the evergreen state college

SPRING 2013 MAGAZINE

Macklemore

THIS IS HIS MOMENT

FROM SEATTLE TO SAME LOVE TO SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE, NOTHING CAN HOLD MACKLEMORE.

The Evergreen State College Magazine
Vol. 34, No. 02
Spring 2013
Member, Council for Advancement and Support of Education

Publisher
Lee Hoemann

Editor
Ann Mary Quarandillo

Designers
Judy Nuñez-Piñedo
Alyssa Parker '06

Writers
Carolyn Shea
Ann Mary Quarandillo

Class Notes Editor
Pat Barte '91

Staff Photography
Shauna Bittle '98
and Photo Services

Evergreen Magazine is published twice annually by the Office of Marketing, Communications and College Relations.

The Evergreen State College
2700 Evergreen Pkwy. NW
Olympia, WA 98505

To submit items for class notes, contact the Office of Alumni Relations 360.867.6551 or alumni@evergreen.edu, or fill out the form at www.evergreen.edu/alumni.

©2013
The Evergreen State College

Economic Impact

Greener Thomas Herndon '07 shows austerity movement is based on faulty math

When Thomas Herndon worked in the President's office as a student, we were impressed by his curiosity, his web skills, and his musical accomplishments. (He sometimes played bass in our office ukulele band.) Now a graduate student at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, he is causing a major stir among economists with his discovery that a hugely influential study of the relationship between economic growth and government debt by Harvard economists Carmen Reinhart and Kenneth Rogoff had serious errors. A coding error in their data spreadsheet called into question the study's finding that countries with debt loads higher than 90 percent of annual GDP experience slower growth. Those findings have been widely cited as support for the austerity measures that governments around the world have implemented during the economic crisis.

"I have social motivations," Herndon said. "I care deeply about how policy affects people."

Thomas spotted the error as part of an assignment for a graduate econometrics course. He told *New York* magazine that he decided to analyze Reinhart and Rogoff in order to better understand the evidence offered in support of policies that he questions. "I have social motivations," he said. "I care deeply about how policy affects people." Thomas' classroom assignment became an academic paper, for which he is the lead author, along with UMass-Amherst economics faculty members Robert Pollin and Michael Ash. The paper became an overnight sensation, cited by economists, news outlets and political groups across the U.S. and around the world. Thomas is an outstanding example of the difference Evergreen graduates make by bringing their critical thinking and questioning skills to real world problems.

As Evergreen alumni, faculty, staff or students, we've always known that the college has had an extraordinary impact on our own lives and communities. It's encouraging to see Greeners like Thomas demonstrating that value every day. Last fall, more than 3,000 Evergreen alumni participated in an economic impact study by the independent research firm ECONorthwest. Completed in January, the study spells out many of the ways in which Evergreen has a positive financial, social and career impact on students, alumni, the community and the state. (See some of the findings on page 20.)

This research gives us one more way to illustrate the power of the Evergreen experience to educate engaged citizens and prepare students for tomorrow's careers. Our best case for Evergreen's outstanding liberal arts education comes from the accomplishments of our alumni, students and faculty. Thomas is one example, as are the Greeners featured in this issue who are making it in Silicon Valley, turning the music business on its head, or fighting hard for workers' rights.

I'm continually awed by the extent to which the college's faculty and staff continue to fulfill Evergreen's mission. Despite the economic challenges of our state and our country, stories like these make me optimistic about our future and further committed to serving our students and alumni.

Thomas L. Purce
President

Inside Evergreen

contents

p04
Behind the Awesome
by Carolyn Shea
Macklemore (Ben Haggerty '09) is Seattle's latest music superstar

p06
California Dreaming
by Ann Mary Quarandillo
Three Greeners making their mark in Silicon Valley

p10
Following his Calling
by Carolyn Shea
Michael Corrigan's journey from high finance to the priesthood

p12
United We Stand?
by Carolyn Shea
Three union leaders on how organized labor can bring about change for the better

p20
News & Notes

p30
In Memoriam

Cover: The past year has been a whirlwind for Macklemore (Ben Haggerty '09), who's performed around the world since the release of his album with Ryan Lewis, *The Heist*, and its eminently danceable single, "Thrift Shop."

(Photo illustration by Evergreen student Jackie Argueta-Godinez, from an original photo of Macklemore in Berlin by Tricia Davis.)

Photo by Jason Koenig

Ben Haggerty (right) and his producer, Ryan Lewis, take a rare break from music-making amid their thrift shop "come up."

behind THE awesome

by Carolyn Shea

Pushing boundaries in the music business has fueled Macklemore's meteoric rise to fame.

Back in February 2012, *The Seattle Times* caught the buzz around Ben Haggerty '09 and proclaimed him "Seattle's best shot at mainstream stardom right now."

Before long, this prediction proved true. Within months, Haggerty—the homegrown rapper more commonly known by his stage name Macklemore—and his producer-partner Ryan Lewis released their breakthrough song, "Thrift Shop," a funny, infectious ode to the thrills of thrifting ("This is...awesome," raps Macklemore). It rocketed up the iTunes download list and by January, it was No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, making the duo the first Seattle artists to reach that spot since 1992, when Sir Mix-a-Lot was there with "Baby Got Back."

By April, "Thrift Shop" had topped Billboard's Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs for 12 weeks, setting the record for the longest-running No. 1 rap song in the chart's history. In less than eight months, it sold more than 5 million copies and was certified multi-platinum. To date, its YouTube video—which drove the popularity of the song online and on radio—has racked up well over 200 million views, and the debut studio album it's drawn from, *The Heist*, became the most downloaded on the U.S. iTunes chart within hours of its release. It sold 78,000 copies in its first week and reached No. 2 on the Billboard 200—without the backing of any record label, advertising or mainstream media.

"Music is my creative outlet in terms of expressing what's important to me, what has value, and I want to be respected for that."

Last October, *Rolling Stone* magazine dubbed the artists' spectacular commercial success an "indie rags-to-riches" story and rated their online marketing as "top-notch," which it noted, "bodes well for concert-ticket sales."

Macklemore & Ryan Lewis have performed across North America and Europe, from Seattle's Bumbershoot festival to New York City's Bowery Ballroom to Dublin, Ireland (where Haggerty roused the crowds with his tune, "Irish Celebration"), gaining a reputation for their ebullient concerts, audience rap-alongs and flamboyant threads. Their world tour for *The Heist* has sold out several upcoming shows, including gigs in London in May and July and in St. Gallen, Switzerland in June.

This past March, nearly 6 million viewers watched Haggerty (and the huge, gold-fringed epaulets on his bright red suit) kinetically bouncing across the *Saturday Night Live* stage, several months after his appearance on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show*, where he played "Same Love," his touching anthem for marriage equality (the single's YouTube video has since eclipsed 31.3 million views).

Afterwards, "Same Love" caused a stir in a middle school in Michigan when a teacher was suspended for playing the song in class at the request of a student—and another student complained about it. On his website, Haggerty weighed in on the incident, saying, "I wrote the song 'Same Love,' not with the expectation that it would cure homophobia and lead to marriage equality across the US (although that'd be awesome). It was written with the hope that it would facilitate dialogue and through those conversations understanding and empathy would emerge. This incident demonstrates how too often we are quick to silence conversations that must be had."

A hip-hop fan since childhood, Haggerty began writing lyrics at 14, when he was known as Möcklimore, the nickname his buddies gave him. That evolved into Professor Macklemore, the name under which he released his first EP, "Open Your Eyes," in 2000.

Photo by Saman Maydani

As an undergraduate, Haggerty (who had by then dropped the "Professor") reached a younger generation by facilitating music workshops at the Green Hill School, a maximum-security juvenile detention facility in Chehalis, Wash., where he worked in Evergreen's Gateways for Incarcerated Youth program.

"It gave me a lot to write about, being around youth who were incarcerated. It gave me a broader perspective on our country's prison system and judicial system, and exposed me to a lot of amazing individuals who were locked up since they were 12 or 13 years old," he told an interviewer from the Seattleite news website. "Green Hill is where, as the system would call it, the 'worst of the worst' type of kids lived. However, it's completely not that—they were incredible kids who just got caught up in other things. It was an intense experience and it gave me a lot to reflect on in my life."

Because his music has dealt with such issues as gay rights, addiction ("Otherside," 2010; "Starting Over," 2012), consumerism ("Wing$," 2011) and racism ("White Privilege," 2005), Haggerty's been pigeonholed in the subgenres of alternative, underground, and conscious rap. But he rejects being "put in a box," saying, "I make rap music. My intention was to make music that spoke to people—and not like 40 people, like hundreds and thousands if not millions of people who could connect with what I'm writing about."

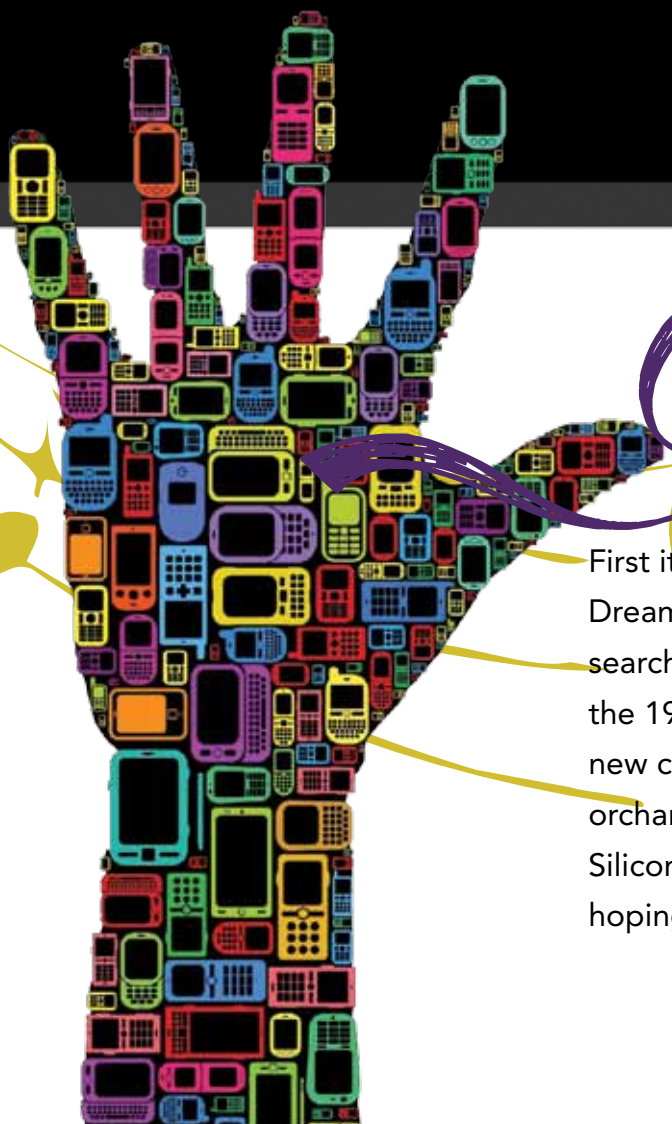
It comes down to this, the 29-year-old says: "Music is my creative outlet in terms of expressing what's important to me, what has value, and I want to be respected for that." He's written thoughtfully not only about controversial issues, but also about the things he loves, like baseball ("My Oh My," his 2010 tribute to the Mariners' late announcer Dave Niehaus, which he and Lewis performed at the Mariners 2011 home opener) and his community ("The Town," 2009).

Haggerty's collaboration with Lewis began in 2010, and they've since forged a partnership that has struck a chord with millions of fans. Their hits have quickly been parodied, imitated, and employed as themes for special events and contests, like the "Macklemore Thrift Shop Challenge" issued by a popular blog called "Young House Love." It asked readers to visit a thrift store with "$20 in your pocket" and find at least one item referenced in the song (examples: gator shoes, a velour jumpsuit, a brown leather jacket, a keyboard, a kneeboard, luggage, flannel zebra jammies, a telescope, a big ass coat). Already, eBay is selling thousands of Macklemore items, including plenty claiming to be authentically autographed.

A do-it-yourselfer to the core, Haggerty has remained independent from the beginning, producing one mixtape, two albums and three EPs over the past 13 years. His considers his art to be completely his own business and he's purposefully held on to his brand to maintain creative control. He's involved in every detail from writing the lyrics and melodies to delivering the message through merchandising, picking out wardrobes, video production, truck driving and distribution. He's built his craft and his following through dedication, hard work, sacrifice and smarts—oh, and an annual fan appreciation pizza party he hosts.

His stardom has been organically cultivated. As he told Jabari Johnson, the creator of the documentary *Jabari presents: Macklemore & Ryan Lewis*, "It was grassroots. Wasn't big money behind it, wasn't a label, wasn't a cosign. It was just hard work and people connecting with the music, and that's the dopest thing." He alluded to the critics who've inevitably cropped up since he's achieved prominence, declaring, "Say whatever you want…But you can't take away the fact that there are x amount of people that believe in what I do, passionately. And that's better than any cosign, that's better than any signing bonus, that's better than any label, and that's why I got there."

California Dreaming



Greeners are making their mark in Silicon Valley

by Ann Mary Quarandillo

First it was the Gold Rush. Then Hollywood. Then Haight-Ashbury. Dreamers from all over the world have flocked to California in search of success in a new…a better…a different life. As early as the 1930s, Stanford University faculty members were envisioning new companies growing among the apricot, plum and cherry orchards of Santa Clara County, and today the "gold mines" of Silicon Valley still draw thousands of technology entrepreneurs, hoping to parlay their innovative ideas into viable careers.

Over the past 30 years, U.S. companies less than five years old created 44 million jobs, and accounted for all net new jobs created, according to the President's Council on Jobs and Competitiveness 2011 report. Although other startup havens in New York, Tel Aviv, Seattle and L.A. have begun to challenge its supremacy, many companies still flock to the world's top startup ecosystem because of its edge in investment dollars and the culture of entrepreneurship that continues to flourish. In 2012, the Valley got the ultimate pop culture crown—Bravo debuted the reality show "Start-Ups: Silicon Valley" (which quickly tanked).

"There's such an intellectual diversity in all the companies I see," says Sarah (Brown) Cone '99, who has been on the ground floor of some of the latest organizations to change the way we live and work, and is now an associate at Illuminate Ventures, a venture capital firm in Oakland, Calif., where she seeks out promising business-to-business startups for early stage investment.

Bart Myers '97 and Zach Miller-Catlin Larson '97 have been involved in several startups since they graduated and headed to the Valley. Their company, SideReel.com, a service that helps people find online content, was bought by technology and licensing company Rovi, where Myers now manages a team of 40 who deliver entertainment experiences online for film, music and TV. Larson is deep into his next startup, Threadbare Games. All are thriving in Silicon Valley's entrepreneurial, interdisciplinary environment, and excited about the new things they see coming.

An early employee of Amazon.com, Cone worked in investments for eBay founder Pierre Omidyar, and learned about venture capital from Rob Hayes, an early Twitter investor. After earning her law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, where she also took business classes, she was hired to work in public policy at Google. Throughout her career, she's seen the value in Silicon Valley's unique environment, and learned "a ton" about what makes a successful startup—including being willing to fail.

She worked as a consultant at CTI, helping large companies work more like Silicon Valley—optimizing their research and development operations to combine their technology development with business development, researching the market, potential customers and how they might use the technology, and how to market it. Armed with her knowledge and research, she founded her own social news startup, which lasted close to a year before closing.

"It's amazing how accepting people in Silicon Valley are of failure," she says. "So many companies don't get off the ground, but that doesn't mean there's no value there. It's actually seen as a positive on your resume!"

Larson agrees that failure has a different weight in the Bay Area than it does elsewhere. SideReel was the second company he officially cofounded, and he sees how the entrepreneurial life can look glamorous to those who haven't experienced it. "You can't be part of startups without a large amount of risk and a great deal of chaos—you have to be comfortable with that," he says. "Most of them are failures. It's the complete opposite of glamour. But if you accept that in failing you can learn something, that's a good thing."

Cone spends her days looking for entrepreneurs and companies that are a good fit for investment, then leading the due diligence process to follow up after an investment is made. One of the reasons she enjoys the work is the same reason her own startup wasn't a good fit for her. "I love meeting entrepreneurs," she says. "I'm more suited that way. In your own startup you have to think about one thing all the time. Here, I'm always thinking about the future and where the world is going, because that's what we're investing in—where the world is going."

That attitude towards investment and collaboration is what brings people with new ideas to Silicon Valley. "(It)… promotes collective learning and flexible adjustment among companies that make specialty products within a broad range of related technologies," wrote Dr. AnnaLee Saxenian, dean of the UC Berkeley School of Information, who has long studied technology clusters and the Silicon Valley networks. "The region's dense social networks and open labor market encourage entrepreneurship and experimentation. Companies compete intensely while learning from one another about changing markets and technologies through informal communication and collaboration."

Myers, a Bay Area native, and Larson, who grew up in Eugene, Ore., met during orientation their first week at Evergreen, and immediately bonded over their interest in technology. "We were giant nerds who like to stay up late at night and play games," says Larson. When they developed the idea for SideReel, though, they knew it would take more than great tech to make it work.

They started out in 2005 with a website business selling movies and TV shows online, when video on the web was still new. "It was a dark time but a time of great promise," says Larson. "We knew that companies with bigger war chests were going to determine how this kind of service developed. So we started a new guide to help people find content no matter what service they were on—a search engine that relies on a community of users to help populate it."

SideReel launched in 2007, offering users the ability to search for TV shows, track them and watch full episodes online, as well as reviews and discussion boards. It quickly became a company to watch in the digital entertainment field, and they were able to show revenue after only eight months—key to attracting investors. "That's when we had the first idea it was going somewhere," says Larson. "We kept trying small things and measuring them to see if they worked. I remember thinking at the time that this was part of our Evergreen experience – learning how to learn, questioning assumptions, getting close to source data. It mentally geared me toward this sort of career."

Then in 2008, with the economic collapse and ad markets down, they had to slash their costs, and focus on revenue generation. They did lots of experimentation until traffic and revenue began to grow again. "As long as it kept growing and we could pay ourselves enough to keep us in Ramen, that was success," says Myers. "Every day there were new challenges we needed to go out and learn about, find resources and figure out problems. If we hadn't figured out what was wrong and how to fix it, SideReel would be dead."

Instead, it thrived, and in 2011, the company was purchased by Rovi. Myers and Larson were excited to be able to offer a great return on investment for their investors, who included family members and friends, but they also made sure that everyone who worked on the product was taken care of. And now, they're able to be angel investors for other early-stage startups, the way others were for them.

Silicon Valley may have the greatest concentration of startup funds in the world right now. And what's more exciting for entrepreneurs, says Myers, is that "Although there is a lot of risk, and a high chance of it not working out, it's a lot easier to start now than it used to be. So many people think they can't do it, but the capability to create their idea is actually within their grasp."

Zach Miller-Catlin Larson's first startup was an electronic version of his school yearbookthat he did in 9th grade. The CEO at Threadbare Games says you too can succeed with your startup, "if you're comfortable with a large amount of risk and a great deal of chaos." *On Twitter @zachlarson*

The up front costs of starting a tech company used to be significantly more prohibitive, explains Sarah Cone. "Five to ten years ago, it would have taken a quarter-million-dollar investment just to buy the servers to run your business. Today, companies like Amazon, Rackspace, HP and others rent space on open cloud servers that are able to process terabytes of information for a few thousand a month."

This is opening up a new era of lean startups, which is the market her firm invests in. And not only is the cost of entry much lower, the collaborative nature of Silicon Valley has combined with growing infrastructure to provide early-stage startups with office space, funding, and access to a network of investors and mentors. "There's a lot more angel investing because there's a lot you can do by raising $100,000," says Cone. "Time has passed and now people who have been in serious operational roles at Google and Facebook and PayPal have gone into investing. Since they know how to run a company and how to offer support to startups, they can help new companies along."

Today, all three Greeners encourage entrepreneurs with new ideas to do their research, focus their attention, and, as Larson says, "Make things!" Myers agrees. "It's very interesting seeing the amount and variety of innovative platforms that have emerged and are emerging for people to create and do unbelievably interesting things," he says, citing the rapid development of camera and mobile technology as well as 3D printing, which Cone agrees could be the catalyst for bringing manufacturing back to the U.S. Companies like Raspberry Pi are already creating small, inexpensive, programmable computers to teach kids how to code.

Bart Myers advises startups to "build a product customers love and listen to them; make a lot of mistakes and learn from them." He blogs at bartolah.com and is on Twitter *@bartolah*.

In addition to technology advances, Myers and Cone both expect crowdfunding sites like Kickstarter and Indiegogo to continue growing as places for consumer companies to get off the ground. At the same time, because the barrier to entry is so much lower, competition for investment is high, and companies need to show early on that they can bring in revenue. "First you need to actually build something," says Larson. "Ideas don't have intrinsic value. Build something, show it to people in your market and get their feedback, incorporate that feedback and build it again. It's useless if it's just in your own head. It's another Evergreen thing—seminar is all about showing people your work and getting them excited about it."

When you're trying to get the most people to use your product, it's good to get slightly ahead of where people are now. That's Larson's goal with Threadbare Games, where he's bypassed the console system and is producing games solely for mobile devices. He's done his research. "People are spending more and more time on their mobile devices—your phone has more computing power than the first space shuttle," he says. "59 percent of people now play games, but they're busy, they're working, they don't have six hours to spend in front of a console. Our games work for those times when you have 15 minutes to kill—something people can pick up, engage, then set down and move on and not spend a lot of money, but still have fun. My job is to make things that people have fun with."

"You need to validate that there's a market or a problem you're trying to solve," says Myers. "If you're interested in starting a company in any area, you should read Eric Ries's book *The Lean Startup*. Testing and measuring the effectiveness of what you build is critical. Too many funded companies fail to reach a market and scale to success. It's upsetting and, in many cases, avoidable. At SideReel, we failed many times, in some fairly creative ways, before we were successful. When I have a chance to work with founders, that's a valuable lesson I share."

The Sidereel.com executive team in 2010, from left to right: Bart Myers, Peter Arzhintar, Zach Larson, Orion Auld and Roman Arzhintar.

Cone, who studied art at Evergreen, says entrepreneurs need to remember that making something from nothing is never easy. "But Evergreen's a great education for entrepreneurs because you have to figure it out," she says. "In business, you have to be intellectually curious, responsive to the data you're getting, able to learn on your own and figure out how to go out and get the connections you need in the world. The faculty are there to support you in figuring things out yourself, so it prepared me for my entire career, but especially for being an entrepreneur."

"Entrepreneurs I meet have amazing, exciting ideas that are going to completely change the world," says Sarah Cone. *On Twitter @sarah_cone*

She also encourages anyone with an idea to get a plan in place and get it out there. "We review a lot of companies and are open and accessible – most venture capital companies are," she says. "We take a look at everything that comes in to us."

Myers agrees, but stresses that the ability for small entrepreneurs to be successful also requires a lot of work and a lot of luck. "Doing even something very simple well is more difficult than you expect. You've got to be scrappy, work hard, and that's how it's always been," he says. "You're only going to get so much capital to execute your idea. It's hard, and the odds are stacked, but you have more tools at your disposal now than ever."

And the best part about their work? "It's awesome!" he says. "The act of coming up with something that people love and use, and knowing you solved a problem for them or entertained them in some way—it's very gratifying. It's not easy but it's cool."

FOLLOWING HIS CALLING

Business executive and Master of Divinity student Michael Corrigan is reinventing his career—and himself

by Carolyn Shea

Michael Corrigan (second from left) surrounded by his children, from left to right, Austin, Holden, Olivia, Daniel and Cailen.

"I feel like my life is unfolding… and finally, I'm not resisting it."

Michael Corrigan '77 devoted the first 35 years of his professional life to high finance and insurance, building a successful business career and fulfilling a lifelong goal to become an entrepreneur.

Now, he's on track to leading a life of devotion: He's studying to become a priest.

Every week, the father of five commutes 335 miles from his home in Santa Barbara, Calif.—where he's still chairman of the firm he established, Corrigan & Company—to the Church Divinity School of the Pacific, the Episcopal Church's residential seminary in Berkeley, where he's a student.

Next year, after graduation and ordination, he says he'll likely become a chaplain in his county's regional hospital, providing spiritual support to patients, staff and families.

When Corrigan makes his weekly trek back to Santa Barbara, he can often be found tending to his clients, preparing a sermon he'll give in a few days to the parishioners of the small, rural church where he is interning, or connecting with patients at Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles, where he's already worked with people struggling with profound life-and-death challenges. "I'm there to provide solace and spiritual comfort in whatever way they need it," he says.

The "most intense experience" he's had so far, he says, involved counseling a terminally ill woman, a single parent with a young son, who was contemplating suicide. "I listened to her and asked her to think about what lesson her son would get from each of the choices," he says. "It's not about imposing one's own value structure on people. You're there to help them get clarity so they can make their own decisions. That doesn't mean you can't give information. I told her that in families where there has been suicide, the incidence of people in subsequent generations taking their lives is two to three times higher. It becomes a pattern where it's okay to make that choice. I asked her to think about the possible outcome—that she could potentially be training her son and that she needed to weigh that. It wasn't so much that I was talking her out of it as I was saying, 'Have you thought about this? Have you thought about what can come from dying with nobility and dignity and what can be learned from suffering?'"

On the surface, Corrigan's career change may seem surprising. He's not dissatisfied with what he does for a living. But he's felt called to a religious life throughout much of his life, and he hadn't heeded the call.

"I went to church as a kid and like most kids, I didn't want to go. But I have some memories most kids don't have," he says. "One of my earliest memories is playing church in our home. My brother and I created an altar, had Eucharist, and played church. I was five years old."

He also had an extraordinarily influential role model: his grandfather, Rev. Daniel Corrigan. A prominent Episcopal bishop during the 20th century, the late Rev. Corrigan demonstrated for peace, civil rights and social justice. He marched with Martin Luther King, Jr. in Washington, D.C., and sat with him when he delivered his "I Have A Dream" speech in 1963. Rev. Corrigan worked on behalf of Native Americans, against segregation, and was among the first clergymen to speak out for gay rights and the ordination of women at the Episcopal Church's general convention in the 1970s.

"My grandfather was a great man and an inspirational man," says Corrigan. "He had a big impact in my life."

Yet as an undergraduate, Corrigan aspired to an occupation not focused on religious faith. "I moved towards studying economics. By the time I was done, I thought I'd be a banker. At that point in my life I really wanted to make money—not a common aspiration among Evergreen people," he jokes. "It seemed to be important to me and I had a clear sense of where I wanted to go: Business."

Corrigan was bound for Harvard when he first visited Evergreen to see his father, Robert W. Corrigan—the first president of the California Institute of the Arts in Los Angeles and a former dean of New York University's School of the Arts—give a lecture at the Olympia campus. Impressed by the college, he changed his mind.

During his time at Evergreen, when he wasn't in a program or doing independent contracts, he relished playing the role of devil's advocate as a writer for the *Cooper Point Journal*. He penned a column, called "Conservative Backlash," which was, as he describes it, "a kind of counterpoint to the crazy things going on on campus," he says. But, he adds, "I really wasn't very conservative."

From Evergreen, he entered graduate school at the University of Washington, earning his MBA, and then joined the brokerage firm, Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith, in Seattle, moving through the sales, investment and management ranks. He left Merrill Lynch to help start up the Great Northern Insured Annuity Corporation—also in Seattle—which grew into a $2-billion enterprise.

Several career and geographical moves later—including a stint as president of a subsidiary of a $12-billion securities firm—Corrigan purchased the investment unit of a failed savings and loan in Santa Barbara, where his Corrigan grandparents had retired. That business became Corrigan & Company.

There, he carved out a specialized niche in the world of finance, becoming a pioneer in the field of bank-owned life insurance (BOLI). BOLI plans, introduced in the early 1990s, cover financial institutions' executive officers and are tax-free investments often used to fund employee benefit obligations. With about 75 clients, Corrigan's firm serves financial institutions in the Western U.S., mostly small community banks. "I got involved in a business that was highly conceptual," he says. "Most banks do it now—but for a long time, about the first ten years, it was not conventional."

Corrigan originally planned to retire when he was in his early 50s and "have a second life," he says. "I didn't know what that would be until after I quit. I built everything around that."

His plan crumbled when his wife informed him that "she didn't want to be married anymore," he says. "Initially as a part of surviving the divorce, I just started praying, and eventually the deeper I got, the closer I got to listening to the voice that had kept popping into my head all my life that I was called to the ministry."

When he first began his ministry studies, he thought he would leave his business—which employs several people, including his oldest daughter and her husband. But with his vocational destination as a hospital chaplain becoming evident through his experience in L.A.'s Good Samaritan Hospital, he says, "I'm excited about having an important ministry and being able to do it without being a financial burden to the community I'm serving." His current intention is to stay on at his company, although he says, "that's still unclear to me. I do like certain aspects of the insurance work, and I'm really good at it."

To Corrigan, Evergreen has been pivotal in helping him get where he's headed. "I think what Evergreen does is to show people that you can put puzzles together in a lot of different ways and to not feel constrained about fitting the pieces in a certain direction…It's okay to be in business and then become a priest."

Which is fortunate because now that he's aimed toward the ministry, Corrigan says, "I feel like my life is unfolding as God intended it to be—and finally, I'm not resisting it."

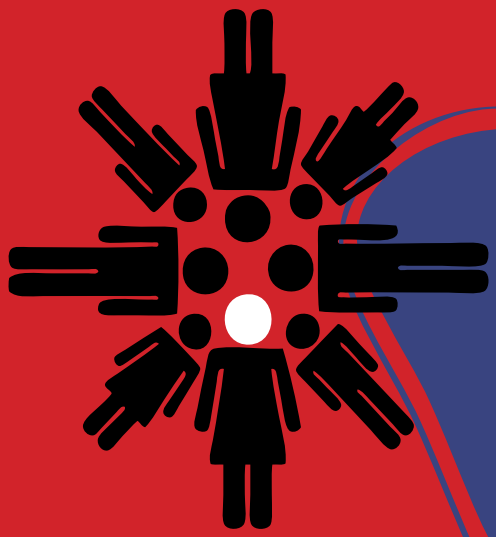
United We Stand?

During the 20th century, labor unions played major roles in building a robust middle class in America and forging a more equitable, economically mobile society. They spearheaded battles that gained shorter workweeks, ended child labor, won employer-based health coverage and secured passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Organized labor reached its zenith in the mid-1950s, when it embraced more than a third of the U.S. workforce. Since then, economic, social and political forces have worked to drive down membership, which has slipped to about 11 percent of all workers. In December, legislators in Michigan—a state that has long been at the heart of union activity—joined 23 other states in passing a "right to work" law which removes the requirement for people to pay union dues to work at unionized agencies, effectively decreasing union funding and making it less likely that workers will choose to organize.

Today, labor has lost much of the clout that came with collective bargaining, as well as the power to check the influence of big business. At the same time, nearly 12 million Americans are unemployed, wages are stagnant for most workers and income inequality has expanded to levels not seen since the 1920s.

So are unions relevant today? We talked with three Greeners who play key roles in unions that represent workers in several industries around the country: the National Education Association (NEA), the Teamsters and the Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA). All spoke about how collective action by labor can bring about change for the better. Unions are in a unique position to "defend democracy, fight for equal opportunity and create a more just society," says John Stocks '81, executive director of the NEA. "Unions have to advocate for the greater good."



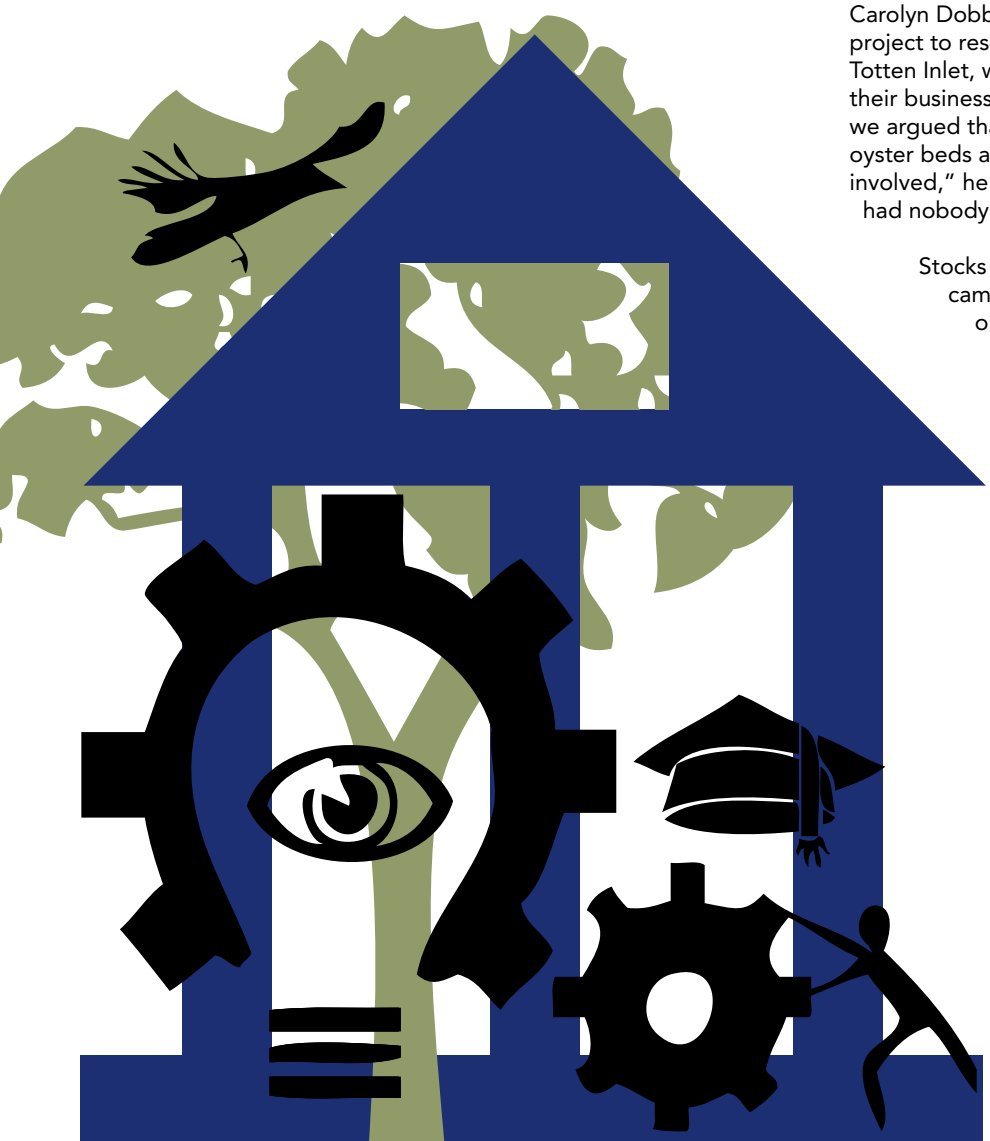
"Unions have to respond to the needs of society beyond their membership and enlist in broader movements...They have to advocate for the greater good, the public trust, the broad swath of the majority of Americans who don't have the kind of power and clout that the one percent has. Unless we can appeal to that, unions will become useless and irrelevant."

—John Stocks '81

Leading Educators to Make Positive Changes

by Carolyn Shea

A commitment to public education and social justice drives John Stocks' work to transform America's schools.



In his first keynote speech to the membership of the teachers' union he heads, John Stocks '81 focused on a principle familiar to generations of Greeners: social justice.

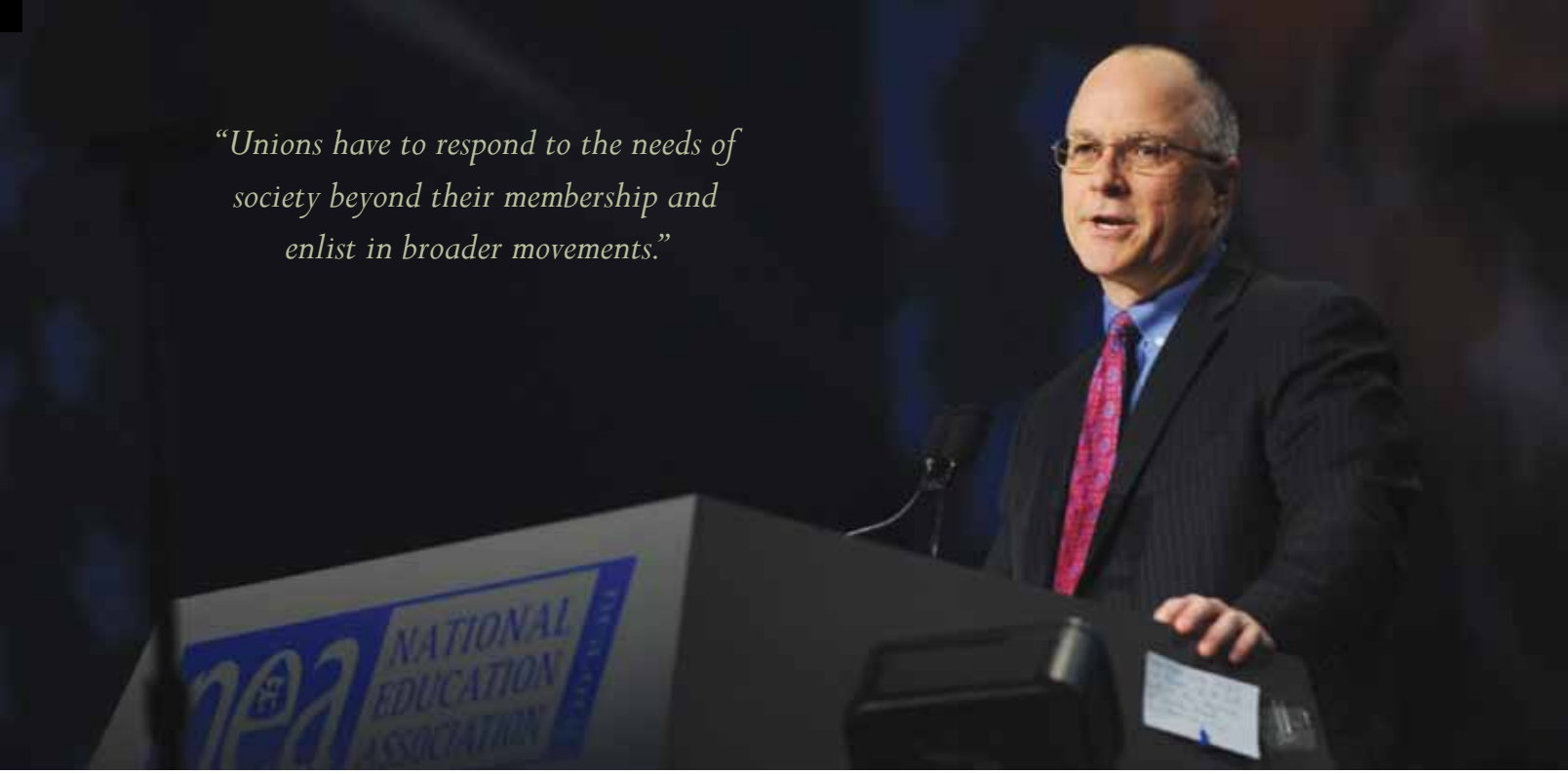
Addressing the 9,000 attendees at the National Education Association's 2012 Representative Assembly, NEA Executive Director Stocks lauded the achievements of "social justice patriots" throughout the organization's 155-year history who "challenge our present in order to forge a better future for all of us."

Citing rising voter suppression tactics, destructive racial profiling and "growing economic inequality in America," he urged educators to individually and collectively continue working to "defend democracy, fight for equal opportunity and create a more just society"—not just in the classroom, but beyond. He reminded them that as members of the largest union in the United States, they served as a check on big money's influence on policy makers, saying, "Time and time again, I have seen that the only effective answer to organized corporate greed in America is organized labor! And the one-percenters in this country know that—it's no secret why they're trying to destroy the labor movement. To the one percent, organized labor stands between them and their ability to have complete control of our political economy."

Stocks' commitment to social justice, his keen understanding of collective action, and his leadership skills were honed by his experience at Evergreen. His first program was Applied Environmental Studies, taught by faculty members Oscar Soule, Carolyn Dobbs and Russell Lidman, and he dove into a group project to research aquaculture, tidal flow and water quality in Totten Inlet, where oyster growers were facing a shutdown of their business by the state. "We put together a report in which we argued that the state was being unfair in decertifying the oyster beds and jeopardizing the economic survival of the families involved," he says. "The oyster growers loved us. They had nobody to help them and we made a case for them."

Stocks also joined the then-active student fire station on campus, which he cites as "one of the most remarkable opportunities Evergreen provided." He served as engine driver and ambulance crewmember and, as a participant in a college student-run, self-help legal aid program, supported two other station members in their quest to become Olympia's first women firefighters. "We advocated for these women not to be disqualified from being hired by the Olympia Fire Department because of the discriminatory physical test," he says. "We helped break a major glass ceiling."

The legal assistance program helped people with a range of problems from landlord-tenant disputes and small claims issues to civil rights questions. They also pitched in to defend scores of Evergreen students who were arrested in 1978 protesting the construction of the twin Satsop nuclear reactors located between Olympia and Aberdeen. Stocks worked with faculty advisors Rob Knapp, Niels Skov and Richard Cellarius studying nuclear reactor physics to prep the defense lawyers for the students' trial, which was averted when the charges were dismissed soon after the 1979 partial reactor meltdown at Pennsylvania's Three Mile Island nuclear power plant. The Satsop reactors were never completed.



"Unions have to respond to the needs of society beyond their membership and enlist in broader movements."

At the 2012 National Education Association's Representative Assembly, Executive Director John Stocks urges educators to become "activists for social justice and equal opportunity in America."

After graduating, Stocks began his career as a community organizer of low- and moderate-income people in Boise, Idaho, before taking on the role of executive director of Idaho Fair Share, a grassroots citizen action organization devoted to keeping utility rates affordable for working families. In 1988, he was elected as a Democrat to the Idaho State Senate, defeating a four-term incumbent. During his one session in the legislature, he joined forces with a conservative senator to gain protections for citizens facing bankruptcy over medical bills.

He left the senate when he was offered a government relations position with the 98,000-member Wisconsin Education Association Council, the NEA affiliate in his wife Connie's home state, where he oversaw the organization's public relations, legislative, political action, and teaching and learning departments. During his tenure, the union lobbied to expand early childhood education, improve student achievement, lower class sizes, and ensure professional standards for teachers.

After working on a special 18-month project for the NEA that included "revamping the organization's membership organizing capacity," Stocks was recruited to become the organization's first-ever deputy executive director.

Seven years later, he was promoted to the top post, with responsibility for a $352 million annual budget and a staff of 535. The NEA represents more than 3 million members in the field of education—from preschool to university graduate programs—including teachers, support professionals, higher education faculty and staff, school administrators, retired educators and students preparing to become teachers. At the time of his appointment, the media reported on his reputation as a smart pragmatist and a skilled strategist, his talent for working across the aisle, his political effectiveness and integrity and his progressive ideals.

Stocks' vision for a better public school system includes a reversal from the standardized test-driven approach imposed by the No Child Left Behind Act. He says educators must provide students with the opportunity to learn skills based on critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, inquiry and innovation.

He is running the union at a challenging time, when teachers are a besieged and discontented lot. Last year, teachers' job satisfaction plummeted to a 25-year low, according to the long-running MetLife Survey of the American Teacher, and public schools are under pressure to reinvent themselves in response to budget cuts and emerging technology.

Stocks says that in addition to its involvement in the traditional advocacy roles of ensuring fair wages, hours and conditions of employment for members, the union "has a role in ensuring that the educational system is the best quality it can be for the students. I firmly believe that the union has to take responsibility for the quality of the professionals in the schools," he says. That means teachers themselves must reclaim responsibility for the entire continuum of their careers, including induction and mentoring; professional standards and certification; and evaluation and professional growth.

Beyond those two roles, he argues that the union must be involved in social justice advocacy, admitting that this is a controversial stance since, "some only want the union to be involved in its traditional roles. Unfortunately that's not possible.

"Unions have to respond to the needs of society beyond their membership and enlist in broader movements," says Stocks, citing movements to remove money in politics, protect the right to vote, and challenge racial discrimination. "They have to advocate for the greater good, the public trust, the broad swath of the majority of Americans who don't have the kind of power and clout that the one percent has. Unless we can appeal to that, unions will become useless and irrelevant."

With Stocks at the helm of the NEA, that won't happen. As he told the 2009 Tides Momentum Conference, he believes "public education is and must continue to be the one universal public institution that provides equal opportunity for America's disadvantaged children and families." This is rooted in great part in the formative years he spent at Evergreen, which he says "helped forge my values, beliefs and convictions."

BOOTSTRAPPING

His Way Through the Ranks

by Carolyn Shea

Brian Rainville's can-do attitude vaulted him to a role in one of America's oldest and most influential labor organizations.

Brian Rainville '90 had no formal training in journalism—yet he became a reporter.

He never studied communications or labor relations—yet he built the first communications department for the Professional and Technical Engineers' union in Seattle—and afterwards served as the assistant communications director for the Washington, D.C.-based International Brotherhood of Teamsters, a major force in the American labor movement, and as the communications director of one of the Teamsters' biggest regional organizing units in Chicago.

Rainville didn't take classes to learn how to put out a publication—yet he was the editor of the Teamsters' flagship magazine. And he wasn't instructed in management, leadership development, strategic planning or conflict resolution—yet today he is executive director of the Teamsters' Joint Council 25, the umbrella organization for 28 local Teamster affiliates throughout Illinois—including the union bastion of Chicago—and northwest Indiana.

After 16 years of working in organized labor, Rainville likens it to being a student at Evergreen: "No one is telling you what to do," he says. In the case of unions, he says, "There's no Harvard Union Review. No one is doing case studies to determine best practices. You just have to figure it out. And that's part of the fun."

By Rainville's track record, he's been adept at figuring it out for a long time. He studied writing and literature and took photography classes at Evergreen, and worked to do more than just the minimum to earn his credits, especially since his family had such high expectations for him. "My parents wanted me and my brother to attend college," says the first-generation graduate. "It was the mantra in my household from when I was little. It was something you had to do to get somewhere."

In 1989, during his junior year at Evergreen, his friend Per Bernstein '89 helped him get a job as a stringer at *The Olympian*, covering high school sports to earn extra money for living expenses. "I basically taught myself how to do it," he says, recollecting the time when he would travel to different events around the area and pore over the newspaper's archives to model his articles after pieces that had already been published.

"I got a lot of great experience there," says Rainville, who ended up working as a reporter for the daily until 1994. Many *Olympian* features later (plus stints helping run his father-in-law's Tacoma tavern and writing press releases and articles for Evergreen and South Puget Sound Community College)—Rainville landed his first union position, with the Professional and Technical Engineers Local 17 in Seattle, where he got to create the organization's communications department from scratch. After three years there, he was hired in 1999 as the editor of *Teamster Magazine*. Within three months, he was promoted to the position of assistant communications director at International's headquarters.

He and fellow alumnus Bernstein have followed similar paths; Bernstein also works for the Teamsters, serving since 2000 as the organization's deputy director of communications in Washington, D.C., and editing the book *100 Years of Teamster History, 1903-2003*. "I would not be here today if it wasn't for Per," Rainville says. "Our lives have been intertwined since we met in 1986. I rely on his advice daily."

"Unions are a very important answer to a lot of the problems we have in the U.S. economically."

While at headquarters, Rainville met John Coli, the "very forward thinking" president of Teamster's Joint Council 25, the governing body for 28 local affiliates throughout Chicagoland. He helped Coli develop a strategic plan for the council and in 2003, he moved to the area (he's originally from Chicago) to help make the plan a reality.

"John had a plan to make the Joint Council more than an appellate body; he had a vision for making it into something bigger," says Rainville. In 2002, the Joint Council had two employees. Today, Rainville manages a staff of 13, six of whom are organizers, a couple that are lobbyists and a communications director. Its membership includes workers from a range of public and private sectors, including librarians, school bus drivers, and law enforcement employees; and it has worked legislatively for a tax credit to grow Chicago's film industry, which Rainville reports "has helped bring in more jobs." Numerous TV series are now being shot around the city—including ABC's "Betrayal;" Fox's "Influence," starring Christian Slater; and the NBC drama, "Chicago Fire."

The Teamsters emerged in the late 19th century to organize men who drove teams of mules and horses to transport goods and eventually developed into a truck drivers' union. In the 1920s, it began to reach beyond its original boundaries, and today supports many other trades. It currently has 1.4 million members and hundreds of locals around the country. Its Joint Councils, set up in areas with three or more locals, help coordinate Teamsters activities in those areas. They also help solve problems and decide some jurisdictional and judicial matters.

Rainville's council, which was formed in 1911, embraces more than 100,000 members and a broad range of wage earners, from airline pilots to zookeepers. "We represent white collar and blue collar workers," he says. "Some who make $150,000 a year and some who make $20,000 a year."

As executive director of the organization, Rainville has witnessed both the losses and victories of different labor struggles. One big win in 2003—soon after he arrived at Joint Council 25—resulted from a nine-day garbage collectors' strike in Chicago, when the Cubs were in the playoffs. With the refuse piling up, the haulers backed down and agreed to wage and benefit increases for 3,300 workers. "It felt good that the entire city was behind the people who truly make the city run," says Rainville. "It was one of the rare times that we've been able to get the upper hand with business."

Despite what he sees as generally anti-union coverage by the media, Rainville regards his organization as "a really good lamplight for the labor movement. We've done a lot of good things." He believes unions are "a safety release valve" for society and "a very, very important answer to a lot of the problems we have in the U.S. economically." But he also adds, "I think there are obstacles of varying difficulty in front of us."

These days, Rainville doesn't do much writing. "Sometimes I write business letters or maybe a press release," he says. More often, he's on the other side of the interview. Outside of work, he enjoys spending time with his wife and playing with his 7- and 8-year-old sons. And he dreams of helping to lead the working classes to triumph.

Through the Greener Lens

Labor advocate Ray Goforth '95 draws upon his Evergreen education to advance the interests of his union's members.

by Carolyn Shea

Last November, in the wake of Washington voters approving Referendum 74, the state's marriage equality law, the union representing 23,000 Boeing engineers and technical workers brought up the issue of extending the survivor pension benefits afforded to heterosexual spouses to same-sex couples during contract negotiations.

Having long sought equal benefits for same-sex domestic partners without success, the Society for Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace (SPEEA), modified the request to apply to wedded union members. Boeing rejected the proposal, says Ray Goforth '95, SPEEA's executive director and the lead negotiator at the bargaining table. "Their answer was that they had no intention of granting pension survivor benefits to gay spouses because they didn't have to. They said, 'We've talked to our lawyers, who said pensions are governed by federal law, which doesn't recognize same-sex marriages, so we're not bound by the state law.'"

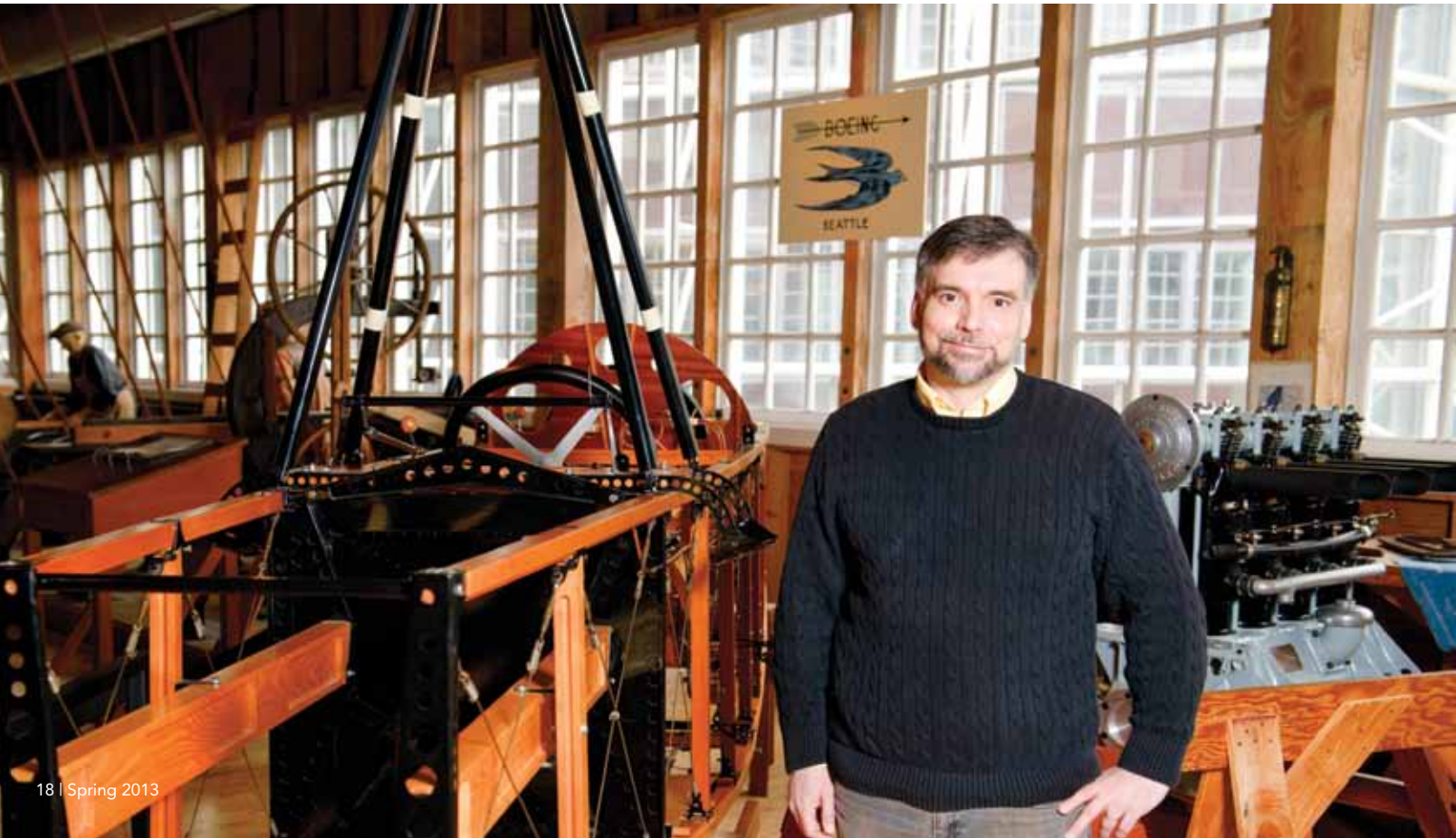
"Organizing professionals is an important part of organizing the resurgence of labor."

SPEEA promptly issued a press release about Boeing's stance. It went viral. *The Stranger*, Seattle's alternative weekly, picked up the news first, criticizing the company and quoting Goforth as saying, "We are profoundly disappointed to see that they would use a loophole to engage in institutionalized discrimination."

Stephen Colbert, Comedy Central's faux conservative pundit, jumped on the bandwagon during his TV show, *The Colbert Report*, lampooning Boeing for "its refreshing denial of human dignity."

Photos by Shauna Bittle '98

Ray Goforth represents SPEEA, the aerospace labor union, in talks with Boeing, whose original factory (pictured) is now located at the Museum of Flight in Seattle.



An online Change.org petition launched by a SPEEA member flooded Boeing CEO Jim McNerney with signatures from more than 79,000 supporters urging him "to do the right thing and stand strongly for equality." SPEEA's appeal also drew endorsements from other unions, community groups and elected officials, including the Association of Flight Attendants, United Food & Commercial Workers, Equal Rights Washington, and four members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In January, SPEAA released a statement saying, "While still locked in contract negotiations for 23,000 engineers and technical workers, Boeing and SPEEA have tentatively agreed on contract language that grants same-sex couples the same pension survivor benefits that have been available to heterosexual married couples."

By March, after nearly a year of contentious negotiations and several rejected offers, both the professional and technical bargaining units of the union had separately ratified a new four-year contract with the aerospace giant. And the company had agreed to the following language: "Recognizing Boeing's commitment to equality without regard to sexual orientation, Boeing will extend pension survivor benefits to all spouses, as defined under either State or Federal Law whichever defines the same sex person as a spouse."

Thanks to collective action, fairness prevailed and the company yielded. "In the court of public opinion, Boeing lost," says Goforth. "We could have left the issue at their refusal, but we weren't going to endorse a contract that codified discrimination."

Goforth has been leading SPEEA, an affiliate of the white-collar International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE Local 2001), for the past five years. Based in the union's Tukwila, Wash., headquarters, he manages a staff of 33 while working with the executive board and councils to implement direction and policies. All told, SPEEA represents about 25,000 engineers, technical personnel, pilots and other professionals in the aerospace industry. Most are employed at Boeing's Puget Sound-region facilities, but others work for Spirit AeroSystems, BAE Systems and Triumph Composite Systems in Washington, Kansas, Oregon, Utah and California.

He came to the position from SPEEA's sister local in Seattle, IFPTE Local 17, where he spent a decade as a union representative and strategic advisor. Like SPEEA, Local 17 is a white-collar union, made up of a diverse group of professionals, but they work in the public sector, for the City of Seattle and King County, and have jobs ranging from engineers and information technology experts to environmental and health specialists. He was also elected to two five-year terms on the King County Personnel Board to represent career-service employees.

Goforth and his wife, Kim '95, relocated to Washington in 1988 from Southern California, where they grew up. They both found work with social service agencies in Seattle but soon realized that they needed to go to college because he says, "We were interested in moving on to positions of more responsibility."

At Evergreen, one of the seminal projects he and Kim tackled together was an independent contract during the summer of their freshman year, after they had taken a political economy program focused on Eastern Europe, shortly after the fall of Communism. They traveled to Czechoslovakia and Hungary and interviewed people who had previously been dissidents and were then involved in "setting up what was going to come next. They were trying to shape a new society." The couple wrote papers, kept diaries and transcribed all their interviews with the help of translators. "It was the kind of thing we couldn't have done anyplace else," he says.

Ray Goforth in an early Boeing 737 at The Museum of Flight.

As an undergraduate, Goforth was active on campus. His different pursuits included serving as a student representative to the college's board of trustees (as did Kim), writing a column reviewing 'zines for the *Cooper Point Journal* and working as a tutor for KEY Student Services and a librarian and peer counselor in the Career Development Center. It was in the latter capacity, after he "spent years helping others figure out what they wanted to do," that he says, "I came to realize for the things I was interested in, I really needed to get more advanced education."

After graduating, he entered the University of Washington School of Law, where he clerked on the Government Accountability Project, a whistleblower protection and advocacy organization, and with Kim published a human rights electronic magazine called Social Justice, which had 10,000 subscribers in 100 countries. Of the former experience, he says, "That gave me my first taste of employment law. I was deeply impressed by the people who risked their careers to expose wrongdoing."

He also worked in the Education Division of the Washington State Office of the Attorney General, where he advised public institutions of higher education about union issues and found himself "sympathizing with the unions more than the schools. I liked this area, but needed to be on the other side of the table. I needed to be an advocate for employees," he says.

Outside of work, Goforth leads a tranquil existence in Auburn with his writer-wife and their three children, ages 15, 11 and 9 (all of whom have the middle name, Justice). He credits Evergreen with putting him on his challenging, but satisfying, career path and says he draws from his interdisciplinary education every day, using what he calls his "Greener lens."

Goforth believes that advancing the interests of his union's professional members is a fulcrum in building the labor movement. "When a rocket scientist—which many of our people are—complains, they get on the TV news," he says. "Because they have privilege in society, they have disproportionate power. They can access the levers of power to get something done. Organizing professionals is an important part of organizing the resurgence of labor. Organizing people with the least amount of power and a great deal of power will help bolster and grow the movement… People need to act collectively to get attention to their issues." And labor unions "are one of the few checks left on the corporate concentration of power. They're incredibly important."

Evergreen Generates Big Returns
for students, alumni and the state

A new study by ECONorthwest spells out many of the ways in which Evergreen has a positive financial, social and career impact on students, alumni, the community and the state. The study also surveyed 3,000 alumni to help document the long-run impacts associated with their educational achievements. The study also covers Evergreen alumni career paths, graduate school areas of study, and alumni success stories, as well as information about the students Evergreen serves and the outcomes it delivers. Read the full report at www.evergreen.edu/about/impact

Since Evergreen was founded, Thurston County has experienced a 17.9% increase in the share of people over age 25 with bachelor's degrees. This was larger than over 75% of all metropolitan areas in the U.S.

1967

15% of all bachelor's degree holders in Thurston County & **22,000** bachelor's degree holders statewide are Greeners

$433million *in additional annual earnings per year for the nearly 22,000 alumni living in Wash. (lifetime annual avg. of $22,600 more than they would have made without their degree)*

In 2011-12, students volunteered **12,540 HOURS** to **92** organizations and participated in **940** internships.

More than 70% *of Evergreen students will have served and/or volunteered in the local community by the time they graduate.*

TOP 5 SECTORS THAT HAVE MORE GREENER GRADS THAN AVERAGE

1. Science & Social Science
2. Arts & Entertainment
3. Computer & Mathematics
4. Education
5. Law

81percent of 2011 Evergreen graduates belong to at least one traditionally underserved population

For every state dollar invested in Evergreen **$20.63** in economic impact is generated.

$161.3 million
Total economic impacts in Thurston County

alumni-created businesses

535

1,590 JOBS *generated directly or indirectly by the college*

Over half of alumni businesses are in Washington state and over 100 are in Thurston County.

Evergreen ranks in the **TOP THIRD** in the nation, per capita, for students going on to get research doctorates.

53% of graduates attend graduate school *and* **83%** of those complete a graduate or professional degree

14% of alumni are employed in high-demand science fields. Evergreen is preparing students for the emerging green economy.

CLASS NOTES

1975

Marit (Chris Ness) Saltrones, Bainbridge Island, is the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art's business manager. She is a member of the Board of Directors of Kitsap Tilth and Sustainable Bainbridge.

1976

Don Hansbrough, Seattle, continues to publish poems in Mainichi News and Asahi Shimbun, and exhibit paintings in Kirkland's Park Lane Gallery. He appears in the upcoming movie "Nothing Against Life," filmed in Seattle. Its post-production sound supervisor is **Paul Goldberg '91**.

Kristin (Kristi George) Shaw, Holualoa, Hawaii, plays Celtic harp and percussion, and writes all the original music for her band, "Anela Strings." anelamusic.com.

1977

Matt Groening, Los Angeles, Calif., received the Writers Guild of America, West Animation Writers Caucus' (AWC) 15th Annual Animation Writing Award in November. The creator of *Life in Hell*, *The Simpsons* and *Futurama*, Groening was a significant supporter of the effort to gain union contracts for TV animation writers.

1979

Alan (Skip) Kohl and **Alice Kohl MPA'90,** Montesano, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 20, 2012. They have two children and one granddaughter.

1980

Paul Stamets, Shelton, serves on the advisory board for the American Botanical Council. A mycologist for more than 30 years, the founder, owner and managing director of Fungi Perfecti, LLC, is widely acknowledged as North America's premier advocate for medicinal mushrooms.

1981

Steven Konicek, Longbranch, is an internal medical physician at the Madigan Army Medical Center. He was awarded "2012 Internist of the Year" by the Washington Chapter of the American College of Physicians.

1983

Tina DeWeese, Bozeman, Mont., showed a series of collages and wire sculptures at the Garden Café in Manhattan, Mont., last fall. Her work is in her home gallery in Bozeman, and galleries in Billings, Big Fork, Butte and Helena. www.deweeseart.com

Greener Leads State Ecology Department

In February, Gov. Jay Inslee promoted Maia Bellon '91, an expert on water law and policy, to lead the Washington State Department of Ecology. Her selection has been praised in the media as appealing to both political parties.

In announcing her appointment to his executive cabinet, Inslee said Bellon "will be an effective leader in our efforts to work on natural resource and regulatory issues that are of huge importance to many in our state. She brings a keen understanding of key issues such as water management that have implications for both our quality of life and our economy."

According to a news release from Inslee's office, Bellon will help shepherd a bill addressing water issues in the Yakima River Basin through the Legislature. The bill supports the Yakima Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan, one of the largest ecosystem restoration projects in the West, which will require balancing agricultural interests with those of environmental groups, tribes and communities.

"Although work in the natural resource arena faces complicated challenges, there are many opportunities we can all work towards," says Bellon. "Under the governor's guidance, we will look to shape balanced solutions that preserve the quality of life Washingtonians expect."

As Ecology's director, Bellon will guide the agency in its mission "to protect, preserve and enhance Washington's environment, and to promote the wise management of our air, land and water for the benefit of current and future generations." Headquartered in Olympia, it employs approximately 1,400 full-time workers and 200 temporary workers in locations across the state.

Prior to being named the agency's director, Bellon managed Ecology's Water Resources program, where she oversaw a staff of 130 in sustainably managing the state's water resources. She began working for Ecology in June 2010 as the program's deputy program manager.

Before joining the department, she served as an assistant attorney general with the Ecology Division of the Washington State Attorney General's Office from 1994 to 2000, providing both client advice and litigation support for Ecology on a broad array of issues ranging from the State Environmental Policy Act to the Public Records Act.

From 2000 to 2001, Bellon was Evergreen President Thomas L. (Les) Purce's special assistant for Civil Rights and Legal Affairs. She then returned to the Ecology Division of the Attorney General's Office and focused her practice on water law for the next nine years. She also served on the Executive Committee of the Environmental and Land Use Law Section of the Washington State Bar Association from 2005 to 2010.

Bellon, who earned her J.D. in 1994 from the Arizona State University College of Law, is married to Bill Kallappa '04. She is the daughter of Rio Lara-Bellon '93 and the sister of Pablo Bellon '91.

Photo by Brian Walsh.

Elizabeth Johnson Lee, Palo Alto, Calif., published her realistic fantasy novel, *The House at 844½*, a story about a mother and son who both have Tourette syndrome, in October. A licensed marriage and family therapist and spiritual counselor, she hopes to raise awareness about Tourette, a condition she and her son both have. First-place winner of the 1999 Jack London Writers' Contest, she has published articles in *Bay Area Parent* magazine and the *Palo Alto Weekly* newspaper.

1984

Eric Kessler, Friday Harbor, has been photographing and documenting the Elwha River Dam removal and restoration process on the Olympic Peninsula, having served as a guide on the Elwha for the past 35 years. In December, he presented his work at the San Juans Stewardship Network's At the Water's Edge Lecture series in Friday Harbor. His photographs have been published worldwide.

1985

Bege (Joan) Reynolds, Hailey, Idaho, enjoys life in the mountains with her husband, **John Sweek '87**, and their three children. Bege is a kindergarten teacher at Waldorf Farm School and John runs JE Sweek Architectural Coatings.

1987

Ken Koester, Seattle, is vice president for enterprise accounts with FoundIt! a lost-and-found identification service based on the premise that people want to do the right thing. Ken and his wife of 20 years have two children.

1988

Jose Drummond (MES), Brasilia, Brazil, teaches in the Sustainable Development Graduate Program at the Universidade de Brasilia. He is writing a book about socio-environmental aspects of Brazil's Pantanal Biome and editing a collection of essays on environmental history.

Suzanne Knapp, Bismarck, N.D., is vice president of deposit operations for Starion Financial, where she oversees the operations team.

Chris Maynard, Olympia, had his unique feather artwork featured in many media outlets this fall, including the Huffington Post, UK OnLine, InHabitat, Designboom and the Smithsonian magazine blog. His work was recently displayed at the Row House Café in Seattle and the Washington Center for the Performing Arts in Olympia. www.featherfolio.com

(above)"Peacock Attraction" by Chris Maynard '88. Photo by Shauna Bittle '98.

Sean Williams Brings Traditional Irish Music Some Respect

Biography of Ireland's Joe Heaney takes top ethnomusicology prize

By John McLain

Joe Heaney may have been the greatest Gaelic singer Ireland ever produced, but he had to leave home in order to be heard.

At the height of his powers in the middle of the 20th century, Heaney (1919-1984) evoked an Ireland many Irish wished to forget. Far from popular "Irish" standards like "Danny Boy," which romanticized a country that never existed, or the rock-and-roll that let Irish youth escape into an emerging global culture, Heaney's music embodied Ireland's complex and rugged past—a history that included poverty, famine, and colonialism. When Heaney moved to the United States in the 1960s, the *sean-nós* (pronounced shan noce) style of singing he had mastered, the memory of the culture and country he heralded, and even the Irish language in which he sang all seemed destined to disappear.

Photos by Shauna Bittle '98.

For almost three decades, faculty member Sean Williams has been keeping Heaney's work alive through articles, the seven Irish Studies programs she's taught at Evergreen, and most recently the book *Bright Star of the West: Joe Heaney, Irish Song Man* (Oxford 2011), a critical biography she co-wrote with Irish scholar and *sean-nós* singer Lillis Ó Laoire. "I wanted people to understand a type of music that looked like it was disappearing," Williams says. "I wanted Irish people to have a sense of what they lost when he left Ireland."

Williams met Heaney in the early 1980s when he was a guest artist at the University of Washington and she was a graduate student in the ethnomusicology program there. He eventually taught her more than 600 songs. "He made it his job to disseminate the music as quickly and widely as possible because it looked like the people of Ireland were ready to forget all of it."

Last fall, *Bright Star of the West* won the Society for Ethnomusicology's coveted Alan P. Merriam Prize for the most distinguished English language book in the field. For Williams, the prize is an honor for her and Ó Laoire and an important critical recognition of Heaney's contributions. More than that, it's a vindication for the study of traditional Irish music, once seen as a career dead end for young ethnomusicologists.

It seems certain that the book and the award would have made Heaney happy. But he might have been just as pleased by another recent event in Williams' life. "I met a student that I had almost 20 years ago," she says. "He still remembered all the words of every Joe Heaney song that I taught him—in English and in Irish."

1989

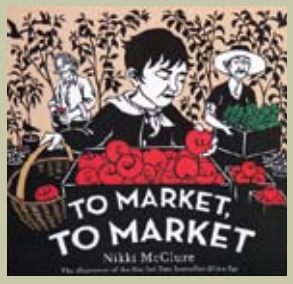
Linnea Tobias, Arcata, Calif., is a featured member of Arcata Artisans and has had her work shown in galleries, art fairs and retail and wholesale shows. linneatobias.com

1990

Ivin Matlock, Saint Louis, Mo., relocated to adopt two grandchildren, 12-year-old Jamal and 10-year-old Jamara. Ivin is "now a homemaker, busy with all things required to raise two very active kids."

1991

Nikki McClure, Olympia, was awarded a Washington State Book Award-Scandiuzzi Children's Book Award for her children's book, *To Market, To Market*, (Abrams Books for Young Readers, April 2011).



Vikki Michalios, Jersey City, N.J., a visual artist, was awarded fellowships to attend the Chautauqua Institution while working toward her MFA from the University of Oregon. Her work deals with environmental systems and concerns using painting, drawing, experimental printmaking and installation. She and her husband have two children.

Bonnie Versoza, Prince George, Va., retired from a rewarding career in social work and music. He travels with the Metro Jazz Band and Celebration Orchestra as part of the Global Missions Project, playing in Africa, Cuba, Brazil and Guatemala. Bonnie and his wife, Denise, have six children, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Kimberly Wilson, Tiverton, R.I., married David Venancio, a deputy sheriff for the state of Rhode Island, in August. She is a labor extension specialist at UMass Dartmouth.

1992

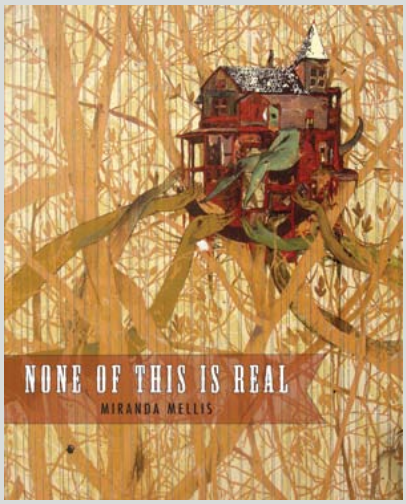
Peter Carlson, Orcas Island, had a solo exhibit at the Main Street Gallery in Ketchikan, Alaska, last September: "100 Plastic Boxes: Scenes from a Little World." His work "Giving Way: Paintings of the Sea" was on display at Island Hoppin' Brewery in Eastsound in January.

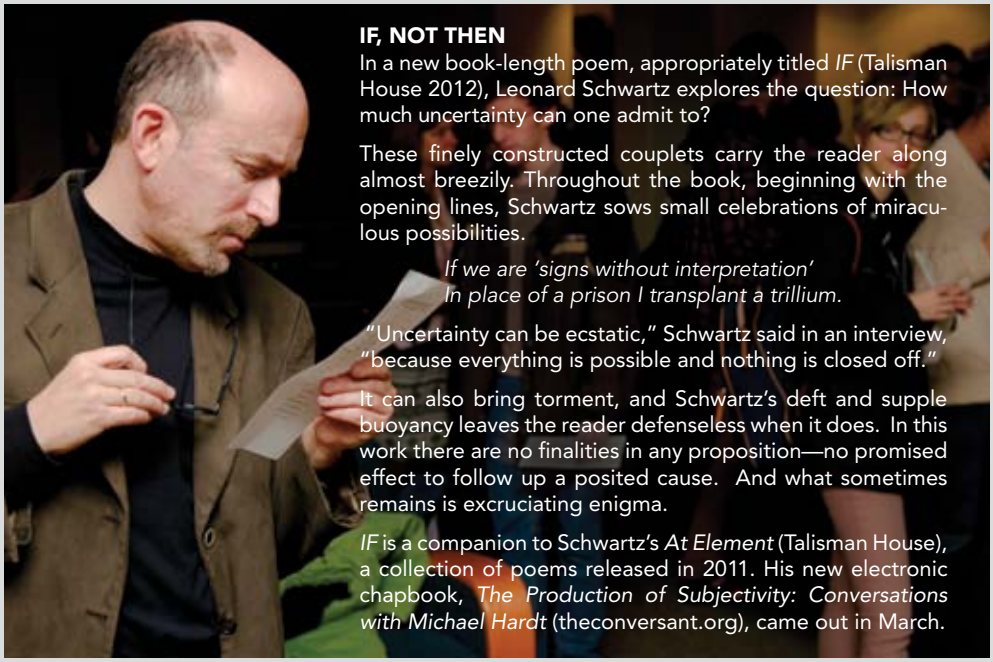
Keith Dromm, Natchitoches, La., is an associate professor of philosophy at Louisiana Scholars' College at Northwestern State University. He contributed to and co-edited the book *Catcher in the Rye and Philosophy*, (Open Court, October 2012).

Shauna Heath MiT'95, Seattle, is executive director of curriculum and instruction for Seattle Public Schools. She lives in West Seattle with her partner and 8-year-old son.

Terri Skele (MiT), Castle Rock, is a full-time faculty member at Lower Columbia College, where she has taught in the math department since 1996. Students selected her to receive the "Adjunct Faculty of the Year" award in 2009.

New faculty books explore inner landscapes, unfettered possibilities and past future gazing





IF, NOT THEN

In a new book-length poem, appropriately titled *IF* (Talisman House 2012), Leonard Schwartz explores the question: How much uncertainty can one admit to?

These finely constructed couplets carry the reader along almost breezily. Throughout the book, beginning with the opening lines, Schwartz sows small celebrations of miraculous possibilities.

If we are 'signs without interpretation'
In place of a prison I transplant a trillium.

"Uncertainty can be ecstatic," Schwartz said in an interview, "because everything is possible and nothing is closed off."

It can also bring torment, and Schwartz's deft and supple buoyancy leaves the reader defenseless when it does. In this work there are no finalities in any proposition—no promised effect to follow up a posited cause. And what sometimes remains is excruciating enigma.

IF is a companion to Schwartz's *At Element* (Talisman House), a collection of poems released in 2011. His new electronic chapbook, *The Production of Subjectivity: Conversations with Michael Hardt* (theconversant.org), came out in March.

NONE OF THIS IS REAL

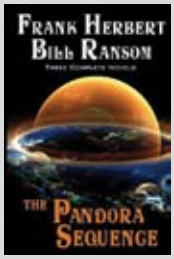
The characters in Miranda Mellis's recent short fiction inhabit universes where the laws of time and space don't apply, but the psychological terrain they traverse is as vivid and honest as the world outside your window.

In both her collection *None of This is Real* (Sidebrow Books 2012), and her one-volume short story *The Spokes* (Solid Objects 2012), Mellis offers no tidy endings. What makes her characters heroic is not whether they arrive somewhere (though in a way they do), or even whether they change (that's not the point). It's that they remain present. They engage grief in all of its numbing ambivalence. They look unsparingly into the eyes of what is beyond understanding but not beyond knowing. They go on.

SCIENCE FICTION TRIPLE FEATURE

When Bill Ransom was a modestly successful (i.e., woefully underpaid) 32-year-old poet, he got an unusual offer from the science fiction giant Frank Herbert. "Can you write like me for 750 bucks?"

"I can write like anybody for 750 bucks," Ransom said.



The resulting collaboration between these native sons of Puyallup became the celebrated *Pandora Sequence*, a trilogy of science fiction novels published between 1979 and 1988. The proposition carried risks for both writers. Would people see the elder Herbert, a publishing juggernaut and the creator of *Dune* (the mother of all science fiction universes), as running out of ideas? Would Ransom, who was just beginning to make a name for himself, get pegged for "riding on the coattails of the Great Frank Herbert"? Neither man let these speculations distract them. What mattered to both, Ransom said, was telling a good story and remaining friends. Herbert made sure that both names appeared on the cover, a practice almost unheard of in fiction at the time.

In December 2012, Wordfire Press released a new single-volume print edition of the three novels, *The Jesus Incident*, *The Lazarus Effect* and *The Ascension Factor*. The book includes a serial introduction by Ransom, with the story behind each of the novels and previously unreleased details about the two men's collaboration and friendship. In addition, the books are now available in electronic versions along with Ransom's three solo science fiction novels: *Jaguar*, *Viravax* and *Burn*.

1993

Katy Evans, Tacoma, won the AMOCAT Arts "Community Outreach by an Individual" award in November. Katy works in resource development for Metro Parks; writes/edits for the online *Post Defiance*; and builds opportunities for neighborhood investment through Spaceworks Tacoma, Campus MLK and Tacoma Cash Mob.

Gwen Orwiler, Bonney Lake, is an Emotional Freedom coach. She started her own business, Your Strongest Life, in 2009. She recently celebrated 25 years with her partner, David, and has nine grandchildren.

Tim Sullivan (MiT), Eastvale, Calif., a principal for 15 years in the Ontario-Montclair School District, is completing his 21st year in education.

1994

Karen Goulet, Pablo, Mont., is an artist, poet and educator. A member of the White Earth Ojibwe Nation, her work is on exhibit at the Museum of the Plains Indian in Browning, Mont.

1995

Carla Kiiskila, Vashon, an immigration attorney with her own practice for the past eight years, says her greatest privilege has been to help keep families together.

"Moab" (photograph, 2010), by Scott Martin '95.

Scott Martin, San Antonio, Texas, showed his unique nighttime photography work in a Fotoseptiembre USA exhibition titled "It Might Have Been Midnight Since Last We Talked" at Rendon Photography & Fine Art in Southtown, San Antonio. www.martinphoto.com.

Guy Simpson MiT '05, Rainier, teaches science at Yelm's Ridgeline Middle School. His juvenile fiction book, *The Brotherhood of Olympus and the Deadliest Game* (Mythic Publishing, September 2012), is available now and he is working on the sequel. Guy lives with his wife and their three children.

1996

Bryan Bright, Dupont, was named the Seattle Police Department's liaison to the city's Jewish community in October. In addition to his regular patrol duties, he visits Jewish institutions and groups to find out what their needs are. Bryan served in the Marines and National Guard and has spent 12 years as a patrol officer in Seattle's North End.

Julie Dansby (MiT), Lakewood, was named Lakewood Rotary Educator of the Month in Nov. She started teaching in the correctional education system through Pierce College and Tacoma Community College, and has taught math at Mann Middle School since 2001.

At 40, KAOS Wins Local & National Kudos

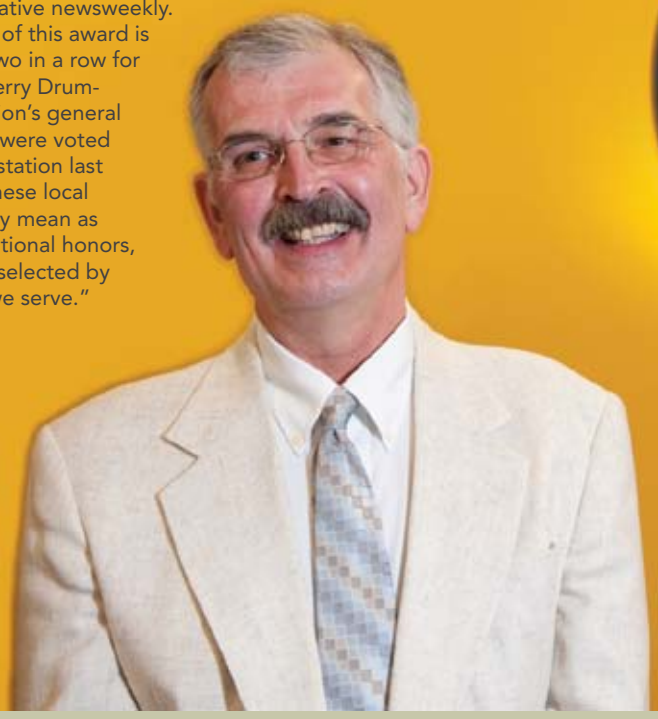
KAOS capped its fourth decade of community broadcasting with a bundle of laurels.

Performer Magazine recently recognized it as one of America's top ten noncommercial radio stations based on the diversity of artists aired, and *The Princeton Review* selected it as one of America's top ten most popular college radio stations. *The Princeton Review* ranking was based on student surveys conducted with more than 122,000 students at 377 colleges across the nation.

Locally, KAOS was chosen by *Weekly Volcano* readers as "Thurston County's Best Radio Station" in the "Best Of Olympia 2013" issue published by the Tacoma-Olympia alternative newsweekly. "The best part of this award is that it makes two in a row for KAOS," says Jerry Drummond, the station's general manager. "We were voted the best radio station last year as well. These local awards certainly mean as much as the national honors, since we were selected by the audience we serve."

Over its 40-year history, KAOS has grown into one of the area's largest volunteer-based organizations: It is programmed by nearly a hundred student and community volunteers, whose varied perspectives make the listener-supported station a unique resource for information and entertainment often ignored by major media outlets.

"With KAOS' official designation as a hybrid station that combines serving as both a college radio station and a community station, receiving praise for our focus in both areas makes these rankings all the more impressive," says Drummond. "When I'm working with all the volunteer DJs, I realize KAOS gets the best people that both Olympia and The Evergreen State College has to offer. Our success is due to our diverse and talented volunteers."



Licensed to Evergreen in 1973, KAOS 89.3 FM is the South Sound's only full-time, full-power commercial-free public radio service. Its eclectic blend of programming includes local and global news, public affairs reporting, community information, and a wide range of independent music. KAOS streams its live broadcasting online at **www.kaosradio.org**.

Photo by Shauna Bittle '98.

David Franklin, Seattle, had his first book, *Radical Men*, published by Anschel Press in January. Covering areas ranging from improving relationships to accountability to being of service, the book provides practices that can easily be done amidst men's daily lives. David has more than 20 years of experience teaching, facilitating and coaching, and has been an active leader in the men's movement since the 1990s. www.DavidFranklin.net

Were you a scholarship recipient? Share your story at: www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform

1997

Eric Dietz, Jacksonville, Fla., composed his first original film score for Jacksonville director Sam Farmer's horror film "Girl of My Dreams," which premiered at Sun-Ray Cinema January 26. Eric co-owns Forte Mobile Music school, works as a sound engineer and has played in several bands.

Donna McPherson, Virginia Beach, Va., earned her MPA from Troy State University. She taught G.E.D. classes to residential at-risk teens and is now a mental health support counselor and life skills coach.

Pamelia Valentine MiT '99, Montesano, was named ESD 113 Regional Teacher of the Year. She was elected the Pacific Region Middle Level Director for the National Arts Education Association.

Jane Wood MPA '99, Yelm, is a curriculum developer for the Washington State Department of Personnel, where she designs, develops and delivers Washington's leadership strategy to state agencies.

1998

Linda Baxter, Venice, Fla., works in the Office of Corporate and Community Development at the State College of Florida. She enjoys photography, writing and taking her well-dressed cat out on the town!

Kyle Taylor Lucas, Olympia, a self-employed consultant, was appointed to the Tumwater City Council. A member of the Tumwater Public Safety Task Force, he was the executive director of the Governor's Office of Indian Affairs.

Cameron Murdock, Bothell, is an emergency department social worker at Swedish Medical Center.

Emelie Peine, Tacoma, is a 2013 Fulbright Scholar, conducting research on Chinese investment in the Brazilian agricultural sector while living in Brazil. She is an assistant professor of international political economy at the University of Puget Sound.

return 2 evergreen

ALUMNI REUNION 6.1.13

Photo by Shauna Bittle '98.

Reconnect with the vibrant learning community at Evergreen! Rekindle old friendships, expand your Greener network and feed your passion for learning. Come for the workshops, seminars, tours, student showcases, music and more! Cap off the celebration with a concert on Red Square.

REGISTER ONLINE:
evergreen.edu/return

TICKETS $25
(includes lunch & dinner)
discounts available for recent grads!

1999

Ginny Brideau, Los Angeles, Calif, is a project manager for The Robert Group, a public relations firm. She earned her Master of Public Policy from Pepperdine University.

Randy Engstrom, Seattle, is director of the Seattle Office of Arts and Culture. A founding director of the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center, he is former chair of the Seattle Arts Commission and founding CEO of Static Factory Media.

Sara Lindberg, Anchorage, Alaska, was named an associate of USKH, Inc., an employee-owned design firm offering architectural services, which she joined in 2006. She is USKH's environmental services manager.

Elizabeth Switaj, Belfast, Northern Ireland, was awarded her Ph.D. in English at Queen's University. She is assistant managing editor of *Irish Pages: A Journal of Contemporary Writing*, and a contributing editor to *Poets' Quarterly*. Her pamphlet of poetry, *Warburg's Tincture of Sonnets*, is forthcoming from Like This Press.

2001

Brian Blacklow, Chevy Chase, Md., is a Master Educator with the District of Columbia Public Schools after 11 years teaching grades 2 to 6. Brian has two children, 1-year-old Leo and 4-year-old Maggie.

Liza Hartlyn, Georgetown, Guyana, teaches 4th and 5th grade at the Georgetown International Academy. She spent two years in the Peace Corps as a literacy advisor for the Ministry of Education for 54 primary schools.

Ursula Holloman, Newport News, Va., is a technician at Eastern State Hospital in Williamsburg.

2002

Jim Anderson (MiT), Olympia, teaches English, coaches speech and debate, and is the English department chair at Capital High School. His son, Carsten James Anderson, joined his family in September 2012.

Krista Bouchey, Eastsound, owns and operates SilverLining, a graphic and web design business specializing in projects for small businesses and nonprofits. She also works as assistant director for The Funhouse Commons, a kid-friendly, not-for-profit community center.

Angela Huckstep (MiT), Port Angeles, presented her performance poetry at Alle Stage in Port Angeles this winter. She is the Work-First coordinator at Peninsula College, and is mother of two children, Tabby and Zeal.

Lauren O'Neill, Tumwater, was named managing director of Olympia's Capital Playhouse. Lauren worked with the Washington Center for the Performing Arts for six years, and is a member of the board of directors of Prodigal Sun Productions.

Evelyn Undziakiewicz, Tacoma, is the founder/executive director of Oasis Home Residence, a home community providing safe, clean and affordable housing to women.

Betty Crocker Gets a Greener Makeover

Ever since she was first dreamed up, Betty Crocker—patron saint of American kitchens and brainchild of General Mills' marketers—has had numerous facial updates to render her more culturally relevant.

But nobody has given Crocker's cookbook recipes a makeover like Annie (Judah) Shannon '98 and her husband Dan.

Longtime vegans and animal advocates, the Shannons worked their way through the popular *Betty Crocker Cook Book*, over two years "veganizing" the dishes and sharing them on their blog, "Meet the Shannons." Their audience grew, the media took notice and before they knew it, they had a publishing deal.

In their debut work, *Betty Goes Vegan*, published in February by Grand Central Publishing (an imprint of the Hachette Book Group), they recreated 500-plus recipes with a meat-and-dairy-free twist, making entrees like eggless omelets, beefless stew, and macaroni and Sheese.

To get the word out, the couple has been traveling the book-publicity trail, appearing in bookstores and vegan havens around the country. Right before the book was released, they did a cooking demonstration on "The Today Show," which Shannon reports was a bit "surreal…our 15-minute segment turned into seven, then five and eventually three. We got a quarter of the way through sweet potato risotto before they had to wrap it up, but I have to admit it was pretty fun to joke around with Hoda [Kotb] and see Kathie Lee [Gifford] eat one of our vegan whoopie pies and rave about how much she loved it."

Now at work on a second book, Shannon says, "When I think about how this little project went from something I wrote every morning at around 6 a.m. while I tried to wake up to 'The Today Show' and Oprah.com, well I kinda feel like the luckiest gal in the world to be honest."

Read more about the Shannons' reasons for going vegan at **evergreen.edu/magazine**

2003

Miranda Duschack, Saint Louis, Mo., is the small farm specialist for Lincoln University Cooperative Extension. She purchased an urban farm in the city—3,300 square feet of raised beds, a greenhouse and the original 1880s farmhouse—where she plans to grow specialty cut flowers and food crops.

Roberta Wright, University Place, owner and lead teacher at The Wright Childcare and Preschool, is working toward her early childhood degree at Lesley University.

2004

Nathan Gibbs-Bowling MiT'06, Tacoma, is an A.P. government and Washington state history teacher in the Lincoln Center Program at Tacoma's Lincoln High School.

Geoff Cotton, Cosmopolis, is a special education teacher at Stevens Elementary School in Aberdeen.

Madison Cripps with puppets, photo by Michael Traister

Madison Cripps, Asheville, N.C., created and performed Pinocchio in a contemporary retelling of the story at The Magnetic Theatre in March. In November, he performed in a marionette production of "Beauty and the Beast" at the Orlando Puppet Festival. He created his first puppet seven years ago and has performed at the Asheville Fringe Festival and the (Re)Happening festival.

Suzanne Peterson, Everett, is executive assistant to the CEO at Everett Gospel Mission, "a position which allows me the ability to be the voice in the community, the arm for the homeless and the wind that allows them to fly as they heal."

Amanda Scott-Thomas, Tacoma, was named director of Community Partnership, Academic Equity and Achievement by the Tacoma School Board in September. She comes to the school district from School's Out Washington, where she worked in education policy.

Catherine (Sporleder) Solace, Boise, Idaho, is senior development manager for the Trey McIntyre Project, a nonprofit organization committed to engaging individuals and communities to experience art. She earned an M.F.A. degree from Antioch University and has published a book of prose and poems.

Ashleigh (Carp) Sundet, Seattle, joined the real estate firm CBRE as an associate. Based in Bellevue, her four-person team will focus on helping grow the firm's tenant representation practice. Previously, she was part of the tenant representation team at Cushman and Wakefield Commerce.

Roberta Walker, Tacoma, is a public relations and veterans service officer in Lakewood.

Until We're Free

Pat Thomas' book and CD brings Black Power music to light

By Vince Ynzunza '12

Is there a valid chapter of the 1960s civil rights movement that hasn't already been written? That hasn't already been documented, analyzed, anthologized and meticulously dissected? For members of the Evergreen community, the images and ideas from that American era have become so familiar that one couldn't be blamed for resisting any deeper historical investigation in favor of reflective contemplation. But Pat Thomas '12 has authored a book that shows us that there's more to the story than we even imagined.

Listen, Whitey! The Sounds of Black Power 1965-1975 is a music aficionado's love letter to an oft-forgotten and overlooked aural history in which black activists traded the revolution on the streets for 33⅓ revolutions per minute. In the purest of Evergreen traditions, the book, along with its companion CD, is an interdisciplinary project, tying together testimonials from veteran members of the Black Panther Party; analyses of popular and rare recordings from the likes of Aretha Franklin, Elaine Brown and The Watts Prophets; and cultural anecdotes from celebrities as diverse as John Lennon and The Partridge Family. The CD features a variety of music and poetry, including pieces by Amiri Baraka, Stokely Carmichael, Marlena Shaw and Bob Dylan, among others.

Thomas reflected on how his time at Evergreen helped him complete this project. "Because of the diversity and flexibility of the courses at Evergreen, I was able to continue writing and refining my manuscript while taking a program called Popular Music and Literature of the 1960s," Thomas says. "My professor for that class, Chico Herbison, allowed me to write a portion of my book as the 'term paper' for that class. That was great, as I was able to satisfy the program assignments and work on the book at the same time! A more 'traditional' university would not have agreed to that."

Since publishing *Listen Whitey!* in March 2012, Thomas has achieved numerous accolades, including glowing reviews from *The Los Angeles Times*, *The London Sunday Times*, and *SPIN* magazine. He has also been invited to lecture at The Annenberg School for Communications Graduate School at the University of Southern California and The University of East London, appeared at various times on NPR and the BBC, and even received a personal email from music legend Bob Dylan stating that he "dug" his book.

Not bad for a Greener less than one year past graduation.

In light of his achievement, it's also compelling to note the disparity between the popularity of *Listen Whitey!* and that of the culturally maligned recordings that it celebrates. This issue is partially addressed by the very existence of the book itself, in that its intrinsic purpose is to shed light on these forgotten albums and songs. Thomas goes further in analyzing that disparity, though, by placing both his book and its subject matter in a cultural context. He states that the revolutionary musicians depicted were not merely ignored by the record buying public, but that "people didn't even get a chance to hear them." He specifically documents examples of such cultural whitewashing, most memorably in the book's section about "Black Forum", the nearly forgotten black power subsidiary label of Motown Records, which was commercially segregated from Motown's more popular roster of artists.

"What was once considered volatile is now historical," Pat concludes on the success of *Listen Whitey!*, adding "it's not the best book of its kind—it's the only book."

2005

Suzanne Perritt Cravey (MES), Gainesville, Fla., and her nonprofit organization Earth Givers (including husband Randolph, and son **Jacob Perritt-Cravey '11**), were featured in the Living Green magazine blog for their "Women Who Plant" (Fanm Kap Plante) initiative in Haiti. The conservation effort provides training and support to women in two rural villages to restore their soil and reforest their hillsides. earthgivers.org

Fanm Kap Plante workshop on composting
Photo from wynnefarm.org.

Daysha Eaton, Anchorage, Alaska, is a reporter for Alaska Public Telecommunications, Inc. and KSKA Public Radio. She earned her M.A. in journalism from the University of Southern California. Daysha received a 2011 Goldie Award in the news feature category from the Alaska Broadcasters Association.

Steve Rollert MiT '07, Seattle, is social studies department chair and teaches at Renton's Lindbergh High. He and his students received a great honor from their state representative in response to letters they wrote about gun control and the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

Daniel "Kana" Shephard (MPA), Shelton, returned from Maui in 2012 and works in college advancement at Evergreen. He helps out on a three-acre property with two master gardeners and participates in marketing development for Welcome Home Communities, an adult care home serving underrepresented people in the Portland area.

Lavonda (McKee) Spillers, Nampa, Idaho, a psychosocial rehabilitation specialist/target service coordinator at a mental health agency, is earning her M.S. degree in human services.

John Taylor, Linden, N.J., is working on his Doctor of Education from the University of North Carolina. He teaches at BelovED Community Charter School in Jersey City. He enjoys spending time with his wife, Andreya, and their new daughter, Molly.

Allen Thomas, Olympia, in his first year as coach of the Timberline High School boys' basketball team, finished with a 16-9 regular season and a trip to the quarterfinals of the state 3A basketball tournament—the Blazers' first trip to state since 2004.

Submit a Class Note for the fall 2013 issue at www.evergreen.edu/alumni/alumform

Soñadores…cambien el mundo
Dreamers…change the world

by Amanda Frank '14

For the past decade, Latino students from 25 high schools in Western Washington have gathered at different college campuses for the annual Latino Youth Summit, where students learn about educational and career opportunities as well as health and wellness. Evergreen hosted the 10th annual Summit on November 15, 2012.

This year's event featured keynote speaker Sean Arce, former head of Tucson Unified School District's Mexican American Studies (MAS) program, which became a major news story in 2010 when Arizona politicians tried to eliminate the program and make it illegal to teach any ethnic studies programs in the state. Arce shared his experience as an MAS educator to a packed gymnasium of students, staff, faculty and volunteers at the summit, as well as a full house of Evergreen students at a campus presentation.

The MAS program, which began in 2005, has helped significantly improve performance by Latino students in standardized tests, retention and college placement rates, embracing students' diverse identities and using relevant topics to engage and empower them. But former Arizona superintendent of public instruction and the state's current attorney general, Tom Horne, citing the notion that programs like this "fostered racial resentment and solidarity among members of a single ethnic group," led the effort to eliminate the MAS program, writing Arizona House Bill 2281, passed by the Arizona legislature in 2010, which made it illegal to teach any ethnic studies in the state.

"This ability to remake or recreate their schooling experiences offers Chicanas/os the opportunity to realize and/or strengthen their humanity," Arce told the students at Evergreen, explaining why programs like MAS were important. He and several of his fellow teachers formed SaveEthnicStudies.org to fight the law and retain these programs. He has traveled around the United States creating awareness of the ethnic studies ban and gaining support.

The Latino Youth Summit is sponsored by the Hispanic Roundtable of Olympia, which brings together agencies in Thurston and Mason counties who serve Spanish-speaking communities. The Roundtable first heard of the ethnic studies ban from Evergreen's student group Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan (MEChA), who presented on campus what they learned about the controversy at the national MEChA conference in Tucson in 2012. Paul Gallegos, Evergreen's special assistant to the president for diversity affairs and 2012 Summit host committee chair, brought it to the attention of the Roundtable.

During the Summit, students viewed "Precious Knowledge," a 2011 documentary centered on the controversy. Gallegos saw "Precious Knowledge" as an important message for students and teachers: to be proud of their identity, proud of their culture, and know that it is important to know their identity, to learn it, and that it be taught in school. "Part of our work is reaching out to the kids, but the other part is about reaching out to our peers, to our colleagues in education," Gallegos says. "We need to prepare the institutions to welcome them, to celebrate their culture with them, and to teach them effectively."

2006

Alvin Bright, Lacey, earned his MSW degree from UW and is an orthopedic technologist/health care technician at Madigan Army Medical Center. He is the proud grandfather of two beautiful girls.

Karen Brown, Port Angeles, is executive director of the Peninsula Dispute Resolution Center. She developed G.I.R.L.S. (Gifted Individuals Realizing Leadership Skills) and coordinates the Outrageous Olympics fundraiser for the Clallam County United Way.

Cristal Connelly-Diakite, Steilacoom, is a Center for Substance Abuse Prevention Fellow with the Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery. Cristal has worked in the field of substance abuse prevention and addictions counseling since 1995.

Cynthia Swenson, Woodinville, is an admissions advisor at Antioch University, where she earned her M.Ed. degree, and a farmer with Sharecroppers Garden, devoted to providing a healthy, sustainable food system.

2007

Debby (Heyd) Leavell, Puyallup, is a supervisor with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe in Auburn. Debby, who married her best friend on 11/11/11, tells us, "Life is good!"

Casey Iiams-Hauser, Bothell, earned a Master of International Affairs from Columbia University. The informatics implementation specialist with the International Training and Education Center for Health at UW on the Kenya Team, he is working with the CDC, the National AIDS/STD Control Program and the Ministry of Health, developing an electronic medical records system.

2008

Vanessa Cassidy, Olympia, runs an adult family home in Tumwater, specializing in elder care patients with dementia.

2009

Audrey Holien, Olympia, a current MPA student at Evergreen, was named the first executive director of a new free health clinic, The Health and Hope Medical Outreach Clinic, in Centralia, Wash., which opened March 5 in the Northwest Pediatrics Center.

Brenda Loney, East Glacier, Mont., teaches 7th and 8th grade language arts at the Blackfeet Indian Reservation.

2010

Miranda (King) Benfer, Cairo, Egypt, taught 6th grade at a Native American school in Puyallup until realizing her dream of teaching abroad. She feels privileged to have an opportunity to teach Egyptian children.

Katy Bingham (MiT), LaCrescenta, Calif., teaches drama at Bilkent Laboratory and International School in Ankara, Turkey. She will teach theatre in Nairobi at the International School of Kenya for the next two years.

Geoducks Score

Evergreen students enjoy athletic and academic success

By Chris Thompson

It's been an exciting year for the Evergreen Geoducks, led by the 2012 men's soccer team putting together one of the top seasons in school history as they reached the Cascade Conference Championship game.

Led by CCC Coach of the Year **John Purtteman '85**, the team played to a record of 13-6-0 for the year, including a school record of 12 conference wins. Junior Brady Espinoza was named CCC Defensive Player of the Year after leading the Geoducks to nine shutouts. Freshman Willie Spurr was named CCC Newcomer of the Year after scoring 10 goals and assisting on three others in 17 games played.

Seniors Mirza Memic and George Bundy, as well as juniors Jeff Roland and Mauricio Sanchez, were named Second Team All-CCC and senior defender Brandon Wood was named Honorable Mention All-CCC in his final collegiate season. The Geoducks had a pair of academic awards as juniors Mitch Treend and Kevin Flavin were named Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athletes.

The 2012 Geoduck women's soccer team also had several players honored as Leah Aragon and Sophie Krauza were each named Honorable Mention All-CCC. Senior Teresa Lopez was named Daktronics-NAIA Scholar Athlete after earlier earning Bank of The Cascades Academic All-Conference honors.

The Evergreen volleyball team also had a pair honored for academic success as both Taylor Asao and Sonja Arrasi were named Bank of The Cascades Academic All-Conference, with Arrasi also earning Daktronics-NAIA Scholar-Athlete status. Men's cross country runner Aaron Jones also earned Academic All-Conference honors after pacing the Geoducks in 2012.

On the hardwood, Danielle Swain wrapped up an outstanding career, earning First Team All-Cascade Conference honors after leading the Geoducks to a sixth-place finish and a spot in the CCC Tournament. Junior guard Sammi Clark also earned honors, being named Honorable Mention All-CCC after averaging 3.8 assists per game to go with 11.1 points per game.

Clark, as well as senior forward Maddie Graves, were also named Bank of The Cascades Academic All-CCC, as was men's basketball senior Travis Wagner. Freshman Frankie Johnson led the Geoduck men this season, earning Honorable Mention All-CCC honors.

The final sport is still in action as the Geoducks are sending a small but competitive track and field squad to various meets around the Pacific Northwest. Evergreen already has one qualifying mark for the 2013 NAIA Outdoor Track and Field National Championships in May as Aaron Jones took eighth at the Vancouver Lake Half Marathon to post a provisional qualifying time in the marathon.

Photo of Danielle Swain by Shauna Bittle '98.

Galen Boydston and **Rachel Sorensen,** Deer Harbor, were married Aug. 25, 2012 on Waldron Island. Boydston is as a field technician and arborist for Orcas Island-based ecological consulting firm Rain Shadow Consulting.

Jacob Hoag Neuharth, Baraboo, Wis., volunteered in Kenya with the Peace Corps. He is now a public health sanitarian with the Wisconsin Department of Health services.

Verleene Riggins, Federal Way, is in her third year as a reading specialist with AmeriCorps at Jennie Reed Elementary and tutoring middle-high schoolers for Study Zone with the King County Library System.

Cecilia Smith, Seattle, a resource specialist with the YMCA in Seattle, is working on her M.P.A. degree at National University and her M.M. degree at the University of Phoenix, where she received a full scholarship from the national foster parent association.

Shae Whitney, Denver, Colo., started Dram Apothecary, which creates five varieties of organic, handcrafted bitters, in 2011. She sells to restaurants in Denver, Portland and New York, as well as on Etsy. The bitters can be used for digestive health as well as in the signature cocktails she developed as a bartender at Denver's City, O'City bistro.

2011

Royce Blackwood MacGinnitie, Seattle, works for Seattle Public Schools, and is a master's candidate at the University of Washington College of Education.

Sean VanDommelen, Tacoma, works in the president's office at Tacoma Community College. He is in the final stages of releasing his second album with his band, SleepyPilot. His 14-year-old son is in high school.

Chas Walters, Issaquah, married Cori Kauk on December 30 in Mexico. He owns and manages Cascadia LLC.

2012

Jay Bolton and **Roderick Campbell '10,** Olympia, cofounded CommitChange, an online fundraising site where donors can make recurring donations to the nonprofit of their choice, and track how their gifts add up. www.commitchange.com

Kendra Jae, Vancouver, wrote a play, "Where Trees Talk: Tales of Wings and Wolves and Cantankerous Rivers," which was produced by the Vancouver School of Arts and Academics Children's Theatre Company as part of its fifth anniversary celebration in February.

Alissa Thurman (MPA), Hoquiam, was named manager of business development for the Port of Grays Harbor's Satsop Business Park in January. Previously, she was city planner for the City of Hoquiam.

Stephanie M. Wolf, Olympia, Air Force Airman 1st Class, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

In Memoriam

Please read more about our departed alumni, faculty and staff in our extended Memoriams section at evergreen.edu/magazine.

Andrew J. Bobick MES'03, Olympia, died October 13, 2012. Worked for Olympia Parks and Recreation and previously for the U.S. Forest Service.

Colin B. Bossay '11, Olympia, died January 20, 2013. Political campaign volunteer, planned to become a teacher.

David W. Brown, Olympia, died September 5, 2012. Evergreen's first admissions director.

David L. Carstens Cx'75, Spokane, died December 23, 2012. Computer and electronics career, skier and organic gardener.

India A. Castle, Vashon Island, died November 15, 2012. Evergreen student in cultural studies, athlete and performing artist.

Catherine M. Conner '82, Olympia, died November 9, 2012. Studied psychology, advocate for wildlife and nature.

Jeffrey T. Davis '07, University Place, died September 1, 2012. Studied media psychology.

Joseph C. Drummond '91, MIT'98, Douglas, Ariz., died October 21, 2012. Teacher in several schools in the Seattle School District.

Gladiola M. Flowers (AKA Gladys Robinson) '83, Olympia, died January 6, 2013. Realtor and artist.

Mary Ellen Friedberg '83, Telluride, Colo., died November 25, 2012. Served in the Peace Corps in the Philippines.

Amalia "Mali" Gunn, Olympia, died November 15, 2012. Evergreen student, employment specialist at the Washington State Employment Security Department.

John B. Buchanan Harrity, Hartford, Conn., died November 7, 2012. Evergreen student, nationally recognized poet.

Terri Heinrich '81, Ames, Iowa, died May 24, 2012. Librarian, Iowa State University Parks Library. Survived by husband Daniel J. Burden '81.

Maia R. Hisamoto, Eugene, Ore. and Olympia, died January 27, 2013. Evergreen student in visual arts, managed local band.

John "Jake" T. Riley Horgan '10, Olympia, died December 5, 2012. Spent a semester in India, enjoyed music, camping and hiking.

William H. Lysak, Olympia, died October 6, 2012. Visual artist.

Barbara Jo Northup '85, Amanda Park, died October 10, 2012. Mental health counselor, Quinault Indian Nation and Taholah and Queets-Clearwater Schools.

Jason A. Oak, Saline, Mich., died January 13, 2013. Evergreen student enrolled in dance and culture program.

Joan E. Petit '76, Santa Barbara, Calif., died January 6, 2013. Teacher and musician.

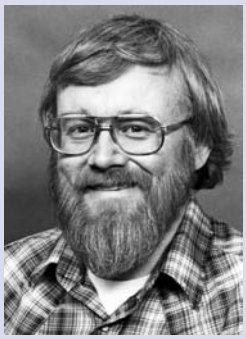
Fletcher G. Smith '82, Olympia, died December 5, 2012. Counselor, residential supervisor, Behavioral Health Services.

Michael D. Thoma '00, Olympia, died August 14, 2012. Studied Russian and ecology.

Jeffrey A. Turner '05, Yakima, died August 24, 2012. IT specialist for Washington Dept. of Natural Resources and Dept. of Licensing.

Photos courtesy of The Evergreen State College Archives and Photo Services.

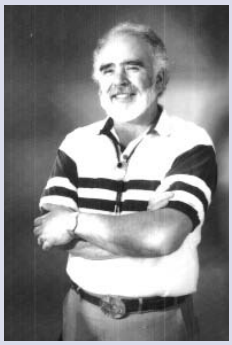
Bonita H. Evans '89, of Vancouver, died November 29, 2012. Born in Oklahoma on the Creek Indian Reservation, she spent most of her life in Olympia. She worked in academics at Evergreen for 14 years until her retirement in 2001, including 10 years as program coordinator for both the MPA and MES programs.



Gerald "Jerry" Lassen, of Olympia, died March 3, 2013. An Evergreen faculty member who taught economics for 32 years, he was born in Texas, and worked in the Washington State budget office before joining the Evergreen faculty in 1978. In 1995, he married Catherine "Kitty" Parker, former director of the college's student employment office, who he met at the college. He retired as faculty emeritus in 2010. He adored teaching and cherished the entire Evergreen community. Donations may be made to the David L. Hitchens scholarship in honor of Frances Marie Rasmussen through The Evergreen State College Foundation.

Barbara McCann, of Olympia, died March 31, 2013. Born in Bristol, Conn., she was Evergreen's first First Lady and a key presence on campus during the founding presidency of her husband, Charles J. McCann, in Evergreen's early years. She and Dr. McCann raised six children, four of whom are Evergreen alumni: Charles J. (John) McCann Jr. '74, MPA'88, Mary McCann '74, Peter McCann '75, Jane McCann '88. Her family asks friends wishing to express their love and respect to donate to the Barbara McCann Art Scholarship care of The Evergreen State College Foundation.

Masao Sugiyama, of Olympia, died November 13, 2012. An Evergreen faculty member for 21 years, he retired in 2009. Masao generously served the College in a multitude of ways including as an academic dean, a specialty area convener, and a longstanding summer Upward Bound teacher. His roots were in the Master in Teaching program, where his many contributions and the deep compassion he showed to his students remain greatly valued. He demonstrated his commitment to increasing diversity in the teaching profession by creating the Teacher Education Programs Diversity Scholarship for Evergreen MiT students.



David W. Whitener Sr., of Shelton, died November 2, 2012. A member of the faculty at Evergreen for 18 years, David retired and was given faculty emeritus status in 1996. Upon his retirement, he was described as a "mainstay" in the Native American Studies program, dedicated to teaching methods that best support Native American learners. He was also a catalyst for the Longhouse House of Welcome and is considered one of its pillars. David was a US Army veteran, a member of the Squaxin Island Tribe and served on the tribal council in many capacities. His wife, Barbara A. (Greene) Whitener '96, and daughter Mitzie Whitener '89, are both Evergreen alumni. Donations can be made to the David Whitener Sr. Scholarship Fund, through The Evergreen State College Foundation.

The Foundation Scholarship opened up doors

for me. It has given me the opportunity to play

to my unique talents and pursue them.

Jacqui Argueta-Godinez

When you give to Evergreen's Annual Fund, you provide a stable and flexible stream of support for scholarships, academic programs, student projects and faculty research. Your annual contributions enhance the quality of the Evergreen experience and open the door for many students who couldn't otherwise afford a college education.

Make your gift today!

the evergreen annual fund

It takes all of us.

www.evergreen.edu/give

The Evergreen State College Magazine
Spring 2013, Vol. 34, No.2
Published by The Office of College Relations
The Evergreen State College
2700 Evergreen Parkway NW
Olympia, WA 98505

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Olympia, WA
Permit No. 65

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

On April 6, as spring approached in Olympia and sheep were ready to shed their heavy fleeces, Evergreen Students for Sustainable Animal Agriculture turned their hands to sheep shearing with professional shearer Gerry Larsen. Students get hands-on experience raising the flock of 33 ewes and 48 lambs, which is managed by faculty member Mike Paros. They make management decisions and care for the animals, learning about breeding, marketing, shearing, nutrition, pasture management, lambing and sheep behavior. Check out the video about shearing day at evergreen.edu/magazine