October 2015

Shorter Takes (Short Form)
Rosengren ’79 to Head Trustees

Eric Rosengren ’79, P’12, president and chief executive officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, has been named the next chair of Colby College’s Board of Trustees. Rosengren will formally assume this volunteer position in May of 2016.

Rosengren, who credits the College for inspiring his interest in economics, went on to earn a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. President of the Boston Fed since 2007, he has developed a reputation for his deep intellect and unbiased analysis as well as his passion for improving the lives of the American public through policymaking.

“Colby is tremendously fortunate to benefit not just from Eric’s strong commitment to the College but also from his very sophisticated data-driven analysis,” said current Chair of the Board Robert E. Diamond Jr. ’73. More at colby.edu/mag

Much More Than His Mother

The Lunder Collection of James McNeill Whistler at the Colby College Museum of Art, with more than 300 etchings, lithographs, oils, watercolors and pastels, attracted Whistler scholars and experts on the history of American art to campus Oct. 15 for a symposium: Whistler: Nature and Nation. Speakers for the event, presented by the Lunder Consortium for Whistler Studies, came from the University of Glasgow, Emory University, and Washington College, among others. Associate Professor of Art Tanya Sheehan and Francesca Soriano ’16 were featured in the program, which was focused on ways Whistler reimagined ideas of nature and nation in light of his international contexts and experiences.

“I had a mentor tell me early on that not everybody [cares] about spotted owls, or understands the importance of arboreal forest. But everybody wants to or needs to eat two to three times a day. ... I consider food to be the gateway drug to responsible living.”

–2015 Oak Fellow Jodi Koberinks, founder of the Beyond Pesticides Network, and a frontline agriculture and food systems activist supporting farm families, rural communities, and those living in poverty. More at colby.edu/mag

Construction of turf softball and baseball fields and related facilities was nearing completion in November. Colby is the first in NESCAC to add the lighted synthetic-surfaced fields, a move that will attract the strongest academic applicants, lengthen the season, and require less travel for away games. Colby expects the facility, which will be available for use beginning in February, to be used by the community as well. For the latest news on the baseball and softball fields, visit colby.edu/mag.
“One More Person ...”

Gracie Baldwin ’16 was a sophomore learning about bone marrow transplants in Professor Lynn Hannum’s immunology course when she walked out of the classroom and into a bone marrow drive. She swabbed her cheek and hasn’t looked back.

“I had no idea it would turn into this whole big deal,” she said.

And a big deal it is. For the past two years Baldwin has spearheaded drives at Colby for Gift of Life, a national organization that keeps a registry of potential bone marrow donors. So far she’s added 680 Colby students to the registry. And out of those, two students have come up as matches for patients who may need their help.

A preliminary match was made with Scott Fenwick ’17, a biology/premed major who has seen the transplant process up close when he worked summers in a hospital in New Brunswick. “Having that experience and seeing hands-on that people’s lives can be saved is really special,” said Fenwick, who is matched with a 23-year-old man with leukemia. “I really do hope I get a call.”

Baldwin, who is working her way through clubs and sports teams, said she’s proud of Colby’s participation (as many students participated as at the 50,000-student University of Florida) and that, of all the schools in the organization’s college ambassador program, Colby was the source of the first match. “One more person could save a life,” said Baldwin, who has a slate of drives lined up for this year.

Education with Your Coffee?

The Colby Café got some international recognition last summer when the Rainforest Alliance highlighted the Mayflower Hill club for its efforts to educate students on social and environmental issues surrounding coffee production. The Colby group’s mission is to bring high-quality, sustainably produced coffee to campus. It’s done just that, with pop-up shops and a new presence in the Mary Low Coffeehouse, and it has promoted awareness of responsible sourcing, said one of the founders, Clint Henry Ross ’16.

Commitment to Access

Admissions launched the Colby Commitment, an effort to ensure that the most talented students from every background have access to a Colby education. “We’ve removed financial barriers. We’ve simplified the application process. We’ve enhanced the opportunities and support that lead to success in college and careers. And we have given every admitted student the chance to graduate without loans to repay.” More at commitment.colby.edu
The Center for the Arts and Humanities

HUMAN/NATURE

This 2015-2016 theme reflects upon nature, the built environment, and the ways in which our relationship to the natural world has shaped human existence. Ultimately, Human/Nature initiates a conversation among the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences considering ourselves and the spaces we inhabit: those that nourish us, inspire us, and challenge us.

Humanities
We explore how essays, plays, pastoral poetry, erotic lyrics, political prose, and epics engage in pressing anxieties and questions of late Renaissance culture.

Social Sciences
Drawing mainly on research from the fields of neuroscience and psychology, we will explore how our behavior in the world, like that of other animals, is a product of our biology.

Natural Sciences
How does the human body come to be?
Before and after birth, individuals are influenced by their genes.

Interdisciplinary Studies
What constitutes the good life?
How does one live ethically in a complex, often unjust world?

Integrated Studies
The United States in the postwar era waged a Cold War with the Soviet Union that verged on full-scale nuclear war, and it experienced upheaval in race, gender, and ethnic relations; politics; and culture.

NEW CLASSES
See the full list at colby.classes.edu

SHORT FORM

The number of Colby alumni inducted into the New England Basketball Hall of Fame in August. Kim Condon Lane ’01, Gene DeLorenzo ’75, and Matt Gaudet ’95 were honored at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass. Condon Lane saw injuries limit her playing time, but still scored 1,094 points and led Colby to the ECAC title in 2001. DeLorenzo, who coached women’s basketball at Colby after graduation, scored on a final shot to defeat University of Maine in 1973. Gaudet led the Mules in scoring each of his four seasons and ranks 10th in scoring with 1,481 career points.

Meyer’s Home Run

“Everything I could have hoped for and more.”

That’s the report from Dan Meyer ’16, whose analysis of Major League Baseball landed him a coveted internship with the Seattle Mariners last summer (“From the Classroom to the Bigs,” Colby Magazine, summer 2015). Meyer turned his analytical skills, honed in Colby economics and computer science classes, into a place on the Mariners’ roster. He spent the summer at Safeco Field doing quantitative analysis for the Mariners front office. In November, he was offered—and accepted—a full-time job on the team’s analytics staff. He reports to work after graduation. In the meantime, the Mariners have kept him on for the school year. “Tuesdays and Thursdays,” Meyer said, “are Mariners days.”