

LAFAYETTE

Winter 2011

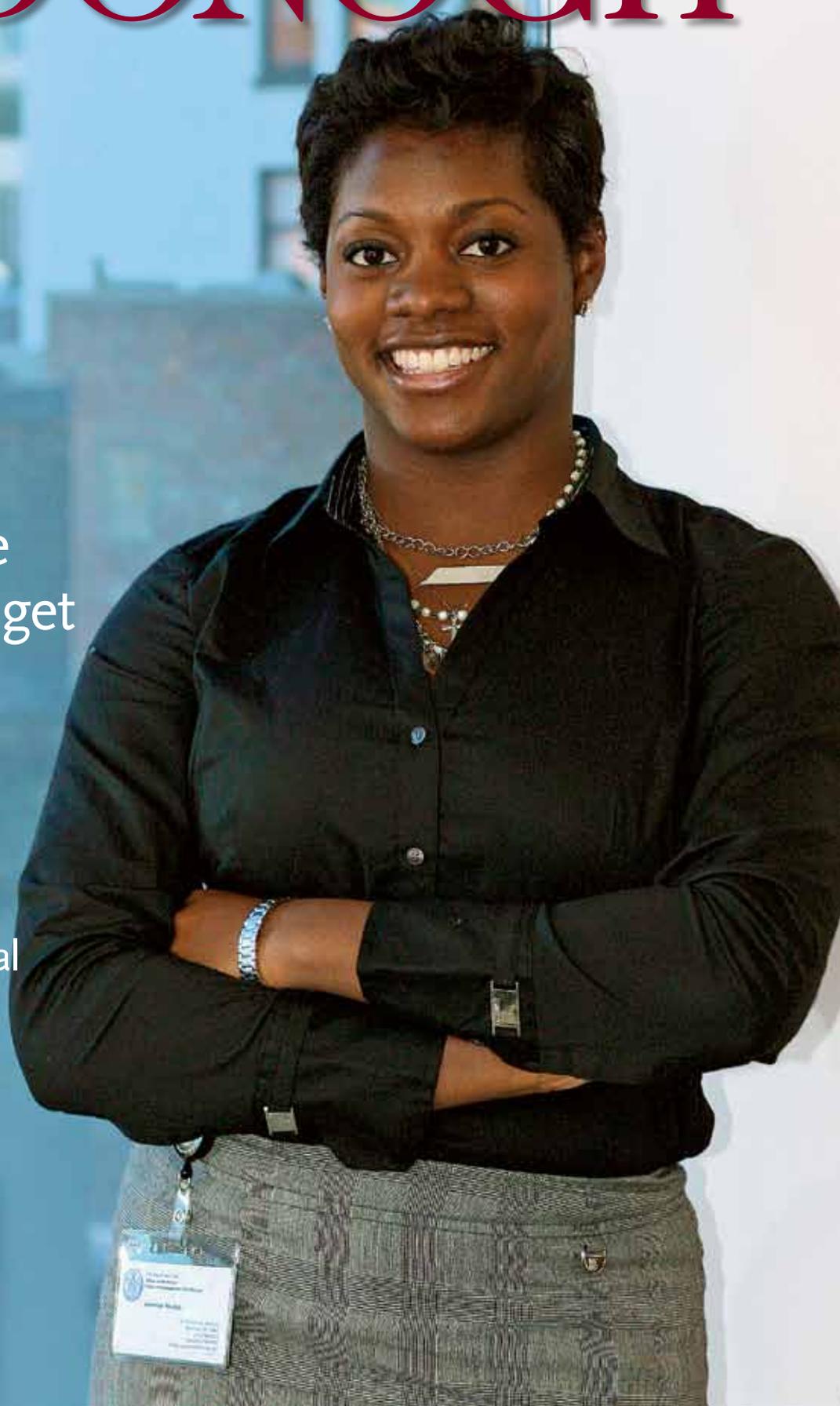
McDONOUGH

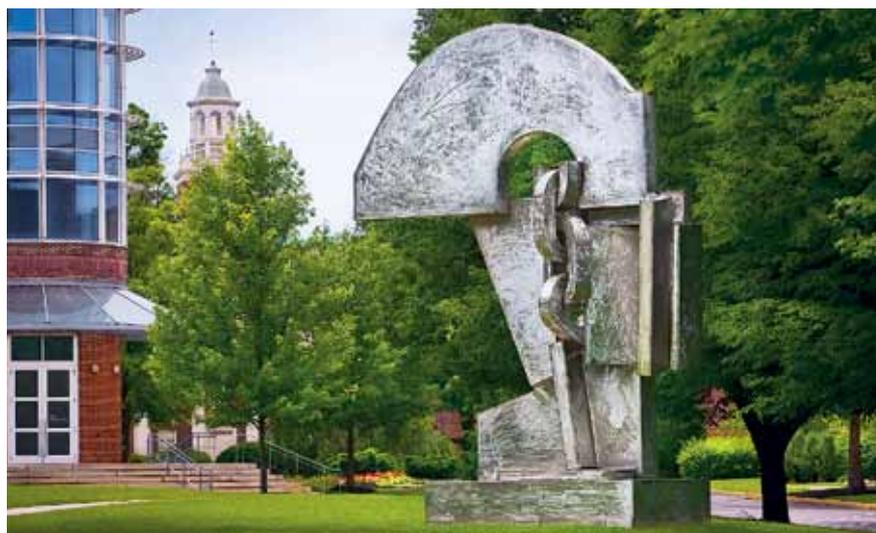
REPORT

Youngs '07
Helps Manage
Big Apple Budget

Mentoring Is
Heart of the Matter
for Bailey '95

Brotherhood Unity
Overturned National
Racist Policy





David Kearny McDonogh, M.D.

Aug. 10, 1821, New Orleans, La.—Jan. 15, 1893, Newark, N.J. ♦ Class of 1844

The McDonogh Network, which provides networking opportunities for African American and other black alumni and students, is named for David McDonogh, M.D., and is associated with the *McDonogh Report*, a magazine launched in 2007 to celebrate the impressive contributions of African Americans to the Lafayette College community and beyond. The magazine is not only about past and present achievements, but also about aspirations—the hopes and dreams of all.

In addition, the Presidential Lecture Series on Diversity, launched in 2000 to encourage intellectual discourse on diversity, was renamed in honor of McDonogh in 2009. It is now known as the President's McDonogh Lecture Series.

When David Kearny McDonogh came to Lafayette College in 1838, he was a slave. His owner, John McDonogh, a Louisiana rice planter, sent him to become educated in order to join a group of missionaries to go to Liberia. But McDonogh wanted to become a physician. When he graduated in 1844 as the College's first black graduate, he went on to earn a medical degree at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York. He became a member of the staff of the New York Hospital and New York Eye and Ear Infirmary. After his death, McDonogh Memorial Hospital was named in his honor and opened as New York City's first hospital to admit physicians and patients without discrimination by race. He is buried in the historic Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx.



The sculpture, *Transcendence* (shown above), which stands adjacent to the David Bishop Skillman Library, was created by Melvin Edwards to honor McDonogh. Dedicated in September 2008, it is made of stainless steel and stands 16 feet tall. The massive upward-reaching form represents struggle, tension, and achievement. Edwards was artist in residence at the College's Experimental Printmaking Institute in 2004-05, supported by the David L. Temple Sr. and Helen J. Temple Visiting Artist Fund. ♦

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Diversity and Inclusiveness Statement

Lafayette College is committed to creating a diverse community: one that is inclusive and responsive, and is supportive of each and all of its faculty, students, and staff. The College seeks to promote diversity in its many manifestations. These include but are not limited to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, and place of origin. The College recognizes that we live in an increasingly interconnected, globalized world, and that students benefit from learning in educational and social contexts in which there are participants from all manner of backgrounds. The goal is to encourage students to consider diverse experiences and perspectives throughout their lives. All members of the College community share a responsibility for creating, maintaining, and developing a learning environment in which difference is valued, equity is sought, and inclusiveness is practiced. It is a mission of the College to advance diversity as defined above. The College will continue to assess its progress in a timely manner in order to ensure that its diversity initiatives are effective. **Adopted 2009**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Photo by Chuck Zovko

Transforming Moments

During this academic year, we have been celebrating two significant milestones in the College's history—the 40th anniversary of coeducation and the 80th anniversary of the dedication of Kirby Hall of Civil Rights. On Oct. 20, hundreds attended the rededication ceremony, which marked the history of the building and the new exhibits in the lobby illustrating the progress of civil rights over the past eight decades at Lafayette and across the nation.

The new displays were developed by a working group of students, faculty, and staff. The group was formed after student leaders expressed questions and raised concerns about the context and meaning of the building's dedicatory plaque, inscriptions on the building's exterior, and other features relating to the themes of civil rights and diversity.

The way in which Americans view civil rights has changed dramatically since 1930. Concerns about external threats to constitutional freedoms have been extended to include concerns about internal justices affecting the rights of members of our own communities, including women, African Americans, immigrants, and others. Our students, in particular, were eager to see the building reflect more recent developments and new ideas.

In this issue you'll read about another instance when student concern led to dramatic change, in this case the overturning of racist policies in fraternity membership rules (see "A Story of Two Brothers," page 6).

Kirby Hall will continue to nurture the broadening, deepening, and strengthening of the ideal of civil rights in years to come. But at its core, it remains what it has always been, a place where dedicated faculty inspire bright and eager young people. We are reminded this year, in particular, of our dedication to the core mission it supports—the transformation of young lives. And, in turn, to being open to the transformations that the students themselves may bring to the College.

Daniel H. Weiss

LAFAYETTE McDONOGH REPORT

Celebrating the contributions of African Americans to the Lafayette community

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Stevie O. Daniels

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The McDonogh Network is an active and engaged networking organization consisting of multiple generations of Lafayette College black alumni. The network enriches and informs its constituents through communications, events, and activities that promote their interests on campus and in the community at large. The organization supports and mentors the current black student body by encouraging their academic and social progress and promotes diversity among the student body.

Committees include events, communication, professional development and networking, resource development and fund-raising, ad hoc governance, and recruitment, retention, and reclamation. To get involved, contact Kimberly K. Spang, Associate Vice President, Development and Advancement Services, (610) 330-5037; spangk@lafayette.edu.

McDonogh Report is published annually for African American and black alumni, students, parents, faculty, staff, and friends of Lafayette College by the Communications Division, Feather House, 17 Cattell St., Easton, PA 18042; 610 330-5120; fax 610 330-5217; danielss@lafayette.edu.

For more, visit
sites.lafayette.edu/mcdonogh/

PRESSING FORWARD

Kenya Allen '02 is a rising star with the Social Security Administration.

By Kate Helm



EARLY IN HIS CAREER with the Social Security Administration (SSA), **Kenya Allen '02** made a difference in people's lives but wanted more. As a lead program analyst at SSA's headquarters in Baltimore, Md., Allen now impacts programs that affect millions of Americans.

"I do not have to go far to see the value of my work," says Allen, who began working for SSA as social insurance specialist after graduating with a degree in psychology. "I have family, friends, and neighbors who rely on Social Security disability benefits to help fulfill their basic living needs."

One of 50 employees selected from 2,100 applicants for the SSA's National Leadership Program, he rotated through a variety of challenging leadership and developmental assignments over 18 months. He obtained his current position after a four-month shift with the Office of Disability Determinations.

Allen monitors and forecasts the impact of state furloughs and hiring freezes on disability claims processing. Fully funded by SSA, including staff salaries and benefits, state disability agencies process medical determinations for eligibility. Despite being federally funded, some agencies are subjected to statewide furloughs, delaying millions of dollars in disability payments to Americans in need.

Allen works hard to convince government officials of the devastating impact these state furloughs have on people who rely on disability benefits. The advice of Lafayette professors often echoes in his head when he drafts testimony, letters, and other high-level correspondence to support SSA's proposed legislation to prohibit states from

furloughing federally funded disability services without SSA authorization.

"In almost every course I took, whether it was biology, government and law, or psychology, there was an expectation for students to clearly and effectively organize and express their thoughts," he says. "I write for diverse audiences daily, including agency executives, Congress, and the public. Much of the advice and feedback from my professors still resonates, and

I regularly employ what I learned about writing."

More than academics molded Allen into the leader he is today. A starter at defensive back for two and a half years on Lafayette's Division I football team, he was a recipient of the James F. Bryant '40 Award for Excellence and earned Patriot League Rookie of the Year honors. On the football field, he learned how to react to life's curveballs after suffering a career-ending head injury his junior year.

"I learned about resiliency and not quitting in the face of adversity; I served as a student coach my senior season," says Allen, who also was president of Brothers of Lafayette and director of marketing activities for the Aaron O. Hoff Memorial Project. "A large part of the Lafayette experience is about growing and experiencing new things. As a student-athlete, I built lifelong connections with talented and dedicated individuals who were willing to press forward even when things were not going well. We continued to work hard and strived to get better one play at a time. Because of that spirit of resiliency, many of us have moved on to do wonderful things since Lafayette." ♦



MANAGING THE BIG APPLE BUDGET

Photos by Michael Ceramita

Vanessa Youngs '07 is a public service leader through her work, her education, and her volunteer activities in New York City.

By Robert Bruce Slater

As a budget analyst for the City of New York, **Vanessa E. Youngs '07** has the opportunity to participate in policy decisions that can better the lives of city residents. “The most meaningful part of my work,” reports Youngs, “is the opportunity to participate in issues that have an actual impact in the neighborhoods where I live, work, study, and play.”

In the future Youngs wants to play an even larger role in public service. This May she will complete a master’s degree in urban policy at the New School for Management and Urban Policy. She has been nominated for a 2011 Presidential Management Fellowship and would like the opportunity to work for the U.S. Department of Justice. One day she plans to run for political office because as an

“I participate in issues that have an actual impact in the neighborhoods where I live, work, study, and play.”

elected official “I can most effectively serve the community.”

Youngs is part of the Miscellaneous Revenues Unit of the city’s budget office. This division tracks and forecasts city revenues from all sources other than taxes, including parking tickets, license fees, and permits. She has responsibility for the budget of city agencies such as the Taxi and Limousine Commission, Department of Buildings, and Department of Housing Preservation and Development.

Working with members of the City Council and their aides, Youngs also reviews pending legislation to see how it will impact the city’s budget and analyzes how new technology can reduce costs and increase productivity. “For example,” she says, “when the Department of Buildings wants to upgrade its inspection system, it’s my job to establish new inspection fees and to make sure the department has the resources to implement the program.” Each time she rides in a New York City taxi, Youngs takes pride in the automated passenger information screens and credit card payment devices, both projects that she helped develop and implement.

Youngs’ current graduate work gets her even more involved in social policy projects that hold a special place in her heart. One assignment was to design an outreach program for the NYC Department of Homeless Services that seeks to reduce mortgage foreclosures. A pilot program based on the graduate school project is currently being tested in some neighborhoods of the city. Also, as part of her master’s thesis program, she is developing a community-based organization of legislators, clergy, nonprofit agencies, and local law enforcement that has the goal of reducing gun-related crime in Harlem.

“These programs are great way for me to find workable solutions for some of the city’s most pressing challenges,” Youngs states. “They feed my passion for social justice and the government’s ability to implement strong policy solutions.”

Youngs is also involved in the Girl Scouts of America, Young Professionals for Change, and the National Action Network. In addition, she donates her time to New York Cares, the city’s largest volunteer organization. In her commitment to public service, Youngs is continuing to follow a path that began on College Hill. At Lafayette she was a member of Students for Social Justice and served as secretary for Nia, a women’s support group.

Youngs also was a standout sprinter for the Lafayette track team. A four-year varsity letter winner, she

maintains the College’s third best all-time performance in the 200-meter dash. Her fastest time in the 100-meter dash was only three-tenths of a second off the College record.

At Lafayette, the Mount Vernon, N.Y., native “fell in love” with sociology

while taking her first introductory class. She majored in sociology and added a minor in economics and business. “Lafayette professors are passionate about their subjects, and they made them relevant for me.”

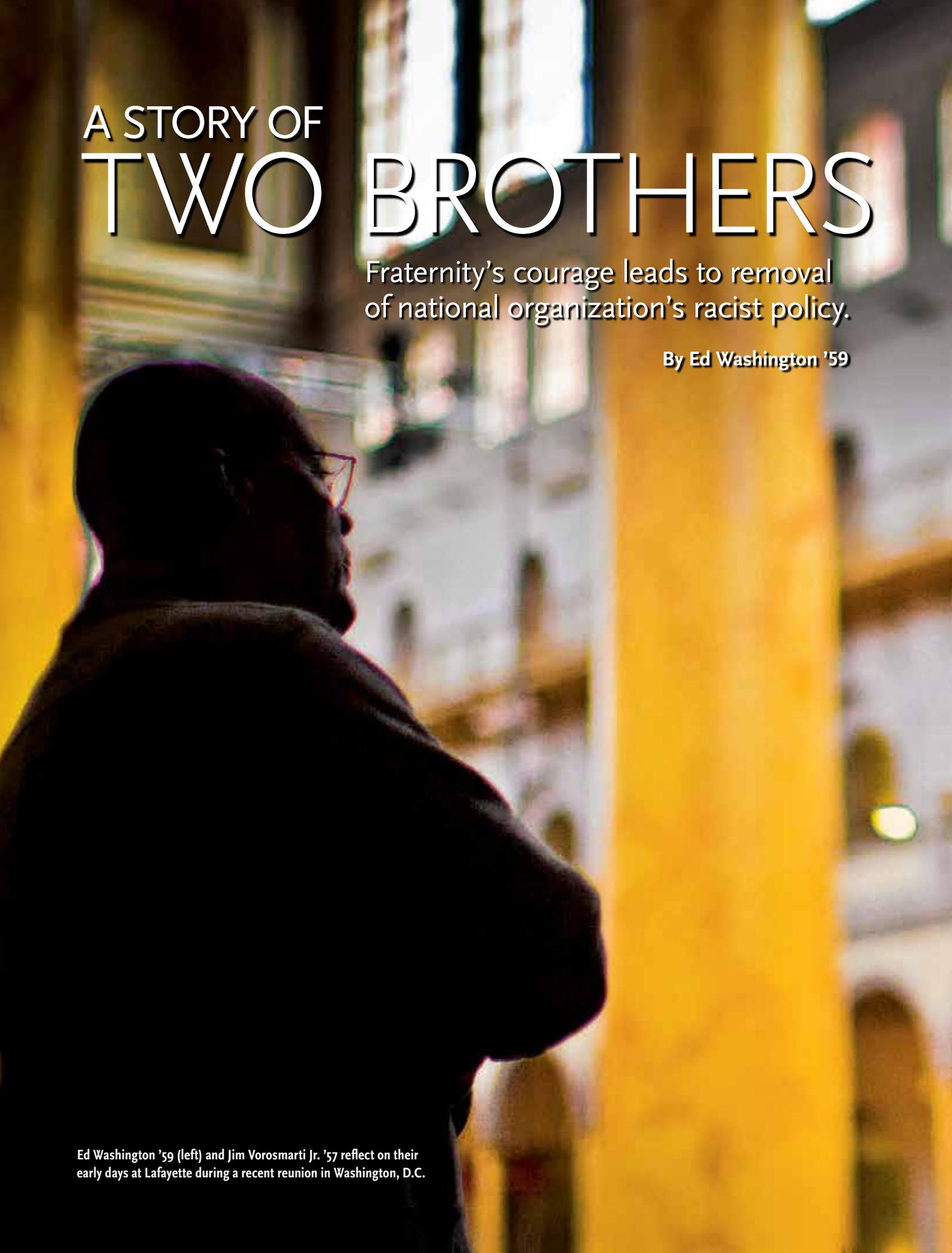
When Youngs began her job search, she took a two-pronged approach. One resume was geared toward her goal to find a research position at a public policy think-tank. But she prepared a second one that emphasized her minor in economics and business. During a career fair at Columbia University, she left the second one with a representative of the New York City mayor’s office. Shortly after, she was hired by the Office of Management and Budget where her first role was the development of budgets for the offices of city clerk, district attorney, and public advocate.

Youngs credits the strong liberal arts curriculum at Lafayette with fine-tuning her interpersonal skills that enable her to communicate effectively in a business setting. Her supervisor in the city’s budget department said one of the reasons she was hired was that during her job interview she conveyed a strong ability to relate to others.

“I had a good time at Lafayette in and out of the classroom,” says Youngs. “But most importantly, I realize now that the college prepared me for the road ahead.” ♦



Vanessa Youngs '07 (left) works with Katherine Alagar, budget analyst, on city revenue forecasting.



A STORY OF TWO BROTHERS

Fraternity's courage leads to removal
of national organization's racist policy.

By Ed Washington '59

Ed Washington '59 (left) and Jim Vorosmarti Jr. '57 reflect on their
early days at Lafayette during a recent reunion in Washington, D.C.



Photos by Jeffrey MacMillan

What I experienced when I arrived on the campus of Lafayette College in Easton, Pa., in 1955 can only be explained as culture shock. I graduated from Joel Spingarn High School in the District of Columbia on the heels of the Supreme Court decision that struck down segregation in the public schools of America. While Spingarn was a segregated, all-black school, I was one of only a handful of African Americans sprinkled among 1,500 all-male students at Lafayette. Faces, clothing styles, slang expressions, and music were different.

At the start of my second semester, another black freshman, Victor Partridge of Atlanta, and I were approached separately by members of Lafayette's chapter of Phi Kappa Tau (Alpha Omicron), with offers to join their ranks. . . .

At the time, Phi Kappa Tau had 71 chapters on college campuses but no "negro" members. As I remember, we were told a gentlemen's agreement existed in the National Constitution that restricted such membership, but our chapter brothers had already begun efforts to have the discriminatory language removed. Vic and I . . . accepted the offers to pledge.

When we returned from summer vacation in September, the issue was still unresolved. The Oct. 12, 1956 issue of *The Lafayette* reported that "the chapter [Alpha Omicron] was in disagreement with certain of the fraternity's policies, particularly membership policies." [Two weeks later the fraternity broke from the national and formed a local group named Delta Sigma. Each brother voluntarily resigned from the national.]

(continued on next page)



After more than five decades, Ed Washington '59 (left) and Jim Vorosmarti Jr. '57 catch up on each other's lives in a very different world from those early years in the 1950s at Lafayette.

A few of the upperclassmen brothers continued to pursue their ultimate goal of striking the discriminatory clause from the fraternity's constitution. In the meantime, Vic and I were initiated into Delta Sigma. . . we both were heartened because we knew the brothers had voted individually, secretly, and unanimously.

Occasionally, our brothers were harassed by students who disagreed with their efforts to establish open membership in Phi Kappa Tau and set an example for all college fraternities.

We both grew up in the segregated South. . . We understood what was happening within Phi Kappa Tau, but not its total significance. To us, life at Lafayette was such a great step forward.

I left Lafayette that year, and only returned once. Nearly 30 years later, I found Vic's phone number in an

Atlanta phone directory and called him. . . I learned that Phi Kappa Tau had modified its membership policy, had re-established its relationship with the original Alpha Omicron chapter, and initiated the active brothers into the fraternity. It was then that I first thought to seek initiation "one of these days."

On Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, more than 50 years after my college days, my pastor, Dr. Wallace Charles Smith, delivered a sermon to frame the start of African American History Month within its spiritual context. He referred to the struggle for civil rights in America. Not all the advances were made by the handful of men and women whose names immediately come to mind. Much progress was made by people who took small steps, people whose names and accomplishments never appeared in headlines. I realized that I was one of those people, and that what



**Civil Rights
at Lafayette
1800-2010**

1824 Lafayette College founded and named for the Marquis de Lafayette, anti-slavery advocate, supporter of rights for French Protestants, promoter of democratic revolutions.

1826 Pennsylvania legislature grants Lafayette College a charter but requires addition of Article VIII, which guaranteeing that no persons shall

be denied admittance or opportunity to serve as president, trustee, or faculty member on account of religious preferences.

1832 Lafayette opens with a local black student, Aaron Hoff, in the first class.

1836 Additional black students admitted to be trained for the ministry in Liberia.

1838 Two slaves, David and Washington McDonogh, are sent from Louisiana to study at Lafayette. They are freed when they arrive in the North, but are subject to much discrimination.

1842 Washington McDonogh leaves Lafayette and sails for Liberia with other freed slaves from Louisiana.

1843 John Bemo, Seminole Indian and nephew of Chief Osceola, enrolled and in residence for four years. College expected to admit 10 Choctaw Indians, who never matriculated.

1844 David McDonogh is first black student to graduate.

1846 Last black students in residence for the next 100 years.

1869 Lafayette awards honorary degree to Edward Blyden, noted Liberian scholar and diplomat.

1870 After a contingent of female students from Vassar College visits, the idea of admitting women is promoted in the Easton and Lafayette newspapers.

Fraternity Won Encounter with Racism in 1950s

When I entered Lafayette in 1953, there was little student concern about civil rights. By 1955, things began to change.

Phi Kappa Tau, the fraternity to which I belonged, decided to pledge two black freshmen, **Edwin Washington '59** and **Victor Partridge '59**, because we liked them and wanted them to be brothers. We were unaware of any clause in the national constitution discriminating against any specific group of people. We soon heard from our national office; they cited a "gentleman's agreement," which stated that no chapter should pledge anyone who might cause embarrassment to any other chapter or brother. We also heard vociferously from one chapter alumnus who appeared at the house one day in a rage about what we had done and threatened to have the chapter alumni council take all the furnishings out of the house if we went ahead. Luckily, other alumni members were very supportive, encouraging us and ignoring him.

Visits by various officials of the national office, including the president, were made to convince us to keep Washington and Partridge as social members and not full

brothers. The chapter unanimously voted not to do so.

We presented our case to the National Convention in June 1956. Unfortunately, we were voted down, 46 to 36. In fall 1956, the chapter voted unanimously to resign from Phi Kappa Tau and set up a local fraternity called Delta Sigma.

We did not stand alone. In April 1956, the Academic Council published a resolution to abolish all social organizations that had local or national constitutions restricting race, religion, or color. The Lafayette Inter-fraternity Council voted to back any fraternity that adjusted accordingly. Also, on Oct. 23, the faculty published a recommendation that "no social fraternity should have continued recognition by Lafayette College whose local chapter is not free to elect to membership any individual on the basis of his merit as a person."

Within a few years, Phi Kappa Tau and other national fraternities made the appropriate constitutional changes, and Delta Sigma again became a chapter of Phi Kappa Tau.

I do not think that any of us thought we were civil rights activists—we just

wanted to have as brothers people with whom we wanted to associate. We also never realized how far-reaching this would be for the College itself. I am still very proud of my fraternity brothers at the time, the alumni who supported us, and the College faculty and administration.

—James Vorosmarti Jr. '57

Editor's Note: This essay is a shortened version of the original, published on the Lafayette College web site in July 2007. After earning his M.D. in 1961, James Vorosmarti Jr. '57 served 26 years in the U.S. Navy including tours as senior medical officer at the Submarine Base, Pearl Harbor, and with the Navy Deep Submergence Project.

As an exchange officer with the Royal Navy, he directed the deep diving research program at the Institute of Naval Medicine and Royal Naval Physiological Laboratory. He later served as commanding officer of the Naval Medical Research Institute. Since retiring, Vorosmarti has been a consultant in environmental and occupational medicine for such clients as the Office of Naval Research and Smithsonian Institute.

Vic, the Phi Kappa Tau brothers, and I did was a small victory in that struggle. Again, I thought that I would seek initiation "one of these days" and in so doing, finally show my appreciation and respect to the Phi Tau brothers for their efforts and sacrifices. The following Sunday, our assistant pastor, the Rev. George E. Mensah Sr., preached

that "waiting upon the Lord" is not passive; it requires positive action.

That evening, I sent an email message to the Phi Kappa Tau headquarters... I asked if I was still eligible for initiation. The response came quickly from Tim Hudson, director of chapter services, who had heard of the events

1883 Susan B. Anthony lectures on women's suffrage in Pardee Hall.

1920 F.M. Kirby establishes the Fred Morgan Kirby Professorship of Civil Rights.

1930 Kirby Hall of Civil Rights dedicated.

1947 Lafayette admits two Tuskegee Airmen, Roland Brown '49 and David Showell '51, members of the first black aviators unit in the U.S. military.

1948 Lafayette's football team receives bid to Sun Bowl in El Paso, Texas, played in a segregated stadium. The College is told it cannot bring its black halfback, David Showell. The

College turns down the bid, an action that helps lead to the integration of the Sun Bowl in 1952.

1950s Lafayette begins to admit small numbers of black students. The College continues to have unwritten quotas for the admission of black and non-Protestant students.

1954 Clay Ketcham, a member of the Education Department, is first woman hired permanently for the Lafayette faculty.

1956 Faculty adopts a resolution prohibiting discriminatory clauses in fraternity constitutions. Phi Kappa Tau pledges two black students; all members resign from the national fraternity, which had a constitutional

clause prohibiting blacks from becoming members.

1958 Unwritten quotas in admissions are discontinued.

1962 Board of Trustees requests fraternities to divest themselves of all discriminatory clauses and practices as soon as is reasonably possible.

1965 Ronald Brooks '65 is first black student to win the George Wharton Pepper Prize, awarded by vote of students and faculty to the student who most closely represents the Lafayette ideal.

Sun Bowl Declined Due to Racism

In November 1949 Lafayette's football team was invited to play in the Sun Bowl football classic in El Paso, Texas. According to an article by Charles H. Martin, the faculty voted not to send the team. More than 1,000 students marched to the home of President Ralph C. Hutchinson to find out why.

When Hutchinson explained that the game organizers would have barred halfback **David Showell '51**, a black Tuskegee Airman veteran from playing, the students urged the President to inform Sun Bowl officials that the College still wished to participate but only if Showell could play.

Martin's article, "Integrating New Year's Day: The Racial Politics of College Bowl Games in the American South, (*Journal of Sport History*, fall 1997), says that Hutchinson reversed the faculty's decision and called the Sun Bowl selection committee. He was told that Showell could not play and that another team had already been contacted.

The students marched to downtown Easton and held an orderly protest. They telegraphed President Harry S. Truman, denouncing the Sun Bowl's action and adopted resolutions condemning intolerance in American society. The controversy exposed the exclusion of African Americans in football and became a historic cause célèbre for integrating sports in America.

of 1956-58: YES! I was eligible to become a Phi Tau brother. The fraternity's annual Capital Conference was set for Feb. 20-21, 2009, less than two weeks away, on the University of Maryland campus, which was less than 20 miles from my home. Here was further confirmation that "one of these days" had arrived.

I found items around the house that I had saved for more than five decades. The Phi Tau brothers had provided me with some of the most joyous and gratifying experiences of my life, and I never wanted to forget them.

On Friday, Feb. 20, I attended a reception and as I talked with the men and explained why I was there and why 50 years late, I began to relax. Each brother greeted me with a smile, a friendly handshake, and an interested and understanding ear.

Finally, Saturday came. The initiation ritual was a solemn ceremony that I can only say was spiritually fulfilling. The most gratifying moment was being initiated into the Alpha Omicron chapter. Although inactive on the Lafayette campus for 35 years, it is the chapter that I pledged and the chapter with which I will be associated for the rest of my life. . . .

A steady stream of brothers who witnessed the ceremony came forward to welcome me to the fraternity. After more than half a century, I had finally shown my gratitude to the men who embraced me during those years at Lafayette. Their efforts and sacrifices were not only important to me personally, they played a role in striking down discriminatory membership restrictions in other college fraternities.

***Editor's Note:** This essay, written for the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society and reprinted in the summer 2009 The Laurel, publication of the Phi Kappa Tau Foundation, is excerpted and published with permission. Ed Washington '59 majored in mechanical engineering at Lafayette and worked for the U.S. State Department and the District of Columbia Department of Highways and Traffic before launching his career in information technology in 1967. He worked as a computer programmer with the U.S. Navy Department, Bureau of Personnel, and then for the*

Boeing Company from 1972 until retirement in 2000.

He is a certified system engineer and network administrator.

Washington is former vice president and current webmaster and board member of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society. He lectures regularly on genealogical research.

Partridge died July 30, 1986, in Atlanta. After graduating from Lafayette in 1959 and being honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy in 1964, he taught in the Fulton County [Georgia] School system until his death. ♦

1968 "Statement on Student Rights and Responsibilities" is adopted by the College, which affirms that students have the same rights as any other citizen. The College would no longer act in loco parentis, restricting students' freedoms, and conversely, protecting those who violate the law.

1969 Board of Trustees confirms that no discriminatory clauses remain in the constitutions of national fraternities at the College and that members are to be chosen regardless of "race, color, creed, or nationality."

Lafayette's Association of Black Collegians issues a "Black Manifesto," calling for more black students, more black faculty, a black

studies program, a house to serve as a black cultural center, and an end to racial discrimination on campus.

1970 Women are admitted to the College.

Kenneth Rich '67 is first black and Jeanette Reibman is first woman to serve on Board of Trustees.

1971 Earl G. Peace '66, a member of the Chemistry Department,

is first black professor on the Lafayette faculty with a full-time appointment.

1977 Catherine Patterson '77 is the first woman student to win the Pepper Prize.

1993 Friends of Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) has its first meeting in response to the Princeton Review's naming Lafayette one of

the most homophobic schools in the country.

1998 Same-sex partner benefits provided to Lafayette College employees.

Hispanic Society of Lafayette founded.

2002 Students dedicate grave marker for Aaron Hoff, Lafayette's first black student, in the Easton Cemetery.

2006 More than 300 students participate in the "Gay? Fine by Me" rally on campus, sponsored by QUEST (Questioning Established Sexual Taboos).

2008 College dedicates the sculpture Transcendence in memory of David McDonogh, Class of 1844, the former slave who became a physician in New York City.

KEEPING WATCH

Jacquelyn Wilkins '77 oversees environmental standards for the Massachusetts Port Authority.

By Matt Sinclair '90



PEOPLE MAY HAVE different opinions on what size a city government should be, but everyone wants things to run smoothly. And when it comes to environmental standards for Boston's Massport, that's just what **Jacquelyn Wilkins '77** ensures.

As sustainability program manager for Massachusetts Port Authority—better known as Massport—she ensures that programs throughout the quasi-government authority meet and maintain certain environmental standards—local, federal, and sometimes international. She leads the effort to keep Massport's environmental initiatives above the national average.

Massport operates three airports, including Logan International, as well as several seaport and maritime facilities. By itself, Logan handles more than 25 million passengers annually, so the pressures on all of Massport's environmental programs are intense.

In 2009, Massport adopted new design guidelines that require capital projects to meet expanded sustainable design standards. A new or major rehab of a 20,000-square-foot building or larger, for instance, must be LEED certified. That certification requires that a third party verify that the building was designed and constructed using strategies that improve performance in energy savings, CO₂ emissions reduction, and stewardship of resources. All other capital projects are subject to Massport's own sustainable design guidelines.

"For every project we consider various aspects, such as recycled content of materials used and energy efficiency," Wilkins says. "We also consider where things are manufactured and purchased. Can we buy locally? Not all guidelines apply to all projects, but for each project,

we go through an exercise to determine those that are applicable and implement as many as possible."

Wilkins works closely with engineers and architects to ensure that environmental standards are factored into every project. As if her job wasn't challenging by its very nature, she took over the sustainability program in the midst of the nation's worst economic situation in generations.

"Implementing the sustainability guidelines at a time when money is tight and people are overworked, takes a lot of relationship building," she says. "I totally get it. I too am overworked. But this is about changing the paradigm of how to design projects and considering more completely the impact of the choices we make."

What Wilkins enjoys most is pushing the envelope and coming up with innovative ways that can create significant positive change. One special area of interest is alternative fuel vehicles and sustainable fuel. Outside of work, she serves in leadership roles on several nonprofits focused on sustainable mobility.

This past summer, Massport received the first plug-in hybrid Prius (a car that will be on the market in 2012) that Toyota loaned in the Northeast.

"My intent was to get as many people to drive it as possible," Wilkins says. "That particular vehicle plugs into a standard 110 outlet, but there are other electric vehicles that will need a special charging infrastructure. I'm looking for ways to prepare our public garages for the pending shift in the automotive fleet to include EVs."

Wilkins says the big challenge is "to try to get people to change their behavior. Getting folks to think differently about how what we do today impacts the condition of the planet that we will leave our children and theirs." ♦

Photos by Chuck Zovko



Getting to know students like Josh Warrell (right) is one of the most meaningful parts of being a principal for Harrison Bailey III '95.

PERSONAL FOCUS, PUBLIC VOICE

With a powerful but gentle touch, Harrison Bailey '95 is changing the world one student at a time.

By Stevie O. Daniels

Like Mentor, whom Odysseus placed in charge of his son Telemachus when he left for the Trojan War, Harrison Bailey III watches over more than 800 students.

As an assistant principal at Parkland High School, Allentown, Pa., **Harrison Bailey III '95** also oversees

safety, graduation, hall monitors, and teacher duties. While keeping an eye on their discipline and attendance is fundamental, he is also part of the advisory team assigned to each of them that includes a guidance counselor.

"The most meaningful aspect of what I do," says Bailey, in a rich, oratory voice, "is interacting with the

students. I have the opportunity to mentor them and help them work out plans to further their interest in a particular area or to move toward the career that they envision for themselves.”

In addition, he started a Cultural Awareness Club a few years ago and continues as the adviser. The club, which has about 75 members, includes students from diverse backgrounds and ethnicities.

The school has 3,200 students, and Bailey says that although he may not work with each one directly, he does get to know them all by face. Establishing that one-to-one connection is an important foundation not only for building rapport between administration and students but also for spotting signs that could indicate a problem or a strength that needs a little nurturing.

A Path That Fits

And it was experiencing just that kind of nurturing that led Bailey to his current role. While he describes being an assistant principal as a blessing and knows now that it is something he was “meant to do,” the route to this destination was indirect.

“In my senior year at Lafayette I was talking with Fluney [Gladstone Hutchinson, associate professor of economics and business] about my future, and said I wanted to go into public speaking,” recalls Bailey. “He said ‘why would anyone want to ask you to speak? First, you need to get your master’s.’”

Then, as Bailey neared completion of his master’s in education at Lehigh University, he received a second similar message. The professor for his last class suggested that he could be an educational administrator and still do public speaking. So, Bailey conducted an internship while obtaining his principalship certification. He found the interaction with students to be the most interesting part of his work. In 2000, he applied for an opening at Parkland High School to gain experience in interviewing. To his surprise, he was hired, and the unfoldment began.

The importance of mentoring in Bailey’s life and the difference he has seen it make in his own students’ lives, is pivotal to him. He is currently working with colleagues



“I was helped to achieve, and I am devoted to helping others in the same way.”

from area high schools to hold a conference on leadership and mentoring and will soon begin work on his doctorate with plans to write a thesis on the role mentoring plays in students’ outcomes.

“A lot of great people helped me get where I am today,” says Bailey, who grew up in Lakewood, N.J., “my high school coach, my babysitter from age 2 to 13 since both my parents worked in New York City, and the many topnotch teachers that I have had. I was helped to achieve, and I am devoted to helping others in the same way.”

Bailey, who is wearing his Patriot League championship ring, says his experience at Lafayette as co-chair of the Brothers of Lafayette and captain of the track and football teams made him comfortable with being a leader. “That experience fortified my administrative skills,” he says. In addition, attending Lafayette prepared him for what he is going through now—being the only African American professional in the school district until a year ago. “Getting through the culture shock of being a minority at Lafayette has helped me handle it here. It doesn’t hold me back at all, but it does have an effect.”

Champion Athlete

Bailey sets high expectations for himself academically and professionally and inspires students to do the same. He also excels in the world of athletics. Current U.S. Champion of the Highland Games, in which he has competed in for 10 years as a professional, he holds the Lafayette record in football for career quarterback sacks and in track and field for discus.

The first and only African American who participates in the Highland Games, Bailey was introduced to the sport by Paul Ferency, his discus coach at Lafayette and a former World Record holder. “Paul agreed to coach me,” says Bailey, “and I started training in 1997.” After playing amateur for several years, he turned pro in 1999.

The Highland Games began centuries ago in Scotland as competitions of strength, speed, agility, and skill. The events, which have changed little over time, include



lifting a heavy stone, throwing the hammer, and tossing the caber. And participants still wear kilts. Although not Scottish, one of Bailey's great-grandfathers was Irish so sometimes he wears the Bailey tartan but also wears the Cairn one as well.



Harrison Bailey begins toss of the 19-foot, 175-pound caber. The object is for it to fall directly away from the thrower with top end farthest away. In ancient times it was practice for placing logs across chasms to cross them.

The circuit of competitions runs from April through November with the U.S. National Highland Athletic Championship held at the Celtic Classic in Bethlehem, Pa., in September. Bailey also placed first in the World Championship in 2006 and 2008; he is the three-time World Record holder for weight over the bar (WOB) at 20 feet.

This past season, Bailey participated in 18 competitions. From November to April, he does drills and lifting to stay in shape and begins throwing outside in March, increasing frequency to three or four days a week in April.

"Keeping such a rigorous schedule would not be possible without the support of my wife, Kimberly," says Bailey. "We met when we were getting our master's degrees, and she's a teacher, too." They have three children and live in Williams Township, Pa. Bailey, who has remained close to his fellow teammates, has gatherings at his home.

"The brotherhood I experienced at Lafayette was very important to me," says Bailey. "The men I got to know are still my closest friends." He adds that the brotherhood aspect of the Highland Games is part of what attracted him to them.

And what of the dream to be a public speaker? Bailey has given several commencement addresses and looks forward to developing more opportunities in the future.

Bailey recognizes that he could have gone into a different profession and earned twice the salary, but "I chose to be in a situation in which I could mentor young students forward to achieve their highest."

The words carved into the lintel at the high school's entrance are: "educating for success, inspiring excellence." No more apt description for the leadership of Harrison Bailey III could be found. ♦

EXPLORING THERAPEUTIC DRUGS

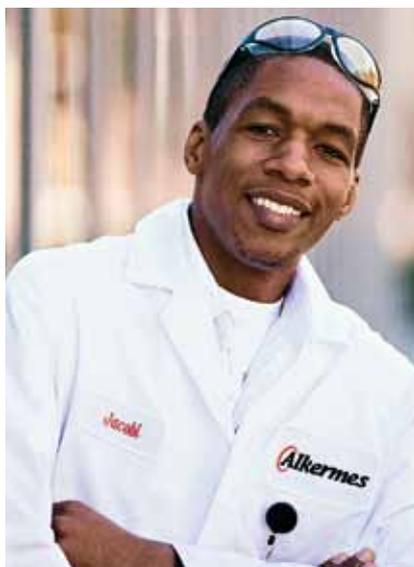
As a post-doctoral fellow, Jacobi Cunningham '03 researches the effectiveness of long-acting medicines.

ALTHOUGH THE PATH at Lafayette was circuitous for **Jacobi Cunningham '03**, it led him to just the spot where he wanted to be. After completing his Ph.D. in pharmacology at Boston University School of Medicine, he recently became a post-doctoral fellow with the life sciences department of Alkermes, a pharmaceutical company in Waltham, Mass. His work there involves long-acting therapeutic drugs.

“I work in a neuroscience laboratory where my typical day includes in vivo neurochemistry to test the effects of novel and known compounds in the central nervous system,” says Cunningham. “The work that I do extends the pharmacological profile of known compounds and also supports new development and formulation.” In addition, he is also part of project teams to discuss new drug formulations and targets for a wide range of chronic disorders, including addiction and central nervous system disorders.

“I rely heavily on my scientific backbone and framework that I learned at Lafayette,” says Cunningham. “I think the most important aspect of my education there was the introduction to and preparation for using applied research techniques and approaches.”

Alkermes specializes in long-acting injectable therapeutic drugs, which promote patient compliance. Two examples are Risperdal®Consta® and Vivitrol®. Risperdal®Consta® is a schizophrenia and bipolar disorder treatment that uses Alkermes' proprietary Medisorb® technology to maintain therapeutic medication levels in the body through one injection every two weeks. Vivitrol® is an extended release once-a-month injectable drug to treat opiate and alcohol addiction.



“Both drugs leverage upon known pharmacology and are designed to maximize patient compliance and limit the number of therapeutic dosing required,” explains Cunningham.

Cunningham became fascinated by drug interactions and their influence on disease and illness when he switched his major from biology to neuroscience at Lafayette. In a summer internship at Harvard Medical School, he was exposed to diagnosing and digitally

imaging the effects of neurodegenerative diseases. That experience and research he did with **Elaine Reynolds**, associate professor of biology, helped propel him toward graduate work in pharmacology.

Cunningham's doctoral program at Boston University included two years of research and study at the University of Toledo where Bryan Yamamoto, his doctoral thesis adviser, had taken a new post at the College of Medicine. Cunningham returned to the Boston area in spring 2010 to defend his dissertation, which involved chronic stress and MDMA, the drug commonly known as ecstasy. “I studied the interaction between drug abuse and chronic unpredictable stress as an animal model of daily stress in humans,” he explains. “The two combined resulted in learning deficits and brain damage not otherwise seen with MDMA or stress alone. It suggests that stress therapy would be an important component in drug abuse therapy and that stress is an important component of drug research.”

“The take-home for me is to expect the unexpected,” says Cunningham. He describes his experience as fascinating and challenging with no time for “sitting down and relaxing. You have to be prepared to change and to deal with obstacles.” ♦

SPARK IGNITION PIONEER

Elbert Hendricks '63 developed the engine control system used throughout the automobile industry.

By Robert Bruce Slater

IN THE MID-1980S, the research that **Elbert Hendricks '63** had been conducting on engine spark ignition systems caught the eye of engineers at Ford Motor Company. He received a multi-year research grant to develop what he coined as the Mean Value Engine Model (MVEM).

"MVEM is now a recognized buzzword in the engine industry," says Hendricks, associate professor of electrical engineering at Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Lyngby. This system, now used by all automotive companies, controls internal combustion engines more exactly than previous ones, resulting in greater fuel efficiency and fewer emissions.

Hendricks, who teaches advanced linear control systems at DTU and advises master's and doctoral students, has led several industry/university development projects with automobile companies and engine manufacturers across the globe. He is the author of *Linear Systems Control: Deterministic and Stochastic Methods* (Springer Verlag, 2008) with Ole Jannerup and Paul Haase Sørensen, as well as many papers that have been published in journals or presented at conferences around the world. He has lectured in many countries including Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, the United States, and Korea.

Hendricks' research for the Ford project was the foundation for his Ph.D. at DTU, which he received in 1992. He then joined the electrical engineering faculty there.

As an expert on automobile engines, Hendricks' view of their future is interesting. He sees today's hybrids as being only a passing fad. "They are too complex," he says. "A better bet is highly turbocharged diesel engines. They are simple and very efficient. Many years from now, automobiles will run exclusively on electricity, but only after much more efficient batteries become available."

After receiving his degree in physics from Lafayette, Hendricks became a research assistant in the physics



Elbert Hendricks '63 (right) with Myoungho Sunwoo, professor of automotive engineering, Hanyang University, Seoul, Korea.

laboratory at DTU. He was attracted to Denmark because Copenhagen is the home of the world-renowned Bohr Institute of the University of Copenhagen. Although founder and Nobel prize winner Neils Bohr died in 1962, the Institute and the city are a mecca for physics research.

Hendricks took a laboratory position at the University of Copenhagen in 1967. After years of focusing solely on research, he refocused on an engineering discipline and pursued an advanced degree.

After earning his master's degree in control theory and applied mathematics from DTU in 1980, Hendricks stayed on at the university to conduct laboratory work on helicopter control systems. In 1984 he participated in a joint industry/university cooperative research project with a company now known as Man Diesel, to develop large turbocharged diesel engines for ocean-going ships.

Hendricks, originally from Cleveland, Ohio, chose Lafayette as a result of advice from his guidance counselor about the engineering program. "At the time, I was interested in aircraft engineering," he says. When he found the engineering courses to have large enrollments and to be highly specialized, he switched to physics.

"The physicists were making things and building equipment," Hendricks says. As one of the few African American students on the campus at that time, he says, "The professors and my fellow students made me feel welcome. Faculty members were extremely helpful in providing recommendations for me for graduate work."

With firm roots in Denmark, Hendricks has no plans to return to the United States, despite a multitude of employment offers from both corporations and universities. His wife, a medical doctor, is Danish, and their son, Vincent, is a highly regarded professor of formal philosophy at the University of Copenhagen. ♦

Artist in Residence: Nigerian Ibiyinka Alao

From May to July, Nigerian painter Ibiyinka Alao taught students at Lafayette and area schools about the art of Nigeria and his art-making process. A Lafayette visiting artist and the honorary Art Ambassador of Nigeria, he worked hands-on with students through a series of workshops.

The exhibit *One Night of Grace*, held on June 24 at the Williams Visual Arts Building, featured his work as well as the work of students from his workshops. The evening included a lecture by Alao and a public reception with food from different regions of Africa. Alao describes his colorful work as a celebration of diversity.

Alao won global recognition in 2001 when his painting, “The Perversity of Life (Girls and a Greener Environment),” took first place in the United Nation’s International Art Competition. Entries were submitted from 61 countries. His home country awarded him the honorary title of Art



Ibiyinka Alao (right) discusses his work at Williams Visual Arts Building exhibit reception.

Photo by Chuck Zovko

Ambassador of Nigeria. Since that time he has visited schools, libraries, and learning centers around the world discussing contemporary African life and how it is expressed in his artwork.

More than 400 of his paintings have been in exhibits or are in permanent collections at Harvard

Business School, Indianapolis Art Center, Martin Luther King Art Center, and the Empire State Building.

Alao’s residency was sponsored by the College’s art department and Community-Based Teaching Program.

Economics Has Broad Appeal

Getting involved in a broad range of activities at Lafayette has been important to **Brandon Ellis ’12**, of Jeffersonville, Pa.

Outstanding performance as cornerback on Lafayette’s football team as well as in his academic endeavors led to Ellis being named to the ESPN Academic All-District II Football Team in November.

Ellis, an economics major, says that what he likes most about the field is that he has “learned a lot of skills and knowledge that can be transferred and applied to a career but also to my personal life, such as interest rates, investment strategies, and mortgages.”

During January interim session, Ellis traveled to South Africa for the course “Voices of South Africa: The Rainbow Nation,” to learn about the

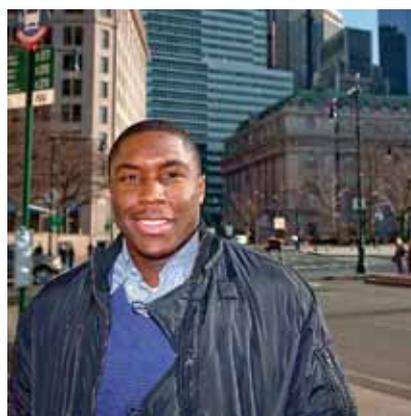


Photo by Chuck Zovko

country’s history, culture, language, and economic system.

“I visited Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela spent 17 years of his imprisonment,” says Ellis. “We learned about the history of

apartheid, and I was struck by how it still lingers in present day South Africa in the clear divide between how whites, blacks, and coloreds live and the opportunities that are available for each group.”

Over the summer, Ellis worked as an intern with Johnson & Johnson. After Lafayette, he plans to pursue a career in the sports industry. He is a Gateway ambassador for Career Services and a peer mentor in the College’s Academic Tutoring and Training Information Center.

“I enjoy helping younger student-athletes make the transition from high school to college as smooth as possible,” says Ellis, who is also a member of the Association of Black Collegians and Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

New African-Caribbean Interest Floor

The new African-Caribbean Interest Floor (ACIF) in Keefe Hall includes 10 residents—five men and five women—representing a variety of cultures, including Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Trinidadian, Jamaican, Ethiopian, and African American.

“We are eager to learn of, and teach others about, the wonders of African and Pan-African (Caribbean) cultures,” says floor president **Kameisha Hodge ’11**, an English major from Washington,

D.C.. “Our goal is to create a space where African and Caribbean cultures are celebrated, because many people still seem to hold the perception that these cultures are basic, or uncivilized.”

“We hope to promote the cultures of Africa and the Caribbean not only to the floor but also to the campus at large,” says **Faisal Sohail ’11**, of Muscat, Oman, resident adviser and founder.



Photo by Chuck Zovko

Students prepare a meal of jerk chicken and discuss how the use of spices and other culinary practices vary from culture to culture.

Black History Month: Beats, Rhymes, & Life

Lafayette is celebrating Black History Month throughout February with poetry, food, music, discussions, performances, and a fashion show.

The month’s events explore the past, present, and future of black artistry. The keynote performance on Feb. 11 was by Brooklyn-based poet and spoken word artist Brook Yung.

The month’s events are coordinated by the Office of Intercultural Development and are sponsored by the Africana studies program, Association of Black Collegians, Office of Religious Life, and Williams Center for the Arts.

Performances at the Williams Center will include Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, Saxophone Summit performing music of John Coltrane, and Ethos Percussion Group. Transportation was provided to Lehigh University to see Step Afrika! dance troupe.

An “All That Jazz” Listening Party was held at Portlock Black Cultural Center with Skip Wilkins, associate professor of music, as the discussion leader.

An African Market was featured in Farinon College Center with a Fashion Show planned as the concluding event.

Internship Affirms Career Path

With a strong interest in justice and law, **Laquan Lightfoot ’11**, a government and law major from Washington, D.C., landed the perfect job as an intern this past summer for the Homicide Unit, Trial Division, Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office. The division prosecutes most adult crimes, ranging from summary offenses to homicide.

Lightfoot helped with trial preparation and jury selection, created a presentation that was used in a closing argument, drafted witness subpoenas, helped investigate a defendant in a death penalty case, and assisted in victim and witness services.

Lightfoot’s plans to go to law school and become a prosecutor in a district attorney’s office were affirmed by this experience. The internship was made possible through the Intern Scholars program, funded by a gift from **George (Sunny) Whelen P’10**.

A Posse Scholar, Lightfoot received an All-Region Attorney Award during the preliminary round of last year’s American Mock Trial Association Tournament. She is also a member of Association of Black Collegians and Precision Step Team, and was co-chair of the Class of 2014 Orientation Committee.

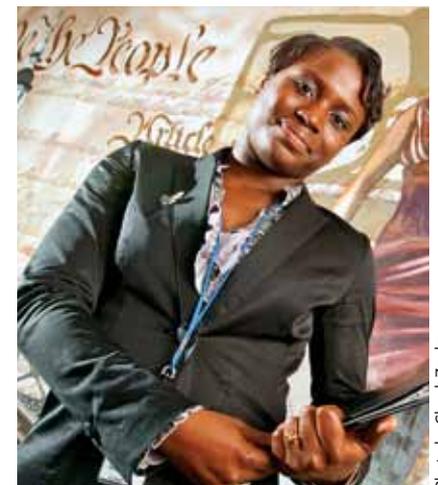


Photo by Chuck Zovko

McKnight Is Named Associate Dean of Students and Director of Intercultural Development

In January, **John McKnight**, associate dean of the College and class dean for first-year and second-year students, took on a new position. He is now associate dean of students and director of intercultural development.

McKnight says that one of his goals is to offer programming that will inspire deep self-reflection, critical inquiry, and committed activism. “In addition to continuing the tradition of outstanding cultural programming, I would very much like to challenge our campus community to see cultural awareness as an essential aspect of a liberal education,” he says. “I believe we must all understand ourselves as individuals and as members of various social identity groups and to recognize the power and privileges we have as group members. I want our campus to be alive with intellectual conversations on social justice that will equip us for productive citizenship in our local and global communities.”

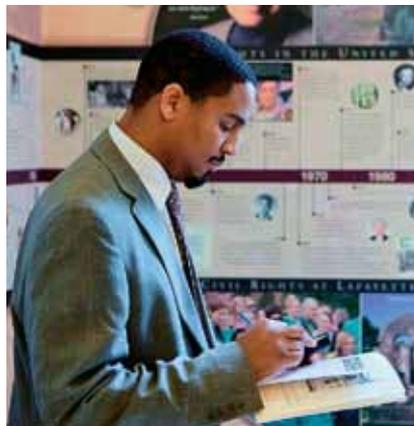


Photo by Chuck Zovko

John McKnight peruses the new exhibitry in Kirby Hall of Civil Rights at the rededication ceremony.

McKnight came to Lafayette in May 2009 from Lehigh University, where he was director of multicultural affairs from 2008–09, following a year as associate director of multicultural affairs. He holds an M.S. in higher education administration from Indiana University, Bloomington,

Ind., and is pursuing an Ed.D. in administration and leadership studies at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

McKnight will report to the vice president for campus life and senior diversity officer, a newly created position for which a national search is under way.

The vice president will collaborate with other senior administrators, oversee all areas of student life, provide leadership as the chief student affairs officer, develop and supervise initiatives to promote pluralism and dialogue on matters of diversity for the Lafayette community, and ensure that access and diversity are at the center of campus life considerations.

The College’s first chief diversity officer, Shirley Ramirez, served as vice president for institutional planning and community engagement from January 2009 through March 2010.

Three Graduates from Class of 2009 Flourish at Top Law Schools

Matriculation at New York University’s Law School—one of the most prestigious in the country—is no easy task. For **Matthew Gibbons ’09**, however, it is the culmination of literally a lifetime of hard work.

“I’ve wanted to become a lawyer since I was four,” says Gibbons. “Since my father was a solo practitioner, the law was what I grew up around and what I knew. Even when it was time to choose a major in college, I always had law school in mind.”

Gibbons, now in his second year at NYU, is working on a specialization in mergers and acquisitions, a field which focuses primarily on helping businesses grow by buying, selling, or combining entities.

Meanwhile, two of Gibbons’s Lafayette classmates are thriving at one of the country’s other leading law schools—Columbia. **Sasha Graham ’09** and **Sue Izevbigie ’09**, both in their second year, are interested in pursuing careers in areas related to public interest. Graham was awarded Lafayette’s Africana Studies Scholastic Award for her potential for future leadership in American society. Izevbigie, who received the **James F. Bryant ’40** Excellence Award for high academic and athletic achievement (track and field), completed a law fellowship at the Center for Media and Democracy over the summer.

Gibbons, who spent a summer working at New York City’s corporate firm Gibson, Dunn, and Crutcher,

says the experience increased his interest in business mergers.

“Now, I’m considering focusing on litigation arising out of mergers and acquisitions or specializing in the legal aspects of structuring mergers,” he says.

Gibbons says the most rewarding part of law school is learning how to think like a lawyer. “The challenge of law school itself is exciting and daunting at the same time,” he says. “The first year it was difficult to acclimate myself to the pedagogical style of law school and to the language of the law, but those are the things that become the most rewarding when you begin to embrace it all.”

Celebrated Cellist Leads Master Classes

During a residency as the Temple Visiting Artist Nov. 17-18, award-winning cellist Patrice Jackson performed, lectured, and conducted a string master class with students.

Jackson held a string master class for students with **Jorge Torres**, associate professor of music, and also presented a lecture-performance, “Women & Classical Music,” with **Jennifer Kelly**, assistant professor of music.

A brilliant and gifted young cellist, Jackson is carving a name for herself as a talented and charismatic soloist. A native of St. Louis, she made her debut at age 13 with the Belleville Philharmonic Orchestra, performing Edward Elgar’s Cello Concerto. In 2002, Jackson was awarded first place in the Senior Laureate Division of the nationally renowned Sphinx Competition and received the Yale University Aldo Parisot Prize, awarded to a gifted cellist who shows promise for a concert career.

She made her international orchestral and recital debuts in South Africa in 2002, and, since then, has performed with symphonies across the



Patrice Jackson performs during residency in November.

country and received numerous awards. A graduate of the Juilliard School and Yale School of Music, she has studied with world-renowned Brazilian cellist Aldo Parisot and Claude Frank and the Tokyo String Quartet.

The David L. Sr. and Helen J. Temple Visiting Artist Fund, established in 2000 by Trustee Emeritus **Riley K. Temple '71** in honor of his parents, is committed to the support and encouragement of the work of artist, curators, and art historians.

Paige '83 Advises on Med School Applications

In September, Dr. **Cynthia Paige '83**, assistant professor of family medicine, University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey, came to campus to meet with students and give them an insider’s view of the changing face of medical school education and how medical schools review applications.

“What I found most valuable was Dr. Paige’s honest insight into the way that applications are perceived by admissions officers,” says **Tania Torres '12**, a philosophy major, who was among the 30 students at the session. “Two of her points have guided me since the meeting: start the process as soon as you can and

be aware of the importance of the interview.”

Paige, who also has her own practice as a family physician in Montclair, N.J., has been featured on the *Black Experience* television program, *The Tavis Smiley* radio show, and has received numerous awards for her commitment to educational excellence and community service. She teaches future doctors how to identify with patient needs and cope with the stresses of complex, often impersonal health care systems. She incorporates alternative therapies into her practice to better serve the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of her patients.

Showell '51 and Brown '49 Memorabilia Donated to Tuskegee Airmen Archive

In November, Dr. **Ernest C. Levister Jr. '58**, physician and chemical engineer of San Bernardino, Calif., presented memorabilia on two Lafayette alumni who were members of the famous Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, to the archive at University of California-Riverside.

Levister presented a color poster made from the feature article in the September 1998 *Lafayette Alumni News* about **David Showell '51** and **Roland Brown '49**.

The archive is a collection of personal letters, photographs, petitions, posters, diaries, oral histories, awards, art and other historical resources from the Tuskegee Airmen and Airwomen. The Tuskegee Airmen were recruited into an Army Air Corps program that trained blacks to fly and maintain combat aircraft. President Franklin D. Roosevelt overruled his top generals in ordering that the program be created.

Nearly 1,000 fighter pilots trained as a segregated unit at an air base in Tuskegee, Ala. Not allowed to practice or fight with their white counterparts, the Airmen distinguished themselves from the rest by painting the tails of their airplanes red, which led to them becoming known as the “Red Tails.” Hundreds saw combat throughout Europe, the Mediterranean, and North Africa.

An article about the 70th anniversary event, written by Dr. Levister’s wife, Chris Levister, appeared in the online edition of *The Washington Informer*, an African American, woman-owned newspaper founded in 1964 by the late Dr. Calvin W. Rolark.

Campus Climate Study Results Discussed In Town Meetings

A series of town meetings held on campus Dec. 2 and 3 provided an opportunity for all faculty, staff, and students to hear a presentation by Sue Rankin, principal, Rankin & Associates Consulting, who holds a Ph.D. in higher education administration, on the results of the Campus Climate Survey conducted last spring.

The survey was designed to assess the level of success that Lafayette has as a community in creating a welcoming and inclusive climate grounded in mutual respect, nurtured by dialogue, and evidenced by a pattern of civil interaction. The survey was created by the Campus Climate Working Group (CCWG) working with Rankin & Associates. It was designed for respondents to provide information about their personal experiences with regard to climate issues and their perceptions of institutional actions including policies related to climate issues and concerns on campus.

“A positive climate for all students, faculty, staff, and administrators—regardless of individual identities or positions at the College—encourages individual growth and discourages expressions of discrimination and harassment,” said President **Daniel H. Weiss** in the Nov. 16 announcement to the campus about the scheduled town meetings. “The survey was designed to provide baseline information about where we are most successful in building a positive climate as well as where we have important work to do. The results will be used to inform our ongoing discussions about initiatives to create positive change at the College.”

The participation rate was 37%, which Rankin described as a “great response.” She said the unusually strong response rate means that the

results can be generalized to the whole campus population. The executive summary noted the strengths revealed by the survey, which include that a majority of employees are satisfied with their jobs, a large majority of students are satisfied with their academic experiences, a majority reported that they are comfortable with the climate, and a majority of faculty and students are comfortable with the classroom climate.

The summary also identified some challenges, which include that some respondents perceived experiences of inequity or harassment based on their racial identity, their gender, or their sexual orientation. Rankin noted that similar challenges are found in higher education institutions across the country.

Rankin’s presentation as well as the full report and an executive summary are available on the web, <http://campusclimate.lafayette.edu>. A Lafayette network ID and password are required to view the documents. A hard copy of the full report is on reserve in Skillman Library.

In December, Provost **Wendy Hill** informed the campus of the next steps. “We learned about many positive aspects of our community,” she said. “Yet, as a community, there is important work to be done in a number of areas.” She asked members of the community to provide suggestions for actions that would make Lafayette a more inclusive and welcoming climate either by responding to an anonymous survey or by participating in one of the small group discussions that the CCWG has scheduled for Feb. 3, 4, and 7.

By May 1 the group will provide Weiss with three tiers of initiatives: actions to begin by fall 2011, those to begin during 2011-12, and those to be done in the next three to five years.

Renowned Novelist and Poet Julia Alvarez Works with Students

In March, award-winning novelist and poet Julia Alvarez gave a reading and met with students from classes in English, Spanish, and women’s studies to discuss her work.

The event was part of the President’s McDonogh Lecture Series.

Alvarez, writer in residence at Middlebury College in Vermont, is the author *How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* (1991), which won a PEN Oakland/Josephine Miles Literary Award for excellence in multicultural literature, and *In the Time of Butterflies* (1995).

The President’s McDonogh Lecture Series, formerly the Presidential Speaker Series on Diversity, was founded in 2000 to encourage intellectual discourse on diversity. It is named for David Kearney McDonogh 1844, Lafayette’s first African American graduate.



Author Julia Alvarez (left) describes the writing process with students in an English class.

LAFAYETTE COLLEGE

307 Markle Hall
Lafayette College
Easton, PA 18042



WHY LAFAYETTE?

One of America's oldest colleges, Lafayette has roughly 2,400 students and more than 200 full-time faculty. With 47 majors in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering, 250 student organizations, and an amazing campus, rich in academic, residential, and recreational facilities, Lafayette offers all the benefits of larger schools with the student-centered approach of a small, undergraduate college.



COLLABORATIVE, HIGH-IMPACT LEARNING

Together, students and faculty collaborate beyond traditional academic boundaries to tackle intellectual challenges and solve real-world problems.



COMMITTED TEACHERS AND SCHOLARS

Through intense personal mentoring in the classroom, field, laboratory, and beyond, faculty members inspire their students to lead lifetimes of learning and leading.



EXTRAORDINARY CAMPUS AND FACILITIES

With a beautiful campus in a great location near one of the world's top cultural centers, the College has excellent facilities including new enhancements for the arts and athletics.



INVOLVED, FOCUSED, ACTIVE STUDENTS

From diverse backgrounds here and abroad, they are drivers, not passengers; doers, not spectators. They are engaged in and out of the classroom and are highly successful in pursuing advanced study and securing top careers.