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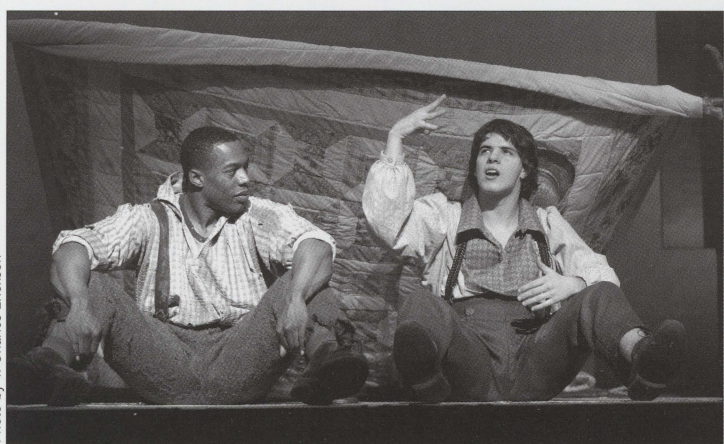


On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
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April 1, 2005
Vol. 35, No. 12

Gallaudet actors featured in 'Big River' at Ford's Theatre

Photo by T. Charles Erickson



Huck Finn (right), played by Gallaudet student Christopher Corrigan, and runaway slave Jim, played by Broadway veteran Michael McElroy, have adventures while floating on a raft on the Mississippi River in this adaptation of the Mark Twain classic at Ford's Theatre.

Ford's Theatre ends its season with the exciting Washington, D.C. premiere of Deaf West Theatre's *Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, the ASL adaptation, running through May 1.

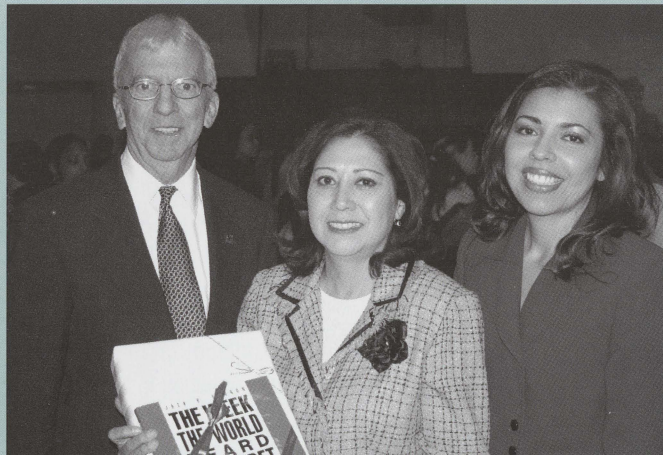
Taking center stage in the production are several members of the Gallaudet community, including student Christopher Corrigan in the role of Huck Finn.

Students Christopher DeSouza and Andres Otalora play Simon/understudy to Huck and Dick/Hank/Young Fool, respectively. Darren Frazier, Class of 1994, plays Pap/Duke/Silas Phelps. Gallaudet alumna Linda Bove plays Miss Watson/Sally/Joanna. Willy Conley, an associate professor in the Theatre Arts Department, is an understudy. Also, student JoAnn Benfield is an assistant stage manager, and alumnus Ed Waterstreet is Deaf West's artistic director.

According to producers, this

innovative production includes deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing actors in a synchronized performance that utilizes spoken English, ASL, gestures, dance, and song. Those elements, paired with storytelling techniques from deaf and hearing cultures, form a "third language" that creates a groundbreaking theatrical experience.

Big River's performance schedule is: Tuesdays through Saturdays, 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, 2:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 2:30 p.m. (through April 16); and Wednesdays and Thursdays, 12 p.m., on April 7, 13, 20, 21, 27, and 28. Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$48. (Discounts are available for groups of 20 or more.) To purchase tickets online, go to www.fordstheatre.org; for group sales, call (202) 638-2367 (Voice) or (202) 347-5599 (TTY); visit the Ford's Box Office; or call (202) 347-4833. 



Rep. Hilda Solis (D-Calif.) (center) visited Gallaudet on March 11 to talk about the obstacles she faced as the daughter of new immigrants to Southern California in gaining an education and entering politics, and her commitment to fighting for the rights of underrepresented groups. Her visit to campus, which was sponsored by the Department of Government and History in recognition of March as Women's History Month, was particularly relevant since she serves as the Democratic vice chair of the Congressional Caucus on Women's Issues. Solis, who is in her third term in the Congress, is also the first Latina to serve on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. In addition, she is the ranking member of the Environment and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee, part of the Energy and Air Quality Subcommittee, chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus' Task Force on Health, and a regional whip for Southern California. Her priorities include protecting the environment, improving the quality of health care, and fighting for the rights of working families. Solis said she entered politics to break down barriers that prevent people from minority groups from being treated equally. Her parents, she said, "never believed I could go to college," a misconception that was reinforced by one of her high school counselors who said she was incapable of obtaining higher education. Even today, she said, "People aren't accustomed to me [as a congresswoman]. They think I'm a staff member or a visitor." Solis took the opportunity of her visit to extend gratitude to Frances Marquez, an instructor in the Department of Government and History and "a long-time friend" who, in 1991, as a recent graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, was a tireless campaigner worker in Solis' successful bid for the California State Assembly—her first state office. Solis made history in 1994 when she became the first Latina to be elected to the State Senate. Here, Solis is shown with Marquez and President Jordan after being presented a copy of Dr. Jack Gannon's chronicle of Deaf President Now, *The Week the World Heard Gallaudet*.

Application deadlines approach for GUAA grants


Deadlines are fast approaching to apply for the Gallaudet University Alumni Association's Laurent Clerc Cultural Fund (LCCF) and the Graduate Fellowship Fund. Both funds were established with money from the half-million dollar Centennial Fund raised by the alumni association.

Applicants for the Clerc fund must apply by April 1 for the grant, which promotes projects and activities that will lead to the cultural enrichment of deaf people.

The fund may be used to support programs such as: endowments of four LCCF awards, community leadership, dramatics, educational programs, information media, literature, memorials, motion picture and television production, talent bureau, and research relating to deaf people. Each recipient must utilize the grant for his/her cultural-related project in accordance to LCCF criteria.

Applicants for the fellowship fund must apply by April 20 for the grant, which supports special designated funds and to give grants to qualified recipients for doctoral or terminal degrees at institutions outside Gallaudet.

To be eligible for the fellowships, applicants must be deaf or hard of hearing, admitted to an accredited graduate program, carry a full-time semester load, and have a need for financial assistance. Fellowships are awarded on an annual basis. Initial awards may be renewed for the duration of the course of study and for dissertation expenses provided that the holder of the award maintains scholastic standards.

Additional information and applications may be obtained by e-mail inquiries to alumni.relationships@gallaudet.edu. 



Students from the United States and six other countries received scholarships from members of Rotary clubs in District 7620, which includes the Washington, D.C., metro area and Central Maryland, on March 9 during Rotary Day 2005. Many Rotarians also volunteered to conduct mock job interviews at the Career Center or took a campus tour. Dr. Robert Shriner, chair of the Rotary District 7620 Scholarship Committee, spoke of his organization's efforts to increase financial assistance for new and prospective international students. "Some students' greatest hurdle is not getting accepted to Gallaudet, but paying to come to the U.S. to start their education," he explained. He said that Rotary International wants to enlist the help of Rotary clubs in other countries to help their students physically get to Gallaudet and start paying tuition costs. Senior Kiombo Nsumbu (fourth from left) gave a personal example of how international students can benefit from these efforts. "I am grateful for Rotary's support, and I plan to repay it some day," he said. "Rather than paying back in money, I want to return the favor by using my education to help deaf people back home in the Congo."



Pia Taavila: A poet influenced by deaf family

*"Lake Cheston"

*I walk the forest, needle-floored,
cross the grassy plain, slope down
to cattails, coves, an inlet, sand:
the silver, velvet lake. The sun,
descending, warms the water's
mantle.*

*Laced by treetops,
evening's light lingers.*

*Swarms of swallows rise and fall,
lift and plunge, break the bronzing
surface. Arrowed wings taper,
fan like flukes. Birds lunge and
snap,
feast: green mayflies glide, leave*

*foot-long wakes,
feather-thin, metallic.*

*Alone, not lost, I swim out far.
I wonder if you think of me.
The nesting swallows whistle, sing,
call home the darkening dusk.
I drift to shore and sit, chest-deep.*

*One by one,
faint stars appear.*

—Pia Taavila

"My deaf side was lonely," said Dr. Pia Taavila, a professor in the English Department. "Coming to Gallaudet was a homecoming for me."

Born in Norway as a hearing child of deaf parents, Taavila said, "The week that I arrived on campus for my interview, I cried the whole week. Being 'back' and signing with



Dr. Pia Taavila

deaf people was very touching."

"I remember going to school as a kindergartener," said Taavila, "and signing to my teacher. I couldn't understand why the teacher didn't understand me." Despite having eight siblings, none of the children spoke at home, all using sign language with each other and with their parents. "I know how my [deaf] students feel about speech therapy, having gone through it myself for years," said Taavila.

In her early years in Norway, Taavila's elementary school sponsored a school-wide writing competition that all students could enter. "My teacher at that time encouraged me to try entering some of my writing, and I thought 'Why not?'"

A win in the contest encouraged Taavila greatly, setting her feet on the publishing trail, netting her publication in literary magazines during high school, publication in *The Journal of Kentucky Studies* as a graduate student at Michigan State University, and into a non-profit publishing business, The Kirkland Press, where she and the agency published 26 books of history.

Typically, said Taavila, when a writer sends in an entry or several entries to a publication, he or she expects that most will be rejected. When she sent in 14 of her poems to *The Journal of Kentucky Studies*

in the mid-1980s, she was floored when she learned that all of them were accepted for publication. Her works have been published regularly ever since.

"I think that being a CODA (Child of Deaf Adults) influences my poetry," said Taavila. "One critic wrote that my poetry is very 'painterly.' I'm very visual. I think that my identity as a CODA definitely shapes my work."

She has been presented the Denny C. Plattner Award for excellence in writing by the Berea College (Berea, Ky.) literary journal *Appalachian Heritage* for her poetry. In addition, Taavila had five poems published in the winter issue of *storySouth*, and five poems accepted for an upcoming issue of *The Ozark Mountaineer*. She has regularly attended writers' conferences and workshops, enjoying the feedback and encouragement of former poet laureates Mark Strand, Robert Hass, and others (Andrew Hudgins, Alan Shapiro, Robert Morgan). She is a frequent



contributor to *The Tactile Mind* among other journals.

"My favorite poems," said Taavila, "are those that are from the past or that relate to my family. I also have a special fondness for my love poems." **G**

*This new poem by Taavila has not been published before. (Lake Cheston is on the campus of The University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn.)

Women's Leadership Training Institute announced

The Women's Leadership Training Institute (WLTi) will begin at the start of the 2005-06 academic year to prepare Gallaudet undergraduate women for future leadership roles.

Accepted members will attend a retreat in the fall to begin the one-year program. Students will participate in 10 learning modules, held Wednesday evenings throughout the year. Special guest speakers will work with the group, leading lively discussions and panels. Modules will cover various topics, including: boundary setting; feminism in the 21st century; body image and the media; sexuality; women and wellness; women in the workplace; and women and politics. As part of the program, students will work in an internship for several weeks with an organization focused on women's issues.

Provost Jane Fernandes and Department of Government and History faculty members Susan Burch and Donna Ryan will facilitate WLTi modules and general activities.

Students must apply for acceptance by April 15.

Contact Dr. Burch or Dr. Ryan for application materials in HMB S235 or e-mail susan.burch@gallaudet.edu or donna.ryan@gallaudet.edu. **G**

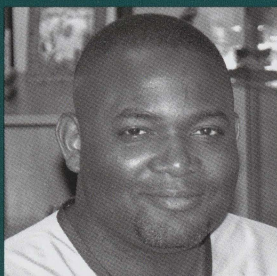
ROVING REPORTER

April is National Poetry Month. Who is your favorite poet, or poem?



Dr. Amy Wilson
assistant professor,
Educational Foundations and
Research

Gwendolyn Brooks and Langston Hughes continue to inspire and encourage me in my own life and my own writing. They recognize that "Life ain't no crystal stair," and courageously transcend society's expectations and never let others limit their being or their humanity.



Bunmi Aina
director,
Office of International Programs
and Services

Mine would have to be Samuel Coleridge Taylor's "The Rime of The Ancient Mariner." Through the mariner's horrible experiences, a moral emerges at the end, which is, I think, reverence for all creatures.



Dr. Isaac Agboola
chair,
Business Department

One favorite is the poem by Robert Frost titled: "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." The most well-known part of the poem goes like this:

"The woods are lovely, dark and deep
But I have promises to keep
And miles to go before I sleep
And miles to go before I sleep"



Stefan Koppi
director,
Career Center

Robert Frost and Emily Dickinson are tough competition. Robert Frost's poem, "The Road Not Taken," is a personal favorite. "Two roads diverged in a yellow wood..."



ON THE GREEN

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Svend Erik Hansen, the headmaster of Fredericiaskolen, one of three schools for deaf students in Denmark, addressed the Gallaudet community on February 18 about efforts in that country to keep schools for deaf students intact in a changing educational atmosphere. According to a campus promotion for the event, since the 1970s there has been a growing

awareness and recognition of deaf people as a linguistic and cultural group in Denmark. Evidence of this lies in the fact that Danish sign language is now accorded the same status as spoken Danish, and over half the teachers at the three schools are deaf. However, the deaf community and schools in Denmark are confronted with the same challenges as their counterparts in other countries faced with technological advancements in assistive devices and cochlear implants. The schools are now mounting outreach efforts to parents of deaf children, soliciting their involvement in identifying children in need of educational services, said Hansen. Fredericiaskolen has been a leader in the field of deaf education, offering a learning approach similar to bilingual, bicultural schools in the United States. Hansen's presentation was hosted by the Department of Education and the Office of International Programs and Services. (Also pictured is interpreter Paul Harrelson.)



Administration & Finance

Fire safety inspection

If you've ever been in a building that is on fire, you know it's a very frightening experience! Fire safety on campus is of paramount importance.

The Physical Plant Department (PPD) is currently working closely with the District of Columbia's Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department to correct any fire code violations, establish and advertise an evacuation plan for every building on campus, and to conduct monthly fire drills, as required by D.C. law. City fire inspectors make periodic unannounced inspections of campus buildings. The University is then given 60 days to make corrections to any violations.

PPD needs the cooperation of all departments on campus to eliminate three recurring violations:

- Exits, hallways, and stairwells should be unobstructed (free of old furniture, supplies, boxes, file cabinets, and other objects);
- Space heaters are not permitted, they create a real fire hazard; and
- Only heavy-duty, surge-protected extension cords should be used for office equipment.

If your office needs additional electrical outlets, place a request with the PPD Service Center. If you have obsolete furniture or supplies that need to be moved, place a request with the Distribution Center via e-mail, facilities.office@gallaudet.edu. Only if everyone on campus works together, can each building on campus be safe.

In the near future the campus community will be receiving more information about an evacuation plan for your building. There will also be regular fire drills. Take both of these matters seriously. According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), every 20 seconds a fire department responds to a fire in the United States. According to the NFPA Research Foundation president, "For most of the history of fire science and fire safety, our efforts have focused on how much smoke would kill a person. Now, we're recognizing that many people die in fires—not because smoke killed them on the spot, but because smoke or heat prevented them from getting out of the building."

NFPA gives some guidelines for escaping a burning building:

- Learn the location of all building exits. You may have to find your way out in the dark.
- If you have to escape through smoke, crawl low to your exit, keeping your head one- to two-feet above the floor, where the air will be cleanest.
- Test doorknobs and spaces around the door with the back of your hand. If the door is warm, try another escape route. If it's cool, open it slowly. Slam it shut if smoke pours through.
- Use the stairs when there's a fire; never use an elevator during a fire.
- If you are trapped in a room, seal the door with rags and signal from a window.
- Open windows slightly at the top and bottom, but close them if smoke comes in.
- Fire sprinkler systems protect their immediate area by extinguishing or containing fires. They will not flood the whole building.
- Respond to every alarm as if it were a real fire. Report information on false alarms to authorities.
- If a fire alarm is activated, leave the building immediately and close doors behind you as you go. In case your escape from the building is blocked by fire, take your room keys with you so you can get back inside your room and signal the fire department to let them know you are trapped.

In the weeks ahead the campus community will receive more information about fire safety. For individual safety and the safety of everyone on campus, take the information offered seriously. Practice fire safety daily—your life may depend on it.

'Something useful and beautiful': Washburn exhibit showcases artistic talents of faculty, staff, and teachers

By Rosalinda Ricasa

The University's Art Department encouraged faculty, staff, and teachers to share their talents with co-workers at the Gallaudet University Faculty and Staff Community Art Show, held March 2 to 18.


Thirteen creative artists responded: photographs, pottery, ceramics, paintings, collages, drawings, digital art, and other artistic creations filled the Washburn Arts Building.

"The exhibit highlights the many talents of people on campus—photographers, painters, and potters," said Andre Pellerin, art gallery lab and special collection assistant, who curated the show. "Each piece is unique to the person who submitted it. As I placed the works around the gallery, I enjoyed each one."

Among the exhibitors from the University were: **Dr. Barbara Bodner-Johnson**, professor, Department of Education; **Peck Choo-Kim**, data processing specialist, Technology Information

Services; **Heather Lightfoot-Withrow**, staff residential assistant, Campus Life; **Eve Mitton**, records/benefits assistant, Human Resources Services; and **Ann Mason**, adjunct instructor, Department of Education.

Among the exhibitors from the Clerc Center were: **Phil Bogdan** and **Wei Min Shen**, teachers/researchers, KDES; **Mary Ellen Carew**, managing editor, and **Susan Flanigan**, marketing and public relations coordinator, Publications and Information Dissemination; **Dr. Linda Delk**, coordinator, Exemplary Programs and Research; **Susan Harrington**, events coordinator; **Philip Mackall**, director, Information Systems and Computer Support; and **Susanne Scott**, outreach specialist, Cochlear Implant and Education Center.

Visitors to the gallery who signed the guest book gave high praise to the works on display and many expressed pleasure in discovering the unknown talents of their co-workers. 

Gallaudet team presents at conference on aid to deaf communities in developing nations


Dr. Amy Wilson, an assistant professor in Educational Foundations and Research, and Nickson Kakiri, a World Deaf Leadership scholar, presented a seminar, "Improving Overseas Development Assistance to Deaf Communities in Developing Countries," at the third online Supporting Deaf People (SDP) conference. The March 10 to 16 conference was organized by Direct Learn, a United Kingdom-based consulting and developing firm specializing in information and learning technology, deafness, and disability.

SPD3 is aimed at individuals and organizations that support deaf people, and deaf people themselves, according to promotional material for the conference. A total of 19 speakers representing educational, social science, interpretation, literary, business, and development disciplines presented discussions on international and national support for development in deaf-related areas.

The online conference attracted a large representation of participants from developing countries—Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Zambia, and the Philippines, to name a few.

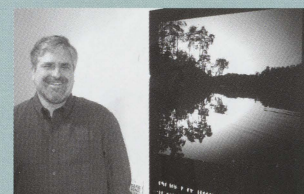
According to their presentation paper, Wilson and Kakiri posited that deaf people in developing countries need to be given the opportunity to "voice their needs and desires to the Christian church groups and development organizations from other countries who offer the deaf community material, spiritual, or financial assistance."

To support their position, Kakiri and Wilson, with approval from Gallaudet's Institutional Review Board, studied 23 deaf women and 55 deaf men in Kenya. They interviewed them on their knowledge of aid organizations, barriers to development, and positive changes that have resulted from organizational aid. These questions revealed cross-cultural challenges and highlighted some problems in the delivery of aid. (For example, the Kenyan Deaf community said aid money often went to foreign aid workers rather than to the community.)

According to Kakiri, "Many people logged in to read our paper, and we got quite a lot of feedback on our position." 

Here is a sample description of some of the works that were displayed:

Phil Bogdan

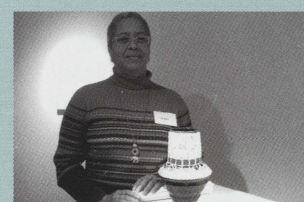


Bogdan, who has been taking photographs for 35 years and has presented his work in numerous galleries, said he greatly appreciates the opportunity to exhibit at Gallaudet.

Bogdan's "Cleof de Zoo, #1" (Zoo Key) is a waterscape photographed from a kayak. It is a culmination of a year's worth of work with Team 6/7/8 students in which Bogdan and the students created a blog for a U.S. soldier sent to Iraq.

"The waterscape and the beautiful signing hands are in stark contrast to the context of the finger spelling [which relates the fear of a soldier about to go off to war]," Bogdan explained.

Eve Mitton



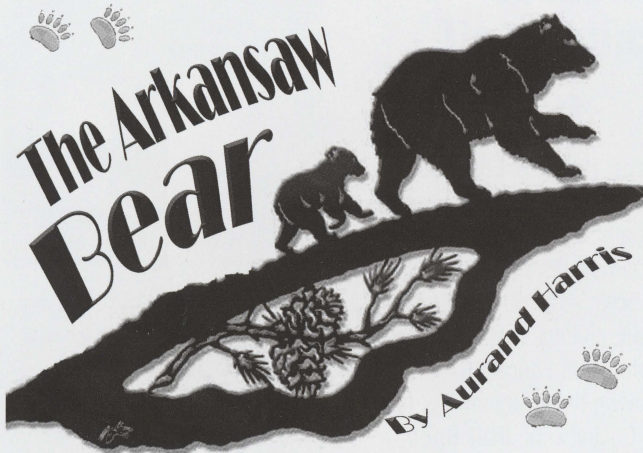
"I have worked at Human Resources Services as records/benefits assistant for 28 years. I have resided in Maryland for 35 years. I was born in Haiti where I became deaf. I love arts. I paint, make collages, and have been involved in pottery for the past five years," said Mitton.

Susan Harrington



"Clay hand building has been a fascination and joy for me!" said Harrington. "From my first credit class at Gallaudet in the mid-'90s under Peggy Reichard, I immediately fell in love with clay. From the teaching/sharing of the many inspirational and fantastic faculty/instructors in the staff/faculty classes—Peggy Reichard, the Mitsuis, Linda Jordan, Andre Pellerin, Eve Mitton, and Margaret Boozer—I have learned, cried, and laughed through this process of creating something useful and beautiful from mud. My deaf mother was an avid and talented painter/artist, as well as a visual and dramatic performer; I absorbed my love of the creative arts from her. The hand-built clay pieces I chose to exhibit are personal favorites which I regularly use and display in my home."


Theatre Arts Department
Presents:



The Theatre Arts Department will present the magical children's play *The Arkansasaw Bear* on April 8, 9, 15, and 16 at 8 p.m.; April 10 at 2 p.m.; and April 14 at 4 p.m. All performances are in Elstad Auditorium.

Written by Aurand Harris and co-directed by Gallaudet alumnus Andrew Oehrlein and senior theatre arts major Frank Germinaro, the play is about Tish, who is saddened and bewildered by her grandfather's approaching death. She runs to her "special tree" and meets the World's Greatest Dancing Bear. He is old, like her grandfather, and is running away—from death. In trying to help him, Tish begins to understand the meaning of both life and death, which helps her cope with her own sadness. Delightfully theatrical, with music, magic, and dance, *The Arkansasaw Bear* is enthusiastically applauded by family audiences.

Ticket prices are \$8 for adults and \$6 for non-Gallaudet students with ID and groups of 15-plus. Gallaudet students will receive one free ticket with ID. Tickets may be reserved by phone, x5500 (V) or x5502 (TTY); by e-mail, theatre.tickets@gallaudet.edu; or through the Theatre Arts Department website: depts.gallaudet.edu/theatre/events/

The Box Office opens April 4. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 2 to 5 p.m.; Friday, 2 to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 5 to 8 p.m.; and Sunday, noon to 2 p.m. 

Linguistics Department expands appreciation of lectures with pre-, post-discussions

By Michele Bishop
Ph.D. student in linguistics

The Linguistics Department tried something new with its recent lecture series: hosting pre- and post-lecture discussions on the presentation topics by guest lecturers.

The first occasion for the new format was applied to a lecture by Dr. Sally Rice, a linguist and professor from the University of Alberta, Canada. Rice was invited to speak on February 16 about the features of the Déné language, a Native American language in Canada that faces extinction. The Déné language is a member of the Athapaskan Language Family and refers to those languages such as Navajo, Eastern and Western Apache, and Yup'ik Inuit (Eskimo) that are spoken from Northwestern Canada and Alaska south to the Rio Grande.

In preparation for Rice's presentation, the department hosted a pre-lecture discussion on February 9 to provide a basic background on the nature of polysynthetic languages—languages in which multiple word elements (often referred to as morphemes) are combined in a single word and which function just as the sentence does in Indo-European languages such as English. At this pre-lecture event, Dr. Scott Liddell and Dr. Paul Dudis, both professors in the

department, discussed how languages are categorized and how those designations are based on the organization of the smaller parts of words. The goal of the pre-lecture was to lay the foundation for the guest speaker's presentation by introducing and explaining the terms and background information that might be needed to better appreciate it. The pre-lecture was open to the entire campus and was attended by linguistics students as well as faculty and students from other departments.

During her presentation the following week, Rice, who has been involved in a revitalization program for the Déné language, gave examples of the features of polysynthetic languages. The follow-up discussion, held on February 23, explored the connections between Rice's research on the Déné language and sign languages, specifically ASL.


Sign language linguists that treat ASL depicting verbs (also known as classifier predicates) as being built from a movement root with multiple meaningful units attached have described such signs as polysynthetic—the same term used to describe verbs in the Déné language. To take an example from ASL, the depicting verb PERSON-WALK-ALONG is produced with the index finger pointing upward and with the hand moving along a path, with a gentle bouncing motion and the palm facing in the direction of

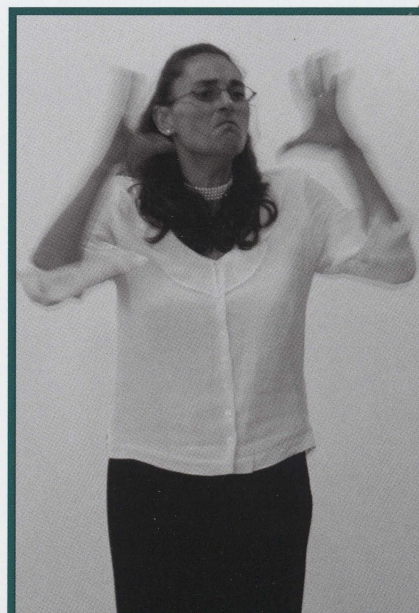
movement. The starting and ending locations of the sign, the erectness of the finger, the bouncing motion, and even whether the path is level or inclined have been treated as morphemic attachments to a movement root. If such an analysis could be supported, then the term "polysynthetic" might be applicable.

Liddell, however, has pointed out significant problems with such analyses—not the least of which is the inability of those who propose the existence of such meaningful parts to describe the forms and meanings of those parts. In his book, *Grammar, Gesture, and Meaning in American Sign Language*, Liddell describes some depicting verbs as being composed of as few as two morphemes. The term "polysynthetic" would be inappropriate in describing such signs. Several participants discussed the idea that sign languages may need new terminology to describe how meaning is constructed instead of trying to use concepts and vocabulary borrowed from the studies of spoken languages.

The result of the three-part series was the participants learned much more about polysynthesis, ASL, and the Déné language through reading and discussion both before and after the main lecture. The department is currently hosting a three-part lecture series about audism with the support of

Flavia Frazier and Dr. Dirksen Bauman, both from the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies, and has plans for other similarly-styled lectures next fall.

As always, the Linguistics Department hopes participation in its lecture series will continue to grow and encourages everyone to come attend the presentations. 



with developing nations including countries in Africa, Nepal, and India, where she met Mother Teresa. She noted, time and again, the lack of strong leadership in the deaf communities of these countries. Lemmo encouraged the workshop attendees to think of going to developing countries to assist in economic and social development. To successfully encourage social and economic development, Lemmo said people needed to put aside their own personal identifiers, become cognizant of the greater social identity of deaf people, and help leaders develop pride in the capabilities of deaf people. "Latino women are oppressed in third-world countries. I rebelled against that oppression by refusing to think of myself primarily as a woman, instead, thinking of myself as deaf, first," she said. "I became a leader not because I am a woman, but because I am deaf. That identity is what is important."

STUDENT AFFAIRS *Exposé*

Student Affairs Exposé: National Alcohol Screening Day

By Carla Shird, counselor, Mental Health Center

The Mental Health Center's (MHC) participation in National Alcohol Screening Day (NASD) last year proved so successful that it will become an annual campus event.


NASD, which will be observed April 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Student Union Building, Flex Rooms A/B, helps increase the awareness of alcohol misuse and abuse. Participants can learn about the effects of alcohol on health and receive free, anonymous screenings for alcohol-use disorders.

NASD event sites are located in many community settings. College campuses, however, tend to have the highest participation since they are where alcohol misuse and abuse have been particularly problematic. Alcohol is one of the most popular drugs on campus; students frequently turn to it to cope with depression, stress, social anxiety, and peer pressure.

Because alcohol is more socially acceptable than other drugs,

especially illegal ones, it is often difficult for students to know where to draw the line on consumption. NASD aims to encourage students to take a closer look at how they use alcohol so that they may take steps to reduce their alcohol intake when their drinking becomes a problem. The event also strives to educate students on how to recognize problem drinking among friends or family members.

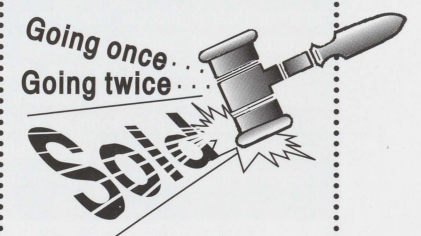
The event is not limited to students. It is open to community members, staff, and faculty. A screening takes 15 minutes, which includes time for completing the 23-item questionnaire and a feedback session with a counselor.

The message behind this year's theme, "Alcohol and Health—Where do you draw the line?" is applicable to anyone who drinks alcohol: It may be okay to drink, but there are limits. At the event, attendees will find brochures on a wide range of information with titles such as, "Harmful Interactions: Mixing Alcohol with Medicine," "Worried About a Friend?," and "Alcohol and Stress." 

CAMPUS CALENDAR

There are many events, activities, and lectures planned for the next two weeks. Due to space constraints we were not able to list them all.

For information about everything that is happening on campus, go to calendar.gallaudet.edu.



FOR RENT: 1-BR basement apt. in Takoma Park, Md., fireplace, enclosed porch, fenced yard, walk to Metro, avail. April 3, \$735/mo. inc. util. Call Katherine, (301) 608-3438.

AMONG OURSELVES

Dr. Jane Norman, a professor in the Communications Studies Department, presented the keynote address, "Deaf Cinema: Visualizing and Owning the Concept," on March 19 at the Deaf Rochester Film Festival, sponsored by the Rochester Institute of Technology's National Technical Institute for the Deaf and School of Film and Animation. Norman also facilitated a discussion after the showing of the film, *Secret Love*, and conducted the festival's wrap-up on March 20.

Multicultural Student Programs hosted a March 8 workshop led by Silvia Lemmo, a deaf woman from Argentina who is a human rights activist and former keynote speaker for the XVI World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf. Lemmo came to Gallaudet as part of Women's History Month activities to share the "Latino Woman's Leadership Experience" with the campus. When her father, a noted activist for deaf rights in Argentina, died in 1995, Lemmo took the opportunity to gain the experience and knowledge necessary to become a leader in the deaf Argentinian community. She traveled the world, working



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Spy vs. Spy—President Jargin competes for coveted James Bond role

HOLLYWOOD - Yes, the rumors are true. Gallaudet's own President Me Duke Jargin is on the short list to become the next James Bond.

Producers decided not to bring back Pierce Brosnan for the next installment of the venerable 007 franchise. Brosnan's final 007 edition, *Die Another Day* (2002) has raked in \$424,700,000 worldwide.

According to insiders, Jargin made the final cut to don the tuxedo, along with Orlando Bloom, Hugh Jackman, and Jude Law. The final decision will be made by spring, with hopes of beginning principal shooting this fall. The next movie will be *Casino Royale*, a remake of the 1967 movie of the same name.

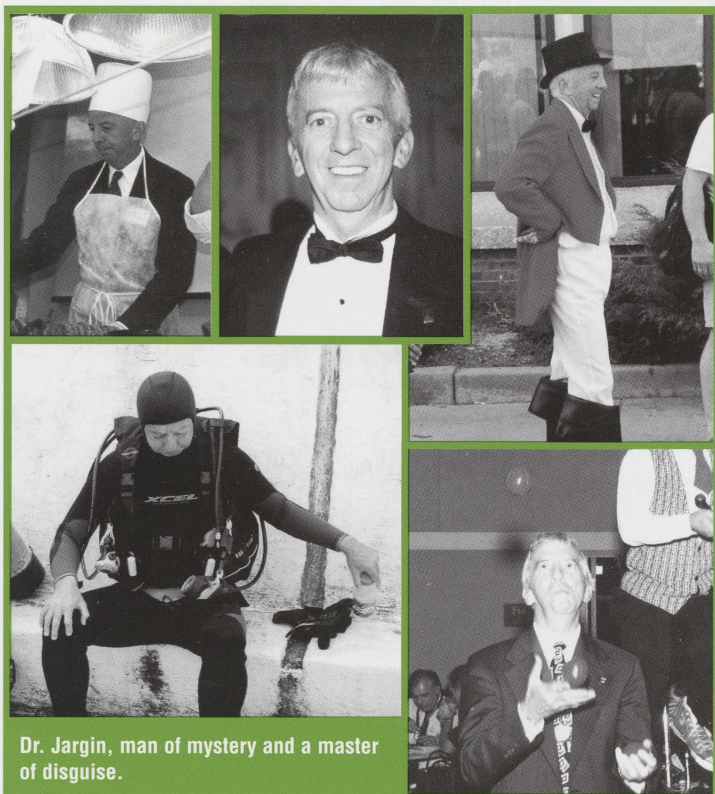
"When you think of devilish charm and smoldering intensity, Duke is the first person that comes to mind," movie icon Sean Connery, in many circles considered the best Bond ever, said

recently when learning of the finalists. "He was born to play this role. He is phenomenal."

Jargin is indeed an international man of mystery, schooled in martial arts and self-defense techniques. He also is an avid scuba diver, marathon runner, chef, and circus ringmaster.

"For the first time, you could actually have someone who could do their own stunts," Brosnan said. "Duke would really take the Bond series to a new level ... to a place where I could only dream of taking it."

Jargin credits the impetus to his foray into the dramatic arts with the small, yet pivotal part he played in the 2004 on-campus production, *In the Know*, in which a secret government agent comes to Gallaudet to instruct students on how to stay safe. ☺



Dr. Jargin, man of mystery and a master of disguise.

CAMPUS CALENDAR

April

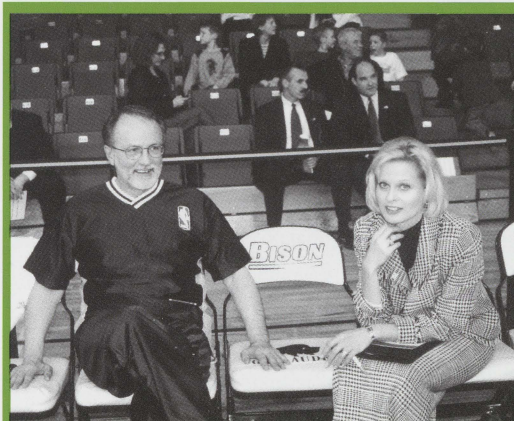
1—SNOW DAY, Gallaudet and MSSD closed to make up for lack of snow days this winter, KDES is open and on time—they've had their snow days already.

2—Interpreter Workshop: "Faking it when you don't have a clue what's being said and other handy dandy tricks," SAC Flex A, 9 a.m.-noon; Using an Interpreter Workshop: "Didn't prepare for your presentation? How to blame your interpreter 101," SAC Flex B, 9 a.m.-noon.

4—Fundraising Bazaar, Development Office hosts bazaar

to offset possible cuts in the federal appropriations, orders for spicy goat and jerk chicken lunches can be made in advance, anyone wanting to sell trinkets, gently used items and Amway-like products may rent a table for \$25. Get your face painted by Fabulously Special Assistants Whiner and Done, Provost Fantasia will do hair braiding for \$1/braid, and free chair massages from Vice President Peakay for anyone who spends \$20 or more.

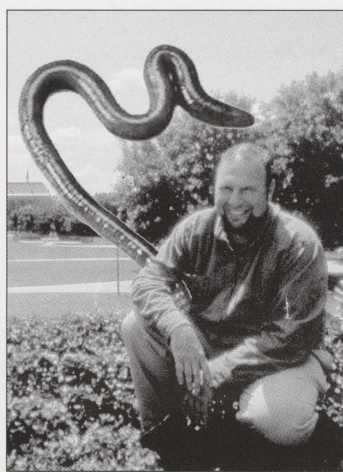
5—Exhibition Baseball Game: Bison men vs. Washington's new team, the Nationals, Hoy Field, 3 p.m.



First year men's basketball team head coach and campus fashion-ista Lindsay Muff (right), discusses game strategy with non-traditional student and senior All-American guard Dax Bond before the Bison won the conference championship game March 22

in the George W. Bush Field House, capping an undefeated season. Bond was named an All-American for the second year in a row, as the Bison once again were the only team in NCAA Division III hoops to be invited to the NCAA Division I tournament.

Giant earthworms decimating campus canine population



Ewwwwwww! or is it EWWWWWWW!!!?

Last spring, when Grounds Department Manager Geoffrey Smarter and his co-workers set about spreading a hefty helping of a special blend of organic mulch over every inch of non-paved campus real estate, little did they know the dire consequences of their actions.

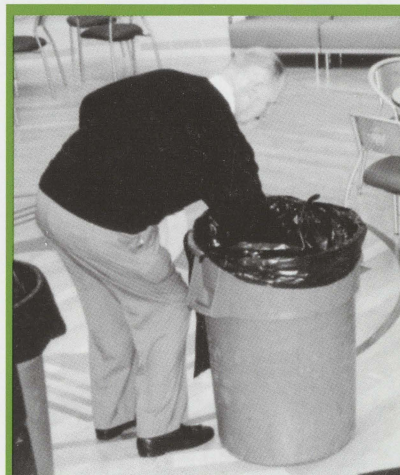
Without question, Smarter's unique "compost tea" mixture greatly improved the overall health and general appearance of every blade of grass on Kendall Green. However, we now know that the concoction is also responsible for creating a totally new species of earthworm, one that grows to the size of an Amazon anaconda and that has developed a taste for mice, squirrels and, unfortunately, small dogs.

"My darling Jack Russell terrier, Yapper, was happily sniffing the fire hydrant in front of Benson Hall when out of nowhere a huge worm reared up from the grass and gulped him down," said Edwina, Yapper's teary-eyed owner, and Benson resident. "I demand that the University rectify this situation."

According to this reporter's sources, the University is working night and day to rid the campus of the killer worms. Biology Professor Mick Less is leading the effort and purports to be close to an antidote. "We have imported several dozen extremely large Madagascar spitting cockroaches," Less said. "They are the natural enemy of giant earthworms and should keep that population in check. Of course, the downside of this remedy is that we will have to deal with airborne, bat-size cockroaches for the foreseeable future, but at least they don't eat dogs and squirrels."

Upon learning of Dr. Less' solution, the President's Council sent an e-mail to the campus announcing an emergency town hall meeting to discuss the controversial solution. "Ewwwwwww. I mean EWWWWWWW," exclaimed one PC member who asked to remain anonymous. "Spitting, flying cockroaches? Give me giant earthworms any day."

Off the Green will continue to follow this scintillating story. ☺



For over 25 years, Professor Phil General has served as campus trash can inspector, a job that requires extreme precision and true grit. "I can't begin to stress how important it is for the black plastic bag to be draped just so in a trash container," said the professor. In recognition of his devotion to duty, General will receive the University's Medal of Scourliness at the May Commencement.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Exposé

Innovative changes in plagiarism, alcohol, and housing policies proposed

By Preston Brinkly, student advocate/coordinator of special projects

Chip Praymunk, dean of Student Affairs, and Kitty Kendall, dean of CLAST, are making changes to one of the most severe infractions within the academic environment—the policy on plagiarism.

Plagiarism

Proposed changes in this policy involve placing a positive spin on the act of plagiarism by incorporating this into the English Department's curriculum as a creative writing project. The new policy encourages students to seek as many sources as possible to plagiarize, but they must have a minimum of five, and with the multitude of opportunities to copy information from the Internet this should not be a problem. Research papers or other written reports that quote these sources verbatim (exact punctuation—no errors permitted) will be graded higher than those written materials submitted that have only a changed word here and there. Concise duplication and utilizing multiple resources is the desired outcome for the overall project and, of course, to see how creative the student will be. This is expected to be a popular class!

Praymunk and Kendall believe this new policy will stimulate more creative writing skills among students and will have a positive impact on retention efforts because

students would no longer be expelled for acts of plagiarism. Both deans will be meeting with Provost Jami Fantasia to further discuss the proposed change. (The English Department Chair, Doc Potsavings, is not expected to endorse the change.) Jock DoStufayes, director of Athletics, believes this change would be welcomed by student-athletes and he indicated that he may pursue eliminating all study tables for athletes.

Alcohol & food

Another proposed change relates to the policies and procedures on alcohol monitoring and food certification in the Campus Activities Office (CA). Currently, student organizations hosting an event that involves alcohol or food preparation must adhere to specific guidelines established by the University as well as by city regulations. Macy Less, coordinator of CA, has stated her office would no longer monitor alcohol served at events if the change is approved. Less said, "As long as no more than 10 students in attendance at an event become disorderly or suffer from alcohol discomfort, per event, Campus Activities will not step-in." Regarding preparation and serving of food at events, she added that if an organization is not blamed for more than 33 food poisoning incidents per year the guidelines do not have to be adhered to. (The number 33 was determined because that is the

approximate number of student organizations on campus, so it seemed to be a reasonable number of incidents to allow.)

Off-campus apartments

The final proposed change would involve students who wish to live in off-campus housing operated by the University. In order to enhance housing operations, Praymunk and Sasha HamZaHam, director of Campus Life, are advocating for the purchase of apartment buildings along West Virginia Avenue. While the University currently does not own off-campus residential property, the proposal includes using all vending machine and residence hall laundry revenues to purchase the properties and then make them available to students at a below market value monthly rental. In addition to students who wish to live off campus, one building would be made available to all Greek sororities and fraternities, and they would be expected to pay a one-time, non-refundable, \$10,000 security deposit, per organization.

To further assist those students who desire to live off campus but can't afford it, and in an effort to increase retention of these students, faculty will be asked to commit to a 2 percent salary donation and staff to a 5 percent salary donation for a special fund that will help students pay their monthly rent. D'Left Bamalict, manager of Leases and Facilities, will assist Campus Life with preparation of all leases between the unit and the students in the proposed West Virginia Avenue Apartment Complex. ☺



ASK AUNT SOPHIE

Dear Aunt Sophie,
My great grand uncle Zeke left me a bunch of money—so much I don't know what to do with it. I was thinking of giving a couple million to Gallaudet for the new Language and Communication Building, but wanted to check with you. Do you think I should do this or what?

No Clue Lou

Dear Lou,

Aunt Sophie is, ummmmm, indisposed at this moment. I'm her so-called evil twin, Aunt Sylvie. I just happened to see your letter on my dear sister's desk and knew that I could do a much better job of advising you on this matter than she could.

First of all, forget about giving money to Gallaudet—at least for the time being. Rather, give it to me. I swear on a stack of used lottery tickets that I'll triple the amount in a single night. How, you may ask? Extreme Poker, that's how.

Listen up. I've been on a semi-hot streak lately and believe at this point I'm on the cusp of winning the Really Big Hand. What I'm saying, kid, is that if you hand over to

New language gaining attention on campus

Following her recent discovery of a newly evolving sign language in Israel's Negev region among Al-Sayyid Bedouins, who have a high rate of congenital deafness, premier linguist and former Board of Trustees member Cay R. LaPadding has turned her attention to a new language gaining attention on Kendall Green.

LaPadding says this new language, known as Hearing Sign Language (HSL), has always been prevalent at Gallaudet but has recently caught researchers' attention after a small group of students and staff petitioned to make HSL the official language of the University. HSL is a hybrid language combining features of both spoken English and American Sign Language in an unstructured way that rarely follows grammatical rules of either language.

When asked about the Bedouin language, Harvard linguist Stefan Pinkless said, "The language's rapid progress is impressive." When asked about HSL, Pinkless merely shrugged and shook his head. ☺

me the couple of million you're thinking of giving Gallaudet for the new building, I'll take it to Atlantic City and, badda-bing!, instead of donating two million bucks to the new building fund, you'll hand them four or six million! Imagine—for that much dough the University will put your statue on the mall next to EMG's.

So anyway, bring the two million—preferably in \$20s, \$50s, and \$100s—to my office ASAP. The next bus to A.C. leaves in an hour. And oh yeah—let's make this our little secret. No need to mention it to Sophie...

Dear Aunt Sophie,

I've often admired how you offer campus-wide advice on manners and morals. You must have your hands full. We at the Clerk Center wish we had a manners maven of our own to guide us with all those sticky questions related to the junior members on campus—the preschool, elementary, and high school crowd.

Sincerely,
Just Curious

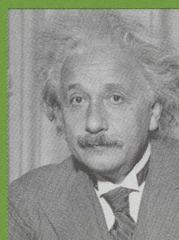
Dear Just Curious,

Aunt Sylvie here again. My sister is working temporarily as a public relations consultant for Martha Stewart's poncho-making prison buddy.

You wouldn't believe the kind of interest this has generated. But, when she gets back, I'll be out of a job and I think I might be just the person you're looking for. I'm the mother of 10 kids and I know kid and school issues inside out. Ever since I lost my job writing the "Letters for Desperate Parents" column for my local newspaper, I've been worried about what I'm going to do next. I'd be grateful if you could find me a spot at the Clerk Center.

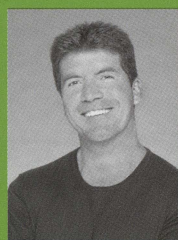
ROVING REPORTER

The descendants of Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet have successfully sued the University and it no longer can use the Gallaudet name as of April 1. What should we rename the University to?



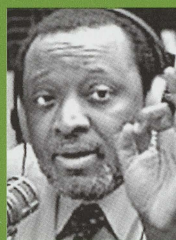
Albert Einstein, science professor, Department of Esoteric Sciences:

A=XY+Z University. If A is a success in life, then A equals X times Y plus Z. Work is X, Y is play, and Z is keeping your mouth shut.



Simon Cowell, professional critic, Department of Reality Television Appreciation

It really doesn't matter, does it? Any other name would be as bad as a lounge singer on a Portuguese cruise ship. The name "Gallaudet" is like a steak when all other options are hamburger.



Alan Keyes, assistant professor, Department of Political Sciences and Morality

Ten Commandments University. Everything on campus should be named after the Ten Commandments—the Rathskellar, dorms, gate house, all the dogs the students have, and this wicked publication.

OFF THE GREEN

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Let's Do This Every Year
Don't Use My Real Name
Will People Laugh?

Design/Production
Monkeys with Typewriters

Printing
Perfecto

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