2010 Feminists of the Year

On May 8, Chellis House celebrated the winners of the 2010 Feminist of the Year Award. Shabana Basij-Rasikh ’11, an activist and advocate for women’s rights in her native Afghanistan and at Middlebury who won the award in 2008, was a fixture at this year’s ceremony as well. This time, however, Shabana did not address the audience as a nominee. Instead, she lauded Hector Vila (Center for Teaching, Learning, and Research), who won the faculty award. “Professor Vila has gone above and beyond in empowering his students,” Shabana said. “Every time I go to his office with a heavy burden on my mind, I leave full of strength because I know that anything is possible.” Praised for creating a safe environment in his classes, Hector Vila was called “a man of action, not of words.”

Over the last two years, Hector has also been a prime force behind organizing private swimming lessons for women whose cultural norms do not allow them to swim with men in their immediate presence. It was Hector who found a coach to take on the task.

Submit Your Time Before Memorial Day Weekend

Human Resources recommends that you submit your timesheet for the pay period ending May 30, 2010, on Friday, May 28 so that your supervisor has time for approvals first thing Tuesday morning after the Memorial Day floating holiday on May 31.

Memorial Day Floating Holiday
Monday, May 31 is Memorial Day, a floating holiday under the College’s holiday policy.

If you do not work on Memorial Day...
• All benefits-eligible staff should record CTO if they do not work on a floating holiday (if the holiday falls on a day they would normally work).
• Non-benefits-eligible staff do not record anything if they do not work.

If you work on Memorial Day...
• Hourly (non-exempt) staff who do work on Memorial Day should record their worked hours as usual.
• Salaried ( exempt) staff do not need to make any entry if they work this day.

For more information about floating holidays, please see section 4.4 of the Employee Handbook, online at www.middlebury.edu/about/handbook/employee/time_away/holidays.

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Friends of International Students (FIS) Program is seeking hosts for the incoming class of 2014 and exchange students

Are you interested in befriending a Class of 2014 international student? International Student and Scholar Services will be hosting a series of informational meeting on the Friends of International Students (FIS) Host Program in the coming weeks. The FIS Host Program is a friendship program that offers faculty, staff, alumni, and community members a chance to welcome and assist an international student with his or her adjustment to life at a residential college in the U.S. The time commitment can vary depending on what you and your student are interested in making of the program.

If you are interested in exploring another culture, we encourage you to join us for a meeting to learn more. Afghanistan, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Greece, Senegal, and Zimbabwe are some of the countries that will be represented on campus with the Class of 2014.

The first meeting will be held in Mitchell Green Lounge in McCullough on Wednesday, May 26, 12:15 –1:00 p.m.

Additional meetings will be held throughout the summer. Dates for these meetings will be announced in later editions of MiddPoints.

Space is limited in order to keep the meeting to 45 minutes. To register, please contact ISSS at extension 5858 or isss@middlebury.edu. Feel free to bring your lunch.

Zumba Fitness Classes for Faculty and Staff

You’ve heard the buzz. . . Now it’s your turn to come join us for a great aerobic workout!

Tuesdays, 5:00 p.m.
May 18 through June 8
3rd Floor Gym - Pepin
$27 for four-week session

Missing the first class of this fun dancing exercise should not keep you from attending. The instructor will welcome you on May 25! With easy-to-learn dance moves and energizing music that includes salsa, merengue, cumbia, pop, bellydance, and more, you’ll be sweating, but with a big grin on your face. From beginners to those with dance experience, this Zumba class is for everyone. Bring a friend and come give it a try – don’t you deserve to have a little fun at the end of your work day?

Wear comfortable clothes and sneakers you can dance in. Bring a water bottle and towel or yoga mat for stretching afterward. Any questions, call Liz Cleveland at 989.5977.

No advance registration required. Sponsored by the Optimal Health Initiative Committee.

Milestones are determined by years of uninterrupted employment at Middlebury College.

The following milestones were attained in May 2010:

5 YEARS
Frederick Rivers
Facilities Services

10 YEARS
Roger Bagley
Facilities Services

Virginia Bukowski
Library and Information Services

Ed Mayer
Reprographics

15 YEARS
Mark Pyfrom
Library and Information Services

Ed Sullivan
Assistant Treasurer’s Office

25 YEARS
Christopher Laframboise
Dining Services

30 YEARS
Elaine Lathrop
Bread Loaf School of English

Congratulations on reaching these Milestones!
**Faculty Grants**

Jane Chaplin (Classics) has been selected to participate this summer in a faculty seminar at Transylvania University in Kentucky, funded by the University’s Bingham Program for Excellence in Teaching. The seminar, titled Twenty-first Century Liberal Education: A Contested Concept, will involve faculty from liberal arts colleges around the country. The award covers all costs of participation, including travel.

Marta Manrique-Gomez (Spanish and Portuguese) has been awarded a fellowship by the Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation to visit archives in Spain related to women’s contributions to 19th-century artistic, literary, and intellectual movements there. She will use her research to develop an interdisciplinary seminar titled Women, Media, and Culture in Nineteenth-Century Spain.

Jeff Buettner (Music) has been awarded a fellowship by the Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation to pursue a project titled Teaching the Art of Unaccompanied Vocal Music of England and Germany. He will spend four weeks during his 2010-11 leave visiting London, England and Leipzig, Germany to study with professional musicians and attend rehearsals of vocal ensembles who specialize in the vocal music of William Byrd and Johann Sebastian Bach.

Cynthia Packert (History of Art & Architecture) has been awarded a fellowship by the Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation titled In the Footsteps of the Prophet: The Power of Place in Islamic Art and Architecture to support research travel during her 2010-11 leave to a number of places in southern Europe, the Middle East, and Asia—including the Capella Palatina (Sicily), Alhambra in Cordoba (Spain), Al-Azhar Mosque (Egypt), Topkapi Palace, various mosques and monuments in Turkey, and the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem—that are important in the history and development of Islamic art and architecture.

**Feminists of the Year, continued from page 1**

mastering an essential life skill. For her efforts, Dilanthi garnered the Staff Feminist of the Year Award.

“Dilanthi truly represents the best that Middlebury has to offer,” her co-worker Rachel Rosenfeld ’08, Dilanthi’s colleague in the Admissions Office said. “She stands up for what she believes in and never gives up on her causes—she is confident in her ideas and is one of, if not probably the strongest social justice advocate I know. In stealing from Mark Salzman’s Iron & Silk, Dilanthi is iron and silk — highly ethical, grounded, very strong, but with the most genteel silken touch.”

“This is the year of the guys,” Hector Vila remarked at one point during the ceremony. And indeed, two male students also won the Feminist of the Year Award. Todd Swisher ’10 has been a strong voice for gender equality on this campus during his four years at Middlebury. This year, he penned various op-eds in the Campus. In one, he went undercover to investigate a right-to-life pregnancy care center in town to unveil its deceptive strategies, which aim at misinforming clients about abortion, and that with the help of government funding. In another article, Todd analyzed the underlying misogyny behind the “MiddKid” video that has been touted on YouTube these days. Todd has served as a member of the Sexual Assault Oversight Committee and, in one of the SAOC’s subcommittees, has been a driving force behind researching grants for the next year. Throughout the year, Todd has also been the backbone of Chellis House. He could consistently be relied upon to pick up the pieces after my accident in early March and keep programming running smoothly.

Even though Joey Radu ’13 arrived on campus only in September, he immediately immersed himself in activist causes. Throughout the year, he has worked tirelessly alongside several peers to push gender-neutral housing through the SGA to the administration. “Gender-neutral housing empowers women to decide whether or not they wish to live with men, thus forcing the administration to recognize that man/woman roommate pairs do not necessarily lead to domestic violence — women are not always the victim,” explained Liz King ’13. “Joey compelled me, personally, to rethink my definition of feminism — and thus identify proudly as a feminist — and is a constant and exceptionally vocal proponent of feminist, gender, and queer theory — a veritable walking library or WAGS class.”

This year’s winners clearly demonstrate the broad range of issues feminist activism covers — from giving women important life skills to making gender neutrality a reality on this campus. It is also particularly heartening to see that so many men are engaged in making great activist contributions.

~ Karin Hanta,
Director of Chellis House
New Employees

Ben Bruno – Ben graduated from Middlebury in 2006 and returned in January to be the International Student and Scholar Advisor in ISSS. Since graduating he worked for an immigration law firm in Boston. Ben lives in Middlebury with his new fiancée, and he enjoys skiing, cycling, hiking, and running.

Becky Barnes – In January Becky returned to Facilities Services as a Custodian. A 1994 graduate of MUHS, Becky worked for the College straight out of high school for approximately seven years when she left to stay home with her son. She worked for an insurance company when her son started school, and now after 5-1/2 years there, she returns to Middlebury College. Becky enjoys spending time with her husband and two sons, and their three dogs.

Jim Langlois – Jim joined Facilities Services in February as a Floor Crew Custodian after 17 years of self-employment. When not at work, Jim enjoys many outdoor activities.

Brian Paquette – In February Brian was hired full-time as a Groundworker in Facilities Services; he was a seasonal employee in the department for eight seasons before and after graduating from Castleton State College. Brian grew up in Middlebury, and in his spare time, he enjoys fishing, snowboarding, and playing his drums. He is excited to be promoted to full-time status after many years as a seasonal employee.

Kathy Forbes – In February Kathy was hired as a Custodian in Facilities Services. Kathy lives in Middlebury and enjoys spending time with her family and her granddaughter. She also enjoys running and biking.
Reminder about phone number and address changes

It is important to inform Human Resources of any change of your home phone number or address.

Phone number changes: Send an e-mail to hr@middlebury.edu or come in to Human Resources in the Service Building and give us the change in writing.

Address changes: Fill out and sign the Middlebury College Change of Address form (can be found on the HR webpage under “Staff and Faculty” and “Forms”) and send to Human Resources through campus mail; or, come up to Human Resources in the Service Building and fill out and sign the form here.

Thank You for a Successful Clothing Swap

Thanks to everyone who participated in Staff Council’s Fabulous and Frugal Clothing Swap. A special thank you goes to the committee who coordinated the event: Shannon Bohler-Small (Mahaney Center for the Arts), Merissa Enterline (College Advancement), Diane Foley (Academic Affairs), Peg Myhre (Parton Health Center), Tiffany Stowe (College Advancement), Catherine Tester (College Advancement).

The College’s Chaplain’s Fund and Project HOPE appreciate the contributions made from the event. We hope everyone is enjoying their new fashion items. Look for us next year with an even better swap!

Applying to College workshop set for June 4

The annual “Applying to College” workshop, sponsored by the Admissions Office, has been scheduled for Friday, June 4 of Reunion Weekend at McCullard Bicentennial Hall. High school age children of Middlebury faculty, administration, and staff as well as students from all Vermont high schools are invited. This program gives an overview of the general admissions process at selective colleges and does not focus on Middlebury College. It runs from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and covers four areas of the college application process: 1) choosing a college; 2) how to visit a college; 3) how a college admits its class; and 4) financial aid.

In the afternoon, practice interviews will be conducted at the Admissions Office. These interviews are generic and can prepare students for their upcoming summer college tours. Interviews will be given on a first come, first served basis until all slots have been filled.

In addition, for any students who are interested specifically in Middlebury College, a group information session will be conducted at 1:00 and campus tours will be offered at 1:00 and 2:00.

The required registration deadline is Tuesday, May 25. To register, please go to www.middlebury.edu/admissions/start/ccworkshop. Parents, with or without their children, are invited to all activities.

For a more complete schedule, please go to the above web site. Questions? Contact the Admissions Office at admissions@middlebury.edu or at ext. 3000.
**Classifieds**

Classified ads are free for members of the staff, faculty, student body and alumni of Middlebury College. Ads must be submitted seven days prior to the publication date. Guidelines for ads can be found on the MiddPoints section of the HR Website. Please send ads to Classifieds, MiddPoints, HR, Service Building, or e-mail to middpoints@middlebury.edu (electronic submissions preferred).

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**Misc.**

**For Sale:** Fireplace screen and tools for $40 and log rest, $20. Call John: 382.1589.

**For Sale:** Magic Chef 1.6 cu. ft. stainless steel countertop microwave oven. Two years old, very clean, works perfectly, $30. Remodeled kitchen and needed to purchase a stovetop model. Contact currier@middlebury.edu.

**For Sale:** Delta 10” radial arm saw, model 33-990; on locking wheels; all accessories included; $300. Also for sale, Excel 2500 pressure washer, model # VR2522; 2,500 PSI; Honda engine model # VR2522, 5.5 HP; $150. Contact Rick @ 802.443.3007 or lgreene@middlebury.edu.

**For Sale:** Optimus 500W Dolby digital professional series stereo receiver/component system. RCA dual tape deck, 2 Optimus 160W speakers with tweeters on top. Excellent condition, everything works. $100 for entire package. E-mail nduquett@middlebury.edu. Pictures avail.

**For Sale:** Minolta 35mm camera with SLR built-in flash, auto exposure, and action predictive auto focus. Like new. Camera comes with carrying case. Asking $175. 802.989.1320.

**For Sale:** Ladies 14 karat yellow gold 3 stone ring. Center diamond .38 ct. is princess cut; 2 princess cut diam. on side totaling .36 ctw; 6 side princess cut diam. in a channel setting - total weight of ring is 1 carat. Includes a Lifetime Diamond Bond. All diamonds are H/I color and I1 clarity. Size 7. Asking $500. 802.989.1320.

**For Sale:** Every girl’s dream – 14 porcelain dolls with one porcelain Cabbage Patch baby! Asking $60 obo. 802.989.1320.

**Flower Sale:** Sat. May 29, 9 a.m.–2 p.m. Many large perennials. 46 Lower Plains Rd., East Middlebury. 382.2005. Contact me for list. gharder@middlebury.edu.

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**Real Estate**

**For Sale:** Single-family house in Weybridge. Very close to elementary school – take advantage of desirable school system. 4 BR, 1.5 BA, finished basement w/ family room and study, large porch, on a .6 acre lot. $249,000. Short driveway, shed. Call Karin or Darrien for more info: 545.4039.

**For Sale:** 3 BR Cape (1,500 sq. ft.). 25 min. SW of Midd. in Orwell. Open floor plan, LR, DR, mudroom, eat-in kitchen, 1-3/4 BA (recently remodeled), addit. w/ office, laundry, storage. Stainless steel appliances in kitchen. Just under 1 acre on hill w/ Adk. views. Barn, swing set, perennial flowers, fruit trees, lots of gardening space, close to lakes - Champlain, Sunset, Bomoseen. $155,000. Photos avail. Contact Stacey at x5898, 802.989.1309, or stshebodo@middlebury.edu.

**Condo for Rent:** Walk or bike to work! Close to rec. park, TAM, shopping and College. 2 BR and full BA up; half-bath, living, kitchen, dining down; full basement (dry, but unfinished); attic; herb garden, sundeck on west side; easy, low maintenance living; sunny and bright; freshly painted; can be rented furnished or not; energy-efficient W/D and dishwasher; friendly neighbors. $1,500 includes wifi, electric, water, heat. No pets. No smoking. Contact Elin @ waagen@middlebury.edu.

**House-Share Rental:** A full house to share - great location - one mile from campus, .5 from downtown. Large room - 26’ X 14’ and private bathroom on lower level are yours. Nice neighborhood, no pets, great deck & backyard w/ vegetable garden, wifi, utilities included. $550/mo. plus deposit, call 802.388.2720 or lbernard@middlebury.edu.

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**Wanted**

**Wanted:** Wanted to borrow for Memorial day weekend starting May 26 until June 3: two baby strollers (need not be fancy) and as many baby gates as I can get my hands on. Grandkids coming to visit. Please call x3233 and ask for Diane.

**Room Wanted:** Bread Loaf School of English 2010 student is looking for a room from June 21 through August 3, Monday through Wednesday nights. Ripton, East Middlebury, or Hancock area preferred. Please contact Randy TeVelde @ r.tevelde@schoolsofwestfield.org.

**House/dog Sitter Wanted:** Faculty couple seeking someone to house and dog-sit June 29 through July 12-13. Responsibilities limited to walking the (small, friendly) dog and watering the plants. A car is available also for licensed driver. E-mail faralone@middlebury.edu.

**House-sitters Available:** Couple looking for a place to rent/sublet for 7 weeks (June 27 – Aug. 11) while they help babysit their grandson while Mom attends the Language Schools. Please contact mayandrik@yahoo.com if you need a house-sitter for any part of the time or have a place to sublet for the entire duration.

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**The College Bookstore**

**Commencement Weekend Hours**

**Saturday May 23**

9:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.

**Sunday May 24**

8:30 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.