Moravian

Ahead of the Curve
Moravian grads in demand

Elderhostel adventures
Remembering
Jack Ridge
Dear Alumni and Friends of Moravian College,

Due to the economic conditions affecting all institutions of higher learning, Moravian College has taken steps to reduce costs. Beginning with this issue, Moravian College Magazine is being printed on less expensive paper; its page count has been reduced from 36 to 24; and the mailing list has been streamlined. Together, these changes represent a significant savings in paper, printing, and postage costs.

To save pages, we’ve moved Class Notes online at www.moravian.edu/classNotes. This change has several benefits. The new, 24-page magazine format allows us to provide you with three more pages of news about the Moravian College community than we could in the previous format. Our online Class Notes will be updated monthly, so information will be current, and space will not be an issue. (Please note: If you do not have access to a computer and would like a printed version of your class’s notes, simply call the Public Relations Office at 610 625-7880 to request a print-out, which we will mail to you.)

As our recent alumni survey clearly showed, alumni consider Moravian College Magazine their most valued form of communication with the College. We also value our alumni, and we remain committed to maintaining that connection through our publications and alumni services.

—Victoria Bingham, editor
Prelude: On Mortality and Immortality

Hwa Yol Jung, professor emeritus of philosophy, reflects on matters of life and death, while remembering his good friend, physics professor Jack Ridge.

Hounds Abroad: Class of ’09

Students discover the world is their classroom; their photos speak volumes.

Ahead of the Curve

Moravian’s unique blend of liberal arts education and leadership development has given recent grads an edge in the job market.

Lifelong Learning an Adventure

Dick and Pauline Benner ’56 are still learning together, 53 years after leaving Moravian.

Out & About

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See www.moravian.edu/magazine/extra for more photos from this issue’s stories.
“Paradise,”
I murmur, sleeping
in my netted tent.

—Chora (on the verge of death, 1776)

The drone of the mosquitoes
round the netting, too,
is sad.

—Motojo (Chora’s wife, written as a haiku of mourning)
On Mortality and Immortality

Reflections on the death of a friend
By HwaYol Jung, professor emeritus of political philosophy

My good friend Jack Ridge, professor emeritus of physics, died March 28, 2007. As I began to write this, I received the news of the death of my brother-in-law, whom I had known for more than five decades, in a hospital in Singapore. I lost my wife within the last few years, as well.

Life is so fragile and perishable that there is no time for me to mourn each death properly. The saddest moment, on the day my wife passed away in an emergency room at St. Luke’s Hospital, was when my grandson, who was six at the time, came to my bedroom and said, “I miss Nana, and I feel sorry for you.” I replied, “Nana, too, misses you, Wiley.” And we shared our tears together. A few months later, our extended family gathered and celebrated her life with bright candle lights, sprinkling her ashes around the beautiful cherry tree my youngest son planted in his yard for the occasion.

Deaths are all around me. I not only see and hear about them, but also touch and smell them. Next, to be certain, will be my turn.

I had known Jack Ridge since I began teaching at Moravian College in the fall of 1962. We cherished our friendship, as well as our tennis partnership. What is so precious about life between two good friends is the sharing of not big, but little things, such as conversations about grandchildren, tennis games, homegrown produce, and meals. Jack was simply a nice, unpretentious guy, and the only doubles partner with whom I fully enjoyed playing tennis.

Jack was also a well-rounded intellectual. Although he had degrees in physics, chemistry, and mathematics, he greatly enjoyed studying Western civilization and literature as an undergraduate at Moravian, he told me. We talked about Thomas S. Kuhn’s revolutionary theory of scientific paradigms and why methods of the natural sciences are inappropriate for humanities and social sciences.

Unlike my wife’s death, which I watched slowly, Jack’s death was sudden and unexpected, and because I didn’t witness it, there is something unreal about it. When I drive near his home, I occasion- ally have a lapse of memory (or reality), telling myself I should stop by to say hello. In a split second, I realize he is gone.

What is it about death that causes so much suffering for the living? For Martin Heidegger, regarded by many as the most important twentieth-century philosopher, death is the end of dying. To use his terminology, humans are “beings-toward-death.” We live death in the midst of life; it is the ultimate and incontrovertible fact of our existence. Drew Gilpin Faust, a noted American historian and now president of Harvard University, begins her most recent work on the American Civil War with “Mortality is the human condition.”

Yet, humans long for immortality. Since we know that the body perishes, immortality must be of the soul alone. When I was a little boy, my mother told me that just before a person dies, a comet-like fireball can be seen flying out of the person’s house—a soul flying to the heaven of afterlife.

According to German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche, “soul only is a word for something about the body.” In The Denial of Death, cultural anthropologist Ernest Becker says the quest for immortality is connected to our desire to be the only One or Number One in the universe. We immortalize not only the dead but also ourselves while we are still alive by mummifying their bodies and building monuments—tombstones, pyramids, and mausoleums—the bigger, the better.

Perhaps the most interesting and creative manifestation of immortality is the Judeo-Christian monotheistic conception of God. Its complement was posed by the nineteenth-century German philosopher Ludwig Feuerbach, who asked this intriguing question: instead of God creating humanity in his/her image, what if humanity created God in its own desire to be the One in the universe—the omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent Supreme Being?

Immediately after the passing of Jack, I received a thoughtful and moving sympathy card from another good friend, Don St. John, who teaches Chinese, Indian, and Amerindian religion and philosophy, with a keen interest in ecology. Don wrote, “Jack’s spirit lives on at Moravian, especially among those who knew him.” The front of the card has an uplifting inscription: “Though the voice is quiet, the spirit echoes still.”

I never asked Jack whether he believed in an afterlife. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if two immortal souls could meet again in a paradi- sic, deathless heaven to celebrate friendship in eternity? If I were to believe it, would I deceive myself with a “useless passion?”

Note: The Jack R. Ridge Science Scholarship Fund is given to a student majoring in the natural sciences or mathematics, with first preference given to students majoring in phys- ics. An individual, corporation, or charitable organization may contribute to the fund at any time. For information about supporting the fund, contact Lisa Brand at 610 861-1338.
Tea Time Gives Moravian Women an Edge

Dozens of young Moravian women have discovered that tea time can be one tradition well worth keeping. Re-instituted in 2003 after a decades-long hiatus, the Moravian Academic Women’s Tea brings together the College’s most promising women students and the women faculty and staff members who invite them. More than an exchange of pleasantries, the gathering gives students a chance to develop critical social and networking skills. Nearly 100 participants attended the most recent event, held in Colonial Hall. “The tea is a wonderful opportunity for students and faculty to get together outside the classroom,” said Kathy Weil, co-hostess with Carol Traupman-Carr ’86, associate dean for academic affairs. “This event defines the warmth and spirit that can be found only at a small liberal arts college like Moravian.”

“It’s a good way for busy students to meet motivated students from other departments,” added Angela Geosits ’09, a double art and English major invited by Diane Radycki, assistant professor of art. “And of course there’s the food—everyone loves the food!”
Moravian College Theatre Company has a new artistic director, Christopher Shorr, visiting assistant professor of English. Before coming to Moravian, Shorr was founder and director of a professional performing arts center in Petersburg, Virginia. Transdiction, the company’s first play under his direction, challenged participants to create and perform an original piece in about two months. Student performers called the experience “frustrating,” “uncomfortable,” and “eye-opening,” but ultimately “a lot of fun” and “an opportunity to learn about ourselves.” In the end, Transdiction was their story—a transformational journey into the creative process.

Oedipus, the Company’s latest production, launches a collaboration with Bethlehem’s Touchstone Theatre.

Why did you select “transdiction” as the theme for your first play at Moravian? The themes “transition” and “tradition” seemed apropos for the changes the theatre company is experiencing, for the students’ struggle with change in their own lives, and for examining the questions of what to keep and what to create.

Were any of the participants new to theatre? Many had never done theatre before, and I actually found that these students had the fewest walls to break down. High school theatre is so driven by the musical—big productions with very directed movements and lines. Students coming from that background can be very frustrated by a nontraditional project like this.

Do you take a different approach when directing students than you would with members of a professional theatre? Yes, the purposes are very different. One of my primary missions is to teach students about the creative process. The frustration, the feeling of heading down a blind alley—these were learning moments. Another goal is to create a model for collaboration. For this piece, I took ideas from philosophy, religion, and calculus. But the most active collaboration was with the Music Department. Music and theatre are notoriously non-collaborative at colleges and universities, and I wanted to open the door to something different. One of the reasons I wanted to do a free-form piece like this was that I knew we could integrate original music. Larry Lipkis, [professor of music and] our composer-in-residence, was very receptive. His students created the play’s five flute movements, performed live as a duet and progressing from very traditional scales to more experimental methods of creating sound, finally breaking with tonality.

What’s your vision for the Moravian College Theatre Company? I believe it should play at least three roles. One is to build bridges—between different departments, between different groups of people, between north and south campuses, and between the College and the community. A theatre also should test boundaries: encourage us to question and challenge, to break down our preconceived notions, to make us think and feel more deeply than we are inclined to. And it should strengthen character, helping students become more fully developed, with the capacity to be more fully functioning in society. Theatre can do all of that—for the viewer and the participant. Theatre is a journey, each and every time.

Christopher Shorr (above), new artistic director of the Moravian College Theatre Company, opened the season with Transdiction, a student-written play with original music, staged in the Arena Theatre (top).
About half of those seated in the United Brethren’s Church Room nodded knowingly, as the panel took turns recalling the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy; vivid images of the Vietnam War; and violent civil rights demonstrations—events of 1968, a pivotal year of political and social change. To the students who composed the other half who attended “1968 and 2008: Historic Turning Points?” those events may have seemed more like ancient history—but it was a history they were eager to learn.

“What we remember about history is what shapes us,” noted President Thomforde during his introduction for the discussion. For President Thomforde and Professors Anne Dutlinger, Don St. John, and Gary Olson, who came of age in the turbulent ’60s, memories of 1968 include life-changing lessons about the power of ideas and images, the limitations of government and other forms of authority, the need to think critically, and the importance of taking personal responsibility for actions.

Featured speaker Ted Morgan, Lehigh professor of political science and author of *What Happened in the 1960s and Why It Matters*, outlined three phases of the period, beginning with “hope—the belief that the system could be changed by people,” followed by a time of great creativity and energy resulting in rapid change, and finally disillusionment and backlash in a world that seemed out of control by 1968.

In many ways, the 2008 election bears similarities to the 1960 election, when a young candidate with a fresh voice (John F. Kennedy) energized a new generation, said Professor Morgan. Will the 2008 election usher in a new period of true political and social change? Only if people actively participate in the political process by holding their elected officials accountable, suggested Professor Olson: “Power concedes nothing without demands.”

The event was co-sponsored by the Moravian departments of religion, political science, and art.
Justifying the Judicial System

Long before Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo, ancient and modern democratic governments employed torture against non-citizens—usually foreigners or slaves—deemed a threat to society. Torture may be morally repugnant to enlightened societies, but is it justified if it obtains information that protects its citizens?

Decades of scholarly research by Darius Rejali, professor of political science at Reed College and the 2009 Moravian College Peace and Justice Scholar, reveals that torture is not only ineffective for gathering useful information, but also absolutely corrosive to democracy. “Torture corrupts democracy because it can destroy the judicial system,” said Professor Rejali, author of *Torture and Democracy*, which won a 2007 Human Rights Book of the Year Award. “The law [Geneva Conventions for the treatment of prisoners] is the most fundamental thing we have in war—it’s the best way to get information and the right thing to do.” *Torture and Democracy* is a very accessible book because it was shaped in the classroom, noted Khristina Haddad, assistant professor of political science at Moravian and a former student of Professor Rejali. By acting as critical readers of the book’s draft, posing questions and arguments, “students helped shape an award-winning book that is likely to change future policies about torture,” said Professor Haddad. “It is a reminder of the power of a small liberal arts college and its students.”

MORAVIAN BOOKSHELF

- *Despine and the Evolution of Psychology: Historical and Medical Perspectives on Dissociative Disorders* is an annotated translation of a landmark study in the history of psychology—Antoine Despine’s 1838 monograph of a cure of major dissociative disorder using animal magnetism, or hypnosis. Joanne McKeown, associate professor of French and primary editor of the book, devoted more than 10 years to the project, which brings this seminal work to English-language readers for the first time.

- Walter H. Wagner, adjunct professor at Moravian Theological Seminary and an ordained Lutheran minister, has written *Opening the Qur’an: Introducing Islam’s Holy Book*, a comprehensive and accessible, step-by-step text. The book provides historical, geographical, and theological contexts for the Qur’an, the Prophet Muhammad, and the early Muslim community, while exploring specific passages in detail.

- Adjunct instructor Mark Will-Weber’s *Run for the Diamonds: 100 Years of Footracing in Berwick, Pennsylvania* takes readers through the turns, stretches, and hills of American running by way of one of one of its oldest races. Berwick’s grueling Run for the Diamonds has attracted some of the world’s greatest runners and running pioneers, whose experiences are described with insight and admiration. Don’t miss fast-footed Moravians, including Kim Jaick ’02 (2002 women’s champ) and Heidi Wolfsberger ’02 (2005 women’s champ).
Students Illuminate South Side Homes

If you could spend $1,250 to erase your carbon footprint, what would you buy? Trees? A bicycle? Carbon offsets? The fall 2008 “Climate Crises: Past, Present, and Future” class chose to spend its budget on a combination of carbon-saving strategies that include a “Turn Off the Lights” campaign and planting a patch of living plants on the roof of Collier Hall of Science.

But the project with the greatest impact was the installation of 120 CFL (compact fluorescent light) bulbs in the homes of five families who live on Bethlehem’s South Side. The 60-watt-equivalent bulbs not only will offset half the class’s total carbon footprint, but also will save each family $900 in energy costs over the life of the bulbs.

When the students installed the CFLs in February, they explained how a small investment in alternative energy sources can save money and help the environment over the long-term. “I can see clearly now!” said Bethlehem resident Alicia Maisonet, who received eleven bulbs for her home. “They are like sunshine for my apartment.”

Inspired by the students, Dennis Domchek, vice president for finance and administration, donated $200 for the purchase and installation of CFLs around campus, saving the College $8,000 over time.

Co-designed and co-taught by Hilde Binford, assistant professor of music, and Diane Husic, professor and chair of biological sciences, the interdisciplinary class teaches students of all majors about climate change and how to combat it.

“Before I took this class, I considered myself pretty educated about environmental issues,” said Steven Inghram ’10, a music major. “But through this course I also learned the skeptics’ point of view. The more informed citizens are about any topic, the greater the opportunity to create change—not only in our personal lives, but also in the grand scheme of things.”

To find out how much difference CFLs could make in your own home, check out this calculator: www.thebulb.com/store/t-savingscalculator.aspx.

2008 Vespers Viewed across the Land

Homes across America tuned into Christmas Vespers this year, as the traditional Moravian service of music and candlelight was televised nationally and regionally on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. In observance of the centennial anniversary of the American ecumenical movement, CBS affiliates presented the “Voices of Christmas,” a special program that celebrated the music of a range of Christian faith traditions, including Moravian Vespers. In addition, a specially-filmed, hour-long presentation of the 2008 Vespers service, featuring the Moravian Choir (under the direction of Paula Zerkle, associate professor of music) and the Women’s Chorus (under the direction of Eduardo Azzati, artist-lecturer), appeared on Pennsylvania cable television.

DVDs of the 2008 Moravian Vespers Service filmed in Central Moravian Church are available for $15.00. To order, visit http://home.moravian.edu/public/bookst/home/vespers/vespers.htm.
Topping off the “HILL”

Rainy weather could not dampen enthusiasm for the “topping off” of Moravian’s new residence hall on March 19. The ceremony—placing the cupola atop the Hurd Integrated Living and Learning (HILL) facility on the Hurd Campus, attaining the highest building point—marked a key milestone in the construction of the state-of-the-art facility. The HILL will open its doors to the first student-residents in August for the fall semester.

Members of the Moravian community, builders, architects, and media were on hand to watch a large crane position the star-topped cupola on the roof of the building at noon. A banner signed by President Thomforde and dozens of students was placed inside to serve as a link to future generations. Dennis Domchek, vice president for finance and administration; Greg Butz, president and CEO, Alvin H. Butz, Inc.; Richard Siter, Bethlehem Area Moravians (BAM) property manager; and others commented on the significance of the project, a partnership between Moravian College and BAM.

The HILL will not only provide attractive, comfortable, and secure housing for approximately 230 students, but also will contain co-curricular academic spaces. Locating the new facility on the Hurd Campus also will help reinforce the connection between the College’s two campuses. The project includes many sustainable design features and practices. Energy conservation measures will reduce energy use by 11 percent; dining services will offer local foods; and a sustainable landscape will feature native plants. To date, more than 80 percent of the project’s total construction waste has been recycled, diverting it from landfills.

Accounting Bowl Totally Fun

Q: According to the Financial Accounting Standards Board, the process of reporting an item in the financial statements of an entity is: a) allocation; b) matching; c) realization; or d) recognition.

No clue? No worries, with Moravian accountants on the case. Accounting Hounds demonstrated their knowledge of general accounting and auditing principles at the first annual Accounting College Bowl recently, when Moravian faced off against Muhlenberg in Prosser Auditorium.

Tony Sabino ’90, secretary of the Lehigh Valley Institute of Internal Auditors, served as master of ceremonies.

With a crowd of enthusiastic spectators cheering on their favorite teams, Muhlenberg jumped out to a quick lead in the contest of 80 questions. The Hounds sent in their designated relief team at the start of the second quarter but the Mules prevailed, ultimately outscoring Moravian and winning the $500 cash prize.

Despite the disappointing defeat, the first-time event added up to a big success. “The kids and audience had a great time, and it demonstrated that accounting can be a lot of fun,” said John Rossi, associate professor of accounting and team coach. According to Professor Rossi, “a rematch is being planned for next year and the hope is to involve more Lehigh Valley Area Colleges.”

A: The answer is d) recognition.
HOUNDS ABROAD Class of ‘09

Cliffs of Moher, Ireland (right). At the University of Limerick, I studied English and Irish literature. Now that I’ve lived in another country, I want to travel everywhere. But I also have a newfound appreciation for my home, the United States.
—Jennifer Barnes ’09, English major

Ponte Santa Trinita, Florence, Italy (above). Learning about and living in a new culture has always been exciting to me. I’ve always wanted an international career, and my study abroad experiences proved I made the right choice.
—XiuZhu Lin ’09, international management/Spanish major

The Royal Mile, Edinburgh, Scotland (below). Studying at the University of Oxford in the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies gave me greater confidence, personally and academically. The tutorial course on medieval literature inspired my senior Honors project.
—Angela Geoeits ’09, English/Art major
Rooted in a tradition of community engagement and global outreach, Moravian College encourages students to spend at least one semester studying abroad. The Office of International Studies offers programs in more than 30 different locales. While studying abroad, students have the opportunity to explore nearby sites and even other countries as part of the learning experience. They return with a whole new world view.

Aran Islands, Ireland (above). My semester abroad helped me become more independent and secure as a person. I am more open to new things and new experiences.
— Jennifer Barnes ’09, English major

Museo Nacional d’Art de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain (above). I chose Alicante, Spain, for my semester abroad because I wanted to immerse myself in the Spanish culture. All of my courses were in Spanish: literature, conversation, grammar, and a course on the European Union. I had no problem adapting—it was one of the best experiences of my life.
— XiuZhu Lin ’09, international management/Spanish major

The British Museum, London, England (right). Learning wasn’t limited to the classroom. On breaks, I visited renowned sites throughout the United Kingdom. This photo was taken Easter morning, one of the few snowy days during my stay.
— Angela Geosits ’09, English/vart major
Scott Williams ’04 advocates for men and families through initiatives such as “A Healthier U.S. Starts Here!” (top; with Michael Leavitt, former secretary of Health and Human Services) and “Time-Out for Veterans’ Health” (right). An Alumni Board member, he discusses ideas with Julia Gasdaska ’07 (center).
Follow your heart, not just your wallet,” Scott T. Williams ’04 advises his interns at the Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit organization he helps lead. Following his own heart has led Williams to a richly rewarding career in public service. As vice president of Men’s Health Network, he advocates for men and their families on Capitol Hill, in the national media, and at international conferences. Political and business savvy (and a good dose of personal charm) have helped him succeed.

Recent Moravian College graduates are finding a strong demand for their skills and character despite one of the worst job markets in decades. Moravian’s unique brand of liberal arts education, steeped in a culture that nurtures leadership and service, provides an ideal foundation for thriving in these trying times, say young alumni.

“The diversity of experiences and programs offered by Moravian provided just the right background for my work,” says Williams, who majored in political science and minored in business. “Without the tools I got from Moravian, I don’t think I could do what I do today.”

A report by the Moravian College Career Center estimates that 71 percent* of the College’s 2007 grads found full-time employment within a few months of Commencement (23 percent enrolled in graduate school). Careers in education, health care, and other community-service fields have been popular choices for new grads, and the prospects for these fields remain strong. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics’ Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-09, education, health care, and social service occupations offer “excellent” or “favorable” opportunities for current job seekers.

Meet several young Moravian alums who are defining success in very human terms.

Working for Stronger Communities

It took Kara Mergl ’05 a couple of work experiences and several degrees to find her niche, but she picked up valuable lessons all along the way. Now director for research and evaluation for Common Ground in New York City, she conducts research to assist the homeless and their communities.

After graduating from Moravian with a dual degree in psychology and art history, Mergl has found her passion in helping the homeless and their communities.

The Career Center Wants You

The Moravian College Career Center assists students with career choice, placement, and development, through individual appointments as well as workshops, résumé services, networking receptions, and more. Through the Career Hound Management System, students can post résumés, search job and internship opportunities, and find mentors. Alumni play a valuable role in helping students launch their careers, says Amy Saul, director of career development. “Alumni can share their career expertise with students through the Alumni Career Advising Program (ACAP),” says Saul. “It doesn’t have to be a time-consuming commitment. A shadowing experience is always valuable. Alumni should remember Moravian when recruiting, too.”

For more information on the Career Center and ACAP, please visit http://home.moravian.edu/public/career/.

*Based on information gathered from 305 of 383 graduates of the Class of 2007, an 80% response rate.
Mergl went on to the University of Pennsylvania to obtain a dual master’s degree in social work/science in social policy. While a grad student, she worked with homeless women, many of them just out of prison. “It was one of the most interesting times of my life, and a real awakening for me,” she says. “The experience taught me my strength is not working one-on-one, but rather at the community level. Shaping public policy is what interests me most—that’s where I can make the greatest impact.”

Mergl refined the research techniques she learned as a Moravian SOAR student working with Michelle Schmidt, associate professor of psychology and current department chair, through her graduate work and at the Center for Research on Youth and Social Policy in Philadelphia. At Common Ground, her research focuses on the most vulnerable homeless populations—those unable to navigate the system on their own. “We look at a combination of factors to determine who is most vulnerable, and they become our priority for housing,” she explains. “Our work alleviates pressure on hospitals, which have been assuming a large portion of the housing cost for these individuals.”

Common Ground’s Housing First model is now being adopted by other cities throughout the country. “By partnering with these cities, and backing up what we’re doing with scientific research, we’ve been able to help change their policies for the better,” says Mergl.

In Washington, D.C., Scott Williams, vice president of Men’s Health Network, takes a political approach to affect public policy. Last year, he spoke at policy briefings and receptions at both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions, and appeared before the Food and Drug Administration regarding men’s health issues and opportunities. He’s been featured as an expert on CNN and MSNBC and in the New York Times and Washington Post, and is a contributing author to the American Journal of Men’s Health. Central to his advocacy is breaking down traditional barriers, such as the belief that supporting men’s health means denying support for other health concerns. One of the network’s most successful approaches has been to establish targeted initiatives, such as Women against Prostate Cancer, uniting the voices of all family members for men’s health.

“I believe we’re making a real impact,” says Williams. “Health issues are moving to the front burner again, and the policy makers on Capitol Hill are paying attention.”

In December 2008, Williams worked with President Obama’s transition team, submitting policy recommendations for men’s health as part of health care reform. The network’s goal is to see the passage of the Men’s Health Act, a bill to establish an Office of Men’s Health within the Department of Health and Human Services, complementing the existing offices of Women’s Health and Minority Health.

Men’s health is more than a national issue for Williams. One of the most rewarding aspects of his work, he says, is helping families by influencing men’s health policy on a global scale. In October, he will be the keynote speaker at the World Congress on
Men’s Health and Gender Medicine in Vienna, where he will address health care reform and share best practices with representatives from other nations. Recently he served as the U.S. contributor for an international men’s health policy review project for the European Union.

Williams says Moravian professors and programs were key to his success. The Washington Semester program—which included two courses at American University, a research project, and an internship on Capitol Hill—“gave me a real understanding of how the system works,” he says. “Seeing what Dr. Olson and Dr. Reynolds talked about in class really got my blood boiling. I knew Washington was where I had to be if I were to practice political science.

“Moravian has programs that take you out of your comfort zone. You have opportunities to learn outside the classroom, to see how things work on the national and world stage.”

Williams’ advice to new graduates and other job seekers? “Take advantage of internships. The more real-world experience you have, even if it means beginning at ground level,” he says. “Most of all, do what you love; that way you won’t mind the hard work—my work is my mission and passion in life.”

**Lighting the Lamp of Learning**

A four-year member of the Moravian women’s track and cross-country teams, Jennifer Connolly ’07 knows all about pacing, persistence, and competitive pride—qualities she has called upon often as a middle school music teacher and choral director for Pennsylvania’s Allentown School District.

“I knew I wanted to teach in inner city schools as soon as I began student teaching in Allentown,” says Connolly, who majored in music education. “Teaching music in an urban school can be so rewarding. When it clicks, it’s the best—the students are so genuine and appreciative.”

When Connolly’s Chorale group (seven girls selected through audition) was chosen to perform at the state capitol last fall, “we all loaded up in the van and rode to Harrisburg together,” she recalls. “It was a wonderful experience. The students were in the public eye for the first time in their lives, being appreciated by others, and they loved it. They were so proud, and I was proud of them.”

Connolly acknowledges that she, too,

**My Most Influential Professor Was ...**

**Gary Olson, professor of political science.** “He taught me to think of the bigger picture—don’t accept the status quo. Challenge the message; think about what is not said.” —Scott Williams ’04

**Janet Sipple, professor of nursing.** “As department chair at the time, she inspired me when I entered the program. Hearing her speak made me feel that nursing is not only something I can do, it’s exactly what I want to do.” —Melissa Andrews Bonser ’05

**Jack Ramsey, professor emeritus of drama.** “He pushed me hard to work at a higher level—but he was always there to support me personally.” —Michael McCartney ’05

“I only knew Dr. Ramsey through theater, but he had the greatest impact because he pushed me to fulfill my potential. He didn’t sugar coat things, and I respected that honesty immensely.” —Kara Mergl ’05

**John Reynolds, professor of political science.** “Working with me one-on-one as my Honors project advisor, Dr. Reynolds was an exemplary mentor. I’ve built upon that experience with my own research assistants and interns.” —Scott Williams ’04

**Barbara Liebhaber, (former) assistant professor of music.** “She influenced, inspired, and guided me. She did a terrific job preparing us and gave very clear and realistic professional advice.” —Jennifer Connolly ’07
learns in the classroom, as she seeks the most effective ways to reach her students. Yet she feels grounded in the preparation she received. “One reason I chose Moravian is that it is a nationally accredited school of music,” she says. “The classes are specifically geared for teaching music in all grades, pre-K through 12, and we received plenty of practical experience.”

Just as she did at Moravian, Connolly also performs in the athletic arena, coaching girls’ basketball and cross-country teams. “Being involved in athletics gives you another way to connect with the kids,” she says. “I understand the time commitment that both music and sports require. As a teacher, I try to take a flexible approach because I want my students to experience as much as possible.”

While teaching is a popular choice for new Moravian graduates (nearly one in five 2007 grads were employed as teachers last year), students take various paths to the classroom. Michael McCartney ’05, college counselor and humanities instructor at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics (MSSM), “always knew” he wanted to teach secondary school English. But, encouraged by several of his professors, McCartney instead opted for a dual major in English and history, with an eye toward teaching at the college level.

“I knew no matter what path I chose, it would lead to teaching,” he says. “The liberal arts approach, which teaches you to think and to talk intelligently, really is an excellent foundation.” Although he had no undergraduate education classes, teacher training came from a variety of College experiences—teaching “Introduction to College Life,” participating in theater and LeaderShape, giving class presentations, and observing his own professors.

McCartney’s students at MSSM—a highly-rated residential secondary school that teaches college-level courses—are sure
to do some “artistic analysis,” an assignment learned from Moravian Professors Martha Reid (English) and Jack Ramsey (drama emeritus). They’re also likely to be reading The Story of English, a text used by George Diamond, professor of English. They might even have the chance to study abroad. A couple of years ago, McCartney led students on a trip to Oxford, similar to his own experience while at Moravian.

“The students here are extremely demanding intellectually, and many new teachers aren’t prepared for it,” says McCartney, who completed post-baccalaureate education classes at the Comenius Center, studied at McGill University, and is now working on a master’s in English at Middlebury College. “But Moravian did a great job preparing me. When I think of Moravian, I think of lifelong learning, and it’s the same here. The school day never really ends at MSSM. When students come to class on Monday, they have questions they’ve thought about all weekend.”

McCartney’s best senior students are offered an extra boost—a higher standard to encourage higher-level work, just as the Moravian English Department did with McCartney. “‘Everything previously considered an A is now a C,’ Dr. Ramsey told me. He really pushed me to work at a higher level, and it was a defining experience for me,” recalls McCartney. “Now I give the same opportunity to my best students. It’s always voluntary, and they always say ‘yes.’”

Lending a Healing Hand

Helping elderly people eat, bathe, and walk isn’t for everyone. But it is for Melissa Andrews Bonser ’05, a registered nurse who works on the seventh floor of the Priscilla Payne Hurd Pavilion at St. Luke’s Hospital in Bethlehem. Bonser’s responsibilities at the medical-surgical unit encompass much more than this, but “helping with these simple things that were once so easy for them” brings her the greatest rewards.

A graduate of the St. Luke’s Hospital School of Nursing (SON) at Moravian College, Bonser found working at St. Luke’s Hospital a natural transition. At SON/Moravian, she began working part-time for St. Luke’s Visiting Nurses Association as a sophomore, helping to care for two elderly women, whom she grew close to. Upon receiving her B.S., she headed directly to St. Luke’s Hospital. “Many graduates return to their hometowns or go to larger cities, but I’m very happy at St. Luke’s,” she says. “Like Moravian, it’s relatively small, so the environment is comfortable and the collegiality promotes teamwork.”

Bonser has been an active member of her team at St. Luke’s, serving as a member of the St. Luke’s Network Professional Nursing Council for two years and as a magnet champion (advocate) for her department of about 35 nurses. Hospitals awarded magnet status meet criteria that measure the strength and quality of the hospital’s nursing. The award recognizes hospitals where nursing delivers excellent patient outcomes and where nurses have a high level of job satisfaction. Bonser served on a committee that developed St. Luke’s Professional Practice Model for Nursing (an eight-point star) toward achieving magnet status.

Bonser’s 2008 induction as a Nurse Leader into the Moravian chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the honor society of nursing, has brought her back onto campus once a month, mixing with former professors and other nurses, to plan community service projects. Most recently, she has been selected to receive a Nursing Award of Excellence 2009, and will be honored by St. Luke’s Hospital on May 5.

Still, it’s the hands-on work that remains her passion, she says: “Putting to work the knowledge we gained in the classroom—caring for patients—is what I love best.”

—Vicki Bingham
Dick and Pauline Benner ’56 (far left of top photo), coordinators for Gettysburg-area Elderhostels, forge new friendships while restoring historic landmarks. Last fall, their group tackled the Eisenhower National Historic Site at Gettysburg National Military Park.
Lifelong Learning Can Be an Adventure

Bored with shore vacations? An Elderhostel experience can rejuvenate mind, body, and spirit.

Dick and Pauline (Ritter) Benner ’56 have traveled from New Orleans to Memphis on a Mississippi River barge, improved trails around New Hampshire’s Lake Winnipesaukee, and led dozens of volunteers restoring historic sites at Gettysburg National Park. And that’s only the start of their post-retirement adventures.

Dick and Pauline met as students at Moravian College and married two years after graduation. An ordained minister, Dick Benner served ten congregations in eastern and south-central Pennsylvania over the years, while Pauline worked full-time as a secondary school teacher. Fifty-three years after leaving Moravian, the Benners are retired but still learning together and serving others—now as volunteers for Elderhostel, a nonprofit organization that offers educational experiences for people 55 and older. The programs range widely—some emphasize travel, others are activity- or service-oriented.

Dick and Pauline had participated in several Elderhostels before becoming onsite coordinators for the Gettysburg-area Elderhostel about nine years ago. With its national park and proximity to Pennsylvania Dutch country, “Gettysburg is a prime site for Elderhostling,” explained Dick. The Benners, who live in Hanover, Pa. (about 16 miles from Gettysburg), serve as hosts for groups of Elderhostlers, and lead them in week-long service projects. Last fall, their group helped restore fences and a barn on the Eisenhower National Historic Site, which adjoins the Gettysburg National Military Park. The work is monitored by the park to ensure it meets the exacting specs for these historic sites.

“When only in America would people pay for the opportunity to volunteer their services for a week,” said Dick, with a laugh. “But it’s actually quite a bargain. The programs are affordable, educational, and a wonderful way to meet others of a like mind. Everyone is here to learn.” Even service-oriented Elderhostels include educational seminars, often led by college professors. Most Elderhostlers enjoy the experience so much that they return again and again—some have participated in more than 125 programs! This September, when the Benners participate in their twenty-eighth Elderhostel, they’ll try something new—a Road Scholar tour, which includes bus visits to Harper’s Ferry, Antietam, and other historic sites. The tour will be rated “challenging” because it will include plenty of walking.

Elderhostling has many rewards for the participants, leaders, and hosts. “We meet so many wonderful people from different cultural backgrounds and from all over the country,” said Dick. “The fellowship is a real joy.” Service programs also offer the satisfaction of accomplishment, he added: “At the end of a week, you can see that the site has changed dramatically because of your work. You can say, ‘This place is better because I’ve worked here.’”

**The programs are affordable, educational, and a wonderful way to meet others of a like mind. Everyone is here to learn.**

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*Editor’s note: Elderhostel offers nearly 8,000 educational experiences worldwide. An online catalog is available at www.elderhostel.org.

—Ellen Flynn ’08 contributed to this article.*
MOCO Connections Open Doors for New Grads

Moravian College alumni know that college friendships often last a lifetime. College ties also are one of the best ways to launch and sustain a career in any field. To encourage connections between Greyhound alumni and students, the College offers a variety of networking opportunities through both the Alumni Association and the Career Center. Alumni can help students by serving as mentors through the Alumni Career Advising Program (ACAP), by participating in Career Networking Night, or by offering shadowing opportunities. Posting jobs and internships through the Career Center is another great way to give new and upcoming graduates a boost, while making the most of Moravian talent.

“No matter what their background, skill sets, or interests, alumni can help students make the transition from undergraduate to professional,” says Scott Shelbo ’07, who is active in ACAP. “Networking helps students establish key contacts who can serve as mentors to provide career-related advice. Even those who cannot offer a job or internship probably have contacts in their field who could lend a helping hand.”

Shelbo, a pharmaceutical/managed care consultant for PharmaStrat, Inc., speaks from experience. He got his own start by networking early, as an undergraduate. “As a sophomore, I was searching for internship opportunities in either healthcare or pharmaceuticals, and someone suggested I speak with Brian Corvino ’02 at PharmaStrat. I stayed in touch with him throughout my years at Moravian,” says Shelbo. “During the fall of my senior year, I reconnected with PharmaStrat, and in March, I received an offer to join the team.”

Career success is not only “who you know,” but also “who knows you,” adds Shelbo. Students need to take initiative to seek out opportunities, as well. For more information about the Career Center and ACAP, please visit http://home.moravian.edu/public/career/.

Odell Guyton Recognized as a Leader in Business Ethics

Odell Guyton ’77, Microsoft Corporation’s director of compliance and a Moravian College trustee, was named one of the “100 Most Influential People in Business Ethics 2008” by Ethisphere magazine. Also named to the list were President Barack Obama, hedge fund chairman T. Boone Pickens, and Pulitzer Prize winner Thomas Friedman. In addition to serving as senior corporate attorney for Microsoft, Odell Guyton is co-chair of the Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics. He is married to Karen Boyer Guyton ’78. They are the parents of Kiley Guyton ’03.
Winter Warm-Ups

The extended Moravian family was busy with holiday happenings this year. Alumni returned for traditional favorites, such as the Gingerbread House Party, as well as new events, like Evening on Main Street. To kick-off the spring season, the Alumni Association held its inaugural Life Long Learning workshop, “How the Greyhounds Are Thinking Green,” March 14. Stay tuned for future L.L.L. events!

At the Life Long Learning workshop (top), enthusiastic attendees gathered green ideas to take home. Holiday events included the Gingerbread House Party and Evening on Main St., where Scott Heydt ’02 (right) signed copies of his book, O.Y.L.

In O.Y.L., Scott Heydt ’02, a fifth-grade teacher and Moravian College Alumni Board member, sensitively writes about the turmoil a middle school girl experiences when she develops a crush on her teacher. Heydt donates $1 from each book sold to the nonprofit American Forests organization. Suggested for grades 5-8; lesson plans are available. Information at www.scotthbooks.com. 

Sandra Novack ’97 was nominated for the Pushcart Prize three times, and her fiction has appeared in numerous publications. Precious, her first novel, is set in an idyllic Pennsylvania town during the summer of 1978, when a young girl goes missing. Publisher’s Weekly called the work “lyrical and finely crafted.” Information at www.sandranovack.com.

Inside Bethlehem Steel, a gorgeous coffee-table book by Peter Treiber and Elizabeth Kovach ’75, documents the “beauty, scale, and danger” inside the Steel during its final years, 1977-2000. Kovach was the company’s last director of corporate communications; Treiber was a company photographer. The book is a bestseller at the Moravian Book Shop, www.moravianbookshop.com.
Women Vault, Jump, and Hurdle to New Heights

Three Moravian women turned in impressive performances at the 2009 NCAA Division III Women’s Indoor Track National Championships hosted by Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in March. Pole vaulter Anna Heim ’10 earned All-America accolades for the second straight year and the third time in her career, as she cleared 3.86 meters (12 feet, 8 inches), a school record. Heim was one of four competitors that attempted (but failed) to clear an NCAA meet record of 3.96 meters (12 feet, 11 ¾ inches).

Symonne Scott ’10, who competed in the long jump, earned All-America honors for the first time in her career. Her jump of 5.42 meters (17 feet, 9 ½ inches) earned two team points and gave her a seventh-place finish in the competition. Her teammate Jessica Posimo ’10 ran in the preliminaries of the 55-meter hurdles and finished eighth in her heat (thirteenth overall) with a time of 8.43 seconds. The Greyhounds finished in the top third of the 68 teams that scored points in the meet.

Todd Ervin Named Head Men’s Soccer Coach

Todd Ervin became the head coach of the men’s soccer team in February, taking over for Eric Lambinus, who served as head coach of both the men’s and women’s programs at Moravian for the last ten seasons. (Lambinus will continue as the head women’s soccer coach.) Ervin most recently served as head coach of the Pennsylvania Stoners, which was the 2008 National Premier Soccer League (NPSL) national champs. Previously, he was an assistant with the Moravian men’s program for three seasons (2004–06), and was head coach for the Cedar Crest College women’s soccer team for two seasons. After graduating from Muhlenberg College as a three-time NSCAA Regional All-American in 1998, Ervin went on to play three seasons with the New Jersey Barons professional soccer team in the NPSL. Since 2001, he has played in the Lehigh Valley Soccer League.

Alexander Kulp ’10 Advises NCAA

When Alexander Kulp ’10 speaks, the NCAA listens. As one of 24 Student-Athlete Advisors for the NCAA Division III, Kulp helps represent the interests of about 150,000 athletes at nearly 450 colleges and universities. “We make recommendations to other committees that vote at the NCAA,” explained Kulp, who represents the Landmark Conference and the Michigan Inter-collegiate Athletic Association (to which he was assigned). “At the convention, each school and each conference has one vote. We vote according to what our student-athletes want.” Issues range from requiring that head coaches be certified in CPR to how much meal money should be allotted to traveling athletes. A business management major with a marketing minor, Kulp plays mid-field for the men’s soccer team and aspires to a career with the NCAA.
2008-09 Seasons to Remember

The Greyhounds enjoyed outstanding seasons on the field and on the court last fall and winter, giving students, parents, and alumni plenty to cheer about. Highlights included the football team’s nail-biting overtime victory (27-24) over rival Muhlenberg on Steel Field; a sizzling women’s soccer team that won the Landmark Conference championship; and a women’s basketball team (21-7 record) that led the nation’s Division III in free throw shooting. Coach Mary Beth Spirk, who racked up her four-hundredth career win this season, was named Regional Coach of the Year.

From top right: In women’s soccer, Caitlin Corrigan ’09 became Moravian’s all-time leader in goalie victories (51); football running back Ryan Rempe ’10 earned MVP recognition (and a hug from President Thomforde) after scoring the winning touchdown over rival Muhlenberg; and guard Kate Harrison ’10 helped advance the women’s basketball team to a 21-7 season and berth in the NCAA Division III Tournament.

Not Just BRICKS AND MORTAR

Looking for a unique birthday or graduation gift? Honor loved ones with an engraved brick for the new patio at Rocco Calvo Field. Membership to the Blue & Grey Club at the Silver or Gold giving levels ($250-$999) includes a personalized 4” x 8” brick; giving at the Platinum level ($1,000+) includes a 12” x 12” engraved brick, as well as other membership benefits. Bricks can be used to honor a special coach, professor, parent, friend, organization, or accomplishment. Order online at www.moravian.edu/giving/brick.

AMOS TO RECEIVE A MAKEOVER

Team mascots should be seen and heard, but easy-going Amos the Greyhound sometimes gets lost in the shuffle. Starting this spring, watch Amos come alive with energy and a bright new look to match. Marty Moyle, Athletics Department secretary (and one of Amos’s alter egos), recently attended a mascot boot camp led by Dave Raymond, the original Phillie Phanatic. “We learned everything from choreography to costume care—all of the things necessary to bring a mascot alive,” said Moyle. “It was an eye-opening experience.” Amos graduated Mascot First Class. A news story featuring the mascot boot camp that Amos (and Marty) attended appeared on CNN and Channel 69 WFMZ-TV in March; see the clip at http://wfmz.com/news.
When Rudy Ackerman, professor emeritus of art, came to Moravian College in 1963, he painted landscapes in the style of Walter Baum and other local artists who influenced him as a young man. As Ackerman’s own artistic persona emerged and matured, he turned to sculpture, drawn to the possibilities that a third dimension allows. The former Priscilla Payne Hurd Professor of Arts and Humanities has been especially intrigued by the forms, colors, and textures possible with metals. His steel sculpture “Motivated Energy” has enlivened the outdoor space of Collier Hall of Science for more than three decades.
For nearly 50 years, Moravian College Honors Program students, like Christina LaVecchia, have received the guidance and support necessary to develop their potential. Honors graduates go on to make important contributions as business leaders, scientists, professors, and more—improving the lives of individuals and communities.

Your gift to the Honors program will help support the important work of students like Christina, changing not only her life, but, potentially, the lives of many others. 2010 marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Moravian College Honors Program. Please help us celebrate: plan to join us for a special event, April 10, 2010. (Details to follow.)

The Moravian Fund
To learn more about making a gift to the Honors Program, contact Jackie Jones, director of the Moravian Fund, at 610 861-1339, or e-mail her at jjones@moravian.edu.
The 1948-49 Moravian football team surely would have been among the best—if it hadn’t had so many bad breaks. Coach Rosati was so handicapped by injuries to key players throughout the season that he often had just seven backs and twelve linemen able to play. Led by quarterback Frank Weaver ’49, the valiant team managed to defeat Hofstra, scoring three touchdowns in the third quarter. Weaver went on to receive an All-Pennsylvania team honorable mention that year. The 1948-49 team will always be remembered “as one that never gave up.”

Remember when…

The 1948 Hounds beat Hofstra, 21-6?

Still formidable: Homecoming 2008 was a special occasion for members of the 1948-49 Moravian football team, who rooted on the Hounds to victory against Franklin and Marshall, 23-20. From left: Frank Weaver ’49 (quarterback), Tony Jaso ’50 (lineman), Jim Dundon ’49 (manager), Jack Thompson ’50 (fullback), Dick Dundon ’50 (running back), Joe Kudella ’50 (linebacker).