



Friends

The Friends World Alumni Newsletter • Fall/Winter 2002-03

GREETINGS FROM THE DEAN:

November 14, 2002

Dear Friends,

Greetings from Southampton, where we marked the beginning of the new academic year by seeing off our very first group of London-bound freshmen for the new Foundation Year Program.

An orientation and welcoming dinner was held September 8th at the Holiday Inn near JFK airport in New York. While originally planned for a total of 52 students, staff and family members, a total of 71 people attended the event, full of praise for the educational adventure to come. It was a wonderful evening with parents and family members. Megan White was instrumental in the success of the day. Michael Peplar, director of the Foundation Year Program, flew over from England in order to be at the event. Both his after-dinner speech and the orientation meeting the following morning were very well received. We continue to hear fine things about the Foundation Year Program and are excited about this new direction for the program.

I would like to introduce a number of new initiatives that are in the works. First, I would like to announce the formation of a Faculty Curriculum Conference (FCC). At present, there are three members of this committee, representing our three largest centers: Michael Peplar, Jorge Caceres, and Kathleen Modrowski. At the request of centers involved, or the dean, the FCC will: review academic programs within Friends World and recommend improvements; review the new one semester and one year programs and recommend improvements; and offer suggestions for coordinating academic programs between centers. Any member of the community may forward academic requests to any member of the FCC for discussion within the FCC. The FCC is asked to make a formal report of concerns and recommendations to the Office of the Dean at least once a semester. The dean will report to the World Council and/or the Council of Overseers.

Second, a Retention Council (RC) has been formed to review and increase the quality of student life and learning within the Friends World Program. At present, there are six members of this committee. Joyce Tuttle, director of student services, and Brian Raynor, the student executive, are co-chairs of the RC. Also on the council are Meg Burchnell, Antonio Leiton, Megan White (as an alumni rep) and Mary Hevi. In addition, all student representatives at all centers are unofficial members of the

Retention Council and should voice their opinions (often!) through Brian Raynor. The RC is charged primarily with increasing the possibilities of student success within FW. Any member of the community may forward requests or suggestions to any member of the RC for discussion within the RC. The RC is asked to make a formal report of concerns and recommendations to the office of the Dean at least once a semester. The dean will report to the World Council and/or the Council of Overseers.

Third, we are considering working towards the establishment of informal links with three professional organizations: The National Society for Experiential Education, the Global Campaign for Peace Education and one of a number of groups advocating for more service learning in college programs. The pursuit of the latter is linked to our consideration of a new category of experiential learning within Friends World (service learning) with the possibility of a new notation on transcripts for graduates of the four year program: "Distinction in International Service" (or perhaps Cross-Cultural Service, or Global Service or World Service). This is consistent with our mission statement, which speaks of the importance of service to the world community.

Service learning benefits both the provider and the recipient of the service, with equal emphasis on both the service that is being provided and the learning that is occurring. I should also add that all these organizations offer substantial training for faculty and staff, and that we may well want to take advantage of these opportunities to broaden our educational offerings to our students.

Fourth, over the next two years, Friends World will be making the transition to being an "on-line" program. This will include application forms and center brochures in Admissions, and student records in the Registrar's office. There are obvious concerns regarding privacy and security, but we are confident those problems can be solved and most (if not all) paperwork presently mailed between WHQ and the centers can be eliminated. We will continue to have permanent files at WHQ. Increased restrictions on international mail have given us further reason to move vigorously in this direction.

I wish you all a very successful fall semester.

—Robert Glass, Dean

DEAN APPOINTED



In July, 2002, **Robert Glass** was named dean of the Friends World Program. Before coming to LIU in the fall of 1997, Robert held one year teaching positions at Sarah Lawrence College, Alfred University and St. Olaf College.

Robert led the Comparative Religions and Culture Program for three years, from 1997-2000. In September, 2001, he assumed the position of interim dean, in addition to his duties as director of CRC.

Robert received his B.A. in religion from the University of British Columbia, his M.A., also in religion, from Temple University and a Ph.D. from Syracuse University. Among his honors, Robert was the recipient of a doctoral fellowship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, a Syracuse University Dissertation Year Fellowship and an Award of Distinction for his Ph.D. Comprehensive Examinations.

His earlier studies included Buddhist monastic training, including completion of the five-year Teacher of Buddhism training.

Robert's appointment was warmly greeted by staff, faculty, students and the Council of Overseers. His energy and extensive international experience will bring renewed commitment to all aspects of Friends World, and we welcome him to his new position.

DIRECTORY OF THE CENTERS OF FRIENDS WORLD

World Headquarters

Friends World Program
Long Island University
239 Montauk Highway
Southampton, New York 11968
Tel: (631) 287-8464
Fax: (631) 287-8463
E-mail: Fw@liu.edu
Website: <http://www.liu.edu/friendsworld>
Alumni E-mail: fwalumni@liu.edu

China Center

LIU – Friends World Program
International Students Dorm Box W99
Zhejiang University – YuQuan Campus
Hangzhou 310027
P.R. China
Tel: 011-86-571-8897-2785
FAX: 001-86-571-8795-2051
E-mail: Bpowell@religion.ucsb.edu

Comparative Religion & Culture

Andrew Irvine, Faculty Advisor
Andrewcrc2001@yahoo.com

East Asian Center

Friends World Program
1-287 Akasaka-cho
Kinugasa, Kita-ku
Kyoto 603 Japan
Tel: 011-81-75-462 7271
Fax: 011-81-75-462 7242
E-Mail: fwcjapan@mbox.kyoto-inet.or.jp

European Center

Friends World Program
14 Muswell Hill Road-Highgate
London N6 5UG England
Tel: 011-44-20-8883-5100
Fax: 011-44-20-8444-1338
E-mail: fwec@cix.co.uk (office/faculty)

West African Center

(suspended 2002-3)
Friends World Program
PO Box 190
Knust-Kumasi
Ghana
Tel: 011-233-20-812-2920
011-233-20-511-1151
E-mail: Andy_mensagboh@hotmail.com

Latin American Center

Friends World Program
Apartado 8496-1000
San Jose, Costa Rica
Tel: 011-506-263-8873
Fax: 011-506-260-9656
E-mail: lacfwp@sol.racsas.co.cr

North American Center

Friends World Program
LIU/Southampton College
Southampton, NY 11968
Tel: (631) 287-8464
Fax: (631) 287-8473

South Asia Centre

Friends World Program
7/1, ALI Asker Road
Cunningham Road Cross
Bangalore 560 052
Karnatak State
India
Tel: 011-91-80-2380139
Fax: 011-91-80-3313760
E-mail: sacindia@bgl.vsnl.net.in

NEWS OF YOU

It is so good to hear about a Friends World couple. **Mary Dahl Maher** (FWC 1970-72) and **Ken Maher** (FWC 1977) met in Kenya and married in 1972. The couple lives in Rochester, NY, and has seven children. They are expecting their first grandchild in September. Mary currently has a private nurse-midwifery practice, and is in a Ph.D. program in the School of Nursing at the University of Rochester. Ken's senior project was a 500-word lexicon of the Kisii language. He is now a technical writer at Alstom Signaling Inc. in Rochester, NY. Their e-mail addresses are: Mary – mmahercnm@aol.com, and Ken – kmaher@rochester.rr.com

Diana Coryat, co-founder/co-executive director of Global Action Project (G.A.P.), is a documentary filmmaker, television producer, SFX consultant and media educator, who has directed and produced award-winning videos both nationally and internationally. A film graduate of New York University's Tisch School of Arts, her work has focused on collaborating with and training under-represented groups and communities. Her organization trains youth – primarily immigrant, refugee, and youth of color – to produce media on social issues that concern them. Through her work with G.A.P., Diana has designed curriculum for, and engaged in media making with, youth in the U.S., Guatemala, Croatia, and Northern Ireland. (www.global-action.org) Her films include: "Working a Dream: Puerto Rican Theater in the South Bronx;" (1st prize at the Annual South Bronx Documentary Film Festival); "The Embrace/El Abrazo" (a bilingual tape about AIDS); and "Children of War: Creating Community in a Refugee Camp in Croatia."

T.J. Thompson (attended 1979-1980) builds and restores musical instruments in Weston, MA. His e-mail address is: tjtomson@aol.com

Rebekah Wingert (attended 1991-1993) After graduating from Carleton College in Minnesota, she spent 4 years in Palestine and Israel with a Palestinian NGO health organization, establishing a media unit for the production of health education and social awareness materials in video format. Rebekah is presently studying narrative and documentary filmmaking.

Gary Morin (attended 1984-1986) now works for the National Institutes of Health as a policy analyst on Reasonable Accommodations. He continues to work as an ASL-English interpreter in both medical and Jewish settings. He sells Tupperware part time, especially for fundraisers. His email address is: MorinG@od31em1.od.nih.gov

Marie [Preston] Louka (FWC '89 studied at the Jerusalem and Costa Rica centers) This past spring, Marie started a professional organizing business in Tucson, AZ. She attended grad school in Tucson before a three-year stint in the amazing dot-com world of San Francisco. Since attending FWC, her jobs always have been non-corporate and have focused on information collection, use and dissemination – the subject of her senior thesis. She helps people create order out of chaos by breaking down masses of information, data and objects into functional, approachable components. mLouka@livelifelarge.com (e-mail) www.livelifelarge.com (website)

GREETINGS:

As we approach the year's end and reflect on the dramatic changes in the world, those of us working with Dean Glass are seeking ways to make the Friends World Program even more relevant in a changed global climate. The new Peace and Reconciliation program is one very exciting addition to the curriculum. It seems that thinking out of the box and finding creative solutions to critical social issues is the order of the day.

My job in development here at Friends World requires such thinking. I'm looking for new ways to underwrite scholarships, so that our programs can be competitive in the global market. I'm discovering grants and fellowship programs compatible with the Friends World philosophy. I'm seeking ways to connect with foundations and corporations, individuals and yes, alumni who have ideas, resources and their own connections to help build the Friends World Program.

It has often been said that an institution's greatest asset is its alumni. Graduates share a unique experience together; there's a bond of understanding and a mutual belief in the core values offered by their college. Hopefully you have benefited from the Friends World

experience and you share a vested interest in its relevance to contemporary world affairs. Hopefully, you want to see the Friends World Program expand and improve.

How can you help the Friends World Program? Although direct donations are always welcome, there are many other ways you can lend your support. You also can donate stocks and other appreciated securities; printers, scanners and software for use in our centers; or even frequent flyer miles (and receive important tax incentives!). Another option would be taking advantage of your employer's matching gift program. Maybe you know of someone at a foundation that supports scholarship programs or an individual who might consider contributing. Or perhaps you would like to sponsor a fundraising event. Once you start thinking creatively, the list of opportunities is endless.

Every person has a unique vision and creative approach to giving. Your passion and commitment could be the greatest asset to Friends World, and I encourage you to get involved however you can. Please feel free to contact me at Southampton College, 631-287-8306 or e-mail me at: donna.olson@liu.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE

We all know that a Friends World education brings a special kind of wisdom earned through the adventure of an international experiential education.

One of my goals is to promote this knowledge to a new generation of academic pilgrims. I am a graduate of the program ('92) and find myself back at Friends World during a time when the program is at its brightest and can enthusiastically promote the benefits of a cross-cultural education.

Another goal is to help support a strong and dynamic alumni network, so that the learning community continues to thrive after graduation. I encourage you to complete and mail or fax in the "Tell Us About You..." form on the back of this newsletter or e-mail us with an update (fwalumni@liu.edu). Keep in touch so we can keep on shining!

—Jennifer Piddington,
Assistant Director of Admissions
Jennifer.Piddington@liu.edu

NEWS OF GRADUATION 2002

Saturday, May 18, 2002, marked the 11th Friends World graduation ceremony since affiliation with LIU in 1991. The weekend also saw the beginning of the Biennial World Conference, the theme of which was "Increasing Intercultural Understanding after 9/11."

Graduation day was warm, but rainy – the early breakfast in Chancellor's Hall attracted parents and friends of the honored seniors. For many, this was their first visit to the Southampton College campus.

The highlight of the day was the presentation by 24 of the graduating seniors, of their Senior projects. From 9 a.m.-noon, and from 1-4 p.m., each senior had about 12 minutes (hardly enough!) to describe his or her final project.

The subjects covered a wide range: a multi-cultural comparison of primary education in four different schools in three countries; alternative agriculture and health care; an investigation carried out in the Canary Islands of the issue of self-determination within the context of international law and post-colonial history; U.S. foreign policy changes in response to social movements; learning Swahili, Arabic and Spanish as a basis for teaching and promoting socially and environmentally responsible tourism; educational programs available to children with autism; possibilities for a multicultural curriculum for Kindergarten, using case studies from London, Singapore and Long Island, NY; a feature-length documentary, filmed entirely on 12/31/99, examining the lives and minds of four Americans as they faced the approaching millennium; and a study of women's access to cervical cancer screening on Long Island and around the world.

As always, the presentations provided a fascinating and intimate glimpse of the interests and skills of this year's seniors.

At 4:30 p.m., the seniors and their families and friends gathered in the

Athletic Center. A welcome from Robert Glass began the ceremony, followed by greetings from Janet Palmer and Ethan Atkin, co-clerks of the Council of Overseers.

The George and Elizabeth Watson Award, from Long Island Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, was presented to Robert Offer-Westort. The LIU Campus Divisional Awards went to Kordo Fidel and Jennifer Holyfield. The Council of Overseers Senior Thesis Award was presented to Allan Polak for his Senior thesis, "Weeds, Toothpaste and the CIA: Conspiracy Theory in Contemporary Indian Society."

Each candidate for graduation was then introduced by Student Executive Brian Raynor. In very moving words, many offered personal observations and reflections, and many expressed thanks to family, friends and faculty members. A colorful and animated display of Puerto Rican flags happened in response to a senior's reference to statehood.

Following the ceremony, over 100 seniors, family and friends adjourned to the small gym next door for the gala Graduation Dinner. A festive Indian banquet featured unusual and delicious dishes, many prepared at the buffet table by Tariq of Shaheen International.

On Sunday, May 19th, the seniors had the opportunity to participate in the Southampton College commencement. A good number marched in the procession, in robe and mortarboard, along with Southampton seniors, faculty and distinguished guests.

Each year, the Friends World graduation illustrates the extraordinary diversity and creativity of our students, who are truly accepting their responsibility for the future of our planet.

—Valentine Titus

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

When I think about the value of my Friends World education, the thought of world community automatically comes to my mind. It was with Friends World that I was introduced to the world, and through that, to an understanding of the world as our community. After graduation from Friends World in 1992, I returned to the United States, but I no longer felt that the U.S. was my only community, and I knew I could be more effective elsewhere. I moved back to the Middle East in 1993, where I had spent a year and a half of my Friends World experience.

I began teaching English in the West Bank town of Bethlehem, and it was from there that I married and began a family. Today, after teaching for five years and being a school administrator for another three, I have taken up a new position with the Presbyterian Church, USA. I am now the director of a program called **Joining Hands Against Hunger** for the countries of Palestine and Egypt.

This is a new venture that the church is using to combat poverty and hunger in all its forms. The program brings together grass roots organizations to create networks. Once this network is established, the network itself is the group that decides what the root causes of hunger are in their respective communities. The model is run on the idea that the people who are working in their own communities to promote change are the ones who know best what the issues affecting them are and where funding would be most effective.

This model is in direct contrast to most aid and development agencies from the West which work in the model of sending in foreigners to judge what is important and where money should go. **Joining Hands Against Hunger** is trying to create sustainable human development involving the integration of economic, social, political, cultural and ecological issues. Recognizing the negative effects of globalization and economic imperialism is an integral part of the process. This program has been implemented in India, Cameroon, South Africa, Lesotho, Peru, Bolivia and now in Egypt and Palestine.

My specific job is to organize and facilitate the creation of this network. Once the network is in place, my work will be to continue the efforts of the network and to be sure that decisions taken are implemented. I also work as a fundraiser for the programs that the network decides to create. This is not necessarily an easy job, as anyone who has facilitated a Friends World community meeting will know, but I can attest that my Friends World education certainly helped to prepare me for it. Working with the community, in the community and for the community is what Friends World is about. That is also what my work with the Presbyterian Church, USA is about.

—Christopher Doyle (FWP '92)
nadeeb2@yahoo.com

TO ALL FRIENDS OF FRIENDS WORLD – FROM THE COUNCIL OF OVERSEERS

Friends World Program needs you!

We need you to talk to friends and acquaintances about the program. Recently, one of us discovered that even a nearby Friends Meeting didn't know that FWP is still a thriving degree program, faithful in its original mission and essentially providing the same program design it always has, except that study in Israel and South Asia is suspended this year due to world disturbances.

We need you to help recruit students among our friends and at local schools. One of the biggest problems in enrolling more students is the limited financial aid available. There are two solutions: find more prospective students who need little or no financial aid OR raise significantly more money for scholarships.

We also need to build the strength of the Council of Overseers itself. As many of you know, the Council was established when Friends World affiliated with Long Island University in 1991. It is an advisory body, not a Board, and reports to the president of LIU. Its by-laws specify that it will have up to 25 members, including "persons of stature." The Council seeks, as members,

graduates, parents of both present students and graduates, Friends, people with international connections, and people who can provide financial support or access to financial support. Can you think of excellent candidates, or would you like to suggest yourself? Please send information about such people to the Council of Overseers, FWP, Southampton College, 239 Montauk Highway, Southampton, NY 11968.

We all believe, as we are sure you do, that the world needs more citizens like our graduates, who have absorbed the FW experiences and values as part of their liberal arts education. We also know that college programs rarely thrive, or even survive, on tuition alone. Robert Glass and the Council, with the help of Donna Olson, who is researching and writing grant proposals, are starting work on an important, new fundraising plan to insure the future of the Program. Everyone will be needed to make it a success. You will be hearing more details soon.

—Council of Overseers

NEW APPOINTMENTS AT WORLD HEADQUARTERS

N. Robert Glass has been appointed dean of the Friends World Program

Christine Loew, who hails from previous work at George Washington and American Universities, became the new director of admissions effective November 1, 2002.

Jennifer Piddington, a Friends World graduate of May 1992, is the newly appointed assistant director of admissions, effective September 1, 2002.

Emily O'Sullivan, a SUNY Albany graduate, became an admissions counselor as of September 1, 2002.

Mary Hevi, a May 2001 graduate of the Friends World program, is the newly appointed acting registrar effective July 15, 2002

Joyce Tuttle has assumed the position of director of student services effective November 1, 2002.

Patricia Maginsky is the office manager/secretary in the Admissions Office.

Peggy Grigonis, acting assistant to the dean, is filling this critical position while Carolyn Baker is on a leave of absence.

Donna Olson has recently joined us as grants researcher and will assist with other development activities as well, effective September 1.

EMAIL ADDRESSES:

Information & Admissions:	fw@southampton.liu.net.edu
Ordering Transcripts:	cbaker@southampton.liu.edu
Financial Aid:	cstromski@southampton.liu.edu
Bursar:	rmalone@southampton.liu.edu
Registration/Records:	mgraves@southampton.liu.edu

TELL US ABOUT YOU...

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

E-mail: _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Occupation _____

Friends World Centers Attended & Years _____

Year of Graduation from Friends World _____

Area of senior study _____

Graduation from another college? _____

Year _____ Degree _____

May we list you in a new alumni directory? Yes No

May we publish this news in our alumni newsletter? Yes No

Would you like to be involved with: Recruiting? Development?

Mail or fax this form plus any additional information about yourself to:

Friends World Program of Long Island University
239 Montauk Highway
Southampton, New York 11968

Fax: (631) 287-8463 You can also e-mail an update to: fwalumni@liu.edu