Ancient Meets Modern at Burns Exhibit

Undergraduates make major contribution to show on history of East-West exchanges

BY MELISSA BEECHER STAFF WRITER

iPads, flat screen TVs and interactive online databases might not be the first thing to come to mind when you think of 16th century China, but a group of Boston College undergraduates are marrying the latest technology with an extensive history of cross cultural exchange between East and West.

The students of Assistant Professor of History Jeremy Clarke, SJ, will unveil an exhibit this Monday at Burns Library titled “Binding Friendship: Ricci, China and Jesuit Cultural Learning.” Supported by a $35,000 Boston College Academic Technology Advisory Board grant, the exhibit will eventually feature a number of multimedia resources to demonstrate Christian mission history in Asia. The major sponsors of the exhibit are the Jesuit Institute, the Institute of Liberal Arts and the University Office of Mission and Ministry. Co-sponsors include the History Department and the Asian and Asian-American Studies Program.

“It’s about East-West cultural exchange and how even though we think the Europeans brought all of their knowledge over to the East and the Chinese, what we have found is that the Chinese were able to contribute as much to that exchange as the West,” said Gregory Pidgeon ‘11, a member of Fr. Clarke’s class.

Beyond Ricci: Christian History in China Since 1552

“This exhibition simply could not have come about without the work of this class,” said Fr. Clarke. “They have worked very hard to make this idea a reality.” Students have illustrated — through a series of films, online essays and other visual aids — that the Chinese made significant contributions to modern thinking, including the measures of solar time, the first use of the celestial globe, measures of movement of celestial bodies and the measures of an angle between two objects, just to name a few.

In the 16th century, the Chinese were utilizing what at the time was advanced technology through their observatory in Beijing, Fr. Clarke notes. “In one display, we show the observatory and all the astronomical devices that they used during the time the Jesuits were there. It’s been fun to match up the original etchings with the contemporary footage,” said Alexander Gilman ‘11.

Utilizing excerpts and outtakes from Fr. Clarke’s documentary, “Beyond Ricci: Celebrating 400 Years of the Chinese Catholic Church,” students have been able to compile their own virtual history. They are in the process of designing an online database of all the material so their work can be seen around the world.

“This exhibit provides a visual medium as an accompaniment to the books, because books are very static,” said Zachary Citarella ‘12. “We’re showing how people communicated back then, but being able to have an audiovisual medium.

Trustees Set Budget, Tuition for 2011-2012 Academic Year

BY JACK DUNN DIRECTOR OF NEWS & PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Boston College Board of Trustees has approved the budget for the 2011-2012 academic year, which calls for a 3.6 percent increase in tuition, fees, room and board, and provides $4.5 million for new academic programs outlined in the University’s Strategic Plan. Tuition was set at $41,480.

The board also upheld Boston College’s commitment to providing access to students regardless of their family’s financial means by increasing need-based undergraduate financial aid by 6.5 percent, or $5.1 million, to $84.5 million, and overall student aid (undergraduate and graduate) to $135 million.

Boston College remains one of only 21 private universities in the United States that is need-blind in admissions and meets the full demonstrated need of all accepted undergraduate students. Seventy percent of Boston College students receive some form of financial assistance, with 43 percent of full-time undergraduates receiving need-based financial aid from the University. The average need-based financial aid package was projected to exceed $34,000 in 2011-2012.

“In light of the challenges our families continue to face in this slow recovering economy, we made every effort to limit tuition increases and still maintain our commitment to academic excellence, financial aid and the student formation initiatives so critical to the BC educational experience,” said University President William P. Leahy, SJ.

Provost and Dean of Facul- ties Cutberto Garza and Executive Vice President Patrick Keating reiterated their commitment to reducing operating costs and improving programs through a comprehensive assessment of academic and administrative depart-
A group of people are gathered to discuss the topic of film and faith. One of them mentions that they are going to explore the medium of film and its role in facilitating dialogue, open minds and hearts, and creating a setting to facilitate understanding and respect. Another person notes that through film, we can learn about different cultures and perspectives, which is important in today's globalized world. They also mention the importance of using film as a tool for social justice and education.

Film and faith
Everyone knows film’s capacity to entertain and educate, but an upcoming School of the Arts event in May will explore the medium’s role in faith formation.

On March 24, STM will present Inside Out, a one-night screening of, filmmaking, and other aspects of film studies. Participants will be invited to share their thoughts and insights on the films they have seen. The event will take place from 7 to 10 p.m. at the School of the Arts auditorium. Admission is free and open to the public.

The theme of the event is “Film and Faith,” and the screening will feature a selection of films that explore the intersection of these two disciplines. The films will be shown with brief introductions and discussions led by faculty members and guest lecturers.

The event is part of a larger initiative to bring together film enthusiasts and faith leaders to explore the potential for film as a tool for dialogue, understanding, and reflection. The event is co-sponsored by the School of the Arts, the Department of Religious Studies, and the Office of Campus Ministry.

For more information, please contact Kathleen Sullivan at ksullivan@bc.edu or by phone at (617) 552-3825. We look forward to seeing you there!
**Straight Talking at a White House Roundtable**

**Debra Smith**

Senior Pittman Mandel didn’t expect much to happen this spring break, having decided to spend it catching up on work. Instead, he was surprised when he found himself seated at the Roundtable, greeting Munden and the other students from the University — at the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Five of this year’s participants discussed with Chronicle how they got the idea for their projects, and what they got out of their research experience.

**NAME:** Anne Spencer ’12  
**DEPARTMENT:** History  
**PROJECT TITLE:** “The Holocaust Experience: The Role of Social Relations and Identity in the Process of De-Territorialization”  
**PROJECT ADVISOR:** Prof. Henry Rosinski (Sociology) and Prof. Judith Morgan (English)  
**INSPIRATION FOR PROJECT:** I was initially interested in the holocaust population through my work with Boston Voluntary on Campus Freshman. I went from a volunteer for the organization to a social work intern with holocaust survivors at Ben Street Inn before serving dinner. Secondary options for work this year included: St. Francis House, my job was to help them with their basic needs. For my service, I was taking a class called Poverty in America with Autumn Green. From that class, I really opened my eyes to the great amount of poverty in America and the adverse effect of poverty on every aspect of one’s life. For my final paper topic, I did a research project on poverty and depression, looking at the shocking connection between the two and how little is being done to help people who are not affected by poverty. My project at the Roundtable just naturally grew out of that project as I decided to look at social networks of holocaust women, and depression and isolation became huge themes within my research.

**MOST INTERESTING THING SHE LEARNED:** I learned that I love listening to people tell their stories. That was actually the part of my project that I most enjoyed, actually conducting the interviews, but I have truly come to understand and respect how every human being is a source of beautiful and infinite knowledge. If we took the time to slow down and not just listen to it, but understand it, it would be one of the greatest things we could do for ourselves.

**NAME:** Michael Slovak ’12  
**DEPARTMENT:** Chemistry  
**PROJECT TITLE:** “Evaluating the Scientific Literacy of Inmates in Rome for Intellectual and Spiritual Development”  
**PROJECT ADVISOR:** Prof. David Vanderhoof (Theology)  
**INSPIRATION FOR PROJECT:** I was inspired to undertake this particular project after learning of the work of a Pre-Vaticanated master studying theology at a Catholic university in Rome that has raised many questions regarding the similarities and differences within these two religious cultures and how we can foster a dialogue between our universities.

**PROJECT ADVISORS:** “A Study of Global Health Care, Clinical Work, and Creativity,” Panama; and “Handwriting, Creativity and Jewish Learning,” South Africa

**NAME:** Siobhan Tellez ’12  
**DEPARTMENT:** Dayton, OH  
**PROJECT TITLE:** “A Study of Global Health Care, Clinical Work, and Creativity,” Panama  
**PROJECT ADVISOR:** Concetta Smith (Clinical Nursing Ann. of Catholic Rd Cathedral  
**INSPIRATION FOR PROJECT:** I am involved in global health care reform and it is important to me that before I enter the profession overall, I have a strong understanding of international health care systems. This particular project focused on volunteering in community health centers in Latin America. The program is housed in a new clinic in Cienfuegos, Cuba. We will be also involved as students in the development of an education course that will be used in the clinic.

**MOST INTERESTING THING SHE LEARNED:** The most interesting thing I learned was that by interacting with the patients, especially those workers with whom I work who really gave me an opportunity to learn about the culture. It was so valuable to actually be there and to see and observe first-hand the historical legacy and recognize the faces that may have shaped or understood the original version.

**NAME:** Eslomi Mahbub ’11  
**DEPARTMENT:** History  
**PROJECT TITLE:** “HIV/AIDS and Sexual Violence: Lessons from South Africa”  
**PROJECT ADVISOR:** Prof. Beth Satterfield  
**INSPIRATION FOR PROJECT:** I had learned about the Treatment Action Campaign (TAC) which formed in South Africa in the early 1990s and had made a difference in the lives of many South Africans. When another internship possibility fell through, I decided to return to South Africa and work with the vigilantes of the TAC, to the knowledge of Khyberdine, the second largest city in South Africa and the help AIDS infected township in the Western Cape. I was expected to spend my weeks in front of a computer assuming my clinical duties, however, my experience took a surprising turn.

**MOST INTERESTING THING SHE LEARNED:** I was able to attend a Women’s Summit which I was surprised to see that my story was not only about the women who were HIV positive, but also other women who were HIV positive and others who were not. This quality of resilience is an attribute that I wish every woman would have when I think back to my experience at the TAC and the wonderful and strong women and men I was lucky enough to have worked with.
At one recently activated arch, two double-hold leadership positions in one of the premier Catholic universities in the country; every club and activity, every initiative and event, every collaboration and conversation. But the four times a year, with each new academic year, of calling to serve God by en- the Boston College Technology Commons, the Annual Awards Dinner is open to the public.

Cardinal Roger Mahony, arch- bishop emeritus of Los Angeles, re- presented the University of Southern California with the University President William P. Leahy, SJ, and Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino today presented greater social responsibility, and excellence in their respective fields. The honorees and their awards will feature the announcement of the Boston College Technology Commons, the Annual Awards Dinner is open to the public.

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A film directed by German Studies Associate Professor Rachel Freudenburg, director of “FREYA!” (shown in background): “For decades, the world was not ready to hear about the German Resistance, but now it is, and Freya’s story helps us look at German history differently.” (Photo by Lee Pellegrini)

“FREYA!” — including her biography and European integration through The Freya von Moltke Foundation for the New Kreisau, established in 2005. Through her books, interviews and speeches, Freya von Moltke also helped shape Germany’s public remembrance of the Resistance, and helped transform a national shame into an opportunity to embrace democracy, create understanding and increase tolerance.

The 45-minute film is based on von Moltke’s last English-language interview, conducted by Freudenburg in 2002. Narrator Amy Evans McFarlane views through the Weimar Republic, the Second World War and the decision by von Moltke and her husband to resist Hitler. Also chronicled are Helmuth’s arrest, imprisonment, trial and execution, the postwar years, and von Moltke’s involvement in the New Kreisau. The film includes excerpts from Helmuth’s “Letters to Freya,” hundreds of historical photos, stock footage and the piano music of Bach and Busoni — performed by Veronica Jochum — and Gasienic’s “Kreisau Overture.”

“FREYA!” premiered in January as the centerpiece of a tribute to von Moltke, held in commemoration of the first anniversary of her death, at Goethe-Institut Boston. The event was co-sponsored by the German Consulate.

“Many people are grateful to Freya von Moltke for her resistance to Hitler, for her dedication to the memory of the resistance, and for her efforts on behalf of the Kreisau Center for European Understanding in Poland. I am grateful to her for all of that, but also for something much more personal,” Freudenburg says.

“I have Freya to thank for the fact that I can now call myself a filmmaker. Before having met her I never seriously entertained the idea of directing movies. She gave me a wonderful, polished interview — material that not even a complete novice could write. With that and the support of Boston College, I had what I needed to learn how to make a film, and I’ve discovered that I really enjoy it.”

Freudenburg credits Fine Arts Department Chair and documentarian filmmaker John Michalczyk with providing the impetus and initial support for “FREYA!” and offering guidance and assistance throughout the long journey to its completion. Michalczyk will give an introduction to the film prior to its campus screening.

For further information on “FREYA!” — including her biography and a version of the 2002 interviews which von Moltke considered one of her best — visit the film’s web site at http://www.freyaononed substance.com.

Contact Rosanne Pellegrini at rpellegrini@bc.edu.

Victoria Reggie Kennedy, widow of US Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.), will present “Catholicism and Progressivism” on March 22 at 6 p.m. in the Welsh Dining Room of Lyons Hall. For information e-mail munden@bc.edu.

English Department faculty members Amy Boekly and Suzanne Berne, and area writer Joan Wickerham — all authors of recent memoirs — will take part in the panel discussion “Why Memoir? A Discussion of Form, Function and Family Matters” on March 23 at 4:30 p.m. in Devlin 101. Office of Marketing Communication Executive Director and Special Assistant to the President Ben Birnbaum will serve as moderator. E-mail tracy.birnen@bc.edu.

Irish Times religious affairs correspondent Patsy McGarry will present “Child Sexual Abuse and the Catholic Church: An Irish Disease and/or Global Phenomenon” on March 24 at 4 p.m. in Devlin 101. E-mail joan.reilly@bc.edu.

Boomer Esiason, former pro-football star and current CBS Sports analyst, will speak on March 25 at 3:30 p.m. in the Yawkey Center Murray Room, sponsored by the Winston Center for Leadership and Ethics Chamber Lecture Series. E-mail graf@bc.edu.

The Graduate School of Social Work Fifth Annual Pinderhughes Diversity Lecture and Breakfast will feature a talk by Washington University Brown School of Social Work Professor Jack Kirkland on March 25. The event runs from 8:30-11 a.m. in the Yawkey Center Murray Room. E-mail heart@bc.edu.

For more on Boston College campus events, see events.bc.edu or www.bc.edu/bcinfo.