For females, the focus of the class is on facts, prevention, and what to do in case one is sexually assaulted.

I remember sitting in the class last year, listening to Rabbi Fujita and the peer educator talk about the facts and experiences they had with sexual assault.

As this happened, the second week into my college career, I sat with my friend giggling out of discomfort, because already we had encountered instances of sexual assault and didn’t know the proper way to respond.

What happened to someone in our group of friends was not rape, but it very easily could have been. I almost felt as though the sexual assault session was too late, but at the same time I realized its importance all the more.

The startling statistic we hear and that is taught at this class is 1 in 4. One in four college women experience completed or attempted sexual assault during their college years.

At Bucknell, 30 percent of women reported unwanted sexual touching within their first two years on campus, and 23 percent of women reported having one or more experiences of unwanted sex.

It was the statistics about Bucknell’s campus that were particularly interesting to me, because it makes clear that sexual assault is prevalent here, and I think it helps us realize the importance of doing all that we can to prevent it from happening.

One of the main things emphasized in the class is how we as females should be each other’s support systems. When we go out, we should be watching our friends to make sure they aren’t getting themselves into a potentially dangerous situation.

If a friend does come to you revealing that they have been assaulted, the most important thing is to trust them and be there for them. We must always remember that sexual assault is never the fault of the survivor – no always means no. Hence we must trust someone when they say they have been assaulted, and help them deal with what happened emotionally to the best of our abilities.

The females I have encountered have had positive reactions to these sexual assault sessions. If nothing else, they come out with a knowledge of how to keep themselves as safe as possible, whether or not this information sticks throughout all four years of college we will have to wait and see.

Denise Farrelly, a sophomore, still remembers her sexual assault session. “I had never really considered sexual assault as a problem on campus,” she said, “but I’m glad that I was made aware of it. It made me think about making safe decisions when I go out.”

It is so important every person takes something away from this class—one of the best ways of prevention is awareness, and we need to do all that we can to help lower the instances of sexual assault on campus.

Statistics at a glance

In a recent study of Bucknell students, 30% of women reported having experienced unwanted sexual touching within their first 1-2 years on campus. In that same study, 23% of women and 7% of men reported having one or more experiences of unwanted sex.

What you can do

Use the buddy system when going out; make sure friends aren’t getting into risky situations.

If a friend tells you she’s been assaulted, remember it is never her fault.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact an Advocate at 570-850-6115.
Student begins club to challenge social barriers

By Nadia Sasso ’11

Essential is a new group starting on campus designed for young women to use their collective power to motivate each other, the community and the underserved. Club members will also engage in community service placing emphasis on women and illuminate issues and provide solutions for problems in their communities. The group aims to quench the thirst of knowledge by encouraging academic excellence.

This organization aims to celebrate, unify, and educate the community at Bucknell. Thus, Essential will highlight the significance and strength of an organization of women that sets forth to eliminate racial, political, physical, and social barriers.

Membership is open to everyone in the Bucknell community so as to generate various perspectives. Our events will focus on females in and outside of the collegiate setting. Events will be co-sponsored by the Women’s Resource Center and other departments on campus.

If you are interested please email Nadia Sasso at nms020@bucknell.edu.

Colleges Against Cancer holds annual 5K

By Lauren Post, ’10

Bucknell’s Colleges Against Cancer club hosted the Paint Bucknell Pink 5k Walk/Run during Family Weekend, Sept. 28.

The event is usually held in October because it is breast cancer awareness month, but to gain the greatest number of participants, the group kept it on Parents Weekend.

The main event planners for our seventh annual 5k were the cancer education co-chairs of CAC, Michaela Kuntz and Jessica Cellars.

The club sold two T-shirts, one for "Pink Week" (the week before the race) and one for those who registered to walk/run in the race all of last week as well as at the event.

CAC also held a "Pink Night" on Wednesday when Bostwick Marketplace was decorated with pink balloons and a cake with a pink ribbon on it.

Cookie-decorating was offered in the center room in the LC where students could come to register for the 5k, buy a T-shirt, and decorate cookies with pink icing and pink toppings.

The run began Sunday at 9 a.m. and despite the rain, we had a great turn-out! Our male winner was Timothy Hoffman and our female winner was Valerie Andreychik (the mother of the survivorship co-chair of Colleges Against Cancer, Cassie Andreychik).

More than 250 people signed up for the race and over 150 participated on Sunday raising more than $4,000 for the American Cancer Society.
AIDS walk raises $2,500

By Tracy Shaynak, Interim Director

AIDS Walk 2008 was held on Saturday, Sept. 13. Nearly $2,500 was raised in support of the AIDS Resource Alliance, a local nonprofit organization that supports Union, Snyder and Northumberland Counties.

Financial support for the walk was graciously provided by the Office of the President.

Over 200 members of the Bucknell and Lewisburg community joined forces to raise money and show their support by taking a two-mile walk through campus.

The event was well attended, and organizers believe this was the best turnout we have had since the event began on campus in the fall of 2006.

New Bucknell Provost Mick Smyer officially helped to kick off this year’s walk following a brief welcome by AIDS Resource Alliance Director Kirsten Felix and one of the clients who benefits from the services provided by the organization.

The AIDS Resource Alliance serves our community by offering prevention and education programs, as well as offering resources and assistance for those in need.

Among the services provided are case management, transportation, housing and nutritional assistance.

They also provide client-treatment education and free HIV testing. To learn more, please visit www.aidsresource.com

The Bucknell AIDS Committee is comprised of faculty and staff from across campus.

If you are interested in getting involved and helping to plan AIDS Walk 2009, please contact the Women’s Resource Center at 577-1375.
October’s events in photos

Top left: Quay Hanna speaks at the Stop the Hate Rally in Hufnagle Park. Top right: Student marchers at the rally display a poster. Below right: Lucie Blue Tremblie performs on the guitar and, below left, on the piano. Left, Tremblie gave a talk about breast cancer prior to her performance in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
As senior WRC staff member Emily Rath prepares for graduation, freshman Lilac writer Caroline Leeolou is encountering frat parties, caf food and sorority glitter rituals. Look for their columns each month as they take on the 2008-2009 school year.

**Reflections of a First-Year**

*By Caroline Leeolou, ’12*

With my first fall break rapidly approaching, a lot has been going through my mind — excitement to reunite with my family and friends, anticipation to return to familiar territory, and relief that I will soon be back in my own room and bed.

I've made the calls to my mom requesting specific homemade meals, and have made reservations with my friends at our favorite restaurant.

Having a personal bathroom, taking a shower sans flip flops, playing with my dog, shopping, sprawling out on my huge comfy couch — these are only a few of the luxuries I cannot wait to be reunited with over fall break.

That being said, it's definitely going to feel strange to be home, a word I have recently been using to refer to my dorm room.

I miss my high school friends, and can't wait to see them, but I think college and dorm life bonds people in a way that even four years of friendship in high school cannot.

My hallmates and I are already planning to visit each other over the Thanksgiving and winter breaks, and after having lived with them and been so involved in each other's lives, going off to our own separate worlds will be an odd feeling.

Dealing with parental control, too, will feel strange; while I have adjusted to a lack of curfew and rules about going out, it certainly seems unlikely that my parents will have.

A month ago, I would have been thrilled at the thought of an approaching return home, and I still am, to some degree.

At the same time, I know the return back to school will be equally anticipated, and my hall (friends and gross showers alike) will be missed.

Continued on page 15
By Susan Misur, ’09

A Bucknell alumna and expert and author on work+life issues spoke to the campus community Sunday, Oct. 26. Cali Yost ’87, author of “Work+Life: Finding the Fit That’s Right for You,” presented a lecture on workplace negotiations to faculty and staff in a luncheon and then to students the following day over Homecoming Weekend.

Yost began her work with work+life when she was managing a group of commercial bankers in the 1990s. She realized work flexibility offered a business strategy, not just an employee perk. She found out day-to-day business policies could not be a cookie-cutter, one-size-fits mentality—there is no right answer of balance, but fit.

Yost soon founded her company Work+Life Fit, Inc. to develop the Work+Life Fit™ process for people to create, negotiate and implement a flexibility plan to manage their work+life fit in partnership with their employers.

The wife and mother of two received her undergraduate degree at Bucknell and her MBA at Columbia University. She now counsels thousands of individuals and organizations to manage their work+life “fit.”


As president and founder of Work+Life Fit, Inc., a business with the goal of empowering people to take control of the way work “fits” into their lives, Yost helps companies and employees balance these partnerships. For more information, visit worklife-fit.com.

By Ally Hopper, ’11

“I got screwed while screwing, you might have too.” This is the line of one of a handful of e-cards available to send to someone telling them that they may have contracted an STD. Instead of having to go through the awkwardness of calling a partner or ex-partner, there is now the option of going to inSPOT.org and sending them an e-mail either anonymously or from your own screen name, telling them it might be a good idea to be tested.

InSPOT.org was created in 2004, and since then more than 50,000 e-cards have been sent. Originally created as a network for gay men, e-cards are now meant for partners of any gender or sexual orientation. There are a variety of e-cards one can send, with lines that are casual and humorous such as “You’re too hot to be out of action” to a simple “I’m so sorry.” On each card there is a line in which you can chose exactly what STD you have, and you are able to write a personal message.

Continued on page 15
Stop the Hate Rally unites community

By Rudo Mawema, '09

On Sept. 8, students gathered uphill in the Academic Quad, displaying an array of banners and posters and ready to kick off the Unity Jam: Stop the Hate rally in the early evening.

The Stop the Hate Rally has been commemorated here at Bucknell since the 1990's; it was originally started by a small group of University students and faculty but grew to incorporate the local Lewisburg community over time.

The rally is part of a national effort to come together and protest against hate crimes. This event was inspired by the deaths of James Byrd, an African-American who was murdered in Jasper, Texas, simply because of the color of his skin and of Matthew Shephard, a gay student who was tortured in Wyoming and left to die because of his sexual orientation.

Local musicians Joe DeCristopher, George Potor and Bill Stetz played a number of satirical tunes, providing some great entertainment while member of the local community and some of the staff from Bucknell waited for the rally to arrive at Hufnagle Park. The music eventually gave in to the loud shouts of the rally as they neared the park and the students joined the community in Hufnagle to officially begin the Unity Jam.

Judy Wagner, mayor of Lewisburg, and a number of other speakers from C.A.R.E and the community shared remarks before handing the stage over to Quay Hanna, the keynote speaker for the evening.

The title of Hanna's speech was "The Development of Hate" and was based on his experiences with prejudice and hate.

After graduating from Bloomsburg University, Hanna left his small town of Strasburg to travel around the United States by Greyhound bus.

Sitting next to the people he thought he hated during his travels forced Hanna to confront his own racist and prejudiced beliefs. When Hanna returned to his hometown he was determined to educate subculture-rural, white America and challenge racist beliefs.

In 1997 Hanna published a book entitled, 'Bus America: Revelation of a Redneck' and has since then told his story all over America and around the world.

Program studies race, gender and sexual orientation issues

Two Bucknell students are directing a fall break retreat to tackle issues of sexual orientation, gender, and race and ethnicity.

Junior Scott Teagarden and senior Mahdi Woodard will oversee the three-day Common Ground program at Cowan to help students think critically about diversity and encourage discussion.

The program supported by Bucknell came to fruition after a similar session began at Duke University. Teagarden heard about Duke's program from his sister in December of 2007 and considered organizing Common Ground for Bucknell students.

The goal of Common Ground is to help Bucknell students be agents of change and improve campus climate.

"We want to create a community where different races can discuss social inequality," Teagarden said.

Dean of Students Susan Hopp helped program Co-Directors Teagarden and Woodard get the project off the ground.

Woodard and Teagarden hope the program will be held annually and plan to devote one day each to topics of gender, race and sexual orientation through discussion, videos and activities.

Assistant Provost Robert Midkiff and English Professors James Peterson and Ghislaine McDayter will help facilitate discussion, along with eight students who have been trained to lead participants.

The main point of the retreat, Woodard said, is for students to engage in constructive dialogue about sensitive issues and, more importantly, "to relate it all to Bucknell."

The retreat, scheduled Oct. 11-14 at the Cowan Conference Center, is free of cost to all participants.

"(The retreat) is not a beginning or an end," Teagarden said. "It is just the beginning of a continuing conversation."

Information from a Communications press release
STD Web site continued...

When sending the e-card, you can enter the e-mail addresses of up to six partners from the past six months.

The fact that so many people have used this Web site is both good and bad. It is encouraging that people have such an easy method of informing past partners that they may have infected, giving them a chance to get tested and thus get treatment. In today's internet era, so many people are meeting sex partners online, so telling them about a potential STD the same way might be seen as normal to some.

On the other hand, however, there is much to be said for taking personal responsibility and telling someone either face-to-face, or at the very least via a phone call, that you have an STD and it is possible that they do as well. If you are able to have such intimate relations with someone, you should also be able to talk to them afterwards. These conversations may be understandably awkward; however in making the choice to have sex, one is also knowingly putting them self at risk for such a situation. It is a responsibility that one must take to tell the person(s) they had been with since they last got tested.

These e-cards are just another example of how technology has become such a huge part of communication in today's society. The necessity of face-to-face interaction has diminished thanks to chat rooms, e-mail, instant messaging, and social networking sites. This is not necessarily a good thing.

There's something to be said for having a conversation with someone in person to be able to truly and honestly connect with them, whether as a friend or sex partner. In-SPOT.org is just another way people are getting away with avoiding human interaction so essential to our lives.

Stir the pot continued...

becomes a question of how well we know ourselves. Society no longer considers the post-college period one where women should settle down and immediately start a family, like it used to be. Students are almost expected to travel, get a good job, or join a program like the Peace Corps or Teach for America. Our life script tells us to do our own thing and hold off family life until later. So we can do what we want, but what about the guy? To solve the independent woman vs. man-in-our-life problem, we need to be a little creative. Long-distance relationships are hard, but doable. Some occupations allow for versatility in location. Grad schools are everywhere.

I'm learning this myself. With a boyfriend in Germany, I've realized it will take patience, sacrifice and trust to make things work. Although it would be optimal for our being together for me to travel across the Atlantic next year and set up camp in Europe, my job aspirations are pushing me in other directions. The ultimate goal is to be together, at least for now, but I have to be honest with myself and understand if I want a career in third world development, Germany is probably not the best option. I am, at the same time, also learning how fun and unique our relationship is.

The wonderful thing, however, is our time together is extremely special. In fact, he was just visiting a couple of weeks ago, and I was able to put aside my work for a week and place him as my first priority. Now that he is back home, I now prioritize my homework more.

It works for us and I am happy. I am not saying this arrangement would work for everyone, but that there is an arrangement for everyone that could work. I am also not saying it will work forever, but for us, now in this moment, things are good. Next year, however, we will have to reevaluate and readjust, but that is next year.

Though I am no expert, I do know one thing: We do not have to do what is expected of us, whether these expectations come from society, our families and friends, or even the feminist movement. We must understand in order to be happy with ourselves and in our relationships, we have to mix creativity with versatility, patience with trust, and maybe a couple more hours on Skype or writing old-fashioned love letters with the occasional spontaneous or expensive or long trip to see that special someone.
What’s your reaction to the election?

I am so happy about the election. I think this is going to send a message to the rest of the world that America is finally maturing, and more than that, I think Obama is going to be a great President. McCain is a fine man, but he wasn't what we needed right now. I'm so proud of America.

I wasn’t really surprised at the outcome of the election. I did find it interesting that Obama had so many electoral votes, yet the percentage votes of the overall nation were so close. I think it tells us that we need to re-think the weight we give to states in the electoral college because if the people in those weighted states are not willing to come out and push a few buttons, they should not be counted in the electoral votes.

This election was a disgusting circus of financial waste, mudslinging and soon-to-be-broken promises from both sides. I’ve never seen such zealotry and fear-mongering over an election before—both campaigns were appalling. I’m quite glad Obama won, but I’m almost more glad that the nightmare is finally over.

I think it’s wonderful that we have made such progress and elected a biracial president. It was a huge step and I am proud of our country. However, now that we have made this decision, I definitely worry about whether charisma and unattainable ideas of change will be able to help the nation. It’s great that we elected him and made such a step in social change, but now he has to lead us for four years. I can’t help but hope that there are plenty of qualified people around to hold his hand throughout his term/s.
What’s Happening: October

Thursday, 10/9, National Coming Out Day celebration—Wear your “Gay? Fine with me.” shirt with jeans and join in for the group picture.

Friday, 10/24, Clothesline Project—Shirts painted will be displayed at the Elaine Langan Center.

Sunday, 10/26, Cali Yost lecture—Alum Cali Yost speaks on workplace negotiations.

What’s Happening: November

Thursday, 11/6, How to Help a Friend discussion—Attend to find out if you should be concerned about a friend’s relationship and how to give them support.

Monday, 11/10, S[exposed]—A candid discussion about sexuality and relationships with a student and faculty panel.

Monday, 11/10, Journey to a Hate Free Millenium—A presentation by Brent Scarpo in remembrance of Kristallnacht, which marked the beginning of the Holocaust.

Thursday, 11/13, “Dreamworlds |||” screening—A film about sex, power and the music video industry.
Honor Domestic Violence Awareness Month and take a moment to read the Clothesline Project T-shirts hanging in the LC.

Each shirt color represents a different form of abuse. Many were made by abuse survivors or in honor of others who have suffered domestic violence. For more information, e-mail shaynak@bucknell.edu.

The Women’s Resource Center is a place of advocacy, support, and safety for all members of the Bucknell University campus community. In order to promote Bucknell’s mission that its students develop into productive citizens with a sense of justice and carrying the qualities of self-awareness and compassion, and in line with Bucknell’s commitment to diversity, the Women’s Resource Center actively engages in a feminist model of empowerment to 1) promote women’s rights and self-determination 2) redress inequities, both historic and contemporary, based on sex, gender identity and expression, and sexual orientation, and 3) celebrate the achievements and highlight the struggles of women the world over. We recognize that inequities faced by women are played out through other forms of oppression related to race and ethnicity, disability, religion, nationality, and economic class, and programs of the Center address all of these sources of disempowerment. We work to achieve these goals through a variety of educational, social, and cultural programming, as well as leadership opportunities, placing special emphasis on the needs of students. Overall, we seek to foster a campus community in which women and men live and work in a climate of mutual respect, understanding, and equality.

Come visit us! The WRC lounge is open to students, faculty, and staff Monday–Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm!