



## along the walk campus news • from the president • books • from the archives

### CAMPUS NEWS



#### Kirkpatrick appointed interim dean of faculty

**P**rofessor Frank Kirkpatrick, the Ellsworth Morton Tracy Lecturer and Professor of Religion, has been appointed to the position of interim dean of the faculty, effective July 1, 2004. Professor Kirkpatrick succeeds Professor Miller Brown of the Philosophy Department, who has held office for the past six years. Kirkpatrick graduated from Trinity in 1964 and received an M.A. from Union Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in religious studies from Brown University in 1970. He has been on the faculty at Trinity since 1969. Widely respected as a teacher and a scholar, he has extensive experience in various administrative duties at the College, including positions as director of the Individualized Degree Program, chair of the Religion Department, secretary of the faculty, ombudsman for the faculty, and dean of the First-Year Program.

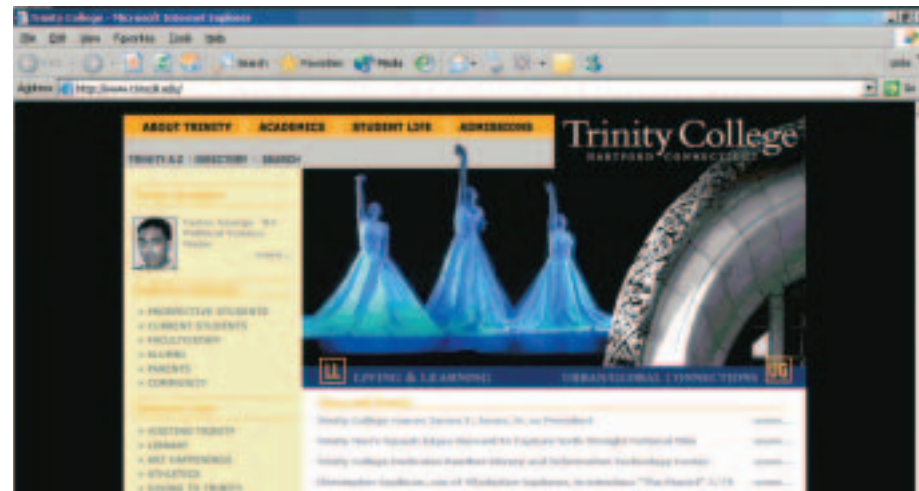
According to Interim President Borden Painter, "Frank's 35 years on the faculty, his reputation as a scholar and a teacher, and his leadership in so many capacities give him the experience and knowledge to do the job of dean of faculty effectively and smoothly in this transitional period. I am grateful for his willingness to serve the College and the faculty in this way."

#### College Web site gets a facelift

**I**n mid-February, the College launched its newly redesigned Web site, which can be accessed at [www.trincoll.edu](http://www.trincoll.edu). The site redesign project was started last April and is a joint effort of the Communications Office and the Computing Center. Generation, a collaborative partnership of Web consulting, research, and design firms, was retained to develop a new information architecture and navigation map, as well as an effective site design.

The redesign incorporates several new features, including audience gateway links with easy access to frequently visited pages for specific audiences (prospective and current students, alumni, parents, community, faculty, and staff), and two distinctive theme areas—Living and Learning at Trinity and Urban/Global Connections. Intended for prospective students, these themes showcase the College's liberal arts education, urban programs, and global learning opportunities through Trinity students' own experiences. Additional enhancements, including a virtual tour, are being planned.

*Visit the newly redesigned Trinity College Web site at [www.trincoll.edu](http://www.trincoll.edu).*



## along the walk

### Economics Department adds Bachelor of Science degree

Trinity has added the Economics Department to the list of departments and programs authorized to offer the Bachelor of Science degree, a move that will allow students the option of pursuing either a B.S. or B.A. in economics. In order to receive the B.S. degree, students will be required to include courses with more mathematical and statistical orientation in their curriculum. The Bachelor of Science in Economics will be offered next fall.

The field of economics is much more mathematics-based than ever before, and most modern economics literature presupposes that students understand the basic concepts of calculus and/or statistical methods. However, much of that literature is beyond the grasp of current students—thereby potentially limiting the scope of their education. “This provides a good option for students who are capable of handling more mathematics and will enable them to do more economics,” explains Associate Professor of Economics and Public Policy Andrew Gold. “At the same time, we are still committed to economics as a liberal art.”

Another issue that prompted the addition of the B.S. is the desire to properly prepare students for graduate work in economics. The new degree will provide an incentive for students to take courses that will better prepare them to pursue Ph.D.-level work in economics. Up until now, this limitation has been addressed informally through the

advising process, with faculty members encouraging students to acquire more mathematics skills as needed.

### Student Engagement Committee works to improve campus climate

The Committee on Student Engagement, which began its work last fall, has identified four major themes in its ongoing quest to help students feel more connect-

residential community to address the task of getting students involved. One initiative currently under way is an effort to make available group housing options for which campus groups can apply. Working in conjunction with the Office of Residential Life, the committee hopes to identify groups with the greatest potential to make contributions to the intellectual, social, and cultural life of the campus.

On a larger scale, members of the committee hope to work within the campus-wide residen-

est in the College,” Alford says. “We would like students to have a sense that there is something special that each one does and that Trinity is a better place for their having done it.”

### A trek in the Himalayas

In January of 2004, nine Trinity students, one Trinity parent, and two professors from the College spent six days trekking in Nepal, with additional days spent in the city of



ed on campus. Led by Dean of Students Fred Alford, the committee is focusing on developing creative ways to use existing spaces, improving the atmosphere in the residential community, setting up more comfortable ways for faculty and students to interact outside the classroom, and finding niches for students whose interests are not necessarily in sync with the dominant forms of social life on campus.

The committee, made up of administrators and students, has turned its attention to ways in which the College can utilize the

tial life system to build support and motivation for greater student involvement in creating social events, intramurals, and community-service initiatives. They are currently examining the possibility of having each residence group elect representatives who would then take responsibility for each area, develop ways to fund their programs, and create interesting and satisfying projects to encourage people to participate. “We want to create opportunities and expectations for students to have a proprietary inter-

Kathmandu and in Bangkok, Thailand. Although it was a purely voluntary adventure, not sponsored by the College, the expedition arose from a First-Year Program seminar called “Highlanders: Peoples & Cultures of the Himalayas,” taught by Michael Lestz, associate professor of history. The seminar, offered in the fall semester of 2003, focused on the ethnography of the Himalayan rim and introduced students to the distinctive cultures of the region. The trek group was joined by Craig Schneider, Charles A. Dana

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Professor of Biology, who provided instruction on animal and plant life found along the way. The party was also joined by Angeline Barnes—mother of Alice Barnes '04, one of the students in the group and the seminar's mentor—who served as the trip physician. Striking views of Mt. Everest and the entire Kumbu region, yak trains and herds, visits to monasteries, and an unexpected Swiss bakery at 12,000 feet that served apple pie were among the highlights of the trip, as was a chance to unwind afterwards in Bangkok,

*The expedition arose from a First-Year Program seminar called "Highlanders: Peoples & Cultures of the Himalayas," taught by Michael Lestz, associate professor of history.*

enjoying the hospitality of Harold Vickery '63, a longtime resident of Thailand. Professor Lestz concluded his trek journal with the entry, "Being able to study the Himalayas in a Trinity classroom and then go there is the sort of thing that makes a Trinity education special."

### Senator Sullivan recognized for advocacy efforts

Trinity College Vice President of Community Relations Kevin Sullivan has been chosen to receive the 2004 State Legislator of the Year Award by the American Psychological Association (APA). The award was given in recognition of Sullivan's strong leadership and



Nepal trekkers shown here at Tengboche Monastery, the group included (front, l. to r.) Ian German '05, Alice Barnes '04, Courtney Howard '07, Emily Pomeroy '07, Sara Glassman '07, and (rear, l. to r.) Michael Cullinan '07, Craig Curtis Schneider '05, Prof. Michael Lestz, Prof. Craig Schneider, Ted Jenkins '07, Tim Ward '07. Not shown: Angeline Barnes P'04. The group took many photographs along the trail, and a selection of them is available for viewing on the Web at [www.trincoll.edu/pub/reporter/spring2004/nepal.htm](http://www.trincoll.edu/pub/reporter/spring2004/nepal.htm).

advocacy for mental health services for the citizens of Connecticut, and was presented at an awards luncheon during the APA State Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., on March 14. Sullivan is a state senator, representing the 5th District and serves as president pro tempore of the Connecticut State Senate.



### Summer Music Series

The public is invited to enjoy a series of free concerts on the Trinity campus throughout the summer. The two-part events feature chamber music early in the evening, followed by carillon concerts. The chamber concerts begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel. At 7:00 p.m., listeners are invited out to the Quad to enjoy the carillon. Both the chamber and carillon concerts are held rain or shine. For more information, call (860) 987-6210.

#### Summer Chamber Music Series

The Trinity Summer Chamber Music Series will begin its 29th year when it opens on June 23 in the Chapel. The programs, which occur before the summer carillon concerts on the Quad, feature nationally and internationally recognized performers and are free and open to the public. This year's series features

several compositions by Chapel Composer-in-Residence Robert Edward Smith, one of them a celebration of his 25th year in that position. This season also marks the sixth year in which the chamber series has benefited from the generous support of Trinity alumnus George T. Simon '69.

#### June 23

Jay Lichtmann, trumpet, with wind quintet. Program includes the premiere of Robert Edward Smith's *Concerto for Trumpet and Wind Quintet*, composed for the occasion in celebration of Smith's 25th anniversary as composer-in-residence at Trinity College Chapel.

#### June 30

Brunilda Myftaraj, violin, with Gary Chapman, piano. R. E. Smith's *Sonata No. 2 in A Major*, Brahms' *Sonata*.

#### July 7

Paul Bisaccia, piano. Music of American composers to celebrate Independence Day, including *Silienne*, by R. E. Smith.

#### July 14

Christopher Mark Houlihan, organ. Winner of the Junior Division of the Albert Schweitzer International Organ Competition.

#### July 21

Liesl Odenweller '88, soprano. Odenweller is a Trinity graduate who now lives in Venice, Italy. Program includes the premiere of *Songs of My Mother the Goose*, by R. E. Smith, composed for the occasion.

#### July 28

*The Irrelevants* Carrie Koffman, saxophone; Timothy Deighton, viola.

#### August 4

*Cellomania* James Nicholas and

## along the walk



### High crimes and misdemeanors “on trial” at Trinity

Throughout the spring semester, a class of Trinity first-year students and a group of high school students from Hartford’s Weaver High School conducted a series of mock trials to examine the actions and possible misdeeds of three real or fictional historical figures. Developed by attorney and visiting lecturer Michael Heaney, in collaboration with Weaver High School honors history teacher Wayne Johnson, the class introduced students to complex legal and political questions raised by a hypothetical trial of an African American soldier who refused to open fire on a group of unidentified Iraqis, impeachment proceedings against President George Bush for alleged war-related crimes in connection with the war on terror, and Saddam Hussein, who was tried for war crimes and crimes against humanity. The students collaborated on writing legal briefs and conducting the trials, and participated as researchers, investigators, witnesses, and attorneys/legislators.

Robert DeMaine, cellos. Music of Boccherini.

#### August 11

*Fanfare*, early music group led by Thom Fries, who plays Baroque trumpet.

#### August 18

Matthias Maute and Sophie Lariviere, recorders.

### Carillon Concerts

#### June 23

Suzanne Magassy, Carillonneur  
National Carillon  
Canberra, Australia

#### June 30

Trinity College Guild  
of Carillonneurs

#### July 3

Special 4th of July Fireworks  
Concert, Saturday, 8:00 p.m.  
Daniel K. Kehoe, Carillonneur  
Trinity College  
Hartford, Connecticut

#### July 7

Trevor Workman, Carillonneur  
The Bournville Carillon  
South Birmingham, England

#### July 14

Sally Slade Warner, Carillonneur  
St. Stephen’s Church  
Cohasset, Massachusetts

#### July 21

James W. Smith, Carillonneur  
Mercersburg Academy  
Mercersburg, Pennsylvania



#### July 28

Justin Ryan, Carillonneur  
Denver, Colorado

#### August 4

Daniel K. Kehoe, Carillonneur  
Trinity College  
Hartford, Connecticut

#### August 11

David Maker, Carillonneur  
University of Connecticut  
Storrs, Connecticut

#### August 18

George Matthew, Jr.,  
Carillonneur  
Middlebury College  
Middlebury, Vermont

### Trinity Cities Data Center publishes second edition of the *Hartford Primer & Field Guide*

Did you know that Hartford’s Franklin Avenue was once popularly known as Santa Lucia Boulevard? This and more functional facts (e.g., Hartford County’s literacy rate among those age 10 and over in 1910 was 5.7 percent) were compiled for the second edition of the *Hartford Primer & Field Guide*, just published by the Cities Data Center of Trinity College.

Much like the first edition, the text provides an often fascinating introduction to the city and its history and, using data from the latest U.S. census, also provides some of the latest data available on issues, including the local economy, education, housing, health, crime, and politics. Director of the Cities Data Center Ivan Kuzyk explains that the sections on politics, education, and crime have been significantly reworked for the *Primer’s* second edition to reflect recent developments. An index has also been added.

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Kuzyk notes that though the *Field Guide* was originally designed as a text to support Trinity students involved in community-based learning in the Hartford region—it was initially used in more than one dozen classes and received wide use among hundreds of students involved in the College's Community Learning Initiative classes—the first edition soon developed significant interest off campus.

Several area libraries keep the *Primer* handy for quick reference. Utilized in classes at the University of Hartford, the University of Connecticut, and Saint Joseph College, the first edition was also used by former Hartford City Manager Al Ilg. Kuzyk explains that Ilg ordered some 50 copies of the book for council member and administrator training. He adds, "The *Field Guide* has also been popular with concerned citizens and local nonprofit organizations for



help in the preparation of grants."

Kuzyk cites interesting examples of how the Cities Data Center material is used in some Trinity classes: Students have created 50-year micro-histories of Hartford neighborhoods based on longitudinal census data; made presentations to classes on the city/region on topics relating to health, the economy, crime, prostitution, drugs, public policy, and local politics; and used mapping soft-

ware to produce maps of Hispanic settlement in the city over the last 50 years.

### Professor Paul Lauter receives second Fulbright Scholar grant

Professor of English Paul Lauter has been awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to teach in the spring/summer 2004 session of the Department of American

Studies at Karl-Franzens University in Graz, Austria. He will teach two courses, one called "Race, Ethnicity and Gender in Contemporary American Short Fiction" and a graduate-level course called "19th-Century American Short Fiction." In 2003, Lauter participated in a summer lecture program at Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia, also on a Fulbright grant. There, he taught in a seminar for Russian faculty and graduate students



entitled, "Reading Everyday Life in America and in Russia: Semiotics of Culture and Intercultural Communication."

Lauter is one of approximately 800 U.S. faculty members and professionals chosen to travel abroad to some 140 countries. Established in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the program's purpose is to build mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. Recipients of Fulbright Scholar awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement and because they have demonstrated extraordinary leadership potential in their fields.



### Trinity student represents all Connecticut students at installation of archbishop

Joseph Stramondo '04 of Wolcott, Connecticut, was chosen to represent all Connecticut college students at the installation ceremony for The Most Reverend Henry J. Mansell, the fourth archbishop of Hartford. Seen here are Monsignor Thomas Ginty (r) presenting Stramondo to the archbishop (l). The event took place at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford on December 18, 2004.

## along the walk

### Trinity student helps ensure small businesses success

**W**hen Vijay Bhirud '05 of Darien began as an economics major at Trinity College, he never dreamed he would intern with a community development lender in Hartford, let alone play a pivotal role in developing programs for low-income businesses.

Perhaps even more surprising to Bhirud is that his stay at the Community Economic Development Foundation (CEDF) last fall was so extraordinarily productive that he was asked to return this semester to keep the momentum going. "Vijay is simply the most phenomenal intern I've ever had," effuses Donna Wertenbach, president of CEDF. "He was working directly with suppliers and borrowers, and very professionally. He can handle any area we put him in. He's one in a million—I had asked him to come back!"

Wertenbach explains that CEDF's mission is to provide capital and small business counseling to borrowers in low-income communities who can't access credit for business startups and expansion through traditional lending institutions. As his junior year commenced last fall, Bhirud developed a benefits program to help facilitate and stabilize the growth of the roughly 120 CEDF borrowers' businesses, negotiating terms for the group that involved discounts on benefits such as payroll services. "These are services that even very small businesses need in order to grow," Bhirud emphasizes, "but often they aren't available to low-income businesses, or the business



owner is unwilling to pay for them. Now CEDF borrowers can access services as a group,

and at a substantial discount.

"It was interesting to see 'the other side' of finance," notes Bhirud. "It was the first time I had really applied what

*"Vijay is simply the most phenomenal intern I've ever had. He was working directly with suppliers and borrowers, and very professionally. He can handle any area we put him in. He's one in a million..."*

*— Donna Wertenbach, president, Community Economic Development Foundation*

I'd learned at Trinity, and it was nice to have something concrete to look at and see it grow and succeed." He adds that he came upon the internship as part of his Sociology 206 class,



**Scholars Reception** Alumni and students mingle at the fifth annual Trinity Scholars Reception, held this year at the president's house on campus. H. Conrad Meyer III '77 was the keynote speaker for the well-attended event, which brings together scholarship donors and recipients in a celebration of generosity and opportunity. Meyer, chair of the Annual Fund, noted that Trinity is a place where individuals can make a difference and that alumni and students depend on the success and support of one another. Pictured here (l. to r.) Jamie E. Tracey '06, keynote speaker H. Conrad Meyer III '77, Jenny L. Petrauskas '07, and Trustee Harriet F. Smith '77. Both students are Long Walk Societies Scholars.

"Organizing by Neighborhoods," which requires 8 to 10 hours of field work at a community organization dealing with issues confronting those residing in the Trinity neighborhood.

This semester, Bhirud is putting together a "marketing" book, essentially a guide to all the goods and services offered by the small businesses of CEDF. "Not only will the book help small companies support each other with their purchases," notes Wertenbach, "but we are also looking for larger corporations that are willing to take a copy and purchase goods and services from our clients as part of the overall strategy to support small business in Connecticut." She adds, "For companies that have had to eliminate many of the grants they previously gave to the community, this is a great way for them to leverage money they are spending anyway."

### Raether Library and Information Technology Center Donors

**T**rinity College apologizes for the omission of the following in the article "Bricks and Clicks: The Evolution of the Raether Library and Information Technology Center" that appeared in the Winter 2004 *Reporter*.

ZIEBOLD ALCOVE

*Given by W. Townsend Ziebold '84 and Julie Breene Ziebold '85*

MEDER FACULTY CARREL

*Given by Marylouise D. Meder M'62*

## along the walk

Trinity  
in the  
news

Integrating  
Project-Based  
Service-  
Learning

Michigan  
educator  
takes Trinity  
post

A Global  
Racquet

Jones will  
emphasize  
college-  
community  
link

The religion  
gap and  
party politics

Bound for  
the Top of  
the World

**"In summary, the service-learning approach in environmental chemistry was a success.**

Students learned more than they did with a traditional approach and gained insight into how environmental chemists work. In the end, students were proud of their work, and presented expertly at a professional meeting."

"Integrating Project-Based Service-Learning into an Advanced Environmental Chemistry Course" by Alison Draper, director of the Interdisciplinary Science Center *Journal of Chemical Education*, February 2004

**"He [James F. Jones, Jr.] comes to Trinity from a small liberal arts college in western Michigan, taking over an older but just as intimate campus in the East. He describes them both as 'shining jewels in American education.'"**

"Michigan educator takes top Trinity post," *New Haven Register*, February 8, 2004

**"As president of Kalamazoo College, Jones, 56, led a movement to reposition the college to play a pivotal role in the community. He served on a consortium of higher education institutions in Kalamazoo to develop a number of links between the school and the community."**

"Jones will emphasize college-community link," *Kalamazoo Gazette*, February 8, 2004

**"Published by the Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life at Trinity College in Hartford, Conn., this analytical report [Religion in the News] is, to date, the most authoritative and comprehensive treatment of U.S. religion and election-year politics. The 10 contributors are established scholars."**

"The 'religion gap' and party

politics," *Jersey Journal*, February 19, 2004

**"The dominance of the men's squash dynasty at little Trinity College (enrollment 2,200) in Hartford, Conn., could hardly be more complete. The Bantams have not lost a match—indeed, they have rarely been challenged—in nearly six years, during which they've won a record 105 straight."**

"A Global Racquet," *Sports Illustrated*, March 1, 2004

**"But when [Trinity Field Hockey Coach] Anne Parmenter walked out of the Wood-n-Tap in the West End of Hartford one evening in December, she could hardly believe what had happened. She had just been offered a chance to climb Mount Everest."**

"Bound For The Top Of The World," *Hartford Courant*, March 16, 2004

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



People often ask, "How has Trinity changed since you first came here?" The simple answer is, "A lot!" After all, I arrived as a freshman 50 years ago in September 1954 and graduated in 1958. Six years later, I returned to join the history faculty and have watched changes take place over the past 40 years.

The most obvious changes are buildings, people, programs, and curriculum. Old buildings have disappeared: Jarvis Physics Lab, Boardman Hall, the Brownell House, and Alumni Hall. New buildings have gone up: the Austin Arts Center, Life Sciences Center, dormitories on south campus, Vernon Street and now Summit, Mather Hall with two expansions, a President's House now in its third version, Ferris Athletic Center, a new swimming pool, MCEC, the Koepfel Center (the Bistro), Admissions and Career Services and, most recently, the magnificent addition to the library that

is now the Raether Library and Information Technology Center. As I look back over this period of growth, I am struck by the extent to which many of these building projects were made possible by the generosity of thoughtful and committed Trinity alumni/ae.

The student body has grown from 1,000 men to 2,000 men and women with a much greater mix of races, nationalities, ethnic backgrounds, religions, and geographical origins. In similar fashion, the faculty has grown and been transformed. There are many more employees of the College. A visitor from the 1950s would immediately notice these changes by walking across campus during the break between one class session and another.

The sports program is larger and more diverse than 50 years ago. I recall how quickly women's sports teams developed after the decision to go co-ed in 1969. Community service and internships are two prominent programs that did not exist in my student days. Study abroad programs attracted a few language majors then, while now more half of each graduating class has studied abroad for at least a semester. The curriculum is much more comprehensive and extensive and includes an array of departments and programs introduced over the decades: sociology, anthropology, neuroscience, American studies, and much more. The 1950s visitor would quickly see these changes by visiting classes and labs all over the campus.

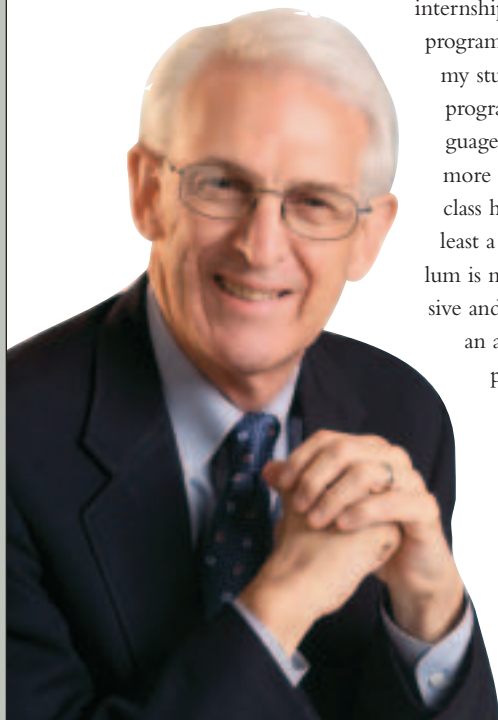
Any institution must change if it is to stay vital and alive. Trinity has changed and will continue to change, but there is also continuity. When I step outside the president's office and glance at the Chapel and then down the Long Walk, it looks very much as it did 50 years ago. My history department office was carved out of what used to be a large classroom, Seabury 34, but the building still has the look and feel of the "old days." The classroom that is now Seabury 9-17 on the second floor is a striking example of continuity and change. It was the Chapel until the 1930s and is now a modernized classroom that maintains something of the appearance of the original.

The theme of continuity and change becomes most evident to me when I think of our core educational mission: the meeting of teachers and students in classes and labs; the passing of information, the exploration of ideas, the formation of minds and hearts. Small, residential colleges of the liberal arts and sciences are very special places that provide an intimate setting for learning. They are not big and broad enough to provide the vast array of courses, disciplines, and resources of large research universities. But they are small enough to draw together faculty members and undergraduates in a dynamic style of learning that changes lives by valuing and nourishing the contributions of each individual student. It is education with a personal touch that transforms, inspires, and renews all of us privileged to be a part of it. My four years here as an undergraduate opened up new

worlds for me, thanks especially to some great teacher/mentors who had a formative effect on my life at a very crucial point. Today I think of Trinity's mission as finding new ways (change) to accomplish the same sorts of results for students today (continuity).

Giving up my courses was the major drawback of stepping into the president's office in this, my last year on the faculty of Trinity. I did, however, agree to supervise the senior theses of three history majors and several independent studies. When I meet these students in my office overlooking the Quad and talk about their studies, I cannot help but think back to sitting with my teachers 50 years ago in classrooms, offices, the Cave, and occasionally their homes. Yes, Trinity has changed a lot, but I am proud that it continues the core educational mission that began in 1823.

While the purpose of this essay is to look back and reflect, I cannot close without spending a moment on the future. With President Jimmy Jones due to arrive on campus on July 1, we look forward to a future in which Trinity will continue its tradition of embracing timely change in order to offer our undergraduates an education in the liberal arts and sciences that will fit them for success in the 21st century. My strongest hope for the College is that the answer to the question "How has Trinity changed?" will always be "A lot!"





## BOOKS AND OTHER MEDIA

### More Than One Struggle: The Evolution of Black School Reform in Milwaukee

Jack Dougherty, Assistant Professor and Director of Educational Studies (University of North Carolina Press, 2004; 253 pages)

Traditional narratives of black educational history suggest that African Americans had a unified voice concerning *Brown v. Board of Education*, but Dougherty counters that interpretation, demonstrating that black activists engaged in multiple, overlapping, and often conflicting strategies to advance the race by gaining greater control over schools. He tells the story of black school reform movements in Milwaukee from the 1930s to the 1990s, highlighting the multiple perspectives within each generation. In profiles of leading activists, he shows how different generations redefined the meaning of the *Brown* decision over time to fit the historical conditions of their particular struggles. Dougherty concludes by showing how historical perspective can shed light on contemporary debates over race and education reform.

### Dāna: Giving and Getting in Pali Buddhism

Ellison Banks Findly, Professor of Religion and Asian Studies (Motilal Banarsidass Publishers Private Limited, Delhi, 2003; 432 pages)



This book argues that donation (dāna) is one of the central practices of early Buddhism for, without it, Buddhism would not have survived and flourished in the many centuries of its development and expansion. Early Buddhist donation draws on older Vedic beliefs and practices, especially those involving funeral ceremonies and the ritual transfiguration of the ancestors. Buddhist relationships between donors and renunciants developed quickly into a complex web that involves material life and the views about how to attend to it. Questions

of how to properly acquire and use wealth, how to properly give and receive individual and communal gifts, how to think about using and transferring merit, and what constitutes proper food, robes, lodging, and medicine are central to the “dāna contract.” The dāna system reflects the changing dynamics of life in northern India as wealth and leisure time increase and as newly powerful groups of people look around for alternative religious affiliation. Buddhist dāna’s great success is due to the early and continuing use of accommodation with other faiths as a foundational value, thus allowing the tradition to adapt to changing circumstances.

### A Moral Ontology for a Theistic Ethic: Gathering the Nations in Love and Justice

Frank G. Kirkpatrick, Ellsworth Morton Tracy Lecturer and Professor of Religion and Dean of the First-Year Program (Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2003; 197 pages)

This book develops a moral ontology for a theistic ethic that engages the work of contemporary moral and political philosophers and reaffirms the relevance of a theistic tradition of God’s relation to the world reflected in the fundamental teachings of Judaism,

Christianity, and Islam. Drawing on recent thought in the nonreligious fields of psychology and political and moral philosophy, which build around the concept of human flourishing in community, Kirkpatrick argues that a theistic ethic need not be the captive of parochial or sectarian theological camps. He proposes a common or universal ethic that transcends the fashionable ethnocentric “incommensurate differences” in morality alleged by many post-modernist deconstructionists. In the wake of religious strife post 9/11/01, the book argues for a common morality built on the inclusivity of love, community, and justice that can transcend sectarian and parochial boundaries.



### Who Will Pay: Coping with Aging Societies, Climate Change, and Other Long-Term Fiscal Challenges

Peter S. Heller '67 (International Monetary Fund, 2003; 315 pages)



Policymakers today confront a number of profound developments, whose significance is certain to increase over the next several decades. Some of these are widely anticipated: demographic and climate change, the scarcity of natural resources, and public health. Other structural issues, such as globalization, rapid technological change, and security threats, will continue to transform the world economy. *Who Will Pay?* makes the case that, despite the fact that generating debate, let alone action, on such thorny issues is not easy, governments need to enact policy changes now to take account of the potential fiscal consequences of these developments. The author argues that a multipronged approach is vital, involving strengthened analyses, greater attention to long-term issues and risk factors in the budget framework, institutional reforms that try to address the myopic political economy biases of politicians and the public, and a blend of aggregate belt tightening and sectoral policy reforms.

### Visual Meaning in the Bayeux Tapestry: Problems and Solutions in Picturing History

J. Bard McNulty, Professor Emeritus of English (The Edwin Mellen Press, 2003; 87 pages)



The more than 900-year-old Bayeux Tapestry has long been admired for its vivid depiction of the invasion of England in 1066 by William the Conqueror. But scholars have been baffled by the tapestry’s apparent lack of historical accuracy. Despite the fact that its scenes show real events, the tapestry pictures some incidents that never happened, shows persons in places where they didn’t go, and mixes up the sequence of important actions. It also includes Aesop’s fables; modern histories don’t.

## along the walk

This new book argues that the Bayeux Tapestry, far from being historically flawed, is in fact a well-conceived depiction of the conquest of England, its so-called anomalies being part of a deliberate program. To understand the tapestry's message, McNulty says, viewers must put aside modern ideas of what constitutes legitimate history. In proposing new critical approaches to the tapestry, he cites materials not usually examined in Bayeux Tapestry criticism: editorial cartoons, accounts of Wallace Warfield Simpson and Princess Diana, interpretive methods of St. Augustine, and movie music, among others. The book also tackles the problem of the tapestry's border images—small, marginal pictures of birds, beasts, and people embroidered above and below the main scenes of the Conquest. Many scholars have dismissed these images as random designs, unrelated to the main story. McNulty, for the first time, shows how the borders directly and meaningfully comment on the tapestry's account of the Conquest, following a well-planned program. The Bayeux Tapestry “is a far more intellectually satisfying account than it is commonly taken to be,” McNulty says. His book gives scholars and general readers new reason to admire this priceless treasure.

**Love and Hydrogen: New and Selected Stories** Jim Shepard '78 (Vintage Books, 2004; 340 pages)

*“I’ve been a problem baby, a lousy son, a distant brother, an off-putting neighbor, a piss-poor student, a worrisome seatmate, an unreliable employee, a bewildering lover, a frustrating confidante and a crappy husband. Among the things I do pretty well at this point I’d have to list darts, re-closing Stay-Fresh boxes, and staying out of the way.”* This is the self-eulogy offered early on by

the unwilling hero of the opening story in this collection of short fiction. The stories in *Love and Hydrogen*, familiar to readers from publications that range from *McSweeney’s* to *The New Yorker* to *Harper’s* to *Tin House*, encompass a wide range of situations and characters. A frustrated wife makes use of an enterprising illegal-gun salesman to hold her husband hostage; two hapless adult-education students botch their attempts at rudimentary piano but suc-



ceed in a halting, awkward romance; a fascinated and murderous Creature welcomes the first human visitors to his Black Lagoon; and in the title story, the stupefyingly huge airship *Hindenburg* flies to its doom, representing mankind's greatest yearning as well as its titanic failure.

**Project X** Jim Shepard '78 (Alfred A. Knopf, 2004; 164 pages)

Below the sign welcoming the new eighth-grade class to school is one that promises to leave no child unsuccessful and a handout that offers eight ways of being smart. For Edwin



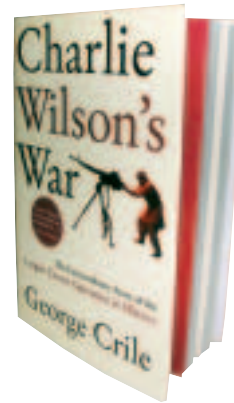
Hanratty, at times as hilarious as he is miserable, this is part of what makes junior high pretty much a relentless nightmare. And so, with Flake, his only friend, he contends with clique upon clique—the

jocks who pummel them, the girls who ignore or taunt them—as well as the dogged and disconcerting attentions of a sixth-grader who's even more ferociously disaffected than they are. And while Edwin's parents work hard to understand him, they face without fully realizing it a demoralization so systemic that he and Flake have no recourse other than their own bitter and smart remarks, until they gradually begin flirting with the most horrible revenge of all. Booklist calls it a “lean and stinging new novel.”

**Charlie Wilson's War** George Crile '68 (Atlantic Monthly Press, 2003; 550 pages)

Hailed by Dan Rather as “a tour de force of writing and reporting,” and by Molly Ivins as “a whale of a tale,” *Charlie Wilson's War* was a publishing sensation and a *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, and *Los Angeles Times* best-seller—the previously untold story of a whiskey-swilling, skirt-chasing, scandal-prone congressman from Texas, and how he conspired with a rogue CIA operative to launch the biggest and most successful covert operation in U.S. history. In the early 1980s, a Houston socialite turned the attention of maverick Texas congressman Charlie Wilson to the ragged band of

Afghan “freedom fighters” who continued, despite overwhelming odds, to fight the Soviet invaders. The congressman became passionate about their cause. Moving from the back rooms of the Capitol to the Khyber Pass, this book presents a key to understanding what helped trigger the sudden collapse of the Soviet Union and ultimately led to the emergence of a brand-new foe in



the form of radical Islam. The book has been optioned for film by Tom Hanks's Playtone Productions and Universal Studios to be a major motion picture release.

**Touched with Fire: Five Presidents and the Civil War Battles That Made Them** James M. Perry '50 (Public Affairs, 2003; 335 pages)

The 1860s were a time much like the 1940s, when a generation of idealistic young Americans answered their country's call, and many made the supreme sacrifice to preserve freedom and liberty. And among the two million “boys in blue” were five soldiers whose wartime heroics would take them into national politics and lead, in time, to the White House. In *Touched with Fire*, Perry reintroduces us to these five men—Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James

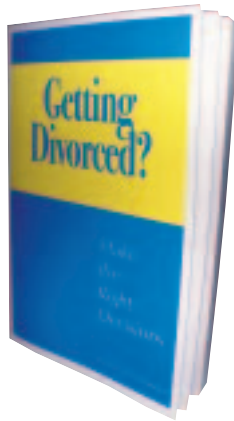


A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, and William McKinley—who rose to the pinnacle of American life but are now largely forgotten. Drawing on diaries, letters, and other firsthand accounts, Perry recreates the battles that brought them fame and extols the courage that made them extraordinary leaders, especially under fire. The Civil War was their finest hour, and their stories form a vivid reminder of what a great generation can accomplish.

## along the walk

**Getting Divorced? Make the Right Decisions** *Michael Anderson '88* (Deer Meadow Publishing, 2002; 220 pages)

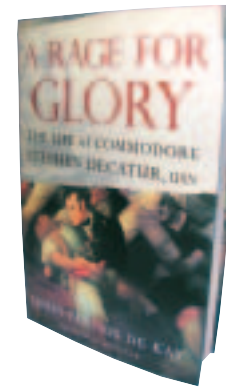
This book is a practical guide for people involved in a divorce, whether it is a no-conflict situation or a more involved and contentious procedure. Covering such topics as documents, real estate, money, estate plans, trials, child support, courtroom proceedings, and much more, Anderson provides common-sense guidance for parties on either side of a divorce. The author notes that “For most people, negotiating their divorce will be the most important and largest business deal they



will ever be involved in,” and yet he makes the point that people sometimes prepare themselves more thoroughly to buy real estate or to invest in mutual funds.

**A Rage for Glory: The Life of Commodore Stephen Decatur, USN** *James Tertius De Kay '51* (Free Press, 2004; 237 pages)

Stephen Decatur was an American naval hero in the early 19th century. His exploits in the Barbary Wars propelled him to national prominence at the age of 25. His capture of HMS *Macedonian* in the War of 1812 and his subsequent naval and diplomatic triumphs in the Mediterranean secured his permanent place in the hearts of his compatriots. In *A Rage for Glory*, the first new biography of Decatur in almost 70 years, De Kay draws on material unavailable to previous biographers. He traces the origins of Decatur’s fierce patriotism (“My country...right or wrong!”), chronicles Decatur’s passionate love affair with Susan



Wheeler, and provides new details of Decatur’s tragic death in a senseless duel of honor, secretly instigated by the backroom machinations of jealous fellow officers. His death left official Washington in such shock that his funeral became

a state occasion, attended by friends who included former President James Madison, current President James Monroe, Chief Justice John Marshall, and 10,000 more.

## OTHER MEDIA



**Thinking on Both Feet: Walking with Thoreau** *Kirtland Snyder '74* (Voice Print Audio, 2003 compact disk; Running time 51:44)

In *Thinking on Both Feet: Walks, Talks & Meditations*, his series of recorded-live walks in the natural world, poet Kirtland Snyder explores the age-old relationship between walking and thinking, between the rhythms of the walk and the motions of the human spirit. “Walking with Thoreau” is a “conversation” with the American writer who almost single-handedly created our sense of what it means to be in the natural world. Recorded just days after September 11, 2001, it ponders whether Thoreau’s sojourn in the woods remains a possibility for us today—whether nature still gives us a place “apart,” a respite from the terrors and traumas of human history.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

by Peter Knapp '65

### Trinity and the Transit of Venus, 1882

An extraordinary spectacle will unfold in the heavens this coming June, when the planet Venus transits the sun. The last time this occurred—on December 6, 1882—a German scientific commission dispatched teams of astronomers to various observing sites in the Americas. Each site was determined on the basis of its latitude and longitude in conjunction with the earth's position relative to the sun, as well as the potential it offered for carrying out the most complete observations possible. Hartford was the only site in the northeastern United States selected by the commission. Upon arriving in early November 1882, the astronomy team chose Trinity as the location for the viewing station because of the campus's superior elevation relative to the horizon. In the aftermath of the transit observations, the gift to the College of a powerful telescope, the construction of an observatory, an important appointment to the faculty, and a revision of the curriculum all contributed to strengthening the study of astronomy at Trinity.

The Transit of Venus is a rare phenomenon. As a result of the relationship between the orbits of Venus and the earth, transits occur only in June or December and only in paired cycles approximately eight years apart, alternating at intervals of

105.5 and 121.5 years. The 1882 transit, for example, was preceded by a transit in December 1874. Only partially visible in the eastern and midwestern United States, the 2004 transit on June 8 will be fully observable in Europe and Asia. All of North America will witness the second transit on June 6, 2012, but there will be no recurrence until December 2117.

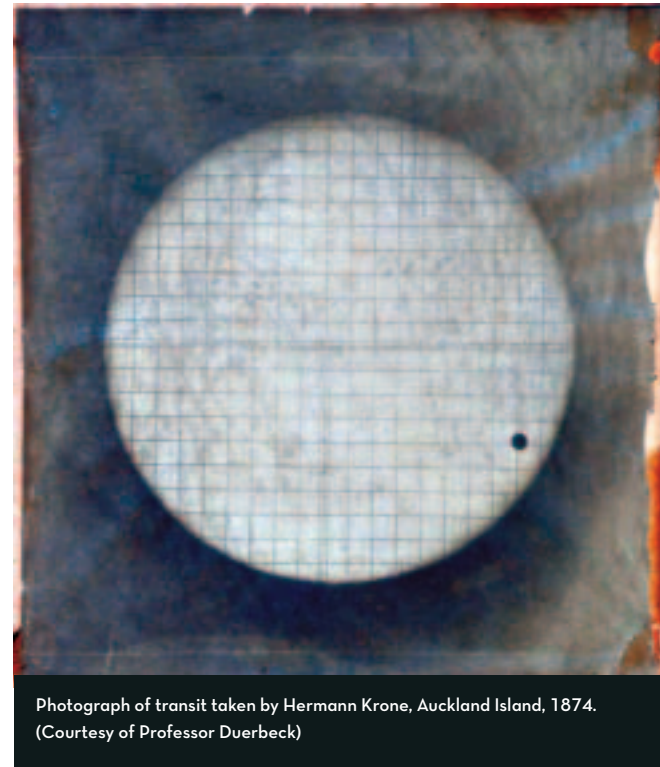
Considering the comparative dimensions of Venus and the sun as seen from the earth during a transit, Venus appears as a small black dot moving across the disk of the sun.

The German Imperial Commission mounted expeditions not only in 1882 but also in 1874. Germany was one of several countries, including France, Britain, and the United States, that sent out observers. These efforts helped gather data for calculating the earth's distance from the sun, considered the fundamental astronomical unit in the distance scale of the universe. The German initiatives also served to draw attention to the international significance of scientific studies being carried out by a young nation still emerging from unification. In addition to Hartford, Germany dispatched the 1882 teams to South Carolina, Argentina, and Chile. Reports on both sets of expeditions were placed in the archives of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences, where they survived World War II. However, glass plate photographs from 1874, stored at the Astrophysical Observatory at Potsdam, were destroyed. Dr. Arthur Auwers,

the Imperial Commission's president, published a report in six volumes between 1887 and 1898, a copy of which is in the Watkinson Library.

The team of astronomers

by two members of Trinity's faculty, H. Carrington Bolton, Scovill Professor of Chemistry and Natural Sciences, and the Rev. Samuel Hart, Seabury Professor of Mathematics and



Photograph of transit taken by Hermann Krone, Auckland Island, 1874.  
(Courtesy of Professor Duerbeck)

that came to Hartford was led by Dr. Gustav Mueller, assistant at the Astrophysical Observatory at Potsdam. Among the seven tons of equipment that accompanied the team was the principal viewing instrument, a three and one-half foot heliometer, a telescope with an objective lens split into two adjustable parts, giving a double image used for measuring the sun's diameter. In addition, there were two six-foot refractors and a four and one-half foot telescope as well as miscellaneous equipment such as chronometers and thermometers. Also included were sections of an iron viewing dome for the heliometer.

The German team was met

Astronomy. They offered the use of the Trinity campus for the viewing station. The team had planned to use the capitol grounds, but buildings there obscured the horizon. By contrast, Trinity was an ideal location because the elevated height of Rocky Ridge offered a clear view of the horizon and the campus was away from the congested center of the city. The College also offered lodging for the team in Seabury Tower. The student body helped outfit the rooms, and so impressed were the visitors with this hospitality that in his report to the commission, Dr. Mueller expressed special appreciation, stating that "the students were ready to assist us in the most amicable

## along the walk



German astronomers in the Trinity heliometer dome. From *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*, December 16, 1882.

way, and showed a most vivid interest in our work. A few days after our arrival they delighted us in giving a serenade under our windows.”

Work proceeded quickly on setting up the viewing station

*The Transit of Venus is a rare phenomenon. As a result of the relationship between the orbits of Venus and the earth, transits occur only in June or December and only in paired cycles approximately eight years apart...*

to the south of Seabury, roughly where Mather Hall is located. Workmen constructed wood-framed “observing houses” for the refractors, a house for the telescope, and a stone foundation for the heliometer dome.

These were completed in a few days, and the Germans themselves assembled the dome. When it was finished, the astronomers unpacked their instruments, installed them, and made necessary adjustments and

calibrations.

To the great frustration of the astronomers, December 6 dawned overcast. As Dr. Mueller put it, “even at 8 am not the slightest hope for a change to the better

was to be seen. In spite of the slight chance for a clear sky, all preparations were carried out according to plan, the instruments reviewed again, and determinations of the motion carried out at the heliometer....Only shortly before the time of ingress of Venus the clouds started to become thinner, but still the hope for a total clearing up was extremely low. The ingress could not be observed, and only for one moment Venus was seen between first and second contact halfway in the Sun. Only after ingress the clouds started to disperse with rapidity, and our mood started to rise. About one hour after external contact the clouds were so thin that we could start the heliometer

measurements....Soon the sky improved, and remained quite good till the end....”

Begun when Venus had just passed fully within the edge of the sun, the observations were carried out over a period of about four hours, Professor Hart contributing some data based on his use of the College’s telescope. In spite of the time lost due to weather conditions, the team obtained eight full heliometer observation sets. Under the circumstances, the astronomers’ efforts must have seemed to them a triumph, and they promptly sent a report to Berlin by telegraph. New England weather again asserted itself, and as Dr. Mueller put it, “How much fortune has favored us is seen from the fact that soon after the transit it became completely overcast, and during all the following day a strong snowstorm ravaged.”

After the transit, the team remained on campus for two weeks and was engaged primarily in taking star sightings, but bad weather became a major aggravation. The disassembly of the viewing station began on December 15, and within three days all the equipment was packed and ready for return to Germany. The astronomers sold the observing huts locally, but left the iron dome and its foundation in place as a gift to the College in recognition of its aid and support. The team left Hartford on December 19. To commemorate the transit, the College placed an inscribed stone marker on the heliometer pier. In 1959, this stone—one of the few tangible reminders of the 1882 transit to survive anywhere in the world—was

## along the walk

relocated in front of Hallden Hall to make way for construction of Mather Student Center.

The visit of the German astronomers led the College to reexamine the study of astronomy in the curriculum. This effort resulted in seeking additional equipment, providing a suitable observing facility, and strengthening instruction. In 1883, Dr. Samuel St. John, a Hartford surgeon, and his sister donated a six-inch refractor with an equatorial mount and clock-work drive, along with other instruments from the estate of their father. The College agreed to construct a small observatory to be known as the St. John Observatory south of Seabury near the transit marker. Up to the early 1880s, astronomy instruction consisted of a half-year course in natural philosophy and astronomy taken by juniors in addition to a sequence of lectures juniors and seniors could attend voluntarily. The St. John gift coincided with the appointment to the faculty in 1883 of Dr. Flavel Sweeten Luther, Class of 1870, as Seabury Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy. These developments occurred just as the faculty was revising the curriculum to enhance the study of science.

The 1884 curricular revision, together with the St. John telescope and observatory and Professor Luther's appointment, resulted in more intensive and better supported instruction in astronomy. Under the new curriculum, juniors were required to take a half-year course in mathematics and descriptive astronomy taught by Luther, and



St. John Observatory, circa 1910.

seniors could take a half-year elective in astronomy. Luther soon became extremely popular with students, not least because of his intense support of inter-collegiate sports. He went on to serve as Trinity's 11th president from 1904 to 1919.

At the turn of the 20th century, astronomy continued to be part of the curriculum, but as an elective course. The St. John Observatory was now equipped with a six and one-half inch refractor and photography equipment. Although the observatory was dismantled in the late 1930s, astronomy continued to be offered during the following two decades, observing sessions becoming informal. A course in astronomy was offered through the late 1950s. Absent from the curriculum for a brief period in the early 1960s, instruction in astronomy returned with the appointment

in 1964 of Dr. Florence S. Jones. Later coming under the aegis of the Physics Department, astronomy is now offered in the form of two half-year courses taught on an alternating basis.

The visit of the German astronomers for the 1882 transit of Venus was an important opportunity for Trinity to strengthen the undergraduate study of astronomy through curricular reform as well as through generous gifts and the appointment of a new faculty member. The transit that will occur on June 8, 2004 is not only an occasion to marvel at the wonders of the universe but also to recall a historic moment in the life of the College whose impact continues to be felt.

**Acknowledgment:** The author is indebted to Dr. Hilmar W. Duerbeck, Brussels Free University, for generously sharing his research on the German

transit teams of 1874 and 1882 and for providing important documentation from German archives.

*From the Archives is drawn from material on Trinity's history in the Watkinson Library, the special collections department of the Trinity College Library. Trinity alumni seeking historical information about the College are welcome to contact Special Collections Librarian and College Archivist Peter Knapp at (860) 297-2268. Additional information may be found on the Web at [www.trincoll.edu/depts/library/watkinson/watk\\_intro.html](http://www.trincoll.edu/depts/library/watkinson/watk_intro.html).*