



Scholars Developing Scholars

a newsletter for Georgetown College faculty

Volume 6, Issue 1

Fall 2009

Dr. Chris Leverenz dispenses help, advice, and “Mom Hugs”

When Stacy Long returned from his term of study at Oxford last year, it wasn't his parents who were waiting to pick him up at the airport--it was Dr. Chris Leverenz. When Stacy wrote his nomination of Dr. Leverenz for the John Walker Manning Distinguished Mentor and Teacher Award, he emphasized how much her ongoing support and guidance had helped him survive and thrive at Georgetown College. Because of Dr. Leverenz's support, Stacy was able not only to graduate but to secure a fellowship for graduate study.

Stacy isn't the only student to be touched by Dr. Leverenz's commitment to providing that personal touch in education. Other students wrote to talk about both her mentorship outside the classroom and her ability to make difficult concepts clear inside the classroom. Plus at least one touted the importance of being able to claim a much-needed “Mom hug.”

Dr. Leverenz has long been recognized for her excellence in the classroom; she is a past recipient of the Cawthorne Award. But the Manning Award recognizes something different: the excellence of her work outside the classroom, with everything from her work with Phi Kappa



A student shares a smile with Dr. Chris Leverenz, “The best math professor ever.”

Phi and Alpha Lambda Delta to her weekly TV parties for students watching “Numb3rs.”

After more than a quarter of a century of service on the Georgetown College faculty, Dr. Leverenz continues to find the time, energy, and commitment to give extraordinary support to our students.

Faculty Scholarship Update

Diane Arnson Svarlien (Classics) has been awarded a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship to complete her next volume of verse translations of Euripides (*Andromache, Hecuba, Trojan Women*, to be published by Hackett) in the 2010-11 academic year.

Dustin Hughes (GC Graduate 2009) is the winner of the 2009 Thomas D. Clark Award for best undergraduate paper from the Kentucky Association of Teachers of History. The award was announced at the organization's annual meeting at Eastern Kentucky University on September 12. In seven of the last 10 years, the award has been received by a Georgetown College history major. Dustin was working under the direction of **Jim Klotter** (History), who said, “His excellent paper concerned the cholera epidemic of 1833 in Lexington (which killed 10% of the population) and examined the methods used to ‘treat’ it.”

George McGee's (Theater) play, “A Fence for Martin Maher,” received a warm Irish welcome in Kilkenny, Ireland, in August. GC students Amanda Kachler, Stu Perry and Michael McCord fell in love with their Irish hosts, The Moondharrig Players. The performance of the play near Waterford included a local historian, local musicians and dancers. The performance at the Rothe House in Kilkenny City was almost sold out. In addition, McGee was a presenter at the Kentucky Social Studies Teachers' annual conference in Bowling Green. He has been accepted to present a workshop at the 2010 Southeastern Theatre Conference. McGee is featured in the Kentucky Humanities Council's Kennedy Center performance DVD. McGee is also showcased in the KHC magazine. He was the keynote speaker at the University of Kentucky's new faculty workshop and the keynote speaker at Murray State University's new faculty workshop in August. He also performed

for the fifth straight year for the Leadership Kentucky new member retreat at Jabez, Ky. McGee also will appear in the new video, "Kentucky, America's Story," narrated by Ashley Judd. He also recently finished filming of a new Kentucky Humanities Council promotional video, produced by Breeding Productions.

Roger Ward (Philosophy) published reviews of *John Dewey's Ethics: Democracy as Experience*, Gregory Fernando Pappas; *Peirce's Pragmatic Theory of Inquiry: Fallibilism and Indeterminacy*, Elizabeth Cooke; *Ethics for the Real World: Creating a Personal Code to Guide Decisions in Work and Life*, Ronald A. Howard and Clinton D. Korver with Bill Birchard; *Violence and Social Justice. Bufacchi, Vittorio*; and *Bending the Rules: Morality in the Modern World: From Relationships to Politics and War*, Robert A. Hinde with Sir Joseph Rotblat. He presented two papers, "Epic Absence in Steinbeck's *East of Eden* and *The Winter of Our Discontent*" for the Society for the Advancement of American Philosophy, Texas A&M University, March 12-14, 2009, and "Stout, Hare, West and the End of Ethics," Baptist Association of Philosophy Teachers, Ouachita University, Oct. 10-13, 2008. Ward organized a conference at Regent's Park College in August for Young Scholars in Baptist Academy on the topic, "Baptist Faith and Literary Imagination." His book manuscript *Ethical Independence in Business* is in review for publication, and he reviewed a manuscript in process for Oxford University Press on Jonathan Edwards.

Will Samson (Sociology) participated, by invitation, in the week-long Henry Institute seminar on religion and politics entitled "Pollsters and Parishioners." In addition, he has had a paper accepted to the upcoming Society for the Scientific Study of Religion conference in Denver. The paper is entitled, "New Monasticism and the Future of Evangelicalism." He also co-authored a chapter in the just-released book, *The Justice Project*, edited by Brian McLaren and published by Baker Publishing. The chapter is entitled, "Just Suburbs: What Does the Call of Justice Mean for Life in Our Suburbs?"

Jennifer Price (Psychology) co-authored a paper with Chelsea Northrip, a psychology major who graduated in May. The paper is entitled, "What's in a Word? The Implications of Word Usage in Descriptions of Mate Preferences" and is under consideration for publication. She is also writing a paper on linguistic analysis of trauma impact statements as part of a study on outcomes of post-traumatic stress disorder treatment.

Kristin Czarnecki (English) has an essay coming out in March in a two-volume collection entitled *Virginia Woolf's Bloomsbury*. Her essay, "Comparative Modernism: The Bloomsbury Group and the Harlem Renaissance," will appear in Volume I: Aesthetic Theory and Literary Practice. (Volume II is International Influence and Politics.) She is also refereeing an article for the forthcoming issue of *Woolf Studies Annual*.



Andrea Peach (Graduate Education) received the "Ambassador" recognition at the 2009 State Student Technology Leadership Conference. During July, she held a robotics camp with the theme "Back to the Moon 2009" and had a record number of campers and graduate student participants. As a part of this camp, WHAS Crusade for Children provided funding for

a special education teacher and two special needs students to participate, and they also provided three robotics kits to the Scott County schools to use for special needs kids. Several Scott County teachers participated in the camp and are taking their new knowledge to the schools to start teams/clubs. Peach was invited to speak about instructional technology in P12 schools at the Kentucky Council of Educational Facility Planners (CEFPI) conference in September and was invited to speak to parents and students about 21st century learning and technology skills needed in college at Cooper High School in Union, Ky. In November, she will be presenting two papers ("Maintaining Professional Boundaries between You and Your Students in the Facebook World" and "Embedding Technology-rich Practicum Experiences within School-year and Summer Graduate Education Courses") at the 2009 Southeast Regional Association of Teacher Educators meeting in Louisville. She also played the bassoon in the Georgetown College "An Evening of One-Act Children's Operas" production

Michael Rich (MCLC) hosted a week-long workshop in Noh theatre drumming September 28-October 5 at Georgetown College with Asano Atsuyoshi, professional Noh actor from the Kanze School of Noh in Kyoto, Japan. Mr. Asano will visit Georgetown College again in November for a workshop in Noh costume and dance. Rich also performed short scenes from the Noh repertoire at the Japan!Festival in Lexington in August and the WorldFest 2009 in Louisville in September. Michael is also working as a volunteer

Japanese-English interpreter for the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

Christel Broady (Education) was an invited finalist at the Voices for Peace and Justice Writing Contest by the Bluegrass Literacy and the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice (CKCPJ). She did a public reading of her submission “Mama, I Wish You Were Like All Other Moms: A Story of Immigrant Parenthood in Kentucky” in the Lexington Central Library on Oct. 11, 2009. The story has been published on the Bluegrass Literacy website, Bluegrass Literacy and the Central Kentucky Council for Peace and Justice (CKCPJ). Her other activities include: ESL 911: English Language Learners in Early Grades. State Professional Development for Kentucky Teachers at The Lexington School, October 6, 2009; Proposal Reviewer, TESOL 2010 convention, June 2009; Program Reviewer NCATE for TESOL programs, TESOL 2009-2011; Educational Professional Standards Board (Kentucky Teacher Certification) Task Force Member “English as a Second Language Endorsement” July 2009; NCATE /TESOL Reviewer Refresher and Update web seminar, offered by NCATE, hosted by Diane Staehr-Fenner, October 14, 2009; TESOL Leadership Certificate training, online course: Perspectives on Leadership for TESOL September/October 2009; TESOL Leadership Certificate training, online course: About TESOL September 2009; National Clearinghouse for English Language Acquisition, Web seminar Assessing K-2 English Language Proficiency: Principles, Purposes and Practices, June 15, 2009.

Susan Hart Bell's (Psychology) third book, *Addressing Challenging Situations in Early Classroom Settings - A Teacher's Guide*, co-authored by Dawn Denno and Victoria Carr (both of the University of Cincinnati) will be published by Paul H. Brookes in the early spring. The authors are currently in the copyediting process. Bell's school psychology research group has had two poster presentations accepted for the annual National Association of School Psychologists conference held in Chicago during March, 2010. One poster is on student and teacher attitudes toward cyberbullying in middle schools and the other is on supporting the college student with ADHD.



Nancy Lumpkin (Economics) continues her role as

financial correspondent with *Kentucky Monthly* magazine. Over the last year she has published three articles with the magazine. Her articles provide basic personal finance tips and cover a wide array of topics, including: “Investing In Fido's Health” in March, “Three Reasons to Invest in Collectibles” in June/July, and “Choosing a College in a Tough Economy” in September. For November, Lumpkin focuses on tips for saving on medical expenses.

Sonny Burnette (Music) has had recent performances of his carillon composition, *Kaleidoscope*, at the University of Sydney (Australia) and Michigan State University, and performances of his flute compositions by jazz flutist Martin Schmidt in Germany, and by flute choirs at Frederick Community College (MD) and Shippensburg University (PA). *The Yellow Saxophone and Other Colors* was recorded by Susquehanna University saxophone professor Dr. Gail Levinsky and praised by Northwestern University saxophone professor Dr. Frederick Hemke as “an excellent work for our instrument! Bravo!!” Burnette's commissioned work, *Flute Fandango*, will be premiered by the Lexington Flute Symphony this fall. He will perform on woodwinds in the production of Paragon Music Theatre's *Hello Dolly*. Recent independent film work for Burnette includes roles in *Forgotten Soul*, *Steampunk*, *Mystery at Locust Grove*, *Red River*, *Fluffy 3*, *Paid in Full*, and *Secretariat* (Gentlemen's Club Member extra).

Tom Cooper (Economics) presented a talk on the national economy and its impact on local organizations' needs and resources for the September meeting of Scott County's Community Connection.

Juilee Decker (Art) will serve as commentator on a panel entitled “Preserving and Threatening the Nation's Heritage: The British Museum 1800s to the Present” at the annual meeting of the North American Conference on British Studies in November 2009. In addition, her essay on the English landscape painter John Constable is slated to appear later this year in the *Literary Encyclopedia*. In terms of external relations, Decker continues to serve as a public art advisor to programs in Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, and Florida and serves as a panelist for the Kentucky Foundation for Women.

Todd Hamilton (Chemistry) is presenting a paper, along with undergraduate student Thomas Owens, titled “Inhibition by Metal Ions in the Horseradish Peroxidase/o-Phenylenediamine System” at the Kentucky Academy of Science Annual Meeting in November. They have mea-

sured the specific inhibition constant for Co(II) ions. They will present systematics of different metal ions (copper, nickel, and cobalt) and compare to values in the literature, measured in similar systems.

Heather Winter Hunnicutt (Music) was selected as one of twelve voice teachers to participate in the highly competitive National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) Intern Program. As a participant in the program, she spent two intensive weeks in June studying under four of the top teachers in the field of voice at Shorter College in Rome, Georgia. In July, she presented "Stage Fright and Singers" at the International Congress of Voice Teachers in Paris, France. She appeared as a featured soloist for the Highland Light Opera Company's "Opera Mania" in September and presented the multimedia voice, piano and photography recital "December Songs" on the Georgetown Campus early this fall. Additionally, this summer she was accepted into membership in the New York Singing Teacher's Association and the National Opera Association.

Melody Deprez and **Anita Jones** (Graduate Education) will present at the National Association of Young Children conference in Washington D.C. in November. The topic will be "Using Literature to Develop Cultural Awareness in Children." The presentation will focus on their work developing cultural awareness with all young student populations in special and regular education settings. With the special choice of literature, children can learn about new cultures, recognize and discuss the differences and similarities and gain new knowledge and respect for this culture.

Steve Pavey (Sociology) presented a workshop entitled, "The Art of Christian Community Development: The Role of the Arts and Culture in Social Justice Movements and Community Transformations," at the Christian Community Development Conference in October. In addition to the workshop presentation, he had artwork in the conference exhibition on the theme "Pursuing Kingdom Priorities." He had research-based artwork in this summer's Lexington Art League Open exhibition entitled, "Scars & Stripes." This summer he led the Arts & Culture team with the organizing of the first Kentucky Social Forum. He continues to serve on the national Arts & Culture team to organize next summer's United States Social Forum where he plans to build on his research on the arts and grassroots social movements. He was recently nominated for the honor of Fellow of the Society for Applied Anthropology for his leadership and contributions to the field.

Joe Lunceford (Religion) has reviewed the book *Covenant*

Economics: A Biblical Vision of Justice for All, by Richard a Horsley, for *Choice* magazine. His book, *Parody and Counterimaging in the Apocalypse* has just been published by Wipf & Stock Publishers. He has signed off on the typeset version of another book, *Biblical Women-Submissive?* and is expecting it to become available within the next few weeks, also published by Wipf & Stock Publishers.



Jonathan Sands Wise (Philosophy) presented a paper at the conference for Young Scholars in the Baptist Academy at Regent's College in Oxford early in August. His paper was on "P. D. James and the Complexity of Human Evil" and explores the vision of evil presented in the detective fiction of P. D. James, comparing it with that of Augustine and arguing that both fundamentalist and liberal views of evil tend to oversimplification.

Eve Proffitt (Graduate Education) presented an interactive session in July at the Kentucky Association for School Administrators meeting on "Using Technology and Online Learning Systems to Facilitate Instruction and Administration." She is also serving another term as IHE Representative on the Kentucky CASE board as well as another term as IHE Chairperson for the IHE meetings sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Education.

Patrick Sheridan (Chemistry) spent the summer mentoring the first Howard Hughes Medical Institute / GC-PALS Research Fellows: senior chemistry majors Kyla Tolliver and Ben Hutcherson. Kyla worked on synthesizing an analog of Laurenditerpenol, a potential drug used for the treatment of breast cancer. Ben made strides in developing a synthesis for a compound that may be used to target human lymphoma cells. Additionally, these really talented chemists helped Sheridan with the development of four named reaction projects. Sheridan hopes to incorporate these ancillary experiments into a medicinal chemistry class and laboratory he will be offering in the near future.

Emma Bolden's (English) manuscript, *Malifcae*, was chosen as a finalist for Cleveland State University Press' First Book Competition. A series of poems from this manuscript were also named as a distinguished entry in the Campbell Corner Poetry Contest and will appear on the Campbell Corner website. Poems from this manuscript

have appeared or will appear in *Guernica*, *The Country Dog Review*, *The Red Mountain Review*, *The Cincinnati Review*, and *The Southern Humanities Review*. Her essay, "Nesting," won the Betty Gabehart Prize in creative nonfiction, and she gave a reading of this essay at the Kentucky Women Writers Conference. Her short story, "The Laws of Motion," was chosen as one of the top ten finalists in the Wordstock Competition and will be published in the anthology *The Wordstock Ten*. Another story, "After," will appear in an upcoming issue of *OCHO*. Her book reviews have appeared in *The Southern Humanities Review*, *The Country Dog Review*, and *Poet's Quarterly*, to which she's a monthly contributor. Bolden spent much of the summer in Bowling Green, Kentucky, returning to her favorite summer camp, Western Kentucky University's VAMPY (Verbally and Mathematically Precocious Youth) program, to teach creative writing to gifted middle and high school students.

Helen Beaven (Library) co-presented a workshop/presentation with Ray Bailey, Learning Technology Librarian (Morehead State University), at the Georgia Conference on Information Literacy in August and at the Kentucky Library Association Conference in October. The workshop/presentation was entitled "Win \$500 for Doing Your Homework!" and was based on her previous experience with promoting information literacy at academic institutions. The workshop outlined how to develop, administer and promote undergraduate or graduate library research prizes on college campuses in order to reward students for using appropriate and scholarly resources in their research endeavors.



Alex Spataru (Graduate Education) completed work on two projects: a journal article (Zhang, T., Koehler, M.J., & Spataru, A., "The Development of the Motivation for Critical Reasoning in Online Discussions Inventory" is in press for the *American Journal of Distance Education*); and a conference paper presentation (Spataru, A., & Winsor, D., "A Qualitative Perspective on Preservice Teachers' Positions Related To the Use of Technology In Schools," presented at the Northern Rocky Mountain Education Research Association, Jackson Hole, WY).

Jim Klotter (History) concentrated this summer on writing the first part of his study of Henry Clay and the American Presidency and editing the last part of a collection of essays

on the image of Lexington as the Athens of the West. Since then, he has given three talks (to historical societies in Scott, Bourbon, and Clark counties) and has been interviewed by various media outlets, including the Associated Press, Fayette County Schools, and Kentucky Public Radio, on diverse historical topics. He did a book review that appeared in *The Journal of American History* and a Preface to a book entitled *Lincoln's Advocate*. For the seventh time in the last ten years, a student (this year, Dustin Hughes) from his senior writing seminar won the Thomas D. Clark Award from the Kentucky Association of Teachers of History for the best undergraduate paper in the state.

Peter LaRue (Music) in February conducted "Mr. Lincoln's Kentucky" at Transylvania University, featuring Angelique Clay, soprano, of the University of Kentucky opera department. This concert was sponsored by LexArts. In May, LaRue again had the opportunity to conduct at the Lexington Opera House - a concert featuring internationally-acclaimed brass artists Earle Louder and Richard Cryder entitled "Armed Forces Salute." During June and July, LaRue conducted Summer Pops Concerts at The University of Kentucky Arboretum in Lexington, the Wallis Home and Arboretum in Paris, and the Scott County Park in Georgetown. In September, LaRue began his 16th season as the Music Director and Conductor of the Central Kentucky Concert Band in Lexington. He also continues performing throughout the region on the trombone with the Bluegrass Brass Trio.

Liyan Liu (History) presented a paper entitled "Modern Schools and the Rise of Radicalism" at the Fifth International Conference on "Hierarchy and Power in the History of Civilizations" in Moscow, Russia, June 23-26, 2009.

Mami Hayashida (Music) was invited to South Korea again this summer to teach and perform at the 5th Korea J. Heifetz Methods Research Institute International Music Camp held in Cheongpyeong. Other summer activities included teaching a master class and lessons at the Festival of Strings program in Lexington, as well as participating as an artist-teacher in the 17th Annual Pleasant Mountains Music Festival in Harlan, KY. Earlier in the year, she gave a highly acclaimed performance of the Mendelssohn D-minor Piano Trio in the Chamber Music Society of Central Kentucky subscription concert series with her husband Daniel Mason (violin) and Benjamin Karp (cello). Her recent non-performing activities include adjudication of a senior piano recital at Transylvania University, Federated Music Festival in Richmond, KY, the 14th Annual McCauley Chamber Music Competition in Louisville, the 22nd

Annual A. Frank and Bathel C. Gallaher Memorial Music Performance Competition Semifinal Round at Morehead University, and GLMTA (Greater Louisville Music Teachers' Association) Student Workshop. She continues to serve on the KMTA (Kentucky Music Teachers Association) board as Theory Chair and is currently serving her second year as President of BAMTA (Bluegrass Area Music Teachers Association), a local chapter of KMTA. Out of nine pre-college piano students chosen among all the sophomores and juniors in the state of Kentucky to attend the Governor's School of the Arts, two of them were her students. Two other current students of hers received prizes at the Lexington Bach Contest, and one former student received the 1st place in the Junior Division of the McCauley Chamber Music Competition.

Stephen Mergner (Political Science) recently completed and published a book chapter on state alcohol and tobacco taxation. His work is part of the forthcoming three-volume project titled *The Governing America Project*. Paul Quirk and William Cunion are the editors of this publication. He was recently appointed to serve on the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce's Advisory Panel for the non-profit organization Agenda360. This group seeks regional governance strategies to transform the Ohio/Kentucky/Indiana tri-state region into a leading metropolitan center for talent, jobs and economic opportunity.

Rebecca Singer (Psychology) led a study abroad course on Animal Behavior Research during the summer to Roatan, Honduras. Eighteen students traveled to Honduras with her to gain research experience with a group of "captive" bottlenose dolphins. She worked with these students to develop a research study on object permanence in bottlenose dolphins. Singer continues this collaboration with the Roatan Institute of Marine Sciences with trainers and staff at the research station collecting data this fall and spring.

David DeSario (Math) attended Mathfest, the summer conference of the Mathematical Association of America, in Portland, OR. Special sessions during Mathfest also culminated a year long fellowship in the MAA's Project NExT, a program designed for professional development of recent PhDs in mathematics. In September, he attended the Miami University Annual Fall Conference which addressed teaching undergraduate mathematics.

Darrell Kincer (Art) has exhibited work in six group shows since this summer, one of which was a two-person show with **Daniel Graham** (Art) at the Scott County Arts

Consortium entitled "SteeP." In his personal work, Kincer has found renewed interest in traditional methods, returning to film and continuing to explore non-silver photographic mediums. Most recently within the department, he has expanded and improved the capabilities of the darkroom to enable the printing of medium and large format negatives on two refurbished Beseler enlargers.



Michael Tilley (Philosophy) presented a paper, "Authority, Liturgy, and Thick Confessions: Themes in Lewis' *Till We Have Faces*" at Regent's Park College at the Young Scholars in the Baptist Academy Conference in August. He also had three papers accepted for publication in two forthcoming books. The papers are: "Jürgen Habermas: Social Selfhood, Religion, and

Kierkegaard" in *Kierkegaard's Influence on Social-Political Thought*, v. 14, ed. Jon Stewart. Ashgate; "William James: Living Forward and the Development of Radical Empiricism" in *Kierkegaard's Influence on Philosophy*, v. 11, ed. Jon Stewart. Ashgate; and "Herbert Marcuse: Social Critique, Haecker and Kierkegaardian Individualism" in *Kierkegaard's Influence on Social-Political Thought*, v. 14, ed. Jon Stewart Ashgate.

Terry Ray Clark (Religion) will present an invited paper at the annual meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in November titled "Ritual Cursing Past & Present: Jeremiah's Scroll & the Boston Red Sox Jersey." The paper explores theory and method in the field of Bible and Pop Culture. He is currently working on an essay titled "Apocalypse Then and Now: Kingdom Come and the Tradition of Re-imagining Armageddon" for an upcoming book on the apocalypse and comics for Sheffield-Phoenix Press. He recently published the feature article for the fall issue of the online journal SBL Forum titled "A Contract with God? Will Eisner's Seminal Graphic Novel as Anti-Theodicy." He recently submitted the final edition of an essay titled "Prophetic Voices in Graphic Novels: The 'Comic and Tragic Vision' of Apocalyptic Rhetoric in Kingdom Come and Watchmen" for an upcoming volume of *SBL-Semeia Studies*, a book series that publishes collections of essays representing interdisciplinary biblical studies. The book is scheduled to be published in 2010. Finally, his proposal for an introductory textbook in *Religion and Popular Culture* is under contract consideration by Routledge Publishing.