



Annual Report

College of the Atlantic : FY 2008–2009

COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2008–2009

From the Administrative Dean

Despite the global financial crisis, College of the Atlantic was able to achieve a balanced operating budget for the second year in a row. Considering the larger conditions of the world, COA currently is in a healthy fiscal state with many positive indicators for the coming year.

As the economic crisis loomed last year, COA, like most of the nation's colleges and universities, began to make adjustments to both short- and longer-term financial plans. Our endowment did drop, although less precipitously than most. With the general sense of concern across the nation, we experienced a dramatic slowdown in our annual giving. While we were worried about the economic plight of many of our students and their families, few of them left school or sought additional financial aid; that concern is a lingering one as unemployment has continued to rise and can be expected to last for some time.


In response to these issues, we engaged the college community in open discussions about the budget. With already tight budgets, we cut back discretionary spending even further. We suspended the search for three new faculty members, and we left open a few positions as vacancies arose. We realized that short-term measures were important, but that the effects of the economic slowdown would be felt for several years. Most importantly, we felt that we could not cut back on current programs and services. Unlike many other colleges, we did not have layoffs, furloughs, or cuts in programs, and we have hired one position and are currently engaged in the searches for two other faculty members.

Because of the belt-tightening measures that we did adopt, we ended last fiscal year (FY09) with an operating surplus, as shown in the accompanying table. We also had savings in the construction projects, as we completed the new student housing without dipping into its contingency. In planning the current fiscal year (FY10), we are anticipating another balanced budget, but only with allocations of the prior year surplus and keeping a portion of the construction savings as an operating contingency.

Our overall fund balances remain healthy. Our net assets totaled \$37 million on June 30, 2009, the end of last fiscal year. While our endowment had dropped from \$17 million to \$14 million with the stock market decline, it has recovered over \$2 million in the fall of 2009. Audited financial statements are available upon request.



Photo by Sarah Barrett '08.


Andy Griffiths, Administrative Dean

Financial Summary

(Rounded to the nearest \$1,000)

Operating Revenues	FY 2008–2009 Actual	FY 2009–2010 Budgeted
Tuition and Fees	9,331,000	9,410,000
Less COA Student Financial Aid	(3,307,000)	(3,760,000)
Less Davis Foundation Financial Aid	(1,725,000)	(1,890,000)
Net Tuition After Financial Aid	4,299,000	3,760,000
Annual Fund Contributions	990,000	1,100,000
Endowment Allocation to Operations	700,000	875,000
Government Grants	414,000	391,000
Other Restricted Gifts and Grants	2,633,000	3,120,000
Student Housing and Dining	1,137,000	1,165,000
Summer Programs	466,000	380,000
Beech Hill Farm	217,000	200,000
Other	265,000	230,000
Less Contingencies	n/a	(250,000)
Total Revenues	11,121,000	10,971,000
Operating Expenses		
Instruction and Student Activity	3,180,000	3,473,000
Student Housing and Dining	464,000	530,000
Summer Programs and Museum	468,000	360,000
General Administration	1,132,000	1,172,000
Payroll Taxes and Fringe Benefits	1,702,000	1,709,000
Development and Admissions	1,161,000	1,080,000
Buildings and Grounds	729,000	685,000
Interest	402,000	420,000
Grants, Research and Projects	964,000	1,200,000
Beech Hill Farm	212,000	205,000
Capital Activity	389,000	437,000
Total Expenditures	10,803,000	11,271,000
Net Operating Surplus Before Transfers (loss)	318,000	(300,000)
Transfer from FY09 to FY10	(300,000)	300,000
Net Operating Surplus After Transfers (loss)	18,000	—
Fund Balances (end of year)	Actual	Projected
Unrestricted	1,212,000	1,212,000
Plant and Equipment	11,788,000	11,300,000
Endowment	14,292,000	16,000,000
Restricted Gifts Invested with the Endowment	2,968,000	3,200,000
Other Temporarily Restricted	6,638,000	6,000,000
Total Fund Balances	36,898,000	37,712,000

MAKE A DIFFERENCE. College of The Atlantic welcomes gifts of all kinds to support our work of educating students to make a difference throughout the world. Please consider including the college in your annual giving. Equally important, to ensure COA's future, consider becoming part of our planned giving program. Bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts and other similar programs help the college while also offering you income tax benefits. Visit www.coa.edu/support or call the development office at 207-288-5015.

From the Dean of Development

Part of my job—the most meaningful part—requires me to bear witness to some remarkable moments in the lives of students and donors.

This week, I had the poignant pleasure to give the “report” included below to a friend of the college.

First, a little background. The author of the report is Gloria Kahamba, a second-year student from Tanzania. The “Sam” to whom her letter is addressed is Sam Hamill, Jr., a life trustee and a warm and deeply caring man. He started a scholarship to support a full COA education for one student from Africa’s Great Lakes (that’s Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Kenya).

He decided to do this for at least two reasons. The two I am aware of are: 1) He has long been inspired by the Davis United World College Scholarship Program that Shelby and Gale Davis created (davisuwcscholars.org); and 2) He is a close friend of Davis Scholar Patrick Uwihoreye '06, who walked out of Rwanda alone when he was thirteen, believing his entire village and family were killed in the ethnic fighting.

Patrick helped Sam set up the scholarship, worked with schools in the region to identify potential recruits, helped develop the criteria for selection, personally read the applications and interviewed candidates. Gloria Kahamba was chosen. Gloria just finished her first year, and sent this letter to her benefactor.

Hello Sam,

It’s my hope that you are fine.

I am good and had a wonderful summer. I was at home for two months and was so happy to see my family and friends again. They were really excited to hear about my life and studies at COA, and were glad that my first year went well.

So far, I have enjoyed COA and I don’t regret being here. It’s not easy to find a school with a community as caring and kind as that of COA. I am also happy that I gained more knowledge from the classes I have taken during my first year and have been able to maintain good grades throughout the year.

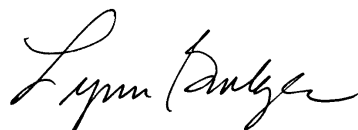
I am planning to focus on science and health courses because I am interested in pursuing medicine as my future field of career. There are also classes in other areas of study that really interest me like piano which I took in the spring. It felt so good to know that I could also play a piano! I hope that I will work even harder in my second year and the years to come.

I am so grateful for your generosity and the step that you took to provide a student from the Great Lakes of Africa with this scholarship. I pray that God may fill you with more kindness, happiness, and good health.

I wish you a happy and wonderful fall.

*Thank you,
Gloria.*

In the pages that follow you’ll find our annual report, with giving for the year. You will read lists of names of individuals, corporations and foundations that have donated time and talent, made a planned gift, established endowment accounts, supported the annual fund. Behind every name is a story. That story is their relationship with COA. It’s my joy and privilege to honor them all. And thank each and every one. We hold your story dear. Your story makes ours possible.



Lynn Boulger, Dean of Development



Photo by Donna Gold.

Annual Giving for fiscal year July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. With deep gratitude and appreciation we acknowledge the generosity of our alumni, trustees, staff, faculty and friends.

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* Those donors with asterisks have since passed on; () Donors with parenthesis around their years are alumni who are not COA graduates.

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Nothern Lights Society



The Northern Lights Society celebrates the philanthropists who have offered planned gifts to COA. Though the most well-known planned gift is a bequest, others choose charitable gift annuities, remainder trusts, or gifts of real estate or other personal property.

George Hambleton has made a planned gift through a life insurance policy. "I wish I could give even more to this wonderful organization which has given me so much through participation with its great board of trustees, enthusiastic and gifted faculty and staff, and inspiring students. An insurance policy gift to College of the Atlantic is a convenient way to give a little more than might otherwise be convenient," says George. Thank you to George and thanks to all the members of the Northern Lights Society!

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 Mrs. Donald (Mona) McLean
 Ms. Marion Stocking

Year After Year

Profile: Jeanne McPherson



I was talking to Jeanne McPherson the other day. She has made a gift to COA year after year and I called to see why. I knew she was not a past parent, nor a graduate. She lives in mid-coast Maine, not exactly right around the corner. She does not come to lectures or gallery shows to see our amazing students' work. How did she come to be such a loyal supporter of COA?

Here's the story she told me: "Years ago, you had an Elderhostel there. My room was on the third floor of The Turrets. While we were there, a great fire broke out on the campus. It is such a tribute to the people that make up COA, the care that they took making sure we were safe. Everyone went to such an extent to make us comfortable ... even though the place was on fire! I have never forgotten your kindness."

The fire that burned the old Kaelber Hall happened twenty-six years ago. Today, Jeanne is eighty-eight years old!

A graduate of Bucknell University, Jeanne's gift to us is particularly meaningful. She says, "My fifty dollars is not going to make a great deal of difference ... but I feel this is what I can do and I want to support you. COA is one of the places I feel deserves my support. I get a lot out of it!"

She keeps tabs on the work that's made possible by her giving. "Whenever I get the magazine, I am so impressed! It's not just the writing. It tells you so much about the graduates and the undergraduates and the work you do."

Thank you, Jeanne! And thanks to all of those listed below who year after year give to COA.

Lynn Boulger, Dean of Development

25 Years or More!

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