Out of the Classroom, 
Into the World

MMC Turns Global Ideas Into Action

also in this issue:
Professor Balakrishnan challenges the world
MMC alums pursue their California dreams
I enjoyed so much the last issue of *71st Street*. I devoured it the day it arrived. Then an old alum friend, Adrienne Koch Pfeifer ’50, called from New Jersey to tell me she saw the little piece I’d sent in for alum news and how great the whole issue was.

It brought back wonderful memories of my New York student days, even walking from 71st Street down to Grand Central subway station at 42nd Street. Hard to believe that a ride to Queens cost only five cents in those days!

Especially interesting to me was the piece about four former students now living on the West Coast. Since I’m considering another move I found their experiences very illuminating.

Keep up the good work!

Christine Akin ’51
St. Lucie, Florida

Thank you so much for the article about my leadership in the Colorado State Senate. We may all travel far but so much of who we are is guided by the principle of contributing and giving back to our communities that was fostered in our four years at MMC.

There was never a question that women would fully participate in all career paths at every level. I look back with great fondness to the academic excellence, the friendships, and most of all, the encouragement for us to reach for the stars, follow our dreams, and change our world. Best of luck to the 2007 graduates.

Joan Fitz-Gerald ’70
President of the Colorado Senate
and candidate for the U.S. Congress
Golden, Colorado
From the Great Wall of China to the jungles of El Salvador, many students, faculty, and staff are embarking on academic adventures abroad.

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Learn about Gurcharan Singh, the deeply respected and beloved political science professor, whose untimely death has saddened the MMC community.

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Students, faculty, and staff create a global campus at MMC and beyond.

The Caring Economist ............................... 26
Professor and human rights activist Radhika Balakrishnan takes on a global challenge in the hope of creating policy change.
MMC Breaks Ground

On June 25, 2007, President Judson R. Shaver gathered with Paul C. Lowerre ’81, his wife, Ursula, and members of the MMC administration to hold a groundbreaking ceremony for Marymount Manhattan’s Lowerre Family Terrace.

The 5,000-square-foot rooftop will connect the third floors of the Nugent and Main buildings and will be accessible through the Shanahan Library. Featuring a glass water wall and a large trellis with seating, the rooftop will accommodate about 200 people at any time. It will be wheelchair-accessible and will include movable furniture, benches, a wooden deck, space heaters and free Wi-Fi service.

The much-needed space will be used for meetings, outdoor classes, and as a spot for students, faculty and staff to relax. It was designed to provide both quiet, thoughtful places and spaces for interaction and conversation.

Completion is scheduled for spring 2008.

MMC Commencement

Another class joined the ranks of alumni on May 18, 2007, at MMC’s 58th commencement ceremony, which was held at Lincoln Center’s Avery Fisher Hall.

Speakers included honorary degree recipients Sheena Wright and John Canemaker ’74; David Parks, son of the late honorary degree recipient Gordon Parks; and professor Andrew Warshaw, who spoke on behalf of honorary degree recipient George C. Wolfe. President Judson R. Shaver and valedictorian Michael Lengel ’07 also addressed graduates and attendees.

The College granted four honorary degrees and approximately 380 Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Arts degrees.
President’s Medal Dinner
March 20, 2007

The College raised nearly $400,000 at the 2007 President’s Medal Dinner, which recognized the accomplishments of honorees Geraldine Ferraro ’56 and Natan Wekselbaum, owner of Gracious Home. At the Rainbow Room in Rockefeller Plaza, guests enjoyed a night of dinner, dancing and speeches from the honorees, Barbara Hack ’73 and mistress of ceremonies Natalie Morales, from NBC’s Today show.

Bedford Hills Commencement

Marymount Manhattan College hosted graduation ceremonies for the Bedford Hills College Program (BHCP) at the maximum-security, all-female Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. This ceremony marked the 10th anniversary of the MMC-funded program that gives incarcerated women the opportunity to earn an associate’s or bachelor’s degree. President Judson R. Shaver presented associate’s degrees to nine students and bachelor’s degrees to five students.

Reverend Vivian Nixon served as commencement speaker. A criminal justice advocate, she directs the College and Community Fellowship at the City University of New York. She spoke about the importance of maintaining hope during incarceration, recalling her own experience serving in a New York state prison.

Thea Jackson, president emeritus of the Center for Redirection Through Education and founder of BHCP, reflected on the past 10 years of the program, calling the class of 2007 a “perfect ten.”

Melissa Strawbridge served as the bachelor’s degree speaker. As the recipient of the Curian Award for academic excellence, she spoke about her plans to share her knowledge with others at Bedford Hills and encourage them to take advantage of the educational opportunities there.
Community Builders

Trustee Loretta Cameron ’72 and her husband, John, feel the College is moving in an upward direction. Loretta says she means that quite literally. “When I was a student at Marymount we spent a lot of time hanging out in the basement,” she says. “We didn’t really have any other place to go.” But now with the rooftop terrace project under way, which her husband John and his engineering firm, Cameron Engineering, are overseeing, “the students will be able to enjoy not just more space, but a unique space,” she says. John sees the project from a strategic standpoint: “It will set it apart from other New York City colleges—a usable rooftop is a unique asset.”

The rooftop terrace is just one of many projects that the Camerons have been passionate about. Their active involvement and generous donations to the College are a testament to their deep interest in seeing the College grow and advance. “I am proud of the College I graduated from and I want it to continue to become better and better,” Loretta says. They believe the College is on its way to becoming an even stronger force in the city. “I see it becoming more desirable for those who want an urban college experience.”

Since she reconnected with the College and became a trustee, she says she has gained more than she has brought to the College. To honor her contributions, MMC awarded her with the Pere Gailhac Award at this year’s reunion.

The Camerons feel that MMC is a special place. “This institution is worthwhile and meritorious of our support,” John says. “MMC is prepared for great things ahead. We’re betting on the team.”

A Perfect Match

Kathleen ’65 and George Austin had at least one thing in common before they met: they were both scholarship recipients in college. Having experienced the benefit of scholarships, they understand the great impact financial support can have on one’s life. “We believe in the importance of higher education,” says Kathleen. “The scholarship aid we provide enables others to attend MMC.”

While Kathleen and George did not meet at MMC, the College helped bring them together. They joke that without the Marymount Manhattan education that led Kathleen to J.P. Morgan in 1967, she wouldn’t have met George, who joined the company in the same year and rose to become chairman of the Relationship Review Committee and a director of J.P. Morgan Trust Bank in Japan.

Kathleen started in operations research and later joined the community relations and public affairs department. She was an assistant vice president when she resigned. She says her education at MMC, where she majored in mathematics, and at Boston College, where she received a master’s degree in economics, served her well.

As a commuter student at MMC, Kathleen lived at home in Brooklyn. Unlike many women in her class who had been first-generation college students, Kathleen’s older sister had attended college.

“At home it was just assumed that I would go to college. At Marymount Manhattan it was assumed that all careers were open to women,” she says.

Kathleen volunteers at St. Anthony’s Free Medical Clinic in the Bronx, and was the first lay director of Good Shepherd Services, and served on its board for 25 years. George has been the chairman of the South Bronx Education Foundation for 17 years and has served on their local community hospital board for 17 years.

“You can never stress enough character development and morality,” says George, who says he sees both qualities in the student body and faculty at MMC.
Building on History

The history of MMC lies in its foundation.

You’ve studied, attended events, and visited with friends at or around the flag-bearing, Georgian-style, iconic Marymount Manhattan building on 71st Street. But have you ever thought about the history behind the brick facade? Some things may surprise you.

Its roots date back to 1929, when it was built as the new clubhouse for the New York Junior League. While the exterior remains more or less the same, the building we know today looks very different on the inside.

Entrances were added to the first floor and design has changed over the years, including the decidedly dated dark windows that once surrounded what we now use as the main entrance.

The mezzanine level, which we now consider the second floor, was home to a lounge and card room. Now that floor hosts the Regina Peruggi room, administrative offices, and what was a men’s smoking lounge has become the faculty lounge. The third floor included the guest dining room as well as reception rooms and offices. The members’ floor, which now houses administrative offices, couldn’t be accessed by the main stairwell but only by elevators or service stairs at each end of the building. The floor contained a dining room, kitchen, pantries, and dressing rooms.

Eight bedrooms, offices, and the board meeting room are now faculty offices and classrooms. A nursery called the Baby Shelter, the club’s main philanthropic activity, was housed where there are now several departments including natural sciences. The nursery contained three wards, one of which was isolated for the new additions in the group’s care. One floor was once home to two squash courts, an exercise room, and dressing rooms. The floors of the courts can still be seen in some of the classrooms. The top floor contained the pool, which was removed in June 2003.

The building went through another round of changes when the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary (RSHM) bought it in 1948. “The sisters were using the charter for Marymount in Tarrytown to offer college-level courses at their Marymount School on Fifth Avenue,” says MMC archivist Mary Brown. At the time, Marymount Manhattan College was a two-year women’s college and a New York City extension of Marymount College, Tarrytown in Tarrytown, N.Y. When that program was moved to 71st Street, it became a four-year bachelor degree-granting college. About 20 years later, the College added The Nugent Building to expand the College’s space.

The RSHM also divided the space for students and
Building on History
Continued from page 5

Ruth and separate staircases and entrances, much in the same way that the Junior League separated its members from its guests. Many alumni can recall the exclusive use of elevators and what is now the Regina Peruggi Room.

This division is no longer needed in a community where discussion, debate, and collaboration are encouraged. Now, the new construction of the rooftop terrace will bring the MMC community even closer together.

The rooftop terrace will develop in a way that is familiar to many Manhattanites: building up.

For more on the new rooftop terrace, see page 2.

And the Winners Are...

Congratulations to the winning classes (’53, ’57, ’62) of the 2006–2007 Class Competition! Participants from these classes will be invited to celebrate their successes at a dinner with President Shaver on September 6, 2007.

Participation Rates:
Class of 1957—48.57%
Class of 1953—41.38%
Class of 1962—38.95%

With your help MMC had another record-breaking year—the College raised $1,845,922.46 in alumni donations!

On behalf of all of us at Marymount Manhattan, thank you for your generosity.
Parents of a current MMC student pledged $5,000,000 in unrestricted funds.

Paul C. Lowerre ’81 pledged $1,000,000 in unrestricted funds and has made the first installment of $100,000.

Lucille Zanghi and James Dow pledged $250,000 and have made the first installment of $50,000.

Chair of the Board Anne C. Flannery ’73 pledged $250,000 in funds. She has contributed an initial payment of $85,760 on the pledge.

Parentsof a current MMC student pledged $250,000.

The Starr Foundation gave $200,000 for the C.V. Starr Foundation Endowed Scholarship Fund.

Loretta ’72 and John Cameron made a pledge of $150,000 in unrestricted funds and gave their first $10,000 installment on the gift.

Trustee Louis A. Martarano pledged $100,000 in funds.

Trustee James E. Buckman and his wife, Nancy, pledged $100,000.

Tina E. Flaherty gave $100,000 to start Irish Voices: The Clementina Santi Flaherty Lecture Series through the Writing Center.

Trustee Virginia D. Lyons de Neufville ’70 pledged $75,000.

Trustee Hope D. Knight ’85 pledged $50,000 to the Marvelle Colby Endowed Scholarship.

Former Board Chair Anna Hayes Levin pledged $30,000 and has begun payment installments.

Kathleen O’Grady ’77 contributed $26,020 to the First Generation Scholarship Fund.

Maureen Kavanagh Chilton ’83, through The Chilton Foundation, contributed $25,000, the second installment of a $100,000 pledge for the William Kavanagh Endowed Scholarship.

Through the Eugene M. Lang Foundation, former Trustee Theresa E. Lang ’97 and husband, Eugene Lang, gave $25,000 to the Theresa Lang Scholarship Fund.

Trustee Mary Greason ’86 and her husband, Edward Greason, pledged $25,000.

Former Trustee Marsha A. Hewitt ’67 donated $25,000.

Trustee Ginger Lyons de Neufville ’70 and Richard de Neufville gave $25,000 in memory of Maureen Lyons Olson.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation contributed $25,000.

Sarah and Seth Glickenhaus gave $25,000 to the Annual Appeal through the Glickenhaus Foundation.

James Hornor, Trustee, pledged $20,000 through the Herman and Henrietta Denzer Charitable Trust.

Robert F. Dall contributed $20,000, the second installment on his $100,000 unrestricted pledge in memory of his late wife Lee Dall ’82.

The Brand Foundation of New York gave $15,000 to the Writing Center.

On behalf of Trustees Srs. Ellen Marie Keane, Catherine M. Patten, and Rita Arthur, the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, pledged $10,000.

Madeleine Deirdre Burns ’84, through the L.W. Frohlich Charitable Trust, gave $10,000 to the Madeleine D. Burns Scholarship Fund.

Former Trustee Mary Anne Schwalbe gave $10,081.41 in stocks.

The Mortimer Levitt Foundation donated $10,000 to the Writing Center.

The James S. and Merryl H. Tisch Foundation donated $10,000 to the Annual Appeal.

Become a Class Agent
Demonstrate your leadership abilities, enjoy opportunities to network with other MMC alumni, and give back to your alma mater. As a class agent you’ll encourage classmates to attend alumni events, donate to the Annual Appeal, and serve as the key liaison between your class and the Office of Alumni Relations. If you are interested in serving as a class agent, please contact Laura Davis, manager of alumni relations at 212-517-0416 or ldavis@mmm.edu.
Faculty Art Exhibit

Full-time and adjunct faculty are sharing their work with the MMC community. Works of various media are on the walls of the Hewitt Gallery of Art until September 19.

Adjunct faculty member Claire McConaughy's work is untitled.

Adjunct faculty member Doree Albritton's "Illumination"

Assistant professor of art James Holl's "Indeterminate Landscape"

Assistant professor of art James Martin's "Islands of Interest"

Spring Dance Gala

Supporters of the Dance Department gathered at the Spring Dance Gala on May 4, 2007, with proceeds benefiting the MMC Dance Company. The event was held in conjunction with this year's Spring Repertoire, which featured a variety of dance styles performed by MMC students. Performances included Pedro Ruiz's Guajira, Twyla Tharp's The Fugue, Doug Varone's Of the Earth Far Below, an original work by Grafiam Lustig, artistic director of the American Repertory Ballet, and an exciting reconstruction from David Parsons.
Strawberry Festival

Students, faculty, staff and MMC neighbors filled 71st Street (which was closed off between Second and Third Avenues) to enjoy food, music, comedy and games at this year’s Strawberry Festival on May 2, 2007. The annual event, which celebrates the approaching end of the school year, featured a dunk tank, Twister, human bowling, a bounce room and a performance by MMC’s Soldiers of Hip Hop dance troupe.

Intern Insiders

MMC students are making a name for themselves as desirable additions to workplaces in and around New York City. Here are just three who have served as interns for community and industry leaders.

Kathryn Luckstone ’08 read about the Baryshnikov Arts Center in The New York Times. “I sent [my résumé] off in hopes of giving them free labor,” says Luckstone. She was offered a second internship for the summer, where she will continue to do work in programming. “I’m an acting major and a director, but it’s great to know the business you’re getting into. It’s not called show business for nothing.”

Samantha Hillstrom ’07 has worked as a freelancer for Showbiz Tonight. She got the position as a result of her internship at CNN, and specifically with Paula Zahn NOW. As part of her varied duties, Hillstrom was a guest greeter and acted as a liaison for guests on the program. She was also a ratings manager, looking at ratings data in 15-minute increments to gauge how guests rated with the audience.

“If you’re in New York and you don’t do a lot of internships, you’re missing a huge opportunity,” says Patrick Madigan ’08, a seasoned intern. After two positions with New York Senator Hillary Clinton, one in her Senate office and the other in her campaign office, he applied for a position with the William J. Clinton Foundation. When that wasn’t quite what he expected, he discovered an opening with C.E.O, John Neetam at the Clinton Global Initiative. Madigan has worked in three areas of politics: legislative, campaign and philanthropic.

Rudin Lecture 2007

Students, faculty and staff welcomed James Carroll, the speaker at the Jack and Lewis Rudin Distinguished Visiting Scholars Lecture, supported by the Rudin Foundation, on March 8, 2007.

The author and Boston Globe columnist spoke on domestic and foreign policy in a lecture titled, “1945–2007: America and Its Wars.” He discussed the history of the Pentagon and how the creation of the war department shaped policy as well as the budget at home and abroad.

Carroll has published an array of award-winning and highly acclaimed novels, essays and articles including The New York Times best sellers Mortal Friends Family Trade and Prince of Peace.
MMC’s Alumni Association welcomed new alumni at their induction dinner. This annual tradition included the presentation of the Senior Class Gift as well as a slide show. Awards were presented to two deserving members of the MMC community. Morgan Schwartz, assistant professor of digital media, received the Outstanding Faculty Award. The Outstanding Administrator Award was given to Michael Salmon, dean of academic advisement and career development. Recipients were voted on by graduating seniors.

Reunion 2007
June 2, 2007

Former classmates from the years ending in 2 and 7 gathered at their alma mater for a day of friendship and fun. The event included tours, MMC Then and Now discussion led by Peter H. Baker, MMC’s vice president for institutional research and planning, a slide show featuring photos and headlines from graduating years and a cocktail reception to end the day. Alumni also had time to chat about their experiences at Marymount Manhattan and what they have been up to since graduating.

Alumni Association Dinner
May 16, 2007

MMC’s Alumni Association welcomed new alumni at their induction dinner. This annual tradition included the presentation of the Senior Class Gift as well as a slide show. Awards were presented to two deserving members of the MMC community. Morgan Schwartz, assistant professor of digital media, received the Outstanding Faculty Award. The Outstanding Administrator Award was given to Michael Salmon, dean of academic advisement and career development. Recipients were voted on by graduating seniors.
Canemaker Screening and Reception

April 19, 2007

Alumni, students and friends gathered for a screening of John Canemaker’s ’74 Oscar-winning animated short film *The Moon and The Son: An Imagined Conversation*, which explored his troubled relationship with his father. A reception in MMC’s Hewitt Gallery of Art followed the screening and featured animation works from the film.

Ragtime

March 1, 2007

Alumni and friends met for dinner at Kings’ Carriage House before going to see a performance of *Ragtime* in the Theresa Lang Theatre at Marymount Manhattan. Theatre Arts students performed in the show, which was directed by Patricia Hoag Simon, associate professor of Theatre Arts and coordinator for Musical Theatre at MMC.
Whitney Tour
January 25, 2007

Following a three-course lunch at Atlantic Grill, alumni and friends enjoyed a private tour of the special exhibit, “Picasso and American Art” at the Whitney Museum. Adrienne Bell, assistant professor of Art History, attended the event and answered questions after the tour.

(L-R) Ilona Pohl, Irene Ruotolo ’60, Cathleen McLaughlin ’60, Laura Davis, MMC’s manager of alumni relations, Carol Vincie ’67 and Mary Tierney ’02

Metropolitan Museum of Art Tour
January 22, 2007

The Metropolitan Museum of Art opened its doors to a group of MMC alumni and friends on a Monday, when it is usually closed, for an exclusive tour of the special exhibit, “Americans in Paris, 1860-1900.” Following the tour, guests enjoyed a three-course meal at Vivolo restaurant.

The Rowley Society

As of 6/20/07, Rowley Society members include:

Anonymous (5)
Peter H. Baker
Mary Tomaszewski Bole '69
Dr. Roberta Chapey '64
Geraldine A. Ferraro '66
Alice Riley Finley '79
Ann Gellman, CL&L member *
Mariluz Asensio Giron '76
Jane Trudeau Griffiths, Esq. '58
Judith Nicholson Gruber '59
Shirley Heiligman '82, CL&L member*
Sol J. Heiligman, CL&L member*
Margaret Herrmann Kenny '54
Helen T. Lowe '55
Joan Greco McDougall '86
Joan E. McGreevy-Glatzl '84
Susan McKeon '66
Roy Miller

William C. Musham, CL&L founder *
Joanne Pellegrino, Esq. '66
Dr. Catherine McDonnell Pietronuto '55
E. Jeanne Grace Ricker '63 *
Maureen McKenna Roscelli '65 *
Janet Shaw '88
Joan Trovato Sheridan '67
Kathleen "Kit" O'Connell Tamburro '64 *
& Carlo H. Tamburro *
Robert S. Temliak '77
Jane Toplitt *
Timothy P. Tracy
Virginia Finn Van Brunt '69
Rita Ortiga Waterman '64
Mary Yankauer*

*Deceased

Looking for Our Secret Admirers...

Marymount Manhattan College is fortunate to be the beneficiary of bequests in the wills of many of our alumni and friends. Unfortunately, we often do not have the opportunity to thank these individuals because they had never informed us of this wonderful gift intention.

So, please don't be a secret admirer. Call to let us know that you have planned for Marymount Manhattan's future. We want to say thank you! Our thanks will take many forms, for example:

- Enrollment in our prestigious Rowley Society
- Listing in the annual President's Report (unless anonymity is requested)
- Annual luncheon to celebrate your farsighted commitment
- Special invitations to MMC events
- Confidential access to gift planning professionals

Give us the opportunity to show our gratitude.
Call or e-mail Davida Isaacson at (973) 325-1380 or disaacson@mmm.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!
Professor Gurcharan Singh was a man of peace who promoted acceptance of all cultures and encouraged scholarly discussion. He was a teacher, a writer, a philanthropist, a humanitarian, and certainly not least, a husband, a father, a grandfather and a friend to many. His unexpected death this past March, which occurred after he was struck by a car while walking to his Sikh temple, left a void at Marymount Manhattan College of which he was a part for more than 25 years, as it also did for his loving family and his Sikh community. Through his death, however, the dynamic, gentle nature of his life has become very apparent. This was a man who touched and changed many lives.

In the fall of 1980, Singh, a political science professor, joined the division of Social Sciences at MMC and helped established the International Studies program shortly thereafter. At the time of his death, he had been retired as a full-time professor for 10 years but had continued to teach one course per semester at MMC. A specialist in peacekeeping and international cooperation, his courses on international law, international relations, comparative politics and conflict resolution made a strong impact on many MMC students.

Mona Cutolo, associate professor of Sociology, best describes Singh’s gift for reaching students. “I remember the first class that Gurcharan taught. After the class, the students hovered around him asking a lot of questions. He made them very interested in his subject matter. The students loved him. He was a delightful and gentle man,” she says.

Several current and former students attended the May 7 memorial service for Singh held in the Theresa Lang Theatre at MMC. Current student Rome Leykin ’08 wrote a moving tribute about him that appeared in the Spring 2007 Social Science Newsletter. “Professor Singh was one of the most compassionate, inspiring and influential
people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing,” says Leykin. “I am saddened for future generations that will not be able to experience his teaching brilliance and his personal virtuosity.”

Singh’s work helped directly shape the division of Social Sciences. According to Kent Worcester, associate professor of Political Science and International Studies and chair of the division of Social Sciences, Singh helped set the agenda for the division that is still followed today. “Gurcharan understood the importance of global awareness and of integrating the areas of history, politics and economics. He gave the International Studies program a very strong ethical foundation.”

Friend and colleague Marjorie Madigan, associate professor of History, added, “Gurcharan was very collaborative, which made him wonderful to work with. When he spoke about diplomacy, the United Nations, being a humanitarian, it was with an almost Ghandian-like approach.”

Outside of MMC, Singh was very involved with his Sikh community. He had previously been a vice chairperson for the Executive Committee of the World Sikh Council—America Region (WSC-AR) and had served as chairperson of WSC-AR’s Human Rights and Religious Freedom Committee. He also served as a former member of the Council of President’s of Religions for Peace—USA and was the WSC-AR representative to the Church Center for the United Nations.

As a family man, Singh was described as “a very selfless man who served his community and society with all his heart,” by son Surinder Singh in a statement made shortly after his death to NewsChannel 4. In addition to Surinder, Singh leaves behind another son, Devinder, a daughter, Rajinder, his wife, Shah, and grandchildren.

An Ode to Gurcharan

I usually start my course “Intro to Government and Politics” with a quote from James Madison. The quote is from Federalist No. 51 and reads as follows: “But what is government itself but the greatest of all reflections on human nature? If men were angels, no government would be necessary. If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls on government would be necessary.” A few years ago a student interrupted the quote and asked me what Madison meant by all this. I improvised my answer, and asked her if Madison’s statement would make sense if I substituted the word angel with Dr. Singh. The student, an international studies major, gave me a broad smile and said yes, she perfectly understood what I meant.

You are a superb teacher, an outstanding scholar and the best colleague one can hope for. Unlike some of us, Gurcharan, you know the names of all your students. You are always accessible, your patience and kindness to students and colleagues are bordering on sainthood. In your encounters with students and faculty you have exhibited the patience of Job, the kindness of the Good Samaritan, the diplomacy of Lincoln and the tolerance of the Carpenter of Nazareth. I witnessed you advising a Japanese student who understood neither Hungarian, Punjabi, nor English, for that matter. After 45 minutes my blood was boiling and I was ready to chew the carpet. You kept smiling and explaining the intricacies of the shared curriculum to this poor lost student.

Gurcharan, you are a passionately dedicated teacher who is successful in teaching all levels of students from remedial to gifted. You treat all your students with the utmost respect and you consistently boost their self-esteem. You deliver your lecture with the logic of Descartes coupled with messianic zeal. Your enthusiasm in the classroom is contagious. You teach your students not what to think but how to think; you teach mental skills to form independent opinions; you invite questions and free discussion. The success stories of our graduates who majored in International Studies are a testimony to your devotion to teaching.

You are more than an outstanding teacher. You are a scholar with an impressive list of publications that include monographs on human rights and world peace, several papers and articles (some of them published on the op-ed pages of The New York Times).

Your contributions to our College are well known: You established and administered one of the most successful study programs at Marymount Manhattan: the International Studies major. You placed numerous students as interns with various agencies of the United Nations. You organized the L. Lefkowitz lecture series that attracted many of our neighbors and friends. I could go on for a long time to praise your virtues. But my time is limited. In conclusion I will only say: Mera peara pra sade nal zena sari zindigi. This is Hungarian Punjabi and it means: Please stay with us my beloved brother as long as you can.

—excerpts from a speech written by Tibor Farkas, associate professor of Political Science and Sociology at MMC
MMC alumni are venturing west to warmer weather and cooler attitudes.

By Morgan Shada and Alana Klein

New York is home to many of the most spectacular museums, parks, restaurants, and people. But it doesn’t have it all. A number of Marymount Manhattan alumni, some of whom have deep roots in New York, have made the move westward, as many have done before them. Westward migration has been a recurring theme in American history, dating back to the 1840’s when treasure seekers flooded the “Golden State” with hopes of striking it rich. The Marymount Manhattan alumni we spoke with went to California in search of other treasures—gentler temps, a slower-paced life, and a bit of fame. Despite being far from their families and friends on the East Coast, they have found themselves at home along the country’s other coastline.

California Dreamin’

Jackie Sullivan ’64

Two weeks after Jackie Sullivan ’64 graduated from Marymount Manhattan, she married. Her friends joked about her leaving Manhattan, the 71st Street campus they had enjoyed together, and gave her seeds to grow food once she and her husband moved outside New York—what her friends saw as the end of the earth.

Her husband was in the Air Force, which took them from Oregon to Oklahoma to Nebraska and finally to California. The Bay Area has been her home ever since, and she certainly has taken advantage of it. A passionate outdoorswoman, she has enjoyed hiking, mountain climbing, sailing, water skiing, and more, since moving west 43 years ago.

The attitude of the area has also struck Jackie. She appreciates what she calls “the greater tolerance” in Northern California. The rumors are true, she says. “It’s about letting people do their thing.”

Oakland, where she lives, is also home to professional sports, ballets, symphonies, and museums, and she has great neighbors too, including San Francisco and Berkeley.

So what does she miss about New York and MMC? The “value-based education, commitment, and dedication of the faculty and lifelong friend-
琛s made at MMC,” she says. Originally from Queens, Jackie went to Dominican Academy High School just a few blocks from MMC.

She began her professional life as a nursery school teacher before she went back to school to study biochemistry. She began at St. Mary’s College in Omaha, and finished at California State University in Hayward, Calif. Following an internship, she spent 27 years at John Muir Medical Center in Walnut Creek, Calif. As a licensed clinical lab scientist, she credits Frances M. Telsey, who was an associate professor in the Home Economics department at MMC, with teaching her to think and problem solve. “You could take those skills and apply them anywhere,” she says.

While friends have visited her over the years in her many hometowns, none have made it so far as California. It might be too far past the end of the earth—but well worth the trip.

Jule Ann Maloney ’70

During Jule Ann Maloney’s ’70 senior year, a computer-training course was established at Marymount Manhattan. “This actually laid the foundation for my career,” she says. Maloney has worked in Information Technology (IT), in the transportation and banking industries throughout her career. She is currently a project manager with Wells Fargo in the Enterprise Database Infrastructure Group.

She and her husband both had job opportunities that took them to San Francisco, which she describes as a “vibrant, cultural city for all types of folks.” The city by the bay became a welcome new home for the couple.

She says that her roots are now in San Francisco even though her family is still in New York. “It is wonderful, I would never move.” Moving great distances was relatively new for Maloney, a Queens native, who found a home at MMC. She was looking for an all-women’s Catholic school that she could commute to from home. She and her parents agreed that it was the place for her. She kept busy as a member of the yearbook staff and with involvement in campus clubs and events.

Maloney understands the changes that have taken place at MMC since her time as a student. Still, she feels the values and goals have remained the same. She knows that change and adaptation are needed and she looks forward to promoting the school she loves on the West Coast. “It [MMC] provides a warm venue for you to grow into who you are to become,” she says.

Michele Maher ’88

Born and raised in Florida, Michele Maher ’88 took the opposite route of most New York snowbirds. As a college-bound senior, she knew she wanted an urban college experience. “I didn’t want to be like everyone else going to the University of Florida or Florida State,” Maher says. “I felt the Northeast offered more culture and sophistication.”

The decision to apply to MMC was a no-brainer. Not only did her mother’s best friend live on 72nd Street between Second and Third avenues, but she also had the acting bug, a condition that is only exacerbated at MMC, for better or for worse. After college, she pursued an acting career, performing in soap operas and Off Broadway plays, and eventually moved to Los Angeles in the early 90’s.

But she didn’t stay long. “I was doing commercials and making a living but I was frustrated and itching for more creative work.” She returned to New York and gave the corporate world a go by taking a job at Calvin Klein. “I was exposed to a very interesting world with a lot of characters,” she says. This experience turned out to be fodder for her film Garmento, a dark comedy that exposes the underbelly of the fashion world. The film should be released later this year.

She stayed in New York for a few more years, after receiving a film certificate at NYU and then gave California a second shot in 2004. She cites the film business and “wanting a different lifestyle from New York” as reasons for her second return. She now lives in Malibu, one of the more idyllic parts of Southern California, where she’s writing a new romantic comedy, playing tennis, and enjoying the dry heat.

Ideally, she says she would like to be bicoastal because she misses the energy and pace of New York. She also feels much nostalgia for MMC and her fellow alumni. “As you get older everyone scatters and tries to get their lives in order. But it’s important to keep in touch and stay connected,” she says. While she doesn’t come back to MMC as frequently as she would like to, she says, “I’m really impressed with how the school has transformed and grown. I am very proud to be an alum.”
71st Street is where much of the thinking, learning, growing, and self-discovery—the intangibles that make up the MMC "college experience"—happen. But it’s not the only place. An increasing number of students, faculty, and administrators are venturing outside the classroom, and far beyond Manhattan—from the jungles of El Salvador to the Pantheon in Rome—for different kinds of learning experiences.

At the same time, MMC is opening its doors to more and more international students, faculty, and administrators. “We are seeing a growing internationalism at the College,” says President Judson R. Shaver. He points to the growing number of students studying abroad; the slew of faculty-led student trips to Europe and beyond; the many international faculty and students that the College has recruited; a student and faculty exchange program in Greece; newly created exchange programs in Birmingham, England, and Amsterdam; and his recent 10-day trip to China sponsored and funded by the China Institute.

“We need to go from being the small college in the big city to becoming the small college in the big world,” Shaver says. “We need to adopt a more global orientation. It’s a priority.”

Shaver is deeply committed to this cause for a variety of reasons, one of which has to do with his international upbringing. He may look all-American, but as the son of missionaries, he has lived all over the world—from southern India to Brazil’s Central Amazon, where he lived in a house on stilts that sat on both land and water, before traveling to Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. At age seven he moved to the United States, where he spent time in California and parts of the Midwest, changing schools every year until his junior year. “It was an adventure that made me stronger and more comfortable with change,” he says.

MMC turns global ideas into action.

BY ALANA KLEIN
President Shaver at Shaanxi Normal University in Xi’an with a member of the English Club, the largest club at the university.

A classroom at the University School of Business in Birmingham, England.

Students pose in front of fragments of the monumental statue of Constantine at the Capitoline Museum in Rome.
Many others at MMC have sought out similar adventures too. While the College has not yet made an organized, strategic effort to globalize, Shaver says, “the MMC community is moving in a more global direction independently, but collectively.”

For example, student interest in studying abroad is on the rise, according to Elaine Vukov, director of summer/winter programs and study abroad at MMC. In 2006, 40 students studied abroad, compared with 30 in 2005 and 22 in 2004. Additionally, many students are stepping outside their comfort zones by choosing more exotic locales. This summer, two students each went to Tanzania and Bulgaria.

The College has also lured more international students to the College. The number of student applicants from other countries increased from about 80 in the fall of 2005 to about 125 in the fall of 2007, according to Krys Zaba, director of international recruitment. These numbers did not increase accidentally. Zaba, who grew up in Poland, has been busy traveling the world to build relationships with colleges abroad. Latin America and Europe are at the top of Zaba’s wish list of places to visit next. Last September he spent a month traveling through Japan, South Korea, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, and Vietnam, attending education fairs. He visited counselors and representatives from American and other English-speaking schools to build relationships and to introduce them to MMC. “It’s all about relationships. Counselors need to know who you are so they will think of your school when they are talking to students,” Zaba says.

He says he has already received an increase in applications as a result of the Asia trip. After all, Asia is the largest exporter of students, according to the Open Doors 2006 report from the Institute of International Education

“Having international faculty exposes our students to varying perspectives and points of view.”
It’s no surprise that Shaver is also a strong believer in developing partnerships with China. Having recently returned from a trip to China, coordinated by the China Institute, he says, “China is an important country for us to pay attention to. It’s a rising capitalist society that’s going to become more powerful,” he says. Selected as one of nine key educators in the New York City area, he visited several K-12 schools and colleges to get a sense of the education system in China and to meet with key educational influencers.

Shaver said he was surprised by the Chinese students’ enthusiasm towards learning English. “English education is compulsory there but no one was unhappy with having to study the language,” Shaver says. He admires their fluency in English and wishes more students in the United States would take an interest in learning languages. “It’s another thing to be inside the language and really understand what people mean.”

“We need to go from being the small college in the big city to becoming the small college in the big world.”

If the College had unlimited resources, Shaver said he would encourage the entire MMC community to study abroad. Many faculty members have opted to do just that, and have decided to include students in the process. Mary Fleischer, professor of Theatre Arts, has taken students to London; Jason Rosenfeld, associate professor of Art History, took students

(IEI).
MMC's International Scholars


Vladimir Pashkevich, assistant professor of Business Management specializing in marketing, received his Ph.D. in marketing from the University of Cincinnati in 2004. He is originally from Belarus. He won the Top Paper Award at the 6th International Business and Economy Conference in January 2007 for his paper “The Role of Culture-Level Factors in Shaping On-line Purchase Intentions: A Cross-Country Comparison.”

Magdalena Maczynska is an assistant professor of English from Poland. She is the director of the Freshman Writing Program at Marymount Manhattan. She received her Ph.D. in English Literature from the Catholic University of America in 2006.

Lia Leon Margolin is assistant professor of Mathematics. She specializes in mathematics and physics. She received her Ph.D. in Mathematics and Physics from Tbilisi State University in 1994 in Georgia, where she is from. She received a research fellowship in 2006 from the Holographic Research Laboratory at the Institute of Cybernetics in Georgia. Her published work includes “Recurrence Method of Transformation Coefficient Determination for N-particle Hyperspherical Basis,” at the Proceedings of the Hawaii International Conference on Statistics, Mathematics, and Related Fields in January of this year. She has presented at many conferences including the 18th International Conference on Few-Body Problems in Physics and the 2007 Joint International Summer Research Conference on Derived Categories in Mathematics and Physics in June of 2007 where she delivered the keynote address.

to Italy and England; former professor of Philosophy David Gandolfo led a service-learning trip to El Salvador, in which students built houses for Habitat for Humanity and visited various human rights groups; and Rob Dutiel, assistant professor of Theatre Arts and Mark Ringer, associate professor of Theatre Arts, led a group to Greece to study ancient theater.

For those who don’t have the opportunity to travel, the College has been working hard to bring more international faculty, staff, and students to campus. “Having international faculty exposes our students to varying perspectives and points of view,” says Dawn Weber, vice president for academic affairs and dean of the College. She points to Jens Giersdorf, assistant professor of Dance, who hails from Germany. “He brings the European perspective but is not limited to that. He is just able to share his expertise coming from a different type of training,” Weber says.

The College has also created two new international student exchange programs that will begin this fall. One is with the Birmingham University School of Business in Birmingham, England, and the other is with The Theater School in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, which is open to dance students only. Additionally, for the past two years MMC has had a successful exchange program with the American College of Thessaloniki (ACT) in Greece, funded by the Niarchos Foundation. MMC’s involvement with ACT does not stop there; President Shaver also serves on ACT’s board of trustees.

“There is a recognition across the country that people need to have a greater awareness and appreciation of diversity,” says Weber. While it will not happen overnight, she says, “MMC believes in this idea of a greater world community and is working towards achieving it.”
Ann Aguanno (Biology) has been announced the director of the Northeast Region Undergraduate Affiliate Network by the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. She also received tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor this year. She worked with student Jessica Stevens ’09 who received second place at the Undergraduate Research Symposium at William Patterson University last April. She was also the recipient of the Undergraduate Faculty Travel Award from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the Annual Experimental Biology Conference in Washington, D.C.

Edna Aizenberg (Spanish) was a keynote speaker at the International Borges Conference held at the University of Iowa this past April and was a featured participant at the Hostos Conference on Latin American Jewish Culture, also in April. She published several articles, one on the Gospel of Judas and Borges in Variaciones Borges, and another in the British journal Mortality on memorials and public memory in Argentina. Aizenberg is editing a volume for the Modern Language Association on approaches to teaching the works of Jorge Luis Borges. She will be a keynote speaker this summer in Buenos Aires at the conference of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association.

Sue Behrens (Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology) is the Scholar-in-Residence at New York University this summer via Faculty Resource Network. She will investigate societal attitudes toward students’ spelling errors. Her recent presentations include “Naming Practices on Star Trek” at the Popular Culture Association National Conference this year in Boston and “Linguistic Analysis of Forms of Address in the Television Series Star Trek” at the 46th Annual Names Institute at Baruch College in New York.


Millie Burns (Art) was the curator of the Cultural Interpretations exhibit at the Skylight Gallery in Brooklyn, which was on display until June. Also at the Skylight Gallery, she served as panel moderator for “Art Has the Power to Enlighten.” She was a participant in a panel for the School Arts Partnership Grant with Partners for Arts Education held in Syracuse in June.

Kevin Connell (Theatre Arts) played Larry in a production of Lanford Wilson’s Burnt Tbis last March. This past year John Costello (Humanities) performed in three operas, Mozart’s The Magic Flute, Verdi’s Aida and Puccini’s Tosca. Also, he presented a paper, “Brian Friel’s Faith Healer: The Politics of Silence” at the New York College English Association’s Conference in April. In addition, while on leave from teaching this spring, he traveled to Venice, Ferrara, Ravenna, Padua and Verona to visit various historic monuments, churches and museums.

Cecilia A. Feilla (Humanities) edited the Critical Edition of La tribu indienne; ou, Edouard et Stellina by Lucien Bonaparte, published by Modern Humanities Research Association in 2006. In March of 2007 she participated in “The Virtue of Violence: Filicide on the Eighteenth-Century Stage” as part of a panel on Representing Violence with the American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies in Atlanta. She currently serves as faculty adviser to Alpha Chi Honor Society, on the Honors Day Committee and in other capacities at MMC. She is also on the advisory board with the Pace University Graduate Program in Publishing.

Ann Jablon (Academic Access) published, with Linda Carozza, director of MMC’s Ruth Smadbeck Center, on the “Science of Successful Supervision and Mentorship” for Plural Publishers. They were also published in the June 19 edition of the ASHA Leader, a national publication of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.

Kelsey Jordahl (Physics) co-taught a unit on sonar mapping and participated in two modules of this field-based faculty development project. He also led a geological field trip for geology students to northern New Jersey last November.
Janice Kelly (Communication Arts) was interviewed for Proud Papa Magazine and had her research profiled in Father Resource Network, an online site. Also, Kelly sent eight Marymount Manhattan students to the New York Women in Communications Matrix Luncheon. As volunteers, they met Rosie O’Donnell, Barbara Walters, Paula Zahn and other big broadcast names.

Anastacia Kurylo (Humanities) is the vice president of the New Jersey Communication Association. In November she presented at the National Communication Association’s Annual Convention in San Antonio. At MMC, she serves as a member of several committees and is the co-chair of the PRR Outcomes Assessment Subcommittee.

Katie LeBesco (Communication Arts) recently co-edited a special double issue of The Review of Education, Pedagogy, and Cultural Studies on the pedagogy of the teacher’s body. In the spring, she lectured on body politics at Sarah Lawrence College and did a post-show talk back at Epic Theatre Center’s production of Beauty on the Vine.

Twila C. Liggett (Social Science), founder of the television program Reading Rainbow, recently received two daytime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Children’s Series and

Communication Arts professor Janice Kelly was featured in an article on how fathers are portrayed on television in USA Today on June 13, 2007.


On May 4, 2007, an article in TMCnet mentioned Marymount Manhattan’s deployment of a mass student emergency communications system.

Kent Worcester, chair of the Social Sciences Division and associate professor of Political Science and International Studies at MMC, was noted in an article in Editor & Publisher on May 2, 2007, for being the guest editor of the latest American Political Science Association journal issue.

Katie LeBesco, associate professor and chair of Communication Arts at MMC, was mentioned on April 27, 2007, in Broadwayworld.com for her involvement in a forum with the Epic Theatre Center’s Beyond Beauty Initiative.

Assistant professor of Hispanic Studies Michael Colvin was quoted in an article about fado, the most famous form of music in Portugal in Guardian Unlimited on April 27, 2007.

John Simon and the discussion he led at MMC was featured in the Page Six section of the New York Post on April 8, 2007.

MMC faculty member Jacqueline Bonomo discussed her involvement with students as associate director of the Academic Access program at MMC in the April issue of Education Update.

Photographs from MMC’s 2007 President’s Medal Gala were featured in the Sunday Styles section of the New York Times on March 25, 2007.

MMC’s Writing Center dinner was mentioned in an article about divorce on March 11, 2007, in the Page Six section of the New York Post.
Outstanding Writing in a Children’s Series. The program garnered seven Emmy nominations. In addition, she wrote Just Read Anything: How to Raise Intelligent, Literate Kids. She also presented at the Popular Culture Association/American Cultural Association 2007 National Conference last April in Boston. Her presentation was titled, “Reading Rainbow: Instilling a Love of Reading in Young Children Through Two Decades of Changes Within Public TV.” She was also a premier judge for the Young Voices of Loudoun County, Vol. II, short story writing contest last April.


Philip Ording (Mathematics) co-authored The Ozsváth-Szabó and Rasmussen Concordance Invariance Are Not Equal with Matthew Hedden (M.I.T.) in the American Journal of Mathematics, the oldest mathematics journal in the Western Hemisphere in continuous publication. The paper, which will appear in print later this year, disproves a widely supported conjecture in knot theory.

Cheryl Paradis (Psychology) presented with Justin Montgomery ’07, “Attitudes Toward the Insanity Defense” and “Attitudes Toward the Transfer of Juvenile Offenders to Adult Court” at the Eastern Psychological Association Convention in Philadelphia last March.

Vladimir Pashkevich (Business Management) attended the International Business and Economics Conference in San Francisco last January. His paper, “The Role of Culture-Level Factors in Shaping Online Purchase Intentions: A Cross-Country Comparison,” a research project for which he collaborated with University of Cincinnati professors David J. Curry and Norman T. Bruvold, was named Best Paper at the conference.

Benedetti Sampoli Benitez (Chemistry) presented with Biology student Lisa Balistreri a paper titled “An Exploration of the Fidelity Mechanism for the Error-Prone African Swine Fever Virus DNA Polymerase” at the 51st annual meeting of the Biophysical Society in Baltimore last March.

Sejal Shah (Humanities) gave a fiction reading at Medaille College (Buffalo) last April as part of its creative writing reading series. She also hosted a number of guest speakers last spring including John Edgar Wideman, Thom Powers, Michael Morse and Anjali Singh. Shah presented a paper with Magdalena Maczynska (English) on teaching Islamic narratives (Marjane Satrapi’s Persepolis and Salman Rushdie’s The Satanic Verses) in the American classroom at the Global Literatures in English Conference at St. Olaf College (Northfield, Minn.) this past June.

Linda Solomon and Claire Owen (Psychology) presented, along with three psychology students, at the Eastern Psychological Association Convention in Philadelphia in March. The paper was titled “Acceptance of Mentoring: The Role of Attachment Style.”

Calling All Snowbirds

Please let us know where you will be spending the winter months so we can be sure to include you in MMC’s regional alumni events. Please e-mail your winter address to alumni@mmm.edu.
The Caring Economist

MMC professor takes on a lofty international challenge.

By Morgan Shada

Spanning Mexico, Bangkok, Atlanta and Marymount Manhattan College, professor Radhika Balakrishnan, economics professor and international studies professor and program coordinator, has kept herself busy over the past year. She and her colleague Diane Elson at the University of Essex in the United Kingdom have assembled a team of experts to collect and evaluate data for a very demanding cause: to see if human rights principles can be applied to macroeconomic policies in the United States and Mexico. “I hope that this work will lead to policy change where we desperately need it,” Balakrishnan says.

After receiving a total of $171,000, she spent the first six months building a team. She traveled to Mexico several times to find a partner organization. Initially the project was going to be based in Kenya but due to internal problems there that was not a possibility. Balakrishnan attended several conferences to learn which country would be appropriate.

“Everywhere I went people said to choose Mexico because by looking at Mexico you could also get an idea of trade policy and look at ways the U.S. policies influence policies in Mexico,” she says. She selected Mexico-based FUNDAR, the Center of Analysis and Research, which has been doing work for many years on economic policy and budgets. Their support in resources has been essential. Of the total grant, $121,000 came from the Ford Foundation in Mexico through FUNDAR and $50,000 came directly from the Ford Foundation in New York.

Although coordinating and working with such a large team of contributors around the world has been challenging, Balakrishnan is grateful for the help. “The reason I wanted to do this with a team in Mexico is that I wanted it [the project] to have a life in Mexico outside of me,” she says.

All team members attended a meeting in Cuernavaca, Mexico, in January where a group of advisers met to review the conceptual framework and evaluate the project’s direction. Two Marymount Manhattan students attended the meeting and helped take notes and assist other attendees. Sydney Alexis Krauss ’07 was very interested in how to apply human rights to educational policy in the United States. Christopher Perre’07 did more work after the meeting in Mexico; he wrote his thesis on human rights and taxation in the United States, an excellent paper, says Balakrishnan. She helped the students during their terms of study and on their theses by involving them as participants in her project. In addition to working on their own specific papers, the students were able to meet the...
Balakrishnan returned to the United States last March where she is very involved in domestic human rights issues too. She has participated in the United States Human Rights Network since its inception and was chair of their Coordinating Committee. “Given the issues of our time I felt that it was time for me to bring my global knowledge and experience to bear on the United States and its policies,” Balakrishnan says. At the end of June the whole team met in Bangkok for the International Association for Feminist Economics annual meeting at what was the group’s first public presentation. There was a great deal of interest generated at the conference.

The team will finally make it to Marymount Manhattan in October of this year. The public event will be open to students, faculty, alumni, outside organizations and a variety of interested parties.

By next January the team hopes to have collected enough data to meet with the advisory committee again. This Atlanta-based meeting is being co-sponsored by the United States Human Rights Network. The results of the work will be publicly launched while in Atlanta. Balakrishnan comments that although most projects this size would be given three years, the time line for this team is six months.

There are three levels of dissemination being considered. First, after seeing what the information looks like, the team will produce academic papers or a book in both English and Spanish. Balakrishnan has been taking Spanish for a few years and hopes to be able to present the project findings in both English and Spanish. A policy paper will then be sent to policy makers and government representatives and distributed within the United Nations. Balakrishnan is also trying to arrange a briefing before Congress in Washington, D.C.

The final stage of distribution is the largest and most daunting, says Balakrishnan. “We are going to try to come up with a training manual to train organizations in both the U.S. and Mexico on how to use the tools of analysis. That way they can make the manual their own, expand it and advocate using it,” she says. “It’s going to be a lot of work.”

Overwhelmed, but equally excited, Balakrishnan says, “I am hoping that the results will provide a new way to assess macroeconomic policy, one that has an ethical lens based on internationally agreed upon norms.”
Classnotes are published both in 71st Street magazine and on Marymount Manhattan College’s Web site at http://marymount.mmm.edu/alumni/classnotes.html. Please see p. 33 for instructions on how to submit a Classnote.

-1950’s-

Junetta Salottolo Mehl ‘52 says that life has been, and still is, a joy. Presently, she is living in Mt. Laurel, N.J., with her daughter Diana and son-in-law, Harry. She is working four days a week managing a small health store in Burlington. Her other daughter, Loretta, and Loretta’s children have been living in Jordan for the past two years. Junetta is excited about their return to the United States. “Thank you Marymount for the launch,” she says.

Josephine D’Angelo Maloney ’57 and husband John are still working full-time. They spent two weeks in Florence, Italy, in November and are hoping to go to Ireland and Scotland this summer. The most important news is their seven grandchildren. John and Josephine say they are fortunate to have them living very close by.

-1960’s-

Ruth Janeiro Anderson ’60 is still working in the chemistry department of The Ohio State University. She is active as a volunteer in the recruitment and retention of first-year students at the university. Most of the retention activities are centered on the Hispanic students at OSU.

Her various activities with the University Women’s Club have culminated in her accepting the presidency for the 2007–2008 year. Almost 400 members participate in fun activities from gourmet dining to drama, music, art, antiques, bridge and gardening; as well as social service activities including a thrift shop that makes money for scholarships.

The most important event this year was the arrival of identical twin granddaughters (Caroline and Claire) on Super Bowl Sunday. She had the joy of meeting them over spring break in Oklahoma, where they live. Since her seven grandchildren are scattered in Connecticut, California and Oklahoma, Ruth and her husband, Larry, cherish their visits.

Valerie Greene Butler ’60 is enjoying her new house that overlooks Long Island Sound. The house is 99.9 percent complete. Several minor health problems kept her from MMC’s book club this year, but she plans to return. She wonders if anyone is planning a “let’s-not-wait-‘til-50” reunion?

Gerrie Marsar Checkon ’60 was a member of her city’s delegation to Pinneberg, Germany, in early June to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Rockville, Md. Sister City Association. Gerrie was among the 34-member delegation celebrating the close relationship between residents of both municipalities.

The current and former mayors of Rockville, members of its city council, city staff and interested citizens participated in the trip. The Rockville Sister City Committee is making plans to host a reciprocal delegation from Pinneberg in October.

Dotty Lynch Downey ’66 (second from left) with colleagues at American University’s May 2007 graduation

Elizabeth Hahn Gassman ’67 has retired after 20 years of teaching art.

Regina Birkner Hartley ’67 is now known as “Gramma Gina” to the “two most adorable little girls,” Christina and Miranda, ages three and two, who live in Vermont. They visit her in Shelher Island during the summer. She is still living full-time in Laguna Beach, Calif., working as a program specialist/speech therapist but will retire within the next two years. The current retirement plan is to see private clients part-time because she enjoys the work but wants to work at a less hectic pace. A community theater production called Lagnatics, which annually roasts the town’s politics and events of the preceding year in hilarious song and dance, fills up her free time in late summer and fall. Laguna Beach, unlike the TV show, is a little artistic micro New York, with several former New York residents and great weather—but there’s still nothing like the real thing.

Marsha Hakim Hewitt ’67 and her husband, Carl, are both retired attorneys and recently purchased a second home in Greenwich, Conn., where they spend long weekends with their two dogs. At the same time, they moved in the city
where they have a new apartment with views of the East River. Because she spends time in Connecticut, she resigned as a Trustee on the Marymount Manhattan Board, a position that she enjoyed immensely for four years. During that period, Marsh and her husband made a contribution to the school, which resulted in the renaming of the MMC art gallery as the Hewitt Gallery of Art. They are very proud of being closely associated with Marymount Manhattan. Now that they have settled into their homes, they have started to travel again and have already planned trips to Anguilla, England, Africa and Spain. They are also active tennis players and are pursuing pilots’ licenses in the Connecticut vicinity.

Anna Krassy ’67 retired from Credit Suisse, the investment banking firm, on December 31, 2006, after more than 18 years. Now she can concentrate on her world travels, visiting friends across the United States and those in Belgium, England and France, as well as places yet unseen such as Scotland. She will also have time to indulge her hobby of quilting. She assisted in the preparations for the Empire Quilters Guild show at the Fashion Institute of Technology, as she is a member and had at least one of her quilts on display. She is on the Board of Trustees of Trail Blazers, a nonprofit children’s organization with which she has been affiliated for more than 30 years. She hopes to volunteer at the organization’s office two or three times a week as a part-time bookkeeper. She is a grandaunt with one grandniece and five grandnephews.

Ellen Parlapiano Leppa ’62 is the coordinator of on-site services for the National Food Service Management Institute (NFSMI), housed on the campus of the University of Mississippi in Oxford, Miss. NFSMI is an educational resource center for all Child Nutrition Programs throughout the country that includes services to Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands. She is looking ahead to winding down her career with the institute and providing consultant services thereafter.

Susan McKeon ’66 sends condolences to classmate Barbara Disalvio Johnson ’66 and her family on the death of her beloved mother, Jean.

Joanne McNecece Miles ’62 is still working at the United Way of West Alabama, where she is the public relations director. She was an adjunct professor at the University of Alabama for a number of years. One of her daughters is married and has two children. One daughter is a faculty member at the University of Arkansas and her son works at a radio station. She was in the Peac e Corps after graduation, as was Madeline Bastis ’62.

Ida Corvino Mileitch ’62 is married to Joseph Mileitch and has been living in Manhasset, Long Island, since 1974. She holds permanent New York State certification, K-12, in Italian and is presently teaching in the Continuing Education Division of the Garden City Public Schools. She enjoys writing, is the co-editor of the Notizie of the Famce Furlane of New York and has had many articles published in the Italian press. Since 2002, she has served as a director of the Programma Ponte, a study abroad program sponsored by the Association of Italian American Educators in Rome. Ida performs professionally on piano, accordion and keyboard with Frizzi and Lazzi, Olde Time Italian American Music and Theater Company. She is the president of the Italian American Women’s Center, Inc. Ida was unable to attend this year’s reunion because she attended a teacher’s training program.

Paulann Pierson ’66 accepted an offer to establish a county Office of Disability Services in Cape May, N.J., in December 2006. Cape May is surprisingly beautiful in the winter and famously beautiful in the summer. Paulann welcomes any MMC alumni who are going to be in the area to call her. (The Cape May County Office of Disability Services is located on Crest Haven Road in the Cape May Court House.)

Francine Ferrante Roland-King ’67 has closed her ballet studio in Brooklyn after 44 wonderful years. She has begun teaching high school in New Jersey as well as leasing commercial real estate space. Her daughter, Angelica, graduated Marymount University in Arlington, Va., and George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and was married last September. Francine’s niece is a Marymount Manhattan graduate and was Angelica’s maid of honor. Francine’s husband, Tim, is a senior partner at Massey Knakal Realty Services in New York City, and they spend weekends on their trawler, Tenacity. She has been blessed with a wonderful family, and was named as one of the Women of Distinction by the New York State Senate for her work with children in Flatbush.

Joan Trovato Sheridan ’67 and her husband, Jim, have recently purchased another home in Sarasota, Fla., and will be spending winters there. They are currently moving from their home of 35 years in New Rochelle, N.Y., and will spend the summers in their newly purchased cottage on Peach Lake in North Salem.

Jean St. Germain ’66 was promoted to clinical member, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center and Attending Physicist, Memorial Hospital. The title member is the highest academic title in the center and must be approved by the board of managers. The individual promoted must demonstrate strong intellectual leadership in his or her respective field and have achieved international recognition.

Judy Holder Trust ’64 is still working as a teacher at Clarkstown South High School in West Nyack, N.Y.

Marjorie Conroe Wynne ’62 retired from teaching art in the Rye City School District in June 2005. Since that time she has been busy making her own artwork and enjoying the process. Her four grandchildren keep her busy and amused much of the time. Having the time to do things at her own leisure is a gift for which she is very grateful.

-1970’s-

Catharine Wilson Burt, Ed.D. ’72 is still working at the National Center for Health Statistics but is looking forward to retiring from 30 years of federal service next summer. For
Joanne Gull ’75 has accomplished a lot in her nursing career at Elmhurst Hospital Center. Most recently, she received the Fund for the City of New York’s Sloan Public Service Award for 2007. As one of six recipients to be honored with this award, which is given to New York City employees who have shown extraordinary commitment and performance in serving the public, she says, “It was a very amazing, humbling experience to be recognized by the city for public service. Besides it being personally gratifying, the institution [Elmhurst Hospital Center] was really excited.”

Originally from Scranton, Pa., Gull came to New York to go to nursing school at Kings County Hospital, affiliated with State University of New York-Downstate Medical Center, graduating in 1971.

She was grateful to go to MMC and participate in a college program. Gull says that Marymount Manhattan was one of the few institutions that allowed practicing nurses to go to college and give them credit for their education in the nursing program. After majoring in sociology at Marymount Manhattan College, she attended Hunter College and received her master’s degree in nursing in 1988.

Gull ended up at Elmhurst Hospital Center in Queens partly out of convenience; she lived in Flushing. She also thought it was time to give back to the city system. “Since I got my primary education in the municipal system, I felt like I owed the city system some time. I came and it’s a wonderful place that gave me the opportunity to grow and I’ve stayed ever since,” she says.

During her 35-year career, spent entirely at Elmhurst Hospital Center, she has moved through the ranks from staff nurse to deputy executive director and chief nursing officer. She is credited with bringing Elmhurst nursing to the national gold standard of excellence. The last 16 years she has run annual national surveys of hospitals and physicians. She has published numerous articles on the utilization of ambulatory medical care services, focusing on topics ranging from emergency room overcrowding and adoption of electronic medical records to health care visits for adverse effects of medical treatment.

Her husband has been retired for 12 years and their daughter (age 24 with a M.F.A. from Maryland Institute College of Art) works in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Catharine enjoys playing the piano and the hammered dulcimer in her spare time.

Ana Luisa Cardona ’72 had been preparing for the marriage of her son, Simon Cardona Perazza, to Diana Susie Boyd, on June 16 in Frankfort, Mich.

After a career in community-based nonprofit arts, she has spent 19 years in the Michigan Department of Education. She spent the last 10 of those years as an arts education consultant in the Curriculum and Literacy Unit. She recently hosted 18 of her arts education colleagues from other states in a weekend long planning session in Detroit.

She is also a founding member of Artes Unidas de Michigan, a statewide organization dedicated to advancing Latino arts and culture in Michigan.

Miriam Muley Forbes ’76 is C.E.O. of the 85% Niche (www.85percentniche.com), a marketing consultancy firm, dedicated to dispelling the myth that women, who control 85 percent or more of all purchase decisions, are a “niche,” but instead are the majority consumer group in America. Through gender- and diversity-savvy marketing and sales planning, Miriam helps companies increase market share among women and women of color—Latina, black, Asian, Middle Eastern and more. She went on to receive her M.B.A. from Columbia University and presently has a daughter attending MMC. Miriam resides in Michigan with her family and would be delighted to hear from her fellow MMC classmates.

Barbara Hayward ’72 has served as the executive director of the American Society and of the Priory in the United States of America of the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem since 1999. In 2005 she was appointed secretary of the organization. More than 30 years of fund-raising and nonprofit management experience, Barbara previously served as director of the Abigail Adams Smith Museum & Gardens (now the Mount Vernon Hotel Museum) in New York, the New York City Fire Museum, and the Fayetteville Museum of Art in North Carolina; as director of development for the Center for the Arts in Vero Beach, Fla.; and as an associate manager at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She also holds an M.A. from New York University (1975), and an M.F.A. from Columbia University (1991). She is treasurer of Arts-in-Context Educational, Inc., a nonprofit organization in New York. Barbara is a member of the Marymount Manhattan Dance Department’s Advisory Board.

Richard W. Nagle ’74 recently retired as director of the New York State Academy of Fire Science in Montour Falls, N.Y. This follows 20 years in the New York City Fire Department and 11 years as chief of the Ridgefield, Conn., Fire Department. He was the recipient of the 2007 Major Bowes Award for contributions to the arts at Archbishop Stepinac High School in White Plains, N.Y., as the founder of the Stepinac Alumni Theatre in 1963.

Maria M. Perez ’71 has been retired from the New York City Board of Education for two years, after 32 years of service. Her son graduated from Princeton University and has a Ph.D. in computer science from Stanford University. He works for the Naval Research Lab in Washington, D.C. Maria moved to Silver Spring, Md., in order to be closer to him and her three beautiful grandchildren. She would be thrilled to hear from all of the great women she met at MMC.
Michael C. Redmond ’77 has a wonderful daughter, Brie C. Pfisterer, who has just completed her second degree. Brie’s first B.A. is in Molecular and Cellular Biology with a minor in Chemistry from the University of Washington. Her second B.A. degree is in Psychology from Seattle University. She will be doing advanced master’s studies in Psychology at San Francisco State University in the fall.

Michael is completing her third year as a doctoral candidate in Psychoneurology and Spirituality from Barron University. She will be ordained as a minister of spirituality in November and is looking forward to performing weddings in New York in 2008.

Michael is very active with two businesses, Redmond Worldwide, Inc., a business continuity corporation (www.redmondworldwide.com) and Solution Focused Coaching (www.solutionfocusedcoaching.com).

Elena M. Sanchez-Coates ’77 is still in the Army and spent a good portion of last year deployed to Afghanistan. She says it was quite an interesting deployment: 14-18 hour days; no days off in seven months; the bathroom more than a block away; and living in a 6’ x 9’ plywood room. However, she also says that the work was amazing and being in the Hindu Kush Mountains (the foothills of the Himalayas) was nothing short of awe-inspiring. What a beautiful view. She got to jog along roads with minefields on both sides, and met some very interesting people. Now she is back in Tampa, Fla., awaiting her next deployment. Her son, Daniel (22), also in the Army, is now in Iraq for the second time. Her daughter, Layla (almost 17), is finishing up her junior year in high school. In Elena’s free time, she is the vice president of her neighborhood association, and belongs to the Tampa Woman’s Club and a garden club. She also enjoys going to movies, concerts, traveling and reading. Life is good.

Avia Kinard Wise ’78 was married on November 19, 2006. She and her husband, Ron, split their time living in New Jersey and New York City. She retired from Citigroup in 2003 as vice president of human resources after 30 years of service. She is now a proud stepmother and grandmother. The couple loves to spend time with family and friends.

Patricia Rossi Ciavarelli ’89 moved to the information technology division as manager of systems integration of the Pratt Institute after 17 years as a registrar at Pratt and elsewhere. In this capacity she will be serving Pratt’s students and faculty by assisting with the rollout of more integrated online services and self-service options.

Francine Cornelius ’85 works at P.S. 234 in TriBeCa. The school just celebrated its annual technology show at the Apple Store in SoHo. Her students presented their work in computer graphics, digital photography, and moviemaking. (She was a faculty member at MMC for many years, teaching Computer Graphics.)

Catherine Lecce-Chong ’82 presently lives in Boulder, Colo., on a sheep farm where she is also a Navajo weaver. In addition to her MMC degree in Studio Art, she also holds an associate of arts degree in photography from San Francisco City College and an M.F.A. in sculpture from the University of Pennsylvania and she spent three years studying classical Japanese art in Tokyo. She had

Margaret Monaghan ’73 began what she calls her “grassroots operation” about six years ago when she and another parent identified a pressing issue in their community: teenage binge drinking. To remedy this, Monaghan established a community council in Garden City, N.Y., to enhance parental communication and understanding of issues regarding alcoholism, drug dependency and teens’ misuse of the Internet.

Last year, the council partnered with a local high school to throw the first ever pre-prom picture party. Family, neighbors and students gathered in the high school’s gym to take pictures. Local merchants donated food, parents decorated the gym and a New York Times reporter covered the event. Monaghan hopes that this program will eventually eliminate the idea of “pre-prom parties” involving alcohol.

Though the council has been quite successful, Monaghan feels that much work remains. “It’s a never-ending job,” she says. She hopes to form a consortium of councils to help other communities address and discuss these issues.

Prior to her days of community activism, Monaghan was a special education teacher in New York. She says that MMC was a special place during the 70’s, and its openness to different thought processes gave her confidence. On her accomplishments thus far, Monaghan says, “You do what you can, you make your mark. My contribution to society has been my children.”

—Elizabeth Marie Matias ’07
the pleasure of being a visiting artist and artist-in-residence in the MMC art department in the spring of 2006 and 2007. Her art vocation has included many kinds of work: commercial studio photography and printing, photo retouching, commercial illustration, and high school studio and art history teaching. Medical nursing provided financial support in those early years. Her current work combines multicultural images, multimedia techniques and writing. This summer she will be creating her first installations. Catherine is represented by Meridian Gallery of San Francisco.

Mary Casey McCarthy ’80 teaches fourth grade. She is mother of three: 21-year-old Caitlin, 19-year-old Tommy and 15-year-old Patrick.

Diane Young Mozzone ’83 has a new job teaching E.S.L. in a high school and she is just about to start a new modern dance program (Graham technique) in Milford, Pa. She says she is finally using her Dance degree.

Jo Oppenheimer ’82 received her master’s degree in Clinical Psychology. She immigrated to Israel where, with two other women, she established a feminist therapy clinic reaching out to women and their spouses. Starting with 10 therapists in 1988, the clinic now has 27 therapists. Jo has specialized in working with survivors of sexual abuse and incest, and has published journals, articles and book chapters that incorporate issues experienced specifically by Israeli women. She retired from seeing clients in 2000 although she still maintains consultation hours. She is now a freelance photographer and writer, specializing in photographing Native Americans.

Denese Elizabeth Purcell ’88 is a court evaluator for alleged incapacitated persons cases for New York State Supreme Court in Richmond County. As of June 2007 she will become court examiner for New York State Supreme Court in Richmond County. In addition, she is preparing for law school.

Joan Regen Ramirez ’82 completed her first semester at Teachers College at Columbia University where she studied on a scholarship to obtain her second M.A. to teach E.S.L., and is now consulting in private practice.

Linda Rehberg Reidy ’80 received a masters of science in Adult Education from Fordham University on May 19, 2007.

Patricia Roe ’82 had a bit of a revival of an earlier acting career but decided that being a single mother required a more dependable income. So she took the city exam to become an English teacher. The highest point of that career was being asked to moderate the Inner-City Academic Olympics, in the subject of English, which she admits required some of her acting skills as well.

When her children went off to college, she moved to Taos, N.M.

She remains grateful for the education she received at Marymount Manhattan, including Sister Dymphna’s poetry class and Haila’s modern dance class.

The only time she wishes she were back in New York City is when she reads of a book club reading at MMC.

Madeline Pearson Schwartz ’85 is a preschool teacher on Long Island. She has three kids, ages 13, 16 and 18. Her oldest will be attending Marymount Manhattan in the fall of 2007.

Janet Shaw ’87 was married in September 2005 and moved with her husband from New York City to Connecticut. They adopted their daughter Alexandra from Moscow in November 2002 and enjoy taking her to the city every Christmas vacation to see the Big Apple Circus.

Yvonne Temann ’81 recently traveled to Australia, spending Christmas with friends.

Katherine Persico Wilson ’87 is a native New Yorker. Her early years were dedicated to working in the theater, as an actor, teacher and producer. Motherhood and corporate jobs absorbed most of the middle years. Now she has returned to the artistic community to pursue writing and acting. Inspired by the Poets & Writers group, she is currently working on writing her memoir. Currently, she teaches creative writing at MMC for the Center for Living and Learning.

-1990’s-

Maria Aponte ’97 is currently working at Fordham University as recruiting coordinator in Career Services. Maria is still involved in the arts and has performed her poetry and one woman shows at various colleges and universities around the country. In 2000, she was published by Marquette University. She performs with her Latin jazz band in the tristate area and is currently working on her M.A. in Adult Education at Fordham University.

Nancy Cochran ’91 donated her time on a volunteer basis for a nonprofit project and reception for Virginia Budny’s exhibition “New York’s Left Bank: Art and Artists off Washington Square North, 1900-1950,” at the Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art in Staten Island last March. She was an editor for the catalogue and she organized music for the March 10 reception. For everyone involved, this project was a labor of love. She says, “The catalogue and show followed the highest standards of scholarship; the story is a human story that appeals to anyone.”

Jill Bohon DiMartino ’97 had two of her photographs selected for Photo District News (PDN)’s Top Knots: The New School of Wedding Photography Contest. Winning images were published in the April issue of PDN. In the fall of 2006, Jill was awarded an honorable mention from Women in Photography International in their 25th Anniversary International Photography Competition, “Turning Silver.” Juried by top industry professionals, the collection is now part of the Women in Photography International archive. Jill is married to fellow photographer, William DiMartino. The two opened their studio, DiMartino Photography, LLC, in Kansas City in late 2005.

Derrick Carlo ’96 recently received his M.B.A. with a concentration in Strategic Management and Finance from Baruch’s Zicklin School of Business. He is employed by Hilton Hotels as the assistant director of human resources and labor relations for the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

Yvonne Temann’81
Katiuska "Kat" Guzman Carlo '96 has received her M.S. in finance from Baruch’s Zicklin School of Business. She is the director of compensation for Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc., leading compensation strategy. Kat is also a Certified Compensation Professional (CCP) as well as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR). Kat and MMC alumnus, Derrick Carlo '96, are celebrating their sixth wedding anniversary this year.

Tangley DeLaney '96 has been served well by her psychology major in her career in psychotherapy. She has a private practice and also works as a contract worker in a family agency in Greenwich, Conn. She has recently been named to the Dean's Advisory Committee at Columbia University School of Social Work. The group will be going to China in the fall to exchange ideas regarding the future and aspirations of the mission at CUSSW on an international scale.

She has most recently come through a stem cell transplant that has put her in remission for a very rare blood disease called amyloidosis. There is no cure but she is better than ever and doing everything she ever did and more. She says she wouldn’t be where she is today, career wise, without Professor Linda Solomon, her friend and mentor, and Diana Nash, her adviser. She is so sorry to have missed the 10th Reunion but MMC is always in her thoughts.

U. Diane Mowatt Hare '96 was married on November 3, 2006, at the Baltimore Inner Harbor Hyatt to David Copeland. Her son Jonathan gave her away.
Keisha Lawrence-Scott ‘97 completed an M.S. from Touro College in School Administration and Leadership in June 2007. She currently serves as a guidance counselor at the Young Women’s Leadership School of Astoria, which opened in the fall of 2006.

Betsy Durkin Matthes ‘96 wrote and published a book in 2006 entitled *Dressing the Man You Love: A Woman’s Guide to Purchasing, Coordinating, and Caring for His Classic Wardrobe.* She has most recently been appearing in bookstores and men’s upscale clothing shops in connection with the promotion of her book. Betsy also appeared at BookExpo America at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center on June 1 and later in the same month at the American Library Association Convention in Washington, D.C.

Sufyetty (Etty) Joesoef Mitsudome ’92 is working at the March of Dimes in the national office in White Plains, N.Y. as a direct response analyst. She is also currently a graduate student at Manhattanville College in Purchase, N.Y., studying Early Childhood Education. She will receive a master’s in Early Childhood Education in spring 2008. Then, she hopes to be a full-time teacher with a specialty in ages infant to seven years old.

She is married to Toshiaki Mitsudome, Ph.D., a Japanese national, and a permanent resident of the United States. He is an Accounting/Finance professor at Hunter College in Manhattan. They have one son, Resishi Mitsudome, who is in fifth grade. He was born in Manhattan (truly a New Yorker).

Etty is also a member of the ACLU/NYCLU and a member of NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children). She became a United States citizen in 2004.

Danea Polise-Bickerstaffe ‘96 opened dance etc., a dance and fitness boutique (www.shopdanceetc.com) in Raleigh, N.C., after relocating from New York City. She celebrated her one-year anniversary in June. In addition to operating the boutique, Danea currently teaches musical theater dance, jazz and tap at the North Carolina Theatre Conservatory and performs regularly with the North Carolina Theatre. She was last seen dancing in their production of *South Pacific.* Danea and her husband currently reside in Raleigh and have recently welcomed a new addition to their family. Gavin James was born December 15, 2006.

Melanie A. Rivera ‘91 is currently teaching fifth grade at P.S. 6 in the Bronx. She entered the teaching profession via the NYC Teaching Fellows and has been teaching for three years. She graduated last May from Mercy College with her master’s in Childhood Education. She is truly grateful for the blessing of working with children and making a difference!

Joanne Keratsos Sayad ‘91 has been living in Beirut since 1991. She co-authored *Lebanon A to Z: A Middle Eastern Mosaic,* a book that won the 2006 National Middle East Outreach Council Book Award with honorable mention. The Meridian International Center in Washington, D.C., in partnership with the Library of Congress, featured *Lebanon A to Z* and its original artwork in an exhibit, “This Is Our Land: Discovering America and the World Through Original Illustrations from Children’s Books.” The American Embassy cultural attaché awarded the exhibit the prestigious Fulbright grant, on behalf of the U.S. State Department.

Currently, Joanne is writing her first novel, which she describes as an intelligent yet racy story that captures the zeitgeist of contemporary Beirut.

Lisa Simmons ’91 graduated from Goizueta Business School at Emory University with an M.B.A. in May 2005. She is currently an administrator for the Department of Biomedical Engineering, a joint department between Emory University and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Melissa Towbin ’97 has worked in the following fields: marketing, advertising and health care. Recently, she has been doing temporary work. Melissa lives in New York City.

Ellen Terry Vandrew-Wald ‘99 got her permanent teaching license in E.S.O.L. this year. In 2004, she got an M.A. in T.E.S.O.L. from Hunter College and she has been assigned to the Bureau of Nonpublic Schools with the NYCDOE. She teaches seven different grades a day, from kindergarten through high school. Her husband, Barry Wald, is graduating from C.C.N.Y. with a B.A. in art, Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude. It has been a challenging year and she looks forward to spending more time on alumni activities.

Florence “Flo” Young ‘94 recently appeared in Yves Holer’s *Dentist Visit,* which premiered at the Slamdance Film Festival in March 2007 and can be seen in *Disfigured,* a feature film by Glenn Gers, which will be released in 2008. She has appeared in off-Broadway productions including *Sundown* by Leslie Maslow at the Westbeth Complex, and *Ring of Death* by H. M. Kououtsos at Theater for the New City. As a lifetime member of the Actors Studio, Flo participates in ongoing projects ranging from workshops to fully staged productions. Flo moved to Los Angeles about a year ago, and lives and boogie boards in Venice. She received her M.F.A. in acting from the New School University in 1999.

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Michelle Bacon ’04 is currently in the third year of her doctorate in school/clinical child psychology at Pace University. She will graduate in 2009. Next year she will be working part-time at Weill/Cornell Medical Center.
Andrew Blasenak '02 graduated this May ('07) with a master's of Letters in Shakespeare and Renaissance Literature in Performance with a concentration in Teaching from Mary Baldwin College. The program works in association with the American Shakespeare Center, where students learn how to research and produce plays under the original staging practices of early modern playing companies. Andrew has not only studied this on the world's only re-creation of Shakespeare's indoor theater, the Blackfriars Playhouse, but also has created a touring troupe, Lord Ralph's Men, where the actors are solely responsible for aspects of the company in a business model similar to that of Shakespeare's companies. Next year he will continue at Mary Baldwin College to pursue an M.F.A in Acting.

Marney Boruchow '01 is currently living in Philadelphia and is a dancer, artist, and yoga teacher.

Jenny Cobuzzi '02 bought her first home in Manchester, N.H., after finishing a seven-month contract with Celebrity Cruises as a dancer. Jenny is currently dancing at Sandcastle, located in the Hyatt in Saipan, Mariana Islands. She is scheduled to dance there until November 2007. She plans to return to her new home after her contract is over.

Laura Diffenderfer '02 does freelance arts administration for a number of modern dance companies in New York City, including jill sigman/thinkdance, Susan Marshall & Company, and RoseAnne Spradlin. She has published several dance-related articles, most recently “Octavio Campos and the Business of Art,” which can be read in Movement Research Performance Journal #30. Laura also makes her own dance theater and lives in Brooklyn.

Tom Fabricio '05 attended law school in south Florida at Nova Southeastern University. As of May 2007, Tom has completed two years of study and is poised to graduate in May of 2008 with the degree of juris doctor. Last summer Tom worked as a summer law clerk for the Honorable Richard J. Suarez at Florida's Third District Court of Appeal. Currently Tom is employed as a law clerk at the law firm of Gary Singer in Sunrise, Fl.

Victoria Freeman '01 is currently working at NYU's Ehrman Medical Library as a student supervisor. If anyone knows of a student who can work in the library in the evenings, Victoria can be contacted via the Office of Institutional Advancement at MMC.

Victoria is trying to raise money for a scholarship fund at Vanguard High School, which her daughter attends. The scholarship, Change for a Cause, financially assists students in their first year in college.

Victoria is also part of the school's Parent Teacher's Leadership Team. She volunteers at Chelsea Piers for the Hassenfeld Cancer Center, working with children in foster care.

Meg Fenton Funk '02 married Tyler Funk on July 1, 2006, in Granby, Conn. She now resides in Granby, and is entering her fifth year as the owner/director of Nutmeg's Dance & Theatre Co. The dance school now has 200 students, and is still growing. She also performs with local theatre groups, and just finished a run in the show 42nd Street, in which she played Peggy Sawyer. She wishes much good luck to the class of '07!

Debra Ann Glenn-Byrd '01 recently received a new title, The Honorable Debra Ann Byrd, when Manhattan Borough President Scott M. Stringer appointed her to a seat on Manhattan’s Community Board 9, effective April 1, 2007. Byrd’s appointment runs until March 31, 2009.

Additional honors include being elected to serve as vice president of communications for the League of Professional Theatre Women Inc. She is scheduled to hold this board officer position through June 2009.

She was also recently awarded the Josephine Abady Award by the League of Professional Theatre Women for producing works of diversity in the professional theater and “in recognition of her outstanding work as artistic director of Take Wing and Soar Productions Inc., a professional theater arts corporation that provides center stage opportunities for classically trained artists of color.

She is very happy to report that this past April, she and the TWAS Inc. team produced a powerful production of William Shakespeare’s Hamlet, which was directed by MMC Theatre Arts professor Elizabeth Swain. She is most proud that her company included 16 MMC alumni, professors and current students.

She looks forward to many more partnerships with Marymount Manhattan College.

Diana Gubiseh-Ayala '00 is now a L.M.S.W. (licensed master social worker), counseling people living with post-traumatic stress disorder, including combat veterans and recent returnees from Iraq. She moved to the northeast fork of Long Island and loves it. She thanks MMC for all she got from being there.

Julie Johnson '05 is now the co-director of the Y Dance Program at the Family YMCA at Tarrytown located in Westchester, N.Y. She is also the co-artistic director of Evolve Dance Inc., a nonprofit dance company founded in 2006. Julie is pursuing an M.S. in Nonprofit Management at Milano The New School for Management and Urban Policy. She is happy to be able to combine her love for nonprofit work with her passion for dance.

William Douglas King '06 is attending Brooklyn College where he is working on a master's in Education. He received the 2007 grand prize for Give Piece a Chance, a photographic documentary portrait of Coretta Scott King at BAM’S “Picture the Dream” exhibit to honor Martin Luther King.

Laura Catherine Kressly '04 completed her M.F.A. in Staging Shakespeare (Acting Pathway) at the University of Exeter in August 2006. She moved to London, where she continues her acting career with Tussaud’s Thorpe Park and teaches with Bigfoot Theatre Company. The first half of 2007 found
her touring in Northern Italy with Italian theater company Lingue Senza Frontiere. In October 2006, she married Andrew Clark in London.

**Holly J. Lawrence ’04** completed a Master of Arts at Columbia University in Organizational Psychology in February 2006, and then studied abroad for an M.B.A. course at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

**Francine Lewis ’03** has recently been promoted to senior associate working in the Business Initiative Department at ADP Clearing and Outsourcing. She says it’s a great company with plenty of room to advance.

**Carolyn Licht ’01** has published several articles, has authored a book chapter to be published this December and is going to co-edit a forthcoming book. She has a poster presentation of her dissertation scheduled to be presented at the upcoming American Psychological Association convention. She is completing her internship at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx and is very excited that she will have her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology with a child and family specialization conferred on August 31, 2007. She is hoping to continue her work providing therapeutic services to inner city minority children, adolescents, adults and families impacted by HIV/AIDS, substance abuse and trauma.

**Charmaine Massias ’01** is an AVP/Assistant Branch Manager at United Commercial Bank in Flushing. She currently lives in Oakland Gardens, N.Y.

**Mahwish Natalia ’03** graduated in October 2006 from Columbia’s Graduate School of Arts and Sciences with a master’s in Biotechnology. Her M.A. thesis was on cancer stem cells. Currently working in a molecular biology lab on Columbia’s main campus, her research focus is on histone modifications. She plans to do her Ph.D. in Molecular Pathology.

**Suzette P. Magalong Poyaoan ’02** is pursuing her master’s in Early Childhood Special Education at Hunter College. She was married on January 21, 2007 to Elvin Z. Poyaoan.

**Julia Sandra Rand ’06**, an actress and acting coach. She will be teaching a 10-week course this fall at N.Y.U. School of Continuing and Professional Studies: Acting Basics Refined: An Introduction to the Uta Hagen Process. She is the founder of the Arts for Alzheimer’s Foundation that will present its first benefit performances of *Sunrise, Sunset*, a new play by Julia. The performance is based on her recent 10-year journey with her mother, Eva, and Alzheimer’s disease.

**Chris Conlon ’07** grew up in the Philadelphia area, near the hometown of Rocky. Having excelled at basketball and football in high school, Chris decided it was time for a new challenge. So during his freshman year at MMC, he gave boxing a try.

“I just took it. It was helping me deal with a lot of things,” he says. Chris became such a good boxer that in his senior year he competed in the Golden Gloves tournament in New York. Chris says that some of the best in boxing have won the amateur competition early in their careers. Although he didn’t win the tournament, Chris did beat out his first two competitors and looks forward to a return next year.

Chris says he appreciates the support he received at Marymount Manhattan. “It was often therapeutic to get hit sometimes,” he says. And on those days, with bruises to prove it, his classmates would say, “You’re the boxer. When’s the next fight?”

Chris is now a media buyer at Clash Media and hopes he will still be able to train hard with his full-time job. Although he would love to be a professional boxer he doesn’t know if he could ever commit enough time to make a good run at it.

**Deniz Sevgur ’05** is getting married on August 16 in Istanbul to her boyfriend of seven years. She got her dream job at *Vogue* as a production coordinator. She encourages all the graphic designers to dream big. She says there is a great graphic design program at MMC.

**Lauren Thompson ’04** will graduate in June 2007 with her M.F.A. in dance from the University of California, Irvine. She recently visited China where she assisted choreographer, Lisa Naugle, Ph.D., and media artist, John Crawford, in setting an evening-length multimedia piece on the Beijing Dance Academy. While she was there, her video choreography piece, *Restroom*, was selected for the Beijing International Dance Film Festival. Her solo video piece, *Pole Study*, was featured in the 2006 UCI Dance Film Festival, where she was also a member of the discussion panel.
**In Memoriam**

Rev. Madeline Ko-i Bastis ’62 was a businesswoman, artist, founder of a nonprofit organization and worked as a Hospice Counselor. Her nonprofit, Peaceful Dwelling Project, helped those with terminal illnesses and those who cared for them through meditation. She was the first Buddhist to be board certified by the Association of Professional Chaplains. She was ordained in 1993. She has published two books, *Peaceful Dwelling: Meditations for Healing* and *Living and Heart of Forgiveness: A Practical Path to Healing* and has spoken publicly for and about chaplain and pastoral service.

Barbara Bennett ’83, who came to MMC as a returning student and had been in the fashion industry for many years before retirement, passed away on March 17, 2007, after a long illness. Her energetic personality and good humor were appreciated as a student and as an active alumna. Her generosity was exhibited by her support of the Writing Center and the Dance Department. She is survived by her good friend, Charlie Fries.

**Wendy Brantley ’04**  
Mary Muldoon Cadogan ’59  
Carole Collins ’92  
Marie Genovesse Gross ’52  
Marian Gravelle ’57  
Kitty Carlisle Hart, singer, actress, arts advocate and longtime friend of the Marymount Manhattan community, passed away on April 17, 2007, at the age of 96. Her support for the arts community included time as vice chair of the New York State Council of the Arts from 1971-1976 followed by a term as chair of the council until the mid-90’s. She also supported the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. She was recognized in 1993 with the President’s Medal of Honor. In 1977 she gave the MMC commencement address.

**Correction:** Christine Akin ’51 was listed as Christine Ekin in the Classnotes section of the Winter 2007 issue. We apologize for this error.

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**calendar of events**

All of the events listed below can also be found on our Web site. Visit www.mmm.edu and click on news & events.

**BOLD = alumni events**

**September 2, 2007**  
**FACULTY ART EXHIBIT**

A reception for the Faculty Art Exhibit will be held September 2. The reception is from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Hewitt Gallery of Art. The exhibit runs through the summer and features work of various media by faculty and adjunct faculty. September 19 is the last day to see the displayed work, also in the Hewitt Gallery of Art. Please contact 212-517-0692 for more information.

**September 19, 2007**  
**MANHASSET BAY YACHT CLUB**

Join fellow alumni for a reception at the Manhasset Bay Yacht Club on September 19 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Spouses and guests are welcome to attend. Please contact the manager of alumni relations Laura Davis at 212-517-0416 or ldavis@mmm.edu.

**September 25, 2007**  
**ALUMNI BOOK CLUB MEETING**

MMC alumni and friends are invited to meet and discuss books of interest. The book club meets on Tuesday evenings four times throughout the year. The September meeting marks the first of the fall. Attendees will discuss *How the Irish Saved Civilization* by Thomas Cahill. Future books will be selected on September 25. The meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Regina Peruggi Room at Marymount Manhattan College. Registration is free but advanced registration is required in order to attend. Contact Laura Davis, manager of alumni relations at (212) 517-0416 or at alumni@mmm.edu to register or for more information.