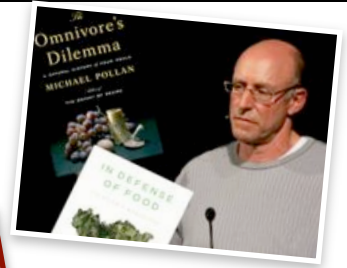


Year of Social Change fall 2009-Spring 2010



Inspiring Enabling & Empowering Community Transformations

FA 2009 - SP 2010 Faculty Organizers: **Dr. Ishita Sinha Roy & Dr. Emily Yochim**

Kathy Eldon's Creative Activism Project Workshop (Sept. 25, 2009)

Read about how Kathy uses her son Dan Eldon's legacy to inspire young people to use their creative resources to inspire change

Page 9



Greg Mortenson on "Promoting Peace through Education" (Oct. 7, 2009)



A unique lesson on global citizenship and the power of pennies to build the future of young people across the world, and foster public diplomacy

Page 10



Dr. Vandana Shiva on Food Security in a Time of Climate Change (Oct. 26, 2009)

Environmental activist Dr. Shiva on the perils of fossil fuel dependence, climate change, and the privatization of natural resources like water, soil, and seeds. Pp 11-12

Michael Pollan, "The Sun Food Agenda" (Feb. 25, 2010)

Connects the dots between food and health (personal as well as environmental), and introduces us to some of the visionaries who are "re-solarizing" the food system

Page 27

AND MANY MORE DETAILS INSIDE.....

A Vision for Change

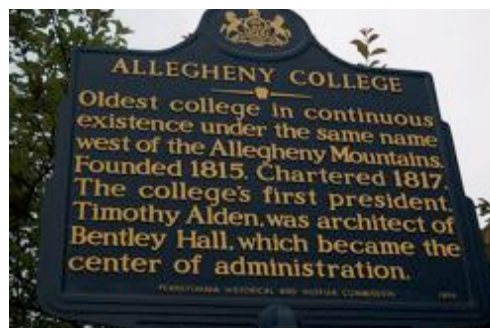


Allegheny College President James H. Mullen, Jr.

"We will define new and compelling ways to inspire our students to set their extraordinary talents to the timeless values of citizenship - values grounded in a deep sensitivity to the dignity of the individual...an ambition leavened by humility, a love of country animated by the pursuit of justice and a dedication to service that is framed by the awareness of something larger than themselves."

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE 09-10





Allegheny College was founded in 1813. When this school had its first freshmen class, America was still fighting the war of 1812 with the British.

The college will celebrate its 200th anniversary in 2013

The Year of Social Change (fall 2009-spring 2010) at Allegheny College, PA, is a celebration of the ongoing community transformations that have been facilitated by collaborations between students, faculty, staff, and community partners.

We hope to increase the ranks of ordinary people who discover they have the power to become movers and shakers. Through our collective efforts, we wish to debunk the myth that academic life has little or nothing to do with tackling ‘real world’ issues.

The Year of Social Change has been co-sponsored by the Allegheny College Student Government and the Office for Conference and Event Services.

Individual events have received additional funding from the Dean of Students’ Office, Health and Wellness Committee, Religious Life Office, Environmental Science Dept.

(through an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grant), the English, Political Science, and Communication Arts & Theater Departments, VESA (Values, Ethics & Social Action) program, and individual student organizations (Amnesty International, Allegheny College Young Feminists, Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, Religious Life Council, Hillel, A5, and the TriDelts).

The Year of Social Change student ambassadors in alphabetical order are Sherif Ahmed, Sonja DeJong, Zachary Fradeneck, Marisa Frey, Lydia Gearhart, Sarah Gentile, Sylvia Kauffman, John Mahalachak, Raynor Mallory, Vira Mistry, Matthew Neckelman, Arish Riaz, Jie Ren, Caitlin O’Brien Rice, Katy Orchowski, Kathleen Prospero, Zack Rearick, Moinuddin Syed, Jinnie Templin, Dave Valentine, and Eric Winters.

On September 11, 2009, the first National Day of Service and Remembrance, Crawford County service agencies, non-profit organizations, and faith-based groups participated in “**Imagine Out Loud**”—a community involvement fair, **organized by the Community Service Office at the Allegheny College Center for Experiential Learning (ACCEL)**. Community partners were paired with interested Allegheny students and offered opportunities to get involved in social justice efforts in the local community. With this event, we formally inaugurated the *Year of Social Change*, and in the pages that follow, we offer a glimpse at some of the programs and events that have been part of this transformative annual theme on campus.



We invite you to participate in the Year of Social Change by imagining out loud on this postcard. Your completed card may be selected to appear as part of an evolving art display on the Year of Social Change website. You are not obligated to attach your name to what you write, but we hop you will be inspired to share your thoughts with the community in response to this prompt:

On this National Service and Remembrance Day my personal good deed will be...

Please write your response to the prompt in large, legible letters on the reverse side of this card. You may decorate your card if you wish! Cards should be turned in at this table, or to Campus mailbox 45. Thank you for sharing your good deed with us.

Smile at
Someone I
don't know!

- I will help clean the allegheny community
- Learn how to say thank you in another language.

to
TALK to
my GRANNY.

leave a dime
in the parking
meter

Make My fellow Grators
aware of how to become
more eco-friendly and
the effects their actions
may have

To be there to support
someone who I don't
know in whatever way
I am able to.

provide babysitting
for parents without
enough money to pay
for a sitter.

I'm running
a table for
MEADVILLE COUNCIL
ON THE ARTS
today!!

I will first make
peace within myself
so that I can begin
to bring peace to
others.

Bringing an herb
garden to Campus!



L to R: Year of Social Change faculty organizers Dr. Ishita Sinha Roy & Dr. Emily Yochim, both from the department of Communication Arts & Theater

L to R: Allegheny College James H. Mullen Jr. with Allegheny Student Govt. President Brett Fuchs (Class of 2010)

Michael Stoops, Director of Community Organizing with National Homeless Civil Rights Organizing Project

Allegheny College Embarks on "The Year of Social Change"

MEADVILLE, PA. – Sept. 3, 2009 –

"The Year of Social Change is a remarkable opportunity for all of us to live what it is to be Allegheny, to make a difference on campus and in the world around us in a very intentional and profound way," said Allegheny president James H. Mullen Jr.

Beginning with a **service opportunities information fair for students on Friday, Sept. 11—the National Day of Service and Remembrance**—Year of Social Change initiatives will highlight how college and community collaborations are enabling and empowering local, national and global outreach efforts.

"We hope to also add creative momentum to these initiatives by bringing in prominent change-makers, facilitating workshops, and planning action-based outcomes that motivate personal and civic responsibility," said Associate Professor of Communication Arts Ishita Sinha Roy, a faculty coordinator for the Year of Social Change.

Allegheny Student Government and 17 other student organizations are helping to sponsor the Year of Social Change activities.

"We're excited that students are taking a leadership role in planning and providing financial support for the Year of Social Change," said Allegheny Student Government president Brett Fuchs, a political science major and values, ethics and social action minor. "Our goal is to remind and encourage

students, faculty, staff and community members to be agents of change in the world."



Michael Stoops & ACCEL launch "Make a Difference Day," Oct. 15 - 17, 2009

The **Allegheny College Center for Experiential Learning** held a "Bread and Soup for Hunger" event on Thursday, Oct. 15 at 5 p.m. in Schultz Banquet Hall to welcome Michael Stoops, director of community organizing with the National Homeless Civil Rights Organizing Project and project director for "You Don't Need a Home to Vote," to the Allegheny campus.

Students used one Brooks meal to pay for a bread and soup dinner. The leftover revenue generated from the meal was donated to the area food bank, which is in dire need of supplies.



Joining Stoops were David Pirtle and Steve Thomas, key members of the "Faces of Homelessness" speakers bureau of the National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH). Along with Meadville activist Dwight Huston, they made a presentation on **"The Faces of Homelessness,"** which encouraged people to personalize homelessness, dispel stereotypes and inspire hope by presenting the firsthand experiences of the panelists. After the presentations, Stoops, Pirtle and Thomas also participated in a Make a Difference Day kick-off rally in the Campus Center atrium on Friday, Oct. 16 at noon and led a workshop focusing on community organizing as one of the **Make-A-Difference Day** projects on Saturday, Oct. 17.

(Article content excerpted from Allegheny College News Online)



Beating the homeless is cruel, not cool

By Brian Levin and Michael Stoops

Special to CNN

Editor's note: Brian Levin is a professor of criminal justice at California State University, San Bernardino and director of the university's Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism. Michael Stoops is executive director of the National Coalition for the Homeless in Washington.

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts (CNN) -- Over the last two calendar years, more Americans in the United States were killed in a little-noticed spate of unprovoked attacks than were killed by terrorists, in large commercial jet crashes or in racial hate crimes.

Since 1999, more than 240 vulnerable homeless Americans have been stabbed, beaten, drowned, shot or burned to death in a revolting display of one of the last socially tolerated prejudices, this one based on class.

Despite being prime targets of prejudice and violence, particularly in today's youth subculture, the homeless are routinely excluded from lessons related to tolerance, as well as from official data collection and hate-crime penalty enhancement laws.

A newly released report from the National Coalition for the Homeless documented 27 unprovoked, apparently bias-related homicides by attackers in the United States last year, down one from the previous year and the second-highest number of killings since 2001.

After bottoming mid-decade, the number killed has not dipped below 20 a year since 2005. In contrast, the FBI documented only 12 hate-crime homicides nationally for the two most recently available calendar years combined.

According to the NCH and the Center for the Study of Hate & Extremism, nearly 2 1/2 times more homeless people in America have been killed over the past 10 years in apparent unprovoked bias homicides than the total for all the other hate-crime homicides -- on the basis of race, religion, national origin, disability and sexual orientation -- combined.

Like other hate crime perpetrators, these attackers are typically young male "thrill offenders" seeking excitement, with 58 percent of assailants over the past 10 years falling in the 13-19 age range. In 2006, three teenagers out for fun attacked homeless people in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, with baseball bats, killing one of their victims, 45-year-old Norris Gaynor. One pleaded guilty and the two others were convicted of murder last September after the jury saw graphic surveillance tape of one

of their non-lethal beatings from earlier in the evening.

These attacks exclude the large number of other types of crimes involving the homeless, such as personal disputes, homeless-on-homeless violence, robbery, drugs or murder for life insurance proceeds.

The August issue of Maxim, a youth-oriented magazine targeted at college-aged males, joked about last weekend's National Hobo Convention in Britt, Iowa, in a blurb titled "Hunt the Homeless." The journal quipped "Kill one for fun. We're 87 percent sure it's legal."

In previous violent attacks, some assailants have referenced degrading and violent depictions in popular culture such as "**Bumfights**" either during their crimes or in subsequent interviews with authorities, with some even filming the events.

"Bumfights" is a popular violent video series that sold hundreds of thousands of tapes and DVDs before going viral on the Internet. The film series sets a new low in American popular culture, featuring fights between homeless men plied by the producers with alcohol, as well as sadistic parodies of the late Australian conservationist "crocodile hunter" Steve Irwin.

These "skits" feature terrified sleeping homeless people who are startled awake and forcibly restrained with duct tape by "hunters" narrating their attacks with feigned Australian accents. Samuel Bowhay of Grinnell College found almost 86,000 videos on YouTube last month with "bum" in the title, thousands more than videos with other derogatory prejudiced epithets.

While homeless advocates lack the political and financial infrastructure often needed to institute policy reform, the frequency and brutality of the bias attacks have renewed focus on the nature of this violent form of prejudice and ways to address it.

Last week, District of Columbia Mayor Adrian Fenty signed legislation adding homeless status to the district's hate-crime law. Maryland, an early adopter of such measures in the 1980s, will join Maine in adding homeless status to its hate-crime law on October 1.

Other jurisdictions such as Alaska; Puerto Rico; Los Angeles County, California; and Seattle, Washington, also have taken various steps to recognize homeless status in their laws, data collection, educational efforts or procedures.

In almost a dozen other states, including California, Texas, South Carolina and Florida, legislation has been introduced over the past three years to add homeless status to their hate-crime laws as well. Nationally, Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas has introduced legislation to add

homelessness to federal hate-crime laws and data-collection efforts.

These efforts are long overdue. A primary purpose of hate-crime laws is the targeted deterrent message to would-be offenders that they face real punishment and social disapproval. Moreover, the key criminological criteria for coverage in hate-crime law apply seamlessly to homeless status as well:

1. a significant additional risk of violent victimization;
2. discriminatory selection;
3. established prejudice against a socially identifiable class;
4. identical offenders such as bigoted skinheads or young male thrill offenders who share identifiable characteristics and motivations.

Arguments against including provisions in hate-crime laws for the homeless are recycled ones that were initially used unsuccessfully against other groups, like gays and lesbians. Too many additional groups dilute the laws, or homelessness is a changeable condition that most people wouldn't want, they argue. The fact is, millions of Americans have changed their religious affiliation and yet, just about all hate crime laws cover faith. Disability is a characteristic that, like homelessness, most people would not seek out, yet it too is covered.

Adding the homeless to hate-crime laws, tolerance education and data-collection efforts must not be obstructed. When hate makes a fist, the laws of a civilized society must decisively block the blow in the most forceful and unambiguous way possible.



The opinions expressed in this commentary are solely those of Brian Levin and Michael Stoops.

Source: <http://ac360.blogs.cnn.com/2009/08/12/ beating-the-homeless-is-cruel-not-cool/>



ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

YEAR OF SOCIAL CHANGE

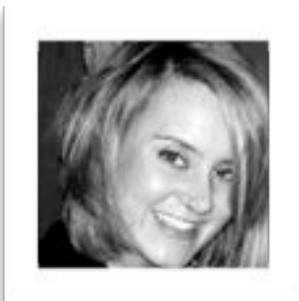



To mark the Year of Social Change, all students are invited to begin collecting pieces of "change" that will be used to determine which local charities will receive contributions each semester. For more details, see reverse side.

Kathy Eldon - Friday, Sept. 25, 2009 (7:00-9:00 pm) - Shafer Auditorium
Greg Mortenson - Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2009 (7:30-8:30 pm) - Shafer Auditorium
Dr. Vandana Shiva - Monday, Oct. 26, 2009 (6:00-7:00 pm) - Shafer Auditorium
Michael Pollan - Thursday, Feb. 25, 2010 (6:00-7:00 pm) - Shafer Auditorium

"Change for Change" is the brainchild of Year of Social Change (YoSC) student ambassador Lydia Gearhart.

At the start of each major Year of Social Change event, participants receive social "change" tokens that they deposit into one of five jars outside the auditorium on their way out. These jars represent the five social justice issues in the Meadville community that deserve the most attention. Since many people cannot afford to donate money, this affords everyone the opportunity to cast their "vote" for the cause they feel needs the most urgent attention. At the end of the Year of Social Change, the jar with the most tokens will receive donations through various fund-raisers associated with the annual theme, and the money will go to the community partners who are working to address these issues with the College.



Above: YoSC student ambassador Lydia Gearhart



Left: Social "Change" token



Dear First-Year Gator,

As you join the Allegheny College community we invite you to participate in the Year of Social Change by imagining out loud on this postcard. Your completed card may appear as part of an evolving art display at the Vukovich Center for Communication Arts. You are not obliged to attach your name to what you write, but we hope you will be inspired to share your thoughts with the community in response to this question:

**Imagine a better world.
What do you see?**

Please write your response to the question in large, legible letters on the reverse side of this card. Yes, you may decorate your card if you wish! Cards should be turned in to your FS peer leader at the end of this session.



I see a world where people are optimistic, open minded and positive. Something like Allegheny where everyone works together to create a better community.
Elizabeth Marano

A better world would be where people with conflicting ideas could support each other to accomplish a common goal.

I want to be able to walk down the street, holding my girlfriend's hand, without the disapproving looks of others.

In a better world I see HONESTY.

I imagine a world where people aren't judged based on. I don't want to hear someone say "Did you see his/her hair". My response is "It doesn't matter"



Campus Programs related to the Year of Social Change: fall 2009

Thanks to all the **Bonner Leaders, Residence Life staff, and campus and community members**, who participated in making the **Food Drive** for Crawford County's food banks such an overwhelming success. The food drive, which coincided with the Kathy Eldon event, on **Sept. 25, 2009**, was one way of responding to an immediate need in our community.



On **Oct. 1**, **Zen Buddhist monk and Vietnam War veteran Claude Anshin Thomas** gave a lecture, "From War to Peace: Zen Buddhism and Approaches

to Post-Traumatic Stress." **Anshin Thomas**, a former resident of Meadville, trained with **Thich Nhat Hanh**, the Vietnamese Zen master, and is author of the book "At Hell's Gate: A Soldier's Journey from War to Peace." He also founded the **Zaltho Foundation**, which seeks to end violence by encouraging and establishing socially engaged projects in schools, communities, organizations and families.



In conjunction with **Greg Mortenson's** visit on **Oct. 7, 2009**, the student group, "**Growing Hearts, Growing Minds**," did a **cupcake fund-raiser (food donated by Parkhurst Dining Services)**. The money is for the education of village

children in rural India. This is a project that is being done in collaboration with the **Rotary Mid-town Club of Mumbai, India**.



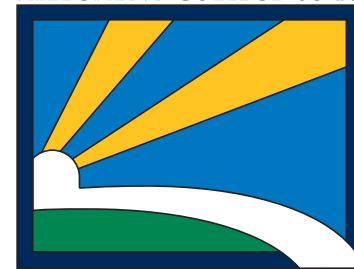
MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY
NATIONAL DAY OF DOING GOOD

Make a Difference Day on October 17, 2009 provided an opportunity for students to donate their time for various outreach projects that ranged from home repairs, to cleaning and organizing community facilities, to serving in food kitchens. The coordination of service efforts for this day was managed by the **Community Service Office** at the Allegheny College Center for Experiential Learning (ACCEL).

On **Oct. 28**, **Single Voice Series** co-sponsored by **Dr. Christopher Bakken** (English Dept.) and the **Office of Diversity Affairs** was a book reading by **Julie Otsuka**, the author of the novel "When the Emperor Was Divine," loosely based on the story of her Japanese-American family's internment during the **Second World War**. **Otsuka** was the winner of the sixth annual **Asian American Literary Award** in 2003, and was a **Guggenheim Fellow** in 2004.



ALLEGHENY COLLEGE 09-10



YEAR OF SOCIAL CHANGE



Campus Programs related to the Year of Social Change: fall 2009 (contd.)

Delta Delta Delta held their third pancake breakfast from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on **Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009** at Schultz Banquet Hall. All proceeds went directly to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



Oct. 29, 2009: "Debating Climate Change: How a PR Campaign is Dooming the Planet" (14th Annual Pelletier Library Lecture) by Professor of Environmental Science Terrence Bense. The lecture addressed how the debate over climate change in the media and Washington, D.C., is actually a series of different debates dealing with the science, economics and politics of this issue.



Nov. 3-Dec. 1, 2009: The Doane Art Galleries showcased "**Engineering Eden,**" a national invitational exhibition juried by **Professor Amara Geffen and Assistant Professor Darren Lee Miller.** From Terra, "earth," and Form, "to mold or shape," comes Terraform, literally "to shape the planet." This exhibition explored the multifaceted meanings of terra and form. The

participating artists asked us to consider how we are forming the world (for better and for worse) and how the shapes of our ideas affect our lived experience. An opening reception and artists' talks with two of the artists, Justin Shull and Vesselina Traptcheva, was held on Tuesday, Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.



Nov. 6, 2009: "D4D on the Road" -- a one-day workshop was co-sponsored by Project Pericles and the Spencer Foundation. The workshop was led by Midwest Academy, a national training institute committed to advancing social, economic, and racial justice issues. Midwest Academy has trained over 25,000 grassroots activists, providing citizens with the skills to actively participate in the democratic process. The workshop was held on the Allegheny College campus on **Nov. 6, 2009, from 10 am- 4.30 pm in the Tippie Alumni Center and was sponsored by the Allegheny College Civic Engagement Council.**

Nov. 11, 2009: Rabbi Steve Greenberg: Civil Law and Sacred Text (Samuel Schick Lecture): Rabbi Steve Greenberg, author of "Wrestling with God and Men: Homosexuality in the Jewish Tradition", has been working toward gay inclusion in both the civil and the religious frames.

As the first openly gay Orthodox rabbi, he shared his radical and his pragmatic solutions to the conflict between traditional Judaism and homosexuality as a way of clarifying the role of religious thought in helping democracies adjudicate complex moral issues.



Sponsored by Office of Religious Life.

Up 'Til Dawn To Benefit St. Jude's: November 5, 2009: An all-night fundraiser that went on from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. in the Wise Center. The massive letter-writing campaign undertaken by student volunteers was to help raise money for kids with cancer at the St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Nov. 5-8, 2009. Theater Professor Mark Cosdon directed "The Pillowman," by Martin McDonagh, in the Vukovich Theater. Punctuated by savage humor, "The Pillowman" investigates the darkest and most cruel of human behaviors, while offering an unsettling critique of the writer's role in a responsible society.



KATHY ELDON

Explorer, adventurer, humanitarian, and Reuter’s youngest war photographer, Dan Eldon (see photo below) traversed more than 50 countries, attending four colleges, and studying five languages – all by the age of 22. Stoned to death by an angry mob while on assignment in war-torn Somalia, Dan left behind 17 travel journals with photographs, collages, drawings, and musings, about his adventures. A collection of his journal pages, “The Journey is the Destination,” published by his mother, Kathy, has inspired millions around the world.



Dan’s legacy continues even today. “Invisible Children,” a nation-wide youth movement to rescue and rehabilitate child soldiers in Uganda, began after three film students from the University of Southern California read Dan Eldon’s travel journals and spoke with Kathy about using the power of social media to make visible forgotten people and causes.

“Use this time to think about what matters to you -perhaps it’s something that’s not right in your school, your neighborhood- or in a distant land. Imagine what it would take to make it right, and make a plan for how you are going to help.” -- Kathy Eldon.



ABOVE: Shayne Downing, a student leader involved with the “Invisible Children” chapter on the Allegheny College campus, introduces Kathy Eldon before the screening of “Dying to Tell the Story”, a documentary on Dan Eldon’s life, made by his sister Amy Eldon.

BELOW: Kathy leads a student workshop on creative activism



Allegheny College is participating in a pilot project with Kathy Eldon and Charles Tsai (a former journalist for CNN who is now Director of Virtual programming at Ashoka’s Youth Venture and founder of the Global Youth Fund, a nonprofit started in 2005 to support young leaders and innovators). This project involves adapting the creative activists’ toolkit they have developed to map the progress and evolution of various creative activism and social change projects initiated by Allegheny College students during the 2009-2010 Year of Social Change.

ATTENTION!

On Feb. 13 & 20, 2010, Year of Social Change student ambassadors will lead workshops to introduce materials produced by Charles Tsai (Global Youth Fund) to plan and execute social transformation projects.

The workshops are open to student leaders on campus.



ABOVE: Kathy Eldon at the Shafer Auditorium before the screening of the documentary “Dying to Tell the Story,” on Dan Eldon’s final journey, and why photo-journalists like him cover wars.

globalyouthfund
INVEST IN THE WISDOM OF YOUTH



Kathy Eldon’s visit was sponsored by Conference/Public Events Office and the Communication Arts & Theater department



A full house at Shafer Auditorium, with audience members from as far away as Canada and Chicago

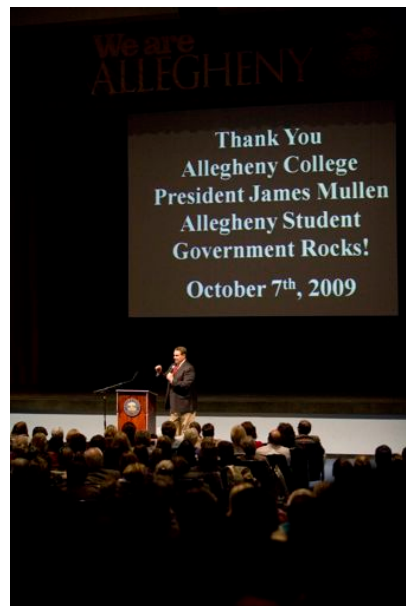
Nobel Peace Prize nominee for 2009, Greg Mortenson spoke to a crowded auditorium on the Allegheny College campus, about his book “Three Cups of Tea,” and his transformation from an ordinary American to a global citizen with a mission to bring education to the poorest rural communities in Afghanistan.

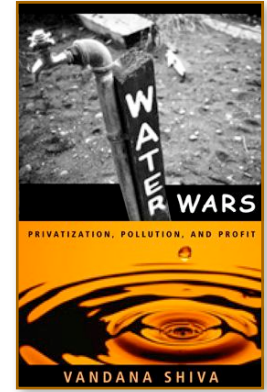
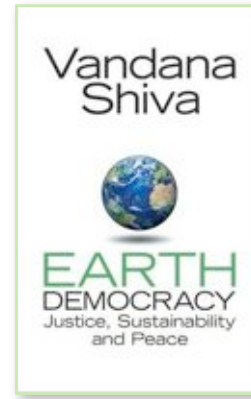
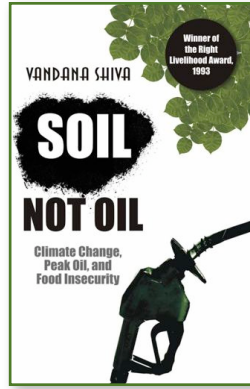
Mortenson stressed the importance of educating impoverished youth, especially young girls, in war-torn countries. “If you fight terrorism, that’s based in fear. But if you promote peace, that’s based in hope,” Mortenson said. “And the real enemy I think is ignorance. It’s ignorance that breeds hatred.”

BELOW: Helping student leaders develop a vision of change



Mr. Mortenson’s campus visit & talk, “Promoting Peace through Education,” on Oct. 7, 2009, was co-sponsored by the Allegheny College Student Government, Allegheny Office of Conference & Event Services, Office of Religious Life, Hillel, Religious Life Council, Dean of Students Office, Amnesty International, ACYF, FMLA, A5, the TriDeltas, and the English, Political Science, and Modern Languages departments.





On Oct. 26, 2009, **Dr. Vandana Shiva**, world renowned environmental activist, raised consciousness about the increasing privatization of our natural resources, and outlined the obstacles that come in the way of consensus-building in deciding global environmental policies.

On the eve of Dr. Shiva's campus visit, **Kelly Boulton** (the college's Sustainability Co-ordinator) and **student-run environmental groups** coordinated a recycled art mobil made up of 350 pieces of discarded trash items, that went on display on **Oct. 24, 2009 -- International Day of Climate**



Action. 350 is a significant number because it represents the number of parts per million of CO₂ that scientists have identified as a safe number for the world (we are currently above 350 and

rising steadily). This day also marks an international campaign to promote education and awareness about acting to address climate change now. Check out www.350.org



On the day of Dr. Shiva's campus visit, **Dr. Jennifer DeHart and Dr. Terrence Bense**'s Environmental Science students did a poster display in the Campus Center on various ideas generated from reading Dr. Shiva's books.



Watt Chompers: (for greatest electricity use reduction while classes in session November 16–24)

Allegheny Hall

with a 27% reduction

ΔTJ and Ravine followed with 15 and 14% reductions, respectively

Phantom Chompers: (for greatest phantom load reduction over Thanksgiving Break, November 25–29)

Allegheny Hall

with a 75% reduction

Crawford and Walker followed with 52 and 50% reductions, respectively

In November 2009, the student environmental groups on campus held an energy conservation competition

across residential dorms over Thanksgiving Break (see above).



Dr. Shiva's visit was sponsored by the Public Events Committee, Allegheny Student Govt., and the Values Ethics & Social Action program.

"The defense of nature's rights and people's rights have come together for me in Earth Democracy – the democracy of all life on earth, a living democracy which supports and is supported by living culture and living economies..." – Dr. Vandana Shiva



Freeganism is a combination of the words “free” and “vegan” (the practice of refraining from consuming any animal products). Freeganism draws from the philosophical outlook that we can achieve “zero waste” if we learn to avoid the pitfalls of excessive over-consumption that trains us to throw away items that are still perfectly good.

Everyday, individuals, supermarkets, food providers, and corporations, throw away massive quantities of food that may have just passed the expiration date, but can be consumed still if eaten at once. Instead, the food lands up in a dumpster. Dumpster diving is also called “urban foraging” and involves looking through dumpsters for food/other items that can be recovered and consumed. Some urban foragers have started a program called “Food, Not Bombs,” using the recovered items to help the homeless, and even victims of natural disasters. The program is now popular in cities across the Americas, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Australia.

Consider too, how we dump perfectly good clothes or electronic items to purchase the latest trend. Freeganism isn’t just dumpster diving. It also involves a variety of “alternative” lifestyle options such as using eco-friendly transport, attempting waste minimalization, setting up urban gardens and practicing composting.

Waste minimalization involves recycling products that can be refurbished or simply re-used by someone else. Freecycle (www.freecycle.org/) is a website that helps visitors get involved in the “reuse and reduce” cycle. You can also explore the free section of Craigslist, which is a great place to save items from going to waste. Many communities now host special events called “free meets” which are like flea markets and allow participants to swap items instead of using cash to purchase new stuff.

For more information about freegan practices, or about the “Food Not Bombs” initiative, visit freeganinfo.com and foodnotbombs.net



HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

- o Visit www.michaelpollan.com
- o **Buy local whenever possible.** Whether it is food or other goods, you can support the local economy by purchasing from local businesses. The Market House, Fresh From the Vines, and Al's Melons are just a few examples of locally owned businesses where fresh, local products are available. Choose local restaurants over national chains—Meadville is full of delicious, affordable, and locally owned eateries. www.localharvest.org is a website that helps you locate local foods, farmers markets and CSAs near you.
- o **Learn more about what you eat.** Read labels to find out: where a product was grown, produced, or packaged; what ingredients were added. Find out if there are fresher, healthier, or more local alternatives. Go to www.slowfoodusa.org—a great place to start learning about fair food.
- o Find out how you can get involved in **Project O.N.E.** (Offering Nutrition to Everybody). Contact Erin Sweeney (sweeney@allegheny.edu) or Alice Sjolander at the Market House (824 336-2056) for more details.
- o Participants not only funded the movie *Food Inc.*, which Michael Pollan appeared in, but are funding social action initiatives. Check it out at takepart.com/foodinc
- o Participating in **Allegheny student groups** like Students for Environmental Action and the Environmental Science Club is one way that Allegheny students can take a more active role in promoting sustainability. Talk to the Sustainability Coordinator on campus, Kelly Boulton, about how you can get involved.
- o Check out the **Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture** website at www.pasafarming.org. PASA supports sustainable farming practices through advocacy and education.
- o The **Center for Food Safety** is another organization that is helping to promote food transparency. In addition to other work, they help farmers who have been threatened or sued by Monsanto. www.centerforfoodsafety.org
- o Alice Waters' **Chez Panisse Foundation** is devoted to school curricula and school lunch programs where growing, cooking, and sharing food gives students the knowledge and values to build a humane and sustainable future. www.chezpanissefoundation.org

For more information about any of the Year of Social Change events or initiatives, please contact either of the faculty co-organizers, Dr. Ishita Sinha Roy (iroy@allegheny.edu) or Dr. Emily Yochim (eyochim@allegheny.edu)
or visit www.allegheny.edu/socialchange

The Commitment Card: Programming to Inspire Action

The Commitment card is an adaptation of the traditional program. The difference here is that the reverse of the card suggests ways in which audience members can harness their inspiration from a speaker or workshop, and get involved in activities or causes discussed at those public forums.

For each of our main speakers we designed a different commitment card that spoke to the values and the mission of our leaders of change, as well as the theme for this year, emphasizing transformative citizenship at home and abroad.

Above: Sample commitment card for Michael Pollan event on Feb. 25, 2010

Right: Meadville Market House where local farmers sell their produce



**“Engineering Eden,” Art For Change – Jill Gregory
(Weblog for COMRT 351 course on “Creating Social Change Across Multiple Platforms”**

Over the past few years, environmental activism is becoming a part of more and more people’s lives. This is necessary, especially for those of us in America. We are abusing our environment and it’s resources because we are members of a highly consumerist nation. This is a major problem. Although more people are becoming aware of the current situation of our environment, a number of people are still unaware and in the dark, or just choose to be ignorant to the situation and avoid it. As developing college students, we have the power to change our outlook and begin to make a difference.

Here are a few facts regarding Americans and our environment that I would like to share:

- * 1. 5% of the world’s population is America, but we generate 30% of the world’s trash and also use 30% of the world’s resources
- * 2. The U.S. burns 10,000 gallons of gasoline per second, emitting 22 pounds of carbon dioxide into the air.
- * 3. 80% of all oil in North America has already been extracted

However, these next facts show that we indeed do have some control over the situation:

- * 1. Recycling 10% of used plastic bottles would keep 200 million pounds out of landfills each year.
- * 2. Every ton of paper made from recycled materials saves about 17 trees.
- * 3. Energy saved from one recycled aluminum can can be used to operate a TV for up to 3 hours.

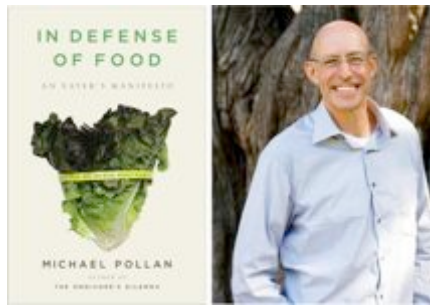
Some of you may have been to The Penelec-Bowman-Megahan Art Galleries here on the Allegheny College campus if you are an art major/minor or have a genuine interest in art, but I am guessing that not a whole lot of students here set foot in the gallery on a regular basis. Right now the exhibit displayed is called *Engineering Eden*. The exhibit addresses how people are impacting the world’s environments, and how our ideas and actions effect our daily experiences. The art display includes work done by students here at Allegheny College as well as prominent environmental artists across the U.S.

The exhibit is a simple, yet visually powerful way of getting visitors to rethink their position about the environment and possibly change their behaviors. A lot of times we mistakenly think that change needs to happen on a big level, which is completely untrue. People can make small changes in their everyday lives (as shown by the second set of facts above) that can indeed lead to change at the macro-level. The art exhibition allows us to open our eyes to the beauty and diversity of nature. We also laugh at ironic representations of nature re-created by us, or man-made nature.

As college students, we are a good target group to make decisions in order to sustain change within our every day lives that can potentially help out our environment a great deal. The exhibit particularly offers us a look at how extraordinary our environment is and also how it is also being damaged by its human inhabitants. It is so important for us to realize what a beautiful planet earth we are so fortunate to be living on, and the exhibit indeed shows us just that. Although it may not be a huge spectacle, the *Engineering Eden* exhibit truly shows us that not only is environmental change so important to our well being, but also we have the potential to cultivate change.

Statistics from: http://www.theholidayspot.com/earth_day/environmental_facts.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Feb. 25, 2010

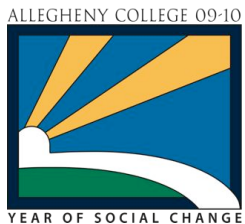
**Michael Pollan on
"The Sun Food Agenda"**

@ Shafer Auditorium, 6.00pm
Book signing after the event

Feb. 11, 2010: Single Voice Series --
Book readings by guest authors Padma Viswanathan and Geoffrey Brock @8pm in the Tillotson Room, Tippie Alumni Center.

Feb. 23- Mar. 16, 2010: "The Art of Persuasion," an exhibition on visual propaganda curated by Professors Richard Schindler, Kenneth Pinnow, & Darren Miller, in the Penelec- Bowman-Megahan gallery on campus.

**EVENTS ARE
FREE & OPEN
TO THE
PUBLIC**



Event details & updates at:
<http://sites.allegany.edu/yearofsocialchange>

Participate in the Change for Change Drive at major Year of Social Change events



UPCOMING EVENTS

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE 09-10



YEAR OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Events are free & open to the public, unless indicated

Feb. 26, 2010: Steinway artist and Allegheny College artist in residence Alec Chien performs on the 500,000th piano produced by Steinway@8:30 pm, in Shafer Auditorium.

Feb. 26, 2010: World Cultures Fair in the Campus Center lobby @ 3pm – Hosted by the Meadville Cooperative Preschool in conjunction with high school and Allegheny College students

Mar. 4-7, 2010: Tony Kushner's "Angels in America," directed by Professor Daniel Crozier, in the Gladys Mullenix Black Theater in the Vukovich Center for Communication Arts on March 4-6 2010 at 8pm, and on March 7 (Sunday) at 2.30pm. **For tickets, call the box office: (814) 332-3414.**

Questions?

Contact Rebecca Wiler, Assistant Director of Conference & Events, Phone: (814) 332-3101. Email: rwiler@allegany.edu

Event details & updates at:
<http://sites.allegany.edu/yearofsocialchange>

For regular event updates, visit the Year of Social Change website at:
<http://sites.allegany.edu/yearofsocialchange/>

HAITI TEXT-ATHON

Use your cell phone to save lives



On January 26th & 27th, b/w 11am-1pm in the Campus Center Lobby,
 you have the power at your fingertips ...
 to save a life in Haiti.

Bring your cell phone to the Campus Center
 lobby on Tuesday & Wednesday
 (Jan. 26th, Jan 27th) b/w 11 a.m. and 1.00 p.m.
 and join the text revolution!

Your single text message will send \$10 in direct
 aid to relief organizations on the ground in Haiti.

Don't be a spectator. Be a change maker!

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE 09-10



YEAR OF SOCIAL CHANGE

Sunday, Jan. 24

“Martin Luther King, Jr. as Prophet of Change”

11 a.m. – Ford Chapel – Guest speaker professor Frank Forts
 Ecumenical Chapel Service: Allegheny College history professor Frank Forts will share insights about how Dr. King spoke to the injustices of his day and the relevance for us today. All are welcome; a light breakfast will be available before the service.

Monday, Jan. 25

Religious Life Council Lunch Discussion with Tobias Rose-Stockwell

12:15 p.m. – Campus Center 301/302
 Tobias Rose-Stockwell, a 2004 graduate of Allegheny, will share his experiences with the Human Translation Project, a non-governmental organization he founded to help translate human awareness into human action. Rose-Stockwell has worked with Buddhist monks and elders in Cambodia to reconstruct a local water system, provide filters for safe drinking water, and spread literacy to those unable to attend school.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

Reception and Lecture with Zanele Muholi, Artist in Residence

7 p.m. – Bowman Gallery, Doane Hall of Art
 Diversity scholar and artist-in-residence Zanele Muholi will present “Insila Yomuntu,” an installation in the Bowman Gallery in Doane Hall of Art. The installation is part of “In Between,” an exhibition with 17 artists presenting their personal experiences relating to gender, sexuality and ethnicity. The opening reception and lecture featuring Muholi will be held on Jan. 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. Exhibition dates: Jan. 26 to Feb. 16



Wednesday, Jan. 27

“A History of Islam in America: Black Americans and Islam”

6:30 p.m. – Campus Center 301/302
 Allegheny philosophy and religious studies professor Vika Gardner will examine the varieties of Islam practiced in 18th- and 19th-century African-American communities. The discussion will also explore ways that local adaptations of Islam among black Americans in the past century have created spiritual zones of empowerment for those Muslims.

Thursday, Jan. 28

Sojourners Dinner and Discussion: “Religion and Social Justice”

5 p.m. – Campus Center 206
 Kazi Joshua, assistant dean for residence life at Allegheny, will lead a discussion on biblical concepts of justice, using Isaiah 58. Dinner will be provided.

Nontombi Naomi Tutu: “Striving for Justice”

7 p.m. – Tippie Alumni Center
 Nontombi Naomi—an activist for human rights, consultant and daughter of Archbishop Desmond Tutu—will present “Striving for Justice: Searching for Common Ground.” The lecture will discuss how we can focus on our shared humanity in order to build a just world. Coupled with Dr. King’s ideas of the “Beloved Community” and the teachings of a South African proverb, the talk will speak to the need to understand how our actions or inactions affect everyone.

Friday, Jan. 29

“The Awareness” Fashion Show

8 p.m. – Campus Center Lobby
 The Association for the Advancement of Black Culture will present “The Awareness,” a fashion show focusing on the color red and addressing AIDS awareness. Special event scarves will be available for a donation; proceeds will benefit local organizations. The show will also be a drop site for food items for the Dr. King food drive.

Food Drive

All Day – Campus Center Lobby
 Help continue Dr. King’s legacy of service and community outreach by donating non-perishable food items. All donations will benefit local organizations.

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE

Coordinated by the Dr. King Celebration Committee • For more information contact the Office of Diversity Affairs at (814) 332-3332



Nontombi Naomi Tutu Speaks about Social Justice at Allegheny College



Nontombi Naomi Tutu is the third daughter of South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his wife Nomalizo. Born in Krugersdorp, South Africa, she holds a BA in Economics and French from Berea College, in Berea, KY, and an MA in International Economic Development from the Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Economic Development at the University of Kentucky. In addition, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the Universal Orthodox College of Ogun State, Nigeria in 1985.

Tutu is an internationally recognized speaker, human rights activist and consultant on gender, race and international relations. She is a consultant to the Spiritual Alliance to Stop Intimate Violence and the foundation for Hospices in Sub-Saharan Africa, as well as former chairperson of the Tutu Foundation, through which she supported South African refugees in African countries. Tutu serves as associate director of the Office of International Relations and Programs at

Tennessee State University and was formerly the program coordinator of the Race Relations Institute at Fisk University in Tennessee. She has also taught courses at the Universities of Hartford and Connecticut and Brevard College in North Carolina, as well as at the University of Cape Town where she was a program coordinator at the African Gender Institute.

Nontombi Naomi Tutu belongs to a global initiative called **GEN2 Peacemakers** (visit: <http://www.realizingthedream.org/what-we-do/generation-ii-global-peace>). The participants continue down the path of peace set up by their ancestors, dedicated to using non-violent means and every opportunity and resource to realize Dr. Martin Luther King's vision at home and abroad.

Ms. Tutu talked about "**Striving for Justice: Searching for Common Ground**" at Allegheny College, as part of the Martin Luther King Jr. Week celebrations on campus from Jan. 24-29, 2010. Her visit was organized by the Office of Diversity Affairs.

A Young Allegheny Alumnus Inspires Us to Think of Social Action

Tobias Rose-Stockwell graduated from Allegheny College as an art major, in 2004. Then, like many young graduates, he took off backpacking halfway across the world, and found himself in Cambodia.

Tobias stayed on and began the **Human Translation Project**, a website through which he sold his artwork and chronicled

social issues and collaborative projects he has worked on in various communities that have transformed

Rose-Stockwell joined Buddhist monks and elders in Cambodia in developing a local water system, supplying filters for producing potable water, and enabling literacy among those unable to attend school.

In April 2009, Stockwell-Rose joined 48 other individuals who were honored as the **Unsung Heroes of Compassion 2009** by His Holiness, the Dalai Lama.

"These individuals have been selected as representatives of the tens of thousands of people worldwide who quietly serve the disenfranchised and work to improve our communities through their personal efforts," observed event chair Dick Grace, founder of Grace Family Vineyards and board chair of Wisdom in Action, the organization hosting the unique celebration. "We don't see them or hear about them in the daily news, but they exemplify a humanism and heroism to which we must each aspire."

Stockwell's visit to the campus was hosted by the Religious Life Council, and was part of the Martin Luther King Jr Week. He met with campus and community members and shared a wealth of stories, one of which is in the following pages.

You can find out more about the Human Translation Project at <http://www.humantranslation.org/>

.... Inertia guides us, and we change to survive. I think it is why we have the potential to do such horrible and such amazing things. Yesterday I understood that horrible part of humanity for the first time. Yesterday I returned to Cambodia.

It had been a fine sleepy morning of getting to the Thai border, crossing over into Poi Pet, haggling with the border guards, and then for a taxi. I settled on a decent price, and hopped in the car with a Japanese kid wielding an enormous camera, two Khmer women, and our tall, balding Khmer driver.

The national highway between the border of Thailand and Siem Reap, Cambodia is one of the worst overland crossings I've ever experienced. Yesterday was my fifth time on that evil stretch from Poi Pet. It is a dirt road, with potholes a meter deep, and a constant flow of speeding, swerving trucks. It is the rainy season, which turns this highway into a pockmarked ribbon of mud stretching for hundreds of miles through neon-green farmland.

We drove for an hour, beyond the shiny new hotels, casinos, and then the shacks and rice-paddies. I had my sketchpad on my lap, drawing my name in Khmer while laughing with one of the women. I was trying to remember phrases I had lost as we were jostled and bounced about in the back seat. We were speeding, as everyone does on that road.

Our taxi-driver passed a motorbike, faltered, and swerved to avoid a head-on collision. The car began to slide as he lost control and in an instant we skidded and hit something. We had run over a young girl on her bicycle - the car had stopped.

In that moment I closed my eyes. There was nothing before me but a void, and in that void was no logic or justice – just meaningless suffering. I opened my eyes, and reached for the

handle of the door, only to realize we



were moving again – backing up. Our driver was looking over his shoulder, hastily revving the engine and then, as I blinked in disbelief, we drove away.

My mouth open, I looked at the Cambodian woman next to me. Her brown eyes were wide as she nervously smiled and said "it's ok... it's ok..." patting me on the leg. Our driver was now speeding as fast as he could away from the scene, spouting things in Khmer I could not understand.

I looked at the Japanese guy in the back seat with me – he shrugged and shook his head. I looked out the window at the scenery now flying by: little huts, rice fields, mud and dirt.

I could feel that broad momentum dragging us away from the accident. I could feel the driver's childlike desperation as he fled, pulling us all with him. My bags were in the back – my computer, my camera, everything. I wanted to get out of the car, but what could I do in that moment? The car was silent.

Every taxi driver in Cambodia runs away from the scene of an accident. Everybody knows this. It's commonplace here. There is no reason to think we should have been any different. Just another anonymous white Toyota Camry, one of thousands disappearing after an unlucky collision. There was nothing I could have done. Time to move on.

Why was I still scowling, clenching my palm, staring at the sky? Why was there a voice deep inside me quietly telling me something was absolutely wrong?

I felt something wash over all of us. I felt everyone in the car realize they were now part of something new. We were all suddenly conspirators, trying to justify what had happened, and I was no different.

Our driver continued speeding ahead. We all followed him silently.

There were no heroes among us. No Buddhas or Christ-figures. Only imperfect humans, adapting to change, being molded and shaped by the blunt force of one man in control behind the wheel, pulling us forward. Away from suffering, retribution, and that unlucky girl's reality.

For fifteen minutes I understood where evil comes from. For fifteen minutes I understood what it means to force yourself into ignorance – to shove justification and dishonesty down your own throat. I understood, because I tried.

After fifteen minutes the woman looked at me. "It's ok." she said, "We saw her get up. It's no problem in Cambodia."

"This is not ok." I said.

We had come to a town and the driver had pulled off the road, and gone down a long dirt alleyway between two small buildings. A mechanic's shop - the bicycle had done something to the bottom of the car and needed to be checked.

The driver also wanted to get off the road. We all got out, and I walked down to the street. I looked back in the direction we had come. I felt the small pendant my mother had given me that I wear around my neck.

I heard the sound of a siren blaring in the distance, far away. The taxi had started up again, and the two women were ushering me back into the car. I got in, looked at the woman next to me and said, "Stop. "I need to stay here. Where are we?"

I paid my full fare, and got out of the car with all my bags. I walked to a small guesthouse in this dusty unknown Cambodian town, where I dropped everything off, then found a motorbike driver. He did not speak any English. I found the regional office of CARE international on the main road, and asked them to translate for me.

"I need to find the girl hit by my taxi."

We drove around Sysaphon for five hours that evening, from the hospital to the dozens of clinics nearby, searching. We looked and looked, chasing the hazy ghost of that little Cambodian girl. At the end of the day, as the sun set and dust settled, we could not find her. I returned to my guesthouse, and collapsed face-first on my bed, exhausted.

The next morning I walked down to the local bus station and began to haggle, bleary-eyed for a taxi to Siem Reap. During the hustle and bustle I looked far down the street and saw the provincial authority for the police. Cambodia's police are notoriously corrupt, and were unlikely to do a thing. Yet that girl's life was worth my honest effort.

I went to the station, conversed with a chubby officer in broken English, and sat for an hour next to shiny motorbikes as he radioed every police post between Sysaphon and the border. I waited, and I hoped.

Someone radioed back. They found a girl, hit by a taxi the day before, in a clinic 25 kilometers outside of town.

I hopped on the motorbike with my same young driver from the previous day, and drove for an hour back into the

countryside. A one-lane bridge on the national highway was being repaired, backing up traffic for miles in both directions. A common delay in Cambodia – one bridge out, cutting off the entire province. There was an alternative though: A massive raft made from bamboo and plastic drums was floating people and motorbikes across the river by a rope. I stared at the odd work being done on the bridge, as my driver took some assertive action. Before I knew it he had pulled his bike onto the raft and floated across the river, and we were off again. We found the dusty police post, and the policeman drove us to a squat wooden clinic. There I found her.

She was curled up on a bamboo mat in a little teak room, hooked up to an iv drip. She was staring sadly at nothing as yellow afternoon light spilled in behind her. It was such a sudden relief to look her in the face, and understand she was both alive and not horribly injured.

There were six people in the room, two of which were part of her family, and they were all amazed and baffled to see a foreigner in this poor rural village. I watched their faces as my motorbike driver emphatically explained to them in Khmer how my taxi had sped away, how long we had looked for her, and how much it meant to find her. The clinician told us that she would be healthy again with some treatment. I offered her everything I could afford towards covering her medical expenses and her broken bicycle.

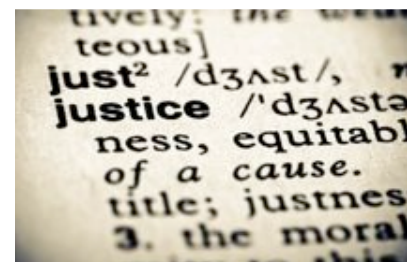
Her name is Sut Dien, she is fifteen years old, and she will be fine.

Her aunt looked at me as we left and said something in Khmer with her brow knit together. "Thank you, thank you, and again thank you." She did not need to say it.

As we drove back I thought about this country, about how history had deeply altered the way these people think. When a whole society is guided by the inertia of a single brutal regime, people adapt to survive. There is no social contract or guiding principle between strangers. If thirty years of violence taught people anything, it's that you keep your head down, you don't speak out, and you live.

When I think of this, I understand what a great feat it is for so many of my Khmer friends to strive to make a difference here. They do so with more tenacity than anyone I know, because in order to push for change here, you need twice the strength. Their resolve is something I deeply respect, and has shown me again that they deserve my help.

When social momentum guides us away from the truth we know in our hearts to be right, it means that much more to say "Stop. This is not ok."



TOBIAS ROSE-STOCKWELL earned a major in art in 2004 from Allegheny College. He has won awards for a humanitarian project that he had started in southeast Asia while traveling.

MELISSA BOYAJIAN

Grand Odalisque (for Said), 2006

Image courtesy of the artist

IN BETWEEN (re)Negotiating Ethnicity, Gender and Sexuality

Class, race, sexuality, gender and all other categories by which we categorize and dismiss each other need to be excavated from the inside. - Dorothy Allison

In early 2010, we find ourselves in a culture characterized by both profound changes and intense fears. Just a year after President Obama's inauguration signaled hope and change, new terrorist activity on the United States' home front has reignited persistent and entrenched fears of *the other* - those whose identities lie somehow outside conventional norms of race, gender, sexuality, class, and nationality. Such fears are frequently soothed by social, cultural, and political practices that seek to define subjectivities as concrete and fixed - as black or white, gay or straight, male or female, good or evil. Still, continued debates about gay marriage, changing demographics signaling the impending "minoritization" of white Americans, globalized media, and the election of our first biracial President each gesture toward a culture in which traditional definitions of identity will simply not work. What's more, our responsibility as informed and concerned citizens interested in social justice impels us to see the spaces in between, to resist the urge to force our fellows into preexisting categories, and to welcome new visions of self and subjectivity.

The artists featured in *In Between* urge us to question and challenge lines of identity. Though each of the artists

works toward different specific ends, what unites them is a refusal to conform to banal and limiting myths about prevailing systems of political representation, discourse, and their categorized place(s) within those systems. Working from their own personal experiences of gender, sexuality and ethnicity, the artists also blur the lines between art and activism and the personal and political. Compelling and thoughtful work, like that featured in this exhibition at the *Penelec~Megaban~Bowman Art Galleries* at Allegheny College, has affected social and legal reform throughout the world.

If contemporary activist-art-makers stand on the shoulders of those who've come before, then they are also stepping forward to create new foundations for social change. Their work helps us to see the gaps in our own understanding and challenges our preconceptions. Gender, sexuality and ethnicities are not simple binaries. We're all required to recognize and question the complicated ways in which cultural ideological hierarchies (often internalized) serve to distribute power, privilege and opportunity throughout human societies.

The artwork here serves to remind us that things are not as simple as gay and straight, male and female, us and them. There are many spaces in between.

- Emily Chivers Yochim, PhD, Assistant Professor of Communication Arts

- Vika Gardner, PhD, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies

- Darren Lee Miller, Gallery Director / Assistant Professor of Art

1



Annie Leonard partners with Allegheny College

Professor Michael Maniates finds an ally in educating student-citizens about over-consumption

In 2009, The Story of Stuff Project—an international initiative aimed at inspiring individuals to come together to re-think the production, sale, use and disposal of all the consumer goods, or “stuff,” in their lives—appointed Allegheny College professor Michael Maniates (who teaches Political Science & Environmental Science) to its inaugural advisory board.



generated more than six million views since its launch in December 2007 at www.storyofstuff.org. The film also is being used for educational and outreach projects in thousands of schools, faith-based organizations and private-sector companies.

Maniates—who *Miller-McCune* Magazine said in its September 2008 issue “may be the nation’s leading authority on the politics of consumption”—has committed his career to studying and writing about global patterns of consumption, over-consumption and consumerism; low consumption/high prosperity paths to development; and under-explored routes of citizen involvement in contemporary environmental struggles.

network of more than 300 scholars, educators and activists focused on global environmental affairs.

On January 25, 2010, Annie Leonard and Michael O’Heaney, Associate Director of the Story of Stuff Project, spent a day with the Allegheny College community. Annie and Michael visited classes and shared mealtimes with faculty and students. In the evening they previewed one of their upcoming clips to a select audience who also participated in a discussion about the Project. In Annie’s words, “It is time to fight the atrophy of the citizen muscle,” by educating ourselves about civic and political ways in which we can shape our world, rather than numbing our minds through endless consumerism.

Article content excerpted from Allegheny College News online

The project, which was featured in the *New York Times* and on FOX News, seeks to build on the remarkable interest in “The Story of Stuff,” a 20-minute film that looks at the underside of society’s production and consumption patterns and how they affect communities in the U.S. and abroad. Written and narrated by international sustainability and environmental health expert Annie Leonard, “The Story of Stuff” has



Maniates founded and coordinates the Project on Teaching Global Environmental Politics, an electronic

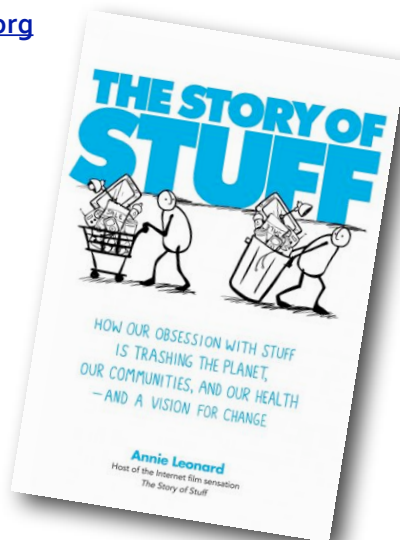
Facts from *The Story of Stuff*



- In the past three decades, **one-third** of the planet's natural resources base have been consumed.¹
- In the United States, we have **less than 4%** of our original forests left.²
- Forty percent of waterways in the US have become **undrinkable**.³
- The U.S. has 5% of the world's population but consumes 30% of the world's resources⁴ and creates 30% of the world's waste.⁵
- If everybody consumed at U.S. rates, **we would need 3 to 5 planets**.
- There are over **100,000 synthetic chemicals** in commerce today.⁶
- Only a handful of synthetic chemicals have even been tested for human health impacts and **NONE have been tested** for synergistic health impacts.⁷
- In the U.S., industry admits to releasing over **4 billion pounds of toxic chemicals** a year.⁸
- The average U.S. person now **consumes twice as much** as they did 50 years ago.⁹
- We each see more advertisements in one year than a people 50 years ago saw in a **lifetime**.¹⁰
- In the U.S. our **national happiness peaked** sometime in the 1950s.¹¹
- In the U.S., we spend **3-4 times as many hours shopping** as our counterparts in Europe do.¹²
- Average U.S. **house size has doubled** since the 1970s.¹³
- Each person in the United States makes **4 1/2 pounds of garbage** a day.¹⁴ That is twice what we each made thirty years ago.¹⁵
- For every one garbage can of waste you put out on the curb, **70 garbage cans of waste** were made upstream to make the junk in that one garbage can you put out on the curb.¹⁶



Discover more at www.storyofstuff.org



How much water it takes to make...

- 1 kilo of beef: 15,500 liters of water
 - 1 glass of beer: 75 liters of water
 - 1 hamburger: 2,400 liters of water
 - 1 cup of coffee: 140 liters of water
 - 1 cup of tea: 30 liters of water
 - 1 cotton shirt: 2,700 liters of water
- (Source: Waterfootprint.org)



move .




move .

Communities in Action For Positive Social Change

This is a regional gathering of students, campus educators and community partners interested in initiating action for positive social change through joint learning, action planning, and direct service.

On Saturday, January 30th from 9:30am - 2:00pm
@ St. Brigid Parish Center (383 Arch Street, Meadville, PA 16335)

Keynote Speakers:

Kendra Stanton Lee is a freelance journalist reporting on topics of social justice. Her work has been featured in *The Boston Globe*, *The Boston Business Journal*, *The Bay State Banner*, and other community newspapers and trade journals. She is an adjunct lecturer at Quincy College. Stanton Lee graduated from Allegheny College in 2002 with a self-designed BA in Political Journalism. She completed her senior comprehensive research project on "Student Activism on Allegheny College from 1960 - 2002."

Wayne Meisel is the President of the Bonner Foundation. The Foundation partners with over 80 Colleges and Universities to support student leadership in service and innovation in community-centered work. Check out the Bonner website at www.bonner.org

Additional optional opportunities to make connections with service and justice are provided through the rest of the day at Allegheny College:

- **2:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.** : **Service Projects hosted by Allegheny Service Saturday partners**
- **5:30 p.m.** : **Reflection and Dinner**
- **7:00 p.m.** : **Rebecca Davis Dance Company will perform "Darfur" in Shafer Auditorium**
- **9:00 p.m.** : **Organized evening activities**

move. was sponsored by the Allegheny College Office of Community Service and Service-Learning, ACCEL; The Children and Youth AmeriCorps VISTA Project of NWPA; Allegheny Student Government Class of 2011; Allegheny Dance and Movement Studies Program, under the auspices of the Allegheny Year of Social Change.





Rebecca Davis Dance Company performs the story of Darfur.

On January 30, 2010, @ 7.00 p.m, the Rebecca Davis Dance Company will perform DARFUR, a powerful and engaging multi-media modern dance production at the Shafer Auditorium at Allegheny College. The modern dance production is designed to raise awareness and funds for victims of genocide and is based on the Emmy-nominated documentary film *The Devil Came on Horseback*.

The performance is about 75 minutes long and the artistic director will speak for about 10 minutes at the beginning about the company, the piece and the Global Grassroots fund which all proceeds will benefit. There will be a master class on performance and social action in Montgomery Friday afternoon (Jan. 29, 2009) from 3 to 5 p.m.

Serving as an African Union military observer, Brian Steidle spent six months in war-torn Darfur and recorded his experiences in the book and documentary film "The Devil Came on Horseback." Steidle, who has since co-founded HOPE Artists in support of those who use their crafts to speak out against genocide, shares his story with Rebecca Davis Dance Company in hopes that if people are no longer blind to the terrible conflict in Sudan, they will be moved to learn how they can support lasting peace.

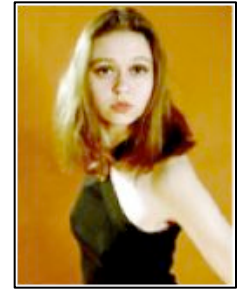
Each time the Rebecca Davis Dance Company presents DARFUR, the audience plays an important role in aiding victims of genocide.

Proceeds from ticket sales or presenting fees are donated to the non-profit organization Global Grassroots. At Allegheny College, all proceeds from a special T-shirt sale on that day, will go to this fund.

Working to assist disadvantaged communities worldwide and especially focused on supporting peace in Sudan, **Global Grassroots** goes beyond donations of food, supplies or shelter. The organization invests its resources in individuals and communities, who, despite deep social and economic hardship, offer ideas for lasting social change. Working especially to support the women of disadvantaged countries, Global Grassroots strives for sustainable solutions motivated from within the community itself.

The ballet is performed by a cast of ten professional dancers and is set to alternative rock music by various artists, including: A Perfect Circle, Apocalyptica and Damien Rice.

Behind the dancers, a special multi-media Second Life video plays out. The video is the creation of Human + Nature, the producer of socially conscious film and video that inspires its audience to work for a better world.



In asking Artistic Director Rebecca Davis why she decided to choreograph a ballet about Darfur, she says: "this is a human issue, and we all have the ability and the responsibility to make a difference. It's my hope that no-one can learn about the atrocities in Darfur without feeling a moral obligation to help."

(Content sourced from: http://www.rebeccadavisdance.com/premiere_Darfur.html)

This dance performance has been brought to the campus by Jessie Coven, a dance major, the Junior class, and the Dance department. Funding has been provided by the Allegheny Student Government.



"THE ART OF PERSUASION"

FEB. 23- MAR. 16, 2010
Penelec-Bowman Art Gallery



WORLD CULTURES FAIR

Campus Center Lobby
Feb. 28, 2010. @ 3.00 p.m.

The Art of Persuasion Curated by Richard Schindler, Kenneth Pinnow and Darren Miller

Artists' Talks and Opening Reception, Tuesday, February 23, 7-9 PM

VENUE: The Penelec-Bowman-Megahan Art Galleries of Allegheny College

Featuring Allegheny College's permanent collection of WWI and WWII propaganda posters in the Penelec Gallery, screen-printed didactic posters and films from Puerto Rico's Division of Community Education (DIVEDCO) in the Bowman Gallery, photographs from the Farm Security Administration (FSA) in the Megahan Gallery and contemporary work by nationally syndicated political cartoonist Ward Sutton, this exhibition will trace a trajectory of attempts to sway public opinion through the means of visual culture.

World Cultures Fair

Organized by community partner Mrs. Munnu Sudan and the Meadville Cooperative Preschool. Venue: Campus Center Lobby Date: Feb. 28, 2010. @ 3.00pm

Come and travel across the countries of the world as you visit tables hosted by Meadville pre-schoolers and their parents, with the help of high school and Allegheny College Int'l students. Each table will have cultural information about that country and a sampling of cuisine from that part of the world.

Witness the performance of dance troupes representing various cultures, and join global citizens from across the world in an afternoon of fun and learning about other cultures that will transform the way we think and imagine our world.

Both events are free and open to the public.





MICHAEL POLLAN: FEB. 25 AT SHAFER AUDITORIUM, 6.30PM. "The Sun Food Agenda."



Photo above: Michael Pollan cooks with son Isaac (Photo: San Francisco Chronicle)

For the past twenty years, Michael Pollan has been writing books and articles about the places where the human and natural worlds intersect: food, agriculture, gardens, drugs, and architecture. He is the author, most recently, of *In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto*. His previous book, *The Omnivore's Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals*, was named one of the ten best books of 2006 by the New York Times and the Washington Post. It also won the California Book Award, the Northern California Book Award, the James Beard Award for best food writing, and was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Pollan's previous book, *The Botany of*

Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World, was also a *New York Times* bestseller, received the Borders Original Voices Award for the best non-fiction work of 2001, and was recognized as a best book of the year by the American Booksellers Association and Amazon.com. PBS aired a two-hour special documentary based on *The Botany of Desire* in fall 2009. His new book, *Food Rules: An Eater's Manual*, was published in December 2009.

The Sun Food Agenda

By replacing the energy of the sun with energy from fossil fuels, industrial agriculture has made food impressively cheap and abundant. But this achievement has come at a cost. Today, our food system is implicated in three of the most critical problems facing our society: the energy crisis, the climate crisis, and the health care crisis. None of these problems can be addressed without reforming the way America eats. In this inspiring multimedia presentation, Pollan connects the dots between food and health (personal as well as environmental), and introduces us to some of the visionaries who are "re-solarizing" the food system. The Sun Food Agenda – involving change at the level of the farm, the marketplace and the culture – promises to improve our health, cut our dependence on fossil fuel, and help solve the climate crisis.

Mr. Pollan speak in Shafer Auditorium on Feb. 25, 2010 from 6.00-7.30pm, followed by a book signing event which will be held in the Penelac-Bowman Art gallery on campus. The events are free and open to the public.

Mr. Pollan's visit has been sponsored by the Allegheny Student Government, Conf/ Public Events Office, Health and Wellness Committee, and a generous contribution from the Mellon Grant awarded to Prof. Terry Bense (Environ. Sc. Dept.)





"...the 20th century industrialization of agriculture has increased the amount of greenhouse gases emitted by the food system by an order of magnitude; chemical fertilizers (made from natural gas), pesticides (made from petroleum), farm machinery, modern food processing and packaging and transportation have together transformed a system that in 1940 produced 2.3 calories of food energy for every calorie of fossil-fuel energy it used, into one that now takes 10 calories of fossil-fuel energy to produce a single calorie of modern supermarket food. Put another way, when we eat from the industrial-food system, we are eating oil and spewing greenhouse gases." -- Michael Pollan

The National Wildlife Federation and Allegheny College Invite You
 To a special presentation and book signing event with

Last Chance: Preserving Life on Earth

Larry Schweiger
 President, National Wildlife Federation
 Author of "Last Chance: Preserving Life on Earth"

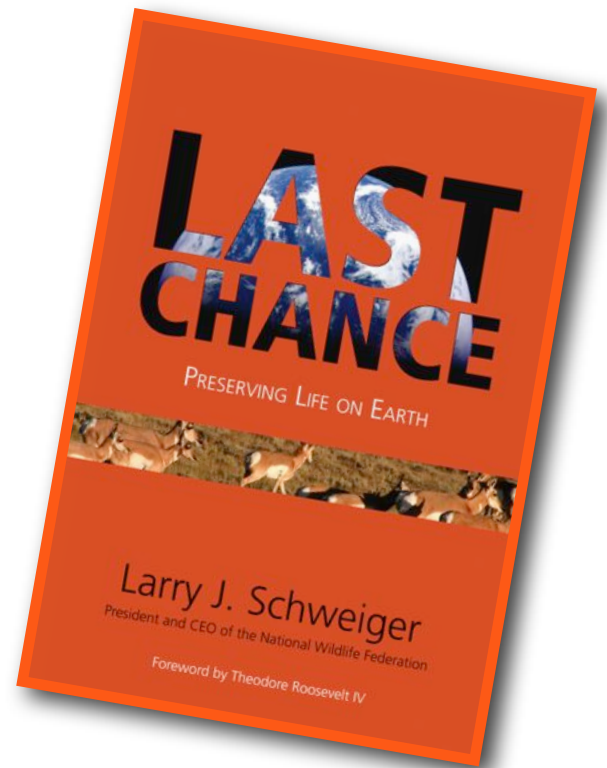
March 8, 2010 7:00 PM
 Allegheny College, Quigley Hall 101
 Free Admission

"For more than four decades, Larry Schweiger has seen the transformation — for better and for worse — of America's wildlife and wild places. His view of our "Last Chance" is also our best chance toward a future we will be proud to leave future generations." - Robert Redford

In Last Chance: Preserving Life on Earth, Larry Schweiger will take us from Lake Erie to the icebergs of Greenland, and from Congress to America's classrooms and farmlands. He reminds us that we have a duty to act as the Earth's caretakers, not just its inhabitants.

This presentation is hosted by the Department of Environmental Science and supported by the Year of Social Change and the Center for Political Participation. All author proceeds support the National Wildlife Federation.



A Pittsburgh native, Larry J. Schweiger is president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation, America's largest conservation organization. He also serves on the board of directors of the Alliance for Climate Protection. Prior to rejoining NWF, Schweiger was president and CEO of the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and also active with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Earlier in his career, Schweiger headed the Joint Legislative Air and Water Pollution Control and Conservation Committee for the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Larry will speak at Allegheny College on March 8, 2010, about how the clean energy economy can provide the solutions we need to avert the worst consequences of climate change, using scientific facts and common sense to appeal to the minds and hearts of readers. His talk is in Quigley Auditorium at 7.00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

This event has been brought to campus by the Environmental Science department and the Center for Political Participation.



**Directed by Associate Professor
of Theater, Dan Crozier**
**March 4-6 (Thu-Sat), 8:00 p.m., and
 March 7 (Sun) @ 2:30 p.m.**
Vukovich Theater

Tony Kushner's prize-winning play *Angels in America* was the landmark theatrical production in the 1990s, sub-titled "A Gay Fantasia on National Themes" by the playwright. Its complex philosophical commentary addresses the intersection of sexual and material politics against the backdrop of the Reagan era. The relevance of the subject matter in a post-9/11 world is evidenced by the translation of the play onto the television screen (as an HBO Special) and as a motion picture starring Al Pacino, Meryl Streep, and Patrick Wilson. In a time of increased surveillance, dis-ease, and fears about people who are not like us, *Angels in America* strikes a deep emotional chord as we struggle with our own prejudices and ambivalences.

The story centers on Prior Walter and Louis Ironson, a gay couple who drift apart when Prior grows ill as a result of AIDS, and begins to have divine visions of an angel who informs him that he is a prophet. Kushner's

epic narrative takes us from Brooklyn and the South Bronx to Salt Lake City and Antarctica. *Angels in America* addresses politics, history, myth, morality, sex, loss, love, life and death, through the lens of two couples, one straight and one gay, whose relationships are at a crossroads. The play is deeply intimate, wildly comic and intensely human. *Newsweek* called *Angels in America* the "broadest, deepest, and most searching American play of our time.

The production @ Allegheny College will take place in the state-of-the-art Gladys Mullenix Black Theater in the Vukovich Center for Communication Arts on March 4-6 2010 at 8 p.m., and on March 7 (Sunday) at 2.30 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased by calling the Box Office at (814) 332-3414.



Daniel Crozier, Associate Professor of Theatre, graduated from St. Mary's College and received his MFA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He acted and directed in New York City from 1982-1994. He has worked at the Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis, The Public Theatre, Wow Cafe, PS 122, Symphony Space, and La Mama in New York. He's performed on MTV with pop culture icons such as David Byrne, Cubby Checker and The Fat Boys.



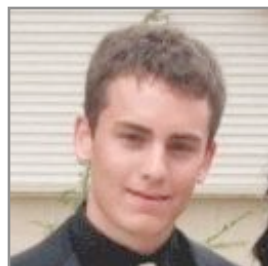
Greg Mortenson with YoSC student ambassadors. Front Row (L to R): Ariaah Riaz, Lydia Gearhart, Vira Mistry, Sarah Gentile, Mr. Greg Mortenson, Katy Orchowski, Moin Syed.

2nd Row (L to R): Marisa Frey, Caitlin Rice O'Brien, Samantha Ford, Jinnie Templin, Zack Rearick

Back Row (L to R): Lauren Baker, Matthew Neckelmann, Sylvia Kauffman



Zack Rearick designed the YoSC buttons above



Year of Social Change website designer, Matthew Reilly



We have an amazing team of planners and organizers who have taken the initiative in making sure every event has been a success. Our student ambassadors have worked hard to raise funds, use their social networking skills, and plan outcomes that have made this Year of Social Change a transformative experience across campus.



Student Ambassador Sarah Gentile has designed the YoSC T-shirt (see above). Proceeds from the sale of the T-Shirts will go to the community organizations working on the social cause that receives the largest number of social change tokens.

In Appreciation

The organizers of the Year of Social Change would like to thank President James H. Mullen Jr., the Office of the Dean of the College, Dean of Students' Office, Allegheny Student Government, Public Events Committee, Office for Conferences/Public Events, Public Affairs Office, the Development Office, and the kind folk at Murray Hall, the Print Shop, and the Accounts Office. Without your continued support, the Year of Social Change would have never happened.

Rebecca Wiler, Amara Geffen, Terry Bensel, Christopher Bakken, Darren Miller, Jennifer DeHart, Scott Choffel, Jim Sumerfeld, and Craig Pardee -- your expertise and input have been invaluable. Thank you.

Our heartfelt thanks to **Penny Frank** for designing numerous print publicity items, and cheerfully handling emergency requests.

Thanks also to **Barb Steadman, Mike Richwalsky, Josh Tysiachney, Kathy Roos, and Jesse Lavery**, for your counsel on public communication, publicity materials and technical expertise, as well as handling all the Press Releases.

Shawn in Public Affairs Office, & **Alison Korotkin** from the Communication Arts Dept., who have helped us edit videos and kept their good humor throughout -- thank you.

We have been humbled by the efforts of **Dave Roncolato, Jamie Williams, and Jim Fitch** (ACCEL) who have organized and brought some amazing community outreach events to this campus.

The same applies to **Dr. Jane Ellen Nickell** (Office of Religious Life) for providing unique opportunities that showcased how faith can transform our vision and build communities.

We also would like to acknowledge the artistry and generosity of **Bill Owens** (college photographer) who has given digital life to the YoSC events, and shared many hours with us on the job.

A bouquet of gratitude to Kristin Baldwin & the *Campus* newspaper staff, and our student presenters at each event (Brett Fuchs, Shayne Downing, Carlyn Johnson, Erin Sweeney).

Last but not the least, our thanks to various campus and community partners whose names are too numerous to include, but whose help and presence have made all the difference.

NEWS LETTER DESIGNED AND COMPILED BY DR. ISHITA SINHA ROY

ALLEGHENY COLLEGE 09-10



YEAR OF SOCIAL CHANGE

YoSC Logo

The Year of Social Change logo was conceptualized by student ambassador Zachary Fradeneck and modified by Penny Frank in the Allegheny College Public Affairs Office

We are grateful for the support of the Allegheny College alumni, the Board of Trustees, and all our regional partners and participants.

Media & Public Relations:

Please contact Josh Tysiachney at (814) 332-5954 or email: jtysiach@allegheny.edu

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