

DEC. 2011

Holiday Party

The annual Faculty/Staff Holiday Party was held on Friday, December 2, 2011 in the Brock Center.

The festivities included a delicious dinner and the evening was capped off with the presentation of Service Awards.

[Click here to see a slideshow of photos from the event!](#)



R-MC Receives Grant in Honor of Taylor Anderson '08

Randolph-Macon College has received a grant from The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) to strengthen Japanese Studies, a part of the college's Asian Studies program, in memory of R-MC alumna Taylor Anderson '08. Anderson perished during the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami that devastated parts of Japan.

"We are pleased to receive this generous support from The Japan Foundation," said President Lindgren. "This grant will help us increase our students' awareness and appreciation of Japanese culture and will aid the college in laying the groundwork for a lifetime of engagement and exchange with our Japanese neighbors."

The Japanese Foundation grant, entitled "Honoring the Life, Work, and Good Spirit of Taylor Anderson – Enhancing Japanese Studies at Randolph-Macon College," will help Randolph-Macon reach its goal of increasing course offerings in Japanese language and culture. The college received \$100,000 for this academic year with the anticipation of receiving additional funds during the five year duration of the grant, which will allow for faculty travel to Japan to develop broader course offerings and establish student travel courses to Japan.

R-MC's Asian Studies Program will also develop and offer a spring workshop and curriculum website for Virginia elementary, middle, and high school teachers of history, geography, world language, and literature. This seminar workshop will be led by Todd Munson and provide teachers the opportunity to engage in the study, analysis and discussion of topics related to Japanese history, geography, and culture. It will provide ten hours of instruction and will convene on the Randolph-Macon campus beginning in spring 2012. [Click here for more information.](#)

R-MC Breaks Ground on New Pavilion for McGraw-Page Library

Randolph-Macon College hosted a groundbreaking ceremony on December 3, 2011 to mark the beginning of construction for the new John B. Werner Pavilion at the McGraw-Page Library. The addition is expected to be completed in July 2012.

The Werner Pavilion will provide new learning space for students. The first floor will offer a reading room with 24-hour access and the second floor will include a high-tech classroom. The entire Pavilion can be cordoned off from the main library and accessed through an outside entrance.

The Pavilion is named in honor of Dr. John B. Werner '53 who has served for 20 years as a member of the Board of Trustees; he was also named Trustee Emeritus in 2003. [Click here for more information.](#)



INSIDE: Your News • Spotlights • More!

The Buzz: Helping Build Community Through Communication

YOUR NEWS

Tom Badey (political science), along with students from his International Law class, attended the Model United Nations Conference in Washington, D.C. October 21-23. The conference was attended by members of 61 schools and organizations with a total of 76 countries represented.

Kelly Lambert (psychology) and longtime collaborator **Craig Kinsley** (professor of neuroscience at the University of Richmond) were recently awarded a National Science Foundation instrumentation grant of more than \$600,000.

Barry Pfitzner (business/economics) and **Steven Lang** (business/economics) along with **Tracy Rishel** (associate professor of management at Susquehanna University) presented their research findings of a study looking at predicting NFL bet

ting lines at the November 2011 meeting of the Southeast Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The presentation was covered by *Newswise*.

Ritchie Watson (English) attended the November 2011 annual convention of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association in Atlanta, Georgia. Watson presented a paper entitled “‘Ivanhoe,’ Southern Readers, and Dixie’s Antebellum Race Mythology” at a special session titled “Medievalism in Southern Literature and Culture.”

Debra Rodman (women’s studies/sociology/anthropology) was named one of *Style Weekly’s* “Top 40 Under 40” in its October 19, 2011 issue. •

500 Club Honors Coach Carroll LaHaye

The 500 Club is a giving club in honor of R-MC women’s basketball Coach Carroll LaHaye’s upcoming 500th career win. At the beginning of the season, LaHaye was six wins shy of the milestone and now she is only two wins away.

The Yellow Jackets chipped away at the remaining wins in Puerto Rico when they beat Alvernia on December 18.

In order to join The 500 Club, supporters of the women’s basketball team need to pledge a minimum of \$500 to the Carroll LaHaye Endowment. Those who join The 500 Club will have their names displayed on a plaque in Crenshaw Gymnasium.

Please contact Megan Senske at (804) 752-3222 for more information. Click here to read more. •



R-MC to Build New Student Campus Center

A new student campus center will be constructed on campus. The current center will be razed to make room for a new student center, a facility made possible through a generous \$5 million gift from Joan and Macon F. Brock Jr. ’64.

The current student center is scheduled to be demolished in February 2012 with the new center’s completion scheduled for February 2013. Click here for more info on this exciting project. •



January 7

Join the Yellow Jacket Club for the **Annual Men’s Basketball Alumni Game** at 11 a.m. in Crenshaw. The Jackets will take on Bridgewater. Lunch in the Alumni Gym will follow. For more information, contact Megan Senske at (804)752-3222.

January 16

R-MC’s annual **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Tribute Celebration** will take place at noon in Blackwell. Jamelle Wilson, Superintendent of Hanover County Public Schools, will be our guest speaker. This event is free and open to the public.

January 19

Blues Musician Scott Ainslie will perform at 7 p.m. in St. Ann’s Building. Ainslie’s work as a musician and a scholar reflects both his reverence and affection for African and American culture and music. This event is free and open to the public.

January 19

The Richmond Symphony Orchestra will perform at 3 p.m. in Blackwell. Call the RSO at (804) 788-1212 for tickets.

The BUZZ on James McGhee, Student Life

James McGhee grew up in Gretna, Virginia. He came to Randolph-Macon in 2006 when he was working as the director of student activities and programs at Sweet Briar College.

McGhee was eventually offered the position of director of Student Activities and Greek Life and currently serves as assistant dean of students. According to McGhee, “The rest, as they say, is history.”

McGhee likes to spend his free time reading, painting, practicing photography, cooking (his favorite dish is Spaghetti Squash Arrabbiata), visiting museums and watching Hokie football. “My newest diversion,” he says, “is spending time at the Brock Center.”

He says his favorite place to visit in Virginia is the back porch of Monticello, but he also enjoys Wintergreen, Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens and Carytown. “It is amazing to discover the opportunities that we have right here in our own

area,” says McGhee.

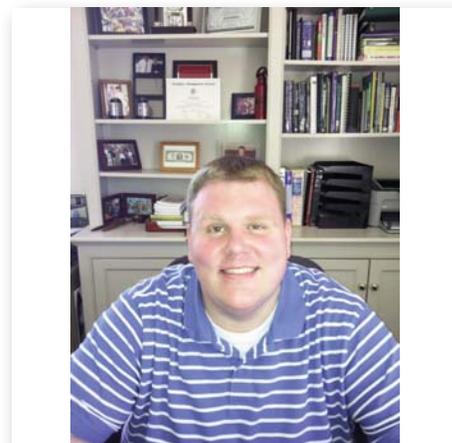
McGhee’s favorite book is *The Great Gatsby*, and his favorite CD at the moment is “Ocean Eyes” by Owl City. His three favorite films are *Night of the Living Dead*, *Dawn of the Dead*, and *Day of the Dead*.

“I am fascinated,” he says, “not by the gore and horror, but by the way in which George Romero depicts social destruction. I’m a fan of disaster movies. I like to see how the characters adapt.”

McGhee’s favorite tradition at R-MC is the Activities Carnival.

“It’s always so edifying to see students gathering to learn more about what our community has to offer and to see how proud our student leaders are of the groups that they have built. It is such a positive experience with great energy,” he says. “The free stuff helps, too.”

This school year is going to be “super



charged,” according to McGhee. Student Life will be launching the Service

Fellows Program and the Dream Speak Lecture Series, and it will continue with the second year of the Leadership Fellows Program. In addition, the SERVE Program launched in September.

“It is going to be a great year,” says McGhee. •

-Matthew Guillen '14

The BUZZ on Anne Throckmorton, History

Anne Throckmorton was born in Fort Ord, California, but moved around often because her father was enlisted in the Army.

“I did most of my growing up in Winchester, Virginia, where my mother is from,” she says. Throckmorton first came to R-MC 10 years ago when she took a job in the Marketing and Communications Department.



“I guess I fell in love with the college because I came back a few years later as an adjunct and then as a visiting instructor of history,” she says.

Having recently finished her dissertation, Throckmorton is “trying to remember what I like to do with my free time,” she jokes. “I run, gobble up books, basically rock anything involving needle and thread, and catch up with friends.”

As far as books go, some of her recent favorites have been Stieg Larsson’s *The Girl Who...* series, *Wolf Hall* by Hillary Mantel and the C. J. Sansom mystery series.

“As for movies and television,” she says, “I really enjoyed *Midnight in Paris* and adored *Downtown Abbe*.” Her favorite restaurant is Stella’s in the near West End. She loves “the atmosphere and the neighborhood.”

Throckmorton says she had many great

professors throughout the years, in particular R-MC’s Pat Watkinson.

“I took her course on European women’s history in spring of 2002 and it really helped to solidify my desire to go back to graduate school and get a history degree,” says Throckmorton.

Throckmorton enjoys the tradition of R-MC graduating seniors running the gauntlet of professors after graduation. “The students and their families look so happy and everyone is so proud,” she says.

She recently gave a paper on St. George at the Sixteenth Century Society Conference in Dallas, Texas.

“The conference was a lot of fun,” she says. “I was able to immerse myself in all-things-Henry VIII. I am obsessed with that man!” •

-Matthew Guillen '14

SERVE: Community Connections

Sociology Professor Reber Dunkel is the coordinator of SERVE and works in conjunction with the Office of Student Life. Dunkel coordinates student service opportunities and serves as a liaison to the marketing department so that our students' community efforts can be recognized on the R-MC Web site and throughout the greater community.

Click on SERVE to read about the exciting community connections that R-MC students are making. •



Welcome

THE R-MC COMMUNITY WELCOMES:

Caroline Nichols (English), Gali Tealakh (political science), Ryland Dowdy (physical plant), Caitlin Hendelman (athletics), Mark Brabham (physical plant), Doreen Earley (HAC), Vaughan Clark (advancement), Nancy Denton (advancement), Tammi Reichel (OIE), Dale Shields (Black Studies), and Mary Etter (campus safety).

The BUZZ on: Environmental Studies

-- by Jason Howell '15

Environmental Studies, by definition, is an interdisciplinary academic field which studies human interaction with the environment.

The Environmental Studies program features core or interdisciplinary courses where students work together on real-life environmental problems. The projects change each semester and involve working with actual clients. As a result, every semester is different.

One semester may have students working to develop a conservation plan for an endangered species and another may have them working to solve an *E. coli* bacteria problem in the local watershed. Students do a lot of field work, with the help of state-of-the-art equipment that includes a 22-foot research boat.

Environmental studies alumni have gone into a number of professions, and their stories can be found on the EVST webpage under "Graduates." Professions include environmental law, public service, government natural resource or regulatory agencies, engineering, and conservation, just to name a

few. There is even one graduate who does TV weather reporting.

The students aren't the only ones who do some interesting things. Faculty members conduct research with other institutions in order to give their students exposure to those programs. They do research for other agencies including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NASA, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Faculty members also attend multiple conferences per year, including an international conference on Coastal Sediments, and publish their research in numerous journals.

With a wide variety of internships and research projects available, students in this ever-changing field of study can rest assured that there will always be something new, something different, and that not only will they be opening doors of opportunity for themselves, but they will be helping to make better the world around them. •



Randolph-Macon
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The Buzz is published bi-monthly for faculty and staff. Please send news, comments and suggestions to Pam Cox at pamelacox@rmc.edu or Kathryn DiPasqua at kdipasqua@rmc.edu.