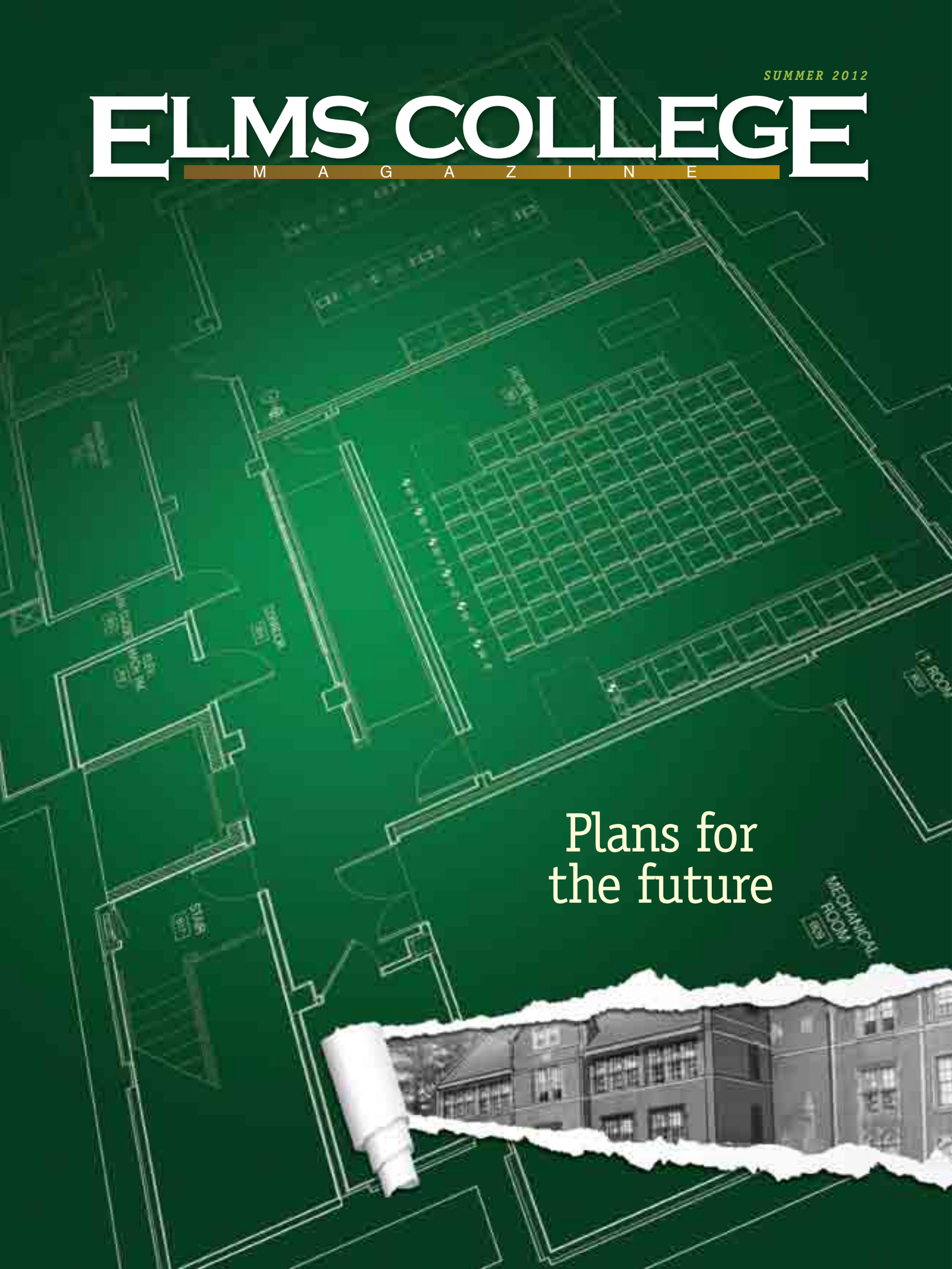
SUMMER 2012

ELMS COLLEGE
MAGAZINE



Plans for the future

"Rivers must have been the guides which conducted the footsteps of the first travelers. They are the constant lure, when they flow by our doors, to distant enterprise and adventure; and, by a natural impulse, the dwellers on their banks will at length accompany their currents to the lowlands of the globe, or explore at their invitation the interior of continents."

— Henry David Thoreau



The College of Our Lady of the Elms is located a short distance from the junction of the Connecticut and Chicopee rivers. When the waters of the Chicopee River flow down their new path, the Connecticut River flows on richer for what has been added to it.

When students arrive at Elms College, they enrich our campus even as they grow richer, and increasingly ready to join the flow of the world.

As we begin our eighty-fifth year, we stand on a watershed moment in the history of our college. Construction on our new Center for Natural and Health Sciences (CNHS) has begun, and this new addition will enrich the Elms College experience, and our future graduates, in a new way. Providing state-of-the-art facilities, much needed classroom and laboratory space, creating capabilities for teaching and learning in some of the most in-demand fields and the opportunity for new programs, the center will attract more students looking to make their impact on the world.

The constantly evolving job market continues to demand new competencies from college graduates. Connecting students to leading-edge teaching platforms and an interdisciplinary learning model will prepare them to make their way in this ever-changing landscape. Additionally, the facility will provide the resources for us to adopt a doctoral program in nursing in the future, strengthening our leadership position in the field.

In this issue, you will read about students in the natural and health sciences—as well as many other fields—who are going on to do great things. You will read about how research impacts the careers of our undergraduate students.

As you consider the breadth and quality of our academic offerings, I hope that you will gain a deeper understanding of how infrastructure enrichment, renovation, and upgrades to our physical plant elevate our standards for academic excellence, our campus status, and ultimately, our student experience. Like the joining of the Connecticut and Chicopee rivers, the CNHS represents a new junction; joining a past of excellence to a future of new opportunities for learning.

I hope you will enjoy meeting several members of our community in these pages and that you will be proud of their accomplishments.

Mary Reap, IHM

Mary Reap, IHM, Ph.D.
President

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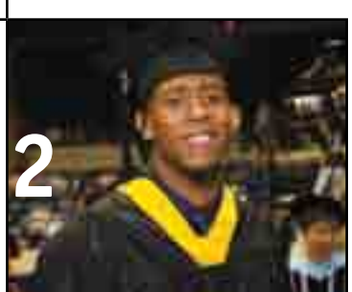
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ELMS COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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Educating Reflective, Principled, and Creative Learners in the Tradition of the Sisters of Saint Joseph

The editors invite your comments and questions at 413-265-2587 or marketing@elms.edu

The Face of an Elms College Graduate

Plato was the first person to use archetypes to describe the image that forms in one's head when they think of an object or idea, rather than the material object or idea itself. Carl Jung popularized archetypes in the world of psychology by categorizing the distinct patterns of behavior he observed into the Self, the Shadow, the Anima, the Animus, and the Persona.

Even today we use archetypes when we think of the idealized personality of an Elms College graduate. There is no singular face that makes up that personality. Rather, it is the culmination of all the faces of all the students that reveals the archetype that is the Blazer.

The face of today's graduate is a confluence of wonderful attributes. Most notably, it is worldly, focused on excellence, and accomplished. For instance, 2012 graduate David Peters was awarded a Fulbright U.S. Student Program scholarship to Taiwan, the first Fulbright in the college's history. Christopher Lyons was accepted into the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program and will teach English to students in Japan. Salutatorian Lindsay Papsin will spend the next year volunteering for Passionist Volunteers International in Jamaica. Ryan Sullivan has begun work at Northwestern Mutual as a financial representative. Kimberly Jodoin was accepted into the University of Massachusetts Amherst doctor of audiology program. Maria Lopez, a member of the first graduating class from the Elms College and Holyoke Community College Degree Completion Program, recently accepted a position at Webster Bank.

Today's graduate is a varied group of different ages, nationalities, and aspirations. The following pages feature 11 of these graduates and how their personalities serve to continually shape and refine the Blazer archetype and advance what it means to be a graduate of Elms College.

By the Numbers

6789 Seats available in the MassMutual Center

2700 Programs printed

1000 Square feet - the size of the backdrop on stage

398 Degree recipients

224 Full-time students

94 Part-time students

181 Bachelor of Arts

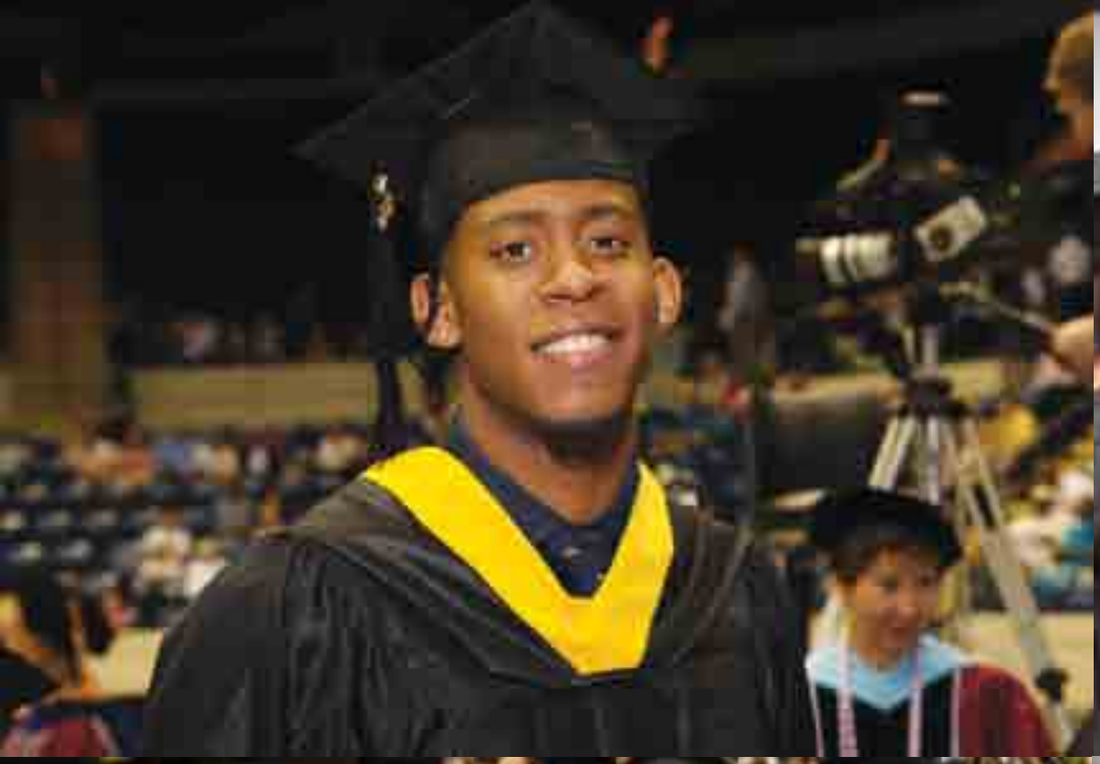
131 Bachelor of Sciences

107 Nursing graduates

80 Graduate students earning a master's degree or certificate of advanced graduate study

63 Students from Chicopee

56 Men in the graduating class - in 2002 there were only 16!










59 Graduates in the social sciences

48 Business graduates

21 HCC and Elms College program graduates

39 Education graduates

16 Ferns and flower arrangements decorating the stage

15 Communication sciences and disorders graduates - their largest class!

11 States and U.S. territories represented

7 Feet - the height of the tallest graduate - Aaron Coifman of Venezuela

5 National flags worn by students representing the Dominican Republic, Ivory Coast, South Sudan, Venezuela, and Puerto Rico

Clint Maslanka

Psychology

Activities: Conducted research with Associate Professor of Psychology, Jennifer Rivers, Ph.D.

Future plans: Clint works as a crisis counselor at Behavioral Health Network (BHN) and will begin working on his master of social work at Springfield College in the fall.

Fun fact: Clint transferred from Holyoke Community College where he was a jazz guitar major along with Jonathan Labonte (page eight). Both transferred without knowing the other was coming and were pleasantly surprised to be placed in a class together.



> ***My professor introduced me to BHN. I contacted them about an internship and it was a great match. After completing my internship, I was able to come up with an independent study doing different work there for another semester. BHN ended up offering me a job as soon as I graduated.***

Jennifer Killion

Nursing

Activities: Soccer all four years, softball sophomore, junior, and senior years, resident advisor sophomore and junior year, cheerleading coach at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, senior project with residents at Soldiers' Home in Holyoke.

Future plans: Applying to the Air Force to be an enlisted nurse and is hoping to eventually work as a nurse practitioner or in a hospital's neonatal intensive care unit.

Fun fact: She was the first nursing major at Elms College to play an NCAA sport and helped pave the way for other nursing majors to pursue both their academic and athletic goals.



> ***"Working with veterans is so rewarding, and it opened my eyes to the military as a career opportunity. I enjoy working with kids—moms and babies, especially—and hope to work with military families in some capacity. I expect a lot from myself, but I firmly believe that you get out what you put in."***

Charline Pysher

Nursing

Activities: Service trips to Jamaica, West Virginia and Honduras, worked as student nurse at Noble Hospital in Westfield.

Future plans: Travel to Ghana with Volta Aid Foundation from August to December, and plans to work at Noble Hospital when she returns.

Fun fact: Charline is accepting donations toward her trip to Ghana, for which she will not be paid but will be provided with housing and meals. She hopes to put the donations toward medical supplies and other resources for the residents of Ghana.



> ***"Working as a student nurse prepared me to deal with critical issues and real world problems in a way a classroom setting cannot. I experienced situations like medication errors and screaming patients, all of which occur every day in healthcare."***

Adim Malek

Business Management and Marketing

Activities: International Club, Peace Jam, founder of GUARD (Greater United Aweil Reconstruction and Development)—a fledgling nonprofit dedicated to providing community support and resources in South Sudan.

Future Plans: As a former Sudanese "lost boy" who found refuge in the United States and an education at Elms College, Adim is determined to give back. He is applying his business and marketing studies to develop a nonprofit to assist people in his home country with humanitarian needs, from water well drilling, to creating spaces for learning and community planning, to providing safe facilities for women giving birth. He is reaching out to contacts at the United Nations, USAid, and other potential sources of support.

Fun Fact: Currently, Adim is volunteering at the Gray House four days a week, helping kids with their homework and—being a naturalized U.S. citizen—teaching citizenship classes with adult immigrants hoping to make the States their permanent home.





> ***We can do organizing back home, but I need to spread my message here, which has been challenging. I'm connecting with organizations in the U.S. that can provide funding to drill wells, because if there is water, we can build.***



Jonathan Labonte

Legal Studies

Activities: Volunteering in the family probate court in Springfield, where he assited low-income families in the Uncontested Divorce Project.

Future Plans: Jon has been preparing to take the LSAT and apply to the Western New England University School of Law, but has not ruled out enrolling in Elms College's MBA program.

Fun Fact: Jon originally wanted to be a police officer, feeling that there is "something noble" about upholding the law, but was "sidetracked" by his love of music. He jokes that sometimes he is still tempted to just play guitar in the streets.

> ***You don't know how strained our justice system is until you're in it, but you have to be in the system to change the system.***

Loryn Engelbrecht

History and
Computer Information Technology

Activities: Tutor at Academic Resource Center.

Future plans: A photography internship with Disney in the fall. Afterward, Loryn will apply to doctoral programs with aspirations of becoming a history professor.

Fun fact: Loryn transferred to Elms College because her previous school would not allow her to minor in history as a graphic design student. At Elms, she double majored in history and computer information technology and became so enamored with history that she decided to pursue a career in academia as a history professor.



> ***History can be really fun or it can be really boring and I think it depends on the professor. Laura (McNeil) and Damien (Murray) were so inspiring as professors that I actually switched careers because of them.***



Aeriell Spear

Biology

Activities: Deanery Scholar, volunteering at her church—St. Cecelia's in Wilbraham—and at the Knights of Columbus.

Future plans: Master of forensic science at Bay Path College.

Fun fact: Aeriell was born with a hearing impairment, something that wasn't diagnosed until just before her third birthday. She wears hearing aids but is adept at reading lips and relies on her high visual IQ.

> ***I used to read Nancy Drew books as a kid, so something related to forensics was always in my plans. I would love to work for the FBI on the emergency response team, dealing with big, high-profile crimes.***

Ruby Batchelor and Thomas Batchelor

Social Work *Accounting*

Activities: Thomas is an active member of the United States Air Force and is in the Accelerated B.A./M.B.A. program. His wife, Ruby, interned with Mass Senior Action Council and the Latino Chamber of Commerce of Holyoke while completing her bachelor's degree.

Future plans: Thomas will continue his studies in the accounting track of the M.B.A. program and Ruby will pursue her master of social work at Springfield College where she was accepted with advanced standing.

Fun fact: The Batchelors live directly across from campus. Ruby, who has been involved with the Key Spouse Program, has been instrumental in forging Elms College's partnership with Westover Air Force Base.



> ***At Mass Senior Action Council, when you see a room full of feisty seniors that want to fight for change, it empowers you. You want to rally around them and support them.***
>
> ***— Ruby Batchelor***



Daniel Dumas

Marketing

Activities: Service trip to Jamaica, tutor at Academic Resource Center.

Future plans: Family room specialist with Apple, Inc.; camera operator For *Chalice of Salvation* and host for *Real to Reel* news briefs.

Fun fact: "I'm actually allergic to apples. Also, when Apple hired me, I was the seventh Dan they had on staff. If you come by the store looking for me, ask for Seven because nobody calls me Dan."

> ***I'm a creative mind. I'm not really analytical. I hate numbers, I hate that two plus two is always four.***



Katie Condon

Education and English with a concentration in writing

Activities: Two-year captain of the women's basketball team, tutor at the Academic Resource Center, editor-in-chief of the student-run literary magazine *Bloom*.

Future plans: Master of fine arts at the University of Houston.

Fun fact: The Sandy Hook, CT native has never been to Houston and applied to the university without ever setting foot on campus. "I know it's going to be really hot. But I think I'm more excited than nervous."



I especially love poetry; just reading it and writing it helps me understand myself better and understand the world better in a way that nothing else can.

Center for Natural and Health Sciences

When students return from the winter break in January 2014, they will be greeted with the completion of the Center for Natural and Health Sciences. Construction on the new facility officially began June 2, during a groundbreaking ceremony that was part of Reunion Weekend. The Center for Natural and Health Sciences will be a five-story, 22,000-square-foot facility designed to complement the traditional architecture of adjacent buildings—Berchmans and O'Leary Hall.

Partially funded by New Market Tax Credits, the $13.5 million initiative is turning a long-time plan into a reality. Updating the science and health facilities has been a necessity, but the center also will give existing programs the ability to accept more students and develop new research opportunities.

The Center for Natural and Health Sciences will enable the college to better prepare its students for future laboratory-based employment. It will further expand students' participation in interdisciplinary opportunities through their experiences in research, the classroom, and in operating modern analytical instrumentation. Students from across disciplines will collaborate, mimicking the way researchers, physicians, nurses, and scientists work together in the real world.

With a versatile 60-person lecture hall and classroom, and the possible integration of a research lab in the central space, this multipurpose environment will facilitate the vision for teaching in the round while allowing students to break into smaller, cooperative work groups.

The state-of-the-art facility also is expected to attract more faculty to the biology, chemistry, computer information technology, mathematics, nursing, healthcare management, social work, communication sciences and disorders, and speech language pathology assistant programs. The more qualified the faculty, the more exceptional the students who will apply to and enroll in health and science programs. President Mary Reap, IHM, Ph.D., expects as much as 40 percent enrollment growth over the next several years.



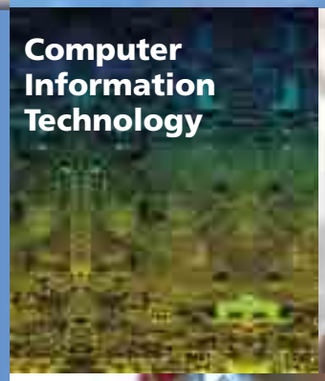
A five-story, 22,000-square-foot facility designed to complement the traditional architecture of adjacent buildings.

"The college is always growing and evolving," Sr. Mary said. "We hope to break ground at every reunion, but for now, we're focusing on the Center for Natural and Health Sciences and the opportunities it will provide our students, faculty, and community."

As nursing—the most popular major at Elms College—continues to grow, the next likely step would be a doctoral program. The center will have the room and faculty in place to make that vision a reality.

The community impact is also great. The construction and operations of the completed facility will significantly impact the local economy. One hundred seventy two temporary jobs will be created during the construction process, and 24 permanent jobs will be added to the college's payroll in the next five years.

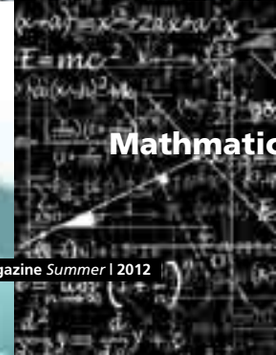
A New Building Makes th
Future Bright













Passing the Torch: Longtime Biology Professor Steps Down from Full time

The hands of Mary Lou Wright, SSJ, Ph.D., are filled with a history of experience—filling out grant proposals, conducting laboratory research, and writing articles for scientific journals. Unfortunately, they are also filled with arthritis. Add two falls in the laboratory (the second fall breaking her hip), and Sr. Mary Lou has come to the sorrowful decision that she will no longer be able to conduct research at Elms College.

As well known for her expertise on metamorphosis in amphibians as her passion and work ethic in the laboratory, Sr. Mary Lou brought a rare opportunity to her aspiring students: undergraduate research. Normally research opportunities are available for master's students or doctoral candidates but Sr. Mary Lou welcomed the opportunity to bring undergraduates into the laboratory with her. Because of her body of work—almost 40 years culminating in more than $750,000 in grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and others—there were bountiful opportunities for students to boost their résumés with hands-on experience and published articles.

The grants often included funding for full-time research assistants for which students were happy to apply. Recently, a grant funded by the National Science Foundation, resulted in a paper titled "The fat body of bullfrog (Lithobates catesbeianus) tadpoles during metamorphosis: changes in mass, histology, and melatonin content and effect of food deprivation," published in *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology*. The paper was co-authored by two former students, Shaun Richardson '06 and Jill Bigos '09, who had absorbed Sr. Mary Lou's intense work ethic from the long hours spent with her in the laboratory as undergraduate students.

> "My study habits, attention to detail and work ethic were all driven home by Sr. Mary Lou," said Carol Racine '99, who had conducted research as a student with Sr. Mary Lou. "When I think of Elms, I think of her."

"She definitely has high expectations of everyone working for her but I think that benefited me in the long term," said Jill, now an Elms College adjunct professor of chemistry. "She's tough, but she definitely builds those qualities that any employer is seeking."

"My study habits, attention to detail, and work ethic were all driven home by Sr. Mary Lou," said Carol Racine '99, who had conducted research as a student with Sr. Mary Lou. "When I think of Elms, I think of her."

Although Sr. Mary Lou's departure from research means she takes her reputation with her (she still reviews proposals and journal articles for the National Science Foundation), there are even more research opportunities than ever on the horizon. First, the Center for Natural and Health Sciences—with its new laboratories and updated equipment—will attract new faculty and students. The current laboratories preclude certain experiments due to a lack of chemical hoods, proper ventilation, and other factors that will be addressed in the new facility. "It's going to set Elms even further above the rest," Carol said when she heard about the new building.









Additionally, Associate Professor of Biology Nina Theis, Ph.D., who has published numerous papers and received funding from the National Science Foundation, is currently pursuing a research grant as she moves into full-time status at Elms College. Associate Professor of Biology Janet Williams, Ph.D., is conducting more and more research each year. Sr. Mary Lou's torch, however, might be passed on to one of her former students.

"I enjoy teaching so much I'm looking at going to get my doctorate so that I can teach full time and hopefully start a research program," Jill said.











HELLO
my name is

Reunion 2012

On June 1 and 2, Elms College held reunion for the class years ending in 2 and 7. Festivities and spirits were flying high as alumni came back and relished the many events planned for their enjoyment.

Among the most notable of events of the weekend was the ceremonial groundbreaking of the new Center for Natural and Health Sciences, followed by a rousing celebration that included good music, great food, and lots of spirit.

Friday night saw the class of '62 receive their Golden Blazer scarves at a ceremony in Our Lady's Chapel. O'Leary Hall was open for business for the weekend with about 40 alumni choosing to stay in the newly renovated dormitory. Elms College president, Mary Reap, IHM, Ph.D., gave a state of the college address that highlighted the groundbreaking and new programs that the new science building will make possible. Alumni bid farewell to one another with the knowledge that our college has a bright and full future to look forward to.







Homecoming and Family Weekend



Don't forget to join us for this year's Homecoming and Family Weekend, Friday, September 28 through Saturday, September 29. Sign up for our 5k road race, watch the Blazers athletes in action, enjoy the live music, and meet Yu Katsurashima—the new Fulbright foreign language teaching assistant from Japan.

For more information, contact the alumni office at **413-265-2227 or alumni@elms.edu**







A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Fellow Alumni,

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly welcome the newest members of the Alumni Association, the class of 2012. I am consistently impressed with the drive and passion of our alumni, both young and old. With the recent additions of the sport management, criminal justice, and digital communications majors, our alumni base is continuing to grow into a large group of dynamic professionals. Now that construction for the Center for Natural and Health Sciences is under way, we can expect that the college will continue to supply Western Massachusetts—and beyond—with highly-skilled professionals in the fields of science and technology.

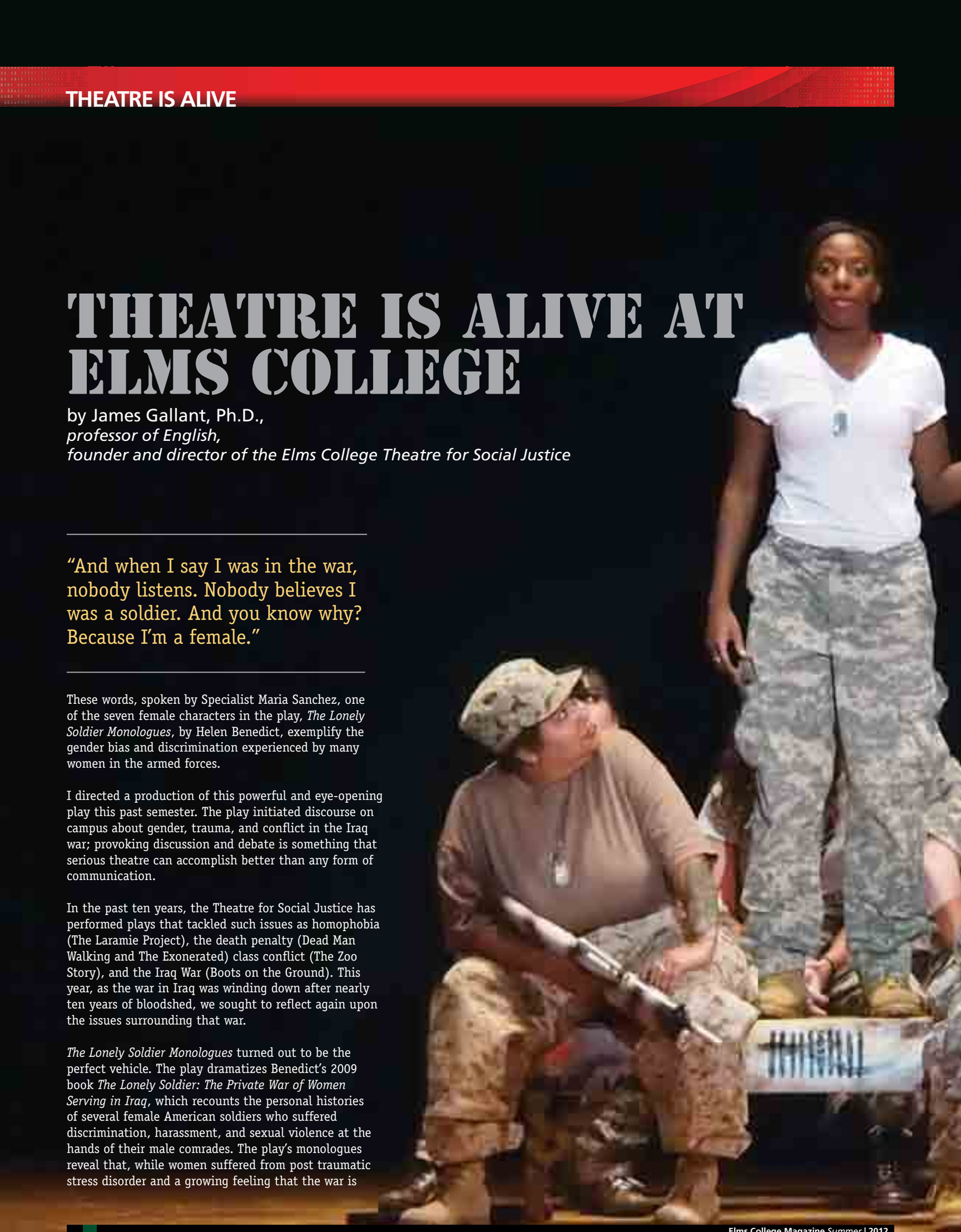
There are so many exciting things happening on campus. This is truly a transformational time in the history of our college. I strongly encourage you take the time to visit us for Homecoming and Family Weekend. It's a great opportunity to catch up with old faculty, meet new students, view the campus construction, and maintain your connection with your alma mater.

Best wishes,

Patrick Carpenter '02
President, Alumni Association

THEATRE IS ALIVE AT ELMS COLLEGE

by James Gallant, Ph.D.,
professor of English,
founder and director of the Elms College Theatre for Social Justice



"And when I say I was in the war, nobody listens. Nobody believes I was a soldier. And you know why? Because I'm a female."

These words, spoken by Specialist Maria Sanchez, one of the seven female characters in the play, *The Lonely Soldier Monologues*, by Helen Benedict, exemplify the gender bias and discrimination experienced by many women in the armed forces.

I directed a production of this powerful and eye-opening play this past semester. The play initiated discourse on campus about gender, trauma, and conflict in the Iraq war; provoking discussion and debate is something that serious theatre can accomplish better than any form of communication.

In the past ten years, the Theatre for Social Justice has performed plays that tackled such issues as homophobia (The Laramie Project), the death penalty (Dead Man Walking and The Exonerated) class conflict (The Zoo Story), and the Iraq War (Boots on the Ground). This year, as the war in Iraq was winding down after nearly ten years of bloodshed, we sought to reflect again upon the issues surrounding that war.

The Lonely Soldier Monologues turned out to be the perfect vehicle. The play dramatizes Benedict's 2009 book *The Lonely Soldier: The Private War of Women Serving in Iraq*, which recounts the personal histories of several female American soldiers who suffered discrimination, harassment, and sexual violence at the hands of their male comrades. The play's monologues reveal that, while women suffered from post traumatic stress disorder and a growing feeling that the war is

fundamentally wrong, their greatest conflict was with the patriarchal, male-dominated American military itself. As one of the women says, "I ended up waging my own war against an enemy dressed in the same uniform as mine."

A special added feature was that the author herself travelled to Elms College from Columbia University, where she teaches journalism, to attend the opening night performance and to speak to my Critical Approaches to Literature class. On opening night, Ms. Benedict participated in a discussion with the audience. In the course of the discussion, Ms. Benedict told the cast that she was thoroughly impressed by the production, which, she said, compared favorably to the off-Broadway production at Café La Mama in 2009.

Our production, which focused upon the stories of the women and their different sagas, was enriched by the talents of several Elms College students—Shannon Butler '15, Christina Cuddy '14, Kimberly Hutchinson 13', David Oakes '12, Sonia Vaz '12, and Lindsey Werbiskis '12—along with three alumni of Elms College theatre—Arnaldo Cortes '11, Andromeda Peters '10, and Amanda Rivera '10. We were also most fortunate to have some brilliant original music written by Professor of Music Chris Bakriges and performed by him and several of his music students—Dan Dumas '12, Marcos Navarro '13, David Oakes '12, Rebecca Rader '14, and Sarah Roman '14.

With the production of *The Lonely Soldier Monologues*, it seems that the Theatre for Social Justice has come full circle, back to examining the war which erupted as our theatre group was forming, in the wake of 9/11, and back to our original purpose—to examine our collective conscience and our values in all aspects and areas of our lives and of our society. Socrates heroically stated, "The unexamined life is not worth living." To those involved in the Elms College Theatre for Social Justice, those words ring as true for twenty-first century America as they did in ancient Greece.













Students and alumni of the Elms College Theatre for Social Justice program give a compelling performance of The Lonely Soldier Monologues in Veritas Auditorium.



Christopher Bakriges, Ph.D., lecturer in music, will teach Music Cultures of the World in spring 2013 at Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston. Dr. Bakriges served as an adjudicator for the college and adult categories of the 2012 Together in Song Choral Competition and Festival, a ten-part television series sponsored by WGBY. He also co-authored an article with Dr. Ann-Marie White entitled "Interdisciplinary Projects In Secondary Education: Bit Sized Applications of Transferable Knowledge" for the 2013 conference and publication consideration to the Humanities Education and Research Association's Scholarly Journal, *Interdisciplinary Humanities*.

In June, Dr. Bakriges participated in a professional development workshop offered by the American Composers Orchestra in New York as well as a performance with composer Paul Winter's *Adventures in Sound Play* concert at the Rowe Center in Rowe, MA.

Dr. Bakriges has performed in Le Parker Meridian Hotel in New York, Grace Cathedral in Harlem, the Alliance of Regional Theaters South Oxford Space in Brooklyn, and many other locations across the country. He also provided musical direction for the first annual Jazz Nativity concerts in St. Louis as part of his residency with the Oikos Ensemble.



Kerry Calnan, M.B.A., assistant professor of accounting and finance, was elected as a member of the Board of Commissioners of the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE).



Tom Cerasulo, Ph.D., professor of English, visited the graduate program in cinema studies at the Savannah College of Art and Design and delivered a campus-wide talk entitled, "Put Yourself in My Place: Screenwriters and the Hollywood Novel." In September, he presented a paper, "Meet the New Boss: Budd Schulberg and the Shooting Script of On the Waterfront", also at Savannah College. Dr. Cerasulo accepted an invitation to speak about his book, *Authors Out Here*, at his alma mater, the English Program at The Graduate Center of the City University of New York.



Dan Chelotti, assistant professor of English, will have his first book of poetry, titled *x*, published by McSweeney's, one of the largest independent publishers in the country. He also attended the Colrain Writer's Workshop this past summer. At the conference, he met Peter Covino, the current poetry editor for Barrow Street Press and Voices in Italian Americana (VIA). Mr. Covino accepted three of Mr. Chelotti's poems, which appeared in the most recent issue of VIA. He also attended the Associate Writers & Writing Programs Conference in Chicago. Mr. Chelotti was recently promoted to assistant professor of English.



Nancy Costanzo, associate professor of art, had her artwork accepted at the juried exhibition "Imagine That" at the Monson Art Gallery. She and her husband, Joseph, were asked to present at the Michele and Donald D'Amour Museum of Fine Arts during the recent Old Masters to Monet exhibit. Their lecture was entitled, "Van Gogh: The Man Behind the Paintings." Mrs. Costanzo also presented artwork at the Provincetown Art Museum and Truro Center for the Arts at Castle Hill this summer.



Jack Czajkowski, professor of education, conducted a three-day professional development seminar on "Teach Like a Champion" at St. Michael's Academy. He also co-presented a five-day session on "Writing to Learn" for North Middlesex Regional School District, and is working with teachers at the Donohue School in Holyoke for a multi-day training on the Common Core this summer.



James Gallant, Ph.D., professor of English, presented a speech titled "Gender and Conflict: Unraveling Paths to Change", on the Elms College production *The Lonely Soldier Monologues* at the Biennial Gender Studies Research Conference at the University of South Dakota.



Joyce Hampton, Ed.D., has been promoted to associate dean of academic affairs for student success. Joyce will lead the college's efforts in programming related to student retention and academic success, ensuring that all Elms students are being supported and served well by the programs we offer.



Maureen Holland has accepted the position of director of the social work program, following the retirement of Mary Brainerd, Ph.D. Maureen has been a full-time faculty member in the social work program for the past two years and has been associated with the program for many more years as a graduate, an adjunct instructor, advisory board member and community advocate.



Mary Janeczek, Ed.D., professor of education, conducted workshops with Ludlow Public Schools regarding literacy and English as a second language.



Megan Kielty has been named director of student activities. Megan has a master's degree in college student personnel and has held positions at the University of Rhode Island, Salve Regina University, and Johns Hopkins University.



Robert King, Ph.D., professor of education, had two review essays published in *The North American Review* on the plays *Clairbourne Park* and *King Lear*.



Peter Krasny has been named director of athletics. Peter has spent the last six years working in the athletics department at New York University (NYU) and since 2010, has served as the assistant athletic director with direct responsibility for managing the operation of the Palladium Athletic Facility (PAF).



Damien Murray, Ph.D., published the article "Ethnic Assimilation and Diasporic Sensibilities: Irish-American Nationalism in Boston after World War I in Its Transnational Context" in Éire-Ireland. In March, Dr. Murray presented the paper "Sinn Fein, Christian Democrats: Irish-American Nationalism and Catholic Social Thought in Boston after World War I" at the American Catholic Historical Association conference. Dr. Murray was recently promoted to associate professor of history.



Alice Perry, J.D., Ph.D., has been hired as director of the criminal justice program.



The Council of Churches of Greater Springfield presented ***Marty Pion, Ph.D.,*** professor of religious studies, with the Spiritual Pillar of the Community award.



Jennifer Rivers, Ph.D., associate professor of psychology, attended the 24th Association for Psychological Science conference in Chicago, IL, with psychology major, Julie Waskiewicz '13. They presented their research entitled, "Write Away Your Worries: The Effects of Expressive Writing on Test Performance and Anxiety."



Mark Stelzer, Ph.D., associate professor of humanities, led a four-day retreat on the topic of spirituality and relationships in Fort Myers, FL, for clergy and religious in recovery from chemical dependency.



Nina Theis, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology, was interviewed by *American Scientist* regarding her published paper in *Ecology* on how enhanced fragrance in flowers can attract detrimental insects.



Jon Todd has been named director of residence life. Jon has a master's degree in college student personnel and has held positions at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and at Oberlin College.



Javier Venturi, lecturer in Spanish, had a review published in *Catholic Library World* of the book *Medieval and Renaissance Spirituality: Discovering the Treasures of the Great Masters*, by Maria Jaoudi. He also contributed to the Spanish documentary "Morir de sueños" (Dying for Dreams) by Clemente Bernard. Also, he presented "La mirada subversiva femenina en La petición de Pilar Miró" ("The Female Subversive Gaze in The Petition by Pilar Miro") at Gynocine: Mujeres, Dones and Cinema International Conference at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. In San Sebastián, Spain, he presented his paper "Miguel y la voz del exilio republicano español en Pájaros de papel" to the Congreso Internacional Exilio y Cine.



Beth Young, Ed.D., professor of education, established a partnership for the Elms College Summer Reading Program last summer at a second site, Homework House in Holyoke. This year, the number of students at that site has doubled. During the program's 23 years, enrollments have grown from 10 students the first year, to a yearly average of approximately 65 children.



Katherine Currier, J.D., professor of legal studies, was recently named coordinator of the department of criminal justice and legal studies.

As of September 1, the Department of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies, (formally the Department of Paralegal and Legal Studies), will join psychology, sociology and social work in the Division of Social Sciences, chaired by John Lambdin, Ph.D. Additionally, the Division of Business and Law will become the Division of Business, also on September 1.

Class Notes

Everyone at Elms College shares great pride in the accomplishments of our alumni. We'd like to tell you about the good works, honors, lives, and achievements of some of our notable graduates.

We'd love to hear about your life and accomplishments, from career news and engagements to awards and retirements. Please email your information and/or photos to alumni@elms.edu, or mail them to: Marketing Editor, Elms College, 291 Springfield Street, Chicopee, MA 01013

You may also email information to any of the class agents listed on the website at www.elms.edu/classagents.

Submissions to Class Notes may be edited for length and content.

Births

Karen (Fortin) Woods '97 and James Woods '01, of Holyoke, welcomed their first child, Bradley Thomas Woods, on January 14, 2012. Bradley weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz., and was 22.5 inches long.



Mellisa (Stone) Cooney '01 and ***Paul Cooney Jr. '03*** celebrated the birth of their daughter, Grace Elizabeth, on May 23, 2012.



Ellis Jones '09 celebrated the birth of daughter Elise Zaire Yvonne Jones on February 28, 2012 at 11:17 a.m., and weighing 8 lbs. 2 oz..



Engagements

Alysse Teixeira '06 is happily engaged to Peter LeBlanc, 2006 graduate of College of the Holy Cross. They are planning a celebration of holy matrimony in September of 2013. The extraordinary faith and love that brought Alysse and Peter together binds them for eternity.

Jami-Lynn Plasse '08 was recently engaged to Kevin Robert Lamy. Jami-Lynn is currently employed with MassMutual while seeking further education in herbalism and holistic medicine. Kevin and Jami-Lynn will be married on February 2, 2013 in Riviera Maya, Mexico.

Katie Roy '11 will be getting married to her fiancé Nicholas Murphy, on November 2, 2013.

Weddings

Jessica (Tudryn) Wisniewski was married to Bill Wisniewski on January 1, 2011. Jessica has started her own company called Relish the Harvest which makes zucchini relish.



Karalee Derosiers '07 was married to Tyler Russel Yvon on May 5, 2010.



James Haskins '09 married Martina (Desnoyers) Haskins, on July 16, 2011. James recently graduated from Westfield State University with a master's degree in social work.

Olivia (Morin) Marko '10 is now happily married to her husband, Eric Marko. The two were married on October 1, 2011 at St. Mary's Church in Springfield, VT.



Alumni Updates

Helena Butler McCue '41 is currently enjoying her good health, and the company of her four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and her daughter, Annellen Strong '70.

Catherine Dower-Gold '45 is currently writing her seventh book on renowned music educator Justine Bayard Cutting Ward.

Lillian Meyer Markert '47 is currently retired after a 47-year career as a teacher. Lillian now has one daughter, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Patricia Street Galliher '48 enjoys hiking the Alps with her husband each summer to avoid Arizona's heat.

Marion Mercier Loughman '48 is a member of St. Mary's Alto Choir in Longmeadow, and is also a "senior reader" at Center School in Longmeadow. Recently, Mary joined the Tuesday morning music club, where she is able to enjoy classical music on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

Elizabeth Leahey '52 is now retired from her career as a junior high school special education teacher. Elizabeth still keeps busy as a pro bono tutor of math, a district representative to Lee town meetings, and by giving moral support and encouragement to her family to keep Leahey Farm, which, for Elizabeth, is "a great place to live."

Mary (Mahoney) Erard - Zwicker '52 is currently retired from her career as a teacher of English and Latin; as the Fairfax County, VA, Public Schools Human Relations Specialist;

and as an adjunct professor at UVA and George Mason University. Mary has three sons, one step-son, and seven grandchildren.

Joyce Doyle '55 is currently blessed with good health, is a regular volunteer at Mercy Hospital, and is enjoying her 80s.

Judith Burke Putalik '57 currently volunteers her time visiting shut-ins at retirement homes or private residences. In her spare time, Judith enjoys playing duplicate bridge, and is still playing golf.

Mary (Murphy) McMahon '57 currently works as a pastoral minister at the newly-formed St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish in Northampton, MA. Mary began her ministry in 1985 at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in Northampton.

Beverly Alexander Valentine '59 recently began volunteering at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival, in Stratford, Ontario. As one of the best repertory theatres, the Stratford Shakespeare Festival aims to set the standard for classical theatre in North America.

Margaret (Cavanaugh) McCarthy '59 is currently enjoying retirement and her grandchildren.

Patricia (Dowd) Wilkinson '59 and ***Douglas Wilkinson '67*** recently celebrated their 51st wedding anniversay on June 17th. They now enjoy travellng, reading, and get-togethers with their four children and 12 grandchildren; friends and extended family. Patricia say that she still meets regularly with a great group of 59ers, and asks for prayers for classmates who have lost loved ones.

Cecelia Joy Alexander '60 is currently retired from teaching, and now enjoys visiting her children and grandchildren. Cecelia also enjoys going to concerts, participating in senior sponsored trips and classes, and volunteers at her local nursing home as a Eucharistic Minister.

Lillian (Perrault) Bisson '62 is now retired as professor of literature and langauge from Marymount University, where she taught for 41 years, including several years as department chair. In 1998, Lillian wrote: "Chaucer and the late Medieval World," which was published by St. Martin's Press. Lillian was married to Authur E. Brisson for 31 years until his death in 1996, and has three children and five grandchildren.

Mary Ellen (Johnson) Finnerty '62 is now retired after 35 years of teaching in the Enfield, CT. Mary Ellen is a proud grandmother of her three grandsons.

Barbara (Ciszek) Jendrysik '62 is currently retired from her career as a grade four teacher. She is now happily involved with her three granddaughters, ages 13, 9, and 4.

Sharon Fressola Knickle '62 is currently retired and now enjoys traveling with her husband, and spending time with her three grandchildren.

Patricia White Clark '62 is currently enjoying her health and retirement. In her spare time, Patricia is also a tutor for homebound children, as well as a Eucharistic Minister.

Anne Taylor-Babcock '62 is currently employed as a teacher of the visually impaired and in her spare time, she is a volunteer for the United States Fire Services Fire Lookout and the BNP Tennis Tournament. Anne also enjoys singing with the Sweet Adelines International, as well as biking and skiing.

Kathleen Dermody Nohe '64 recently enjoyed a trip to Ireland, and is now expecting a third grandchild in September. Kathleen also enjoyed spending her 70th birthday in March with a family reunion at Disney.

Eugenie (Norman) Persivale '64 is currently retired after working as a clinical microbiologist for 44 years, a profession she truly enjoyed. Eugenie is now in the process of moving to Ithaca, NY, where she will enjoy being closer to her four grandchildren.

Frederica Uliano Heslin '65 recently welcomed her ninth grandchild on December 9, 2011.

Barbara Morin Lynch '65 after being widowed in 2005, remarried in 2009 and moved to Florida, where she enjoys playing lots of golf. Currently, Kathleen and her husband spend their summers on Cape Cod.



(Left to right) ***Nancy Noonan Woitkowski, Martha Healy Qchupijan, Mary-Ellen Nichols Gretler, Suzanne Bryan Coates, Judy Domingos Porter, Margaret McAree Cannavino, and Kathy Sullivan Meyer of the class of '65*** reunite every year in January, in San Diego, CA at a local favorite restaurant, Bully's East.

Anne Sullivan '67 recently returned from a trip to New Zealand, Australia, and Hawaii, and is now enjoying her retirement after teaching medical science for many years at the University of Vermont.

Sandra Vella '67 retired in 2006 as principal of Samuel Bowles School in Springfield. Sandra remains very active in the Forest Park Civic Association; as secretary of Sector H Beat Management Police Team; scholarship chair of the Italian Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts Inc.; and as the full-time care giver to her 95-year-old mother.

Suzanne Haughey Carroll '68 is enjoying retirement after 32 years of teaching math and chemistry.

Evelyn "Penny" Jez, Ph.D. '68 is currently self-employed as a consultant to non-profits in the greater Richmond, VA metropolitan area. She retired from 20 years of service in state government in late 2009. Since then, she has traveled extensively through the Canadian Rockies, British Columbia, Canada's maritime provinces, and the Carribean.

Donna Gunning '69 is currently a volunteer for the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Division Seven, as well as for Butler Hospital in Providence, RI.

Linda Shea Harrington '72 recently retired from Springfield Community College, after 33 years as an English Professor. Linda now enjoys spending time with her four grandchildren at her home on Cape Cod.

Elaine (Stadnicki) Minkos '72 is now a retired math and special needs teacher. She and her husband Michael have been married for 40 years, and have three children and two grandchildren. Elaine enjoys spending her summers at Point O'Woods Beach in Old Lyme, CT.

Susan Tetrault Sullivan '72 will be retired after 25 years as an elementary teacher. She and her husband are looking forward to visiting with their children and grandchildren, and doing some foreign and domestic traveling. She is also looking forward to returning to the Elms to reminisce about her time as a student.

Alice (Hood) Cugell '73 is currently retired from 35 years of customer relations and editing in the newspaper industry, as well as in book publishing, and home decor retail. Alice is now a grandmother to one girl, with one baby still to come.

Patricia (Moran) Graves '73 retired in July, 2010, from her role as the principal of Barnstable High School in Barnstable, MA. Previously, Patricia served as an educator at Barbstable and also worked as a teacher and assistant principal in Hawaii.

Michelle (Dupont) Bareiss '77 and her husband Dave have been blessed with four grandchildren. Thomas. Michelle and Dave recently celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on June 4th.

Lydia Bielski Magill '79 is the proud mom of her daughter, Christine Emilia, 15, who capped her sophomore year at The Newman School of Boston by receiving four Trustee's awards. Christine, who is a competitive figure skater and represents the venerable Skating Club of Boston, can be found at www.skatergirlchristine.com.

Betsy Petrie '83 was recently recognized as Citizen of the Year for the town of Lebanon, CT. Betsy has previously served as a member and chairman of the Board of Education for more than ten years, and has been on the Board of Finance for the past six years. Having held numerous elected and appointed positions within the Lebanon Volunteer Fire Department, she is currently the assistant chief, the first female to hold such a position.

Catherine (Smith) Fitzpatrick '87 graduated with a master of science in counseling from Springfield College in 2011.

Kristen (Smith) Biancuzzo '88 was recently honored as a 2012 Pioneer Valley Teacher of Excellence award winner for Westfield High School, where she has been teaching since 2001.

Class Notes continued from page 23

Beatrix Tambunan '92 launched her own human resources and recruiting company in 2009, True Staffing, after 15 years in corporate America as a senior consultant in the staffing industry. Recently, she self published her second children's book, *Moon Girl*, on Amazon and wrote a column for Suffolk University's Alumni News, "5 Things Not To Wear On An Interview." She is also working on another book, "What Not To Do On An Interview" expected to be released in the fall of 2012.



Thomas Denardo '95 is currently working as an admissions coordinator for the Massachusetts Career Development Institute, Inc., where he is able to help the undereducated within his community by teaching necessary job skills to more than 2,000 individuals per year.

Kathleen Shea O'Connor '97 is entering her fourteenth year of employment with Verizon Communications. She has one grandson, Jasper Rowan, who recently turned four years old. Kathleen is also the grandmother of Veronica Rose (Jasper's baby sister), who was born on February 17, and sadly passed away the following day.

Tommie Burton '98 is currently working at Baystate Medical Center as an R.N., and is proud to be a graduate of the College of Our Lady of the Elms.

Christine (Creran) Pike '98 is semi-retired from Berkshire Medical Center, as a medical technologist and clinical laboratory scientist. Christine is also the owner and manager of a 130-acre family tree farm.

Carla Davids '01 was recently promoted to the role of site manager of a brand new brain injury residence known as Morgan Road.

Rebecca (Hitt) Rochelle '01 is currently a missionary with Youth For Christ, where she works with youth and teens on military bases. She says her destination is unknown at this time, and would appreciate the prayers of the Elms Community.

Ricardo Lawrence '02 is currently employed as a sales executive at Travelers, and owns his own business, www.rlmarketingfirm.com. Rick is also a proud father of two-year-old Nevaeh.

Jessica (Coulombe) Crevier '03 was recently choosen to be part of the BusinessWest "Class of 2012 40 Under Forty." The issue featuring the honorees was published on April 23, and a gala was held in honor of this year's class at The Log Cabin in June. Jessica feels especially honored, as she was nominated by The AIDS Foundation of Western Massachusetts' Board of Trustees, with whom she feels blessed to work.

Amanda Zito '04 recently received an M.S. in reading and language arts from Eastern Connecticut State University, in addition to a certification as a reading specialist. Amanda is currently working in a clinical day school for Natchaug Hospital as a special education teacher, where she has been for the last six years.

Anthony Ruggiero '06 was promoted to lieutenant with the University of Connecticut Fire Department. Tony left nursing full time in 2008 to follow his true passion as a career firefighter/paramedic. He still works per diem as an R.N. at Hartford Hospital in the emergency department.

Jennifer Dube '07 graduated from Boston University in 2011 with a master of science in criminal justice.

Ashley (Jodray) Hollister '09 works as a charge nurse for Cedar Park Surgery Center in Austin, TX and is the pharmacy coordinator for the surgery center. In August 2011, Ashley married her high school sweetheart and is now in the midst of finishing her last year of interning and graduate school to become a family nurse practitioner.

Nicholas Bamford '10 began working at Academy Mortgage and recently obtained his loan office license.

Sarah Okseniak '11 is currently working as an R.N. at Southwest Vermont Medical Center, on a step-down cardiac floor.

Tracey Bennett '12 works in patient accounts for Baystate Health.

REMEMBRANCE

In Memoriam

Thanks to all who made gifts to Elms College in memory of their deceased loved ones.

Alumni:

Alumni:
Virginia (Adams) Cunningham '40
Mary Jane Gonia '42
Alice (Van Keuren) Webber '42
M. Connie (Dudley) Watterson '43
Margaret (Donahue) Boyle '44
Dorothy (Kelly) McHugh '46
Mary (Scannell) Graw '48
Elizabeth Aidicon '49
Shirley (Cummings) Kane '49
Barbara (Hurley) Barry '49
Michaelyn (Moynihan) Richardson '49
Gertrude (Donovan) Bushey '50
Mildred (Frawley) Seljos '50
Sr. Anna Kilfeather '50
Cecil McDonnell '53
Mary Jane Cummings Samuels '54
Sr. Richard Francis Doran '56
Sr. Edward Maria Sharron '56
Claire (Tefft) Hatfield '56
Joan (Sullivan) Tenczar '57
Beverly Chevalier Torpy '58
Gladys (Archey) Hajicek '61
Kathleen Carmody '66
Sr. Mary A. Corley '66
Dr. Elaine Geissler '66
Barbara Goddard '66
Susan Ann Christian '67
Ellen Ryan '69
Jane (Murray) Heaps '90
Amando J. Diaz '96
Regina F. (McMahon) Garrett '99
Jan (Turner) Bellows '99
Demetrious Lausell-Vann '03

Student

Deborah J. (Nero) Grimm – graduate student

Staff:

Irene A. (Boudreau) Garrity – Former Staff
Helen Desmarais - Former Staff
Virginia Powers-Lagac, Ph.D. – Former Staff
Mary Jane Valler - Former Staff

Mother of:

Andrea Hickson '89
Lynne-Anne Kiely '12
Eleanor Tremblay '69

Father of:

Diane Pikul '80
Annette Ziomek – Elms Staff

Husband of:

Cynthia (Bagster-Collins) Powers '90
Greta (Frechette) McCloud '57
Elizabeth (Hennessey) Schube '51
Laura Landers – Former Staff
Claire M. (Pion) Ryan '55
Lynn Powers Faerber '75

Daughter of:

Constance Grippo '57

Sister of:

John Keller – Elms Staff

Brother of:

P.J. '03 and Ryan Cooney '05

Aunt of:

Elizabeth Pitoniak '87

Grandfather of:

Rebecca Palmer - Student
Lindsey Werebiskis - Student

Friends of the College:

Sr. Alicia Fairfield
Evelyn (Gardzienski) Lak
Ann M. (O'Donnell) Moran
Joanne Ramah



"About 64 years ago, I received a complete scholarship given with the admonition to 'have a good time.' I did—a wonderful education, a rewarding teaching career, and a lifetime of friends. At my fiftieth reunion, I established a scholarship and designated the Elms as a beneficiary in my estate plans, to enable others to continue the Elms tradition."

— Margaret Scanlon '52
President of the Catholic Women's Club
Volunteer in the Office of Institutional Advancement

Make a Planned Gift Today

**If you would like more information about making a planned gift, contact Bernadette Nowakowski '89, '08
director of development and legacy giving
413-265-2214
nowakowskib@elms.edu**

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