



Crimson Achievements

Celebrating the Faculty/Staff of Morristown-Beard School

→ FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Colleagues and Readers,

I am pleased to present this fifth issue of *Crimson Achievements: Celebrating the Faculty/Staff of Morristown-Beard School*. This newsletter was established several years ago as a means of informing members of the Morristown-Beard community about the many activities (professional, civic, and personal) that our faculty and staff take on in addition to their yearly responsibilities at school. As you will discover in the following pages, this year our faculty and staff have been involved in many diverse projects, such as moderating book clubs and volunteering in interfaith food pantries.

The names of contributors are listed alphabetically under the following categories: Continuing Education, Seminars/Conferences Attended, Community Service, and Noteworthy Activities.

I would like to thank **Jaimi Talarico** and **Steve Patchett** for designing and facilitating the delivery of this newsletter; **Peter Caldwell**, **John Mascaro**, and **Darren Burns** for their support; and my colleagues for sharing information in a thorough and timely fashion. My heartfelt thanks to **Carol Wooldredge**, who helped gather information about conferences attended by faculty. Congratulations to all, and I hope you enjoy reading about the many achievements of the MBS community.

Sincerely,

Patrick M. Horan
Editor/English Department



"I am so proud to be a member of such a multi-faceted team"

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Brian Crowe (English) earned a Ph.D. from Lehigh University in May 2014, working primarily with faculty from the English Department as well as a professor of history at Quinnipiac University. Brian's dissertation, entitled "Irish Hunger/American Eyes: The Great Famine in Antebellum American Literature," examines the complex ways in which selected American writers reacted to and represented the suffering of immigrants arriving from Ireland during and after the famine years. Brian credits his family (Mary Ellen, Leo, and Nora) for their undying support and is very grateful to friends (at Morristown-Beard and elsewhere) who have encouraged him along the way.

Nicholas Jackson (Library) is pursuing an MA in history and culture from Drew University and was enrolled in several political philosophy/history graduate courses this past year.

Cathy Kellstrom (World Languages) is currently enrolled part-time at Drew University in their Master of Arts in Teaching Spanish languages program. She hopes to attain her Master's degree in May 2015.

Anna Pardo (World Languages) is working towards her MAT in Spanish from Rutgers University. Her coursework focuses on practical methods to incorporate topics related to race, class, and ethnic identity into the language class curriculum. Anna's studies have inspired her to develop the curriculum for the Spanish 5/5H semester course entitled "Latino Music in the United States," which she is currently teaching.

SEMINARS/CONFERENCES ATTENDED

Nasrin Ameri (Mathematics), Andrea Chipana (World Languages), Brian Crowe (English), Cori Eggert (Mathematics), Gorica Hadzic (World Languages), and Renee Kenny (Library) attended a full-day conference at the Pingry School entitled "Exploring Creativity" in October 2013. The workshop, entitled "Theatre Too," was run by Bill Williams, who teaches at PACE. Faculty engaged in a variety of exercises that foster creativity in the classroom. Bill reprised some of these activities for the MBS faculty when he visited the school in April 2014 for our annual Professional Development Day program.

Elena Fiorica-Howells and Marina Milinkovic (Science) attended the "Ethics in Science" workshop in January 2014 at The Ethic Institute at Kent Place School in Summit, New Jersey. This one-day program focused on ethical issues associated with scientific discoveries and applications in the modern medical field. Using case studies, presenters outlined a method for educators to engage students in classroom conversations on ethical topics.

Stephanie Galvez (Assistant Camp Director) attended the National American Camp Association (ACA) Conference in Orlando, Florida, in February 2014. In attendance were camp professionals from across the country; participants exchanged ideas to further their knowledge about camp life. Stephanie also received her Camp Director Certificate from the ACA.

Sara Greenberg (Advancement) and Jaimi Talarico (Advancement) attended the CASE Annual Conference on Marketing & Branding in Baltimore,

Maryland from April 30th to May 2nd. Presentations focused on the creation, communication, and implementation of a successful brand and market position for universities and independent schools.

In November 2013, **Gorica Hadzic (World Languages)** attended The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Annual Convention and World Languages Expo, which featured more than 600 educational sessions, covering a wide spectrum of the language profession and addressing the theme "New Spaces, New Realities: Learning Any Time, Any Place." The ACTFL Convention is an international event, which brings together more than 6,000 language educators from all languages, levels, and assignments within the profession.

Nicholas Jackson (Library) attended a workshop on "Rethinking Libraries" at Dwight-Englewood School in January 2014. Participants included librarians, heads of school, and technologists. Dominic Randolph (Head of Riverdale Country School), Peter Bachmann (JCJ Architecture), and Eileen Hymas (Pingry School Head Librarian) spoke about how to adapt the library space to meet the needs of our students and community. Attendees examined models of libraries that mirror recent renovations at MBS. Nicholas was proud that our school has already integrated technology into the library.



In June 2013, **Ricky Kamil (History)** and **Darren Lovelock (English)** took part in Asheville School's summer Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies in Asheville, North Carolina, called "Project Connect." The goal of the biannual conference is to help teachers and schools start, sustain, and strengthen interdisciplinary initiatives to equip students with higher order skills needed to succeed in college and beyond. Faculty from an array of schools committed to outstanding interdisciplinary studies, including Asheville School, French Broad River Academy, Lawrenceville School, Hawken School, and St. Paul's School, attended this four-day conference.

Rob Mead (Science) was enrolled in the "Engineering by Design" summer training workshop, a weeklong program in hands-on science technology engineering and math training held at Randolph High School in July 2012. Rob also attended one additional day of training at The College of New Jersey. He participated in several other programs sponsored by the New Jersey Technology & Engineering Educators Association, such as the STEM Bootcamp, as well as workshops on the following: Aviation & Flight, Robotics, Green Architecture, Treehouse Design, Collaborative Wind Turbines, and Autodesk Software.

Roger Richard (History) attended the annual New Jersey Council for History Education conference at Princeton University in December 2013. Four distinguished professors presented on Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson. Sessions included "Emperor of Liberty: Thomas Jefferson and the World," by Frank Cogliano, Professor of American History at the University of Edinburgh; "Thomas Jefferson and American Democracy," by Peter S. Onuf, Professor of History at the University of Virginia; "Indian Removal: Andrew Jackson, His Critics and Posterity," by Daniel Feller, Professor of History at the University of Tennessee; and "Andrew Jackson's America: Society and Politics," by Harry Watson, Professor of History at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Additionally, Roger is a member of the NJAIS Professional Development Committee and involved in the planning of professional development activities offered by NJAIS for the faculty and staff of New Jersey independent schools.

Natalie Sturgeon (Mathematics) took part in a one-day Learning and the Brain seminar entitled "Numeracy and the Brain" in King of Prussia, PA. Julie Booth from Temple University presented to elementary/high school teachers, guidance counselors, and curriculum specialists. The day began with an overview of how numeracy is acquired from infancy through adulthood. Participants were then shown how to foster its development, particularly for those at-risk or with specific learning disorders, such as dyscalculia. Breakout groups focused on how to apply the rapid advances in brain research in this area to individual classroom and teaching experiences.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Patrick Horan (English) moderated the Chester Library Book Club's October 2013 meeting on Willa Cather's novel *O Pioneers!*

Cathy Kellstrom (World Languages) has volunteered at the Interfaith Food Pantry of Morris County for fifteen years and served in many capacities: food drives, school group tours, Spanish translation of fliers and recipes, and delivery for housebound clients. She is also a member of the Junior League of Morristown and most recently served on their Annual "Lunch With the Authors" committee. Cathy is the Junior High (7th and 8th grade) Youth Group Leader at Grace Episcopal Church in Madison and served as President for the Chatham Music and Theater Boosters from 2009 until 2012.

Mike Kelly (English) led the MBS Book Club discussions of the following works: *Time Magazine's* 2012 Book of the Year *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green, Mark Twain's *Pudd'nhead Wilson*, and *Radiance of Tomorrow* by Ishmael Beah.

Susie Speidel (Chair, Performing Arts) worked with the education department at Paper Mill Playhouse to create a series of activities for the residents at the Lillian Booth Actors' Home, located in Englewood, New Jersey, and run by the Actor's Fund. The actor's home is an assisted living and skilled nursing care facility, which provides a comfortable environment and support for retired members of the entertainment industry. Activities included three days of "Broadway Trivia" and one day of "Name That Tune." Susie will continue the project through spring and summer 2014.

NOTEWORTHY ACTIVITIES

As a member of the USA Track and Field of New Jersey (USATF-NJ), **Gretchen Atwater (History)** participated in many competitive races over the course of 2013. By the time end-of-year final standings were announced, Gretchen had placed tenth in her age group for Category 1 races (races from 3K- to 4-miles long, but primarily 5Ks), eighth in her age group for Category 2 races (races over 4 miles and up to, but not including, 15Ks), and ninth in her age group for the Grand Prix. Grand Prix standings take into account the Category 1 and 2 standings and add Category 3 races of 15K and above. She is especially proud of being the eighteenth woman overall in the Category 2 races.

Jack Bartholomew (Chair, Science) taught again (summer 2013) at the Center for Talented Youth in Baltimore at Johns Hopkins University. The program consisted of two three-week sessions, covering the equivalent of a Whiting School of Engineering three-credit course. Jack also participated in a dance intensive in New York City sponsored by Movement Research and held at Danspace. His choreographic methods class, taught by Neil Greenberg, focused on creativity and principles that directly carry over to Jack's school-year teaching. Finally, Dr. Bartholomew sang tenor for the second year in the Drew University Choral Union, an organization with membership from Drew and the surrounding community, including faculty and students from MBS.

Barbara Clark (Administration) has written a children's book entitled *Sir Pillsbury, The Canine Communicator*, which is the first in a series to be subtitled *A Biscuit Tale of Learning*. The book is now in the illustration phase and will be published sometime in the summer of 2014.

Andrea Deventer (Performing Arts) was commissioned by the West Side Dance Center to choreograph a performance as part of "World Voices in Motion," the 2014 Performing Arts Educators Invitational at Carnegie Hall in January 2014. Twenty-one dancers performed to "Babethandaza," an African lullaby that was sung live by North American Vocal Ensemble Voices, a choral group consisting of singers from around the country.

Joanne Dzama (Athletic Director) was awarded the title of "Registered Athletic Administrator" by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) in October 2013. Joanne attended several leadership courses with the NIAAA over the previous summer to achieve this credential. This is the beginning of a certification process that will ultimately lead to a Masters in Athletic Administration.



David Gold (Performing Arts) comes to us with an impressive list of musical performance credits. David notes the following as some of the highlights of his past year: Violist in *Wicked* on Broadway (June 2013-present); "Great Performances' 40th Anniversary Celebration," televised nationally on PBS (October 2013); "Late Show with David Letterman," 20th anniversary show, televised nationally on CBS (August 2013); recording sessions for "Cheek to Cheek," Tony Bennett's upcoming album with Lady Gaga (July 2013); and "June in Buffalo," 75th birthday concert with Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Charles Wuorinen conducting a performance of his chamber cantata, "It Happens Like This" (June 2013).

Ricky Kamil (History) is a member of the Westfield United Fund Distribution Committee. He joined the group in October 2013 and hopes to serve on the committee for years to come. This local, grassroots organization helps families, neighbors, and friends in need (children, seniors, the disabled, low-income families, and people with mental health challenges).



the Western Highlands, including Todos Santos Cuchumatán and Chichicastenango.

Susie Speidel (Chair, Performing Arts) performed her cabaret show, “An Evening of Music by Jerry Herman,” produced by the Key West Symphonic Pops in December 2013. Susie also sang at the annual gala for the Bickford Theater and Morris Museum in a program entitled “From *Carousel* to *Kinky Boots*: A Cabaret of Broadway’s Best,” in April 2014. The program included classic and contemporary hits, performed by a number of Broadway personalities.

Greg Williams (Admissions) was appointed to the Winston School’s Board of Trustees as their first Alumni Trustee. The Winston School is an independent day school for grades 3-8 in Short Hills, NJ.

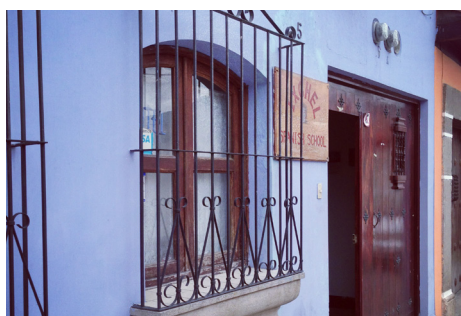
Renee Kenny (Library) is a member of the Bernards Football Club, which provides funds for the football team. She is also the Parent Assistant Coach for the Mavericks Soccer Club team; the Leopards, a sixth-grade girls’ team; and the Head Coach of the fifth- and sixth-grade girls’ Somerset Hills Lacrosse Club team.

Rob Mead (Science) secured a \$4,000 grant for MBS from The Hartley Corporation to pay for improvements to the Middle School. Rob donated more than 100 hours of his own time, building dozens of bookcases for classroom use.

Pam O’Connor (Wellness) adopted a 4-year-old black Labrador named Molly from St. Hubert’s shelter in September 2013. She has entered a whole new phase of motherhood!



Steve Patchett (Advancement) ran the Boston Marathon again in April, and shaved two minutes off last year’s time. He finished in 3:17:19 (7:31/mile).



In July 2013, **Linda Sisco (Learning Resources Center)** and her son lived in the old colonial city of Antigua, Guatemala, studying Spanish at the Ixchel Spanish School. They resided with a local host family and made weekend excursions into the country, visiting places such as Guatemala City, Lago de Atitlán, and towns in



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PATRICK M. HORAN
Editor

STEVE PATCHETT
News & Information Manager

JAIMI TALARICO
Marketing & Design Manager

The next issue will include information about summer 2014 through spring 2015. Please email your submissions and comments to phoran@mbs.net.