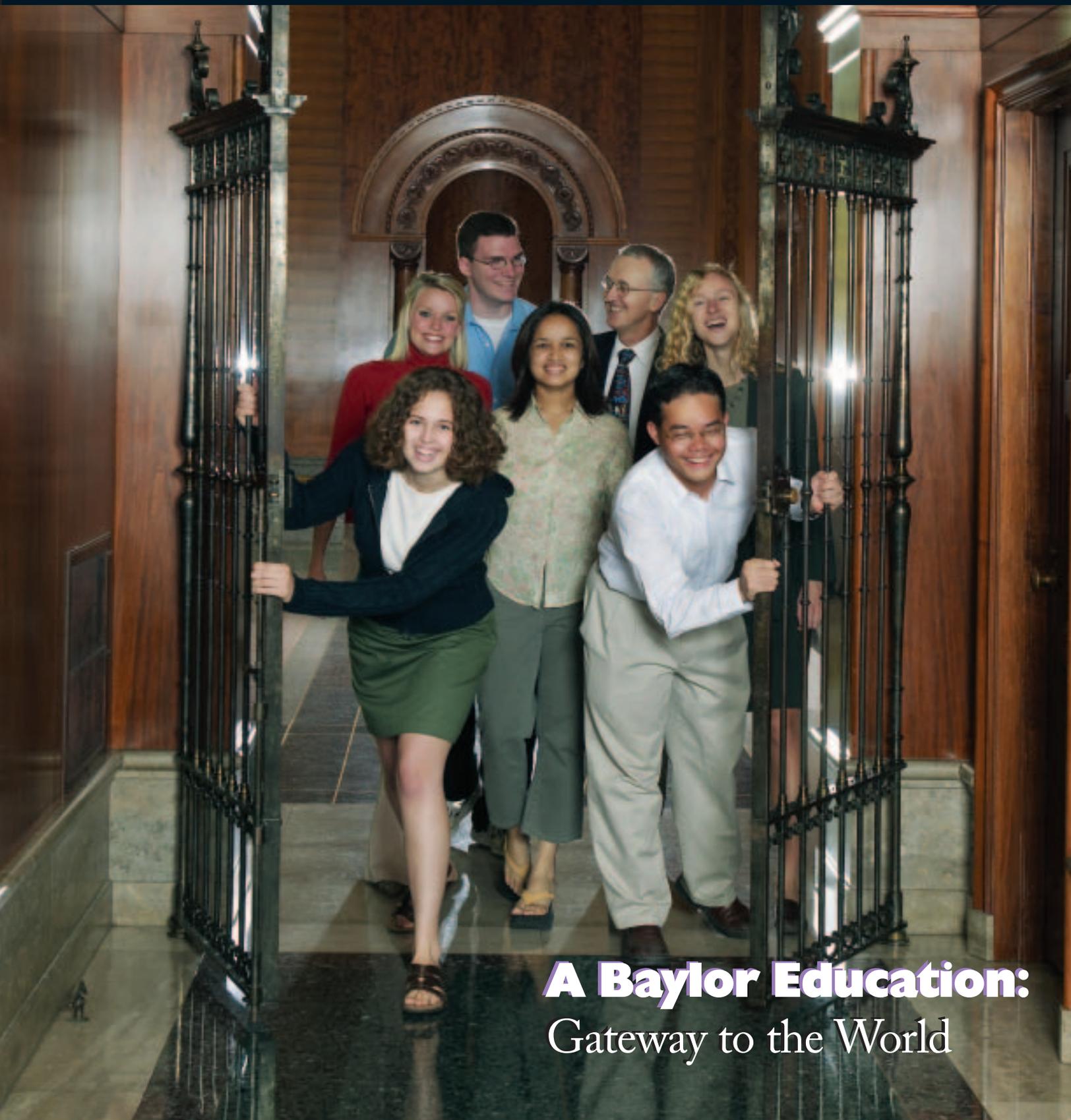


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**A Baylor Education:**  
Gateway to the World



Wallace L. Daniel

## Message from the Dean

*Excerpts from Dean Wallace Daniel's Address to the Faculty, September 15, 2003*

These have been difficult days for all of us — in every part of the University, including the College of Arts and Sciences. I am sure you, as I, have spent many days and nights thinking the world is pressing in upon us, that, despite clear signs of a dynamic, expanding, and creative academic program evidenced nearly everywhere on this campus, we have been caught up in controversy, unable to move forward without concerted effort.

The best response, I think the best action, in these difficult and trying times is simple: we must be the best College of Arts and Sciences we are capable of being. One need spend only a few moments with the College's annual report to see concrete evidence of faculty strength, of extraordinary creativity and commitment, of working with students, of contributions both to our local community and to our national community.

Nevertheless, we simply cannot ignore the concerns that have been clearly and strongly expressed in recent weeks. These concerns are part of who we are as well, and we must recognize and deal with them. They too express vital parts of our academic community.

As we begin this academic year, it is a good time to take a close look at both our opportunities and our challenges now and in the immediate future, at our dreams and aspirations, as well as the difficulties we confront. These dreams and aspirations are large, because the past, the foundation on which they rest, is strong. We have for the last two years been in the process of reviewing our core curriculum, assessing what comprises a Baylor education, a task not undertaken in more than 20 years. We are expanding our facilities for

the humanities, and we hope, soon, for the social sciences. As a drive through the campus easily shows, we are greatly expanding our teaching and research facilities in the sciences. We will enrich our international programs and modern languages, both on the campus and abroad. Aspiring to develop learning communities in the College, we seek to strengthen our teaching and learning infrastructure for all of our faculty and students in the College and the opportunities to engage in creative work.

We are also convinced that thinking and writing go together. They form an inseparable part of learning. We want to support, encourage, and provide resources for writing-across-the-curriculum initiatives that a faculty committee recommended last year. By resources we have in mind faculty positions, workshops, and student support — all of them aimed at improving what we already do — making it more intentional, giving it a more central role in what we are about, and insuring that students graduate from our programs with one of the most significant skills they will use in their lives.

The impact of the new sciences building, that will soon open, extends much beyond the physical space it provides. This new structure is essentially about community, and, in that sense, it greatly exceeds what we presently have and makes this building so compelling to all of us. Corporate access is greatly enhanced. These new structures will be significant gathering places on the campus. Not only in their location but also in the ways they are designed, these structures will be

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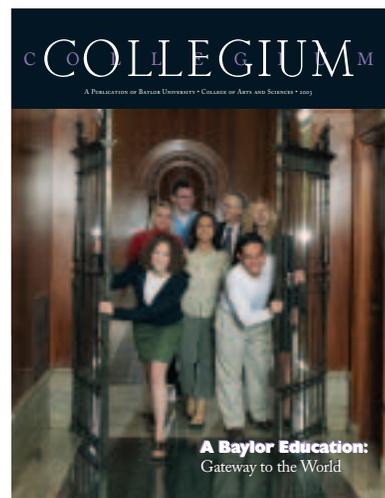
*On The Cover:*

*Front Row to Back:*

Katherine Smith, freshman University Scholar, and Sheng-Yaw (Tom) Guu, Biochemistry major and Summa Cum Laude graduate in the Honors Program, August 2003.

Beran Holmes, sophomore English major (left), and Divya Gunda, History major, Cum Laude graduate in the Honors Program, August 2003.

Ben Johnson, University Scholar, Cum Laude graduate in the Honors Program, August 2003 (left), Dr. D. Thomas Hanks, Professor of English (middle), and Dr. Julie Sweet, Assistant Professor of History (right).



**A Baylor Education:**  
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# Academic Designs on the Future

## THE PHYSICS CIRCUS

By Dr. Truell W. Hyde

The call of Baylor 2012 is large, perhaps nowhere more so than in the sciences. Listening to the conversations held within the Baylor family about the challenges inherent in the Vision, one soon understands that attaining 2012's bold academic goals will not be easy.

Skeptics raise eyebrows at the notion of blending Baylor's Christian mission with achievement in such unlikely academic arenas as stellar evolution, complex plasmas, early universe cosmology, string theory, quantum chromodynamics and other frontier areas of physics. How, they ask, can faith and science mutually coexist in a field such as physics — arguably the most secular of all scientific disciplines?

The answer to such a question can be found in part through walking the halls of the Marris McLean Science Building. Marris McLean, soon to be replaced by an astounding 500,000 square feet of space in Baylor's new science facility, has been home to Baylor's graduate physics program for more than 30 years.

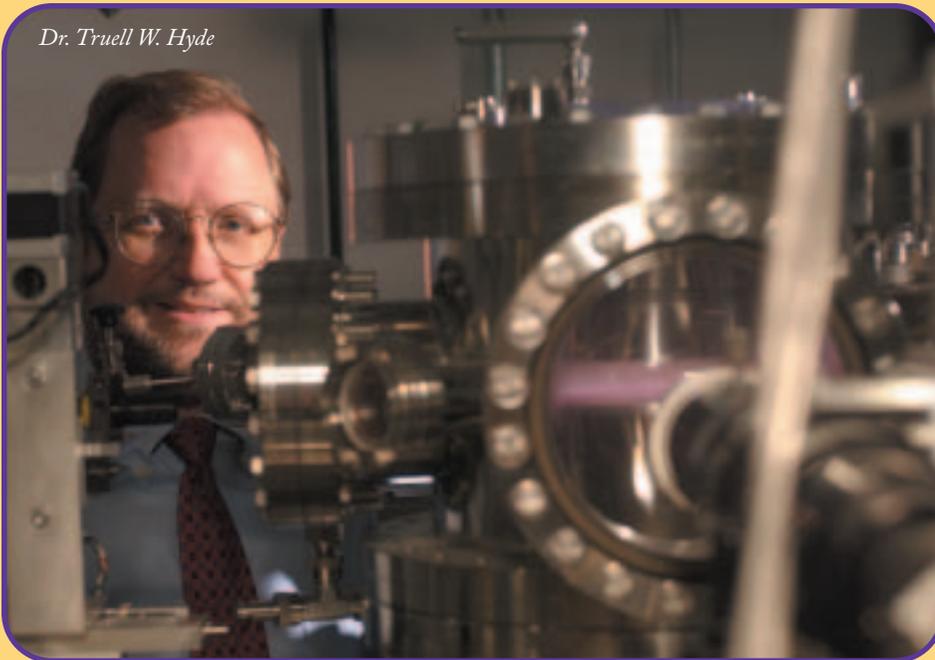
Baylor 2012 already has had an impact on the department through the hiring of incoming department chair and distinguished professor Dr. Bennie Ward along with two new faculty members, Drs. Jay Dittmann and Anzhong Wang. Dr. Ward comes to Baylor from the University of Tennessee holding degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Princeton. His extensive publication and funded proposal list along with international contacts to

such institutions as the Max-Planck-Institut für Physik (where he was a visiting professor) promise good things for the department. Dittmann (with degrees from Duke and Valparaiso) arrives at Baylor fresh from the Fermi National Accelerator Lab where he was a Leon Lederman Fellow. His research in QCD intersects that of Ward and Dr. Walter Wilcox promising a strong research cluster in the making. Wang (degrees from the University of Ioannina and the Shandong Normal University) hales from the State University of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil where he was a professor. His research in gravitation and cosmology fits well within CASPER's EUCOS group headed by Dr. Gerald Cleaver, establishing yet another critical mass for research. Ward, Dittmann, Wilcox and Wang join professors such as Drs. Wickramasinghe Ariyasinghe, Greg Benesh, Gerald Cleaver, Don Hardcastle, Ken Park and Dwight Russell — faculty already proven to be exactly the type of outstanding teacher/scholar called for by 2012. All came to Baylor holding the quality of credentials sought for by the Vision having graduated from schools such as Berkeley, Bowling Green, Caltech, Northwestern, Rice, Rochester, UCLA and Vanderbilt — many fresh from working in one or more of the best labs in the world or for Nobel Laureates.

The foundation upon which this exciting future rests (and without which it would not be possible) can be seen on the wall in a conference room within the physics department. One can easily argue that here — in 35 years of questions and answers, labs and lectures, conferences and publications, master's degrees and doctorates — we find one of the special mixes of people, academic achievement, culture and faith from which 2012 evolved. Faculty from years past gaze down from austere black and white pictures upon students ringing the conference table discussing the physics topic of the day — solid state, quantum mechanics, statistical mechanics, quantum electrodynamics. Equations fill the boards while students debate the efficacy of this or that approach to the problem.

The latest addition to this "wall of fame" is Dr. Darden Powers, outgoing department chairman. Powers' doctoral studies at Caltech provided the underpinnings for his rigorous approach to the discipline. Problems, problems and more problems mark his classes while in the lab; acad-



*Dr. Truell W. Hyde*

emic rigor of the highest caliber marks his research. Each dissertation and thesis passing through his hands is read meticulously, marked and discussed at length with the student. Ask and you'll find that this constant striving for excellence is wrapped around his belief that Christian service demands no less — a unique example of the unusual integration of faith and science that has marked the department for over four decades.

Moving down the line of pictures to Powers' predecessor as chairman one finds well-known teacher Dr. Robert Packard grinning down from the wall. Although most famous for "Packard physics," a lesser-known reality about this legendary professor is the fact that he arrived at Baylor as a researcher with patents in hand. Upon inspection, he quickly realized that the department would need additional faculty to become a Ph.D.-granting entity. His solution to this problem was the now legendary Physics 1405 course, in which students learned basic physics principles through unique and entertaining demonstrations while the class produced the contact hours necessary to hire the additional faculty required for a Ph.D. pro-

gram. The value of his teaching and its subsequent impact on the department's research — an impact on hundreds, even thousands, of lives — has a living, breathing icon in Packard.

The call to the wall of photographs continues with Dr. Shim Park's gentle expression belying his Yale Ph.D. earned under Gregory Bright. Shim's soft-spoken, often

multilingual suggestion, "wouldn't this be more elegant?" as he suggested an alternate solution to a particularly difficult problem provides physics alumni fortunate enough to have had him for a class with a perfect example of the intertwining of research and teaching which is at the core of 2012. Further down the row are Dr. Herbert Schwetman, of Harvard and the University of Texas (also Baylor's tennis coach for a while), Dr. Merle Alexander, whose experiences at the Max-Planck-Institut für Physik and NASA Goddard and his passion for research continue to reap a harvest at Baylor, Dr. Bill Adams who introduced multitudes of students to the universe and Dr. Ken-Hsi Wang of Yale and Los Alamos. Each time these professors entered the classroom, they established a legacy of academic excellence in teaching forged through their commitment to research. And when these faculty met to discuss departmental issues, the meeting always began (as it still does) with prayer. Unlikely for a physics department? Perhaps. Less than world class? Absolutely not.

This is Baylor 2012.

*Dr. Gerald Cleaver*

## SOUND AND SENSE

By Julie Carlson

From creating original works of fiction and poetry to researching such diverse subjects as detective fiction, Geoffrey Chaucer and how language and culture interact, these professors in the Department of English produce important new knowledge in their fields even as they continue to teach and mentor their students.

“Students feed off their professor’s enthusiasm. Teaching involves communicating your passion about your subject to your students,” said Assistant Professor Richard Rankin Russell.

His passion lies in the literature of the Emerald Isle, specifically the works created by writers from Northern Ireland. He is working on a book-length manuscript titled “The Belfast Group and the Development of Northern Irish Literature: Studies in Heaney, Longley, Parker, and MacLaverty,” which will explore four writers who came out of a writing group in Belfast in the early 1960s.

“Most people in my field would say there is not a difference between Irish literature and Northern Irish literature,” Russell said.

“I am arguing in the book I am working on, however, that there is something called Northern Irish literature. Even though Northern Ireland has only existed since 1922, the political and cultural conditions there have made it very different from the Irish Republic. Northern Irish literature has often been able to start the reconciliation process between Catholics and Protestants through setting up cultural corridors down which formerly intransigent factions have been able to meet.”

A second research project concerns Brian Friel, Ireland’s leading playwright. “Friel is a rural playwright who sees rural values as a sort of counterweight to urban modernity, which he doesn’t like at all,” Russell said.

The great American novelist Willa Cather, who has become a cultural icon, also was highly critical of modern life, in her stories of life in the 1920s. Associate Professor Nancy Chinn has been researching Cather’s life and works since 1993 and currently is engaged in a puzzle involving the author and her relationship with a minor poet, Louise Guiney.

About five years ago, Chinn spent time at Harvard University reading the Cather letters which are housed in the Houghton

library. In some of the letters, Cather mentions Guiney, a name Chinn wasn’t familiar with. Upon deeper research, she decided that Guiney may have influenced the choices Cather made on her way to becoming a cultural icon. Chinn contacted the College of the Holy Cross, which has Guiney’s papers, to obtain copies of letters from Cather. Once she sees these letters, she may decide she needs to go to Holy Cross to read some of Guiney’s other papers.

“This project is more biographical than most of the work I’ve done before,” Chinn said. “The need for archival material also is new but lots of fun, because it’s like working on a puzzle but not knowing what the picture is because you don’t have the box the pieces originally came in.”

Jeannette Denton, Assistant Professor of English and Linguistics, is at work on a centuries-old puzzle. She has started a new project on the symbolism of words for “hand” in early Germanic poetry and how the symbolism was influenced not only by the influx of biblical literature and Christianity but also from the earlier Indo-European mother language and its culture.

“I read a large amount of Germanic poetry, and it struck me that the mentions of ‘hands’ are everywhere.

They seem superfluous, such as ‘he let an arrow go from his hands,’ so I want to understand what is going on here,” she said. “I’m looking at texts from about 900 A.D. and what ‘hands’ were used to symbolize at that point. The hands were a symbol of a warrior’s power — what you did with your hands indicated what you did as a man — but it also reflected your inner state and your character.”

She also is revising an article for the journal *Arthuriana* on how Sir Thomas Mallory’s middle English dialect probably sounded and how it was different from Chaucer’s dialect.

“Usually Mallory’s *Morte d’Arthur* is read like you are reading Chaucer. But he lived about 70 years later and came from a different area of



Dr. Greg Garrett

Britain so he spoke a different dialect,” she explained. “The paper is what that dialect might have sounded like.”

As for Professor Greg Garrett, he is working on his third novel as well as a book for Pinon Press about religion and comic books. He and pastor Chris Seay, a Baylor alum who co-authored with Garrett *The Gospel Reloaded: Exploring Spirituality and Faith in the Matrix*, plan to collaborate on a book about religion and the HBO series *Six Feet Under*. His second novel, *Cycling*, was released in the fall and his first novel, *Free Bird*, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, went to paperback.

“I am always working on both fiction and nonfiction,” he said. “Fiction is my primary love, but it’s hard, emotionally intense work. As a novelist, I want to tell a compelling story about people who interest and compel me, and as a nonfiction writer, I’m trying to write about challenging subjects in a way that will be engaging and maybe even inspirational.

“I also want to model to my students the necessity of being a good person as well as successful in my chosen career,” he added. “It’s important to me to do this because I can make a difference in the lives of people in my classes. The right word here, the right amount of care can actually change someone’s life. How many professions give you that opportunity?”

## BRIDGE TO THE MIDDLE EAST

Baylor’s Middle East specialists lead students across a wide cultural chasm

By Judy Long

Responding to a lively interest in Middle East culture, language and politics since Sept. 11, 2001, Baylor University has created significant initiatives that are already exerting influence at home and within the international arena.

Baylor 2012 was adopted by the Regents only two weeks after the attack on the World Trade Center. By January 2002 the Middle East Studies program was gearing up to enhance course opportunities as a part of the 10-year Vision and in response to increased interest in the region.



Dr. Mark Long with Israeli soldiers patrolling in the Old City of Jerusalem, just off the Via Dolorosa, the Way of Sorrows, in March 2003.

Dr. William Mitchell, director and Jo Murphy Chair of the Center for International Education, professor of political science, and Turkey specialist, said, “A focal point of Baylor 2012 is to improve the quality and expand offerings in our area study programs, and the Middle East is a particularly important region in today’s world. It’s especially relevant for our students since it has had a monumental impact on their past and will have on their future.”

The Center’s response to the need for a stronger Middle East studies program included bringing on new director Dr. Mark Long, Arabic instructor Bill Baker and history professor Dr. George Gawrych.

Long’s doctoral work in church-state studies at Baylor focused on political Islam. His book is in publication at University of Texas Press, *Saddam’s War of Words*, which focuses on the political rhetoric of the 1990-91 Gulf War. Long was trained while in the Air Force as a Middle East specialist at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Calif., including intensive Arabic study, and taught Arabic and English at the Air Force Academy before coming to Baylor. His research has centered on Saddam’s speeches, especially how he used religious rhetoric to achieve political goals.

Baker thinks of northern Israel as home and still visits his friends there, both Jewish and Palestinian, at least twice a year. The son of Baptist missionaries in northern Israel who grew up in Nazareth, Baker says Arabic is his first language. A Baylor undergraduate, he earned his master’s degree from Southwest Texas State University and returned to Waco in 2000 after a career in the Air Force as an intelligence analyst and air attaché to Israel and Qatar. Baker’s book, *A Cultural Heritage of Arabs, Islam, and the Middle East*, came out last year. Since he grew up in the Middle East, Baker’s research on Arab perspective is, essentially, a life work. He possesses an intense empathy for the people.

In addition to burgeoning classes, Long and Baker have found time for travel to the region to establish cooperative agreements, conduct research and contribute to educational endeavors.

They went to Egypt and Israel in March 2003 where they met with contacts at the universities of Cairo and Tel Aviv to explore the possibilities of programs associated with the American University in Cairo and Tel Aviv University. “We are working toward summer study-abroad programs as the security situation allows,” Long said.

A hurdle that needs to be overcome for an exchange program is the financial needs of the Egyptian students. One of Long's goals is to secure scholarship support to enable faculty and promising students the opportunity to study at Baylor.

While there, Long asked Cairo residents how they felt about the imminent conflict with Iraq. Though everyone he interviewed was courteous, Long said Egyptians seemed to perceive our role as colonialistic, and they felt the U.S. would incur animosity among Arabs. "From cab drivers to university elites, Egyptians shared the conviction that something must be done about Saddam, but they also expressed apprehension about the implications of a long term U.S. involvement in Iraq," he said.

Long said Israelis reflected on their experiences with the Palestinians and expressed concern that the U.S. would find itself in a difficult role in Iraq in the long run.

In August 2003, Mitchell, Long and Baker traveled to Iraq, where they conducted needs assessments for Dohuk and Mosul universities. Dohuk University, where they spent most of the trip, is located in northern Iraq in the predominantly Kurdish town of Dohuk.

"President Sloan and Dohuk's president signed an exchange agreement in 1996, but during Saddam's years, we weren't able to act on it," Mitchell said.

"Baylor is looking at how it can make a humanitarian, educational contribution to the reconstruction effort in Iraq. The higher education system was essentially destroyed by events preceding and following the war. Saddam allowed it to become politicized and corrupt, then campuses were physically destroyed by vandalism after the war by the Iraqi criminal element," he added.

Baker said college officials were proud to claim being the first Iraqi university to have an exchange agreement with a U.S. university. "Any help we could give them would be welcomed and greatly appreciated," he said. "We have so much, and they have so little."

Baker sees numerous benefits coming to Baylor's Middle East program from the relationship with Dohuk. "For example, I was talking with the head of public relations at the university. He moonlights as a reporter for a newspaper in Baghdad, and as part of his job there, he conducts a weekly opinion poll among Baghdad residents. He has

agreed to send Baylor's Middle East Studies program the results of his weekly poll so we can share the information with our classes. Who else is getting such authentic and up-to-date information?" Baker asks.

Long agreed and added that they were well received in Iraq. "I visited with many Kurds, and they all expressed their appreciation of the U.S. They asked us to remember them and remember that they are our friends," he said.

"For the Baylor team, the trip was both heartbreaking and energizing. The devastation and poverty broke our hearts. But we found the resilience of the Iraqi people and their desire to partner with Baylor University in helping rebuild higher education in the country to be something extraordinarily encouraging. There is, unquestionably, a difficult road ahead, but I am confident Baylor and other American universities will be part of a remarkable transformation in the country," Long said.

This fall a new scholar joined the history faculty — Dr. George W. Gawrych, a Middle East and military historian. Gawrych, who completed his doctoral work at the University of Michigan, came from the U.S. Army's Command and General Staff College in Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he was the Middle East specialist for 18 years. His research focuses on the Arab-Israeli dispute.

History department chair Dr. James SoRelle says Gawrych fills a long-time gap both in the history curriculum and the Middle East Studies program. "Particularly in the world in which we live right now, it is imperative that our students gain a broader understanding of the Middle East," SoRelle says. "Gawrych's appointment is reflective of the commitments that are recognized in Baylor 2012."

Gawrych's Middle East history class filled up quickly in the fall and will be offered again in the spring to meet the demand. The response seems to be typical for Middle East-related courses at Baylor.

Long finds Baylor students to be attentive and receptive. "I am impressed with the maturity of the students who minor in Middle East studies. They display a desire for a balanced and objective understanding, and are concerned about the impact U.S. involvement in the Middle East will have on their own lives," Long said.

## MEDICAL HUMANITIES AT BAYLOR

By Dr. Michael Attas

Ten years ago, a personal odyssey began that led, in a somewhat circuitous route, to the development of the Medical Humanities Program at Baylor. Responding to a long sense of spiritual and vocational direction shift, I began the weekly commute to Austin to the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest. Continuing my practice as an interventional cardiologist, for five years I then worked towards a Master of Divinity degree leading to ordination. Halfway through that journey, I began to sense that the issues I was struggling with — namely how one integrates the Christian faith and identity into the world of science and medicine — was one that many struggle with at various stages of a career in medicine. I realized that often a compartmentalization takes place, with the world of science and health care securely in one corner of our lives, and the world of Christianity with its traditions of ethics and spiritual formation tucked securely in another. This compartmentalization often begins at the earliest stages of our medical education, even in the undergraduate curriculum. How can these two worlds live in harmony and compatibility, I pondered? Are there points of resolution ... are there points of conflict ... are there educational paradigms that can alter how we perceive these two very important dimensions of our lives? As I struggled with these issues, I began a series of dialogues with several important faculty members at Baylor whom I knew and respected who have been involved with the humanities and the sciences as well as the premedical curriculum.

Discussions with Drs. Bill Hillis, David Pennington, Dan McGee and Robert Baird convinced me that there was a real need and possible way that Baylor could begin to develop a program designed to foster a side of medicine that was often ignored in the traditional undergraduate premedical curriculum. Dr. Robert B. Sloan, Baylor president, was approached, and he named a committee that I co-chaired with Dr. Donald Schmeltkopf, then Provost, to look into how this effort could be implemented. The committee consisted of representatives



*The four students have all finished with the medical humanities minor and are now in medical school. Top row: Katie Willborn, UT-Houston Medical School; Karen Oosten, Southwestern Medical School. Bottom row: Sarah Davis, Southwestern Medical School; Ashley Nichols, Southwestern Medical School and Dr. Michael Attas.*

from chemistry, biology, religion, philosophy, the premedical program and University Ministries. This interdisciplinary approach enabled the program to be created with active input, support, and participation from the humanities and the sciences at Baylor. This cooperative and mutually respectful effort resulted in the development and approval of a minor in medical humanities.

It is the first program of its kind in the country and is breaking ground in a creative way, defining how premedical programs can be structured in a university with a history of strong humanities and sciences like Baylor. Now entering our fifth year, we have between 75-100 students at any one time taking courses in the minor. It is a truly interdisciplinary program, involving courses from English, religion, philosophy, history, sociology and psychology. New courses in medical humanities were developed, emphasizing the history of Christian spirituality, patient/physician relationships, hospital-based ministry and the nature of health care in the 21st century. The courses have proved to be hugely popular, filling up quickly and leaving many students clamoring for a deeper and broader exposure. The presence of Dr. James Marcum on campus, who holds dual doctorates in biology and philosophy, has added an academic presence and support to the program. Students also

rotate through various hospital services, each one different yet exposing them to the real nitty-gritty world of medicine and decision making that often involves deep ethical and spiritual issues. Feedback from the medical schools has been extremely positive, giving our students an edge over other major universities in our region in the admissions process.

Several ancillary programs have developed as a result of the success of the minor. An annual medical humanities retreat occurs in the fall where 60 premedical students attend an off-campus retreat where national speakers with backgrounds in health care and Christian formation dialogue about issues of common concern. It has been an enormous success and has been viewed as a life-changing experience by many students. An outgrowth of the first retreat was the development of the Christian Health Care Society, a campus service organization that meets twice monthly for premedical students to hear guest speakers who have integrated faith and medicine, as well as to worship and support each other spiritually in this journey. Through a Lilly Foundation grant, students have been sent on medical mission trips abroad, again giving our students life-changing experiences in the realities of third world health care that can translate to issues our own country faces.

## A Student Perspective

By Sarah Davis

In every medical school interview, anxious pre-meds may rest assured that they will be asked that one penetrating question, "Why do you want to be a doctor?" Four years ago, I would have balked at such an inquiry and then stammered unconvincingly about wanting to help people. I had come to Baylor with the tenuous aspiration of becoming a physician without truly understanding why. Like most undergraduates, I proceeded to run the gamut of potential majors, ranging from biochemistry to religion, always with the dream of medicine embedded in my mind. At the suggestion of a fellow pre-med, I enrolled in a class tucked away in the course guide under the heading of "Medical Humanities," hoping to gain some direction for what path I should follow. In this class and others that soon followed, I witnessed health care firsthand through weekly hospital rotations and engaged in discussions with my peers and mentors about the heart of medicine. The annual retreat and a medical mission trip to Guatemala became milestones in my journey. Looking back on my medical school interviews, I remember answering that standard question with an ease based not on my GPA or MCAT score, but in a well thought-out understanding of my role as a future physician who views the jewel of medicine through both its physical and spiritual facets. My hope is that other students will avail themselves of this unique program in order to attain the same confidence and maturity that impressed my interviewers. The spiritual formation developed in this forum may serve as the foundation that will allow Baylor students to touch the lives of their patients and peers as they live out their faith through medicine.

Many students have expressed an interest in the development of a medical humanities major, which could bring Baylor to the forefront nationally of issues that are currently being explored in the medical schools alone. Courses on spirituality and healing are now being taught in almost 100 medical schools and conferences are springing up continually, yet the same issues are being ignored at the undergraduate level. What better place to design a serious academic program looking at the integration of faith and medicine than Baylor University, with its strong Christian heritage and respected science program? I believe that a well funded and well organized program of this magnitude could become one of the flagship programs of the University, attracting strong premedical students from all over the country who might not have otherwise been aware of Baylor. A major in medical humanities will likely require the hiring of new faculty, the funding of a Center for Medical Humanities and the addition of new and innovative courses currently under consideration.

A second area that has been discussed is the development of a major, national continuing education conference on campus for health care practitioners — physicians, nurses and chaplains — to explore the issues. Harvard Medical School currently offers one that has been a huge success, yet it is our belief that there are many practicing physicians — both Baylor graduates and otherwise — who would be attracted to our campus for an opportunity to learn and visit. Development of this conference is currently in the early stages, very dependent on additional funding and staff support.

In summary, we are currently at a crossroads at Baylor University in the medical humanities. We have accomplished a lot in a short time, yet there is an expressed need for a deeper and broader program. Many possibilities exist, and it is the belief of those who were involved in the program from its infancy that it could easily be taken to the highest level, bringing Baylor into the leadership of universities that are looking at this challenging area of health care.

*Dr. Michael Attas is a 1969 B.A. graduate, a cardiologist and Assisting Rector at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Waco, Texas. He is the father of two College graduates: Jason (B.A. 1998) and Jessica (B.A. 2000, M.A. 2002).*



*Dr. Robert Doyle works in the Lake Waco Wetlands, a 190-acre collaborative project between Baylor University and the city of Waco, that serves as an outdoor laboratory for water research.*

The city is in the middle of a \$2 million lake assessment, and the Baylor team is using a little more than half of that money to determine exactly what's in it, how it got there, and what is likely to happen to it.

Doyle is collaborating with Dr. Bryan Brooks in environmental studies to monitor benthic organisms (bottom dwellers) and zooplankton. "My lab is working on nitrogen transformations in the lake — how nitrogen gets produced."

While he studies that, Brooks assesses the health of biological communities. Under his

## WATER & WACO

*By Barbara Elmore*

A bustling community that few people ever see thrives far below the inky surface of Lake Waco. But the combined expertise of Baylor scientists is expanding knowledge about the lake, and their experiments may benefit others far beyond Central Texas.

The scientists and scholars work with the new Center for Reservoir and Aquatic Systems Research headed by biologist Dr. Robert Doyle. The center is not a place but a meeting of the minds, a flow chart for mixing and matching the talents of biologists, chemists and geologists.

"The center provides a structure to stimulate action between groups and facilitate the city as a partner in research," noted Doyle, who has already helped Waco build a new wetlands. "Most of us are interested in basic research, understanding how aquatic systems work. Waco has an interest in making Lake Waco better. The center fosters that overlap."

direction, a master's student and an undergraduate collect zooplankton samples monthly. "We find out what is there and how many. We can find out about diversity and abundance."

Diversity is desirable, but Lake Waco is highly eutrophic, Brooks noted. This means it overproduces algae, which depletes shallow waters of oxygen in the summer. "Algae is a good thing, but too many nutrients speed up the natural occurrence. And as you increase nutrients coming into the reservoir, algae types change. Some give off taste and odor chemicals. Some can give off more toxic chemicals. Some are not good for zooplankton to eat."

Working with Brooks, Dr. Kevin Chambliss' team of chemistry students dissects the livers, brains and lateral file tissues of fish and analyzes them for pharmaceuticals. "Although it's widely known that pharmaceuticals have been detected in municipal effluents and natural waters," said Chambliss, "scientists have really never thought about analyzing drugs in fish."

They began the project in spring and will

continue indefinitely, depending on what they find. So far, their research shows detectable levels of target drugs in fish tissue. "The data we've collected suggest that bioaccumulation (the continuous growth within living organisms of toxic substances in the environment) of select therapeutics is occurring in fish."

The current studies will provide a baseline. "Our long-term objective is to provide a link between these emerging contaminants and environmental and public health concerns. We're just trying to see where the drugs go and what happens to them."

In Dr. Rene Massengale's environmental microbiology lab, water pathogens are the focus. She studies giardia and cryptosporidium to find a link between the nutrients in the lake and the tributaries leading into it. She and her team take samples at 25 sites. If they find elevated levels of pathogens, they will try to determine the source. "Pathogens are much less common than bacteria. It's a smaller needle in a haystack. But techniques have been developed in the last few years so that we can track them."

So far Massengale and her team have not found contamination levels that exceed EPA limits. "We do see more after rain. We're still in the process of coordinating information with flow data."

Massengale earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at Baylor and works in the same lab she used as a student. "It's been fun to come back to Baylor. There's a unique niche that I have been able to fill. Collaboration means you don't have to reinvent the wheel. You can put expertise together."

Massengale received her Ph.D. at West Virginia University in Morgantown, W. Va. She also spent two years directing projects at NIOSH — the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health — before returning to Baylor.

Others echo her assessment of unraveling complex problems via collaboration. The reservoir center itself was a collaboration, an idea batted around for years in meetings and documents.

"We are just beginning to scratch the surface of the potential," noted Doyle. "We are interested more broadly than Lake Waco. Fundamental science is something that Baylor can contribute and can help make people's lives better. What we learn has applicability around the world."

## THE CURTAIN RISES ON BAYLOR THEATRE

By Dr. Marion Castleberry

Each day the curtain rises on the stages of Baylor Theatre as students and teachers explore the many aspects of theatre arts. Designers, actors, directors and theatre scholars are celebrating a new stage of development and growth brought about by excellent graduate and undergraduate programs, the professional activity of its faculty (both new and veteran members) and association with world renowned artists. As new faculty member Dr. DeAnna Toten Beard proclaims, "The University's call to deepen our vocations as teachers and scholars is yielding wonderful results in this department."

Since 1996, the undergraduate program in theatre arts has been among the top ranked programs in the United States. The Gourman Report ranked the undergraduate theatre arts program among the top 25 such programs in the nation as well as first in Texas, the Big Twelve Conference and the Southwest. Baylor is the only Christian institution recognized in these rankings. Baylor University Theatre enjoys a rich and proud heritage; however, the current theatre arts faculty envisions the program as being one of the leading academic theatre institutions in the country by 2012.

In 2002-2003, the department gained four new full-time faculty members, established the Baylor Theatre Lecture Series in concert with a very active production season, and hosted an array of internationally recognized professionals. Preparations have begun for the Horton Foote American Playwrights Festival, an event that will no doubt alter the future of the Department of Theatre Arts and help establish it as one of the premiere programs in the nation.

Faculty members are actively involved in teaching, researching, writing and creating. For example, Assistant Professor Donald Fox (professional designer and Equity stage manager) designed lights for several professional productions during the year, began research for a monograph on the history of stage lighting and is working with United Scenic Artist's Broadway Cares/Equity Fights A.I.D.S. in New York City.

Assistant Professor Steven Pounders performed Equity roles in Lanford Wilson's *Book of Days* and Adam Rapp's *Nocturne* this year, among other performances. For his performance in *Book of Days*, Pounders received the prestigious Column Award, sponsored by Dallas Summer Musicals. Pounders also is writing three articles for *Grolier's Encyclopedia of Modern Drama* and the *Library of Literary Biography*.

Beard is writing a book, *Hydra-Headed Revolution*, on the emerging theatrical modernism in the early 20th century and is collaborating with Pounders and me on an adaptation of Christopher Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*, to be produced by Baylor Theatre in 2003. Last fall, Beard created the Baylor Theatre Lecture Series, a yearly event where nationally recognized scholars discuss each of the department's main stage productions. These lectures added much to a rich and varied theatre season, as did a long list of other notable theatre scholars and artists from as far away as England and The Czech Republic, who led workshops throughout the year. Such workshops provided students with opportunities to learn, to question, and to become actively involved in the theatre profession.

Baylor students participated in the 10th Prague Quadrennial International Exhibition of Scenography and Theatre Architecture. This opportunity became a significant cultural learning experience for students.

Equally successful was Baylor's Summer Theatre, which presented three sold-out student-directed productions in repertory. Graduate student Steven Day directed Horton Foote's poignant play, *The Actor*; Chris Day directed Lydia Sargent's hilarious treatment of the feminist movement, *I Read About my Death in Vogue Magazine*; and Kelly Russell directed Romulus Linney's stirring drama, *Childe Byron*.

Without question, the most significant event of this past year was Horton Foote's decision to accept the title of Distinguished Visiting Dramatist and become the University's first faculty member to have won a Pulitzer, an Emmy, two Academy Awards and the National Medal of Arts. Best known for his screenplays *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Tender Mercies*, and *The Trip to Bountiful*, Foote was in residence for two weeks during the months of November and March. In March, he presented a public

Scene from Horton Foote's *The Actor*. Shown in the background are the father (Tim Haynes), mother (Teresa Cook, Baylor alumnae), and the younger son (John Keith Koehler from *Waco*). The older son in the foreground is played by Robert Askins, a senior in Baylor's Theatre Arts program.



lecture titled "Writing With a Sense of Place."

Besides the national recognition and prestige that Foote brings to the campus, his presence has opened the door to other opportunities. For example, Baylor Press is set to publish a collection of Foote's lectures and essays in the spring of 2004. I have edited the essays and written an introduction to the book, titled, *Genesis of an American Playwright*. The book features discussions by Foote on such topics as family and place, what it means to be a Southern writer, and writing for stage and screen. It offers a rare glimpse of the private man behind the renowned public figure and a vibrant picture of an artist who has been called "a national treasure" and "America's greatest playwright." The collection is a significant statement on a writer's moral and social convictions, his dramatic craftsmanship and his thoughts on the future of the American theatre.

This year promises to be one of the most memorable in Baylor Theatre history. The department welcomes two new faculty members, Dr. Carolyn Roark and Mr. Terrence Zeeman. Roark will guide the development of a new, much-needed theatre arts journal, featuring scholarship on theatre and performance as it has expressed, encountered and responded to Christianity in the past and in our contemporary world. Zeeman, a Baylor alumnus who has been working as a professional theatre artist in Ireland, will teach acting and directing.

The department has announced a rich

and varied production season. This year's productions will include Bertolt Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle*, directed by Dr. Stan Denman; Howard Ashman's *Little Shop of Horrors*, directed by Lisa Denman; Christopher Marlowe's *The Tragical History of Doctor Faustus*, directed by Pounders; Marina Carr's *By the Bog of Cats*, directed by graduate student Russell, and the 50th anniversary production of Horton Foote's play, *The Traveling Lady*, which I will direct as part of the Horton Foote American Playwrights Festival.

The department also will host the Horton Foote American Playwrights Festival to honor distinguished achievements in playwriting by recognized masters and foster new voices in the American theatre. Each year the festival will celebrate the work and career of a great American playwright with performances, an academic symposium, and an award in Horton Foote's name. The first festival, scheduled for March 3-6, 2004, on the Baylor campus, will honor Foote's own remarkable contributions to the American theatre. A number of Foote's friends and colleagues will be on hand to participate in the celebration. Invited guests include: Robert Duvall, Matthew Broderick, Jean Stapleton, Ellen Burstyn, Estelle Parsons, Romulus Linney, Luciana Pedrazo, Anna Lee Jeffries, Daisy

Foote, Hallie Foote, Devon Abner, Jim Houghton, Curt Dempster and Michael Wilson.

With such exciting events, fine faculty and student artists, you can see why we believe the curtain is rising on a bright future for Baylor University Theatre.

## FIRST YEAR SEMINARS

By Zach Daniel (B.A. 2002, M.A. 2003)

Drive down University Parks Drive any day now, and it is clear that major changes are happening all over the Baylor campus. The new seminary, McLane Student Life Center and the Sciences Building have recently changed the face of the Baylor campus. Tucked in the midst of all that is new, remain the buildings that have defined the campus for years: Pat Neff still lights up in the night; the bells still ring; and students still pour in and out of Tidwell, Carroll Science and Draper. Whether old or new, the campus continues the Baylor traditions of cohesiveness, familiarity and beauty that have always defined it.

A look through the course catalog reveals that external changes mirror what is happening internally. In the last few years several new programs like Forensic Science, Linguistics, the World Affairs minor,

among others, have changed the academic landscape of the College of Arts and Sciences. Alongside these new classes are those that have defined academia in the College of Arts and Sciences for years. And in the heart of the old and the new, the same traditional Baylor values of professor-student interaction, academic exploration and small class size remain.

First-Year Seminars (FYS) are one of the classes reshaping the curriculum. Introduced in Fall 1998 as a pilot series in the Honors Program, their success has been so remarkable that this fall they will be expanded as Freshman Academic Seminars (FAS) to the rest of the student body with the goal of providing similar experiences for all students. The genesis of the classes at Baylor, which also are used at many of the top universities in the United States, came at the recommendation of Dr. John Gardner, one of the nation's primary experts on freshman year experiences. Soon after FYS's inception, it was evident that the classes would provide freshmen with intense interaction with professors, active learning experiences developing critical thinking, writing and discussion skills, as well as a class setting that would help bridge the social transition from high school to college.

This fall, topics such as American History through the Lens of Film and the Lens of Scholarship, Environmental Literature and Aesthetics, Law and Society in Transition, Law, Love and Laughter in 5th-Century Athens, and Individual Rights and Responsibilities in a Democratic Society will be offered as FAS/FYS.

American History through the Lens of Film and the Lens of Scholarship, taught by Assistant Professor Jules Sweet, is being offered for the first time. Comparing historically based films and primary sources, the class will focus on the ways in which Hollywood manipulates American history to promote its own interests. While the class will center on academics, it will be geared to the specific needs of freshmen in their first semester of college. "It is academic, but it is also about building a network of friends who can then help students with solving broader issues," Sweet commented.

Environmental Literature and Aesthetics, another first-time offer, will be taught by the chair of the Environmental Studies department, Dr. Susan Bratton.

The class will concentrate on how Western Civilization has portrayed nature in both art and literature. Seeking to foster academic engagement, Bratton has turned from the typical textbooks common to the freshman experience and built her class on primary sources and first-hand experiences. Students will examine the writings of John Muir, the photographs of Ansel Adams, and visit Texas art museums, ecosystems and landscapes.

Now in its fourth year, Law and Society in Transition focuses on how traditional

Individual Rights and Responsibilities in a Democratic Society, taught by the chair of the Political Science department, Dr. James Curry, examines the intricate balance of individual rights and community responsibility. The class studies primary sources, such as the writings of Aristotle, and seeks to apply the ideas to contemporary issues. The highlights of the class, for Curry, are the highly motivated students, class format and academic exploration. "I am motivated by the opportunity to work with talented



Judeo-Christian societal ideas have been adapted, reassessed and transformed by court, legislative and political action to resolve the ethical dilemmas that our society now faces. Taught by political science/social work professor Ann Ellis, the small class is marked by the "freedom they (students) enjoy to discuss, discuss, discuss. The exchange of ideas in an open and engaging forum is something the students take to eagerly. The small size of the class, of course, makes such a format possible."

Law, Love and Laughter in 5th-Century Athens studies the legal and social systems of Athens by reading Greek tragedies, comedies and philosophical writings. The class plays off Dr. John Thorburn's extensive research in the field. Thorburn explained that a professor's expertise, typical of the FAS/FYS classes, allows for greater scholarship because "when professors love what they are teaching, students love what they are being taught."

*Freshman Academic Seminars, like this one taught by Dr. Jim Curry, provide new Baylor students with active learning experiences in a class setting that helps bridge the social transition from high school to college.*

and conscientious students, the small class setting, and the freedom to explore numerous areas of content."

This fall, as freshmen across the college partake in these progressive course topics that span academic disciplines and time periods, they will become involved in a process that has gone on for years at Baylor. And while the exterior may look different, the students will once again experience the professor-student interaction, academic exploration and small class size that build upon a rich history and promise a bright future in the College of Arts and Sciences.

# From the Ruins of the Cold War to the Wellsprings of Tomorrow's Russia

By Dean Wallace L. Daniel

In 1969-70, when I first studied in Moscow, I passed the Danilov Monastery while walking in the heart of the city. The monastery was closed, its white stone wall encircling a drab, dark structure that bore few signs of life. In the

summer of 2003, I went back to Moscow to take part in an all-day seminar and roundtable discussion in the Danilov Monastery. The scene bore little resemblance to the one I observed earlier.

This summer the monastery's gates stood open, its courtyard a hub of activity. The Orthodox Church's spiritual and administrative center and the official residence of its head, the Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, the Danilov Monastery is nearly fully restored. The bell tower is rebuilt, the icons replaced, the colorful frescoes on the walls redone — all of them radiating a profound sense of hope.

The purpose of the visit was to participate in planning a conference on "Russian Orthodoxy and Civil Society," to be held next spring in Washington, D. C. Presently, this topic attracts a lot of interest, both

in Russia and the United States. In 1969-70, the location of our seminar in the monastery and the subject itself would have been inconceivable.

Our group consisted of my colleague in political science, Chris Marsh, and the renowned sociologist Peter Berger of Boston University. I also brought with me my daughter Elizabeth, who is a college freshman this fall.

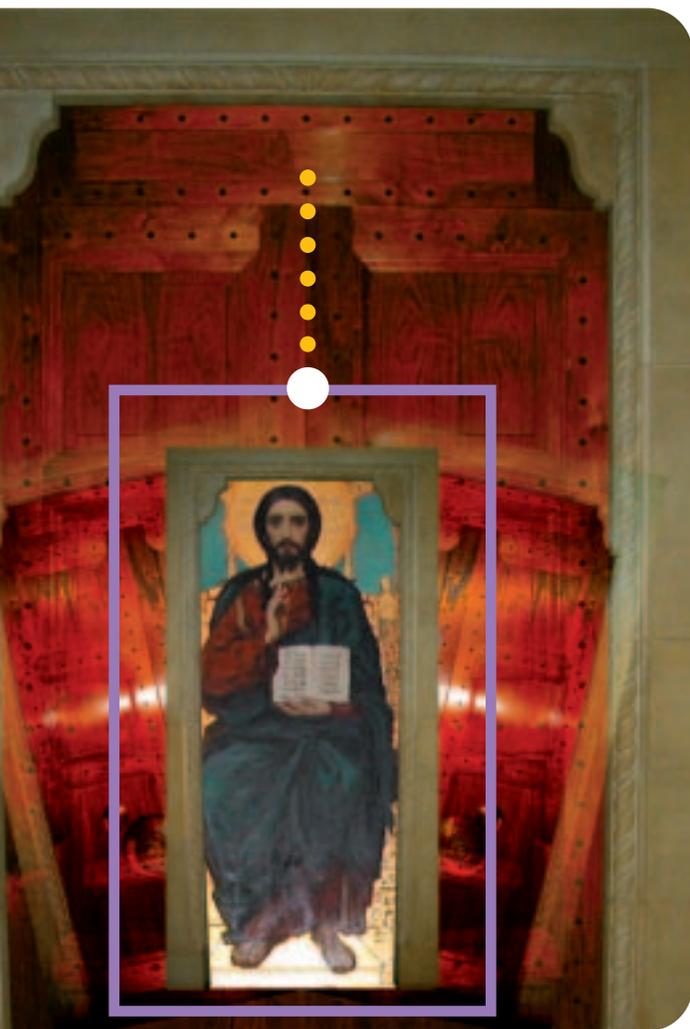
Several of Russia's leading specialists

participated in the seminar, representing academics, the Church and the government. They included Andrei Borisovich Zubov, professor of political studies at the University of International Affairs; Mikhail Petrovich Mchedlov, a well-known sociologist and director of the Center for Religion in Contemporary Society; Archpriest Vsevolod Chaplin, vice chairman of the Department for External Church Relations of the Moscow Patriarchate and Metropolitan Kirill's chief spokesman; and Aleksandr Il'ich Kurdriavtsev, director of the Department of Social and Religious Organizations, Russian Ministry of Justice.

Held on the fourth floor of the main administration building, the setting of the meeting itself had significance. In this seminar room three years ago, Church leaders had composed a historic document, the Social Doctrine of the Russian Orthodox Church, which attempted to relate Church teachings to Russia's social problems. The sources of the new doctrine in Russian theology and philosophy attracted a lot of attention in our discussion, as did the controversial 1997 law on religious organizations, the challenges of civil society and the relevance of the Orthodox Church to the creation of democracy.

Looking at Russia's present and seeking to forecast its future, Professor Zubov offered to me the most intriguing analysis. He believed the Orthodox Church had to play an active social role. Many critics had claimed that Orthodoxy turned its back on the world, disregarding its problems and becoming otherworldly and fatalistic in its orientation. But Zubov strongly disagreed with the critics; Orthodoxy had rich sources in its tradition, including its patristic teachings, which speak directly to Russia's present social conditions. These sources needed to be restored to a prominent place in the Church's theology. They would help to build notions of civic responsibilities, notions that Russia greatly lacked.

Zubov spent a great deal of time focusing on the Soviet impact on the mentality and values of his country. This impact had been devastating



and had shaped not only popular thinking but many aspects of the Church's own approaches. "The Church had to fight for its survival and, to do so, it had to make many compromises," Zubov said. The compromises had severely affected its creative capacities, its level of energy and its vision. Such capabilities had to be restored, a delicate process that could not be accomplished overnight. It would take a lot of time and patience, and Zubov believes that within Orthodoxy and in Russian cultural history are the sources that can nurture these elements.

The monastery in which we held our meetings offered vivid testimony of both suffering and redemption. Later in the afternoon, after the round-table discussions ended, Fr Vsevolod gave us a tour of the monastery. "After Stalin closed this monastery in the late 1920s to the Church, the children of parents executed in the great purges were kept here before their exile to special children's camps," he related; "the monastery served as an orphanage." In later years theater companies performed plays in these churches, often satires of the Church and of religious beliefs, which were equated with superstition.

The Soviet government returned the Danilov Monastery to the Church in 1982, in the latter years of Leonid Brezhnev's rule, not in 1988, as American books often state, the year of the millennium of Orthodox Christianity in Russia. Fr Vsevolod came here in 1982 to participate in the monastery's reopening. Entering the ancient sacred place for the first time, he said he was nearly overwhelmed by its dilapidated, unkempt condition, its painted-over walls, its marked-up frescoes and its battered furnishings. But underneath, he said, "the sacred images were still there and needed to be uncovered."

Toward the end of the day, while sitting in the seminar, my mind wandered back to that period 34 years ago and the year I spent in the former Soviet Union. I had gone to Moscow on the official exchange

conducted by the U. S. Department of State, the American Council of Learned Societies and the Fulbright Association. I went to write my dissertation on Catherine the Great, to work in Russian archives and libraries, and to learn about Russian life, to see at first-hand a country Winston Churchill would call a "riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma."

I recalled the context of this earlier year, when the Communist Party controlled Russia. The grip of the Party was firm, and much of the contact I had with Russians

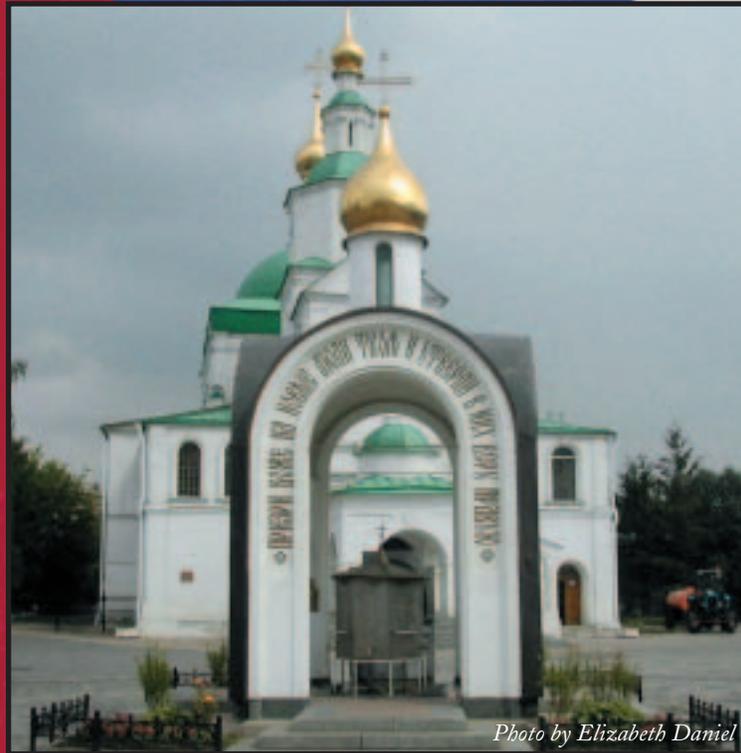


Photo by Elizabeth Daniel

was under observation. The Cold War between the Soviet Union and the United States had grown increasingly bitter and rancorous. In August, a few weeks before I arrived in Moscow, American astronauts had landed on the moon, a feat the Soviet government met with both awe and resentment. The moon landing challenged Soviet belief in its scientific and technological superiority and simultaneously made it more determined than ever to show this superiority.

In response, the cult of Lenin and the Party intensified. While he died in 1924, Lenin had reached God-like status, and the story of his life, his writings and his goals for the Party were propagated in the newspapers nearly every day, on television and on the streets. In the schools, scientific

atheism played a major role in the curriculum; it aimed to obliterate all forms of religious expression, and in 1969-70, the campaign was in high gear.

As I sat there that afternoon in the Danilov Monastery, I both felt the passage of time personally and also recalled the enormous political transformations that had taken place in the last decade, changes that are everywhere visible. Earlier, I had gone to Moscow as a Ph.D. student; I returned as a professor and as a father. Formerly, this had been a closed society; more than a decade

ago it had opened its doors not only to Western Europe and the United States, but to a global network, producing a profound shock to a nation dominated for 70 years by Soviet government and ideology.

In the summer of 2003, evidence of Russia's integration into the world would be plainly visible. The new shapes and forms are now more natural, more integrated into the landscape than a decade ago. Moscow, especially in its center, is a lively, colorful, sparkling city, in sharp contrast to the drab, dark, monotonous city I had known as a student 34 years ago.

The physical contrast became sharply defined the first night of our visit. Too excited to rest after our long trip from Dallas and too impatient to delay a first look, Chris, Elizabeth and I took the metro out to Sparrow Hills and Moscow University. After a walk through the heavily wooded hills along the Moscow River, we stood on the embankment overlooking Moscow, a favorite spot for Russian youth in 1969, where I had often come as a student. We then boarded a riverboat for the trip back in, a long, meandering journey on the river, the colorful lights of the city, its glittering new structures, and its towering glass commercial buildings providing vivid physical testimony that the former barriers to the outside world no longer exist.

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

By James W. Odom, Director of Public Affairs, Baylor

July 14, 2003

**B**.J. Goergen (Journalism, 2002) had instructed me to be at the northwest gate to the White House at 7 p.m. I approached the gate shortly before that time, and the officer buzzed me through the perimeter fence. (Officers at federal buildings these days don't smile very much or ask many questions. They expect you to know why you're there and tell them your business expeditiously.) I informed the officer of my meeting with Goergen. He checked the computer logs, gave me a visitor card stamped "A", and directed me through the metal detector.

"I think someone is supposed to meet me here," I said to the officer. As if to remind me where I was, he smiled and said,

"Oh no, they won't be coming to get you, sir. Just walk through those doors and someone will assist you." It seemed the officer was pointing to the West Wing of the White House, but folks just don't walk into the West Wing, do they?

I proceeded to cover the 50 yards between the guard house and the West Wing, passing a deserted "Pebble Beach," the gravel-covered area where TV journalists file their reports, and expecting to be tackled by the Secret Service at any minute. I entered the building looking over my shoulder, gave the guard my name and called Goergen's office. While waiting in the lobby, Ari Fleischer strode through and greeted several friends who had attended the day's press conference. It was Fleischer's last day on the job.

Goergen is in the midst of a typical 16-hour day, and we quickly walk back to a second floor office to await a call from Karl Rove, senior adviser to President Bush. As assistant to Rove, she provides staff support at White House events, helps set Rove's schedule, and manages the enormous workflow of his office.

"It's not an 8 to 5 gig, and you're off on the



# Alumni In T

## NEW YORK, NEW YORK

By Zach Daniel (B.A. 2002, M.A. 2003)

**"N**ew York City is itself a detective story," Agatha Christie once said. Some see the city as a vast, impersonal and merciless metropolis, while others fondly refer to it as lovely and noble. Either way, New York City is a mystery, repelling some and drawing others. Several Baylor alumni have experienced the latter and over the past decade have gained prominent positions in prestigious New York industries.

John Vilade, Alison Presley, Elisabeth Rietvelt and Bill McCracken are a few recent Baylor graduates who have braved the uncharted frontier of NYC and made homes in telecommunications, publishing and law. Vilade followed a focused path straight from his undergraduate and graduate degrees in communication studies at Baylor to New York. He is now the director of business development for NBC's Strategic Partnership Group, which builds advertising contracts with CNBC, MSNBC and Telemundo.

After earning bachelor's and master's degrees in English Language and Literature at Baylor, Presley moved to Johns Hopkins University to study creative writing as an intermediate stop on her journey to New York. Now she is an editorial assistant at Random House Inc. in the Broadway Books division, known for such bestsellers as *Smart Couples Finish Rich* and *A Walk in the Woods*.

Rietvelt, with her B.A. in journalism and minor in world affairs, ventured from Baylor to Maastricht, The Netherlands, to Jackson, Miss., before land-

weekends,” says Goergen, as she reflects on the tasks that must be completed before the next work day begins at 6 a.m.

Goergen has combined initiative and flat-out hard work to seize the significant opportunities she has been given in her two short years of government service. “I didn’t get an internship because I knew [someone], I got an internship because I called the operator,” says Goergen, speaking of her first position in the White House Office of Faith Based Initiatives (OFBI). She describes her customary practice of being the first one in the doors in the morning and the last one to leave every day. “If you’re a sucker and willing to put in the hours, that reputation precedes you.”

While working at the OFBI, Goergen solidified her reputation for diligence by volunteering at night at the Office of



B.J. Goergen



Homeland Security (OHS), a new agency created in the wake of Sept. 11. Eventually, she was hired at OHS and transitioned into the Department of Homeland Security when the cabinet-level agency was established. When Rove began looking for an assistant, Goergen was recommended and won the position.

“Doors have opened for me that I could never have opened for myself,” says Goergen. “You just learn that you shouldn’t be the one plotting your goals.” Goergen actually struggled with whether to pursue the job with Rove, thinking her journalism

major might not be a good fit for the office. After candid advice from a friend in Washington, Goergen says she realized that if God was opening the door, she needed to follow.

Being at the center of White House activity can be overwhelming, but Goergen says she maintains perspective by remembering the people she is called to serve. She takes every phone call and letter seriously, knowing that she is representing the President of the United States. “At least from my perspective here, I think people

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

# he Working World



ing in New York. She now works in the editorial department of *House and Garden Magazine*.

McCracken took a direct route from the Baylor philosophy department to New York, attending law school at NYU and making his home there ever since.

All four cite professorial relationships as a crucial ingredient in their time at Baylor and a major factor in their professional achievement. Presley said her professors were key to her success, particularly her first writing professor, Bob Darden, and her Joycean/Modernist professor Jay Losey: “Both of these teachers dared me to dream of distant shores and rigorously prepared me for the competition —

CONTINUED ON PAGE 40

*Baylor graduates, 1997. (left to right) Anne Pearce (B.A., History and Foreign Service); Laura Schimming; Corbett Schimming (B.A., History); Bill McCracken (B.A., Philosophy); Elisabeth Rietvelt (B.A., Journalism); John Walkup (B.B.A., Marketing); and Philip Tam (B.A., History).*

should be willing to sacrifice part of their life,” Goergen says. “You really need to have a servant’s heart.”

July 15, 2003

The Capitol South metro station deposits me a half block from the Cannon House Office Building, and I proceed to Congressman Brad Carson’s (History, 1989) office in room 317. Carson has been detained at a Resources Committee hearing, however, and his staff walks me through the underground corridor leading to the Longworth building. Nicholas Harroz, a Baylor student interning at Carson’s office, assures me the Congressman should be out in just a few minutes, but as the minutes pass, he invites me to step inside the paneled room to watch the proceedings.

Chairman Pombo is conducting the meeting with taciturn efficiency, and Carson is waiting to be recognized to speak on a bill pertaining to Native Americans. Carson begins his remarks by recounting his childhood on an Indian reservation, and committee members perk up as he speaks with obvious authority.

Carson won the Rhodes Scholarship in 1988, the first Baylor student to win the award in more than 50 years. After finishing his degree at Oxford, he enrolled at the University of Oklahoma for law school and subsequently practiced law in Tulsa. From September 1997 to December 1998, Carson participated in the White House Fellows program, the most prestigious leadership program in the country. After completing his fellowship, Carson returned to Oklahoma and was elected in 2000 to represent the second congressional district, becoming the only Democrat to win a seat in the state’s federal delegation.

After completing his presentation before the Resources Committee, Carson does not return to his office but takes a few moments for an interview in the hallway before running to his next engagement. “I really got the interest in going into public service during my time at Baylor,” Carson says. “I had

a lot of great professors like Vardaman, Reid, Battistoni — people who were nearly legendary on the campus. They very much encouraged me to go into public service — that it was a great way of life, that it’s a part of giving back to your community — and gave me the intellectual bedrock upon which I’ve been able to develop my own views about how government should work



Brad Carson

and what the country should look like.”

Carson is quick to acknowledge the challenges of making government work, noting that his typical week is comprised of four days in Washington and three days in Oklahoma. He returns to the state every weekend and is on the road through the district every Friday and Saturday.

For aspiring public servants, Carson’s advice is to prepare and take risks.

“Take your education extremely seriously because if you want to be in public service ... you get involved in a life that is so busy that it is hard to develop the intellectual capital that will allow you to evaluate the

policy options ... presented to [you],” Carson says. “Trying to build up those reserves when you’re young, when you’re at school, is very important.” The instinct for leadership also must be cultivated. “Nobody comes and anoints you for these offices,” Carson continues.

Now serving in his second term in Congress, Carson has seen firsthand the influence of campaign contributions on the political process and supports campaign expenditure limits to address the problem. “There are a lot of good causes, and I rarely see good causes enacted into legislation, but I see a lot of causes that have millions upon millions of dollars behind them enacted into legislation or into the regulations every single day.”

Encouraging the best and brightest to enter public service is part of the answer to undue influence peddling, Carson says. “That’s the real challenge — to restore a nobility to this profession that is so important, that is making decisions about the future of the country, the future of the world, really. We need to attract the very best people.”

July 16, 2003

Susan (Ross) Firth (Political Science, 1991) works at the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee, and I trek through the massive Rayburn House Office Building to find her office, room 2358. As staff assistant to Congressman Ralph Regula, chairman of the subcommittee, she helps manage funding for preschool through adult federal education programs.

Firth downplays her position at the subcommittee, saying that the funding she oversees is only 7 or 8 percent of total education spending in the United States. When I ask for the dollar figure of that 7 or 8 percent, she casually says \$55 billion.

“Obviously, the elected officials are the ones that are personally responsible [for the funding],” Firth laughs, “but I’m the one they come to when they have questions. I

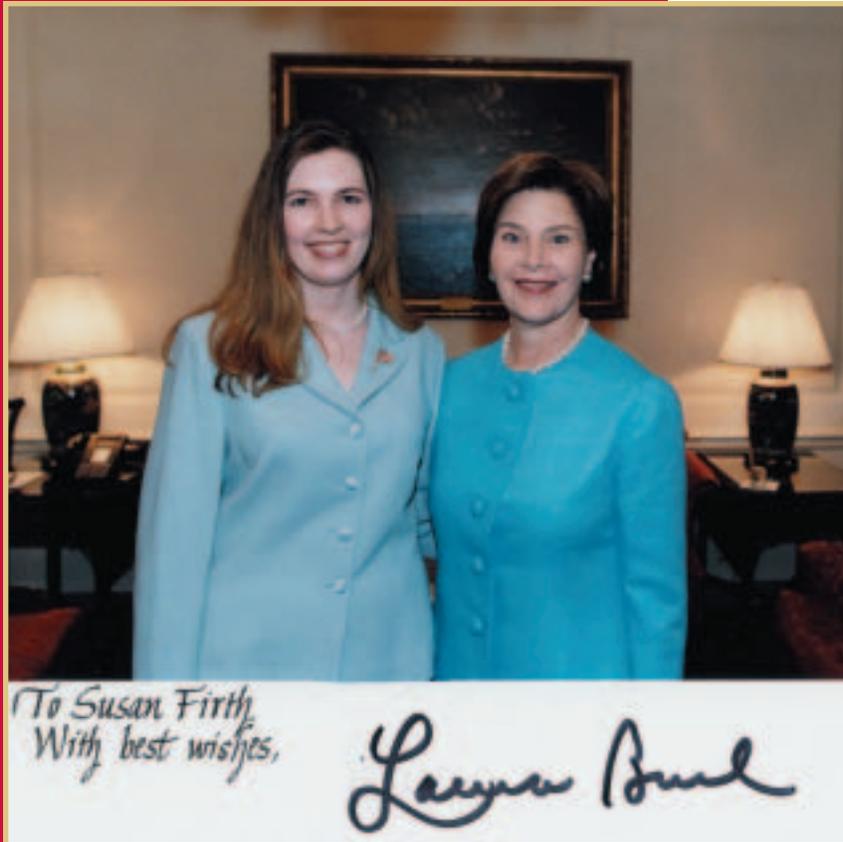
think it's an important role. They rely on their staff a lot for information because they are doing so many different things they can't possibly know all the ins and outs."

Firth grew up in Colorado and was inspired to consider public service through the work of her father, who served in state government throughout his career. She was drawn to Baylor as a Christian university with a strong academic reputation.

"[Baylor] definitely prepared me in the way of my critical thinking and writing skills, and ... just in the general breadth of the education ...," Firth says. "Even though I'm in education here, so much of what happens on the Hill is driven by current events." After Baylor, Firth earned a masters in public finance from Indiana University.

Firth has seven years of experience as a congressional staffer on education policy and served as the senior budget analyst for the House Committee on Education and the Workforce before moving to the appropriations subcommittee. Prior to coming to the Hill, Firth worked in the Office of Planning and Evaluation Services and the Budget Office of the U.S. Department of Education.

Contrary to public perception, Firth says that most public servants are committed to their constituents and the public good. "I think that most of the members of Congress that I've met really and truly have a heart to do what's right, and they really want to help people ..." Some in Congress do pursue their own interest over the public good, says Firth, but people of good will who are committed to the well-being of others are the most effective public servants. "In the end, it's how they're relating to others around them that is really going to make a difference in whether they are successful in what they are pushing or not."



July 23, 2003

Back in Waco, I'm waiting in the president's office to see Jerome Loughridge (University Scholar, 1995), chief of staff at Baylor University and my boss. Loughridge comes in and flicks me on the ear, one of his usual antics, and we proceed back to his office for the interrogation. Loughridge often comments on how appropriate it is that only the bowels of Pat Neff are visible through his one office window.

As Brad Carson before him, Loughridge has been selected as a White House Fellow and will begin service on September 1. "Typically, about 1,000 folks a year apply for a slot in the White House Fellows class," Loughridge says. The program involves a rigorous application process that resulted in the selection of 12 applicants for the 2003-04 class. White House Fellows are typically assigned to cabinet secretaries or senior officers in the White House, and Loughridge has been tasked to Mel Martinez, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

The Duncan, Oklahoma native has long

been interested in public service. "It has literally been a lifelong aspiration. As a matter of fact, as far back as I can remember, my heroes — even at an age that was really too young for this to be normal — have always been elected public servants."

Loughridge's time at Baylor as an undergraduate student played an integral role in shaping his view of the political arena. Loughridge thrived as a University Scholar and credits the program and his professors with teaching him how to assimilate various strands of thought into a cohesive whole. "My Baylor education taught me to think integratively,

to reflect on those things we hold in common, and to attempt to build thoughtful consensus," Loughridge says. "Hopefully that's what I will have an opportunity to do in Washington as well."

Loughridge won a Truman Scholarship at Baylor and, after a year with Children's Memorial Medical Center Foundation in Chicago, attended Harvard University, where he completed a master's in public policy. After a brief stint with Williams Energy in Tulsa, Loughridge joined the staff of U.S. Senator Don Nickles and served as his acting director of field operations in eastern Oklahoma. In February 2001, Loughridge was appointed chief of staff in the president's office, where he serves as a senior adviser and represents the president to various Baylor constituencies.

Loughridge's work to fulfill Baylor's mission of preparing students for "worldwide leadership and service" has helped refine his own views on effective leadership and the role of faith in public life. Political issues have moral and spiritual dimensions, says Loughridge. "Those are issues that frame the environment in which we live, and I never saw Christ's example being one of

# BU in the EU

## Baylor Alumni in Europe Offer Views on Life after “The Trans-Atlantic Rift”

By Cory Elliot (B.A. 2003) and John Kent (B.A. 2003)

After graduating from Baylor last May, we began a trek across six European countries. This was a final college research project, one entirely off the books and outside of the classroom — to see the reality behind what the newspapers were calling the trans-Atlantic Rift. Throughout our senior year, a great argument about America’s role in the Middle East had dominated the world stage. The global division over Saddam Hussein’s Iraq was an ever-present theme on the pages of the *Lariat*, in the lectures of visiting professors and in study-breaks turned debates that often lasted for hours.

The division between the United States and our European allies was particularly noticeable. As we watched from Waco, reports of protest after protest in Europe began to merge into a single anti-American theme. The solidarity of the West, which had endured across the long years of the Cold War and beyond, was facing a possibly irreversible fracture.

Robert Kagan’s *Of Paradise and Power* hit the bookshelves that spring, proclaiming, “It is time to stop pretending that Europeans and Americans share a common view of the world, or even that they occupy the same world.” We set out to Europe on May 26 to see if he was right.

We proposed to move past the media’s 15-second sound-bite and the academy’s scholarly conjecture to uncover the ground truth from

Americans living in Europe. We turned to the Baylor family in Europe for answers and found them in the lives of our school’s alumni living across the continent.

Our plane landed in London at dawn on the 27th. Within hours we were sitting on the steps of St. Paul’s Cathedral with Matt Borg. A 1995 graduate in history, Borg began his career in the Air Force where he served as press secretary for the allied NATO forces fighting in Kosovo. As intermediary between the U.S.-led military force and the diverse world press, he had a front-row seat from which to observe European and American powers interacting under stressful wartime conditions.

Borg now divides his time between Cambridge, where he lives with his wife and young daughter, and London, where he works as a consultant. In the months before the war, these cities saw fierce debate over Tony Blair’s stand against Iraq; one protest drew over one million people onto the streets of London. However, when we asked Borg about the ferocity of anti-American sentiment there, he responded with a soldier’s temperance. Friends and strangers alike had treated him much as they had before Iraq had become an issue, but as the “token American” in his office, Borg found himself often returning to the role of spokesman for the U.S. and its foreign policy.

**That’s the hardest part, I think — being an ambassador for the U.S. on a daily basis, and feeling like one needs to be read up on all the pros and cons of various foreign policy initiatives, so that you can give an intelligent answer. I am more focused on keeping up with events because I am inevitably going to be asked the questions. And even though I agree with the decision, I need to be able to justify the rationale behind the decision.**

Matt Borg

Later that night we sat down to dinner with another spokesman of sorts, but this time one whose primary audience was the British govern-



ment itself. Kevin Jones, a 1989 business-school graduate, works as a liaison to members of the British Parliament. His close work with the UK's policymakers has left him with a British accent that fades only slightly in the presence of other Texans and a strong sense that the invasion and occupation of Iraq may prove to be a dangerous mistake. Jones walked among those million Britons protesting the war last spring.

However, his distance from the United States has not quelled his patriotism. When asked about his experience on Sept. 11th, his voice faltered and his face reddened. On that day when so many Americans turned to each other for support, he was entirely alone. He had spent the day at home writing, and late in the afternoon turned on his television to watch a sight for which he was completely unprepared. When he was finally able to wrench himself from the television in his apartment, he set out on the streets of London to find an American flag — one which would fly outside the window of his flat for months to come.

**If you get somebody talking about America, they love Levi's and Coca-Cola and Disney, but they don't like what the government is doing abroad. And frankly, before I moved over here, that was something difficult for me to get my head around because, I thought, how can you be against this element, but for this element. And it took me a while to understand that you can love one aspect of American culture and hate another one. And that's what this is about. People love the American people. They love the open spaces, and the myths of America, and Route 66 and big refrigerators and all these funny little things — they love all that. People want to travel to America. But they hate what is going on in the Middle East.**

**Kevin Jones**

The following morning, we boarded a train for Cambridge,

where we met Will Ingle-Gillis (B.A. 1992). Upon graduation from Baylor, he left for London to begin the lengthy process of ordination in the Church of England — one in which he met his wife, earned a Ph.D. from King's College in London and developed a friendship with Rowan Williams, the current Archbishop of Canterbury. We spent the afternoon in a flat-bottom boat, punting down the canal that cuts through the centuries-old campus at Cambridge. Ingle-Gillis' eyes sparkled with energy as he spoke about the Church's potential to reform British society and its powerful message against the recent war. He argued that the Church can and should be a voice for the purpose of peace, and we left with no doubt that his pulpit will only amplify that voice.

Day three brought us to the Netherlands. When we reached Amsterdam, the Ascension holiday weekend had packed the streets with a throng of tourists. Every hostel was fully booked, and this city's reputation as the wildest in Europe proved itself with startling vivacity. As the afternoon wore on and our packs grew increasingly

heavier, we began to worry that we would only be able to find lodging on a bench in the train station. Our Baylor contact in town saved the day.

Mark Sutton (B.B.A. 1990) lives with his wife Ann and two daughters in Abcoude and when they offered us a barbecue dinner and a place to stay, all of Amsterdam must have heard us shouting thanks from the phone booth. A short train ride brought us out of the chaos and into verdant pastures where sheep grazed under a slowly moving windmill. While we devoured hamburgers and chicken wings, Sutton and his wife shared the details of day to day life in a town straight out of a fairy tale.

When the Suttons moved to Abcoude, they slowly began to reach across cultural barriers to build dear friendships with the Dutch. Integration into the village's life was rewarding but it has not been without difficulties. Ann recounted to us how her heart dropped when her next-door neighbor and close friend angrily remarked last fall that the United States had earned every bit of its loss on Sept. 11th. Despite misunderstandings, they have committed themselves to



*Will Ingle-Gillis (B.A. 1992) with Cory Elliott (B.A. 2003) floating on the Cam River, Cambridge, England*

face those seemingly unbridgeable differences head-on.

**I love all the kinds of cultural differences. Some of them I don't understand; some I think I do. Some I appreciate; some I don't like. But the world still spins, despite all these differences, language, culture, whatever. I love it. Absolutely love it.**

Mark Sutton

After a day off spent exploring Munich, we worked our way across to Baden, Switzerland, for an interview with Dr. Antje Traub. Traub left her home in Switzerland for Waco, lured across the world by the chance to study under the world-renowned Krassimira Jordan in Baylor's School of Music. The two master's degrees she earned at Baylor served as a springboard for a doctoral degree from Eastman College and a stellar career as a professor, concert pianist and organist. Traub is a cosmopolitan of the first order. As we sat on the porch of her spacious home outside of Zurich, her discourse slipped effortlessly from talk of Baroque music to

the future of the European Union to the pleasures of Texas summers. She had only the day before returned from a concert tour in Lebanon, where she said no conversation strays far from the happenings in Iraq.

Traub is pulled in many directions by competing allegiances. She learned to love so much about America when she lived here; indeed, she met her husband here. Yet she worries that Americans fail to see many of the realities of life in the rest of the

world as a result of total geographical separation and drastically different perspectives.

Traub's earnest exasperation framed the scene that unfolded in front of us the next day in Geneva. After nine days on the European trail, we found ourselves in the middle of the aftermath of a real anti-American riot. We had arrived on the same day that the G8 Summit was wrapping up its proceedings in Evian, France, only a few miles away. Geneva had been a staging ground for hundreds of thousands of angry protesters who were against the G8 and its

Cornavin and plastered our faces to the window as it rattled its way down Route de Chêne. We appeared to be winding our way through a deserted corner of the city — almost every building we passed was boarded up with plywood blanketed by layer after layer of graffiti.

A second look, however, told a different story. These walls in fact publicized very current and very angry voices of political dissent. Meanwhile, workers carefully peeled back the protective planks to reveal glitzy storefronts with all the sophistication of



*Cory Elliott (left) and John Kent "on top of the world" at Mount Pilatus, overlooking Lake Luzerne in Switzerland.*

most powerful member, the United States.

Headquarters for the United Nations and the Red Cross as well as some of the most stunning scenery in Europe draws the global community to this cosmopolitan city in the Swiss Alps. But when we arrived that night, a stunned hush had fallen over the city for reasons which we could not understand. The cause for quiet was clear enough the following day, the morning after a calamity.

We hopped a trolley at the Gare

Rodeo Drive or Fifth Avenue.

The ravaged streets of workers were quietly beginning to rehabilitate the center of a normally vibrant commercial district. Although everything around us echoed with the rage of the previous day's turmoil, Geneva was timidly allowing itself to breathe again.

At the end of our trolley ride was the International School of Geneva, where Baylor alumnus Becky Brown (BSE, 1979)