

Colby



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Big Win, Big Smiles

Colby's field hockey team celebrates after beating then 17th-ranked Trinity 5-0 on Sept. 21.

Photo by Kristina Katori

Ringin' in a Victory

Colby co-captain Paul Gallagher '14 rings the Revere Bell (a reproduction of the original in Roberts Building) after the Mules' 31-8 win over Williams Sept. 21. Fellow co-captain Daniel Maddox '14 (4) is to his left. *Photo by Dustin Satloff '15*



David A. Greene Named Colby's 20th President

David A. Greene, currently executive vice president at the University of Chicago, will take office as Colby's 20th president on July 1, 2014, the College announced Sept. 10. Just hours after the announcement, Greene attended a reception at Colby along with his wife, Carolyn, daughters Madeline, 15, and Nora, 13, and son Declan, 12.

During his first visit as president-elect, Greene sat down with *Colby* to talk about his vision for the College.

What drew you to Colby?

When I started looking at Colby I saw all of the things that make a college absolutely great—a first-rate faculty, a staff that was fully committed to the College, a student body from around the world that was talented and held great promise. And then I also saw more. I saw a place that took community seriously and always wanted to be better. And that to me was so exciting. It was in part about what Colby is now, what Colby has been for its last 200 years, but it was also about what Colby can be in its future.

What can it be in its future?

A small handful of places sit at the very top of the pyramid in higher education around the world—places that are revered for the quality of their education and for the quality of the scholarship of their faculty. Colby has all of that in abundance, and it has more. I hope Colby can really step out, take a leadership role among U.S. higher education institutions—among global higher education institutions—and set a path forward for what the absolute best liberal arts colleges in the world can do.

Where do you see the best liberal arts colleges going?

Colleges like Colby are going to need to think about themselves as being, in a very direct way, deeply engaged with the wider world. The nature of partnerships between liberal arts colleges and other



PHOTO BY FRED FIELD

David A. Greene, who has worked in leadership roles at Brown University, Smith College, and the University of Chicago, will take office at Colby July 1. He will be joined on Mayflower Hill by his wife and three children.

organizations is likely to change over time, and the opportunities that we provide to students will need to be fully global in every way—intellectually, but also in terms of the opportunities students have for work or graduate study after Colby.

How do you explain the staying power of colleges like Colby?

These are places that have core values, core principles that inform everything that happens. At the same time they're not static institutions. New fields develop, new buildings come online. These places become more global, more integrated overall. These are all changes that are happening, and Colby has been well positioned to address these changes when they come up. I hope Colby will continue to be a place that does that and in fact will be the place that leads.

Can you talk a little about your leadership style?

I believe deeply in the values of shared governance. There are so many people who have a legitimate stake in this college—the faculty, students, alumni, staff, and the board all have such an

important ownership role. Bringing people together to consider the best direction for Colby, the best decisions we can make for Colby—that takes a real process. The best way to get there is to bring many different voices to the table, to have a full diversity of perspectives, and to be able to argue, to challenge one another, and to really get to the essence of Colby and what it's about and where it's going.



For details about Greene's background and accomplishments and for a video Q&A, visit colby.edu/20thpresident.



Environmental Fellow: Food Is Window to Society's Challenges

Someone who has spent her life studying the world's food resources might be the last person you'd expect to be an optimist.

But bestselling author Frances Moore Lappé, Colby's 2013 Andrew W. Mellon Distinguished Fellow in Environmental Studies, is just that. There is plenty of food in the world, she says. The problem is how it's distributed.

Lappé was at Colby as part of a three-year Mellon grant to bring environmentalists of note to campus. Her mission is focusing on solutions to world food problems. Her first book, *Diet for a Small Planet*, was published in 1971 and was part of a revolution in the way Americans think about food, population, and dietary habits. Today she takes a step back, focusing on the ways we perceive the world on an individual and a social

level, and she explored those issues with Colby students and faculty.

In a packed Ostrove Auditorium, Lappé addressed food security issues in a talk titled *Food as Teacher: Four Decades Later, What Have We Learned?*—a highlight of her fall residency. Rather than share a bleak outlook, Lappé emphasized solutions and cooperation. "Solutions to virtually every big problem on the planet are either known or they're just right around the corner," Lappé said. "So what's missing, I think, is that feeling of empowerment that we can actually manifest what's known."

How do we change ourselves? "What we have a hard time doing is separating from the pack, of being different, of saying something controversial," she said. She urged students to connect with the brave, the risk-taking, and the gutsy—



PHOTO BY MIKA MINTZ '14

Author of the bestselling 1971 book *Diet for a Small Planet* Frances Moore Lappé, above, is Colby's 2013 Mellon Fellow in Environmental Studies.

and to become more like them. "If we're going to step up," Lappé said, "then we have to experience fear."

—Kayla Lewkowicz '14

2013 Lovejoy Award Goes to Truth Teller

A.C. Thompson, a reporter whose investigative reporting in post-Katrina New Orleans led to federal charges against seven police officers in connection with the shooting of civilians, received the 2013 Elijah Parish Lovejoy Award for courageous journalism Oct. 27.

Thompson, 41, works for ProPublica, an independent, nonprofit newsroom that produces investigative journalism



A.C. Thompson

in the public interest. He was interviewed in Spike Lee's documentary *If the Lord Is Willing and da Creek Don't Rise*, and he had a character based on him in *Tremé*, both on HBO. He also contributes to *Frontline* on PBS.

The Lovejoy Award, given annually since 1952, honors the memory of Lovejoy, Colby's valedictorian in 1826 and an abolitionist newspaper publisher. Lovejoy was killed in Alton, Ill., in 1837 for his anti-slavery editorials and for defending his right to publish. John Quincy Adams called him America's first martyr to freedom of the press.

A report on the Lovejoy Convocation, with text and audio of Thompson's speech, is online at colby.edu/lovejoy.

—Stephen Collins '74

Smoking Banned on Campus

Colby is tobacco free.

Last year there were three designated smoking areas on campus. As of Oct. 1, the transition to a tobacco-free environment was completed and smoking was banned on campus.

In an e-mail notice to the Colby community, President William D. Adams

said the College will continue "to be committed to helping people who wish to eliminate tobacco from their lives."

Adams said he hoped that those who want to quit tobacco would take advantage of the resources Colby offers, including a free five-week smoking cessation program, held on campus beginning in October.

A Solo Journey (Except for the Grizzlies)



After 1,000 miles in the Alaskan wilderness, on Aug. 2 Kristin Gates '10 completed her unaccompanied journey along the Brooks Range from the Yukon border to the sea—the first woman, she says, to do so. Gates blogged at milesforbreakfast.com. Read *Colby's* account and see her remarkable photos at colby.edu/mag.



PHOTO BY KRISTIN GATES '10

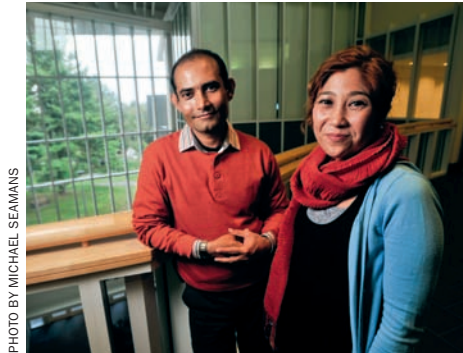
Ethnic Violence Means Open Season on Burma's Muslims

For four days Mya Nandar Aung sat on a wooden plank and held her 2-year-old daughter. Aung was not allowed to stand or lie down. She wasn't allowed to sleep. She ate and drank very little and her legs went numb. When her around-the-clock interrogators in the government prison center leaned in, Aung pressed her daughter close.

"I keep on telling myself that I can't let anything go wrong with me. If something happened to me I would lose control. They would take my daughter or kill my daughter."

This was in June 2012, after Arakanese Buddhist mobs swept through Arakan state in western Burma, an area that is home to the Rohingya, a Muslim minority. Villages were burned and hundreds of people, mostly Muslim, were killed. Aung and her husband, Maung Maung "Tony" Than, Burmese citizens who worked for the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, were arrested as UNHCR staff were about to be evacuated. The couple endured 19 days of harsh interrogation and six months in prison before a judge found no reason to hold them.

Aung and Than are at Colby as 2013 fellows selected by the Oak Institute for the Study of International Human Rights. They are spending the semester teaching and writing as they try



Maung Maung "Tony" Than and Mya Nandar Aung

to impart to the Colby community and America the dire situation in their country.

The violence in western Myanmar (formerly Burma) spread quickly, fueled by animosity between the Arakanese and Rohingya. That anger and hatred had been kept in check by the military junta in power until 2010. A more democratic government gave citizens, especially majority Buddhists, the right to free speech and movement and, exhorted by Buddhist extremists, the Arakanese set out to force the Rohingya from the region.

The violence displaced more than 100,000 Muslims, and more than 1,000 remain imprisoned without cause, Aung and Than say, including Aung's father, a physician and Muslim leader who was sentenced to 17 years in

prison. The government did little to prevent or stem the ethnic violence, Aung and Than say, and Muslims who defended themselves were apprehended and jailed. While there was harsh treatment under the junta, now the Muslim minority has little government protection.

"Now you're not safe," Than said. "Your family is not safe. You can be attacked at any time. [Under the junta] it was a violation of rights. Now it is a physical violation."

Than and Aung hope that increased scrutiny by the international community (President Barack Obama has warned against continued violence) will lead the government to quell the violence and persecution of Muslims. Than, a Muslim, said the couple cannot return to Myanmar until the situation is stabilized. But he said he wanted the government to know that he and his wife, whose maternal relatives are Buddhist, want to play a role in finding the path to peace. "We can help," he said.

True reconciliation, Than said, may take a decade or more. And it will come only when there is a change in the fundamental attitudes between the ethnic and religious groups in the country. Punishing perpetrators of violence is necessary, he said, "but it's a never-ending job. If bad people become good, it's safe for you and them." —Gerry Boyle '78

A Tome of Epic Proportions

September 2013 marked the debut of the *Encyclopedia of Greek Tragedy*, promoted as "the first comprehensive reference work to cover all facets" of the subject. The compiler and editor: Arnold Bernhard Professor in the Arts and Humanities Hanna M. Roisman, professor of classics.

The landmark set, published by Wiley-Blackwell, includes three volumes totaling 1,716 pages (about a million words), and it sells for \$495 in the United States.

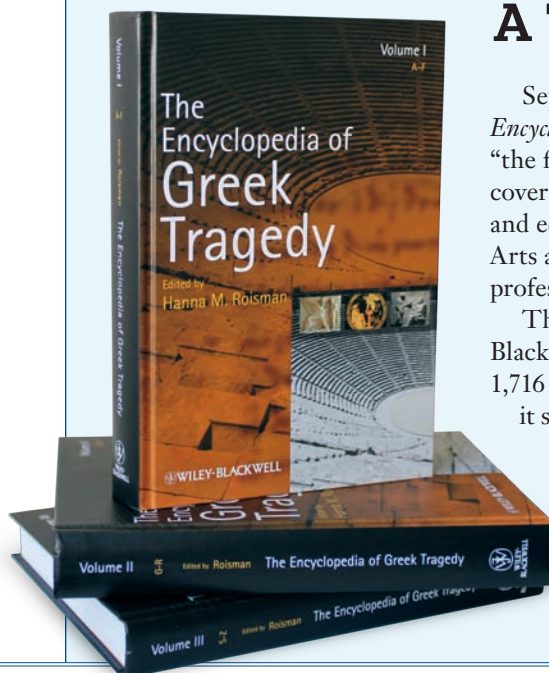
Following the print publication this fall, an online version will be launched.

Laboring five years on the project, Roisman worked with 166 contributors from 20 countries and wrote 11 sections herself.

"The biggest fear," said Roisman, "is, 'What have you missed?'" For several years she kept a notepad next to the bed for the inevitable bolt of inspiration when she would think, "I have to research this."

The entries, by internationally recognized experts and emerging scholars, reflect a careful balance between scholarly precision and accessibility, the publisher says. The goal is to foster a better understanding and appreciation of the great surviving work of dramatic theater that flourished in ancient Greece with its apex in the 5th century BCE.

Haze Humbert at Wiley-Blackwell cited Roisman's "deep subject knowledge and broad network" as reasons she was well suited to edit the reference books. —SBC



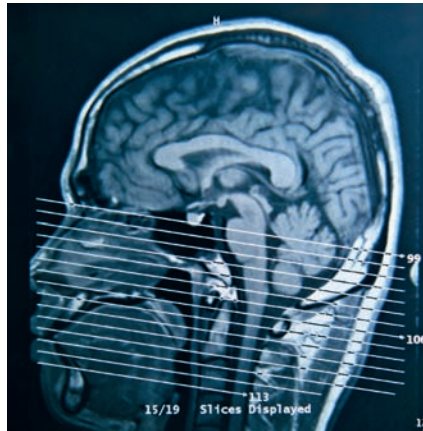
Concussion Study Expands to Include Alumni

Concussions among National Football League players led to a \$765-million settlement earlier this year and have fueled dialogue about head injury. The takeaway—that concussions can cause lifelong problems and lead to degenerative brain disease—has left some with nagging questions about the effects of concussions in less severe cases.

A team from Harvard and Boston Children's Hospital is embarking on research to determine the effects of less frequent and/or severe concussions. For that they've asked for the help of the Maine Concussion Management Institute (MCMI)—a Colby initiative run by the College's medical director and biology research scientist Dr. Paul Berkner.

When Berkner started MCMI within the Goldfarb Center for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement in 2009, he wanted to provide tools for high school coaches to track concussions. Now, with 89 schools involved, a new project is being planned that will tap into Colby's alumni community. "The goal for this project is to survey our alumni and look at their quality of life as compared to their self-reported concussion history," Berkner said. "We're asking, 'Does the concussion history in college affect quality of life in middle age?'"

To answer that question, Berkner and his interdisciplinary faculty research team and nine students have teamed up with two of the most prominent concussion researchers—Dr. Rebekah Mannix and Dr. Bill Meehan of Harvard and Boston Children's. Together, they're inviting alumni of several NESCAC schools to take an online survey asking about the alums' athletic and concussion history to determine whether certain injury patterns are associated with any long-term difference in neurologic quality of life.



They think the answers may be surprising.

Mannix, for one, hypothesizes that the positive effects of playing sports—better physical and mental health, namely—will for most alumni outweigh the rare instance of concussion. Concussions in professional athletes can have serious long-term effects, but the experience for most NESCAC graduates is likely different, she says. "My thinking is that it is, like all things, a dose response effect," she said. "If you get whammed in the head a hundred times in your career that's a different person than someone who sustains one concussion in a Division Three athletic endeavor."

Berkner said he's hoping as many Colby alumni as possible will take the survey. Combined with the responses from other participating colleges, strong participation could provide enough data for a conclusion that allows Colbians—those working on the MCMI project and the alumni who take the survey—to address a significant health-care question being asked across the country.

All Colby alumni, including non-athletes who have never experienced a concussion, are invited to take the survey at headinjurystudy.com. —Jacob McCarthy



Alumni Sweep through Boston

At 70, former Colby track coach Jim Wescott was the oldest Colbian to row in the Head of the Charles Regatta Oct. 19-20. But he was in good company that weekend. Crew coach Stew Stokes, who also rowed, said 27 alumni took to the water for the famous annual race.

Event highlights from the fall semester

Inside Washington: On the day the government reopened, Trustee Amy Walter '91, national editor of the *Cook Political Report*, discussed the current state of political polarization in Washington. (Oct. 17)

Woman to Woman: Inspired by the popular book *Lean In*, this Colby "lean-in circle" featured female leaders including alumni Lisa Hallee '81 and Sara Burns '79. (Oct. 10)

Community Connection: This year's Harvest Fest brought together Colby student volunteers and area residents for children's activities like pumpkin bowling and face painting. (Oct. 6)

Un Simposio: A daylong event on Latin America included topics ranging from the history of cocaine to early narratives about Florida—and culminated with Cuban music. (Oct. 5)

Israel from Inside: Efraim Halevy, former director of Mossad and former head of the Israeli National Security Council, offered an insider's thoughts on the challenges in the Middle East. (Oct. 2)

▼ **Celebrating Art:** For most students the new semester meant seeing the Lunder Collection for the first time. A museum grand opening, complete with free T-shirts and live music, marked the occasion. (Sept. 12)

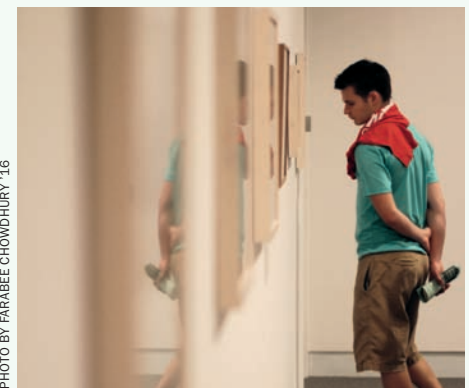


PHOTO BY FARABEE CHOWDHURY '16

Hundreds of students, faculty, and staff attended the special campus opening of the Alford-Lunder Family Pavilion Sept. 12.

Meet the Class of 2017, Complete with Vexillologist

With a record number of applicants, Colby posted its most selective admit rate ever (26 percent) with the Class of 2017. Median test scores are up, and with 35 states and 41 countries represented the class showcases diversity. But it's the individual students that bring new energy to campus.

Wilder Davies '17, from Denver, Colo., for example. As a member of the North American Vexillological Association, he has an abiding interest in flags—and more than a little expertise. But with so many international students in the class, even Davies may get stumped. State flags shouldn't cause him problems, he said, but when told he'll have a classmate from Mauritius he said, "Mauritius. I can't think of that one off the top of my head."



PHOTO BY KRISTINA CANNON

The Class of 2017 convened for the formal new-student assembly Sept. 3. With a 26-percent admit rate, this was Colby's most selective year ever.

Admissions officers say more international students are expressing interest in environmental studies. In fact interest in ES among students, domestic and international, has increased three-fold since 2006, institutional records show.

Recently many countries have seen economic growth, said Associate Professor of Environmental Studies Philip Nyhus, "but then there's a recognition that there's a cost [environmentally]." Given the seriousness of our challenges, "None of us in environmental studies are going to be out of a job soon," he said.

At the 196th new students' assembly, Sept. 3, Davies met the two flag bearers for his class, Hannah Hearn '17 from Auburn, Maine, and Yuzhe "Harry" Geng '17 from Beijing, China. Hearn graduated from Hebron Academy, where she was a dorm proctor and an all-conference athlete in field hockey and lacrosse. Geng, who's expressed interest in math and ES, has attended 13 Model United Nations conferences. —SBC

Museum Is Big News

From the *Wall Street Journal* and page one of the *Boston Globe* to *Vogue.com* and Twitter, news of the museum opening this summer got before many millions of eyeballs. More than 100 articles appeared in print and online, in this country and abroad. The result? In August, the first full month the museum was open, almost 7,000 visitors passed through the doors. That's more than the number of visitors from that month in 2009-2013 combined.



Anonymous Alum Funds Nonprofit Course for Local Causes

Tom Morrione '65 thought he might have shot himself in the foot.

For three years, Morrione, Charles A. Dana Professor of Sociology, had taught a popular seminar, Nonprofit Organizations and Philanthropy, in which students write grants for area nonprofits and donate \$10,000 to the nonprofit(s) deemed most deserving.

The success of the course at Colby, which was funded by the Sunshine Lady Foundation, endowed by Doris Buffet, landed Morrione on the foundation's academic advisory team. One of his recommendations: that after three years colleges fund the course themselves. "Somebody who is doing well with it ought to be able to find funding elsewhere," Morrione said.



Colby Magazine, Summer 2011

In Colby's case, the funding found the course. "I had ... noticed [in *Colby* magazine, above] the interesting course my old Colby Professor Tom Morrione had put together on philanthropy, focused on writing proposals to fund worthy charities," the alumnus wrote in an e-mail, asking to remain anonymous. "When I saw Tom I let him know that I would be happy to support

the funding of awards to the charities."

The class attracts students from a variety of disciplines, he said. "Environmental studies, government, economics," he said. "They're coming from all over the place."

Typically Morrione turns away as many students as he can take—an indication of great interest in nonprofits on the part of Colby students, he said. "Students have come back and told me that when they had job interviews, one of the things that comes up is this course," he said. "They ... send a copy of the grant that they wrote and describe the course. It's been exceptionally helpful."

Morrione hopes the donation leads to the course being offered long into the future, he said. "I'm not going to be here forever." —GB