

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Global Citizenship

Global citizenship is more than a skill set, more than a means to support a competitive economy. It is also a mindset. ... Global citizens are communicators. They are people who understand and honor the shared rights and responsibilities of all of the world's peoples. Global citizens embrace an ideal vision of the world as it could be, but they're realists in how they apply that vision to effect change."

*Carol Bellamy '63, President and CEO of World Learning,
Former director of the Peace Corps and executive director of UNICEF*

We are all connected. A Wall Street transaction can create opportunity in Mubai or disaster in Capetown. Oil from the depths of the desert in Shaybah powers cars in Detroit and heats homes in Sapporo.



Almost any day of the year a Gettysburg student or faculty member explores how to link what we teach or learn in the classroom with life in other cultures and strives to understand how an action in one region of the world can have a ripple effect thousands of miles away.

The more the global village shrinks, the more important it is that higher education provide students not only with knowledge of other cultures and languages but also with the ability to move gracefully within those cultures. Alumna Carol Bellamy underscored this theme during her visit to campus in the fall, and my own recent travel has given me an opportunity to experience first-hand what a difference an international educational experience can make for our students.

In November I was in Egypt where the College has a very dynamic study-abroad program at the American University of Cairo. I learned much about the strength of the program during my visit, but my most memorable experience was shopping in the Egyptian bazaar with senior sociology major Stephanie Bonnes.

Stephanie has attained a comfort level and connected with a culture that bears little resemblance to her own. And, in a characteristically Gettysburgian way, she has enriched her experience even more by tutoring refugee women from Somalia and the Sudan who have fled to Cairo to escape prosecution in their native lands.

Active engagement in the community — wherever that community may be — is increasingly part of the Gettysburg experience, and that experience is a two-

way street. First-year students Iryna Graf and Mohamed Sehwal are bringing the world to our doorstep as never before. Iryna and Mohamed, from the Ukraine and the West Bank, respectively, are Gettysburg College's first Davis United World College (UWC) Scholars. The Davis program has been a major philanthropic force in promoting international understanding by making it possible for thousands of student scholars from around the world to complete the last two years of high school at one of 12 international UWC schools. In 2000, the program began providing scholarships to UWC graduates who gained acceptance into a select group of U.S. colleges and universities. In 2007, Gettysburg joined this group.

Not only are these students exceptionally well prepared for a rigorous academic program such as Gettysburg's, they bring with them an extraordinary global perspective as well as a powerful sense of purpose. They were chosen from thousands of applicants in their home countries and are confident, motivated and enthusiastic about sharing their experience. Director of Admissions Gail Swezey and members of her staff have traveled to six UWC schools to interview prospective students for the Class of 2012.

Many Gettysburg students discover their passion for global issues during study abroad or service learning trips, and support for these engaging learning experiences is one focus of our strategic plan. Another is creation of a more diverse campus community. Gettysburg's recent inclusion in the Davis United World College program supports that goal as well as enhanced global consciousness.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Haley Will". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Katherine Haley Will
President

Editor's note: At the time this issue of *Gettysburg* went to press we learned of President Will's resignation. Please check our website, www.gettysburg.edu, for more details. Thank you.