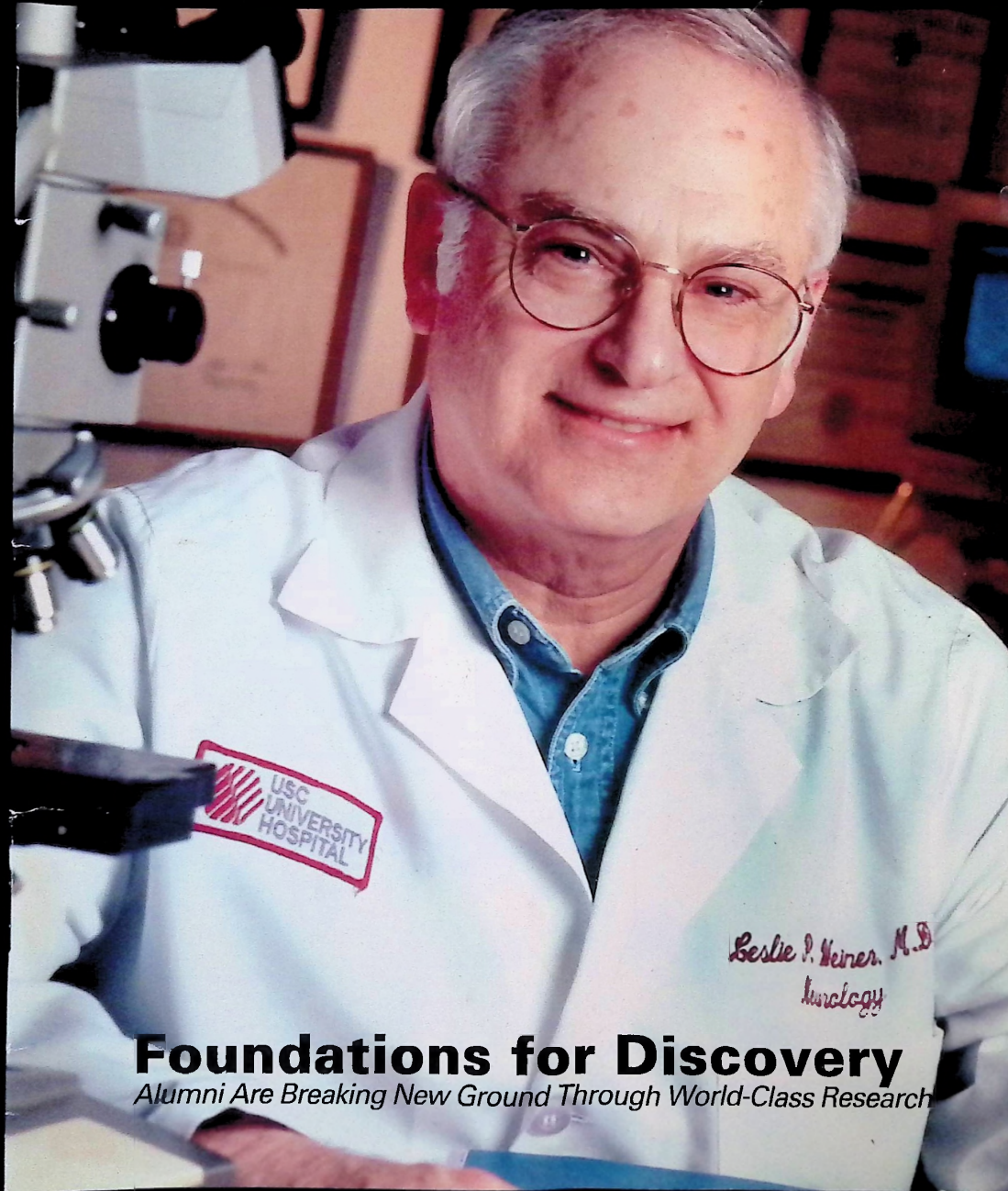


WILKESuniverse

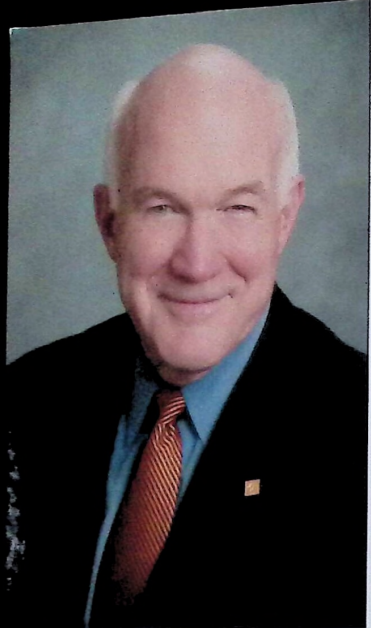
The voice of Wilkes University Alumni

VOLUME THIRTEEN, ISSUE ONE



Foundations for Discovery

Alumni Are Breaking New Ground Through World-Class Research



Eric's Photo Photography

Strategic Planning Critical to Wilkes' Future

BY DR. TIM GILMOUR, WILKES UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

Over the last few months, in conversations on and off campus, I have been talking with alumni, faculty, staff, and administrators about Wilkes University's future. These conversations have been a wonderful exchange of ideas about Wilkes' plans to become a truly great institution. I have learned that the Wilkes community is excited about this worthy goal and ready to get to work on achieving it.

My conversations have also underscored the importance of explaining our strategic planning process—where we've been and where we are going—and why. While most people are aware of the progress we've made since 2001 when we launched the university's strategic plan, Vision 2010, they are not aware of the revisions the Board of Trustees made this past June.

In 2001 our initiatives were about bringing the university back: regaining the competitive advantage through exceptional academic programs; developing an exceptional support environment; and building financial and institutional strength. Action plans were implemented to achieve each of these initiatives.

The 2001 initiatives produced six new academic programs, increased student enrollment by 31 percent, and led to a 10 percent increase in freshman to sophomore retention rates (74 percent to 81 percent). We completed a campus master plan, improved public safety and financial management practices, and established a much better connection to our community through the Joint Urban Studies Center. We also completed a \$30 million capital campaign, upgraded the Development Office, and increased annual fundraising. The Periodic Review Report from the Middle States Commission on Higher Education confirmed our outstanding progress and noted Wilkes' potential for even greater things.

Change, however, is constant. And as an institution, we must respond to those changes strategically and with passion. The publics we serve are pressing us to keep tuition affordable and to increase the quality of our graduates. Our traditional market, high school graduates, will decline in Pennsylvania—11 percent by 2015. There is, however, substantial growth projected with the need for life-long and post-baccalaureate education. And there is the need to leverage technology to enhance access to learning for present and prospective students and to improve business operations. These are the challenges and opportunities our Revised Vision 2010 Plan addresses.

Like the original version, Vision 2010 has three strategic initiatives and a number of action plans—10 to be exact—but three have been selected for university-wide emphasis during the 2005-2006 academic year. They are known as the "Big 3." They were selected because they have the greatest potential to address the opportunities and challenges facing the university.

The Big 3 action plans are: 1) Build the capacity to deliver world-class mentoring; 2) Define and achieve enrollment growth, particularly in life-long and post-baccalaureate education; and 3) Develop lean, customer-focused support in all university operations.

In the coming years, we will need everyone's passion and talents to help accomplish the Big 3 action plans. It is hard work, but it is essential if we want Wilkes to achieve the level of greatness it is capable of—a level that I believe will secure Wilkes' future. [1]

Tim Gilmour

WILKES UNIVERSITY

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WILKESuniverse

VOLUME THIRTEEN, ISSUE ONE

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What do you look for when you get your *Universe*? Most likely, class notes—you want to know what your friends and acquaintances are doing. One of the challenges is to collect enough class notes to make the section serve that purpose. Please send us your news—either with this card or via email: alumni@wilkes.edu

Name: _____ Year _____ Email: _____

News: _____

Please check all that apply

- I would like to serve as a class correspondent (collect your classmates' news for the magazine)
- I am interested in becoming a mentor
- I would like to join the Alumni Association Leadership Team (Board/Committee member)

NOTE: All mentors will receive orientation to the role. Mentor positions are renewable annually.

Curtis Salonick Photography
Dan Sears/University of North Carolina
Michael P. Touey
University of Southern California

Printing
Advanced Color Graphics

WINTER 2006
Wilkes University is an independent institution of higher education dedicated to academic and intellectual excellence in the liberal arts, sciences, and professional programs. The University provides its students with the experience and education necessary for career and intellectual development as well as for personal growth, engendering a sense of values and civic responsibility, and encourage its students to assume the opportunities and challenges of a diverse and complex (or changing) world. The University enhances the tradition of serving students, faculty and staff in all programs, attracts and retains outstanding people in every segment of the University, and fosters a spirit of respect, mutual community involvement, and intellectual respect within the entire University.

On the cover: Dr. Leslie P. Weiner '57 leads a team of researchers at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California who are searching for the causes of multiple sclerosis.

Dear Editor:

I am responding to Wilkes Universe, Volume 12, Issue 2. I enjoy receiving new issues because it keeps me informed of events pertaining to Wilkes University. I was especially excited to read this issue because I knew that the 1993 Wilkes Football Team was being inducted into the Wilkes Hall of Fame. However, I must say that I was somewhat disappointed that the write-up mentioned only a few players.

I played for Wilkes University from 1991 to 1994. I started each year as Offensive Tackle and, in 1993, was named second team ALL MAC and first team ALL MAC in 1994. I must

say that it would have been better to mention every player on the team rather than the few that made ALL MAC or other honors.
Keith Fox '96

Editor's Note:

Wilkes has a great deal of admiration for what that team accomplished. The season would not have been possible without the contributions of each and every member of the team.

That being said, there are space restrictions we must be conscious of when writing the Hall of Fame story for print in local newspapers, the Hall of Fame ceremony program and the Universe. Also, the football team was not the only

inductee in the Class of 2005. There were seven other inductees that deserved equal billing. Each inductee, including the 1993 football team, received the same amount of space in the story.

There were 17 players named to the All-Freedom League team in 1993, including 11 first team honorees. The team also had four All-ECAC honorees and two All-Americans. We chose to highlight the best of the best based on the accolades that players received.

Not mentioning each and every player certainly does not diminish what you and your teammates accomplished during the 1993 season.

Dear Editor:

I graduated from Wilkes University in 1996 and am currently deployed to Iraq. I recently flew an American flag over Iraq for the Wilkes Football Team and will bring it to campus in April. Accompanying the flag is a certificate that tells a little about the mission. The flag was flown on an Operation Iraqi Freedom mission. On that particular mission we were tasked to support troops on the ground who were in contact with the enemy.

Wilkes University was a building block to where I am today. I feel my time on the football field with fellow teammates and the leadership of Coach Frank Sheptock mirrors everyday life as an Air Force fighter pilot. Most of the guys I fly with are



Captain Tom Yeager '96

former athletes. On behalf of the University and the football team, the flag symbolizes freedom and that we are taking the fight to the people that attacked it!

I have been over here a long time and look forward to visiting the campus again!

Captain Tom Yeager '96

ASSOCIATIONnews

Alumni Association Sets Goals

Since Colleen Gries Gallagher's election in September, she has been working with the Association's Executive Council to create an Alumni Association Workplan (supporting the University's "Valuing Our People" strategic initiative). The initial workflow is informed by historical information and results as well as data from the 2004 Alumni Survey.

The overarching theme of the following goals is to "engage more alumni"—

Improve communications to alumni:

- Understand and meet alumni communication needs by developing and implementing a consistent, tightly integrated, and ongoing communications program.
- Create a Wilkes presence for internet-connected alumni.

Develop programs and services that will increase alumni mentoring engagement:

- Inspire pride in Wilkes alumni by creating initiatives, including new educational programs, that will aid in their personal and professional development.
- Create population-based regional programs with the Wilkes brand.

Enhance the use of technology to improve the alumni relations and alumni services support processes.

The committees currently in place reflect the By-Laws design—10 standing committees and, at present, another three "ad hoc" committees focused on specific programmatic needs (Communications, Scholarship, and Technology). While most of the chairs are Alumni Board members,

Gallagher Elected Alumni Association President



Colleen Gries Gallagher was recently elected president of the Alumni Association Board. She is a 1981 alumna.

Gallagher has been an active alumni volunteer and has held many leadership positions including chair of the alumni services committee and the homecoming committee in 2004 and 2005. She has served on the search committee for the executive director of alumni relations and the task force to reformulate the alumni association by-laws.

"There has never been a better time for the alumni association to be an active agent and partner in the university's progress toward greatness," said Gallagher. "To be successful, we must generate involvement and loyalty among alumni in all stages of their lives."

Among Gallagher's goals as president are to develop and implement an alumni association strategic plan complementing the university's mission and strategic plan and to increase significantly the engagement of current Wilkes students.

Gallagher resides in Bridgewater, NJ with her husband, Jim, and son, Matthew.

several come from the alumni ranks. All have received materials on the University's mission, goals, and objectives in an effort to tightly integrate the Association's efforts with institutional priorities. Committees are meeting individually and identifying stakeholders, specific initiatives, desired outcomes, and measures. A draft work plan was presented and discussed at the Board's first meeting on Saturday, December 10, 2005.

Going forward, the plan will provide the framework for identifying desired outcomes and next steps. Specific deliverables will emerge as committees move forward and ownership is identified. Subject-matter experts from the campus community are integrated as appropriate in order

to sustain success in partnering toward attainable goals.

Another change from the past is the membership of three Trustees on the Alumni Board: Denise Schaal Cesare '77 (chair of the communications committee), William Miller '81 (development committee), and Daniel Klem '68 (nominating committee). Dr. Vijay K. Arora, professor of electrical engineering, and Dr. Arthur H. Kibbe, professor of pharmaceutical sciences, were selected as faculty representatives to the Board.

If you are interested in participating as a member of any of these committees, please notify the alumni office: alumni@wilkes.edu or Alumni Association President Colleen Gallagher: cmgallagher01@aol.com.

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Boston-area alumni gathered at The Living Room. Standing, from left to right: Steven L. Bailey '79, Martin Williams, Thomas Ralston '80, John Ralston '79, Michael Mattern '04, Bill Bohm, J.J. Padden '99. Seated: Paul Adams '77, Judy Sullivan '93, Helen Ralston '52, Linda O'Sullivan '76, Sandra Carroll, George Ralston, Laura Cardinale '72.

Philadelphia and Boston Alumni Reunite

On November 1, 2005, Wilkes University hosted its first event in Philadelphia in more than three years at the National Constitution Center at Independence Mall to create a sense of community among alumni in the Philadelphia region.

"The Alumni Office hasn't been on the road in many years, and I can't wait to start meeting the alumni I've heard so much about," said Sandra Sarno Carroll, Executive Director of Alumni Services.

Dr. Kyle Kreider, assistant professor of political science, started off the event with a tour of the center. A specialist in Constitutional Law and the Politics of Poverty and Race in American Life, Kreider answered a wide array of questions on those top-

ics from alumni and guests. After the educational tour, guests attended a cocktail reception.

"Everyone had a great time, and each alumnus told a special story about Wilkes. I'm glad we are starting these wonderful traditions again," said Charlie Jackson '51, Alumni Association Board member and guest host.

If you're in the Philadelphia area and would like to attend upcoming events, email: alumni@wilkes.edu or call 1.800.WILKES-U ext. 4134.

On October 20, 2005, the Wilkes University alumni & development staff and many Boston-area alumni braved the Boston traffic to meet downtown at The Living Room. While in the city, alumni and guest hosts Dean Emeritus

George Ralston, wife Helen '52, and Vice President for Student Affairs Paul Adams '77 had an opportunity to catch up with each other at a reception.

Alumni had a wonderful time mingling with old friends and making new ones. Each alumnus had a fond memory of Wilkes and was excited to become involved with the next Boston event. Dean Ralston and Dr. Adams regaled the group with stories and shared their affection for Wilkes.

"This was our first trip to Boston in many years, and I think it was very successful," said Sandra Carroll.

If you live in the Boston area and have ideas for Wilkes events, please email alumni@wilkes.edu. ☺

Travel Opportunities with the Wilkes University Alumni Association

Wilkes University Presents an
Alpine Christmas!
Departure Date: November 30, 2006
7 days

Celebrate the holiday season with the Wilkes University Alumni Association, Alpine-style. Spend six nights in the heart of Austria and explore the Christmas markets of Austria and southern Bavaria. The Alps provide a picturesque setting for holiday travel throughout Europe's winter wonderland.

This unique trip offers all the advantages of group travel plus the freedom to pursue personal interests—shop-

ping, sightseeing, and dining. Cost is \$1,950 based on double occupancy and includes trip insurance and taxes. A \$250 deposit is required to reserve your spot. Reservations will be on a first come first served basis.

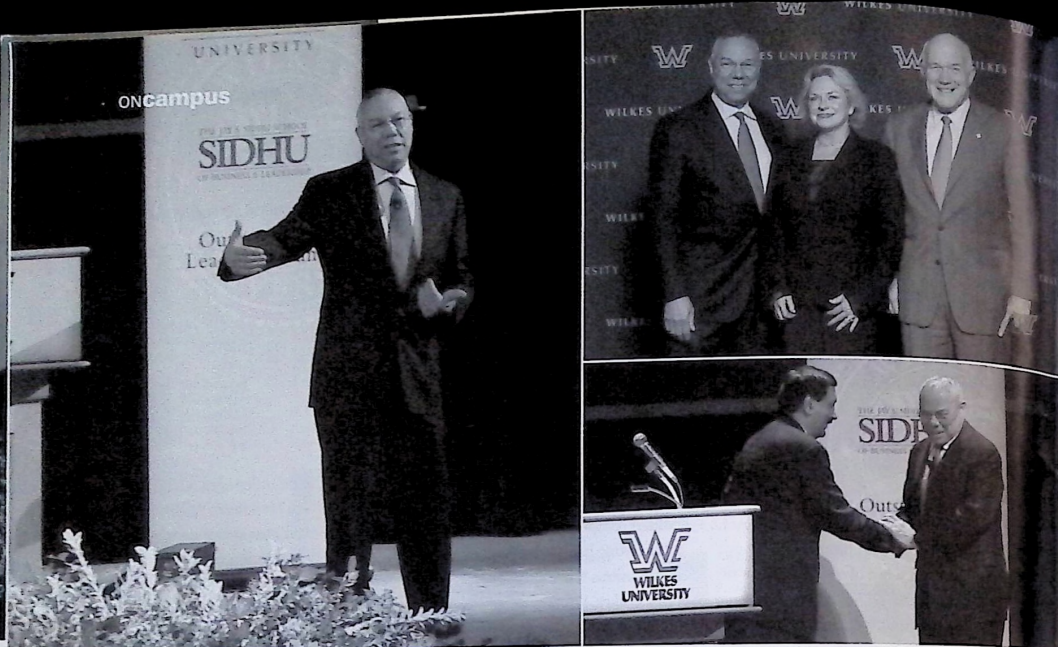
Beijing City Stay
Departure Date: March 13, 2007
8 days

Next year, join the Alumni Association on a fascinating trip to Beijing, China, home to such historic structures as the Forbidden City, the elegant Summer Palace, and Tiananmen Square. Become acquainted with this fabled spot and

learn about the spirit and history of the Chinese culture.

This one-of-a-kind trip once again offers you all the advantages of group travel and the flexibility to be on your own. The cost is \$1,710 based on double occupancy and includes taxes. Travel insurance is available but is not included. A \$250 deposit is required to reserve your spot, and seats will fill up quickly!

Contact the alumni office today at 1-800-WILKES-U ext. 4134 for more information.



Top: General Powell with President Gilmour and wife, Patty.
Bottom: Trustee Jay S. Sidhu M'73 introduces General Powell at the Kirby Center.

Colin Powell Speaks at Forum

ON DECEMBER 6, 2005, FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE GENERAL COLIN POWELL (USA) RET. delivered a lecture about leadership and taking charge to a sold-out crowd of 1,800 at the EM Kirby Center for the Performing Arts. General Powell's speech was sponsored by the Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership as part of the school's Outstanding Leaders Forum. General Powell's inspiring and candid talk about leadership, the importance of mentorship, global relationships he established as Secretary of State, and anecdotes about retirement prompted two standing ovations. Prior to the event, General Powell attended a special reception and dinner with Wilkes University alumni, staff, students, trustees, and members of the business community. The event helped raise more than \$100,000 for Sidhu School student scholarships.

Wilkes Offers New Graduate Degree in Engineering

Wilkes will now offer a Master of Science in Engineering Operations & Strategy (EOS), a new graduate program uniquely configured for the needs of industry that prepares engineers and engineering managers for leadership growth. The EOS curriculum emphasizes decision processes, systems

modeling, uncertainty analysis, and risk assessment. Graduates will be able to address and communicate the growing complexities of organizational performance and decision processes as they assume leadership roles in production flow, logistics, demand forecasting, project planning, and quality improvement. Entering students enjoy a curricular strength and flexibility unique to Wilkes

because they have the option to pursue the EOS degree, the Master of Business Administration (MBA), or both. A common core of requirements leverages the leadership development strengths available at the Sidhu School of Business and Leadership. The program was designed at the request of Wilkes University Engineering's industrial partners and continues Wilkes' historic commitment to meeting the economic development and educational needs of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

New Program in Integrative Media Becomes Latest Interdisciplinary Major

A new interdisciplinary major in integrative media is the latest undergraduate program at Wilkes. Integrative media is a cohesive, educational experience that blends a solid design and information technology core



New York Governor George Pataki Delivers Kirby Lecture

New York Governor George E. Pataki presented the Allan P. Kirby Lecture in Free Enterprise and Entrepreneurship on November 3rd to a crowd of 500 in the Dart Center. In his presentation, Governor Pataki addressed the "National Cry for Political Leadership" and spoke about his experiences as a key leader during the aftermath of the September 11th terrorist attacks. Pataki also sent a strong message to budding entrepreneurs and business leaders to help develop the technologies that will reduce the country's reliance on foreign oil and outlined a role for government in that process. "Government's role is to empower the individual, empower the dreamer, and empower the entrepreneur with the opportunities to make that dream come true," he said. Governor Pataki is the first Republican-Conservative chief executive in New York state history and is currently serving his third and final term in office. During his twelve years in office, he enacted stiffer penalties and "no parole" for violent offenders. He also restored the death penalty and ended parole for first-time violent felons. Governor Pataki recently chronicled his political life in his book, *Pataki: An Autobiography*.



Integrative media majors will spend much of their time in a new 20 x 30 foot tech lab complete with sophisticated computers and compositing, editing, sound, and video equipment.

curriculum with the choice of one or more required minors in art, communication studies, computer science, English, business, or entrepreneurship. The major prepares students for careers in feature film, broadcast, independent production, and interactive and corporate environments. "The integrative media major will help bring a new level of information technology education to Wilkes University and the region," said Eric Ruggiero, director of integra-

tive media. "We are creating something very special that will provide a needed talent base for regional and national industries." Students will learn how the creative process functions in the business and corporate world and work creatively solving real world production problems in a deadline-oriented, high-end studio environment. The training ground for integrative media students is a new 20 x 30 foot tech lab in Breiseth Hall, complete with seven PowerMac G5 dual processor visualization computers, three PC dual processor graphics workstations, and sophisticated compositing, editing, sound, interactive, and video equipment.

Wilkes Selected for National Congress to Campus Program

Wilkes recently hosted two former members of Congress for a series of forums and discussions with students and faculty about the realities of American government and politics and the importance of bipartisan cooperation. Jim Bilbray (D-NV) and Nick

Smith (R-MI) spent two days on campus as part of the *Congress to Campus* program, a partnership between the Stennis Center for Public Service, the Center for Democracy and Citizenship (CDC) at the Council for Excellence in Government, and the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress. The Congressmen spoke to a variety of classes including mass media law, international law, organizational behavior, and solid waste management. The Congressmen also met with members of the Young Democrats and Young Republicans campus clubs and sat for an interview on *Wilkes Today*, a weekly campus television show produced by students in the communication studies department. Wilkes was one of only 12 colleges and universities in the country selected as a site for participation in the program this fall.



Marlon James poses with author Norris Church Mailer.

Graduate Student Embarks on National Book Tour

Marlon James, a graduate student in the University's master's in creative writing program, recently began a 40-date national tour to promote his first novel, *John Crow's Devil*, released by New York City's Akashic Books. His literary tour includes stops in Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Chicago, Cleveland, West Hollywood, and Seattle. Set in 1957, *John Crow's Devil* is a tale of a biblical struggle between a drunken preacher and a handsome and brash minister with fire-and-brimstone persuasion, who are at war for the soul of the remote Jamaican village of Gibbeah. The 226-page book deals with religious mania and righteousness, sexual obsession and the eternal fight between good and evil. While James already had *John Crow's Devil* written prior to beginning at Wilkes, creative writing program director Dr. Bonnie Culver says she is anticipating a second work. "We expect his second novel submitted as his master's thesis to be even more impressive," she said. James, 35, of Kingston, Jamaica, is a member of the inaugural MA in creative writing class and the first student in the program to strike a publishing deal. He holds a graduate assistantship as an editorial assistant for literary and art magazine *Provincetown*

Pharmacy Students, Faculty, and Alumni Present at National Conference

A record number of Wilkes University pharmacy faculty, students, and alumni including Dr. Jason Kotsko, Pharm.D. '04 presented at the American College of Clinical Pharmacy Meeting in San Francisco, California in October. Kotsko and Dr. Judy Kristeller, assistant professor of pharmacy practice, gave a podium presentation on their pilot study, "The Effects of Oxandrolone on Nutritional Parameters in Hemodialysis Patients." Oxandrolone is a medication classified as an "anabolic steroid," which promotes weight gain and muscle growth in patients who have lost weight as a result of chronic infection,



Standing at the top of Lombard Street are from left: Haley Papps, '06; Dr. Scott Bakosta Pharm.D. '00, assistant professor of pharmacy practice; Dr. Edward Foote; Dr. Judy Kristeller; and Jonathan Ritter, '06.

surgery, or severe trauma. Kotsko began the research while a student at Wilkes under the supervision of Dr. Edward Foote, associate professor and chair of the pharmacy practice department.



Row One: Angela Parcheman, Laura Heller, Laurene Carlin, Amanda Hendricks, Leah Harvey, and Maureen Eneanya. Row Two: Amos Odeleye, Kelly Rackham, Karen Kozich, Laura Gerth, Glasunkanmi Lawal, Devida Staten, and Meredith Hart.

Arts and was the recipient of the Norris Church Mailer Fellowship in Creative Writing, a \$1,000 award given in honor of the novelist wife of legendary American writer Norman Mailer.

"Marlon James speaks in your ear like the hot Jamaican wind, and you don't know if the voice is an angel or a devil. Maybe it's both," said Mrs. Mailer in a statement given at the awards ceremony. The creative writing program is an online, low-residency program with tracks in poetry, screen writing, playwriting, fiction, and creative non-fiction.

Nursing Students Take Medical Oath

At a recent ceremony, 13 professional nursing students took their medical oaths by signing the nursing code of ethics. The students received their white lab coats and began their first clinical nursing assignments at area healthcare facilities. Students in the University's professional nursing program take part in four areas of clinical experience before earning their master's degree in nursing.

"Wilkes Blue" Places at Regional Programming Competition

A team of math and computer science majors took third place at the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Mid-Atlantic Regional Programming contest, held recently on the Wilkes campus. More than 160 teams from colleges and universities in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland,



C. Sabonek

Team "Wilkes Blue" included: Joe Wilde (seated), John Mishanski, far left, and Richard Kern. Dr. Matthew Zukoski, center, served as site coordinator.

Virginia, and West Virginia competed in the annual event.

The competing teams solved problems in simulation, artificial intelligence, and discrete structures by writing a computer program. Members of the "Wilkes Blue" team included juniors Joseph Wilde and John Mishanski and senior Richard J. Kern. Dr. Anthony Kapolka, professor of

mathematics, served as the team coach. Assistant professor of computer science Matthew J. Zukoski served as site coordinator for the ACM contest. The ACM collegiate programming contest, sponsored by IBM, is in its 25th year. The international scientific and educational organization is dedicated to advancing the arts, sciences, and applications of information technology. (!)



C. Sabonek

Wilkes University recently honored five alumni physicians for exemplary leadership and service to their healthcare professions, communities, and University. Each honoree represents excellence in health sciences and premedical education from the University's first five decades, 1930s through 1970s.

Pictured from left are: Eileen Sharp, coordinator for Health Sciences Professional Programs; Lori Ann O'Malia, accepting the award on behalf of her uncle, Dr. George Hudock '50; Lou de Robertis, accepting the award on behalf of his aunt, Dr. Catherine DeAngelis '65; Dr. Doris Bartuska '49, Wilkes President Tim Gilmour. Dr. Dan Koppen '70.

Scholarship Recipients and Donors Honored at Luncheon

Nearly 200 scholarship donors and student recipients gathered in the Henry Student Center ballroom on November 17th for the annual Scholarship Donors Luncheon. The event provides an opportunity for students to meet and thank the donors of their scholarships. The first recipients of two new scholarships were honored, and President Tim Gilmour announced the establishment of four newly endowed scholarships:

- The Muriel S. Follmer Scholarship was established in her memory by husband Dr. Don Follmer '50.
- The Dorothy G. and Edward

Venzel '54 Memorial Scholarship was established by a bequest of Mr. and Mrs. Venzel.

- The KPMG/John R. Miller Scholarship was established by KPMG in 2005 to honor Wilkes Trustee John R. Miller '68 and thank him for his 30 years of service.
- The William H. and Ruth W. Young Scholarship was established through a bequest.

More than 150 scholarships are available to Wilkes students on the basis of their scholarly achievement and community service.



The first recipient of the Charles Mattei, P.E. Scholarship Fund is Rebecca Calmer '06 (center), an environmental engineering major from Sabitzville, Maryland. Pictured with Rebecca are Daphne Mattei '75 (left), wife of the late Chuck Mattei, and Janet Mattei (right), mother of the late Chuck Mattei.

Students Provide Translation and Interpreting Services for Area Agencies

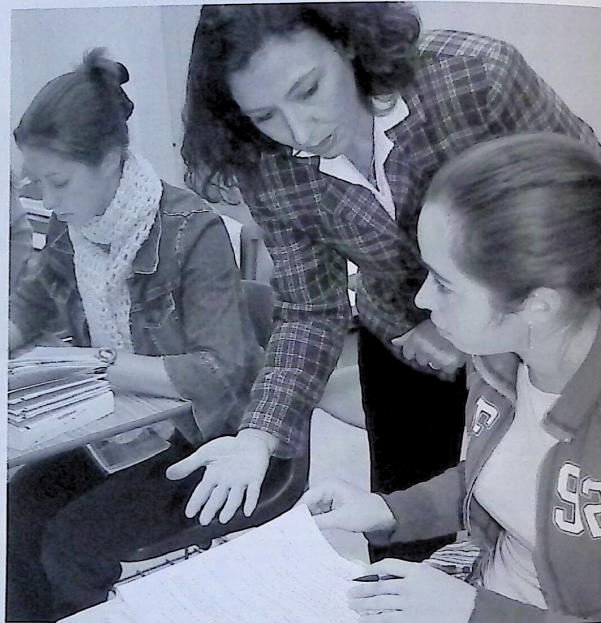
BY DONNA TALARICO '06

EACH FALL SEMESTER, WILKES University students enrolled in a Non-literary Translation class put their skills to work for area non-profit agencies that require translation of marketing materials, information brochures, and applications for a growing number of Spanish-speaking clients. The class, under the leadership of Wilkes professor and study-abroad coordinator Dr. Paola Bianco, translates mostly written documents for agencies including the Cancer Center of Wyoming Valley, Community Counseling Services, Women to Women, Luzerne County Housing Authority, and Interfaith Clinic.

"This course serves the community by providing much-needed bilingual personnel and helps non-profit organizations with the increasing Hispanic clientele and patients," said Bianco. "At the same time, by translating documents, students use practical Spanish in real-life situations."

Bianco assigns an agency to students based on their majors, which range from pharmacy to pre-law.

Senior psychology and Spanish major Jason Davenport is translating a benefit summary for Community Counseling Services. Pharmacy and Spanish majors Jennifer Compton and Emily Vescovi are working with the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute and Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) to provide interpreting services and translate medical histories and applications.



Dr. Paola Bianco, associate professor and study-abroad coordinator, guides pharmacy and Spanish major Emily Vescovi as she translates medical literature.

"This class gives us the opportunity to improve our skills in order to help the Spanish community better communicate in society," said Vescovi. "The class is especially helpful since Dr. Bianco directs the focus towards our specific area of study. Considering that I'm a pharmacy major, I've had the opportunity to translate for the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute as well as a free health clinic."

"We could learn from books every

day, but we wouldn't be learning nearly as much," said Jennifer Compton, a pharmacy and Spanish major. "This class has taught me not only to manipulate sentences so that they will make sense to a Spanish-speaking person, but also how great of a need there is for Spanish translation in the public. The work I have done with medical documents will help the patients and healthcare team."

A Taste of the Real World

BY DONNA TALARICO '06 AND MEAGAN BROWN '06

THIS YEAR, MANY STUDENTS and faculty are venturing beyond Breiseth Hall and the Stark Learning Center to classrooms abroad.

As an alternative to a 'typical' spring break, students will embark on a three-credit study tour to Rome and Tunisia in March, coordinated by Dr. Jim Merryman, professor of anthropology.

"When we travel, the Mediterranean will be nice. It has beautiful beaches, you can get sun, and see the exotic qualities of North Africa," he said.

Merryman would know. He spent many years living in Africa.

"I spent eight years in Kenya and four years in Somalia and Tanzania, and I have traveled to fifteen countries," said Merryman, who credits the Peace Corps with his first chance to travel abroad.

Students will visit Pompeii and Capri and even study Roman ruins and anthropological artifacts within the Vatican.

Tunisia, which is located in North Africa, also offers exotic and educational qualities. "North Africa is more Middle Eastern. They speak Arabic. It is very safe and very hospitable. I hope to promote an understanding of Arabs and Muslims," said Merryman.

Also over spring break, 50 students in Dr. Waghia Taylor's International Business Experience class will head to Italy, Spain, France, and Monaco. Taylor offers courses every spring semester, and each trip has a new theme.

"This time, the theme is international



Students visited London over the holiday break as part of an interdisciplinary course, *The History of Communication*.



Dr. Merryman poses with a group of Itasai school children in Kenya.

business on the Mediterranean coast," she said.

Next year a trip to Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic, and Germany is already slated.

Over intersession, 12 Wilkes students visited London for a three-credit interdisciplinary course, "The History of Communication." Dr. John Hepp,

associate professor of history, and Dr. Mark Stine, chair of the communication studies department, organized the trip, which took students to many sites in London including media-oriented museums, plus *The Guardian* newspaper and the British Broadcasting Corporation. ☺☺

Athletes Shine in Fall Sports Season

BY ERIN SWEENEY M'07

THE FALL 2005 SPORTS SEASON proved to be a very successful one for Wilkes University athletic teams. Five of six fall squads earned post-season playoff berths, with two of those teams reaching the NCAA Playoffs.

Women's soccer had their most successful season ever, claiming their first Freedom Conference Championship and tallying an overall record of 15-4-1. The Lady Colonels went to the NCAA Division III Championship for the first time in school history after earning the conference's automatic bid. Additionally, Wilkes achieved their first national ranking, climbing as high as 16th in the National Soccer Coaches Association poll.

The Wilkes football team opened their season with a 1-2 record, but responded with seven straight victories to close out the regular season. Their stellar performance, led by MAC Defensive Player of the Year Kyle Follweiler and Coach of the Year Frank Sheptock, earned the Colonels an at-large bid to the NCAA Division III Championship. Wilkes ended their successful run 8-3 overall and 8-1 in MAC play.

Women's tennis also had their best season in Wilkes history. The Lady Colonels, despite having only one senior in their lineup, fashioned an overall record of 12-4 to set a new school record for wins in a season. They also earned a Freedom Conference playoff bid.

Men's soccer posted a 10-7-2 overall record and earned a spot in the



Wilkes football players celebrate after claiming the Mayor's Cup with a 36-13 win over King's College.



Members of the Wilkes University women's soccer team celebrate after receiving the Freedom Conference championship plaque. The Lady Colonels posted a 1-0 win over Drew University in the conference title match.

Freedom Conference semi-finals. Sophomore standout Steve Uhas represented the Wilkes soccer program as a member of the District II Academic All-American second team.

The field hockey team earned a berth in the Freedom Conference playoffs after finishing with a 9-10 overall record. Among the noted performers

this year was freshman forward Jaclyn Renner, who was named Freedom Conference Rookie of the Year.

Volleyball competed hard throughout the season to earn an 11-17 overall record. The Lady Colonels had many strong performers, including junior Nicole Hahn, a CoSIDA District II Academic All-America first team selection.

Wilkes Basketball: The Beginnings

BY HAROLD COX

BASKETBALL HAS THE DISTINCTION of being the oldest intercollegiate sport at Wilkes and its predecessor, Bucknell University Junior College (BUJC). The first team was organized in the winter of 1933-1934, shortly after the founding of BUJC. With the exception of 1943 and 1944, when competition was suspended because of World War II, BUJC and Wilkes have fielded teams for 72 years.

Basketball was a logical sport with which to begin athletics at BUJC. In the early 1930s, the college was a small institution with a student body of less than 200 students. As nearly as can be determined, the first team, captained by John Swengel, had only eight players, a number unsuited for football or baseball.

Since BUJC was a two-year college, its competitors were college freshmen and prep school teams. The team played almost any school within driving distance that was willing to play, including freshman teams from Colgate, Bloomsburg, West Chester, and Temple. No records of the 1934 team have been found. The 1935 team won six and lost seven games, with its most satisfying victory likely being their defeat of the Bucknell University Freshman by a score of 24 to 20.

Walter Thomas was probably the most influential force in the early years. A graduate of Kingston High School, he entered BUJC in 1935. An active participant in college affairs, he was President of the Student Council and the

Letterman's Club, sang in the Glee Club, and acted in theatrical productions.

In his second year, while still a student, Thomas became the basketball coach. He remained at BUJC as physical education director and basketball coach until April 1942, when intercollegiate sports were suspended, and became physical education director at the Norristown YMCA.

He remained a supporter of BUJC and Wilkes until his death in November 1996 at the age of 81.

The first sport Wilkes reentered in intercollegiate competition after World War II was basketball. It fielded a team in January 1945, even though the war was still in progress, playing nearby colleges and local amateur teams. ❗

WILKES ATHLETIC FUND

For many alumni, Wilkes athletics was a defining element of their years at the university. Some graduates became Colonels by being student-athletes—others became Colonels through active participation as fans supporting their favorite teams. Regardless of which best describes an individual, the term *Colonel* is appropriate.

Athletics continues as a significant force at Wilkes University. The drive, determination, team spirit, and focus demanded of university athletes helps turn those women and men into better students and prepares them well for future success in the workplace.

With cooperation from the Athletics and Development departments, the university has organized the Wilkes Athletic Fund and is preparing to mail an informational brochure to all former university athletes. It is hoped this program will provide a way for Wilkes Alumni and everyone who considers themselves a Colonel to support athletic programming at the university.

Over the years, many alumni have come forward, offering to support athletics at Wilkes. The Wilkes Athletic Fund is now the vehicle to welcome these contributions. The Fund was crafted to allow overall support of athletics while providing designations for specific sports. An individual can support the Wilkes Athletic Fund or designate up to half of their contribution to a specific sport. The remaining half will be used by Athletics to support the entire program and to help ensure there are no "orphan sports" at the university.

Anyone interested in supporting the Wilkes Athletic Fund can contact either Michele Zabriski, zabriski@wilkes.edu, or Addy Malatesta, malatesta@wilkes.edu.

FOUNDATIONS FOR Discovery

Alumni are breaking ground through world-class research

BY TRACEY DOOMS

WILKES UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ARE ENGAGED IN
RESEARCH THAT MAY
CHANGE THE WORLD.

New treatments for multiple sclerosis... a way of helping the heart heal itself... revolutionary semiconductors that affect the electronic devices we use every day... a breast cancer screening test. These are some of the potential outcomes of research being carried out by scientists and engineers who credit Wilkes University with providing the foundation for their success.

"At Wilkes, we are able to offer our students world-class research experience in their undergraduate years that is unmatched by our research university competitors," said Provost Maravene Loeschke.

Prominent alumna Catherine DeAngelis '65, editor-in-chief of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, agrees. "The role that Wilkes can play is to stimulate and inspire students to be interested in research... so they can know what a research career can mean," said DeAngelis, who is responsible for judging the research of her peers and publishing the best of it in the world's most widely circulated and respected scientific medical journal.

"The faculty-student mentoring experience at Wilkes lends itself to a level of research that is unusual at

small schools," Dr. Loeschke adds. "Many of our alumni are using their exceptional Wilkes skills to make a difference in their chosen professions."

Solving the MS Puzzle

One such alumnus is Dr. Leslie P. Weiner '57, who is leading a team of researchers at the Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California. Weiner is retired chair of the Department of Neurology, current professor of neurology and microbiology, and researcher at the Leslie P. Weiner Neurological Care and Research Center—named in his honor.

Dr. Weiner and his team are delving into the causes of multiple sclerosis and developing treatments that hold promise for the 350,000 to 500,000 people in the United States who have been diagnosed with MS, as reported by the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

According to Weiner, the DNA of stem cells may hold the key to curing MS, which is thought to be an autoimmune disease affecting the central nervous system. "We think MS is what we call a complex genetic disease," he explained. "There's a genetic predisposition toward it... and then something happens to trigger it."

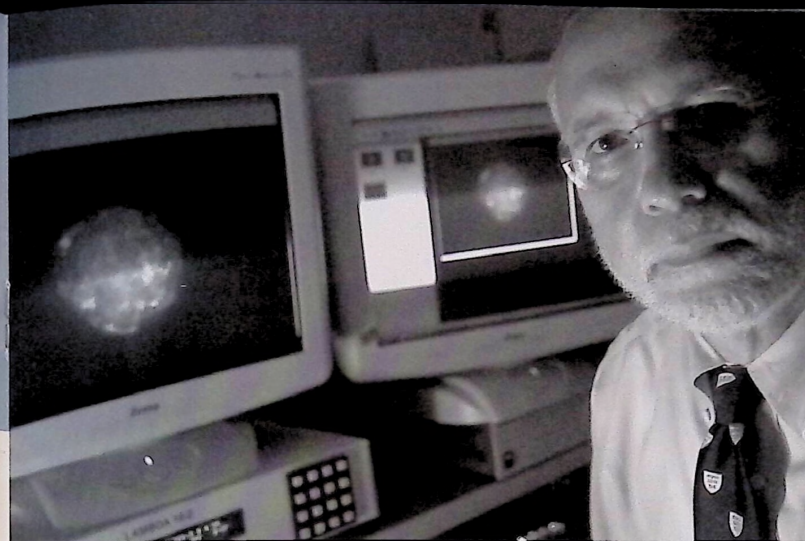
Currently, Weiner's team is exploring the possibility of repairing the nervous system through stem cell transplants. The researchers have been

working with stem cells from a variety of sources, including bone marrow, discarded *in vitro* fertilized eggs, and even the baby teeth of Weiner's grandchildren. Weiner has been successful in culturing precursor cells whose job in the body may be to prevent scarring and protect against degeneration.

Another of Weiner's studies focuses on finding out why MS symptoms usually lessen during pregnancy and relapse after a woman gives birth. Preliminary experiments indicate that a family of MS-friendly immune cells, known as regulatory T-cells, is mobilized during pregnancy, and researchers are trying to discover what causes that mobilization.

A third project is an attempt to identify factors that could tell physicians when patients might be susceptible to MS. The theory is that the MS patient's body cannot tell the difference between a foreign protein (such as a virus) and the body's own protein. Weiner's researchers are establishing which viral proteins are dominant in a given MS patient and then comparing them to those of the patient's healthy family members. "We may be able to predict who will get the disease and what infectious factors result in its worsening, and modulate these," Weiner noted.

Weiner, who was part of the medical team that diagnosed former President Reagan with Alzheimer's disease, said



Leslie Weiner, Leahy, photo: Rex USA, iStock

Dr. Eduardo Marbán '74 was recently profiled in *Newsweek*.

his interest in neurology was sparked by research he helped with as a Wilkes undergraduate in the 1950s. In medical school at the University of Cincinnati, he wrote his thesis on the genetics of multiple sclerosis; the topic has been a focus ever since. "I've spent most of my career looking at viruses and immune reactions," he said.

Repairing the Heart

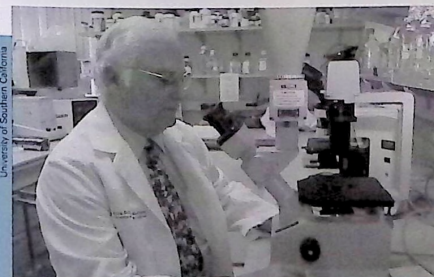
Dr. Eduardo Marbán '74 also credits Wilkes with preparing him for the future. "My education and training at Wilkes most definitely set me up for success in academic medicine." To Marbán, research means the possibility of preventing thousands of deaths from heart disease. He is researching ways to

treat heart disease using a patient's own stem cells. Current treatments for heart disease are mainly drug-based. When the drugs don't work, the patient often ends up needing a heart transplant or an external heart pump. "Our goal is to make heart transplants obsolete," Marbán said. In 2004, 2,016 heart transplants were performed in the United States, while thousands more patients awaited donor hearts, the American Heart Association reported.

Recently featured in a *Newsweek* article on heart research, Marbán is a professor of cardiology and the chief of cardiology at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, as well as director of the Donald W. Reynolds Center for Cardiovascular Clinical

Research. His research is based on a recent crucial discovery that the heart contains its own reservoir of stem cells. "Presumably, they're there to replace a normal amount of wear and tear in the heart," said Marbán. In patients with heart disease, however, Marbán suggests that perhaps the cells either cannot keep up with the work needed to repair the heart or they are not located in the right place.

The researcher's team figured out how to harvest heart stem cells during a simple 15-minute biopsy and grow them in a lab until several million are available. The cells are then reintroduced into the damaged area of the patient's heart. Whether the cells will heal the heart is a "leap of

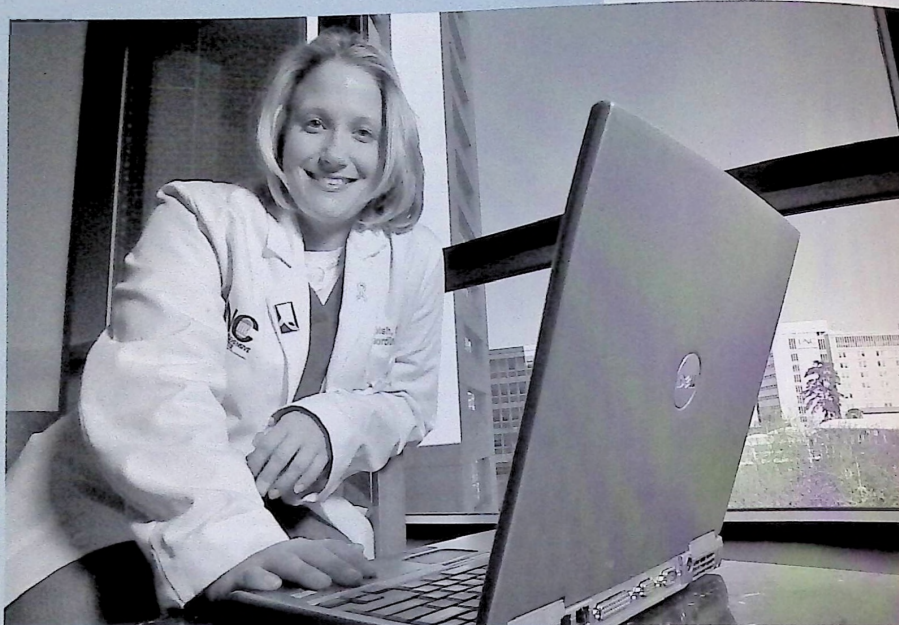


University of Southern California

Dr. Leslie P. Weiner '57

"Our goal is to make heart transplants obsolete."

—DR. EDUARDO MARBÁN '74



Dan Seward/University of North Carolina

Amy Drobish '04

Drobish Recruited as DNA Study Coordinator

Last year, Amy Drobish '04 was recruited by breast cancer researchers at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill interested in the research techniques she learned as an undergraduate at Wilkes.

Drobish is study coordinator for a UNC team researching DNA repair genes in women with and without breast cancer. "Anytime your body makes new cells, your DNA gets copied," explained Drobish. "Sometimes there are mistakes in those cells, and the DNA repair genes fix those mistakes." According to Drobish, if research finds that women with breast cancer have more repair genes in their blood than women without breast cancer, that information might be used to create a breast cancer screening test. Armed with that knowledge, doctors would be able to closely monitor their patients, making early detection more likely. In 2005 alone, 211,240 new cases of breast cancer were diagnosed in American women, according to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

"Psychology is more research-based than most people realize," said Debbie Tindell, associate professor of psychology, who worked with Drobish at Wilkes. "Her undergraduate work prepared her extremely well for the important work she is doing now." Wilkes psychology students are given many opportunities to become actively involved in faculty research, Tindell explained, and students make formal a presentation of their findings during their capstone experience.

Drobish hopes to continue in breast cancer research even after the study is completed, perhaps becoming certified as a clinical research associate.

faith," Marbán said. However, studies with mice have proven promising in restoring function after heart attacks. Research is moving to larger animals, with the prospect of human studies by the end of 2006.

"What is exciting is the possibility of using cells that are a perfect genetic match," said Marbán, who has been conducting stem cell research for five years. Ethical issues are avoided since the cells can only grow into heart tissue and no embryos are destroyed to get the cells. His previous research has included genetically engineered versions of stem cells.

Although Marbán studied mathematics at Wilkes, he always knew he wanted to go into medicine. He went on to Yale University, where he entered a joint M.D./Ph.D. program to earn his M.D. as well as a doctorate in physiology. "This is a very quantitative field, so



Mark Gelszorski



"Everybody wants everything smaller but still functional. It's semiconductors that make those devices efficient."

—CHRISTOPHER B. KOCON '85, M'90

a lot of findings are described in terms of mathematics principles," he said.

More Power

Christopher B. Kocon '85, M'90 is trying to give cell phones a longer charge without sacrificing their compact size.

"Everybody wants everything smaller but still functional," he said of the country's 182 million cell phone subscribers. "It is semiconductors that make those devices efficient."

Kocon is senior manager for U.S. research and development for Fairchild Semiconductor in Mountaintop, PA. His research focuses on power management—developing semiconductors that manage the power of cell phones, MP3 players, video games, and home electronics devices. Kocon's semiconductors manage battery power by figuring out which options on a cell phone or other device are not being used at the moment and switching them off. "We love cell phones with a lot of options, but we hardly ever use some of them," he explained.

At the other end of Kocon's research spectrum are large products like automobiles. Here, the goal is for semiconductors to be able to manage thousands of amps of power and be thermally stable. In a hybrid car, for example, the electrical system needs enough power to actually move the vehicle, as well as manage everything from brakes to air conditioning. "With each generation of cars, there are more and more systems being added that are electrical," he said. "There's a continuous need to improve the semiconductors and chips."

So far, Kocon holds 22 patents, with another five or so in the works. "Most of my patent work is in finding the newest ideas and new generation of chips," he said. "If you stop innovating, your business will die. There needs to be a continuous flow of new ideas."

As a Wilkes undergraduate, Kocon was able to spark his future career in research through his year-long senior project. "The nice thing about Wilkes is it's not a larger school, so

students are allowed more independence," he said. "They have a close relationship with faculty mentors as they're doing their project."

For the past 10 years, Kocon has been helping future researchers get started. An adjunct professor at Wilkes, he is teaching students about nanoelectronics and computer simulation. "It's impossible to do leading-edge research without using simulators," he said. "It's students' introduction to the world."

Preparing the Next Generation

According to Dr. Loeschke, Wilkes' provost, the university will continue to expand its faculty-student mentoring through growth in its undergraduate research programs. "It's so exciting to see a professor and a student looking at DNA in a lab together," she said. "We are literally preparing the next generation of researchers, people who will surely make a difference, no matter what field they choose to pursue." ■



From left, Bill Toothill, Joe Wilde, Aaron Mollenback, and Dr. Sid Halsor, Professor of GeoEnvironmental Science and Engineering, on the summit of Avalanche Peak in the Absaroka Mountain Range. The climb marks the end of a successful research trip.

Uncovering the Caldera

BY TOM VENESKY

JOE WILDE HAD GONE NEARLY TWO days without sleep, yet the thought of what lay beneath his feet was more than enough to keep him lucid.

The Wilkes University junior had been chosen to help research a geological phenomena called a "super volcano," or caldera, which is the largest type of volcano in the world. And of all places, the caldera that kept Wilde awake was not in some tropical locale, but in the wilds of Wyoming.

Wilde, who is a dual major in computer science and math, accompanied Wilkes professors Sid Halsor and Bill Toothill for the unique opportunity to research the caldera in Yellowstone National Park last summer. Wilkes is one of a handful of universities from across the country invited to participate in the research.

The Yellowstone caldera is actually a large crater, 31 miles across, formed from the accumulation of thousands of years of volcanic material. The caldera erupts roughly every 600,000 years, and the last eruption was 630,000 years ago, according to Halsor.

The research teams monitored the ground for millimeters of movement. It's a trip that Halsor and Toothill have been making annually since 1999. "As a geologist, you couldn't ask for a better field site to work in than Yellowstone," Halsor said. "The research is a blend of high-end technology and standard field geology. It's very rewarding."

And very beneficial to the lucky students who accompany Halsor and Toothill. Before heading out to Yellowstone, Wilde spent hours conducting geologic research and using high-

precision GPS equipment. He assisted Halsor and Toothill with packing the eight cases of expensive GPS equipment to be shipped to Wyoming ahead of time.

At the park, Wilde and students from other universities were responsible for monitoring eight research stations spread out across 50 miles of the caldera. The data had to be collected in a two-day window, which made for a hectic time for Wilde.

"We drove back and forth to the stations constantly for 48 hours; it was tough," Wilde said. "There was a sense of urgency because the data had to be collected in that two-day period."

But amid the bustling pace, Wilde came away with a multitude of newfound skills.

"Working with the high-end GPS equipment really expanded my knowledge on certain survey technologies,"

he said. "I also learned a lot about data processing and gained a lot of hands-on experience in the field. "It made me realize how busy and exact this work has to be." The GPS equipment used by Wilkes is different from commercial GPS units in that it can pinpoint a location within centimeters. Commercial GPS units are accurate within several meters, Halsor said.

"There are very few institutions with this sophisticated GPS technology in their undergraduate programs," Halsor said.

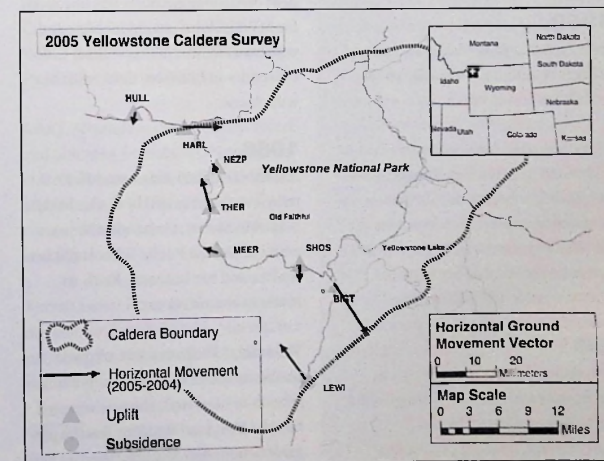
While the experience gives the students valuable skills and experience, it also provides Halsor and Toothill with a unique research opportunity. "It allows us to keep up with the technology and applications," Toothill said. "I have focused on GPS technology for 12 years, and Sid has expertise in geology, so the caldera research puts us in a position to combine our talents and contribute our findings to the national archive for future work."

While a caldera eruption would be catastrophic, Halsor said it's unlikely that an eruption of this scale will occur in our lifetime.

But as the years of research progress, Halsor and Toothill say they are getting closer to understanding the background behavior of the caldera system. "It takes years to uncover meaningful trends of activity in a large scale data set. We've got a good foundation of data now, and we expect to gain greater insight as we build upon and further analyze our data. As long as we can manage the complex logistics, we'll be going back every year." ■



Wilkes student Joe Wilde (kneeling) works alongside Eastern Illinois University student Levi Allbaugh to set up the GPS units in the network.



This map shows the boundary of the Yellowstone caldera that formed during the last super volcanic eruption 640,000 years ago. The filled triangles and circle mark the locations that are occupied during the annual GPS survey. The location symbols, together with the vectors (arrows), indicate ground movement between 2004 and 2005.

CLASSnotes

1950

Martin Blake received the 2005 Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award from the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. He is the longtime director of scouting for the NBA.

Dr. Don C. Follmer recently endowed a scholarship to Wilkes in memory of his wife, Muriel S. Follmer. Dr. Follmer is the medical director at White Deer Run in Blue Mountain, Pa. He resides in Bethlehem, Pa.



Lester S. Gross celebrated his 50th year of ordained ministry and his 59th wedding anniversary with his wife, Irene.

The Grosses founded three congregations and a childcare center in Louisville, Ky. They reside in Louisville, Ky.

1959

John M. Saba, Jr. is a bible teacher and author. He resides in Livonia, Mich. with his wife, Jeanine.

Mary Louise O. Onufer Viquez is a librarian with the East Orange N.J. Board of Education. She participated as an elected delegate for an NEA Representative Assembly in Los Angeles. She and her husband, Rodolfo, reside in Colonia, N.J.

1961

Benjamin J. Matteo was selected as the recipient of the 2005 Distinguished Public Service Award by the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants. He resides in Hazleton, Pa. with his wife, Josephine.

Patrick W. Shovlin, Jr. was chosen as one of two aquatic coaches for the Texas delegation for the 2006 Special Olympics National Games. He resides in Lewisville, Texas with his wife, Mary Lou. The couple has four children, Patrick III, Michael, Nicholas, and Matthew.

1963

Joseph Weinkle is the Life and Health Manager for insurance agency Ivory, Wagner & Associates, Inc. in Pittsburgh, Pa. He resides in Pittsburgh with his wife, Phyllis.

1965

Norman Strojny retired from a career in the pharmaceutical industry as an analytical method development scientist. He and his wife, Barbara Nye, reside in Delta, Utah.

Donald Ungemah retired from Johns Manville Corporation. He is vice president of insurance, claims and litigation for MWH Global, an engineering and construction firm in Broomfield, Colo. He resides in Littleton, Colo. with his wife, Marie.

1966

Andrea (Templar) Ackerman, Ph.D. retired as the principal of Cutler Middle School in Mystic, Conn. after 39 years with the Grotton Public Schools district. Andrea and her husband, **Keith '65**, reside in Noank, Conn.

Vicki (Tatz) Phelps is a second grade teacher at Prince George County Public Schools in Maryland. She was accepted into the Maryland Resident Teacher program to train new teachers. She and her husband, David, reside in Laurel, Md.

1968

Glen Klinger is performance improvement coordinator for Southeast Arizona Medical Center. He and his wife, Nancy, and their three children, Denise, Robin, and Andrea, reside in Sierra Vista, Ariz.

1969



Robert S. Wallace II retired from Bohemia Manor High School in Chesapeake City, Md where he served as a music education

teacher and band and choral director for 36 years. He is the minister of music at St. Mary Anne's Episcopal Church in North East, Md. and co-director and accompanist at Congregation Beth Shalom in Wilmington, Del. He resides in Newark, Del. with his wife, Rosalie.

1970

Georgiana Cray Bart opened a studio and art school at a new arts center, Arts Youiverse in downtown Wilkes-Barre.

1971

George J. Matz was appointed to the Wilkes University board of trustees. He and his wife, Jean, and their two children, Jonathan and Alexa, reside in Pinella Park, Fla.

1972

Rita (Ryneski) Borzatti is a U.S. Army Material Systems Analyst at Arberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland. She resides in Abingdon, Md. with her husband, James, and son, Randy.

Judith Greenstein Davis is a human resources manager for Bradley Arant with offices in four states. She resides

in Birmingham, Ala. with her husband, Patrick B. Davis, Jr.

G. Garfield Jones, Jr. is a salesman for InTouch Health Inc. One of the models he represents, the Remote Presence RP-6 robot, was featured on NBC's ER on November 3 and 10.

Patricia Phillips received the 2004 Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs Keizai Koho Fellowship, where she studied current conditions in Japan through three perspectives: education, economy, and culture. Patricia is employed as a grants and compliance specialist at Moorestown Township Public Schools, Moorestown, N.J. She resides in Marlton, N.J.

David K. Thomas retired as an educator and science department chairperson after 33 years with the Hanover Area School District in Hanover Township, Pa. He resides in Shavertown, Pa. with his wife, Carol.

1973

Rich Mendelsohn is a social worker for foster care agency Kair In Home Services in Sacramento, Calif. He and his wife, Suzie, celebrated 30 years of marriage. They reside in Sacramento.

1974

Joseph DeVizia is deacon at Sacred Heart of Jesus-St. John's Parish in Wilkes-Barre and the executive director at the Children's Service Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

1975

Nancy Schultz was married to John W. Kimball III on November 8. She is global equipment builder advisor for

ExxonMobil. She has two children, Sara and Erik, and a stepson, Brandon. The couple resides in Bristow, Va.

1976

Karl Bacon is the owner of Dr. Deco Consulting Services. He resides in Naugatuck, Conn. with his wife, **Jackie (Buzelli) '77**.

1977

Jackie (Buzelli) Bacon is the principal at Brooklyn Elementary School in Waterbury, Conn. She resides in Naugatuck, Conn. with her husband, **Karl '76**.

Donna Kumiega Beringer is Vice President for Customer Service Management for Wells Fargo Bank in Tempe, Ariz. She resides in Fountain Hills, Ariz. with her husband, Cory.

Karen (Szychowski Rogowicz) Dussinger is the marketing manager at Mericle Commercial Real Estate Services in Wilkes-Barre. She lives in Tunkhannock, Pa. with her husband, Joseph.

John J. Minetola is owner of J.J.M Parcel and Shipping Services, a UPS Store franchise in Edwardsville, Pa. He resides in Luzerne, Pa. with his wife, Lenora, and their children, Melissa, Joshua, Jared, and Jenna.

Karen (Snow) Rizzo is the Arizona area director for Bayada Nurses. She and her husband, Bo, reside in Tucson, Ariz. with their children, Nolan and Kristen.

1978

Seth M. Silver, M.D. has a private orthopedic practice. He and his wife, **Merle (Ziplin) '78**, reside in Millville, N.J.

UP CLOSE:

ANDRE MILLER '88

Andre Miller went from being a star on the mat to a star on screen. Miller is co-creator and host for the A&E network's *Random 1*, a reality show about grassroots giving. Each hour-long episode takes Miller, his co-host John Chester, and their good-Samaritan team across the nation in search of random strangers in need of help, whether it is a major life change or just a nudge in the right direction.

But this is not Miller's first entertainment endeavor. In the mid-1990s, he hosted *Good Morning & Good Living* on Baltimore NBC-affiliate WBAL-TV. While in Baltimore, he met Chester, and the pair began working on *R&R*, a holistic rest and relaxation technique show that aired on Discovery's Home and Leisure Channel. On their days off, they began practicing their random acts of kindness, the inspiration for *Random 1*.

The former NCAA District One All-American was inducted into the Wilkes University Athletics Hall of Fame in 2003. He holds a law degree from the University of Maryland and is a certified conditioning specialist/fitness trainer and a skilled martial artist. He is a native of Bayshore, N.Y.

For more on the show, visit www.aetv.com/random1.



Mary Beth (Vanyo) Siracuse is a service improvement coordinator for Geisinger Medical Laboratories in Danville, Pa. She resides in Swoyersville, Pa. with her husband, James, and their child, Sam.

1980

Richard L. Krawetz was promoted to lieutenant by the Pennsylvania State Police; he will serve as commander of staff services at Troop R, Dunmore, Pa. Previously, he was supervisor of the criminal investigation section in Wyoming, Pa. He resides in Dallas Township, Pa. with his wife, Sharon, and their two children, Dana and Danielle.

Dr. Kurt Moody is the principal research optometrist for contact lens manufacturer Vistakon. He resides in St. Augustine, Fla. with his wife, Georgia, and their three children, Kaitlyn, Kelsey, and Jacob.

Dr. Marie (Roke) Thomas M'83 received a doctorate in human development from Marywood University in Scranton, Pa. She is an associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences at Wilkes University. She resides in Dallas, Pa. with her husband, James, and daughter, Lindsey.

1984

Stephen DiRiccio is chief operating officer of venture capital firm, DiRiccio Investment Group. He resides in Wilton, Conn.

LTC Mark A. Rado recently finished a battalion command at Fort Knox, Kent. He transferred to the United States Army headquarters in Washington D.C., where he is a planner on the joint staff. He and his wife, Eden, and their two

sons, Mark Jr. and Gregory, reside in Arlington, Virginia.

1981

Mark I. Himmelstein authored 100 *Questions to Ask Your Software Organization*, released by Infinity Press. Himmelstein is president of software and management consulting firm Heavenstone, Inc.

Leslie Nicholas was chosen from more than 50,000 nominations to receive the 2005 Disney Teacher Award in celebration of his creativity, innovative teaching methods, and ability to inspire his students. He is an English teacher at Wyoming Valley West High School in Plymouth, Pa. He resides in Kingston, Pa. with his wife, Jo Ann, and their son, Jordan.

1982

Ruth McDermott-Levy is a nursing instructor and advisor to students from the Sultanate of Oman studying at Villanova University. She traveled to Oman to examine their nursing care and education to gather research for her Ph.D. She resides in Villanova, Pa. with her husband, Andrew, and two children, Samuel and Matthew.

Tony Vlahovic is owner and president of Momentum Fitness in Princeton, N.J. At the center, he also runs a cancer wellness program that is dedicated to his father and that is free of charge to cancer patients and survivors. The program includes information, nutrition, strength training, aerobics, massage, and other therapies. He resides in New Hope, Pa.

1983

Jeffrey A. Evans is chief scientist for L-3 Communications AT&TILES, where he

develops tools and techniques to aid in United States Air Force sensor systems and law enforcement communications interoperability. He resides in Rome, N.Y. with his wife, Candace (Marshall) '83, and their daughter, Amy.

1985

Suzanne M. (Vassia) Fletcher, CPA is the vice president of finance for Blue Cross of Northeast Pennsylvania. In October, she was appointed as board chair and president of Leadership Wilkes-Barre, a not-for-profit community leadership organization. She and her husband, John, reside in Hanover Township, Pa. with their two children, Erica and Lauren.

Lt. Col. Jack L. Jones USAF is stationed at RAF Alconbury in the United Kingdom with his wife, Sheryll, and son, Nicholas.

1986

Neal McHugh, Jr. is director of environmental remediation for Kinder Morgan Energy Partners. He resides in Point Pleasant, N.J. with his wife, Diane, and their two children, Kelsey and Evan.

David Pekala is a deputy director for vaccine manufacturer Sanofi Pasteur in Swiftwater, Pa. where he oversees clinical manufacturing for process development including the fermentation and purification processes. He is also in charge of a pilot plant facility. Pekala resides in Hanover Township, Pa.

1989

Michelle (Chiodo) Ciliberto and her husband, Dan, announce the birth of their son, Torrey Jaden, on August 1. He joins a sister, Danielle. Michelle is an eighth grade teacher, chair of the science department, and student council

advisor at Centennial School District in Norristown, Pa. She resides with her family in Gilbertsville, Pa.

Jeffrey Eline is the owner of e-Line Productions and is producing a feature film, *Mentor*. He resides in Finksburg, Md. with his wife, Gayle (Bateman) '88, and their two children, Aaron and Selby.

Robert Wachowski is a high school math teacher and varsity cheerleading coach at South Riverdale High School in Anne Arundel County, Md. He resides in Stevensville, Md.

1990

Alena (Ochal) Barry and her husband, Gregory, announce the birth of their daughter, Kassandra, born April 4, 2005. Alena is a research scientist for pharmaceutical company Wyeth Research. The family resides in Pottstown, Pa.

Bruce Bunnick M'92 is senior associate director of admissions at Lehigh University in Bethlehem, Pa. He resides in Orwigsville, Pa. with his wife, Sue (Ketner) '93, and their son, Benjamin.

Susan (Abate) Dupas resides in Little Falls, N.J.

Wendy (Holden) Gavin and her husband, Michael, announce the opening of their law firm, Gavin Law LLC, where they are both attorneys specializing in leasing and land use. The couple resides in West Chester with their three children, Annabel, Michael, and Gabriel.

Jason D. Griggs was appointed to the Wilkes University board of trustees. He is owner and president of Semper Property Management Corporation in Royersford and serves as chair of

the Limerick Township Planning Commission. He and his wife, Tamara, and their three children, Jenna, Allison, and Evan, reside in Limerick, Pa.

Dr. Janice Saldukas-Parsons is supervisor of instruction for the Caesar Rodney School District. She resides in Magnolia, DE with her husband, James.

Lynda (Pluschau) Witcoski and her husband, Joseph, announce the birth of their second child, a son, Joseph Raymond. He joins a sister, Alyssa. Lynda is a nurse practitioner for Summit Medical Group in Warren, N.J. They reside in Hillsborough, N.J.

Lisa (Summa) Woodruff and her husband, *Darrin '92* announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, Dallas Marie. The family resides in Pittston, Pa.

1991

Jennifer (Cantania) Canino is a senior personal financial representative for Washington Mutual. She resides in Green Lawn, N.Y. with her husband, John, and their children, Jacqueline and John, Jr.

Mary E. Gold is a United States Air Force Officer. She works on the Air Force Secretary's Air Staff at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. She resides in Woodbridge, Va.

Peter Guinosso was promoted to health science associate for Merck & Co. He travels to Seattle, Wash. and Hawaii working as a clinical liaison between Merck's research laboratories and marketing department and key neurologists specializing in headaches. He resides in Berkeley, Calif.

**UP CLOSE:
SHELLEY FREEMAN '82**



The Los Angeles Business Journal named Shelley Freeman Executive of the Year at the 2005 Women Making a Difference Awards Reception, held in August. She was one of over 200 nominees for the six awards presented.

Freeman is regional president for the Wells Fargo Los Angeles Metro Community Bank and is responsible for 4,000 employees at 230 retail banking stores with assets totaling more than \$20 billion. She is a charter member of the Wells Fargo National Diversity Council, where she helped set the company's policies on employee diversity and community outreach programs. Under her leadership, Wells Fargo has become the largest corporate donor to the Los Angeles non-profits, giving over \$1 million to over 1000 organizations. Also, in July, she was appointed by the mayor of Los Angeles to serve on the Board of Police Commissioners.

Freeman is a member of the university's Board of Trustees and a frequent speaker on the topics of leadership and diversity.

Doug Kerr is a trooper with the New Jersey State Police. He and his wife, Clare, and their three children, Justin, Tyler, and Aidan, reside in Bordentown, N.J.

John Thomas Sallak MSW is the director of human resources at Luzerne County Community College in Nanticoke, Pa. He resides in Wilkes-Barre.

1992

Brian DeAngelo owns New Beginnings, a hair replacement center where he is a hair replacement specialist. He and his wife, Brandi, reside in Upper Freehold, N.J., with their two children, McKinley and Kyle.

Miguel Peter Fialat is attending Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. He resides in Lansing, Kan., with his wife, Heidi.

Christina M. (Cline) Fuges is the editorial director for Cincinnati, Ohio-based Gardner Publications Inc., a trade magazine publisher for the tool, die, and mold-making industry. She and her husband, Stephen, and their son, Gabriel James, reside in Doylestown, Pa.

Chris Imperiale was promoted to assistant metro editor at the Times-Tribune newspapers in Scranton, Pa., where he previously served in a variety of editorial roles. He resides in Carbondale, Pa.

Let Marvell is president of John Q. Public Relations. He and his wife, LeeAnn, and their child, Sydney, reside in Canyon Country, Calif.

John Pirich Jr. is a business development officer for Guard Security Bank in Plains, Pa. He resides in Ardenville, Pa.

with his wife, Clarissa, and their three children, Alexander, Victoria, and Gabriella.

Kathleen Rickard, M.D. and her husband, *Christopher '93*, announce the birth of their son, Cael Paul, on September 1, 2005. They reside in Orwigsburg, Pa. with Cael and their other children, Caroline and Colin.

Diane Barreiros Servello and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their second daughter, Lianna, on February 14. She joins a sister, Carina. They reside in Springfield, N.J.

1993

Tracy Coulter is a public relations manager for the global licensing division of Playboy Enterprises. She resides in New York, N.Y.

Shawn Fely is founder and president of Sire Advertising. He and his wife, Kimberly, reside in Selinsgrove, Pa. with their son, Michael.

Lori Guarino is an account executive for Pfizer, Inc. She resides in Rancho Palms Verde, Calif.

Regina (Costanzo) Krieger MSW is a special education teacher and athletic coach at East Stroudsburg Area School District in East Stroudsburg, Pa. She is pursuing her second master's degree, in educational leadership at Wilkes. She resides in Peckville with her husband, Stephen.

Nicholas Lambert, Psy.D. is a neuropsychologist/forensic mental health clinician for University of Medicine and Dentistry within the New Jersey Department of Corrections. He resides in Sewell, N.J.

Robin (Farrell) Moorhead MEd is a middle school science teacher and secondary science associate department chairperson for Dallas School District in Dallas, Pa. She is pursuing a second master's degree, in educational leadership at Wilkes and resides in Mocanaqua, Pa. with her husband, Jeff, and two sons, Colin and Logan.

Stacy (Heck) Smulowitz earned the Accredited Business Communicator designation by the International Association of Business Communicators. She is employed by Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y. She is married to *John '92*.

1994

Dawn (Menhennet) Brewer and her husband, Frank, announce the birth of their son, Charles Jaden, on August 10. Dawn is customer relations manager for Motorworld Automotive Group in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The family resides in Kingston, Pa.

Katherine (Zaka) Genovese married David on August 13. She is a mathematics teacher at G.A.R. High School in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The couple resides in Scranton, Pa.

Gina Stella Konnick and her husband, Michael, had their first child, Danielle Marie, on August 12. They reside in Shavertown, Pa.

1995

Brenda (Sauschuck) Butler resides in Lebanon, N.J., with her husband, Mark, and their son, Jack.

Wendy (Zerwe) Dinnachle and her husband, Matthew, announce the birth of a son, Aidan Robertson, on August 8. She is a sales manager for Vitro Packaging.

The family resides in Sacramento, Calif.

Cynthia Kowalski MSW is director of nursing at Valley Crest Nursing Home in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. She completed the Nursing Home Administrators Certificate Program at Marywood University in May. She resides in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Jospeh Machuzak, Jr. D.O. is a physician with Alta Dermatology in Mesa, Ariz. He resides in Chandler, Ariz.

1996

Andrew Carter is a senior environmental health and safety manager for Wheelabrator Frackville Energy Company. He resides in Jonestown, Pa. with his wife, *Linda (Ward) '97*, and two daughters, Kathleen and Lauren.

Keith Fox is a master level therapist for Northwestern Human Services in Bethlehem, Pa. He resides in Whitehall, Pa. with his wife, Wendy, and their daughter, Kendra Elisabeth.

Andita N. Parker Lloyd is coordinator of multicultural affairs for Wilkes University. She resides in Wilkes-Barre with her children, Nandi Juliana and Nikole Jewel Harrington.

Marisa Rae is a certified Montessori infant/toddler teacher and the head teacher for the toddler community at the Montessori Children's Center at Burke, which is home to the national model program for the Center for Montessori Teacher Education. She resides in Stamford, Calif.

Tara Kurland Tenaseo and her husband, Timothy, welcomed their first child in May, a daughter, Tehya Leigh.

Tara is an at-risk counselor and 504 plan coordinator for Pelham School District. They reside in Raymond, N.H.

1997

David Donlin is a section leader at Fanchild Semiconductor in Mountaintop. He and his wife, Erin, reside in Mountaintop with their three children, Sean, Katie, and Kevin.

Melissa (Bernhard) Fiches and her husband, Scott, reside in Lancaster, Pa.

Heather Lynn (Howell) Johnson and her husband, John, announce the birth of their third child, Karl Aidan. He joins a sister, Jessica, and a brother, Johnny. They reside in Port Richey, Fla.

Amy (Michel) Lounsbury is a staffing manager for Cingular Wireless in Paramus, N.J. She resides in Nanuet, N.Y. with her husband, Scott.



Lisa (Hannum) Rizzi has been named Senior Manager by the Philadelphia-area office of the North Highland Company, an independent man-

agement and technology consulting services provider. She resides in Exton, Pa.

1998

Lisa (Niewinski) Ciampi MEd and her husband, Lou, announce the birth of their first son, Louis Alphonse, on August 15. She is an English teacher at Dallas Middle School in Dallas, Pa. The family resides in Wyoming, Pa.

Kimberly (Stroup) Himmelwright is office manager and personal scrub nurse for her husband, orthopedic surgeon

Erict A. Himmelwright, D.O. M.D. They reside in Wellsboro, N.H.

Michael McTierman is a financial litigation agent for United States Attorney's office in Tampa, Fla. where he enforces the collection of federal restitution and fines ordered on a federal criminal judgment in district court. He resides in Wesley Chapel, Fla. with his wife, Tracey, and their children, Sienna and Michael Reese.

Lawrence P. Tabbit passed the Certified Fraud Examiners Exam and became a licensed CFE. He is an internal auditor for the Texas Attorney General's office. He resides in Cedar Park, Texas.

Danielle Yeakal married Marie Schaeffer in Las Vegas in August. She is a registered nurse at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, Pa. The couple resides in Phillipsburg, N.J.

1999

Laura Chowanec was married to Robert Rukoski in April. She is a senior operations representative for 401k plans for Prudential Insurance. She and her husband reside in Scranton, Pa.

Eric Garcht is a police officer for Prince William County police department. He and his wife, Mary (Agrapiades) '99, reside in Lake Ridge, Va.

Mary (Agrapiades) Garcht is a middle school counselor in Prince William County, Va. She wrote and implemented an alternative to in-school suspension for at-risk youth and is advisor to a peer mediation group. She and her husband, Eric '99, reside in Lake Ridge, Va.

Lucia (Piccolino) Peregrin is a global

collector for UPS. She resides in Scranton, Pa. with her husband, David.

Benjamin Spencer in a product engineer of shape memory alloys at Special Metals Corporation. He resides in Syracuse, N.Y.

Mary Stella married Ronald Stabinsky on October 22. She is financial analyst/internal auditor for Motorworld Automotive Group. She and her husband reside in Plains, Pa.

Srinivas Yamujala is head of tools, accounting, and statistics engineering for airline telecommunications company SITA. He resides in Atlanta, Ga. with his wife, Srisha Siddhiraju.

Melany (Kalmanowicz) Wynia is photolithography process engineer with South Korea's Samsung Austin Semiconductor. She was married to Tyson Wynia in July. The couple resides in Austin, Texas.

2000

Diane (Eldred) Benevento is an advanced clinical study coordinator for Clinical Research Laboratories. She married John Benevento on November 6, 2004. The couple resides in South Amboy, N.J.

Dr. Scott Bolesta is an assistant professor of pharmacy practice at Wilkes University's Nesbitt College of Pharmacy and Nursing.

Dr. Linda Chong married Nicholas Souchik on August 28. She is a pharmacist with Walgreen's in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. The couple resides in Fort Lauderdale.

Carol Hudak announces her engagement to Brian Vallinino of Washington Township, N.J. She is a web applications developer for Sovereign Bank. She resides in Lakewood, N.J.

Dr. Jennifer Klinger and her husband, Dale, welcomed their third child, Lauren Faith, in October. The couple and their three children, Lauren, Emily, and Nathan, reside in Paxinos, Pa.

Matthew Kuntz married Erica Strawn on May 28. He and his wife reside in Marietta, Pa.

Wendy (Shiro) Oresick received her master's degree in reading education from King's College in Wilkes-Barre. She is a first grade teacher for the Crestwood School District in Mountaintop, Pa. She resides in Drums, Pa. with her husband, Michael, and son, Tyler Michael.

Alex Podsadlik is a business analyst with Diversified Information Technologies in Scranton, Pa. He resides in Avoca, Pa.

Tim Popovich announces his marriage to Shari Dean in February 2005. He is an executive account manager for software company Lifeboat Distribution in Shrewsbury, N.J. The couple resides in Spring Lake Heights, N.J.

Camela M. Smith received a master's degree in communications arts from Marywood University in Scranton, Pa. She and her husband, Tom, announce the birth of their first child, Andrew Joseph. The couple resides in Moscow, Pa.

Dr. Jeanette (Uhl) Tomasi is a pharma-

cist at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Ohio. She resides in Lewis Center, Ohio with her husband, John.

Jennifer Lynn (Gadomski) Vallach is a clinical nursing instructor at Wilkes University. She and her husband, Scott, were married September 24. They reside in Plains, Pa.

2001

Amanda T. (Ambroske) Albert is an elementary music education teacher with Regional School District #17 where she teaches general music, chorus, and band. She and her husband, Paul, were married on July 9, 2005. The couple resides in Middletown, Conn.

Rob Cooney, M.D. is a resident in emergency medicine at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pa. He and his wife, Stephanie (Smith) '02, reside in Freeport, Pa.

Dr. Shanna (Henninger) Dawson is a pharmacist at St. Luke's Hospital in Bethlehem, Pa. She resides in Nazareth, Pa. with her husband, James.

Dr. Amy (Riccelli) Gale married Christopher in June. She is a pharmacist for Konicki Pharmacy in Dupont, Pa. They reside in Dupont.

Dr. Shanna Lee Henninger married James Dawson April 30. She is a staff pharmacist at St. Luke's Hospital in Bethlehem, Pa. She and her husband reside in Nazareth, Pa.

Greg Johansen is an engineering aid for the United States Navy SeaBees. He is stationed with the Naval Construction Battalion 3 at Naval Base Ventura County in Huenema, Calif. where he

resides with his wife, Elizabeth, and daughter, Autumn Rose.

Sonya Smereszynsky graduated with a D.M.D. from Temple University School of Dentistry in May. She is an associate dentist in Coopersburg, Pa. She resides in Bangor, Pa.

Corey Yanoshak married Amy Nesvich '02 on September 24, 2004. He works in Export Compliance/International Agreements at L-3 BA1 Aerosystems in Easton, Md. He resides in Denton, Md. with his wife.

2002

Jessica Alferio is a ninth and tenth grade English teacher at Seton Catholic High School in Pittston, Pa. She resides in Scranton, Pa.

Gerald Daniel M'05 is a systems engineer for Liberty Truck Centers, Inc. in Harford, Pa. He resides in Wilkes-Barre.

Jennifer Lazorack is coordinator or community relations/marketing for Barbizon Talent/Miss U.S. World Headquarters. She is also a motivational speaker for middle and high school students through her company's community outreach program. She resides in San Francisco, Calif.

Ronald M. Metcho II earned his Juris Doctorate degree from the Roger Williams University School of Law and is pursuing his MBA at the University of Rhode Island. He resides in Old Forge, Pa.

Amy Nesvich married Corey Yanoshak '02 on September 24, 2004. She is a fourth grade teacher in Caroline County, Md. The couple resides in

Denton, Md.

Karyn Pall received a master's of education degree in elementary school counseling from Kutztown University. She is a guidance counselor in the Harrisburg School District. She resides in Harrisburg, Pa.

Marissa Rovnack married Ryan McCormick on Aug. 13. She is a clinical staff pharmacist at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, Pa. The couple resides in Allentown.

Alyse Srebro is a music teacher for Wayne Highlands School District. She also is an instructor of piano and bassoon for Wilkes University's Community Conservatory. She resides in Scranton, Pa.

Andrea (Bryant) Visneski is a group supervisor for Bloom Early Education Preschool/Daycare in Forty Fort, Pa. She resides in Dallas, Pa. with her husband, Gene, and son, Logan.

Bethany Yenner is a deputy press secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Education. She and her fiancé, John Boshka '04, reside in Camp Hill, Pa.

2003

Kyla Campbell received her master's of science degree in broadcast journalism from Syracuse University in August 2005. She is a news reporter at WKTV in Utica, N.Y.

Sonia L. Ebert is a lead design engineer for metal building manufacturing company Bunker Steel where she also manages the engineering department. She resides in Phoenix, Ariz.

REMEMBERING
George Hudock, Jr.
MD '50

Dr. George Hudock, Jr. passed away on October 2, 2005, following an illness. Hudock received his medical degree from Jefferson Medical College in 1958. He



completed specialized forensic pathology training at the Medical Examiner's Office of Philadelphia and New York City and completed the College of American Pathology Training Program in forensic pathology.

In 1989, then Governor Robert Casey appointed Hudock to a newly formed Coroner's Education Board for the Commonwealth to educate Pennsylvania's county coroners, many of whom are not medical doctors, in the proper investigation of death. Since 1969, Hudock served as the chief coroner for Luzerne County, where he averaged more than 50 autopsies a year, examining people who died of sudden, violent, or suspicious deaths. Hudock also provided educational lectures in the area of forensic medicine to Wilkes students.

At a September 2005 reception, Hudock was one of five Wilkes University alumni physicians honored for exemplary leadership and service to their healthcare professions, communities, and university.

REMEMBERING RAY J. MENDOZA, JR.



Major Ray Mendoza, who attended Wilkes University between 1991 and 1993, was killed in combat in Iraq

on November 14. This was Mendoza's third tour of duty in Iraq. He was a company commander with the 1st Marine Division. Mendoza was killed with another Marine by an explosive while in New Ubaydi, Iraq.

Mendoza transferred to Ohio State in his junior year, where he was a two-year letterman for the Buckeyes and was a runner-up in the heavy-weight division at the 1993 Big Ten Championships.

Mendoza, a Blairstown, N.J. native, is survived by his wife, Karen, and their two children, Kiana and Aleksandr, who reside in San Diego, Calif. He was 37.

Adam Polinger married *Anne Marie Miller* on October 8. They reside in Kenilworth, N.J.

Brooke Quinn is a third grade teacher at Hanson School in Lebanon, Maine. She is attending University of Southern Maine for her master's degree in school counseling. She resides in York, Maine.

2004

Dr. Jacqlyn Ann (Ryan) Brennan was married on May 14, 2005. She resides in Pottsville, Pa. with her husband.

Ameec Mehta graduated medical school and will start her residency in 2006. She resides in Stroudsburg, Pa.

Aaron Rider is a mechanical engineer for the United States Army at weapons facility Picatinny Arsenal in Picatinny Arsenal, N.J. He resides in Scranton, Pa.

2005

April Klitsch is working part-time in environmental services and attending the Dickinson School of Law. She resides in Green Lane, Pa.

Wade Myrthel is an electronics engineer at Tobyhanna Army Depot in Tobyhanna, Pa. He resides in Sterling, Pa.

Daniel Williams is a staff accountant responsible for condominium audits for Pigg, Krahl, Stern & Co. in Ocean City, Md. He resides in Selbyville, Dele.

Master's

1986

Amy (McCluskey) Sadvary was re-elected president of the parent-teacher organization of the Bear Creek Charter School in Bear Creek Township, Pa. She

is a merchandiser for American Greeting Cards and resides in Wilkes-Barre with her husband, Duane, and their three children, Rachel, David, and Adam.

1995

Tom Semanek, Jr. is assistant vice president, loan officer, and asset recovery manager for Luzerne National Bank in Luzerne, Pa.

1996

Hisham Nabaa is an instructor for electrical and computer engineering at Wilkes University. ❖

Gearing up for the 75th Anniversary Celebration

For those of you who haven't been counting, Wilkes University will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of its founding in 2007. Information about special events to mark the occasion will be provided at www.wilkes.edu as planning progresses. Wilkes opened

transformed itself twice. The original charter was approved under the name of Wyoming Valley College on May 1, 1947, but it was renamed Wilkes only 28 days later. The institution changed once again in December 1989 when it became Wilkes University. In order not to lose sight of Wilkes' origins and evo-

to contribute are invited to contact professor emeritus Harold Cox at hcox@wilkes.edu.

The university will celebrate its origins by an annual day of remembrance under the name of Founder's Day. The first Founder's Day celebration will be on November 9, 2006. To further

with alumni university is ing an inter- as well as a y of Wilkes. g to publish a n 2007. ❖

In anticipation of the 75th anniversary of the founding of your alma mater, Archivist Dr. Harold Cox (Emeritus Professor of History) is interested in any Wilkes materials you may have to help round out his collection. Please list below what you would like to share and how you prefer to be contacted. You may also e-mail Dr. Cox at hcox@wilkes.edu.

Name: _____ Year: _____

Preferred contact information: _____

Description of materials: _____



06

Get married?
Have a baby?
Get a promotion?
Win an award?
Earn a degree?
Open a business?
Retire?

If you have, fill in your fellow alumni on your accomplishments. After your event has occurred, go to www.wilkes.edu/alumni, click on the link for CLASSnotes, and fill out the form. If you would like to send your note, please mail to: CLASSnotes, Alumni Relations Office, Wilkes University, 84 W. South Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

E-mail your news items, story ideas, feedback, or anything else you want to say, to alumni@wilkes.edu. Thank you for staying in touch!

REMEMBERING RAY J. MENDOZA, JR.



Major Ray Mendoza, who attended Wilkes University between 1991 and 1993, was killed in combat in Iraq

on November 14. This was his third tour of duty with the company commander of the 1st Marine Division with another Marine while in New Orleans. Mendoza was in his junior year in a two-year letterman program and was a runner in the weight division at the National Championship. Mendoza, a native of Selbyville, is survived by his wife, Aleksandra, who lives in Calif. He was

Adam Polinger married *Anne Marie Miller* '03 on October 8. They reside in Kenilworth, N.J.

Brooke Quinn is a third grade teacher at Hanson School in Lebanon, Maine. She is attending University of Southern Maine for her master's degree in school counseling. She resides in York, Maine.

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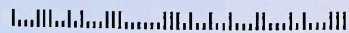
1996

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responsible for condominium audits for Pigg, Krahl, Stern & Co. in Ocean City, Md. He resides in Selbyville, Dele.

Master's

1986

Amy (McCluskey) Sadvary was re-elected president of the parent-teacher organization of the Bear Creek Charter School in Bear Creek Township, Pa. She

Gearing up for the 75th Anniversary Celebration

For those of you who haven't been counting, Wilkes University will celebrate the 75th Anniversary of its founding in 2007. Information about special events to mark the occasion will be provided at www.wilkes.edu as planning progresses. Wilkes opened its doors in a former business school building on Northampton St. across from the Y.M.C.A. in September, 1933. Originally a two-year branch of Bucknell University, it transformed itself into Wilkes College in 1947. Technically, one could say that it

transformed itself twice. The original charter was approved under the name of Wyoming Valley College on May 1, 1947, but it was renamed Wilkes only 28 days later. The institution changed once again in December 1989 when it became Wilkes University. In order not to lose sight of Wilkes' origins and evolution to the present day, a University Archives was established in 2002 with the goal of recovering and organizing documents and other artifacts relating to the school's history. This project is progressing rapidly. Interested alumni who have artifacts or memorabilia

to contribute are invited to contact professor emeritus Harold Cox at hcox@wilkes.edu.

The university will celebrate its origins by an annual day of remembrance under the name of Founder's Day. The first Founder's Day celebration will be on November 9, 2006. To further improve communications with alumni and friends of Wilkes, the university is in the process of establishing an interactive website for alumni, as well as a page devoted to the history of Wilkes. Wilkes is already preparing to publish a history of the institution in 2007. !!!



1933



1947



1989



2006

Get married?
Have a baby?
Get a promotion?
Win an award?
Earn a degree?
Open a business?
Retire?

If you have, fill in your fellow alumni on your accomplishments. After your event has occurred, go to www.wilkes.edu/alumni, click on the link for **CLASSnotes**, and fill out the form. If you would like to send your note, please mail to:
CLASSnotes
Alumni Relations Office
Wilkes University, 84 W. South Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766

E-mail your news items, story ideas, feedback, or anything else you want to say, to alumni@wilkes.edu. Thank you for staying in touch!

TODAY'scampus



Jason Jones Photography



WILKES UNIVERSITY
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18766