Adventures in Learning Celebrates Milestone

The 2007-08 academic year will mark the Tenth Anniversary of Adventures in Learning, 10 years since a small group working with Colby-Sawyer College established the organization. Over these past 10 years, hundreds of courses have been offered, thousands of people have participated, and an entire area has been enriched.

To mark the occasion, Adventures in Learning will offer a year-long community celebration. The idea was conceived by Sharon Ames and developed by representatives of Adventures in Learning. Included in the planning group are John Callahan, Morris Edwards, Ann Lang, Julien LeBourgeois, Art Rosen, De Segerson and George Tracy.

The celebration will begin with two public events: an August 18 forum arranged in collaboration with the New Hampshire Humanities Council and an October 20 multi-speaker presentation. The celebration will continue with a series of special Tenth Anniversary courses, one in each term, and will end with a community-wide reception on May 15, 2008.

The opening event, scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, August 18, at Colby-Sawyer College, is a major part of the Humanities Council’s two-year, state-wide program, “Shifting Ground: Religion and Civic Life in America.” The Adventures in Learning event will feature Michael Newdow and Charles G. Douglas III, who will debate the merits of the “Under God” language in the Pledge of Allegiance. Michael Newdow, a physician and attorney whose legal challenge reached the U.S. Supreme Court, will argue against inclusion and Charles “Chuck” Douglas, former New Hampshire Supreme Court Justice, will argue for inclusion. The debate will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

The second event will be scheduled from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 20, at Colby-Sawyer College. The event is titled “Inside the Primary Process.” It is designed to provide a close look at the New Hampshire primary, its importance to the state and its impact on the nation. Both events will be offered without charge as a public service and will be open to the entire community. Reservations should be made by contacting Janet St. Laurent at (603) 526-3690 or at jstlaure@colby-sawyer.edu. Special invitations will be sent to the media, school officials and town representatives.

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Profile, from Pg. 1

course. A native of Brooklyn and White Plains, N.Y., she did her undergraduate work at Cornell University and earned her master’s degree at the University of Tennessee. She worked in New York at Time Inc. for six years, taught English at the University of Connecticut-Stamford for several years, and was an English and American Studies teacher at Darien High School for 24 years before moving north to Wilmot, N.H., in 2000. She still spends some time in Darien where she has served on the boards of the Darien Library and the Darien Community Association Academic Lecture Series. She is also on the Neuberger Museum Art and Lecture Committee. Her new Adventures in Learning responsibility is the chairmanship of the Public Relations Committee.

Morris Edwards, who will chair the Adventures in Learning Curriculum Committee, has taught a course on the early kings of England three times for Adventures in Learning and once for ILEAD (Institute for Lifelong Learning at Dartmouth). He has also been a participant in the Adventures in Learning lecture courses on the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution. Born and raised in England, he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering from Queen Mary College in London. He and his wife, Jeanne, moved to New London, N.H., in 1997 from Washington, D.C. where his company ran conferences and trade shows dealing with the business benefits of computer networking. A gifted speaker, he is a founding member and former president of the New London chapter of Toastmasters International, a worldwide organization that promotes effective public speaking. Morris is a committee member of the Lake Sunapee Wine Society and serves as program chairman for the Country Squires of New London. He is also on the Executive Board of the North East Shakespeare Ensemble, now in its fourth season.

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The two events will be followed by the first of three Tenth Anniversary courses. In each case, a course offered 10 years ago is being updated and will be presented by the same study leader who originally presented the course. First in the series will be Judy Bohn, Adventures in Learning Board member and former adjunct instructor at Colby-Sawyer College. Her fall ’07 course is titled, “Goodbye Dolly: A Biotechnology Update.” It will be a six-week course summarizing advances and discoveries made during the past decade and will include discussion of the moral issues involved in certain of these activities.

The final event in the series will be a reception and meeting at Wheeler Hall on May 15, 2008. A number of surprises are being planned to highlight the occasion including the announcement of Adventures in Learning’s Tenth Anniversary gift to the college and Maureen Rosen’s PowerPoint retrospective, “The Way We Were.” The meeting and Tenth Anniversary celebration will end with a community-wide reception and party.

Adventures in Learning is pleased to offer these activities. They honor our association with Colby-Sawyer College and commemorate our founding 10 years ago. More than that, they do it in a way that is characteristic of Adventures in Learning—a way that embraces and enriches the entire community.

~Arthur M. Rosen
Hello Judy! Well, hello Judy! It’s so nice to have you back where you belong—which is in an Adventures in Learning classroom of course. This fall, as part of the Tenth Anniversary celebration of Adventures in Learning, Judy Bohn will return to update the course she taught in 1998 during the program’s inaugural semester. This course was “Genetic Engineering: From the Discovery of DNA to the Cloning of Dolly the Sheep.”

Judy’s new course, aptly titled “Goodbye Dolly: A Biotechnology Update,” will summarize the advances and discoveries made by this important technology over the last decade. As Judy explains, “The field of biotechnology has changed dramatically during this time period. Even the definition of what constitutes biotechnology has expanded to include many diverse and controversial possibilities.”

Judy will approach this complex subject by narrowing her focus to two areas. She will review and update the major topics discussed in her initial course. She will also teach the structure of DNA and the basic function of a cell as background for discussion of the scientific and moral implications of such new practices in the field of biotechnology as genetic engineering of food and medical products, stem cell research, and in-vitro fertilization.

When asked how she happened to develop her passion for biotechnology, Judy quickly responds, “I fell in love with microscopes in the eighth grade. It was a way of seeing a whole new world.” Good fortune also played a strategic role. As a junior at Pennsylvania State University in 1960, Judy was one of three students chosen to enroll in a brand new major, bacteriology, which led to her work after college heading up microbiology laboratories in a number of hospitals. In the 1980s, when she returned to graduate school, the new field of genetic engineering had just opened up to students with bacteriology experience. So once again, observes Judy, “I was lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time.”

Adventures in Learning is lucky, as well, to have Judy right here in New London, N.H., at just the right time. In addition to the first Dolly course and its update, Judy has also taught “Microbes and You,” “From Dolly the Sheep to Stem Cell Research,” and “The Elements of Life.” Presenting five courses in ten years is a remarkable Adventures in Learning contribution. Thank you, Judy Bohn!

~Ann Lang

Calendar of Upcoming Events

WNTK “TWIN STATE JOURNAL”
Fall classes
Thursday, July 19
From 6 to 7 p.m.
and
Summer lecture and 10th anniversary
Thursday, August 9
From 6 to 7 p.m.

SUMMER LECTURE
Religion and Matters of Education
Saturday, August 18
From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Wheeler Hall
Ware Campus Center
Colby-Sawyer College

FALL LECTURE
Inside the Primary Process
Saturday, October 20
From 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Clements Hall
Curtis L. Ivey Science Center
Colby-Sawyer College

SAVE THE DATE for Adventures in Learning’s Fall Trip

Institute of Contemporary Art
Boston, MA
Thursday, October 25, 2007
Watch for additional information to be mailed later in the summer.
A Preview of the Fall 2007 Courses

Adventures in Learning is delighted to offer 12 stimulating courses this term. Most classes will begin on Monday, September 17, and end on Friday, November 9. The fall registration deadline is Friday, August 17. Be sure to register early as classes may fill quickly. The fall catalog containing the registration form will be mailed and published on our Web site during the week of July 23.

Goodbye Dolly: A Biotechnology Update
This final course in the Dolly series will cover engineering of food products, the cloning of animals, the significance of the Human Genome Project, the use of stem cells to cure chronic diseases and the possibility of creating artificial life.

The Evolving American Dream: 1600-1850
A broad look at the formative years of our republic will be illuminated by historical analysis and specific examples from literature, art and architecture.

Great Voices from Opera and Theater: The Art and Craft of Great Singing
The nature and process of singing will include vocal ranges and vocal types with illustrations from live performances.

Othello, the Moor of Venice
Shakespeare's play “Othello” will be read and discussed including the tragic consequences of trusting to false appearances and allowing reason to be guided by passion.

The Brothers Karamazov
The Russian novel by Fyodor Dostoevsky will be read and weekly discussions will include aspects of philosophy, religion, morality and family relationships within the text.
Happy Anniversary Adventures in Learning!

Adventures in Learning's tenth anniversary year is about to begin! To ensure that you won’t miss out on any special program, event or activity mailings sent to members only, now is the time to send in your Adventures in Learning annual membership payment of $40. As always, the Adventures in Learning membership year runs parallel to the academic year.

Our Tenth Anniversary Committee is busily arranging exciting ways for all of us to celebrate and commemorate this tenth year, and we are very much looking forward to the year ahead. The Curriculum Committee has an array of fabulous course offerings in store throughout the year, and we hope you will be a part of all the rewarding activities scheduled for the 2007-2008 membership year. Don’t miss out on anything!

In order to enroll in any of our upcoming study groups or participate in members only activities, you must be a current member of the program. Please take this opportunity to send in your Adventures in Learning membership payment.

To renew your membership today, please complete the form below and return it with your payment to: Janet St. Laurent, Adventures in Learning, Colby-Sawyer College, 541 Main Street, New London, NH 03257. For your convenience, a membership card for the 2007-2008 year will be sent to you upon receipt of your membership payment.

Adventures in Learning Membership Form
July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

____ Please check here if you are a first time member of Adventures in Learning.

Name(s) ______________________________________________________________________

Mr., Mrs., etc. Full name ____________ Nickname ____________

____________________________________________________________________

Mr., Mrs., etc. Full name ____________ Nickname ____________

Mailing Address ________________________________

Street Address ________________________________

Town/State/Zip ________________________________

Telephone _____________________________ E-mail ________________________________

Amount enclosed ($40 x number of memberships) = $________

(Please make check payable to Colby-Sawyer College)

☐ Check here to receive information about making a gift to Colby-Sawyer College.

Information: (603) 526-3690
## FAST FACTS

**Adventures in Learning Office Location**
Our office is located on the first floor of the Colby Homestead on the Colby-Sawyer College campus. Look for the sign at the end of the driveway.

**Guest Policy**
Many of our classes are oversubscribed and have a waiting list. As a courtesy to our membership, please remember that attendance in Adventures in Learning classes is reserved **only** for members who have registered and have been enrolled in the class.

**Receiving the Catalog**
Concerned that your catalogs don’t reach you in a timely fashion? Just a reminder, the fall catalog will be posted on our Web site following the general mailing planned for the week of July 23.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Coordinator</th>
<th>Program Assistant</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Ames</td>
<td>Janet St. Laurent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(603) 526-3720</td>
<td>(603) 526-3690</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Your Address Information**
If you have moved, want to let us know your seasonal address and dates you will be there, or would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact Janet at the number below.

**Office Closed**
Please note that the Adventures in Learning Office will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, to celebrate Independence Day, and on Monday, September 8, for Labor Day.

**Fall 2007 Registration Deadline**
The deadline to register for fall courses is Friday, August 17. As some classes fill quickly, please be sure to register early.

www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures
The Life and Art of Edna St. Vincent Millay
The powerful voice and popular appeal of the first woman to be awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry will be revealed as Edna St. Vincent Millay’s life and collected poems are discussed.

Sunnis and Shi’as
An overview of the two divisions in the Islamic world, the majority Sunnis and the minority Shi’as, will include basic beliefs of Islam and examine the ways Muslim communities have organized themselves.

Russia – The Past Hundred Years
The significant changes in Russia’s leadership, society and economic stability from Tsar Nicholas II to President Putin will be emphasized.

Natural Hazards and Catastrophes
Hazards of atmospheric, oceanic and geologic origins will be explored with graphics to illustrate their formations and consequences.

An Introduction to Japan, Its Language and Culture
Following a review of Japan’s long history, the emphasis will be on aspects of Japanese culture, written and spoken language, and Japanese arts and crafts.

The Question of God: Discussions with C.S. Lewis, Sigmund Freud and Sam Harris
Based on the lives and words of Lewis and Freud as seen in the DVD The Question of God, and Harris’s book End of Faith, issues surrounding God, faith and religion will be discussed.

The Birth of Modern Science
Reviewing the history of astronomy will reveal how myth evolved into modern science. The role of scientific concepts and theories will be highlighted including the age-old conflict between science and religion.
A year ago, Adventures in Learning members met Colby-Sawyer President Tom Galligan for the first time. We were impressed by the seemingly boundless energy of this dynamic man both then and again this May 17, when Tom delivered the keynote speech at our annual meeting. Tom expressed his appreciation for the special relationship Adventures in Learning enjoys with Colby-Sawyer that has fostered the growth and terrific success of this lifelong learning program.

His address “Fear and Trembling in the Undergraduate Major,” was based on a paper he and freelance writer Peter Walsh are working on. Tom posed several provocative questions: In our consumer-driven society, should a student select a career-directed major or is a liberal arts education still a viable option? If an 18-year-old freshman is undecided about a major or decides in time to change it, has the student wasted precious time and money? And how should colleges themselves counsel their students at a time when there has been, as Tom puts it, “a psychological shift towards viewing college as career preparation rather than as intellectual curiosity”?

These questions may have surprised some in the audience who remember how casually many of us regarded choosing, or even changing, a major. Neither we nor our parents seemed overly concerned about which courses we selected, assuming we would get a solid education that would foster intellectual curiosity as well as propel us into an eventual career path.

But today, parents and students are faced with spiraling educational costs and an uncertain future. The perception is that the major a student chooses could be critically important to financial success and general well-being. As Tom also observed, “Colleges which market majors while competing for students in an effort to differentiate their offerings from other schools may exacerbate the pressure.”

To put the situation in perspective, Tom offered a brief history of “the major,” which he pointed out is “only about a hundred years old in the United States” and “has never been clearly defined.” Undergraduate education, initially a prescribed program, moved in the 19th century in the direction of the European university model, which led to an elective system at Harvard and elsewhere. Students were encouraged to pursue their own goals, resulting in a wide variety of intellectual experience, depending on the individual student and college. “In the midst of this chaos,” Tom explained, “colleges introduced majors as a way of ensuring that students experienced some depth of study on the undergraduate level.” Thus commenced the liberal arts major of 20th century American undergraduate education.

But how is that major faring today? Statistics reveal that liberal arts majors are declining vis-a-vis pre-professional majors. It is also true that majors in many colleges are designed for students planning to pursue a Ph.D. in a particular discipline rather than for the general education of students not intent on an academic career. Tom cited a recent study making clear that executives want more than discipline-specific skills. What they want is to hire individuals also able to work in teams, to make good choices, to empathize with others, and to embrace diversity—attributes derived from a more general liberal arts education.

Ultimately Tom offered a synthesis: “It seems to us that the strengthening of broad liberal arts goals like critical thinking, communication skills, ethical perspectives, and lifelong learning should be at the heart of both the general education requirements and the major.” Encouraging more colleges to show students “how the major relates to the real world

See Learning is the Journey Not the Destination, Pg. 7
Have you heard the Colby-Sawyer imperative “How will students benefit?” We ask this question every time we make a decision that impacts college resources. Students are at the center of Colby-Sawyer’s mission, and so the impact on students is our first consideration.

As a tuition-driven college, our financial resources are limited and are tied directly to enrollment. That’s another reason the college so carefully allocates resources.

Ten years ago, the college’s endowment was $10,863,405. Today, it is $26 million. We’re proud of this progress, and look forward to continued growth. Similarly, philanthropic support of the college has grown tremendously. With the completion of the $42 million Confidently Colby-Sawyer: Succeeding Together campaign in 2005, the college was also able to increase scholarship aid, build the Curtis L. Ivey Science Center and Danforth Hall, renovate existing spaces, and much more. Additionally, the campaign provided the opportunity to strategically hire several faculty members so that the college could reduce its reliance on adjunct faculty members. Philanthropy continues to support students in amazing ways.

The greater New London community has partnered with Colby-Sawyer alumni and parents to help provide resources to fuel this very special learning community. When you choose to invest in Colby-Sawyer College, your support immediately benefits students. We’re grateful to Adventures in Learning for generously supporting the college’s Annual Fund, and also to the many individual members who have chosen to invest in the college. If you would like to learn more about specific opportunities and priorities, I invite you to call Sharon Ames at 526-3720.

Thank you for being an ambassador for the college in our community!

~Elizabeth Cahill
Vice President for Advancement
Thank You 2006-2007 Study Group Leaders

Seated from left: Tony Parra, Dianalee Velie, Ellen Robertson, Dave Barden, Hilary Cleveland, Charlie Carey, Charlotte Spencer, June Fichter and David Bisno.

Standing from left: Joanna Henderson, Sue Little, Julie Machen, Chuck Kennedy, Bryan Jones, Joseph Kun, Dick Little, Tom Vannatta, Jim Bouditch, Anne Carey, Gail Sanderson and Gladys Dowd.

Not pictured: Ben Acard, Joe Davis, Jeff Good, Millard Hunter, Mary Kronenwetter, Mark Lewis, Ron Luchsinger, Evangeline and Gerald Monroe, Les Norman, Mike Panebianco, Sarah Reeves, Art Rosen, Bill Sullivan, Harry Tether and Robert Wood.