Teachers of the Year
Wesley experienced an excellent start to the new academic year. Before classes began on August 25th, it was a joy to personally meet students and parents on campus and in the residence halls. Over 550 new students joined the upperclassmen, bringing this year’s undergraduate enrollment to over 1400, in addition to the 300 graduate students. The semester is quickly moving toward completion and Parker Library is fully utilized by students finishing papers and studying for examinations.

As president of Wesley, I have one of the most outstanding positions in the country. Each day, it is a pleasure to work with and observe gifted and talented faculty and staff, meet and interact with dynamic students and have the privilege of meeting our alumni and friends throughout the United States.

Wesley College has a rich history and a tremendous future. With the turbulent financial times that surround us, the words of Franklin Delano Roosevelt come to mind. He stated, “The only limit to our realization of tomorrow will be our doubts of today. Let us move forward with strong and active faith.”

Wesley College is moving forward with strong and active faith and has a grand opportunity to increase its presence in the higher education community. You are part of this experience, and I thank you for your support and passion for this fine and noble institution. I hope you enjoy this new edition of Wesley magazine, which contains the annual Honor Roll of Donors for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

Very best wishes,

Dr. William N. Johnston
President
Wesley College Winter 2008

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ON THE COVER: Debbie Kenton ’01 pictured in her classroom, as photographed by Elise Marie Knable ’09.
JOHN WESLEY (1703-1791)
John Wesley (1703-1791) is the “Wesley” in Wesley College. His mother Susanna Wesley (1670-1742) was a great influence upon him spiritually and he also shared her reserved, disciplined temperament. Apparently he laid it on a little thick as a young man when he had written her. Her reply was motherly: “... the conclusion of your letter is very kind. That you were ever dutiful I very well know, but I know myself enough to rest satisfied with a moderate share of your affection. Indeed it would be unjust of me to desire the love of anyone. Your prayers I want and wish; nor shall I cease while I live to beseech Almighty God to bless you...” The mother knew the son very well that she had so carefully raised.

THE WESLEY COLLEGE MISSION
Wesley College seeks to be a premier institution for helping students gain the knowledge, skills, and moral and ethical attitudes necessary to achieve their personal goals and contribute to the welfare of their communities in the global society. The College endeavors to impart a desire for lifelong learning and an enhanced capacity for critical and creative thinking so that students can reap the rewards of intellectual growth and professional effectiveness.

As a College in a covenant relationship with the United Methodist Church, and founded upon Christian principles, Wesley strives to realize a holistic campus environment of common purpose, caring, tolerance, inclusiveness, responsibility, and service that is the heart of the concept of community.

Wesley, founded in 1873, is a private, co-educational, student-centered college. Located in Dover, Delaware, Wesley is affiliated with the United Methodist Church.
In June of 2008, shortly after Dr. Johnston became president of Wesley College, he indicated that one of his priorities for the College community was to embark upon the creation of a new strategic plan. The plan will provide a roadmap for the College, identifying areas in which Wesley can grow programmatically and through new construction or renovation. It is envisioned that the strategic plan will establish the groundwork for an eventual capital campaign, enabling the College to move forward with its vision for the future. To begin the process, the College has contracted with Performa Higher Education of Burlington, N.C., a highly respected consulting firm with a proven track record in this area to facilitate the creation of the strategic plan.

In early August, President Johnston and his Cabinet traveled to Performa’s offices to begin the process by identifying strengths, external threats and internal concerns of the institution. The meeting was facilitated by Joanne Soliday, executive vice president of Performa Higher Education, who specializes in organizational development and administrative solutions for small private colleges. On August 21, Dr. Johnston hosted a campus-wide strategic planning kick-off session that included the entire faculty and staff. The three-hour meeting focused on conducting an environmental scan and assessing Wesley College’s strengths, internal and external threats, opportunities as well as a customer analysis.

“This important endeavor will consist of an inclusive, collaborative process that is designed to build consensus among campus constituencies and address the needs of both the academic and co-curricular environments,” Johnston remarked.

Separate constituency planning sessions, led by the consultants from Performa Higher Education, are being conducted this fall. Group sessions will include constituents among the Board of Trustees, faculty, traditional students, alumni/donors, non-traditional students, graduate students and the Dover community in order to obtain insight from each group. As all of these groups are important stakeholders of the institution, their unique perspectives can provide valuable information about Wesley’s past and present, which will ultimately aid in the planning of the College’s future.

According to Dr. Johnston, the College hopes to accomplish “the creation of a strategic plan with supporting benchmarks to track success, such as new student enrollment goals, retention, scholarships, average class size and annual fund goals.” The plan is expected to be completed by mid-year of 2009.

This is truly an exciting time for Wesley College. As the strategic planning process continues, look for further updates in future issues of Wesley magazine.
Inside the ARC

One of Wesley College’s greatest strengths has traditionally been its supportive and intimate learning environment. In tune with that tradition and in response to the growing needs of a new generation of college learners, the Department of Academic Support is one area on campus that has seen increased programming and organizational expansion in recent years. Since the beginning of 2008, the department has enhanced its student-centered academic programs. These programs, which include Freshmen Academic Support Track, Peer and Writing Center Tutoring, Disability Services and Career Services, provide resources to aid student learning and academic achievement.

As the new year began, the department worked to establish new accommodations for students in the Academic Resource Center (ARC). State Farm Insurance generously contributed to the remodeling of the ARC by donating furniture that supplemented additional study space for students and increased student usage of the Center. Also, the department expanded use of the software called TutorTrac, a web-based program that facilitates recordkeeping and tutoring access. Moreover, tutor requirements became more rigid than ever to ensure quality learning in the ARC. Charlene Stephens, director of the Department of Academic Support, assistant director Christine McDermott and Connie Strickland, director of the Writing Center, all agree that the remodeled Center, along with the continued use of TutorTrac and new certification opportunity for tutors, have positively impacted the College as a whole.

After receiving the approval of College administrators in January 2008, the staff of the Department of Academic Support began discussion with State Farm about gift opportunities. The remodeling itself started immediately after students left for summer break. The College provided new carpet for the ARC and contracted for new paint in both the ARC and Writing Center, after moving 15,000 unused books out of the Center. Afterwards, the donated furniture was moved in. State Farm provided tables, chairs, desks and individual study carrels for the ARC, Disability Services and the three directors’ offices.

Stephens emphasizes the importance of the remodeled Center. She stated, “The mission [of our department] is to provide any academic help that any students need. If you have high quality programs, you need high quality leaders and a high quality facility.” State Farm’s generosity has made the ARC a more inviting and effective study area and has drawn in many more students. “With the furniture and light, students are able to leave their room of distractions and have a place comfortable enough to study — a place of quietness,” McDermott said.

These new developments have had an undeniably positive effect on student use and learning. The capabilities of the TutorTrac software have allowed the department to effectively track and measure the increased use of the facility that has resulted from the upgrade. TutorTrac records recently reported an over 200% increase in usage of the ARC compared to the previous year, clearly showing...
the positive results of the enhanced facility as well as the usefulness of TutorTrac recordkeeping.

Hand in hand with the facility improvements, Stephens also has stepped up the opportunities for growth within her support team. Through the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA), an international educational organization that specializes in learning centers and tutor training, Wesley’s peer tutors and Writing Center tutors now can become internationally certified. Despite additional requirements and hours of tutoring needed, the Wesley tutoring staff as a whole has grown, in part due to this development.

Along with the new opportunities of this department come higher academic expectations. “The desire is for students to expect more of themselves and for them to develop the desire to be successful,” McDermott summarized. The latest progress in the Department of Academic Support is another clear indication that the 2008-2009 year at Wesley is being marked by positive change. As the academic year continues, the department will continue to fulfill a vital need on campus and enhance educational excellence at Wesley College.

“The mission [of our department] is to provide any academic help that any students need. If you have high quality programs, you need high quality leaders and a high quality facility.”
As northern Delaware is the hub of economic development and business enterprise in the state, it is not surprising that the New Castle campus of Wesley College has grown and thrived since its establishment ten short years ago. The campus offers an innovative educational experience designed for an atypical college student.

Wesley New Castle’s program of study was “created especially for working adults and is dedicated to providing the highest quality degree programs for a diverse range of students,” according to its mission statement. Dr. Paul C. Thornton, dean of adult studies for Wesley New Castle, describes the typical Wesley New Castle student as an individual between the ages of 25 and 50 who is balancing a career and a family life.

Since its inception, Wesley New Castle has expanded its offerings both in course structure and content. When the first class from Wesley’s New Castle campus graduated in 2000, only associate and bachelor’s degrees in Business were offered. An MBA (Master’s in Business Administration) program was soon added. Wesley New Castle offerings were recently expanded to include degree programs in Nursing, Teaching and a certificate program in Accounting.

While all of these academic programs are geared to accommodate the non-traditional student, the cohort model for the Business programs operates differently than the more traditional college schedule of daytime classes available in Nursing and Teaching. Students in the Business programs may start their studies in any given month of the year by joining a cohort, a small group of students who begins the academic program together. The members choose the evening of the week to meet and continue to engage in small group work, forming a strong bond throughout the tenure of their degree program. In some instances, students have even met their future spouses in these cohorts!

As the curriculum at Wesley...
New Castle has grown, so have the student enrollment numbers. In the initial year of its existence, the campus topped out at 100 students, and current enrollment records now exceed 400 students. Last month, Wesley New Castle became the first four-year college to be designated by the Delaware Workforce Investment Board (WIB) as a training provider. WIB is a Delaware sponsored program that works to improve the employability of state citizens by lining up training experiences. The New Castle Chamber of Commerce, specifically Chamber University, a program which works with various colleges and universities to provide information and monthly seminars to aid success in the business world, recently promoted Wesley New Castle as a training provider for its small businesses and entrepreneurial clients. Wesley New Castle hosted a Chamber seminar in the summer of 2008 and is currently planning another for December.

While Wesley New Castle prides itself on catering to the needs of working professionals, campus administrators still aim to maintain a collegiate air and provide the amenities expected at a higher education institution. Both a full-service campus bookstore and snack shop have been added to the facility. Graduating students from Wesley New Castle participate in Winter and Spring Commencement exercises in Dover. A new tradition began earlier this year when the first Wesley College New Castle Exemplary Student Award was given out and presented to graduate LINDA WILLIAMS at Spring Commencement.

In many ways, Wesley has tried to better integrate the two campuses and student bodies, which administrators hope will provide organizational benefits for the College and its constituents. While serving as chair of the Business department in Dover, Dean Thornton conducted a special study of the Wesley New Castle students and their views. The overall results showed that the New Castle students felt detached from the main campus and wanted to be a bigger part of the Wesley community. In response to this, administrators have made efforts to bridge the gap. The College has streamlined the student identification process and is planning to implement a system to provide Wesley New Castle students with the same IDs and the same system that exists on the Dover campus.

Wesley’s Office of Institutional Advancement, in promoting its message to new graduates about the alumni services and communications it provides, gave out Class of 2008 t-shirts and other free goodies and information to the New Castle students prior to their graduation in May. On August 1, the first exclusive Wesley New Castle alumni event was held at the Iron Hill Brewery in Wilmington, Del. Dean Thornton, Director of Alumni Affairs AMANDA DOWNES and PRESIDENT WILLIAM JOHNSTON spoke to the alumni about goals to keep the graduates connected to the institution and to one another.

Attendees at the alumni event shared heartfelt stories of their individual paths that led to Wesley, the strong friendships they made with classmates and their gratitude to the program for the educational opportunities they received. While outreach efforts and connections at Wesley New Castle will only get stronger, it is evident that the campus has already developed a strong educational model of success and that the graduates leave the program proud of their Wesley degrees.
A Look Into the Closet

Introducing the Hope Closet

HOPE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH and Wesley College began a new ministry together in 2004. Designed to fulfill a crucial need in the local community, the Hope Closet provides personal hygiene items to families with limited income who cannot afford to buy them. Every Thursday night from 6-8 p.m., the Closet operates out of Wesley College Chapel on the corner of Division and Bradford Streets in order to serve disadvantaged residents.

Among the items dispensed are toiletries such as soap, shampoo, deodorant and toothbrushes as well as household items including detergent, toilet paper and paper towels. Hope Closet requires a referral from a social service agency, school nurse, the Modern Maturity Center or a local pastor. In order to be equitable in its service, Hope Closet coordinator and founder and former pastor of Hope Church Margie Pruett explained, “Records are kept and no one is served more than once a month.”

Not only is this outreach program providing a valuable service in the Dover area, but it also represents a great example of partnership and teamwork. DANA SHARPE, a member of Hope church, regularly shops for and stocks the Hope Closet. Members of the congregation contribute by either donating items or money, or volunteering to staff the Closet on the evenings when it is open.

Among the Wesley campus community, Wesley Chaplain DR. MARK PRUETT-BARNETT actively recruits support for Hope Closet. “For Christian people, this provides an expression of God’s love in Jesus Christ to the community around them. It shows the neighborhood around the College that Wesley is not some unconnected unit. It’s there and aware, and attempting to help those who really need help.” He added, “We have two faculty members who have been very faithful for the last couple of years — DR. RANDALL CLACK and DR. JAMIE WHITMAN-SMITH. They faithfully work the Closet the second Thursday each month.”

In a true sense of collaboration, Pruett-Barnett has tried to ensure that the staffing and donation needs of Hope Closet are dispersed among more than just a handful of dedicated...
individuals. “We had one instance when we were almost out of goods, and we called out to the College because the Hope Church was stretched to the limit in terms of providing these things.” He continued, “The College really came through.” Pruett-Barnett has noticed that as more people on campus have become aware of the Hope Closet, especially students, more people are getting involved. This, he hopes, is a trend that will continue.

While efforts for support have been steady, the Hope Closet is struggling to meet the growing surge of requests in recent months as the economy has worsened. “When we saw the gas prices go up so much, people were having to make difficult choices between buying gas or detergent for themselves,” Pruett-Barnett noted. Hope Closet continues to seek the involvement of others through donations or volunteering. There are hopes to open the Closet a second night, but issues of staffing and supply are causing some concern. “If people did come out for a second night, the question is could we keep it stocked for them.” Pruett-Barnett summarized.

Hope Closet accepts donations at various drop-off locations throughout campus, including Wesley College Chapel, the Scarborough Alumni House, the Student Life office, the International House or the Finance office. Hope Church is glad to accept monetary donations on behalf of Hope Closet to go towards the purchase of needed items.

Pruett-Barnett reminded readers, “This is a tangible way for you, through your relationship with the College, to help minister to people right here in Dover. The people who have pressing and immediate needs that can’t wait for major policy decisions come here, but you can do something very quickly about it.”

What is needed?

- Toothbrushes*
- Band aids
- Dish detergent*
- Toilet paper*
- Combs
- Feminine hygiene items*
- Toothpaste
- Body soap
- Laundry detergent*
- Tissues
- Hair brushes
- Lotion
- Paper towels*
- Shampoo and Conditioner*
- Deodorant
- Razors
- Shaving cream

* These items go very quickly

To contribute a monetary donation to the Hope Closet, please mail your check to: Hope United Methodist Church P.O. Box 1994 Dover, DE 19903

Make checks payable to Hope United Methodist Church and mark “Hope Closet” in the memo.

If interested in volunteering for Hope Closet, please contact Dr. Mark Pruett Barnett at 302-736-2485 or barnetma@wesley.edu

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“For Christian people, this provides an expression of God’s love in Jesus Christ to the community around them... It’s [Wesley] there and aware, and attempting to help those who really need help.”
This year’s Homecoming celebration continued the age-old tradition of bringing the campus and the alumni community together to reunite and revel in school pride and shared memories. In the spirit of this year’s Homecoming theme, “Something Old, Something New,” not only were old friendships reconnected and new memories made, but the weekend activities offered a new take on some old favorites.

Friday activities included two annual events that have been a staple of recent Homecomings. The 13th Annual Wolverine Fall Golf Classic kicked off the weekend at Jonathan’s Landing. Alumni, friends and local business leaders enjoyed a day of golf along with gift bags, prizes and a tasty buffet, while raising funds to support Wesley College Athletics. In the end, the foursome of Ron Slacum, Gray Warrington, Dave Vaughn and Fred Knight came out ahead in the tournament. Meanwhile, the Tau Beta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Honor Society held its yearly conference, educating attendees on “Nurses Mentoring Nurses.” On Friday evening, Wesley’s Student Government Association livened up Fulton Street on campus with a Block Party featuring a delicious barbeque, live music, inflatables, exciting giveaways and other novelties.

The Wesley Alumni Association added a taste of something new to the weekend lineup by hosting the Alumni Award Ceremony and Reception at the Schwartz Center for the Arts the same evening. This event, honoring 2008 Alumni Hall of Fame inductees, allowed classmates and family of the honorees to mingle with fellow Wesley graduates and friends at a pre-reception before the ceremony. Brothers BILL ’66 and SKIP WILLIS ’70 were named to the Alumni Hall of Fame for their outstanding leadership in building an auto empire in northern Kent County and southern New Castle County in Delaware, and for their many contributions to the community and their alma mater.

Two-season athlete JILLYN COLEMAN from the Class of 1993 was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame for her many accolades in softball and basketball, including receiving one of the highest national honors in women’s basketball by being selected as a Kodak All-American, Honorable Mention, only awarded to the top 20 players in the country. Also inducted was CHRIS BECKER from the Class of 1999 and 2001, another Wesley standout in two sports — baseball and football. Becker still holds many school records at the College that have yet to be broken, including 21 career pitching wins, 9 wins in a season and .636 career winning percentage. Honoree STACI
Maris ‘99/’02 also joined this elite Athletic Hall of Fame roster on Friday evening. Maris was a record-setting goal keeper for the field hockey team, who helped her team win the Wesley program’s first PAC Championship and was named the MVP of the tournament.

After opening remarks by Alumni Board President Stephanie Smith Christiano ‘98, a welcome by newly-inaugurated president Dr. William Johnston and heartfelt tributes to the five outstanding alumni, attendees continued to celebrate at a dessert reception following the presentations.

Saturday events featured some traditional activities while infusing some fresh twists on the Homecoming event schedule. This year, Wesley College alumni were greeted at both the College Center and a hospitality tent across from Scott D. Miller Stadium and were welcomed back to campus with a free alumni gift. Many alumni took advantage of the campus tours provided by Wesley College Student Ambassadors, revisiting old haunts and exploring the campus growth and improvements in recent years.

The Homecoming Parade, a recent revival of an old tradition from former Wesley College Homecoming festivities, attracted a large crowd of alumni, students, faculty, staff and community residents. Dr. and Mrs. William Johnston served as Grand Marshals, leading the parade down State Street. This year’s “Golf Cart Floats” featuring various student organizations were a big hit! The campus groups portrayed the Homecoming theme through brilliantly decorated golf carts and banners while showing their school spirit. A variety of other groups, including the Dover Police Honor Guard, Central Middle School and Campus Community School marching bands, Del-Tech drum line, local rock band “Technopop Staci” and The Children’s Theatre, were proudly represented down the streets of Dover. The parade ended near Scott D. Miller Stadium, where an exciting Wesley football game took place.

The Wolverines faced off against Newport News Apprentice and produced another Homecoming victory to the delight of the packed crowd of Wesley fans. The halftime show featured special introductions of the Alumni Hall of Fame’s newest members as well as this year’s Homecoming attendants. Joshua Jones and Elizabeth Groves were crowned 2008 Homecoming King and Queen by President Johnston.

The 48-0 romp provided much reason to party at the Post-Game event for alumni and other members of the College community. An array of heavy appetizers and delicious fruit smoothies along with the entertainment of a live band provided a great backdrop for celebrating, reliving campus memories and renewing Wesley friendships.

Wesley alumni who have attended Homecoming dinners in the past
experienced a change of scenery this year, as class reunions and non-reunion year alumni gathered at 33 West — a popular eatery in downtown Dover. Attendees reconnected and reminisced with classmates over a delicious dinner. The group was addressed by President Johnston, who provided a brief campus update, expressed the College’s appreciation for its rich history and the loyalty and support of its alumni and invited the graduates to share stories of their eras at Wesley. Alumni celebrating their 45th or 50th year reunion posed for group photos and were recognized with mementos from the College.

Also added to the festivities this year was a Young Alumni Party downtown at W.T. Smithers. Spearheaded by members of the Class of ’98, this event attracted a huge turnout of young alumni, all of whom had a great time catching up with Wesley friends. That same evening, Student Activities hosted the Comedy Blitz at the Schwartz Center for the Arts. Drawing in students and alumni alike, headliner ANT from “Last Comic Standing” and “Celebrity Fit Club” got the last laughs.

As Wesley athletics have played a strong role at the College throughout its history, Homecoming would not have been complete without its share of sporting events. Several Wesley squads captured victories over the weekend, including the women’s volleyball team defeat of Bryn Athyn and both the women’s soccer team and the men’s soccer team shutouts over Valley Forge Christian. Also, Wesley field hockey alumni played against the current team of students.

In the spirit of Wesley’s United Methodist roots, the Worship Service at Wesley Chapel, hosted jointly by Hope Church, was a fitting way to begin the final day of the festivities. College Chaplain Dr. Mark Pruett-Barnett delivered the sermon. The College’s “Golden Grads” — class members from 1958 and earlier — were treated to an elegant brunch on Sunday along with entertainment from “The First State Strings” ensemble. Alumni from the Class of 1958 who celebrated their 50-year class anniversary were officially inducted into the Golden Grads Circle and presented a small token to recognize this milestone.

As this special affair ended, alumni bid farewell to classmates and friends while making plans to meet up again soon and return for another Homecoming. Through the joy and enthusiasm expressed by alumni throughout the weekend events, it is evident that Wesley College has touched many lives over time. Truly, the Wesley spirit is alive and well in all those that call Wesley College home.

To view the full 2008 Homecoming photo album, log onto www.weare.wesley.edu.
Shooting for the Stars

Wesley English Student is Out of this World

First grade teacher at Morris Early Childhood Center and Wesley College English major, Tommi Barrett, got the shock of her life late last spring. After multiple phone calls, scholarship applications and a long awaited response, Barrett heard back from NASA — yes, NASA — easily one of the most prestigious scientific and technological organizations in the nation and certainly the most impressive site for a Wesley College internship. Barrett stated, “I really thought I hadn’t heard things right when I first listened to the voice message about working for NASA.”

Barrett soon headed off to NASA’s Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va. to make one of her longest-held childhood dreams come true. Barrett recalled, “I have always been in awe of space science and NASA’s missions. As a young girl, I would often hide down in my family’s basement and listen to a radio broadcast recording of man’s first walk on the moon.” Luckily for her, NASA’s Summer Scholars program and strong efforts on her part to gain acceptance and to thrive in this program led Barrett to see firsthand some of NASA’s missions at work.

The NASA Langley Research Center where Barrett interned is a historical center and has been in operation since 1917. It is the location where the original astronauts trained for their missions in space. Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon, also was trained at Langley. For Barrett, being in a place of such historical significance was an amazing experience.

Barrett was hired to work as a technical writer in the Non-destructive Evaluation Sciences Branch (NESB), under the mentorship of Mr. Cy Wilson, a NASA engineer. Her tasks involved researching, editing and writing technical memorandums that would be published on the NASA website. Although she spent much of her time reviewing scientific journals for her work, she was able to conduct some hands-on research in a laboratory, where she studied the photolithography process. Barrett also was able to tour most of the facility, spending time in the robotics department, the NASA airplane hangar and a wind tunnel facility, where aircraft and spacecraft are tested.

Out of all of her experiences and accomplishments at NASA, Barrett recalls the moments that stood out the most. “Researching and writing about NASA’s work and meeting astronaut Dr. Tom Jones,” she said. She continued, “My family was able to stay with me for most of the summer too, which made my experience very special. I can honestly say that I saw a rocket launch at NASA (albeit very little) that was designed by my own daughter, who attended a space camp for kids at the Virginia Air and Space Center.”

For Barrett, working as a technical writer alongside her mentor was a true learning opportunity. Due to the preciseness required for the content of NASA’s scientific publications, Barrett was constantly researching scientific papers while paying close attention to the information that each article contained. “The data had to be technically and scientifically correct,” Barrett said. She also authored her own technical paper on a topic of her choice, and presented her research work during a presentation session with other NASA interns. Her paper was entitled “Concept for a Sensor Installing Micro Robot (SIMR).” Although Barrett will be receiving her degree in English, her achievements in such a technical and scientifically-based field reflect her versatility and the breadth of her academic talents.

Equally impressive is Barrett’s ability to juggle so much in her daily life, and to do it all so successfully. This includes teaching, going to school part-time to obtain her third degree and being a mother to a nine-year-old. In addition, she still finds time to volunteer for the Delaware Nature Society. Now, with this experience at NASA under her belt, Barrett’s horizons are broader than ever. Wesley College is proud to call her one of its own.
With a few brief words in the oath of office and the placing of the presidential medallion around his neck, **Dr. William N. Johnston** officially became the President of Wesley College on Friday, October 17. The Inauguration theme, “The Commitment of Community with a Vision for Tomorrow,” was carried out with the weeklong festivities planned by the Inaugural Committee and which led up to the historic occasion at Wesley College. This milestone brought the entire College community together and emphasized the importance of working together to achieve a common goal — a vision for the College’s bright future ahead.

On Tuesday, the College opened an art exhibit in the Parker Library showcasing the work of local artist, **Deborah Stelling**. On Wednesday, faculty and staff were hosted at a reception and the 2008-2009 Faculty Lecture Series kicked off. Held in the Wesley Chapel, the first lecture in the series was presented by **Dr. Elizabeth Espadas**, Professor of Modern Languages, who spoke on “Spain’s New Historical Novel: In Search of Lost Histories.”

Thursday was a day of celebration, service and reflection. The entire student community took part in a special Inaugural Dinner sponsored by Aramark, featuring a full buffet spread complete with carving stations and ice sculptures. The community theme continued as Dr. and Mrs. Johnston volunteered at the Hope Closet, a local outreach service which operates out of Wesley Chapel and is jointly run by Hope United Methodist Church and the College. The president and his wife dispensed to needy residents various household items that had been collected by members of campus through the donation drive that was part of Inauguration Week. The evening ended with a Service of Thanksgiving in the Wesley College Chapel with guest preacher **Rev. Charlotte Nichols**, a 1973 graduate of Wesley.

Friday brought a day of great excitement for the students, faculty, staff, alumni, townspeople, delegates and special guests that overflowed the Rollins Auditorium of the Schwartz Center for the Arts for the Inauguration Ceremony. “In the 135 years of Wesley’s history, the inauguration of a new president has only taken place fifteen times prior to today,” said Chair of the Board of Trustees **Charles R. “Chip” Dashiel**. “Today is a momentous day for the entire College community,” said Dashiel, “as we celebrate the achievements of this outstanding College and the investiture of its new President.”
Representatives of various constituencies, including the faculty, staff, students, alumni, United Methodist Church and Johnston family as well as local, state and U.S. government leaders, offered genuine and warm words of greetings to Dr. Johnston and wished him well in his new role. The ceremony included favorite hymns of the Johnston family, including “Be Thou My Vision” and “God of Grace God of Glory” and a performance by the Wesley College Choir. Representative JAMES A.S. LEACH gave the Inaugural Address and also was presented the Wesley Award for his many years of outstanding public service.

In his Inaugural Response, Dr. Johnston underscored the important work ahead for the College. “All that we hope to become is built on the strength of our community and I pledge to do everything possible to make this community as strong as possible.”

Following the ceremony, a grand reception was held under a large tent on The Green in downtown Dover. The Green, laid out in 1717 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, was bursting with the sound of bagpipes and African drums and highlighted by festive dancing of the Sankofa African Dance Company to make for a celebratory ending to a special day.

To view the full Inauguration photo album, log onto www.weare.wesley.edu
Wesley College students have a plethora of fresh ideas in store from the Student Life office. Mary-Alice Ozechoski has assembled a strong staff in her department to bring excitement, enthusiasm and new initiatives to the table. Beth Fisher, Kevin Hansbury and Amanda Kinkade all have similar qualities — interest in students’ lives on campus, their education and the retention rates at Wesley. Although alike in their professional awareness, the three individuals have molded their positions at Wesley and have already begun to demonstrate their unique skill sets and passion for student life.

Beth Fisher
Director of Student Activities
Beth Fisher began her career in student life two years after completing her undergraduate work as a residential director at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, N.Y. After working with students there, she felt the urge to get more training in her field, and went on to West Chester University in Pennsylvania for her master’s of science degree in Counseling with a concentration in Higher Education. She continued her work in student life as a graduate student at West Chester and had an opportunity to work with Mary-Alice Ozechoski during the orientation process. Fisher continued her work with student life through posts at other colleges, including Christopher Newport University and Kutztown University.

As Wesley’s director of student activities, Fisher is constantly keeping up with programming on other campuses and trying to bring similar programs to the College. “I take in what other colleges are doing when I visit and look at how they run their student union, student activities and other areas of my field.” Her previous work experience has prepared her for the marketing and public relations part of her position, to ensure that “there is a good product to put out for students. That’s the focus right now — our product for students to get involved in.”

Fisher feels that there is already a lot of opportunity at Wesley, and her focus is to build upon those areas and boost student involvement. “We’d like to engage a variety of students in a lot of different ways. I think we have a lot of different students with different interests, and our goal is to connect them as a whole in a number of areas.”

Fisher cited the Pep Rally for the first home football game at Wesley as one of the successes so far. “We had over 300 hundred students there.” With the numbers at the Pep Rally and the positive turnout for Family Day on September 27, Fisher is pleased with the progress in the Student Life office so far this year.

“I want to add more to the programming and give students a sense that they want to stay on campus and attend what’s going on.” Fisher hopes to get to a point where students can
look at a calendar of upcoming events instead of seeing only one at a time. This will allow students to have a broader sense of what’s going on and hopefully, spark increased interest in participating.

In addition to the social events that she will continue to plan in order to keep students engaged, Fisher realizes the primary role of student development. “Education, in terms of programming, is really important to us. I think providing more resources for students, such as a president’s manual for organization presidents or developing a leadership retreat for students to attend to help educate them on programming is key.” Fisher knows that growing students’ skill sets and better preparing them for planning processes and leadership roles will ultimately strengthen the student activities programs at Wesley and benefit the students holistically.

“I love the student development aspect. Watching them come in as freshmen to grow, develop and be challenged and see them when they finally realize who they are through the four-year period they are here is really significant.” With opportunity comes challenges, but Fisher is well-prepared and eager. She feels that “this is the right place to be in my career right now.”

KEVIN HANSBURY
DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCE LIFE
For KEVIN HANSBURY ’00, a Wesley alumnus who majored in Psychology, the journey has led him back to his alma mater. Hansbury returned to Wesley in August as director of residence life in the Student Life office. After graduation, he went to West Chester University to complete his master’s in Clinical Psychology while carrying out a graduate assistantship in Residence Life. “Essentially, I was an assistant hall director for two years,” he explained. He then worked in the Student Affairs office as a resident director, gaining “a lot of experience in residence life, judicial affairs and new student orientation.”

Hansbury stayed well connected with Wesley while in Pennsylvania through his involvement with the Alumni Association Board of Directors, beginning in 2001. “Being on the Alumni Board of Wesley always kept me in touch with the Wesley community and what was going on.” Although he never expected to come back to the College, he is excited about the opportunity to now serve his alma mater in a professional capacity. “I think with Dr. Johnston and Mary-Alice, there’s a whole new level of energy, and I’m so glad to be a part of that.”

Some of the tasks on Hansbury’s plate are creating positive residential communities with a new programming model for each resident advisor, and increasing community service among the residential student population. “I really want to see our students become engaged in the greater Dover community.” He feels that the stronger a residential community is, the more the members will embody the Wesley spirit and the College’s mission. “I want for them [the students] to have a really positive out-of-classroom experience.” Hansbury emphasizes the importance of student growth and development, and hopes that new programming will help students reach a new plateau in their personal awareness and maturity.

Hansbury has plans to take a program that he successfully implemented at West Chester and bring it to Wesley. “The Giving Tree program was for underprivileged mothers and their children. Ahead of time, we would gather toys, clothes and other items for children, and items for the mothers. We got a lot of area businesses to donate, and the college community also got involved. The participants would come and spend a day in the residence halls doing fun programs, games, book readings and watching holiday movies.” The day culminated with a nice meal and a visit from Santa Claus — “yours truly,” Hansbury said with a smile.

Wesley’s residence hall programs have already begun to show an increase in numbers. “I’ve seen a lot of good things. I think our students here give us a lot to work with.” Like Fisher, Hansbury was also encouraged by the strong turnout at the recent Pep Rally and feels that this is a good indication of the enthusiasm and school spirit that exists among the student body.
Although Hansbury realizes that some initiatives would be difficult to put into action overnight, he is hopeful about implementing future projects in order to reach some of his long-term goals for the residence life program. “I want to work towards starting a residence hall association next year. Each hall would have a hall council,” he explained. This program would allow for not only returning students, but also first year students to take on leadership roles and get involved right away, and would help in building the stronger sense of community his department aims to achieve. “I really am here to serve students. I want for them to have a positive experience here on campus.”

In an undergraduate work-study assignment, Amanda Kinkade began her career in student life while a student herself, working in the Office of First Year Programs and Orientation at Ithaca College in New York. She moved on to the University of South Florida in Tampa, where she held several positions, including assistant director of orientation, while completing her master’s degree in Education. Kinkade’s previous experience at other colleges has brought her to Wesley ready to take on the role of coordinator of student life and resident director in Zimmerman Hall.

“I would like to get a larger group of student leaders who are involved in things across the board,” Kinkade commented. Able to speak firsthand about the value of student work experience, she is now on the supervisory side and emphasizes the significance of “working with student employees and giving them a true experience that is going to prepare them for a position once they graduate.”

Understanding how vital it is for college graduates to have relevant experience upon entering the work force, particularly considering today’s uncertain economic climate and employment outlook, Kinkade knows that skill building among student workers is extremely advantageous. She sees her role in preparing students effectively for post-college life to include, “doing constant evaluations and giving feedback, assigning specific projects for them to take on their own, and even working on the interview process.”

In addition to helping students to gain valuable work experience, Kinkade also is focused on increasing Wolverine pride and retention rates for the College. “We have so much to be proud of here, and so much to be thankful for.” Kinkade hopes that a renewed sense of community can be gained both within the residence halls and through the overall student programming implemented by her department.

Another one of Kinkade’s goals is to get the students out into the community, “whether it’s the Wesley College community or the Dover community.” She has been impressed by the people on Wesley’s campus and their welcoming attitudes, which she feels are unique assets among colleges and universities today. “Everyone is so caring and so willing to get together for discussion, open up and get to know our students.”

This makes Kinkade very optimistic about campus collaboration in the effort to grow pride and unity at the College. She believes that in order for students to feel and demonstrate school spirit and pride, it’s important for them to feel and witness it from those around them — not only fellow students but faculty, staff and other members of the College community.

“I want them [students] to really feel like this is their home, and have them go back and shout it from the top of their house.”

“Wesley College is a great place to be for my education and individual development!” Kinkade shares her own appreciation for her new home at Wesley. “I had been trying to get a job at Wesley for almost a year and waiting for a position like this to open. I feel very blessed to be here. I wanted to return to a small private school…I think that Dover is a great place to be. The sky is the limit.”

AMANDA KINKADE
COORDINATOR OF STUDENT LIFE

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The Nursing Cure

In 2004, Wesley College’s Department of Nursing launched the Health Care Work Force Improvement Initiative, designed to address the shortage of qualified nurses in Delaware and across the nation. The nursing shortage is expected to increase over the next several decades as “baby boomers” grow older and a large percentage of the current workforce retires. Alarmingly, the State of Delaware alone is expecting a shortage of 38 percent by the year 2010, 46 percent by 2015, and 52 percent by 2020.

In 2006, approximately $420,000 was raised and utilized to upgrade laboratory equipment and renovate the existing nursing facility in Dulany Hall. This was a major accomplishment for Wesley, but there is still work to be done. Going forward, the College looks to raise the funds to build a new 22,000 square-foot nursing academic facility.

This new facility will enable the College to expand its nursing programs at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Coinciding with the construction of a new facility, Wesley looks to strengthen the Nursing program by exploring new technologies for delivering instruction, acquiring new faculty and developing as well as evaluating new models of nursing curriculum. The new facility will effectively address the Health Care Work Force Improvement Initiative and allow the Wesley College Department of Nursing to:

- Strengthen the nursing programs of Wesley College by augmenting resources and promoting development of new models for curriculum.
- Provide students with a state-of-the-art learning environment.
- Provide the infrastructure and equipment necessary to meet the growing national need for development in nursing programs.
- Increase the education and productivity of the regional health care work force by enhancing the ability of nurses to provide high-quality, effective care.
- Enhance community partnerships and economic development.
- Directly address the current and anticipated nursing shortage in Delaware and beyond.

Dr. Lucille Gambardella, chair of the Department of Nursing, advised, “This nursing shortage is projected far into the 21st century and Nursing at Wesley is committed to provide our share of nursing graduates into the professional nursing workforce.” She continued, “In order to accomplish that, we need to have state-of-the-art learning space to accommodate not only our current number of almost 300 undergraduate and graduate students, but the increasing numbers we anticipate in the future.”

To date, Wesley has raised a total of $1,043,000 towards the construction of the new facility, with funding provided by the following sources.

- The Longwood Foundation — $750,000
- The Federal Government — $173,000 in HRSA federal appropriations
- The Welfare Foundation — $100,000
- The Marmot Foundation — $20,000

Underscoring the urgent nature of this project, Gambardella explained, “Our current space is woefully inadequate, even with the upgrade done in 2006. The building is a necessity for us to meet the needs of the students.” To augment efforts thus far, the College seeks the help of all of Wesley’s alumni and friends in this important effort to not only benefit current and future Wesley students, but to make an impact on the nursing shortage in Delaware and the nation as a whole. If you would like to donate to this most worthy cause, please contact Vice President for Institutional Advancement Kevin Loftus at 302-736-2316 or loftuskj@wesley.edu W
Q & A
With Alumni Association President

For Stephenie Smith Christiano, ties to Wesley College are strong and many. Having met husband Derrick Christiano ’96 on campus, the two married at the Wesley College Chapel in July, 2004 in a ceremony witnessed by a large Wesley alumni contingent. Both have remained close to College faculty, coaches and former classmates, often getting together with Wesley friends at Homecoming, fraternity reunions and annual alumni games.

Smith Christiano credits her start in the financial field to an internship at Merrill Lynch while an Accounting major at Wesley. She went on to receive her MBA from Wilmington University. Now, as Vice President and Certified Financial Planner at the Dover branch, she continues to support the company’s internship program with Wesley, which has produced two other employees with whom she currently works and another at the Wilmington branch.

In addition to a full-time career and caring for her family, including 1½-year-old daughter Madison, Smith Christiano is an adjunct instructor in the Business Department at Delaware Tech and a board member of the Hope Medical Clinic, an organization which provides free healthcare services for the uninsured.

Passionate about higher education and supporting her alma maters, Smith Christiano is active with committees and projects for her secondary school, Calverton School in Maryland, as well as Wilmington University. Above all, she has demonstrated steadfast dedication to Wesley, assisting and supporting the field hockey program under Coach Tracey Short for whom she played, and serving on the Alumni Association Board of Directors since 2001.

Smith Christiano took the helm as President of the Wesley Alumni Association in 2007 and is leading the Board of Directors at an important time and a turning point for the institution, in light of the College’s new administration. Wesley magazine sat down with her to learn more about her loyalty to Wesley and her vision for the Alumni Association.

How would you summarize the primary role of the Alumni Association and more specifically, the Board of Directors?
The primary purpose of the Alumni Association is to help every student reconnect with Wesley. The Board also sponsors an annual fundraiser in order to raise funds to provide scholarships to current Wesley students.

What specific goals or initiatives do you envision for the Alumni Board this year? The Board is trying to get more involved on campus in 2008. We hosted two events this year at Homecoming. The Hall of Fame Ceremony highlighted the accomplishments of some special Wesley alums. The Young Alumni Party was planned with the help of many and was a huge success — many laughs and memories were shared at the event. Additionally, the Board realized that Wesley alumni have a connection that lasts a lifetime so the Board is working to create the “Wesley Legacy” scholarship which will be available for future Wesley students who are descendants of alums. For many of us, experiences at Wesley have defined our lives. I know they did for me. Thanks to Mrs. Marilyn Johnson, my internship led to a career in Dover.

Why do you feel it is so important to maintain connections with and support your alma mater? Wesley is important to all of us. Each of us has special memories. For me, there are so
many — field hockey laughs, dorm stories, lifelong friends, a husband and a daughter named after a College friend. Your life takes shape during your College years.

What do you feel are the best ways for alumni to stay in touch with Wesley? The internet has changed the way that all of us communicate. Sign up and use the We Are Wesley website (www.weare.wesley.edu). It allows you to find lost friends and share old stories.

Does the leadership of Dr. Johnston and his vision for Wesley College present any new opportunities for alumni engagement and if so, in what ways? I wish that more people would take an interest in the College and all of the growth on campus. So many people have a Wesley past — your comments and participation would help us to mold the College as it grows. The history and stories are so important.

“For many of us, experiences at Wesley have defined our lives. I know they did for me.”

As the College undergoes a strategic planning process, what areas do you feel should be a focus? How do you see the Alumni Association playing a role in the College’s strategic plan? The Alumni Association has the opportunity to express what was special about Wesley — special friends, teammates, coaches and professors. It is important that the growth of the College does not undermine the people. After all, the professors and the coaches are what make Wesley so special. By coincidence, I met an alumnus from the early 90s and he started asking about Dr. Jacobs in the Business Department. That conversation made me realize what defines Wesley — the professors that influenced us.

What message would you like to send to current Wesley students soon to be alumni or recent graduates about the Alumni Association? Your time at Wesley is short. Enjoy it but learn from it. It is not important what letter grade you receive in a class. The knowledge and the life lessons are much more important when you enter into the working world. As hard as it is to believe now, life is so simple while you are at Wesley…the challenge begins once your College days are gone. When you graduate, stay connected to the College and your happy memories.

Now is a great time to explore We Are Wesley, the College’s alumni website and online resource. In addition to a brand-new look, the site is more user-friendly and has new features and functionality that you’ll want to check out!

You’ll still find the same great features, including:
- Online Alumni Directory
- Class Notes
- News & Upcoming Events
- Group Photos
- Message Boards

But now at We Are Wesley, you can:
- Link your profile to your Facebook, MySpace or LinkedIn page
- Customize your member page with news feeds from around the web
- Add your own dynamic content or videos from Flickr, YouTube or other sites
- Create your own friends list and send email, write notes and share photos with friends
- Start your own personal blog

Your Wesley friends are waiting for you at www.weare.wesley.edu Log in today!

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[IN THE NEWS]

Faculty Accomplishments

Teaching Teachers in Tobago, West Indies

DR. JILL COLE, associate professor of Education, and Professor Leah Lembo, visiting professor of Education, spent two weeks in Tobago this summer, participating in a professional development program provided by Tobago’s Ministry of Education. This represents another step into the global community taken by one of Wesley’s own.

Trinidad and Tobago is a country at the very end of the chain of Caribbean Islands, right before Venezuela. While Trinidad is fairly large for a Caribbean island, Tobago is smaller than Delaware. Small though it is, it boasts a tropical climate, picturesque beaches and the Western Hemisphere’s oldest protected rain forest.

Tobago’s Ministry of Education had originally contacted Delaware’s Department of Education, who in turn directed them to Wesley College and the Global Initiatives program. The Ministry was specifically looking for instructors to help their teachers use constructivist teaching methods in their classrooms as they work toward school reform on the island, and Wesley College’s Education Department fit the bill. Cole and Lembo accepted Tobago’s invitation and provided a course titled “Creating a Constructivist Classroom,” that included 45 hours of instruction from July 7 through July 18.

The program began the first morning with an opening ceremony that included some remarks by Trinidad and Tobago’s Secretary of Education, the Honorable Claudia Groome-Duke. She encouraged Tobagonian teachers to keep learning in order to be able to improve the futures of their students.

The professional development was held at Signal Hill Secondary School, an open-air structure built to capture the sea breezes. With the high school students recently departed for their rainy season break (there are only two seasons in Tobago - rainy and dry), the building was available for teachers from all over Tobago to meet together. In addition to the teachings of Cole and Lembo, instructors from the University of Trinidad and Tobago also provided courses on literacy, technology and science.

The students in Cole’s and Lembo’s course participated in a variety of hands-on activities. They conducted and presented an inquiry research project, wrote constructivist lesson plans to use in their classrooms and in small groups to grapple with the social issues which are integral to the constructivist paradigm. The last day was one of celebration. The Tobagonian teachers sang and danced to traditional music, gave gifts and took their Wesley instructors on an entertaining tour around the island.

The experience in Tobago has led to a proposal for a three-year partnership between the Tobago Ministry of Education and Wesley College. The Education Department has proposed a pilot program which would bring the teachers and principal from one primary
school in Tobago to Wesley College next summer for more coursework in constructivist teaching. This school will become a “sister school” for Wesley as the College endeavors to help them advance reform in Tobago’s school system. When the teachers return to Tobago, they will actively put into effect the strategies they learned on Wesley’s campus.

Wesley Education professors will visit the school during the second year of the program to assist in the transformation of the school to a model of constructivist teaching. Assessment of the program will occur in the third year, and then the model will be introduced to another Tobagonian school by the teachers and principal involved in the pilot program. School reform is difficult to achieve and must be approached first at the local level, then spread to other schools using a deliberate, personal model.

The Education Department is excited to participate in this partnership, knowing that it allows members of their College community to not only reach out to another culture, but also to reap the benefits of their own growth and learning.

**DR. KATHLEEN JACOBS**, professor of Business Management, has been appointed to serve on the State Board of the Delaware American Association of University Women (AAUW). In her capacity on the State Board, she will serve as the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) liaison through the year 2010. The purpose of the State Board position is to serve as a liaison between the AAUW LAF branch representatives throughout the state of Delaware and the national office in Washington, D.C. LAF works to combat sex discrimination and pay inequity in higher education and the private sector workplace.

Jacobs has three years of experience serving on the national committee for LAF in Washington, D.C. In this capacity, she traveled to New Mexico to represent the national office as a spokesperson at New Mexico’s national AAUW convention. Jacobs has conducted extensive research on pay inequity within the workplace and has presented her research data at several national conventions over the years and to Delaware legislators at Legislative Hall in the capital city of Dover, Del. In addition, she has served as president of the Dover Branch of the AAUW for two terms and as a past state president for Delaware AAUW.

**MARY ANN LUSH**, assistant professor of Nursing, attended the US-China Nursing Forum May 18 – 26 in Beijing, China as a delegate and citizen ambassador. Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society nurses from around the country participated in a two-day nursing forum to share research with the Chinese Nurses Association.

Lush’s trip included visiting a community health center and the largest traditional Chinese medicine hospital in Beijing. She witnessed treatments including cupping, acupressure, acupuncture and massage. She also visited the hospital pharmacy where the staff was preparing herb treatments using combinations of ingredients such as vegetables, dried snake and mineral rocks that are then placed in tea or crushed into a paste and applied to the skin.

During her visit to the health center and hospital, Lush had the opportunity to make rounds, consult with and observe patients and confer with the staff on treatments such as hypertension, stroke and osteoporosis. She and the other nurses found some startling differences between the treatment methods and patient care among the Chinese facilities compared to that of the U.S. The ratio of patient to nursing and physician staff was extremely high in the community health center, which
was responsible for serving thousands in a geographic area. Despite that fact, if a patient needed to be hospitalized, one of the staff went with the patient to the hospital. All the care was free and paid for by the government. The nurses also discovered that the hospital stays in China were much longer than patients generally stay in U.S. hospitals. Lush and her fellow nurses noted that the community health facility provided ample educational offerings to the public, including classes on prevention and chronic disease, mental health education and sessions as well as meeting space and a library accessible to community residents. In addition to the wealth of knowledge gained in her field, Lush had the chance to visit the Forbidden City, the summer palace, rode in a Dragon boat across the lake and walked on the Great Wall. She acknowledges that it was an experience of a lifetime.

An ongoing NIH-INBRE (National Institutes of Health — IDEa Network for Biomedical Research Excellence) grant obtained through the leadership of the Delaware Biotechnology Institute (DBI) provided the seed money to establish, maintain and upgrade a Bioinformatics Laboratory in the Science Department’s Cannon Hall at Wesley’s campus. In 2006, Dr. Malcolm J. D’Souza, professor of Chemistry, initiated and developed a computer-based Organic Chemistry informatics project to help ease the burden of standing in the laboratory for Biology major Fumie Koyoshi, who has a physical handicap. This in silico drug evaluation project utilized FDA prescription drug files (information found in the little booklet that often comes with each drug) along with the KnowItAll® platform, acquired through BioRad Laboratories in Pennsylvania, to train Wesley science majors in emerging information technology tools that are used by industry to reduce attrition rates during the clinical development of pharmaceutical drugs. Working as an INBRE-supported undergraduate directed research assistant, Koyoshi tabulated the experimental data and structural information extracted from the FDA files of 75 common consumer drugs. When she presented at National American Chemical Society (ACS) meetings, her posters, documenting different stages of database development, earned “Recognition Certificates” from the ACS on two different occasions in 2007 and 2008.

Today, this FDA Consumer Drug Database® developed at Wesley is being actively utilized in drug discovery, diagnostics, development and delivery by the pharmaceutical industry. Recently, BioRad Laboratories began commercially offering this database — one of 27 offered — to those involved in drug discovery. All of the other databases offered within this grouping were developed at “internationally recognized” medicinal chemistry institutions, research hospitals or pharmaceutical labs. Now, Wesley — little known liberal arts college — is thrown in the mix! D’Souza and his department are grateful to DBI and NIH for giving them an opportunity to succeed and for their continued support as part of the NIH-INBRE grant process. The department also acknowledges an NSF-MRI (National Science Foundation — Major Research Instrumentation) grant and several other grants obtained through BioRad Laboratories.

Dr. Keka C. Biswas, assistant professor of Biology and Environmental Studies who joined Wesley in 2007, has successfully established a laboratory of environmental microbiology to enhance undergraduate research at Wesley College. The directed research program, which is funded by a statewide grant from the National Science Foundation Delaware’s EPSCoR RII award # EPS-0814251, is aimed at preparing students for future science instruction by giving them an opportunity to conduct innovative research in environmental molecular microbiology. Students are also trained early on to develop creative ideas, formulate and execute solutions to
problems and develop skills in presenting research outcomes at scientific meetings. The program also provides mechanisms whereby students can interact more closely with other undergraduate researchers within the EPSCoR network.

Biswa has been part of the faculty leadership team, which includes researchers and scientists from University of Delaware, Delaware State University and Delaware Biotechnology Institute (DBI). These partnerships have resulted in new collaborations and unique opportunities for Wesley students, now involved in projects which study microbe/mineral interactions on metal reactivity and microbial interactions on agricultural particulates. During the first phase of the NSF EPSCoR award, funds were utilized for outfitting the environmental microbiology laboratory with basic small instrumentation. During the second phase, plans were put in place to develop the nucleic acid and protein purification capability under the directed research program.

Since 2007, five undergraduates have been mentored in Biswa's lab. One of them — Jacquelyn Gillespie — graduated in May of 2008 after successful completion of her senior thesis. Currently, three students — Kevin E. Shuman, Allison Moran and Shannon Carter — are working as research assistants funded by the National Science Foundation EPSCoR Grant number EPS-0814251 on various research projects. A fourth student — Amanda Warren — is also working in the lab on her senior research project. The students are currently developing Strategies for Accelerating Degradation of Antibiotics by Indigenous Bacteria, Detoxification of Metals in the Environment, Degradation of Steroidal Hormones in Metals Litter and Characterization, Isolation and Elimination of Bacteria from Commerically Available Produce.

During the past year, Wesley’s involvement in Delaware NSF-EPSCoR has resulted in two publications in peer reviewed scientific journals. The first publication from the newly established environmental microbiology lab was entitled “Dynamics of Davydov Solitons in Helix Proteins”. Gillespie, then an undergraduate student, worked on the project as part of her senior thesis work. Shuman presented his results at the 108th American Society for Microbiology meeting June 1 – 5 in Boston, Mass. Biswa was invited to present at the Biometals Conference July 14 – 17 at University of Santiago, Spain. Her presentation was entitled “Homeostasis in Microbes”. This research was a collaborative effort with Professor Larry L. Barton from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, N.M.
Wesley College has seen great evidence of the strength of its programs through the success of its graduates. A number of them have used their Wesley education to become educators. Lisa (Miterotonda) Fox ’99, Bryan Denbrock ’99, Debbie Kenton ’01 and Lauren (Decker) Shanklin ’02 have each been named District Teacher of the Year for Delaware schools in 2008 or 2009. What do they all have in common? The passion and dedication to inspire and shape the lives of others.

While these four individuals all possess different views on teaching, they all value their own education and attribute their career successes, in part, to the preparation they received at Wesley.

To receive Teacher of the Year honors in a school district in Delaware, one must first be nominated by a co-worker, parent or student. Nominations are based on a number of criteria, including teaching philosophy, professionalism and a teacher’s work, in and out of the classroom. Nominees are generally informed of their candidacy in June and are required to turn in an application and portfolio in September. After a committee reviews these items, the nominees are observed in their classroom as part of the selection process.

After District Teacher of the Year candidates are selected, the nominees have an opportunity to earn the title of State Teacher of the Year. If chosen for this honor, the teacher will receive a $5,000 grant for his or her students and a personal grant of $3,000. Even if one is not selected as State Teacher of the Year, the teacher still receives a $2,000 grant as District Teacher of the Year.

The four Wesley alumni who received this honor in 2008 and 2009 have shared their accounts with Wesley magazine. Their success stories demonstrate the lasting influence that Wesley College and its professors have had on their lives and careers.

**Lisa (Miterotonda) Fox**

An Elementary Education major at Wesley, Lisa (Miterotonda) Fox, who was selected as the 2008 Teacher of the Year for the Laurel School District, feels that the College curriculum and the faculty at Wesley helped prepare her in many ways for her own career. “When I student taught, the requirements were very strict about what was expected from me. Creating lesson plans, a unit and making bulletin boards were just some of the activities that helped me to be ready for my own classroom,” commented Fox.

Fox notes that despite the expertise of the Wesley faculty,
they did not force their own points of view, but instead, helped her to become an independent learner and develop her own educational style. “I remember my professors working with me on lesson planning and projects — not just directing me to do it ‘their way!’” She added, “Dr. Liptak taught me that by just reading to a child, you can teach them anything.” After trying this, Fox found that her professor was right — when students are read to, they will follow what they see and pick something up and try to read it. Therefore, Fox incorporates story time in her daily classroom routine.

After college, Fox married fellow alumnus TAD FOX ’95, and although she is now related to her former History professor, Dr. Sue Fox, she still credits her mother-in-law for teaching her many life lessons while at Wesley. “She taught me to work hard for what you believe in. Slacking off and being lazy will get you nowhere, especially in her classes!”

Aside from teaching her 2nd graders, Fox gets involved in as many activities outside the classroom as she can. Along with the many meetings and school-wide events she frequently attends, Fox also runs her school’s Positive Behavior Support Program. While Fox is a parent to four children of her own, she views her nurturing role in the classroom as equally important. She takes time to notice each child in her classroom, and with some students that need it, she attempts to impart something they might not often receive in their own home. “My first and most important belief I have about teaching is that it is my home away from home and my students are my family away from family.”

BRYAN DENBROCK

After ten years teaching 10th grade at Sussex Technical District, 2008 Teacher of the Year Bryan Denbrock still remembers and adheres to the advice of his former Wesley professor, DR. J. THOMAS STURGIS. “Always be prepared each day to try to get to know your students, and never cease seeking ways to grow and improve.” Denbrock’s experience in Wesley’s master’s degree program in Education and his student teaching at Lake Forest High School not only provided him with “the tools, strategies, confidence and ability to develop innovative and creative lessons” but also the ingredients to develop his persona as an educator. Denbrock notes that his teaching style today and “the way I relate to students, parents and colleagues” is very much reflective of what he learned at Wesley.

Denbrock’s contributions to the education world have not been limited to the classroom. In addition to teaching American History, Civics, Economics and World History, he has been an active participant in professional development programs, has actively served and held leadership posts on a number of school committees, and has assisted with extracurricular activities, such as serving as the advisor for the Skills USA Quiz Bowl competitions.

Denbrock’s involvement in extracurricular programs demonstrates the value he places on educating individuals as a whole. “In an increasingly complex world, I believe it is essential that we, in the education profession, provide a plethora of opportunities for our students to become confident, productive, conscientious and knowledgeable members of society,” stated Denbrock. “It is vital for teachers to provide lessons that allow each student to develop...to allow students to become well-rounded and informed citizens,” he added. Denbrock continues to be a model educator and teach his students by example.

LAUREN (DECKER) SHANKLIN

Lauren (Decker) Shanklin, Smyrna School District 2009 Teacher of the Year, experienced firsthand the value that the College’s partnership with the Campus Community School has provided to Wesley students in the Education and Physical Education program. “We were able to get a lot of hands-on teaching experience before we graduated,” she stated. “This really helped me feel more comfortable around children and learn what works and what doesn’t in the gym.”

After graduating from Wesley, Shanklin began teaching at Campus Community School as a Health and PE teacher for grades 1-11. “I had a great experience there and learned a lot, but I realized I wanted to work with elementary school children.” In the summer of 2005, Shanklin was hired by Smyrna School District as the Health and Physical educa-
Shanklin gives credit to Wesley faculty for providing personal instruction and life lessons that have aided her in her present career. “The physical education department did a great job of constantly reminding us that PE is no longer about teaching the rules of sports, but it is about making students understand the importance of making fitness a way of life,” Shanklin said. She certainly made the most of her time at Wesley and can speak from experience about keeping an active lifestyle, as she was a tri-sport athlete (cross-country, soccer and lacrosse) along with serving as a student ambassador, resident assistant, peer tutor and being involved in a host of other campus organizations and honor societies. Shanklin quickly learned how to balance the academic demands of college with a social life and passion for fitness and physical activity. After graduation, Shanklin married her college sweetheart and another avid Wesley athlete — Brian Shanklin ’01.

Shanklin recalls her former professor, Dr. Christian, repeatedly reminding Wesley students that although physical education can be viewed as a playtime by others, their job as a PE teacher is to demonstrate the importance of physical education as a subject. Remembering what she learned, Shanklin noted, “I always make sure I have cognitive, affective and psychomotor objectives in each lesson that I teach so I can reach students in all three educational domains.”

Now with six years of teaching under her belt, Shanklin has developed and carried out her own educational philosophies. “Teaching is as much about building relationships with the students as it is about content. Being a PE teacher as opposed to a classroom teacher makes it much harder to get to know the students, but I strive to make all students feel welcomed and safe in my class.”

Debbie Kenton

Now teaching World History and Global Issues for 9th graders at Sussex Technical High School, Debbie Kenton has taken the lessons she learned at Wesley and applied them to her craft. Without a doubt, she has done so quite impressively, as she recently earned the title of Sussex Technical District 2009 Teacher of the Year.

“As a history major under Dr. Sue Fox, I was encouraged to learn and then share that knowledge with others through papers and documentaries,” Kenton recalled. “I always remember her [Fox] saying that we could have any opinion we wanted, but we should always be able to back it up with support and reasoning.” Kenton’s teaching style has surely been influenced by her former professor at Wesley. In addition, Fox also helped her land an internship with the Delaware State Historic Preservation Office in Dover. There, Kenton gained knowledge about Delaware history as well as skills in research, web design and exhibit design. “These skills have been invaluable during my teaching career while creating new and exciting lessons for my students.”

Kenton continued her studies at Wesley and received her master’s degree in Education in 2002. She cites the graduate program as another important step in her career development. “The small classes allowed for one-on-one conversations related to my teaching assignment at the time.”

Not all teachers would describe their job as “exciting” but the fact that Kenton does provides an immediate clue of her enthusiasm for the profession and helps explain why her selection as Teacher of the Year came as no surprise to those who know her. The students, for example, who arrive in August dreading Social Studies and leave her classroom in June more energized about the subject and learning in general than ever before, can attest to her passion. Most importantly, Kenton aims to “prepare my students to continue to be lifelong learners without me guiding them,” Kenton stated.

Quoting Carl Jung, Kenton said, “One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary raw material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child.” Kenton strives to follow this quote as a daily motto in her teaching career. “I create a warm, safe and comfortable atmosphere for all of my students.”
Family Goals

Instilling in their children the qualities of teamwork and determination on and off the field, Mark and Patty Bivins have proven that the family that stays together plays together.

From the very moment that residence hall room key is placed in your hand, it immediately hits you. That feeling of independence is thrilling, but at the same time, terrifying. Then you hug your parents and say your goodbyes. What am I going to do without Mom and Dad?

Dover native Catherine “Caty” Bivins ’05/’07 wasn’t far from home when she received her room assignment, but she planned to face her new freedoms like a student from miles away. “The rule in my house is you have to live on campus,” she said. “My parents wanted me to be an independent individual who could take care of myself.”

Mark and Patty Bivins are the proud parents of two Wolverines — alumna Caty and current student Brad, a junior secondary education major. By motivating their children to embrace each experience college has to offer, Mark and Patty have mastered the art of knowing when to let go and when to step in.

“We have always been supportive of every school, organization, club and sport that our kids have been a part of. College is no exception,” said Patty. “While respecting their choices at college, we are always available as a sounding board or [to offer an] opinion if needed.”

When Caty was a high school senior she knew exactly what she wanted to do with her life. “Caty was an extremely motivated student with a great work ethic and a passion for learning,” said Mark.

She also knew what she wanted out of the institution that would help her reach her goals. “I wanted a small college where I could actually know my professors. I wanted the opportunity to live in dorms where I was matched with students that shared my same interests,” Caty said.

Wesley College offered great potential because it was close to home and it came highly recommended by her two aunts — Linda MacLeish Jensen ’74 and Margarete Fair MacLeish ’86 — both Wesley alumni. Caty’s family encouraged her to go to a Wesley Open House, where she had the opportunity to learn about the College’s Education program. “I liked that there was a charter school on campus and that during my very first Education course I would have field experience,” said Caty.

Not only did Caty choose Wesley for her undergraduate degree in Education, but she also returned to the College for her master’s degree. At that time, she was teaching middle school science and needed advice on the best direction in which to go for her graduate studies. By coincidence one day, she bumped into Wesley professor, Dr. Bruce Allison, who helped her make her decision to pursue a master’s in Environmental Science. “How
many colleges do you know where a professor sees you walking in the streets, remembers your name, and offers help and support for your next adventure?” Caty asks.

“**They are the parents that on game day go to work in ‘Wesley colors’... They are definitely our # 1 fans. They truly are two amazing people and two of my heroes.”**

Caty credits Wesley staff, faculty and fellow students for helping her through some even harder times as well. During her senior year, she was diagnosed with a tumor in her femur that required surgery at Johns Hopkins University. She started the school year with hopes of student teaching and enjoying her final year at Wesley with friends. Instead, she went back and forth between Dover and Baltimore, fighting to earn her degree while learning how to walk again.

“My teammates and my coaches at that time were my sanity. In the classroom, my education professors (DR. COOPER, DR. PATTERSON, DR. COLE, DR. STURGIS, DR. WHITMAN SMITHE, DR. LAWTON AND JUDY MCDONALD) did everything they could to help me walk across that stage. They called home, sent emails just to check on me, listened to me vent my frustrations, encouraged me to fight, made extra arrangements, sent work home and stood up for me. They were the kind of teachers that I want to be!”

She also gained strength and inspiration from her family. While her doctor was skeptical about her being able to graduate on time, Caty’s family rallied around her. “My family stood by me and did everything they could to help me prove the doctor wrong. They drove me to class every day, they picked up work for me, my dad even offered to sit in my classes and take notes,” said Caty. “They fought for me so that I could have my dream.”

Her younger brother Brad had a similar experience when he suffered a season-ending lacrosse injury and also had to have surgery. Once again, the staff and faculty at Wesley took notice of the situation and jumped in to help. Brad said, “If it wasn’t for Teen (CHRISTINE MCDERMOTT) and my professors, I could have very easily slipped in my studies last year. Luckily, I didn’t and still made the Dean’s List.”

Going to the same institution as an older sibling can be a curse, but Brad Bivins sees it for all its blessings. “It took me awhile to break out of the big shadow she cast. Caty is an incredible lacrosse player and an even better student,” he said. “My first year at Wesley, I was known as Caty Bivins’s little brother, but one of the benefits was that the instructors who had Caty pushed me harder and made me a better student.”

Caty and Brad have always been close, sharing a passion for lacrosse and having worked together as lifeguards for the Sea Colony Beach Patrol every summer. When asked what advice she gave to her brother when he headed off to Wesley, she said, “I told him to be true to himself. I told him to bring all of his laundry home. I told him to get involved and that playing lacrosse was the best way to get started. You instantly have a group of individuals who share a common interest with you, and getting involved makes college life so much more fun. I also told him to enjoy every moment of college and to make the most of it.”

The principles of hard work and dedication, along with strong emphasis on family and community are values that Caty and Brad’s parents have instilled in them their whole lives. Not only did they teach these values, but they also have successfully led by example.

“My mom is that lady you hear yelling in the stands and my dad is that guy who is watching from the fence during practice or offering advice to me as soon as the game is over,” said Caty. “They are the parents that on game day go to work in ‘Wesley colors.’”
Brad added, “They are definitely our #1 fans. They truly are two amazing people and two of my heroes.”

When Caty was a freshman, her mom Patty “adopted the entire floor” Caty lived on and organized family dinners with all the girls to give them home-cooked meals. During her sophomore year when Caty and her dorm mates got snowed in, her dad Mark borrowed a truck and took some of the girls to the only store open in town and bought enough food to feed the entire floor. The rest of the week, her parents delivered homemade meals so that no one went hungry.

Patty always liked to send packages through campus mail to Caty and her teammates and she organized tailgates after their games — a tradition they continue to this day. “Now every year at Homecoming we have a family tailgate. It has grown as the years have gone on, but those original girls — ‘their girls’ — still come back year after year to see Mama and Papa B,” Caty said.

Beyond supporting their children and their teammates, Mark and Patty always make it a point to be supportive of the College itself. They rejoin the W Club every year, try to attend as many College functions as possible and were members of the Wesley College Parents’ Council.

What the Bivins have accomplished is a perfect balance between strengthening their children’s independence and standing by for support.

“We have always said it does not matter if they are 4, 40 or 400 miles away at college. They are still away from you. They will learn to be independent, learn career choices, make lifelong friends and gain the skills it takes to make a difference. We have done our jobs raising them as children, teaching them moral values, work ethic and responsibility to family and community,” said Patty. Mark added, “We will always be supportive in any way we can, but ultimately it is up to them to make their mark in the world!”

Both children have found their niche in education. Caty now works at her other alma mater, Caesar Rodney High School, as a math teacher. She also coaches lacrosse, swimming and field hockey. Recently engaged to former Wesley classmate Bob Beron ’07, she is planning a wedding for June 2009.

Brad continues to succeed at Wesley, both in the classroom and on the field. He also hopes to stay for his graduate degree and plans to become a math teacher and lacrosse coach.

The parenting invested by Mark and Patty has already been paid in full by the many accomplishments of their daughter and son. While a parent’s job is never done, the couple has seen their children face life’s challenges fearlessly in order to do what they love and do it well. They have witnessed them become strong adults with defined morals and values. This sports-loving family is one of the finest examples of a winning team. W

“Mark and Patty always make it a point to be supportive of the College itself. They rejoin the W Club every year, try to attend as many College functions as possible and were members of the Wesley College Parents’ Council.”
Let’s Get Physical

Wesley alumnus Aaron Sistrunk ’98 has made a name for himself as a sought after sports trainer in the Philadelphia area. With his vigorous training sessions, it’s easy to see why sports celebrities like Phillies’ Jimmy Rollins have made Aaron part of their gameplan.

It takes dedication and desire to get where alumnus AARON SISTRUNK ’98 is today. What started out as an infatuation turned into his career; a dream that keeps on growing for the 34-year-old personal training business owner.

Sixteen years ago, a wide-eyed Sistrunk entered Wesley College with an idea of where he wanted to go, but like many incoming students, he was unsure as to how to get there. He enrolled in the institution as undeclared, after choosing Wesley over schools like Widener University and Albright College.

“Wesley just fit the mold, because I was always used to going to smaller schools,” said Sistrunk.

Sistrunk grew up in the catholic school systems in the Philadelphia area. He wanted an environment that was familiar to him and that “felt more or less like home.” Becoming a Wolverine was easy for him because of the College’s small classes and intimate campus.

“I didn’t know exactly what I wanted to do, but I always wanted to do something with the human body,” he said.

Eventually, Sistrunk chose Physical Education as his major, which led him down an exciting path to his future career. His journey started in classes taught by Professor of Physical Education DR. BARBARA ABBOTT, who mentored Sistrunk throughout his years at Wesley.

“She [Abbott] was nice, but she knew how to kick you in the butt when you needed it,” said Sistrunk.

Although Sistrunk did not realize it at the time, the topics that he found most challenging in college and the subjects that were not his favorites ended up teaching him the most important tools and ultimately, benefited him the most in his career. “Anatomy was difficult for me, but it was also fascinating,” he said.

Aside from hitting the books, Sistrunk still found time to participate in several campus organizations. He was president of the fraternity Phi Beta Sigma and a charter member who helped in the establishment of the Historical Black Society. Sistrunk also was an active member of the Black Student Union and played football for the Wolverines for two years as a running back. Sadly, he was forced to quit the team due to an injury he endured in high school from which he never fully recovered.

For Sistrunk, it was not easy to stay away from physical activity. “I’ve always loved working out and training,” he said, “trying new things to see how the body reacts to different stimulants.”

Immediately after graduating from Wesley in 1998 with his bachelor of science degree, Sistrunk was recruited by Glen Mills School to work as a teaching counselor for juveniles who had disciplinary problems. While maintaining his full-time position at the school, he could not neglect his
passion for physical fitness and became a part-time personal trainer. He put in many hours of training at various gyms, gaining experience and a desire for something more. He went on to earn 12 nationally recognized certifications and ventured out to create his own personal training business — Perfectfitt.com.

“A lot of times you get different clients and it just doesn’t fit. It has to be a fit, definitely mentally as well as physically,” said Sistrunk. This is precisely why he chose the name for his business. He grew to learn that clients and personal trainers could only achieve their goals if they were a good match for one other. He also believes in becoming very involved with their lives to achieve that “perfect fit.” Not surprisingly, many of Sistrunk’s current clients have become very good friends. As he explained, the success of a personal training business depends on “word of mouth.” Since many of his clients found him through the recommendation of a mutual acquaintance, they were already familiar with his training styles, helping to ensure a good match.

With the success of Perfectfitt.com and the rapport he has built with his clientele, many doors have opened up for Sistrunk. Not only does he train Division I athletes at schools like Penn State University and Cornell University, but he also has had the opportunity to train minor league and professional athletes. He has worked with professional baseball player Marlon Byrd of the Texas Rangers and currently trains Jimmy Rollins of the Philadelphia Phillies. He was connected with Rollins through his future business partner, who is also the girlfriend of the professional baseball player.

Impressed with Sistrunk’s training methods after viewing videos of his strength coaching with some high school players, Rollins asked if Sistrunk had any extra time to train him. The rest is history. Further exposure came to him after he began working with Rollins. Sistrunk received coverage by Philadelphia Magazine, in which he was ranked the ninth best trainer in the Philadelphia area and he was also in a Stack Magazine feature with Rollins.

In addition to his current business, Sistrunk is a football coach at Chestnut Hill Academy, runs a boot camp training program and along with two partners, has another personal training business venture in the works that he hopes will take off in 2009.

With the success he has already achieved and all that is still to come, he credits Wesley College for his start. “Wesley has given me the fundamentals — the anatomy, physiology, biomechanics and kinesiology that helped me easily pass my certifications.” Sistrunk continued, “I always recommend it [Wesley College] to my players. If they want a nice, comfortable type of atmosphere — not far from home, good coaching staff, good facilities, they should definitely go to Wesley,” said Sistrunk.

To learn more about Sistrunk and his programs, visit his personal training website www.Perfectfitt.com or his MySpace page at www.myspace.com/perfectfitt
Leaving a Legacy

Each year, Wesley College receives bequests from generous alumni and friends of the College through their estates.

A bequest is a provision in your will or living trust that directs your estate to a named person or institution, such as Wesley College. You may bequeath a specific asset, dollar amount, percentage of your estate or the remainder of your estate after all other gifts have been distributed. Specific examples would include:

**SPECIFIC ASSET**
I give, devise and bequeath to Wesley College, Dover, Delaware 19901, the following described property at _____ to be used in a manner deemed appropriate by the College.

**DOLLAR AMOUNT**
I give, devise and bequeath to Wesley College, Dover, Delaware 19901, the sum of ___ dollars to be used for general purposes by the College.

**PERCENTAGE OF ESTATE**
I give, devise and bequeath to Wesley College, Dover, Delaware 19901, a portion of my entire estate equal to ___% thereof, to be used for general purposes by the College.

**REMAINDER OF ESTATE**
I give, devise and bequeath to Wesley College, Dover, Delaware 19901, all of my residual estate to be used for general purposes by the College.

You can also restrict your bequest for a specific purpose such as:
- Providing scholarships to worthy and needy students
- For the Alumni Association
- For the Department of Nursing
- For the Parker Library

Gifts such as these are greatly appreciated and are vital to the future of the College. Please notify Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Kevin Loftus, at 302-736-2316 or loftuskj@wesley.edu if you have included Wesley College in your will and you will automatically become a member of the Heritage Club.

*Please be advised that these samples are suggestions only. Legal documents should always be prepared by your own attorney.*

**Wesley Did a Lot to Give Me a Start in Life**

**JACK L. MARINE** has come a long way in the past half-century or so, from his early life and school days in rural Maryland, through college and up the ladder of business success, and into early retirement and his present-day life in Florida—which includes golf three times a week.

“I’ve done pretty well over the years,” says Jack, who credits his Wesley College education with laying the foundation for his success.

“I probably wouldn’t have even gone to college,” he explains, “if I hadn’t won a scholarship. Wesley did a lot to give me a start in life and help me climb that corporate ladder.”

Jack earned an associate’s degree from Wesley in 1955, went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in economics, worked at DuPont for 27 years, and retired as a manager of distribution and contracted services at age 56. Now 73, he has been a regular donor to Wesley since 1982 and is also including the College in his estate plans.

“I figure they gave me something, so I will give them something in return,” Jack says. “You need to give back to entities that help you in life.”

The estate gift from Jack and his wife, Donna, will be used to endow a Wesley College scholarship for students from the Maryland area of the Delmarva Peninsula. Charitable gifts of all types are crucial to helping the College meet its immediate needs. Among the specific areas of the College that could greatly benefit from donor support are the Nursing Department and the Wesley College Cultural Arts Series.

“I like what Wesley offers its students,” Jack says. “And I like the idea that down the line, I’ll be helping the College give students a start in life—give someone who might not be able to go to college the opportunity to succeed, like I had.”
**1954**

Muriel “Terri” Bacon Wilson was married to Allen C. Rusten this past summer on June 27, 2008 at a small ceremony at their home in Wilmington, Del.

**1964**

Kathleen “Rebel” (Teeple) Monastero, Linda Lee (Barbour) Laster, Connie (Myers) Latham, and Carol (Crew) Powell got together in Philadelphia, Pa. to celebrate long standing friendships that began at Wesley College.

**1971**

Wendy (Albright) Barody, Josie (Ianiero) Fabrizio, Joan (Chance) Enfield, and Cyndy (Marple) Behrens got together this summer at Cyndy’s home in New Jersey after 37 years. Their friendships were formed at Wesley College during their very first meeting at Budd Hall in 1969.

**1995**

Kristi (Wallace) Schultz and her husband Bill welcomed their second child — a son, Reed Edward — on February 25, 2008. Reed joins his big sister Mia Karolyn (3). The Schultz family is living in Clayton, Del. where both Kristi and Bill are teachers in the Smyrna School District. They can be reached by email at kristi.schultz@comcast.net

**2001**

Kim Lange from Fairfield, Conn. recently got engaged to Derrick Jones from Seymour, Conn. Kim is working towards her MBA from University of Bridgeport and is working for Fischel Properties as the executive suite manager, and HR director. Derrick graduated from University of Bridgeport with a masters in Secondary Education. Their wedding is to be held on October 10, 2010. Kim can be contacted via email at klange_06430@yahoo.com

**2002**

Mary (Kaminski) and Josh Durham were married on June 20, 2008 at St. Bartholomew’s Catholic Church in Manchester, Md. A reception followed at the Manchester Firemen’s Activity Building. Denise Ritchie ’03 and Lauren Geiger ’03 were bridesmaids and Chris Becker ’99/’01 and Chris Kulak ’03 were bride’s ushers. Also in attendance were Dennis Avicolli ’02, Pete Lancaster ’04, Golden Myers ’02 and Tom Sandklev ’03. After honeymooning in the Florida Keys, the couple now resides in Manchester, Md. Mary is a PhD student at UMBC, where she got her MS in 2006 and Josh is an accountant and financial analyst at Barton Cotton in Columbia, Md.

**2004**

Courtney Stewart ’04/’06 shared news that Delta Phi Sigma celebrated its 3rd annual Delta Reunion at W.T. Smithers on April 26.

**2005**

Mary Kaminski and Josh Durham

**Delta Sorority Reunion**
Jessica Alexis McFadden and Ted Tweddle were married on July 26, 2008 in Pottstown, Pa. Both Jessica and Ted are alumni of Wesley College and belonged to Greek organizations Sigma Phi Sigma and Phi Kappa Sigma, respectively. They met at Wesley and started dating in January 2005. Among those in the wedding party that also attended Wesley were Patricia Marro, CJ Burns, Mathew Dickerson, Mike McCans and Tucker Kircher.

The Tweddles currently reside in Newark Del. Jessica is working as an administrative case manager and Ted is the general manager of Fastenal in Middletown Del.

Jessica McFadden and Ted Tweddle

**In Memoriam**

Filip Forsbeck ’56
Bob Marschke ’57*
Charles Kasowski ’58

While the Wesley outing at the Delmarva Shorebirds baseball game in Salisbury, Md. has been an annual tradition for years now, this year’s event had special appeal. The crowd of alumni, families and friends were greeted by Wesley’s new president, Dr. William Johnston and his wife, Susan. Johnston threw out the ceremonial first pitch of the game.

Alumni ranging from the Class of ’48 to the Class of ’08 came out for the event. Gathered in the luxury level Hardball Café behind home plate, attendees enjoyed a pre-game buffet and a perfect view of the field.

For many, it was the first opportunity to meet the College’s new leader, and alumni were pleased to be able to casually converse with Dr. and Mrs. Johnston throughout the event and share a little about their background and individual experiences at Wesley. At the same time, the Johnstons enjoyed getting to know the Wesley graduates and guests, and even rallied attendees to pose for this group photo during the seventh inning stretch. The festivities, which concluded with a grand fireworks finale after the Shorebirds edged out the Savannah Sand Gnats 3 – 2, were enjoyed by all.

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO? Send or email your engagements, marriages, births, promotions or other news to be published in Wesley magazine to:

**CLASS NOTES**
Office of Alumni Affairs
Wesley College
120 North State Street
Dover, DE 19901
downesam@wesley.edu

OR

LOG ON to the We Are Wesley online community to post your class notes and connect directly with old classmates. Find your first time login I.D. number above your name on the address label of this magazine.

All submissions must include name, maiden name, class year and daytime phone number. PHOTOS WELCOME! Instructions for photo submissions can be found at www.weare.wesley.edu/faq

Due to limited space, submissions for Wesley magazine may not be printed in their entirety. Printing and/or editing of submissions is at the discretion of the Director of Publications.

Deadline for inclusion in the next issue of Wesley magazine is February 1.

* Obituaries for alumni can be viewed and submitted through the In Memoriam category of class notes online.

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www.weare.wesley.edu/classnotes
With a roster that included no seniors and just two juniors along with 10 sophomores and a dozen freshmen, Wesley College men’s soccer head coach Steve Clark was not sure what to expect from his 2008 squad.

The 2007 season that saw the program’s five-year run of double digit wins snapped, but a winning record in the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) and a run to the CAC Semifinals provided fuel for hope.

2008 began with a successful trip south to the Randolph-Macon Select, where the team won matches against both Randolph-Macon and Randolph. A three-match losing streak followed, including a loss in the CAC opener on a penalty kick against St. Mary’s (Md.). The young Wolverines found their stride, however, embarking on a 10-match unbeaten streak that included eight wins as Wesley outscored its opposition 28-4 over the next month. Highlighting the streak was a week in which the Wolverines upset No. 18 Salisbury 3-2 behind a pair of goals and a career first for sophomore Matt Nimmerichter (Middletown, Del.) and tied 1-1 against a regionally ranked Mary Washington team.

The 10-match run launched Wesley into the National Soccer Coaches Association of America Division III South Region rankings at No. 10. Sophomore Craig Taswell (Latham, Md.) was honored during the streak, winning ECAC South and CAC Player of the Week awards after his efforts in wins over Marymount (Va.) and Hood (Md.).

A loss to an undefeated York (Pa.) team ranked No. 2 in the nation ended the streak in mid-October, but the Wolverines still were awarded a home game in the CAC Championship Tournament. Facing St. Mary’s again, who the Wolverines had beaten on penalty kicks in the quarterfinals the year before, the two teams needed overtime to settle the score. Freshman Omar De Los Santos (Prescott Valley, Ariz.) sent Wesley to the next round with a goal in the 98th minute. Mike Thomas and Kyle Lawrence each tallied 13 points, with Thomas scoring a team-high six goals and Lawrence dishing out five assists.

Goalkeeper Nick Talarico finished among the CAC leaders in goals against average (1.25) and save percentage (.843). In the two years since joining the CAC, the team saw its second consecutive advance to the conference’s final four.

Despite drawing the unbeaten and untied team from York (Pa.) that had handed Wesley a 5-0 defeat earlier in the year, the Wolverines were prepared for the CAC Semifinals on November 2. The group of underclassmen showed a high level of maturity, holding the Spartans off the scoreboard through regulation and a pair of overtimes. The contest then went to a shootout to see who would advance to the championship game. The sophomore goalkeeper continued his strong effort and stopped each of York’s first three attempts after making a career-high 16 saves in regulation. Meanwhile, the Wolverines went a perfect 3-for-3 with junior Ryan Fish (Rancocas Valley, N.J.), sophomore Will Sutton (Washington, D.C.) and Kyle Lawrence (Smyrna, Del.) all converting to send Wesley to its first conference championship game since 2004.

To find out how Wesley fared against Salisbury in the CAC Championship game, log onto the web at www.wesley.edu.

The men’s soccer team was not the only Wolverine squad with a successful fall. Take a look to see how the other teams fared.
FIELD HOCKEY
The Wolverines won at least 11 games for the 12th straight season behind an offense that included the CAC’s leading scorer in sophomore Brooke Tadlock (Middletown, Del.). Tadlock ended the season with 17 goals and four assists for 38 points. She also won CAC Player of the Week honors three times, more than any other conference player.

The Wesley offense also included Sam Marconi (Haddon Township, N.J.), who provided nine goals during her senior campaign to end her career among the school’s top goal scorers. Freshman Sheree Pleasanton (Smyrna, Del.) matched Marconi with nine goals. Goalkeeper Sarah Johnson (Honeybrook, Pa.) recorded seven shutouts with help from a defense led by Richa’d Johnson (Paulsboro, N.J.) with four defensive saves.

The Wolverines started the season slowly at just 5-5 before winning six of their final seven matches entering the CAC postseason. A three-way tie for fourth resulted in a coin flip, giving the Wolverines the five seed and a trip to Stevenson University (formerly Villa Julie College). Despite a pair of goals from Stephanie Johnson (Camden, Del.), Wesley fell 3-2 to finish the season at 11-7.

WOMEN’S SOCCER
The women’s soccer team turned in its sixth straight year with at least eight wins, but left room for improvement behind a roster that included 10 freshmen.

Senior Gina Orrben (Hockessin, Del.) led the team in scoring with eight goals, six assists and 22 points to finish her career fifth at Wesley with 23 goals and 56 points. Her 10 career assists tie for ninth all-time for the Wolverines. The rest of the offense was largely a team effort as 18 players had at least one goal in the season.

Despite finishing 8-10, the Wolverines had a pair of 1-0 losses in double overtime and received a four-goal, 10-point match from senior Katie Chiolan (Willingboro, N.J.). Wesley also opened the season by winning the Wolverine Soccer Classic with victories over Neumann and Washington which earned Orrben CAC Player of the Week honors.

Freshman Kim Fearnbach (Pennington, N.J.) played the first 17 games in net, making 79 saves before sustaining a season ending injury.

VOLLEYBALL
In only the third season of the program, Wesley matched its high win total with 11 while fielding a roster of two juniors, two sophomores and eight freshmen, and providing hope for the future.

The two juniors - Lilia Brekke (Magnolia, Del.) and Nettie Choice (Lewes, Del.) - led the Wolverines in nearly every statistical category. Brekke posted team bests with 180 kills, 46 aces and 95 digs. Meanwhile, Choice led the team in hitting percentage (.203) and paced the CAC in blocks (90).

The team also set a school record with an eight-match win streak in which they dropped just a single set before ending the year with a record of 11-17.

MEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
Wesley experienced a rebuilding year in 2008. Freshman David Breeding (Felton, Del.) paced the team at every meet and had the fastest time by a Wolverine all year. He ran matching times of 30:22 at both the CAC Championships and the Don Cathcart Invitational. Junior John Clarke was the second fastest Wesley runner at all six meets. The Wolverines ended sixth at the CAC Championships.

WOMEN’S CROSS COUNTRY
Just like their men’s counterparts, the Wesley women went through some growing pains in 2008 and were led by a freshman at every meet. For the women, it was Tiara Brooks (Felton, Del.) pacing the Wolverines in all five races. She ran her fastest time of the year at the Don Cathcart Invitational in 22:17. The team was seventh at the CAC Championships.
“This summer, I not only got to play lacrosse, I also got to learn how lacrosse functions as a business.”
At the conclusion of her junior year, Leslie Cervenka did what a lot of college students do at that point of their college career — applied for an internship. However, Cervenka’s experience was a bit more unique than that of most of her peers. An attacker on the Wesley College women’s lacrosse team who ranks among the school’s all-time assist leaders, Cervenka scored herself a summer sales internship with the Philadelphia Wings of the National Lacrosse League, the top indoor league in North America.

“This internship was perfect for me because I am a business major that is extremely interested in working in sports and entertainment,” the Newtown, Pa. native said. “Since I do play lacrosse at Wesley College, the Wings seemed like an ideal match.”

Cervenka was assigned various tasks and projects over the course of the internship. She compiled information on season ticket holders into a database and researched new ideas for theme nights. But the job Cervenka enjoyed most was heading out to local camps in the tri-state area to promote the team among children. At one camp, she was even given the opportunity to teach lacrosse as the Wings representative. The young campers were fortunate to have had such a good teacher with Cervenka.

The senior standout has a chance to finish her career this spring as one of the Wolverines all-time leading scorers and perhaps its all-time assist leader. Cervenka is equally strong in the classroom as well. A Dean’s List student, she has earned all-academic honors from the Intercollegiate Women’s Lacrosse Coaches Association, Capital Athletic Conference and Pennsylvania Athletic Conference.

“The internship as a whole was a rewarding and beneficial experience to me and my future career,” said Cervenka. “This summer, I not only got to play lacrosse, I also got to learn how lacrosse functions as a business. This hands-on learning experience taught me many lessons that I would have never learned without the internship, and I am greatly appreciative of the opportunity to work for the Philadelphia Wings Organization.”
As you read through the 2007-2008 donor report, one premise should be clear: we depend on you. The support of our donors allows us to maintain the successes of Wesley’s past while advancing our community to the next level of academic achievement.

It is truly inspirational to witness the continued support from our alumni, friends, faculty and staff. Wesley students directly benefit from your time, talent and treasures. Among the countless students who have gained from your gift are scholarship recipients who have been granted the incredible opportunity to continue their education and nursing students dedicated to learning their craft in community hospitals and health centers. They are also student athletes who learn the true meaning of teamwork and leadership and exchange students who have studied abroad in Ireland and Spain, reveling in an enriching lifetime opportunity. You make all this happen!

Thank you for your generosity. As we enter a new and exciting time, I look forward to working with you. Since tuition only covers a part of the College’s overall need, your gifts help us maintain and grow the valuable learning experiences for our students. Together, with your ongoing participation, we can reach our goals and beyond. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Telles
Director, Annual Wesley Fund

The following list acknowledges total cash and tangible gifts received by Wesley College between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008. Extreme care has been given to the preparation of this report. Please review your name and giving information. If you notice any discrepancies between this report and your personal records, please contact Jennifer Telles at 302-736-2317.
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