If you ever wind up in Stuttgart, Germany, consider visiting the Mercedes-Benz Museum. Admittedly, cars — especially the high-octane variety — are not my thing. My initial thought was to skip the museum and head out for a hike in the Black Forest. But if you get the chance, take it. The museum truly has something for everybody, including for those in the ILS program. But I am getting ahead of the story.

Once inside, I was met with light, open space and German efficiency. An attendant quickly sized me up and then asked in perfect English if I wished for an audio guide with headphones. Sure, why not. I bent my head so that she could hang a small player around my neck. Now wired for sound, I took a sleek metal elevator up to the eighth floor. It was perfectly engineered, as was everything in the museum.

As we rode up, one of my German hosts explained the plan, a very civilized one. The visit would begin with the oldest cars on the top floor. As we walked down to ground level, we would travel through time and arrive back at the present. Accordingly, I was not surprised when the elevator doors opened and we stepped into a chamber filled with motorized carriages.

No, Henry Ford did not invent the automobile. Credit should go to Karl Friedrich Benz, who filed a patent in 1886. Two other inventors, Gottlieb Daimler and Wilhelm Maybach, invented the first high-speed gasoline engine a few years earlier. Although the exhibits were interesting, the museum still seemed to be one vehicle after another. With a bit of ho-hum, I reached for the audio guide tethered around my neck. To my surprise, the player offered not one but four programs: general information, society and issues, technology, and for children. Society and issues it was. It seemed ideal for viewers like me who were not particularly enthralled by cars.

As it turned out, I listened to all four programs. The one for kids was fun and the one on technology explained the clever engineering. But I quickly settled on the society and issues tape. Who were the people who owned these vehicles? In what world did they drive them? And to what end? Context! I found answers, and new questions.

The circular ramp that led from floor to floor (think Guggenheim Museum) also provided context. Eye-catching, backlit photos, each with a date, line its
The program is crafted to allow your own exploring and beach time of the University of Hawai‘i-Kaua‘i on the north shore; a visit to Hanalei on the island. Highlights include: an National Tropical Botanical Garden of the Women’s Movement (1903), and the Telephone Network (1900), the Start included the Expansion of the planet. Neighboring photos and experience the revival of native farming and the application of the Hawaiian ecological concept of Ahupua‘a, a tour of Kilauea Bird Sanctuary, a chance to work in the taro fields and help prepare a Hawaiian lunch at UH-Kaua‘i’s Community College; discussion of energy sustainability initiatives on campus and on island; and a fabulous dinner and chef’s discussion of food sustain-ability at the famous Merriman’s in the Poipu Beach area. For those who have not had the chance to visit what Mark Twain dubbed “the Grand Canyon of the Pacific,” an optional tour to Waimai Canyon is also available at additional cost.

Accommodations are at the Aqua Kaua‘i Beach Resort, situated on the oceanfront on the east coast of Kaua‘i, between Lihue and Kapa‘a. The resort has an airport van. Bus transportation to all scheduled events and the cost of several meals are included in the total package price. Airfare is not included but Burkhalter Travel of Madison is prepared to provide you with assistance. If you want to travel during your free time to other parts of the island, car rentals are available at the airport and through the resort concierge.

Package price not including airfare is $1,775 per person for double occupancy, or $2,195 for single occupancy. Visit uwalumni.com/learning later this fall for more information. Feel free to contact Cathy Middlecamp at cmiddlecamp@wisc.edu or Kathi Sell at ksell@wisc.edu for more information. The first half of the semester is dedicated to pursuing a core set of values and beliefs of a liberal arts education and the history of the ILS program and its founder, Alexander Meiklejohn. In the second half, she gives us the freedom to pursue our own interests and shape seminar by actually teaching it ourselves. And of course there are few people who can match her expertise on Alexander Meiklejohn.

What is most important about Kathi is her devotion to her students, both while they are in her class and into the future. She gives each student in her classes so much personal attention and feedback and genuinely works through any avenue to see them succeed. She purposely wants to work with students the semester they plan on graduating for a reason, she wants to be able to contribute to shaping their attitudes for the future.

Kathi’s capstone is a wonderfully unique experience. Of course do not just trust my opinion. Over the last semesters students have filled out assessments of the ILS program anonymously and while students are not asked specifically to name classes or professors, there are always a good deal of people who mention the influence the capstone has had on them in some way. Students in the past have said:

“Dr. Sell’s capstone specifically has helped me carve out a place in my mind which academia and citizenship is intrinsically linked.”

“Dr. Sell’s classes have been a huge factor in understanding the world and my role in it.”

“The capstone seminar made me especially aware of our obligations to our generation and to other generations as we move forward in this world. Our own education can only strengthen our role in enacting change.”

Through these testimonies I think it is evident just how unique of an experience Kathi has created with her capstone seminar. I am incredibly grateful to be one of the last students to have this experience and am especially happy to be able to give her this personal recognition. So thank you Kathi, for the support and encouragement you have given me over the last three years and more importantly for your work in the ILS program and for embodying all of the qualities that make the ILS program so special.

Kelly Creech ’10 majored in history (honors) and political science with an ILS certificate. She is the winner of the Pooley Prize awarded by ILS for academic achievement, leadership and service.
Meiklejohn Travel Fellowship Funds Trip to Hanford Engineer Works

By Mariah Terhaar ’09

One of the very first things I find myself telling others is, “I’m not a science girl.” Ask me to analyze the Gettysburg Address and I’m fine. But bring up something related to chemistry, biology or nuclear technology, and I’m lost. That was before taking Dr. Middlecamp’s ILS 251: The Radium Girls and the Firecracker Boys, whose name belies its dizzying trek through our world’s nuclear past, present and future. To my continued amazement, I found myself deeply and irrevocably falling for all things nuclear.

Thanks to the Alexander Meiklejohn Scholarship, which gives an ILS certificate student a travel opportunity in connection with the course, I was able to take the trip of my nuclear dreams. I had the opportunity to visit Hanford Engineer Works in the Columbia River Basin in Washington State. Hanford Engineer Works produced the plutonium for the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki. It continued producing plutonium for three decades, contributing to the escalation of the Cold War. It is now the most contaminated site in the United States and is entirely devoted to cleanup efforts. Five years ago, a tour of the Hanford site would have been out of the question. Now, online registration for the 60 tours offered each year fills up in less than two hours.

I believe I was the only person on the Hanford tour under the age of 50. After we passed inspection by a canine unit, around 50 U.S. citizens (only U.S. citizens are allowed to tour Hanford) boarded a bus and settled in for a five-hour tour of the grey concrete buildings of the 500-square-mile site. The rest of the group was amused at my note-taking while our tour guide led us around B-Reactor, the first reactor to produce plutonium on a grand scale. One couple asked if I was going to attempt to make my own atom bomb.

Given all that I know now about Hanford — its initial destruction as well as its continued contamination — you would think I’d be anti-nuclear. Quite the opposite. My four years with ILS has taught me to see the world’s complexity. In its heyday, Hanford Engineer Works employed thousands of proud, hardworking Americans to harness the new technology of the atom. And, unlike many other nuclear facilities, Hanford did this safely. In over 30 years of operation, no significant radioactive accidents occurred. But at the same time, it produced a deadly weapon. I went to Hanford wearing a T-shirt that stated “Harvest the Sun — No Nukes.” I came back with a bumper sticker that says “Proud of Hanford.” I now see both sides of the story.

B-Reactor is the site of production of the plutonium used in the atomic bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan.

Student Wins National Undergraduate Paper Award

Elaine Ayer won a scholarship from the Metanexus Institute, sponsored by Wartburg College, for interdisciplinary work on the relationship between technology, the natural world and the human identity or spirit. Elaine’s paper examined the paradoxical nature of a president receiving the world’s most distinguished peace prize mere days after sending thousands of additional young men and women to fight a controversial war. It was then, however, that he used the apparent contradiction between peace and his troop surge in Afghanistan to introduce the main point of his lecture: the tenets and application of Just War Theory.

You can imagine my excitement when the president’s speech was over. I knew I had to contact Dr. Sell to tell her that the President Obama had been stealing her material and using it on the international stage!
Faculty Book Recommendations

Lynn Nyhart:
Garth Stein, The Art of Racing in the Rain (Harper, 2009). The story of a dog and his family, as told by the dog. The dog yearns to be human, and learns much about them by observing them, loving them, listening to his master (a race-car driver) and watching lots of videos of car racing. You can’t not love this book. Or this dog.

Erica Bauermeister, The School of Essential Ingredients (Berkeley, 2009). A novel about achieving love and understanding through food. Although occasionally a little simile-heavy, Bauermeister offers many evocative moments connecting food with the other senses of life.

Rick Avramenko:
Thomas Dunn, Loneliness as a Way of Life (Harvard University Press, 2008). A work of political philosophy, learned yet accessible, this book speaks loudly to the pain, both personal and political, of our democratic age.

Craig Werner:
Brendan Lane, The Solace of Fierce Landscapes: Exploring Desert and Mountain Spirituality. A beautifully written meditation on the healing power of wilderness landscapes and the necessity of making room for the desert in our psyches, especially in times when we’re struggling. Lane writes about his journey to the Sinai, his relationship with the American West (especially the Sangre de Cristos where I spend a couple of weeks each summer at a hermitage dedicated to silence and prayer) and coming to terms with his mother’s struggle with Alzheimer’s. Deeply grounded in the history of Judeo-Christian theology, Lane’s book is moving and wise.

Tim Allen:

Shifra Sharlin:
John Steinbeck, Travels with Charley. Who knew that a book about a man and his dog could be so terrific? Two students and I read it for an independent study. We loved it.


Kathleen Sell:

Richard Avramenko won the William H. Kiekhofer Distinguished Teaching Award, the oldest teaching award at UW. This award is a campus honor, sponsored by the Wisconsin Alumni Association in cooperation with the Office of the Secretary of the Faculty in recognition of excellence in teaching. Joe Elder played a major role in the March 19 and 20 “Teach-In on Afghanistan and Pakistan,” described in a March 31 press release as follows: “To overflow crowds at Madison’s Pyle Center Friday night and the Memorial Union and Vilas Hall all day Saturday, speakers drew repeated parallels to past U.S. failures in Vietnam, recent Soviet failures in Afghanistan and current U.S. policies in Afghanistan and Pakistan. Professors, describing their sense of responsibility to “add needed critical information to the public discourse,” presented ‘current facts on the ground’ in Afghanistan and Pakistan.”

Kristin Hunt spent the summer finishing up scene design and dramaturgy for Across A Distance, a performance piece for which she’s been on the creative team for three years. It’s a collaboratively devised performance for deaf actor and soprano that’s a kind of bilingual (ASL/English) love story about the possibilities and limitations of communication.

Lynn Nyhart has been elected vice president of the History of Science Society and will serve as president in 2012 and 2013.

Shifra Sharlin has been awarded the 2010 Meiklejohn-Powell Fellowship. The fellowship is awarded to a faculty member to develop and teach a new course or workshop in the ILS program. The new course, History As Seen from the City, will be offered in spring 2011. Shifra will be participating in a Mellon Postdoctoral Seminar, 2010-2011, on world citizenship.

Kathleen Sell has been awarded the 2010 Ken and Linda Ciriacks Outreach Excellence Award from the Wisconsin Alumni Association. For more than six years, Kathi has engaged alumni in lifelong learning.

Continued on page 8
I Went to the Woods Because I Wished to Live Deliberately

By Maggie Hippman '08

I spent five months living in the backcountry of the Sierras with the California Conservation Backcountry program, a partnership between the local CCC centers around California and Americorps. Now I’m living in Verona, Wisconsin, wondering how anyone can be happy surrounded by everything except those elements of nature that seem to me to be essential to mental health: fresh air, open spaces, indications of other life (natural water, vegetation, animal life) and quiet.

At one point, I began to think that the underlying principle of the backcountry program was to make us as uncomfortable as possible for as long as possible. The work never ended and the expectations only increased throughout the season. In those moments when we were all questioning whether we could complete the task in front of us and somehow we were so deeply the people we are capable of infinitely more than we once supposed began to seep into those crevices in our brains formerly occupied with technology, stress and trivial thoughts. This was the most perfect type of happiness I have ever experienced. Looking back, I think that’s the core of me, absent all the complications that result from living in civilization.

But those complications could not be completely avoided, even in the backcountry. Halfway through the season, I hiked out nine miles to the trailhead (aptly termed the Backcountry Water Park) with the Backcountry Water Park) with the Backcountry Water Park) with four of the guys on my crew. It would end up being my favorite weekend of the entire season. I preferred to be surrounded by these people whom I trusted and felt close to, as opposed to distant family members asking banal questions. This was the ideal environment for me to grieve in.

Life picked up just as I had left it, perhaps with an extra layer of appreciation on my part for all that nature had to offer which I had missed during my visit home. We moved farther andAsilomar. Door County and Wisconsin’s north transition, at Alumni Colleges in programs with WAA. She has given presentations on a variety of topics, such as great books and midlife transition, at Alumni Colleges in Door County and Wisconsin’s north woods, as well as in Osprey Point and Asilomar.

Kathi and WAA also worked to capture, archive and distribute recordings of the lectures of Professor Charles Anderson from the course Western Culture: Political, Economic and Social Thought. This provided the inspiration for WAA’s online Alumni Media Library, and these lectures are available for free download through UW’s iTunesU.

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Craig Werner is working in collaboration with Reverend Rhonda Lee, an Episcopal priest who teaches in the history department at Duke University. Craig has recently completed work on a very ILS-y book titled Sex & Happiness: Eras According to Dante, Shakespeare, Jane Austen and the Reverend Al Green. The basic ideas were the center of his spring 2008 section of ILS 275. In the fall, he will be teaching a course on The Vietnam Era: Music, Media and Mayhem in collaboration with Vietnam veteran and writer, Doug Bradley.

By Charles Anderson podcasts: http://www.uwalumni.com/home/online/media/andersonlectures.aspx


Craig Werner was named to a four-year term as senior fellow in race, ethnicity and indigenerity at the Institute for Research in the Humanities.

Faculty Publishing News

Joe Elder's just-published, co-authored book with Maureen L.P. Patterson, A History of the American Institute of Indian Studies, 1961 to 1998, is now available at http://mindis.wisconsin.edu/handle/1793/38774. This book provides the first detailed history of the American Institute of Indian Studies, today the major funding organization for scholarly research of all kinds in India. Drawing on interviews with founders and extensive notes of meetings, Patterson and Elder trace the early debates and later committee meetings during which professors from 13 U.S. universities, including the University of Wisconsin, created a unique, inter-university research organization that grew to include trustees from over 50 U.S. colleges and universities committed to encouraging and facilitating the study of India by U.S.-based scholars.

Kristin Hunt’s "I Greedily Resign: Lucas Junius Brutus as Queer Transcultural Object" is in the July issue of Restoration and Eighteenth Century Theatre Research. The essay considers Nathaniel Lee’s play through the lens of queer theory and calls for an expansion of the idea of transcultural inclusion to include the processes of cultural exchange and interpenetration that occur when we read and perform historical texts in the present. She argues that, in addition to glancing backward at the historical Restoration to untangle the history of sexual desire, we might fruitfully value precisely the excessiveness of this desire, using the transcultural queerness of the Restoration play in the contemporary Western imagination as a tactic for doing queer theory.

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Outside of a dog, a book is a man’s best friend…

The newly stocked and furnished M-House Library (Thank you, Booth! Thank you, Kelly, Janelle, and Chloe!) needs more history and history of science books. Donations of money and/or books are much appreciated.

...Inside of a dog, it’s too dark to read.” — Groucho Marx

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But those complications could not be completely avoided, even in the backcountry. Halfway through the season, I hiked out nine miles to the trailhead to drive to the trails office to return a call from my mom. No specific information had been given, but I knew it was related to my dad’s health. He had been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease my freshman year of college. In an emotional telephone conversation with my mom, she told me that my dad probably had only a few days to live. I quickly booked a flight on a red-eye back to Madison that night (using a computer was incredibly strange after two months without one). But I was too late. He died about an hour before my plane arrived. I spent the week in Madison for the funeral, then anxiously flew back to California where I was met by my supervisor. We hiked back in the next day (a Friday) and I worked the remainder of the day, then headed directly toward a weekend destination (aptly named the Backcountry Water Park) with four of the guys on my crew. It would end up being my favorite weekend of the entire season. I preferred to be surrounded by these people whom I trusted and felt close to, as opposed to distant family members asking banal questions. This was the ideal environment for me to grieve in.

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...Inside of a dog, it’s too dark to read.” — Groucho Marx
I’m only sorry that I can’t be here to say in person what I’ve been deputized to say on behalf of a cohort of superannuated whiz kids, once known as Ford Boys and — with a slight delay — Girls.

Much of what follows will be old hat to some of you. But it might be of interest to others of you, who knew the Howes differently or more recently than us. And you can trust me that it’s been a matter of lifelong interest to the small but devoted constituency I have the honor to speak for.

The story begins, believe it or not, with the Korean War, that struck almost all of us out of nowhere just over 60 years ago. With one highly qualified exception, it’s hard to say anything nice about it. It killed some 37,000 Americans and several million Koreans. It left a weird armistice, one of the world’s creepiest states and a raging nuclear proliferation problem.

But now comes the exception. It connected us with the Howes. The Cold War had already resurrected the peacetime draft. The Korean War increased the need for military manpower. The need for military manpower caused concern at the January 1951 meeting of the Association of American Colleges. The concern at the meeting of the Association of American Colleges.

The idea was to sort 200 of us into groups of 50 for a two-year liberal arts package at Yale, Columbia, Chicago or Wisconsin. We’d then be drafted.

Right up to today, I have no idea what happened at the other places. But I have a pretty good idea what happened here, and who and what made it work. Mark Ingraham, the longtime liberal arts dean, had the inspired idea of mobilizing Herbert M. Howe, a former prep school teacher and junior professor of classics, to take charge of the Wisconsin contingent. Where Herb went, Eve, of course, was right behind.

The rest, as they say, is history. Two of the precocious arrivals were from Wisconsin and dorm-eligible. One was Marv Chapman, very possibly the only black kid in Whitefish Bay, where his mother did the rich folks’ laundry. The other was me.

John Israel of suburban Long Gyland reminds me how Herb spent much of a pre-air-conditioned summer finding roofs to cover the rest. 29 from New York, eight alone from the Bronx High School of Science. He also recalls how Herb tried to pair roommates from different parts of the country — or at least different boroughs of New York. He then piloted us through registration, funneled large numbers of us into Integrated Liberal Studies (ILS), and was generally on call in loco at least 50 pair of parents in matters large and small for whatever it took. I’d guess that most of us had to become parents ourselves to appreciate what this involved.

For many of us, it meant warmly remembered dinners at the Howe home, where Eve cooked well, the guests ate properly and Herb, who kept his troubled stomach at arm’s length, drank milk. For him and most of us, it meant at least four years, since the Korean War ended in negotiated stalemate, the draft calls receded and the Ford Foundation agreed to see us to our diplomas. But in fact, the relationship never ended.

All of us have our personal memory galleries. There’s a well-tended place in mine for the man, who told me to call him mister on grounds that professor was too fancy, and doctor too much like an optometrist or school superintendent. When Dick Church, the conductor of the university orchestra, decided that we should play in tuxedos, Herb, who was as tall and gaunt as I was neither, loaned me his, as well as the safety pins I needed to wear it. To this day, I don’t write a sentence, including this one, without recalling how Herb deconstructed what I thought was a wonderful term paper. “It’s OK,” he reassured me. “I write that way too when my wife doesn’t stop me.”

But all this is 3.2 beer — another reminiscence — compared to Earl Dolven’s experience a generation on, when the UW freshman, who was his son, hurt himself so seriously in a swimming pool accident that he required brain surgery. Over a month of recovery, Herb and Eve were again on the scene with help, concern and Union Terrace lunches.

A mini-bio of Mark Ingraham on the old math department website says: “It has been his peculiar genius as an administrator that he could both understand the distinctive needs and aims of the various types of specialists with whom he worked, and at the same time share with them his own broad vision of the larger whole university.”

It has been the peculiar genius of the Howes as parents and teachers that they could both understand the distinctive needs and aims of a platoon of clueless whiz kids, and at the same time share with them their own broad vision of an educated adult.

David Schoenbaum received his BA at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1965, he was awarded a D.Phil at Oxford University. Until 2008, he was a professor of history at the University of Iowa. He is the author of Hitler’s Social Revolution: Class and Status in Nazi Germany 1933-1939 (1966) and The United States and the State of Israel (1993). Since the mid-’90s, he has been working on a social history of the violin.

**In Memoriam**

Herbert M. Howe, the longtime University of Wisconsin professor of classics and ILS faculty passed away recently at the age of 98, followed by the death of his wife and colleague, Eve, two days later. In addition to teaching an estimated 26,000 UW students, he also co-edited, with his colleague Paul MacKendrick, the two-volume Classics in Translation, with one volume devoted to ancient Greek literature and the other to Latin literature. Still used in classrooms around the world nearly 60 years after their initial publication, this pair of volumes is the top-selling title in the history of UW Press!

Evelyn M. Howe was long denied tenure track as a faculty wife. She served as a lecturer and advisor at the UW. In the 1950s, she and Herb served as mentors and surrogate parents to students in the Ford Foundation’s program for gifted 16-year-olds entering college. Until her retirement in 1982, Eve was faculty adviser to the students in the Integrated Liberal Studies program. She lectured on ancient art and archaeology, and led seminars on satire, the British Romantic poets, and children’s literature. Her particular specialty was the English painter and art patron, Sir George Beaumont, and his relationship with the British Romantic poets.

Throughout her life, Eve had a deep commitment to preserving the earth and was a supporter of numerous conservation groups. The two lived a simple lifestyle. Carless, they were well known for bicycling or walking everywhere. After retirement, Eve managed the Friends Shop of the Madison Public Library years.

**Herb-Howe was also a Masters swimmer and named Badger State Athlete of the Year in 2000 at age 88. Photo by Jeff Miller, UW-Madison News office**

**Photo by Jeff Miller, UW-Madison News office**

**As reported in the UW Press monthly newsletter. Thanks for permission to reprint.**
Join ILS on Beautiful Kaua’i next June

ILS and the Wisconsin Alumni Association are offering an opportunity for alumni and their friends to have that ILS interdisciplinary experience once again, and in a location appropriately described as paradise. Please join us if you can!

Join ILS faculty Catherine Middlecamp (ILS, Chemistry and the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies) and Kathleen Sell (ILS — political, economic and social thought) June 18–24, 2011, for an Alumni College experience, Blue Waters and Green Challenges: Food and Energy Sustainability in Hawai’i. This experiential seminar on the island of Kaua’i will examine the challenges, opportunities and

*Continued on page 2*