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**Gallaudet University** 

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# ON THE GREEN

MAY 9, 2008 • VOL. 37. NO. 33

Gallaudet Fact—

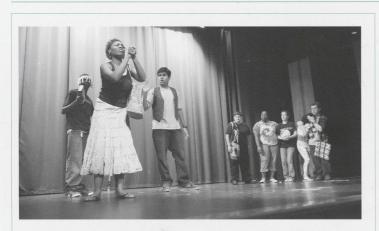
Q. What percentage of Gallaudet's student body comes from a country other than the United States?

A. Five percentB. Seven percentC. 12 percent

21 percent

D.

Answer on page 2



Acts of hate that occur daily around the world were brought to life before a Gallaudet audience on April 17. Six skits based on true stories of injuries people have suffered that were bred by ignorance and intolerance comprised this year's performance of "Awakening?" an annual event hosted by Multicultural Student Programs (MSP) in recognition of National Erase the Hate. The performers were MSP student assistants and University students who used their talents to graphically expose these instances of injustice. The goal of "Awakening?" and Erase the Hate is to make people mindful of the need for tolerance and acceptance in order to eliminate acts of hate from society. After the performance, participants were given the opportunity to express how they would personally change discriminatory thoughts or behavior about individuals or groups of people by writing on two large sheets posted at Andrew Foster Auditorium. Lastly, the MSP team led a vigil where participants holding lighted candles stood silently in a large circle for several minutes remembering people who have been victims of hate crimes. MSP would like to thank the following individuals for their hard work in Gallaudet's Erase the Hate event: Performers—Anquinette Kimble, Bianca Borrero, Ashley Dillard, Jiayi Zhou, Julie Fisher, Nathaniel Snyder, Zohaib Qureshi, Marianna Devenow, Vanessa Lee, Marckenzie Loriston, and Ean Strickland; Volunteers—Nicole Kraemer, Jessica Hobbs, Darla Konkel, Heidie Camacho, Allen Carrasco, and Anastasia Greenberg; Multicultural student assistants—Tammy Jacob, Julie Fisher, Jiayi Zhou, Na Su, Delia Lozano-Martinez

### IN THIS ISSUE



Valeria Campos leads a Latino trivia game during Diversity Week.



Gallaudet celebrates Earth Day.



Jessica Hobbs is one of eight students newly inducted into the Gallaudet Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta.



Roving Reporter

Isaac Agboola advises new graduates to make good use of the knowledge and skills they've acquired at Gallaudet.

On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff Gallaudet University • 800 Florida Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002-3695

## GCRC's Awards and Recognition Program reaches milestone

By Sharrell McCaskill

he Gallaudet Community Relations Council (GCRC) celebrated a milestone in its 33-year partnership with the University on April 12 when it hosted its 25th Awards and Recognition Program.

Nearly 200 community residents and Gallaudet administrators, students, faculty, and staff attended the program in the Kellogg Conference Hotel's Swindells Auditorium to recognize 13 individuals who work to better the community.

President Davila proudly recognized Dr. George Boyd, longstanding chair of the GCRC, and several other veteran council members who were serving on the Council when Davila was the vice president of Gallaudet's former Pre-College Programs (now the Clerc Center). Davila reaffirmed the University's support of the GCRC and the important role it plays in the partnership between the community and the University.

The mistress of ceremonies for the program was Dr. Angela McCaskill, research administrator of the Science of Learning Center on Visual Language and Visual Learning in the Gallaudet Research Institute. McCaskill proudly proclaimed,

continued on page 5



Since the custom was established in 2002, the University has taken great pride in recognizing its Fantastic First Year students for starting their college careers by demonstrating exemplary study habits, academic achievement, good conduct, community involvement, and supporting other students. However, the 2007-08 first year students who made the grade stand out in particular. "We received more nominations [from course instructors] than in previous years, and had the highest number of students selected," said Maria Waters, First Year Experience program coordinator. Thirty-eight students met the criteria, and seven of them had perfect 4.0 grade point averages, she said. Pictured at an April 21 appreciation luncheon and program for the students are, from left: (front row) Heather Quinn, Meredith Peruzzi, Roslyn Delgado, Clara Baldwin, lan DeAndrea-Lazarus, Tiffany Cassner, Monica Frederick, Tearra Donovan, Provost Stephen Weiner, Outstanding First Year advocate William Moses, Sonali Patel, Jovanna Natale, Courtney Nugent, Meera Domir, (middle row) Christopher Kearney, Rachel Benedict, Cynthia Hamilton, (back row) Colleen Doyle, Heather Sewell, Kathleen Day, Jody Barrong, Hamad Keshavarz, William Butler, Adrian Rivera, Ricky Alewin, Nathalie Pluriose, Kelley Kobbs, Theresa Glaser, Angela Vasquez, and Chaz Fortner. (Not pictured are Heather Breitbach, James Caverly, Eleasha Clement, Kailyn Glassmacher, Jamaal Johnson, Kira Roberts, Amber Rush, Robert Siebert, Elizabeth Steyer, and Robert Strickler.)

# President Davila comments on MSCHE exit report

(The following is an email sent to the campus community from President Davila on April 22.)

esterday I received the report of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) small team led by President Jonathon Gibralter. The report of the visiting team commends the Gallaudet community for its hard work this past year and the substantial progress made in addressing all of the MSCHE standards.

The complete MSCHE small team report has been posted on the Gallaudet web page, and everyone is encouraged to read this report and reflect on what we can and should do to continue to improve Gallaudet University. Please note, however, that this report does not constitute a summary of the entire evaluation process; it is only the report of the team that visited Gallaudet. Because the commission's review processes sometimes result in an accrediting action other than the one recommended by the team, it must be stressed that the report is only one piece of a much larger whole that includes the monitoring report, the site visit, the commission's committee review, and deliberations of the full commission.

In the report, the visiting team made a number of important recommendations that the Gallaudet community must discuss and address with specific action plans. The small team report will be

reviewed by a member of the commission, who will then make recommendations to MSCHE's Committee on Follow-Up Activities in May. This committee will then make recommendations pertaining to our accreditation. These recommended actions will go on the agenda of the full commission meeting in mid-June. The commission will inform us of its actions shortly after its June meeting. Pending these important commission actions and decisions, Gallaudet University remains accredited and on "warning" status.

While I am very pleased with the progress our community has made working together under the Team Gallaudet banner, I must remind you that our transformation plan for Gallaudet University must continue unabated in order for us to achieve the very highest standards of excellence for our students.

I am proud of our community and how you have addressed the challenges of the past year. Together, we have learned that there is nothing we cannot do when we come together and work collaboratively to improve the programs and services for our students. Please accept my thanks and heartfelt appreciation for your hard work and extraordinary commitment." [To read the report. go www.gallaudet.edu/x5171.xml and click on "2008 April—MSCHE Visit Exit Report."]

# Gallaudet fares well in remotely operated vehicle event

sing remote control, a team of budding engineers from Gallaudet maneuvered Plexus Nebula, the name they christened the craft they had built, through an underwater course, competing against 12 other teams from schools in Washington, D.C., Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, and North Carolina.

The team consisted of "PHY124 Space and Astronomical Science" students Elizabeth Hurd, Jenna Lambeth, Valerie MacDonald, Christy Myhren, Cameron Thorbergson, and Yiqiao Wang, and the event was the 2008 Marine Advanced Technology Education Center's Mid-Atlantic Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) Building Competition, held April 19 in a Fitness Center swimming pool at Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, Va. Sharron Cargo, the instructor of PHY124, was unable to attend.

The team was vying for first place in the Ranger class, a win that would advance them to the national/international ROV competition this June at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the University of California, San Diego. According to Dr. H. David Snyder, professor of physics, who assisted the Gallaudet team at the ROV competition, colleges and universities are allowed to compete once at the Ranger level, and then they must move up to Explorer class.

This is a first time Gallaudet has participated in the event, which began in 2002. "I had been considering it for a few years, but didn't know where to start on planning and buying equipment," said Snyder. "The activity seemed to match up with my desire to try to show students what NASA really does when teams work on exploring unknown territory. I thought it would be a good learning experience for the students."

Snyder sought the advice of Doug Levin, a scientist from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, who was willing to help Gallaudet try its hand in the competition. The Gallaudet science students started the project in January, led by online ROV construction guides sent by Levin, as well as "lots of encouragement" from the scientist, said Snyder. Levin led a practice ROV workshop March 29 in the MSSD pool, and the students tested their working role in the Gallaudet pool several times in April.

The Gallaudet team competed in two back-to-back water trials, a poster ses-

sion, a 15-minute presentation, and a 15-minute engineering interview. There was a white-knuckled moment when, just before their water trials, Plexus Nebula's up/down thrusters stopped working. Thorbergson and Snyder jumped in to trouble-shoot, testing the control box switches with a voltmeter, but the switch was fine. Then they tested for a blown fuse, but still the thrusters refused to propel the craft. More frantic checks were performed until it was discovered that the wire nuts that spliced the control box to the ROV were loose. Snyder tightened them, and it was full steam ahead.

During the underwater phase, an artificial sea vent column was placed on the bottom of the pool and points were awarded for measuring the temperature of water flowing from the sea vent, retrieving rocks (attached by Velcro) to the vent, and retrieving crabs hiding on the pool bottom near the sea vent. ROV pilots weren't allowed to look at the pool—they were required to control their vehicle using underwater cameras on the craft.

The students made a good showing, earning 82 out of 200 points for their water trials, but after the judges turned in their final scores, it was First Flight High School of Kill Devil Hills, N.C., that had top credentials to be the Mid-Atlantic representative team going to California. Second place went to the high school with the largest team at the competition, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology of Alexandria, Va., and living up to its name, has a reputation as a top school in the technology field. But Gallaudet proved that it had the right stuff after all, winning the award for best presentation. In fact, Snyder said a competition official told him that the Gallaudet students had "floored" the judges by their presentation, and had set a new standard for future ROV competitions.

Snyder is sufficiently encouraged to have future classes give the ROV competition another go. "Since we can't do Ranger again, will we try to continue in Explorer," he said, adding that it "will be a lot tougher. The team will have to break into groups that work on ROV subsystems to develop and fine tune their operation: control, cameras, lighting, buoyancy, thrusters, claws, sensors. It will also require sending the team to California to compete."



(LEFT) Gallaudet's team members taking part in the April 19 Remotely Operated Vehicle competition at Langley Air Force Base are (from left): Jenna Lambeth, Elizabeth Hurd, Christy Myhren, Cameron Thorbergson, Yiqiao Wang, and Valerie MacDonald. (RIGHT) Nelexis Garces, Elizabeth Hurd and an unidentified person check out the Plexus Nebula before a water trial.



Elizabeth Martinez (right); public relations officer for the Latino Student Union (LSU) and Valeria Campos, an LSU member, lead a Latino trivia game in the Marketplace. This April 24 presentation was part of Diversity Week, sponsored by the SBG, Asian-Pacific Association, Black Deaf Student Union, English Language Institute Student Organization, International Student Club, and LSU.

# Diversity Week celebrates the campus' many cultures

arpe diem—seize the day—was the message of UnityFest keynote speaker Ali Behmanesh, a deaf education Ph.D. candidate at McDaniel College in Westminster, Md.

"When opportunity knocks, if you open the door and take it, it is yours for life" he told the audience that gathered on the quad for the April 21 celebration." He urged them to apply this at Gallaudet. "Take the opportunities to learn," he said, "and you can carry them with you throughout the world."

UnityFest, a day-long multicultural festival organized by Multicultural Student Programs (MSP), featured dance performances from around the world, ethnic foods, information booths representing cultural organizations, and vendors offering colorful clothing. The event was the culmination of Diversity week, which gave the campus community a wealth of opportunities to learn.

Diversity Week was sponsored by the Student Body Government, Asian-Pacific Association, Black Deaf Student Union, English Language Institute Student Organization, International Student Club, and Latino Student Union. There were soccer and trivia games, presentations and panels, and a multicultural banquet. Dwight Benedict, director of Student Affairs, praised Elvia Guillermo, MSP coordinator, for two lively semesters of programming. "I applaud her department for all they have done throughout the year, and hope they will continue for many years to come," he said. Provost Stephen Weiner recognized the rich mix of backgrounds at Gallaudet. "We have all had unique experiences," Weiner said. "Our uniqueness is our commonality."

Behmanesh's address, coming at the close of Diversity Week, was well timed.



A member of the Piscataway Indian Nation Dancers performs a traditional Piscataway dance. The performance was one of many at UnityFest, an outdoor festival sponsored by Multicultural Student Programs on April 25.

His overall message was to carry on the spirit of learning about others' cultures. To truly take it all in, he said, "you have to eat, sleep, and breathe the Gallaudet community....There is no shortcut to learning about others' cultures."

#### **ON THE GREEN**

Kendall Green.
Gallaudet University
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Acting Director & Publications Manager

Roz Prickett

Editor & Photo Editor

Todd Byrd

Writer
Rhea Yablon Kennedy
Contributors

David Tossman Darlene Prickett

**Design/Production**Graphic Design & Production

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98-342M

#### Gallaudet Fact—

Answer: The answer is B.—Seven percent. Though the percentage of international students varies from year to year, going as high as 14 percent in 2004, this is the current number, according to the 2007 Enrollment Report.

### Awards Day recognizes notable campus individuals

he annual University Awards Day, with the theme "Recognizing Our Community of Excellence," was held April 16 in Elstad Auditorium. This year's welcome was given by Dr. Arlene Kelly, associate professor in the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies, and Angela Farrand, associate professor in the Theatre Arts Department. Introductory remarks were made by President Davila and Provost Weiner, and the emcees were Ethan Sinnott and Kalena Smith.

Following is the list of outstanding individuals from the campus community who were recognized:

Alumni Scholarship Awards

Linwood Smith Scholarship Awards:

Selina Agyen

Nkiruka Helen Akunwafor

Le Toudjida Allara

Roslyn E. Delgado

Ashley Dillard

Candance Jones

Vyron M. Kinson

Ibidun Tola Osundare

Candis Peterson

National Organization of Phi Kappa Zeta

Phi Kappa Zeta Scholarships:

Wendy Korn—sophomore

Diana Berrigan—junior

Kandace Morris—senior

Catherine Bronson Higgins Scholarship:

Wendy Korn

Frances Norton Runde Award:

Renca Dunn

Megan Klusza

Lisa Monroe

Erica Wilkins

Academic Schools and Departments

Department of American Sign Language

and Deaf Studies

Marie J. Phillips Award:

John Winstead

Department of Applied Literacy

Most Motivated Readers:

Meera Domir

Ean Strickland

Stacy Wosika

Daniel ILaire

Department of Art Students of Note:

Clara Baldwin

Brandon Winebarger

Bradley Gantt

Adam Johnson

Cloe Canela

Outstanding Senior Awards:

Renelle Dupont

Amanda Schahn

Jiayi Zhou

Department of Biology

Walter Krug Award:

Dean Rousseau

Faustine Hernandez Department of Business

Academic Excellence Awards:

Arthur Chan

Onyemachi Davis

Victor Yu

Dr. Frank B. Sullivan Excellence in

Business Award:

Florinda Africa

Joseph Mattivi Scholarship Award:

Min Nan

Thermadom Stalin

Kallie Williams

Department of Chemistry and Physics

General Chemistry Award:

Erica Wilkins

Charles R. Ely Award in Chemistry:

Alex Matsche

Ryan Kobylarz

Charles R. Ely Award for Women:

Darle Konkel

Department of Communication Studies Alice M. Teegarden Memorial Awards:

Tami Jo Aanrud

RitaAnn DeBono

Matthew Gilsbach

Megan Klusza Jennifer Lash

Virginia Morford

National Communication Studies Honor Society—Lambda Pi Eta/Iota Nu

Chapter:

Tami Jo Aanrud

**Jody Bingham** 

Colleen Farrell

Jessica Hobbs

Lisa Monroe

Virginia Morford

Mark Ramirez

Michelle Sherbondy

Community Service

Volunteer of the Year:

Rowena Winiarczyk

Organization of the Year:

Phi Kappa Zeta Sorority

Student Affairs

Grace Trancone Award:

Joel Garcia

Dedicated Faculty Award:

Cristi Berdichevsky

Dedicated Staff Award:

Fabienne Collson

Student of the Year Award: Roni McCarthy

Department of Education

Undergraduate Education Award:

Maria Saccente Cara Keith

Metamorphosis Award:

Maria (Carmen) Jimenez

Department of English

MacDougall Creative Writing Awards:

First place—Nicholas Gould

Second place—Kathleen Roberts

Third place—Renca Dunn and Joshua Feldman

Lillian Gourley Rakow Creative Writing

Awards:

Kathleen Roberts—senior winner Jonathan Feldman—junior winner

Victoria LeBlanc—sophomore winner Department of Family and Child Studies

FCS Outstanding Senior Award:

Kristy Borsotti

FCS Outstanding Internship Awards:

Kimberly Gray Yessica Martinez

Ami Shah

First Year Experience

Outstanding First Year Student Awards:

Ricky Alewine

Roslyn Delgado

Colleen Doyle

Christopher Kearney

Ian DeAndrea-Lazarus Robert Siebert

Elizabeth Steyer

University Library

Undergraduate Research Paper

Award:

Christopher Valle

Department of Government and History The Daughters of Union Veterans of the

Civil War History Essay Award: Glen Freake

Women's Studies Award

Rachel Mazique

Department of Mathematics and

Computer Science

(LEFT) Dr. Joseph Kinner, associate professor in the Department of Government and History, received the Tower Clock Yearbook Dedication. (Also pictured is Justin Jackerson, editor-in-chief of the yearbook). (RIGHT) President Davila congratulates Jean Berube, assistant professor in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, who was

Leon Auerbach Freshman Mathematics

Kristoffer Lauderbaugh

Office of Admissions Student Ambassador of the Year:

named Distinguished Faculty Member.

Stephanie Kesterke

Department of Physical Education and

Dorothy Hamberg Memorial Leadership Award:

Lee Jones

Department of Psychology

Outstanding Students in Psychology:

Gizelle Gilbert Kandace Morris

Psi Chi Inductees, 2007-08:

Heidi Henley Wendy Korn

Allison Marsh Rachel Mazique

Jeremy Saling Brian Tingley

Laura Waterhouse Kelly Wolf

Michael Yates

Department of Social Work The Dorothy Polakoff Award for Highest

Tomeka King

Professional Development Award:

Ismella Saul Department of Sociology

Sociology Department Award:

Sara Collins Department of Theatre Arts

Outstanding Contribution in Theatre

Production: Goya: en la Quinta del Sordo

Abby Simonson Outstanding Contribution in Theatre

Production: Deaf World Odyssey

Helen Way Outstanding Contribution in Theatre

Production: Agamemnon

Li Ping Wu Outstanding Contribution in Theatre

Performance:

Deaf World Odyssey

Kaori Takeuchi Outstanding Contribution in Theatre Performance:

Brady Humphrey Outstanding Contribution in Theatre

Agamemnon

Performance: Goya: en la Quinta del Sordo (2008

American College Theatre Festival,

Raaed Abu-Atteeyuh Marianna Devenow

Region II; Pittsburg, Pa.)

Julia Golden

Danielle Graybill April Jackson

Daniel Pfaff

Joseph Pfaff

Hector Reynoso Kalena Smith

Mandie Smith Alesya Starayeva

Warren Trofimenkoff

Andrew Weidig Outstanding Contribution to the Theatre

Arts Department:

James Caverly Senior Service Award:

Aarron Loggins Gilbert C. Eastman Award:

Thelma Chimani Other Academic Awards

Black Males 2007 Inductees:

Richard Bailey Anthony Baskin

Onyemachi Davis

Michael Garland James Harrison

Johnny Jackson Jamaal Johnson

Vyron Kinson

Ricky Lockridge Marckenzie Loriston

Brian Lucas

Darin Smith Clifford Terry

Jamel White

2008 Inductees:

Seniors Jenee Alleman

William Gardner Milana Grinman

Marie Harrison

Adam Janisieski William Jennison

Lee Jones Megan Klusza

Jennifer Little Brian Nakamoto

**Juniors** Kirsta Michelle Brown Jodi Winkelmann

Award: Florinda Marie Africa

Alpha Sigma Pi Fraternity Mother of the Year:

Mary Lott Man of the Year:

Joseph Kolcun Teacher of the Year:

Dr. Michael Kemp

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Keeping the Promise: Education Deaf Kazeem Babatunde Martelle Washington Phi Alpha Pi Scholastic Honor Society Princess Bempong Faustine Hernandez Information Technology Services Information Technology Scholarship Student Organization Awards

## Clerc Center Happenings

### Gallaudet National Essay, Art, and ASL Contest winners announced

By Susan M. Flanigan

s reported in the March 28 issue of On the Green, students responded in record numbers to the 2008 Gallaudet National Essay, Art, and ASL Contest, which carried the theme, "Yes, I Can!" This year marked the first time for separate entry categories for elementary and high school deaf and hard of hearing students. The final tally of 623 entries included: 247 essay entries, 257 art entries, and 119 American Sign Language (ASL) entries.

#### Scholarships and Prizes

The University's Department of Enrollment Management will award scholarship money to the top-placing high school winners. The first place winner in the essay, art, and ASL categories will also be able to attend-tuition free—one of Gallaudet's summer programs for high school students, courtesy of the College of Professional Studies and Outreach. The Clerc Center will provide cash prizes for the elementary school winners.

Gallaudet will double the scholarship money for any of the top three winners in each category who apply to, are accepted, and elect to attend the University. All winning essay and art entries will be published in Celebrate! the Clerc Center's annual showcase magazine of the work of deaf and hard of hearing students.

#### 2008 Contest Winners

This year's first-place winners are as follows. In the 15-19 age category: Essay—Danielle Sprague from The Learning Center for the Deaf, Framingham, Mass.; Art—Andrea Marie Echavarria from the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, Pittsburgh; and ASL—Abbey Woodall from the Atlanta Area School for the Deaf, Clarkston, Ga. In the 9-14 age category: Essay- Maggie Kopp from the Texas School for the Deaf, Austin; Art-Katie Renee Baker from Odessa Middle School, Odessa, Mo.; and ASL—Jack Kielbus from the California School for the Deaf, Fremont.

#### Next Year's Contest

For the 2009 contest, the Clerc Center will be asking deaf and hard of hearing students throughout the country to respond through writing, art, or ASL to the theme: "Going Green: What I'm Doing to Help Save the Environment." For more information on next year's conclerccenternews@gallaudet.edu.

Gallaudet National Essay, Art, and ASL Contest Winners for 2008

Essay—ages 15-19

First Place—\$1,000 scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet) and Gallaudet Summer Program:

Danielle Sprague "Loud and Clear" The Learning Center for the Deaf Framingham, Mass.

Second Place—\$500 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Shubhangi Agrawal "Global Citizen" American High School Fremont, Calif.

Third Place—\$300 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Alexander Van Hook "Can't Is Not a Word" Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf Trenton, N.J.

Honorable Mention—\$100 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Robert J. Dooling "Solving Humankind's Puzzle" Burke High School Omaha, Neb.

Honorable Mention—\$100 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Amy McCollom "Yes, I Can!" The Learning Center for the Deaf Framingham, Mass.

Judges' Recognition:

Brienna Herold "Yes, I Can!" Minnesota North Star Academy St. Paul, Minn.

Editor's Choice:

Catharine Van Broekhoven Michigan School for the Deaf Flint, Mich.f

Art—ages 15-19 First Place- \$1,000 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Andrea Marie Echavarria-and Gallaudet Summer Program "I Can Be a Famous Artist" Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf Pittsburgh, Pa.

Second Place—\$500 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

**James Bushor** "So Much I Can Do!" Illinois School for the Deaf Jacksonville, Ill.

Third Place—\$300 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Megan Starks "Eye - Pod" Illinois School for the Deaf

Jacksonville, Ill. Honorable Mention—\$100 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Uy Nguyen "Little Boy Can Draw" Atlanta Area School for the Deaf Clarkston, Ga.

Honorable Mention—\$100 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Ashleigh Rice "Don't Give Up!" Washington School for the Deaf Vancouver, Wash.

Judges' Recognition: Tiffany D. Slieff "A Silent Heart Brings Its Own Achievement.' Berkmar High School

Editor's Choice: Darci Zook "The Power of Hands" Illinois School for the Deaf Jacksonville, Ill.

Lilburn, Ga.

ASL-ages 15-19 First Place—\$1,000 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet) and choice of Gallaudet Summer Program:

Abbey Woodall "Yes, I Can be an Actress" Atlanta Area School for the Deaf Clarkston, Ga.

Second Place—\$500 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

"Becoming an Author: As Easy as 1, 2, 3" Minnesota North Star Academy St. Paul, Minn.

Shannon Buelter

Third Place—\$300 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Shaynedonovan Kori Elliott "They tried to pull me down, should I let them pull me down?" Atlanta Area School for the Deaf Clarkston, Ill.

Honorable Mention—\$100 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet):

Maryam Ameena Hussein "Being in Wheelchair" Illinois School for the Deaf Jacksonville, Ill.

Honorable Mention—\$100 Scholarship (double if attending Gallaudet): Zerek De'Michael White "Just Believe" Atlanta Area School for the Deaf

Judges' Recognition: Cecilia Hanhikoski "Yes, I Can!"

Clarkston, Ga.

Minnesota North Star Academy St. Paul, Minn.

Editor's Choice: Whitney Ross "I Can Rehab"

Illinois School for the Deaf Jacksonville, Ill.

Essay—ages 9-14 First Place—\$100:

> Maggie Kopp "Paper, Pencil, and Deafness" Texas School for the Deaf

Second Place-\$75:

Austin, Tex.

Nia S. Lazarus "Capability" California School for the Deaf Fremont, Calif.

Third Place—\$50: Bridget Berrigan

"Yes, I Can Be Friends with Anyone." Kendall Demonstration Elementary School Washington, D.C.

Honorable Mention-\$25:

Danny Glazer "Dan Can" Swanson Elementary School Omaha, Neb.

Honorable Mention-\$25: Nathan Jalali "Yes, I Can!" Kansas School for the Deaf Olathe, Kan.

Judges' Recognition:

Brooke Stanfield "Yes, I Can!" Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind St. Augustine, Fla.

Editor's Choice:

Denetrice Arnold "My College Accepts Me" Atlanta Area School for the Deaf Clarkston, Ga.

Art—ages 9-14 First Place—\$100: Katie Renee Baker "Yes, I Can!" Odessa Middle School Odessa, Mo.

Second Place-\$75: Shawn J. Benavente California School for the Deaf Fremont, Calif.

Third Place—\$50: Nigel A. Burkhalter

"I Can Save Natural Resources." Texas School for the Deaf Austin, Tex.

Honorable Mention—\$25: Eriberta Pococa "I Can't:" IMPOSSIBLE! Illinois School for the Deaf Jacksonville, Ill.

Honorable Mention—\$25: Devyn R. Johnson "Yes, I Can Dance Soulja" Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind Staunton, Va.

continued on page 5



The Office of the Provost hosted a Language Planning and Bilingualism Retreat April 4 and 5, co-chaired by Dr. Benjamin Bahan (second from right), a professor in the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies, and Dr. Stephen Nover (second from left), director of The Center for ASL/English Bilingual Education and Research and the Language Planning Institute. Attendance at the retreat was by invitation and included campus-wide representation, including the Clerc Center. The retreat specifically explored the following areas: defining what it means to be a bilingual educational institution, challenges in establishing a bilingual institution, the concept of centralizing support for a bilingual institution, barriers that exist for centralizing this support, and short- and longterm planning. The retreat represents the beginning of ongoing work in this area. Follow-up steps will soon be identified and information and updates will be shared with the campus. (Also pictured are Provost Stephen Weiner and JoAnn Laboy, communication/process facilitator for the retreat.)

#### Gallaudet National Essay, Art, and ASL Contest winners announced

continued from page 4

Judges' Recognition:

Ian Hennig "I Can Do Everything." Texas School for the Deaf Austin, Tex.

Editor's Choice:

Anna Oberrender "I Can Make the Difference." Texas School for the Deaf Austin, Tex

ASL—ages 9-14 First Place-\$100: Jack Kielbus "Yes, I Can!" California School for the Deaf Fremont, Calif.

Second Place-\$75:

Conrad Baer

"Yes, I Can! William Hoy" California School for the Deaf Fremont, Calif.

Third Place—\$50:

Priscilla Castaneda

"Yes, I Can!" California School for the Deaf Fremont, Calif.

Honorable Mention—\$25:

Benjamin Ngov "Yes, I Can be an Artist" California School for the Deaf Fremont, Calif.

Honorable Mention—\$25:

ShaRae Himes

"Yes, I Can!" California School for the Deaf Fremont, Calif.

Judges' Recognition:

Niko Lutes-Stein "Yes, I Can Be a Chef" Texas School for the Deaf Austin, Tex.

Editor's Choice:

Connor Rosko

"I Can Change the World" Texas School for the Deaf Austin, Tex.

#### GCRC awards

continued from page 1

"I am honored to participate in such a significant 25-year milestone of recognizing individuals for their contributions for improving the community. It is quite an accomplishment and a great ongoing partnership between the University and the community."

The keynote speaker for the evening was Denise Rolark-Barnes, publisher of the Washington Informer newspaper, who praised the GCRC for revising its mission statement to broaden its scope and reach out to residents and programs of the city that extend beyond the boundaries of the Near Northeast Community. Rolark-Barnes encouraged the council to lend its support to an annual spelling bee she hosts and other efforts that encourage the city's youth.

## Campus Calendar

#### May

7-10—Spring final exams

12-Grades due from faculty by noon

15 - Graduate Awards and Hooding ceremonies, 4 p.m., Elstad Auditorium

15-16—Board of Trustees meeting

16-Commencement, 1:30 p.m., Field House

19—Summer Session begins

(BELOW) On April 22, Green Gallaudet hosted an Earth Day festival on the Gallaudet mall. There was face painting, flower pot

> decorating, flower planting, bracelet making, and free samples of vegan food. Green Gallaudet is a group of students, faculty, staff, teachers, and alumni who want to see a more environmentally friendly Gallaudet and a more sustainable world. (LEFT)

Also on that day, Bon Appétit highlighted its Low Carbon Diet program, an ongoing effort by Gallaudet's food service company to follow practices that reduce the impact food can have on climate change. The "low carbon" offerings included pizza with less cheese, alternatives to beef burgers, and more items that are locally produced or that are produced, made, or grown within the United States. This

reduces the amount of greenhouse gas-including methane produced by cows—and waste resulting from the foods' production.

Going forward, Bon Appétit will offer turkey burgers and turkey hot dogs in the Marketplace and Cafeteria and one pizza without cheese each day. It will also encourage people to use fewer paper goods.



#### University awards

continued from page 3

Academic Excellence by a Freshman Award:

Christopher Kearney Academic Excellence by a Sophomore Award:

Choices to reduce climate

Colleen Caverly Academic Excellence by a Junior Award:

Leala Holcomb Asian Pacific Association Outstanding Leadership:

Arlyn Penaranda Dedicated Member of the Year:

Mela Langinbelang Unsung Hero Award

Faustine Hernandez Social Justice Award: Jake Go

Academic Excellence Award: Ryan Barlongo

Young Leader Award: Olivia Liang

The Buff and Blue Writer of the Year:

Clyde Catron

Staff Member of the Year: Joshua Doudt Scott Madsen

Delta Epsilon Sorority Man of Merit Award:

Dr. Robert Harrison Woman of Worth Award:

Dr. Caroline Solomon

Ideal Female Student of the Year Award: Delia Lozano-Martinez

Ideal Male Student of the Year Award: Tyler DeShaw

Kappa Gamma Fraternity

Kappa Gamma Scholarship Awards: Daniel Markowski—freshman

Michael Harper—sophomore Dean Muszynski—junior

Dennis Cruz—senior Kappa Gamma Fraternity Faculty of the Year:

Dr. Michael Moore

Latino Student Union Dedicated Service Award:

Rachel Mazique

Hector Reynoso Phi Kappa Zeta Sorority

Agatha Tiegel Hanson Service Award:

Michelle Lapides

Leonard M. Elstad Award:

Rose Gunton-Rumball

Student Body Government

President's Award:

Joel Garcia

Jeanine Wiesblatt

Employees of the Year:

Richard Goode

Shanna Grossinger

Jacob Leffler

Ali Nehrir

Tower Clock Worker of the Year:

Blair Rasmus

University Awards

Office of the President

President's Council Award: Russel Harvard

Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award:

Richard Goode Aarron Loggins

Office of the Provost

Agatha Hanson Service Award:

Jenelle Thomas

Olof Hanson Service Award:

Aarron Loggins

Reginald Lewis Award:

Dean Rousseau

Robyn Miller-Oliver

Thomas S. Marr

Sara Collins Office of the President

2008 Distinguished Faculty Member

Award:

Jean Berube Tower Clock

2008 Yearbook Dedication:

Dr. Joseph Kinner

### News Roundup

#### Indiana School for the Deaf wins National Academic Bowl

Indiana School for the Deaf of Indianapolis, Ind., is the winner of the 12th annual Gallaudet University
National Academic Bowl. The team, including members Ann and Colin
Whited, Gabriel Paulone, Janna DiBiase, and coaches Mary Kovatch and Chuck
Daube, came back from an early deficit against second place winner Maryland
School for the Deaf to earn its first
Academic Bowl victory since 2003. In the third place match, EdmondsWoodway High School of Edmonds,
Wash., beat White Station High School of Memphis, Tenn.

President Davila addressed all of the teams at the conclusion of the championship match. "Throughout the past three days of the Academic Bowl, I was very impressed with the spirit of cooperation and teamwork by all of the team members and their coaches," he said. "I congratulate all of you."

In addition to the awards given to the place winners, two additional awards were presented. The Outstanding Player award went to Allison Weiner, a senior and team member from the Maryland School for the Deaf. The Sportsmanship team award was presented to W.T. Woodson High School of Fairfax, Va.

For more information about the championship and photos from the competition, visit the official Academic Bowl website at ab.gallaudet.edu.

#### Young dramatist debuts ghostly tale

A "Drama 102" class assignment inspired MSSD junior Sara Moore to pursue playwriting. This year, the 17-year-old from West Virginia is producing and directing her own ghost-busting thriller, Emily Robinson, for the school's spring play.

Moore originally wrote the play as her final quarter project—students trying their hand at writing a script—for

teacher Laurie Anderson's drama class. "Since I enjoy watching scary movies, I thought I would write a scary script," said Moore. "I love how ghost and mystery stories make you wonder what'll happen next."

Writing a play takes one set of skills, and transposing the written play to a stage production and acting as its director takes quite another. When asked what her greatest challenge was in bringing the story to life from the printed page, Moore replied, "Making decisions...I could not depend on other people to make decisions for me. I needed to deal with hard stuff, like telling performers and crew what to do, working with people who were hard to deal with, and making sure the settings matched what I had in my mind."

Emily Robinson reflects her combined interest in ghost tales and historical fiction. Here is how she describes the plot: "The Flanco family moves from California to West Virginia and settles into an old house. One day they see a strange girl in a red dress they don't recognize. A woman pays a visit to their house and tells the story of her experience of seeing the same girl when her family moved into the same house. A quiet girl warns the family about the ghost [of a girl], Emily Robinson, who was hung by the British during the Revolutionary War for being a spy. Emily only appears someplace near the house on July 26. The family tries to figure out why she won't leave the house alone and what she wants.'

Come and enjoy a performance of Emily Robinson May 1-3 at MSSD's Theatre Malz. Tickets are available at the door on Friday, May 2, and Saturday, May 3.

#### Gallaudet Hillel hosts ASL/English Passover seder

The Passover story is one of slavery, struggle, and redemption.

Moses, the story goes, urged the Egyptian pharaoh to free his fellow Jews from bondage. But the pharaoh refused. Only after the Egyptians were tormented by 10 plagues sent by God did the ruler finally allow the Jewish slaves to leave. They fled in a great hurry, fearing the pharaoh would change his mind, and Moses led them through the Red Sea to freedom.

Every year, Jews gather to tell this story, celebrate their freedom, and remember those who are not yet free. On April 19, deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing individuals and families gathered in the Jordan Student Academic Center to carry on this tradition. The annual seder is open to the entire Gallaudet community and is hosted by Gallaudet's chapter of Hillel, the organization for Jewish life on campus.

The seder tables included the traditional symbolic foods, but notably absent were the haggadot— the traditional book that tells the Passover story—that are typically found at each place setting. Instead, a screen stood against one wall where it could display the words of prayers, songs, and topics for discussion for all to see.

"You don't have to try to hold a book and sign, or look back and forth to figure out which page we're on," Hillel Director Paula Tucker explained to the participants. "Everyone is free to participate, and the seder is accessible to all of us."

The 40 participants took turns stepping to the front of the gathering and leading the seder. Each part was presented in ASL, English, and Hebrew.

When the time came for the meal, kitchen helpers Jane Norman and Geoffrey Whitebread brought out matzo ball soup, roasted chicken, grilled vegetables, and other kosher delicacies. Dr. Norman, a professor in the Department of Communications Studies, and Whitebread, an Honors Program specialist, were both back for their second year of volunteering.

The Gallaudet way of leading the seder may have been different, but the closing of the seder preserved a time-honored tradition. As soon as it was time to find the afikomen—a piece of hidden matzo—the children went running in every direction. One returned triumphant, and all of the searchers were rewarded with treat bags filled with an assortment of kosher candy.



Eight members were inducted into the Gallaudet Chapter of Lambda Pi Eta, the official honor society of the National Communication Association, at an April 23 ceremony. Pictured (from left) are: Dr. Lillie Ransom, faculty advisor, Jessica Hobbs, Jodie Bingham, and Virginia Morford. (Not pictured are Mark Ramirez, Colleen Farrel, Michelle Sherbondy, and

Tami Jo Anrud.) The goals of Lambda Pi Eta are to encourage and recognize scholastic achievement, stimulate interest in communication, promote professional development, exchange ideas about the communication field, and foster close relationships among faculty and students.

## Roving Reporter

### What is your advice to the Class of 2008?



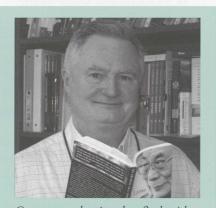
Make good use of the knowledge and skills you have acquired at Gallaudet to build a successful career. Success is almost never accidental; it takes careful planning, execution, and following through to achieve your career and other life goals.

Isaac Agboola, interim dean, CLAST



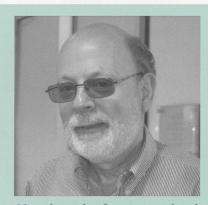
Be proud of your accomplishments at Gallaudet University and reflect on your memories, apply what you learned, and bring these positive experiences to share with others. Go Bison!!

Sarah Doleac, physical education assistant professor, softball head coach, and assistant director of the Personal Discovery Program in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation



On your graduation day, find pride, confidence, and courage to help with future struggles. Rest briefly on your hard-gained laurels, and then continue to create new goals and dreams. Try to find a way to give back as much as you have been given.

J. Doug Miller, professor, Department of English



Never lose sight of your personal goals and strive to achieve them. At the same time, never lose sight of those around you and strive to be supportive of them.

> Dr. Robert Harrison, chair, Department of Communication Studies