2010 Brings Changes to the College Book Store

The new year has brought changes in responsibilities to Georgia Best and Sue Hebert at the Book Store. In January Georgia was promoted to Bookstore Manager from her previous position as Textbook Manager; last month Sue Hebert, formerly the Operations Coordinator, was promoted to Assistant Bookstore Manager.

Georgia has a long history at the College Store. A 25 Year Club member since 2008, she began her career at the College as a bookstore cashier in 1983. Georgia is settling in to her new position, which she admits feels a little strange. “The biggest change is supervising all of the store employees,” she says, adding, “It feels a little weird because we [Georgia and the colleagues she supervises now] were peers for so long, but being a small group, and a group of people who are very committed and are doing a great job make it all easier.” Georgia is working hard on another new facet of her job—understanding all of the budget and financial processes involved in keeping the Bookstore in the black—a challenge she is ready for.

Sue Hebert has worked at the College since 1986. She worked in Dining Services for over a decade before transferring to the Bookstore in the late ’90s. “Right now I’m trying to learn the system from head to toe – how everything works,” Sue says, referring to the broadening of her duties to include all accounting and cash control procedures, ordering, and inventory for all non-text related merchandise.

Taking over the management of the Bookstore in these days of discount online booksellers is not without its challenges. Textbook sales have already been declining, and because of a higher education act that will go into effect in July, the store will have to make the ISBN numbers of all textbooks required by professors available to students much earlier than in the past. For the fall 2010 term that means students will have a whole summer to shop around online for their textbooks.

Fabulous and Frugal Clothing Swap planned for next month

Staff Council is planning a Fabulous and Frugal Clothing Swap for Saturday, April 24, from 8 a.m.-noon in the Mahaney Center for the Arts, complete with door prizes, light refreshments, and a “What Not to Wear” fashion show that is sure to entertain.

The success of last spring’s children’s clothing swap during the “Your Financial Wel-Fair” led to the suggestion by staff members that Staff Council hold a swap for adults this year. An ad-hoc swap committee was formed, and members Tiffany Stowe, Shannon Bohler-Small, Diane Foley, Cathy Tester, Merissa Enterline, and Peg Myhre got right to work planning the event.

As you begin your spring cleaning, set aside your donations of gently used, clean, women’s and men’s spring and summer clothing and accessories. The committee is looking for “clothing you would lend to a friend” quality, so you can swap your old clothes, jewels, belts, and aprons for a whole new wardrobe. Refashion in the spirit of recycling!

Donations will be collected the week preceding the swap and on swap day. Volunteers will be needed from the donation period through the swap on April 24 to help collect and sort clothing, set up, break down, serve refreshments, and model for the fashion show.

Watch future MiddPoints issues for more information.
This Month in the ARTS

This is a sampling of what’s happening this month in the ARTS. For a full listing go to http://www.middlebury.edu/arts/news/2009-2010.

Jean-Guihen Queyras, cello
Alexandre Tharaud, piano
Friday March 5, 8:00 p.m., MCFA, Concert Hall
Performing classical works by Debussy, Schubert, and Kodály. Fac/staff tickets: $18

Leonard Bernstein’s Chichester Psalms
Sunday March 7, 3:00 p.m., Mead Chapel
College choirs from Middlebury College, St. Michael’s College, and Castleton State College join to present this masterwork for chorus, soloists, harp, organ, and percussion, sung in Hebrew. Concerts are also given in Rutland on March 5, and in Colchester on March 6.

Recent Acquisitions in Ancient Art
Thursday March 11, 4:30 p.m.
Middlebury College Museum of Art, Lower Gallery
Gallery talk by Pieter Broucke on recent acquisitions of Egyptian, Greek, Roman, and early-Byzantine art. Free

Strange Democracy: An Evening with Guillermo Gómez-Peña
Thursday March 11, 7:30 p.m., McCullough MacArthur Fellow, post-Mexican writer, and border artist Guillermo Gómez-Peña is described by renowned theatre director Peter Sellars as “one of the handful of great performance artists in America today.” Fac/staff tickets: $18

Hugo Wolf Quartett
Friday March 12, 8:00 p.m.
MCFA, Concert Hall
Performing classical works by Mozart, Webern, and Schubert, with a pre-concert lecture by Jay West at 7:15 p.m.
Fac/staff tickets: $18

Francois Clemmons and Friends:
St. Patrick’s Day Concert
Wednesday March 17, 8:00 p.m.
Mahaney Center for the Arts, Concert Hall
Wear something green and come prepared to sing along to this annual concert featuring lively Irish tunes! Free

~ Liz Hammel

Bookstore Changes, ctd. from pg. 1

So Georgia and Sue will have to be creative to come up with some solutions. They hope to establish relationships with local manufacturers and expand the range of goods the Bookstore offers; for instance they are forming a partnership with Danforth Pewter and are looking at other area businesses whose products they can offer. Another expansion is the merchandise you may have seen at a men’s hockey game recently. A student approached Chris Dubois, the Bookstore’s retail coordinator, with the idea to set up a kiosk at the hockey games, making merchandise available to the public who are on campus for a game, but might not make it over to the Bookstore during their visit. Next year the thought is to set up the kiosk at women’s hockey games, basketball games, and swim meets as well.

With the renovations complete on the store space, the fall “book rush” was the first time textbook sales happened right in the store, as opposed to the separate annex used previously. Sales of non-book merchandise during book rush went up, a welcome occurrence Georgia attributes to the increased traffic flow and students’ seeing clothing and other supplies that they needed on their way to and from the stacks of texts. It also simplified things and made their purchases more convenient—only one line to wait in and one transaction to make.

Georgia and Sue are excited to explore more possibilities for keeping the Bookstore profitable as they grow in their new managerial roles.

~ Liz Hammel
Reminder to 2009 Flexible Spending Account Participants

You have until March 15, 2010 to submit claims for services provided in the calendar year 2009. All claims should be sent to CBA Blue via fax at 888.291.0920 or mail to CBA Blue, PO Box 2365, South Burlington, VT 05407-2365.

Claim forms can be found in the HR office or on the HR Website under Staff and Faculty, Forms, Benefit Forms.

ACTR to Launch Expanded Shuttle Bus Service This Week

Addison County Transit Resources (ACTR) will launch its much anticipated shuttle bus system expansion beginning with the Saturday Burlington LINK on Saturday, March 6. Starting Monday, March 8, the Middlebury Shuttle Bus and the Tri-Town Shuttle Bus will begin their new schedules.

The new schedules include the following expansions:
• The Tri-Town Shuttle Bus service will be split to create two connected routes: the Tri-Town Vergennes and Tri-Town Bristol buses. Service frequency will improve from every two hours to every hour with five morning runs and five afternoon runs Monday through Friday. For the first time, Vergennes will have a direct connection to Middlebury. The two routes will connect at the new Park & Ride in New Haven Center to exchange passengers traveling between Bristol and Vergennes.
• The Middlebury Shuttle Bus will be reconfigured to include 5 connected loops – 4 running in the north and west of town that connect to a 5th loop along Route 7 South. Service on the Route 7 South loop will run every 30 minutes all day long from 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The other 4 loops will run every 30 minutes during peak hours and every 60 minutes during non-peak hours. Like all ACTR bus routes, this route will connect at Merchant’s Row in Middlebury to allow for transfers. The Saturday service will remain the same.
• Service on the Saturday Burlington Link will change from two round trips to four round trips each Saturday. The route will stay the same but the new schedule will allow for early evening service to and from Burlington.


Faculty Grants

Frank Winkler (Physics) has received funding from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Space Telescope Science Institute for a research project he is leading in collaboration with colleagues from STScI, Dartmouth, and the University of Colorado. They will use observations to be carried out from the Hubble Space Telescope, using the Cosmic Origins Spectrograph that was installed in the May 2009 servicing mission, to probe the interior of the remnant from the 1006 AD supernova. By measuring the absorption in ultraviolet spectra of objects that lie beyond SN 1006, they hope to measure the properties of now-cold material ejected by the supernova that cannot be detected by any other method. Project title: Probing the Interior of SN1006.

Leticia Arroyo Abad (Economics and International Politics & Economics), as part of the Global Price and Income History Group, has been awarded funding from the National Science Foundation for a project that supplies downloadable datasets on prices, wages, and income distributions to the research community. Her project, titled Living Standards in Latin America, uses archival materials and other secondary sources to develop new internationally comparable cost of living measures for the region since colonial times.
Classifieds

Real Estate

For Rent: 4 BR idyllic summer rental in Cornwall. Book your Vermont summer on this small sustainable farm in central Vermont just 7 miles south of Middlebury. E-mail chamilton@middlebury.edu for Website with photos and details of this unique opportunity.

For Rent: Furnished Middlebury apartment 4.5 miles from campus on a road w/beautiful mountain views. Walk-out basement apartment has a BR, LR, kitchen, BA, and 2 closets. Rent: $650/mo. includes utilities (electricity, heat, water, trash, plowing, wireless internet). Avail: summer 2010 (June–August) and/or 2010–2011 academic year. No smokers, no pets. E-mail cmyers@middlebury.edu for info. & photos.

For Rent: Charming furnished house for rent, available mid August 2010–June/July 2011 (school year). Central village location, walking distance to College and downtown. 3 BR, 2.5 BA, office, den, front porch. Nice landscaped back yard. Spacious; lots of light. Close to everything. $1,200/month +utilities. Contact 802.388.9353 or herb@middlebury.edu for more details.

For Rent: Lovely, restored cape in quiet, family friendly neighborhood. Three upstair BR, two full BA, living, dining, family room, large kitchen, and screened porch. Easy walk to College, downtown, athletic fields. No cats or smokers. Furnished or partially furnished, available for one year starting August 2010. $1,350/mo. plus utilities. Contact Steve at 802.377.7762 or abbott@middlebury.edu.

For Rent: Farmhouse, 50 acres on Lemon Fair river, canoe, walking paths, fireplace, woodstoves. Total peace and quiet. Great local food for breakfast. 3 BR, two w/twin beds, large BA, tub and shower. One w/2 four poster full size beds, private BA, clawfoot tub, woodstove. Paint, write, meditate. Minutes to Middlebury. Available weekdays, weekends, holidays. $95–$135 per room, depending on season. quietvalley@hotmail.com. 897.7887.

For Sale: Pottery Barn 5 piece white bedroom set w/queen-sized bed, side table w/drawer & cabinet, toy box, 3-drawer dresser w/armoire, and a desk w/hutch. Asking $1,000 (paid $3,700). If interested or to view pictures, please contact Deb at krupnick@together.net.

For Sale: Netgear wireless router – G. Brand new, never been opened. $50 Contact Carrie at ryan@middlebury.edu.

For Sale: Magnavox 19” television. Contact wbutler@middlebury.edu, 388.3209.

Services

Get Your Odd Jobs Done: The Intervarsity Christian Fellowship is fundraising for a service trip to New Orleans during spring break, and we’re offering to do odd jobs – scraping cars, filing, shoveling snow (if we’d only get some!) – anything that needs to be done. Donations accepted! Please contact Shalyn Getz at sgetz@middlebury.edu or 410.598.1016, or Alex Bertagnolli at abertagn@middlebury.edu.

Misc

For Sale: Lovely, restored cape in quiet, family friendly neighborhood. Three upstair BR, two full BA, living, dining, family room, large kitchen, and screened porch. Easy walk to College, downtown, athletic fields. No cats or smokers. Furnished or partially furnished, available for one year starting August 2010. $1,350/mo. plus utilities. Contact Steve at 802.377.7762 or abbott@middlebury.edu.

Free

Free:

Middlebury History

25 years ago ● The Mischords toured Texas and performed in Houston, Dallas, Ft. Worth, Austin, and San Antonio. As a gift from Allan R. Dragone ’50, the 11 Mead Chapel bells were transported to a foundry in France for extensive repair and restoration. The faculty voted to accept an Education Council proposal to offer a major in Russian-Soviet Area Studies.

10 years ago ● Ice cream entrepreneur Ben Cohen spoke on “Enlightened Business and Social Progress” at the 12th David K. Smith Lecture. Rich Wolfson (Physics) received a three-year grant from NASA to continue research into the energy source for large-scale disruptions of the sun’s corona. Joyce Carol Oates read from her new book Blonde at the Literary Fact and Historical Fiction Symposium.

5 years ago ● Keith Williams ’07, the Manchester (Vt.) sophomore who won the Jeopardy! College Championship in November 2003, competed in the game show’s Ultimate Tournament of Champions. The 2005 Perkins Award for Excellence in Teaching was awarded to Roger Sandwick (Chemistry).