

wellesleyweek



2007 tanner conference celebrates a world of learning

On Nov. 6, the Tanner Conference will bring together students, faculty, staff and alumnae in an exploration of off-campus study that adds to the knowledge and understanding of the greater world. With projects ranging from “Plastic Flowers and Carved Marble: Experiences with Modern and Ancient Cemeteries” to “A Pilgrim’s Story: My 1100-Kilometer Journey to Santiago de Compostela on Foot” to “Confessions of a Lab Intern: One Woman’s Relationship with the Crooked-Tail Mouse,” Wellesley travelers return to share their experiences with the campus community.

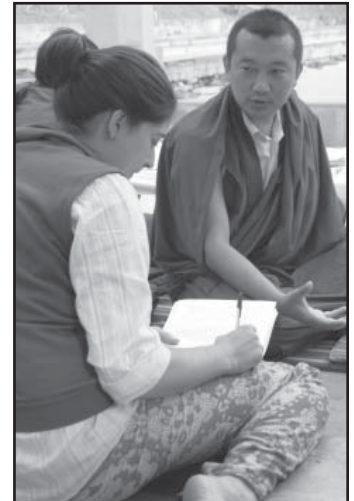
During her presentation, Elinor Marboe ’08 will recount the lessons learned about death while traveling through Greece and Israel observing tombs dating from 1400 BCE to the present day. During her semester of off-campus research, she aimed to answer questions including, “How does one come to terms with death?” and “If cemeteries and funeral rites were more present in daily life, would death be less frightening?”

Lillian Nin ’08 will explain the lifestyle of the modern pilgrim and stories of her journey from Moissac, France, to Santiago, Spain, this past summer. “Within days, I realized that I had entered a surprisingly secular and spontaneous voyage of long and lonely days in the French and Spanish countryside, and overfull and uproarious nights

in the pilgrim lodging, with incredibly diverse and unique international companions,” Nin said.

Cecilia Flatley ’10 will discuss her research on human birth defects at the Weill Cornell Medical College in New York City. Her studies focused on a gene involved in skeletal development and spina bifida. In mice, she learned, mutations of the gene result in crooked tails.

This year’s conference represents the work of nearly 300 students, faculty, alumnae and staff. The annual event was established in 2001 through the generosity of Wellesley trustee Estelle “Nicki” Newman Tanner ’57. For more information, go to www.wellesley.edu/CWS/Tanner/index.html.



Presenter Catherine Jaffee ’08 speaks with a Buddhist monk in Bodh Gaya, Bihar, India

davis after dark!

A presentation by the internationally known Guerilla Girls, an informal talk-back session in the *Global Feminisms* galleries, crafts and refreshments will all take place as part of “Davis After Dark: Femme Fatale” Wednesday, Nov. 7, from 6-9 pm in the Davis Museum and Jewett Arts Center.

The Guerilla Girls are anonymous females who take the names of dead women artists as pseudonyms and appear in public wearing gorilla masks to convey information, provoke discussion and show that feminists can be funny. *The New York Times* wrote, “The Guerilla Girls took feminist theory, gave it a populist twist and some Madison Avenue pizzazz and set it loose in the streets.”

Participants are invited to come dressed as their favorite “bad girl.” For more information, call x2034.

trustees approve financing, get call from space

Fiscal and planning issues were among the topics considered by the board of trustees at its first quarterly meetings of the academic year, Oct. 24-26. The board’s meeting on Friday was interrupted by a call from Pam Melroy ’83, commander of the Space Shuttle Discovery, who called from the International Space Station.

Melroy’s fellow trustees burst into applause and cheers when they heard her voice. “I wish I could be with you at this exciting time for Wellesley and meet our new president. Hi, Kim,” said Melroy, greeting President H. Kim Bottomly.

As the meeting continued, Deans Andy Shennan, Joanne Berger-Sweeney and Adele Wolfson led a discussion of the reaccreditation process that the college will undertake over the next 18 months. The trustees discussed the changes to the landscape of higher education, particularly in the areas

of assessment and regulation since Wellesley’s last reaccreditation self-study nearly 10 years ago.

After a detailed discussion among members of the finance and investment committees, the trustees authorized the college to borrow up to \$82 million in bond financing to fund the first phase of the capital facilities plan and to refinance existing bonds.

The board approved the renovation of Diana Chapman Walsh ’66 Alumnae Hall and the project’s \$18.3 million budget, all of which will be financed through donations raised last year.

Five new trustees were welcomed to the board and began their service with a full-day orientation on Wednesday. They are Lindsey Boylan ’06, Dorothy Chao Jenkins ’68, Ellen Goldberg Luger ’83, Museum of Science President and Director Ioannis Miaoulis and Nami Park ’85.

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/. 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 or e-mail 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/archiveweek.html. For more events, go to <https://calendar.wellesley.edu/wv3> for the online campus calendar.

news

academics focus on environmental justice

Academics and other speakers from around the world will gather at Wellesley Nov. 9-10 for an international symposium, "Environmental Justice Cross Culturally: Theory and Praxis in Africa and the African Diaspora," sponsored by Africana Studies. The scholars will explore issues related to the environmental justice movement, which highlights the links between environmental degradation and social inequality.

Focusing on Africa and the countries of the African diaspora, participants will engage in several panel discussions dealing with themes such as "Environmental and Educational Approaches to Addressing Asthma Disparities," "Katrina's Effects on the Lives of Women Survivors" and "Nuclear Energy, Health and Environmental Justice in South Afri-



ca: The Continuing Legacy of Apartheid."

The symposium will open with a keynote address about landowners and Hurricane Katrina by Clenora Hudson-Weems of the University of Missouri-Columbia. It will end with an open round-table discussion, "The Way Forward," including student perspectives.

According to event organizer Filomina Steady, Africana Studies, environmental justice perspectives will help the world understand the uneven impact of environmental phenomena in socially unequal societies.

"While climate change is the most important economic development challenge facing the world today, environmental justice is the most important human rights challenge," she said. For more information, call x2565.

colleagues

in the news

[paul wink](#), psychology, and his wife, Michele Dillon, sociology, University of New Hampshire, will discuss and sign their book, *In The Course of a Lifetime: Tracing Religious Belief, Practice and Change* (2007), Nov. 8, at 7:30 pm at Barnes and Nobles Booksellers, Framingham. Relying on a unique 60-year study, the book follows the role religion plays in the everyday experiences of Americans over their lives. "As our data from the 1930s through the 1990s show, there is much autonomy in how Americans construe religion, church and the sacred," note the authors. "At the same time, though it is not heavy-handed, religion matters a great deal in many people's lives, adding texture and meaning to their everyday reality, anchoring their personal and social commitments, and buffering them in times of adversity."

[peggy mcintosh](#), wcv, was the featured guest at a lecture at Hilbert College in Hamburg, N.Y. She discussed her landmark paper, "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack." McIntosh is founder and co-director of the National SEED (Seeking Education Equity and Diversity) Project on Inclusive Curriculum and co-founder of the Rocky Mountain Women's Institute. In the early 1990s, she consulted with women at 22 Asian campuses on the development of women's studies and programs to bring these areas into the main curriculum. Her lecture was followed by a panel discussion on equality in education by various experts in the field.

[mary lefkowitz](#), humanities emerita, wrote an article, "Bring Back the Greek Gods" for the *The Los Angeles Times*. "Prominent secular and atheist commentators have argued lately that religion 'poisons' human life and causes endless violence and suffering," Lefkowitz wrote. "But the poison isn't religion; it's monotheism. The polytheistic Greeks didn't advocate killing those who worshiped different gods, and they did not pretend that their religion provided the right answers. Their religion made the ancient Greeks aware of their ignorance and weakness, letting them recognize multiple points of view."

four generations of navajo women speak on culture

The complicated and sometimes difficult interaction between European-American and Native American cultures will form the basis of discussion Nov. 8-9, when four generations of Navajo women visit Wellesley to speak and make presentations.

On Thursday, Nov. 8, from 7-9 pm in the Library Lecture Room, the five women (Grandmother Dorothy Walker; her daughters Mae Peshlakai and Angie Maloney; Peshlakai's daughter Tina; and Tina's 14-year-old daughter Shelby) will speak about a variety of topics, including Navajo art and religion, public health, educational challenges and the realities of life on a Navajo reservation. They will also present a demonstration of traditional Navajo weaving and offer handmade jewelry for purchase.

The women will interact with students and community members Nov. 9 from noon-1:30 pm on the fourth floor of the Wang Campus Center, where they will display their artwork and answer questions. From 1:30-2:30 pm in Jewett Arts Center, they will participate in an open studio demonstration.

According to Beth Hennessey, psychology, who helped bring the women to campus, attendees will learn about "the clashes and syntheses that have been experienced as Navajos have negotiated a life incorporating both traditional Navajo and European-American cultural elements."

"Navajo traditional culture is strongly matrilineal and matriarchic in a way seldom seen in other cultures," Hennessey explained. "The Navajo culture is also strongly collectivist in comparison to the European-American, individualist culture. Their pattern of child rearing and education—when controlled by the Navajos themselves—is based on a system of respect for everyone and everything."

Yet despite the cultural conflicts caused by these differences, Hennessey said, "We have, here in this family, women who have found ways to rise above these problems and choose careers that are involved in solving them." For more information, call x3005.

calendar

monday november 5

online registration begins. For spring 2008 courses.

cws application deadline. Preliminary applications for Carnegie Junior Fellows, Luce Scholars Program, and St. Andrews Scholarship. Info: x2347.

class. "Little Seeds." Story/ activity hour for children ages 2-4 with adult companion. 9:30- 10:30 am, Greenhouse Visitor Center. Info: x3504.

workshop. "Cantonese Opera." Noon, Alumnae Hall ballroom. Info: x3226.

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

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

lecture. "Rethinking Riemann's Zeta Function." Speaker: Ben Brubaker, mathematics, MIT. 4:15-5:15 pm, SCI 396. Sponsor: Mathematics. Info: x3148.

cws info session. "Management Basics." 6 pm, Wang Center 413. Info: x2356.

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

cws info session. "Management Basics." 6 pm, Wang 413. Info: x2356.

esl tutoring. 6-8 pm, PLTC small conference room. By appointment. Info: x2480.

tuesday november 6

tanner conference. No classes. (See story, page 1.)

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

japanese table. 12:30 pm, Tower private dining hall. Info: JapanClubmail@wellesley.edu.

meeting. "Meditation." 7 pm. (See 11/5 listing.)

wednesday november 7

chinese table. Noon, Davis living room. Info: CSAmal@wellesley.edu.

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

lecture. "Photographing Humanity in the Midst of Destruction." Speaker: Rania Matar, Boston-based photographer. 12:30-1:30 pm, TZE House. Sponsor: TZE. Info: sbrown@wellesley.edu.

info session. "Merit Funding for Study Abroad." 1-2 pm, GRH 330. Info: x2320.

lecture. "Unintelligent Design: Bad Science, Worse Theology." Speaker: Andrew Porter, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. 4:30 pm, Library Lecture Room. Sponsor: Religion. Info: x2609.

gathering. Unitarian Universalist worship circle. 6 pm, 2nd floor, Schneider Chapel. Info: x3484.

talk-back session. Focusing on the work of Kara Walker. Speakers: Susan Reverby, women's studies, and Diana Williams, history. 6:15 pm, DMCC. Info: x2034. (See story, page 1.)

celebration. "Davis After Dark: Femme Fatale." 6-9

save the date!

11/14: Red Cross Blood Drive. 10 am-3 pm, Tishman Commons, Wang Campus Center. Sponsor: CWS. Info: x2357.

11/15: Thanksgiving Potluck and Game Night. 6:30 pm, Wang Campus Center 413. Sponsor: Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. Info: x4428.

pm, DMCC. Info: x4395. (See story, page 1.)

cws info session. "Medical School and Residency Panel." 7 pm, SCI 277. Info: x2356.

basketball vs. Worcester State. 7 pm, Sports Center. Info: x2900.

thursday november 8

meeting. "Meditation." 12:30 pm. (See 11/5 listing.)

spanish table. 12:30 pm, Tower private dining hall. Info: x3571.

president's open office hour. 12:30-1:30, GRH 350. Info: x2243.

cws info session. "Seniors: It's Never too Late." 12:30 pm, Wang 104. Info: x2356.

wcw seminar. "Claudia Jones and the Struggle for Civil Rights Before Montgomery." Speaker: Clarissa Atkinson, *Women's Review of Books*. 12:30 pm, Cheever House. Info: x2500.

tiaa-cref workshop. "Your Retirement Income Options." 12:30-1:30 pm, Academic Council Room, 4th Floor, GRH. Sponsor: Human Resources. Info: x2212.

cws application deadline. Management Basics 2008. 4 pm. Info: x2356.

lecture. "Computational Social Science: Large-Scale Studies of Wikis, Blogs and Social Networking Sites." Speaker: Dan Huttenlocher, information science, Cornell University. 5 pm, SCI 278. Info: x3147. (See story, page 4.)

esl tutoring. (See 11/5 listing.)

cws info session. "Managing Personal Finances with Manisha Thakor '92." 6:30 pm, Collins Cinema. Info: x2356.

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

lecture. "Four Generations of Navajo Women." 7-9 pm, Library Lecture Room. Info: x3005. (See story, page 2.)

worship night. With Boston-area schools. 7-9 pm, SCI 377. Sponsor: Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. Info: x4428.

friday november 9

presentation. "Four Generations of Navajo Women." Table meet & greet, Noon-1 pm, 4th floor, Wang Center; open studio presentation, 1:30-2:30 pm, Jewett. Info: x3005 (See story, page 2.)

environmental justice symposium. 5-10 pm, Collins Cinema. Info: x2565. (See story, page 2.)

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

films. *Pulp Fiction*, 7 pm; *Reservoir Dogs*, 9 pm, SCI 377. Info: jbendfel@wellesley.edu.

saturday november 10

environmental justice symposium. 8:30 am- 7:30 pm, Collins Cinema. Info: x2565. (See story, page 2.)

films. *Reservoir Dogs*, 7 pm; *Pulp Fiction*, 9 pm, SCI 377. Sponsor: Film Society. Info: jbendfel@wellesley.edu.

performance. Wellesley College Dancers fall show. 7-10 pm, Alumnae Hall. Info: WC-dancers-mail@wellesley.edu.

sunday november 11

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

cws fashion show. 2-4 pm, Tishman Commons, Wang. Info: x2356.

performance. Wellesley College Dancers fall show. 3-5 pm. (See 11/10 listing.)

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

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

monday november 12

cws preliminary deadline. Rockefeller scholarship. Info: x2347.

meeting. "Meditation." 12:30 pm (See 11/5 listing.)

italian table. (See 11/5 listing.)

lecture. "Global Families and Social Policies: The Crisis Facing Children and Working Parents in the Global Economy." Speaker: Jody Heymann, Harvard School of Public Health. 4:30 pm, PNE 239. Sponsor: Women's Studies. Info: x2538.

cws info session. "Taking a 'Major' Step Forward." 4:30 pm, Library Lecture Room. Info: x2356.

senate meeting. (See 11/5 listing.)

esl tutoring. (See 11/5 listing.)

cws info session. "Finding an Internship." 10 pm, Beebe, Cazenove, Munger, Pomeroy, Severance, Shafer and Tower living rooms. Info: x2356.

ongoing

exhibit. *Transfigured Texts*. Special Collections, 4th floor, Clapp Library. Through 11/07. Info: x2129.

exhibit. *Patterns in Nature*. Multi-media art works by Judith Greenberg. Greenhouse Visitors Center. Through 11/15. Info: x3094.

exhibit. *Don't Look: Contemporary Drawings from an Alumna's Collection; Global Feminisms*. Davis Museum and Cultural Center. Through 12/9. Info: x2034.

don't miss ...

you have one new friend request: what social networking says about our world

In today's world, many social interactions that pass quickly in the physical world are recorded and accessible in the online world. The widespread use of online systems such as blogs, wikis and social networking sites provides a treasure trove of information about human behavior.

"Formerly unobservable social interactions between people can now be studied, which should greatly improve our understanding of our lives at work and at home," said Dan Huttenlocher, a 2007-2008 Phi Beta Kappa visiting scholar and professor at Cornell University. "Moreover, such a better understanding can hopefully help us design systems that can promote mutual understanding rather than polarization of opinion."

Huttenlocher will speak about his research on large-scale online social systems and what these studies suggest about human interactions during his lecture, "Computational Social Science: Large-Scale Studies of Wikis, Blogs, Social Networking Sites," Thursday, Nov. 8, at 5 pm in Science Center 278. A reception will begin at 4:45 pm.

"His recent work has explored the processes by which communities come together, attract new members and develop over time – central issues in the study of political movements, religious communities and professional organizations that are now accessible through the analysis of online social networking sites such as LiveJournal," said Ellen Hildreth, computer science.

Huttenlocher, who holds a joint appointment in the computer science department and the Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell, said the study of online social systems was a natural bridge between his two academic homes. He helped to establish a new interdisciplinary program, "information science," at Cornell that combines computer science with the social sciences of how people and society interact with information. For more information, call x3025.

