

# wellesleyweek

10-17  
december  
2007

## wellesley college class focuses on personal finance

Another holiday season is in full swing, and for many it means another shopping season. Merchants everywhere hope the season will bring them out of the debt column. But for consumers, the holidays may add up to more debt and deeper financial trouble.

Money sense holds the key to enjoying the bounty of life, says Ann Witte, economics. Yet on four-year college campuses, few courses focus on how to manage your money. Now Witte and a former student, Saundra Gulley '85, offer help through a class called "Personal Finance," now in its second year at the college.

Between them, Witte and Gulley share some top-notch advice. Witte has focused on personal finance during her 23 years of teaching. She is the author of more than 10 books and monographs and 100 scholarly articles on the topic of personal finance. A new publication based on their course is on the horizon. Gulley, a self-made businesswoman, retired from her career as an investment banker several years ago. Now she spends her time as a volunteer teacher and advisor living in one of the loveliest spots on earth.

"You don't retire at 36 to Hawaii unless you've been quite successful at investing," said Witte of her colleague, whose presence in the

Wellesley classroom is possible via videoconferrence.

"Personal Finance" is open to undergraduates, college employees and auditors from the surrounding communities. The class currently enrolls students from their early 20s to retirement age, all learning about where their money goes—and how they can keep more of it in their pockets. Without basic knowledge, Witte said, financial disaster is all too likely to strike the uneducated consumer.

Brittany Coles '08 calls "Personal Finance" one of the most applicable courses she has taken at Wellesley.

"It makes me less anxious about being out on my own," she said. "I'll focus on living within my means and having enough left over to create an emergency fund, to invest and plan for the future because, with the volatility of the markets, there is always the possibility to be out of work or other unknown factors." For more information, visit [www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/Releases/2007/112007.html](http://www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/Releases/2007/112007.html).



## wellesley college junior reports on campus life for cnn

A number of accomplished journalists claim Wellesley College as their alma mater, including Diane Sawyer, Cokie Roberts, Linda Wertheimer, Lynn Sherr and now, Johanna Peace '09.

Peace, a sociology major, is the only student correspondent in New England for CNNU, an online feature from media giant CNN. Along with 20 other college reporters from across the United States, Peace writes about news and trends from the student perspective.

Most recently, she wrote an article titled "Wellesley Shows Its Love for Famous Alumna," following a visit to campus by Senator Hillary Clinton, Wellesley class of 1969.

To read it, go to [www.cnn.com/2007/POLITICS/11/09/cnnu.clinton](http://www.cnn.com/2007/POLITICS/11/09/cnnu.clinton). She has also written about online social networks and student protests for CNNU.



In September of her first year at Wellesley, Peace began writing for *The Wellesley News*, quickly rising through the ranks as assistant news editor, news editor and now editor-in-chief. Last summer, she was hired by CNN. "I was on top of the world," Peace said. "It's a great opportunity and I felt so lucky. I never believed it would have happened."

An independent contractor, Peace is paid \$50 per article and \$25 for photos.

Next semester, she plans to take on yet another challenge: study abroad in Australia.

From February to June, she will attend the University of Syd-

ney in Australia, studying media and society. Perhaps roving reporter Johanna Peace's next dateline will be somewhere in the wilds of Australia.

## winter concerts

Synergy, Wellesley's improvising jazz string ensemble—with keyboard, bass and drums—will join jazz vocal group Body and Soul for a winter concert Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 7 pm in Punch's Alley, Wang Center. It's tradition for these two groups to perform together on the first night of reading period.

"We will present a relaxed and upbeat set of Latin, jazz and rock tunes, plus a holiday number or two," said Paula Zeitlin and Patrice Williamson, music. "It's a great study or work break, with room for eating, dancing or sing along and ending early enough to go back to the books."

The Chamber Music Society will present concerts Monday, Dec. 10, and Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 7 pm in Pendleton West 220. The groups performing range from duos to quintets and include strings, winds, vocals, piano and horn. For more information, call x2028.

**WellesleyWeek** is published each Monday during the academic year by the Office for Public Affairs. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. For directions, go to [www.wellesley.edu/CampusMaps/](http://www.wellesley.edu/CampusMaps/). Phone numbers are dialed 781 283-xxxx. Campus-sponsored event listings are welcome via an online form at [www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/Forms/wellswkform.html](http://www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/Forms/wellswkform.html) or e-mail [wellesleyweekcalendar@wellesley.edu](mailto:wellesleyweekcalendar@wellesley.edu). Submissions can be mailed to WellesleyWeek, Office for Public Affairs, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley, MA 02481. Deadline for calendar submissions is noon on the Monday prior to publication. For paid subscriptions, call 781 283 2373. View **WellesleyWeek** online at [www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/archive-week.html](http://www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/archive-week.html). For more events, go to <https://calendar.wellesley.edu/wv3> for the online campus calendar.

## news

### thirteen students awarded schiff fellowships

Thirteen Wellesley students have been selected to receive Schiff Fellowships. Made possible through a generous gift from the Jerome A. Schiff Charitable Trust, these merit awards support the scholarly work of students in the senior honors program. Schiff Fellows receive a minimum award of \$2,000. Some Fellows use their awards to reduce work obligations during the academic year to devote more time to research. In addition, students may apply for up to \$1,000 to meet thesis-related research expenses. The maximum award is \$3,000.

Listed below are the 2007 Schiff Fellows and their majors, research projects and faculty advisors:

- Shloka Ananthanarayanan, biological chemistry, for “Functionalized Nanoparticles for Cancer Therapy” (Nolan Flynn)
- Ashmita Banerjee, biological chemistry, for “Determination of the Molecular Target of a Monoclonal Antibody Reactive against Pancreatic Cancer” (Andrew Webb)
- Abigail Dalton, English, for “Julian Barnes and the Postmodern Problem of Truth” (Lisa Rodensky)
- Mattie Fitch, history, for “Paris as Ideological Battleground: the Third Republic, the Commune and Competing Visions of Modernity” (Ryan Frace)
- Madeline Harms, psychology, for “The Roles of Complex Language and Executive Function in Children’s False-Belief

Understanding” (Jennie Pyers)

- Sanja Jagesic, sociology, “Proudhon – Marx – Bakunin: A Case-Study in Intellectual Combat” (Thomas Cushman)
- Aigerim Kabdiyeva, economics, for “Co-ordination Failures and the Subprime Crisis: Implications for Policymakers” (Akila Weerpana)
- Sunita Kannan, physics, for “Variational Monte Carlo Method Applied to Spins in 2-Dimensional Square Lattices with Zero Doping” (Courtney Lannert)
- Katie O’Banion, economics, for “Transplanting Civil Law into Common-law America: The Effect of New York’s 1822 Limited-Partnership Act on Economic Activity” (Eric Hilt)
- Katherine Grimm Roth, music, for “Alban Berg’s Violin Concerto: Reconciling Tonality with Performance” (Gurminder Bhogal)
- Diane Slutzky, women’s studies, for “Perceptions of Identity and the Medical Establishment in Trans Zines” (Lara Freidenfelds and Rosanna Hertz)
- Courtney Stepien, biological sciences, for “Morphological and Molecular Analyses of Aberrant Vertebral Anatomy in Tree Sloths” (Emily Buchholtz)
- Erisha Singh Suwal, South Asian studies, for “Were Nepali Peasants Revolutionary? Exploring the Causes of Peasant Mobilization under the Maoists’ People’s War” (Christopher Candland)

## colleagues

### in the news

[lisa graham](#), music, will act as guest conductor for the Chorus pro Musica Dec. 21 at 8 pm. The annual holiday celebration concert will be held at Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Copley Square, Boston. The performance includes Daniel Pinkham’s “Christmas Cantata,” Morten Lauridsen’s “O Magnum Mysterium” and Gustav Holst’s arrangement of “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence,” among other seasonal favorites. There will also be a candlelight processional, brass choir and opportunities for the audience to join in singing Christmas carols. Graham conducts the Wellesley College choir, glee club and chamber singers. She is also music director of the Brookline Chorus and conductor of the Handel and Haydn Society’s Young Women’s Chorus. Now in its 59th season, Chorus pro Musica is an independent Boston-based chorus recognized for versatility and excellence in performing traditional, adventurous and seldom-heard works.

The Association for Communications Technology Professionals in High Education ([www.ACUTA.org](http://www.ACUTA.org)) has recognized [sandra roberts](#), telecommunications, with its Ruth A. Michalecki Leadership Award. The award honors those who demonstrate exceptional leadership in the communications technology industry.

[deborah weaver](#), physical education, was awarded the 2008 Social Innovator Award by the Social Innovation Forum for her work as executive director and founder of Girls’ Lifetime Empowerment and Awareness Program (LEAP) Self-Defense Inc. The Forum accelerates solutions to social problems by directing alternative local resources to innovative, results-oriented nonprofit organizations. The Forum chose one finalist with the aim to “identify highly effective approaches to addressing our most pressing social issues and to initiate discussion on how to generate enduring solutions.” Weaver’s organization was honored in the Forum’s “Women and Girls: Addressing Their Needs by Design” category. LEAP will receive \$10,000 and a variety of support services from the Forum for one year.

### intramural sports update

The PERA Department sponsored an expanded list of intramural events this fall, including Wellesley Intramural Wednesdays with weekly kickball, basketball and volleyball tournaments. A game of Capture the Flag was held on Severance Green the evening of Halloween, and a November dodge ball tournament featured a final match between a team of staff members and a team of Wellesley softball players.

Several annual events also continued with a strong turnout this fall. The dorm crew race was held on Halloween morning on Lake Waban, and the third annual Turkey Trot and canned food drive kicked off the Thanksgiving weekend.

Coming up next semester, Intramural Wednesdays will continue, a Winter Games event in February will feature water sports and floor hockey and the class crew race will take place in the spring. Recreational and instructional skiing and snowboarding will also be offered at Nashoba Valley. For more program information, call x2016.



# calendar

## save the date!

This issue marks the final publication of *WellesleyWeek* for the fall term. The next issue will cover the week of Jan. 28-Feb. 4. Happy holidays!

12/20: Winter Solstice/Holiday Brunch. 9-11 am, Tishman Commons, Wang Center. Sponsor: President's Office. Info: x2384.

12/20: Last day of final exams.

1/3: Wintersession begins.

1/21: Administrative Holiday. Martin Luther King Jr. day.

1/24: Wintersession ends.

1/28: Spring semester classes begin.

1/31: Wilson Lecture. Speaker: Bill McKibben, environmentalist, educator and author. 8 pm, Alumnae Hall Auditorium. Sponsor: President's Office. Info: x2373.

## monday december 10

meeting. "Meditation." 12:30-1:30 pm, Schneider Loft meditation space. Sponsor: Religious Life. Info: x2793.

italian table. 12:30 pm, Tower private dining hall. Sponsor: Italian. Info: x2616.

senate meeting. 6 pm, Academic Council Room, Green Hall, 4<sup>th</sup> floor. Info: sanand@wellesley.edu.

concert. Chamber Music Society. 7 pm, PNW 220. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2077. (See story, page 1.)

## tuesday december 11

last day of fall semester classes.

french table. 12:30 pm, Bates dining room. Info: x2413.

concert. "Works in Progress." 4:30-6 pm, Anderson Forum, Wang Center. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2077.

meeting. "Meditation." 7 pm. (See 12/10 listing.)  
concert. Chamber Music Society. 7 pm, PNW 220. Sponsor: Music. Info: x2077. (See story, page 1.)

## wednesday december 12

reading period begins.

chinese table. Noon, Davis living room. Sponsor: Chinese Students' Association. Info: CSAMail@wellesley.edu.

german table. 12:30 pm, Tower private dining room. Sponsor: German. Info: x2584.

meeting. Academic Council. 12:30 pm, Academic Council Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, GRH. Sponsor: Office of the Dean of the College. Info: x3583.

gathering. Mass to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe. 2:30 pm, Alumnae Hall Ballroom. Sponsor: Newman Catholic Ministry. Info: x2688.

gathering. Unitarian Universalist worship circle. 6 pm, interim chapel, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Schneider. Info: x3484.

concert. Synergy/Body & Soul Winter Concert. 7 pm, Punch's Alley. Sponsor: Music. Info: x7690. (See story, page 1.)

## thursday december 13

seq system closes.

meeting. "Meditation." 12:30 pm. (See 12/10 listing.)  
spanish table. 12:30 pm, Tower private dining hall. Info: x3571.

celebration. Book release party for *The Pirate's Daughter* by Margaret Cezair-Thompson, English. 4:30 pm, FND 106. Sponsor: English. Info: x2591.

meeting. IntersVarsity Christian Fellowship. 7 pm, Wang 413. Info: x4428.

## seqs available

The Office of the Dean of the College would like to remind students that the online SEQ system will be available from Dec. 4-13. The SEQ conference on students' FirstClass desktops will be used to communicate SEQ information throughout this period.

Each student is required to complete an evaluation for each instructor in every course in which she is enrolled. Members of the faculty and the administration take SEQs very seriously, and student compliance with this requirement is very important. For more information, call x3587.

## friday december 14

final exams begin. 9-11:30 am and 1:30-4 pm, Founders Hall and Science Center.

bible study. 7-11:30 pm, Wang Center 415. Sponsor: Asian Baptist Students Koinonia. Info: mkhoo@wellesley.edu.

## saturday december 15

## sunday december 16

gathering. Darshana. 11 am, meditation room, Schneider Center. Sponsor: Hindu Students. Info: x2794.

gathering. Catholic mass. 4 pm, Schneider chapel. Sponsor: Newman Catholic Ministry. Info: x2688.

gathering. Protestant worship service. 7 pm, Schneider chapel. Sponsor: Protestant Christian Chaplaincy. Info: x2655.

## monday december 17

final exams. 9-11:30 am and 1:30-4 pm, Founders Hall and Science Center.

meeting. "Meditation." 12:30 pm (See 12/3 listing.)

italian table. (See 12/3 listing.)



Pamela Melroy '83 shows her Wellesley pride while on the STS-120 mission in space

# don't miss ...

## botanic gardens to explore color and pattern at annual light show

What do sunflowers, pinecones, desert succulents and pineapples have in common? Art, mathematics and biology come together in their Fibonacci spirals, patterns that curve in both clockwise and counterclockwise forms and which are found in the majority of plants.

Visitors can discover these and other fascinating patterns and striking uses of color in nature as they tour the Wellesley College Botanic Gardens during its third annual Light Show. The gardens will light up one of the darkest days of the year Wednesday, Dec. 12, from 5 - 8 pm in the Margaret C. Ferguson Greenhouses.

“Come explore color and pattern in some amazing plants, and experience the magic of the greenhouses at night,” said Kristina Jones, director of the botanic gardens.

Visitors should enter at the Greenhouse Visitor Center, where there will be color and pattern activity centers and docents ready to lead tours of the show. Guests are also welcome to explore the show at their own pace—bring a flashlight if you have one. Children are welcome. For more information, call x3027.

