

WINTER 2009

# UNITY

## SCIENCE INFUSES CURRICULUM

History and Sustainability

Finding Insight in the Jungle

Seeking Innovation with Owls

Broad Impact of Environmental Colleges





## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I just finished reading an extraordinary book. In *The Age of Wonder: How the Romantic Generation Discovered the Beauty and Terror of Science*, Richard Holmes tells a series of riveting stories profiling the eighteenth century pioneers of chemistry, biology, and astronomy. Holmes portrays the close interconnection between science and art as intrinsic to the creative process. At the source of scientific discovery is the remarkable quality of wonder—the deep and resilient desire to better understand the origins of life and the cosmos, not just to quench an unrelenting curiosity, but also to learn how to reside well on our remarkable planet.

Perhaps this is the holy grail of science education—the inevitable intersection of creativity and analysis. Wonder requires both a poetic sensibility and a rigorous empiricism. This is the heart of environmental learning as well. At Unity College we strive to provide our students with an empirically-based, methodologically rich approach to field biology and ecology. Our students know that they belong in the field. Indeed, they thrive there. But that is merely the starting point. What questions emerge from their experiences? How might they explore those questions and turn them into sound research? Or interesting works of art? When you spend your time in the field, creative inspiration is directly encountered.

The Unity faculty is currently engaged in a thorough curricular review. The outcome will provide us with a suite of pertinent and visionary majors, supported by robust learning objectives. These programs will do more than prepare a new generation of environmental professionals. At their core we hope to cultivate the very best of romantic science, linking discovery and vocation, creativity and research, and engagement with action.

*At the source of scientific discovery is the remarkable quality of wonder—the deep and resilient desire to better understand the origins of life and the cosmos, not just to quench an unrelenting curiosity, but also to learn how to reside well on our remarkable planet.*

Mitchell Thomashow  
President, Unity College

# UNITY

WINTER 2009



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### On the Cover

Jill Easterday '12 of Emeryville, Calif., holds a drive rod while drilling for lake sediment on Unity Pond. Assistant Professor Kevin Spigel led the research gathering activity as part of an Environmental Citizen course for first year students. Photo taken by Olivia Hanson '11.





## From the Lab to Field Work, Science Connects All Aspects of Unity College

The greatest challenge with each issue of *Unity*, the magazine of Unity College, is to find space for everything that ought to be expressed. There is an enormous volume of material that is available for each issue. Every person who works on the magazine understands that Unity College is truly on the move. A clear, central goal expressed by President Mitchell Thomashow is for the College to attain a place alongside the very best small environmental colleges in the United States. In many ways the magazine is a place to express why such an aspiration is not only realistic, but to serve as a repository for vistas along the journey.

What will Unity receive in return by achieving its lofty goals? The College will regularly use its national presence to weigh in on environmental issues of the day, while also attracting the best and brightest students from across the country and abroad.

Science in all of its forms at Unity serves as the central theme for this issue. The tremendous range of faculty and student science projects may surprise some who are new to this community and even some within.

The core values and mission of the College are also showcased in stories about student internships, community service and service-learning projects. Often science and a connection to the curriculum is also present.

From its humble beginnings to the present, it is talented, committed and insightful individuals who serve as the beating heart of all the College aspires to achieve and has achieved. There are few borders to contain members of the community from the upper reaches of their scientific research, as is evident in the narrative by Associate Professor Amy Arnett about her Fulbright Fellowship to the University of Maribor in Slovenia.

A story about the sustainability of Unity College buildings explains the ongoing work of Associate Professor Mick Womersley, Sustainability Coordinator Jesse Pyles, and other faculty, staff and students.

The link between owl research and cutting-edge technology is explained in a story about the affiliation between Professor Dave Potter and Unity students, and researchers from the Massachusetts Institution of Technology. It is but one more bit of evidence that Unity College is evolving into one of the best environmental colleges in America.

We hope you will enjoy this issue and gain insight into what a dynamic place Unity proves itself to be each day.

*Mark Tardif*  
Managing Editor



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# LETTERS

## Unity College Centre for the Performing Arts Continues to Flourish

In the few years since the Unity Centre for the Performing Arts became a part of Unity College, also changing its name to the Unity College Centre for the Performing Arts (UCCPA), the vision of Bert and Coral Clifford for a vibrant place for the arts in Unity has been honored.

Through collaborative efforts and our own enhanced programming the UCCPA has brought top flight, nationally known musical talent to Unity. This year we will stage nearly fifty performances, a significant achievement in a rural location and a huge opportunity for area residents.

Far from being merely a musical venue, the UCCPA has also continued to serve as community meeting place, art gallery, performance space, community kitchen, movie theatre, and ideal location for special events.

Next year the UCCPA will celebrate its ten year anniversary. There is every reason to believe that the commitment of Unity College employees, friends and community partners that has made the UCCPA so special will ensure that its best days are yet to come. Please be sure to catch a show soon.

*John Sullivan*  
Director, UCCPA

## Keeping Track of Friends in New Ways

Many Unity Alumni are now familiar with the Active Involvement pages on the Unity College website, with links to alumni information, mentoring possibilities and email addresses. There is an ever grow-

ing population of Unity alumni and staff becoming involved with social media as a means of staying informed and connected, or in some cases way to reconnect.

I've personally found old and dear friends from the 1970's era of Unity College on Facebook. The informal and visual nature of Facebook has allowed glimpses into the lives of people I haven't seen for 35 years. The Unity website and networking connections such as LinkedIn permit access to personal websites and business links, further promoting employment related interaction among alumni.

If you have a listing with the Unity Alumni online page, or if you are a Facebook or LinkedIn user, then consider using both. There are Facebook groups by year of graduation and fields of interest, and as well as friends who have reconnected with each other by using the Facebook name search function. Links to the Unity College website and Alumni Body are found on Facebook. I hope to meet you there.

*Annette Hanser '73*  
Monroe, Maine

## Considering the Far Reaching Impact of a Unity College Education

Unity made a tremendous difference in my life. In the summer of 1986, I was an intern studying wildlife corridors in the north Maine woods. My classmate and friend, Diane Borden '87, and I spent the summer collecting data to assist our Professor, Dr. Christine Maguire. I only wish I was able to present my work as current students did in the Student Conference Showcases Arts and Science Projects, featured in an article in the last magazine.

Thanks to the internship opportunity that I pursued while a student at Unity College, I developed leadership, interpersonal and professional skills that have served me extraordinarily well. My Unity education gave me the tools and confidence to aim high. Today, I use my education each day as the chief executive officer of an agricultural development corporation. As a director on several boards, I find that I frequently use skills that I developed at Unity. Believe it or not, I also draw upon my Unity education as host of a weekly talk radio show.

My time at Unity College changed and shaped my life more than I could ever have imagined while a student.

Thank you, Unity College for the wonderful experiences.

*Jay Matteson '90*  
Adams, New York

## Remembering a Dearly Missed Friend

Dave "Fly" Champine passed away in March of 2009. He was one of my best buddies from my time at Unity College. Those were the best four years of my life. I made some incredible, lifelong friends there and Dave was my best friend among great friends. Just as the experience of being a Unity student brings back fond memories, sharing a friendship with Dave is inextricably linked to my college years.

Anyone who got to know Dave was a very lucky person. I miss him every day and know others do as well. I was lucky enough to be his friend and will always remember our times at Unity and thereafter. God Bless you "Fly".

*Tammy Ciesla '91*  
Windsor, MA



# Slovenian Sojourn: A Fulbright Experience

By Professor Amy Arnett



Traveling has always been a passion of mine. As an undergraduate student I set off on my own from small-town Michigan to explore the Pacific Northwest, Wyoming, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii, and Guatemala – typically with the positive results of new friendships, skills, and environmental and cultural experiences.

As a professor at Unity, I still long to travel, but these days it is often to visit family or to attend a conference, not for the experience of traveling itself. So during 2008 as I was reviewing articles for a Slovenian colleague, Dr. Dušan Devetak (the organizer of the Tenth International Symposium on Neuropterology, being held in Slovenia) it occurred to me that Slovenia would be a great place to visit, and a Fulbright Award might be the best way to get there. The Fulbright Program, the U.S. Government's flagship international exchange program, has always been at the back of my mind as a way to teach and conduct research, plus travel and explore new places and ideas.

I applied for a Fulbright Lecture Award in August 2007 and received the announcement in June 2008 that I had been awarded a Fulbright to teach at the University of Maribor in Slovenia. After a lot of packing and logistics, in February 2009 my family and I were on our way to Europe.

Slovenia is a small country, approximately the size of New Jersey, positioned between Austria, Hungary, Croatia and Italy. Maribor is located in the northeast portion of Slovenia, very close to Austria, and is Slovenia's second largest city with approximately 133,000 people. We found Maribor to be an appealing city with many outdoor cafés and old red-tiled buildings. The beautiful mountain and ski-hill of Pohorje is located on one side of the city and vineyards on the other, with the river Drava wending its way through it. Overall, we were struck by the charming culture of the city and the beauty of the natural environment.

The University of Maribor was established in 1961, and has



*Professor Arnett visited Predjama Castle located near the town of Postojna in southwestern Slovenia. Part of her Fulbright experience was to act as a cultural ambassador.*

many different “faculties” (departments) housed around the city. I was part of the faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science, along with a handful of other biologists. My teaching responsibilities were a course in insect ecology to third year biology students, a graduate student field methodology seminar, plus helping with general ecology labs.

**“I think teaching in Slovenia has helped me appreciate the freedom of pedagogy and individual attention to students that is encouraged at Unity College.”**

The Slovenian students in my class were at first very shy with me. I had them conduct several active discussions about articles and by the second class they were much more open and eager, but commented on how they were not used to any teaching style besides lectures. Despite this, I received several very nice notes from students at the end of the semester explaining how much they had learned and enjoyed my teaching style. I think teaching in Slovenia has helped me appreciate the freedom of pedagogy and individual attention to students that is encouraged at Unity College.

Because my teaching schedule was fairly low-key, I found that I spent much more time discussing and conducting research than I had anticipated. This pleasant turn of events led me into

the hills around Maribor searching for ant lion larvae (lace-winged Neuropterans whose larvae dig pits in sand) for an experiment with my colleague Dr. Dušan Devetak. Dušan and I are interested in the connection between the types of soil substrate that larvae are found in nature and the type of substrate (based on particle size) that larvae choose in the lab. After collecting approximately 50 larvae and feeding them ants in the lab for two weeks, we placed them into “cakes” that contained eight different sand particle sizes, from fine powder to fairly large pieces. The project went well, with the larvae responding in the way that we

had predicted, and during the 2009–2010 academic year we will be writing the results for publication.

Another unexpected but pleasant research collaboration occurred with a professor of speleology, Dr. Toné Novak. The karst (limestone) region of Slovenia has some of the most impressive caves in the world. Toné has studied the biodiversity of invertebrates in caves for many years now, and prior to leaving Slovenia we began collaborating on a study regarding the ecological differences among approximately 50 caves in northeastern Slovenia. I am excited about continuing this conversation and work regarding biodiversity in such an extraordinary and rare habitat.

By no means was my Fulbright experience all about work though. My family and I traveled almost every weekend. We had wonderful trips to the mountains of Austria, visited Salzburg and Graz, explored the coast of Croatia down to Dubrovnik, traveled around Venice, and extensively through Slovenia itself.

Overall my Fulbright semester was rich with teaching, traveling, meeting new people and learning new things. I gained new perspective and experience teaching in another academic institution and returned home happy about my adventures and grateful to have been given the opportunity to explore a new corner of the world.





## A Nicaraguan Adventure Creates Bridges to Understanding

By Assistant Professor Aimee Phillippi

The trip didn't begin well. After battling a snowstorm on the way to Boston, we discovered our flight had been canceled. Some quick work by Delta airlines staff had us in Managua, Nicaragua, on time. The sixteen of us (fourteen Unity College students and two faculty members) headed to the Miskito coast of Nicaragua early the next day. We were here to work with Sustainable Harvest International (SHI) promoting sustainable agriculture practices that both increase productivity for subsistence farmers as well as reduce ecological destruction from slash-and-burn.

We all had to be weighed before boarding the questionable looking Soviet-era plane to Bluefields. In Bluefields we met some of the Nicaraguan staff, including Carla, who became a

great friend on the trip. We toured their demonstration farm and helped plant some pejibaye/beach palm (Palmito or palm heart, a gourmet vegetable with an expanding world market) seedlings. The demonstration farm is where they try out new crops and techniques, but the real work of SHI is in el campo, the countryside, working with individual families.

The next morning we were loaded into small boats to head up the Kukra River, into the jungle. We were told the water was so polluted from sewage that when it splashed onto our faces we should wipe it off with our clothing. The four hour ride up the river was incredible. There was lush vegetation spilling into the river, strange and beautiful birds everywhere, and turtles sunning themselves. We passed some small homes along

the river and when we passed by a village, there were usually women in the river washing clothes. We also saw many locals in boats. Some had motorboats and were taking goods to, or bringing them from, Bluefields. But many were paddling dug-out canoes. Greg and Mercedes (our trip leaders) said that paddling from Bluefields to San Pancho takes about 12 hours.

We stopped at Asentimiento, a village with a school. The homes were small, wooden shacks. There were chickens, pigs, and dogs everywhere. Some of the students amused the villagers by trying to catch chicks, but we had real work to do. We were here to help the school children build a garden to grow food for their lunches. The schoolteacher, Miguel, told us about the struggle of maintaining a school here. There were

*While in Nicaragua, Unity College students pursued a wide range of activities, from helping to improve structures to planting crops. The emphasis was on service and forging strong personal bonds. Students gained an appreciation for the optimism of Nicaraguan villagers, who are open, hard-working, and highly optimistic despite facing political, economic and social challenges that are virtually unknown in comparatively affluent American communities like Unity, Maine.*

no books, no supplies. Some of our students were really struck that Miguel only had a soccer ball to teach about the world, there were no maps or globe available. Very often parents would keep their children home from school to do work. We spent the afternoon cutting grass with machetes and digging up the compacted soil with the children, who loved finding worms and putting them on us, and then running away giggling.

The next day we divided into two groups. One group traveled four hours by mule, through many rivers and mud holes, to Las Breñas. Here we stayed with Don Cipriano, Doña Marta, and their family, seeing firsthand the immense amount of work it takes to make a basic living. We slept in hammocks strung up all through their home and

helped with some of the chores (although I imagine we were more in the way than help). We traveled by foot to the neighbor's house (it usually takes them 15 minutes, but it took us half an hour), which was a tiny hut of poles. Here we worked on a grain storage facility so they could better keep their crops dry. While there, Doña Inez showed us her family's water supply – a very muddy shallow well that they drink straight from.

The other group hiked five hours through knee-deep mud to El Coloradito where they stayed with Don Mariano and Doña Julia in a home with its few walls covered in newspapers. Kitchens in these homes have dirt floors and are completely open to the elements and animals that wander everywhere. While in El Coloradito, we helped

harvest beans and attempted to improve a community water supply, but the rain and mud made it feel like we were running in place.

Despite the initial rough start, the trip was a great success. Our host families and the SHI staff were incredibly welcoming. We all learned a tremendous amount about Nicaraguan culture and the environmental issues impacting and impacted by the people.

Upon return to Unity, we hosted a fundraiser where we served typical Nicaraguan food and showed a movie the students made about the trip. More than \$400 was raised and sent back to the school in Asentimiento to further their garden and well projects. Hopefully Unity can continue a relationship with SHI and create future opportunities for students.



## Finding a Passion for Science in the Jungle

It is late afternoon in the Indonesian jungle. The heat and humidity are stifling. Patrick O’Roark ’10, a captive wildlife care and education major, has been trying to keep hydrated, a tough task in this demanding environment. The dense jungle poses a different set of challenges. One wrong step might bring a nasty fall or a snake bite.

Usually he spends the evening at the base camp in a village of Labundo Bundo, though he occasionally camps in the jungle.

For some such a demanding environment would be considered hardship duty, but the experiences O’Roark is gathering will, in the end, solidify his career choice.

O’Roark spent the summer of 2009 pursuing an internship as a biodiversity researcher for Operation Wallacea, based in the United Kingdom. He was based on the Indonesian Island of Sulawesi, where he tracked three troupes of Bouton Macaques, a species of monkey.

“We wrote of the behaviors we observed for the energy budget survey of Bouton Macaques,” said O’Roark. Back at Labundo Bundo each evening O’Roark and his



fellow researchers entered in the data they gathered during the day. This included how high in the trees the Bouton Macaques were foraging or resting, and specifics related to behavior classified by age and sex classes.

Despite the challenges and physical discomfort during the dry season (no research can be done during the rainy season) O’Roark reveled in the experience, feeling a sense of achievement each day and feeling a certainty that he made the

right career choice.

O’Roark quickly developed a researcher’s sense for his subject, knowing when to move closer to the Bouton Macaques and when to avoid eye contact so as not to incite their territorial instincts.

“I learned the basic procedures for observational field studies with wild animals,” noted O’Roark. Upon arriving in Indonesia his initial training by Operation Wallacea included the basics of living and working safely in the jungle.

Upon graduation O’Roark hopes to work for a zoo and eventually earn a graduate degree in primatology.

## Science Plays Out in Big Sky Country



If Susan Bard ’10, a wildlife biology major from Plainville, Connecticut, couldn’t wait to finish final exams and hit the road, who could blame her?

Bard spent the summer of 2009 as a Biological Technician working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge in Lakeview, Montana.

The project to which Bard was assigned focused on determining how body condition affects breeding propensity of Lesser Scaup, *Aythya affinis*, a diving duck.

“Their populations have been declining drastically over the last ten years,” said Bard. She helped to implant thirty-four Lesser Scaup with radio transmitters.

“I used telemetry from the truck to triangulate their positions,” Bard explained. The tracking was a daily

aspect of Bard’s job.

“I would take a kayak out on the lake with a yagi (antenna) to find them,” said Bard. “Our goal was to locate nests from these scaup and monitor them until they hatched.”

Another project she worked on was nest searching, mainly for scaup. Of the nests located, they were monitored on average once every seven days until they hatched.

“This year was the first that web-tagging was used on ducklings,” said Bard. “Once the ducklings started pipping I would go out and poke a hole in the side of the egg, pull the foot out, put a tag on their webbing, and then place the foot back in and tape the hole. The purpose of this was to determine duckling success.

In mid-September of 2009 that data was gathered by biologists using a diving duck trap.

## Building the Ideal Unity Student, No One Size Fits All



Each year on Move-in Day, the Unity campus is brimming with hopeful first year students and their families. The students are stepping into a new world with justifiable jitters, hopes and expectations. The vast majority have already begun to make friends, having taken a Nova trip over the summer. Within the months to come, they will begin to connect with their intended major programs while building a strong base of general skills.

College is said to be among the best investments any person could make in their lifetime. There are many statistics that bare witness to issues like personal fulfillment and earning power over a lifetime that increase with a four year degree, and change further with the attainment of a graduate degree. What is less widely known outside the community of higher education professionals is the process put in place to help students develop from move-in day to the receipt of their degree.

That process can vary greatly from institution to institution.

*Life at Unity College is filled with daily opportunities for academic challenge, civic engagement, exploration, adventure, fun and creativity. The range of activities includes travelling to Washington, D.C. to lobby members of Congress on environmental issues, participating in national conferences, and performing community service in tornado ravaged Tennessee. Students pursue a wide range of nature oriented activities, from impromptu canoeing excursions on Maine lakes to rock climbing in Camden Hills State Park.*

A common but complex question pondered by parents, administrators, faculty and students themselves is whether there is an “ideal” Unity student. The short answer is a firm “no.” The long answer is much more involved and relates to adolescent development, personal proclivities and preferences, along with the academic and social support systems in place at Unity. Individual student choices also play an enormous part in interpersonal development that occurs over the course of a Unity education.

Some changes simply relate to the fact that the average college age range of 18-22 is a period of enormous psychological transition regardless of whether a person is attending college or not.

Attending Unity College with its particular curriculum, community and emphasis on hands-on learning, arguably plays the largest role in shaping the individual who steps to the stage to receive his or her degree.

The most important element of a Unity College education is the change from being a passive to an active learner. Unity students learn to become advocates for their own academic and interpersonal development. Being an active, lifelong learner is the single greatest skill that a Unity experience should impart to all students regardless of major.

The “ideal” student is the one who goes on to lead an engaged, deliberate, reflective and self-aware life that involves service to profession (often related to the environment), community and family.

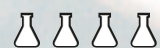


# LAB TESTED

## Laboratory Training Sparks Research and Collaboration

The popular conception of Unity students pursuing studies in the great outdoors is true, but it's only part of the experience and curriculum. Experiential or hands-on learning often means pursuing projects in the laboratory, gaining the skills upon which careers are built, whether those careers begin after commencement or graduate school.

Many courses have a laboratory component. Faculty generously involve students in their research, help students to design their own research projects, and on occasion connect students from different courses through collaborative research projects.



By Mark Tardif

Photos by Olivia Hanson '11

### A COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY

During the fall semester of 2009, Professor Amy Arnett and Assistant Professor Alysa Remsburg collaborated in this way.

Arnett's students conducted research on invertebrate biodiversity and abundance in relation to environmental variables. This involved collaborative research in the campus woodlot with all roads leading back to laboratory analysis.

Students from several courses including ecology, biology I and II, and field ecology worked on permanent plots in the college woodlot. The students learned how to collect and identify (to an extent) earthworms, ants, and beetles. They also collected information about the plot regarding light, leaf litter depth, soil characteristics, and woody debris.

Arnett also had her field ecology class work on macroinvertebrate monitoring of stream quality, along with conducting observational surveys.

She incorporated some of her research on the ant lion conducted in the spring and summer of 2009 at the University of Moribor in Slovenia, where she pursued a Fulbright Fellowship. This involved lab-based behavioral studies.

### A STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH

Associate Professor Emma Creaser says laboratory research sharpens thinking skills and is valuable far beyond beakers and pitre dishes.

"If you go to the grocery store and buy a somewhat suspect lettuce and make a salad out of it and get sick, you might return to buy the same kind of suspect lettuce to see if you get sick again," said Creaser. "If you keep getting the same results you will know that slimy lettuces are bad and make you sick."

"In a basic way that is applying the scientific method," she continued. "You learn from prior experience, you extrapolate meaningful situations and that is logical thinking and the scientific method. You can do it with no technical skills or you can add technical skills as you go along."

Some Unity students pursue laboratory projects that gain notice beyond the campus and even shape their future plans.

Shawn Devlin '03 is in a Ph.D. program at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. For his senior thesis project at Unity, Devlin collected snails from seven different islands off the coast of Maine. He assembled his collection while working



Associate Professor Aimee Phillippi and a student in a Cell Biology lab.

### Faculty and Student Research Pay Dividends

Every month of the year, even during breaks and the summer, Unity College faculty are pursuing research. For some faculty like Associate Professor Emma Creaser, a single research project unfolds with a combination of field research and lab work over the span of years. She involves students in different aspects of this complex, sprawling research as appropriate to their skills, interests and even their career goals.

Professor Jerry Cinnamon focuses on real world lab projects.

"We work with environmental appli-

cations important to the state of Maine," said Cinnamon. He designs his lab oriented research projects to teach analytical thought and mathematic skills. Students learn to observe the world in ways that a scientist does rather than observing a preconceived concept of the world.

Associate Professor Amy Arnett, a Fulbright Scholar, has often involved Unity students in her research.

"In the curriculum we stress the process of science and how to arrive at a hypothesis to test," said Associate

Professor Emma Creaser, who has involved students in her ongoing research project at Moosehead Lake in Greenville, Maine.

In 1972, a little species of shrimp, *Mysis relicta*, was introduced to the lake. "Somebody thought it would be a good source of fish food for the fisheries," Creaser explained.

"In other lakes it has actually eaten the preferred food of the fish, *Daphnia*," noted Creaser. She and her student research assistants are seeking answers as to the impact of *Mysis relicta*.



for the National Audubon Seabird Restoration Project (Project Puffin), of which Scott Hall, husband of Arnett, is the research supervisor. Five students from Unity have worked on the Puffin Project in the past.

“The question that Shawn (Devlin) was interested in is whether the populations of snails on the islands differ in body size,” Arnett explained. “We considered the mechanisms that might be driving any differences. Shawn found a significant increase in body size and latitude.”

“I thought his study was publishable, but we needed more data,” said Arnett. “In 2007 I asked Scott’s interns to recollect snails for me and I measured them, then added them to Shawn’s data.”

Arnett is currently in the process of writing the findings.

## THE PROCESS OF SCIENCE

“In the curriculum we stress thinking and the process of science,” said Creaser. “Students arrive at a hypothesis to test and

design how to test it.” The considerations extend to the number of times a hypothesis should be tested, and how to analyze the data to get meaningful results.

Creaser says that students learn to consider both the implications of sloppiness and rewards of careful reasoning. For example, a ecological research might require the researcher to go out to collect field data every two weeks for six months. What happens if when it comes time to analyze data the researcher realizes an extra measurement or data point should have been taken? The answer is not pretty: start over.

“We work with our students to think about that (the cost of mistakes),” said Creaser. “Math is a very powerful tool but it is more important as to what it means. There are people who will tell you math can tell you anything, because it’s how you interpret the data. You can use it to tell you the sky is red when it is blue. But you need to understand what you have done with the statistics and relate the results to the real world.”

## Developing New Technology for Animal Research

Why did a top engineering researcher from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) choose owls as a subject for research? Because owls are out at night and cell phone minutes are often cheaper or free during late evening hours.

There is both utility and inspiration in scientific research along with an occasional dash of luck. As the latter part of the research equation would have it, a Unity College professor crossed paths with an MIT researcher in need of boots on the ground. The result has been an association that several times a year gives Unity students the opportunity to participate in cutting-edge research.

The flourishing association between Unity College and Dale Joachim of the MIT Media Lab, a world class technological research center, came together thanks to the involvement of Professor Dave Potter and Unity students in the Maine Owl Monitoring Program.

Joachim needed reliable volunteers with expertise. The manpower and organization that Unity is able to provide made for a perfect match.

“Dale is interested in using simple, ubiquitous, off the shelf technology to survey wildlife,” explained Professor Dave Potter. “A cell phone is something that most of us have, and with manipulating the cell phone technology minimally you can record wildlife sounds. The wildlife sounds that are



Professor Dave Potter led students to a comprehensive understanding of the research process.

cheapest to record are owls because owls call at night, and you don’t necessarily have to pay for minutes at night.”

Several times a year Joachim and other researchers from MIT visit Unity College to work with Potter and student volunteers to record owl calls. The researchers train the Unity volunteers on accessing the M.I.T. server with cell phones, playing the recorded owl calls from the server while in the field, and using those same cell phones to record the owl responses on the server. This information in turn contributes to engineering research, helping researchers refine communication technology.

This arrangement has worked extremely well.

“Here was a whole group of people in Maine that were willing to go out at night and do these crazy things, this has worked well,” Potter said.

Participation in the data gathering is open to all Unity College students who don’t mind losing sleep to gain a firsthand perspective on world class research. Potter estimates that up to 60 Unity students have participated.

[A Bangor Daily News story with photos about the project is online at www.bangordailynews.com](http://www.bangordailynews.com)

[www.unity.edu/NewsEvents/News/BDN4609.aspx](http://www.unity.edu/NewsEvents/News/BDN4609.aspx). Also, visit [The Owl Project www.owlproject.media.mit.edu](http://TheOwlProject.org) and [Maine Audubon at www.maineaudubon.org](http://MaineAudubon.org)



Students examining skull bones in a mammalogy class laboratory. And a chemistry student searches for information to solve a lab problem.

Creaser offered an example of how work in the laboratory is inextricably linked to field work.

“A student might be in a lab staining a cross section of the arm of a very small animal,” Creaser continued. “From that they might learn that the animal has acid mucus. When they examine animals in the literature and real life, they might see that the animal is a burrowing animal.” Further inquiry might reveal that the animal uses the mucus to glue the sides of its sandy burrow together so that the burrow does not collapse.

“Students go from this tiny focused thing that they did in the lab to a very large scale world picture,” Creaser stated. “You can’t design experiments to really answer everything at once, you have to break it down into small bite sized, doable pieces so that you get meaningful results.”

## NO SHORTCUTS TO SUCCESS

Unity science faculty stress that when it comes to research, there are no shortcuts. Some faculty, like Assistant Professor Alysa Rensburg, draw pedagogical inspiration from personal epiphanies.

“I’ve done ecological research in many places on plants, turtles, logs, frogs, and bugs,” Rensburg noted. “I remember feeling pretty helpless as an undergraduate student researcher who hadn’t paid much attention in statistics class. My students groan at how I emphasize the role of statistics in science, but I think they’ll thank me someday.”

The choice of which research project to pursue and approach used in each class can be critically important to overall success in reaching learning goals.

“It really depends on the course,” Assistant Professor Erika Latty explained. “In an introductory course usually we start with guided research projects. I might pick the overall technique and idea. For example, there’s a lab we do where we look at stomata densities and I show students how we can measure stomata densities, and teach them the importance of regulation of gas exchange in leaves.”

“I give them the background material on the topic, some methods and I have them design a hypothesis, that’s guided research,” Latty continued. “Students are given a lot of support but there is some element of creativity that makes it their own project.”

Latty teaches students standard field and lab techniques, as do her science colleagues on the faculty.

“It’s hard for students to do research if they don’t understand methods,” said Latty. “They need to learn actual scientific technique in addition to the process of science. By the time they’re in upper level courses they can have a lot more control over their projects because they have a lot more experience to draw from.”

Assistant Professor Kevin Spigel sees the laboratory as inextricably linked to his teaching.

“It is inherent to the geosciences that you have a lab component,” said Spigel. “It’s all an applied learning environment. Some things related to the geosciences require you to go outside to collect data and bring it back to the lab to process or analyze.”

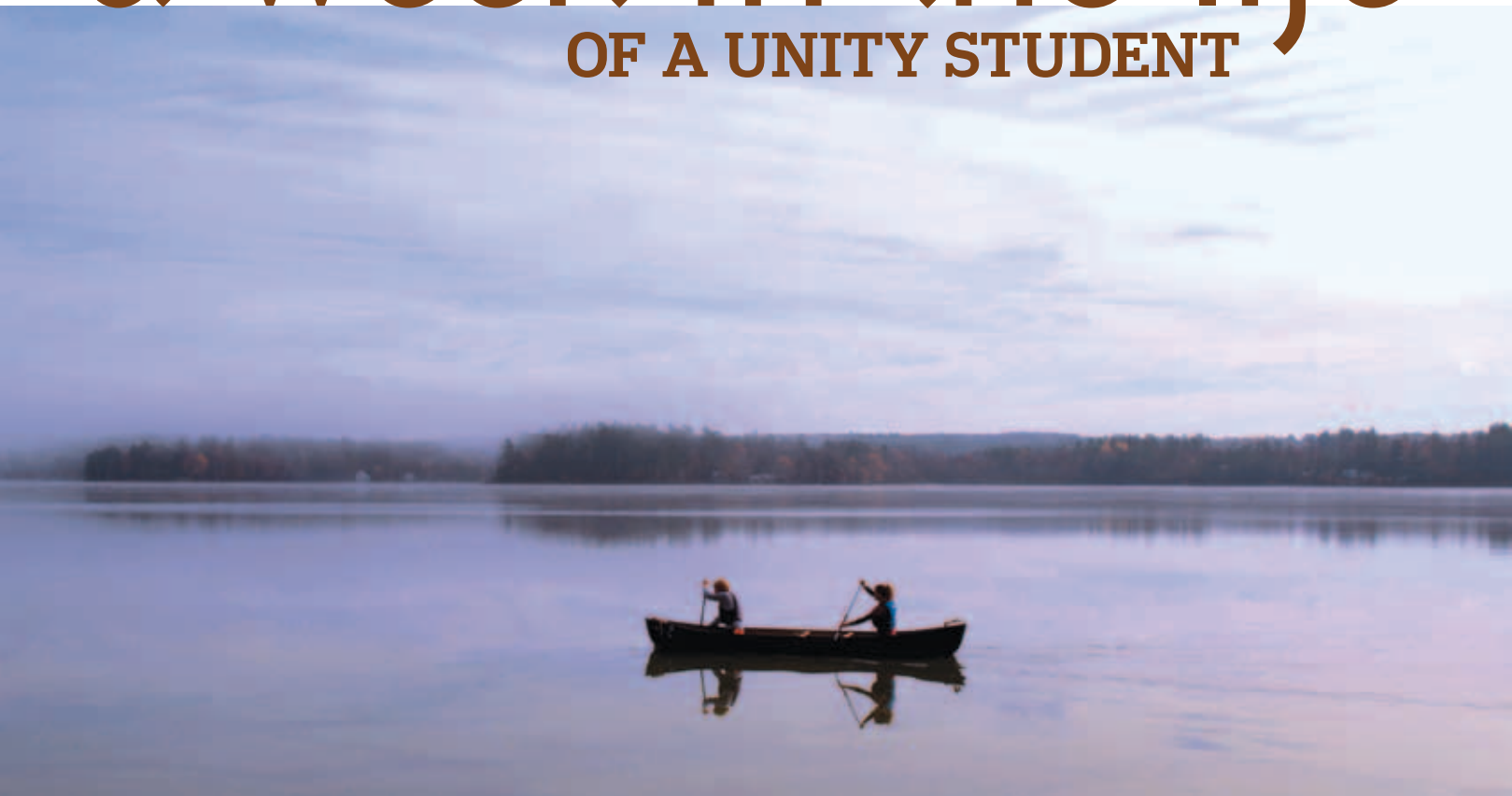
“Being outside (for hands-on learning) and lab work go hand-and-hand in the geosciences.”

The same sentiment is echoed by many faculty focused on different topics across the science curriculum. ▲



# a week in the life

## OF A UNITY STUDENT



**Living on the campus of an environmental college can be a transformative experience at a time of life when change is constant. There is a pulse to campus that shifts from hour-to-hour, day-to-day, and season-to-season.**

The fall semester begins with a palpable feeling of nervous excitement. There is a pervasive optimism and 'getting-to-know you' openness present. New students seek to make their mark and develop an identity within the Unity community. Weeks pass quickly in a flurry of academic, club, athletic and social events. Friends are made and interests shared.

By late-fall there is a lull and increasing pressure. Assignments are due, midterm grades given, adjustments made, help sought, and habits formed. The academic breaks come and go. The end point for the semester is in sight. Personal arrangements are made for winter break including work and trips. Students are ready for a change and a breather, however brief.

The campus slows for winter break, then quickly jumps to life with the start of the spring semester. A sense of joy envelops the culture with the melting snow. Seniors begin to anticipate commencement. Another year is winding to a close. There is a burst of excitement with the achievements celebrated at commencement, and sadness at the loss of each departing senior.

In short, a college campus is an ecosystem.

### Monday

Most every day I try to get some exercise. Several times a week I do free weights, usually in the morning. There are always other physical activities to pursue, everything from ultimate Frisbee to spending time on the climbing wall. I actually get a fair amount of exercise in some classes. At Unity, a class might take you to the Unity Bog, a half hour walk each way from the nearest road.

Today I got up just after six, left my roommate sound asleep, and headed for the gym. Forty-five minutes later I was back for a shower and then breakfast in the cafeteria. I made it to my 8 a.m. composition class with a few minutes to spare.

Since it was a nice day we met at the fire circle. A lot of professors take advantage of the campus not just for field work, but for outdoor classes when the weather is right. There are times when you do find yourself in a lab or classroom, but the hands on approach keeps things interesting.

Aside from some study time and chem. lab, one of my favorite classes is Universal Programming, which meets at the ropes course by the soccer field. The class focuses on developing, planning and implementation skills to help disabled people pursue adventure activities.

### Tuesday

I am able to sleep in a little later on Tuesday. No early classes. Today I met friends for brunch from the à la carte menu in the Student Center café. There are pool tables, couches, snacks all day, music and even instruments if you want to do a little jam.

My Bio II class covered about a chapter today. Some days a class will focus on discussion, on other days like today there will be an intensive review. This usually precedes a quiz. I feel solid with the material and concepts, but there is no question that courses like biology require a specific set of skills.

The social scene at Unity is surprising in more ways than I can count. What people find surprising initially is that you can hang out with friends in the cafeteria and tell stories about dissecting the brain stem of a white tailed deer in Bio I lab, then at the next table they're talking about their Music and the Environment class taught by the President. That's not to say every discussion is an academic one.







### Friday

Two classes, one lab, work study shift turning compost and helping Assistant Professor Alysa Remsburg with her ongoing invertebrate biodiversity research project on the wood lot pretty much sums up today. Tonight I went to see the jam band The Brew at the UCCPA. What a day!

### Saturday

I got up way too early for a van ride to participate in the First Annual Clifton Climbers Weekend Service Project. We joined climbers from across Maine to support an ongoing effort to maintain well-used climbing cliffs across Maine. On this day we addressed two cliffs, Big Chick and Parks Pond cliffs, in Clifton, Maine. We worked to maintain the trails, cleared back brush from the staging points adjacent to the cliffs, and cleaned up trash.

### Sunday

I hung out with friends today. We signed out a college van and trailer, loaded up the trailer with three canoes, and went to Unity Pond for an excursion. The water was calm with just a hint of crisp air, a reminder that fall is on the way. By the time we stopped on one of the deserted islands in the middle of the pond, we were all ready for lunch. Good thing we picked up our boxed lunches from the cafeteria before we left. There is nothing better than a picnic under a big sky with the sounds of nature all around.

After making our way back to campus and unloading the canoes, we all went our separate ways. I went to the library for some study time. At about 10 p.m., I went down to the fire circle next to the South Coop where members of the Outing Club had a nice, warm fire going under the stars. We all swapped stories from the day. Now I'm in my room and drowsy. Sleep will be most welcome.

My week is over and now I'm really starting to imagine all the wonderful possibilities. Life at an environmental college will prepare me for a career and adventures, and there's no doubt that my life at Unity will feature plenty of adventure.

### Wednesday

Today my North American Wildlife class met outside Quimby Library for a comprehensive demonstration of different wildlife trapping techniques. We don't trap wildlife but this aspect does relate to legal activities and as such, we are learning about it.

One of my friends is on the student government association and this year they are taking on planning duties for the flannel formal ball, so today I went to the volunteer planning meeting in the cafeteria. What's a "flannel formal"? It's a Unity-style "formal" dinner and dance that takes place every semester. Since Unity isn't the type of place that either encourages or discourages formal attire for its version of a "prom," the difference is split and most everything regarding attire is welcome. You will see everything from flannel with sandals and torn jeans to, one of the best outfits from last year's ball, a pink crushed velvet tuxedo. Where do you get one of those anyway?

### Thursday

First thing before breakfast I was on the climbing wall with a few other people. The hours are flexible and there is a serious climbing community at Unity, so you can find people at the climbing wall at 8 a.m., that's common.

I went over to the computer lab to work on a Global Positioning System (GPS), accessing information from the Maine GIS Data Catalog for my independent study project.

There is a network of trails adjacent to the Unity College campus and I am developing a map of those trails using GIS. This means a lot of trips up to the wood lot to take position readings, then back to the lab for data input. I've gotten so used to doing this that I actually consider these GIS data gathering hikes to be a fun escape.

After an early dinner at Crosstrax Restaurant in town with friends, we car pooled over to the Unity College Centre for the Performing Arts. With its concert stage, art gallery, and meeting spaces, the centre is a great place for lectures, movies and concerts. My Environmental Policy class is meeting there, we have a guest speaker from Maine House of Representatives tonight. He shares his firsthand experiences working on conservation issues as a member of the legislature.







# 21st Century Environmental Education

## THE NEW BASICS

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By Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Amy Knisley

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I was intrigued to learn this summer that, according to *The New York Times*, some of the best minds in venture capital have decided it's time for their business to "go back to basics." During the dot-com boom and bust about a decade ago, and the recent high flight and crash landing in financial markets, venture capitalists found themselves awash in dollars demanding investment. Business start-ups that might in ordinary times warrant a half-million in investment, found more than twice as much pressed upon them. But in many cases underlying fundamentals weren't up to snuff, and young enterprises were unable to convert the investment into a real asset—a strong-selling product, a patentable process, a service consumers suddenly realize they cannot live without. Smaller and sounder is the ticket, or so argued many interviewed for the Times piece.

This and countless other tales from the recession crypt remind us that there is "wealth," and then there is wealth. When the number attached to one's net worth is a cork afloat on market-made tides, a market as responsive to boasts as to real demonstrations of value, that cork and your "worth" are bound to bob and eventually vanish under the high seas of market corrections. But this is easy to say, and see, in hindsight. In the midst of all the apparent bounty—stock returns soaring, upper-middle-class burgeoning, multi-million dollar bonuses flying, 401(3)(b) and (k) retirement accounts fattening—what does it take to see, right then, that the emperor's naked, or at any rate scantily clad?

Well, to an extent it's information—in this case, information about money and the markets. And yet, this and other types of information are abundant and available. More fundamentally, what's required is a capacity of mind, certain skills of discernment. And cultivation of this capacity, these skills, is right at the heart of an environmental college's work as we roll into the cascading complexities of the 21st century. This is not about understanding money, although money makes an illustrative case study. It is about understanding baseline elements of sustainability, of wealth properly understood: tangibles like potable water and intangibles like a peace of mind, over time and across forms of life. Which conditions are conducive to "sustainable wealth" if you will, and which are not? What exactly do we mean by "sustainable wealth"—what forms does it take, and for whom? Which conditions do we control, and which control us?

"Sounds like critical thinking," you say, "what's special about that? Don't all colleges do that?" Well, yes and no.

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Photos by Joyce Tenneson



While we would be hard-pressed to find a college that does not claim to improve students' critical thinking abilities, traditionally the emphasis is on analysis—sorting argumentative wheat from chaff, so as to accept the better and reject the worse. "Analysis" derives from Greek terms *ana*, meaning "up" or "back," and *lyein*, meaning "loose" or "loosen." To analyze is to loosen the strands one from another, to separate a thing into its parts. We do it to understand and rightly judge the thing. A critical thinking exer-

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*At Unity and other places where "the environment" sets a stage for what we teach, a systems standpoint necessarily complements carefully focused analysis."*

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cise might involve sifting through a passion- and presumption-laden class discussion on whether joining the military counts as worthy public service, plucking out grains of actual evidence, and setting them upon the scales of justice to determine the weightier, and winning, position. Critical thinking, so understood, is crucial. But it is also incomplete.

So, let us analyze critical thinking for a moment. What, in addition to the ability (and inclination) to pull apart and assess do we seek to cultivate, in a 21st century collegiate environmental education? Remember the venture capitalists' lesson: back to basics. What are the basics for students coming of age as global climate change, rapid increase of the human specie, rapid decline in others, and hard-shifting geopolitical relations all swell and spill into potent, intersected and unpredictable rings of consequence?

What skills and habits of mind will serve as we gather our energies around cultivating the conditions for sustainability? The list is long, but this note is short, so I'll discuss only one. Analyticity must be wed to systematicity. The Greek word *systema* meant an "organized whole, a body," and combines *syn*, "together" and *histanai*, "cause to stand." Analysis distinguishes this sugar maple from that red, and the distinc-



tion's usefulness is readily apparent. But what are those two trees doing, standing together, in the first place? Beyond spatial proximity, what is the relationship? And what's useful about understanding it? At Unity and other places where "the environment" sets a stage for what we teach, a systems standpoint necessarily complements carefully focused analysis.

Study from the vantage of systematicity can be elusive. Shifting the focus of inquiry is one way to develop the skill. In law enforcement, for instance, the most compelling questions home in on individual actions and cases. Person A traffics in protected specie X; person B hunts specie Y out of season. The action and the rule—the violation in short—leaps into the foreground, and our focus snaps around the case to be made. But the background is replete with opportunities for a more thorough, college-level, understanding. Who is the person—a Congolese mother? a Maine high school student? What is the rule's history, what purposes does it serve? Are there some it deserves? What is the specie in question, why is its presence important and for whom? And we ask these questions not to test a rule's validity (although we could), but to experience the fact that when it comes to matters environmental, it's all of a piece. Tug on a policy thread, and a biodiversity issue twines out; raise a question of aesthetics, and suddenly the history of land use planning is in play. In a 21st century collegiate environmental education, we and our students must deftly negotiate the landscape of this modern world.

The new basics include a broadened and deepened understanding of critical thinking, for starts. What else should be on the list? As it happens the Unity faculty is asking itself that question, as it revises the college's learning outcomes. And as we do, we keep our end in view—the graduate who is undaunted, but not naively so, by the scale and pace of environmental change and who can, even in its midst, ask the right questions and chart a right course. As we've learned in this most recent recession, hindsight gives a clear view, but cold comfort. A graduate who can understand, and effectively advance, the underlying conditions for genuine sustainability. The graduate who can comprehend the notion that the unprecedented collective power *homo sapiens* exercises over those baseline conditions requires that we ask new questions, and develop new answers, about collective responsibility and action.

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*Claire Cain Miller, "Venture Capitalists Look For a Return to the ABC's,"  
The New York Times, 7 July 2009, p. B1.*

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# MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

At Unity the campus itself is a sustainability laboratory

As an environmental college that is younger than 50 years, Unity College has some interesting challenges related to the sustainability of its buildings. Most community members know that this campus was a regionally important industrial poultry hatchery until 1965. The founders recycled the hatchery into a college. From those humble beginnings Unity has been thrifty, recycling buildings many times over the years to meet changing needs and serve new programs.

The campus architecture runs the gamut. The campus includes buildings that were once hatchery warehouses, new high-end modern suite style residence halls, an early 19th century farmhouse, a sweep of boxy 1960s buildings that may have used off-the-shelf plans from military architects, the chalet style Quimby Library, and the Alison M. Hall Welcome Center.

Every building has an interesting and unique story.

Sustainability Coordinator Jesse Pyles and Associate Professor Mick Womersley, a sustainability expert, are intimately involved with the sustainability of campus buildings.

During a walking tour of the campus, Womersley and Pyles shared their insights about the history and sustainability of Unity College buildings.

"It is important for every college to consider sustainability in buildings," said Pyles. "We're equipping students to deal with pressing environmental issues. At an environmental college like Unity, we are uniquely focused on hands-on environmental learning. The campus itself becomes a sustainability laboratory, and buildings become educational as well as operational assets."

The newest campus building, Unity House, home of President Mitchell Thomashow and his wife, Cindy, is also by far the most sustainable, and most exemplary. It uses no fossil fuel at all beyond what is embedded in the steel, aluminum, hi-tech wood composites, and other über-modern materials of its construction. Named LEED Platinum and less than a year old, this space-age home has attracted national attention. Several versions of Unity House are now being marketed by Bensonwood Homes of New Hampshire, which helped design and built the house as part of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Open Prototype Initiative.

"Blueprints for Unity House are free and available for download on the web," said Womersley. "That's what Open Prototype is all about, having an open source for construction plans which is intended to drive innovation in the construction industry."





Bensonwood Homes is also marketing three versions of Unity House in the United States. The homes run in or around the \$200K range.

“That’s not a bad price when you consider that you’ll never have a heat or power bill,” said Womersley.

Pyles and Womersley are frequently seen about campus with spreadsheets in their hands.

When they look at buildings, they quote numbers like the annual kilowatt-hours they consume, or the oil they use. This gets confusing for the lay listener, but the numbers look good. Greenhouse gas emissions from campus energy use have decreased over 20% from 2001 levels despite adding new buildings and record enrollments.

In 2007–2008, the most recent year with available data, Unity College emitted 1,091 tons of carbon-dioxide equivalent climate pollution. Reductions are attributed to efficiency upgrades in older buildings (new insulation in Constable Hall, Eastview and Westview several years ago), and an efficiency focus in new construction (eg, the recent construction of Maplewood, a residence hall, features super-insulated ceilings and walls, and low-e windows).

“We will eventually need to knock the old buildings down,” said Womer-

a year. That’s enough fuel to run two new dorms the size of Maplewood.”

The progress is easily quantified.

“In 2008, fifty nine percent of our greenhouse gas emissions came from heating buildings,” said Pyles. “We know that any attempt to decrease emissions from campus operations will have to address the heating efficiency of buildings.”

Pyles feels that there is a balance to be struck between efficiency and preserving historical aspects of the College.

“I would argue that historical value must be seen as a component of our sustainability assessment of buildings,” Pyles said. “Constable Hall, for example, has great historical and aesthetic value to our community and has been beautifully renovated to increase efficiency. In some cases, increasing efficiency in existing buildings could be more environmentally sensitive than starting from scratch.”



Sometimes the right decisions can be made for the wrong reasons. While not applying this concept to the Unity campus, Pyles says that certain principles provide the right framework.

“Generally speaking if you are replacing windows and insulation, you’re decreasing energy use, and therefore

increasing the economic efficiency of building operations,” said Pyles.

Both Womersley and Pyles feel there is much that was done well in recent years. They credit Director of Facilities and Public Safety Roger Duval and his staff as the unsung heroes of college sustainability.

“Not many employees and students know of the insulation projects in Eastview, Westview, Koons, along with the North Coop and South Coop,” said Womersley. He also praised the efficiency data compiled by Roger Duval.

“All of our more recent construction projects, including Maplewood Residence Hall, the Health and Wellness



Center, Cianchette Residence Hall, and the Allison M. Hall Welcome Center, integrate sustainability design and function well,” Pyles stated. They’re no Unity House, but these buildings were constructed with thermal efficiency in mind. “As we pursue new construction on campus, these buildings will be the model that we work from.”

Womersley praises the workmanship of Joe Bellerose’77, the general contractor on many recent building projects, with the exception of Unity House which was built by Bensonwood Homes of New Hampshire.

“One day when you’re walking around campus, just walk up and look at the siding and windows (of most buildings like the Allison M. Hall Welcome Center), and notice how well they are sealed,” Womersley urged.

The challenges that Unity College has addressed have been many and varied.

“Finances have certainly been a challenge,” Pyles stated. “The upfront cost for sustainability in construction and design can sometimes prove to be cost-prohibitive, even when the payoff from operations down the road could make the investment a wise choice. Of course, the campus Master Plan, Unity 2020, has been drafted with sustainability criteria in mind, and the Master Planning Committee has addressed sustainability in a far-sighted way.”

Pyles highlighted one theme as key to continuing progress: heating.

“We must consider renewable fuels

for heating campus buildings if we hope to decrease emissions,” noted Pyles. “Replacing oil boilers with wood pellet boilers where appropriate is one approach being considered now.”

Analysis is the lifeblood of sustainability, a fact that often shapes his priorities.

“We intend to do a more thorough energy analysis soon, supported in part by grant funding through our involvement with the Rocky Mountain Institute’s Accelerating Campus Climate-change Initiatives program,” Pyles explained. “That analysis should better help us to identify priorities from an energy perspective with specific emphasis on the return of investment for any improvements made to multiple campus buildings.”

Unity College is carefully considering its building options through an unfolding master planning process. Regardless of the shape the new master plan will take, campus building renovation projects will balance sustainability with functionality, aesthetic appeal and historical context.

Unity’s greenhouse gas inventory report is online at [acupcc.aashe.org](http://acupcc.aashe.org). Comprehensive information about sustainability achievements at Unity College is online at [www.unity.edu](http://www.unity.edu).

**“WE’RE IN THE BUSINESS OF SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION AND WE WANT OUR CAMPUS AND ITS BUILDINGS TO REFLECT OUR SUSTAINABILITY VALUES ...”**

sley. “It’s not good just building new green buildings. However efficient they are, they will add climate emissions if you don’t also retire some inefficient older buildings at the same time.”

An old farmhouse formerly home to the Health and Wellness Center and the Office of College Advancement that once stood at the entrance to the Maintenance Complex was demolished in 2008.

“Removing that terribly inefficient building was necessary,” said Womersley. “It could not be repaired. The demolition of this building saved Unity College nearly two thousand gallons of heat oil

“Our sustainability commitments can’t just be about some end result because if we only wanted to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, we would close down,” he continued. “We’re in the business of sustainability education and we want our campus and its buildings to reflect our sustainability values, including personal well-being, comfort, and ease of use. These are all important components to the esthetic aesthetic appeal of the place.”

“Building projects must consider user needs,” Pyles says.

“It’s not just about the efficiency of materials and fuels, it’s also about encouraging sustainability behaviors,” he noted.

**SUSTAINABILITY PRIORITIES FOR CAMPUS BUILDINGS**

- Constable Hall could benefit from a renewable heat supply such as a heat pump or pellet boiler.
- Westview and Eastview would benefit from new windows and more exterior wall insulation, likely foam board under new siding.
- The North and South Coops would benefit from a plethora of improvements, including adding insulation and replacing failing siding. A complicating factor adding cost and complexity is asbestos board insulation within the structure.
- Among the least sustainable buildings on campus is the Student Activities Building which houses the gym, student affairs, classrooms and the student center, and the Outdoor Adventure Center (OAC). Womersley feels that the OAC has few redeeming qualities from a sustainability perspective, while occupying a key site that could be home to a larger building that might use less energy.
- The cottages are the very least sustainable of all campus buildings and most degraded. They must be replaced and Womersley urges their replacement take priority. One possibility is to remove them one-by-one, and place new buildings on the old slabs, using the same services.
- Maplewood is new and highly efficient, as is Cianchette.
- The health center is also new and efficient.
- Aside from needing a new wood pellet boiler new boiler and replacement windows, Quimby Library is very sound. Womersley places the boiler as a priority, and would put foam board insulation down the next time the roof and siding are replaced.
- Koons Hall faces a variety of ongoing problems relating to space and scheduling, though it has been renovated in recent years.



## Quimby Project Dedicated to Stephen and Tabitha King

On Friday, June 12, Quimby Webb Library at Unity College dedicated a renovated space to Stephen and Tabitha King.

Through the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation, Inc. the Kings have generously supported the library. Funding to enhance the public function of the library was used to create the new space serving as a children's section.

"The renovations included the relocation of children's books to a more centralized location on the first floor," noted Unity College Librarian Melora Norman. "Child friendly and attractive whimsical book shelves and furnishings were part of the renovation. A coloring table, play square, storytime seating, and brightly colored carpet were also added."

Norman added that a second floor balcony area reading corner was established as part of the renovation. Quimby Library is open to the general public.



Roland Watier, of the Golden Raven Storytelling Circle of Union, Maine, presented storytelling programs for area children and adults at the dedication. The presentation was made possible through a grant from the Rose and Samuel Rudman Library Trust.

## Events Celebrated at Unity



### A Happy 44th Founders' Day

On September 7, Unity College celebrated Founders' Day with a cake social at the office of Vice President for College Advancement Rob Constantine in Constable Hall. A large group of students, faculty and staff stopped by to mark the occasion. Founders' Day, September 7, 1965, marks the day when the college was founded. The first class arrived a year later for the first fall semester in 1966. College founders included: John A. Burwell, Bert G. Clifford, Donald S. Constable, Maxwell O. Fortier, Donald Higgins Jr., Gordon S. Parsons, Christian O. Smart, Kenneth Tozier Jr., W. T. Vickery and Robert G. Wyman.



### Making Friends...One Lobster at a Time

Each summer the Office of Admissions takes full advantage of Unity's rural location to entice guidance counselors to campus. On July 10, Admissions hosted 17 guidance counselors for the 3rd Annual Guidance Counselor Lobster Dinner. Counselors were invited to spend one or two nights on campus to learn more about the Unity College curriculum, hands-on approach to learning, approach to sustainability and environmental mission. "Our goal is to expose guidance counselors to the 'Best Value' education available at Unity," said President Mitchell Thomashow, who attended the lobster bake. Counselors in attendance hailed from New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Maryland.

## Earth Activists Train at Unity

The training provided a full permaculture and ecological design certification program combined with earth based spirituality and practical know-how. Two Bangor-based television stations, WABI-TV Channel 5 and WVII-TV Channel 7, filmed stories about the training which aired on their respective stations.

Detailed information about Earth Activist Training and Starhawk, an internationally recognized environmental and social justice activist, author, and facilitator of the training at Unity College, is available online at [www.earthactivist-training.org](http://www.earthactivist-training.org). Unity College Professor Doug Fox also led several sessions during the training.

Earth Activist Training is held several times a year in northern California, Oregon, and North Carolina. This is the first time that this training was held in the Northeast. The course was taught by Starhawk, author of nine books including *The Spiral Dance*, *The Fifth Sacred Thing*, and most recently *The Earth Path: Grounding Your Spirit in the Rhythms of Nature*.

The training was a rigorous permaculture design program that combined classroom lecture with small-group project design time and hands-on experiential learning. Students learned how to heal soil, cleanse water, and design human sys-



Earth Activist Training students pursue a hands-on, soil learning project. The comprehensive training focused on permaculture, which teaches how to weave green solutions together into systems that can meet human needs and regenerate the natural world.



tems that mimic natural systems using a minimum of energy and resources. This is the cornerstone approach of permaculture.

Students studied a variety of nature-based solution challenges such as urban gardening, organic farming, natural building, bioremediation, greywater systems, ecoforestry, soil building, and watershed restoration. Hands-on learning approaches enabled students to design and install one or more permaculture projects

during the two-week course.

The training approach recognized that the bioremediation which happens with permaculture systems often must be accompanied by 'socio-remediation,' creating communities, along with social and political systems, that support sound ecological design. The course explored the strategies and organizing tools that may be needed to make a place for permaculture in the community.

## College Hosts Belfast Chamber

On Thursday, September 10, Unity College hosted a Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours event at the Unity College Centre for the Performing Arts. Members of the chamber enjoyed networking with refreshments from local area restaurants in Unity. A drawing for donated prizes was held. Vice President for College Advancement Rob Constantine serves as board member of the chamber.

From left, Unity College Vice President for College Advancement Rob Constantine, Glenn Burgess of the Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce, and Jeremy Marden of Marden, Mailloux, Marden and Beard Attorneys at Law.





## Landscape at Unity House a Triumph of Careful Planning

In the Unity College landscape we can see back into a time when the campus was merely a base camp from which students would leave to study nature that mattered—a remote bog, mountaintop or virgin forest relatively untouched by humans.

We can also see the emergence of another ethic on our campus, one that complements our historical emphasis on wilderness. In this more recent “garden” ethic, humans are not a blight on the land but have a place in nature, co-existing and seeking opportunities for reciprocity. In these landscapes, natural guilds—associations of interdependent plants, animals and humans—are developed that provide food and shelter to various life forms from nesting birds to professors grabbing a handful of blueberries on the way to a meeting, to students seeking a cozy place out of the wind for their study group.

The landscape around the Unity House is developing into a model of the garden ethic, a place where nature and culture can thrive together. Landscaper Brian Gaudet of Moonshine Gardens of Unity, Maine, designed and installed an attractive, functional landscape that will grow and evolve, its course shaped by its human and nonhuman residents.

The landscape contributed essential LEED points to the Unity House Platinum Award. Features include low maintenance, noninvasive plants to supply food to wildlife and people; swales to direct and retain water, and low albedo



Professor Doug Fox at the butterfly garden outside Unity House

paving on the patio that reflects rather than absorbs sunlight. The passive solar design required careful placement of plants including a trellis system that provides summer shade and allows winter sun. Throughout the landscape there are spaces for gatherings of people, quiet study, new gardens and, as designer and writer Christopher Alexander puts it, “places where real stories can be made...places to experience the measure of the freedom, difficulty, and incongruity of being human.” —Professor Doug Fox



## Wellness Fair

The Unity College Wellness Fair, sponsored by Inland Hospital of Waterville and organized by Unity College Director of Student Health Services Anna McGalliard and the Unity Barn Raisers during the spring semester 2009, was an unqualified success. Among those participating was Jake Harr '09, who helped to fix a bike owned by Samuel Eldridge, age 9, of Troy. Harr helped to organize a Unity area organization that advocates bicycle use for fun, fitness and sustainability.

## Education in a Changing Climate

Education in a Changing Climate is an annual event jointly sponsored by The Orion Society (publishers of Orion Magazine) and Unity College. Twelve educators from across the country and as far away as Australia gathered at Unity College this past summer to work with poet and author Alison Deming, Middlebury College Professor John Elder, a specialist in nature writing, and Unity faculty using field-based nature study, the humanities and the arts to better understand and educate about climate change. “I found my time at Unity to be both reaffirming and intellectually stimulating. You managed to integrate just the right amount of art, humanities, science (who will forget our march to the peat bog), and passion. Powerful environmental thinkers and educators surrounded us each day. I am grateful to have had the chance to listen and learn from [them] all,” said Dan Shipp from College of the Pacific. —Cindy Thomashow



Above, participants work on individual art projects with material gathered from the peat bog excursion led by Professor Dave Potter.



Left, Professor Amy Arnett leads an exercise to examine insect biodiversity in the field adjacent to Unity House.



## Unity College Centre for Performing Arts Lives Up to Hype

The Unity College Centre for the Performing Arts (UCCPA) lived up to its reputation for attracting top notch talent during the summer and fall seasons of 2009. Among the talented performers and bands that took to the stage were John Eddie, Irish violinist Niamh Ni Charra, and Maine's own Rustic Overtones.

The Rustic Overtones (left), a well-established rock band from Portland, Maine, that has worked with artists like David Bowie, surprised and delighted fans with an acoustic performance of their best known songs backed by three violinists and a cellist.

Award-winning Niamh Ni Charra (center) displayed the talent and range that made her

a mainstay of the Riverdance orchestra for nearly a decade.

During the Get Hooked on Unity weekend concert John Eddie (right) seized the audience from the first note, showing why he is frequently mentioned alongside Bon Jovi and Bruce Springsteen as among the finest performers ever to hail from New Jersey.



## A Life in Service to the Environment

Every Unity College student values role models. Chairman of the Board of Trustees Tim Glidden is a role model who, like President Mitchell Thomashow, embodies what a life spent in-service to the environment means.

Now in his second term as Chairman, Glidden is Director of the Land for Maine's Future Program, the primary source of state funding for land conservation activities across Maine. Working with an eleven member board, Glidden manages \$8 to \$10 million annually in conservation projects including parks, trails, ecological reserves, farms, working forests and waterfronts.

To date Land for Maine's Future Program has helped in the conservation of more than half a million acres, ensuring the sustainability of some very special places.

While Glidden's achievements to benefit the environment are readily apparent to Unity students, what is less apparent are the details of how his contributions to the wise fiscal oversight of the College helped it reach solid footing in a challenging higher education marketplace.

"As a trustee, I feel a deep responsibility for the fiscal health of the College and for the integrity of its strategic direction," said Glidden. "The most important thing we do as trustees



Board Chair Tim Glidden and Director of Student Health Services Anna McGalliard at the 2009 commencement exercises.

is to keep our eye on the future, looking for challenges and opportunities Unity will face."

"My political awakening in the late 60's and early 70's was grounded in the environmental movement," Glidden said. "My entire career in the public service and nonprofit sector has been devoted to promoting environmental sustainability."

## Supporting Operation Game Thief

In September, Unity College supported the 2nd Annual Operation Game Thief with an 18 hole scramble and auction golf tournament at the Fairlawn Golf Course in Poland, Maine, and the "Harvest Fun Shoot" at the Hermon Skeet Club on Blackstream Road in Hermon, Maine. Proceeds from the events were donated to Operation Game Thief, a private, non-profit organization that works with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Warden Service to pay rewards to citizens

who turn in poachers. Six students from Unity College participated and served as volunteers at the "Harvest Fun Shoot," and several students served as volunteers at



Jeb Fay '13, left, and Paul Mason '11 with the Operation Game Thief "Wall of Shame" trailer which showcases confiscated game resulting from tips.

the golf tournament. "Unity College has been a supporter of Operation Game Thief for over a decade," said Tim Peabody '81, Associate Professor and former Colonel of the Maine Warden Service. "The environmental mission and hands-on learning that takes place at Unity led to our ongoing involvement with and support of Operation Game Thief. We were pleased to see a good turnout and exceptional shoot to support this worthy cause."

## NEW TO UNITY FULL-TIME FACULTY



**Kathleen Dunkel** joins the faculty as an Instructor in Computers. Dunkel earned a M.S. in Environmental Science from Alaska Pacific University, and a B.A. in Environmental Science from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. Dunkel comes to Unity College from Cape Cod Community College, where she has been providing leadership in GIS instruction, and brings a blend of computer instruction and environmental education background. Dunkel is a member of the Center for Natural Resource Management and Protection.



**Craig McLaughlin** joined the faculty as an Associate Professor in Wildlife. McLaughlin earned his Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology from University of Maine, Orono, his M.S. in Wildlife from Pennsylvania State University, and his B.S. in Wildlife Conservation and Management from the University of Wyoming, Laramie. McLaughlin comes to Unity College from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, where he served as Wildlife Program Chief, capping many years in state fish and wildlife programs in Maine, Vermont and Utah. Craig is a member of the Center for Natural Resource Management and Protection.



**Janet Preston** joined the faculty as an Instructor in Mathematics in the fall. Preston earned an M.S. in Mathematics from Northeastern University, and a B.S. in Mathematics and teacher certification from Wesleyan University. She is a long-time resident of Maine with a significant teaching background, including serving as an adjunct at Unity College for several semesters. She is a member of the Center for Biodiversity; she and her family reside in China, Maine.

## FULL-TIME STAFF



When she was hired as Unity's new Vice President for Finance and Administration in September, **EILEEN DRISCOLL** already knew her way around campus. She first came to Unity in July as the interim VP for Finance and Administration, working closely with her predecessor Roger Jolin. "Eileen has been an excellent team member in her service as interim CFO (Chief Financial Officer)," wrote President Mitch Thomashow in a campus-

wide announcement. "All of her references speak glowingly about her intelligence, experience, versatility, collaborative style, integrity, and mentoring qualities." Driscoll brings a varied financial background to the position, including serving in various positions with Price Waterhouse, Soft Key Software Products, Visibility, Inc., and Founder and Principal of Business Advisory and Financial Services. Driscoll holds a B.S. in Accountancy from Bentley College.

Over the summer of 2009, **KRISTINA WILLIAMS** began her new duties as Events Coordinator/Admissions Counselor. The events aspect of her position will focus specifically on admissions events such as fall open house and the new student experience program. In 2007, Williams was awarded a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing Communications from Emerson

College in Boston, Massachusetts. Her professional experiences include serving as a media planner specializing in travel and tourism for ISM, Strategic Marketing in



Boston. She has helped to plan events for Emirates Airline and Harpoon Brewery. She grew up in North Anson, Maine, and is a graduate of Carrabec High School.



## Maine Senator Addresses Global Climate Change

During her commencement address on May 9, United States Senator Susan Collins left no doubt where she stands on the issue of climate change. In a stirring and highly personal speech, Collins said that climate change is a problem that she has witnessed firsthand.

“I have observed firsthand the dramatic effects of climate change and have been briefed by the preeminent experts in this field,” Collins told graduates. “In 2006, on a trip to Antarctica and New Zealand, for example, I saw sites in New Zealand that had been buried by massive glaciers at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but are now ice free. Fifty percent of the glaciers in New Zealand have melted since 1860---an event unprecedented in the last 5,000 years”

“It was remarkable to stand in a place where some 140 years ago, I would have been covered in tens of hundreds of feet of ice, and then to look far up the mountainside and see how distant the edge of the ice is today.”

Senator Collins praised Unity College and its environmental mission.

“For 44 years, Unity College has produced graduates ready to meet the demands of today,” Collins stated. “Unity graduates have a reverence for the past, but more important, they have a vision for the future. The Great Law of the Iroquois – that we must assess every action we take in terms of its impact on the seventh generation – is the guiding spirit of this great school. The people of Maine are proud to be home to America’s Environmental College.”

The entire text of the commencement address by Senator Collins is online at [www.unity.edu/NewsEvents/News/UC-ComU509.aspx](http://www.unity.edu/NewsEvents/News/UC-ComU509.aspx).



Senator Susan Collins

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## Maine Representative Michaud Tours Unity House

On October 5, Congressman Mike Michaud of Maine’s 2nd District visited Unity College. He briefed members of the Leadership Council on health care reform and green issues. After the meeting he toured Unity House with President Mitchell Thomashow. Congressman Michaud learned about the performance of Unity House to date, which is on track to be carbon neutral in its first calendar year.

## Renewable Energy in Maine

A diverse group of supporters witnessed Governor John Baldacci’s ceremonial signing of the Community-Based Renewable Energy Act on June 24, 2009. Pictured supporters include lead sponsors Bruce MacDonald and Herbert Adams, representatives from the Peninsula Power Coop Initiative, Mary Ann Hayes of Maine Rural Partners and Mick Womersley from Unity College (second from right).



Photo Courtesy of Lucas Sanders

## Fishing for Scholarships Breaks Record

The seventh annual Unity College Fishing for Scholarships Tournament, part of Get Hooked on Unity Weekend, featured a record number of tagged fish caught.

“The fishing conditions were great and among the countless fish caught, nine had fishing tournament tags,” said Unity College Vice President for College Advancement Rob Constantine. “The previous record was four.”

The catch-and-release fishing tournament, the only one of its kind in the United States, was held on Sunday, July 26 on Unity Pond, a stone’s throw from the Unity College campus in Unity, Maine.

Among the awards for tagged fish and prize drawings was the crown jewel of the weekend, a one-year tuition scholarship valued at \$20,000. The fish tagged for the one-year tuition scholarship was landed by Jacob Hastings ’13 of Farmington, Maine. A \$5,000 scholarship was won by Josh Wade ’11 of Alstead, New Hampshire.

There were eleven additional students who won scholarships and prizes, bringing the value of all scholarships and prizes awarded to \$29,000.



The seventh annual Fishing for Scholarships tournament kicks-off.

“By any measure this was an outstanding weekend for incoming and returning Unity College students and their families,” said Constantine. “The entire Get Hooked on Unity Weekend, beginning with registration on Friday and culminating in the fishing tournament on Sunday, is much more than a means to win tuition dollars. This weekend has become a cherished event and rallying point for the entire Unity College community at a time when the new academic year is in sight, but there is still plenty of summer yet to enjoy.”

Constantine issued a special congratulation to Jacob Hastings, who upon receiving his scholarship pumped his fists and danced across the gym floor as a large crowd cheered.

“Meeting Jacob and his supportive family was a joy,” said Constantine. “What a great way to begin his college experience, celebrating the good fate to have landed the fish that carried the one year tuition scholarship.”

Over 400 students and their guests participated in the tournament. Event coordinator Kate Grenier praised the support of faculty, staff and community volunteers whose commitment made the event successful.

“It takes a lot to pull something like this off and it speaks to our entire campus community that we are able to put together such a top notch event,” said Grenier. “I would especially like to acknowledge Associate Director of Admissions Joe Saltalamachia ’94 for his efforts during this tournament and for the original idea.”



Jacob Hastings '13 a prize winner (left) and a group photo of the prize winning students (right).

## Bringing Local Options to Downtown Waterville



Unity College Vice President for College Advancement Rob Constantine and Unity Barn Raisers Executive Director Tess Fairbanks Woods '95 at Barrels Community Market.

There’s a new market on the block in downtown Waterville. Barrels Community Market, which is dedicated to selling locally grown food and locally crafted products, held a Grand Opening Celebration on September 12, 2009.

The launch of this non-profit market was a collaborative effort, said Shannon Haines, Executive Director of Waterville Main Street, a downtown revitalization organization that oversees Barrels Community Market.

“We have received considerable support from Colby College, Unity

College, the Waterville Rotary Club, Inland Hospital and many other individuals, businesses, and organizations to get the market up and running,” said Haines.

Unity College contributed to the development of the project by conducting market research with students. Dr. Nancy Ross, associate professor of environmental policy and agriculture, food, and sustainability, lead her students in researching local food trends and non-profit business models as a means of identifying best practices in the emerging field of local food economies.



## Faculty and Staff Service Honored

On April 28, Unity College faculty and staff gathered in Quimby Library for the 2009 Length of Service Awards. Given annually, the awards recognize milestones reached by faculty and staff. Organized by Director of Human Resources, Kathleen Hale, and the Assistant to the Director of Human Resources, Mary-Cay Pitre, the awards feature a narrative about each recipient. The narratives are often written by supervisors with sometimes humorous or heart warming thoughts contributed by co-workers. President Mitchell Thomashow (center front) was on hand to make the presentations to (clockwise front) Adjunct Instructor/Director of the Writing Center Judy Williams (5 years of service); Chief Public Safety Officer Dean Bessey (10 years); Executive Assistant to the President/Secretary to the Board of Trustees Chris Melanson (10 years); Advancement and Prospect Research Coordinator Cindy Schaub (5 years); Administrative Assistant to the Business Office Beth Safford (5 years); Accountant Cheryl Gould (10 years); Associate Professor James Reed (20 years); Professor Dave Potter (20 years); and Professor Jerry Cinnamon (35



years). Not pictured are Clinical Counselor Julie Johnson (5 years); Director of Information Technology William Morgan (5 years); Assistant Professor of Biology Aimee Phillippi (5 years); Maintenance II William Veilleux (5 years); Associate Professor J. Andrew McInnes (10 years); and Maintenance II Bruce Cook (15 years).

## Bucking the Trend of Employee Melt in Higher Education

At a time when colleges and universities across the United States are trimming jobs, Unity College is boldly bucking the belt tightening trend.

The creation of new positions is in response to a historically large pool of applicants, strong retention of students, new and ongoing public/private partnerships, and an increase in giving to the College during the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Not a single faculty or staff job was cut.

This story of Unity boldly swimming upstream against the raging torrent of a lagging economy that is buffeting higher education was covered by Yahoo on its web site in July. Within a day, Unity's story was carried by dozens of media across the United States, reaching millions of web, television, print and radio media consumers.

The popularity of Unity's environmental curriculum has led to the hiring of three new faculty members to replace three who retired.

"We're very excited to welcome three new members to our full-time faculty this fall," said Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Amy Knisley. "The news in higher education has been full of layoffs and cutbacks—entire programs being cut along with their faculty, including tenured faculty in some cases. There is nothing more important, for a small college like ours, than a strong faculty, and I'm so pleased we've been able to maintain our faculty workforce in full for this upcoming year."

Kathleen Hale, Director of Human Resources, is pleased that the College has been able to keep a handle on employment despite the economic turmoil shaking businesses.

"In a time when many institutions of higher education are laying people off and freezing hiring, retaining people in their jobs and maintaining the quality of our staff and faculty workforce is one of our highest priorities at Unity College," said Hale. "Our staff and faculty are very committed to our students, believe wholeheartedly in our mission, and we place a high value on our workers who make us what we are."

In addition to the historically high number of applications received for the incoming class of 2013, Dean for Enrollment Management Alisa Johnson reports that the academic profile of the incoming class is outstanding.

"The class of 2013 has the highest grade point average and best SAT scores of any class in the history of Unity College," Johnson confirmed. "This adds to an already strong curriculum with national reach."

*The Yahoo story is online at [www.unity.edu/NewsEvents/News/UCTrend709.aspx](http://www.unity.edu/NewsEvents/News/UCTrend709.aspx).*

## Who is Jesse Pyles and What is He Doing in a Boiler Room Anyway?

If you are strolling the Unity College campus and happen to see a lanky West Virginian exit a door you never noticed before, and you peer in and see that there are all kinds of pipes and equipment in the room beyond, well, you have just encountered the emerging profession of Sustainability Coordinator, and Unity College's very own, Jesse Pyles.

Unity College is a pioneer of the sustainability coordinator position and role, and in fact we get regular requests from all around the country for information on how to set up such a position and make it work. Jesse's new job is the product of our trial and error in moving towards campus sustainability, and his own life pathway towards this work.

Jesse hails from the mountain country of West Virginia, but he travelled to New York City to earn an undergraduate degree in environmental studies at the prestigious Pace University. For his graduate degree he attended the Audubon Expedition Institute field-study program, touring the Pacific Northwest and Canyonlands on the famous AEI bus, and getting a master's in environmental education along the way. If that doesn't sound idyllic enough, what follows surely is. He married a New Englander, Laura, who has significant experience in agriculture and sustainability education in her own right, having been the resident farmer at Sterling College. Both Laura and Jesse were looking for ways to further develop their sustainability careers in the context of a rural lifestyle when the Unity College job came open, and the rest, as they say, is history.



Jesse's job is to coordinate all campus sustainability efforts. Each department head with significant responsibility and budget, especially those who have responsibility for purchasing materials and energy, has a clause in their job description saying that each year they must prepare a Sustainability Report and rolling three-year plan to submit to the President for approval. Jesse's primary job is to help develop those reports and to help each department be as sustainable as they can be.

The data in those reports is then compiled and used to make several campus sustainability reports that are due to external oversight agencies each year, particularly the Maine Governor's Carbon Challenge ([www.maine.gov/dep/innovation/gcc/](http://www.maine.gov/dep/innovation/gcc/)) and the American College and University President's Climate Commitment ([www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/](http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/)), both of which require to know what our campus carbon emissions were in the preceding year. And of course, both require different formats, and even different units. Like all sustainability coordinators, Jesse has to be a whiz with numbers.

The other big part of his job is internal and external outreach. There's not much point being (we believe) the greenest campus in America if you don't tell anyone about it. Students often don't realize what goes into our sustainability efforts, and the outside world needs to hear it too. Jesse necessarily spends a lot of time writing, telephoning, and emailing to get the message out to external constituencies. Internally, there's nothing like face-to-face, and so Jesse goes into the classrooms and residence halls regularly to meet the students and tell them what's up.

All in all there isn't enough time in the day to do all this as completely or as well as it could be done, so prioritizing is fairly important. The sustainability coordinator position is key to the increasingly high-profile reputation of Unity College, and Jesse is key to the position. Please join me in welcoming him to our community. —Associate Professor Mick Womersley



## IN THE CLOUDS

On July 25, Dean for Student Affairs Gary Zane '83 and Interim Director of Adventure Experiences Nancy Zane '88 participated in a Mt. Katahdin summit sign replacement worktrip. They were joined by Baxter State Park Trail Supervisor and Unity College alum Paul Sannicandro '96 and other volunteers. They replaced the Katahdin summit sign and the wooden frame that holds it. As with most everything related to Mt. Katahdin this project posed more than the ordinary set of challenges. Volunteers were hand chosen for their prior climbing and outdoor adventure experience. The timbers had to be transported by sled to Chimney Pond. All the pieces were transported up Saddle Trail to Baxter Peak and then assembled.



*Gary and Nancy Zane were part of the volunteer team that participated in the rebuilding of the sign at the top of Mt. Katahdin. Materials for the rebuilding effort were painstakingly carried to the summit along the often challenging trail system.*

## HURRICANE SEASON AT UNITY

During the fall semester the critically acclaimed multi-media production of *Hurricane Season* offered a well-received performance at the Unity College Centre for the Performing Arts (UCCPA). Through a tapestry of spoken-word poetry, video projection, dance, shadow art, and a sound collage of personal testimonies, *Hurricane Season* connects the issues that surfaced in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina to the “unnatural disasters” our communities are experiencing nationwide and around the world on a daily basis. Alixa and Naima are the soul-sister co-conspiracy of arts activists known as Climbing PoeTree. With roots in Haiti and Colombia, Alixa and Naima reside in Brooklyn and track footprints across the country and globe on a mission to overcome destruction with creativity. Poets, performers, print-makers, dancers, muralists, and designers, Alixa and Naima have sharpened their art as a tool for popular education, community organizing, and personal transformation. With a set built of bamboo, calabash, and water that surrounds the audience in a circle of shadow and light, *Hurricane Season* transforms spaces into sanctuaries of healing, witness, and imagination.



*Patrons were treated to one of the most extensive set designs of any performance in UCCPA history. The Hurricane Season experience began the moment patrons entered the door with tapestries hung from the ceiling containing hand written messages and art work.*

## Unity College Welcomes Four New Trustees

Four new Trustees were welcomed to the Board of Trustees at the annual fall meeting at the Unity College Centre for the Performing Arts on October 23.

“Unity College is delighted to welcome these four new Trustees to the Board,” noted President Mitchell Thomashow. “They bring valuable creativity, insights, and networks into our midst. They join us because Unity College is in the forefront of educating a new generation of sustainability leaders.”

New to the Board are Jeff Wahlstrom, Managing Director of Starboard Leadership consulting of Bangor, Maine. He possesses more than 25 years of hands-on nonprofit leadership experience.

John Bielenberg of C2 and Project M with locations in Portland and Belfast, Maine, has won over 250 design awards. He has served on national boards and teaches at California College of the Arts in San Francisco.

Margot Kelley is an artist and author who works with the Photography Department at the Art Institute of Boston in Boston, Massachusetts. She has offered readings and lectures across the United States, won grants and awards, and displayed collections at the Portland (Maine) Museum of Art, Berman Museum of Art, and American Newspaper Repository at Duke University.

Nadine Mort is an author and special educator with over thirty years experience in the public and private sector. She has an extensive background and specialization in specific learning disabilities, emotional disturbance and autism in young adults.



*Unity College Trustees pictured are Dr. Mitchell Thomashow, President; Mr. William Glidden, Chair; Mr. William Zoellick, Vice-Chair; Mr. Donald Foster, Treasurer; Ms. Juliet Browne, Secretary; Mrs. Joan Amory, Mr. John Bielenberg, Mr. Pete Didisheim, Mrs. Martha Dolben, Mrs. Margot Kelley, Mr. Mark Miller, Mr. Robert Pollis, Mrs. Arlene Schaefer, Mr. Matthew Shejen '00, Mr. Robert Tonge, Dr. Paul Wade, Mr. Jeffrey Wahlstrom, Mr. James Horan, Faculty; Ms. Hannia Candelario '11, Student. Not pictured are Ms. Sharon Bloome, Ms. Eleanor Briggs, Mr. Mac McCabe, Mrs. Nadine Mort, Ms. Gloria Sosa '80, and Mr. Kenneth Winters.*

## Professor and Student Attend National Geology Meeting

In March of 2009, Unity College Assistant Professor of Geoscience Kevin Spigel and Eric Larson '10, an environmental analysis major, headed west to the Nevada desert for the Association of American Geographers (AAG) annual meeting in Las Vegas.

Spigel and Larson were there to present a paper entitled *Investigations of Wildfire Activity During Periods of Rapid Climate Change: An example from the Younger Dryas Chronozone*. The presentation marked the end of research conducted during the fall and spring semesters at Unity College. The work entailed processing lake sediments recovered from Emrick Lake in southern Wisconsin to isolate small fragments of charcoal in Petri dishes and subsequently counted under a dissecting microscope.

Charcoal counts were subjected to statistical analysis in order to determine the relative frequency of wildfire during a prominent climatic event that started at the end of the Wisconsinian Glacial Period approximately 12,800 years ago. Spigel organized two thematic paper sessions with a colleague from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point entitled *Sedimentary Perspectives on Paleoenvironmental Change I and II*, in which nine additional presenters shared the results of their research on a wide range of topics all organized around the central topic of using sediment archives as a tool to peer into Earth's history.

The AAG meeting was attended by nearly 7,000 people, spread between two venues located on Las Vegas Boulevard, and consisted of hundreds of concurrent sessions on each of the six days. All disciplines, in addition to physical geography (e.g. geomorphology, soils, climate, and biogeography) were well represented including historical, medical, economical, political geography, geographic information science (GIS), cartography, and many more.

Spigel and Larson spent several days attending presentations on other aspects of paleoenvironmental change, human impacts on geomorphology and hydrology, soils and geoarchaeology, and many more, as well as dining with old (and new) friends and colleagues, and browsing through exhibits. In addition to enjoying the glitz and glamour of Las Vegas, Spigel and Larson ventured beyond the oasis of downtown to explore Hoover Dam, Valley of Fire State Park, and Lake Mead National Recreational Area on a much needed “tourist” day. —Assistant Professor Kevin Spigel



### Inaugural Center Directors Announced by Vice President for Academic Affairs Amy Knisley

The inaugural set of Center Directors has been nominated from their Centers and appointed. Professor Doug Fox has accepted a four-year appointment to lead the Center for Sustainability and Global Change. Doug began on the full-time faculty in spring 1991. Assistant Director of Teacher Education/Director of the Center for Experiential and Environmental Education Angela Hardy, who began her work with Unity

in fall 2007 as the Assistant Director of the Teacher Education Program, has agreed to expand her portfolio with Unity College through a two-year appointment in the Center for Experiential and Environmental Education. In the Center for Environmental Arts and Humanities, Professor Chris Marshall will take on a two-year term. Marshall has been on the faculty since the fall of 1980. Associate Professor Tom Mullin, who came to the faculty in 1999,

will be serving a four-year term in the Center for Natural Resource Management and Protection. In the Center for Biodiversity, Assistant Professor Aimee Phillippi will be serving a three-year appointment. Phillippi's full-time regular faculty appointment began in the fall of 2007, prior to which she was an adjunct faculty member. They began as Center directors in July.



Doug Fox



Angela Hardy



Chris Marshall



Tom Mullin



Aimee Phillippi

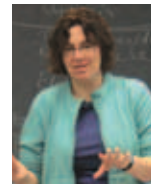
#### Professor Jim Horan

Professor Jim Horan offered a presentation entitled "Facilitating Moral Development in Beginning College Students" at the 16th International Conference on



Learning in Barcelona, Spain in July. He described how a teaching activity used in The Unity Experience, Unity's version of a freshman seminar, called "student-led discussions" enhances moral development in students by requiring them to research diverse perspectives on controversial social topics and present opposing viewpoints to their peers.

#### Associate Professor Emma Creaser



Associate Professor Emma Creaser was a delegate at Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society 2009 Annual Meeting in The Woodlands, Texas. Each November, Sigma Xi leaders and highly motivated college students gather to share ideas, information and camaraderie at the Sigma Xi Annual Meeting and International Research Conference. The conference featured honorary members Jamie Heyneman and Adam Savage, hosts of the popular Discovery Channel program *Myth Busters*. Speakers

included John Ahearne (Moderator), Executive Director Emeritus of Sigma Xi, former chairman of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Energy and Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense; and Michal Moore, Senior Fellow, Institute for Sustainable Energy, University of Calgary in Alberta. The 2009 meeting focused on energy. Details are available online at [www.sigmaxi.org](http://www.sigmaxi.org).

#### Professor Don Lynch

Professor Don Lynch accepted another invitation from the College Board to travel to Kansas City, Missouri in

June to read and score their Advanced Placement Psychology examinations. Over 450 psychology professors and instructors from all over the



Unites States as well as from several foreign countries were in attendance. In July he also taught a graduate course in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Maine in Orono with Associate Professor J. Andrew "Mac" McInnes entitled *Adventure Therapy within Clinical Counseling*.

#### Associate Professor Kathryn Miles

Following the release of her 2009 non-fiction book *Adventures with Ari*, Associate Professor Kate Miles has made a variety of regional and national media appearances. Closer to home, in September of 2009 Miles was a featured



speaker at the China Village Library in China, Maine. Her presentation was entitled "Cultivating a Sense of Wonder: The New Generation of Nature Writers." It was the centerpiece of the annual meeting of the China Library Association. She spoke about teaching and writing, and offered insights about *Adventures with Ari*, published by Skyhorse Publishing of New York, New York.

#### Associate Professor Tom Mullin

During the summer of 2009 Associate Professor Tom Mullin worked with the National Audubon Society's Seabird Restoration Program's Project Puffin. He served as an onboard naturalist for trips to Eastern Egg Rock in Muscongus Bay, Maine. He also worked with the Maine Lakes Conservancy Institute as their Educational Program Consultant for the development of a sporting camps education project, and a year-long collaboration with the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program and the Gulf of Maine Research Institute.

#### Associate Professor Ben Potter



Associate Professor Ben Potter spent a weekend in September at the Haystack Mountain School of Crafts on Deer Isle, Maine. He led a workshop entitled "Straw Into Gold," focusing on the use of reused and non-traditional materials in art production. While there he also delivered a keynote speech on art and the environment to members of the Maine Art Education Association.

#### Associate Professor Mick Womersley

Associate Professor Michael "Mick" Womersley is teaching a section of the second year Environmental Citizen interdisciplinary core course entitled "Building a Barn." Students will build a barn in

which the college's Agriculture, Food and Sustainability and Wildlife Care and Education programs will conduct animal husbandry projects. He is also leading a seminar in Wind Assessment in which students learn to use anemometers and GIS to research and plan wind turbine and wind farm installations for Maine communities. He will propose a second semester travel course to the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in Wales (UK) for students in the Sustainability Design



and Technology degree programs. He recently visited CAT and returned with up-to-date materials and advice from center staff for organizing educational programs using their renew-

able technology and energy efficiency demonstrators.

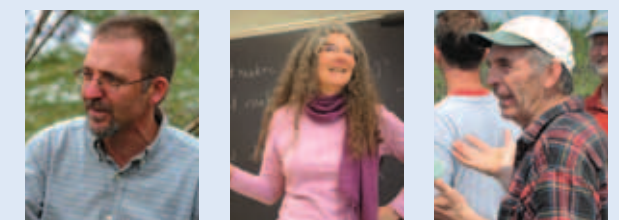
#### Professor Barry Woods



Professor Barry Woods spent a week at the Association of Institutional Research (AIR) Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, in preparation for spending two weeks working at the Northern Marianas College (NMC) in Saipan. His first week in Saipan was spent working with NMC staff conducting research. During his second week Woods worked with former Unity College President Wilson Hess on the NMC Accreditation Interim Report and on using Accuplacer for placement in English and mathematics courses.

### Faculty Speak

During the spring semester of 2009, Professor Doug Fox offered a presentation entitled "Creating a Culture of Sustainability" at the Smart and Sustainable Campuses Conference at the University of Maryland. In June, Fox taught two workshops for a permaculture design course at Unity College. They were entitled "Composting and Soil Life" and "Finding the Sun: Solar Orientation for Natural Building." In August, Associate Professor Nancy Ross and Fox were interviewed on the Time Warner Cable of Maine talk show entitled *Consumer Matters*, hosted by Assistant Attorney General Jim McKenna. They offered easy-to-understand sustainability tips. In September, Professor Dave Potter and Fox offered a presentation about solar heated water at the University of Maine Cooperative Extension in Waldo County.



From Left, Doug Fox, Nancy Ross, and Dave Potter.



## Acadia Partners Research Fellows

The first three recipients of faculty research fellowships through a partnership between Unity College and Acadia Partners for Science and Learning were announced in September. Acadia Partners is the non-profit organization that manages the Schoodic Education and Research Center at Acadia National Park. This fellowship program supports Unity faculty in pursuing research within the park, to the benefit of both the College and the park. The program is the brainchild of Bill Zoellick, Director of Program Development at Acadia Partners for Science and Learning, and Vice Chair of the Unity College Board of Trustees. In her project on "Effects of exotic earthworm invasions on Maine forests," Assistant Professor Erika Latty



Bill Zoellick



Erika Latty

will complement similar work she has done elsewhere in the United States by sampling forested transects in the park to investigate potential relationships between invasive earthworms and plant species variety. In addition to improving the park's own ecological datasets, the project will also become part of the high school science curriculum in Belfast. Assistant Professor Alysa Remsburg, in her project entitled "Odonata breeding assemblage and vehicle collision surveys," will be conducting ecological studies intended to better inform the park on population and habitat details of certain species of damselfly



Alysa Remsburg

and dragonfly. She is hopeful that her work will provide needed information about the presence and absence of several species of special concern for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Assistant Professor Kevin Spigel will bring his work using lake sediment cores to understand environmental change to the park, in his project entitled "Environmental responses to rapid climate change during the Younger Dryas Chronozone in Acadia National Park, Maine (Phase I)." Rapid environmental change is understood to have occurred during the Younger Dryas, and will use samples from higher-altitude ponds in the park to begin a process of adding to existing sedimentary records from Maine for this period.



Kevin Spigel

## Lessons Learned: New Faculty Reflect

After a year or more on the job, several of Unity's newest and brightest faculty reflected on the transition and discoveries they made joining the College.

In the fall of 2007, Assistant Professor Alysa Remsburg began teaching at Unity College. "It was refreshing to meet students who really want to make the most of their time and money in college," said Remsburg. "Most of these students aren't just going through the motions they were told to do." Assistant Professor Erika Latty joined the faculty with a good idea about the key strengths of Unity College. "I had known about Unity College for some time," said Latty. "Unity is known for experiential, hands-on learning. It is a good fit for the type of research that I do."

Latty researches the effects of introduced earth worm species on plant diversity. She researches beech bark disease which is quite rampant in Maine, so Unity's location was an ideal setting for Latty to further her research. There was more to the appeal than a job and location. "Unity College values research and hands-on learning," she said. "That just fit with my ideas about pedagogy (teaching)."

Assistant Professor Kevin Spigel felt a kinship with the Unity student perspective. "I felt there would be students who wanted to be engaged in the geosciences," Spigel said. He was not

disappointed and led students to hearty adventures on Unity Pond coring for lake sediment during sub-zero days. None of the students flinched and most were elated with the research gathering. "My students have had no problem going outside in the rain, sleet, and cold to experience firsthand the physical landscape," he said.

Remsburg describes her teaching as 'hands-on' with a twist that is sometimes overlooked.

"My teaching is 'hands-on' quite often, although students sometimes forget that this can take place indoors – on computers, in problem solving groups, or in drawing a diagram," she explained. Hands-on learning really means learning through experience and practicing the skills that will be needed in the future. "I believe the purpose of college is to prepare our graduates for 'minds-on' work, so that they have more options than working only with their hands," Remsburg said.

The 'minds-on' reference is about diversity of skills and adaptability over time, learning to acquire new skills over a career. All three feel comfortable as members of the Unity community. "Students here want to be engaged with the physical landscape, which makes my job better and the classes as a whole better," Spigel said.

### 70

**David and Peggy (Kelleher) Lary** are considering retirement next year. David farms with his brother and nephew in Clinton, Maine, and Peggy is a case manager for a mental health agency in Newport. They have five grandchildren.

### 71

**Anthony Lambert** retired from his position at Verizon and now enjoys volunteering in his community. He keeps in contact with **Billy Childs, Tom '70** and **Pat (Valerosa) Blanchard** and **Gerry Rascoll '70**.

### 72

**Pat Feehan** is a sales/marketing manager for a snow contracting and commercial landscaping company in Islandia, N.Y. He and Mary have three children. Patrick, 24, is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in R.I. with a degree in architecture. Susanne graduated from SUNY New Paltz with honors in psychology, and Jack, 12, enjoys playing soccer and baseball.

**Rich Sidell** is semi-retired from a camera company and has two sons. Keith, 27, graduated from Syracuse University; and Tyler, 23, has a master's in computer science/graphic design from George Washington University.

### 73

**Jim Allen** works on computer 3D modeling, rendering and architectural work in Chino Valley, Ariz.

**Tim Biggs** is an employee at Hidden Valley Camp in Montville, Maine. **Pam (Gallik) '74** is an early childhood consultant. They have three children: a son, Gus, and twin daughters, Caitlin, who attends Prescott College in Ariz. and Rachel, who graduated from Marlboro College in Vt.

**Pamela (Hume) Partridge** has been teaching fourth grade at the Garret Schenck School in North Anson, Maine for 21 years. After Unity, she received her bachelor of science in education from the University of Maine at Farmington and her master's in education from the University of Maine in Orono.

### 74

**George and Lois (Brown) Cozzi** both work for Mandiant. Lois is a quality assurance engineer and George is in sales. They have two grown children. George III lives in N.H., and Steven works on Broadway as a costumer.

**Pat Busche** is vice president and owner of Trinity Transportation Services in Orange Park, Fla. She has resided in Fla. for the past 20 years with her father and daughter.

### 75

**Mary Guariglia** owns a business that offers mentoring and coaching for network marketers. She is the mother of twin girls.

**Tom Shelley** retired from his position as superintendent of the Hamilton N.J. Water Pollution Control. He and his wife, Linda, went to Austria in April to visit their son, Christopher, who is teaching under a Fulbright Scholarship.

**David Symes** has been a rural mail carrier at the U.S. Postal Office in Gardiner, Maine, since 1985. He worked this past summer as a fishing and caribou hunting guide for Ungava Adventures in Alaska. Dave has been married to Becky for 28 years, and they have two daughters: Laura, who graduated from North Carolina State University, and **Karen**, who graduated from Unity College in 2008.

### 76

**Beth Cady-Grzesiak** is a certified hospice registered nurse for the Concord N.H. Regional Visiting Nurse Association. She graduated from Quinnipiac University's 4-year nursing program with a bachelor's degree in 1996. She has been married for 13 years, and her husband, John, is the IT director for a charter school in Conn.

**Charlie Davis** is the president of Davis Builders Inc. in Belgrade, Maine. He has been building and remodeling homes for 27 years. He and his wife have two children: Joshua, 26, who graduated from Bentley College, and Jessica, 24, who graduated from St. Michael's College in Vt.

**Mike Leighton** is a state park regional manager for the Maine Bureau of Parks & Lands. He is married and has four kids.

### 77

**John Gould** is a detective sergeant and has been a police officer in the Waterville, Maine Police Department for 27 years. He and his wife, Esther, have two children: Jessica, 28, who is a nurse practitioner in Mass. and a son, 24, who is a financial consultant in N.Y.

### 78

**Lonnie Jandreau** is a forester for Prentiss & Carlisle in Maine's northernmost district. His wife, Janet, is a bank manager and their son, Jared, graduated from University of Maine in Farmington.

**Eleanor Nettleton** and her husband, Art Oxnard, will go to Calif. in May 2010 for their daughter's graduation from the University of California at Berkeley.

**Robbie Norris** went into the music business directly after graduation. For the last 20 years he ran one of the biggest recording studios in New York City. He's been married to Maureen for 20 years and runs a company that deals with data archiving, as well as his own technical support business, Norris Audio Service.

### 79

**JoAnn (Dupre) Yozura** enjoyed a 20 year career as a recreation therapist and supervisor of recreation therapy in Mass. She has a daughter, Julia, 13.

**Susan Ferrera** is parks superintendent of the East Bay Regional Park District in Berkeley, Calif. She received a master's in public administration from Golden Gate University in 2008. Susan served in the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic from 1982-1984.

**Phil Koury** is a marine police officer for the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, and **Sandy (Chapman) '80** is a rural mail carrier for the U.S. Postal Service and an artist specializing in animal portraits. They have three children: Jessica, 23, is a staff sergeant in the U.S. Air Force as a Combat Air Systems Specialist on a J-Star aircraft. Their two boys, Philip III, 21, and Bryan, 18, live at home.

**Patrick McCabe** is district sales manager for California Products, a paint manufacturer in Andover, Mass. He and his wife, Charlotte, have two children: Caitlin, 18, is a sophomore at Johnson & Wales in Charlotte, N.C., and Daniel, 12, attends the McQuaid School.

**Sal Piccolo** retired from the New York Police Department after 20 years one week prior to 9/11. He is the proprietor of Copshop, a retail store carrying police and firefighter gifts. Sal's has three children: Sal Jr., lives in Fla. son, Trevor, 25, and a daughter, Katie, 23.

### 80

**James "JC" Harris** was in the U.S. Air Force for 21 years on active duty and in the reserve. He is now a pilot for UPS. He is married and has two sons, ages 22 and 18.

**Pam Roberts** is manager of CN Brown Oil Company in Lancaster, N.H. She is the widow of **Russ Capute**, who passed away in 2000. She has a daughter, Samantha, 20.



81

**John Berger** is an environmental consultant for Miller Environmental Consulting Engineering and the City of Allentown Water Resources in Allentown, Pa.

**Stephen Goulette** is a production supervisor for VIA Cheese in Swanton, Vt. He and **Terry (Rustic)** have two children: Daniel, 25, and Richelle, 23.

**Keith Hough** is starting his 24th year as a member of the Assumption College Campus Police Department in Worcester, Mass., where his current position is operations lieutenant. He and his wife, Heather, have twin boys, ages 3 ½.

**Leo Paquette** is the owner of a weekly paper, The Employment Times. He, **Dave Dargie**, **Craig Aronson**, and **Jay Minor '84** enjoyed an ice fishing trip to Moosehead, Maine in February.

82

**Mark Amato** is a state trooper, a corporal in the Bureau of Training and Education, and a supervisor for the Advanced Training In-Service Unit in Pa. He also works part-time teaching rock climbing at the local gym. He married Rachael, an oral surgical assistant. They have five children: Reilly, 13, Samantha, 14, Jacob, 14, Jessica, 15 and Corina, 16.

**Jeanne (Brown) Allen** is a personal service specialist in Waterville, Maine.

**Kevin Firmin** is a geospatial analyst for the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency in Bethesda, Md. He received a degree in cartography from the University of Connecticut in 1985. He and his wife, Cindy, have one daughter, age 18.

**Jim Morrissey** has been in Washington, D.C. at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security working on a Health Security Intelligence Enterprise initiative, which was the subject of his master's thesis.

**Roland Perry** is pursuing a degree in golf management. In his spare time, he performs comedy magic shows. His three children, Shane, Todd, and Meaghan attend college.

83

**Amy Kesten** is a special education teacher in Juneau, Alaska. Her daughter, Jenna Fay, graduated from high school in Bellingham, Wa. Amy's son, Eli, 14, is in Alaska with her.

**Doug Saball** is employed at the Maine DEP as an environmental specialist. He is working on air toxin emissions and area source emissions



Alumni and friends received a warm welcome to alumni weekend on Friday, September 25 from Alumni Relations and Events Coordinator *Kate Grenier (center)*, *Heather Thornton '12* and *Matt Moores of Liberty Mutual*.

inventories. He has interest in living history and performs Scandinavian music.

**Mark Shaul** is a portrait photographer for Vantine Studios in Hamilton, N.Y., which specializes in composite portraits of college fraternities and sororities.

**Travis Wagner** was awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor of environmental science and policy at the University of Southern Maine. He was awarded a sabbatical for fall 2009 to co-author a new environmental science textbook and to complete his research projects on household CFL recycling behavior and electronic waste management.

84

**Wayne** and **Deb Berger's** daughter, Jordan, graduated from high school in Essex, Mass. Wayne is the director of challenge course design and installation for Project Adventure in Hamilton, Mass.

**Dennis Downer** is in his 21st year with UPS as a supervisor. He and his wife have four children: Ashley, 20, is an art major at Manchester Community College; Chelsea, 18, attends Southern Connecticut State University while McKenzie, 12, and Courtney, 10, are both active in soccer and softball.

**Barbara (Hall) Krause** is the owner of Growing Like a Weed in Tilton, N.H. She and David have three children: Tucker, 18, at Castleton State College in Vermont, Alyssa, 16, a junior in high school, and Logan, 10.

**Patti Holt-Bartlett** is a personal trainer, a strength trainer for cancer patients, and a certified wellness coach at Synergy Health and Fitness Center in Exeter, N.H. She re-married and has two daughters, ages 19 and 16, and two step-daughters, ages 18 and 15.

**Ann (Lewis) Timmis** is a medical coder in a local hospital's outpatient department. Andy is an account executive for a construction company in the environmental division. They have two sons: Alex, 19, is a freshman at SUNY Geneseo, and Drew, 17, is a junior in high school.

**Tom St. Germain** owns Chore Store, a home improvements and renovations business in Waterville, Maine. He and his wife, Beverly, have four daughters: Melissa, 23, recently married; Rachel, 22, a nurse at Maine General; Joanna, 20, a junior at the University of Maine at Augusta, and Samantha, 19, whose passion is cooking.

85

**Russ Beaupre** teaches special education at the middle school in Springfield, Mass. He coaches the YMCA swim team in Holyoke, Mass. He and his wife, Carmen, have a daughter, Monique, 11.

**Signe (Dolloff) Klinger** is a sonographer at Berwick Hospital in Pa. She received her degree in medical imaging from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania in 2007.

86

**Bill Diesinger** is a property manager at L.L. Bean in Maine. His wife, Virginia, works at Waterville Junior High School. They have a stepdaughter, Anja, who is a junior at the University of Vermont. In his spare time, Bill rescues and rehabilitates parrots.

**Bryan Gorsira** is a wildlife biologist at Manassas National Battlefield Park in Va. He received a master's in wildlife in 1991 from Texas A&M. He also writes, plays, and sings his own music. He and his wife, Amy, have been married nine years and have a daughter, Lindsey, 5. Bryan also has a stepson, Connor.

**Cathy McDevitt** has worked as a veterinary assistant at the Belfast Veterinary Hospital in Maine for 15 years.

**Kevin Pendexter** works at Fairchild Semiconductor in South Portland, Maine, and is the varsity soccer coach at Sacopee Valley High School. He has a son, Deven.

**Pete Wallace** has been a partner at Northwoods Canoe Company for more than 15 years, building wooden canoes and boats. He is also an EMT for Three Rivers Ambulance in Milo, Maine and The Mayo Regional Hospital in Dover. He is also an outward bound instructor, a guide, and a teacher in wilderness emergency medicine for the Wilderness Medical Association. Pete has two sons, Kineo, 13, and Telos, 11.

87

**Merlin Benner** retired after 15 years with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and started his own wildlife consulting company, Wildlife Specialists, L.L.C. He and his wife, Melissa, have five children: Ben, 16, Angelica, 13, Jonas, 12, Melody, 9, and Harmony, 7.

**Dave Collins** owns a sales training and consulting business in Denver, Colo. offering speaking engagements and seminars. He and his wife, Stephanie, have two children: Spencer, 16, and Delaney, 11.

**Kathy Dixon-Wallace** has two sons, Kineo, 13, and Telos, 11.

**Mitchell Jordan** is a corrections officer in Shirley, Mass. He and his wife, Donna, who is a nurse at Mass. General Hospital, have three children: Hunter, 8, and twins, Molly and Mitchell, ages 6. Mitchell is looking forward to retirement after 17 years.

**Joe Keifer** is a self-employed forester in Wales, Mass. He has four children: Jessica, 18, Lisa, 16, Erin, 14, and Joe, 10.

**Mike Lockett** retired as a youth service officer for the State of Connecticut and is currently teaching special education in North Haven, Conn. He and his wife, Carissa, have three children: Matthew, 5, Emelia, 4, and Nathan, 16 months. They are expecting another baby.

**Mark Ramela** works as an environmental consultant conducting hazardous waste studies, writing hazardous waste remediation specifications and overseeing remediation projects.

**Gabriele Spaziani** has three children: Angelo, 19, majoring in accounting, Kira, 16, enrolled in culinary arts at a technical school, and Nicole, 14, attends high school.

88

**Kevin Adam** is a game warden sergeant in Bangor, Maine. He and his wife, Bobbie Jean, have two daughters, ages 14 and 8.

**April Baxter** is an administrator of the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House in Provincetown, Mass. She is married to Brad Moore.

**JD Beauregard** has his own business, Beauregard's Carpentry and Landscaping. In his spare time he enjoys performing with his new jazz-jam band in western Mass. and New York City. JD also keeps in touch with **Rob St. Hillaire '93**, and Rob's wife, Amy, and their sons, Ethan and Adam. JD and his wife, Margo, have a daughter, Jade, 3 ½.

**Ralph Preston '91**, his wife, Ginger, and their two sons visited JD (above) last summer on their way home to Tacoma, Wash.

**Maria Broadbent**, an environmental program coordinator for the City of Annapolis, put together a program on environmental stewardship for restaurants. The city will offer free certification programs by which restaurants can earn certification by practices such as buying organic food, recycling used fryer oil, saving water and educating customers.

**Jeff Caswell** is a manager of the Robbins Lumber Mill is Searsmont, Maine. His son, Jamie, 21, attends the University of New England studying sports medicine.

**Rich Ferris** is teaching fourth grade in Warren, Maine. His has a granddaughter and a grandson, ages 6 and 1.

**Suellen (Field) Bellows** and her husband, Dennis, have two daughters: Nicole, 5, and Rachel, 2. After two years in Japan with the U.S. Army, she is now a paramedic in Ashfield, Mass.

**John Letendre** is an ATM technician. He changed jobs to spend more time with his wife of 15 years, Heather.

**Cindy Madura** is a research specialist in the animal care department at the University of Arizona. For nine years she has trained animal technicians and investigators and has managed breeding mice colonies.

**Al Weinberg** is founder and CEO of Al Weinberg Ministry Coaching in Evert, Mich.

89

**Brian Camire** works for Zimba Company in Fairfield, Maine. He and his wife, **Denise (White)**, have two sons.

**Tim "TJ" Donovan** is a deputy special agent for NOAA Office of Fisheries Law Enforcement in Gloucester, Mass. He works with **Chris Schoppmeyer '77**. TJ and his wife, Michelle, have two children, Finn, 5, and Bella, 3.

**Patrick Foley** is a truck driver for Maines Paper and Food Service in Chicopee, Mass.

**Walter Grzyb** is commander of Troop B with the Maine State Police in Gray. He and **Martha (Mendes) '91** have two daughters: Elizabeth, 11, and Emily, 9.

**Theresa (Lane) Forino** has received training in emergency services including water rescue, firefighting, search and rescue, hazmat and animal rescue.

**Patrick McCarthy** is a database administrator for Combinatorx in Boston. He has two children: Kristin, a freshman in high school, and Shane, a seventh grader.

**Troy Mueller** has three children: Beckie, 16, TJ, 13, and Sam, 11.

90

**Peggy Ainsley** is a fuels technician and a wildland firefighter for the National Park Service.

**Renee Benjamin** works part-time as a courier for FedEx, which gives her quality time to spend with her daughter, Abbey, 5.

**Cathy Bergeron** is a holistic therapist, working with brain injury patients in Calgary, AB, Canada. She is married to Charlene Hamilton.

**Teri (George) Mueller** is a program specialist and advocate for disabled adults at the Sussex County ARC in Newton, NJ. She has three children: Beckie, 16, TJ, 13, and Sam, 11.

**Mike Miller** owns a personal training center, Nazareth Barbell, where he practices mixed martial arts. He is now retired from power lifting, but he was the first man to squat 1,200 lbs, the third man to bench 800 lbs, and he competed in World's Strongest Man competitions. He and his wife, Deborah, have eight children, ages 4 to 21. Last year he portrayed the character, Lex Lethani, in the movie *The Wrestler* starring Mickey Rourke.

**Phil (Kim) Perhamus** is a senior biologist with AMEC Earth & Environmental in Somerset, N.J. He is a professional wetlands scientist and works nationally conducting surveys on ecological studies, wetlands restorations, and threatened and endangered species. He and his wife, Melissa, have three children: Gretchen, 14, Brian, 9, and Andrew, 4.

**Chris Riley** is a child support and paternity specialist for the State of New Jersey. He and his wife, Karen, have two children: Deegan, 3, and Harriet, born January 5, 2009.

**Tony Sabilia** runs a digital printing company in New London, Conn. He also has his own photo business, Fishstick Photo. He enjoys spending time with his two sons, ages 8 and 12.

**Jean (Santarsiero) Costanzi** is an operations safety specialist for Waste Management. She has two children: Paige, 19, and Tyler, 18.

**Maura "Mo" (Sheehan) Chance** is the owner of Mo's Groomobile, a mobile professional pet grooming service in Leesburg, N.J.

**Beaux Slockbower** is general manager of Spe-



## Jeff Nichols '92



A love of the outdoors, hunting, fishing and related activities drew Jeff Nichols '92 to Unity College. These personal interests defined his professional career and eventually led him to Alaska, a virtual nirvana for outdoor enthusiasts and environmental professionals.

Nichols has thrived as a Habitat Biologist and Lead Biologist employed by the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Sport Fish Division.

After graduation Nichols worked on various bird projects in Idaho and Alabama. He pursued further education to advance his career.

In 1996, Nichols was awarded a Master of Science degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Management from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia. He then followed his passion for the outdoors to Alaska.

Nichols credits his time at Unity College as among the most formative and important periods in his life.

From his first visit to campus Nichols was drawn to Unity College because of its close-knit community. The small college atmosphere focused on applied learning, getting outside and respecting the environment, all qualities that Nichols values.

"Unity College provides students with the opportunity to learn within a supportive community of diverse individuals who share an interest in the environment," Nichols said.

cialty Sports, a Patagonia store, in Breckenridge, Colo.

## 91

**Ken Broskoskie** is working at Siemens IT Solutions in Jacksonville, Fla. He recently visited with **Nate** and **Nicole (LaRose) Barnes, Jay Hornyak '92**, and **Jason '92** and **Jen (Pearson) Stowe '93**.

**Chandler Brown (Craig Miesner)** is a police officer in Atlantis, Fla. He returned from duty in Kuwait with the U.S. Navy Reserves.

**Tammy Ciesla** is a wildlife technician for the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game and is also a certified track and field official for high school and college meets. She ran 20 marathons and one super marathon (50 miles).

**Rich Fritz** is a recreational therapist at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, Vt. He and his wife, Kristen, have a foster daughter, Emily, 11 months, to join their two sons, Jordan, 8, and Ethan, 6.

**Lori (Schwarz) Murphy** is the photography and production manager for Ocean Conservancy in Washington, D.C. Prior to that, she was a photo editor for The Wilderness Society.

## 92

**Chris Borg** is a field biologist for Red Hills Conservation Program and Tall Timber in Tallahassee, Fla. He completed another "Biking for Birds" fund raiser - this year for Unity College. He pledged money for each bird that he identified in one day at St. Mark's National Wildlife Refuge in Fla. travelling by mountain bike and solicited pledges from alumni. This year he saw 90 birds.

**Jeff Duguay** is an associate professor of wildlife management at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss. where he developed the wildlife degree concentration. He has a master's of science in ecology from East Kentucky University and a Ph.D. in wildlife management from West Virginia University. He and his wife, Jessica, have six children: Nick, 15, Ben, 13, Nathan, 11, Alex, 9, Autumn, 7, and Emily, 4.

**Kaz Henmi** is vice president in the IT office of the Citigroup Corporate and Investment Bank in Tokyo. After Unity College, he went to Alfred University in New York and received his bachelor of science in business administration. He has a daughter, Maya, 3.

**Greg Lord** is a data base developer, website manager, and email list service administrator

for the Forest Service in Augusta, Maine. He is married to Lisa.

**Steve Pate** is a financial advisor for Edward Jones. His wife, Gina, is an IT tech at Unum, and they have a daughter, Jessica, 12.

**Brian Richardson** has his own business, Northern Rim Wilderness Adventures in Alaska. He also conducts river trips, guides rafts and kayak tours.

**John Jrzycinski** is a New York City police officer. From 1987 to 2005 he was in the U.S. Navy in Italy and Iceland. He is married to Jennifer.

**Craig Uecker** is a fly fishing representative for Craig Uecker Fly Fishing and Sales. He represents several manufacturers within New England. Also, he is the sales manager for HMH Fly and the lead fly fishing instructor at L.L. Bean in Freeport, Maine.

## 93

**Jon Bayer** is a science teacher in Conn.

**Kim (Boggiatto) Cook** and her husband, Jon, have a second son, Colin Alfred, born April 2, 2009 to join Andy, 3. Kim is a lawyer specializing in government relations and lobbying, and Jon is an optometrist and co-owner of Gray Family Vision Center.

**Dana Boynton** is a special education teacher at Troy Howard Middle School in Belfast, Maine.

**Kristy (DeRoche) Morsey** has been promoted to Clinical Products Analyst at Athenahealth in Belfast, Maine. She and her husband, Roger, have three boys: Alex, Nathaniel and Ben.

**Deborah (Farnam) McMillen** is a full-time mom to Christopher and Kaitlin. **John** is a corrections officer at the Suffolk County House of Corrections in Boston.

**Scott Hahn** is employed as a production supervisor at Pleasant View Gardens, Inc. in Epsom, N.H. since 1994. He and his wife, Vicki, have a daughter, Emma, 3, and are expecting another child this fall.

**Joseph Karkowsky** is a second grade teacher in Pa. He and his wife, Yan, are expecting their first child.

**Slade Moore** is the director/ecologist of his own business, Biological Conservation in Bowdoinham, Maine which offers ecological research design and management. Slade is also the habitat restoration coordinator for the Maine Coastal Program. He received a master's of science in wildlife ecology from Southern Illinois University in 2000.

**Paul Racine** has his own taxidermy business, Natural Reflections Taxidermy in Rutland, Vt. He is a full-time cook and delivers papers three days a month in New York. He and his wife, Samantha, have two children: Collin, 9, and Izabella, 5.

**Craig Rennie** has been a land resource specialist for the State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Wetlands Bureau in East Concord for ten years. He is also a certified wetland scientist and a certified wildlife biologist with the Wildlife Society. He and his wife, Priscilla, have two boys and a girl.

**Gina Sawyer** attends Kennebec Valley Community College and is studying to be a medical assistant. She works at Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast, Maine.

**Karen Stinson** returned to Maine and works on her family's organic dairy farm.

**John Thompson** is the marketing manager and assistant director of the Office of University Communications at Western Washington University in Bellingham. His wife, Carolyn, is an assistant professor of journalism, and they have two children: Carter, 5 and Maren, 8.

## 94

**Russell Adams** is a police officer for the town of Jay, Maine. He and his wife, Kelly, have three children: Mason, 15, Carolyn, 12, and Hayden, 5.

**Ellen Andrews** is the marketing manager for Maine Sea Coast Vegetation in Franklin. They sell varieties of North Atlantic seaweed for consumption. She is married with two children, ages 5 and 1.

**Dan Brunton** and his wife, Mary Ann, both work for Kross Government Services in Slippery Rock, Pa. They have two children: Tucker, 6, and Molly, 4.

**Brian Carolan** is an arborist for SavATree in central Conn. He had been working in the banking industry for 20 years. Brian and his wife, Sue, have two children: Tyler, 3½, and Olivia, 1½.

**Craig Frickman** is a recreational therapist for the Connecticut Department of Children and Families. He and his wife, Nancy, have two children: Grant, 6, and Avery, 3.

**Jon Giracca** is in his 14th year as a victim witness advocate in domestic violence cases for the Berkshire County District Attorney's Office in Pittsfield, Mass.

**Marc Goldberg** and his wife, Farrah, have a

new daughter, Ellery, born February 19, 2009. They also have another daughter, Indika, 4, and a son, Brodie, 14 months old. Marc is a certified arborist for Green Horizons Landscape and Maintenance in Escondido, Calif.

**Shannon Henderson** is an automation technician for Schumacher Equipment and Design in Belmont, N.H., a company offering automated custom design and fabrication.

**David Smith** and his wife, Natalie, have a baby daughter, Melia Keili, born March 21, 2009. Dave is a park ranger at Acadia Nation Park in Maine. He is also a licensed arborist and master logger.

**Tony Therrien** teaches 7th grade life science in Killingly, Conn. He has been married for six years to his wife, Willow, and they have two sons: TJ, 3, and Michael, 6 months.

**Heather (Trillium) Toulmin** is a consultant at the Upper Valley Pediatrics in Vt. She and her husband, Steve, have a son, Jake, 3 ½, and are in the process of adopting a baby boy.

**Michael Valentin** is a 13-year career airman who works at the hematology/oncology/bone marrow transplant unit of the Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. He and his wife, Lorie, have three children: Tyler, 3, and twins Abby and Bryan, ages 1.

## 95

**James Bandelin** is manager at GE Healthcare/Maternal Infant Care Division in Md. He and his wife, Jill, have two boys: Jimmy, 7, and Garrett, 4.

**Kelly Canney** is a promotions representative at Tropicana Casino and Resort in Las Vegas. She has a daughter, Megan, 13.

**Dennis Desjardins** is the beverage controller at the Marriot in Newport, R.I.

**Larry Dvorsky** is the district sales manager for Care of Trees in Hamden, Conn.

**Sasha (Ellsworth) Dyer** is a fish health examiner at Australis Aquaculture in Turner Falls, Mass. She also coaches a YMCA swim team. Her three children are Brock, 8, Camden, 6, and Kalina, 1.

**Kim (Kuntz) Gogan** and Chris have a son, Christopher Joseph, born February 20, 2008. They also have a daughter. Kim teaches biology and environmental science at Newport High School, N.H.

**Daniel Larson** is a truck driver for Boston

Sysco, Mass. He and his wife, Corrie, have two children, Luke, 8, and Lucie, 19 months who they adopted from China.

**Paul Levesque** has been a veterinary technician for several years and is now pursuing work within the environmental field.

**Rob St. Germain** is a team leader managing 401(k) clients for Mercer. Recently, for six



*Hauns '97, Kimberley (Sparks) '97, and Anders welcome Linnea Bassett.*

months he hosted the son of his Peace Corps Panamanian host family.

## 96

**Paul Cinquegrano** is an environmental analyst and underground storage tank compliance manager for the Mass. Highway Department.

**Jin Gill** owns and operates Fernwood Cove Girls Camp in Harrison, Maine. He and his wife, Beigette, have a daughter, Sylvie, 18 months.

**Arthur Grindle** is a GIS specialist at the Kennebec Soil & Water Conservation District in Augusta, Maine.

**Clint Hopkins** started a new business, Lucid Glass Studio. He consults and works on custom glass projects including glass decks, staircases and wall/partition systems. He and his wife, Ellen, have two sons: Will, 4, and Caleb, 1.

**Scott Kemp** is a wildlife technician for the Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, Central District. He has a son, Tristan, 6.

**Kathleen Lamb** received a master's of education in psychological counseling from Columbia University in 2009 and is now in New York City.

**Mark Richardson** works for Lewis Tree Service in N.Y. and also has his own motorcycle parts business.



**Jason Seiders** is a fisheries biologist at the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in Augusta, Maine. He and his wife, Heather, have two sons, Everett, 4, and Wyatt, 18 months.

**Wayne Simmons** is a concrete potter at Lunaform in Sullivan, Maine, a company that specializes in concrete garden vessels. He and his wife, Cathy, have a son, Wyatt, 3 ½.

**Jody Simoes** is completing his master's in science within the department of fisheries and wildlife from Michigan State University. He is expecting his first child.

**Shane Welch** received his Ph.D. in wildlife biology with an emphasis in conservation biology from Clemson University in 2006. He currently holds a post doctoral fellowship at the University of South Carolina focusing on landscape ecology and historical ecology, in particular, broad-scale temporal and spatial patterns.

**Char-lin Williams** is an insurance account manager for Northeast Bank Insurance Division in Anson, Maine. She has two daughters: Catherine-Lynne Grace Williams, 12, and Elizabeth-Lynne Paige Aubin, 2. Her fiancé, Jeffrey Aubin, is a first responder for the local search and rescue team.

## 97

**Jacob Connetti** is a safety, health and environmental manager at DSM NeoResins in East Providence, R.I. He and his wife, Jessica, have two sons, Travis, 5, and Mason, 1.

**Beth (Daggett) Berman** is a jewelry designer in Searsport, Maine. She has two daughters and two grandchildren.

**Ron Dalphonse** is a state police officer in N.H. He and his wife, Angela, have three children: Makyla, 10, and twins Mason and Madison, 8. Ron was in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1988 to 1992.

**Brian Lippy** is producer/director/photographer of Blippy Productions and works for www.go211.com. He produces live web casts of sports events all over the world.

**Jennifer Porter** graduated last year from Johnson & Wales with a degree in baking and pastry arts. She has a son, Garrett Holzer, 8 ½.

**Howard Powell** is the director of plant operations at Genesis Health Care in Falmouth, Maine.

**Andrea (Iverson) Reny** is an elementary school teacher. She and **Dan** operate the Muscongus Bay Lobster Company in Round Pond, Maine. Andrea also is a kayak guide during summer.



*Maine Senator Susan Collins and Unity College President Mitchell Thomashow lead the procession into the gymnasium for commencement exercises on May 9, 2009. Senator Collins served as the commencement speaker.*

**Steve Sherman** is a forest ranger for the State of New Hampshire and **Jessica (Ruggles)** is director of the public library in Monroe, N.H. They have a daughter, Emily, 7.

**Neal Sleeper** is the programming director for Caribou Rec Extreme in Caribou, Maine. He also teaches Nordic skiing and ice skating. He and his wife, Gillian, have two sons: Elliott, 4, and Edison, 2.

**Andy Weaver** took a sabbatical from the Land Trust Alliance this past summer to bike from Unity, Maine to Wisdom, Mont. to visit land trusts. www.unitytowisdom.org.

**Steve Young** operates a sailing school and yacht charter business on the Chesapeake Bay in Md. His job takes him to the British Virgin Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands and Belize. He and his wife, Kristina, have two daughters: Sara, 10, and Sydney, 7.

## 98

**Erin Bailey** is employed by a veterinary clinic in Waldoboro, Maine. She and her sister share a house on Westport Island.

**Jeff Cerrone** works in construction in Hyanis, Mass. He does tree work on the side.

**Crystal (Bowden) Clarke** and her husband, **Jason**, who attended Unity for one year, have four children: Evan, Bridie, Maeve and Rowan. Jason is a layout engineer for Woodmeister Corp., and Crystal is a stay-at-home mom.

**Mike Emerson** is a USDA licensed breeder/dealer of small animals and pets, specializing in rodents.

**Pacifico "Tom" Flores** is a police officer in

New Britain, Conn. He and his wife, Mary, have three children: Adam, 11, Devin, 7, and Jayden, 7.

**Pete Gregoire** is a project manager for Time Warner Cable in Milwaukee, Wis. He and his wife, Jody, have two children: Logan, 3, and Allyson, 1.

**Eric Guimond** is the manager of Standish Auto Parts in Maine. He is married Rhonda.

**Collin Landry** is job foreman for SUR Construction in Rochester, N.H. He and his wife, Shelley, have a daughter, 2, and are expecting another child.

**Sarah (Norway) LeBlanc** has been promoted to senior administrative assistant at Liberty Mutual, and **Mike '01** is a quality control officer at the regional water authority. Their son, Lucas, is 7.

**Kevin Oldenburg** is a national park ranger at Roosevelt-Vanderbilt National Historic Site in Hyde Park, N.Y. He is also a wildland firefighter, having fought fires in the west for seven years.

**Kyle Rosenberg** is the production manager of Well Tree in Brunswick, Maine. He and his wife, Sarahjoy, have a daughter, Madysyn, 9, and are expecting a baby. Kyle is a volunteer tree warden for the town of Topsham.

**Brian Tierney** has been employed for the Wildlife Conservation Society for the past ten years and is currently a zookeeper at the Bronx Zoo.

**Tony Vinci** and his wife, Melody, have two children: Lily Mae, 5, and Finnegan, 2.

## 99

**Jon Audet** is a transmission lineworker for Vermont Electric Power Co. He and his wife, Annie, had a second son, Oliver, along with Carter, 2.

**Brian Chamberlin** and his wife, Tara, have a son, Liam Scott, born on January 13, 2009. Brian is a firefighter/paramedic for the City of Augusta in Maine, and is also a regional education coordinator for the Kennebec Valley EMS in Winslow.

**Dave Chiarito** works in case management and has his own outdoor program for a transitional living organization in Boulder, Colo. He has his master's of science in experiential education from the University of Minnesota at Mankato. He and his wife, Bridget, have a son, Zach, 3.

**Todd Chilton** is a patrol deputy for the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office after serving five years in the U.S. Coast Guard as a boatswain's mate. He and his wife, Erika, have two sons: Brandon, 3, and Ethan, 1.

**Jaysen Cobb** has been in the U.S. Coast Guard since 2006 and is stationed in San Diego, Calif.

**Meg Diviney** works with developmental disabled adults in Northfield, Minn. She is engaged to be married.

**Krystn (Hansen) Ledoux** is working for Senator Lieberman on climate policy after previously working for him as a constituent service representative for seven years. She and her husband, Dave, have two children: Sydney, 3 ½, and Logan, 14 months.

**Steven Hills** is a CAD draftsman for Tecton Architects Inc. in Hartford, Conn. He and his wife, Judi, have a son, Cole, 4, and a daughter, Gabrielle, 2.

**Mike Larrabee** is night supervisor for the Waldo County 911 Center in Belfast, Maine and also works for the police departments of Searsport and Stockton Springs.

**Shawn McGough** has a new position as an associate for Booz Allen Hamilton working with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security at Plum Island Animal Disease Center in N.Y. He is responsible for working on information systems security. Shawn has been married to his wife, Denise, for four years.

**Jimmy Piccuito** is employed as an environmental engineering/GIS for Jacobs in Bourne, Mass. He and his wife, Elaine, have two children: Dominic, 6, and Anna, 4.

**Tom "Brandt" Ryder** received his Ph.D. in evolutionary biology in 2008 from the University of Missouri in St. Louis and currently holds a post doctoral fellowship at the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center and Center for Conservation and Evolutionary Genetics in Washington, D.C. He is working on the urbanization of birds.

**Rebecca Schaffner** has a new job as a regional planner for the Greater Portland Council of Governments. She received her degree in community planning and development from the Muskie School at the University of Southern Maine in 2006. She married Peter Tousignant last July.

**Heath Shea-Clark** and **Brad Clark '01** were married in 2006 and have a son, Connor, born in May 2008. Brad is a park ranger for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Hopkinton Dam, part of the Merrimac River Basin Project, and Heather works part-time as a police officer and dispatcher for the police department in Newport, N.H.

**Jeffrey Snader** has his own landscaping business, Wolf River Landscaping, on 40 acres in Etna, Maine.

**Justin Snyder** is in his tenth year as dispatcher for the Rockingham County Sheriff's Office in N.H. He and his wife, Tiffany, have two sons: Logan, 3, and Blake, 1.

**Kim Verstringhe** is an acupuncturist in Kingfield, Maine. She has her master's in acupuncture and oriental medicine from New York Chiropractic College.

**Norman "Budd" Veverka** received his master's in biology from Eastern Kentucky University in 2007 and is now a farmland game research biologist for the Indiana Division of Natural Resources in Bloomington. He researches and manages bobwhite, ring-necked pheasants, squirrels, doves, woodcock and deer. He and **Alisa (Butler) '00** are expecting their first child.

## 00

**Matt Allred** is an environmental health and safety manager for PCI Synthesis in Newburyport, Mass. He and his wife, Rebecca, married last year at Sugarloaf in Maine.

**Jeff Anthony** is a mail handler for the U.S. Postal Service in Springfield, Mass.

**Steve Betts** is a district utility relocation technician for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation in the Engineering District. He and his wife, Shannon, have four daughters: Alexandria, 13, Gabrielle, 8, and identical twins, Kara and Kilee, ages 3.

**Joe Bonan** is employed at Wediko Children's Services in Windsor, N.H. He offers biking, canoeing, sports and trail building for the kids.

**Lisa (Bunch) Martin**, an instructor for art media techniques at Unity College, recently exhibited her photographs at the Leonard Craig Gallery at Unity College.

**Ross Conover** is working on his Ph.D. in animal ecology at Iowa State University and is planning to finish this summer. He has a master's degree in biology from Mississippi State.

**Dave Ellis** is a fisheries biologist working with diadromous fishes (atlantic salmon, shad, and river herring) for the State of Connecticut. He is a graduate student at the University of Connecticut completing a degree in fisheries management. His wife, Kris, is a high school biology teacher.

**Nate Graham** is an assistant park manager at the Fair Hills Natural Resources Management Area, part of the Maryland Park Service.

**Jeff Hackett** is a self-employed landscaper in West Poland, Maine. He specializes in patios, walkways, driveways and retaining walls.

**Joe Hallock** is the assistant operations manager for FLS Energy in Black Mountain, N.C., a solar company. He received his master's degree in technology from Appalachian State in 2006 studying renewable energy. He also writes and performs his own music, leading a band called Southern Exposure.

**Paul Jones** is a high school teacher in New Haven, Conn. where he recently received recognition for developing the course Sustainable Living. He started a fellowship at Yale for researching viruses and writing a related curriculum. He catches lobsters for the University of New Haven's ongoing study of the Long Island Sound.

**Jim Knight** is a fish culturist for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife at the Governor Hill Hatchery in Augusta. He and his wife have two children.

**Tom Laskowski** is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service refuge officer at the Silvio O. Conte Nulhegan Basin and Lake Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge in Vt, N.H., and Maine.

**Rosie Leondevivero** lives in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico and has plans to study physical therapy assistance in N.C.

**Lisa (McNeil) Irwin** is the environmental project manager at Clean Harbors Environmental



Services in Norwell, Mass. She is married to her husband, John Irwin.

**Shaun Oshman** returned to Colo. from New Zealand with his wife, Annabel. He was recently the subject of an article in the *Boulder County Business Report* which focused on a new business, iSupportU, that he started. He received his master's of education from Walden University in New Zealand in 2005 and taught there for three years.

**Melissa Powers** is an office manager at the Custom House Maritime Museum in Newburyport, Mass.

**Michael Pratt** is a staff sergeant in the U.S. Army and is stationed in Germany.

**Ames Quimby** is an engineering technician. She designs and inspects landfills. He and wife, Martha, have two children: Harrison and Natalie.

**Kimberly (Ross) LaMarre** is a stay-at-home mom with daughter, Elizabeth, 5. **Ryan '98** is a field engineer for Hewlett-Packard.

**Benjamin Thompson** is a graduate research assistant at the University of Florida in Gainesville and is pursuing his master's in forest resources and conservation.

**Mike Trask** works for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Tracy Fish Collection Facility in Calif. He is getting married in July.

**Vince Vincitore** works for Verizon Wireless in Wilmington, N.C. He is married to his wife, Concetta.

## 01

**Shannon Aldrich** is employed in construction in Crossville, Tenn. He attended SUNY Cobleskill for fisheries.

**Joel Bailey** is the owner of Noosphere Technologies, a web-hosting company in Saco, Maine, and is also accounting manager for Jordan Group/Webdirect Inc. in Scarborough. He and his wife, Mary, have three children.

**Christopher Bisson** is the accreditation assistant for the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office at the Cumberland County Jail in Maine.

**Nicole (Brazeau) Swenson** and **Thor** are both active in Boy Scouts in Vassalboro, Maine, and Nicole registered for Wood Badge training this fall. Their two sons are Allen, 13, and Flint, 8.

**Leana Downs** relocated from McMurdo Sound, Antarctica to La Trobe University in

Melbourne, Australia where she is studying biomedical science.

**Janelle Duncan** attended Unity College for one year then graduated from Bradford College, receiving her master's in zoology from Miami University of Ohio. She is now a research assistant.

**Ryan Fitzpatrick** is district game warden in New Sweden, Maine. He lives in the Madawaska Lake region.

**Ryan and Amy (Thibodeau) Hafer** have a son named Avery, 15 months. Ryan is in quality and shipping at a safety device company, and Amy is in educational retention at a business school.

**Heather (Hurford) Hills** and **Mike '02** have a daughter, Hannah, born December 31, 2006. Heather is captain of the Balmy Days Cruises out of Boothbay Harbor, Maine. Mike is a salesman and driver for Mill Cove Lobster.

**Andrew Jones** is a thoracic cardiovascular post operative ICU RN at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. He received his paramedical degree from Kennebec Valley Community College in 2005 and his RN from Galveston College in 2006.

**Kelly Martin** and her husband, Mike Gold, have a daughter, Willow Sierra Gold, born December 19, 2008. Kelly is employed at Johnny's Selected Seeds in Winslow, Maine.

**Zebulan Murray**, a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Military Police, returned from service in Iraq and is now in Afghanistan.

**Michael Pepi** has lived in Telluride, Colo. since graduation and has been working in the green building trade. He has recently started his own company.

**Daniel Rock** is a park ranger for the Oregon Bureau of Parks and Recreation in Portland.

**Parker Rulison** married Beth Wright, who attended Unity College for a short time, in September 2008 at Poland Springs in Maine. Parker is a family specialist for Bridges for Youth and Families in Ithaca, N.Y.

**Jason Southwick** is working in the shipbuilding industry. He and his wife, Christine, have a son, Cody, 3.

**Nate Swisher** has been a park ranger at Endicott Park in Danvers, Mass. for more than seven years and a police officer in Hamilton, Mass. for five years. His wife, Amy, is an analyst for Sylvania.

**Greg Wilson** and **Maura (Olivos) '02** are married and living in Alta, Utah. Greg is employed at Alta Ski Lifts as a mechanic/foreman. Maura works there as well, in sales during the winter and studying horticulture in the summer.

## 02

**Matt Amadon** is a state park ranger at Stone Mountain State Park in Roaring Gap, N.C. He and his wife, Robyn, were married in 2005. She is an administrative assistant for a local company.

**Randy Fox** is a deputy/corrections officer for the Waldo County Corrections Center in Belfast, Maine. He and **Heather (Gerken) '03** have two sons: Andrew, 2 ½, and James, 2 months.

**Tim Fridinger** is a police officer with the police department in Wilton, Conn. He received a master's in criminal justice from Boston University in 2006.

**Sarah Gorden** is a kindergarten teacher in Stockton Springs, Maine, and also operates her own jewelry business, Sojourn Curiosities. She got her master's in education in Montessori education from Endicott College.

**John Hawkins** is employed as a laboratory technician for Clean Harbors Environmental Services in Norwell, Mass.

**Becky Maddox** is an environmental specialist for the Maine Department of Environmental Protection in Augusta. She and **Phil Blais '03** were recently married, and he is a carpenter for Meadow Park Development in Augusta.

**Brenda (Maddox) Perry** was married in 2006 and has twin daughters, Emma and Abigail, born in June 2007.

**Tom Magarian** is a biologist for New Jersey Audubon working on wind power development projects using marine radar to track bird and bat movements.

**Deirdre Magnan** and Michael Tomlinson were married in Jamaica in June 2008. Deirdre is employed as a project administrator with an engineering company, and Michael is a dry goods trader.

**Tiffany (Neuhauser) LaClair** is a watershed ranger for the Quabbin Reservoir in Mass. Her husband, Erick, is the proprietor of an ATV and motorcycle shop.

**John Roma** has been a police officer in the Brunswick Police Department in Maine since 2004. He and Katie, have a daughter, Bryn, 4.

**Adrianna Siniawski** begins law school this fall.

She has worked nearly four years for the Arizona Game and Fish Department reintroducing black-footed ferrets.

**Jon Superchi** is a fish culturist II for the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

**Brandon Vafiades** has been a patrol officer for the Police Department in Bangor, Maine, for six years. He and his wife, Sarah, have three children: Cameron, 5, and twin girls, Lexi and Brianna.

**Matt Wagner** is a thermal project manager for ReVision Energy in Liberty, Maine. He installs residential and commercial solar thermal renewable energy systems. Caitlin Hutt, his wife, is a graduate of University of Maine at Farmington.

**Trevor Welch** is a snowboard supervisor, managing nearly 70 snowboard instructors at Smugglers Notch Resort during winter and is an assistant director of the Keewadin Environmental Education Center in Salisbury, Vt. throughout the summers.

## 03

**Megan (Bogi) McHatten** graduated from Northern Maine Community College and is employed by the Northern Maine Ambulatory and Surgery Center as a technician. Her husband, Devin, is a healthcare administrator.

**Craig Cavanna** is a refuge officer for the U.S. Department of Fish & Wildlife at the Chashowitzka Refuge Complex in Fla. at two locations: Crystal River to protect the West Indian Manatee and at Egmont Key to protect nesting habitat for endangered and threatened shorebirds.

**Greg Colligan** is a wildlife specialist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Crater Lake National Park.

**Laura Cusick** has been traveling and working in New Zealand for the past year.

**Shawn Devlin** is pursuing his Ph.D. in environmental science at Wright State University. He and his wife, Hilary, have a son, Cy Francis, born on April 1, 2009.

**Priscilla Gagne** is employed at the Boston Museum of Science as a membership sales assistant.

**Colleen Gauthier** is working on her master's in business administration at Salem International University.

**Kristen Girard** is a dolphin trainer at Dolphin Quest in Waikoloa, Hawaii. She is also a certified veterinary assistant and dog trainer.

**Romilly (Harrison) Daly** is a kindergarten teacher in Tucson, Ariz., and **Sean '02** is a border patrol agent with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

**Morgan Holbrook** is attending the University of Indiana at South Bend to satisfy pre-veterinary requirements for application to veterinary school.

**Sasha (Nason) Kenney** is a family reunification social worker for the Somerset County Youth and Family Services in N.J. She and her husband, Adam, have two children: Kayin, 3, and Chase, 1 ½.

**Sarah Needs** is a national park service ranger at Assateague Island National Seashore in Va.

**Mike and Nancy (Anderson) Romanik** moved from N.J. to the greater Boston area. Mike is a cardiac sonographer at St. Elizabeth's Medical Center. Nancy is the education program manager for Zoo New England at the Stone Zoo in Boston.

**Karrie (Shue) Saltalamachia** is the center manager for Lincare, a home respiratory care company. **Joe '95** is the associate director of Admissions at Unity College.

**Hillary Szteliga** has been a corrections officer for six years and is pursuing programs of study in the health and emergency medical fields.

## 04

**Erik Anderson** is a geophysicist for Terrasond, L.L.C. in Palmer, Alaska conducting terrestrial and seafloor mapping in the Unimak Pass and the Bering Sea. He received a degree in geology from the University of Greifswald in Germany in 2008.

**Cheri Brunault** works for the Natural Resources Group of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation where she protects and restores the forest ecosystem by removing non-native plant life and planting native species.

**Heather Chappel** is enrolled in a nursing program and is currently engaged.

**Danielle Dyer** is a botanist/project scientist at Stantec Consulting in Topsham, Maine.

**Colin Fraser** is the supply supervisor for two hotels at Foxwoods Resort Casino in Conn. In 2007, he won first place in the Montauk Basin Monster Shark Tournament and third in 2008.

**Diana Gregson** is still resides in a small coastal town in Sweden. She was working as a forest educator and now owns a cat boarding hotel.

**Stephanie Hanwell** is a wildlife care assistant at the Blue Hills Trailside Museum in Milton, Mass.

**Kristin (Hewitt) Brower** is working on her doctorate degree in exercise physiology at Springfield College while teaching five classes.

**Nova Hirsch** is a corrections officer at the Maine State Prison in Thomaston. Her duties include recruiting for the Department of Corrections and prisoner transports.

**Emily Jones** works as a public relations representative for the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in Augusta. Her responsibilities include education, outreach and marketing.

**Courtney (Lowell) Post Van Derburg** is a special education technician at Windham High School in Maine. Her husband, Ladd, is a corrections officer at the Correctional Center in Windham.

**Adam Paul** is associate supervisor and webmaster for the Waldo County Soil and Water Conservation District in Maine. He also volunteers for the USDA Resources Conservation Service and at Avian Haven.

**Jennie Roy** is a science teacher in Merrimack, N.H. She received her master's in teaching in secondary education from SUNY Potsdam in 2005.

**William See** works as a law enforcement park ranger at Dry Tortugas National Park in Key West, Fla. He was previously employed at Arches National Park in Moab, Utah.

**Heather Sirotnak** is a hydrologic technician for the NH/VT US Geological Survey in Pembroke, N.H.

**Tori Strout** is attending Great Bay Community College in Portsmouth, N.H. to become a veterinary technician with a focus on shelter medicine. She is working at an animal shelter in Portland, Maine.

**Andrea Wakeman-Kitchen** is the assistant manager of the Pittsfield Family Dollar Store in Maine. She and her husband, Edward, have two children: Adelaide, 4, and Roland, 3.

**Jessica Welsh** finished her AmeriCorps service position at a teacher/naturalist in a nature center in Logan, Utah and is currently working as a field instructor at the Environmental Education Center at Cuyahoga Valley Park in Ohio.

## 05

**Kate Cunningham** attends the Birthwise Mid-



wifery School in Vt. and is enrolled in their apprentice program for homebirth midwifery.

**Amy Fitzherbert** is an environmental scientist at Hillier & Associates in Augusta, Maine working with a group of geologists supervising fieldwork and analyzing data.

**Shannon Heath** is a research/training specialist in social sciences at the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine in Portland.

**Patty Marcum** is a ski and skateboard instructor at Ski Butternut in Great Barrington, Mass., and travels throughout the country with the Great Maine Lumberjack Show/Timber Tina's World Champion Lumberjills.

**Brian Mayhew** works with troubled youth at the Mountain Home Youth Ranch in Utah.

**Kai Medeiros** is the assistant programs coordinator for the University of Rhode Islands' W. Alton Jones Environmental Education Center in West Greenwich, R.I.

**Jake Overlock** is a fisheries biologist for the Maine Department of Marine Resources specializing in Maine Atlantic salmon restoration.

**Jamie Pacheco** teaches science and wildlife classes at Durkee High School in Fall River, Mass.

**Gary Rhodes** works as an outdoor education instructor in a summer wilderness program near Yosemite National Park.

**Kris Sanborn** is a clinical social worker/family therapist for the Home for Little Wanderers in Boston and is on the faculty of the Family Institute of Cambridge in Wattertown, Mass. He married Sarah Oppenheimer who has her master's degree in public health from Harvard University.

**Corree Seward** is employed as a national park interpreter ranger at Capitol Reef National Park in Torre, Utah.

**Lyndsey Smith** is a lakeside classroom coordinator at Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center in Maine.

**Steve Sutton** is employed as a conservation officer III in the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife. He married Casey Dingman in February 2009.

**Kristen Wendling** is a conservation biologist working with rare reptiles.

**Matt Zabawa** is currently working at a golf course in Burlington, Vt.



*Callie Davis '06 and Mike Merritt were recently married.*

## 06

**David** and **Linda (Snow) Bedini** have a son, David Joseph III, born on May 6, 2009.

**Noah Bourassa** is employed as a staff member of the construction crew for the Appalachian Mountain Club in Gorham, N.H.

**Scott Burton** is a park ranger supervisor at the Osbornedale State Park in Derby, Conn.

**Lindsey Cook** has her own land care company specializing in sustainable gardening, maintenance and design in Braintree, Mass.

**Gabe Corbin** and his wife, Christine, have a son, Mason, 9 months. Gabe is a welder at Hubbardton Forge in Vt.

**Marcus Gray** is completing his master's in wildlife science at South Dakota State University and accepted a position with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as a biological science technician at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge in Va.

**Jayne Haverly** is a veterinarian technician at the South County Veterinarian Hospital in Wakefield, R.I.

**Jeff Hunter** is employed at Acadia National Park as a protection ranger. Previously he was a police officer with the Mt. Desert Police Department in Maine. Last year there were five Unity graduates in the protection division at Acadia—**Jeff, David Smith '94, Kevin Donnell '00, Chris Wiebusch '89, and Jim Lyon '08. Andy Brady '08** joined them in the summer of 2009.

**Dana Kedziora** received a master's degree in conservation biology from Antioch Univer-

sity New England in Keene, N.H.

**Beth Kintz** works as a park manager at the Lake Poinsett State Recreation Area in Esteline, S.D.

**Rick Kristoff** is an environmental protection specialist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Concord, Mass. He earned his master's degree from the University of Maryland.

**Zak Lehmann** is an environmental scientist for Great Ecology and Environments in New York City.

**Cathy Lusk** works as a park ranger at Baxter State Park in Millinocket, Maine.

**Casey Mealley** is employed as an adventure education instructor for the Southeastern Alaska Guidance Association at Eagle Valley Center in Juneau, Alaska.

**Ricky Myshrall** is in the U.S. Coast Guard stationed in Kodiak, Alaska.

**Warren O'Hara** is an engineering technician for the Fairfax County Public Works in Va.

**Beth O'Neil** works at Earth Corps, a non-profit environmental restoration program in Seattle, and on an organic educational farm in Dorchester, N.H.

**Matt Pawlikowski** is employed as a lead forestry technician with the U.S. Forest Service at Lassen National Forest in northern Calif.

**Dan Rinell** is a seaman in the U.S. Coast Guard stationed in Portsmouth, Va. He recently returned from a scuba diving mission in Mexico where 48 bales of coke were seized.

**Erika Roderick** is employed at Backyard Farms in Madison, Maine and is responsible for greenhouse pest management.

**Bob Sterling** is a larval rearing technician and an algae nutrition technician at Taylor Seafish in Kona, Hawaii. He cultures five different strains of phytoplankton in the lab to feed clams and oysters, and he also runs a shellfish larvae hatchery.

**Josh Teel** is employed as a lead environmental scientist for transmission lines companies throughout New England.

**Gemma VanderHeld** is a volunteer firefighter, greenhouse worker and was hired by the U.S. Census Bureau.

**Emily Volz** is an outdoor science teacher in the San Gabriel Mountains which is part of Los Angeles County, Calif.

**Nate Webb** is a customs and border protection officer for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Haines, Ala.

**Ian Yates** is a licensed turf technician and is employed with Scott's Lawn Service in South Portland, Maine.

## 07

**Christine Blakesley** was a preschool teacher in Iowa and recently returned back to Mass.

**Meg Bursey** is a naturalist/environmental educator for the Beaver Lake Nature Center in N.Y.

**Phil Catanese** is employed as an outdoor recreation instructor at the University of Maine's 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond, Maine.

**Ryan Caudle** is a passport support associate for National Passport Center/Stanley Associates in Portsmouth, N.H. He is married to **Tiffany (Pulli)**.

**Alisa Christopher** is in her second year at the University of Maine, School of Law. She and **Dave Ross '06**, are engaged to be married.

**Dave Curtiss** worked as a shorebird technician for the Center for Conservation Biology in Va.

**Mike Dahms** is employed as a trade development manager for Acosta, a sales and marketing company based in Jacksonville, Fla.

**Nicole French** is a volunteer field biologist for the North American Amphibian Monitoring Program and the Reptile and Amphibian Reporting Program. She and **Chris McGrath '08**, were married in summer 2009.

**Chad Gadsby** is a seasonal forest technician in Pa. working for the U.S. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry in Clarion.

**Ryan Howes** is the experiential programs assistant at Unity College.

**Nic Josselyn** works as a biologist at Clear Water Labs in Newport, Maine.

**Danielle Kane** is the lead port handler for the International Pacific Halibut Commission in Dutch Harbor, Alaska.

**Meredith Kellogg** is manager of BYOD Dog Wash and Outfitters in Boston. She sells holistic, all-natural dog food and toys. She plans to attend graduate school at the University of Southern Maine for American and New England studies.

**Jeremy Lavertu** anticipates receiving his mas-

ter's degree in business from Husson University in December 2009. He continues to work as a carpenter for Blue Ribbon Builders in Turner, Maine.

**Renee Jean (Letendre) Grant** is an education technician and an aide at Sandcastle Preschool in Lewiston, Maine. She also works part-time as a direct support professional at Independence Associates Learning Center Initiatives in Brunswick, Maine. She and Nathan Grant were married in 2008.

**Peter Newcomb** was employed as an interpretative park ranger at Mesa Verde National Park in Colo. Afterwards, he worked in the sporting goods department at L.L. Bean in Mansfield, Mass.

**Ben Turati** is employed as an assistant project manager for the Colorado Fouteeners Initiative, a non-profit organization devoted to the maintenance and restoration of trails on 14,000 ft. peaks. Prior, Ben was a dog sled guide and musher at Muddy Paws Dog Sledding in Jefferson, N.H., where lived with and cared for 86 huskies.

**Allison Wilson** is a veterinarian technician at Healing Hands Animal Hospital in Salisbury, Md.

**Linda Wyler** works as a teacher at a Bright Horizons Preschool and Day care in Weston, Conn.

## 08

**David Bolanowski** is a software engineer at Initech in Dallas, Texas. He received his master's degree in biology from the University of Texas at Tyler.

**Jessica Carey** is involved with dynamic farms and gardens along the west coast. She spent the winter of 2008 in Ore. as an apprentice for a blacksmith. She is currently working in Whitefish, Mont. at an historic railway chalet.

**Sam Chisholm** is a federal game warden refuge officer for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Carbondale, Ill. She and her husband, **Andrew Fleming**, were married in August 2008. He is assisting with research on belted kingfishers in upstate New York for the University of Oklahoma.

**Laura Craver** is a technician for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, working on the Mottled Duck Research Project.

**Aaron Cross** is a game warden for the state of Maine, covering several central Maine towns. He graduated from the Maine Criminal Jus-

## Laura Craver '08



Whether twisting through a visually compelling belly dancing performance or reading from an original essay she wrote about an environmental issue, Laura Craver '08 was the kind of student for whom the phrase 'diverse talents' seemed invented.

The engaging personality and wide ranging skills that so distinguished her as an exceptional student have served her well since venturing forth for the next chapter in her life.

With degrees in wildlife and environmental writing in hand, Craver quickly landed a high profile internship at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

"It was a really intense, competitive internship in the park," Craver said of her role in the Animal Kingdom. Her internship required her to juggle a range of tasks.

Craver took the next step in her blossoming career, serving as a Waterfowl Technician in the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission in the Mottled Duck radio telemetry project.

"In the environmental field you must have a strong science background," said Craver. "I have benefited and been empowered to create a career path thanks to the comprehensive skills gained at Unity College."

Her environmental writing skills have also been invaluable. "A good environmental writer must be flexible, evocative, accurate and well read," she explained. "Again, I credit the opportunities I have attained with superior preparation. My environmental writing skills have also served me well."



## ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

tice Academy in December 2007 and is working towards joining the Evidence Recovery Team within the warden service.

**Scott Cunfer** works for the Douglas Island Pink and Chum, a non-profit salmon release hatchery, located in a remote facility 40 miles south of Juneau, Alaska.

**Will Davis** was a seasonal wildlife biologist aide for the Pennsylvania Game Commission and is pursuing work as a police officer. He graduated from the police academy in 2008.

**Thomas Frezza** is working on his master's degree in applied history at Shippensburg University, Pa. He is employed as a national park service education ranger at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. He also works at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine.

**Ben Gillis** is employed as a field instructor at the Stone Mountain School in Black Mountain, N.C., a therapeutic school for boys.

**Amanda Gonzales** works as an intern at Sea Turtle, Inc. in South Padre Island, Texas. She collects turtle eggs and works at the turtle hospital where she is responsible for rehabilitation and conservation education.

**Clayton Kern** works as a marine science instructor at the Catalina Island Marine Institute in Avalon, Calif.

**Julius Koenig** is a fisheries technician for the Alaska Department of Natural Resources on the Copper River, conducting mark and recapture surveys and radio telemetry.

**Julie Ladd** graduated from the College of the Great Smoky Mountains in 2009 and gained employment as a national park service law enforcement ranger at the Indiana Dunes National Seashore outside of Chicago, Ill.

**Chris McGrath** works as a fish culturist III for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department in Twin Mountain, N.H. He and **Nicole French '07** were married in July.

**Kelly Meyers** is a customer service representative for Lender Services, Inc., a quality assurance department which reviews appraisals.

**Nicole Monkiewicz** is a zookeeper/animal trainer at Lionshare Zoological Center, a small private facility in Conn.

**Mark Mullen** is an animal keeper and presenter of reptiles and amphibians. He works at the Boston Museum of Science.

**Nichole Nageotte** is a seasonal staff member at the Maui Conservation Center in Makawao, Hawaii.

**Jeremy Pelletier** has a new job as an adventure based counselor for a juvenile rehabilitation center in Grove City, Pa. He works with male youths, ages 7 to 19.

**Liz Pierson** is a full-time instructor at the Poko-O-MacCreary Outdoors Education Center in Hillsboro, N.Y.

**Krystal Reddy** spent five months after graduation working as a chainsaw crew leader for the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps in Colo. and is currently the horticulture crew leader for the Elk Grove Park District in Ill.

**Travis Runnals** works for Vermont Castings, a wood and gas stove manufacturing plant in Randolph, Vt. He is taking an EMT course and plans to train bloodhounds for search and rescue.

**Kenyon Twitchell** is employed at the Enfield Fish Hatchery, a part of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

**Linwood Vaughan** graduated first in his class from the Park Ranger Training Program at Northern Arizona University in 2008 and currently working as a park ranger at the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in St. Louis, Mo.

### FORMER FACULTY AND STAFF

**Ron Barry**, a Bates College biology professor, gave a seminar in wildlife ecology at the University of Maine on the Population and Behavioral Ecology of Synoptic Rock and Bush Hyraxes in Zimbabwe. He and Elaine have two daughters and a grandchild.

**Susan (Brown) Holland** lives in Wa. with her husband, Tony, a custom residential home builder. They have two sons; Jamin is married and lives in Saco, Maine while Will has his bachelor's degree in metalsmithing from the Maine College of Art in Portland and a master's degree of literary science from Syracuse University.

**Chip Curry** is AmeriCorps VISTA project coordinator for the Muskie School of Public Service at the University of Southern Maine. He and **Chris Gussman** have a daughter, Ada, 3. Chris teaches and directs theater at Searsport High School.

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## IN MEMORIAM

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**Larry Mitch '71** died June 30, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Denise, his daughter, Alexandra, and his son, Nicholas.

**Danny Linehan '72** died May 28, 2009 in Bayside, N.Y. His wife, Barbara (Nicholas) Linehan '74, died in 2008. They are survived by three children; Shannon, Daniel, and Kyle.

**David "Fly" Champine '90** died after heart surgery on March 6, 2009. A memorial service was held in East Montpelier, Vt.

**Kellee (Wilson) Smith Landry '95** of Albion, Maine, died May 20, 2009. She was a certified nurses aide and caregiver. She is survived by her parents, her husband, Peter and her daughter, Elaine.

**Rosemary Cameron**, former senior administrator from the 1980's, died May 1, 2009 after a long siege with cancer. She lived in Thorndike, Maine and was a local elementary school teacher. She is survived by her husband, two sons, and a grandson.

**Dennis Haggerty**, long-time director of administrative affairs in the early years of Unity College, died March 15, 2009. He was 99. He had been a member of the Board of Trustees, and when he retired he received an honorary degree from Unity and was named outstanding educator.



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