

AGNES SCOTT

A L U M N A E M A G A Z I N E

Spring/Summer 2000

THE BUSINESS OF



EQUITY AND JUSTICE

EDITOR'S NOTE

In the milieu of "transformations," Agnes Scott is opening worlds and a new director of creative services will help usher the way.

Springtime arrived at Agnes Scott with whirl and hum. As the student body continued to grow, record numbers from the community attended cultural events on campus during the special Millennium Series, "Transformations."

While the campus returned to its long-missed Evans Dining Hall, hammer and saw buzzed nonstop, bringing the construction of Alston Center and McCain Library nearer completion, shovel and spade brought about a relandscaping of the front lawn, making it greener than anyone remembers in recent years.

The bustle and growth on campus serve as an apt metaphor for the community, as a sort of symbolic dynamic bridge connecting the 20th century to the 21st. Details of improvements in academic program as well as the quality of student life on campus are included in a special insert in this edition: "Agnes Scott College: Opening Worlds" (*see center of the magazine*). We hope you find it, and the other features in this edition, informative, and that you will share the news with friends as well as potential students in your communities.

Among the many changes recorded this season was one in our own little corner of campus. Jennifer Bryon Owen has joined us as director of creative services and editor of the AGNES SCOTT ALUMNAE MAGAZINE. Owen's various career experiences converge in her responsibilities at Agnes Scott.

"I enjoy working with a body of information and commu-

nicating that through the appropriate media to various audiences," says Owen. "The process is challenging and rewarding, and I look forward to working with this magazine and Agnes Scott alumnae."

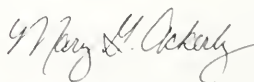
While on staff at The University of Mississippi, Owen edited an award-winning magazine, *Visions*. She has also worked with the Mississippi State Institutions of Higher

Learning, where she edited its newsletter and helped promote the state's public universities. Owen has written for numerous magazines, authored and edited books, publicized books, authors and bookstores, and conducted a variety of public relations activities for clients. Most importantly, she is an avid reader.

Owen, her husband John, and 16-year-old son Jordan, lived in Roswell, Ga., before living in Oxford, Miss.

Owen's considerable energy and expertise will benefit the College greatly as she works to establish con-

tacts with our alumnae for future stories and to revive the Publications Editorial Advisory Board. I hope you will join us in welcoming Jennifer to campus and will feel free to share with her your ideas about this and other College publications.



Mary G. Ackerly
Director of Communications



ASC's new Creative Services Director Jennifer Owen

MARTIN SHERMAN PHOTO

CONTENTS

Agnes Scott College Alumnae Magazine
Spring/Summer 2000, Volume 76, Number 2

6

The Business of Equity and Justice

A Conversation

Photography by Marilyn Suriani
Dennis McCann, Wallace M. Alston Professor of Bible and Religion, and seminarian/World Council of Churches representative Ashley Seaman '95 discuss the moral, social and economic implications of global business on the health and welfare of the planet's "least of these."

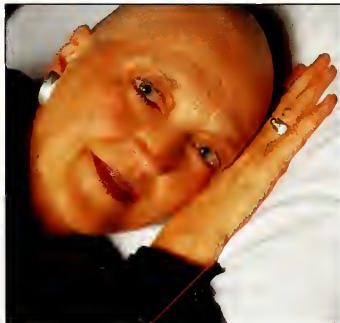


12

With Grace and Wit

By David Thompson

Photography by Caroline Joe
Alumna Nancy Charles steps in at the last minute to give audiences a stellar performance in Wit.



22

Blood, Sweat and Cheers

By Jennifer Bryon Owen and Pat McArthur

Life-long fitness begins at Agnes Scott, where physical activities are part of a well-rounded college education. "We want the student-athlete to have a valued experience that benefits the total person," says Page Remillard.



17

Evans Reborn

By Mary Alma Durrett

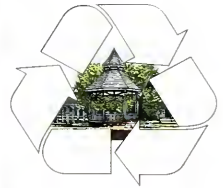
Photography by Marilyn Suriani
A grand old building is revived and is bustling with activity ... and good smells.



DEPARTMENTS

2

On Campus



28

World View

29

Lifestyle

33

A Giving Community

COVER: Wallace M. Alston Professor of Bible and Religion Dennis McCann and alumna/ seminarian student Ashley Seaman discuss ethics and economics.

MARILYN SURIANI PHOTO

Editor: Mary G. Ackerly
Contributing Editor: Chris Tiegreen

Production: Mary Alma Durrett

Design: Everett Hullum
Student Assistants:

Shelley Acevedo '02

Ila Atkins '03

Amy Cormier '00

Katie Turcotte '02

Copyright © 2000, Agnes Scott College. Published for alumnae and friends twice a year by the Office of Publications, Agnes Scott College, Buttrick Hall, 141 E. College Avenue, Atlanta/Decatur, GA 30030, (404) 471.6301. Postmaster: Send address changes to Office of Development, Agnes Scott College, Atlanta/Decatur, GA 30030. The content of the magazine reflects the opinions of the writers and not the viewpoint of the College, its trustees or administration. e-mail: publications@agnesscott.edu

ON CAMPUS

An unexpected career in philosophy, the continued greening of campus, jump starting Habitat for Humanity on campus, admission gains

BROADENED HORIZONS, AWAKENED POTENTIAL

Tamara Wilson '00 was pretty sure that her philosophy major would never lead to a career in the field. That is, until a Summer Institute in Philosophy at Rutgers University last August exposed her to some new ideas and broadened her outlook on her studies.

Wilson was one of 15 students in the United States selected to participate in the program, which is designed to kindle an interest in philosophy as an academic career among minorities who are underrepresented in the field.

Wilson had applied for the program at the encouragement of Professor Richard Parry, but didn't have her heart set on being accepted. She was in the middle of a five-week trip to China, participating in a study-abroad program through Clark Atlanta

University with partial funding by Agnes Scott, when she found out that she had been accepted.

"I got back from China, was here a week, and then off to Rutgers," she said. "I had my mind on other things."

When she first found out she had been selected, Wilson considered not even attending the institute. "I thought I wasn't interested in philosophy as a career.

But I am so glad I went. It was wonderful."

That few minorities pursue careers in philosophy is apparent, both to Wilson and to the organizers of Rutgers' Summer Institute. The reason for this phenomenon, however, is less clear. "It could be that traditional Western philosophy dominates academe," she proposes. "Maybe some (minorities) don't feel a connection there."

Wilson's own path into the field supports that theory. Her interest lies less in Western philosophical thought than in Asian, particularly Indian, philosophies. She lauds Parry as a key figure in getting her interested in philosophy as a major, primarily through one of his introductory

classes she took as a first-year student.

"For some reason, until then I didn't think there was a

big connection between Indian philosophy and Western philosophy. Now I see a lot of overlap," she says. "I don't think I would be a philosophy major if it weren't for him."

Still, the thought of philosophy as an academic career did not take root until her Rutgers experience. "The summer was one of those experiences of broadening horizons," she recalls. "As a senior, I was getting a little worried about what I was going to do after graduation. Last summer helped me focus on some options. It was such a great experience."

That experience, combined with the "one-on-one relationships" with professors she has experienced at Agnes Scott, has drawn her to an academic career, one in which she already has a number of contacts. "It's great to hear from them, what they are doing and what classes they are taking," she says of her fellow participants in the Rutgers program, noting that she has already received an invitation from another student to visit India. "I hope we will keep in touch for a long time."

—Chris Tiegreen

Tamara Wilson



CAROLINE JOE PHOTO



GREENING THE CAMPUS: A SEARCH FOR RENEWAL

While recent landscaping on campus has beautified Agnes Scott's north lawn, the efforts of the newly formed Environmental Action Committee (EAC) should make the College community even greener.

A group of students, faculty and staff with a penchant for the Earth was appointed last semester by the president to chart an ecologically friendly course as the Environmental Action Committee.

As its mission, the EAC identifies environmental issues on campus, works to address these issues including those that relate to the campus Master Plan and landscaping plan, increases knowledge and awareness of environmental issues, and coordinates with student groups that have environ-

mental concerns, explains Lt. Amy C. Lanier, the campus environmental occupation safety officer who co-chairs the new group with Professor of Mathematics Myrtle H. Lewin.

Serving with Lanier and Lewin are faculty members Linda Hodges from the chemistry department, Phil Gibson from the biology department and Robert Leslie from the mathematics department; staff members Crystal Steadham, Tim Blankenship, Beth MacEachin, Janann Giles, Elvis Parris and Monica Bertram; and students Brigitte Hogan '00, Charity Livingston '03, Susan Miller '00 and Michelle Freeman '01.

EAC has set up a computer Web site: ECOcerns@agnesscott.edu that serves as a forum for discussion of environmental issues, which includes the campus landscaping initiative that entailed thinning trees from the front lawn.

The group has tackled the subject of smoking on campus by educating the campus to the non-biodegradability of cigarette butts and has affected a move of outdoor smoking zones away from the main entrances of buildings. The group's primary and ongoing project this year has been to reactivate and expand the campus-wide recycling program (paper, cardboard, aluminum, etc.).

Lanier notes that many past vendors with whom the College contracted to dispose of recyclable materials are no longer in business, and replacements have been hard to find. But she's convinced that new vendors will be commissioned.

EAC differs from the student organization GEO, in that GEO has more of an outward focus, raising student consciousness to global environmental concerns, notes GEO immedi-

ate Past President Brigitte Hogan '00. And while the student group looks beyond the boundaries of Agnes Scott, GEO has also taken the lead on some on-campus initiatives and works with EAC to see them through. Lanier notes that GEO began the successful push to switch from Styrofoam takeout containers to paper ones and from smaller condiment containers to larger ones in Evans Dining Hall.

Who knows, maybe together the two groups will revive the old tradition that many alumnae remember: cloth napkins.

—Mary Alma Durrett

HABITAT REBUILT

Thanks to the enthusiasm and drive of a group of students led by Callie Curington '00, the campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity enjoyed resurgence this year.

Curington, a senior from

ON CAMPUS

St. Leo, Fla., energized the homebuilding organization after studying the issues of poverty and homelessness in a religion and social justice course.

After Curington explored the realities of homelessness—approximately 760,000 people are homeless on any given night, according to the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty—and the Christian imperative to “walk among the poor” in order to combat the forces that produce social injustice, she was quickly moved to action.

With the help of Lucia Sizemore '65, director of alumnae-student relations, Curington invited anyone interested in reviving the campus Habitat chapter to attend a reorganizational meeting on campus. Seventeen people came, and the group soon began exploring the possibility of committing to an Alternative Spring

LUCIA SIZEMORE PHOTOS



Curington: A class project sparks “further direction and purpose.”

Break week of building.

The revived group sponsored a “Sleep Out On the Quad” to raise awareness of the issue of homelessness in America and to raise money for the Alternative Spring Break project. Nearly 20 people braved near-freezing temperatures in December, and bunked in sleeping bags and cardboard boxes on Woodruff Quadrangle to generate almost \$1,000 for the project.

The Student Development Fund, supported by the biannual Exam Care Baskets Project, provided additional money for the

building trip to New Mexico, and alumna Patty Gambrell '56 helped the group secure discounted airline tickets out west.

In April, Curington was among the 11 students who traveled with Sizemore and Mary Gause, coordinator of religious life, to Belen, N.M., near Albuquerque, for a week of homebuilding and communion with other college students who shared the same commitment to battling homelessness.

For many in the group, the experience was transforming.

In a paper prepared for her religion and social justice course, Curington notes: “My experience working with Habitat for Humanity opened my eyes to the world of social justice in a very different way.” By studying the philosophy of

Habitat for Humanity, coming to understand the social justice movement, and reflecting more deeply on the various images of Christ that exist within the Christian church, “I now feel empowered to actively join the social justice efforts of the world. While I was never inactive before in [terms of volunteering], it was never a priority in my life like it is now. Through Habitat ... I have found further direction and purpose I never expected this much attention [for something], that began as a class project. I am amazed at ... how many people are willing to donate their time and money.”

It is unlikely that Curington's commitment to social justice will end with this experience. She plans to further her religious studies this fall as she attends Princeton Theological Seminary on a full scholarship.

—Mary Alma Durrett



CAROLINE JOE PHOTOS



ADMISSION GAINS, ALUMNAE CONTRIBUTIONS

By May of this year, Agnes Scott had passed its previous record for applications—720 in August of 1998—and was sprinting toward a new record: 771.

With the fourth year of the College's enrollment growth plan coming to a close, the Office of Admission is noting the high academic standards of the applicant pool and projecting an acceptance rate of 72-73 percent with an enrollment yield of more than 45 percent.

The targeted number of first-year students for fall 2000 is 250, says Stephanie Balmer, associate vice president for enroll-

ment and director of admission, and the total new student target is 315 to 320. This would be up from the fall 1999 figures of 241 first-years and 297 total new students.

Another notable trend emerging from this season's recruitment pool is that legacy applicants are way up. There are 26 legacies, notes Balmer, which are daughters, sisters, granddaughters, cousins or nieces of alumnae, in the group. This figure is more than double the number of legacy applicants of just three years ago.

Alumnae efforts are paying off in other ways as well. Members of the Great Scott! Recruitment Board and Alumnae Admission Representatives are directly responsible for recruiting more than 37 students, approximately 65 percent of whom are accepted applicants.

—Mary Alma Durrett

A student leadership conference in the fall offered training in how to serve Agnes Scott's growing population.



THE BUSINESS OF EQUITY AND JUSTICE

Recent clashes between titans of global finance and business—the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and World Trade Organization—and a growing contingent of environmentalists, advocates of indigenous people and organized labor, again focus our attention on concerns prominent in American debate since the Industrial Age began. AGNES SCOTT ALUMNAE MAGAZINE invited Dennis McCann, Wallace M. Alston Professor of Bible and Religion, and alumna Ashley Seaman '95, a student at Columbia Theological Seminary and a member of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches (WCC), to explore the subject of corporate wealth and social-economic justice as this new era dawns.

Dennis McCann: I'm interested in what religious commitment can contribute toward making the world a better place, especially regarding economic relationships. My concern goes back, at least, to the mid-1960s. As a Catholic seminarian in Columbus, Ohio, I was involved in an ecumenical inner-city project trying to empower people by organizing neighborhood associations to work on issues regarding employment, neighborhood improvement, relations with the police, and other things. This was a wonderful experience. We were thinking about the theological implications of our work.

Ashley Seaman: In 1996, I spent a semester at the Ecumenical Institute of Bossey in Cerny, Switzerland. Bossey is affiliated with the University of Geneva and the World Council of Churches. Many refer to Bossey as a laboratory for the international ecumenical movement. Imagine! For four months, 50 people from 35 different countries and all Christian confessions spent every day together. Although we were there to learn conflict resolution and the

A discussion of the role and responsibility of the Christian conscience in a world of social and financial inequities.

Photography by Marilyn Suriani



Ashley Seaman (left) and Dennis McCann discuss the issues and implications of global economics in the parlor of Rebekah Scott Hall.

theological grounds for peace, we equally learned about each other's lives, cultures, countries and churches. This was the first time I knew, by experience rather than intellectual awareness, that Christianity is worldwide—absorbed and shaped by a global variety of cultures and people.

This was also the first time that I knew, by people's testimonies rather than press releases, about the international debt crisis.

McCann: When you begin to explore the issues ecumenically and internationally, you quickly realize the religious and moral implications of the global economic system. You understand why it is a major terrain of struggle for Christians. When you begin to ask questions about what the worldwide economic system does to people and whether what it does is consistent

tory pedagogy reflected the core of Jesus being

For me, the aliveness of Jesus' radical politics was and is a redemptive counterforce to the sexist, racist, nationalist destruction done in the name of Jesus. Since Agnes Scott and Bossey, my thinking and living has been directed by Biblical texts about the Jubilee year. Both Deuteronomy 15 and Leviticus 25 declare that the 50th year shall be a jubilee. During this year slaves are freed, debts are forgiven, original owners return to their land and the land lies fallow. Jubilee is a radical way of living together. It reduces inequities and restores individual and communal pride, hope and opportunity.

Critics usually declare that there is no evidence that anyone actually practiced Jubilee. That's true. But, it's also true that Jubilee was according to Scripture, what God commanded God's people to do. A friend, who is an economist, laughed when I read her Deuteronomy 15 because Jubilee would be impossible—according



“Jubilee is a radical way of living together. It reduces inequities and restores individual and communal pride, hope and opportunity.”

with what the Bible proclaims as the will of God, you enter into the difficult and demanding study of international economics and social justice.

Seaman: I often wish that I had delved into international economics at Agnes Scott. That knowledge is critical for interpreting justice today.

One of the most significant lessons I did learn at Agnes Scott was the radical nature of Jesus. In the religious studies courses, we did not simply read from the Bible, or discuss Latin American liberation theology, or explore womanist ethics in theory. We read, discussed and explored in a democratic classroom that acknowledged each woman's expertise and contribution. Such libera-

to the market. I laughed because the economy of God is upside down, peculiar and completely concerned for creation's welfare.

McCann: The ancient Israelites had an agricultural society: so in the Jubilee year, the allotment of land under the covenant reverted to the family who had original title to it. So in their redistribution of wealth, there was a safety valve for the disparities that accumulated over 50 years.

Seaman: My understanding is that the people didn't accrue debt knowing that it would be forgiven. The point was not to take advantage of the system, but to ensure the greater good—the maintenance of an equitable community.

McCann: Clearly theirs was not a capitalist system. So the economy in which a Jubilee was an ideal was very different from what we have today. Could you put the Jubilee concept into practice today?

Seaman: There is a growing awareness and momentum, globally, for cancelling the international debts of impoverished nations. Jubilee 2000 is a coalition of organizations, most of which are faith-based; it is part of this global momentum. Jubilee 2000 has been educating people about how many nations are highly indebted, how this indebtedness debilitates their efforts to nurture economic growth and domestic welfare, and what it would take to cancel those debts to lending nations, such as the U.S., and lending organizations, such as the World Bank and International Monetary Fund.



In addition to an awareness about all of these facts and figures, citizens of the lending countries must understand the obligation we have to the "indebted" countries. That obligation is that we are the ones who "owe" much of the world for the labor and natural resources we have exploited in order to live in affluence. Within this movement, churches are calling each other into accountability, as well. The World Alliance of Reformed Churches has asked all of its member churches to consider their participation in exploitative economic activity. Is participation in an exploitative market sinful? Does that participation compromise the integrity of the Gospel?

McCann: How does this affect us, in Atlanta, at Agnes Scott? For example, how much of our endowment—so vital in sustaining this institu-

tion that encourages independent thought and inquiry, is contingent on our relationship with multinational corporations? Should we seek ways to live more simply as an institution? Should Agnes Scott divest and speak out against a "McWorld" mentality? Should we resist the exportation of Western and particularly American consumer values worldwide?

My point certainly is not to bite the hand that feeds us. But if this is an unjust system, you and I—compared to Third-World people we have known and had solidarity with—are definitely the beneficiaries of it.

Seaman: I ask those questions of myself, a lot.

I'm finding that commitment to divesting from exploitative economics and excess must be rooted in a spiritual awareness of God's justice and desire for the life of Creation. In addition, I need to hear over and over again the stories of people whose countries are enslaved to interna-



tional debt. Once you hear how your country's affluence is the direct result of another country's poverty, you cannot *not* change. The urgency I feel from these stories and the effects of the debt crisis fuels my frustration with the church.

In my experience, churches engage in discourse about domestic, personal issues, like abortion and divorce, much more than they engage in public policy. Rather than a balanced concern for personal and public matters, many churches tend to only discuss the private half of what it means to be human. Social justice does not compete with personal salvation for the attention of many Christians, and the churches' responsibility for "corporate redemption"—the healing of society—is largely ignored or hotly debated.

“Once you hear how your country's affluence is the direct result of another country's poverty, you cannot *not* change.”

McCann: I agree. Most churches seem to feel that if individuals are saved, society will, as a consequence, also be saved. Which has not, historically, proven to be the case.

Seaman: The World Council of Churches, which is a body of hundreds of nations and Christian churches, is concerned about personal salvation (the root of salvation means "wholeness") in addition to societal salvation. The witness of the WCC, like the experience at Bossey, when my understanding of economic justice grew alongside my deepening acquaintance with the church's global diversity, encourages the world church to balance and integrate its public and private concerns. But, this balance is not one in which I was raised. Rather, the discussion was: "Are you right with Jesus?"

Seaman: That speaks to the holistic approach through which we must be economically just. All of our being—not only our intellect—must desire and compel new ways of living.

McCann: In the 1960s, I was working with the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) when the Black Power movement emerged. I found it vital to reflect on it everyday: "Am I still with Jesus" Is following him still the reason for my activities here?" That is still the central question for each individual involved in the struggle for economic justice: Am I still walking in Jesus' footsteps?"

Seaman: Because the goal really is community becoming a people that takes care of itself, all its



“The central question for each individual involved in the struggle for economic justice is, Am I still walking in Jesus’ footsteps?”

McCann: The Catholic equivalent of that Protestant ethic was to get yourself right with the Catholic Church, because Jesus is founder of the church.

When I began work on my doctoral dissertation on Reinhold Niebuhr, I found a need on the one hand to be concerned with global issues while on the other not to discourage or discount the significance of the pastoral ministry. In his work in Detroit from 1915-1928, Niebuhr was fighting Henry Ford and the emergence of the myth of the capitalist utopia. His way of dealing with a congregation that was uneasy about his activism was by being sensitive to their personal needs. It was his sense that if his congregation trusted him in his pastoral ministry, they would cut him some slack when he was taking on the larger structures of social and economic justice

members and all the strangers in its midst. Its where everyone is provided for and no one doubts his or her security in the world. What's fundamental to the concept of Jubilee—and to our own need for social and economic justice—is the sense that nothing belongs to us. We are merely stewards of God's abundant gifts.

McCann: I teach business ethics and am happy when my students go into business and professions, because I think this Jubilee vision that you're talking about still can be instrumental in change—that people who realize the interconnectedness of world economic conditions can work to the improvement of business as well as human society. A couple of businessmen with whom I have worked have ended up becoming pastors. I'm not sure I'm entirely happy with that result, because I would have been just as happy to have committed, ethical Christian people in

the boardrooms as in the pulpit. Or—I hasten to add—committed, ethical Buddhists or Moslems or Jews in such positions.

I think we should note here that our conversation has centered on Christian responsibility, but neither of us, I think, intend to imply that the only way one can be committed to social justice concerns is by being a follower of Jesus.

Seaman: Absolutely. Many of the world's greatest teachers of social and economic justice are not Christians. I think that is why discovering the seedbed for justice and the divine mandate for a just community in the heart of the Judeo-Christian tradition is so exciting.

McCann: There is an enormous amount of congruence among world religions on these issues. That's why it's so exciting that we can make progress together in identifying things of ultimate concern.



mate concern. Seeing and understanding how people are deformed by the deprivations that they experience, whether it be lack of opportunity or denial of access to resources that they need to live a life of human dignity, this is a common agenda.

You've listened deeply to people over the past months. What challenges do you see?

Seaman: Listening and responding. A man from Cote d'Ivoire [in Africa] told me about a loan that the World Bank would give if his region would agree to how the World Bank thought the money should be used. The lending specifications demanded that the region build a dam on a particular site. The people argued that they needed the loan for healthcare and education.

Eventually, the people accepted the loan and

the bank's specifications. They built the dam, with dreams of neo-colonial development, and the dam soon fell into disrepair. The whole sum of money was wasted and the people, who didn't want the dam in the beginning, did not have enough money to repay even the interest on the loans. The Western eyes, obviously, thought that a dam would boost the people's economy. Yet, a dam is not what the people of Cote d'Ivoire needed.

Cases like this, which are typical interactions between lenders and impoverished nations, challenge the cultural sensitivity and assumed supremacy of lender nations and institutions. That kind of sensitivity and humility is challenging.

McCann: To be affected by the stories of others, to feel solidarity with people whose lifestyle and culture is totally foreign to your own—is that a

sign of progress? Is that an identity we as Christians should seek?

Seaman: Yes, because it is claiming an identity of relatedness. And relationship, ultimately, is what is so transformative. In just and loving relationships we can discover the responsibilities and mysteries of being alive: in simplicity there is abundance; that breaking bread actually causes miraculous multiplication of the bread; in forgiving another's debts, the whole community is restored to right relations with each other, the earth and God.

If you would like further information about the World Council of Churches, the group can be reached online: wcc-coe.org. To explore the Jubilee 2000 initiative, information is available through the group's Web site: www.j2000usa.org.

“Relationship, ultimately, is what is so transformative. In just and loving relationships we can discover the responsibilities and mysteries of being alive.”

To tell the story briefly is to recall all of the clichés of back-stage theatricals from Stage Door to 42nd Street. Yet for Nancy Linehan Charles '65, the wild ride that landed her the lead role in the Southern regional premiere of the winner of the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for Drama is strikingly real. It marks an important moment in her personal life, her theatrical

An Agnes Scott alumna gives Atlanta audiences a stellar performance in the prize-winning play, *Wit*.

In a drama as old as theater, Nancy Charles steps in at the last minute ...

WITH GRACE AND WIT

By David Thompson

Photography by Caroline Joe





Actress Nancy Charles 'Yes' Phelps West, who taught drama at ASC this year, bring the Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Wit*, to life.



"She was the most powerful of the actresses I looked at. She had a lovely voice, which is important to me."

—Phelps



career, and her relationship to her alma mater.

Charles appears as Vivian Bearing in the Alliance Theatre Company production of *Wit*. Her character is a professor of English literature and a recognized expert on the Holy Sonnets of John Donne. Vivian also suffers from advanced ovarian cancer; the play follows her as she undergoes an aggressive course of treatment. The plot also provides glimpses into Vivian's dreams and frustrations as it encompasses a wide range of issues that include medical ethics, educational standards and even grammar.

Making the actress's story all the more remarkable is the fact that Charles was not originally a member of the Atlanta cast. The actress slated to play the role had to withdraw due to illness just days prior to the scheduled opening night. The situation sent theatre management into a spin.

This production, nearly a year in the making, was supposed to end the Alliance's season on a high note. It would provide a celebration of the success of Margaret Edson, the Atlanta kindergarten teacher who won the Pulitzer Prize with this, her first play. As the regional premiere, the production would add another item to the impressive list of recent accomplishments by Atlanta's flagship theatre. (In fall of 1998, for example, the company provided the first stop in the development of the Broadway hit *Aida* by Sir Elton John and Tim Rice.)

With the pressure on all concerned, fate played a positive role. Jessica Phelps West, the director of *Wit*, also teaches acting at Agnes Scott. Immediately upon learning of her original star's departure, she embarked upon a whirlwind trip around the country to audi-

tion possible replacements. Not only did she have to locate a talented performer, she had to find a resilient individual who could take over a demanding role on short notice and make it work. As if preordained, West found Charles.

"She was the most powerful of the actresses I looked at," West says, also noting, "she had a lovely voice, which is important to me."

If the audition itself did not provide sufficient motivation for casting Nancy Charles, West also discovered that Charles holds a degree from Agnes Scott. As coincidence would have it, Charles was scheduled to participate in a panel discussion concerning women and the arts during Alumnae Weekend in April. "I thought it was kismet," says West.

Kismet also describes the actress's experience with *Wit* since she recently understudied



Charles' character, Vivian Bearing, takes the audience on an interior journey, recalling and reassessing her relationship with people, language and life.

the role of Vivian Bearing in a West Coast production. "The words were still in my head a bit. Each time I've understudied, I've let the words go very quickly because you need more RAM." Rather than move along to the next project, however, Charles fortuitously held onto the character's lines. Even this produced a minor difficulty in preparation since she was used to one interpretation of the play and brought that into the Atlanta rehearsals. As she puts it, "I had to break the hard-wiring in my head to change the line readings."



"'Lonely impulse' has truly been like a beacon for me—that life ought to be about passion and what you feel passionate about."

—Charles

Make no mistake, Nancy Charles did not stumble into this break through sheer luck alone. She has worked for years to hone her craft. She has spent her life as a working actress, first in New York and now in

Los Angeles. Her credits include numerous theatrical productions, guest appearances on the television series *Seinfeld* and *Chicago Hope*, and roles in the films *Bram Stoker's Dracula* and *Trial by Error*.

Simultaneously, Charles attributes much of her success to key elements of her Agnes Scott education stating, "The whole Agnes Scott experience, especially the ability to pull literature apart and analyze it has stood me in good stead."

The hard work continues in *Wit*. The role requires Charles to remain onstage for almost the entire performance. It is a difficult emotional journey from the relative trivialities of life's triumphs and disappointments to the realities of death and dying. It also requires that the actress shave her head to simulate the ravages of chemotherapy.



Yet, as the work brings Nancy Charles back to Atlanta, she does not stray far from the inspiration, perhaps the first bit of kismet, that launched her voyage. "The reason that I am an actress is because of something a professor at Agnes Scott, Eleanor Hutchens said. It was my senior year," Charles recalls, "and Ms. Hutchens was the Senior Investiture speaker."

Remembering the moment verbatim, Charles continues "In the Investiture talk, she quoted a line from Yeats' *An Irish Airman Foresees His Death*:

Nor law, nor duty bade
me fight,

Nor public men, nor
cheering crowds,

A lonely impulse of delight
Drove me to this tumult
in the clouds."

"And when she said I knew that what I wanted to do was to go to New York and be an actress."

Indeed, in that one moment fate, inspiration, preparation and the Agnes Scott experience converged. "'Lonely impulse' has truly been like a beacon for me—that life ought to be about passion and what you feel passionate about. Ms. Hutchens said don't sell that short for something easy and easy to explain."

A conversation with Nancy Linehan Charles provides clear testament to her passion, both for her life and her art. As she says "I feel like if I died tomorrow I could say I did what I wanted, and that's a good feeling."

Perhaps it is only fitting for her to star in a play called *Wit*

David S. Thompson is associate professor of theatre at Agnes Scott.



The image shows the main entrance of Agnes Scott College, a Gothic Revival style building. The entrance is framed by a large, ornate stone archway. Above the archway is a decorative frieze featuring two figures. The archway itself is composed of several smaller arches, each containing a window with a decorative tracery. The entrance doors are made of dark wood with glass panels, and the interior is visible through the glass. The building is constructed of light-colored stone with intricate carvings and moldings. The overall atmosphere is one of historical grandeur and architectural beauty.

OPENING WORLDS

Agnes Scott College
Atlanta, Georgia



“‘Lonely impulse’ has truly been like a beacon for me—that life ought to be about passion and what you feel passionate about.”

—Charles

the role of Vivian Bearing in a West Coast production. “The words were still in my head a bit. Each time I’ve understudied, I’ve let the words go very quickly because you need more RAM.” Rather than move along to the next project, however, Charles fortuitously held onto the character’s lines. Even this produced a minor difficulty in preparation since she was used to one interpretation of the play and brought that into the Atlanta rehearsals. As she puts it, “I had to break the hard-wiring in my head to change the line readings.”

Make no mistake, Nancy Charles did not stumble into this break through sheer luck alone. She has worked for years to hone her craft. She has spent her life as a working actress, first in New York and now in



Los
inc
pro
on
anc
in t
anc

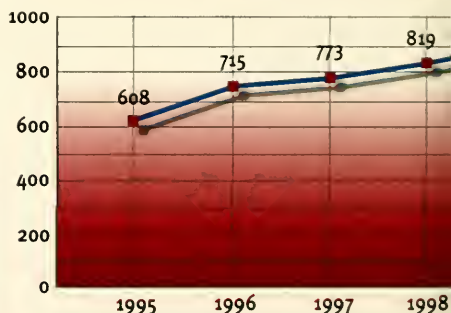
att
to
Sci
wh
esp
era
sto

Wi
to
the
difi
the
triu
to
dyi
act
late
the

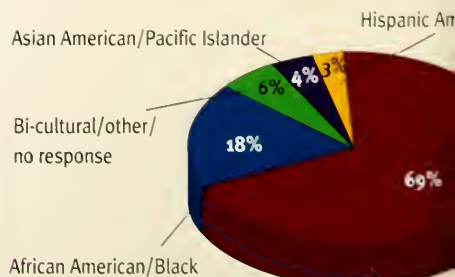
About Agnes Scott College

- An independent, national liberal arts college for women
- Founded in 1889
- Affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Campus includes 24 buildings and an apartment complex on approximately 100 acres in a national historic district and residential neighborhood
- First college or university in Georgia to receive regional accreditation (1907)
- Phi Beta Kappa chapter since 1926
- \$429 million endowment (June 30, 1999) ranks 11th nationally among all colleges and universities in endowment per student
- Seven varsity NCAA Division III sports

Enrollment Growth



Ethnic Diversity



Our Faculty

- 100 percent of regular full-time faculty have a Ph.D. or terminal degree in their field
- 10:1 student-faculty ratio and average class size of 15 students
- Faculty expanded by 14 percent in the last three years
- New tenure-track positions in Art History, Astrophysics, Biology, Comparative Religion, International Relations, Psychology and Women's Studies
- New positions in Chemistry, Economics, Education and English
- Dennis McCann, leading religious ethics scholar, appointed Wallace M. Alston Professor of Bible and Religion, 1999
- Catherine Scott, professor of political science, awarded Fulbright Scholarship to conduct research in South Africa, 1999-2000
- Linda Hodges, professor of chemistry, named Pew Scholar by The Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, 1999

Academic Programs

- Bachelor of Arts in 28 majors
- Master of Arts in Teaching Secondary English
- Post-Baccalaureate Premedical Program for Women
- Professional Program in Teacher Education
- Pre-medical and pre-law programs
- Business Preparatory Program
- Return-to-College Program
- Dual-degree programs with Washington University and Georgia Institute of Technology



OPENING WORLDS

Agnes Scott College
Atlanta, Georgia



“‘Lonely impulse’ has truly been like a beacon for me—that life ought to be about passion and what you feel passionate about.”

—Charles

the role of Vivian Bearing in a West Coast production. “The words were still in my head a bit. Each time I’ve understudied, I’ve let the words go very quickly because you need more RAM.” Rather than move along to the next project, however, Charles fortuitously held onto the character’s lines. Even this produced a minor difficulty in preparation since she was used to one interpretation of the play and brought that into the Atlanta rehearsals. As she puts it, “I had to break the hard-wiring in my head to change the line readings.”

Make no mistake, Nancy Charles did not stumble into this break through sheer luck alone. She has worked for years to hone her craft. She has spent her life as a working actress, first in New York and now in



Lo
inc
pre
on
anc
in 1
anc

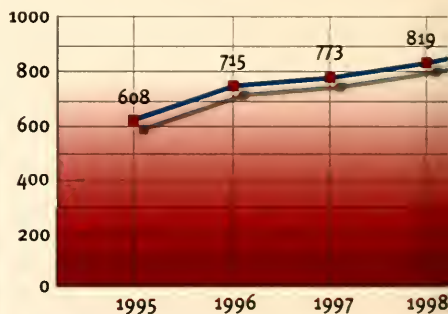
atu
to
See
wh
esp
era
sto

Wi
to
the
dit
the
triu
to
dyi
act
late
the

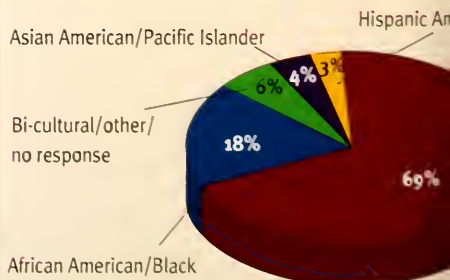
About Agnes Scott College

- An independent, national liberal arts college for women
- Founded in 1889
- Affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Campus includes 24 buildings and an apartment complex on approximately 100 acres in a national historic district and residential neighborhood
- First college or university in Georgia to receive regional accreditation (1907)
- Phi Beta Kappa chapter since 1926
- \$429 million endowment (June 30, 1999) ranks 11th nationally among all colleges and universities in endowment per student
- Seven varsity NCAA Division III sports

Enrollment Growth



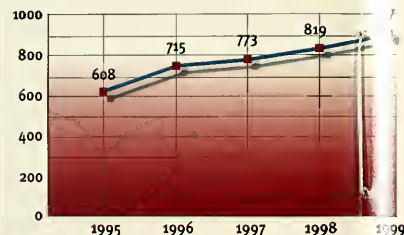
Ethnic Diversity



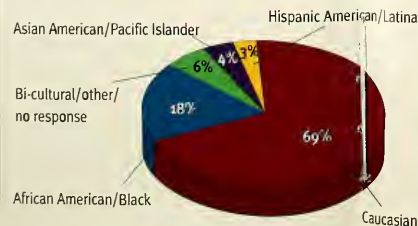
About Agnes Scott College

- An independent, national liberal arts college for women
- Founded in 1889
- Affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- Campus includes 24 buildings and an apartment complex on approximately 100 acres in a national historic district and residential neighborhood
- First college or university in Georgia to receive regional accreditation (1907)
- Phi Beta Kappa chapter since 1926
- \$429 million endowment (June 30, 1999) ranks 11th nationally among all colleges and universities in endowment per student
- Seven varsity NCAA Division III sports

Enrollment Growth



Ethnic Diversity

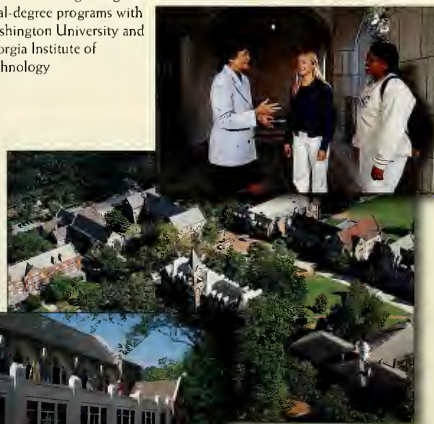


Our Faculty

- 100 percent of regular full-time faculty have a Ph.D. or terminal degree in their field
- 10:1 student-faculty ratio and average class size of 15 students
- Faculty expanded by 14 percent in the last three years
- New tenure-track positions in Art History, Astrophysics, Biology, Comparative Religion, International Relations, Psychology and Women's Studies
- New positions in Chemistry, Economics, Education and English
- Dennis McCann, leading religious ethics scholar, appointed Wallace M. Alston Professor of Bible and Religion, 1999
- Catherine Scott, professor of political science, awarded Fulbright Scholarship to conduct research in South Africa, 1999-2000
- Linda Hodges, professor of chemistry, named Pew Scholar by The Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, 1999

Academic Programs

- Bachelor of Arts in 28 majors
- Master of Arts in Teaching Secondary English
- Post-Baccalaureate Premedical Program for Women
- Professional Program in Teacher Education
- Pre-medical and pre-law programs
- Business Preparatory Program
- Return-to-College Program
- Dual-degree programs with Washington University and Georgia Institute of Technology



Home states and countries of ASC students, 1999-2000



29 home countries of ASC students

36 home states of ASC students
(Plus District of Columbia and U. S. Virgin Islands)

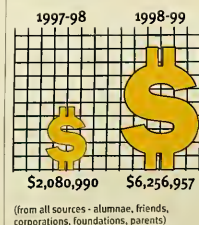
International Education

- One of the International 50, the top colleges in the nation for international focus
- Study abroad at more than 170 institutions in 40 countries through exchange and affiliate programs
- Only women's college accepted for membership in the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP)
- Nearly 40 percent of recent graduates studied abroad through independent experiences and Agnes Scott's faculty-led programs
- Language Across the Curriculum (LAC) program provides opportunities to apply language study to various academic disciplines

Building Program

- Purchased 118-unit apartment complex adjacent to campus for additional student housing, 1997
- Five new or expanded buildings opening from 1999 to 2001
 - Evans Dining Hall, 1999
 - Public Safety Office and 500-car parking facility, 2000
 - Bradley Observatory, including 70-seat planetarium, 2000
 - Alston Campus Center, 2000
 - McCain Library, 2001
- New 103,000-square-foot science building in design phase
- Extensive landscaping plan, including planting of 135 new trees

Gifts Received



(from all sources - alumnae, friends, corporations, foundations, parents)



Atlanta as a Classroom

- Guaranteed internships for all students. Recent sites include the Federal Reserve, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, The Coca-Cola Company, The Carter Center, The High Museum of Art and Amnesty International, among others.
- The Atlanta Semester: Women, Leadership and Social Change
- Kauffman Internship Program for Women Entrepreneurs
- Hubert Scholars Program for service-oriented internships
- Cross registration with 18 colleges and universities in the Atlanta Regional Consortium for Higher Education (ARCHE)
- Two blocks from MARTA mass transit rail station

Our Students

- Five Fulbright scholars in five consecutive years, 1993-97
- Goldwater Scholarships awarded to two members of the class of 1999
- Among the top 10 percent of American liberal arts colleges in the percentage of graduates earning doctoral degrees
- Middle 50 percent range of SAT scores for class of 2003: 1110-1310
- More than 60 percent ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class

Rankings

- "Best Value"—*U.S. News & World Report*
- Ranked eighth for overall quality of life among all colleges and universities—*The Princeton Review*
- Included in *Peterson's Top Colleges for Science*, the best 190 colleges and universities for science and mathematics in the United States
- Among the top colleges in several categories: Schools for the Academically Competitive Student; Schools that are "Hidden Treasures"; Schools Offering the Maximum Amount of Individual Attention; Schools Providing a Good Liberal Arts Education; and Schools with Notable Study Abroad Programs—*Kaplan/Newsweek College Catalog 2000*
- "The best women's college in the South"—*The Fiske Guide to Colleges*
- Included in *The 100 Best Colleges for African American Students*
- Included in Loren Pope's *Colleges That Change Lives*

Our Alumnae

- Georgia's first female Rhodes Scholar
- Chief Justice of the South Carolina State Supreme Court
- First woman to be ordained a minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- First woman to chair the Federal Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- Tony Award-winning playwright
- Pulitzer Prize-winning author



AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

THE WORLD FOR WOMEN

141 East College Avenue, Atlanta/Decatur, GA 30030-3797
Tel: 404-473-6285. Toll-free: 800-868-8602. Fax: 404-473-6414.
<http://www.agnesscott.edu>



When the doors of
Letitia Pate Evans Dining
Hall swung open this
fall, it was hard to deter-
mine the most appeal-
ing thing emanating
from the grand space.

EVANS REBORN



By Mary Alma Durrett
Photography by Marilyn Suriani

"The new Evans has become a center for Agnes Scott community life, a true eating commons. This gracious building fulfills Letitia Pate Evans' wish that Agnes Scott students dine in uplifting spaces."



Some might have selected a favorite aroma from the many savory concoctions sizzling in the new French market-style servery, an area that had nearly tripled in size during the facility's metamorphosis. Others might have held that the look and feel of the hardwood cherry floors and the new upholstered furnishings were what lingered with them. Still others asserted a new appreciation for the student body that had been absent from the space during the November 1998 to August 1999 renovation and expansion.

Whatever the specific reason the great hall, at its opening, definitely triggered a happy sensation of past and present.

Evans had been reborn.

For first-year students, seasoned staffers and tenured faculty alike, the new Evans, reclaiming its status as a state-of-the-art food service facility, quickly became a 24-hour stop for the entire Agnes Scott community, providing meals in its 400-seat main dining room, meeting space with multi-media capabilities in its expanded terrace level and cozy break space for snacks and coffee throughout the day or night.

The new Evans has become a center for Agnes Scott community life, a true eating commons," notes President Mary Brown Bullock '66. "This gracious building fulfills Letitia Pate Evans' wish that Agnes Scott students dine in uplifting spaces. Not only the food, but the conversation has become more interesting. People linger over coffee and dessert just to talk."



The skillful design and construction of the additions and renovation draw attention to Evans as a shining example of Agnes Scott's ambitious and accelerated building program.



The visual excitement of the renovated spaces, the fabulous food marché, the new meeting and conference spaces have set the high architectural standard for our 21st century building program,” concludes Bullock.

In October, Evans itself was the setting and the honoree of a gala reception and dinner, attended by campus leaders, trustees and friends of the College. The community came together to toast the woman

who made the original building possible, Letitia Pate Evans, the skillful design and construction of the additions and renovation, to draw attention to Evans as a shining example of Agnes Scott’s ambitious and accelerated building program, and to acknowledge the first glint of excitement over a Comprehensive Campaign being launched to complete the remaining programs outlined in *Strategic Directions* and the College’s master plan.



BLOOD, SWEAT AND CHEERS

Life-long fitness begins here

By Jennifer Bryon Owen and Pat McArthur



Most people know that being physically active contributes to an all around healthier life. Just doing it is the problem. Through its athletics program, Agnes Scott College encourages students to incorporate physical activity into their daily lives either by participating in NCAA Division III athletics or in intramural sports. "We are very aware that a strong athletics program plays a major role in the holistic education experience at Agnes Scott," says Gué Hudson '68, vice president for student life and community relations and dean of students.



An ASC First

Tennis team member Selinda Geyer '01, a junior from Istanbul, Turkey, led the College into a new arena in May when she was chosen to compete in the NCAA National Tennis Championship. The number four seed from the South Region, Geyer made her way to runner-up in the division. She is the College's first All-American and is the first to compete at the NCAA national level. Geyer is also the top player among all women's college players. (See the fall ALUMNAE MAGAZINE for photo coverage and a full story.)

During her own student days at the College, Hudson experienced the effects of the playing field on the classroom. She played field hockey, basketball, volleyball and badminton, which she stressed was "kind of fierce back then."

Hudson found athletic activity excellent for:

- developing focus in the way time is spent
- releasing the tensions of college life
- gaining self-confidence
- developing leadership skills
- building community
- feeling good about all aspects of one's life

"Another benefit, even before focus," says Hudson, "is the friendships that are formed through good, healthy competition. Athletics prove that women can be friends and compete."

Hudson recalls an introduction she made recently of Jean Hoefler Toal '65, Chief Justice of the South Carolina Supreme Court, in which the dean noted the first time she met Toal. The future chief justice was the goalie on Agnes Scott's field hockey team. "The memories of athletics stay with you."

In an effort to impart similar experiences and benefits to today's scholar-athletes by continually improving the athletic opportunities at Agnes Scott, Hudson notes that the athletic staff has been strengthened in the past couple of years.

"This is a professional, well-trained group," says Hudson. "They keep up with the changes and understand the national issues of competing in the NCAA Division III. They understand the role of the scholar-athlete at Agnes Scott and that the athletic program is the perfect comple-

ment to our educational program."

Page Remillard, director of athletics, sees the athletic program at Agnes Scott as a spoke in the wheel that is the overall institution. "What we are attempting to do is be craftspeople and repair the spoke to improve the performance of the wheel. We are in search of the right woman for Agnes Scott. That is a very important mission. We want the student-athlete to have a valued experience and one that benefits the total person."

"In athletics at an elite academic institution, we have daily interaction with the whole woman," he continues. "This woman is an outstanding student, an inquisitive intellectual. She is concerned about her well-being and her community's well-being from a physical standpoint, but not at the expense of her intellectual development."

Division III schools cannot award financial aid on the basis of athletic ability, points out Remillard, so Agnes Scott scholar-athletes choose the school for its academic quality and the students' quest for participation in sports is secondary.

Prospective students who are interested in sports can fill out a form on the Athletic Department's Web site. Remillard and his staff also work closely with the admissions office to identify potential student-athletes.

Several years ago all ASC student-athletes were students who entered the athletic program after they enrolled at Agnes Scott. "We still have a high percentage of walk-ons," says Remillard "and that opportunity will always exist."

"We don't cut athletes from teams either. That is another important aspect of this program."



CLEARING THE PATH

Georgia State Rep. Kathy Ashe '68, an Agnes Scott trustee, did not participate in sports at ASC, but she has helped ensure that other girls take a different path. Her efforts have been supported by ASC faculty and students.

"I grew up involved in sports as an observer," says Ashe. "High school convinced me that I couldn't do sports, so I missed it. I never learned that I could do it, but I probably could have participated in sports at Agnes Scott."

Ashe, an able persuader since her days as captain of the Debate Team at ASC, and Rep. Stephanie Stuckey sponsored The Sports Equity Act of 2000, a bill that mandates the enforcement of federal Title IX regulations at state high schools by requiring that the proportion of resources allotted for boys' and girls' athletic programs match the proportion of boys and girls in each school's student enrollment. Although Title IX regulations currently apply to state schools, there was no

existing method in Georgia for enforcing compliance.

The Sports Equity Act of 2000 passed the legislature, was signed by the governor and will become law in July.

"For me, this bill is a message to young women that they can participate," says Ashe. "Yes, there's Title IX, but many schools in Georgia haven't been living up to it. Scholarships are one of the issues. For example, many high schools in the state sponsor slow pitch softball when scholarships are for fast pitch. We need to be sure we are sponsoring programs that lead to scholarships."

"The bill will ensure that the health, teamwork and leadership benefits, as well as scholarship opportunities, will be equitable for all who participate." The Agnes Scott community's strong support of the bill was "very much noticed at the capitol," she adds.

Five ASC students served as legislative interns on the bill: Brooke Hussey '03, Sarah McIlrath '01, Katie Wedbush '01, Meredith Baum '02 and

Ashley Zauderer '02. Their responsibilities included research and lobbying. ASC Director of Athletics Page Remillard also threw his support behind the bill. "Gender equity is huge," Remillard says. "As the athletic director at a college for women, I feel a responsibility when it comes to this issue."

On Feb. 10, Remillard and ASC athletes participated in the "Girls and Women in Sports Day" at the capitol. Set aside to recognize Georgia's outstanding female athletes, the event took place as HB 1308 (Sports Equity) made its way through the Judiciary Committee.

Gué Hudson, ASC vice president for student life and community relations and dean of students, believes it was important for Agnes Scott to play a part in correcting the problem of Title IX compliance. "The experiences girls have in high school are very important when they get to college, especially to a Division III college like Agnes Scott."

ALL ROUND EDUCATION

Carla Maley '00
Jonesboro, Ga.



Running with the cross country team gave a well-rounded education in every aspect. "Not only did I receive an education in arts and sciences, but I've been educated and challenged in the physical area as well," says Maley.

One of her greatest challenges was getting up at 5:30 every morning to run. "But, my first few years here, I had 8 a.m. classes and I was awake for them."

Maley put as much effort into the team as she did into her other subjects. "It made me schedule my time well so that I could get everything done, get my sleep and not be worn out."



Rep. Kathy Ashe '68 (right) discusses the Sports Equity Act with Athletic Director Page Remillard and Betty Derrick '68.



"The Agnes Scott woman is not agenda-driven, but she is goal-oriented. She is articulate and exciting to be around."

Remillard feels good about his staff and the women they are recruiting. When they examine potential student-athletes, they see athletic skills as only one of many facets.

"The grade point average for our department is 3.2," he points out. "I know every athlete's GPA, and I keep a statistical analysis of grades by class and by sport. We have running discussions on how to improve the department's GPA."

Remillard and his staff are working on three main administrative goals: development of the administrative structure of the athletic department so that it complements the College's and maintains compliance with the NCAA; develop-

ment of department policies and procedures as required for compliance; and development of a handbook of guidance material for the student-athlete.

Also, they have created a student-athlete advisory committee composed of an athlete from each sport who meets individually and regularly with Remillard to share issues.

"I am most interested in their vision," he explains. "Their contributions helped to straighten the road we are traveling. The Agnes Scott woman is not agenda-driven, but she is goal-oriented. She is a gifted listener, articulates her ideas and is exciting to be around."



Students who want to participate in athletic activities, but not at the Division III competitive level, have that opportunity through the intramural and club sports program at Agnes Scott.

"We want to increase intramural participation," explains Dean Hudson. "Our programs are very innovative, and we are seeing a growth in participation during the Black Cat Week field hockey tournament in the fall."

Remillard reiterates that they are trying to build participation in the program. "But there are several special activities that already enjoy a great deal of participation. We have our traditional Black Cat Week in the fall, which gives upper-class students the opportunity to meet incoming students. During that week we hold a field hockey tournament that is exciting and a major part of the activities."

"In the spring, we have a 5K run and fun run in conjunction with Health Awareness Week. We have the Century Club, which is a self-scheduled, self-motivated exercise encouragement program for students, faculty and staff. It gives students in personal fitness programs the opportunity to track accomplishments on a weekly basis, and at the end of the year we present awards for those reaching the 100-mile and 200-mile levels. We also have basketball, volleyball, tennis and wall climbing."

He points out that the athletic program now considers the "extreme" sports that are so popular with today's students. "They have grown up roller blading, mountain biking, wall climbing, whitewater rafting, snowboarding—everything 'outdoors.' We are working with Georgia

Tech to develop outdoor leadership courses in conjunction with their outdoor leadership program. We want to join some of their rafting and mountain-biking trips. We are seeing students go beyond the traditional triathlon. They want a sense of challenge. They want extreme."

Just as Agnes Scott stresses life-long learning in the classroom, life-long athletics will continue to be of primary importance in the students' overall education.

Again, Dean Hudson knows about this from her own experiences. Her physical activities these days include hiking, running and tennis.

"I suggest that students find sports they will enjoy doing all their lives."

BRAIN POWER

Ashley Zauderer '01
Roswell, Ga.



Time management was definitely a huge factor in Zauderer's participation in basketball and cross country running.

"The daily exercise helps a lot, too," she adds. "Studies say that the brain functions better when you get exercise."

Spending so much time with her teammates gave her an opportunity to develop friendships. "You just don't make those kinds of friends sitting side by side in a classroom."

Zauderer also enjoyed the opportunity to travel with the teams and to represent Agnes Scott. "It's a complementary educational process," says Zauderer, "something you wouldn't get in the classroom."

WORLD VIEW

Pakistan's Bhutto visits Agnes Scott with a message of faith in democracy.

GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Although former Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto—featured speaker for Women's History Month—is a self-described reluctant leader, she contends that “leadership is no longer confined to narrow national boundaries; leadership has taken on a global dimension [and has] passed into the hands of ordinary citizens.

“The opinions of hundreds and thousands and millions of citizens, sent across the continents, of

what is right and wrong, of what is just and unjust, travel like little tiny ripples growing as they reach their destination with an amazing strength and with each ripple comes a wave of hope for people who suffer.

“This is the most important transformation of leadership that I have experienced in the past two decades, for the canvas of political leadership has been forever expanded.”

Bhutto completed her primary and secondary education in Pakistan and continued her advanced education in the West, studying at Harvard University and later at Oxford University in

England, where she was elected the first foreign woman president of the Oxford Union.

Upon returning to Pakistan, she became active in the People's Party, which her father helped form in 1967. She was elected Prime Minister of the Muslim country in 1988. Within two years, she was deposed in a political coup, accused of “incompetence and corruption.” These same accusations also resulted in the downfall of her successor.

Although Bhutto remains a major force in the Pakistan People's Party, she lives in exile, separated from her children and husband, also a political activist.

Bhutto stresses her com-

mitment to democracy which she says she learned first-hand while studying in the United States during the Vietnam era

“For those four years I observed and participated in the miracle of democracy. I saw the power of people changing policies, changing leaders and changing history. It was this experience more than anything else that shaped my political being that unalterably shaped my faith in democracy.”

—Mary Alma Durrett

Bhutto's visit was part of the ambitious three-year events series, “Transformations: Honoring the Past, Imagining the Future, Millennial Celebrations at Agnes Scott.”



LIFESTYLE

A gardening volunteer and a lifetime telling about nature, owning a B&B, a book for children from a new author, and keeping in touch through e-mail. • By Karen Hill

PLANTING A SENSE OF WONDER

Marjorie Naab Bolen '46

Marjorie Naab Bolen's voice becomes animated when she talks about walking through a caterpillar and playing in an air factory.

She's describing two of the features in the new Children's Garden at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, where she volunteers as a tour guide.

Last December, Bolen '46 won a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Gardens for her volunteer work, which began in 1985 after she retired from teaching science at Brown High School in Atlanta.

"After I retired, I wanted to get busy again," says Bolen. Her path to the Botanical Garden began when she took a "master gardener" course that required community service.

"As part of our community contribution, we needed to hook up with some organization," Bolen says. "I went to the Botanical Garden—and stayed."

"I enjoy giving children's tours. It is wonderful, it is

fun," she adds.

The new children's garden that opened this fall was built by Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, a company formed by the merger of the Egleston and Scottish Rite hospitals and related health care businesses.

"It is a hands-on garden—bright and colorful and fun, but there's a real underlying scientific basis, a strong emphasis on good health," Bolen says.

In the air factory, for example, students learn about the interdependence of plants and animals in the respiration process. Students walk through the caterpillar structure into a butterfly garden.

Spring is Bolen's busiest

time. She drives 20 miles from her home two or three times a week to the Botanical Garden to conduct tours through the children's garden.

"There are some people who do many kinds of work out there, some who put in far more hours than I do," Bolen said. "But for me, this has been good."

THE NATURE OF "THINGS"

Patricia Collins '64

While a student at Agnes Scott College, Patricia LeGrande Collins '64, went to work at Callaway Gardens for a

summer. She never really left.

After graduating with a degree in biology, Collins returned to the west Georgia gardens, working as a horticulturist. In 1985, she became director of education.

"We do work with school groups, convention groups, and garden clubs and offer daily discovery programs that may be a tour through the Sibley Horticulture Center or an herb class or bird-watching," says Collins. "And then we do the 'education-along-the-trail' interpretations and write the information sheets on plants-kind of like an extension service."



BARBARA CANON'S ILLUSTRATIONS

About one million people visit 14,000-acre Callaway Gardens each year, some to enjoy its resort and golf courses, others to stroll quietly through spectacular gardens and nature trails.

Collins oversees a full-time staff of five, including horticulturists and naturalists. There are also the part-timers who staff a log cabin, explaining pioneer life in west Georgia, and volunteer hostesses who work weekends at the Sibley Horticultural Center and the Day Butterfly Center.

"We try to make some tidbit of information fun, not boring," Collins says. "I like 90 percent of what I do. I don't like budgeting and organization, budget cuts, all that bad stuff."

Collins grew into the work naturally, being reared in South Carolina with a forester for a dad.

"I always wanted to have some sort of outside job," she says. "While I'm inside a lot now, I can get outside."

Christmas and spring are traditionally the gardens' busiest times, although summer is rapidly catching up, Collins says.

"We actually have more programs during the summer. People come stay in cottages for week at a time," she says. "There's a family program, also a day camp

where we work with particular age groups, on nature hikes and programs for summer interns."

Collins' favorite flowers at the gardens are the native azaleas, which hem the pines and drape the streams and lakes. Surprisingly, though, spring isn't her favorite season. Winter is.

"Then you can see the bones of the garden," she explains. "I also like the real, real early spring, when the buds are just coming out and I can see from morning to evening that a flower's opened a little more. When everything's in bloom, it's almost an overload."

INN-SIDE PROPRIETOR

Nancy Stillman
Crais '61

In high school, Nancy Stillman Crais '61, won the "Betty Crocker Homemaker of the Year" award. Unfortunately, the honor was based only on a written essay and didn't help much when she opened a bed and breakfast.

"Little did I know," says Crais, laughing. Now, "I do all the cook-

ing."

Crais and her husband operate the North Gate Inn in Monteagle, Tenn., a resort town located on a mountain between Chattanooga and Nashville. Their 103-year-old home is a boarding house on the grounds of the Monteagle Sunday School Assembly, an interdenominational community built more than a century ago as a place to train Sunday School teachers.

"People come here for eight weeks each summer; it's been going on since 1882," Crais says. "In the early days, a lot of big houses were built on the grounds for boarding. Many of them are private residences now; we're just carrying on the tradition in a little more contemporary style."

Since the 1920s, the family of Crais' husband has summered on the grounds. Although Crais and her husband lived in Atlanta, they returned to Monteagle each summer, buying the boarding house in 1983 and opening it to guests in warm weather.

"Neither one of us expected to run it year-round," she says.

That changed eight years ago.

"My husband was in the process of making changes in his career in health-care finance," explains Crais. "He decided he'd had enough of the rat race. It's just been a wonderful decision."

Crais described her inn, which can accommodate 14 people in seven rooms as a very comfortable kind of

place, not stuffy or fancy. Many guests are repeat visitors, often coming to events at the nearby University of the South at Sewanee. This morning, everybody who is here has been here three or four times. It's just like



having your good friends over," says Crais.

North Gate Inn, as well as the rest of Montegale Sunday School Assembly, is on the National Register of Historic Homes.

"The renovation was so much more expensive than we thought, and we found out we could get a tax credit for restoring a historic building for commercial use," says Crais. That's when her writing experience from Agnes Scott came in handy. "We had to write up everything we did to renovate the house and comply with the statutes. I never wrote a master's thesis, but I think that would count as one."

WORD AND MUSIC BY GUY

Suzanne West Guy '64

Q What's Bartolomeo Cristofori making in his room that's so noisy?

A: Read Suzanne West Guy's new children's book and find out.

Guy '64, with co-author and illustrator Donna Lacy, recently wrote *The Music Box*, published by Brunswick Publishing Corp. The book is a mystery about the man who invented the piano 300 years ago.



The Music Box leads its young readers through Cristofori's efforts to transform the tinny harpsichord—"All these notes sound the same," he complains. "Where are the whisps? Where are the splashers? I can't hear the booms, and I can't make crashes."

One night after a tool bag of small hammers falls onto his harpsichord, he finds the answer. "*Bella Musica!* Hammers to bounce up and hit the strings, stoppers and dampers, some gadgety things covered with leather, felt may work too. I can see it and hear it, I know what to do," says *The Music Box* character.

His friends and royal patron wonder what on earth is going on in Cristofori's room. As they gather outside, they hear rich, shaded chords and expressive melodies.

"Some sounds were as

loud and powerful as thunder, and others were as soft and gentle as rain. And all of them came from the same instrument!"

Guy met her co-author in a writing class in Norfolk, where they both live.

"Neither of us had written a children's book before," says Guy, who received her degree in music at Agnes Scott. "We knew it would have to be 32 pages long and thought, 'How hard can that be?'"

Famous last words.

"It took about six months to get about 2,000 words, then one and a half years getting them down to 650," Guy recalls. "If we'd known the 650 we'd end up with, we would have saved a lot of time."

New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art, which owns one of the three surviving pianos made by

Cristofori, sells the book in its bookstore. But Guy and Lacy are marketing it primarily through visits to schools.

"We have seven programs for schools, with interactive skits and presentations with the piano providing sound effects," Guy explains. "One approach is historical, another focuses on art, for example."

Guy moved from northern Virginia to Norfolk three years ago, when her husband's career took them to the city on Virginia's southern coast.

In her previous home, in Fairfax County, she'd built a reputation as a pianist and teacher for 27 years. In Norfolk, she had to start over.

"I had no students; that's when I took the writing class," Guy says. "This is truly a brand-new career in my mid-50s."

A FUTURE IN COMPUTING

Martha Boone Shaver '41

Martha Boone Shaver '41, of Louisville, Ky., uses her computer to make communicating with others easier, but she doesn't need a keyboard to send a clear message to

the darned thing itself.

"This is my first experience working with a computer, and sometimes I just kick it real hard. Then I call my grandchild, anything I want to know, he can do."

Shaver uses her computer to send e-mails to friends and family members, an easier way for her to communicate now that she has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease.

Parkinson's is a neurological disorder characterized by difficulty with walking, coordination and speech. There is no cure, but there are treatments to help control the symptoms.

The idea for the computer came from Shaver's daughter, who works for Compaq.

"I have high hopes for it," says Shaver, who first noticed that she was having

trouble walking and speaking two years ago.

"I use it for e-mail more than anything else," Shaver says. "It's kind of fun, except when it stumps me completely."

That's when she shuts it down to do other things, such as cooking for herself and her husband, or getting ready to attend a Rotary meeting.

"I feel fine right now," Shaver says. "I did go through a bad time, but that got straightened out."

Next on her agenda is convincing her husband, who is in his 90s, to enter cyber space.

"My husband wants nothing to do with it," Shaver admits, chuckling. "He says, 'It's your plaything.' But I think he'll enjoy it once he lets himself get into it."

LETTERS

Dear Editor:

While I was pleased to see the article about my work in the previous *AGNES SCOTT ALUMNAE MAGAZINE* (Fall 1999), I find it necessary to provide corrections of several of the misrepresentations of the science that appeared in that article. First, I use grasshoppers in my research for reasons beyond the fact that "their cells are easy to see under the microscope and they [grasshoppers] are cheap."

Because my studies concern the neural basis of behavior, animals like grasshoppers are selected for their particular combination of simpler nervous systems and relatively interesting behavior. Also, I would never claim to be "the only one" examining sexual differences as a way to find "larger answers." The central point of research by any qualified scientist is to find larger answers.

Further, while squid would not have worked for my study, I based the choice of experimental animal on technical and philosophical grounds, not because "that is what most nervous system researchers already use." In fact, most nervous system researchers use vertebrate animals, like rats. Squid have an important place in the history of neuroscience because the (essentially universal) ionic basis of electri-

cal excitability was first understood from studies of squid giant neurons (Nobel prize in 1950s, but squid are rarely used now).

Another problematic sentence is, "Thompson says she is still working on basic research, not yet ready to answer her questions." The term "basic research" is used to describe fundamental research as opposed to "applied" or "clinical" research. In fact, it is basic research that is answering and will continue to answer my questions.

Karen J. Thompson
Biology

Dear Editor:

I wish to thank you for the review of my book, *The Salem World of Nathaniel Hawthorne*, by Professor Willie Tolliver in the Fall 1999 *AGNES SCOTT ALUMNAE MAGAZINE*. How heartening it was to have such a review. I have thanked him, and I now thank you.

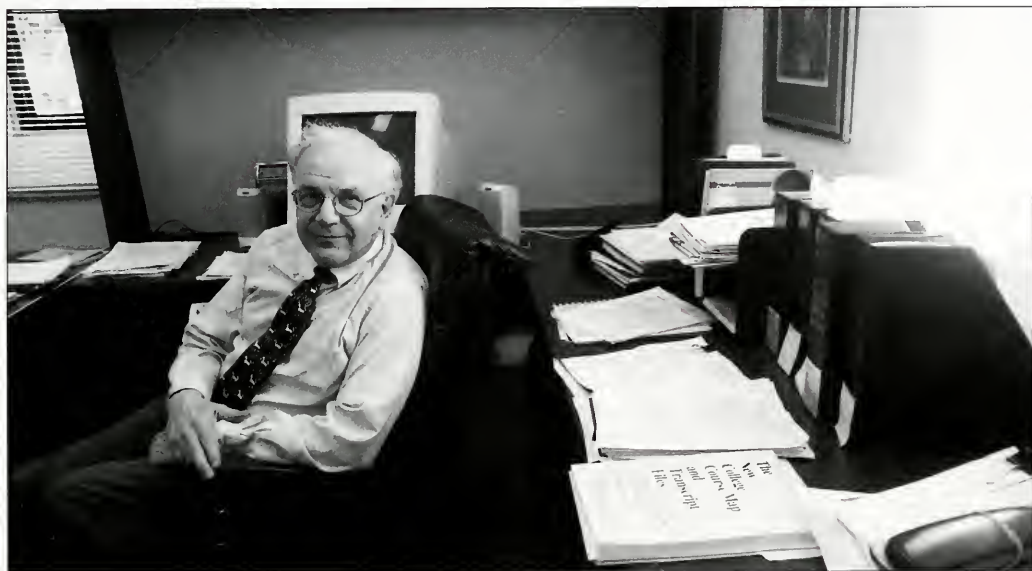
I am sure you know that all Agnes Scott graduates like to have, if possible, the approval not only of family and friends, but also of our alma mater. No matter how long it has been since we were in "the sheltering arms," each of us, I believe, is eager to feel that we have lived up to some portion of Agnes Scott's expectations for us.

Sincerely,
Margaret Bear Moore '46



A GIVING COMMUNITY

"This will enhance the degree and the reputation of the institution."



MARY ALMA DURRETT PHOTO

ED SHEEHY

Occupation: Vice President and Dean

Edmund Sheehey's past three years of service to the College have been very different from his first 10. Of late, Sheehey has shouldered the responsibilities of vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College, leading the academic direction of the institution and coaxing would-be donors to support the ambitious course of Agnes Scott.

Sheehey, an energetic native of New York, came to the College in 1987 as the Hal and Julia Smith Chair of Free Enterprise in Economics and for the first decade taught hundreds of Agnes Scott women the importance of reviewing and analyzing key market indicators, as well as forecasting economic trends. Since 1997, he has gotten involved in not only guiding the academic direction of the College but, as an officer, helping to generate money for the College as well. As a contributor himself, Sheehey says the fundraising part of the job has been relatively easy. Believing in the direction of the institution allows him to confidently ask others to support the College.

"When I go out and talk to people about the academic program and ask for support," says Sheehey, "I have to be able to say that the enterprise we are engaged in is important and that I believe in it.

"I've always believed you give where it's important to have an

alliance and an affiliation. When you become dean, you are more aware of the budget and you begin to realize for an institution like ours, the endowment can only go so far," says the dean whose personal giving to College has been continuous. His most notable gift was to the Hogan Family Scholarship Fund, in memory of his former faculty colleague Tom Hogan.

"If you look at the very best institutions, they are receiving money from endowments, they are raising tuition, and they've got a very strong fundraising program. So success involves all three of those," continues Sheehey. "Success today involves support from constituencies. Agnes Scott can't succeed fully without outside support. I can't go out and talk to people about the programs and ask money of other people unless it's something that I believe in. And the way you say you believe in the institution is to contribute," stresses Sheehey.

The dean offers a few additional words of challenge to alumnae contemplating a gift to their alma mater.

"This is an opportunity for Agnes Scott to dramatically improve the quality of our programs, which are already excellent, and to really make a reputation for ourselves by being innovative. This will enormously enhance the degree and the reputation of the institution. The recognition that sometimes has been denied alumnae will be forthcoming. When people hear the name Agnes Scott, they will know that it stands for quality and academic excellence."

—Mary Alma Durrett



AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

THE WORLD FOR WOMEN

141 East College Avenue, Atlanta/Decatur, GA 30030-3797

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage

PAID

Decatur, GA 30030
Permit No. 469

DECATUR, GA 30030-3706



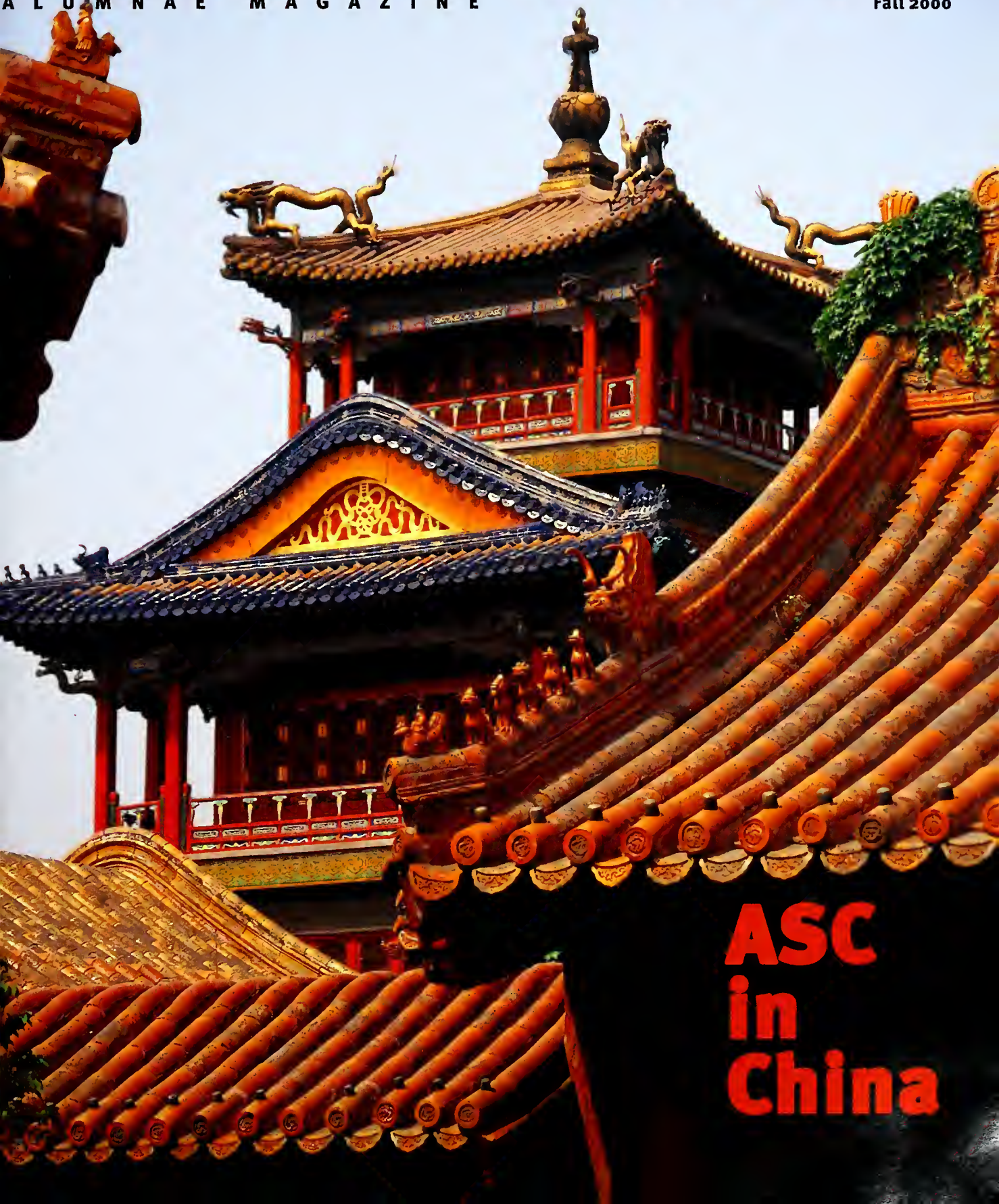
Global in vision and international in scope, Agnes Scott College is "opening worlds" to its growing student body. As ASC prepares to enter the new millennium, it is showing significant progress in meeting its goals in enrollment, faculty enhancement, building improvements and funding—as the special insert inside this issue indicates. Ranked a "best value" by U.S. News and World Report and eighth for "overall quality of life among colleges and universities" by The Princeton Review, ASC has much to offer its students and alumnae.

—See "Opening Worlds" between pages 16 and 17

AGNES SCOTT

ALUMNAE MAGAZINE

Fall 2000



**ASC
in
China**

GUEST COLUMN

President Bullock applauds the College for making the experience of visiting China and other countries a regular part of the curriculum.

Eighteen Agnes Scott students led by Professors Ayse Carden and Harry Wistrand arrived in Beijing during a momentous week, one that will shape the future of China and of U.S.-China relations for years to come. While they lived and studied at Peking University, the United States House of Representatives voted, by an unexpectedly wide margin, to approve Normal Permanent Trading Relations (NPTR) for China, thus assuring a burgeoning American economic presence in China under the World Trade Agreement.

During the same week, the inauguration of Taiwan's first opposition party president, Chen Shui-bian, reminded Chinese and the world of the contrast between democratic Taiwan and socialist China and the complex role of the United States between them. The elusive Kim Jong Il, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, made his first visit out of North Korea since the early 1980s to seek advice from the Chinese leadership concerning the upcoming first-ever summit with the president of South Korea.

The president of India, K.R. Narayanan, was also in Beijing that week making his first state visit to China, signaling a continuing thaw in relations between Asia's two giants, India and China, which combined include almost 40 percent of the world's population. Topping a week of extraordinary diplomatic activity, the Chinese announced the upcoming visit of Vladimir Putin, Russia's new president, amid signs that Russia and China would concur in strong opposition to U.S. plans to build a missile defense system.

Make no mistake about it. China is a great power, and the world in which Agnes Scott graduates will lead requires a "ground-truth" knowledge of Chinese culture, Chinese politics and Chinese people. In developing a course of study and an intense study tour, Professors Carden and Wistrand not only understood this, but, as psychologist and biologist respectively, also appreciate the critical role that science and scientists will play in rela-

tions between China and America. Most of the students were science majors, and all had completed a specially designed course that included attention to China's culture, history, science and politics. The itinerary focused on the environment, psychology, medicine and public health and the role of women within Chinese society. In each of three cities—Beijing, Xi'an and Shanghai, the Agnes Scott delegation was hosted by a leading university, which included extensive interaction between Agnes Scott and Chinese students.

I joined them at Peking University for a lecture on the women's movement and at Peking Union Medical College for a day of briefing on public health, traditional medicine and women's reproductive health. It was hot and the lectures were Chinese style—two hours in length. When the floor finally was open for discussion, I wondered whether anyone was awake and attentive. I need not have worried: hands shot up, and question after question tumbled out. The specific queries illustrated to me just how well our students had prepared for this visit. Their Chinese professors time and again commented on the "sincerity" of the Agnes Scott group, which is their highest praise.

For the United States, the most important visitors to Beijing during the third week of May were the Agnes Scott students. We will depend upon them and others of their generation to have a nuanced understanding of the complexity of China and to guide public understanding of the inevitable ups and downs in Sino-U.S. relations. As the following pages reveal, visiting China, or any foreign country, is a transforming experience. That such sophisticated, in-depth inter-

national experiences are led by Agnes Scott faculty to Africa, Europe and Latin America as well as Asia and have become a standard part of the College's curriculum makes me very proud.



Mary Brown Bullock

Mary Brown Bullock '66

CONTENTS

Agnes Scott College Alumnae Magazine
Fall 2000, Volume 77, Number 1

6

Beijing & Beyond

Story and Photos by Chris Tiegreen

A study trip to China gives Agnes Scott students an awareness of China, likely to be one of the 21st century's most strategic and powerful nations.



18

The Greening of China?

By Mary Brown Bullock '66

In Yunnan, conservationists—despite great challenges—are leading China's struggle to save her fragile environment.



26

Becoming Real

By Dolly Purvis '89

Photography by Sue Clites and Gary Meek

Agnes Scott alumna and prize-winning playwright measures her success by helping students recognize their own moments of transformation.

20

A Sense of Place

From folding ironing boards to "do-able" inner-city housing plans, four ASC alumnae—separated by time and geography—share a common vision of providing appealing places for pilgrims on their journeys through life.



DEPARTMENTS

2

On Campus

29

Lifestyle

33

Excerpts

36

Letters & Contributors

37

Giving Alumna

COVER: Rooftops in "the Forbidden City," home to emperors of the Ming and Qing dynasties from 1420 to 1911, recall China's vast history and rich culture. This Beijing attraction, now known as Gugong Museum, is situated adjacent to Tiananmen Square and was one of many sites visited on ASC's Global Awareness trip to China in May.

CHRIS TIEGREEN PHOTO

Editor: Jennifer Bryon Owen

Contributing Editor: Chris Tiegreen

Designers: Everett Hullum, Matthew Hullum

Copyright 2000, Agnes Scott College
Published for alumnae and friends three times a year by the Office of Communications, Agnes Scott College, Rebekah Annex, 141 E. College Avenue, Atlanta/Decatur, GA 30030, (404) 471-6301
Postmaster: Send address changes to Office of Development, Agnes Scott College, 141 E. College Ave., Atlanta/Decatur, GA 30030. The content of the magazine reflects the opinions of the writers and not the viewpoint of the College, its trustees or administration.
e-mail: publications@agnesscott.edu
Web site: www.agnesscott.edu

ON CAMPUS

Meet the first Agnes Scott All-American, the new alumnae relations director and the class of 2000.



NEW INDUCTEE INTO "HALL OF FIRSTS"

Selinda Geyer '01 is one of the nicest people you would ever like to meet—except on a tennis court. When she steps out to play, the blithe, soft-spoken Geyer transforms into a fierce competitor intent on winning and winning big. With little patience for matches that go three sets, a "double bagel" (6-0, 6-0) is her goal with every stroke of her racquet.

Such determination and skill created a spot for Geyer in ASC's "hall of firsts." First ASC student to compete on the national level in any sport. First Agnes Scott All-American. First Scottie to play in an

NCAA Division III title match.

Geyer made Agnes Scott history this spring when she posted a 17-1 regular sea-

son singles record on her way to the NCAA Division III women's tennis tournament.

A woman of true international perspective, Geyer is from Istanbul, Turkey, and was raised in Switzerland. She is fluent in Turkish, English, French and German and conversant in Spanish and Russian.

And, if people still spoke Latin, she could join in the conversation. Geyer's parents wanted her to participate in a sport so she began playing tennis at about age 7 and also competed in soccer, field hockey, basketball and marbles.

Throughout this season, she served as an ambassador for Agnes Scott, especially at the NCAA tournament. "People were asking what ... who ... where is Agnes Scott?" Geyer says. "It was good for Agnes Scott to be there finally and to get

some attention of other schools."

Mental toughness is Geyer's trademark both on and off the court. "She loves the pressure of a big match," says her coach, Constantine Ananiadis. "She thrives under that."

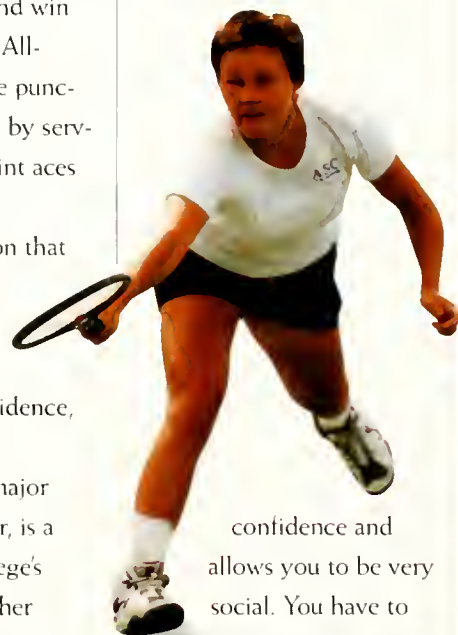
In her two big matches this season—her regular season meeting with the No. 1 player in the South (University of the South) and her second round win at nationals to earn All-America status—she punctuated the meetings by serving exclamation-point aces to take the match.

"I had no question that I could win," notes Geyer. "I always set high goals to boost my own confidence, to push myself."

Geyer, a music major and studio art minor, is a regular on the College's honor lists. In fact, her grade point average helped Agnes Scott's tennis team qualify for Academic All-America honors this year. During what came to be known as the "Selinda-rella" season, she took 22 credit hours. When not engaged in her regular studies at

Agnes Scott, she was at Emory University studying Russian to improve her performance of music from that canon. This summer, she continued her study of Russian at Middlebury College (Vt.). Her goal is to perform in musical theatre or jazz or to teach.

Geyer credits athletics with aiding her academic success. "Athletics boosts your discipline and self-



confidence and allows you to be very social. You have to have very good organization and remain on schedule."

At Gustavus Adolphus College, host of the NCAA national tournament, Geyer ran through her opponents like she was thumbing through a guide to the

GARY MEER PHOTOS



ASC's tennis coach Constantine Ananiadis and Geyer relish their victory in "bringing home the wood" during a party for Geyer at ASC. The City of Decatur issued a proclamation naming that day, May 25, "Selinda Geyer Day."

nation's most selective colleges. In the first round, she took out the No. 1 seed, Lizzie Yasser of Trinity University (Texas). Then, it was on to Emily Warburg of Emory University, Jennifer Crombie of the College of New Jersey and hometown favorite Megan Donley of Gustavus Adolphus (in the semi-finals). She won all of these matches in two sets.

Next was Jamie Cohen, a semi-finalist in last year's tournament, of Amherst College. Unfortunately, Geyer's streak came to an end, but she finished as NCAA runner-up, no small feat from an unranked, unknown player.

Geyer had attained, in addition to All-America

honors, a No. 2 national ranking, the No. 1 ranking in the South, the highest ranking among women's college players and had everyone buzzing about Agnes Scott and its athletics program. Most important, she "brought home the wood," the trophy proclaiming her among the NCAA's finest Division III tennis players.

"Selinda showed great courage at the NCAA tournament," says Agnes Scott Director of Athletics A. Page Remillard. "Agnes Scott is very proud of her achievement, and she has done her part to let everyone know that Agnes Scott sports are gaining significant ground in the realm of college athletics."

Ananiadis, in his first year at Agnes Scott, beams when speaking of his protégé. "Selinda is one of the most gifted athletes I have ever worked with. She has every shot in the book; she's got great 'court sense.' She is a highly competitive individual and that, along with her perfectionist attitude about life, drives her on and off the court."

Geyer also finds time to serve as president of CHIMO, Agnes Scott's international student organization. "She is a complete person," Ananiadis notes. "A great role model for all Agnes Scott student-athletes and a true scholar."

As for next season, Geyer hopes Cohen is on the other side of tournament bracket, so she will meet her again in the finals. "I'm really looking forward to that."

—Dolly Purvis '89

A WORLD CLASS HOUSEHOLD

Before 9 o'clock one morning, while a houseguest was in the kitchen preparing a Mexican dessert, Marilyn Hammond '68 said goodbye to husband Dean as he

headed to Washington, D.C., on a business trip, and she sent two German guests on their journey to Mexico.

Hammond then made her way to her own job at Agnes Scott College. It was a typical morning in this global household.

Such a lifestyle made joining the staff of a college dedicated to "the world for women" a natural progression for Agnes Scott's new director of alumnae relations.

The story continues. The Hammonds' adult son, Andy, a biologist, repopulated the empty nest when he returned to Atlanta to work on malaria at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

"We hope he doesn't bring the malaria home," says Hammond. "They work mostly on healthy mosquitoes, trying to identify them genetically so that researchers know what they're working on when doing their experiments." Andy's buddy, also named Andy, is seeking his fortune in Atlanta, and he lives with the Hammonds.

"In between times, we have another CDC friend from Guatemala who lives with us when she is working in the U.S., which is for

a month at a time three to four times a year. Andy has a German friend who stays with us when she is in the United States. A good friend from the Netherlands who is in real estate investment uses our house when he's working in this country," continues Hammond. "As long as they are not all there at the same time, we're fine."

For a woman who enjoyed time alone when the nest first emptied and her husband traveled frequently—"I'm really quite good company"—today's lifestyle requires flexibility, which she says is a byproduct of having such

a household.

"I'm not the mom. I'm the roommate and friend and, likewise, they are my friends," says Hammond. "We are a group of adults who come and go and who enjoy each other's company. I take great pleasure in the fact that I never know who will gather in the evening. And, the first ones there usually put the dinner together."

A married daughter who is a physician's assistant working in cardiothoracic surgery at Lenox Hill Hospital in Manhattan rounds out the immediate family. Hammond enjoys talking shop with her son-in-law

whose work serves clients getting into e-business because she worked in database and interactive marketing before joining the Agnes Scott staff in May.

She was attracted to the College professionally by a lot of things at a lot of different levels. For one whose household resembles a global village, the diversity of students on the campus was a major attraction to working at ASC, according to Hammond.

"Also, this is a chance to use my marketing background in a way I hadn't quite ever applied it before. I think I'm a good strategist, and I think there's an inter-

est in looking at the whole strategy of Agnes Scott and its relationship-building with alumnae and how we can do a meaningful job of that."

On the personal side, developing friendships with women—her career has been spent working largely with men—was an added benefit.

Because she had lost touch with the College when she moved back to Atlanta 10 years ago, Hammond did what she calls "exploring around the edges." "I wondered if a small liberal arts college for women had found a way to stay relevant in today's

Recent dinner guests at Hammond's home hail from Germany, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Mexico City and New Jersey with one person from Atlanta. Immediately behind Hammond is her son and the chef, Andy, and to her right is her husband, Dean.



CAROLINE JOE PHOTO

world," she explains. "By getting involved as the fund chair for my class and in some other things like that, I came back on campus and realized just how wonderful and contemporary this place is. The whole 'world for women' idea, Mary Bullock's leadership, the professionalism of the staff—all those things said this is a place to which I could be very committed. In marketing terms, Agnes Scott is a product I really believe in."

Her efforts for the Alumnae Association will continue to fall into three primary areas: life-long learning, life-long friendships and life-long service to the College. "Service to the College is very well developed and we want to continue that. But, we want to look for more ways that the College can be of service to the alumnae so that there is a meaningful, contemporary relationship between alumnae and Agnes Scott."

It's this job at Agnes Scott that gets Hammond up and going every morning. "I'm having so much fun working here that I literally wake up raring to go." She's just not ever sure whom she'll run into as she heads out the door to work.

—Jennifer Bryon Owen



Ninety-five percent of Agnes Scott's 207 graduating seniors provided the following information by graduation day.

Focused Exclusively on Full-time Employment: 51 percent

- ❖ Of this group, 38 percent were employed at the time of graduation and 45 percent had received at least one full-time job offer by graduation.
- ❖ Of those employed at the time of graduation, 11 percent believe that their job was a direct result of on-campus interviewing or resume referral.
- ❖ Five percent of those employed completed an internship with that employer before graduation.
- ❖ The average salary is \$32,000 a year.

Focused Exclusively on Graduate School: 27 percent

- ❖ Acceptances reported by 100 percent of those applying.
Some of the schools to which ASC graduates were accepted are: University of Pittsburgh; Princeton Theological Seminary; Emory University; University of Warwick, UK; Washington University; Sarah Lawrence; Stanford and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School.

ASC Year Five Bound Graduates

- ❖ Sixteen percent reported enrollment in ASC Year Five.

None of the Above by Personal Choice

- ❖ Six percent are engaged in such things as raising children, traveling abroad or taking time off.

General Information

- ❖ While at ASC, 40 percent of the class participated in an international study program or international internship.
- ❖ While at ASC, 61 percent participated in an internship.
- ❖ Of all interns, 82 percent obtained their internship through the Office of Career Planning.
- ❖ Career planning services were utilized by 78 percent during the senior year.

Graduate School Acceptance Rates

- ❖ Graduate school acceptance rate is 85 percent with 30 percent of the class applying to a graduate program(s) before graduation. (These figures include students who were not focused solely upon graduate school.)
- ❖ Medical school acceptance rate is 80 percent with 10 percent of the class applying to medical school(s) before graduation.
- ❖ Law school acceptance rate is 75 percent with 8 percent of the class applying to law school(s) before graduation.



BEIJING & BEYOND

A study trip to China lands Agnes Scott students in a strategic spot for the 21st century.

Story and Photography by Chris Tiegreen

On an old tennis court at Peking University at 6:30 a.m., Amanda Thompson '01 leaped high in the air with as proper a ballet move as one can muster in bulky tennis shoes, and it dawned on me: "This is what this trip is about."

It was a spontaneous cultural exchange, the kind that will be remembered vividly by its participants far longer than many of those on the itinerary. Three Peking University (PKU) students, all men, had been gently coerced by a few interested Agnes Scott students to teach tai chi at 6:30 each morning. The entire ASC group had spent one evening listening to an animated lecture on the role of tai chi in Chinese culture and watching a demonstration by several well-trained PKU students. Some wanted to learn more, hence the early lessons.

During a break in the instruction, one of the PKU students demonstrated a few impossible moves involving long and very high acrobatic jumps. Amanda returned the favor by demonstrating ballet leaps, which her Chinese instructor-turned-novice tentatively attempted. Each learned from the other.



"Vast amounts of bicycles drive in and out among moving vehicles. There are no yield signs, stop signs, nothing. I was terrified even to cross the street!"

—Elizabeth Patton '02

The moment seemed to represent the intent of the entire week in Beijing. Eighteen students led by biology professor Harry Wistrand and psychology professor Ayse Carden '66

and had begun a three-week Global Awareness tour of the People's Republic of China in this capital city of 12 million in May. After a stay on the PKU campus, the tour would continue to Xi'an, southwest of

Beijing, then to Shanghai and Hong Kong. It was a multi-faceted trip that included research, cultural exploration, dialogue with Chinese faculty and students, and visits to famous landmarks as well as encounters with three familiar faces—President Mary Brown Bullock '66 in Beijing. Assistant Professor of Political Science Feng Xu near Shanghai, and Wallace M. Alston Professor of Bible and Religion Dennis McCann in Hong Kong—who were all coincidentally in China for professional reasons. The students had prepared in the classroom at Agnes Scott for at least a semester, learning language, history, culture, politics and more. Now the classroom was an old tennis court, a campus, a city, a country.

"You can't put into words what it's like to

"The people here are all so polite and willing to please."

—Lauren Sealey '02

While the city is most often spelled "Beijing" in western newspapers and literature, the university's name is most often spelled "Peking" in its own romanized printed signs and literature. Both spellings are transliterations of the same Chinese name. ALUMNAE MAGAZINE will adhere to the most common transliteration for each—Beijing for the city and Peking for the university.

study a place for so long and then be able to touch it," Amanda would later say, putting into words very well the purpose of the Global Awareness program.

Later that morning, the conversation on the van returned to "the tai chi guys." "They were so showing off," said Adrienne Manasco '01.

"Definitely," agreed the others, thereby affirming the transparency of all males in the company of women, regardless of cultural background. Not that this audience wasn't duly impressed. "Can you believe how high he jumped?"

Upon arrival in any Asian city, Western eyes are drawn especially to those things like architecture and dress that seem so different, yet are casual and even mundane to the host culture. As the group rode the van from the airport to the campus, remarks focused on the plethora of bicycles and pushcarts that mingle with the motorized traffic on Beijing's busy streets; the toddler-wear conveniently slit for diaper-less young pedestrians; the simple, barred storefronts that stand out to Westerners precisely because they are nondescript; and the variety of goods sold on the street.

The first meal drew similar observations.

"What kind of meat is that?"

"I'm glad I learned how to use chopsticks."

"Twelve dishes at one table—can you believe the variety?"

"I couldn't have ever realized how it was until I got here."

—Anno Bone '02





"It made me realize how one-sided my views were before I came here and that there is still so much to learn."

—Carmen Bolivar '03

curiosity to observe. The variety of those 12 dishes within each meal became the monotony of the same 12 dishes at each meal. The group was settling into the culture, sometimes even comfortably. China was becoming pleasantly familiar.

On the first day of sightseeing, Amy, the PKU representative who skillfully guided us throughout the week, took us to the Great Wall. (Upon our arrival at the airport, Amy had introduced herself using her real name, but promptly—to our relief—told us to call her Amy. "This is much easier for you," she said.) From where the van unloaded in the valley, the wall wended its way in two directions. One way appeared moderately steep, the other overwhelming. The moderately steep way had no tourists on it. We assumed it was closed. That left us the overwhelming side. The climb up offered breathtaking views. That side also may have provided the sprawling, winding panoramic vista seen on postcards, but most of us will never know. Only two students, Loren Harmeling '00 and Amanda, made it in the allotted time to the top of the first sum-

Just days later, the same scenes were less remarkable. The traffic was a transportation issue to consider, not a

"This being my first time out of the country, I am just amazed at how different everything is. I feel so lucky to live where I do. I am fascinated watching everything go on around me."

—Carla McAlister '02

mit, where the panorama presumably lay. Harry made it there too, proving himself more fit than the average biology professor. The rest of us could claim jetlag as an excuse.

Most of the other attractions—Summer Palaces (old and new), Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, etc.—were also toured expeditiously. "This just provides you with a brief overview," Ayse and Harry had explained to the students. The group would only be in Beijing a week before leaving for Xi'an, where they would have a little more time to absorb and reflect upon their surroundings.

The efficient sightseeing allowed more time for the academic purpose of the trip. Students spent substantial time on the PKU campus reflecting on the fields of focus for the trip—the environment and psychology—as they listened to three days of lectures. Faculty from PKU and Peking Union Medical College and other speakers gave in-depth presentations on the history of China, the environment, women in

China, public health and traditional Chinese medicine. Similar learning experiences would follow in Xi'an, Shanghai and Hong Kong—education in China, panda conservation, China's one-child policy and solid waste management, among other lecture topics.

Contrary to American stereotypes of Chinese seclusion and secrecy, speakers

"I learned that I know nothing."

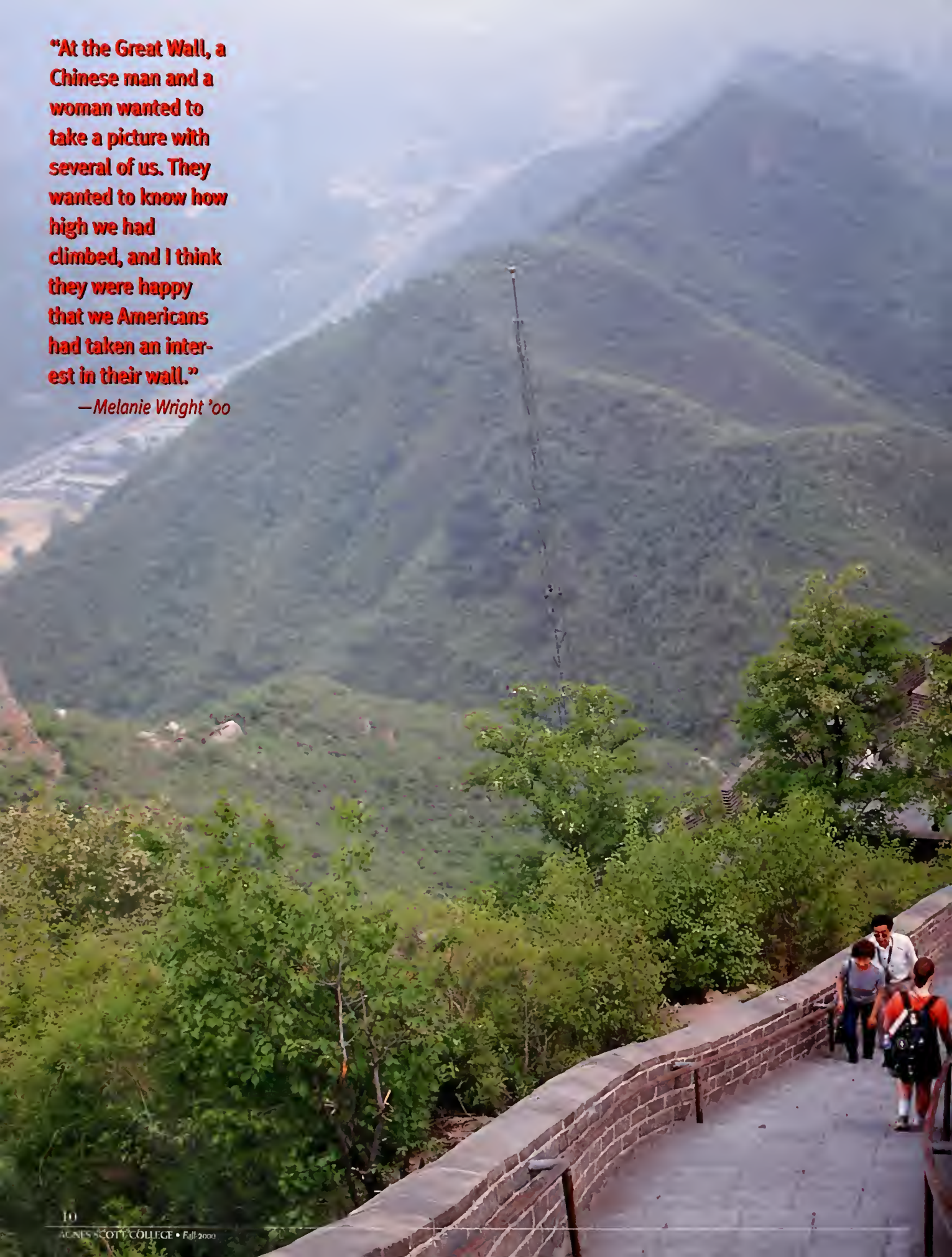
—Eve Smith '01

THE GLOBAL AWARENESS PROGRAM

Each year, the College conducts Global Awareness programs, which are designed to help students develop a better understanding of their own cultural values as well as an appreciation for the physical and cultural diversity of the world; and Global Connections programs, which provide an opportunity for students to enrich their classroom learning with study-tour experiences. In May and June this year, the College's Global Connections program took 14 students with Spanish professor Michael Schlig and his wife to Spain; and eight students traveled with math professor Robert Leslie and political science professor Juan Allende to Nicaragua. Past travel experiences have included Mexico, Japan, Ghana, Ireland, Jordan, France, Israel, Greece and India.

"At the Great Wall, a Chinese man and a woman wanted to take a picture with several of us. They wanted to know how high we had climbed, and I think they were happy that we Americans had taken an interest in their wall."

—Melanie Wright '00







The sign appeared to be a political statement to Tiananmen Square guards but was really a message saying, "Well done, Selinda. Congratulations," in Turkish and English to fellow student (and native Turk) Selinda Geyer, who was competing in the NCAA Division III women's tennis tournament while the ASC contingent was in China.

PARTICIPANTS

Ayşe Carden '66,
professor of psychology
Harry Wistrand,
professor of biology
Carmen Bolivar '03
Anna Bone '02
Yvette Diallo '02
Elizabeth Eldridge '01
Nooshin Farhidvash '00
Loren Harmeling '00
Brigitte Hogan '00
Einsley-Marie Janowski '00
Adrienne Manasco '01
Carla McAllister '02
Bethanie Lauren Myers '01
Elizabeth Patton '02
Lauren Sealey '02
Eve Smith '01
Amanda Thompson '01
Tracy White '01
Mendi Winstead '00
Melanie Wright '00

seemed surprisingly honest in front of this group of foreigners about the issues facing their country. And students demonstrated their preparation for the trip with probing, incisive questions, noting both the similarities and the differences with which China and the United States approach their internal issues and their relationship with each other.

Three weeks outside of one's own culture can be a shock; there's still no place like home. But it helps that travel in the 21st century is radically different from even two decades ago. Distance is no longer much of a factor in communication. Parents who bade their daughters farewell for three weeks at the Atlanta airport

saw them return daily through the College's Web site. Harry posted digital pictures often and the stu-

dents added journal-like reflections. Parents and friends in the U.S. often saw images of students' activities before the students themselves could view them on the Internet. A cyber café near the campus allowed students to correspond by e-mail with their wired relatives. The cliché about the shrinking world is a cliché because it is true. As Lauren Myers '01 posted, "It's nice to know that the people we care about can be with us to see these incredible things, in a way."

"It was surprising to see the streets. It makes me feel guilty and spoiled because I live a very lavish life by comparison."
—Elizabeth Eldridge '01

In many ways, Beijing seems quite westernized. There is no shortage of McDonald's and Kentucky Fried Chicken. The televisions in the Shao Yuan guest house at PKU transmit a number of cable channels, one of which is remarkably like MTV.

If the group needed a reminder that we were not in America, however, it came the morning of our visit to Tiananmen Square. We had planned a group photo in front of the huge portrait of Mao Tse-tung at the entrance to the Forbidden City. This photo went off without a hitch. But the students also wanted to congratulate via the Web site

Continued on page 14

GRACE IN CHINA

An Agnes Scott alumna finds a new career chronicling her cousin's 40 years in China.

Asia influences many Americans, directly and by association, as Eleanor McCallie Cooper '68 will attest. After one successful career, Cooper began an entirely new one as an author when she felt compelled to write *Grace in China*, the story of her cousin, Grace Divine Liu, who lived in China 40 years during tumultuous times.

Grace Divine Liu did not attend Agnes Scott, but many of Cooper's aunts are graduates. "I'm the ninth," Cooper says with a laugh. The school's emphasis on writing and women's lives

strongly influenced her. "I gained a love of history and became fascinated with Asia." After graduating, Cooper moved to Japan for two years and taught English at Kinjo Gakuin University in Nagoya.

On her way to Japan, Cooper stopped in San Francisco to meet relatives, and another journey began—this one into publishing. "My aunt there told me about Grace Divine, who had lived in China when no Westerners were there. I eventually interviewed Grace and became very involved. I even moved in to take care of her in

Berkeley, Calif., for the last year of her life.

"Grace's knowledge of western literature, history and art gave her an understanding of what was happening in China. She grasped what happens universally, in revolutionary cultures. She understood it, even when it was traumatic and chaotic. Her knowledge and attitude helped her survive."

Cooper's cousin went to the Orient because she married a Chinese man, Liu Fu-Chi, a hydraulic engineer. They settled in Tientsin in 1934, and over the years, raised three children through invasions, civil war, political upheaval, floods, famine and poverty.

Even as her American family feared she had become too sympathetic toward China, Red Guards arrested Liu and her son

William for alleged counter-revolutionary activities. Liu returned to America in 1974 in poor health, but strong of mind.

"Her perspective was unique. She saw things a different way from most Westerners, and that perspective is important for us to see. Her experiences changed me. Seeing what she went through and how she lived with courage gave me the courage to write about it."

After Liu's death at age 79, Cooper delved even further into her cousin's life, with the help of her co-author, Liu's son William. The two of them pored over countless letters, documents, notes and interviews. Still, Cooper says the book would not have been possible without modern technology. William Liu lives in Vancouver, and Cooper lives in Chattanooga, Tenn. "I don't think we could have worked on this project together, before, but with e-mail, we were in touch several times a day, instead of once every two weeks."

—Bobbie Christmas



Continued from page 12

their fellow student Selinda Geyer, who was in Minnesota as Agnes Scott's first athlete to compete in a national tournament. She had made it to the

"Lotus root, fried sweet bananas, Peking duck, watermelon, innumerable 'mystery' dishes, doughy, sticky fruit-filled sweets, lavender tea—so many more tastes than in an American meal."

—Brigitte Hogan '00

finals, and the students had spelled out their best wishes to Selinda, one letter per sheet of paper.

As they held up their sign, this photographer clicked off a few shots and turned away for a moment to seek a different angle. A uniform was in my path to the better angle and had no intention of moving. He said

something in Mandarin. My vast vocabulary consisted of "Coke" and "thank you," neither of which seemed appropriate. I pointed to Amy.

Amy and the guard exchanged a few unintelligible words. Then she turned to me. "He wants your films." Which film, I wondered. Each of my cameras had one roll in it. I could part with those, albeit reluctantly. The other 40-plus already-exposed rolls from the entire week in Beijing hung in a bag over my shoulder. Did he want those as well? All of the photos from the trip?

One way to buy time in China, apparently, is to freeze in speechless stupor. This astute response prompted Amy and the guard to step a few feet away to hash things out. Ayse offered him the sheets of paper with the message on it. Amy explained the nature of the message. I covertly handed my bag of film to Loren, the nearest student.

"I will remember the warmth of the students that we met and the wonderful welcome we received."

—Lauren Myers '01



"This experience has definitely been a culture shock."

—Yvette Diallo '02





"I learned what it means to be in a political place. There are soldiers everywhere and the smallest action can be taken as having political meaning."

—Amanda Thompson '01

"This is yours and it has anything but film in it, OK?" She nodded.

After a few excruciating minutes, the guard agreed that our display did not constitute a protest and had nothing to do with Tibet, charges of nuclear espionage or the U.S. House's vote on the China trade bill that would take place later that day. Amy walked back toward us. "It's OK, it's OK."

It was time for me to go to the airport and for the students to explore Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City without the nuisance of a tag-along photographer. I found a taxi and headed toward the airport, even looking out the back window once just to make sure no one was tracking me and my subversive film.

No, we were not in America. But we had spent a week in a

fascinating culture seeing fascinating sights. For the students, this week was, in more ways than one, just the beginning of their exploration of Beijing and beyond.

For more information on the Global Awareness trip to China, including photos and journal entries from Xi'an, Shanghai and Hong Kong (as well as Beijing), visit the Agnes Scott Web site at www.agnesscott.edu/china.



HONORING A LEGACY

As an American growing up in China, Sophie Montgomery Crane '40 delighted in the riches of two cultures, something she still cherishes.

Growing up as the daughter of Presbyterian missionaries to China, Sophie Montgomery Crane '40 delighted in the cultural differences between her native land and her adopted one. "I was very interested in their festivals," she recalls. Her family celebrated both the traditional Christian holidays, such as Easter and Christmas, and also enjoyed the Chinese holidays, such as the lantern festival for the Chinese New Year.

"The Chinese people made paper lanterns in all shapes: rabbits, birds, dogs, butterflies and chickens. They put candles in the lanterns at night and carried them through the streets," she adds.

Crane left China in 1936 to attend Agnes Scott, yet her fascination with the country continued. China was closed to tourism for many years, but Crane returned three times in the 1980s, once even with her siblings. She and her surgeon husband also served as missionaries in Korea from 1947 to 1969.

Crane is the 2000 recipient of ASC's Alumnae Association Award for Service to the Community.

As a result of her immersion in Asian culture and Presbyterian ministry, she spent 13 years researching and writing *A Legacy Remembered: A Century of Medical Missions*, a book that follows the medical missions of the Southern Presbyterian Church from 1881 to 1983. She visited nine countries and interviewed dozens of people. "I gathered a great deal of oral history on Africa, Mexico, Japan, Korea, Bangladesh and other countries."

Naturally, medicine took big leaps in 100 years. "There's no comparison between medicine now and what it was like when the medical missionaries started in 1881. By 1983, they were doing dramatic things—getting rid of parasites, curing smallpox, conquering leprosy."

Missionaries helped bring about some of those changes, too. "In China, missionary hospitals were involved with finding a cure for kala-azar, a parasitic disease rampant before World War II."

Medicine modified as well as governments. "China has gone through enormous changes," Crane says. "I look back on my childhood with amazement, because for me it was a happy, secure time, yet it was and is a very chaotic situation politically, and missionaries and others lived through hard times. We did have to leave on short notice once, but for the most part I felt quite secure."

Although Crane emphasizes that she is not an authority on women in China today, she knows women there have become more autonomous and more educated than they were. "In some cases, you see women being quite independent, but I suspect the old culture is still there. It's a patriarchy; no question about that."

Someone once told Crane that her life in China was rather Victorian. She doesn't disagree but adds, "I considered it a privilege to grow up in China." —Bobbie Christmas



GARY MEEK PHOTO

Under the watchful eye of Charlie Brown, Sophie Montgomery Crane '40 (left) receives the Outstanding Alumna Award from Dorothy Reeves '49, then president of the ASC Alumnae Association, during Alumnae Weekend 2000.



THE GREENING OF CHINA?

After spending time with the College's student delegation in Beijing, President Bullock visited conservation sites in Yunnan with her son, Graham, who works for The Nature Conservancy. The following essay is her observations about a place that, even with great challenges, leads the country in a struggle to save the environment.

Two thousand miles from dusty, polluted, traffic-clogged Beijing, urban Chinese tourists climb to a high Alpine meadow in the northwestern corner of Yunnan Province, sandwiched between Tibet and Burma. Throwing aside traditional Han reserve, they mingle with Tibetan, Yi and Naxi minorities donning colorful native costumes for the inevitable photo opportunity. The fragile "Marriage-Love-Suicide" Alpine meadow on the slopes of Jade Dragon Snow Mountain is itself off limits, surrounded by a plank walkway that minimizes human impact. Discrete signs in English and Chinese both educate and remind. "There is only one earth; protect our environment."

Surprised? Yes, the focus on the environ-

ment in Yunnan Province suggests that there may yet be hope for the greening of China.

Last year, the international fair, "Expo '99—Man and Nature Marching into the 21st Century" was hosted by Kunming, Yunnan's capital city. It attracted tens of thousands of Chinese, Southeast Asian, American and European tourists. The scale and design of the fairgrounds remind one of Epcot Center, but with a more noble purpose: international environmental protection. All of China's provinces and more than 30 foreign countries sponsored imaginative displays depicting their natural history and unique flora and fauna. Many historic Chinese gardens, with their unique blend of natural stone, rustic pavilions and native trees, were replicated, while Hong Kong contributed a high-tech modernistic urban-scape.

Yunnan's focus on the environment is easily understandable. The sixth largest Chinese province, it has almost 40 million people and half of all of China's plant and animal species are represented here. It is by far the biologically richest province in China. Forty percent of China's medicinal plants are endemic to this region, and it is the home of the majority of China's endangered plant and animal species. More than 500 species of rhododendron and azaleas can be found here, the epicenter of rhododendron evolution. Camellias also originated here. Lush tropical rainforests in the south and old-growth mixed temperate forests in the north constitute China's richest forest regions. The province has already demarcated a number of zones for conservation and protection, and is seeking international assistance in doing more.

China's growing regional, if not national, awareness of environmental issues comes none too soon. Although numerous national and provincial level environmental regulations have been promulgated since the early 1980s, enforcement and implementation have been problematic. Soft coal is the primary fuel for home and industry, and industrial wastewater, chemical and human fertilizers still flow freely into most rivers and lakes. Traditional Chinese herbal medicines and aphrodisiacs are often derived from endangered plants and animals, including the tigers and rhinoceros. Large urban centers—China has 40-plus cities with more than 1 million people—are plagued by growing air pollution, and water contamination remains a serious national problem. The

international community is concerned that the massive Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River, already well under way, will result in yet unforeseen extensive environmental damage.

In recent years Chinese scientists, politicians and the press have given considerable attention to environmental concerns. The National People's Congress, traditionally a rubber-stamp body, has frequent debates on environmental issues. The massive floods of 1998 were the most recent wake-up call to local and national leaders. Thousands of deaths and devastated agricultural land brought heightened awareness of the destruction that can be caused when mountains are logged indiscriminately.

Much of the concern about logging focused on northwest Yunnan, which includes the headwaters of four major Asian rivers—the Yangtze, Irrawaddy, Mekong and Salween. For this reason, the issue of deforestation is particularly acute. It does appear that the two-year ban on logging is beginning to make a difference. In 1995 observers on the high road near the Tibetan border from Lijiang to Chungdian reported numerous logging trucks, while in May 2000 none were seen. Yet, the cultural and economic challenges to such a ban are numerous. This is one of China's poorest regions, and home to 15 minority groups with their traditions of using the land. Tibetan homes are made entirely of wood. Heating and cooking are traditionally supplied by firewood. New modes of construction and energy sources, such as biogas, will be required if Yunnan's forests are to be replenished and protected. American non-governmental organizations such as the Ford Foundation, the World Wildlife Fund and The Nature Conservancy have been working with Yunnan scientists and governmental organizations to address these issues and to develop stronger conservation plans.

The challenge for all domestic and international environmentalists working in China is to continue improving living standards for China's 1.3 billion people while at the same time developing a plan to protect its extraordinarily rich culture and environment.

The complexity of this task is well-illustrated on the "Marriage-Love-Suicide" Alpine meadow. Hundreds of years ago this meadow, at an altitude of 9,000 feet, was only visited when Naxi lovers who were being forced into traditional marriages escaped for a few days of happiness, and

then, group suicide. Today an Italian-made ski lift transports tourists by the hundreds to this once sacred site. Horses are available for the more adventurous. Many new efforts at environmental protection are quite visible here, and, unlike many Chinese tourist sites, little trash is seen. But visibly and publicly adorning the heads of the Tibetan and Naxi guides and dancers who make their living entertaining the tourists are the whole pelts of the endangered Red Panda, recently purchased at a furrier in nearby Lijiang.

In China, as throughout the world, it will take extensive popular education as well as the enforcement of national and local environmental policies to "protect and save our environment." Notwithstanding the cultural, political, economic and scientific challenges, the progress that is being made in China's Yunnan Province should encourage us all.

Pelts of the endangered Red Panda adorn the heads of those who entertain tourists to China's Yunnan Province.

FAR LEFT: Mary Brown Bullock and son, Graham, use the more traditional transportation to reach Yunnan's "Marriage-Love-Suicide" Alpine meadow.



A SENSE OF



SHERI BROWN PHOTO

OF PLACE



Agnes Scott graduates combine architectural acumen with the woman's touch to create just the right space.

This is the story of four Agnes Scott women—separated by time, interests and geography—who have worked throughout their careers to create comfortable spaces for thousands of people. Folding ironing boards, attention to the height of library shelves, resting-places for the terminally ill and “do-able” plans for inner cities are signs of their common vision. While their work as architects is as varied as the women themselves, a single theme, “hospes” (the Latin word which is root to “hospitality,” “hospice” and “hospital”), flows through the designs of these creatives who strive to provide appealing places for pilgrims on their journeys through life.

By Dolly Purvis '89

LEFT: Ita Burdette '81, AIA, leans against one of Hospice LaGrange's extra-wide doors, which she designed so that hospital beds can be moved easily into the adjacent garden outside.



Creator of Comfortable Homes

Agnes Scott's tradition of educating notable architects dates back to the early part of the 20th century. Leila Ross Wilburn, one of Atlanta's best known architects, was a master at producing "pattern books" and designs for urban apartment buildings. She is the only woman of the era known to choose pattern, or plan, books as her method of practice. Her specialty was bungalow homes, and many of her creations still survive in Atlanta and Decatur. She updated her style as the market demanded, designing ranch-style homes in the latter part of her career, for example. Among her trademarks were the little things that made life easier, such as built-in cupboards and folding ironing boards.

Born in Macon, Ga., in 1885, Wilburn moved with her family to Atlanta and attended Agnes Scott Institute from 1902 to 1904. She received private lessons in archi-

tectural drawing and was an apprentice as a draftsman with Atlanta architect B.R. Padgett. With no formal training in the profession, she opened her own architectural office in 1909.

According to a profile prepared by the Georgia Institute of Technology's School of Architecture, Wilburn was the 29th architect registered among 188 when the state of Georgia required licensing for architectural practice in 1920; she was one of two women registered as architects in Atlanta.

Wilburn published her first book of mail order plans, "Southern Homes and Bungalows," in 1914. In 1922, she followed with "Brick and Colonial Homes." Three more pattern books came later: "Ideal Homes" (1925), "New Homes of Quality" (1930) and "Small Low-Cost Homes" (1935). As her career took off, Wilburn called herself a "scientific designer of artistic bungalows."



Helen Davis Hatch (*right*) is the managing architect and architect of record for the College's new campus center and renovated and expanded McCain Library, viewed above from the south and in the campus center model below right.

Born to Be an Architect

Architecture runs in the blood of Helen Davis Hatch '65. "Actually, I had no choice," she says. Hatch is principal in charge of business development and is involved in strategic planning with Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback & Associates of Atlanta. She is the managing architect and architect of record for the College's new campus center and renovated and expanded McCain Library.

Her mother is the first registered woman architect in Alabama (and she continues to practice), her father was an architect and both brothers are architects. "When I was a

little girl, my father always took me to sites with him. When our family took trips, we went to construction sites."

Hatch, a math major at Agnes Scott, became a teacher after graduating. However, after a few years she realized architecture was her destiny.

When she graduated with a master's from Harvard School of Design in 1973, she dreamed of plying her trade at Agnes Scott. "Agnes Scott is a wonderful campus with a remarkable architectural vocabulary already in place," Hatch notes. "I've realized an incredible goal."



Creating hospitality spaces, such as a campus center, is not new to Hatch, who is best known for her work with convention centers and hotels, including phase one of the Georgia World Congress Center.

A member of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Hatch believes she and her female colleagues working on the project bring sensitivities unique to women architects.

"I think it is easier for us to relate to the students and their needs. I know many things about the library will have to be different, such as making sure the height of the



stacks are user-friendly, because women tend to be shorter than men. One thing that will remain the same, however, is striving for the 'blissful joy of learning,' as the quote says in an arch in the library's front room."

Her personal experience with the library has come in handy also because she remembers very well the carrel in which she used to study.

Even as a new architect in the mid-'70s, Hatch, like Wilburn, was a forerunner among women in her profession. "Architecture is wonderful profession for a woman," Hatch notes. "We bring new perspective to

buildings, but when I went into it, less than 2 percent of architects were women."

A lot has changed since then. The American Institute of Architects reports that women constitute the most rapidly growing segment of AIA membership since 1990. Before the late 1960s, more than 100 years after its formation, the AIA could count only a "handful of women and minority architects" as members. A recent AIA survey reports an increase from 10 percent in 1996 to 13 percent this year in the number of licensed women architects employed at U.S. firms, and that of all principals/partners at firms, 12 percent are women.



"Invisible" Caregiver for the Dying

SHERRI BROWN PHOTO



Housing with a purpose" is the way Ila Burdette '81, AIA, describes her work with Perkins and Will (formerly Nix, Mann and Associates), a national firm based in Atlanta with offices in such cities as Chicago, New York and Los Angeles. She focuses on supportive housing, hospices, retirement homes, assisted living facilities and other multi-family dwellings.

An Agnes Scott trustee and Georgia's first woman Rhodes Scholar, Burdette's interest in architecture blossomed as a sophomore, when she participated in the Office of Career Planning's shadow program, spending time with Dave Johnson of the firm that later hired her. She has completed scores of projects during her career, including Hope Lodge for cancer patients on the Emory University campus.

However, the project nearest and dearest to her heart is Hospice LaGrange, near her hometown, Hogansville, Ga. A winner of national awards, including the AIA Design for Aging Citation, Hospice LaGrange is "a unique place. Hospice programs themselves are very special, primarily because the staff is incredibly beloved by the community. They are among the best clients I've ever had. I'm very proud of my (native) community."

As un-institutional as a building can be, Hospice LaGrange is about finishing life, according to Burdette. Many of the people who will experience life's end there are retired, west Georgia mill workers or farmers, like many of the people with whom Burdette

grew up. Hospice LaGrange is her chance to give something back to the community that reared her. "When you work at home, you really put yourself on the line," says Burdette. But folks in LaGrange were so impressed with her work that they invited her back to build a retirement home across the street from the hospice.

Burdette's work on hospices draws on her liberal arts education at Agnes Scott that included courses in medieval and Renaissance history and literature—even though she was a math major.

"Hospices have been built for centuries in Europe. They are part of a tradition of housing and care for travelers, orphans, the poor, the infirm, all those perilous straights—geographical, physical, economic, spiritual. Hospices aren't simply places to dispense one-way charity; they're centered on the blessings of giving and receiving, both sides of the exchange."

Burdette appreciates the joys of re-inventing a building "program" that dates back to the Middle Ages, to the Crusades and beyond. "America has been building hospices since about 1980. Until then, we relied on home care programs. Hospices are places where people can come close together with their family and friends and pets to finish up their living. For medieval man, life was a pilgrimage and death was another

place along the journey. Hospices were a place to rest along the way."

Her goal in designing hospices is to be as unintrusive and accommodating as possible so that the building does what the occupant can no longer manage for her/himself. For those who are losing their sight, she provides well-lit rooms. For those who are hearing impaired, she works on quiet spaces. The buildings are designed so that people do not have to walk very far to get to their appointed destinations. For those who must take a breather, there are window seats with compelling views strategically located along short corridors. "The building invisibly makes up for the losses they are experiencing so they can focus on activities they enjoy; not those they find difficult," says Burdette.

The dream of every architect, says Burdette, is to make a building that fundamentally contributes to the life inside it, a building whose design actually shapes and enables its program. "Hospice LaGrange has been one of my dreams."

"Magic" is the word she chooses to use when discussing the process of putting up a new structure. "You've known the building from the time it was sketched on napkin. It's an odd feeling to go into a building you've not seen physically before and know what's behind every corner and every door because you put it there."



Helper of the Inner City

Revitalizing disadvantaged, inner city spaces is a passion for Jill Owens '89. She received her M.Arch. from Washington University in St. Louis, but lasted about six months with an architecture firm. After a stint working in redevelopment in St. Louis and Memphis, Owens found her calling with a small consulting firm, Development Concepts, in Indianapolis.

"I feel like I'm a cheerleader for central city redevelopment," Owens says. "There are many development opportunities. I have a campaign mentality. Distressed areas can be very complicated. I enjoy working with neighborhoods and giving them hope again."

One example of her work is the re-creation of downtown Durham, N.C. "There were many divisions in the community. As a result of the plan, people came on board and

realized they were not at odds with each other; the project is big enough so that everyone can take a piece and have ownership."

Creating a "sense of place" is chief among Owens' concerns. Currently, she is working on plans to redevelop a historic army base outside Indianapolis. The project involves a mix of office and residential space as well as a town center, one of the trends in community revitalization, according to Owens.

In addition to her responsibilities as planner and architect, Owens is often called on to be a team builder, training clients to implement plans and working to empower neighborhood residents. "We work with neighborhood residents to help them find a greater sense of responsibility for their neighborhood as well as a stronger voice."

DESIGNING WOMEN

A student may combine three years of liberal arts studies at Agnes Scott College with four years of specialized work in architecture at Washington University in St. Louis for a combined undergraduate/graduate program. Upon completing the three years at ASC and the first year of architecture, the student receives the bachelor of arts degree from Agnes Scott. She then continues in the graduate program in architecture at Washington University for three years to receive a master's degree in architecture. By taking advantage of this cooperative program, the student can complete both degrees in seven years.

BECOMING REAL



The College's prize-winning playwright measures her success by helping students recognize their own moments of transformation.

By Dolly Purvis '89

Photography by
Sue Clites and Gary Meek

She writes plays and wins awards for them. But for Marsha Norman '69, her greatest thrill is teaching young playwrights. Since 1993, she has co-chaired the playwrights program of the Juilliard School, and from time to time she returns to the place that grounded her in her craft to share wit and wisdom.

Norman is no stranger to Agnes Scott. She is scheduled to be a speaker at the College's 2001 Writers' Festival; she delivered the Commencement address in 1988 and again this spring, weaving the transformations thread into her own journey and admonitions.

"When Did You First Know You Were Joan of Arc?" was the day's lesson for the year 2000 graduates. After relating a few of her own experiences at Agnes Scott, Norman said, "...something important did happen to me here. And something has, I suspect, happened to you. Because you've been talking about transformation."

For Joan of Arc, as it was for Agnes Scott's latest graduates, the moment of transformation, according to Norman, was much more subtle than most people realize.

"When did Joan of Arc really become a saint?" Norman asks. "What is the real moment of transformation, and how do you know you've had one, and what do you do about it?"

"When did Joan morph, cross the line, become a saint? When the Pope said so? No, no. She was already a saint by then, that's what made him think of calling her one. Was it when they lit the fire? Certainly not. They lit the fire because that's what we do to saints; we torture them.

"No. I'm sure the real moment of transformation was some very quiet moment, some moment only Joan was aware of, some moment when Joan herself realized that things were different now, that she had changed. Joan saw it, saw her greatness, her sainthood out of the corner of her eye, and knew it was not just an option, not just an

idea, but an identity. In that moment of transformation, Joan saw the truth at the center of her known world, and nothing was ever the same. But it wasn't the truth itself that transformed Joan; truth is everywhere. It was seeing it. And admitting to herself what she had seen."

Norman's own career changes have been equally as subtle. She realized the transformation, however, when she understood that she was a writer because she believed herself to be one; not because other people said so. Norman has been a moving force in American drama for many years. Her work examines some of the most difficult life and death questions with which everyone wrestles from time to time.

Calling her plays "house guests," Norman says, "People come. You don't know how long they are going to be here or whether you are going to be glad they came or upset that they came. You have no idea when they are going to leave."

Some ideas stay for a month and are never thought of again. Some of the ideas, on the other hand, she wishes would go home sooner. "You don't know what it's going to mean for you. You don't know if it's just going to cause trouble and heartache. Theoretically, you could have some of these people come, and it could be the end of your career," Norman laments.

She knows how to introduce these people to the director who will ultimately put them on stage for all to see. The right directors, according to Norman, must understand the characters the same way the playwright does and must find their physical life. "That very much can feel like a parenting experience," she says. "Here are the two of you looking out for this play, and there can be the potential for disaster, even with someone you've worked with previously. Just because someone has directed one of your plays doesn't mean



GNES
COTT
LECH

he or she can direct them all."

Not all collaborations work as well as others, and the best ones are those that are good for both the writer and director, the ones when, after its all said and done, the writer and director still speak to each other, Norman adds.



Some ideas stay for a month and are never thought of again. Some of the ideas, on the other hand, she wishes would go home sooner.

Evidently, she and the directors still speak. In 1983, Norman won the Pulitzer Prize for her play, *'night Mother*. The play also won four Tony nominations, the Dramatists Guild's prestigious Hull-Warriner Award and the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize. A feature film, starring Anne Bancroft and Sissy Spacek, with a screenplay by Norman, was released in August 1986. *'night Mother* has been translated into 23 languages and has been performed around the world.

She also received a Tony Award and Drama Desk Award for her Broadway musical adaptation of *The Secret Garden*. Her first play, *Getting Out*, received the John Cassner Playwriting Medallion, the Newsday-Oppenheimer Award and a special citation from the American Theatre Critics Association. *Loving Daniel Boone* had its premiere at the 1992 Actors Theatre of Louisville Humana Festival, and *Trudy Blue* premiered in the 1995 Humana Festival and had its off-Broadway premiere at Manhattan Class Company last season. *The New York Times* called *Trudy Blue* a "beautiful" work and a "vivid and stirring reminder of just what a fine observer of the interior life she is."

Her most recent effort, the teleplay for *The Audrey Hepburn Story*, which premiered on ABC, received rave reviews from coast to coast.

Although her plays are well known, as a writer she is protected from the gaze of theatre goers. She can walk her dog without people knowing they are passing a Pulitzer

winner. She is able to rear her children without continual tabloid scrutiny. "I get enough recognition to feel like I haven't disappeared," she adds, "but the privacy is great."

Privacy, however, is not a luxury Norman affords other people. "For a writer, it's good to be an observer, to be unseen, to watch what's going on," she notes. "I'm always taking a reading of who's here and what they're thinking and what's going on with them. Kind of like a radar sweep. I know that's on all the time."

Such observation is necessary. "I really feel like it's my work to see who is on earth with me. I don't think you can write without this sense of observation, without taking real pleasure, because otherwise, you're just making things up."

In her role as teacher, Norman not only loves having an effect on young writers, she also feels that she is paying back and honoring the people who had the same effect on her. "Some of them were here at Agnes Scott—people who have taken the time to give me their wisdom and encouragement, and I couldn't have done it without them. I now understand that every young writer needs a champion."

The late philosophy professor emerita Merle Walker was Norman's champion at Agnes Scott. "My experience with Merle Walker was one of the life-changing experiences for me. I had a background in how to think, how to approach problems, how to organize my mind and how to know where the truth of a situation is... I knew when I got those As from her that it really counted.

"This is where I got what I operate out of in terms of my education. Dr. [William] Calder, Merle Walker, Ben Kline—these are the people who made a huge difference in my life. Roberta Winter was the speech teacher and a tyrant, but I know that my ability to stand up there and do what I did today is [what] I learned from her," recalls Norman.

Norman also attributes Agnes Scott for the seeds of her musical theatre life. As accompanist to the College's dance group, she learned the entire Broadway canon, providing show tune music for the dancers as they rehearsed. She was also a regular pianist in the Hub and during Black Cat week.

For Norman's commencement address, go to <http://www.agnesscott.edu/norman/>

LIFESTYLE

Designer of gardens, awakening artist and a museum interpretive planner.

GARDEN DESIGNER

Virginia Rockwell '79

Virginia Rockwell '79 resides in a gentle world surrounded by nature, new life and a special calling. That calling was awakened in a political science class taught by former Agnes Scott professor David Orr, a leader in environmental issues. But time passed before Rockwell could answer.

Rockwell is among those talented individuals who squeeze several lifetimes into one. After graduating from Agnes Scott, she earned an M.B.A. from Columbia University in New York. The successful marketing and advertising career that followed included a stint with Coca-Cola. During this time gardening was an antidote to corporate stress.

In 1993, Rockwell stepped off the corporate ladder and landed in Scotland. An extended retreat at The Findhorn Foundation became her hands-in-the-dirt apprenticeship in organic gardening. Findhorn rekindled



Rockwell's fascination with sustainability, the interest sparked by Orr. "Dr. Orr is the type of inspiring, mind-expanding professor that Agnes Scott attracts," says Rockwell.

She followed her renewed interest to the Royal Botanic Garden at Kew, London. Studying with John Brookes, she earned a Garden Design Certificate. In 1995, she was designated a Master Gardener, and in 1999 was inducted into the Virginia Society of Landscape Designers. Rockwell's liberal arts education prepared her for this latest career incarnation. "Landscape design

integrates many disciplines and you must understand all of them."

In 1995, Rockwell settled in a rural area of the Virginia Piedmont where she met and married Robert Bradford, a cattle farmer and building contractor. In spring 1996, she opened The Gentle Gardener, a retail garden center and landscape design firm (www.gentlegardener.com). Her slogan, "For a garden as pleasing to nature as to the eye," underscores Rockwell's commitment to biodiversity and sustainability. These practices aided survival of her plant inventory during last

summer's drought.

In true Rockwellian fashion, she embraced the challenge, winning a blue ribbon for a garden display of drought-resistant plants. The Orange County Fair in Montpelier, Va., was the venue for Rockwell's prize—her third blue ribbon in a row. When not designing award-winning gardens, she teaches a series of landscape design workshops geared toward sustainability. Her latest creation, daughter Stella Rockwell Bradford, was born the first day of spring, March 20, 2000.

A guiding principle of The Gentle Gardener is, "Call forth body, mind and spirit to walk in beauty." Virginia Rockwell's path is guided by her passion for creating beauty and her quest for knowledge. "You could say I'm a proponent of life-long learning. Agnes Scott prepares you for that."

—Nancy Moreland



SLEEPING ARTIST AWAKENS

**Fran Patterson
Huffaker '57**

Fran Patterson Huffaker '57 embraced her 1989 move to Japan as a learning opportunity, and the experience has become a soothing force in her life. Both she and her husband, James, were trained as chemists, and his job of building a technical center in Osaka took them to Japan.

"I didn't know a soul, but determined to absorb as much Japanese culture as possible," recalls Huffaker. Joining organizations proved Huffaker's entree into Japanese society.

Japanese/American Women of the Kansai (JAWK), composed mostly of Japanese women, became her lifeline. "I think they found Americans amusing," notes Huffaker. JAWK, however, revealed a Japan few tourists saw, and it was on one of their day trips that Huffaker met artists talented enough to earn the esteemed title of "Living Treasures."

The Land of the Rising Sun awakened the sleeping artist in Huffaker. She had enjoyed painting in the early '60s, but took a 15-year hiatus to teach chemistry. She took just one painting class, sumi-e (ink painting), during her five years in Japan, but her overseas sojourn influenced the work she has created since. She speaks with

returning stateside before Huffaker picked up the brush again. "I was terrified and wouldn't let anyone see my work. I had to relearn techniques and make mistakes."

As she gained confidence, her mistakes were replaced by works of art. Her depiction of Japanese kite fighting won second place in a regional show this year. In 1999, her watercolor "Irish Sunrise" earned Best in Show at the Kingsport (Tenn.) Art Guild, and other paintings have earned honorable mentions in various exhibits. Huffaker's work appears locally and in private collections from Boston to Florida. Despite accolades, she paints strictly for herself. "It's my tranquilizer. I enjoy beauty and want to express joy."

Huffaker is one of three in her family to attend Agnes Scott—her daughter and grandmother are also alumnae. "Agnes Scott gave me self-confidence." That confidence has seen her through the challenges of

pursuing a career in a male-dominated field, earning

her master's in biochemistry from East Tennessee State University while rearing children, and entering and winning art shows after a long season away from painting.

—Nancy Moreland

A TRIP TO THE MUSEUM

Samantha Wood '93

Step into the swamp sub at the Okefenokee Swamp Visitor's Center and Wildlife Refuge, and you'll be in a world created by Samantha Wood '93. You may see other examples of her handiwork at museums around the country. As an interpretative planner with Malone, Inc., in Atlanta, Wood prepares museum displays for public viewing.

"In the project I'm currently working on at the Okefenokee Swamp, visitors enter a submarine-like container that simulates underwater swamp life with light and sound treatments," explains Wood. "They shine light through a porthole to reveal creatures that live underwater. Visitors open 'discovery drawers' to view plant and



admiration for Japanese simplicity. "They make do with very little. Less is more in their art."

It was a year after



animal specimens."

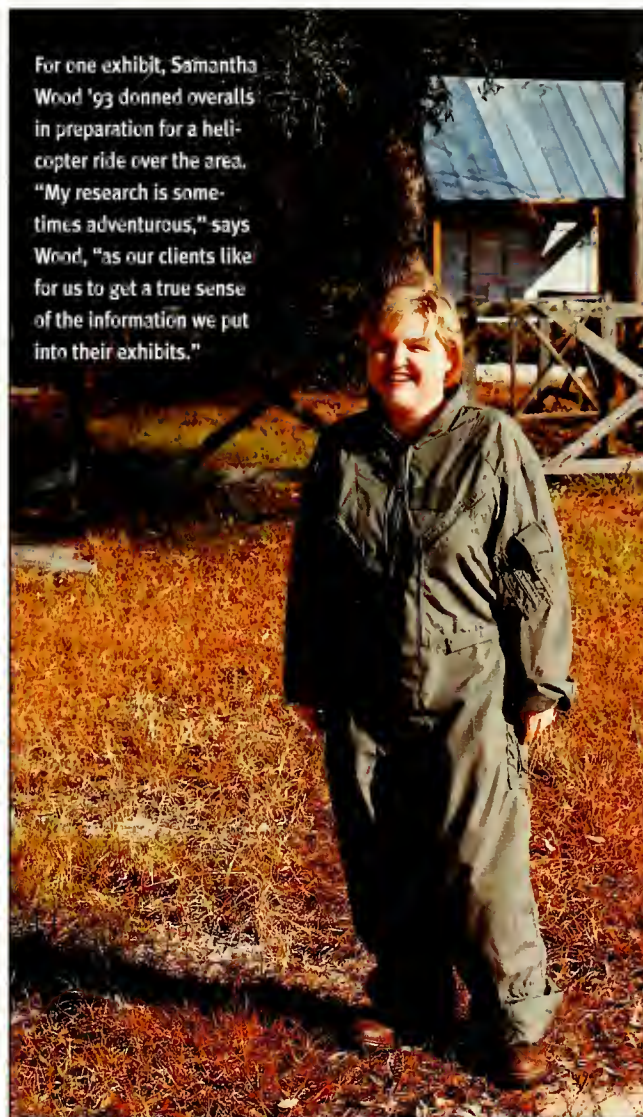
After graduating from Agnes Scott with a B.A. in English and creative writing, Wood earned her master's in arts education/museum studies at the University of South Carolina.

"Graduate school was much easier for me because Agnes Scott professors had demanded such high quality," says Wood. "Many of my colleagues struggled in graduate school, because their undergraduate experience had not prepared them for hard work."

The job with Malone offered Wood an opportunity to develop educational exhibits for many different types of museums.

Permanent exhibits make up the majority of her work. Recent clients include the Museum of Mobile and the Heritage Center in Meridian, Miss.

She helps museums determine what content to present and the best way of presenting it. "Our goal is to impact the greatest number of visitors. When they leave the exhibit, they should have a sense that they really experienced something. Especially fulfilling are the times when lifelong residents view a



For one exhibit, Samantha Wood '93 donned overalls in preparation for a helicopter ride over the area. "My research is sometimes adventurous," says Wood, "as our clients like for us to get a true sense of the information we put into their exhibits."

history exhibit and leave saying, 'I never knew that about my hometown.' "

Seeing ideas become reality is the best part of Wood's job. After months of discussing plans, choosing content and writing label text, the real excitement is watching visitors read what she's written or interact with something she's designed. But keeping her customers happy is

Wood's biggest challenge. "Usually, our clients spend years raising money. They have a utopian vision of the perfect museum. We are the 'reality police' who inform them how much the things they want really cost!"

Wood compares exhibit planning to preparing for a stage show performance. "Writers develop the story, designers create the background and then we have

opening day. The only difference is, our show never closes."

The logistics of planning and coordinating an exhibit from start to finish may seem a daunting task, but for Wood, it's all in a day's work. "And, I have the confidence that if I made it through Agnes Scott, I can accomplish anything."

—Nancy Moreland

AN HONORABLE CALLING

Krista Lankford '88

Integrity is the cornerstone of the endeavors of Krista Lankford '88. It has to be—her work can determine the outcome of a medical crisis. In her role as medical director American Red Cross Blood Services, Southern Region, Lankford calls upon values she developed at Agnes Scott. This personal honor code guides her through life-or-death situations on a daily basis.

Lankford's career might seem an unlikely one, given her early aspirations. She had wanted to teach English and trained in the field of education before switching her major to biology. "I was always interested in science

and Agnes Scott's science department had a very stimulating group of professors. To this day, I have maintained contact with Harry Wistrand," says Lankford.

After graduating with a B.A. in biology, Lankford spent the next year preparing for medical school. She attended classes at George Washington University and worked as a research assistant at Emory.

Lankford then entered Emory School of Medicine. By 1994, she had earned her M.D., and an internship at Chicago Rush Medical Center followed. She then returned to Emory and completed a residency in transfusion medicine.

Blood safety and availability issues kindled Lankford's interest in blood banking. It was a field that allowed pursuit of her dual loves—research and patient interaction. In 1999, she spent a year as assistant medical director of the Grady Hospital Blood Bank. She was appointed to the Red Cross position this past summer. How did a liberal arts background prepare Lankford for the demands of medicine? "A broad-based education contributes to work and life.



"Knowing we provide a life-giving element is very gratifying," Krista Lankford of American Red Cross Blood Services.

Many of my Red Cross duties are administrative and managerial. I use things I learned in math and sociology classes. However, being good with people is the most important element you can bring to medicine. You must relate to patients in terms they are comfortable with. A broad-based background helps," she says.

Lankford especially values her experience as an Agnes Scott Honor Court President. "Honor Court was a great training ground because it emphasized personal responsibility. In my work, people's lives depend on my follow-through and accountability," Lankford explains. These qualities are often tested. "Only 5 percent of Americans donate blood, so we're always deal-

ing with a shortage. The hardest part of my job is closing emergency rooms because there's not enough blood available. If donations grew by just 5 percent, we'd have an adequate supply."

If constant challenges are part of Lankford's stock and trade, so are rewards. Recently, Red Cross staff delivered a special blood product to a critically ill infant in time to save his life. On another occasion, Lankford met a Buckhead shooting victim whose life was spared through Red Cross efforts. "At the time of the shooting, she needed 100 pints of blood. Her family are now active Red Cross volunteers," Lankford says, adding, "Knowing we provide a life-giving element is very gratifying."

Gratifying and demand-

ing. Lankford's Red Cross territory encompasses all of Georgia, portions of Alabama, Northeast Florida, and South Carolina. She is still on call at Grady and Emory and takes time to teach medical students. Lankford approaches her myriad responsibilities with enthusiasm.

"The Red Cross CEO and COO are proof that women can and do succeed at high levels of business," she says.

Lankford also credits Agnes Scott with guiding women toward careers traditionally dominated by men. "Science and technology have really blossomed at Agnes Scott. The college has focused on excellence in those areas."

—Nancy Moreland

EXCERPTS

POLITICAL & SOCIAL ACTIVIST

Everybody's Grandmother & Nobody's Fool: Frances Freeborn Pauley and the Struggle for Social Justice

by Kathryn L. Nasstrom
(Cornell University Press,
2000)

The political activist life of Frances Freeborn Pauley '27 spans 50 years, beginning with her endeavor to establish a free health clinic in DeKalb County, Ga., and culminating with her efforts on behalf of people with AIDS.

Throughout all of these years, she fought discrimination and prejudice, seeking to ensure the rights and dignity of every human being.

A champion of civil rights and racial justice and an advocate for the poor and disenfranchised, she was a fearless activist, a "doer." She earned a reputation for always being prepared with the facts whenever she attended a meeting or confronted a legislator and for being a superb strategist who worked the

system for the benefit of the less fortunate.

In 1984, the Agnes Scott College Alumnae Association recognized Pauley with its Award for Service to the Community. This year, as Pauley turns 95, Cornell University Press released a book about her, *Everybody's Grandmother & Nobody's Fool, Frances Freeborn Pauley and the Struggle for Social Justice*.

The book's title is a description bestowed

everywhere there was racial conflict then, but when her name is mentioned today, I think of her in one place—the second-floor hallways of the Georgia State Capitol, outside one of the legislative chambers, calmly buttonholing legislators one by one, explaining how a proposed amendment to the budget or the budget itself would wreak havoc on Georgia's defenseless poor. When I arrived there in 1966, she had been haunting those halls for a quarter of a century. Everyone knew Mrs. Pauley."

Through rich oral history, Pauley recounts her life's story in her own words. This book also contains autobiograph-

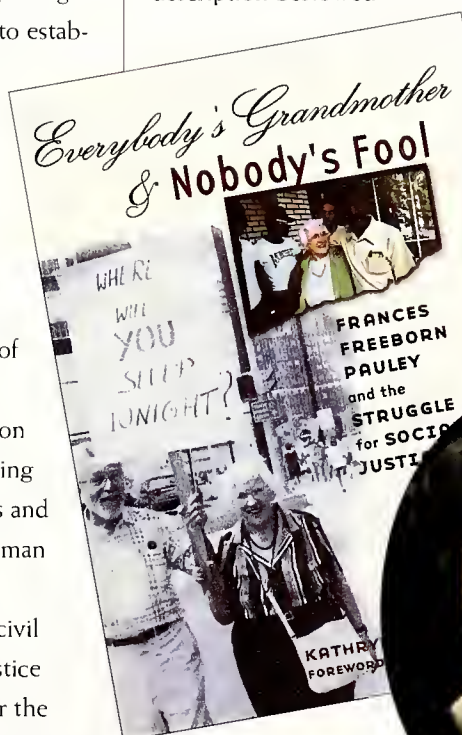
ical material and the author's introduction and comments on Pauley's life.

Pauley moved with her family from Ohio to Decatur when she was a small child. She credits her parents for instilling the values that continue to guide her life. When it

came time for Frances to attend college, her mother was ill so Pauley enrolled at Agnes Scott College. Although she was a math major, her true love was drama.

In the book, she says, "I majored in math, and I think the teacher that meant the most to me was Miss Gaylord, who was a math teacher, an absolutely excellent teacher. I always admired her so much. I was also interested in drama, but they didn't have a major in drama. Still, I took all the drama they had and playwriting. We put on our own plays, and I directed, acted, and wrote. I got to know Miss Good in the Department of Spoken English real well because I took all the speech classes. She had a fit when I went into civil rights work. She called me up, tried to dissuade me. She thought I was just throwing my life away. But, overall, Agnes Scott certainly taught me to be a serious student, a very serious citizen, that life is real, life is earnest. That was the attitude of the faculty as a whole.

"Miss Nan Stephens was the playwriting teacher. I liked her the best, and I learned a lot from her that I have been grateful for. It



on Pauley years ago by Julian Bond, now chair of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In the foreword, he says, "Our paths intersected in the early 1960s, and she was

ought to be a required subject for everyone to take drama, to have to play a role, be somebody else. I think it teaches you so much about walking in somebody else's shoes, and gives you a lot of insight into working with people and much more sympathy for any kind of person. It also adds so much to the enjoyment of your life."

Pauley used her flair for drama to achieve her political and social goals. In the book, she says, "I've always said my dramatic training served me in good stead. I've used it more than any other training that I got in college."

In the tumultuous '50s when Georgia public schools were in danger of being closed, Pauley and other concerned women from various civic groups journeyed to the state capitol with the intent of filling the gallery and relaying their concerns. They went early to be sure of getting a seat, wore hats and white gloves and sneaked small signs into the building by hiding them under their coats. These women remained scrupulously quiet, so much so that the legislators noticed their quietness. When one of the senators said something

about public schools, all the ladies held up their signs saying "We Want Public Schools." Everyone downstairs turned and looked again at these still quiet women with their signs.

On another occasion, Pauley had women unfurl signed petitions that had been taped together as a way to stress that great numbers of people wanted public schools.

Acutely aware of her position in life, Pauley earnestly has tried to live daily in a way that matched her commitments. For example, she decided not to support any organization that was segregated, which meant she and her family resigned their country club membership. Such a move placed a bit of a burden on Pauley because they lived across the street from the country club and frequently took guests there for meals.

Throughout this relating of each of her experiences, Pauley repeatedly states that she was so fortunate to be a part of this particular activity, that she learned so much by doing each one, and that she wished she could have done more. This attitude seems to be an integral part of her life.

Now retired in Atlanta, Pauley laments that age prevents her from keeping the fast-paced life of activism that so defined most of her years.

Everybody's Grandmother and Nobody's Fool is being used by Agnes Scott professor Tina Pippin in her first year seminar course, Religion and Human Rights in Atlanta, this fall. The book's author, Kathryn Nasstrom, is associate professor of history at the University of San Francisco.

—Jennifer Bryon Owen

APOCALYPTIC BODIES

The Biblical End of the World in Text and Images (Routledge, 1999)

Agnes Scott Associate Professor and Chair of Religious Studies Tina Pippin, is the recipient of the first American Academy of Religion Excellence in Teaching Award. She will receive the award at the AAR annual meeting in Nashville in November. Following is a review of her latest book.

Tina Pippin's most recent work on the Apocalypse of John (a.k.a., the book of

Revelation) continues to demonstrate the same passion, integrity and cutting-edge intellectual curiosity that marked her earlier volume, *Death and Desire: The Rhetoric of Gender in the Apocalypse of John* (Westminster John Knox Press, 1992), and that she always brings to the classroom.

The new volume, *Apocalyptic Bodies: The Biblical End of the World in Text and Image*, combines four essays previously published in other books and journals with four new essays and 20 black and white images. While the focus remains on John's Apocalypse, *Apocalyptic Bodies* also includes essays on the "little apocalypse" in Mark 13, the image of Jezebel (first drawn in I Kings 16 through II Kings 9), and the story of the tower of Babel (Genesis 11). Rather than place these texts under the objectifying and distancing lens of traditional historical-critical modes of interpretation, Pippin employs a rich array of disciplinary perspectives and tools, including autobiography, post-modern literary and cultural theory, feminism, gender and sexual politics, and studies of fantasy, pornography and horror.

The result is a strong and provocative statement of Pippin's perspective not only on John's Apocalypse and the other focus texts, but on the (horrifying) generative power of apocalyptic materials throughout the Bible and western cultural history to the very present moment at the turn of the millennium.

Following John J. Collins, one of the leading contemporary interpreters of Jewish and Christian apocalyptic text, Pippin defines "apocalypse" as texts "about the end of the world but also any total destruction, or any revelation about 'any catastrophe of such a scale that it seems to put this world in jeopardy.'" It is the "excess" in such materials that bothers Pippin, especially the violence associated with the God of the Bible. In popular imagination, such apocalyptic imagery are primarily about fire and brimstone, death and destruction. Pippin wants to hold our feet to the fire, so that we can neither ignore or dismiss the dark side of these texts, nor balance the bad with the good. Where some extol "the imaginative richness" of apocalyptic literature, Pippin sees "a deity gone wild, not on the side



of love but of hate and vindictiveness, inducing earthly terror to gird the glory of heaven. The real terror is that the torture never ceases; the tortures of the abyss are endless. From the Apocalypse through the next 2,000 years of Christianity, the terrors of hell increase. That is where the real 'imaginative richness' can be found; in subsequent apocalypses and journeys of hell, God becomes 'more and more dangerous.' " Pippin argues that in John's Apocalypse, "God is as much a power of domination as any other power, only this apocalyptic manifesto calls for total obedience." After all the attempts to read the Apocalypse at a safe distance or to redeem its message have been exhausted,

"what remains is the misogyny and exclusion by a powerful, wrathful deity. In the Apocalypse, the Kingdom of God is the kingdom of perversity."



It is evident from the outset that most of these essays were written primarily with an audience in mind within the guild of Biblical scholars. They presume conversance especially with some branches of post-modern literary and cultural theory. Some of the more accessible and interesting portions of this study are to be found where Pippin talks of her own experience growing up in the South, visiting her great uncle in KKK territory, working alongside

migrant farm workers in the tobacco fields of eastern North Carolina, or taking her classes to visit "Tribulation Trail" presentations at Halloween in fundamentalist churches in Atlanta.

I've heard it said that the mark of good teaching is not in the answers transmitted but the questions raised. While not all readers will find Pippin's perspectives congenial, these essays nonetheless provoke important theological and cultural questions that we dare not ignore. Does apocalyptic world view "represent a virus in the theological body?" Is God held to a different moral standard than God's enemies? "Is this an amoral deity poised to run amok on the world?" What does it mean to read apocalyptic texts ethically? Is abuse, domination, violence and finally extermination the bottom line for the God worshiped by Jews and Christians?

The questions Tina Pippin raises in this book are not merely theological trivia, unlike many books today on this subject, but they take us to the dark heart of western theological imagination and culture.

—Stan Saunders

LETTERS

Dear Editor;

Bravo! Greetings from a loyal friend of The College! Kudos for the Spring/ Summer ALUMNAE MAGAZINE! I was thoroughly impressed with this latest edition and enjoyed reading it cover to cover. Thank you for keeping me on the mailing list. I always enjoy reading the latest ASC scoop. Best wishes for continued success.

*Holly M. Raiford
former employee*

Dear Editor;

After scanning the article on Equity and Justice, I find I "cannot NOT" respond.

First, I would question the premise that we as a nation have prospered by "exploiting" other countries. I'd like to know when and how, unless it's because their most productive citizens left to come to America.

Our country has not always been prosperous. The early Americans had a life as difficult, if not more difficult, than citizens in third world nations today. Only because our economic system enabled people to rise above their circumstances have so many people enjoyed a decent standard of living.

Not only their descendants, but the entire world has benefited from their sacrifices. The climate of opportunity, freedom, and yes, even capitalism, has enabled our nation to feed the world, defend the world, clean up the world, finance the world, etc. Demoting America to a third world nation would not help other

nations. Quite the contrary.

In like manner, how would it help anyone for Agnes Scott to divest itself of its endowment and become a fifth-rate college or become extinct? What influence would it have then?

Some people believe that American business helps the local economy and raises the standard of living by giving jobs to people in other countries. (Our unions complain about losing the jobs to overseas.)

I also question the statement that the other nations are worried about their debt to us. The average citizen elsewhere doesn't know about it or care about it because it doesn't affect them. Although the "debt" exists, no one, especially their leaders, and certainly not ours (if they are realistic), expects the debt to be

repaid. So why is a year of "Jubilee" necessary? (Incidentally, this is a perfect example of taking Biblical "truth" out of context, but that is another subject.) We are the ones who worry

about a national debt, because we are the ones who pay exorbitant taxes. The more successful one is, the more you are penalized, and the more you are made to feel guilty.

Apparently, the worst crime in America is being successful.

*Frances V. Puckett '52
Jacksonville, Fla.*

Dear Editor;

The latest alumnae magazine with its articles on Ashley Seaman and Callie Curington was a big hit with Presbyterian alumnae in the Charlotte area. I thought you would like to know. I got more calls about that magazine than I have about

anything from Agnes Scott since I left in '97. It was wonderful to see pieces that generate such enthusiasm from alumnae.

Congratulations are in order for the PR staff.

*Paige M. McRight '68
former ASC chaplain
Charlotte, N.C.*

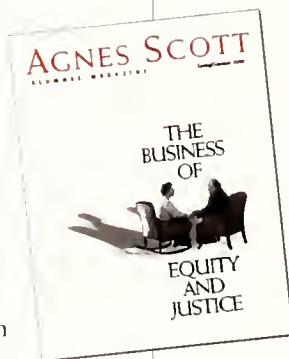
Dear Editor;

I got your alumnae magazine and read it immediately. I thought you might be interested to know that Malie Bruton Heider '66 performed beautifully in a local production of *Wit* at the Trustus Theater here.

The other piece of information you might be interested in was that in the article about Patricia Collins working at Callaway Gardens, you either did not know or forgot to mention that Elizabeth Walton Callaway '47 is one of the owners of the gardens.

Thanks for an interesting magazine.

*Christina Y. Parr M.D. '47
Columbia, S.C.*



CONTRIBUTORS

Mary Brown Bullock '66 is president of Agnes Scott College and grew up in Asia as the daughter of missionary parents.

Bobbie Christmas, owner of Zebra Communications in Atlanta, is a freelance writer.

Nancy Moreland is a freelance writer based in Woodstock, Ga., whose

work appears in trade and mainstream publications and on the Internet.

Jennifer Bryon Owen is the Office of Communications' director of creative services at Agnes Scott College and editor of the AGNES SCOTT ALUMNAE MAGAZINE.

Dolly Purvis '89, former manager of news services in the Office of Communi-

cations at Agnes Scott College, is now editor of *The Champion*, a DeKalb County newspaper.

Stan Saunders is associate professor of New Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Ga.

Chris Tiegreen is editor of *Main Events* and contributing editor to the AGNES SCOTT ALUMNAE MAGAZINE.

GIVING ALUMNAE

Galapagos Islands ignite a spark.



I am a biologist!" Jane Gaines Johnson '55 states emphatically. It is such enthusiasm for this science that fashioned her journey from being a biology major at Agnes Scott College to being the donor of a biology research award at the College.

She recently created the Jane Gaines Johnson Collaborative Research Award, an endowed fund that will provide support for research conducted jointly by faculty and students in the biology department.

Between earning her master's in biology from Vanderbilt University and taking a number of years off to rear her son and daughter, Johnson worked in labs for the state of Tennessee, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Massachusetts General Hospital. When she returned to the work force at age 50, it was to work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Dalecarlia Water Treatment Plant in Washington, D.C., where Johnson rose from microbiologist to chief of the laboratory.

"I loved being back in the lab, doing the work, smelling the smells," says Johnson. "This particular lab was not exactly modern. It became my responsibility to assure that we passed the Environmental Protection Agency inspection. I enjoyed the challenge."

Returning to the lab was a bit overwhelming at first, says Johnson, because so much in the chemistry lab had changed. "It was a challenge to learn to handle such things as automatic titrators," says Johnson. "Not that much had

changed on the biology side. All I had to do was remember and learn newer modifications of the tests I already knew how to perform."

Two years after she returned to working in a lab, Johnson had the opportunity to go to the Galapagos Islands on a trip led by John Pilger, ASC professor of biology. "The Galapagos Islands were a destination that had interested me since I studied evolution at Agnes Scott, so we went," says Johnson.

"It was a thrilling experience. After the first day's hike on the first island we visited, I returned to the boat exhausted but happy. My only thought was that we had seen it all. What could we have in store for the remainder of this trip? How wrong I was! The exciting developments continued to unfold."

Now in retirement, Johnson and her husband, Ralph, travel extensively, going at least once a year to African countries such as Tanzania and Kenya on photography safaris. This year's trip is to Namibia.

But, it was the trip to the Galapagos Islands and the respect she developed for Pilger and his work that ignited Johnson's interest in the biology program at the College.

"When I found that, thanks to the stock market, I had enough to share and to put to work for a good cause, I wanted to express my appreciation for what Agnes Scott had done for me," says Johnson. "It was a 'no brainer.'"

—Jennifer Bryon Owen



AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

THE WORLD FOR WOMEN

141 East College Avenue
Atlanta/Decatur, GA 30030-3797



From the antiquity of the Old Summer Palace (above) to the social and scientific inquiry of leading universities, Agnes Scott students explored China in depth on a Global Awareness tour in May. Occurring at a critical time in U.S.-China relations, the trip represents a growing awareness by ASC scholars of the importance of Asia. For more on Agnes Scott and China, see the guest column (inside front cover) and pages 6-19.

PHOTOS AND STORY BY CHRIS TIEGREEN