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More Minorities on Mayflower Hill

After years of incremental gains—and occasional drops—in enrollment of minority students, some College administrators were surprised to see the number of ALANA (African-American, Latino/Latina, Asian-American, or Native American) students nearly double for the incoming Class of 2010.

Denise Walden, associate director of admissions and multicultural enrollment, saw the increase coming. “In all honesty,” she said, “I feel vindicated.”

There are 90 ALANA students in the Class of 2010, up from 54 in the Class of 2009. Among them are students coming from Washington, D.C., Juneau, Alaska, and in between—students who chose Colby after a long and carefully considered recruitment process. The result is expected to be one of the biggest jumps in ALANA enrollment among colleges nationally this year, according to Director of Admissions Steve Thomas, who recently compared numbers with peer institutions. “I expected eighty,” Thomas said. “I didn’t expect ninety.”

Even the more modest expectation would have been good news at Colby, where minority recruitment and retention has long been a priority but results—hindered by Colby’s location, among other factors—have been frustrating. That reaffirmed priority led to a

task force headed by Thomas to more carefully consider how the College was communicating with prospective ALANA students and why numbers remained static.

Walden, who came to Colby three years ago from the University of Denver, began to lay the foundation for the uptick simply by staying in her position, allowing consistency

There are 90 ALANA students in the Class of 2010, up from 54 in the Class of 2009. Among them are students coming from Washington, D.C., Juneau, Alaska, and in between . . .

in recruitment programs. She and other admissions officers have established closer and longer-term relationships with high schools, “getting on a first-name basis with guidance counselors, whatever it takes,” Walden said.

As part of a five-year plan implemented in 2004, the timing of admissions mailings was reconsidered to keep Colby on prospective students’ radar, and campus-visit offers were focused on students who had shown they were seriously considering Colby by submitting

transcripts, test scores, and a written essay. “By the time you’ve done all that paperwork, you have some sort of commitment to the school,” Walden said. “There’s a bit of a selection process [for subsidized campus visits] now.”

When students and parents do visit, they go to classes, meet with faculty and admissions officers, with Director of Financial Aid Lucia Whittelsey ’73, and with Associate Dean of Multicultural Affairs Sammie Robinson.

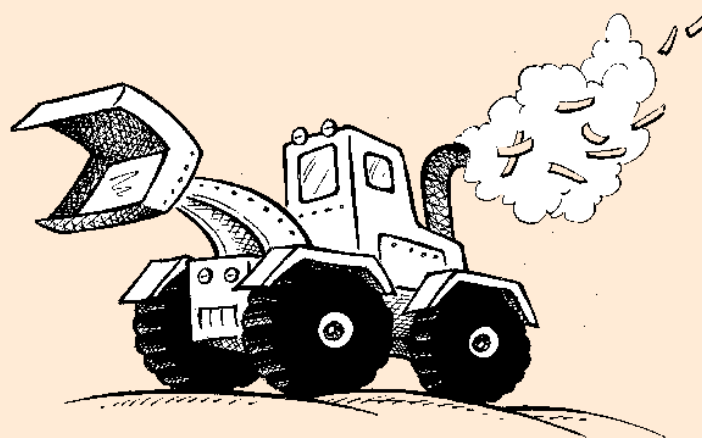
The intent is to show parents, many of whom have never been to Maine or New England, that Colby is a supportive community, Walden said. “They want people who care about their student,” she said.

An unprecedented number of students and parents were convinced this year, and Thomas and Walden feel the numbers will be sustained for the Class of 2011. Thomas said he is analyzing results to better understand where and why the effort succeeded and how it might be tweaked. Already admissions has decided to have fewer but larger campus visits to allow students to meet more potential classmates, he said.

Walden, meanwhile, pointed to a sign on her office wall: “20 in ’07.” Having achieved 19 percent ALANA students in the incoming class, “I’m shooting for twenty percent,” she said. —Gerry Boyle ’78

VROOM-VROOM, WIN-WIN

Dining services is happy it’s no longer paying to discard used cooking oil; Director of Student Financial Services Cindy Wells ’83 and family are thrilled that their diesel truck and tractor are burning a bio-diesel blend. Since March, Wells’s son and husband have been cooking up bio-diesel in a homemade refinery, and they’re on track to use up more than 2,000 gallons of used Colby vegetable oil annually, she said, adding, “We’re not smelling french fries like they say—it doesn’t smell at all.”



Envisioning a College Town

Paul Boghossian '76 has a vision of a vibrant, newly energized downtown Waterville—and it is a vision that's expanding.

Boghossian and partner Tom Niemann, who are renovating the historic Hathaway factory in Waterville to house shops, offices, restaurants, and apartments, have optioned two adjacent former textile mills as part of a plan that ultimately could have 1,000 people living and working in a complex along the Kennebec River.

"I think it's the right time and it's the right project," Boghossian said recently over coffee at a Waterville café. "I think it's going to catalyze some great changes for Waterville."

Based in Rhode Island, he has teamed with Niemann, a developer from Durham, N.C., whose credits include the largest historic renovation in that state's history. The Waterville project has grown in scope with the addition of the former Lockwood mill (recently a Marden's Surplus & Salvage facility) and an adjacent factory building that most recently housed offices for Central Maine Power Co.

Thomas College and Kennebec Valley Community College in Fairfield are seriously interested in using portions of the former Lockwood mill for more than 100 units of student housing. That influx of students, with Colby's presence in the city, could return Waterville to its status as a true college town. "That adds a vibrancy to downtown that is unbelievable," Boghossian said.

Plans call for a paved riverfront pathway extending from the Thomas campus through Waterville's South End and Head of Falls (along Front Street, where an unrelated town-house development has been proposed) to Fairfield, where a riverfront trail already has been developed. Also on the drawing board is a possible boutique hotel, Boghossian said.

As the project moves from vision to reality, there has been tremendous support from the community, he said. The project offers the city an entirely new form of living, said Ken Viens '73, a stockbroker active in the Waterville business community. For Alan Rancourt '75, president of Kennebec Federal Savings on Main Street, the renovation of the former Lockwood mill is a reminder of a research project he did as a Colby student. Rancourt studied the closing of the Lockwood/Duchess textile mill after workers struck during a labor dispute in the 1950s.

More than 3,000 workers lost their jobs. A half-century later, the mill may have a new life. —G.B.



An aerial view of downtown Waterville, the Kennebec River, and the waterfront factories that would be renovated as part of an alum's plan to help revitalize the city.

Wit & Wisdom

"I knew it was time for a new job when one of my students became a vice president."

Former Vice President for Student Affairs Janice Kassman, now special assistant to the president for external affairs, referring to Doug Terp '84, vice president for administration.

"I didn't want all this accuracy to interfere with the plan that I had."

Doug Archibald (professor of English, emeritus) at Registrar George Coleman's retirement reception, recalling how Coleman wouldn't let him, as dean of faculty, "judge the numbers" to get class sections scheduled.

"I like to say that the same things that got me kicked out of convent school won me a Pulitzer."

Anna Quindlen, on her candor, in an interview with WCSH-TV (NBC in Portland) conducted in the Schair-Swenson-Watson Alumni Center the day before she delivered the 2006 Commencement address.

"Ambition was not one of the seven deadly sins, it was worse."

History professor Jason Opal at the Class of 1976 reunion dinner, talking about how the ambition of the \$235-million Reaching the World campaign would have been viewed in Colonial days.

"E Coli Happens"

Tee shirt in Arey, worn by Professor of Biology Frank Fekete, whose primary expertise is "microbial physiology."

"The 'ting' doesn't have to happen."

Director of Dining Services Varun Avasthi at the Alumni Relations Etiquette Dinner for seniors and area alumni, explaining that a toast at a business function does not require glasses to touch if that means leaning over the table and dragging one's necktie through the gravy.

Ground Broken for Pulver

Students, administrators, and donors lined up in early June for the ceremonial groundbreaking of the Pulver Pavilion project, which will add 8,000 new square feet and will renovate 14,000 more in Cotter Union. Construction is underway now. "At the end of the day, that's why we're all here: it's for the students," said trustee David Pulver '63 at a lunch honoring him and his wife, Carol, and daughter Stephanie '93, for supporting the project.

Colby Cares X

Colby Cares Day turned 10 years old and capped the second annual Burst the Bubble, Build a Bridge week, in April. Events on and off Mayflower Hill included former Senator George Mitchell H'83 and a panel discussion with President Adams, Mayor Paul LePage, City Councilor Henry Beck '09, and others. Colby Cares Day saw about 170 students help out at a range of worthy institutions throughout the region.

At Reunion, Alumni Find Changes on the Hill

Alumni who returned to campus for Reunion Weekend, June 9-11, found the same Colby they remember—with changes.

"It's still pretty much the picture I had in mind," said Laurent Kosbach '86, who traveled from his home in France. The biggest change? New buildings, he said, and the growth of the campus. Construction of the 53,000-square-foot Diamond Building is in full swing, and the alumni center was completed last summer on the Colby Green.

Others think of older buildings as new. Stephen Whitfield '76 recalled the days when he could drive through the part of campus where Anthony-Mitchell-Schupf now sits. And back then, he says, Hillside wasn't called Hillside. "They were 'the new dorms.'"

For Heidi (Adelheid Pauly) Lansing and Patricia (Coffin) Davis, both Class of '56, the difference in the physical campus is like night and day. Theirs was one of the first classes on

Mayflower Hill. "There were very few buildings, very few trees," said Davis. But, added Lansing, "It was easier finding your way."

Reunion attendees ultimately did find their way around, from the lobster bake in the field house to their dorms, the museum, and talks by fellow alums, and to class dinners all over campus. A full schedule allowed them to stay busy despite the rain that kept them inside.

And members of the Class of 1956 saw yet another change. This time there were no curfews. —Ruth Jacobs



The Class of 1956 gathered in the Foss dining hall for its 50th reunion dinner.

FAREWELL TO FACULTY



Tom Berger
Carter Professor of Mathematics
Years of Service: 11

Colleagues and alumni came to know him as a fierce advocate for students. "Tom has approached almost every issue here with the same question," said Fernando Gouvêa, Berger's colleague in the Mathematics Department. "How

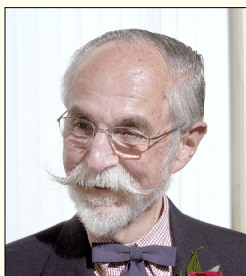
will that affect the students?"

Online: How Berger cured one student of being distracted.

George Coleman
Registrar, Associate Professor of Geology
Years of Service: 43

Coleman held his position as computers multiplied and shrank, retaining a hands-on approach that once included employing the Binghamton, N.Y., police to track down a faculty member who had forgotten to turn in his grades.

Online: A witty recap of Coleman's career by College Historian Earl Smith.



Suellen Diaconoff
Professor of French
Years of Service: 20

Colby's increasingly global focus, institutional support, and a U.S. Department of Education grant allowed her to shift her focus from 18th-century French literature to women in French-speaking countries in the Caribbean

and Africa. One result: the African Studies Program at Colby.

Online: Why Diaconoff always felt at home in China, Maine.

James McIntyre
Associate Professor of German
Years of Service: 30

McIntyre was credited for uniting the strange bedfellows of the Russian and German language programs into a consensus-driven, student-centered department.

Online: More ways he changed Colby for the better.



For more on each retiree, visit www.colby.edu/mag/retirees.

RECORD NUMBER OF RESEARCHERS

More students than ever before participated in this year's Colby Undergraduate Research Symposium and associated events, presenting research on topics ranging from alternative medicine to Wal-Mart, climate change to open-source software.

“Now that we’ve talked about video games and menopause, the only logical place to go is aquaculture.”

Jakob Moe '06, prior to delivering his presentation at the seventh Undergraduate Research Symposium

From May 3 to 5, the second floor of Roberts buzzed with activity as faculty, staff, and fellow students gathered to learn from Colby's resident experts through 95 oral and 75 poster presentations. Beyond the formal program, other students presented research in associated sessions toward the semester's end. With a total participation of 628 students, the symposium included about one third of the student body.

The symposium's keynote speaker was Robert Bullard, a sociologist who, decades before the Hurricane Katrina disaster, brought environmental justice to the national stage. The author of 12 books on the subject, Bullard contends that low-income and minority neighborhoods bear the brunt of environmental hazards. “If you are on the right side, you get action; if you are on the wrong side, you get promises,” he told the audience.

Go to <http://www.colby.edu/sturesearch/ressymposium/> for details about this year's student presentations. —R.J.

Colby Museum Under New Leadership



Sharon Corwin

She is a graduate of New College of Florida and earned her M.A. and Ph.D. at the University of California at Berkeley.

Under the leadership of its newly appointed director, Sharon Corwin, the Colby College Museum of Art aims to stake its claim as one of the most important college art museums in the country. Formerly the Lunder Curator of American Art at Colby and later acting director, Corwin was named the Carolyn Muzzy Director and chief curator of the museum and professor of art beginning in June.

A Lasting Legacy

The Francis F. Bartlett and Ruth K. Bartlett Professorship and a substantial scholarship fund have been endowed through a multimillion dollar bequest from Francis F. Bartlett Jr. '56, former president of Boothby & Bartlett Company, an insurance firm in Waterville. Bartlett passed away at age 69 in December 2003, and as his estate was settled Colby received sufficient funds to endow a faculty chair in memory of his late parents and to add substantially to the Francis F. Bartlett Scholarship Fund, which he set up many years ago.

The bequest to Colby was one of many received by various non-profit organizations in the area, according to Director of Planned Giving Susan Conant Cook '75. “Frank Bartlett was the favorite uncle that everybody wished they had—and a very thoughtful man as well,” Cook said.

A commitment of \$1.5 million is currently required to endow a faculty chair at Colby. President William Adams announced in the spring that Hanna M. Roisman (classics) will be the inaugural Bartlett Professor beginning this fall.

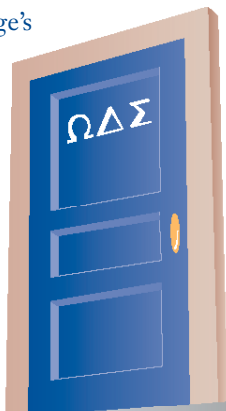
In addition to his Colby degree in administrative science, Bartlett received an M.B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, and UPenn was another beneficiary of his estate. Bartlett was devoted to community affairs and served on the boards of many of the local institutions named in his will. —Stephen Collins '74

And the Survey Says!

In the last issue, *Colby* revisited the College's decision to eliminate fraternities. We asked: “Are liberal arts colleges better off with or without them?”

	BY NUMBER OF VOTES	BY INTERNET ADDRESS
With	58%	29%
Without	38%	64%
Not Sure	3%	7%

See “Editor's Desk,” page 4, for a look at what the discrepancy means.



Consider This . . .

In “Rock Never Dies,” page 24, *Colby* takes a look at the music today's students are listening to and finds some familiar tunes. What do you think of the phenomenon of college students listening to music from their parents' generation? To answer, go to www.colby.edu/mag.

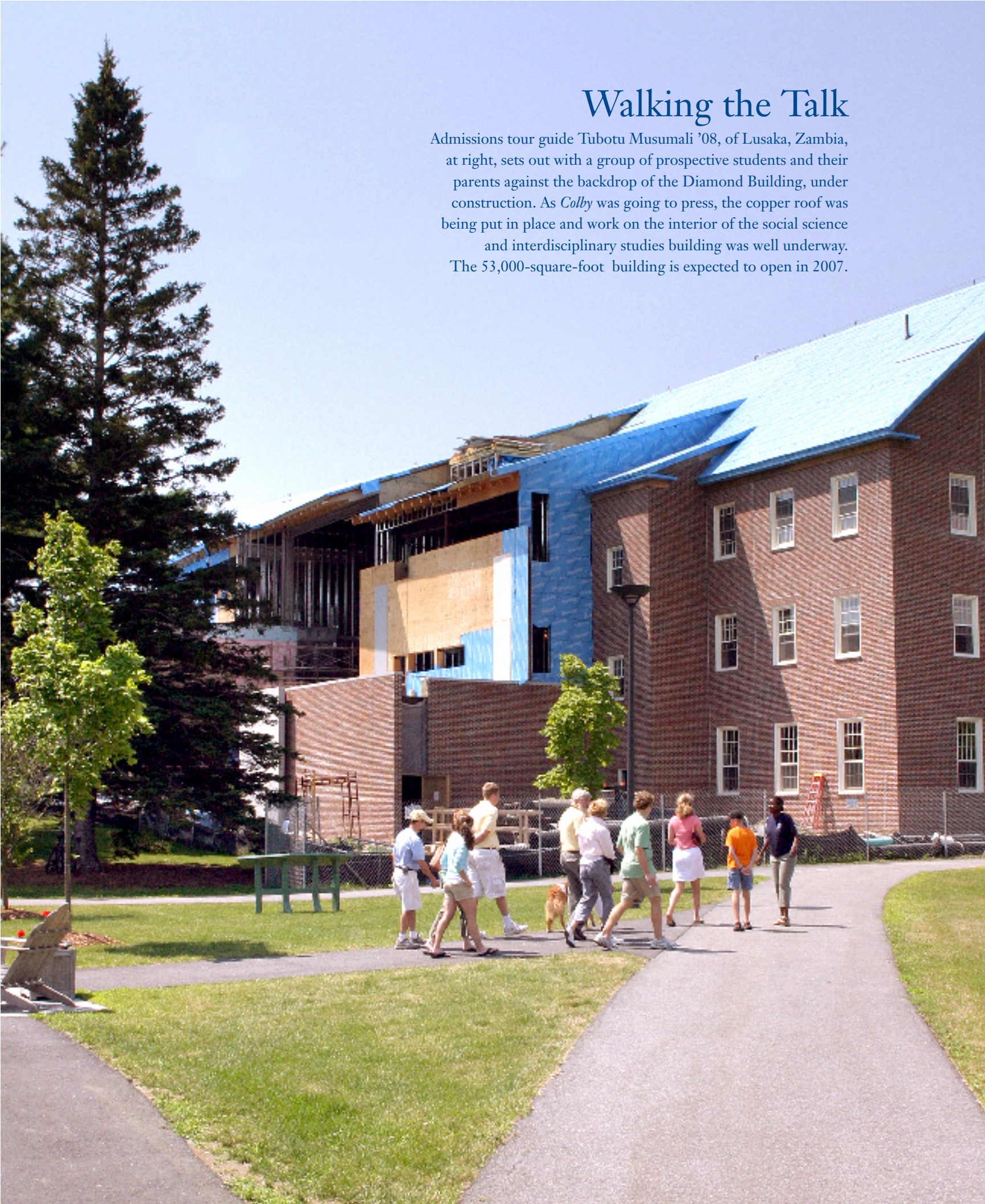
Justice Seeker Wins Lovejoy

For his efforts that led to the convictions of criminals from the civil rights era, including the murderer of civil rights leader Medgar Evers, as documented in the film *Ghosts of Mississippi*, investigative reporter Jerry Mitchell will receive Colby's 2006 Elijah

Parish Lovejoy Award. Mitchell, who writes for *The Clarion-Ledger* in Jackson, Mississippi, will be honored Sunday, September 17. The award celebrates Elijah Lovejoy, a Colby alumnus and an abolitionist publisher killed by a pro-slavery mob in 1837.

Walking the Talk

Admissions tour guide Tubotu Musumali '08, of Lusaka, Zambia, at right, sets out with a group of prospective students and their parents against the backdrop of the Diamond Building, under construction. As *Colby* was going to press, the copper roof was being put in place and work on the interior of the social science and interdisciplinary studies building was well underway. The 53,000-square-foot building is expected to open in 2007.



Courage to Commence

Messages of courage dominated Colby's 185th Commencement on Sunday, May 28. With Miller Library as a backdrop, President William D. Adams presented diplomas to the 465 members of the Class of 2006 on a glorious, sunny day.

Francis Chapuredima '06 left Zimbabwe four years ago and became one of the most admired members of his class—and the student-elected class speaker. Following his spirited address, which began with African drumming and ended with a standing ovation, Commencement speaker, author, and columnist Anna Quindlen called courage “the secret of life.”

“You already know how important courage is,” she said. “After all, you chose as your class speaker someone from a small village in Zimbabwe who got on a plane to transcend hemispheres, customs, and cultures to come to Colby College. You can look at him and know that a flying leap of fearlessness is possible.”

While greatness stems from courage, no good comes from fear, she said. “You must learn to put the fear aside or at least refuse to allow it to rule you. . . . It is fear that always tamps down our authentic selves.”

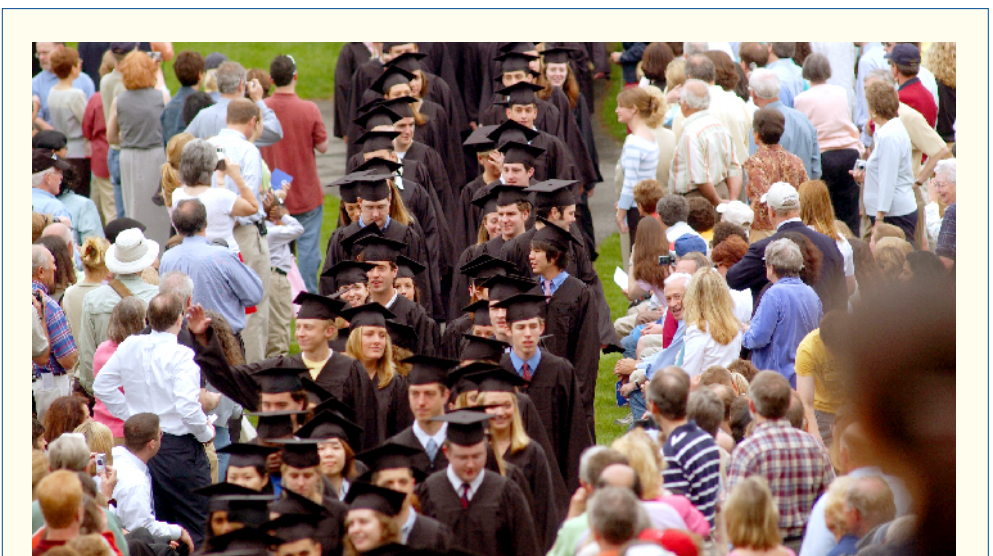
As if anticipating Quindlen's theme, Chapuredima began his speech by sharing his realization that, to deliver the class speech, he did not need to conform to any formula. “I'm going to be myself,” he declared. “The next problem though is . . . me. As you can hear I have a very thick accent. I've been here for four years but I haven't done much to try to speak like the rest of you. I guess I've been busy trying to stay warm.”

Chapuredima called upon his classmates to continue their service to others. “I think we're privileged to have been educated at Colby, and hopefully we can embrace the societal responsibilities our privileged position brings,” he said.

An Oak Scholar at Colby, Chapuredima thanked the benefactors of his scholarship, Alan and Jette Parker, who, by coincidence, were on stage to receive an honorary degree. To his surprise, Chapuredima received another honor: Colby's Randall J. Condon Medal, for commitment to constructive citizenship, the only prize presented at commencement. —R.J.



Clockwise: Student-elected speaker Francis Chapuredima '06 at the podium; President Adams presents columnist and 2006 Commencement Speaker Anna Quindlen with an honorary degree; Travis Agustin '06, of Pearl City, Hawaii, poses for a family shot; Rebecca Amendola '06, of Guilford, Conn., doesn't contain her excitement.



Looking Back, Moving Forward With a New Orleans-style jazz ensemble leading the way, Colby seniors marched to Lorimer Chapel on Saturday, May 27, for Baccalaureate, a tradition as old as Colby where the president reflects on students' tenure at Colby and leaves them with words of wisdom. To read about Baccalaureate, including a transcript of President Adams's speech, visit www.colby.edu/mag