Around THE Campus

THE WAY WE WERE

GETTYSBURG COLLEGE CELEBRATES 175 YEARS

100 YEARS AGO: From 1832 to 1907, Gettysburg College grew from one building to nine; from a faculty of six to a teaching force of 17; and from 63 students (mostly "prepararians") to a student body of 292.

The Class of 1907 had eight female and 24 male graduates. The student body consisted of 231 (26 women) in the Class of 1907. During the semester, the College Library was open four hours each week day, except Saturday when it was open for two hours. Located on the first floor of Recitation Hall (Glatfelter), the library contained 15,150 volumes.

"Athletic sports are encouraged, but under such regulations, as it is believed, prevent them from becoming a source of demoralization to the students, or interfering with the legitimate work of the Institution."

TO WAKEN FOND MEMORY

THE CELEBRATION OF the College's 175th anniversary includes three publications, which will be of interest to all members of the Gettysburg College community.

- An Illustrated History of Gettysburg College. A book filled with images of the College's near and distant past, assembled by Michael Birkner '72 in collaboration with David Cramplar.

- To Waken Fond Memory. Reprints of the historical articles by librarian Anna Jane Meyer, which appeared over the years in Gettysburg.


All three publications can be purchased at the College Bookstore, which can be accessed at www.gettysburg.edu. Click on Bookstore in the top navigation bar.

COME HELP US CELEBRATE

Gettysburg College invites you to join in celebrating our 175th anniversary.

On April 29, a concert of The Sunderman Conservatory of Music will feature a world premiere commissioned by Libby Larsen. Free tickets are available through the Majestic Theater.

On May 4, there will be a campus–community celebration, with Pete Geist, visual comedian. And on June 2, fireworks at Reunion Weekend will mark the close of the 175th anniversary celebration.

CHANCE TO RECITE

"I remember singing in the Chapel Choir in a hastily arranged service in memory of the recently slain President, John F. Kennedy," wrote Carole (Johnson) Phillips '59. "Everyone on campus had been stunned and somber, and the service seemed to focus our emotions. Attendance was high, and I recall that the service, led by Chaplain John Vanness dall, was very moving."

Share your memories online with fellow graduates. To submit a memory, write to postings@gettysburg.edu.

SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

REMEMBERING IN GIVING

Professor Emeritus Allen Guelzo has been appointed as one of eight new members of the National Council on the Humanities. The 26-member advisory council of the National Endowment for the Humanities meets four times a year to review applications submitted for awards from the endowment's many grant programs...

Gettysburg College, which was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for its hurricane relief service in New Orleans. The recognition program is designed to increase public awareness of the contributions that college students make within their local communities and across the country through volunteer service.

College selected for Community Engagement Classification

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching selected Gettysburg College as one of 62 U.S. colleges and universities for its new Community Engagement Classification.

Unlike the Foundation’s other classifications that rely on national data, this classification selected institutions based on their descriptions of the nature and extent of their engagement with the community, both local and beyond. This approach enabled the Foundation to address elements of institutional mission and distinctiveness that are not represented in the national data on colleges and universities.

"The Community Engagement Classification is an exciting move in Carnegie's work to extend and refine the classification of colleges and universities," said Alexander McCormick, who directs Carnegie's classification work.

Kudos to...

...Allen Guelzo (Civil War Era Studies), who was named as one of eight new members of the National Council on the Humanities.

...Pete Geist, visual comedian. And on

...David Crumplar, who was named as one of eight new members of the National Council on the Humanities.

...Carole (Johnson) Phillips '59, who was named as one of eight new members of the National Council on the Humanities.

...John F. Kennedy, who was named as one of eight new members of the National Council on the Humanities.

To Waken Fond Memory

The Community Engagement Classification
“It represents a significant affirmation of the importance of community engagement in the agenda of higher education.”

Gettysburg College was classified in the curricular engagement and outreach & partnerships category. Applicants were required to show that their programs, such as the College’s Center for Public Service, combine teaching, learning, and scholarship that engage faculty, students, and community in the classroom and outside for the community’s benefit. This category included institutions that share resources and take a collaborative approach to interactions between all members of the community. The two other categories include institutions that were recognized for doing one or the other but not both.

“I am proud that our institution has been selected for this classification,” said Gretchen Natter, director of the Center for Public Service. “We are humbled and appreciative that so many at Gettysburg College are part of the good work that brought this recognition.” Other institutions included in the Community Engagement Classification include Bates, Emory, Bryn Mawr, DePaul, Tufts, Middletown, and New York University.

Students travel to Kennedy Library
Eight students worked with original historic documents at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library last November, when political science Prof. Shirley Anne Warshaw led her senior seminar, Executive Policymaking, on a three-day trip to Boston.

While researching the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, students gained hands-on access to communications between Kennedy and National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy regarding a possible preemptive strike and correspondence in which Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev told United Nations Secretary-General U Thant that the blockade of Cuba was “piratical.” Students also viewed photographs of the Soviet missile emplacements on Cuba, heard tape of Oval Office discussions, and saw notes that Kennedy took.

“We talked a lot in class about the value of primary-data research,” Warshaw said. “But the students didn’t really understand until they sat down with President Kennedy’s personal papers and realized how very hard it is to do, how time-consuming. You go through box after box and never know what you’ll find.”

Students traveled and lodged free, thanks to Traveler Peter Seiden ’73, himself a political science major.

Exergaming, anyone?
Walk into the human performance lab of health sciences Prof. Dan Drury, and you might conclude that he and his research students do little but play video games. You would be wrong, however. Drury and his students might be playing games, but it’s all in the interest of finding ways to encourage a healthier lifestyle.

Pursuing an independent research project, Drury, Erin Ozdogan ’07 and Erika Hempey ’07 are studying “exergaming” — a term used to describe the marriage of video games and physical exercise. Specifically, they test and collect data on male, college-age students who play video games using the ExerStation, a device that enhances a standard video game controller so that the user has to perform isometric exercises to operate it and play a game. With an alloy steel tube that connects the controller to a wide base that is positioned under the user’s legs for stability, the ExerStation requires players to apply pressure in the direction they want to move.

“Preliminary results have shown that people using the ExerStation can burn a substantial amount of calories,” Drury said. “You can pair this product with any gaming unit and make playing video games a physical activity.”

To determine how using the ExerStation affects the subjects, Ozdogan and Hempey measure a number of variables before, during, and after the testing, including heart rate, blood pressure, respiratory rate, and expired gases. The technology in the alloy steel tube also measures how hard the user is pushing and pulling on the controller.

Final results for the yearlong research are not yet in, but both students have a sense that they are making great progress. “When students first come into the lab for testing, they think it’s going to be an easy task,” Ozdogan said. “But half way through, they recognize that they’re doing real work in order to play these games.”

At left, Mike Catalano ’09 uses the ExerStation to play a video game, while Prof. Dan Drury and Erin Ozdogan ’07 (with clipboard) and Erika Hempey ’07 (at desk monitoring blood pressure) collect data.

All in the Family
Sarah Bellin ’07 (center) directed the world premiere of her own mother’s work at the Majestic Theater. She directed the world premiere of her own mother’s work led her senior project, “My Golden Girl,” to a production at the Center for Public Service. “We are humbled and appreciative that so many at Gettysburg College are part of the good work that brought this recognition.”

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At left, Mike Catalano ’09 uses the ExerStation to play a video game, while Prof. Dan Drury and Erin Ozdogan ’07 (with clipboard) and Erika Hempey ’07 (at desk monitoring blood pressure) collect data.
Six faculty earn tenure

Six faculty members — Matthew Amster, Dina Lowy, Alan Perry, William Solomon, Barbara Sommer and Yan Sun — were granted tenure based on their teaching, research, and governance.

Matthew Amster (anthropology) received a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and environmental sciences at Evergreen State College in Washington State in 1982 and a master’s degree and Ph.D. from Brandeis University in 1989 and 1998, respectively. His research interests include modernity and social change, cross-border movements, religious revival, historical anthropology, ethnic identity maintenance, and gossip and social networks.

Dina Lowy (history) earned a bachelor’s degree in oriental studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 1988, a master’s degree in East Asian Studies at Princeton in 1992, and a master’s degree in history at Rutgers in 1998. She also received a Ph.D. in history from Rutgers in 2000, where she focused her studies on Japanese history and the history of women and gender.

Alan Perry (history) received a bachelor’s degree with honors in American Studies and Italian from the University of Notre Dame in 1986. He went on to receive a master’s degree in Italian language and literature from Middlebury College in Vermont in 1992 and a Ph.D. in Italian literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1997. Before joining Gettysburg in 2002, he was an assistant professor at Penn State.

William Solomon (English) came to Gettysburg in 2002 from Stanford University where he was an assistant professor. He received a bachelor’s degree with honors from the University of Washington in Seattle in 1996, and a Ph.D. in English from the State University of New York in Stony Brook in 1993. He was a junior specialist at the University of California at Irvine from 1991 to 1993. Solomon is the author of Literature, Amusement, and Technology in the Great Depression and Second Technologies: American Modernism and Silent Comedy, 1909-1960.

Barbara Sommer (history) received a bachelor’s degree in history from Colorado College in 1971, a master’s degree in art history from the University of Chicago in 1984, and a Ph.D. in history from the University of New Mexico in 2000, where her specialization was Latin American history. She became coordinator for Gettysburg’s Latin American Studies Program in 2006.

Yan Sun (visual arts) received a bachelor’s degree in archaeology from Beijing University in 1994. She then went on to earn a master’s degree and Ph.D. in art history from the University of Pittsburgh in 1997 and 2001, respectively. Prior to joining Gettysburg College in 2002, she was an assistant curator with the Arthur M. Sackler Museum of Art and Archaeology at Beijing University and an assistant professor with John Carroll University in Ohio.

The gift was the largest single outright gift made by a living individual in the history of Gettysburg College. (See more about Ortenzio in this issue’s article on a new athletic, recreation, and fitness center.)

On behalf of all students who don’t do well on standardized tests, I am attending such a college that represents integrity, sagacity, and virtue. So, on her behalf and as a parent, I thank you. John Orfini ’69

Stony Point, N.Y.