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# Letter from the President

College of the Atlantic is small by design. The way we teach here — in small, workshop-like settings, on a boat at sea, or in the field — is intimate, individualized, and rigorous. A small group of students will travel with a pair of COA professors to Costa Rica to study the ecology of neotropical forests or to Vichy to study French politics, arts, and culture, or to the highest Andean peaks to study the geology of Peru.

Our endowment has grown significantly over the past decade and has become a bedrock for such teaching and learning. With it we have added four new professors: a geologist, an anthropologist, an art historian, and a food systems expert. We have created a global engagement fund that allows students to study, do research, and create projects all over the world.

Paying for college has become increasingly difficult for many families. Our endowment has allowed us to keep tuition increases small and to provide millions of dollars in scholarship support, helping students of all economic backgrounds come to and flourish at COA. Our growing endowment helps relieve COA's dependence on diminishing tuition revenue, eases the pressure on our operating budget, and allows us to hold true to our educational values with more confidence and with less influence from outside forces.

Many people ask me: Is having so few students and such rich, individualized, and distinctive offerings sustainable? It is with an endowment like the one you have helped build.

We cannot thank you enough.



Darron Collins '92, PhD, President



*Please note: Most of the annual fund allocations are spent during the fiscal year, but typically about ten funds have unexpended balances which are carried forward to the next fiscal year. For these funds, the descriptions of last year's expenses will not match the allocations.*

# From the Administrative Dean & CFO

Andrew S. Griffiths



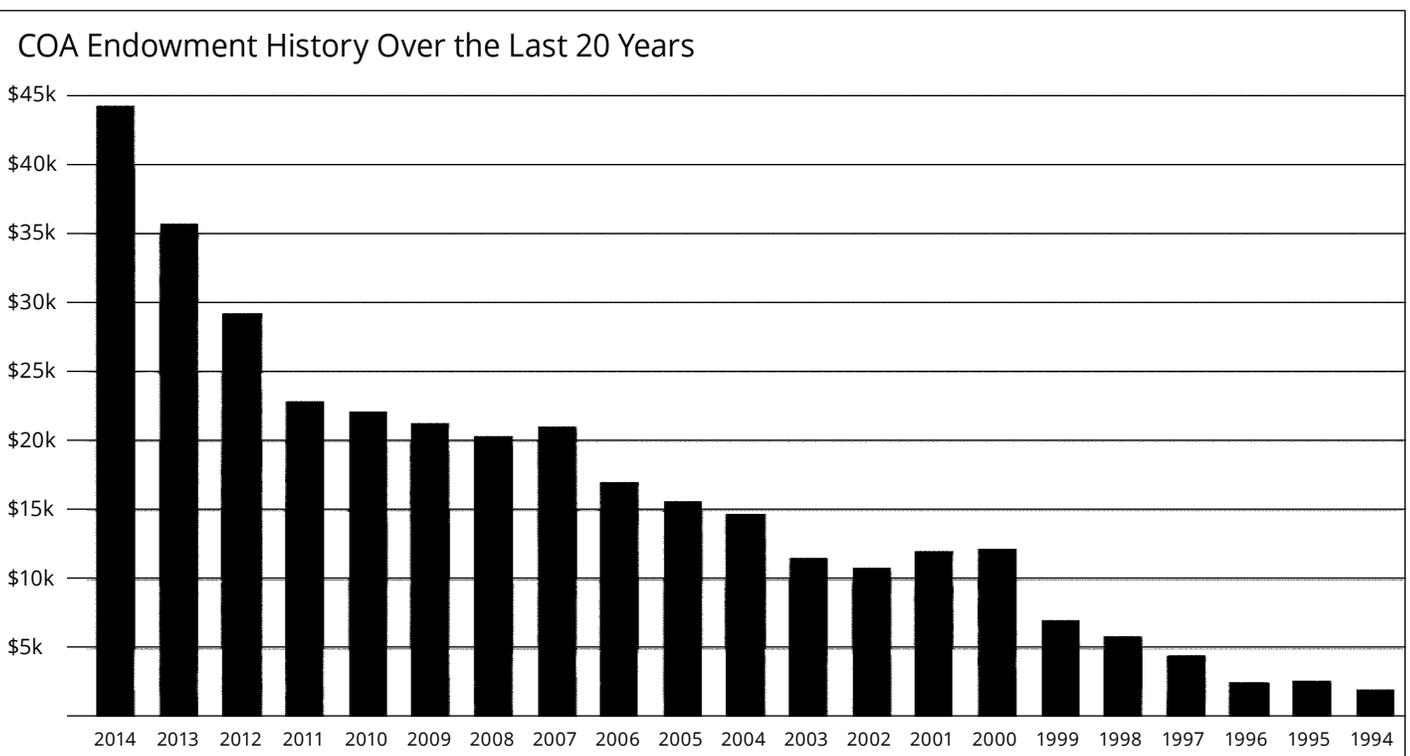
At the end of our fiscal year 2014, our endowment investments totaled \$44.2 million, an increase of \$9.4 million from the balance at the end of fiscal year 2013. During fiscal year 2014, we had gains and earnings of \$5.9 million, received and invested new gifts of \$5.0 million, and allocated about \$1.6 million to the operation of the College. More than half of this allocation was to the academic program, including the funding of thirteen faculty chairs. The balance was allocated to the general operating budget, primarily to scholarships.

Overall the endowment investments consist of over seventy separately tracked funds, including chairs, specific scholarships, programs restricted to specific purposes, and the general endowment. These funds are invested under the guidance of the college investment committee, which has established a range of 60–75% to be allocated to equities and the balance in fixed income. The equities are managed by two investment firms, Eagle Capital Management and Gardner, Russo, Gardner. The fixed assets are divided between the management of Eaton Vance and investments held by local banks. Much of the growth in the investments last year was due to the equity gains of Gardner, Russo, Gardner which had a 19.1% return and the account at Eagle Capital which had a 23.3% return, comparable to the S&P 500 benchmark. Our fixed assets at Eaton Vance had a return of 1.9%, comparable to the Barclay's index. The COA investment committee also established spending policies, which currently include an annual allocation of 4.8% of the trailing four quarter average balance.

Over the last ten years, the endowment has grown from \$13 million to its current value of \$44 million, providing substantial support to the college operations. Despite the setback in 2008–2009 when all college endowments were hit by the stock market decline, our investments have generally outperformed the market and have been recovering substantially. Over the last five years, each of our equity managers has outperformed the market. Similarly, our internally-managed fixed income investments outperformed comparable bond indices.

In addition to our endowment investments, the College has invested six restricted funds:

- \$4.3 million in the “Stanford Ryle Kathryn W. Davis Fund,” an internally established fund to support debt service on bonds.
- \$547 thousand in the Davis United World College Scholarship Program advances.
- \$157 thousand in the staff-faculty salary equity fund, which is being allocated over several years to support staff and faculty salary increases and professional development.
- \$913 thousand in the investment of a portion of a grant from the Partridge Foundation to support scholarships and sustainable food programs at COA.
- \$516 thousand to establish an endowment for a joint project with the Island Institute
- \$529 thousand for potential investment in future student housing.



# The Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Chair in Earth Systems and Geosciences

Chair Holder: Sarah Hall, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,882,558
Net Return on Investments	\$313,627
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$80,189
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,115,996

During my second year at COA as the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Chair in Earth Systems and Geoscience, I taught a total of 62 students, advised one graduate student in a term-long independent study project, and mentored two student advisees during the 2013–2014 year. I had the pleasure of working with and being supported by 5 excellent teaching assistants in the various courses, all students I had taught during the previous year.

Courses included:

- **Geology of MDI (I):** In this course, students completed local field activities weekly on MDI and participated in one long-weekend field trip to Baxter State Park for the annual New England Intercollegiate Geology Conference. The trip was a huge success!
- **Natural Resources (I):** While this course was not field based, we did go on two local field trips (Granite Museum and the Bar Harbor water supply and pump house) and a weekend-long regional field trip to learn about various natural resources in Maine. The students had the opportunity to collect their own samples of the state mineral: tourmaline!
- **Mineralogy and Petrology (A):** Three students approached me about teaching a course in advanced rock identification. These students worked together to learn to identify 65 minerals in hand sample and at least 10 in thin section using a petrographic microscope! This tutorial resulted in a poster presentation at the Acadia National Park Science Symposium (see below).
- **Critical Zone I (I):** This course served as an introduction for the spring field-based intermediate course. We spent a few days outside learning to use basic field tools, however most of the course was lab-based, covering topics including rock identification, plate tectonics, soil formation, nutrient cycles, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and climate.
- **Independent Study:** Bik Wheeler and Roy Davis — *Relationships between Bird Populations and Critical Zones*
- **Critical Zone II (M):** In this class students worked in the field every week conducting a landscape study of a specific field site. As a class we also collected and analyzed daily water samples to measure nutrient concentrations from 5 streams in the Northeast Creek Watershed near the COA-run Peggy Rockefeller Farm.



## Professional Work:

In October 2013, I attended the Geological Society of America Annual Fall Meeting in Denver, CO where I presented on tectonic and climatic processes in the hyperarid coastal region of Peru.

During Nov–Dec. 2013, I traveled to England to process samples in a colleague’s laboratory at Newcastle University. This work will hopefully lead to a new publication during the next few years.

In April 2014, the students in my “Mineralogy and Petrology” tutorial prepared a poster for the Acadia National Park Science Symposium. One of the three students, Tyler Prest, presented this work at the symposium: *Assembling a teaching collection at COA: outcrop, hand-sample, and thin-section analysis of rocks from Mt. Desert Island and Mt. Desert Rock.*

In April 2014, I traveled to the University of Rochester, NY to give a talk on my work in Peru: *Tectonic and climatic processes recorded in the  $^{10}\text{Be}$  chronology of low-relief surface abandonment in southern Peru.*

During the year I was asked to participate in a few community events including a classroom visit to the Bay School in Blue Hill, ME (“Identifying Rocks and Minerals”), a public talk at the Somes-Meynell Wildlife Sanctuary (“Geology of MDI”), and a visiting Earth Sciences field school from McGill University.

I continue to be both excited and challenged working at COA. While there is a huge amount of work to be done to grow the Earth Science presence here, there is also a lot of interest and energy from students, faculty, and staff at COA.

## The Richard J. Borden Chair in the Humanities

Chair Holder: John Visvader, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,158,410
Net Return on Investments	\$195,389
Contributions	\$113,645
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$58,043
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,409,401

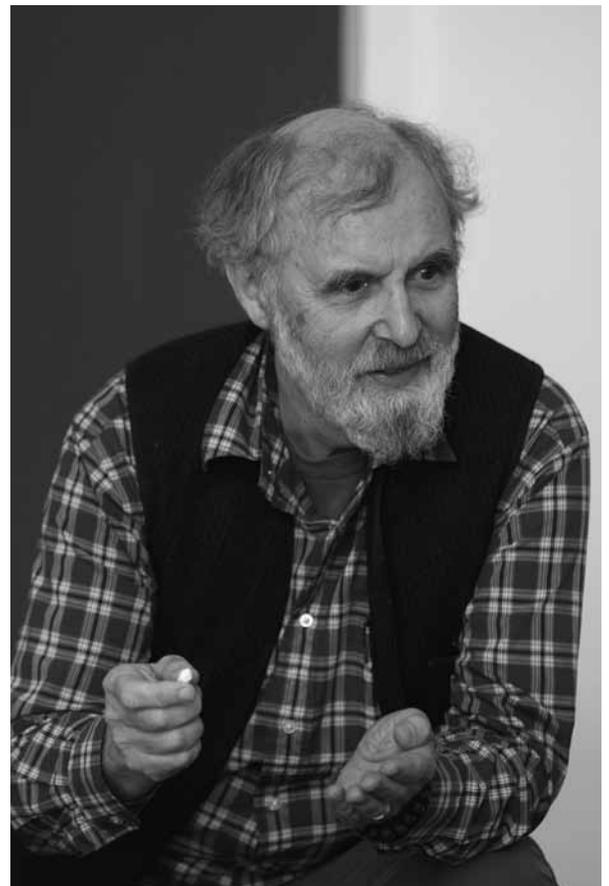
This was a very enjoyable year for me at the college as I got to teach four of my favorite classes to a total of 86 students: *Theories of Human Nature* — an examination of Jung’s psychology, existentialism and neuro-physiological explanations of human behavior, *Chinese Philosophy* — Confucianism, Daoism and Buddhism, *Philosophy of Nature* — Thoreau, Emerson and Deep Ecology, and *Puzzles, Paradoxes, and Weird Things*. This last class was a new one and involved an introduction to informal logic and the scientific method. During the second half of the class students applied critical analyses to a series of ‘weird things’ that have often captured popular imagination and belief, such as flying saucers, mental telepathy, reincarnation, ghosts, crop circles, precognition and out of body experience. Each student researched a particular issue and did some experiments if feasible to test the veracity of various claims. The class presentations of their investigations always led to animated discussions amongst the students. The title of the class seemed to draw a large number of students who already believed in many of the “weird things” we undertook to investigate and I was pleased to see that at the end of the class students either abandoned their beliefs or held them more critically.

I remain Chairman of the Graduate committee — which only means taking over the administrative duties of the graduate Program when the Graduate Dean is absent on his occasional research trips to Antarctica. I’m also a member of the library committee, I chair the committee that grants the Davis Philosophy-Human Ecology Award each Spring and this year have been a member of the committee that applied for and administers a grant to enhance the religious offerings at the college. We have brought in a renowned scholar of East-West philosophies and religion and are arranging for a visit from a Woodrow-Wilson scholar on Japanese Religions and a Buddhist practitioner for the Fall term.

My most difficult but also most enjoyable administrative work is done in connection with the Human Ecology Forum which I run every term. The Forum has sponsored over 30 presentations over the academic year giving staff, students and faculty an opportunity to present their work and bringing in scholars from different institutions. Forum topics this year included biodiversity, organic farming, recycling, global warming, wind power, international conflict resolution, investigative journalism and social injustices, alternative futures modeling, Buddhism and environmentalism, current problems in Syria and featured a poetry reading and theater production.

Except for my attempt to translate two Chinese Buddhist texts — which is going very slowly but which I find enjoyable — most of my research is related to my teaching or to papers that I am writing for presentation. Because of strong student interest I am working on a class called *Philosophy and Cosmology*. While I have a physics background and have taught a course at the college some years ago on cosmology and astronomy for science credit, many exciting discoveries have been made and new theories have developed in the interim and I’m attempting to catch up as best I can in order to provide a good and detailed background to set up the philosophical issues. I’m also finishing up a paper that I intend to read at the Society for Human Ecology meeting to be held on campus this October. Here is its title and description:

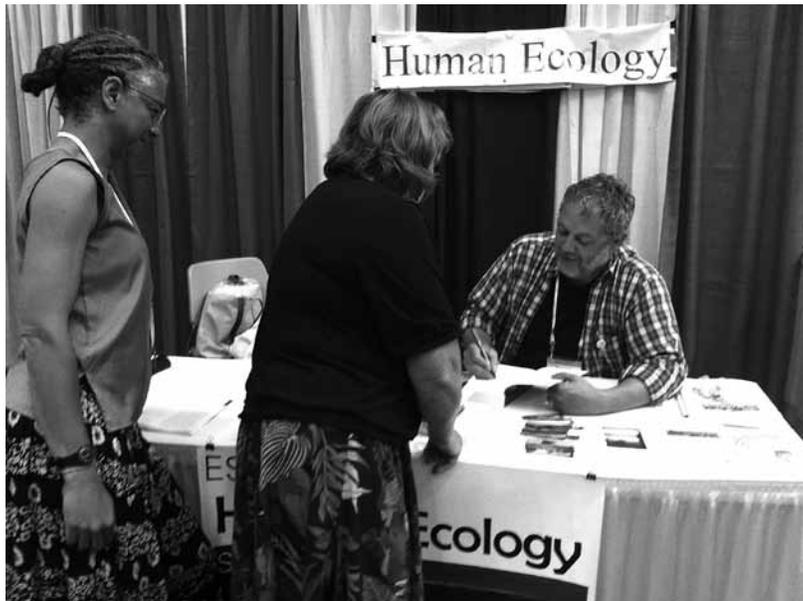
*The Pseudo-People: A Human Ecology of Intelligent Machines*  
Despite the philosophical skepticism concerning our knowledge of other minds and whether machines can be conscious, ordinary people are increasingly drawn to treating intelligent machines — toys, game-bots, sociable robots, robo-pets — as if they are sentient creatures. This raises some interesting moral questions as well as challenging traditional boundaries between the human and non-human.



## The Rachel Carson Chair in Human Ecology

Chair Holder: Richard J. Borden, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,075,679
Net Return on Investments	\$179,127
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$46,792
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,208,014



This was a full and satisfying year. In fall term, I taught Contemporary Psychology: Body, Mind and Soul. In winter, I offered my Seminar in Human Ecology and taught Human Relations: Principles and Practice (with Jay Friedlander); and in spring, Personality and Social Development and Ecology and Experience.

I had eleven advisees, supervised three independent studies, one senior project, one M. Phil student, and was reader for eight human ecology essays. I also co-chaired the planning, with Ken Hill, for this coming year's core course.

My committee membership included Academic Affairs Committee, Graduate Committee, editorial board of *COA* magazine, and the Center for Applied Human Ecology (CAHE). I regularly attended Faculty Meeting and many All College Meetings and Human Ecology Forums. I participated in new student orientation and Admission Office activities, including the 'meet-

and-greet' with parents, family fly-in, individual meetings with prospective students, and welcomed numerous visiting students and families to my classes. I also took part in Institutional Advancement's endowed-chairs 'Thank You' video, wrote to former advisees about alumni giving, attended several Academic Policy Committee meetings and trustee receptions, and contributed to the Island Institute partnership planning in Rockland, at president Darron Collin's house, and on campus.

External Activities: I was very involved, all year, with planning for the XXth International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology (SHE): "Ecological Responsibility and Human Imagination: Saving the Past — Shaping the Future," to be hosted by COA this October. I also oversaw SHE's executive board elections. I was an editor for *Human Ecology Review*, a book manuscript reviewer for *Earth Scan*, and manuscript reviewer for *Environment, Development, and Sustainability*.

In May, Academic Dean Ken Hill and I gave an invited presentation — 'Human Ecology and Interdisciplinary Education: A Survey of Rural, Urban and International Partnerships' — at a joint meeting of the Commonwealth Human Ecology Council (CHEC) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Humanökologie (DGH) in Germany. I also served as an external reviewer for the University of Maine-Machias and co-authored a 15-page reflections-evaluation-and-recommendations document.

The big thrill-of-the-year was the release of my book *Ecology and Experience: Reflections from a Human Ecological Perspective* on April 15<sup>th</sup>. The 480-page book is available through online bookstores and is on the shelf in a large number of independent bookstores. Plans for several library talks are under way. It was especially gratifying — and fun — to see it in the front window at Sherman's Bookstore in Bar Harbor!

Finally, I gave a talk at the Ecological Society of America (ESA) annual meeting in Sacramento, August 10–15. The presentation, 'Human Ecology at ESA: An Historical Review', was part of a symposium on "ESA's Struggle for Identity Over the First 100 Years: Lessons for the Future." During the meeting, I held a book signing at the Sacramento convention center, was elected chair of ESA's human ecology section, and joined the organizing committee for next year's ESA centennial anniversary conference. All-in-all, a very good year.

## The William H. Drury, Jr. Chair in Evolution, Ecology, and Natural History

Chair Holder: John G.T. Anderson, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$439,849
Net Return on Investments	\$73,245
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$19,136
Ending Fund Balance	\$493,958

My primary duty as Drury Chair is teaching and advising, and I did a fair amount of both. Classes taught this year consisted of The Human Ecology Core Course and Ecology in the Fall, Human Anatomy and Physiology part 1 and Costa Rican Natural History and Conservation in Winter, and Human Anatomy and Physiology part 2 and Wildlife Ecology in Spring. Of these, without doubt the most intense and the most enjoyable was the Costa Rican Natural History course. I team teach this class with our Herpetologist and all around naturalist Steve Ressel, and I feel that it is a wonderfully reinvigorating course in terms of my love of Natural History. Apart from periodic class meetings on campus in Winter, we spend the entire Spring Break in Costa Rica, splitting our time between three sites, each of which has its own unique flora, fauna and general environment. Students are immersed in the Neotropics throughout, and also have the opportunity to design and carry out a series of short individual research projects that will give them practice for future research settings. The Wildlife Ecology course grew out of a successful grant proposal to the Davis Family Foundation that is funding the creation of a network of courses focusing on the ecology, geology, and hydrology of the Northeast Creek watershed on Mt. Desert Island.

In terms of advising I was the official advisor for 24 students including one graduate student, Bik Wheeler, who is re-examining Robert MacArthur's classic study of warblers, using MacArthur's own study site at Bass Harbor Head. I feel that Bill would be tickled pink to know that a "grand-student" of his was testing a real shibboleth of the "classical ecology" that so troubled him. I also sponsored three senior projects that dealt with topics ranging from field ecology and conservation to heavy metal contamination — again, topics near to Bill's heart.



Beyond my duties as a teacher, I continue to serve as Archivist for the Waterbird Society, and I feel that — thanks in large part to the hard work of alumna Kate Shlepr '13 — we have finally started to make some headway on organizing the Society's archive. In addition, I organized, presented in and co-chaired a symposium at the Wilhelmshaven conference of the Waterbird Society on declines in gull populations on both sides of the Atlantic. The symposium was sufficiently well received that it has led to a Special Edition of the journal *Waterbirds* that I am co-editing with two Canadian colleagues. We have received over 20 manuscripts from 11 countries covering a vast swath of the North Atlantic Basin. I am very pleased to note that former Drury student Glenn Mittelhauser '89 is a co-author on one of the papers submitted. Bill's colleague Ian Nisbet is serving as a reviewer.

My own research continues to focus on the gulls and other seabirds on Great Duck Island, where we have begun our 16<sup>th</sup> season of studies. As in past years I am aided by a team of COA students, who also conduct their own individual projects on the island's flora and fauna. We continue to see significant shifts in the patterns of gull nesting on Great Duck, largely we believe in response to increased predation pressure from Bald Eagles. I am also in the process of preparing a Final Report for the National Park Service at the conclusion of our three year investigation of the impact of sea-level rise on seabird colonies within Acadia National Park. In June I published a short piece in the *Journal of Natural Science Illustrators* entitled *Forms Most Beautiful: the vital role of the visual arts in science*. The piece drew on the work of some of the classic Natural History illustrators, including Conrad Martens, who sailed with Darwin, but I confess to being much prouder of the illustrations by alumna Lindsey Nielsen '13, one of which serves as the cover for that edition of the *Journal*. Bill would have loved her.

As always I am grateful to the donors to the Drury Chair for making my position possible.

## The Charles Eliot Chair in Ecological Planning, Policy and Design

Chair Holder: Isabel Mancinelli, MLA

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,578,398
Net Return on Investments	\$262,841
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$68,673
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,772,566

The Charles Eliot Chair was established in 2003 by Dan and Polly Pierce to honor Dan's grandfather, Charles Eliot and his pioneering contributions in ecological planning, policy and design.

For academic work in the 2014 Academic Year, I taught the following courses: Introduction to Arts and Design, Land Use Planning and GIS I, and a new class, "Form of the City Advanced Seminar," which included a class field trip to NYC and presentations by the president of the Area Planning Association, the architect of the first green commercial building in NY, and project manager for Boston's Big Dig. Chair funds enabled purchase of new class resources, speakers, and the invaluable field trip.



I also directed independent studies: Christopher Alexander Pine's study of the bicycle infrastructure at COA. A comprehensive report compiled and given to Campus Planning and Building Committee analyzes existing conditions and gives specific recommends improvements. Samuel Allen: computer aided drafting. Hannah Hirsch: basic woodworking. Boglarka Ivanegova attempted to unravel the complicated history of land use in Bratislava as it transitioned from private to communal property under communism post WWII and what has transpired since the dismantling of the Soviet Union. She developed GIS databases and maps to illustrate findings documented in several well researched papers. Zuri de Souza determined how readily available recyclable waste might be adapted to growing food in India's slums.

Senior Projects for which I served as advisor include: Zuri de Souza, Public Spaces and Their Uses; Mairi Connelly, Landscape Design for the Cass/Taylor Property; Ana Puhac, Human Ecology of the Urban Agriculture Movement.

As Eliot Chair, I am very involved in community-based projects. Students in the Land Use Planning and GIS assisted the City of Ellsworth in determining the best next steps to prepare for the increased storm water runoff occurring from the more frequent and more intense storms they are experiencing. See the Doug Rose GIS Fund for a full description on this work. I chair the Beatrix Farrand Society Landscape and Garden Committee. Students toured Garland Farm and saw an exhibit on former estate at Sand Beach and full size reproductions of Beatrix Farrand's herbarium collection.

I am on the board of directors for the Somes Pond Center for Landscape History and brought classes to the Center to learn about native species and naturalistic design. Visiting arts faculty in sculpture used the center for term long housing.

I sit on the Campus Planning and Building Committee and the Center for Applied Human Ecology.

Professional Development: I attended the annual conference of the American Society of Landscape Architects and took many continuing education courses on emerging technologies and techniques such as bike infrastructure and reducing energy demands in cities. I also attended the Geodesign Summit at ESRI, attended two days of professional presentations, met with colleagues from other universities, and former professor, Dr. Carl Steinetz, who agreed to speak as keynote for the International Society of Human Ecology conference at COA in October.

## Steven K. Katona Chair in Marine Studies

Chair Holder: Sean Todd, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,703,189
Net Return on Investments	\$283,638
Contributions	\$300
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$74,090
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,913,037

This year was a productive experience in terms of both teaching and fundraising. As with last year, I configured classes and administrative work to provide spare time in the winter term for an expeditionary cruise to the Antarctic. In the remaining two terms, I taught 98 students in four regular and one team-taught class, including an advanced tutorial in Statistical Analysis, as well as more standard classes such as the Human Ecology Core Course, Oceanography and Marine Mammal Biology which this year was held out at Mount Desert Rock. I also supervised two graduate student projects, five independent studies, two senior projects and two internships.

I have also enjoyed working closely with my group of 20 advisees. Chair funds were used to help subsidize the costs of the field class, as well as provide transport and accommodations for students attending a two-day marine mammal conservation conference in Massachusetts. I have assisted and co-written a paper with a former graduate student that is in review for the journal *Endangered Species Research* and is now in its final revision with editors.

Bort, J., VonParijs, S., Stevick, P., Summer, E. and Todd, S. Seasonal and diel patterns of North Atlantic right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*) vocalizations in the central Gulf of Maine.

I have helped in a number of grant initiatives designed to support Allied Whale:

- Prescott Grant: \$100K, appl. Sept 2013, pending notice late August 2014 (for Marine Mammal Stranding Response Program [MMSRP])
- Anonymous foundation: \$40K, appl. May 2013, rec'd June 2013 (for general MDR research and photo-identification programs)
- The Forrest Mars, Jr. Family: \$425K (awarded over the next three years to renovate facilities at Mount Desert Rock), appl. Apr. 2014, rec'd Apr 2014
- Cestone Foundation: \$20K, appl. Feb 2013, rec'd Fall 2013 (for MMSRP)
- Davis Foundation: \$5K, req. Apr 2014, rec'd June 2014 (for photo-identification programs)

We have had a particularly successful year at Mount Desert Rock. Working with Summer Programs we now have in place a business plan that allows us to hire a Station Manager on the basis of revenues from third party usage (high school programs, etc.). We enjoyed a second year of consolidated research both in the summer and winter seasons. As noted above we have also received a generous gift from the Mars family to help restore the facilities on Mount Desert Rock after years of hurricane damage. These renovations and improvements will allow us to stabilize our research and education program out at the Rock for an expanded seasonal window for up to 20 students/personnel. The Rock continues to prove itself as a training ground for students interested in pursuing a career in marine field research.

During the winter, I completed a three-week trip to the Antarctic Peninsula with the Mars family, collecting a record 87 photo-identification photographs for the Antarctic Humpback Whale Catalog, traveling past the Antarctic Circle as far as Marguerite Bay. I also attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, hosted this year by the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. I have continued to give numerous talks locally and regionally about the college and our work in Allied Whale.

Discretionary funds were spent in a variety of diverse ways to support student travel, class work and field course expenses, personal travel/conference attendance, winter research work at Mount Desert Rock, various oceanographic equipment and servicing, as well as important repair work at Mount Desert Rock after winter storm *Nemo*.



## The Elizabeth Battles Newlin Chair in Botany

Chair Holder: Suzanne Morse, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$949,962
Net Return on Investments	\$158,192
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$41,325
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,066,829

For me, summer is fundamentally about the exuberance of plants. In the summer of 2013, the COA community garden flourished with the successful establishment of the deer fence. Gardeners brought home harvests, and students established and maintained gardens for development, the food pantry, summer field studies, and the COA kitchen. CJ Walke and I also used the garden as classroom for Farm to Fork, our summer course for high school students. Activities included everything from insect study to weeding, watering, planting in the vegetable gardens, and summer pruning of the apple trees.

My grant-funded research project on the use of chipped alder as a soil amendment for vegetable growers ran from June through October on Peggy Rockefeller Farm and Daybreak Farm. Polly McAdam '14, the project's research assistant, traveled between both farms, collecting growth and soil data throughout the growing season. I presented preliminary results on the response of two tomato varieties to five different amendment strategies at the Maine Vegetable and Fruit Growers meetings in Portland and Bangor. In between gardening, teaching and research, I also attended the Slow Food International steering meeting in Istanbul.

For the fall term, I was a visiting faculty member at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU) and worked on the further development of sustainable food initiatives in the Oslo area and co-taught in the master's course: Agroecology: action learning in food and farming systems. During my time in Europe, I met with the COA team participating in the Civil Society Mechanism in preparation for the Rome meeting of the Committee on World Food Security. Later in the fall, I worked in Sweden as a grants evaluator for FORMAS (Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agriculture and Planning).

In the winter term I taught Global Politics of Food in preparation for the Camden Conference, where the class also developed a world café workshop for the conference in collaboration with Unity College. In addition, I taught the Art and Science of Fermented Foods. I finished the academic year with the Theory and Practice of Organic Gardening and a new course on composting science, developed with my master's student Pavlos Kasfikis. The primary focus of this new course was to build on Lisa Bjerke's '13 senior thesis on composting at COA and to begin the design of an integrated waste management system that recognizes that humus is the foundation of human ecology. During the academic year, I also supervised eight masters theses (NMBU) and three senior projects (COA).

### Projects Supported by Chair Funds:

Endowment income was used for the purchase of books, speaker honoraria, faculty and student travel expenses to conferences and greenhouse maintenance.

### Papers Presented and Published:

- Eagle Hill Institute (Maine): *Re-imagining the use of Alder as a fertility tree*
- International Farming Systems Association (Berlin): *Bridging the Gap between Academia and Food System Stakeholders*  
Charles Francis, Geir Lieblein, Tor Arvid Breland, Edvin Østergaard, Suzanne Morse, Anna Marie Nicolaysen Norwegian University of Life Sciences, NMBU
- *Assessing Agroecology Education: Qualitative Analysis of Student Learner Documents*  
Anna Marie Nicolaysen, Tor Arvid Breland, Geir Lieblein, Suzanne Morse, Charles Francis, Norwegian University of Life Sciences
- *Society for Applied Anthropology, New Mexico: Learning to learn through field experience, observation, dialogue and reflection*
- Maine Vegetable and Fruit Growers (Portland March 10 and Bangor March 11): *Soil conditioning with woodchips*



# The Partridge Chair in Food and Sustainable Agriculture Systems

Chair Holder: Molly D. Anderson, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$3,292,992
Net Return on Investments	\$548,009
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$147,749
Ending Fund Balance	\$3,693,252



The past year brought many opportunities for leadership, collaboration and service. I served on Steering Committees at the state, regional and national level to design a Maine Food Strategy, to develop “food solutions” for New England through the Food Solutions New England network, and to create a national network of scholars and activists as President of the Executive Committee of the Inter-Institutional Network for Food, Agriculture and Sustainability.

Each of these initiatives entailed face-to-face workshops or conferences and substantial effort between conference calls. In addition, I submitted a proposal with a colleague

at the University of Vermont to study better ways to connect New England institutions (especially colleges, universities and hospitals) with locally grown food. As a member of the Program Planning Committee, I submitted a successful US Department of Agriculture grant to organize a workshop on better university-community partnerships to tackle food security in the US, which will be held in Cleveland in September.

At the international level, I was thrilled to be appointed to the International Panel of Experts on Sustainable Food Systems, a new high level panel created by the Carasso Foundation in Italy to address urgent food system issues and co-led by Professor Olivier de Schutter, the former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, and Olivia Yambi of Kenya. I participated as a Technical Expert in a workshop on monitoring the Committee on World Food Security at the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. At the Bellagio Conference, I co-moderated a session to bring together academicians and activists from both sides of the Atlantic working on food systems, nutrition and anti-microbial resistance (caused in large part by livestock production practices).

During the last year, I published three peer-reviewed journal papers and a peer-reviewed book chapter. Another peer-reviewed book chapter is in the queue for publication. I submitted two additional invited journal articles for peer review, and am completing an additional book chapter on social sustainability. I gave ten presentations at universities and conferences and a radio and television interview. I served on editorial boards or as a reviewer for five professional journals. I was nominated to serve as vice-president of my foremost professional society and asked to edit two journals; I declined these invitations in order to better deal with issues at COA.

At COA, I taught four classes: *Hunger, Food Security & Food Sovereignty* (8 students); *COA's Foodprint: Introduction to Food Systems* (17 students); *Call of the Land* (17 students) and *Farm & Food Project Planning* (12 students, co-taught with Peggy Rockefeller Farms Manager C.J. Walke). I helped to organize a new tutorial on farm to school education in the fall term with Professor Bonnie Tai, serving 7 students. I also directed four Independent Studies and directed or co-directed four Senior Projects and supervised a group of energetic students who produced five issues of a Sustainable Food Systems newsletter and monitored COA's purchase of local, organic, fair-trade and humanely raised food for the Real Food Challenge.

# David Rockefeller Family Chair in Ecosystem Management and Protection T.A. Cox Fund in Ecosystem Management and Protection

Chair Holder: Kenneth S. Cline, JD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,382,481
Net Return on Investments	\$231,409
Contributions	\$58,686
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$60,009
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,612,568



Much of my work this past year was focused on two upcoming programs in fall 2014 — the expedition course on western wilderness and ecology, and a presentation at the World Parks Congress in Australia.

I taught my seminal ecosystem management course, *Our Public Lands*, in spring. Using projects in Acadia and extensive readings and role-plays, we explored the history and complexities of managing public lands. I taught an advanced Wildlife Law class for the first time in 15 years to graduate students and advanced undergraduates with a strong interest in wildlife management. My *HydroPolitics* course in the fall focused on global river and water management. Finally, I took my Human Ecology Core Course to northern Maine to learn about a proposed new national park. I also directed several independent studies related to the Rockefeller Chair, on freshwater management, Maine solid waste management, international marine law, and foreign policy.

I continued working to improve COA's collaboration with Acadia National Park, including convening a group of faculty and Acadia personnel for regular meetings. We formalized this relationship with a new Memorandum of Understanding and new initiatives. As a result, several classes and students were able to work on projects identified as priorities by Acadia. In spring, COA and ANP hosted (and I presented at) a visit of park officials from Chile and Columbia. The 2016

centennials of Acadia National Park and the Park Service provide opportunities to strengthen the COA-Acadia collaboration. We hope to initiate a scholarship program for students interested in park management, I have begun meeting with stakeholders and conducting substantial research on university-park collaborations nationwide.

I was invited to participate in the inaugural meeting of ALPINE (Academics for Land Protection in New England) at the Harvard Forest. ALPINE brings together teachers and researchers from prestigious New England colleges to see how higher education can directly impact regional land protection and conservation. I also joined the implementation committee of the Keeping Maine's Forest coalition, a collaborative group working to ensure the vitality of the forest industry while sustaining a healthy and intact forest ecosystem.

In spring, I attended the River Rally, an international gathering of river managers and freshwater activists in Pittsburgh, PA. This was a great opportunity to re-connect with the river conservation movement and to make new connections with people on the cutting edge of river work.

T.A. Cox Funds were used to bring several speakers to campus, including Sisira Withanachchi from Sri Lanka, who met with classes and student groups and presented a public lecture on water management in Mongolia. Juan Hoffmaister '06, a prominent climate negotiator, also came to campus to work with international environmental policy students and to present on his work on climate change adaptation and the evolution of political institutions to address ecosystem changes.

Additionally, T.A. Cox funds were used to support travel expenses for Dr. Sean Todd to attend the 20th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals in New Zealand.

# The Sharpe-McNally Chair in Green and Socially Responsible Business

Chair Holder: Jay Friedlander

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,868,215
Net Return on Investments	\$311,104
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$81,270
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,098,049

The Sustainable Business program continues to garner interest and recognition from a variety of academic and industry groups. The summer of 2013 included a featured presentation in Brighton, England at the European Conference on Sustainability, Energy and the Environment on *Sustainable Enterprise: Unlocking Innovation and Preparing for the Next Economic Wave*.

Other presentations included a kick-off talk at the AshokaU Changemaker Academy at Brown University for roughly 30 institutions of higher education interested in social entrepreneurship on *Envisioning the University of the Future*, and a workshop on *Social Innovations* at the premier US entrepreneurship conference, USASBE.

We continue to expand to scope and reach of the program. Students in the Sustainable Strategies class consulted with the Black Dinah Chocolatiers, Acadia Corporation, MOO Milk, and Mano en Mano. In the Launching a New Venture course, student projects ranged from a low-cost, locally produced chicken feed in Nepal to a farm-based education program.

I worked with the Fair Food Network to design and deliver a business boot camp for food entrepreneurs and taught an entrepreneurship workshop for scientists as part of Jackson Lab's *The Whole Scientist™* program. I also co-authored an article in the *New England Journal of Entrepreneurship* and served as a reviewer for several academic papers and as an application reader for the Obama administration's *Young African Leaders* program.

The Sustainable Business Program was featured in several media outlets, including *Money*, *CNBC*, *Entrepreneur*, *WERU*, and I was a contributing writer for *Triple Pundit*, a leading sustainable enterprise website.

My articles were featured on blogs for Babson College, the International Council for Small Business, New Hampshire Businesses for Social Responsibility and a number of other organizations.

Finally, I was named a Senior Fellow in Social Innovation at Babson College.



## Lisa Stewart Chair in Literature and Women's Studies

Chair Holder: Karen E. Waldron, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$857,402
Net Return on Investments	\$155,935
Contributions	\$416,600
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$42,909
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,387,028

The Lisa Stewart Chair in Literature and Women's Studies was established with a gift from the William P. Stewart family in memory of Lisa Stewart, a longtime summer resident of MDI.

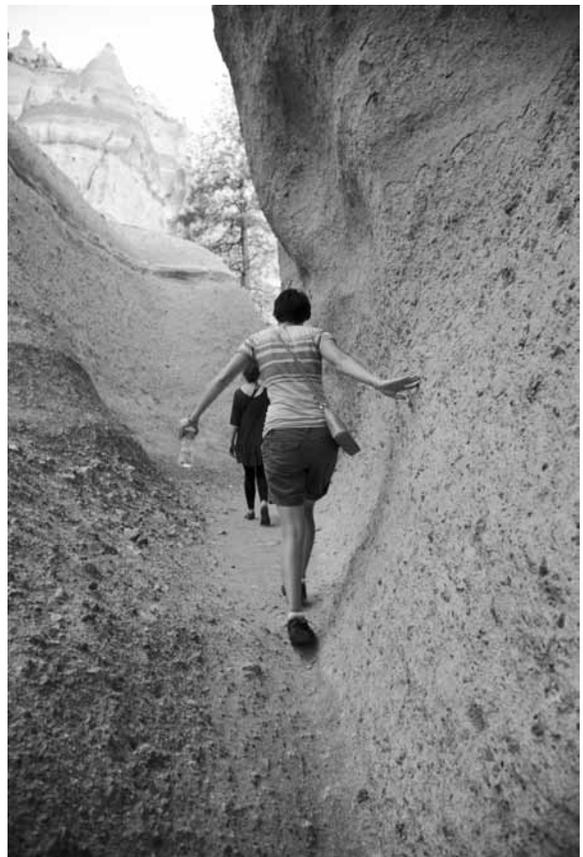
Chair funds supported a diverse range of educational and professional experiences this year. In the fall, I collaborated with Catherine Clinger (Allan Stone Chair in the Visual Arts) on a three-credit course that involved taking ten students to New Mexico and exposing them to not only Native American Literature, the Art and Culture of Northern New Mexico, and our team-taught class entitled "Processing the Journey," but also to one of the most multi-cultural regions in the United States. Students read literature and history, studied art, wrote papers, and made sense of their experience with performances, poems, short stories, visual art, and historical analyses.

In the winter, I taught the course *City/Country: American Literary Landscapes 1860–1920*, in which we studied American Realism and Naturalism by way of gender, race, ethnicity, class. My second winter course was *Cross-Cultural American Women's Novels*, examining how the past 30–40 years of American Literature have been affected by the tremendous increase of attention to women's novels written from the perspective of a hybridized identity: that of the African-American, Asian-American, Panamanian-Chinese-German-American, or otherwise mixed-ethnicity woman. Although all of my courses involve an emphasis on women's as well as literary studies, in *Cross-Cultural Women's Novels* students read a significant amount of theory to supplement their understanding of gender in the novels.

During the Spring term of 2014, I taught *Literature, Science, and Spirituality* — a survey of Western literary representations of science and spirituality from the Scientific Revolution to the present, through the lens of historical perspectives on literature, science, spirituality, religion, class, race, and gender.

I also wrote and presented a paper on Sarah Orne Jewett's proto-feminism at the Northeast Modern Languages Association annual conference. I have had a request to expand and submit the paper for publication which I am currently working on, along with conference proposals for 2015. In addition, the summer of 2014 has been devoted to rereading Jane Austen, Charlotte Brontë, and George Eliot for a course I will be teaching in Winter 2015.

*Photographs by Gabriela Niejadlik '14 from the class Processing the Journey.*



## The Allan Stone Chair in the Visual Arts

Chair Holder: Catherine L. Clinger, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,114,793
Net Return on Investments	\$183,639
Contributions	\$80,798
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$121,254
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,257,976

During this past year, I am thrilled to report that I was able to achieve three goals that I had set for myself at the beginning of my appointment as the *Allan Stone Chair in the Visual Arts*. The first was the establishment of an arts and culture expeditionary course, which manifested as a three-credit intensive taught with Karen Waldron; the second was the creation of [www.historiesdrawingprints.com](http://www.historiesdrawingprints.com), a curated online image repository used as a resource for my visual culture courses; and, the third was the completion of a fine art etching studio in the Landscape and Architectural Design Studio.

The realization of the third goal establishes Relief and Intaglio Printmaking (the media of Expressionists to Mexican Revolutionaries, Rembrandt van Rijn to Vija Celmins) as a curricular offering in the Studio Arts. It is state of the art in terms of equipment

and conscientious material practice that encourages sustainable scale through spatial economy, acknowledging the need to be diligent when it comes to issues of health safety for people and place. The new course *Studio Printmaking* combines art, science, and technology at COA as a wholly human ecological endeavor.

In the three-credit expeditionary course *The Unexpected Journey: Art, Literature, and History on the Road in New Mexico*, Karen Waldron and I took students on a remarkable voyage into the past and present; from ancient archaeological sites and indigenous homelands to pilgrimage churches and art collections, as well as journeys of the mind through the study of cultural artifacts, ritualized festivals, and written texts (scholarly and literary). Three final projects created for its keystone course *Processing the Unexpected Journey* became senior projects: Adrienne Munger, *Animal Figurines: Exploring the Personalities of Objects*; Janoah Bailin, *Opening Books: Cross-Boundary Play*; and, Gabriela Grace Niejadlik, *The Lifecycle of a Woman and her Femininity*. Three of my five taught courses were new this year. *Art & Culture in Northern New Mexico* was designed specifically so that students could have firsthand experience with objects and ritual throughout Northern New Mexico.

In my seminal course, *Wilderness in Landscape Art: Proto-Ecological Visions*, we travelled to view collections at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Bowdoin College Museum of Art, and the Peary MacMillan Arctic Museum. Both of my graduate students earned their MPhil this year. Annika Earley's thesis project *Upwellings: Reflection on Perception through Visual Media* probes the limits of identity and figuration and, Eli Mellen's *Experiments in Form, Designing for Connection* problematized human relationship to digital media.

In the *Coffee & Conversation Series*, I had the pleasure conversing with Jim Dyke about his collection of drawings and watercolors by French 19<sup>th</sup> Century and Contemporary American artists. I was an invited keynote speaker on *Art as Natural Science* at the Schoodic Institute's (SERC) Science Symposium as well sharing a paper on *Landscape and the Romantic Sciences* at Acadia Senior College.

Finally, I began my appointment as *Associate Academic Dean for Long-Term Curriculum Planning*. I look forward to the challenges of my new role as we look forward as an ever-evolving experimental institution.



COA's new Printing Studio.

The James Russell Wiggins Chair in Government and Polity  
The Philip Geyelin Fund for Government and Polity

Chair Holder: Jamie McKown, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,530,614
Net Return on Investments	\$254,884
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$66,595
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,718,903



Debate between Team COA the visiting Japanese team.

This year was both a busy and exciting time for activities related to government and politics here at COA. During the Fall, I was on a research sabbatical which marked the final field stage in the Michigan suffrage project. We are now compiling material and preparing a book-length manuscript for publication.

Winter term, we hit the ground running with a new course that had been in the planning stages for some time: “Democracy: Models, Theories, Questions.” This course provides an entry point for students interested in politics, policy, and governance. The class starts with the two-pronged question: What is a democracy, and why do we think it is a good thing? This focused question then becomes the springboard to examine the wide array of ways in which scholars have attempted to conceptualize the study of governmental forms and their various tangible incarnations. I am happy to report that this initial launch went very well and we fully anticipate the course will become a biennial addition to our offerings in government and polity.

The Winter term was also notable in the growth of our fledging offerings in structured academic debate both in and outside the classroom. Thanks to a generous donation from the late Kathryn Davis and the Davis family, we have spent several years building a base of support for debate related activities across the COA curriculum. This year COA was one of 12 schools in the nation selected to host the Japanese National Debate Team on their tour of the US. The highlight of the Japanese visit was an public forum debate in Gates between the Japanese team and “Team COA.” As one might imagine, the topic, the future of nuclear power, drew a very large crowd from all across the college and island community. The tour organizers and Japanese debaters were all extremely positive about the visit.

In the Spring, two COA students both won individual awards for their participation in the innovative Binghamton online debates. In addition to the “doing” of debate, I also worked with students on projects related to the study of debate and its educational value. Most notably we began work in the Spring on an ambitious research project to document and map the social networks of 19<sup>th</sup> century intercollegiate debating in the United States. The first phase of that project will culminate with a scheduled presentation of our findings at the continental anniversary of the National Communication Association in Chicago this November.

During the Spring, we offered two very different classes, Environmentality and Cold War: Later Years. There is a great deal of excitement and student interest coming out of the Cold War class as the topic for the upcoming 2015 Camden Conference on Russia and its relationship to the rest of the world.

In closing, I would like to thank all those who helped us get to this point. None of these various activities would have been possible without the support of the Wiggins and Geyelin funds and the generous contributions from donors who recognize the important role that governance and polity play in COA’s interdisciplinary educational environment.

## Endowed Scholarships

### **The Brooke and Vincent Astor Scholarship**

The Astor Scholarship was established by a bequest from the estate of Brooke Astor and the Vincent Astor Trust in 2012 to offer scholarships to assist students from the state of Maine seeking financial assistance.

### **Sidney and Hazel DeMott Bahrt Scholarship**

The Sidney and Hazel DeMott Bahrt Scholarship honors the legacy of long-time COA friends and supporters of environmental, educational and cultural organizations. This scholarship is awarded annually to students from Pembroke or Washington County, Maine who graduate from Washington Academy.

### **Christina Baker Scholarship**

Created in memory of Tina Baker, this scholarship will be awarded for the full four years to a female student of Wabanaki or Native American heritage who needs financial assistance.

### **The Christensen Scholarship**

Created in 2005 by the Carmen M. Christensen Foundation, the Christensen Scholarship is awarded on an annual basis to qualified students seeking financial assistance, with preference for international students.

### **Rebecca Clark Memorial Scholarship in Marine Sciences**

The Rebecca Clark Memorial Scholarship was created in memory of COA alumna Rebecca Clark '96, who tragically lost her life in the December 2004 tsunami while conducting research on sea turtles in Thailand. This scholarship is awarded annually to a student who embodies Rebecca's dedication, enthusiasm, passion and excellence in marine science and marine conservation.

### **Richard Slaton Davis and Norah Deakin Davis Scholarship**

The Richard Slaton Davis and Norah Deakin Davis Scholarship is a need-based award handed out annually to honor the memory of Richard Slaton Davis, College of the Atlantic's first faculty member in philosophy.

### **John C. Dreier Scholarship**

This annual scholarship award honors John C. Dreier, a former diplomat in the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Ambassador to the Organization of American States, who devoted his retirement in Maine to education and conservation. He joined COA's Board of Trustees in 1973, and served as Chairman of the Board from 1976 to 1978.

### **Louisa R. Dreier Scholarship**

Louisa Cabot Richardson Dreier, known as Isa, was an artist of remarkable talent who always kept her creativity alive through drawings, illustrated writings, and gardens. Her beautiful still lifes and portraits expressed her humor, happy spirit, and joy in making art. The Isa Dreier Scholarship is given annually to a junior who embodies the spirit of joy in the arts.

### **Samuel A. Eliot Scholarship**

Established in honor of COA's first vice president who retired in 1982, the Samuel A. Eliot Scholarship provides annual scholarship aid to qualified Maine students.

### **General Scholarship**

The General Scholarship Fund was established in 1984 for the Silver Anniversary Campaign. The fund contains gifts given by hundreds of friends in every amount for unrestricted student scholarship. We continue to take donations for this important endowment.

### **Father James Gower Scholarship**

This scholarship was created in 2013 in memory of founding trustee Jim Gower, who is credited with shaping COA as an interdisciplinary college with all students receiving a degree in one, universal major via many individual paths of study. A man of peace, he was known for his generosity, joyous spirit, and genuine caring. This scholarship provides support to any student who demonstrates financial need.

### **Craig Greene Memorial Scholarship**

Created in memory of faculty member Craig Greene, this award honors Craig's indomitable spirit, impeccable teaching ability and abundant zest for sharing his extraordinary knowledge of the natural landscape with students, friends and colleagues. The college awards an annual scholarship to a student who has excelled in botany and general biology classes, and who shares Craig's passion for botany.

### **Hartzog-Kauffmann Scholarship**

This award honors both George B. Hartzog and John M. Kauffmann. Kauffmann, a former COA trustee, retired to MDI after a long career at the National Park Service, most notably in Alaska where he helped define the boundaries of the Gates of the Arctic National Park. George Hartzog, a hero of Kauffmann's, was head of the National Park Service from 1964 to 1972. The scholarship is awarded to students who have an interest in the management and protection of ecosystems—especially wilderness and rivers.

### **August Heckscher Scholarship**

August Heckscher was an artist, author, and public servant whose life and work encompassed many of the values and principles underlying the study of human ecology. The August Heckscher Scholarship Fund provides two annual need based awards for students (one female, one male) focusing on public lands, government, or the arts.

### **Maine Student Scholarship**

Established in 1995 with generous support from the Betterment Fund, the H. King and Jean Cummings Foundation, the Fred C. Lynam Fund, and the Kenduskeag Foundation and Dead River Company, to fund scholarships for Maine students seeking financial assistance.

### **Barbara Piel Scholarship**

Created in memory of — and through a bequest by — Barbara Woodward Piel, this unrestricted scholarship provides financial aid on an annual basis to qualified students.

### **Maurine and Robert Rothschild Scholarship Award**

Robert Rothschild was a member of the board of trustees from 1985 to 1990. Maurine Rothschild joined the board of trustees in 1985, was a life trustee until her death in 2004, and was a strong advocate of the college's Educational Studies Program and Teacher Certification Program. She and her husband, Robert F. Rothschild, endowed this scholarship fund to assist graduate students, and those preparing for careers in education.

### **Eleanor T. and Samuel J. Rosenfeld Scholarship**

This unrestricted scholarship was established in 2000 by Eleanor and Samuel Rosenfeld to provide students with financial aid.

### **The Rose and Michael Russo Scholarship**

The Rose and Michael Russo Scholarship is given to any one or more students who is/are accepted into COA, is/are a great fit with the mission of the school but lack/s the financial resources to pay full tuition. The scholarship will follow the student(s) for four years, if satisfactory progress is being made.

### **Donald Straus Scholarship**

Don Straus, COA trustee from 1974 to 2007, had a deep passion for human ecology. He chaired the Academic Policy committee, pushing the college toward ever-increasing intellectual rigor. Outside of COA, he was a trustee of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Princeton Institute for Advanced Study, and the Population Resources Council. Don thrived on his involvement with COA students, teaching courses based on his extensive experience as an international mediator.

## **The Beinecke Student Travel and Living Assistance Fund**

Supervising Faculty Member: Ken Hill, PhD, Academic Dean

Administering Staff Member: Jill Barlow-Kelley, Director of Internships and Career Services

Beginning Fund Balance	\$75,827
Net Return on Investments	\$12,627
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$3,299
Ending Fund Balance	\$85,155

The Beinecke Student Travel and Living Assistance Fund was created by a grant to the Silver Anniversary Endowment Campaign by the Beinecke Foundation and its president, John R. Robinson, for two purposes: travel expenses associated with the internship program, and living assistance for challenging work environments.

The following students were awarded grants for the fund:

- Lucille Jan-Turan received funding for travel to the Williamstown Theater Festival, Williamstown, MA, to participate in their summer theater program.
- Nate Pronovost was awarded funding to work at Teachers College, Columbia University within the EdLab, a research, design and development unit, in New York, NY.
- Keith Littel interned at Phoenix House Substance Abuse Treatment Center, NH, as a substance abuse aide.
- Amber Parshley received funding to travel to the Seacoast Science Center in Rye, NH, to work with their education programs.
- Emily Thorner interned at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC, and completed a number of research and administrative projects.
- Lindsay Mercer completed a second internship at Stony Creek Colors, Whites Creek, TN, to continue her work with graphics and natural dyes.
- Michael Hueter interned with Broad Street Music Group in Philadelphia, PA, and upgraded the recording studio's website and social media.

## Kathryn W. Davis Global and Civic Engagement Fund for Peace

Supervising Faculty Member: Chris Petersen, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$854,072
Net Return on Investments	\$169,093
Contributions	\$1,200,000
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$20,066
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,203,099

For the fiscal year 2014, the Kathryn W. Davis Global and Civic Engagement Fund for Peace, with matching operational funds, awarded \$38,320 to 75 students with an additional award of \$3,000 to support an extended travel component to a new integrated set of courses (New Mexico). This support continues to be crucial as we expand the number of courses we do off campus, the number of courses with extensive components off campus, and independent student travel as part of their self-directed academic program.

Most of the awards were made to students taking a variety of College of the Atlantic classes away from campus. This included the winter term courses in the Yucatan (Spanish Immersion Program) and set spring term courses in France (Program in French Art, Language, and Culture) and another in Italy ("Made in Italy:" Language, Culture, and Labor in the Veneto). This was the first time the college has ever run two term-away programs during the same term. In addition, the Fund supported extensive field trips for four courses: Costa Rican Natural History and Conservation, the FAO tutorial which had students travelling to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization Committee on World Food Security meeting in Rome, the climate policy class that went to the UNFCCC meeting in Warsaw, and a set of combined courses that had a three-week trip titled: The Unexpected Journey: Art, Literature, and History on the Road in New Mexico.

In addition to the allocations to students in specific courses, the Fund made 22 awards to students for a variety of academic work including senior projects, residencies, internships, and other travel related to their academic program. Nine of the students did their work within the United States, while thirteen travelled to a variety of countries including Bolivia, Canada, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Germany, Guatemala, Italy, Jordan, Malaysia, Netherlands, Nepal, and Switzerland.

Overall the Fund received requests totaling \$96,476 from 88 students and awarded \$41,320 to a total of 75 students. From that total amount awarded, a total of \$38,320 was ultimately spent, the rest of the award money was not used due to changes in student plans or reduced trip expenditures. \$20,000 of that money was received from the endowment, with the rest being paid by the college out of general funds. The endowed fund has had additional, more recent deposits that should allow a larger draw on the endowed fund in the future, both increasing the total fund and reducing the college's contribution from general funds. The fund was budgeted for \$40,000 for the fiscal year.



## The Shelby Cullom Davis Faculty International Studies Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Doreen Stabinsky, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$327,528
Net Return on Investments	\$54,541
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$14,248
Ending Fund Balance	\$367,822

Ten COA professors from across the faculty benefited this year from travel and professional development funded by the Shelby Cullom Davis Faculty International Studies Fund.

**Todd Little-Siebold**, professor of history and Latin American studies, used funds for travel to Guatemala to attend the Guatemalan Scholars' Network (GSN) conference, of which he was a co-organizer. The conference is a gathering of the membership of the GSN, including about 150 Guatemalans and North Americans — the major international meeting for Guatemalanist Scholars. Todd presented on his sabbatical research about ethnic relations in colonial Guatemala.

**Gray Cox**, professor of political economics, history, and peace studies, traveled to the World Congress of Philosophy in Athens, Greece. He used his attendance at the conference to strengthen areas of expertise and explore new areas of interest with an eye to adding to the courses that he teaches. Because it is the premier conference for bringing together professional philosophers from around the globe, it was an ideal opportunity to encounter ideas and texts and make contacts with people who might help him in developing courses that deal with philosophical traditions from around the world. Gray also used support from the fund to travel to Bolivia, to add new content to a course he teaches on Contemporary Social Movements.

**Bonnie Tai**, professor of education, traveled to Nepal to teach with and learn from the Maya Universe Academy (MUA), a school co-founded by one of our current students, Surya Karki. She offered two weeks of professional development in June of 2014 for nine teachers and school directors at the three rural schools (Tanahun, Chisapani, Jaipate schools) of the MUA, which serves approximately 84 students. The project provided her with firsthand knowledge and experience to bring to two of the courses she offers on a regular rotation: Changing Schools, Changing Society and Intercultural Education.

Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world, and its educational system suffers from a serious lack of resources, including professionally prepared educators and stable, trustworthy governance. Working with these schools gave Bonnie a better understanding of both the obstacles and potential for local communities in this environment to educate children in both indigenous knowledge and the skills to participate effectively in the global knowledge economy. The project also furthered Bonnie's own research on postcolonial educational models that both sustain indigenous ecological knowledge and also provide opportunities to foster twenty-first century skills (i.e., learning to learn and innovate; information and media literacy; work- and life-readiness).

**Sean Todd**, professor of marine mammology and oceanography, went to Dunedin, New Zealand, to the meetings of the Society for Marine Mammalogy. He participated in the conference itself, as well as associated workshops in the shoulders of the meeting.

**Nishi Rajakaruna**, professor of botany and evolutionary ecology, attended the International Conference on Serpentine Ecology in Sabah, Malaysia. He was on the scientific advisory committee for the conference and presented several papers and posters of research conducted with current and past COA students.

**Sarah Hall**, professor of earth science and geology, traveled to Newcastle, England to prepare samples for analysis in the cosmogenic chemistry laboratory of a collaborator. The work was a contribution to one of Sarah's ongoing research projects: Building a climate dataset for the North and South American Cordilleras: Paleo-glacier chronology from the Cordillera Blanca, Peru based on cosmogenic <sup>10</sup>Be concentrations.

**Heath Cabot**, anthropology professor, received support from the fund for her participation in the new and wildly successful term-long course in Italy, *Made in Italy: language, culture, and labor in the Veneto, Italy*.

The fund supported **Dru Colbert**, arts faculty member, and **Colin Capers**, a lecturer who teaches writing and film studies, to study French during their term-long program in Vichy, France.

**Ken Cline**, professor of public policy and environmental law and the David Rockefeller Family Chair in Ecosystem Management and Protection, received support for his travel to the IUCN World Parks Congress in Australia. The Congress is the global forum on protected areas. Held every ten years, it is a gathering of the most influential people in the world involved in protected area management but it also sets the global agenda for parks for the following decade. The theme of this decade's Congress is *Parks, People, Planet: Inspiring Solutions*, with a strong focus on the value of protected areas to surrounding communities and the concept of sustainable development.

# The Shelby Cullom Davis Student International Studies Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Doreen Stabinsky, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$373,247
Net Return on Investments	\$62,155
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$16,237
Ending Fund Balance	\$419,165

Once again, the Shelby Cullom Davis fund supported COA students as they followed their inspiration to the far corners of the world to learn from, and share their learning with, others. COA students volunteered at nature reserves in Peru and with community development projects in Bolivia, Nepal, and the Dominican Republic.

They studied yoga, agriculture, and politics. They did internships in Australia, the Middle East, Asia, and the Caribbean. In total, the fund supported 12 students in carrying out 4 advanced study projects, 5 internships, and 3 residencies.



## Advanced Study

- |                                   |            |  |
|-----------------------------------|------------|--|
| • Pablo Aguilera del Castillo '15 | Bolivia    | Agriculture and politics in contemporary Bolivia       |
| • Ana Puhac '14                   | Cuba       | Cuba: global leader in urban agriculture               |
| • Rory Curtin '17                 | Costa Rica | Jivamukti yoga teacher training                        |
| • Kristen Ober '16                | Peru       | Volunteer work at the Chaparrí Reserve, Chiclayo, Peru |

## Internships

- |                       |                        |  |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--|
| • Ali Pierik '14      | Australia              | Australian Regenerative Medicine Institute |
| • Cara Weber '15      | Amman, Jordan          | Arab Group for the Protection of Nature    |
| • Clara de Iturbe '15 | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | Third World Network                        |
| • Surya Karki '16     | Nepal                  | ActionAid International                    |
| • Marissa Gilmour '16 | Dominican Republic     | Global Potential                           |

## Residencies

- |                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| • Zuri de Souza '14             | Germany/Switzerland/<br>Italy/the Netherlands | Reclaiming urban spaces: the use and abuse of the communal space within the city                       |
| • Adrian Fernandez Jauregui '15 | Bolivia                                       | Searching in Bolivia for a viable alternative to how society, economy, and nature relate to each other |
| • Ben Hitchcock '15             | Nepal   | Maya University Academy  |

The William H. Drury, Jr. Research Fund  
John G.T. Anderson, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$267,514
Net Return on Investments	\$44,548
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$11,639
Ending Fund Balance	\$300,423



As always, the primary use of the Drury Research Fund has been to support research on Great Duck Island (GDI) and the surrounding waters on topics that I hope that Bill and his friends would have approved of. Fund monies supported 13 students working on GDI during the summers of 2013 and 2014 as well as assisting in a student-lead research expedition to Burying Island in Taunton Bay to study the comparative impact of herbivory on two islands. Topics of research on Great Duck included our continuing focus on nesting behaviors of herring and great black backed gulls, the impact of bald eagles on gull nesting success, nesting behavior in black guillemots, and chick survival in common eiders. In addition, in 2014, we engaged in an intensive study of the age structure of the forest on Great Duck, a study which suggests that the bulk of the present trees grew in during one very short explosive period of settlement approximately 60 years ago.

In addition to our primary focus on Great Duck Island, the increasing number of nesting gulls on COA's other research station on Mount Desert Rock (MDR) has opened new opportunities for student work. The past two summers we have mapped all gull nests on MDR, and this summer a student split her time between MDR and GDI, color banding chicks and tracking nesting success from the lighthouse towers and also by actively weighing and measuring the growing birds. We are also seeing real benefits from last year's successful Gull Working Group meeting — so far this season we have identified two black-back gulls that were hatched and color banded on the Isle of Shoals, and have also succeeded in identifying a herring gull banded and tagged as an adult in Massachusetts. Better understanding of this sort of movement pattern is essential if we are to really understand the population dynamics of gulls in the northeast.

Besides supporting the field elements of research, research fund monies supported travel by myself and alumnae Kate Shlepr '13 and Lindsey Nielsen '13 to the Waterbirds Annual Conference in Wilhelmshaven, Germany. This was without question one of the best conferences I have attended, with an enormously impressive array of speakers from all over the world. Both alumnae and I presented papers at the conference, and I also co-chaired a symposium on gull declines in the North Atlantic. This symposium was so well received that I have been pressured into co-editing a special edition of the journal *Waterbirds* that will further examine the causes, consequences, and extent of the collapse of many gull colonies on both sides of the Atlantic. Fund monies will assist in the publication of this issue, which is scheduled for release in the summer of 2015. An exciting part of the conference was a day-long field trip to the island of Heligoland — one of the oldest continually operating research stations focusing on migratory behavior of birds.

Fund monies also supported visiting lectures by alumnae Sarah Drummond and Jackie Gill. Sarah presented on her work as a Natural History Artist and Jackie lectured on paleoecology and the possible impacts of the extinction of the Pleistocene megafauna on North American vegetation. Jackie is now a professor at the University of Maine and we are planning collaborative work on Maine islands.

As always I am enormously grateful to the many donors —past and present—who have supported the Drury Research Fund and made possible the work of first Bill and then my students and myself.

## The Faculty/Staff Enrichment Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Ken Hill, PhD, Academic Dean

Beginning Fund Balance	\$220,574
Net Return on Investments	\$36,731
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$9,595
Ending Fund Balance	\$247,710

This year the Academic Deans, at the behest of the annual academic budget, reduced spending on faculty development, and operated from a reduced pool of \$10,000. Nonetheless, we were able to contribute significantly to a number of professional initiatives requested by faculty, as listed below. Note that additional professional development support occurred through the voluntary donation and pooling of portions of various Chair discretionary funds (this latter set of initiatives is not reported here).

### **Heath Cabot, \$3,631, to attend the Modern Greek Studies and AAA conferences in Bloomington IA and Chicago IL, December 2013**

Dr. Heath Cabot, faculty member in anthropology, received funds to attend both the *Modern Greek Studies Association Conference* in Bloomington, Indiana, and the *American Anthropological Association* conference in Chicago. She presented at both of the conferences, serving on a plenary panel at one and organizing a double panel for the other.

### **Gray Cox, \$300 to attend the conference "Ethics, Conflicts and their Resolution" at George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, February 2014**

Dr. Gray Cox, faculty member in political economics, history and peace studies, received funds to support travel to a conference at George Mason University on February 14th and 15th entitled *Ethics, Conflicts and their Resolution*, where he had been invited to deliver a presentation on "Reframing Ethics Itself in a Conflict Resolution Paradigm." This was an outgrowth of research he did over his sabbatical in the previous year and had been pursuing for some years. George Mason is one of the top centers in the country for research and teaching on conflict resolution and the chance to take part in this conference fed not only into his research work on ethics but also his teaching on conflict resolution and peace studies.

### **Dave Feldman \$592, August 2013, to attend the American Association of Physics Teachers in Portland, OR, July 2013**

Dr. Dave Feldman, faculty member in mathematics and physics, received support to travel to Portland, OR, to attend the summer meeting of the *American Association of Physics Teachers*, July 13–17, 2013. These funds were awarded and reported in fy2012/3 but used in fy2014. This annual meeting is the largest conference devoted to the teaching and learning of physics; roughly 1000 people attend the meeting. While there, Dave gave a presentation on lessons learned while developing "The Physics and Mathematics of Sustainable Energy," a class that he co-designed and taught with Anna Demeo, lecturer in Physics and Engineering, and now COA's Director of Energy Operations and Management. The title of Dave's talk, on which Anna was listed as a co-author, was "An Interdisciplinary, Project-Based Class in Sustainable Energy."

### **Sarah Hall, \$1,425, to attend the Geological Society of America annual meeting in Denver, CO, October 2013**

Dr. Sarah Hall, the inaugural holder of the Bass Chair in Earth Sciences announced earlier this year, received funds to attend the annual meeting of the *Geological Society of America*. At this conference she attended two workshops: "Teaching Controversial Issues: Climate and Energy" and "Teaching Critical Zone Science and Observatories", and attended one all-day field trip, "Critical Zone Evolution," with leading scientists and educators working as part of a NSF-funded Critical Zone research and curriculum development program. Through these workshops and field trip she met potential collaborators and mentors as well as reconnected with former colleagues. She learned new ways to include Critical Zone research in undergraduate education that she will implement in her and *Critical Zone 2* courses during winter and spring 2014. She also presented ongoing research during a poster session in a presentation entitled: *Tectonic and climatic processes recorded in the 10Be chronology of low relief surface abandonment in southern Peru* (Hall, S.R., Farber, D.L., Audin, L., and Green, P.), which she is now preparing for peer-review publication.

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<sup>1</sup> All amounts rounded up to the nearest dollar.

**Todd Little-Siebold, \$555, to attend the Latin American Studies Association's meeting in Chicago, IL, May 2014**

Dr. Todd Little-Siebold, faculty member in History and Latin American Studies, received funds to travel to the *Latin American Studies Association's* meeting in Chicago in May. Attendance allowed Todd to stay current in his field, nurture old collegial contacts, and meet new scholars. He also attended panels, networked with colleagues and met with the steering committee of the Guatemalan Scholars Network (GSN) as the coordinator of that group, meeting to discuss upcoming conferences organized in Guatemala in 2014 and 2015. Todd reports that this trip was a rich experience that allowed him to learn about a number of new areas including new research on "race" and genomics that is directly relevant to his ongoing book project on racialized identities in colonial Guatemala.

**Bonnie Tai, \$1,074, to attend meetings at the Maya Universe Academies, Nepal, May 2014**

Bonnie Tai, faculty member in Educational Studies, received support to travel to Nepal to work with teachers at *Maya Universe Academies* (MUA) in June 2014. While there her objectives were to develop course content for her classes *Changing Schools, Changing Society* and *Intercultural Education*; better support students who choose to volunteer there as teachers (several COA students have volunteered there as teachers); connect theory and research to practice in approaches to teacher education within the paid faculty at MUA who had never received any formal training and received their schooling in very traditional government schools; and finally, continue active research on education and development.



**Nishi Rajakaruna, \$1,500 to participate in the International Conference on Serpentine Ecology, Colombo, Ceylon, June 2014**

Dr. Rajakaruna, faculty member in Botany and Evolutionary Ecology attended the *Eighth International Conference in Serpentine Ecology*, June 8–18, 2014 in Colombo, Ceylon. The conference attracted 125+ delegates from close to 35 countries. He was accompanied by Tanner Harris ('06) and Ian Medeiros ('16). Together they presented 3 papers:

- Rajakaruna, N. 2014. Serpentine: A model for evolutionary studies. Invited keynote presentation at the 8th International Conference on Serpentine Ecology, Sabah, Malaysia (June 10)
- Medeiros, I. D. Fryday, A. M. and N. Rajakaruna. 2014. Diversity and Conservation of Lichens at Two Metal-Enriched Sites in Coastal Maine, USA. Paper presented at the 8th International Conference on Serpentine Ecology, Sabah, Malaysia. June 9–13.
- Harris, T. B. 2014. Conservation of serpentine-endemic species in the San Francisco Bay Area, CA, USA. Paper presented at the 8th International Conference on Serpentine Ecology, Sabah, Malaysia. June 9–13. He was also a co-author of 6 posters presented at this conference and served on the scientific advisory committee. He was also appointed as a guest editor for the upcoming conference proceedings to be published by the Australian Journal of Botany later this year.

**Steve Ressel, \$1,677, to travel to the Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Albuquerque, NM, July 2013**

Dr. Steve Ressel, faculty member in Vertebrate Biology and Comparative Animal Physiology, and Associate Academic Dean, received funds to attend the *Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists*, July 10–15, 2013. At the meeting he presented the poster "Using citizen scientists to assess relative species abundance of terrestrial salamanders in Acadia National Park, Maine, USA", and served as a judge for the *Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles* Seibert Student Award in Amphibian Conservation. He also acquired western bird species specimens from the Museum of Southwestern Biology in exchange for eastern bird species specimens from the Dorr Museum.

## The Elizabeth A. and Henry B. Guthrie Chemistry Enhancement Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Donald Cass, PhD, Professor of Chemistry

Beginning Fund Balance	\$48,214
Net Return on Investments	\$8,029
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$2,097
Ending Fund Balance	\$54,145

This year, money from the Guthrie Fund went to support students' laboratory work in organic chemistry classes. Five hundred dollars went to replace an old, time-consuming method of measuring melting points of materials with a faster, more accurate method. This technology is used to indicate the purity of substances which are isolated or synthesized from other materials. Six hundred dollars went to replace an aging manual polarimeter with a new, computer-interfaced version. This instrumentation is used to quantify amounts of molecular enantiomers (i.e. non-superimposable mirror images) and their rates of production, destruction and interconversion. Such studies are important because such molecules often have quite different biological properties.

## The Barbarina M. and Aaron J. Heyerdahl Beech Hill Farm Endowment Fund

Beech Hill Farm Manager: Tess Faller, Written by Corinne Boet-Whitaker

Beginning Fund Balance	\$74,892
Net Return on Investments	\$12,471
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$3,258
Ending Fund Balance	\$84,105

With the shift in temperatures and slowing crowds, we are breathing a sigh of relief here at Beech Hill Farm. Tess Faller '09 and Beech Hill farm manager, completed her first full year at Beech Hill Farm and is making a big impact. The farm stand had one of its busiest summers ever last year! It is both our main interface with the community (visitors, summer folk and year-round residents) and the venue for sale of the majority of our produce in the summertime. We love having a constant stream of people at the farm, and find the stand to be an educational tool itself; customers who start out the summer expecting grocery-store-like predictability learn over the months that they can't expect peas on rainy mornings, and that we pick tomatoes when they are ripe, not when they are wanted.

We are continuously finding new ways to fill our role as an educational farm with a production model. Last summer, we hosted Summer Field Studies groups during the Farm to Fork sessions, and had weekly groups from Camp Beech Cliff exploring food systems from the perspective of a vegetable.

In the fall, crews of work study students came out as often as twice a day in the trusty e-van. We had them hard at work cleaning the year's harvest of onions and garlic, getting greenhouses ready for fall crops and overwintering plants, and keeping up with weeds that were persistent even as the days got shorter. Chilly mornings still found us scrubbing root vegetables and packing orders for the CSA, restaurants, and the TAB kitchen.

Share the Harvest was a rousing success last year. Thanks to all the fundraising efforts of the past year we were able to provide more than 50 households in need of food assistance with gift certificates for our produce. A new partnership with Healthy Acadia (and recent COA grad Bronwyn Clement) produced the Food For All subsidized CSA shares.

Last summer's crew was a spirited and thoughtful bunch of COA students (past, present and future); old hands; and Bar Harbor residents. August finds us running at fever pitch every year, and last season was no different. We loved having crew members live here at the farm in the new workforce housing, creating our own little community and enjoying this beautiful land as more than a work place.

Classes are making good use of Beech Hill. Todd Little-Siebold's Apples class visited, as well as Nishi Rajakaruna's edible botany class. Anna Demeo's renewable energy practicum installed another solar panel array on the timber frame, adding to our collection of energy-producing devices here at the farm. The farm's culled vegetables are fermenting up a storm as part of a senior project.

## The Robert P. and Arlene Kogod Visiting Artist Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Ken Hill, PhD, Academic Dean

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,234,135
Net Return on Investments	\$205,514
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$53,687
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,385,962

Robert P. and Arlene Kogod Visiting Artist Fund was established with a \$1 million gift to the College's Silver Anniversary campaign in 2000. The following activities and classes were supported by the fund income during this academic year.

### Courses Offered by Visiting Instructors

Voice  
Principles of Comedic Improvisation  
Principles of Comedic Improvisation  
Chinese Calligraphy  
Film Theory  
Introduction to Photography  
Photographic Syntax: Visual Seminar  
3D Studio: Introduction to Three-Dimensional Art and Design

### Instructor

Joseph Cough  
Larrance Fingerhut  
Jennifer Shepard  
Philip Heckscher  
Colin Capers  
Josh Winer  
Josh Winer  
Garland Taylor

### Teaching assistants for:

- Ceramics
- Life Drawing (8 models)
- Theatre
- Painting
- Piano (for voice class)
- Soundscape

### Field trips, workshops, and class visitors:

- Der Vorführeffekt Theatre: Donna Sellinger
- Producer and cinematographer: Craig Saddle mire
- Production support for the following plays:
  - *Othello*
  - The 13 hour plays (six short plays)
- Boston field trips for multiple art courses (visiting art museums and seeing plays)
- Ann Arbor Film Festival (partial funding with student life)

### Equipment purchases:

- Printing Press
- Video lens
- Specialized light fixtures
- Print shop start up supplies
- Fees for life drawing models (5 models)



## The McCormick Library Director Fund

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

Beginning Fund Balance	\$516,368
Net Return on Investments	\$85,988
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$22,463
Ending Fund Balance	\$579,893

Thorndike Library encompasses COA's information resources, archives, and audio-visual services. Unlike the previous two years, this year we did not have any major facility, system, or equipment upgrades. Rather, we were busy improving our existing collections and services.

Here is a statistical snapshot of our year:

- We had 4.75 FTE library staff.
- We had 25–30 library work study students each term.
- The library was open 102 hours per week.
- 1,314 books were added to the collections.
- 1,325 books were weeded from the collection.
- 635 of our items were loaned to other libraries via interlibrary loan (ILL)
- 1,035 items were borrowed from other libraries for our patrons via ILL.
- 16,337 check-outs occurred through our library's Circulation Desk.
- 435 events were supported by A-V staff.
- 66 events were recorded, processed and posted to COA's video sites.



We were able to increase our archivist's hours from 21 to 25 hours/week during FY14. She is now here five, rather than four, days per week. This past year she was able to organize items in the COA collection; begin inventorying our Senior Projects; finish copying Off the Wall (COA's student paper) for binding; and re-folder, inventory and rebox five boxes of Archives.

In the area of audio-visual services, training on new classroom equipment installed in FY13 was offered to faculty, organizational improvements were made to the Gates soundbooth, and work study students were used effectively to help run events.

The staff continues to focus on promoting information proficiency, helping students better understand how to use our resources. This may be done indirectly — by making sure our collections and finding tools are relevant and easy to locate and navigate — or, it more directly — by offering classroom and/or one-on-one instruction. This year, we embarked on a major weeding effort to ensure our collections stay relevant and vital. We also completed cataloging a 3-year backlog of items. We became more familiar with the open source integrated library system (ILS) we transitioned to in 2013. This is a shared resource via our membership in Maine's Balsam Consortium and is used for our online catalog.

One of the Thorndike librarians heads the consortium's cataloging committee and is a member of the consortium's executive committee. In interlibrary loan (ILL), Online Computer Library Center's new web-based system was implemented and is now in use. We promoted the library's services and collections with an open house for first year students, a newly designed library poster, a new design for our online subject guides, an active Facebook page, and changing book displays. We actively engaged with students by providing classroom instruction upon request. We also worked with faculty again this year on an exercise for the Core Course (required for first year students) in which we provided library instruction and aid on an assignment.

All in all, it was a busy year and we look forward to the year ahead.

## The Rabineau Student Senior Project and Professional Development Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Ken Hill, PhD, Academic Dean

Staff Co-Supervisor: Marie Stivers, Director of Academic Services

Beginning Fund Balance	\$58,335
Net Return on Investments	\$9,714
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$2,537
Ending Fund Balance	\$65,512



The Rabineau Senior Project Enhancement Fund and Student Professional Development Fund contains gifts that were made in honor of former COA President Lou Rabineau at the time of his retirement. This fund also includes the fund established by alumnus Bill Ginn called Senior Studies.

Activities Supported by the Fund Income during this Academic Year include:

Student	Senior Project Enhancement
Ivy Sienkiewicz	Matting prints from books created during her work with Ashley Bryan
Gabriella Niejadlik	Printing of photographs taken while exploring femininity and women's defense for senior project.
Tari Pisano	Materials to enhance presentation of senior project; <i>The Art of Katana</i> .
Magdalena Garcia	Printing copies of book developed for Senior Project; <i>Lou the Laughing Gull</i> , for local elementary schools ( <i>above image</i> ).

## The Peggy Rockefeller Farms Endowment

Staff Supervisor: C.J. Walke, farm manager

Beginning Fund Balance	\$983,567
Net Return on Investments	\$160,891
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$65,835
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,078,623

In fiscal year 2014, the funds from the Rockefeller Endowment continued to support the Peggy Rockefeller Farms (PRFs) farm manager position held by C.J. Walke, as well as the maintenance of the farm house and farm facilities. The farm's operations have grown to include a flock of 30 sheep, 50 egg laying hens, 200 meat chickens, a half-acre vegetable plot, over 50 apple trees, 50 acres of pasture/hay land, and a compost production system utilizing food debris from the Blair Dining Hall.

The farm recently was granted a change of use permit to the status of commercial agriculture, allowing the farm to grow and expand to fulfill the needs of COA students, while meeting interests of the local community.

During the academic year, C.J. co-taught a Farm and Food Projects Planning course, supervised independent studies in metal fabrication and horse management, and led a crew of work-study students on the farm. Numerous students and faculty have used PRFs for related course work, including wildlife ecology, chemistry, and geology, among others.

PRFs is also gaining visibility in the MDI community through its activities. The community was invited to help plant the start of our heritage orchard. We hosted a farm tour last summer where over 75 people attended. A family fun day in August 2014 brought over 200 people to the farm to learn more about life on a farm as well as see the animals, play games, and eat (mostly) healthy snacks.

## The Doug Rose Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Enhancement Fund

Staff Supervisor: Gordon Longworth, GIS Laboratory Director

Beginning Fund Balance	\$37,037
Net Return on Investments	\$6,168
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$1,611
Ending Fund Balance	\$41,594

This fund was established in memory of Doug Rose, a COA student who lost his life in a climbing accident in 1993.

This year the Doug Rose Memorial Fund was used to help three students attend the 2014 Maine Water & Sustainability Conference held in April in Augusta, Maine. The conference is an annual forum for water resource professionals, researchers, consultants, citizens, students, regulators, and planners to exchange information and present new findings on water resource issues in Maine. It has grown to become one of the largest environmentally-related conferences in Maine attracting over 350 attendees this year.

These three students had the opportunity to network with attendees and attend talks focused around water and sustainable land use planning. Though not a GIS conference per se, GIS was directly used in most of the work presented at the conference. Topics included climate change, water withdrawal, ground and surface water supplies, lake and beach management and urban stream management. These students were enrolled in the Spring term *Land Use Planning and GIS* class and attended the conference over spring break to help prepare themselves for this class.

The *Land Use Planning and GIS* class project assisted the City of Ellsworth Planning Department in looking at issues around urban stream management in the Ellsworth Urban Core. Card Brook does not meet clean water standards and students analyzed the site using GIS and made recommendations to mitigate the many water quality issues affecting the brook. Students who attended the conference were able to directly apply things they learned at the conference to the project. One student built an impervious surfaces model of the Ellsworth Urban Core using ArcGIS and high resolution aerial imagery. Another used GIS to locate where Street Tree filtration systems could replace existing storm drains and another looked at other mitigation techniques such as green roofs and other methods to capture, slow and clean storm water runoff in Ellsworth.

This project was presented to the City of Ellsworth Planning Department and other City officials and a report has been widely circulated. The Assistant City Planner is a COA graduate, Elena Piekut '14. She attended the GIS portion of the Land Use Planning class and was trained in ArcGIS. After the project was completed, the GIS database was delivered and installed on the assistant planner's computer for ongoing access to the project and data. The three students who attended the conference turned out to be leaders in the development of the project and made some of the most significant contributions based on what they saw and learned at the 2014 Maine Water & Sustainability Conference.

## Maurine and Robert Rothschild Student-Faculty Collaborative Research Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Ken Hill, Ph.D, Academic Dean

Staff Co-Supervisor: Marie Stivers, Director of Academic Services

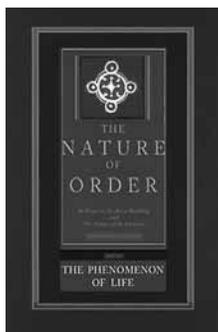
Beginning Fund Balance	\$126,503
Net Return on Investments	\$21,066
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$5,503
Ending Fund Balance	\$142,066

Heath Cabot and Alistair McKemy were awarded \$359 for Alistair to attend the American Anthropological Association Conference in Chicago as a collaborator on research.

The Elizabeth Thorndike Senior Class Book Fund  
 Staff Supervisor: Jane Hultberg, MLS, Director of Thorndike Library

Beginning Fund Balance	\$7,152
Net Return on Investments	\$1,216
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	\$0
Ending Fund Balance	\$8,368

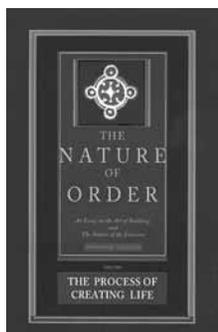
In 2001, Thorndike family members started a fund in honor of Betty Thorndike, for whom Thorndike library is partly named. Each year this fund pays for the Thorndike "Senior Books" which are selected by the graduating class for inclusion in the library's collection. The books selected by the 2014 graduating class are below.



*The Nature of Order: An Essay on the Art of Building and the Nature of the Universe, Book 1 — The Phenomenon of Life* by Christopher Alexander (2004)

In Book One of his four-volume work, [acclaimed architect] Alexander describes a scientific view of the world in which all space-matter has perceptible degrees of life, and establishes this understanding of living structures as an intellectual basis for a new architecture.

[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)



*The Nature of Order: An Essay on the Art of Building and the Nature of the Universe, Book 2 — The Process of Creating Life* by Christopher Alexander (2006)

In Book Two Alexander explores how beautiful creations come into being. Throughout his four-volume masterwork, Alexander examines how three perspectives are interlaced: the scientific perspective, the perspective of beauty and grace, and a commonsense perspective.

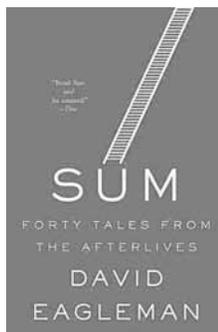
[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)



*The Accursed Share: an Essay on General Economy, Vol. I: Consumption* by Georges Bataille (Author), Robert Hurley (Translator) (1991)

Most Anglo-American readers know Bataille as a novelist. The Accursed Share provides an excellent introduction to Bataille the philosopher. Here he uses his unique economic theory as the basis for an incisive inquiry into the very nature of civilization. Unlike conventional economic models based on notions of scarcity, Bataille's theory develops the concept of excess: a civilization, he argues, reveals its order most clearly in the treatment of its surplus energy.

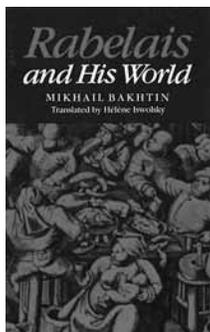
[Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com)



*SUM: Forty Tales from the Afterlives* by David Eagleman (2009)

SUM is a dazzling exploration of funny and unexpected afterlives that have never been considered—each presented as a vignette that offers us a stunning lens through which to see ourselves here and now.

[Goodreads.com](http://Goodreads.com)



*Rabelais and His World* by Mikhail Bakhtin (Author), Helene Iswolsky (Translator) (2009)

This classic work by the Russian philosopher and literary theorist Mikhail Bakhtin (1895–1975) examines popular humor and folk culture in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance, especially the world of carnival, as depicted in the novels of François Rabelais. ...One of the essential texts of a theorist who is rapidly becoming a major reference in contemporary thought, *Rabelais and His World* is essential reading for anyone interested in problems of language and text and in cultural interpretation.

[Goodreads.com](http://Goodreads.com)

## COA's Physical Plant Funds

### 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.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$231,818
Net Return on Investments	\$38,603
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$10,084
Ending Fund Balance	\$260,338

### 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.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$444,636
Net Return on Investments	\$74,043
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$19,342
Ending Fund Balance	\$499,337

### 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 currently holds faculty and staff offices and is used for classes and a meeting area for the campus's international population. The Davis Carriage House is a rustic addition to the available student housing. The Kathryn W. Davis Residence Village is the newest and "greenest" housing complex.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$242,404
Net Return on Investments	\$40,366
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$10,545
Ending Fund Balance	\$272,225

### 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.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$57,405
Net Return on Investments	\$9,535
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$2,808
Ending Fund Balance	\$64,132

### Thorndike Library/Kaelber Hall

Kaelber Hall is the large natural-shingled building located in the center of campus. Kaelber Hall overlooks the water and houses the Thorndike Library, the Blair-Tyson Dining Hall (Take-A-Break) and kitchen, as well as the Admission Office.

Thorndike Library was named in honor of Robert Amory Thorndike (1900–1972) and his wife Elizabeth (1908–1992) in recognition of their support and contributions to the College.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$408,894
Net Return on Investments	\$68,091
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$17,787
Ending Fund Balance	\$459,198

### The Turrets

The Turrets was designed for John J. Emery of New York in 1893 by Bruce Price, designer of Québec City's famous Château Frontenac. In 1975 The Turrets was placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is still one of the most important examples of cottage-era architecture in Maine. The Turrets currently houses classrooms and administrative and faculty offices.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$260,713
Net Return on Investments	\$43,415
Contributions	\$0
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$11,341
Ending Fund Balance	\$292,787

## General Unrestricted Endowment

Beginning Fund Balance	\$2,037,230
Net Return on Investments	\$358,908
Contributions	\$386
Allocations/Withdrawals	-\$86,871
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,309,653

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 4.8–5% drawn down rate is applied and allocated to the general operations of the College, and if needed, with board approval special allocations can be made.

Last year the college completed a major renovation of Turrets, replacing the roofs, repointing the granite exterior, replacing all the doors and windows, and in general completely overhauled the exterior of this beautiful building. To finance the project cost of about \$3 million, the college raised \$1 million from generous donors and borrowed the balance from the endowment, to be repaid with interest over the next twenty years.

## New Endowment Accounts

We celebrate the following new endowment accounts established in 2014

Fund for Maine Islands  
Deering Endowment  
Performing Arts Chair  
Computer Science Chair

The following funds were established in FY13. Endowed funds are individually reported, once fully vested.

The Brooke and Vincent Astor Scholarship  
Christina Baker Scholarship

