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giving at a glance

*College of the Atlantic’s 2020 fiscal year was July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020.*

1,396

**total donors**

2,660

**total gifts**

28%

**senior class participation**

24%

**alumni participation**

$20.2M

**overall giving & pledges**

*Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy in preparing this annual report. If a mistake has been made, or if your name was omitted, we apologize. Please notify Dean of Institutional Advancement Lynn Boulger at 207.801.5620, or lboulger@coa.edu.*
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Two thousand two hundred sixty people sent in gifts to support COA’s mission last year. If you’re reading this, you are one of them and I thank you so very much. From farm equipment to scholarship support, marine mammal research and faculty chair funds, the Champlain Institute to the all-important Annual Fund, COA continues to engender interest, engagement, and support from our community. We would not be here without it, without you, and we are so grateful—so proud, really—that our research, mission, intellectual offerings inspire so many people to support this ongoing innovative institution of higher education.

This report is one way we can say thank you to each and every person who has helped make College of the Atlantic a vibrant part of the MDI community, a global leader in ecological education, and a pioneer in higher education. We can overcome the challenges we face through your dedicated philanthropy. There’s nothing more important I can say in these opening lines than thank you—thank you.

That same dedication to COA is what has helped us weather what could certainly be called one of the most challenging times in higher education. I’m sure many of you have heard the stories of small liberal arts programs folding, merging, or going into what seem like unrecoverable tail spins: Marlboro College, Green Mountain College, Hampshire College, Mount Ida College, Newbury College, College of St. Joseph’s, Southern Vermont College…and that’s just in New England.

You have invested in us and we have, in turn, built an endowment and a college program where every dollar is invested wisely and/or is a meaningful driver of student, faculty, and institutional excellence.

As you will see, the pages herein do not tell the story of an institution that is just getting by in tough times—they tell the story of an institution that is thriving. Thriving for COA means having a larger impact on our beloved Mount Desert Island, where faculty, students, and alumxn are actively contributing to the economic, ecological, and intellectual vitality of our local communities. Thriving for COA means our faculty are more engaged with the wider world of human ecology and are making significant contributions through their research and creative work. It means our graduates—though they may number fewer than 3,000—have a disproportionately large impact on our understanding of—and improvement on—the increasingly important relationship between human beings and their environment.

Read these pages like a story. Most importantly, know that all of us—staff, faculty, students, alumxn, and trustees—recognize and feel extraordinary gratitude for your investments in us.

Yours sincerely,

Darron Collins ’92, PhD
COA President
COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC
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COA relies on the support of individuals, foundations, corporations, and the local community to fulfill our mission of providing students from all over the world with a life changing, world changing education. We are deeply grateful to the following for their contributions.

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() Donors with parenthesis around their class years are COA alumnx, but not graduates.
WHY WE GIVE

Suzanne & Jim Owen

“At first, from afar, now just down the road!

I first heard with much pleasure the news of COA’s opening in the early seventies, when I taught at The Cambridge School of Weston and also did college counseling. I sent one or two students to Bar Harbor and the feedback was great. In the mid-seventies, Jim and I started coming to the island as summer people and, in the early eighties, met Susan Lerner and Steve Katona, who became close friends and encouraged us to move to MDI. We have admired the college’s evolution over the decades and have come to appreciate COA even more fully, knowing a number of administrators and board members, as well as terrific students, since the beginning of the Community Connections program. Throughout the year, we connect with our students, read the COA magazine, and every summer we are treated to the stimulating Coffee and Conversation series, and more recently to the thought-provoking Champlain Institute. COA just gets better and better!”

Suzanne and Jim Owen moved to Maine full time in 2003 and now live on Eden Street, not far from COA.

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ALUMNX LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Alumnx gifts are critical to College of the Atlantic. The Alumnx Leadership Circle honors the generosity and philanthropic leadership of alumnx who give $500 or more to COA.

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Michael Stevens ’94  
Greg Stone ’82  
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Christa van Heerden ’09  
Katherine Weinstock ’81  
Jingran Xiao (’89)  
Erin ’04 & Mike ’01 Zwirko

Taj Schottland ’10
ALUMNX LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

“COA’s sustainability-oriented mission is more important now than ever, and that’s why I’m so excited and honored to be able to help create this new scholarship to support COA students. It’s so important for the next generation to work towards climate solutions through both activism and policy work.”

David Bonner Winship ’77, Rich Van Kampen (’13), Kyle Shank ’14, and Taj Schottland ’10 have joined forces to create the COA Alumnx Climate Action Scholarship. Schottland serves on the COA Alumnx Association board, and donates annually to the college, but wanted to do more to help support COA’s commitment to providing an affordable education. He spearheaded the idea of partnering with other alumnx to leverage their individual gifts, and the group found common ground in climate activism.
"I came to COA as a student later on in my life to follow my love of literature and writing. I met amazing mentors there, and found COA offers a wonderful outlook about life, our planet, and our universe.

After years of sailing and adventures afar, Steven and I eventually settled close by in Lamoine where we built a house for ourselves. As we looked towards what’s next and began to get our affairs in order, we started to work with the various institutions we adore and love, which includes COA. Everything we have came from the ocean, directly or indirectly, and we have a very big interest in giving back in that direction. As we began to discuss options for our house and property with COA, we found it was just the perfect match for us. We are so happy the school has found it to be a great place to house visiting artists, writers, and professors. It’s always an honor to be a part of COA."

Kathleen Massimini ventured to Maine in the seventies and met Steven Callahan while she was building a wooden sailboat. They spent years sailing, traveling, and pursuing careers in writing and now reside in Lamoine, where wildlife is abundant and one can gaze at the stars at night.
The Northern Lights Society is an association for individuals who have made planned gifts to benefit COA. These gifts include bequests, charitable gift annuities, and gifts of life insurance, to name a few. If you have already included COA in your estate plans but do not see your name listed, please contact the Development Office to inform us of your gift intentions.

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Sandi Read & Ron Beard
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YEAR AFTER YEAR

We recognize and thank those donors who give to COA year in and year out. It doesn’t matter the amount one gives, the steadfast support helps us achieve our mission each and every year.

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GIFTS OF TIME AND TALENT

Philanthropy is about generosity in all its forms, and gifts of time—a most precious resource—are truly appreciated. Whether volunteering in classes, on one of COA’s boards, in the gardens, serving on a panel, or presenting at a public event, our community is enriched by the generosity of the following.

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Joanne Alex
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IN-KIND GIFTS

COA is grateful for in-kind donations, which are nonmonetary contributions of goods and services. These could (and do!) include anything from a wooden dory (with oars & an anchor!), to art, books, and even land.

Diana Lyne & Ken Aretsky
Estate of T.A. Cox
Chris Dunn
Ian Nisbet
Karen Waldron & Richard Hilliard
REPORT ON THE ENDOWMENT AND INVESTMENTS

by Andy Griffiths, former Dean of Administration and current consultant

The period from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, our fiscal year 2020, was a challenging year for many endowments. One measure, the Dow-Jones Industrial Average, dropped over 38% from its high of nearly 30,000 in mid-February to just over 18,000 in March before gradually regaining much of this dramatic loss, although still off its high by 3.6%.

While the investments in our endowment were subject to the same factors, driven by the pandemic, our overall return for the fiscal year was a positive 1.2%.

As shown by the following table, over the five year period with Cambridge Associates serving as our investment advisors, we have slightly outperformed the benchmark annualized return.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Investment</th>
<th>% of holdings</th>
<th>one year return</th>
<th>3 year return</th>
<th>5 year return</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global Equities</td>
<td>63.3%</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>6.0%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketable Alternatives</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Income</td>
<td>15.7%</td>
<td>5.5%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0%</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.2%</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.2%</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.4%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benchmark</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.6%</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Our investments, which totaled $63.7 million at the end of June, are primarily the funds within our endowment, but also include $1.7 million of restricted monies managed with the endowment, but not part of it. During the fiscal year, the endowment portion increased from $60.3 million to $62.0 million, after our annual draw, new gifts from the capital campaign, and investment gains.

This has been a dramatic year for the college as we closed the campus due to COVID-19 for the Spring term, but maintained our enrollment with classes taught online. We feel fortunate to have stable income from the endowment which supports so many important activities. Our annual draw is equivalent to $8,000 per student. The following pages include reports of the many funds within the endowment and how they make the mission of the college possible.

**COA ENDOWMENT HISTORY OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS**
year in review

2019

july

The 2019 Champlain Institute draws a record crowd of 600 registrants for five days of talks, screenings, receptions, and book signings under the theme Art: Dissent and Diplomacy.

COA announces $50 million Broad Reach Capital Campaign to endow new student scholarships, create state-of-the-art, environmentally sustainable academic and residential spaces, and support COA’s transition to a fossil fuel-free campus.

Sahra Gibson ’20 and collaborators win the Best Student Poster Award at the Northeast Geological Society of America’s student conference for self-designed research project mapping and monitoring a watershed in Acadia National Park.

january

Sahra Gibson ’20 and collaborators win the Best Student Poster Award for at the Northeast Geological Society of America’s student conference for self-designed research project mapping and monitoring a watershed in Acadia National Park.

Jana Stuth ’23, of Planned Parenthood Gen Action, and Dr. Karen Waldron, Lisa Stewart Chair in Literature and Women’s Studies, represent COA at the the MDI Women’s March.

august

The Princeton Review’s “Best 385 Colleges” Guide for 2020 names COA among the nation’s top 20 colleges for LGBTQ-friendliness, campus food, active governance, and schools where students study the most.

Renowned video artists Mary Reid Kelley and Patrick Kelley work in the COA Ethel H. Blum Gallery as the inaugural Kippy Stroud Artists-in-Residence.

COA celebrates the life of co-founder Les Brewer, who passed away at the age of 97.

Thank you!

WE DID IT!

24-HOUR CHALLENGE

march

Bar Harbor Bank & Trust contributes $150,000 to the Broad Reach Capital Campaign for the Bright Horizons Scholarship Fund. The bank helped to establish this fund at COA to provide $10K in annual financial aid to Maine students.

The COA community embarks on the adventure of distance learning as Spring term begins and the college moves to an online format in response to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.

Over 130 swimmers take part in the celebratory Bar Island Swim, despite water temperatures hovering around 54 degrees.

Governor Janet Mills appoints Ania Wright ’20 as the youth representative to her new, 39-member Maine Climate Council.

Davis United World College Scholars Program member Agim Mazreku ’20 is among 100 young people from around the world chosen to take part in the first-ever United Nations Youth Climate Summit.

756 donors contribute $96,014.95 to the 24-Hour Challenge, unlocking two additional anonymous matching gifts.

Professor of biology, herpetology, and ecology Steve Ressel is named the inaugural holder of the Kim M. Wentworth Chair in Environmental Studies.

Jodi Baker and Nancy Andrews’ three-credit ‘monster’ course in independent filmmaking produces the original short horror film The Bloody Room.

February

24-HOUR CHALLENGE

The 2019 Champlain Institute draws a record crowd of 600 registrants for five days of talks, screenings, receptions, and book signings under the theme Art: Dissent and Diplomacy.

COA announces $50 million Broad Reach Capital Campaign to endow new student scholarships, create state-of-the-art, environmentally sustainable academic and residential spaces, and support COA’s transition to a fossil fuel-free campus.

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The COA community stays connected with campus via video tours, online info sessions for prospective students, weekly video updates from President Darron Collins '92, and remote All College Meetings via Zoom.

Beech Hill Farm starts online farmstand and home delivery service.

COA's Earth in Brackets group forms a delegation to the United Nations 25th Conference of the Parties climate negotiations.

Professor Davis Taylor becomes the first Cody van Heerden Chair in Economics and Quantitative Social Sciences, an endowed faculty position honoring the long-time COA trustee, colleague, and alum, who passed away in 2018 after a battle with ALS.

A new annual ranking by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education names COA among the top five baccalaureate colleges for sustainability.

Maine celebrates its first official Indigenous People's Day.

The Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges names COA #1 Green College for the fourth year in a row.

COA announces plans to reopen campus for in-person instruction and residential life in the fall.

The COA community celebrates the class of 2020 with a virtual commencement ceremony, connecting via Zoom from around the world. Featured speakers include Robin Wall Kimmerer and Professor Rich Borden, who is retiring after 41 years at COA.

The popular Coffee and Conversation series continues through the summer in a new, online format.

COA establishes the Joanne Woodward and Paul Newman Chair in the Performing Arts, a $1.25 million endowed faculty position, with Professor Jodi Baker named the inaugural chair.

Students from MDI High School and COA join together to ask the Bar Harbor Town Council to pass a Climate Emergency Declaration.

COA is the first US school to sign on to the #breakfreefromplastic campus pledge.

President Darron Collins '92 hosts a virtual construction tour of the Center for Human Ecology, designed by architects Susan Rodriguez and We Are OPAL in collaboration with the entire COA community.

The COA Outing Club holds a virtual World Peaks Day.

COA's first virtual Earth Day celebration includes a puppet show, open mic, zero waste DIYs, woodcarving, and yoga.

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THE ANNE T. AND ROBERT M. BASS CHAIR IN
EARTH SYSTEMS AND GEOSCIENCES

Chairholder: Sarah Hall, PhD

Anne and Bob Bass established this chair in 2011 as part of the Life Changing, World Changing Capital Campaign. Sarah Hall, PhD has held the chair since its founding, and below is her report.

During the 2019-2020 school year, I taught a total of fifty-eight students, advised three students in term-long independent study projects, and mentored eleven student advisees. I served on the COA Academic Affairs Committee and the Writing For the Future task force. I continued my collaborative research activities with three work study students and colleagues at Acadia National Park (ANP), Friends of Acadia (FOA), Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory (MDIBL), the Climate Change Institute at University of Maine (UMaine) in Orono, and continued working on geoscience education and communication projects as the President of the Geological Society of Maine (GSM).

Courses I taught during the 2019-2020 year included Geology of MDI; Rocks and Minerals; Geology of National Parks; Human Ecology Core Class; and Climate and Weather. I also supervised the following independent study projects (ISP) and senior projects (SP):
- Sahra Gibson ’20—Proposing a Coastal Maine Geopark (SP)
- Sahra Gibson ’20—UNESCO Global Geoparks (Residency)
- Gabriela Moroz ’21—Glacial Geomorphology (ISP)
- Nora Howley ’23—Boatbuilding Practicum: Building a Norwegian Pram (ISP)
- Nora Howley ’23—Lapstrake Boat Building: Culture and Research (ISP)

PROFESSIONAL WORK. Invited talks featuring my professional work:
- "Spatial patterns of groundwater quality around the MDI region: Undergraduate involvement in community
research project," Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) Training Workshop, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine (September 2019 and June 2019).

• "Watersheds and Wells of Mount Desert Island: Using geomorphic mapping techniques to inform resource management and public health decisions," Geology Department, Colby College, Waterville, Maine (October 2019).

• "Is there a correlation between groundwater chemistry and geology?: Spatial patterns of groundwater quality around MDI," Outdoor Science Class lecture, Mount Desert Island High School, Bar Harbor, Maine (October 2019).

• "GIS and Geoscience at COA," COA Trustee Meeting, Deep Dive with Gordon Longsworth and students (January 2020).

• "Spatial patterns of groundwater quality: A view from MDI," Science Café, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine (January 2020).

PRESENTATIONS OF MY PROFESSIONAL WORK AT CONFERENCES:


Abstracts were accepted to present at Northeast Geological Society of America (NEGSA) and at the Maine Sustainability and Water Conference (MSWC) in March 2020, but both of these conferences were cancelled. The abstract titles and authors are listed below. These projects will be presented during three virtual conferences in fall 2020.

• "Is once every 3-5 years enough?: Seasonality in private well water quality of northern Mount Desert Island, Maine," Moroz, G.*, Hall, S.R., Farrell, A., Disney, J., and Stanton, B., NEGSA and MSWC.

• "Monitoring well water in New Hampshire and Maine while engaging high school and college students in interdisciplinary and societally relevant work: An example from Mount Desert Island, Maine," Farrell, A., Hall, S.R., Disney, J., and Stanton, B., NEGSA.


CONFERENCES/MEETINGS THAT I HELPED ORGANIZE:

Geological Society of Maine (GSM) Annual Fall Meeting, Augusta, Maine (November 2019): I served as master of ceremonies for this day-long meeting focused on Climate Change in Maine, which included multiple speakers ranging from government, higher education, research institutes, and members of the Governor’s Climate Council.

GRANTS. National Institutes of Health (NIH)-Science Education Partnership Award (SEPA) Data to Action Supplemental Project “Arsenic in All Seasons” builds on the current SEPA Data to Action project (1R25GM129796-01). This grant extends the Data to Action (Principal Investigators: Jane Disney, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, and Bruce Stanton, Dartmouth College) to enable through a subaward to COA:

• Two funded summer internships for COA students (2020): Gabriela Moroz ’21 and Isi Muñoz Segovia ’22

• Six student research stipends ($500/term) to work on this project

• Funding for continued community water sampling—at least one “dry season” event and supplemental collections opportunistically

• Funding for two students/year to present at regional conferences (Northeastern Geological Society of America, Maine Sustainability and Water Conference, etc.)

• Student STEM networking and professional skill development training through workshops and summer fellowship program at Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory

SERVICE/ONGOING LOCAL-REGIONAL PROJECTS.

• Groundwater Quality: My continued involvement with the All About Arsenic/Data to Action program described above is very fulfilling work. I enjoy working with COA students, local researchers, and MDI community members, as well as middle and high school teachers throughout Maine and New Hampshire.

• ANP Watershed Monitoring: Without Friends of Acadia funding for summer interns this year, Brian Henkel (FOA) and I have been working to maintain our eight MDI stream gage sites and collect some field data as we have in past years.

• Maine Geosciences: As President of the Geological Society of Maine, I have very much enjoyed being part of the Executive Council of this group during the last few years, and plan to stay involved as an active member after my term on the Council. Working with COA alum Sahra Gibson ’20, I am part of a new steering group for the Aspiring Coastal Maine Geopark.

| Beginning Fund Balance | $2,004,439 |
| Net Return on Investments | $15,237 |
| Contributions | — |
| Less Allocations/Withdrawals | ($93,000) |
| Ending Fund Balance | $1,926,676 |
THE RICHARD J. BORDEN CHAIR IN THE HUMANITIES

Chairholder: Bonnie Tai, EdD

The Richard J. Borden Chair in the Humanities was established in 2011 as a way to honor the long-time COA professor and former academic dean. Along with trustees of the college, hundreds of alumni donated to help fund the Borden chair. The inaugural chairholder was John Visvader, PhD, professor in philosophy. “Vis,” as he is affectionately known, held the chair for nine years until this past winter, when he retired.

We are delighted to report that the new holder of the Richard J. Borden Chair in the Humanities is Bonnie Tai, EdD.

Bonnie is a professor in educational and human studies. Her primary teaching and research interests focus on experiential and intercultural education. Most recently, she is investigating Buddhist philosophy, psychology, and contemplative practices and their contributions to our understanding of the nature of knowledge, self, and human experience.

Two overarching goals have driven her work over the last twenty years: to enhance access, equity, and quality in education and facilitate learning, teaching, and leadership that values individual and group differences, and helps communities effectively negotiate conflict and change. As peer, advisor, teacher, and mentor, Bonnie aims to help educators put theory into practice in contemplative, experiential, intercultural, and democratic education. She currently serves as co-chair of COA’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan task force and is the co-founder of COA’s College Opportunity and Access (COA³) program, a pre-orientation and year-round initiative designed to build a supportive, educational, and communal advocacy space designed for students who self-identify with the experiences of racially and ethnically minoritized, first generation, and/or low income college students.

Courses she teaches include Changing Schools, Changing Society; Curriculum Design and Assessment; Education for Life; Experiential Education; Intercultural Education; and Understanding and Managing Group Dynamics.

After earning her doctorate, she directed the MA program in Curriculum and Instruction at California State University, Long Beach.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS.

Bonnie received her BA in humanistic studies from Johns Hopkins University, her EdM in technology in Education from Harvard, as well as her EdD from Harvard in learning and teaching. She started her teaching career during college when she worked summers for the Island School, a summer enrichment program for inner city middle schoolers on Thompson Island in Boston Harbor. After college, she served as a Peace Corps volunteer teaching math and English at Mahalapye Community Junior Secondary School in Botswana. During her graduate studies, she developed a keen interest in increasing access and equity in higher education, and began working at Brandeis University as Associate Director of Admissions and Curriculum Specialist for Student Support Services.

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THE RACHEL CARSON CHAIR IN HUMAN ECOLOGY
Chairholder: Richard J. Borden, PhD

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The Rachel Carson Chair was established in 1998 to honor the renowned marine biologist, conservationist, and author of Silent Spring. It took many years to successfully complete the fundraising campaign. It was not until 2007 that efforts were complete and Richard J. Borden, PhD was seated in the chair. This is Rich’s final chair report, as he retired in the spring of 2020.

2019-2020 was a rich and fulfilling academic year. It was also my last year at COA—and of course, a year of huge changes and challenges associated with the spring-time arrival of COVID-19. Throughout the year, I maintained my regular faculty duties: working with advisees, as a reader for human ecology essays, supervising independent studies, and advising senior projects.

During the Fall term, I enjoyed my final sabbatical—a portion of which was spent in England, Belgium, France, and Ireland giving talks and visiting human ecology programs and individuals. I also participated in the Ecological Society of America (ESA) annual meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. ESA’s human ecology section—of which I am a founding member and past-chair—arranged a highly successful "Human Dimensions Collaborative" workshop that brought together multiple sections (e.g., urban ecology, agroecology, applied ecology, environmental justice, ecological policy, etc.).

During the Winter term, I taught my Seminar in Human Ecology, and Personality and Social Development. I chaired a faculty contract review committee for Jay Friedlander, and co-chaired the program planning committee for the XXIV International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology (SHE) — "Social Dynamics and Global Challenges: The Role of Human Ecology in the 21st Century." The meeting was scheduled for July 19-22 in Brazil. In addition to SHE’s traditional role in networking human ecology internationally, it was also aimed at the inaugural celebration for a new graduate program in human ecology, jointly coordinated by Universidade Federal do Vale do São Francisco (UNIVASF) and Universidade do Estado da Bahia (UNEB)—in cooperation with the Brazilian Society for Human Ecology (SABEH). Sadly, these events had to be cancelled due to COVID-19.

The pandemic warnings during spring break rapidly disrupted COA as well, forcing a total change-over from a campus-based to an online curriculum for the Spring term. My final class—Human Relations: Principles and Practice—has
been offered many times and was team-taught with COA’s former Dean of Administration Andy Griffiths, trustee and alum Jay McNally ’84, and Jay Friedlander, COA’s Sharpe-McNally Chair in Green and Socially Responsible Business. As a group, we had to completely reformat the course contents and scheduling of our various alumnx, trustees, and other professional visitors into a Zoom-based system. Amazingly, it worked—an accomplishment for which the students deserve tremendous credit for their flexibility and enthusiasm.

In closing, I wish to thank many people: current and former colleagues, students, alumnx, and friends. My time at COA has been wonderful—forty-plus years as a faculty member, twenty years as academic dean, a decade as the Rachel Carson Chair in Human Ecology, and countless opportunities for me to explore and practice the college’s visionary mission of a human ecology education. I greatly appreciate the student-originated “surprise Zoom tribute” at the close of my final class session, the chance to share my thoughts during this year’s commencement, and especially the conferring of my own MPhil in human ecology. Looking ahead, I plan to continue working on SHE’s international projects (with COA’s Provost and Executive Director of the Society, Ken Hill), spend time with Patricia and our four grandchildren—Gus, Ruby, Bennett, and Rylan (born on April 4th during the onset of the virus crisis), and enjoy hiking the trails of MDI and sailing the Maine coast.

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**THE T.A. COX CHAIR IN STUDIO ARTS**

**Chairholder: Nancy Andrews, MFA**

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The T.A. Cox Chair in Studio Arts was established through the generosity of former COA trustee Tom Cox and the hundreds of friends, family members, and trustees who gave to the chair COA established at the time of his death in 2019. The inaugural chairholder is Professor Nancy Andrews, MFA.

Nancy is an artist who makes films, drawings, objects, installations, performance, music, and publications. These works are often rendered with characteristic humor and inhabited by characters who are at times visionary, but always social misfits. She joined College of the Atlantic in 1999 and teaches video production, animation, sound, and time-based art. Courses include Animation, Art of the Puppet, Documentary Video Studio, Object and Performance, Soundscape, and many others.

The Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) has collected six of her experimental films; and her work is in the collections of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Bibliothèque Nationale-Paris, and Franklin Furnace Archives.

She is a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellow in filmmaking (2008). Her films have screened at MoMA, Pacific Film Archive, Anthology Film Archive, Jerusalem Film Festival, Flaherty Seminars, Ann Arbor Film Festival, Taiwan International Animation Festival, and International Film Festival Rotterdam, among others.

After completing her first feature film, *The Strange Eyes of Dr. Myes*, which premiered at The International Film Festival Rotterdam in 2015, won Outstanding Feature Award at the Imagine Science Film Festival, New York, and was shown in Poland, Abu Dhabi, Maine, California, and elsewhere, Andrews created a web series from material shot for the film and was chosen by The Independent Filmmakers Project (IFP) for its inaugural Screen Forward Labs, a program focused on helping filmmakers develop serialized story-driven projects across all platforms. *The Strange Eyes of Dr. Myes* web series (YouTube) won the 2017 Gotham Award for Breakout Series (short).

Nancy is featured in Artists in Context’s “Artists’ Prospectus for the Nation” in the category of health, where she and other artists are bringing their aesthetic modes of inquiry to real-world problems.

She received her MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and her BFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art.
THE WILLIAM H. DRURY, JR. CHAIR IN EVOLUTION, ECOLOGY, AND NATURAL HISTORY

WILLIAM H. DRURY RESEARCH FUND

Chairholder: John G.T. Anderson, PhD

The William H. Drury, Jr. Chair and Research Fund were established in honor of the eminent ecologist and former research director of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, who died in 1992. Bill lectured on evolutionary biology and ecology at Harvard University for over twenty years before joining the COA faculty in 1976. John Anderson, PhD has served as the Drury Chair since its inception. Below is his report.

2019-2020 was a busy year. In July and August, the Great Duck team continued work on the island, supported by the Drury Fund. I also taught Island Life, which was based on Great Duck in late August and early September, and included “field trips” on the college’s boat M/V Osprey to islands as far west as Hurricane and as far East as Grand Manan. Students got the opportunity to speak with islanders and to observe whales, seabirds, vegetation, and the marks of generations of humans who have lived, loved, dwelt, and died in these waters.

I was on sabbatical for the Fall term, during which I was able to spend time at the Innerpeffray Library, the oldest lending library in Scotland, where I had the privilege of examining some extremely rare texts on natural history. I was also an invited speaker at the Croatian Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (IZOR), where I presented results of my long-term studies on changes in seabird populations and habitat in the Gulf of Maine.

Upon my return, I immediately headed for Maryland for the Waterbird Society meetings. I have been re-elected to the Society’s Council, and we had quite a bit of work to do planning for the organization’s future focis, including our ongoing interest in attracting a broad range of members. Four COA students—Sage Fuller ‘22, Adaline Huckins ‘21, Nathan Dubrow ‘21, and Aya Kumagai ‘21—joined me at the meetings to present their work on Great Duck Island and Mount Desert Rock.

In the Winter term, I taught Ecology and Human Anatomy and Physiology. I was also an invited speaker at Saint Vincent College in Pennsylvania, where I was asked to first discuss interdisciplinary education with the college’s Core Committee, and then to present a lecture as part of their Bioethics Forum on questions of active management and conservation. Later in Winter term, I was an invited speaker at the Ocean School in Searsport. The Ocean School is a “school within a school” emphasizing the interface between ecology and the sea for Maine students.

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WILLIAM H. DRURY JR RESEARCH FUND

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I also coordinated the Human Ecology Forum at COA, choosing to recruit a number of COA alumnx who have gone on to do interesting things post-graduation. The series seemed to be a success, and I hope to expand it in future.

Spring term of course brought COVID-19, and I had to pivot rapidly to teach online. Instead of the second half of Human Anatomy, I developed a new course with Dan Gatti, professor of computer science: Plagues, Panic, and Pandemics, the History and Natural History of Disease. I also taught Conservation Biology as scheduled, but online. Both courses went about as well as I could have hoped. It was really fun teaching with Dan and the students seemed to respond well to our “tag-team” format. I was enormously impressed with some of the students in Conservation, and feel confident that they will have real impacts in the future.

In June, I got permission to take a “scratch team” to Great Duck to do our annual count and nest mapping so as to continue what is now a twenty-two year data set. After the initial team left, I was joined by Dan Gatti and two students, who examined possibilities for remote sensors in monitoring petrels. COA’s new philosophy professor Heather Lakey ’00, MPhil ’05 replaced me on the island when I went off to accompany Captain Toby Stephenson ’98 in experimenting with the use of drones to count cormorants on islands to the west. Heather and Dan were eventually transported off the island by
a local fisherman when repairs to M/V Osprey took longer than intended, but the students remained through July, banding a record number of petrels and continuing monitoring of gull productivity. Their work was supported by the Drury Fund.

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**THE CHARLES ELIOT CHAIR IN ECOLOGICAL PLANNING, POLICY AND DESIGN**

Chairholder: Isabel Mancinelli, MLA

The Eliot Chair was created at COA through a leadership gift from Dan and Polly Pierce in 2000. Dan Pierce was a COA trustee, grandson of landscape architect Charles Eliot, and great-grandson of Harvard President Charles William Eliot. Isabel Mancinelli, MLA has held the chair since it was established. Below is her report.

Despite—or perhaps in part due to—the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, this was an exceptionally successful and inspiring year. Timing was fortunate as the decision to switch to online teaching was made just before spring break. That gave us two weeks to learn how to use Zoom and Google Classroom to deliver quality online classes for the Spring term. The Land Use Planning and GIS class I teach with Gordon Longsworth usually involves numerous public meetings, working closely with local city planners and nonprofit organizations, talking with residents and business owners, and lots of on-the-ground research. The switch to an online format with students in the UK, Brazil, Costa Rica, and across the US was challenging but went remarkably well. Those few students still in Bar Harbor were able to ground truth and photograph specific features. Key local professionals were willing and able to meet with the class online to provide students essential background information to make recommendations and offer improved access to the town’s land use ordinances. All the students were taught GIS software online and applied it, addressing barriers to affordable workforce housing posed by the current land use regulations in Bar Harbor. For their impressive final presentation to the town via Zoom, the city planner, code enforcement officer, town council and planning board members, and local citizens were in attendance. Even better, the presentation was recorded and posted on the town’s web site where it is available to the public so their work continues to have an impact.

In the fall, prior to the pandemic, I taught Introduction to Arts and Design, and Landscape Architecture Design Studio. Field trips for both classes included visits to the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Garden, Asticou Azalea Garden, Thuya Terraces and Garden, and Garland Farm. The studio class also took a long weekend trip to Boston where we visited the Arnold Arboretum, toured the Frederick Law Olmsted home and office, walked the Rose Kennedy Boulevard, saw the glass flower collection at Harvard’s Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, and met with two COA alum landscape architects.

These students also designed and presented proposals to provide a handicapped-accessible entrance court to COA’s Dorr Museum of Natural History.

During the winter, I took a fascinating, archeologist-led Road Scholar trip to Egypt. I was also fortunate enough to see Hamilton on Broadway and the Monet traveling exhibit at the Denver Art Museum. Throughout the academic year, I supervised several independent studies and advised Aoi Seto ’20 and Elizabeth Chaput ’20 on their impressive senior projects. Aoi started by researching the physical, economic, and social influences of vernacular architecture throughout the world. She then spent Winter term in the Yucatán, living with a family in a traditional Mayan house, and observing and documenting the construction process of such structures as well as the religious, social, and economic fabric of the community. Her final thesis focused on Mayan vernacular architecture, and what key aspects of it might inform present day attempts to create sustainable residential architecture in that region. She will be continuing her professional architectural studies in graduate school. Elizabeth focused on issues and causes of homelessness in specific cities in the US and Berlin. She will begin her graduate studies in planning at Tufts this fall.

In addition to my teaching and committee work, I coordinated faculty input into the furniture, equipment, and furnishing selections for the new Center for Human Ecology, which will become our primary academic building this coming Winter term.

| Beginning Fund Balance  | $2,006,114 |
| Net Return on Investments | $15,233   |
| Contributions           | $120      |
| Less Allocations/Withdrawals | ($93,000) |
| Ending Fund Balance     | $1,928,467 |
THE ANDREW S. GRIFFITHS CHAIR FOR THE DEAN OF ADMINISTRATION

Submitted by: Lynn Boulger, Dean of Institutional Advancement

The Andrew S. Griffiths Chair for the Dean of Administration was one of the nine chairs created during the Broad Reach Capital Campaign. The endowed fund was established in 2018 by COA’s board of trustees to honor COA’s long-serving and well-respected administrative dean who served COA for over fifteen years. Ninety-one friends donated to the fund—faculty, staff, trustees, family members, and friends near and far. The fund will support the position of Andy’s replacement, the search for whom is currently underway.

THE DAVID HALES DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY FUND

By Lynn Boulger, Dean of Institutional Advancement

The Director of Sustainability Fund was established in 2007 as part of the Life Changing, World Changing Capital Campaign. Peggy and Henry Sharpe made the gift in honor of COA’s fifth president, David Hales, upon his retirement. David Hales has also served as chair and president of Second Nature, the managing organization of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, and as director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. He led environmental policy and sustainability programs for the US Agency for International Development and was the first American to serve as chair of the World Heritage Convention.

In fiscal year 2020, COA mounted a search for a teaching staff position called the Director of Energy Education and Management. The position was intended to be a full time permanent position that would provide interdisciplinary educational opportunities for students in energy, sustainability, and related areas through classes, the Community Energy Center, and independent projects.

The director would provide leadership and expertise in all matters related to energy, moving the college toward greater use of renewable energy, decreasing overall energy use, and expanding educational opportunities for students in energy and related areas as we move towards our goal of being a fossil-fuel free campus by 2030.

It is a very exciting opportunity for the college and we’ve been so eager to bring someone onboard. However, the search ended in March of 2020 without a viable candidate, and then the pandemic happened. We will renew our efforts to fill this position in fiscal year 2021.

The David Hales Director of Sustainability Fund has supported the work of the Community Energy Center staff this year, as well as other energy-related projects on campus.

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STEVEN K. KATONA CHAIR IN MARINE STUDIES

Chairholder: Sean Todd, PhD

The Katona Chair in Marine Studies was established in 2007 to honor COA’s fourth president and founding faculty member, Steven K. Katona. Sean Todd, PhD has held the Katona Chair since it was created through the generosity of the COA trustees, hundreds of alumnx, and friends of the college in 2006. Below is his report.

The summer of 2019 was our third year of investigation into changes in Gulf of Maine whale feeding behavior using the Edward McC. Blair Marine Research Station on Mount Desert Rock (MDR) as our base of operations, funded in part by Katona Chair discretionary funds. Local whale sightings were scant this year, we believe as a result of the very phenomenon we are investigating. Expecting this trend, we had successfully applied to Canadian authorities to work within their jurisdiction. As a result, a majority of our successful research effort was within colder, more prey-rich Canadian waters. The college’s M/V Osprey was essential in this effort, allowing us to deploy our graduate student-led research team at such distances.

The Edward McC. Blair Marine Research Station at MDR was popular this season (summer of 2019), hosting eight COA students (two of whom ran the facility as deputy station managers) who conducted a variety of research projects (ranging from biology to film), and a field class from John Bapst High School (Bangor, Maine). The season concluded with a highly successful offering of Marine Mammal Biology, in which five students spent three weeks at MDR, learning not only the requisite class material but also the intricacies of living on, and running a field station. I was very proud of these “Rock graduates." Professor John Anderson and I also organized a three-day field trip for the class to Grand Manan, Canada, by boat, as part of Allied Whale’s research transects and as part of a pre-Fall term experience for returning COA students.

During the 2019-20 academic year, I acted as Faculty Moderator in Fall term, and then joined the Faculty Development Group. In addition to directing Allied Whale, I also worked on the Islands Committee, Graduate Committee, and assisted with various Admission functions.

Over the academic year, I taught a total of sixty-five students in four classes, two independent studies and two senior projects, and had an official advisee roster of twenty-one students, including three graduate students. Classes taught included Marine Mammal Biology, Soundscape (team-taught with Nancy Andrews), Introduction to Statistics and Research Design (team-taught with Susan Letcher, which allowed us to update the class to include statistical programming), Polar Ecology and Exploration, and Introduction to Oceanography in the Spring term as a remote learning class due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of my graduate students, Natasha Pastor ’20, successfully defended her thesis in the spring. Natasha and another one of my graduate students, Lindsey Jones ’19, were accepted and presented their thesis work at the World Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, held in Barcelona, Spain last December.

Chair funds were used to help purchase research equipment for Allied Whale, MDR, as well as for student travel. Funds also supported my attendance with seven students at the Right Whale Consortium in Portland, Maine, and supported course teaching assistants and equipment purchases.

In January 2020, I chose to renew my merchant marine qualifications, studying for, taking and passing the exams for the 100-ton Near Shore Master’s ticket. My application for this qualification is pending at the National Maritime Center, as the review has been delayed by the pandemic.
The Great Courses project, “Life in the World’s Oceans,” which I hosted has received 4.7/5 stars in online reviews, and the viewership has been high, especially in the past half year where people have sought self-improvement during the pandemic lockdown. For more on this series, visit www.thegreatcourses.com/courses/life-in-the-worlds-oceans.html.

**PUBLICATIONS.**

I was published as a co-author of a paper based on bioacoustics work that I performed previously at MDR with graduate students:


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**GRANTS AND AWARDS.**

Over the course of the year, I successfully raised ~$160,000 for Allied Whale research and Marine Mammal Stranding Response Program activities, including:

- Anonymous Foundation, $20,000
- Private donations, $40,000
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Prescott Health and Stranding Program, ~$100,000

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**THE MCNALLY FAMILY CHAIR IN PHILOSOPHY AND HUMAN ECOLOGY**

Chairholder: Heather Lakey ’00, MPhil ’05, PhD

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The McNally Family Chair in Philosophy and Human Ecology was created in 2019 through a gift to COA from alum and COA trustee Jay McNally ’84 as part of the Broad Reach Capital Campaign. The inaugural chairholder is Heather Lakey, PhD.

Heather Lakey ’00, MPhil ’05 earned an interdisciplinary PhD in philosophy and gender studies from the University of Maine. She has recently joined the faculty at College of the Atlantic after a national search. Prior to that, she was an adjunct faculty member with the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies program at the University of Maine.

Heather received not one but two degrees from COA—her BA in 2000 and MPhil in 2005. She also has an MA in philosophy from the University of Oregon.

Heather’s research interests span a wide range of traditions, including feminist theory, bioethics, and the history of philosophy. Classes she teaches at COA include *Philosophies of Good and Evil; Nature, Humans, and Philosophy; Philosophy of Death and Dying; Problems and Dilemmas in Contemporary Bioethics; Sex, Gender, Identity and Power; Animals and Ethics; and Choice, Chance and Tragedy.*

**PUBLICATIONS.**


**PRESENTATIONS.**


“Beyond Right And Wrong: Abortion, Informed Consent and Medical Decision Making.” April 2016. Maine Philosophical Institute, University of Maine, Orono, Maine.


THE ELIZABETH BATTLES NEWLIN CHAIR IN BOTANY

Chairholder: Suzanne Morse, PhD

The Newlin Chair was the first chair created at COA in 1996 as part of the college’s Silver Anniversary Campaign. It was established by two of Elizabeth Battles Newlin’s children: Lucy Bell Sellers and her husband Peter, and Bill Newlin and his wife Louisa (née Foulke) Newlin. Craig Greene, PhD was the inaugural chairholder, followed by Suzanne Morse, PhD, who is the current Newlin Chair. Below is her report.

One of the highlights of summer 2019 was a trip to Prince Edward Island with recent graduate Gillian Welch ’19 to reconnect with Taiwanese friends and to help build bridges between local organic growers with newly arrived farmers from Taiwan. For one evening, we had the opportunity to visit with former COA director of energy education and management, Anna Demeo, who is now at the University of Prince Edward Island.

In the Fall term, I taught Weed Ecology and, together with twelve students, we explored the dynamics of plant establishment on a large pile of soil (aka “Mount COA”) placed on the front lawn after digging the foundation for the new Center for Human Ecology. On the slopes of Mount COA, we practiced plant identification and sampling. Sage Fuller ’22 followed up on this project with detailed transects that revealed intriguing patterns based on aspect and soil strata. In Seeds: From Biology to Political Ecology, twelve students researched and presented on plant reproduction, breeding, and seed saving. Highlights also included visits by Heron Breen from FedCo, Will Bonsall from Scatter Seed, and Heather McCargo from Wild Seed Project. Two students from this course (Rayna Joyce ’20 and Lauren Brady ’21) joined me in attending the Organics Seed Alliance conference in Corvallis, Oregon.

During the winter break, Jill Weber, our newly appointed herbarium curator, Professor Susan Letcher, and I worked together to freeze all the specimens and cabinets in a refrigeration truck for ten days in order to eliminate a beetle infestation. To our delight, all cabinets and specimens continue to
be pest free! This work was followed by a brief and harrowing trip to Azores where I explored the rugged volcanic island. Unfortunately, the majority of the native vegetation is limited to the highest peaks, hazardous gorges, and the ocean. A testament to the limited places plants can escape from the hungry goat and dairy cow.

In the Winter term, I taught Cross Kingdom Interactions, an advanced seminar exploring the potential role of symbiosis in evolutionary and ecological processes. I also taught Art and Science of Fermented Foods with the help of Rosemary Santoro ’20, where students explored the biology and delight of microbial consortia in the creation of fermented foods.

In the Spring term, I transitioned my Theory and Practice of Organic Gardening course to an online format. Fifteen students scattered from Spain to Maine, the Midwest, California, and Washington developed great gardens while sheltering in place. Prior to starting the class, Rayna Joyce ’20 and I hustled in the snowy garden at COA making videos about soil testing, alternative composting strategies, and more. Together we Zoomed, shared gardens, and applied concepts in place. All in all, a surprisingly satisfying experience in these COVID-19 times.

During the year, I was a member of the faculty Diversity Equity and Inclusion Task Force, Campus Planning and Building Committee, the Landscape Subcommittee, and the Farming and Food Systems working group. Much of my summer work continues to be invested in the organizing and maintaining of the community garden. This year much of my time was devoted to adapting this space to be COVID-19-safe. I also continue to be on the board of the Wild Seed Project, and serve as an advisor to the Native Gardens of Blue Hill.

It is with deepest gratitude that I thank the funders who support botanical work and infrastructure at COA. The primary expenditures for this year covered the herbarium manager salary, conference costs for students and faculty, the purchase of equipment and books, and the rental of a refrigerator truck.

Photo: Suzanne with her students exploring Mount COA. Credit Darron Collins ’92.

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THE PARTRIDGE CHAIR IN FOOD AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE SYSTEMS

Chairholder: Kourtney K. Collum, PhD

| Beginning Fund Balance | $4,177,249 |
| Net Return on Investments | $31,717 |
| Contributions | — |
| Less Allocations/Withdrawals | ($192,000) |
| Ending Fund Balance | $4,016,966 |

The Partridge Chair in Food and Sustainable Agriculture Systems was established in 2008 through a gift from The Partridge Foundation through the support of Polly Guth, a long-term supporter of COA and Beech Hill Farm. The chair has been held by Kourtney Collum, PhD since 2016. Below is her report.

Academics: In the Fall term, I taught Transforming Food Systems and co-taught with Davis Taylor a new course called Homesteading: Theory and Practice. In the Winter term, I explored with my students themes of labor exploitation, disproportionate access to healthy food and farmland, and corporate control of the food system in US Farm and Food Policy. I also taught a college seminar on The Anthropology of Food. The highlight of this course was partnering with our dining team, COA’s Dorr Museum of Natural History, and Dru Colbert’s Curiosity and Wonder class on a multi-genre project called The (Un)Natural Histories of Cuisine. Working in teams, students selected a recipe, researched its sociopolitical and cultural history, prepared and served the dish in COA’s Blair Dining Hall, and developed an interactive exhibition on the recipes for the Dorr Museum. This project epitomized much of what I love about COA—passionate people coming together to dig deeply into issues, make connections across areas, and communicate through diverse media.

In total, I taught seventy-three students in five courses. I also advised nineteen students, directed nine independent studies and three senior projects, served on two MPhil committees, and served as a reader for eight human ecology essays. The Partridge Chair funds made it possible to purchase supplies, and fund research and field trips to support these courses and projects.

SERVICE. Partridge Chair funds supported the fourth annual Food & Farming Workshop Series. We hosted five workshops on topics ranging from apple preservation to maple syrup production. Four workshops were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With the amazing leadership of Food and Sustainable Agriculture Systems program manager Kerri Sands ’02, in September 2019 we hosted the 14th annual Farm Day. The event included farm tours, live music, and a community-wide dinner featuring meat and vegetables from COA’s two organic farms. The event showcased the work of COA’s incredible dining staff and farm managers C.J. Walke, Anna Davis, David Levinson, and Wayne Biebel ’17.

Additionally, with Leta Diethelm ’20, I managed COA’s apiary for the fourth year. This year we erected a new apiary shed, built new equipment, maintained four colonies, and harvested seventy pounds of honey. We were particularly excited to purchase a mechanical extractor that we will share with the MDI community through Beech Hill Farm’s commercial kitchen post-pandemic.

Kerri Sands ’02 joined me and UMaine colleagues to run the Sustainable Food Systems Research Collaborative (SFSRC) for the third summer. This year we supported three fellows, including two COA students: Lily Gehrenbeck ’21, who documented the oral history of Maine beekeepers and Sarah Somes ’21, who explored the potential for cooperation and solidarity practices among Maine farmers. None of this meaningful work would be possible without the generous support of the Partridge Endowment.

PRESENTATIONS. Chair funds supported my virtual attendance at the Society for Applied Anthropology meeting, where I presented a paper on the need to prepare students to transform food systems through actions as citizens rather than mere consumers.


Photos: Sustainable Food Systems Research Collaborative (SFSRC) fellows finally meet in person on the last day of the program for a safely distanced hike (top); students admire their collective work on The (Un)Natural Histories of Cuisine project at COA’s Dorr Museum on the last day of the term (bottom).
The David Rockefeller Family Chair in Ecosystem Management and Protection was made possible through a gift from David Rockefeller in 2010. The T.A. Cox Fund in Ecosystem Management and Protection supports the work of the chair. This endowed fund was established by the late Tom Cox, a COA trustee and friend of David and Peggy Rockefeller. The chair has been held by Ken Cline, JD since its inception. He has submitted the report below.

Advanced environmental law and conservation history courses were the focus of my teaching this year. In the Winter term, I taught my seminar course, Environmental Law and Policy, an advanced class focusing on common law, federal environmental statutes, and constitutional litigation. This was followed in the Spring term by Advanced International Environmental Law Seminar, which has a strong environmental and human rights focus, and was a perfect capstone for students who have participated in international climate negotiations. An introductory college seminar on the History of the American Conservation Movement explored the development of conservation in the US over the past 300 years and laid the foundation for Our Public Lands, an intermediate land management policy course. Using projects in Acadia National Park (ANP) and extensive readings, the class explored the history and complexities of managing US public lands.

I directed three senior projects, an independent study, and a residency related to the Rockefeller Chair. These projects focused on rivers, parks, and environmental justice.

I continue to develop and strengthen the Acadia-COA partnership. This year was spent building a new webpage promoting the unique relationship between Acadia and COA. (This will go online soon.) I pulled together past Acadia-related senior projects and other student work to feature on the page. In addition to academic work with Acadia, I continue to serve as a Secretary of the Interior appointee on the congressionally-authorized Acadia National Park Advisory Commission, and also on the Schoodic Institute at Acadia National Park Board of Directors.

**PRESENTATIONS AND ADVOCACY WORK.**

Through national, local, and international conservation networks, I continued my advocacy work for land and water conservation. I began organizing a “Wilderness Congress” for the national Sierra Club, to be held in summer 2021. In the fall, two students and I attended the Stockholm World Water Week in Sweden, which brings together water experts, practitioners, decision-makers, industry, and academics from around the world. I also conducted research on the impact of the Clean Water Act on the Cuyahoga River in Ohio. I revisited the Cuyahoga 50 years after it caught fire to see how law and policy have affected the river. I did this by paddling the entire river from its headwaters to its mouth, talking to people along the river, reading reports and news articles, and interviewing experts on the river’s health. I presented the results of my research at a COA Human Ecology Forum—“Less Fire, More Fish: The Story of a River Reborn.” On my sabbatical, I also traveled to two additional Midwestern rivers that were significant in the development of the US river conservation movement—the Niobrara River in Nebraska and the Buffalo River in Arkansas. The Niobrara is renowned for its creative application of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act program and the Buffalo was set aside as the nation’s first “National River” in order to protect it from two federal dams. As with previous sabbaticals, this research focused on the sacredness of rivers, the special relationship communities have with rivers, and the legal tools used to protect those rivers.
THE SHARPE-MCNALLY CHAIR IN GREEN AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS

Chairholder: Jay Friedlander

The Sharpe-McNally Chair in Green and Socially Responsible Business was established through a leadership gift from longtime trustee Henry Sharpe and his wife Peggy and completed by COA alum and trustee Jay McNally ’84. Jay Friedlander has held the chair since it was created in 2004. Below is his report.

The Sustainable Business Program has had a remarkable year.

During my Fall term sabbatical, I led presentations and seminars around the globe focused on two main topics: 1) COA’s sustainable business program’s pedagogy and 2) using the Abundance Cycle to make the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals catalysts for innovation. It was remarkable to see how the material resonated with a range of participants, the majority of whom were from institutions of a scale and orientation not obviously related to COA.

The audiences included higher education faculty and administrators, private enterprises, social entrepreneurs, and local governments. The first trip began with a seminar at the British Columbia Institute of Technology in Vancouver, Canada, followed by the International Social Innovation Research Conference (ISIRC) in Glasgow, Scotland. At the ISIRC conference, I presented two papers and co-led the design-thinking conference stream.

Whilst in the United Kingdom, I gave a lecture and had a series of meetings at University of Northampton, where I was appointed Visiting Professor in Social Innovation and Sustainable Business. I also led a two day seminar at the University of Evansville’s Harlaxton College on embedding social entrepreneurship into the curriculum.

This trip was followed by the Arctic Circle Assembly in Reykjavik, Iceland, where I presented a paper, was part of the Maine state delegation, and also led a seminar for over a dozen enterprises. The sabbatical finished with a two week speaking tour in Australia organized by Central Queensland University, which has over a dozen campuses and is almost one hundred times the size of COA. The tour combined talks and seminars for faculty and senior administrators with workshops for local governments, nonprofits, and entrepreneurs.

During my sabbatical, I also worked with a half dozen local organizations to organize a small business boot camp for downeast entrepreneurs, and led a BioEntrepreneurship workshop at MDI Biological Laboratory.

Winter and Spring terms were focused mainly on classes. I taught Business and Nonprofit Basics and Launching a New Venture over the winter. In the spring, I participated in two courses, Human Relations: Principles and Practice and The Hatchery, both of which transitioned to an online format. Human Relations was led by Professor Rich Borden, Trustee Jay McNally ’84, and recently retired Administrative Dean Andy Griffiths. A host of guest speakers supplemented the regular class sessions to bring real world experiences into the virtual classroom.

In many ways, the Diana Davis Spencer (DDS) Hatchery was experiencing the prototyping students go through as part of the course. Substantial revisions to the curriculum took place with the Sustainable Business Program Manager, Kerri Sands ’02 and me creating over a dozen new lectures, templates, and resource collections to facilitate student projects. In the Hatchery (detailed in the Diana Davis Spencer Hatchery Report), students pursued enterprises in graphic design, body art, building understanding and empathy, communicating activism, crafted arts, and creating a geopark. Approximately sixty people from around the world attended the live Hatchery Expo over Zoom, where students presented overviews of their work.

To further expand our reach, we were awarded a grant from the Maine Community Foundation to develop an operational toolkit to extend the Hatchery curriculum further into the community and support more local entrepreneurs. While many events were canceled this spring, I participated in three virtual conferences. At the AshokaU Exchange, I spoke on a panel for senior university leaders entitled “In Pursuit of a Virtuous Cycle for Social Impact.” I was also selected to participate in Grist’s virtual conference for New England leaders creating solutions called “Imagine 2020: Dreaming of a future that doesn’t suck.” My final workshop brought me back to Maine, where I led an online entrepreneurship skills workshop for Fork Food Lab in Portland.

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THE LALAGE AND STEVEN RALES CHAIR IN CHEMISTRY

Chairholder: Reuben Hudson, PhD

This Chair was established in FY20 with a pledge from the benefactors. Payments are scheduled for fiscal years 2021–2025.

This endowed faculty chair in chemistry was created in 2020 through a leadership gift from Lalage and Steven Rales in support of the Broad Reach Capital Campaign. Reuben Hudson, PhD has been named the inaugural chairholder.

Reuben joined the COA faculty as a professor of chemistry in 2019, attracted by COA’s culture of sustainability. He had previously been teaching at Colby College. He is passionate about the intersection of chemistry and sustainability. For years, he has worked to hone techniques of utilizing metals within chemical reactions in ways that conserve material and reduce waste. His research also centers on designing and synthesizing new materials for use in hydrogen fuel cells.

For a full report of Reuben’s work this year, please refer to The Elizabeth A. and Henry B. Guthrie Chemistry Enhancement Fund report.

From Bath, Maine, Reuben holds a PhD in chemistry from McGill University and a BA from Vassar College. Courses he teaches at COA include: Chemistry I and II, Environmental Chemistry, Chemistry and Biology of Food and Drink, and tutorials in Chemical Origins of Life and Computational Modeling & Applied Math in the Physical Sciences.

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS.

- NSF Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability Fellowship, 2014-present [$377,421]
- Advancing Green Chemistry, Science Communication Fellowship, 2017-present [$2,500]
- Fulbright Scholar Program, NAWI Graz Professor of Natural Sciences, 2017 [$40,000]
- Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Research Fellowship, 2017 [$30,000]
- Maine Technology Institute TechStart Grant (x2), 2016 [$5,000 x 2 = $10,000]
- NSF REU Supplement, 2016-2017 [$15,000]

PEER-REVIEWED RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS.

- Madhu Kaushik, Alain You Li, Reuben Hudson, Mitra Masnadi, Chao-Jun Li and Audrey Moores. "Reversing aggregation: direct synthesis of nanocatalysts from bulk metal. Cellulose nanocrystals as active support to access efficient hydrogenation silver nanocatalysts." Green Chemistry, 2016, 18, 129-133
- Reuben Hudson, Nicholas P. Bizier, Kristin N. Esdale and Jeffrey L. Katz. "Synthesis of indoles, benzofurans, and related heterocycles via an acetylene-activated SNAr/ intramolecular cyclization cascade sequence in water or DMSO." Organic Biomolecular Chemistry, 2015, 13, 2273-2284 (cover article)

REVIEW ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS.

- Reuben Hudson. "Coupling the magnetic and heat dissipative properties of Fe3O4 particles to enable applications in catalysis, drug delivery, tissue destruction and remote biological interfacing." RSC Advances, 2016, 6, 4262-4270.

PEER REVIEWED EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS.

• Reuben Hudson, Henry M. Ackerman, Lindsay K. Gallo, Addison S. Gwinner, Anna Krauss, John D. Sears, Alexandra Bishop, Kristin N. Esdale, and Jeffrey L. Katz. "CO2 Dry Cleaning: A Benign Solvent Demonstration Accessible to K–8 Audiences." *Journal of Chemical Education.* DOI: 10.1021/acs.jchemed.6b00412

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**THE MITCHELL AND EMILY RALES CHAIR IN ECOLOGY**

Chairholder: Chris Petersen, PhD

This Chair was established in FY20 with a pledge from the benefactors. Payments are scheduled for fiscal years 2021–2025.

This endowed faculty chair in ecology was created in 2020 through a leadership gift from Mitch and Emily Rales in support of the Broad Reach Capital Campaign. Chris Petersen, PhD is the inaugural chairholder. Below is his report.

My teaching this past year was limited to my Introductory Marine Biology class (twenty-six students) and research with undergraduate and graduate students. My advanced students worked on a variety of projects over the past year, from work on historical ecology of the smelt fishery or tide pools in Acadia National Park, to contemporary issues in two of Maine’s most important fisheries, lobsters and clams. These projects have combined a variety of approaches, from scientific research to interviews and examining historical documents to better understand the ecology and human ecology of the marine environment, focusing on downeast Maine.

Over the past year, I’ve obtained three new grants to support this and other work, one from Maine Sea Grant to support work with lobster fishermen, one to support work with clammers from the Broad Reach Foundation, and a third general grant from The Seth Sprague Educational and Charitable Foundation for the college to support internships at downeast non-profits that cannot fully support paid student internships. I also help facilitate work between students and our two local biomedical laboratories, the Jackson Laboratory and Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, with our ongoing grant from the National Institute of Health.

For most of the year, I acted as Associate Academic Dean, leaving the position after four years at my sabbatical in the spring of 2020. I still act as the director of the graduate program at the college.

In 2019, I joined the newly formed Coastal and Marine working group of the Maine Climate Council. This group worked to craft a set of recommendations for the larger council, which we presented to them in June 2020. By the end of 2020, the council will be making recommendations to Governor Mills for addressing mitigation and adaptation to climate change in Maine, and the working group will continue to work on the implementation of those recommendations.

I continue to work with a number of partnerships and non-profit groups that are interested in economic and environmental sustainability in downeast Maine. These groups include the Downeast Fisheries partnership and the Downeast Conservation Network, where I serve as the COA representative to the partnerships; Frenchman Bay Partners where I serve on the executive committee; the Bar Harbor Marine Resource Committee as chair; and the Somes-Meynell Sanctuary, where I serve on the board. I also sit on a review panel that awards grants for the Maine Shellfish Restoration and Resilience Fund.

**PRESENTATIONS.** In September 2019, I co-organized a meeting on water quality, stewardship, and the health of Frenchman Bay at Schoodic Institute, sponsored by Frenchman Bay Partners, where I led off the meeting with an overview of the current state of water quality data and the health of Frenchman Bay.

At the Maine Fishermen’s Forum in March 2020, I co-organized and facilitated a session on community co-management of the clam fishery that involved researchers, fisheries experts, and fishermen.
The Lisa Stewart Chair in Literature and Women's Studies was created to honor the memory of William P. Stewart's daughter, who was a friend of the college. Lisa Stewart Target was a remarkably personable, intelligent, and accomplished woman who started Bowen Asia, a successful investment firm in Hong Kong, specializing in the Asian economy. She spoke five languages and lived all over the world (Switzerland, Paris, Hong Kong, Maine). Her three children attended COA's Summer Field Studies program, and she tried for years to bring youngsters from Hong Kong to the program. Lisa passed away in May of 2010 of cancer. Karen Waldron, PhD has held the chair since it was created in 2012. Below is her report.

This year, the COVID-19 pandemic made it impossible to attend conferences and present professional work, as my usual organizations all host in the late winter/spring season. However, I was blessed with a wealth of projects doing independent writing projects. During the Fall term, I taught African American Literature and Literature, Science, Spirituality as a college seminar. College seminars involve extra laboratory time, and teach writing along with subject matter.

Both of my fall classes surveyed a wide and diverse range of literary productions in multiple genres, including drama and poetry. Both were also grounded in history: the history of slavery and black lives in the US on the one hand, and the history of literary representations of western science on the other.

In African American Literature, one of the prominent themes of discussion was the nature of black women’s experiences in relation to their literary productions, while in Literature, Science, Spirituality the history of science in the post-European Enlightenment era led to many fascinating conversations about women in science.

For the Winter term, I taught City/Country: American Literary Landscapes 1860-1920, which also features a rich selection of authors fictionalizing US relationships to and concerns about place during the time of westward expansion, Reconstruction, and massive technological developments. I also taught Cross-Cultural American Women's Novels, a course featuring novels written in the last twenty to thirty years by authors with a variety of hybrid identities: Cuban-American, African-American, Chinese-American, Japanese-American, and others. Our discussions were fabulous.

It was during Winter term that I started working with some amazing senior projects, work that continued virtually as the pandemic closed down the campus. I supervised a book of poetry, Hymens Don't Make Virgins, a synthesis of music and writing inspired by literature, A Room Full of Teeth, a collection of stories told by the women in a Colombian student’s family, and a children’s book. Over the course of the Spring term, I taught the Human Ecology Core Course remotely with seven other female faculty members. Beginning in the spring and continuing over the summer, I’ve been chairing a search for a new literature and writing faculty member. Despite the pandemic, it has been a rich and rewarding academic year.
The Allan Stone Chair in the Visual Arts was established by a leadership gift from Clare Stone, Allan’s wife, after his death in 2006. Allan was an art dealer and collector “who combined a broad expertise in Abstract Expressionism with a zeal for junk sculpture and realist painting, and was perhaps as well known for amassing art as for selling it.” Catherine Clinger, PhD is the first chairholder. Below is her report.

As the Allan Stone Chair in the Visual Arts, I worked with four experts in the field of art to share their perspectives, talents, and practices with COA and the greater community during summer and fall of 2019. During “Can Islamic Art Change Minds,” a session at the 2019 Champlain Institute, I spoke with Dr. Sheila Canby, the now retired Curator in Charge of Islamic Art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, on subjects which included: the celebrated reopening of the New Galleries for the Art of the Arab Lands, Turkey, Iran, Central Asia, and Later South Asia in 2011; South Asian printmaker Zarina (Hashmi); and, rare wonders found within the Met that challenge narrow receptions of Islamic and allied cultures.

During the Coffee and Conversation summer series, I was paired with Casey Malinckrodt (Wadsworth Atheneum Museum Object Conservator and COA trustee), for “Conservation & African Material Culture,” concerning conservatory practices and issues of ownership and repatriation in response to the Decolonize Museums movement. During the year, I worked with the Marion Boulton Stroud Foundation and Philadelphia’s Fabric Workshop and Museum to establish an artist residency at COA. I hosted the inaugural COA Kippy Stroud Residency artists and MacArthur fellows, Mary Reid Kelly and Patrick Kelly during their month-long visit to the island.

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In October, I made the annual pilgrimage to the International Print Fair (IFPDA), where I supported two COA students, Isabel Shaida ’19 and Lily Besen-McNally ’20, in exploring extraordinary prints and meeting with master printers and artists from around the world. I also caught up with COA alumnx, Shir Orner ’19, Aaditya Sathish ’20, and Joslyn Richardson ’12, and learned about their current graduate study and professional accomplishments as scholars and artists.

During the Fall and Winter terms, I offered four courses, The Range of Sublimity in the Artist Mind, Art Since 1900 (focused on expanding the canon of Modern Art), Advanced Studio Printmaking on the methods of Viscosity, Chine Collé, and multiple-plate etching, followed by a Special Tutorial on Edition Printing, so students could build on their acquired skills from the autumn workshops.

Throughout the year, I supervised and supported eight independent studies and four senior projects whose subjects ranged from the work of Iranian artist Shirin Neshat (Priyamvada Chaudhary ’20) to the visualization of the melancholy of vanishing family farms in the American Midwest (Chloe Hanken ’20); from a cycle of intaglio prints based on Dante’s Inferno (Lily Besen-McNally ’20) to paintings of humdrum existence (Leigh Rankin ’20).

Finally, like many faculty across the globe, I engaged in an accelerated and unanticipated experiment in online teaching during the Spring term. Heroic effort was made by one and all. COA students met a challenge they never expected to have at this college, and faculty innovated at a supernatural pace difficult to fathom. We all did things we didn’t know that we could do. Many of us needed to design completely new courses and endure constant paradigm shifts in pedagogy, while witnessing unfathomable loss in the present, and the long overdue acknowledgment of the centuries of social and racial injustices whose legacy of loss is indelibly inscribed in this nation’s story as well as in our institutions.

Photos: Work from Advanced Printmaking 2020; Isabel Shaida ’19 looking at the work of Martin Puryear at IFPDA, Ania Wright ’20 at Bowdoin College Museum of Art Fieldtrip Fall 2019 for Art Since 1900; Mary Reid Kelley and Patrick Kelley on the M/V Osprey during the Artist Residency.
THE KIM M. WENTWORTH CHAIR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

Chairholder: Stephen Ressel, PhD

The Kim M. Wentworth Chair in Environmental Studies was created in 2019 through a leadership gift from Kim and Finn Wentworth, who want to instill a deeper love and respect for the natural world and give students the tools to achieve real discovery and novel solutions for positive change. The chair was established as part of the Broad Reach Capital Campaign. “We need to inspire and equip future generations to be able to improve some of the conditions we face,” Kim Wentworth said. “We want to address the legacy issue: we, the baby boomers, may have recognized some of the problems early on, but we didn’t do enough.” Stephen Ressel, PhD is the inaugural chairholder and below is his report.

During the 2019-20 academic year, I taught my interdisciplinary photography course Biology Through the Lens, our two foundational biology courses Biology: Cellular Processes of Life and Form and Function (F&F team-taught with botany professor Susan Letcher), Winter Ecology, and Environmental Physiology. In all, sixty-eight students enrolled in these courses. I also supervised three senior projects and two independent studies, was the primary reader of three human ecology essays, and was academic advisor for thirteen students.

Of special curricular note: 1) I incorporated a new class project in Biology Through the Lens, in conjunction with a forthcoming Dorr Museum exhibit on food systems, that prompted students to photo-document fall harvest at Beech Hill Farm from an insect’s perspective; 2) I took students in Winter Ecology on a three-day weekend field trip to pursue self-designed field projects at remote Upper Shin Pond in Penobscot County, and; 3) I offered my first-ever online course, Environmental Physiology, during Spring term’s campus closure, which required me to retool a course that I have taught in person since 2009.

As a member of the Museum Committee, I worked closely with COA’s Dorr Museum of Natural History Director Carrie Graham throughout the year to further the museum’s mission. In addition, as Museum Collection Conservator and Coordinator, I worked collaboratively with Carrie and COA’s grant writer Kristina Swanson on two major grants that sought funding to move and secure the museum’s natural history collections into dedicated storage facilities within the new Center for Human Ecology. I am happy to report that both grants—$20,000 from the Davis Family Foundation and $96,449 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services—were funded in full. These external awards are especially rewarding because the core requests of both grant proposals were derived from student projects from the SP-19 course, Introduction to Collections Care: Saving all the Parts.

Poised to continue my ongoing research in Acadia National Park (ANP) on salt tolerance in spotted salamanders in spring 2020, I worked closely with two students Eleanor Gnam ’23 and Emma Damm ’22 to secure funding from the Maine Space Grant Consortium for field and lab-based studies during the coming spring and summer. Acadia National Park’s and COA’s closures in March, however, precluded me from pursuing any research for 2020. I look forward to a fresh start in 2021.

PRESENTATIONS.

In July 2019, I presented “How Salt Tolerant Are Amphibians? Insights from a Spotted Salamander (Ambystoma maculatum) population that breeds next to the open ocean” at the Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (NEPARC) annual meeting at Stockton University in New Jersey. Three students—Sidney Anderson ’19, Elizabeth Signore ’19, and Emma Damm ’22—whose work was featured in this talk accompanied me to these meetings.

PUBLICATIONS.

Finally, my coursework and research at the college was featured in publications from three different organizations: an article on my Winter Ecology course titled “Acadia is Ideal Winter Classroom” appeared in the winter 2019 Friends of Acadia Journal; a snowy owl image I took during my 2017 Winter Ecology course appeared in Maine Coast Heritage Trust’s 50th Anniversary publication titled, Voices From the Coast; and an article titled “Salamanders and The Snowman” appeared in spring 2020 issue of COA Magazine.

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Chairholder: Jamie McKown, PhD

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The Wiggins Chair honors the memory of former COA trustee James Russell Wiggins, one of the most respected and influential figures in American journalism. His career spanned three-quarters of a century including a distinguished twenty-year tenure as editor of the Washington Post. After his retirement, he was nominated by President Lyndon Johnson to serve as US Ambassador to the United Nations. His final three decades, he was owner and editor of The Ellsworth American.

Another former trustee, Philip L. Geyelin, initiated the idea of the Wiggins Chair, led the fundraising drive to create it, and was its major donor. At the time of Phil’s death, College of the Atlantic wanted to honor the renowned Washington Post senior editor and Pulitzer Prize-winning author and extend the project by creating the Philip L. Geyelin Fund to support various programming elements in the areas of government, international affairs, and politics.

Jamie McKown, PhD has been the chairholder since its inception. Below is his report.

It certainly has been a memorable year for all things related to politics and governance at College of the Atlantic. This past fall was a particularly busy time for me as I offered two of my more popular courses, the early years section of Cold War History, and an advanced seminar on the 19th century women’s suffrage movement here in the US.

I also had the opportunity in late October to attend the annual convention of the Association for Interdisciplinary Studies (AIS) in Amsterdam. While COA has not traditionally been very active with AIS, I was excited to find a rich and robust network of educators from around the world who were doing work that directly intersects with COA’s core educational mission. It was an energizing experience for me personally, and it also set in motion a number of collaborative connections with other scholars interested in an interdisciplinary approach to education. My hope is that our ongoing and sustained involvement with organizations like AIS will open additional doors for COA to build partnerships with various communities across the globe. At the conclusion of the Fall term, I also had the great fortune to spend the Winter term on sabbatical, sequestered away to finalize a series of research projects set for publication. In retrospect, that was clearly the calm before the storm.

I eagerly returned for the Spring term just in time to simultaneously confront the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as a more positive challenge: serving as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. As you might imagine, the confluence of these two made for quite a busy spring and summer. Perhaps the phrase “trial by fire” is an apt description.

COA was forced to pivot from in-person to online instruction during the two week break between the Winter and Spring terms. In my case, that meant shifting to entirely new courses that were better suited to the online environment: one a historical survey of modern US presidential elections, and the other a more advanced special topics class on cold war flashpoints. While there were certainly bumps in the road, overall I found myself consistently buoyed by the energy, enthusiasm, perseverance, and, perhaps most importantly, flexibility that both students and faculty displayed this past spring. That same spirit of flexibility and “make it work” thinking continues to inform all of the work that those same faculty, staff, and students have undertaken over the summer as we plan for what the fall may bring us.

Lastly, I am also pleased to report that COA has now become an official partner with Tufts University’s Institute for Democ-
racy and Higher Education and its National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE). We are thrilled to now be taking part in the NSLVE program and believe it will help us to continue to strengthen our efforts at student political engagement in the coming years. As you might imagine, there continues to be a surge in student interest in all things related to government and politics as we approach the fall 2020 presidential election. We are now eagerly awaiting what the coming term may bring.

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**THE CODY VAN HEERDEN CHAIR IN ECONOMICS AND QUANTITATIVE SOCIAL SCIENCES**

Chairholder: Davis Taylor, PhD

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The Cody van Heerden Chair in Economics and Quantitative Social Sciences was established in 2019 with a leadership gift from David and Robin Reis as part of the Broad Reach Capital Campaign. Cody van Heerden MPhil ’17 was a COA alum and trustee who passed away in 2018 after a short battle with ALS. She was fifty-eight years old. Dozens of other friends, COA trustees, staff, and faculty helped complete funding of the chair in Cody’s name in 2019.

Davis Taylor, PhD is the first faculty member to hold the van Heerden Chair. Davis was Cody’s professor, mentor, and friend. He received a BS in political science from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1985, after which he served for five years in the field artillery and completed Airborne, Air Assault, and Jungle schools. He left the US Army as a Captain in 1990, and earned his PhD in economics from the University of Oregon in 1995. While at the University of Oregon, he received the Kliensorge Award for Teaching Excellence, and served as a consultant to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for its study of the economic impact of critical habitat designation for the endangered marbled murrelet.

Davis was originally trained in neoclassical microeconomics, but his research interests have expanded to include development economics, ecological economics, new institutional economics, and cooperation. His teaching and research in the Yucatán led him to develop an alternative to cost-benefit analysis that better incorporates community sustainability into project assessment. Davis collaborated with COA faculty and students in a year-long study that examined the economic, social, and environmental feasibility of increasing the use of wood for home heating in Hancock County.

His current research efforts include the economics of food systems, the role of institutions in shaping economic development (new institutional economics), and the ecological economics of resource collapse. He teaches the following courses: Economic Development: Theory and Case Studies; Introduction to Economics and the Economy; Macroeconomics: Theory and Experience; Macroeconomics for Business and Policy; Leaving Capitalism; Ecological Economics; and Economics of Cooperation, Networks, and Trust.

Davis’s non-academic interests include family farming and resilient living. He has served on the Public Policy Committee of the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), and recently finished a three-year stint on the Board of the Cooperative Development Institute.

**PUBLICATIONS.** Davis’s research and book reviews have been published in the Southern Economic Journal, Ecological Economics, the Human Ecology Review, and Community Development.

**PRESENTATIONS.** He has presented papers that model the human ecology of forests, expand the concepts of community sustainability, develop tools for ecotourism planning and operations, and examine the economics of community supported fisheries.
THE JOANNE WOODWARD AND PAUL NEWMAN CHAIR IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

Chairholder: Jodi Baker

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This endowed faculty chair in the performing arts was established in 2019 during the Broad Reach Capital Campaign in honor of the renowned actors Joanne Woodward and Paul Newman whose daughter, Nell Newman '87, is a COA alum. Leadership gifts from anonymous donors helped establish the chair. Jodi Baker is the inaugural chairholder. Below is her report.

ACADEMIC: In the Fall term, I taught Strangers and Performance, a course that explores the politics of public and private space as well as key strategies in staging urban centers, parks, schools, museums, and theaters. Students researched a large body of intersecting work and conducted a series of practical field assignments in both Bar Harbor and New York City. Guests included performance artist Linda Mary Montano (Art/Life Institute), artist/technologist Andrew Schneider (Acting Stranger) and the writer Kio Stark (When Strangers Meet). While in NYC, we also spoke with writer/performer Alison S.M. Kobayashi after seeing Say Something Bunny, a live documentary performance built from her experience investigating a stranger’s home audio recording.

In the Winter term, in lieu of a stage production, I collaborated with the great Nancy Andrews, COA faculty in video, animation, and performance, on a three-credit ‘monster’ course in independent filmmaking. With a group of eighteen students, we produced and shot an original short horror film called The Bloody Room on location in Bar Harbor. Nancy and I wrote the script, and together prepared students for a fast-paced five-day shoot that included a trio of professional guest artists (director of photography, gaffer, sound design). The project was an enormous undertaking but gave students extraordinary practical experience and insight into the form and business of low-budget filmmaking.

In the Spring term, I was one of eight faculty tasked with team-teaching the Human Ecology Core Course. When all classes were moved online as part of the necessary response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this team’s quick response and shared effort in radically readjusting the curriculum, relentlessly supporting the students, the work, and one another is something I’m proud to have been a part of.

Besides teaching, I served as an academic advisor to twelve students, directed five senior projects, three independent studies, reviewed multiple human ecology essays, and helped students prepare for a variety of public speaking engagements.
ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

BROOKE AND VINCENT ASTOR SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was created in 2012 through a generous bequest from Mrs. Brooke Astor, as well as gifts from the Vincent Astor Foundation. It is awarded to Maine students with financial need.

Recipients: Gabrielle Rosa Peñalver Dumas '23 (Peaks Island, ME), Megan Waters '23 (Starks, ME)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $952,089
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $915,320

CHRISTINA BAKER SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was created in 2013 with gifts from friends and family of Christina Baker. The four-year scholarship is awarded to students with financial need, with a preference towards female Wabanaki and Native American students, and students engaged in women's studies and literature.

Recipient: Cynder Johnson '21 (Rutledge, MO)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $36,999
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $44,375

SIDNEY AND HAZEL DEMOTT BAHRT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
This four-year scholarship was created in 2008 through a bequest from Sidney and Hazel Bahrt to COA and is awarded to a Washington Academy graduate from Pembroke. Depending on COA's enrollment, the scholarship may also be awarded to other students from Washington Academy or from the greater Washington County community.

Recipients: Sage Bagley '23 (East Machias, ME), Lisa Curtis '23 (Princeton, ME), Michael Jacoby '20 (Cherryfield, ME), Maggie Hood '22 (Perry, ME)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $914,502
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $912,357

BRIGHT HORIZONS SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was established by Bar Harbor Bank and Trust as part of the Life Changing, World Changing capital campaign. The scholarship is awarded to local Maine students who are graduates of high schools located in Hancock and Washington Counties.

Recipient: Abigail Jakub '22 (Blue Hill, ME)
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $87,066
REBECCA CLARK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN MARINE SCIENCES
The scholarship was established in 2004 in memory of Rebecca Clark, a COA graduate who lost her life in the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami in Thailand. The fund was started with a lead gift from trustee Edward McC. Blair and support from many of Rebecca's friends and family. The scholarship is awarded to a rising junior or senior, exemplary in dedication, enthusiasm, passion and scholarship, in the field of marine science and/or marine conservation.
Recipient: Maya Roe '21 (Sonora, CA)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $103,421
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $99,960

CHRISTENSEN SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was created in 2005 with a gift from the Christensen Fund. It is awarded to students with financial need, with a preference towards international students.
Recipients: Dominique Arsenault '21 (Prince Edward Island, Canada), Priyam Chaudhary '20 (Noida, India)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $339,336
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $325,906

RICHARD SLATON DAVIS AND NORAH DEAKIN DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was created in 2004 by Norah Deakin Davis, the widow of Richard S. Davis (Dick), a founding faculty member who passed away at the age of 41 in 1982. Mrs. Davis’s pledge spurred additional gifts from many of Dick’s friends and former students. Recipients are outstanding students in the contemplative, aesthetic, and philosophical aspects of human ecology that Dick loved.
Recipient: Dominique Arsenault '21 (Prince Edward Island, Canada)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $141,848
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $137,028

THE DREIER SCHOLARSHIPS
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $40,197
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $38,493

John C. Dreier Scholarship
The scholarship was created in 2006 by the children and friends of John and Louisa Dreier. It is given to a junior who has shown leadership in building community spirit both on campus and in the college’s surrounding communities.
Recipients: Sara Löwgren '20 (Eksjoe, Sweden), Destiny Powell '20 (Oxford, ME)

Louisa R. Dreier Scholarship
The scholarship was created in 2006 by the children and friends of John and Louisa Dreier. The scholarship is given to a junior who embodies the spirit of joy in the arts.
Recipients: Abby Jo Morris '20 (Jacksonville, FL), Leigh Rankin '20 (Frederick, MD)
**SAMUEL & MARY KATHRYN ELIOT SCHOLARSHIP**
The scholarship was established by COA’s trustees to honor Sam Eliot as he retired from COA after eleven years as vice president. Mary Kathryn served as fundraising assistant to COA’s first president and designed the college’s iconic logo. It is awarded to Maine students with financial need.
*Recipient: Kobi Eng ’21 (Portland, ME)*
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $158,080
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $151,268

**GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP**
The General Scholarship Fund was established in 1984. The fund contains gifts given by hundreds of friends in every amount for unrestricted student scholarships. We continue to take donations for this important endowment. There are many students who receive aid from this fund. Here are a few:
*Recipients: Marlon Andrew ’23 (New Canaan, CT), Vera Fishman-Resheff ’22 (Brooklyn, NY), Sophie Szatkowski ’23 (Portland, ME), Indigo Woods ’21 (Middlebury, VT)*
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $560,134
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $589,138

**CRAIG GREENE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**
This scholarship was created to honor the late Craig William Greene, former Elizabeth Battles Newlin Chair in Botany. It is awarded to two rising juniors or seniors who have excelled in botany and general biology classes, and who share Craig’s passion for the world of flora.
*Recipient: Maya McDonald ’21 (Gambier, OH)*
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $98,008
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $94,750

**HARTZOG-KAUFFMANN SCHOLARSHIP**
This award honors both George B. Hartzog and John M. Kauffmann. It is awarded to students who have an interest in the management and protection of ecosystems—especially wilderness and rivers.
*Recipients: Ania Wright ’20 (Falmouth, ME)*
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $424,808
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $408,161

**AUGUST HECKSCHER SCHOLARSHIP**
This scholarship was created in 1997 through gifts from friends and family of August Heckscher, an artist, author, and public servant whose life and work encompassed many of the values and principles underlying the study of human ecology. It is awarded to two students, preferably juniors, with preference for those whose work focuses on public lands, government, or the arts.
*Recipients: Elizabeth Chaput ’20 (Wakefield, MA), Sage Verrier LeaFsong ’21 (Belmont, ME)*
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $175,415
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $168,738
THE MAINE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
The Maine Student Scholarship Fund is an endowment created through generous gifts to the COA Silver Anniversary Campaign from the organizations listed below.
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $803,974
ENDING FUND BALANCE: $772,069

Betterment Scholarship
This scholarship was created in 1995 through a gift from the Betterment Fund, and supports students from Bethel, Oxford County, and the State of Maine, in that order of priority.
Recipient: Eva McMillan '23 (Rangeley, ME)

Edward G. Kaelber Scholarship for Maine Students of Outstanding Promise
COA and the Maine Community Foundation created the Edward G. Kaelber Scholarship for Maine Students of Outstanding Promise to honor Ed Kaelber for his leadership as COA’s first president and for his contributions in the fields of education and community development. The scholarship provides opportunities for Maine students who possess the potential for the kind of boldness, commitment, and leadership personified by Ed Kaelber, and who will use their skills and talents to impact their communities in equally significant ways.
Recipient: Selena Sillari '23 (Portland, ME)

WHY I GIVE

Margherita Tommasinini '18

“The COA education focuses on relationships, not only in terms of what we study, but most importantly with the people, place, and time we are in. This goes from the academic relationships I had with my advisor and my classmates, to the academic development that prepared me for what I am doing now, and all of the informal conversations and the community aspects of my time at COA.

I am endlessly thankful to the people who made my COA experience. Academically, professionally, and personally, those people have changed my life.

Given their work was so meaningful to me, I believe they will continue to have a similar impact on others. I'm further encouraged by COA's continued efforts in critically looking at its own institutional structures to be a safe and life-changing space for all. Giving back is well worth my time, talent, and treasure.”

Margherita Tommasini '18 is originally from Trieste, Italy and found her way to COA via United World College (UWC) Mostar. After focusing her studies at COA on sustainable economic development, renewable energy, and social justice, Margherita is completing a master's degree in sustainable development at Uppsala University.
H. King & Jean Cummings Scholarship
This scholarship was established with a gift from the H. King & Jean Cummings Charitable Trust. Mr. Cummings led his family's business, Guilford Industries, a textile manufacturer in Guilford, Maine. He later served as CEO of Sugarloaf ski area, and played decisive roles in the founding of Carrabassett Valley Academy and Maine Community Foundation. This scholarship is awarded annually to students from western Maine.
Recipient: Lilly Kendall '20 (New Sharon, ME)

Kenduskeag Scholarship
This scholarship was created in 1995 with two gifts from Dead River Company and the Kenduskeag Foundation. It is awarded to Maine students with financial need.
Recipient: Hadriane Hatfield '21 (Montville, ME)

BARBARA PIEL SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was created in 2004 through a bequest from Barbara Piel to College of the Atlantic. She was a great friend of the college, deeply interested in the natural world and inspired by “the intense individuality of students and staff” at COA. This annual scholarship is awarded to students with financial need.
Recipient: Maddy Stevens '23 (Kent, CT)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $526,550 ENDING FUND BALANCE: $506,542

ELEANOR T. AND SAMUEL J. ROSENFIELD SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was created in 2000 by Eleanor T. and Samuel J. Rosenfeld and is awarded annually to students with financial need.
Recipient: Gaeleen Hall '21 (Conway, MA)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $14,856 ENDING FUND BALANCE: $13,969

MAURINE P. AND ROBERT ROTHSCHILD GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP
AWARD
This scholarship was created in 1997 with a gift to the Silver Anniversary Endowment campaign by trustee Maurine P. Rothschild and her husband Robert Rothschild. The scholarship is awarded to qualified graduate students with preference given to those pursuing work in the education field.
Recipient: Giulio Cardoso MPhil '20 (Milan, Italy), Rachel Rice MPhil '21 (North Bloomfield, OH)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $292,675 ENDING FUND BALANCE: $280,898

MICHAEL AND ROSE RUSSO SCHOLARSHIP
The scholarship was created in 2013 through a gift made by Jay McNally ’84 to honor his maternal grandparents. This four-year scholarship provides financial assistance to a high-achieving student who is a great fit with COA’s mission and would otherwise not be able to attend.
Recipient: Iris Gillingham ‘22 (Livingston Manor, NY)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $696,524 ENDING FUND BALANCE: $669,815

DONALD STRAUS SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was created in 2008 with a gift from Donald and Beth Straus. It is awarded to a rising junior or senior who shows promise in working for cultural change and collaboration in the field of human relations and/or leadership.
Recipient: Julia Seixas '20 (Scottsville, VA)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE: $241,302 ENDING FUND BALANCE: $231,141

ALICE BLUM YOAKUM SCHOLARSHIP
This scholarship was created in 1996 by former trustee Robert Blum, honoring his daughter Alice. It is awarded to students who plan to actively work for biodiversity, and especially for the preservation of underwater species in various parts of the world.
Recipient: Emma Ober '20 (Lincoln, VT)
HELD AT THE MAINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
THE COX PROTECTORATE FUND

Staff Supervisor: Darron Collins '92, PhD, President

The Cox Protectorate of College of the Atlantic is a roughly 110 acre piece of undeveloped property in the center of the island on the Mill Brook. It was donated to COA by former trustee Tom Cox in 2010, along with a fund to accomplish work there and tend the property. The Protectorate has walking trails for recreation, but is mainly used for an array of interdisciplinary courses, projects, and research.

This year we focused specifically on quantifying and understanding the impact of the scale—an invasive pest—on the Protectorate’s red pines (Pinus resinosa). Like two-needled pines all across the island and all over the state, the red pines of the Protectorate have been decimated by Matsucoccus matsumurae—a scale species native to Japan, but that has spread rapidly along the eastern seaboard since it arrived on the continent in 1946.

This year, Judith Tunstad ’22 worked to develop and implement a monitoring protocol for pine scale across the Protectorate’s 110+ acres. Judith noted: “In September 2014, red pine scale was detected on MDI. The insects threaten the red pine stands on the island and kill a stand within 2-5 years. I followed the Red Pine Health Monitoring Protocol 2.0 from Acadia National Park (2019) to get a sense of the impact on the red pines at the Cox Protectorate. The stands of red pine in the Protectorate are completely devastated—that is, dead. However, important information can still be gained from the devastation: we can learn the rapidity of the spread of the red pine scale, how fast the red pines decay, and what kind of vegetation emerges in a dying or dead stage of pines.”

“The first red pine plot was just off the pathway after the bridge in the western part of the property. The remaining plots were fifty paces apart going North. I used GPS to record the coordinates and photographed the canopies, cardinal points, and plot centers so that students can return to the plots years from now to see how the red pine stand has changed. I identified and wrote down the emerging seedlings and saplings I could find within a 3-meter radius of the plot center. Then, I surveyed all the trees within variable radius plots, recording their diameter-at-breast height (DBH), tree status, crown class, and the health status and decay class of the red pines. I also noted the presence of woodpecker damage, and I was lucky enough to witness a woodpecker at work.”

“To remember the red pines, I have built and painted a bench out of pine wood that tells the story of the red pines and the red pine scale, which will be placed in proximity to the stand.”

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THE KATHRYN DAVIS FUND FOR GLOBAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

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The Kathryn Davis Fund for Global and Civic Engagement—also known as The Expeditionary Fund—is an amalgam of a number of endowed funds which have been donated to the college over the past twenty or more years to help students to conduct off-campus research, internships, senior projects, immersion courses, and advanced study.

Before 2011, we had five funds which varied in size and donor intent, and each had a different form and application process. Some were for national travel; others were restricted to international work. One was for internships; another was for student-faculty collaborative work. Not everyone who applied received an award. It was complicated to track and oversee, and many students were disappointed.

COA soon recognized that if we were extolling the benefits of language and cultural immersion experience and offering classes in other countries, we should ensure that every student could afford to participate. But what would that take?

It turned out, it would take a lot of money. In 2011, we asked Kathryn W. Davis if she would help fund such a project. She loved the idea and pledged $2M to endow the program. To simplify this for the students as well as the controller, and with the donors’ permission, we combined the Kathryn W. Davis Fund with the travel funds already established (Presidential Scholarship funds, the Shelby C. Davis Student International Travel Fund, The Beinecke Student Travel & Living Assistance Fund, and The Rabineau Student Professional Development Fund). This would earn just over $120,000 a year in investment earnings. We now had the ability to award every student $1,800 over their career at COA to do one or more immersion experiences.

This has been a huge success at COA both from a student learning perspective but also as a lever to retain and recruit students. This year, the fund provided $69,670 in grants to sixty-nine students. The Spring term of course was unusual because of the pandemic, but grants were awarded to seventeen seniors to help them complete their senior projects all over the world including in Bhutan, Colorado, Chile, and Maine. Seven students used their funds to complete independent studies, one student was given funds for a residency, and another an internship. During the Fall term, fourteen students used funds to take the COA Yucatán course, a language immersion program in México. Seven went to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Santiago. Others traveled to New Zealand, Japan, Namibia, Barcelona, Zambia, and—closer to home—DC and San Diego.

We thank all who have helped make this dream a reality for every single COA student.
FACULTY AND STAFF ENRICHMENT FUND
and THE SHELBY CULLOM DAVIS FACULTY
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES FUND

Faculty Supervisor: Ken Hill, PhD, Provost

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Note: Due to COVID-19, use of these funds was critical to the smooth transition to online teaching. Support of faculty research in unusual times, and creating opportunities for students. We used these funds in somewhat nontraditional ways, which is why they are grouped this way. We will be using them and reporting on them as normal next fiscal year.

Sarah Hall $3,100
- Sample analysis at UMaine
- Geology field and class equipment
- Visiting speakers and field trips for classes
- Student research support

Dan Gatti $3,300
- Student compensation for python project over winter break
- Airfare to environmental sensors course
- Airfare for campus visitor for the The Bicycle: History, Science, and Policy course
- Statistics, infectious disease information technology
- Electronics for environmental sensors

Dru Colbert $3,320
- Field trip to Boston for Curiosity and Wonder course
- Designing and implementing in the Dorr Museum of Natural History
- Course materials

Dan Mahoney $750
- Bateau Press support

Gray Cox $863
- Artificial Intelligence Conference (MIT)

Davis Taylor $300
- Course material and internet upgrade to teach online

Stephen Ressel $1,279
- Memberships to the three herpetological societies: American Society of Ichthyology and Herpetology, The Herpetologists League, and Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles
- Support for a three-day Winter Ecology weekend field trip
- Hardware support for online course offering of Environmental Physiology during Spring term

Jamie McKown $2,400
- Association for Information Systems conference expenses
- Course material

Isabel Mancinelli $1,916
- Class field trip
- Online conference

Suzanne Morse $17,125
- Costa Rica research trip
- Herbarium and greenhouse collections management and care
- Rental of freezer truck for pest remediation
- Student and staff workers

Doreen Stabinsky $419
- Three year domain name purchase
- Zoom subscription

Kourtney Cullom $1,400
- Conference travel and fees

Ken Cline $5,000
- Conference attendance and travel

Susan Letcher $3,500
- Field research on rainforest restoration in Costa Rica
THE BARBARINA M. AND AARON J. HEYERDAHL
BEECH HILL FARM ENDOWMENT FUND

Staff Supervisor: Anna Davis, Beech Hill Farm Manager

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The Beech Hill Farm Endowment Fund was established in 1999 during the Silver Anniversary Campaign when COA alumni Barbara M. Heyerdahl ’88 and Aaron J. Heyerdahl ’87 gifted the farm itself and an endowment gift to support operations. Anna Davis and David Levinson have been the farm managers since 2016. Below is their report.

Beech Hill Farm had a successful and productive year.

In the summer of 2019, we grew 90,000 lbs of organic vegetables and grossed over $500,000 through sales in our farmstand, wholesale accounts, and CSA. We supplied produce to twenty wholesale accounts, and offered ninety summer CSA shares and 110 fall CSA shares.

In 2020, we focused on increasing soil health by reducing tillage in our field preparations. We implemented new techniques including tarping, retrofitting a less aggressive harrow to substitute out our rototiller, intercropping crop asiles, and tightening crop spacing—all which help reduce overall tillage.

We partnered with Johnny’s Selected Seeds growing out varieties for their vegetable variety trials, and are working with the University of Vermont on a high tunnel tomato study. Farm managers attended MOFGA’s Farmer to Farmer conference in October, the Northeast Fruit and Vegetable Conference in November, and the 2020 Campus Farmers Summit in March.

We continued to expand our food access outreach through working with community partners. We supplied over 1,000 lbs of surplus produce to Hancock County community members working with Healthy Acadia’s Gleaning Initiative. We were able to provide the Bar Harbor Food Pantry with over 2,000 lbs of produce with help from the Mainers Feeding Mainers grant from the Good Shepherd Food Bank and from funds raised by our student-run food access program, Share the Harvest. We partnered with OpenTable MDI, Bar Harbor Food Pantry, and Healthy Acadia’s Downeast Gleaning Initiative to propose the MDI Food Access Project, which received full funding from the Stephen and Tabitha King Foundation. Beech Hill Farm also supplied produce to over a hundred island families through Share the Harvest’s voucher program.

We employed twenty-five work-study students in the spring and the fall, and fifteen full time staff for our summer season. On our summer crew this season we had Tara Allen ’15, Lauren Cote, Gillian Welch ’19, Rayna Joyce ’20, Rainer McIntosh-Round ’21, Isabel Messerchmidt ’22, Ryan Mcgraw ’22, Gaby Gordon-Fox ’22, Halle Smith ’20, Aimée Miranda ’21, Connor O’Brien ’16, Katherine Perkins, and Danny Fisher Lochead, in addition to our Farm Managers Anna Davis and David Levinson and our Assistant Farm Manager, Wayne Biebel ’17.

We continued to expand production in our on-site commercial kitchen, making prepared foods for sale in our farmstand and processing surplus produce for use in the Blair Dining Hall’s kitchen.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we implemented an online sales platform and have been offering home deliveries to island residents since mid-March.
THE ROBERT P. AND ARLENE KOGOD VISITING ARTIST FUND

Faculty Supervisor: Ken Hill, PhD, Provost

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The Kogod Fund was established twenty years ago in support of the Silver Anniversary Campaign by Bob and Arlene Kogod. The purpose of the fund was to create opportunities to bring talented artists to COA at a time when COA did not have a robust arts faculty. Since then, the college has grown the number of professors, and today the arts resource area includes professors in the performing arts, painting and drawing, filmmaking, graphic arts and design, music, landscape design, art history, and printmaking. Dozens of courses are taught each year. Today, the fund is used to enhance our offerings through lecturers and visiting faculty who offer courses in photography, ceramics, and cinema each year. The fund also supports art supplies and equipment, travel, professional development, and student opportunities that otherwise would not be possible.

ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY THE FUND INCOME DURING THIS ACADEMIC YEAR:

COURSES OFFERED BY VISITING INSTRUCTORS
Watching Globally: Intro to Contemporary Cinema of the World
History of Video Art
Film Theory
Colin Capers ’95, MPhil ’09

Figure Drawing
France Hilbert

Digital Design: Visual Communication Digital Media
Jonas Löwgren

Intermediate Ceramics
Ceramics I
Rocky Mann

Principles of Comic Improvisation
Jen Shepard/Larrance Fingerhut

Documentary Video Studio
Matt Shaw ’11

History of Photography (Fall 2019 and Spring 2020)
Introduction to Photography
Josh Winer ’91

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
• Digital Composting Workshop (Nancy Andrews)
• Production cost offset for monster course in film production
  making The Bloody Room

TEACHING ASSISTANTS FOR:
Ceramics (2)
Landscape Design
Animation I
Gallery TA
Animation II
Documentary Video
Theatre
4D Studio
Improve
African Drumming

FIELD TRIPS, EQUIPMENT AND CLASSES:
• Boston field trip for Curiosity and Wonder: Designing and implementing in the museum
• Wacom Cintiq 16 Creative Pen Display and stand, to support animation work
• Whisper mics and headsets (for online teaching)
• Easels and lights for painting classes
• Three additional pottery wheels and a pug mill for the ceramics studio
In 2014, the Island Institute and College of the Atlantic launched a new partnership called the Fund for Maine Islands (FMI) to seek solutions to sustain island and coastal ecosystems. Funded by a $2 million challenge grant from the Partridge Foundation and the support of many other donors who helped us secure the match, the FMI addresses four areas of critical concern for Gulf of Maine residents: agriculture and food, energy, education, and adaptation to climate change. At COA, the FMI coordinator is Todd Little-Siebold, PhD. Below is his report.

As the partnership has passed the six-year mark, we have built a strong collaborative working relationship with Institute staff, and students have been deeply engaged in ongoing work exploring the communities of Frenchman Bay and beyond. This year has seen new focus and integration of the work thanks to the energy of our students, partners, and the folks collaborating with us directly. We are building a model of multi-year, ongoing projects that allow us to continue to deepen our relationships and take the long view of how we work in local communities.

This has been an especially busy year in our partnership with the Island Institute. We have focused on a new integrative framework around storytelling that includes combining coursework, student internships, audio production work (podcasts and community soundwalks), and ongoing work with historical societies. This builds on years of collaboration with Maine Sea Grant and the University of Maine that has facilitated the collaborative work of Natalie Springuel ’91 as co-teacher in the Mapping Ocean Stories class, as well as ongoing work with interns to digitize and transcribe the oral historical and audio materials that exist in historical societies and community organizations up and down the coast. Natalie has built a strong mentoring relationship with interns who have worked on the project, and a number of them have been involved since the first class three years ago. One intern who took that first class in 2017 did a focused project on Maine Sea Vegetables and their history, and she will now be the teaching assistant for the fall class. Natalie works with the college in a number of capacities and, in the fall, the fund provided resources for her to deepen her work in Newfoundland and the French island territories of St. Pierre and Miquelon just offshore. This work examined how our community-based work might expand to Newfoundland to leverage the long-standing field-based educational work of the college’s Marvelous Terrible Place class that travels to Labrador and Newfoundland periodically. She also explored French language immersion opportunities there.
We have expanded our collaboration with multimedia producer Galen Koch and her First Coast project to support her community exhibits and soundwalks in both Lubec and Jonesport. She spent the spring working in Bar Harbor to develop and exhibit here as well with photographer Greta Rybus. While in Bar Harbor, Galen interviewed local fishermen and other community members about the complex issues of the community’s long term future, the working waterfront, and the evolving character of the community as it responds to massive tourism, cruise ship visits, and many other factors. Galen has been directly involved in helping the student interns master the skills of processing, scripting, and producing audio work. This has supported a focused effort to find and interpret hundreds of archival audio pieces from communities up and down the coast. A treasure trove of more than 120 interviews from Eastport alone will keep interns busy for a long time. Galen will teach an Audio Production class in the Winter term to take material from the Mapping Ocean Stories class, as well as archival resources, and turn them into final products. She will then be Audio Artist in Residence in the spring to continue the community-based work in Bar Harbor and to continue working with students. Because of this dimension of our work and at the suggestion of Dru Colbert, we also hosted Jerry Stropnick, co-founder of Network of Ensemble Theaters and co-founder of Bloomberg Theatre Ensemble to explore community storytelling events.

The team built on our partnership with the Winter Harbor Historical Society by helping them develop their archival inventory, exploring hosting an Island Fellow, and dedicating intern time to support their organizational goals. This turned out to be a great win-win situation because key archival documents emerged that will be a centerpiece in the fall class. Students will transcribe and develop storylines around the journals of Freeland Bunker, whose diaries from 1872 to 1909 represent one of the few day-to-day records of everyday life in downeast coastal communities.

In other areas, the fund supported classes, Beech Hill Farm’s commercial kitchen, farm to school work, and energy projects, as well as professor John Anderson’s Island Life class, allowing them to explore all over the coast during the summer of 2019. The grant allowed the class to visit Frenchboro/Long Island, Swan’s Island, Baker Island, the Gotta/Black/Placentia archipelago, Isle au Haut, Crotch Island, Eagle Island, and Grand Manan. At Hurricane Island, they met with folks to discuss their work and educational programs. The class visited the Island Institute to hear about the work of the Institute as well.

Beech Hill Farm’s commercial kitchen was fully operational in time to begin processing products in late summer and fall of 2019 through the year. This has expanded the ability of the farm to process food into value-added products, as well as products easily-used in the college’s dining services. Funding for the Farm to School coordinator continues this year to support work started by Professor Bonnie Tai through the fund’s major education initiative several years ago. Energy work supported by the fund also continued space and in FY21, a new visiting class and equipment for the class will be supported by a grant.

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THE MCCORMICK LIBRARY DIRECTOR FUND

Staff Supervisor: Jane Hultberg, MLS, Director of the Thorndike Library

The McCormick Library Director Fund was established with a $500,000 gift to the Silver Anniversary Campaign in 1996 from the Chauncey & Marion Deering McCormick Foundation at the behest of Nancy Hoskinson McCormick, the widow of Charles Deering McCormick. Jane Hultberg is the Thorndike Library director at COA and below is her report.

The library director oversees library activities which cover three key areas: information resources, the College Archives, and audio-visual (AV) services. The advent of COVID-19 and the transition to an all online Spring term made FY20 especially memorable.

Throughout the year, the librarians provided instruction for multiple classes. As part of a Human Ecology Core Course assignment, the librarians met one-on-one with each new student in the spring (over Zoom) and provided an introduction to the library. We have found this to be an extremely effective way to introduce students to the library’s resources and services.

Several major collections donations were made this year, two by retiring faculty and one from the family of Robert Kates, an honorary degree recipient in 2015 who passed away in 2018. Our zine collection was enhanced and interest in the collection was expanded by work study students and library staff.

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Our open source integrated library system was upgraded and interlibrary loan transitioned from a client-based system to a new cloud-based platform.

Our COA Archives program, led by Archivist Hannah Stevens ’09, belongs to the History Trust consortium, a group of local libraries and historical societies that have a shared commitment to protect their local historical materials and make them available through a digital archive. COA’s Digital Collections (digitalcollections.coa.edu) is connected to the digital archive and our entries are growing. This year, the COA news clipping collection was weeded of duplicates, organized, and arranged by year.

Our AV Specialist Zach Soares ’00 successfully live-streamed the summer 2019 Champlain Institute that was held under a tent in front of The Kathryn W. Davis International Studies Center. He also designed and purchased a wireless microphone system for the Thomas S. Gates, Jr. Community Center.

Libraries are places that can build community. We were able to foster this by having numerous exhibits and displays that showcased student and class projects. A number of marine mammals were installed in the library, and we had rotating natural history displays from the George B. Dorr Museum of Natural History. Events such as karaoke night, story slams, a lip sync battle, and a Pi(e) night took place. We hosted a poetry night organized by the Black Student Union, and a student’s Human Library project. With support from the administration, we were able to host a pop-up farewell party the last night of Winter term before everyone dispersed due to COVID-19.

In the Spring term, we navigated the transition to online reference support and remote resource instruction, helped by the implementation of a chat service on our web page and the use of Zoom. We regularly delivered and picked up books/AV equipment from students who were located in Bar Harbor, maintaining six feet distance and wearing personal protective equipment (PPE). We launched an online version of the library work study program and the structures to make that possible. On very short notice and at a time when items were becoming difficult to procure, our AV specialist helped make sure faculty had the equipment they needed to teach during the Spring term. In the Archives, a plan was developed for collecting materials from the COA community relating to the pandemic, including a COVID-19 Oral History Project supported by work study students.

It was a year of challenges, joys, surprises, concerns, and experimentation for all of COA. I am grateful to have been a part of it with all the library staff and our forty wonderful library work-study students.

| Beginning Fund Balance | $649,677 |
| Net Return on Investments | $4,930 |
| Contributions | $500 |
| Less Allocations/Withdrawals | ($30,000) |
| Ending Fund Balance | $625,107 |
The Peggy Rockefeller Farms endowment was established in 2010 when David Rockefeller donated what was then the Carmen and DeLaittre Farms to the college and supported its operation with a generous endowed gift.

In fiscal year 2020, the funds from the Rockefeller Endowment continued to support the farm manager position held by C.J. Walke, as well as the maintenance of farm infrastructure and daily operations. The farm’s operations include a herd of four Belted Galloway cattle, seventy sheep, one hundred egg laying hens, 350 meat chickens (broilers), fifty turkeys, a half-acre vegetable plot, 100+ apple trees, and fifty acres of pasture/hay land.

C.J. continues to supervise the farm’s work study crew of a rotating five to seven students. Numerous students and faculty have used Peggy Rockefeller Farms for related course work, including in wildlife ecology, chemistry, and geology, among others.

Community interactions have continued with numerous school groups and organizations engaging in educational farm tours to learn more about Peggy Rockefeller Farms and COA.

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**THE DOUG ROSE GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) ENHANCEMENT FUND**

**Staff Supervisor: Gordon Longsworth ’90, Director of Geographic Information Systems**

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Doug Rose was a COA student in the 1990s and a fixture around Bar Harbor. He worked at a restaurant during the school year and at Cadillac Mountain Sports in the summer. He was an avid and experienced climber. However, during his third year at COA, he died while climbing on Great Head when the weather turned. Funds were donated by his family and friends to establish a memorial on campus and, in 1994, a granite bench and tree were placed on the lawn near the outside entrance to the Blum Gallery. To honor Doug’s academic interests while a student at COA, the remainder of the funds are allocated periodically to a current COA student so that they may attend conferences on computer applications of Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

In 2019-2020, Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS), more commonly known as drones, continued to be an important emerging technology in GIS. Last year, the Doug Rose Enhancement Fund assisted with the purchase of two Dà-Jiāng Innovations (DJI) mapping-quality drones for the GIS Lab. It is becoming more common for students to have their own drones also, and several students are making progress towards becoming Federal Aviation Association-certified remote pilots to gain professional credentials.

This year, The Doug Rose Enhancement Fund helped COA acquire a perpetual educational license for Pix4D.com, a cloud-based processing and storage system. The cost of this license was shared between GIS and Sarah Hall, COA’s Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Chair in Earth Systems and GeoSciences. Pix4D is a Swiss company and an industry standard. Dedicated to research and development of commercial-grade image processing, Pix4D processed 140 million acres worth of
imagery, and is available in twenty-six languages. Pix4D also includes an app called Pix4D Capture, which literally flies the drone in autopilot.

What follows are brief descriptions of some of the projects that have used Pix4D this year.

Jenny Reichert ’20 captured 766 images of Mount Desert Rock, which were processed and stored in Pix4D. The resulting data models include an image orthomosaic, 3D model, and point cloud, which can be downloaded and imported into ESRI ArcGIS Pro, for mapping and analysis. This project provided the first real map of the island and enabled researchers to do detailed studies of the flora and fauna of the intertidal zone with a focus on seaweed and seals.

COA’s Cox Protectorate was flown by Jenny Reichert ’20 and Waterfront Director Toby Stephenson ’98, and was mapped several times during October 2019 for the purpose of capturing the changing color of leaves.

On Great Duck Island, students were able to count seabird nests, birds, and eggs with less disturbance than with ground-based counts.

I flew the North Lawn of the main campus, for the purpose of having a reference image taken before the building of the Center for Human Ecology.

Student Michael Cornish ’20 flew the intertidal zone of the COA main campus at exactly mean high water. This image mosaic was used to delineate in great detail the mean high water line by tracing the edge of the water using ArcGIS Pro. This image will be a valuable reference for studying climate change impacts along the COA campus shoreline in years to come.

Student Hallie Arno ’22 flew a section of the Ducktrap River in Washington County for the Downeast Salmon Federation. The imagery was used for fundraising purposes to improve sea-run salmon habitat along the river.

The pandemic prevented students from attending the Maine Sustainability and Water Conference and prevented me from attending the ESRI User Conference in San Diego. However, I was able to attend the virtual conference with several students, where 80,000 people attended ESRI President Jack Dangermond’s keynote address. Funds not used this year will carry over to fund activities in the 2020–2021 academic year.

Before the pandemic, student Julia Harcourt ’20 attended the World Marine Mammal Conference. What follows is a thank you note from her:

"Thank you so much for your contribution to the COA GIS community. Because of the Doug Rose Enhancement Fund, I was able to participate in the World Marine Mammal Conference in Barcelona, Spain. The poster I presented combined the data collected by COA’s seal stranding response team with surficial geology data to find patterns in strandings. The goal of this study was to find hot spots of seal strandings in order to have more efficient response teams to rescue and study seals on the northern Maine coast. During the conference, I was able to attend many talks and learned a lot about the use of drones in marine mammal studies, orca tracking, and a ton of other interesting information on marine mammals all around the world. Again, thank you so much for your contribution. Best, Julia Harcourt."

THE DIANA DAVIS SPENCER HATCHERY FUND

Chairholder: Jay Friedlander,
Sharpe-McNally Chair in Green and Socially Responsible Business

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College of the Atlantic’s venture incubator was endowed by a grant from the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation in 2015. The Diana Davis Spencer (DDS) Hatchery provides eligible students academic credit, professional services, and access to seed funding to develop a sustainable for-profit or nonprofit business. While the vast majority of collegiate venture incubators & accelerators are co-curricular, forcing students to choose between their interests and education, the DDS Hatchery removes these barriers, aligning education and individual passion by providing students with a full term of academic credit.

Students selected for the DDS Hatchery normally receive:
- a ten-week rapid prototype intensive
- office space & equipment
- business mentors from the MDI and COA communities
- personal support services to launch their enterprise
- the potential of up to $5,000 in seed funding

Like all classes at COA, the DDS Hatchery course migrated online for the Spring term. Along with this transition, the Hatchery went through a similar prototyping experience that students conduct. Sustainable Business Program Manager
Kerri Sands ’02 and I substantially revised the curriculum. We created over a dozen new lectures, templates, and resource collections to facilitate and support student projects.

Six DDS Hatchery participants pursued a wide range of enterprises reflecting the diverse interests of the entire campus. These included a program building empathy and understanding, a graphic design firm, a communications platform for activists, a craft arts company, a body art and design studio, and a geopark for coastal Maine.

Students in the DDS Hatchery learned sustainable enterprise fundamentals, developed numerous prototypes, experimented with new products and sales channels, solicited meaningful feedback from customers, wrote operations manuals, developed growth strategies, and ultimately came to see themselves as professionals offering products and services of value. In this process they also helped community members understand the lives of people from different backgrounds; attracted hundreds of people to events ranging from Earth Day and talks on the economic crisis to activist trainings; gave people artistic and personal inspiration; and built a coalition exploring a geopark linking the geologic and cultural heritage of coastal Maine. Approximately sixty people from around the world attended the live Hatchery Expo over Zoom, where students presented overviews of their work.

The DDS Hatchery’s educational model continues to be of interest to organizations both inside and outside academia. I presented the Hatchery model at conferences, workshops, and meetings in the United States, Canada, Iceland, United Kingdom, and Australia. At these events, the program was highlighted for how it merges academic credit with students’ interests to elevate learning and provide entrepreneurs with the skills they need to succeed.

The DDS Hatchery has also had an impact locally. I am an advisor to Camden High School where they are launching a similar program, named after the DDS Hatchery. A Downeast Business Boot Camp (based on the DDS Hatchery curriculum) was organized to help twenty local entrepreneurs from ten enterprises transform their businesses and rejuvenate the local economy, but was rescheduled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, COA was awarded a local grant to develop a Business Boot Camp operational toolkit to make the program more accessible to regional host organizations—thereby extending the Hatchery curriculum even further into the community and supporting more local entrepreneurs. Finally, we are also an active participant in the Downeast Innovation Network, a region-wide effort to understand and improve our entrepreneurial ecosystem.
THE THOMAS & MARY HALL BOOK FUND: FY20 SELECTIONS

This fund was established in 1986 with the purpose of helping Thorndike Library build a collection of science and history of science books. The Hall family helped its growth further when, upon Thomas Hall’s death in 1990, the family requested that donations be directed to this fund. Each year selections are made based on requests, class needs, and academic as well as general interest. Here is a sampling of this year’s selections.

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**Contributions**

- **Beginning Fund Balance**
- **Net Return on Investments**
- **Contributions**
- **Less Allocations/Withdrawals**
- **Ending Fund Balance**

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**Coral Whisperers: Scientists on the Brink** by Irus Braverman (2018)
"Through an impressive number of in-depth interviews with experts, Braverman is able to track important changes in coral science over the past decades..."
—Environmental History

**Corridor Ecology: Linking Landscapes for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Adaptation (2nd edition)** by Jodi A. Hilty et al. (2019)
“This... edition incorporates significant advances in the field of corridor ecology over the past ten years, including new research on marine and aerial corridors...”
—Book cover description

**Drought: An Interdisciplinary Perspective** by Benjamin I. Cook (2019)
“This book presents an interesting, multidisciplinary perspective on the various dimensions of drought, which is a complex natural hazard of global importance.”
—Brian Wardlow, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

“Breaks new ground in our understanding of ecological systems and their importance for forest resilience in an age of rapid environmental change.”
—Midwest Book Review

**Extreme Conservation: Life at the Edges of the World** by Joel Berger (2018)
“Berger is a passionate, eloquent guide to the hinterlands and their suddenly endangered signature inhabitants.”
—Steve Donoghue, Open Letters Review

**Grain by Grain: A Quest to Revive Ancient Wheat, Rural Jobs, and Healthy Food** by Bob Quinn, Liz Carlisle (2019)
“A compelling agricultural story skillfully told...”
—Kirkus Reviews

**Grasses and Rushes of Maine** by Eric Doucette, Glen H Mittelhauser, Matt Arsenault, Don Cameron (2019)
“...a comprehensive field guide for all species of grass (family Poaceae) and rush (family Juncaceae) currently found in the state of Maine.”
—Book cover description

“A broad yet in-depth look at some of the most radical and fascinating changes in vertebrate anatomy and biology over the course of their evolutionary history.”
—Palaeontology Newsletter

**Heart: a History** by Sandeep Jauhar (2018)
“...Jauhar tells the colorful and little-known story of the doctors who risked their careers and the patients who risked their lives to know and heal our most vital organ.”
—Book cover description

“Embry artfully weaves together descriptions of native bees with accounts of the state of the science from leading research programs...”
—American Entomologist

**Renewable Energy: A Primer for the Twenty-first Century** by Bruce Usher (2019)
“This readable book provides a straightforward account of the issues and opportunities of the great transition toward renewable energy.”
—Alex Halliday, Director of the Earth Institute, Columbia University

**Salmon: A Fish, the Earth, and the History of Their Common Fate** by Mark Kurlansky (2020)
“Mark Kurlansky’s Salmon makes the species an ecological poster child and a microcosm of the environmental challenges we face.”
—Foreward Reviews

**Spying on Whales: The Past, Present, and Future of Earth’s Most Awesome Creatures** by Nick Pyenson (2019)
“A hard-to-put-down quest to understand whales and their place on Earth.”
—Booklist.org

“...Brenda Peterson tells the 300-year history of wild wolves in America. It is also our own history, seen through our relationship with wolves.”
—Book cover description
THE ELIZABETH THORNDIKE SENIOR CLASS
BOOK FUND: FY20 SELECTIONS

In 2001, Thorndike family members started a fund in honor of Betty Thorndike, for whom, with her husband, the Thorndike library is named. Each year this fund pays for the Thorndike “Senior Books” which are selected by the graduating class for inclusion in the library’s collection. In 2015, the family made an additional contribution to the fund to support library resources. This year, the additional monies helped support our subscription to Credo Reference, which provides access to hundreds of online reference books. Below are the books selected by this year’s 2020 graduating class.

**Agua Viva** by Clarice Lispector (2012)
“In the forty years since its publication ..., Agua Viva, an unordered meditation on the nature of life and time, has exercised a powerful influence on Brazil’s greatest artists...”
—Book cover description

**Bandoneon: Working with Pina Bausch**
by Raimund Hoghe; Ulli Weiss; Penny Black (Translator) (2017)
“Bandoneon...is a new translation of Raimund Hoghe’s original rehearsal diary that documented the legendary Tanztheater Wuppertal’s work on Bandoneon (1980)...”
—Book cover description

**Bluets** by Maggie Nelson (2009)
“A lyrical, philosophical, and often explicit exploration of personal suffering and the limitations of vision and love, as refracted through the color blue.”
—Bookshop.org

**The Book of Dust: La Belle Sauvage (Vol 1)**
by Philip Pullman (2017)
“Full of acute observation. A rich, imaginative, vividly characterized rite-of-passage tale.”
—London Sunday Times

**The Book of Dust: the Secret Commonwealth (Vol 2)**
by Philip Pullman (2019)
“A big novel full of big ideas, big characters and big sorrows...This book feels like a response to the darkness of our time.”
—NPR

**Good Omens: The Nice and Accurate Prophecies of Agnes Nutter, Witch**
"It could be called The Hitchhiker's Guide to Armageddon."
—Palm Beach Post

**The Human Condition (2nd edition)**
by Hannah Arendt (2018)
“A classic in political and social theory, The Human Condition is a work that has proved both timeless and perpetually timely.”
—Book cover description

**The Order of Time**
by Carlo Rovelli (2018)
“In lyric, accessible prose, Carlo Rovelli invites us to consider questions about the nature of time that continue to puzzle physicists and philosophers alike.”
—Bookshop.org

**Song for his Disappeared Love/Canato a Su Amor Desaparecido**
by Raúl Zurita; Daniel Borzutzky (Translator) (2010)
“In this landmark poem, written at the height of the Pinochet dictatorship, major Chilean poet Raul Zurita protests...the extinguishment of a generation and the brutalization of a nation.”
—Amazon.com

**The Source of Self-Regard: Selected Essays, Speeches, and Meditations**
by Toni Morrison (2019)
“Brilliantly incisive essays, speeches, and meditations considering race, power, identity, and art...”
—Kirkus Reviews

**La Tregua** by Mario Benedetti (2015)
“Written as a journal, it is the poignant tale of how widower Martín Santomé’s affection for a young co-worker...conquers his reticent nature...”
—Samantha Schnee, reviewer for Words Without Borders

**What the Robin Knows: How Birds Reveal the Secrets of the Natural World**
by Jon Young (2013)
“Though primarily geared toward birders and naturalists rather than lay readers, this passionate instruction manual offers enjoyable anecdotes.”
—Publishers Weekly

**Witches, Sluts, Feminists: Conjuring the Sex Positive**
by Kristen J. Sollee (2017)
“This innovative primer highlights sexual liberation as it traces the lineage of ‘witch feminism’ through art, film, music, fashion, literature, technology, religion, pop culture, and politics.”
—Book cover description
WATERFRONT DIRECTOR FUND

Staff Supervisor: Toby Stephenson ’98, Waterfront Director

During the Broad Reach Capital Campaign, a gift of $1.25M was given (anonymously) to maximize the educational potential of our offshore islands—Mount Desert Rock and Great Duck Island—and the coast itself. The gift endowed our waterfront director’s position, allowing the college to improve access to the Gulf of Maine and enable more faculty members, students, and visitors to use these remarkable assets to their full potential. Below is his report.

Summer 2019 was another wonderful season with plenty of activity from the COA community, and fairly uneventful as far as mechanical or operational problems. There were no visits by mechanics to M/V Osprey, all boating operations were successful, and the waterfront was flourishing.

From my view, the Islands programs ran very smoothly. All personnel seemed in good spirits, and supply runs went fine despite some rough sea conditions and damage to one of the inflatables, but all students were engaged and learned a lot. Between the high school program Islands Through Time, the COA course Island Life, and a trip to Grand Manan, I think we saw more islands than ever before!

Our mooring field was busy during summer 2019 with several boats now renting annually from us, and we are able to accommodate mariners needing a place for the night—all in addition to our own growing fleet. We are up to sixteen moorings.

Sailing was particularly active this fall, which was a result of the positive attitudes of our primary instructors, Elias Kann ’20 and Gaelen Hall ’21. The sailing crew took about seventy students out on the water this fall, and we appear to have a growing interest. Our two Rhode 19 boats are aged and nearing retirement. They were built in 1971 and 1986 (2), but both are showing terminal issues, and repairs are becoming frequent. I have given them until 2024 to be replaced at the latest. The latter model may eke out a couple seasons more. We are beginning a sailboat donation program, which could help with procuring a new boat. If we sell any donated vessels, we could use those proceeds to purchase a new sailboat.

One point worth noting is that, with the Human Ecology Core Course being held in the spring, I was much less busy in the fall. Therefore, I was able to spend this time training and teaching marine skills to more students. A net gain.

This spring, M/V Osprey operated less than 25% of a normal season as a result of the global pandemic and resulting college restrictions. However, we have been able to maintain a busy schedule, address deferred maintenance projects, and achieve some exciting new program developments.

SPRING 2020 HIGHLIGHTS.
- Renovate and repaint M/V Osprey’s interior and resurface her hull.
  » This has been a worsening situation given how hard she has been used over the years. Her benches, decks, and engine box were all refinshed. Her topsides were buffed and polished, freshening her white hull and stripes.
- Push forward pier renovation
  » The pier support stringers have significantly deteriorated due to wave action and micro-failures of the protective paint coating. Salt penetration slowly began to expose the steel beneath over the last ten

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coa.edu/support
years, which began to corrode. Over the past five years, rust began to penetrate the main steel tubing supports and compromise them. Given the closure of campus for the Spring term, this was an appropriate year to use support from the Waterfront Director Fund to close the pier and conduct renovations. The entire pier will be removed and repaired remotely.

- Begin development of boat donation program
  
  Donated boats with values higher than $10,000 may become a great means of program support with limited effort on our part. The Maine Maritime Academy has a successful and profitable program we are modeling to a lesser extent. A Seguin 44 was donated this spring and, in July, I relocated her to COA with a team of sailors. She has a current value of $95,000. A Freedom 32 was donated this summer and will be trailered to campus this fall. Her value is $38,000. While we will likely not see those numbers as a return, I feel it is a worthwhile endeavor to experiment with.

- Purchase a multi-beam sonar for seafloor mapping
  
  This spring, Professor Sarah Hall and I began negotiating with UMaine to acquire a WASSP multi-beam echo sounder for seafloor mapping. This unit creates 3D maps that will inform us of geologic, oceanographic, and even human activities beneath the surface. Creating these high resolution maps will be a valuable teaching tool for our faculty, and will connect us with other institutions like UMaine, Island Institute, OceansWide, and even to aid in the development of ropeless fishing gear.

- Aquaculture maintenance
  
  This year was our first season collecting seed shellfish. While the kelp aquaculture site was not successful, we counted approximately 500 young scallops, and numerous mussels and other bivalves.

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**WRITING FOR THE FUTURE FUND**

**Faculty Supervisor: Anne Kozak**

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The written word is core to everything we do at COA, and a pervasive tool for communicating the sciences, human studies, and arts and design. But communication in the 21st century is changing. We rely more and more on the integration of the printed word with other forms of data and media. The combining of different modes of expression is called multimodal communication and students today need to master it. The Writing for the Future Fund provides faculty support in composition and technical writing, expands the college’s writing tutor program, and institutes new methods of communication to ensure COA students are prepared for today’s labor market. The Writing for the Future Fund was established in 2018 as part of the Broad Reach Capital Campaign with a leadership gift from Walter Robinson, a former trustee of College of the Atlantic, writer, and physician.

Blake’s appointment turned out to be particularly fortuitous: when the college announced in March that all courses and services would be online, he—with help from two tutors, Sara Löwgren 20 in Sweden and Gaelen Hall 21 in western Massachusetts—established the COA OWL (Online Writing Center).

This center was widely used and much appreciated by the many students who sought help with writing papers. Peer tutors are trained—they take a year-long course called *Methods of Teaching Writing across the Curriculum*—and new tutors are paired with more experienced tutors to ensure they have a good sense of how the center operates.

During the Spring term, Gaelen worked with three in-training peer tutors. Two were first-year students, Kaitlyn Burke ’23 and Casandra Martocchia ’23; the other was a second-year student from México, Alejandra “Ale” Morales Torres ’22, who had taken a medical leave of absence and who felt she would benefit from working alongside Gaelen.

By week 7, Gaelen told us Ale was ready to assist students in a course where a faculty member had requested a tutor. An added bonus with Ale, Gaelen, and Cass is that they are fluent in Spanish, and we typically have a number of Spanish-speaking students.

To ensure that students with work-study actually had productive work, Blake, with help from Mariana Olias Lopez ’20 in Bolivia, developed Creative Structured Time—an online program that operated twenty hours a day to accommodate...
students from all over the world. The student hosts answered questions, hosted music events, games, language fairs, directed students to other resources, and provided a place for students and others to just drop in and chat. I often dropped in particularly on weekends to see how things were going and to thank them for their work. With everyone sheltered in place, this proved to be most welcome.

Another valuable function of this program were hosted events. One was a weekly philosophy drop-in meeting with Professors Gray Cox (’71) and Heather Lakey ’00, MPhil ’05—an event that was fairly well attended. Last winter, Heather was hired as the new philosophy professor. She replaces John Visvader, who retired last June.

Because the college’s physical writing center cannot accommodate social distancing, the writing center will continue to be online. Blake is streamlining the Creative Structured Time, and is working with COA’s dean of student life, Sarah Luke, to ensure that the program addresses more specific needs such as places where students in a particular course can gather to work on projects or discuss readings.

Thank you to all of you who have helped to enhance the writing program and to ensure its viability. Your generosity is much appreciated.

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**COA'S PHYSICAL PLANT FUNDS**

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<td>$2,226</td>
<td>$—</td>
<td>($14,000)</td>
<td>$281,231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Return on Investments</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Contributions</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Less Allocations/Withdrawals</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ending Fund Balance</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ETHEL H. BLUM GALLERY:** The Ethel H. Blum Gallery was dedicated in 1993 to Ethel H. Blum (1900–1991), an accomplished watercolorist who studied at the Art Students League and the Brooklyn Museum Art School, and exhibited widely in her lifetime. A longtime summer resident of MDI, she took special pleasure in painting Maine coast views.

**BREWER-GOWER-SAWYER-GARBER FUND:** Created by founding trustees Les Brewer and Father James Gower and local businessmen Charles Sawyer and Michael J. Garber, to support campus grounds improvements.

**KATHRYN W. DAVIS CENTER BUILDING & GROUNDS FUND:** Created by gifts from the Shelby Cullom Davis Foundation in support of the maintenance and upkeep of the Davis Center and grounds. The Kathryn W. Davis Center for International & Regional Studies is currently used for faculty and staff offices, classes, and a meeting place for COA’s international population. The Davis Carriage House is a rustic addition to student housing. The Kathryn W. Davis Residence Village is the newest and ‘greenest’ housing complex.

**THOMAS S. GATES, JR. COMMUNITY CENTER:** Gates is regularly used for lectures, theatrical productions, music and dance performances, and large meetings or workshops. The hall has a stage with optional podium, seating on the main floor and balcony, a lighting and sound booth, and digital projector with screen.
The general unrestricted endowment is primarily comprised of gifts to the college, which the trustees have designated to be part of the endowment. The normal 4.8% draw down rate is applied and allocated to the general operations of the college. If needed, special allocations can be made with board approval.

**COA Investment Committee**
Hank Schmelzer, Chair  
Tim Bass  
Gifford Combs (advisory member)  
Missy Cook, COA Controller  
Clay Corbus  
H. Winston Holt IV  
Jay McNally ‘84  
Bob Milotte (advisory member)  
Phil Moriarty (ex officio)  
Brooke Parish (advisory member)  
Tony Robinson  
Steve Sullens  
Will Thorndike

**The Development Office**
If this book has inspired you to learn more about possible investment opportunities, please let us know. Contact College of the Atlantic’s Development Office at 207.801.5620. You can also learn more about College of the Atlantic’s endowment needs and make a gift online.

[coa.edu/giving](http://coa.edu/giving)
COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC MISSION

College of the Atlantic enriches the liberal arts tradition through a distinctive educational philosophy—human ecology. A human ecological perspective integrates knowledge from all academic disciplines and from personal experience to investigate—and ultimately improve—the relationships between human beings and our social and natural communities. The human ecological perspective guides all aspects of education, research, activism, and interactions among the college’s students, faculty, staff, and trustees. The College of the Atlantic community encourages, prepares, and expects students to gain expertise, breadth, values, and practical experience necessary to achieve individual fulfillment and to help solve problems that challenge communities everywhere.

COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC VISION

The faculty, students, trustees, staff, and alumni of College of the Atlantic envision a world where people value creativity, intellectual achievement, and the diversity of nature and human cultures. With respect and compassion, individuals will construct meaningful lives for themselves, gain appreciation for the relationships among all forms of life, and safeguard the heritage of future generations.