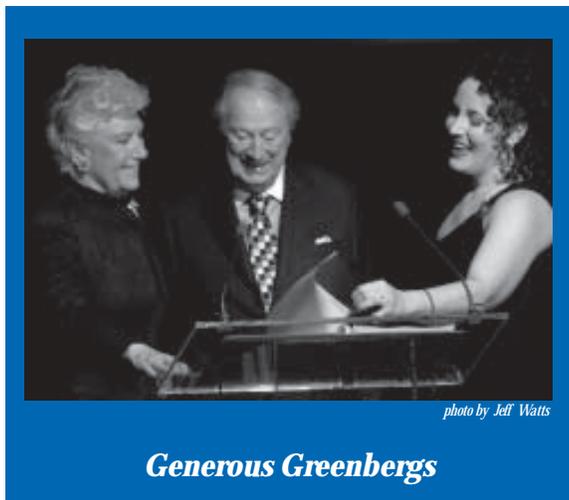


## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Every April, the pace of the academic year seems to quicken. Students work to complete their courses and final projects. We celebrate student achievement at the CAS Student Research Conference and honor faculty with college nominations and university awards. We look forward to Commencement. This year we have an exciting new element to add to the mix...one that is far from “wrapping up,” but, instead, more of an “unwrapping.”

Through the generosity of Harold and Sylvia Greenberg, long-time supporters of the university, we are opening a new theatre facility at 4200 Wisconsin Ave., a few blocks from the main campus. Our Department of Performing Arts, all of our students, and the community at large will benefit from their gift for years to come. Opening events include three evening performances by DPA students, faculty, and alumni on March 27, 28, and 29; and a university orchestra and chorus performance of Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony and a composition created especially for the occasion by faculty member Haig Mardirosian during the second weekend in April.

*continued on page 2*



*photo by Jeff Watts*

**Generous Greenbergs**

*Benefactors Harold and Sylvia Greenberg are honored for their phenomenal efforts in making a dream reality through the opening of the Harold and Sylvia Greenberg Theatre on March 27-29. As a tribute, students presented offerings from each of the Department of Performing Arts' disciplines: music, theatre, music theatre, dance, and arts management. Shown here presenting the honor is alumni emcee Lynn Filusch '92.*

VOL. 15, NO. 4, APRIL 2003

### In This Issue...

- **Greeting Greenberg.** The Harold and Sylvia Greenberg Theatre opens with great fanfare. See stories, photos, and student and faculty reflections beginning on pages 2-3.
- **For the Birds.** Biology Professor Chris Tudge leads AU's first Great Backyard Bird Count through the President's Weekend snow. Page 9.
- **History Teaching Comes Alive** through a grant from the US Department of Education. See it in action on page 9.
- **CAS Faculty Honored by AU.** Four CAS professors have been named University Award recipients, including Caleen Sinnette Jennings as Scholar-Teacher of the Year. See page 2 for a complete list.

### Plus, *Connections'* Regular Features...

- |       |                      |
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| 1-2   | Dean's Message       |
| 3,8   | Featured This Issue  |
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| 9     | What's New in CAS    |
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| 10-12 | Events Listing       |

## **CAS Connections**

is published twice a semester during the fall and spring terms.

CAS Dean  
Kay Mussell

Writer/Editor/Manager  
Alison M. Torrillo

Guidelines for Submission

Submissions to *CAS Connections* are encouraged and should be submitted via e-mail to <alison@american.edu> prior to the stated deadline. Faculty accomplishments and events posted into the CAS Master Database will also be automatically considered for publication (unless expressly requested otherwise). Please be sure to include a contact name, phone number, and e-mail address. We also welcome the electronic submission of photographs. Photos should preferably be scanned at no less than 260 dpi and saved in .TIF format.

### Deadlines

For Fall issue no. 1 (October) - September 10  
For Fall issue no. 2 (December) - November 1  
For Spring issue no. 1 (February) - January 15  
For Spring issue no. 2 (April) - March 15

Please direct any questions to Alison Torrillo in the CAS Dean's Office, 161 Battelle-Tompkins, 202-885-1781.

**Deadline for the October issue is  
September 10, 2003**

## *Dean's Message, Continued from cover*

Accordingly, we devote a good portion of this issue to the celebration of this momentous event and what it means to our CAS family. I will leave the details to those who can communicate them best: our faculty and students. As you read through this issue, you will encounter photos of the Greenberg Gala student opening, quotes from students, and a reflection written by Department of Performing Arts Chair Gail Humphries Mardirosian. It is particularly appropriate that the Greenberg Theatre opening falls on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that department, which has provided exceptional instruction in the areas of dance, music, music theatre, theatre, and arts management, as well as a creative outlet for all members of our community for a quarter of a century.

I hope you will enjoy experiencing this wonderful occasion with us, by both reading the pieces in this newsletter and coming out to experience the magic for yourself this season and in the years to come.

Best wishes for a safe and fulfilling summer.

Kay Mussell  
CAS Dean



## *Glimpses from Greenberg*

*Dario Moore, second year MA in dance student, performs his piece, "Embracing Complementary Extremes," at the Greenberg Theatre Gala, "Curtain Up!"*

*A second dance piece, "A Naive Moment," choreographed by AU guest artist Peter diMuro, was also performed during the gala showcase, as were the varied offerings of "Try to Remember...A Musical Montage," which celebrated 25 years of musicals at AU; Professor Hajg Mardirosian's "Celebration!" overture; two theatrical works by Caleen Jennings; a musical salute to "Our Time"; and a selection by the AU Jazz Band.*

## **CAS Faculty Honorees**

*On March 19, American University Provost Cornelius M. Kerwin announced this year's University Award recipients, which are given annually to faculty members who exemplify the tradition of excellence in teaching, scholarship, and service at AU. This year, CAS professors were honored with four, including Scholar-Teacher of the Year. Also recognized are faculty who have provided 25 years of service and those who are retiring at the end of this academic year.*

### **Scholar-Teacher of the Year**

Caleen Jennings (Performing Arts)

### **Outstanding Teaching in General Education**

Ira N. Klein (History)

### **Innovative Use of Technology in Teaching**

Bryan D. Fantie (Psychology)

### **Outstanding Contributions to Academic Development**

Lynn Fox (Education)

### **25 Years of Service**

Robert Jernigan (Mathematics and Statistics)

### **Retiring Faculty**

Austin M. Barron (Mathematics and Statistics)

Frank W. Connolly (Computer Science)

David S. Crosby (Mathematics and Statistics)

Mary D. Garrard (Art)

C. Stanley Lewis (Art)

Alan R. Mandel (Performing Arts)

Naima Prevots (Performing Arts)

Henry S. Taylor (Literature)

# FEATURED THIS ISSUE:

## A GALA GREETING FOR GREENBERG

The CAS - and entire American University - community has been abuzz with excitement for months. Indeed, this very publication has provided numerous teasers and updates leading up to this momentous event. And now, finally, the time is here to welcome the Harold and Sylvia Greenberg Theatre to campus.

Spring 2003 marks a new era for the performing arts at AU, as a brand new facility comes to life with the voices and talents of hundreds of students, as well as faculty, staff, and alumni, eagerly ushering in this occasion through two celebrations: *Curtain Up!* and *Lights Up!*

With over 200 performers, *Curtain Up!* marked the grand opening of the theatre March 27-29, and featured a montage of 25 years of musicals at American University and the premiere of *Celebration!*, an original composition by professor Haig Mardirosian. The program included an original scene by professor Caleen Sinnette Jennings and choreography by guest artist Peter DiMuro. As part of its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, the Department of Performing Arts also inaugurated the Alumni Hall of Fame, featuring accomplished arts professionals who were AU students.

*Lights Up!* (April 11-13) showcases musical tradition with Ludwig van Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* (including the *Ode to Joy*) and innovation with Haig Mardirosian's *Celebration!* The AU Chorus and AU Symphony Orchestra, conducted by professor Daniel Abraham and conductor-in-residence Shizuo Kuwahara, features 150 performers drawn from AU's students, faculty, staff, and community members.

The benefactors making this all possible, Harold and Sylvia Greenberg, are no strangers to the joys of philanthropy. Sylvia's father, Abraham Kay, was the naming donor for the Kay Spiritual Life Center. Ten years ago, they started the Sylvia and Harold Greenberg Endowed Scholarship fund, which supports several students in the Department of Performing Arts each year. The Greenbergs meet with each scholarship recipient and meeting those students over the years was a large part of what inspired them to give their most recent \$2 million naming gift for the theatre. The Greenbergs were awarded the prestigious President's Award in 2001 for their demonstrated leadership, loyalty, and commitment to the university through volunteer involvement and financial support, and the Cyrus Ansary Award in 1991 for their



photo by Jeff Watts

L to R: Junior Kelly Williams, Sophomore Tiffany Jarman, Junior Rachael Barainca, Senior Janet Patton, Junior Erin Kaufman, Senior Jennifer Lutz, Sophomore Caroline Angell, and Sophomore Michael Sazonov (front) welcome guests to their new home at the Greenberg Theatre.

extraordinary leadership and commitment to the university and the community at large.

The new 300-seat state-of-the-art theatre will make American University's excellent performing arts endeavors available to even more members of the community, bringing a new dimension to the arts in the Washington, D.C., area.

*Ed Note: Information in the preceding article was taken in part from news releases provided by AU's Media Relations Office and the Department of Performing Arts.*

### Reflections from the Chair...

Thanks to the generosity of Harold and Sylvia Greenberg, the students, staff and faculty at American University now have the performance and production facilities merited by their hard work and talent. The new theatre heralds a wonderful new day for the performing arts at American. For years, the Department of Performing Arts has presented theatre, music theatre, dance, and music productions in spaces that have been at best, inadequate.



Let me share a few behind-the-scenes items that you may not have ever known, even if you regularly attended productions in the Experimental Theatre. Did you know that our dressing rooms were really just old, converted broom closets? Did you know that our costume shop was in the middle of campus, in an old greenhouse, and that we had to transport costumes before and after each performance via the designer's station wagon, in order to launder and repair costumes? Did you know that the only access to backstage without going thorough the theatre in full view of the audience was outside? I never paid more attention to the weather forecast than when I was involved with a production. If it rained or snowed, the performers had a very tough time just getting into place. We once had a host of ushers holding a parade of umbrellas for the actors to get into place.

*continued on page 8*

# Department News

## American Studies

**Edward Smith** continues to be quoted in articles related to his work with the Lincoln statue in Richmond. An article in which he was mentioned appeared in early March in *the Tallahassee Democrat*, *Philadelphia Daily News*, and *Charlotte Observer*. Smith also wrote the op-ed piece, "Jefferson and Roe vs. Wade," for the January 22 *Washington Times*.

Smith was also elected Vice President of the Abraham Lincoln Institute at the organization's sixth annual symposium held March 22 at the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.

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*...Bill Leap, anthropology, was quoted in a Chronicle of Higher Education article that was also picked up by Fox News ..*

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## Anthropology

**Bill Leap** was quoted in a *Chronicle of Higher Education* article entitled, "Inmate IDs, NBA, Homophobia, Snowballs," that was also picked up by Fox News Channel Online.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Lavender Languages Conference was mentioned in a *Cybercast News Service* and FoxNews.com: Fox Market Wire: Tongue Tied.

## Art

"Curious Nature," a Watkins Gallery exhibit featuring the paintings of **Elizabeth Holtry**, was profiled in the January 30 *Washington Post* article, "A Close Look Into A Broken Mirror."

## Biology

The focus (literally) of **Victoria Connaughton's** recent work has been on vision. In May, she presented the poster, "Glutamate mechanisms involved in the OFF responses of zebrafish retina," at the annual meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. She also co-authored a chapter entitled "Bipolar cell pathways in the vertebrate retina" in *Webvision*, an online text about the retina.

In January, **David B. Carlini**, along with Wolfgang Stephan, published "In vivo introduction of unpreferred synonymous codons in the *Drosophila Adh* gene results in reduced levels of ADH protein" in volume 163 of *Genetics*.

The AU Career Center named Department Chair **Cathy Schaeff** as internship faculty of the month for February. Schaeff, writes

the Career Center, is a "strong advocate for experiential learning, facilitating the development of internships and promoting domestic and international opportunities for both undergraduate and graduate students."

Recent publications of **Chris Tudge** include "Molecular phylogeny of the mud lobsters and mud shrimps (Crustacea: Decapoda: Thalassinidea) using nuclear 18S rDNA and mitochondrial 16S rDNA." in *Invertebrate Systematics*, volume 16; and a short article that he wrote for an internal magazine at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History about the collaboration between the AU biology department and NMNS's Department of Systematic Biology (Invertebrate Zoology). The AU-IZ project is a formal research/teaching connection between

the institutions which provides undergraduate and graduate students in biology valuable training in taxonomy and systematics and the tools used to accomplish them, such as histology and microscopy. The five students who have participated in this program to date are undergraduates **Katie Schneider** and **Hideka Shiraishi** and master's students **Rebecca Ritger**, **Shubb Sharma** and **Virginie Wembey**.

Tudge also initiated the biology department's involvement in the annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology by conducting a campus bird count on Feb. 14-17. See page 9.

## CAP

During the first week of March, **Larry Medsker** received a grant of \$74,800 from Lumina Foundation for Education, which is an Indianapolis-based, private foundation dedicated to expanding access and success in education beyond high school. The award for the program "A Network of University/Community Partnerships for Access to Computing Education" will encourage relationships between universities and minority high school students. The program will build upon and expand American University's annual computer science conference, which gives DC high school students the opportunity to present their work in a professional-style forum. Funding will support workshops for high school teachers and their students to help them prepare presentations and articles on their computing projects. The grant will allow us to help IUPUI faculty in Indianapolis to develop partnerships with their local high schools so they can have their own conference. A goal of the project is to develop and disseminate a model for university partnerships so other communities nationwide can develop computing conferences for

# Department News

high school students and encourage minority students to choose careers in computing.

Physics professor **Richard Berendzen** was contacted frequently regarding the Columbia Space Shuttle disaster. He appeared on BET, NBC News, Canadian Radio, as well as was quoted in newspapers including the *Detroit News* ("Space workers fret about the future," Feb. 4), *USA Today* ("Hard questions on horizon for space agency," Feb. 2), the *Boston Herald* ("Space program will outlive shuttle," Feb. 3), the *Washington Post* ("A Tragic Break From Routine," Feb. 1), and the *Dallas Morning News* ("Will NASA emerge stronger?," Feb. 10).

## Chemistry

A January article in Scripps Howard News Service entitled, "Achieving a different kind of immortality," quotes **Charles Pibel** on turning a loved one's ashes into diamonds. This article continues to be reprinted in papers across the country, including the *Boulder Daily Camera*, *Wichita Falls Times Record News*, and *Knoxville News-Sentinel*.

## Economics

**Robert Allen Blecker's** co-authored book, *Fundamentals of U.S. Foreign Trade Policy*, mentioned in the February issue of *Connections*, has now been nominated for two awards from the American Political Science Association: the Gladys M. Kammerer Award and the Woodrow Wilson Foundation Award.

**George Ayittey** is quoted in the *Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel* article, "U.S. Quest for Oil in Africa Worries Analysts, Activists."

## Education

The April issue of *Washingtonian* magazine features a photograph of DC Mayor Anthony Williams with Lab School founder **Sally Smith** at the Lab School Gala.

At the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Myra Sadker Day, **Kelly Costello** was presented with the Student Equity Award for her work to promote sensitivity towards gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students. The annual event honors the late professor and former dean **Myra Sadker** through the recognition and continuation of her work in gender bias issues in education. It was organized by her husband, professor **David Sadker**, along with PhD student **Karen Zittleman**.

## Environmental Studies

**Kiho Kim** served on a grants review panel for NOAA's Ocean Exploration Program held in San Diego March 10-13.

## Health and Fitness

The Health Fitness Department was well represented at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Art and Science of Health Promotion Conference, held February 18-21 in Washington, DC. Presenting at the conference was **Kirstin Job**, a master's student, and **Stacey Snelling** on "Fruit and vegetable intake and association of self-efficacy and stages of change: A comparison of German and American

college students," and Snelling and **Mary Ellen Rose**, a doctoral student, on "Correlation between fruit and vegetable consumption and physical activity in a college population." Snelling and five graduate students in the Health Promotion Management program helped lead the

conference advocacy efforts including a visit to the U.S. Capitol to promote the Health Promotion Research Act of 2003.

**Robert Karch** gave a featured talk on the preservation of lean tissue during weight loss at the International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association (IHRSA) 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention and Tradeshow in San Francisco, CA, February 26-March 1. The following month, Karch addressed the Congress Club's 2003 meeting in Mexico on the preparation of health fitness professionals for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In May, Karch will chair a panel on health promotion overseas at Stanford University's Asia/Pacific Research Center 2003 Health Care Conference.

**Paul Soong** will present a paper entitled, "Effects of Exercise and Herbs on Beta-endorphin and ACTH Levels in Rats," at the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine in San Francisco, CA, May 28-31.

## History

With the war in Iraq and the economy still in a slump, media turned once again to **Allan Lichtman** as a quotable source. Lichtman appeared in the following recent articles: "Heated debate raging in US over race issue" in the January 18 *Gulf Times*; "'Axis of evil' dominates foreign-policy stage" in the January 26 *San Jose Mercury News*; "War time: a hard place for Democratic candidates" in the February 2 *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* and other

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*...A book co-authored by Robert Blecker, economics, has been nominated for two American Political Association awards...*

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# Department News

publications; "Shuttle disaster not likely to slow movement toward war" on NavyTimes.com (Feb. 2); "That presidential look" in the February 2 *Dallas Morning News*; " 'Bullying' Bush Hard to Stomach for Some; Friends, Enemies Alike See Bush as Arrogant" on CommonDreams.org (March 4); "Bush leadership style a study in big ideas, delegation" in the March 12 *Myrtle Beach Sun News*, *Los Angeles Times*, and other publications; and "War means a campaign blackout" from the March 12 Associated Press and *USA Today*. Lichtman also discussed economic policy on WTO radio March 4.

**Pamela Nadell** is listed in the February 25 *Brooksville Hernando Today* article, "St. Leo University to host conference on Catholics, Jews" as a guest speaker at that conference.

## Language & Foreign Studies

An excerpt from **Naomi Baron's** "Alphabet to E-mail" was included in the book *Writing Material: Readings from Plato to the Digital Age*, published by Longman, 2003. Baron was also quoted in an article in the *Canadian Globe and Mail* on North American teenage use of short text messaging on cell phones, a *Fortune* magazine article on the legal perils of e-mail usage in the workplace, and an Associated Press article entitled "Linguists Are Mixed About Text Messages" that appeared in more than 25 media outlets, all in the month of February. In March, Baron was quoted in an article on families and technology, which appeared as the cover story for *Working Mother* magazine, and, along with students from the Fall 2002 University Honors Colloquium ("Language in the New Millennium"), was interviewed for an article on "away messages" (used in AOL's Instant Messaging system) that appeared in the Circuits section of the *New York Times*.

**Alina Israeli** was quoted in the March 3 *Washington Times* article, "Quick-study language classes."

**Brock Brady** published "The NNESTessity of Professional Self-discovery" in the Fall 2002 *Newsletter of the Non-Native English Speakers in TESOL* and, in February, presented "Brand New and Déjà Vu: Teaching Language across Diverse Linguistic and Home Culture Backgrounds," at the Language Teaching Center at John Hopkins University.

**Christina Breuer**, a student in the TESOL Program's Master's International Program, began her training in February for a Peace Corps Teacher Training assignment in Nepal, while **Brooke**

**Cashman**, in the same program, finished her pre-service language and technical training and began working as a TESOL teacher in the Philippines.

## Literature

On February 14, **Roberta Rubenstein** and **Charles Larson** were honored in the American University Library's "Celebrating Scholarship" series for their recently published books, *Home Matters: Longing and Belonging, Nostalgia and Mourning in Women's Fiction* (Rubenstein) and *The Ordeal of the African Writer* (Larson). Also, Rubenstein's op-ed on Virginia Woolf titled, "To the Litehouse," appeared in the Outlook section of the *Washington Post*, on January 26.

Where people like to read is the topic of a February 27 *Washington Post* article entitled "Page Turners: When Your Life Is An Open Book, Find a Comfy Chair and A Really Good Lamp," which mentions **Henry Taylor's** scholarly and recreational reading habits.

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...A photo of **Sally Smith, education,**  
with **DC Mayor Tony Williams,**  
appears in this month's  
**Washingtonian...**

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**Richard McCann** gave recent poetry readings at Smith College Poetry Center in Northampton, MA, February 11-12, and the KGB Bar in New York City, March 31.

MFA in Creative Writing alumna **Carolyn Parkhurst '97** had her forthcoming novel, *The*

*Dogs of Babel*, noted in the February 2003 *Esquire* magazine as "one of the (limited number) of really good things to look forward to in 2003." She'll be back on campus next fall, reading from her novel in the Visiting Writers Series.

## Mathematics/Statistics

Professorial lecturer **Whiting Wicker** represented American University as a judge at the Alice Deal Junior High School Science Fair in Washington, DC, on February 12. He helped evaluate several students' projects and asked exhibitors, "What do you recommend as a result of your research?" Wicker was emphasizing that research does not stop when the research question has been answered; rather, it is just beginning.

## Performing Arts

**Gail Humphries Mardirosian** participated March 21-22 in a conference sponsored by the Association for the Education of

# Department News

Gifted Underachieving Students, entitled *Diamonds in the Rough: Practical Strategies for Uncovering the Brilliance of Gifted Underachieving Students*. Mardirosian was a presenter on a panel entitled, "Integrating the Arts into Education," sharing the findings of her research on professional development training for teachers in arts integration. She also led an interactive presentation with students from Kenmore Middle School in Arlington, Virginia. These students are currently participating in a project Mardirosian is leading focusing on Science Learning through the Arts. Funded by a grant from the Lockheed-Martin Corporation, this project is one of several arts integration initiatives of Imagination Quest (IQ), a unique collaboration of Imagination Stage and American University. IQ focuses on the use of arts-based teaching/learning to enhance teacher effectiveness, improve student achievement, and further parental/guardian involvement.

**Robert Goler** recently began serving as co-director for Washington, DC, on the Performing Arts Research Coalition, a Pew-funded project that is developing a national database of audience data for performing arts groups. Also, Goler has written an article on "Philanthropy and Cultural Policy" which has been accepted for the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Philanthropy*.

## Philosophy/Religion

For her sabbatical next academic year, **Lucinda Peach** has received two prestigious awards: a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship and a Fulbright Lectureship Award from the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars. In the fall, she'll be doing her fellowship on Gender and Globalization at the University of Hawaii, Manoa, and in the spring, she plans to pursue her Fulbright teaching in India. This February, Peach also participated in the Colloquium on Religious Liberty on "The International Human Right to Freedom of Religion: Referring to Foucault to Achieve the Descriptive Moment" at Catholic University and, in April, will give two talks at SUNY Plattsburgh: "The Ethics of Women in Military Combat" and "Corporate Social Responsibility for Human Rights: The Case of Burma."

**Jin Y. Park** gave a talk on "Buddhism and Korean Identity" at the Oberlin Korean Students Conference at Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH, this February.

**David F. Rodier** commented on religion on the March 5 edition of "The Daily Show."

## Psychology

**Barry McCarthy** is quoted in the January 22 *USA Today* article, "When I do becomes I don't want to."

## Sociology

**Andrea Brenner** was named the Faculty Member of the Year by the Student Confederation.

**Esther Ngan-ling Chow**, was recently elected as Co-Chair of Research Committee 32, "Women and Society," one of the major divisions within the International Sociological Association (ISA). She will serve as Co-Chair Elect from 2003-2006 and Co-Chair from 2007-2010 and will be involved in program planning in the next two World Congress of Sociology meetings of ISA.

Chow was also among the department faculty and students who presented their research papers at the annual meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society held in Philadelphia on Feb. 27-March 2. 1. Chow presented "Studying Globalization in Feminist Sociology: A Missing Revolution or Continuity?" while PhD '03 student **Maria Eugenia Verdaguer** presented "Gender, Congregational Opportunities and Incorporation," **Jennifer Harwood** (master's candidate) and **Laura Toussaint** (MA '03 and current doctoral student) presented "Challenges to Equitable Development in Two Indian States," **Molly Keefe** (MA '03) presented "A Woman's Work is Never Done: An analysis of Domestic Work, Race, Class and Gender," and undergraduate **Deena Fidas** presented "An Arranged Marriage: Transgender Women and Sex Work."

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**...Lucinda Peach, philosophy, has been awarded a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship and a Fulbright... ..**

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**Bette Dickerson** gave the following recent presentations: "Black Feminists and the Continuing Process of Speaking Truth to Power" (Hunter

College, October), "Class Diversity: How Does Social Class Influence Teaching and Learning?" (Susquehanna University, November), and "Equity and Diversity in the Workplace" (Association of Science and Technology Centers, December). She also published "Do Undergraduate College Students Self-Segregate?" in *The Quality and Quantity of Contact: African Americans and Whites on College Campuses*, and was quoted in "Experts Say How Generosity Prolongs Life," in the December 16 issue of *JET* magazine.

continued from page 3...

Yet, in spite of creating under duress, we have generated a tradition of excellence and an extraordinary legacy of alumni at American. I do believe that the greatest resource of any performing arts training program is the faculty and staff that deliver the classroom and production experiences for the students. However, when the dancer has the right studio, the actor the appropriate stage space, the musician the supportive acoustics, and all of the performers the technical and design support to enhance their efforts, the results are surely better. We finally have the potential to execute so many things we have just dreamed about at AU.



Student actors Abigail Hubbard, Caroline Angell, Jamie Fischer, Stephanie Simoni, and Laurie Seiglaub perform as the technical crew in "We Are the Artists: A Celebration of Collaboration," written and directed by Caleen Sinnette Jennings.

As Goethe stated, and we in the DPA believe, "Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it." We are thrilled with the opportunity to exercise boldness in a glorious new performance space.

I hope that you will join us in the months and years to come, as we enliven the Harold and Sylvia Greenberg Theatre with music and dance concerts and theatre and music theatre productions.

*Gail Humphries Mardirosian*  
Gail Humphries Mardirosian  
Chair, Department of Performing Arts

## Student and Faculty Reflections

*"Everything is just very, very exciting"*

*-Margo Siebert, freshman*

*"I feel amazed. It's huge. I can't wait to play in this space."*

*-Michael Fulvio, sophomore*

*"I think it'll make a big difference. it'll change everything in the Department of Performing Arts and the whole community."*

*-Elish Healy, junior*



Senior Janet Patton tries out Greenberg's new backstage facilities.

*"Everything is new, it's real, it's professional. It's going to give us the opportunity to experience what people in the professional world are experiencing."*

*-Kate Arnold, senior*

*"I'm excited about the new space because there's a lot of talent here and now there's a beautiful place to show it off."*

*-Whitney Whitaker, freshman*

*"We can finally do big shows with elaborate scenery. It'll be a great place to showcase the work at AU."*

*-Phil Stewart, sophomore*

*"It's like a whole new world is being opened up for the students."*

*-Cara Gabriel, assistant professor of theatre and music theatre*

*all photos by Jeff Watts*

## INSIDE GREENBERG...



**Located at** 4200 Wisconsin Avenue (corner of Van Ness & Wisconsin in Tenleytown)

**Performance Auditorium**

**Capacity:** 300 seats

**Dressing Room Space:** 700 square feet

**Production and Scene Shop Space:** 2,400 square feet

**Costume Shop Space:** 1,600 square feet

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# What's New in CAS

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## FOR THE BIRDS



Despite the big winter storm over President's Day weekend, the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) run by the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society, went on as planned. For the first time our Biology Department was involved, with faculty members Chris Tudge (pictured) and Karen Bushaw-Newton and undergraduate student Brandy Wells leading the way around the snow-covered campus,

identifying and counting birds before the snow made it impossible to continue the effort.

Over the two days of counting on campus (a combined 3.5 hours of watching) a total of 592 individual birds were counted from 13 species. The most common birds were the domestic pigeon, European starling and house sparrow, but surprisingly, there were hundreds of American robins on campus over the stormy weekend. Some other surprise bird sightings were downy and red-bellied woodpeckers and a solitary Cooper's hawk, eyeing those Bender Library pigeons for lunch.

Tudge plans to use this first GBBC at AU to establish a bird list on the Biology Department's Web page to serve as a teaching resource and historical record. He also hopes to conduct some more informal birding events on campus in the spring and summer and hopes that any interested birders (or novices who wish to learn) will join him. He can be contacted at 202-885-2033 or at <ctudge@american.edu>.

*-photo and text courtesy of Chris Tudge*

## GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

The CAS Graduate Student Council (GSC) is now formed and working on initiatives for the rest of this semester and the upcoming academic year. Led by President Kati McElhinny (MA-anthropology), Vice President Sarah Gilmore (MA-art history), Secretary Elizabeth McIntosh (PhD-clinical psychology), and Comptroller Tami Hoffman (MS-statistics and policy analysis), the group's goal is to "give CAS graduate students a voice in the affairs of the college administration in policy decisions, promote academic excellence, and improve the academic and social experience of grad students" in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In its effort to create a central agency to communicate relevant information, the GSC has published a newsletter and held its first meeting on March 23 in the Battelle-Tompkins Atrium. Among the initiatives introduced were helping to organize the annual CAS Student Research Conference, planning a special event during Orientation Weekend to mentor incoming grad students, researching opportunities to support students who are also parents, working with the AU Career Center to assist grad students in the job selection process, and providing resources through non-competitive grants to assist grad students with research projects, conferences, and dissertations.

Any CAS graduate students who are interested in participating or who have ideas or concerns are encouraged to contact the GSC at <CASgradcouncil@american.edu> or 202-885-3160.

*-courtesy of the CAS GSC*

## TEACHING HISTORY ALIVE



Omar Gobourne, CAS alum (MAT '00) and Director of Arts Education – Imagination Stage Inc., leads a group of teacher participants at the kick-off workshop for CAS/DC Public Schools Teaching American History project on February 22, 2003, in a workshop designed to improve the liveliness of their American history lectures by incorporating techniques for scripting presentations, using props and role plays, and involving students more actively in their American history lessons. The project is sponsored by a \$1 million grant from the US Department of Education. Program participants gathered on the campus of American University for the intensive workshop to lay the groundwork for the year's activities, including an overview of historical topics, research techniques, and pedagogical themes that will be covered throughout the year.

*-photo and text courtesy of Mary Schellinger*

# CAS ALUMNI AND CAREER CORNER

## A Message from the CAS Alumni Chapter President...

In the past year, the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) has worked to reconnect alumni in various ways through its Development and Alumni Programs office. With the support of Dean Kay Mussell and the central Alumni Programs office, a CAS alumni chapter was established, an alumni e-newsletter created and an alumni Web site designed.

As an alumna of CAS, I realize my fellow alumni and I are critical to the college's continued success. So many of us have achieved great measures of success because of our relationships with faculty, friends, athletic teams, study abroad programs, and/or involvement in other areas of campus life. Now is the time for us to come back and acknowledge the impact our alma mater, specifically CAS, has had on our lives.

As the first president of the CAS alumni chapter, I am committed to planning social, cultural, and educational events to benefit fellow alumni. However, we won't be successful without the help of CAS faculty and staff. Your participation and support will ensure we achieve as much success as the other school-based chapters on campus. Your input and ideas will provide us with information that will be used to plan events that appeal to alumni interests, whether they are networking, opportunities to interact or mentor students, participation in community service projects, purely social activities, and much more.

I encourage you to participate in the chapter's activities and events, offer opportunities for us to engage alumni from your department, read our newsletter, and browse our new Web site, <[www.american.edu/cas/alumni](http://www.american.edu/cas/alumni)>. Over the next few months as we build the chapter, our partnership with you, CAS faculty and staff is vital. Just as we are ambassadors for the college, we hope you will serve as ambassadors for the chapter.

I look forward to working with you to achieve our goals.

Remember, Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle!



Ted Ringelheim, '68  
President, CAS Alumni Chapter

## SUCCESS STORY



Augusta L. Abrahamse graduated last May with a dual bachelor's degree in physics and international studies, and a minor in Russian, and was awarded a prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Foundation scholarship to pay for tuition, room and board, fees, and books to attend graduate school. A true Eagle, she decided to stay at AU and is now working on her MA in applied mathematics, which she

hopes will "broaden (her) arsenal of mathematical tools necessary for the study of physics" (her ultimate goal is a doctorate in physics). When not hitting the books, Abrahamse can be found playing violin, including as a participant in CAS' "Music in the Atrium" series.

*photo courtesy of Jack Kent Cooke Foundation*

## EVENTS LISTING

### April 1 - *Categorical Pizza*

8:10-9:15 pm, Battelle-Tompkins Atrium

Enjoy pizza and drink as Robin Barr, AU's Linguist in Residence explains the fundamentals of Categorical Perception and how it relates to pronunciation instruction. Categorical perception is the notion that, based on our first language, we tend to assign sounds to one distinct phonological category or another, though the actual sounds produced may actually represent a continuum of sounds across those categories. Categorical perception explains why Japanese learners cannot perceive the difference between /l/ and /r/ and why American have difficulty with the difference between the French "tu" and "tout." For details or registration information, e-mail Christina, Monica, or Robin at <[tesol@american.edu](mailto:tesol@american.edu)> or call 202-885-2582.

### April 2 - *Music in the Atrium: Faculty Recital (featuring Osman Kivrik, viola)*

12:45-1:45 pm, Battelle-Tompkins Atrium

The College of Arts and Sciences and the Performing Arts Department invite all faculty, staff, and students to the biweekly Atrium Concert, which will showcase the talents of our performing arts faculty.

### April 2 - *Roundtable Discussion on John Rawls*

2:30-4:30pm, SIS Lounge

Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and Religion. Participants include Rom Harre, Jin Park, Lucinda Peach, Jeffrey Reiman, and Andrea Tschemplik. For more information, contact Shelley Harshe at 202-885-2925.

**April 2 - CAS Alumni Networking Happy Hour**

6-8:30 pm, Ortanique (730 11th Street NW, Metro stop: Metro Center)

Join CAS Alumni for a Networking Happy Hour. Please bring business cards for networking, mingling, and the Business Card Drop. Enjoy music, good food, and door prizes. For more information contact Christal Cherry at 202-885-2435 or <ccherry@american.edu>.

**April 3-9 - Eight: First Year MFA Exhibition**

M-F 9am - 5pm, Watkins Art Gallery, Opening reception April 3 from 5-7pm

Featuring work by Allison Aboud, Madeline Adams, Chris Byrd, Alison Hall, Soumiya Krishnaswamy, Joren Lindholm, Lesley Shekitka, and Shannon Young. For more information contact Jonathan Bucci at 202-885-1064 or <bucci@american.edu>.

**April 5 - 13th Annual CAS Student Research Conference**

9 am-5 pm, Battelle-Tompkins Building

Join the excitement of our 13th annual student-run research conference. As in years past, more than 140 graduate and undergraduate CAS students are expected to present their original research in the arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences, and education. All panels and exhibits are open to the public. For further information, contact Matthew Lantry at 202-885-2436 or via e-mail at <mlantry@american.edu>.

**April 5 - American Studies Thematic Walking Tour: The Civil War in Washington**

1:15-4:30 pm, buses depart promptly at 1:15 from in front of Clark Hall/behind Bender Library

Guided tour by American Studies professor Ed Smith. Please RSVP to 202-885-2453 by 5pm on Thursday, April 3.

**April 8 - CAS Alumni Chapter Meeting**

6-8 pm, Battelle-Tompkins Atrium

For more information contact Christal Cherry at 202-885-2435 or <ccherry@american.edu>.

**April 9 - Nice Work if You Can Get It: DPA Alumni Lecture with Marta de la Torre**

4-5 pm, Battelle-Tompkins Atrium

The Department of Performing Arts presents a unique lecture series featuring the insights of distinctive alumni from theatre, music, dance, and arts management, who will discuss their career paths as well as the challenges faced in their fields. Each guest will also give a demonstration and leave time for Q&A. This week, we welcome Marta de la Torre, MA-arts management 1983, the first director of special projects of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) in Paris, where she worked on projects including the renovation of the Egyptian Museum and creation of the Nubia Museum in Aswan. Later, she joined the Getty Conservation Institute, where she developed a program that integrated a managerial component in archaeological conservation. For more information, call Jen Morris at 202-248-6897 or e-mail <jmmorris81@yahoo.com>.

**April 9 - Visiting Writers' Series: Alumni Poetry Reading with J.L. Conrad**

8 pm, Board Room (Sixth Floor), Butler Pavilion

For more information, contact Nicki Miller in the Literature department at 202-885-2973 or at <nmillier@american.edu>.

**April 10 through May 14- MFA Thesis Exhibitions**

M-F 9am - 5pm, Watkins Art Gallery

Featuring Jay Noble (April 10 - 16), Watie White (April 17 - 23), Dan Shipley and Noel Kim (April 24 - 30), Maya Weber and Jen Perdum (May 1 - 7), and Jessica Reimer and Tammy Maloney (May 8 - 14). For more information contact Jonathan Bucci at 202-885-1064 or <bucci@american.edu>.

**April 11-13 - Lights Up! Beethoven's Symphony No. 9/ Grand Opening of Greenberg Theatre**

8 pm Friday & Saturday, 3 pm Sunday, Greenberg Theatre, 4200 Wisconsin Ave.

Bring up the lights to a concert featuring the universal joy of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9* plus the premiere performance of AU faculty member Haig Mardirosian's *Celebration!*, a festive setting of texts from Whitman to Epictetus that speak to being artists. This concert will surely be a grand performance befitting a grand space. \$12 General Admission; \$7 Students. For reservations, call 202-885-2587. For more information, call 202-885-ARTS or visit [http://www.american.edu/perf\\_arts/](http://www.american.edu/perf_arts/).

**April 12 - Principles and Practices of Teaching Pronunciation in the ESL/EFL Classroom**

9:30 am - 2:00 pm, Mary Graydon Center, Meeting Rooms 4 & 5

A workshop led by Brock Brady, Coordinator, AU TESOL Program, and Karen Taylor, AU TESOL Adjunct Professor & Instructor at the Maryland English Institute: Learn the basic principles of bringing pronunciation instruction into your classroom along with the techniques you need to put them into practice. Breakfast and lunch provided (breakfast begins at 9:00). Registration: \$25 (free for TESOL-542 students) Preregistration required; no on-site registrations accepted. For details or registration information, e-mail Christina, Monica, or Robin at <tesol@american.edu> or call 202-885-2582.

**April 16 - Music in the Atrium: Chamber Recital**

12:45-1:45 pm, Battelle-Tompkins Atrium

The College of Arts and Sciences and the Performing Arts Department invite all faculty, staff, and students to the biweekly Atrium Concert, which will showcase the talents of our performing arts students.

**April 24 - 44th Annual Bishop Hurst Lecture**

2:10 pm, SIS Lounge

Sponsored by the Department of Philosophy and Religion. Dr. Nancy Sherman, University Professor at Georgetown University and Former Distinguished Chair in Ethics at the United States Naval Academy, will speak on "Stoicism and a Warrior's Anger." For more information, contact Shelley Harshe at 202-885-2925.

**April 25-26 - AU Chamber Singers Spring Concert**

8 pm, Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church

An evening of vocal chamber music from Josquin des Prez to John Tavener. \$12 General Admission; \$7 Students and Seniors. For reservations, call 202-885-2587. For more information, call 202-885-ARTS or visit <[http://www.american.edu/perf\\_arts](http://www.american.edu/perf_arts)>.

**April 27 - AU Gospel Choir Anniversary Concert**

5 pm, Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church

Sylstea Sledge, director. Free Admission. For more information, call 202-885-ARTS or visit <[http://www.american.edu/perf\\_arts](http://www.american.edu/perf_arts)>.

**May 4 - Graduating MFA Student Reading**

3 pm, Board Room (Sixth Floor), Butler Pavilion

For more information, contact Nicki Miller in the Literature department at 202-885-2973 or at <[nmiller@american.edu](mailto:nmiller@american.edu)>.

**May 6 - CAS Alumni Chapter Meeting**

6-8 pm, Battelle-Tompkins Atrium

For more information contact Christal Cherry at 202-885-2435 or <[ccherry@american.edu](mailto:ccherry@american.edu)>.

**May 11 - 117th Commencement**

1-3 pm (College of Arts and Sciences only), Bender Arena

**May 12 – August 14 - The Ninth Annual American University Summer TESOL Institute**

Students can earn a certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) in a single summer. For details or registration information, e-mail Christina, Monica, or Robin at <[tesol@american.edu](mailto:tesol@american.edu)> or call 202-885-2582.

***...Have a Great Summer!***



**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY**

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