



OGLETHORPE  
UNIVERSITY

# UC Newsletter

Make a Life. Make a Living. Make a Difference.

## The UC Newsletter Staff

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University College for Adult Learners Volume 1, Issue 2 February 2006

## Breaking Ground: The Innovative Classes of UC



Controversial. Ground breaking. Progressive. These are just some of the words that have been used to describe two new classes that will be exclusively offered at UC next session.

In his eight-week course, "Elements of Biological Science: Current Topics in Biology," Dr. Jonas Winchell will cover a multitude of timely and often debated topics in his Saturday class starting March 11. Topics will include the immune system and vaccines, the world of microbes, molecular biology, genetic engineering, gene therapy, stem cell research, cancer and bioterrorism. Dr. Winchell explains, "The subject material I draw from is huge, and I based the selections on some topics that I found stu-

dents showed interest in during past classes and some other subjects that are currently relevant in our society."

Dr. Winchell credits UC Director Nancy Keita for bringing the class to fruition. "Nancy Keita suggested exploring another area of biology besides infectious diseases. I do believe that UC is succeeding in expanding course offerings and time slots for students. They have continually kept their finger on the pulse of the student body to cater to their academic requests. The UC staff has been very proactive in many areas to ensure a positive educational experience for their students. This is another trait that sets UC apart from other area universities. I am happy to be able to provide my experience and knowledge to furthering UC's agenda for improving their academic offerings and in turn, benefiting

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Words From Annie: Points With No Returns

The world seems full of people who appear to have listened to the wrong voice. Now, they are engaged in life work that lacks meaning, pleasure or purpose. They run the risk of suddenly realizing that they have spent years doing something that might not matter to themselves or anyone else.

John Marquand wrote a novel called *Point of No Return*. His protagonist, Charlie Gray, finally gets to become the vice president of some fancy-schmancy New York boutique bank. Charlie gets there by lots of bucking,

brown-nosing and dedicating himself to this singular goal. He discovers a terrible truth: it's not what he wanted after all.

You have only one life. The choice of how you are going to live it has got to be your own choice, not that of the world. You made a choice to come to Oglethorpe's University College. From UC you can go anywhere; for the time you spend at UC you will have many returns in life. Thank you for choosing to invest in yourself through Oglethorpe University.

Annie Hunt Burriss

## Get To Know: Dr. Karen Head

Karen Head has a Ph.D. in English with an emphasis on creative writing from the University of Nebraska. Currently she is a Marion L. Brittain Postdoctoral Fellow and the Writing Program Coordinator in the School of Literature, Communication and Culture at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Her writing has appeared in a number of journals and anthologies, including *The Women's Review of Books*, *Prairie Schooner*, *The Chattahoochee Review*, *The Southeast Review* and *War, Literature, and the Arts*. All Nations Press released her first collection of poetry, *Shadow Boxes*, in August 2003. She is a native of Atlanta.



Dr. Karen Head

**Q:** What courses do you usually teach?

**A:** Composition and Literature: everything from Jane Austen to

Asian American Literature to Contemporary Poetry and Creative Writing.

**Q:** What do you consider the strengths of the UC program to be?

**A:** The willingness of the students to share their diverse experiences and to be so energetically motivated despite their busy lives.

*"The willingness of the students to share their diverse experiences and to be so energetically motivated despite their busy lives."*

**Q:** If you could teach a course on any subject, what subject would you choose?

**A:** An interdisciplinary course on contemporary women's music and

contemporary women's poetry. I think Professor Bohart and I could work together on that one, which would be great fun!

**Q:** Did anyone inspire you to teach?

**A:** I've always wanted to teach, but certainly there have been professors who particularly inspired me. During my time as a student at OU, I would say (and here I am sure I'm leaving out someone) Linda Taylor, Barbara Clark, Ray Kaiser and Jay Lutz were especially influential.

**Q:** If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, living or not, who would you choose and why?

**A:** That's tough, so I'm restructuring the question. I'd like a dinner party with Jane Austen, Allen Ginsberg, William Shakespeare, Elizabeth I, Virginia Woolf, William Blake, Walt Whitman, Emily Dickinson, Eudora Welty, my grandparents, Bill Clinton, Colin Firth, Dolly Parton, Anderson Cooper, Jon Stewart and Socrates.

## Breaking Ground: The Innovative Classes of UC

(Continued from page 1)

the student's life."

Another course that is creating a stir on campus is "The Politics of Hip Hop" taught by Dr. Kendra King. Dealing with the political and economic influence of the five elements of Hip Hop on American culture and thought, this course will feature some of Atlanta's own artists, music industry executives

and local Atlanta DJs and radio personalities. "The Politics of Hip Hop" will offered on Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting March 7.

In addition to these courses, other innovative classes being offered next session include "20th Century Women Writers," "Public Relations Principles and Practices," a special topics class in major British and American authors that will

be devoted entirely to Jane Austen and a special topics in psychology class that will explore the theme of aging.

For more information on these courses, please contact Academic Advisor Wayne Leon at [404.364.8314](tel:404.364.8314).

## Where To Be Seen: Events for UC Students

### Oglethorpe Celebrates Beckett

Oglethorpe University's Theatre Department is honored to join the 2006 International Year of Beckett celebration in Atlanta theatres. As part of the celebration, they will be presenting three plays: a special alumni production of Samuel Beckett's one-act *Play*, directed by Jessie Dougherty Dean '03; an Oglethorpe University Playmaker's production of *Still Life* by Emily Mann; a special production of Beckett's masterpiece *Waiting for Godot*, directed by Chadwick Yarborough and produced by Theatre Gael with Artistic Director John Stephens as Vladimir.

*Play* is Beckett's minimalist, poetic *No Exit*. In the play, a man, his wife and his mistress ruminate on marriage. This production will feature alumni Oglethorpe Playmakers Gabriel Dean '03 and Erin Weller '04. Performances will be held on March 2 and March 4 at 7:00 p.m. and on March 3 at 9:00 p.m.

Emily Mann's *Still Life* documents the lives of three Americans – a Vietnam veteran, his wife, and his friend and fellow artist. Their testimonies illuminate one man's experience at war and give voice to the silent victims of aggression at home. Originally written three years after the official end of the United States' involvement in Vietnam, Emily Mann's *Still Life* is a remarkably current commentary. This production will be directed by Deborah Merola, Oglethorpe University's Director of Theatre. Performances will be held on March 2 and March 4 at 9:00 p.m. and on March 3 at 7:00 p.m.

Admission for *Play* and *Still Life* is free for the Oglethorpe community. General tickets are \$7 and \$5 for seniors. One ticket is good for performances of both productions.

*Waiting for Godot* takes place on a deserted road, where two tramps are waiting for the elusive Godot. Balanced precariously between hope and despair, comic farce and tragedy, *Waiting for Godot* might be considered Beckett's most Irish

play. Performances will be held March 9, 10 and 11 at 8:00 p.m.

Admission for *Waiting for Godot* is free for the Oglethorpe community. General tickets are \$10 and \$5 for seniors.

To purchase tickets for these productions, please call [404.504.1074](tel:404.504.1074).

### Dmitri Shostakovich Centennial Concert

This concert will feature the Grammy nominated, world renowned and critically acclaimed St. Petersburg String Quartet from Russia. The evening will include performances of Ravel's *String Quartet*, Shostakovich's *Quartet No. 8* and Dvorák's *American Quartet*. The concert is sponsored by Oglethorpe University Department of Music. The concert is March 14 at 8:00 p.m. in the Conant Performing Arts Center. Admission is free for the Oglethorpe community. General tickets will be sold at the door for \$10 starting at 7:00 p.m. For more information please call [404.364.8447](tel:404.364.8447).

## UC Students Spotted: Ted Kooser Poetry Reading



Left to Right: David-Matthew Barnes, Annie Casey, Jena Reilly and David Whitmore.



Left to Right: David-Matthew Barnes, Dr. Karen Head, Ted Kooser and Annie Casey.

## Get To Know: Dr. Jonas Winchell

Dr. Jonas Winchell received his undergraduate degree in physiology and neurobiology from the University of Connecticut and chose to remain at UConn to earn his M.S. and Ph.D. in molecular and cell biology. His research focused on mucosal vaccines to prevent HIV infection. He then accepted a post-doctoral position in Boston at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute studying the pathogenesis of HIV and its monkey equivalent, SIV. After completing his post-doctoral training, he chose a career path in the Public Health sector and worked at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health within the Enteric and Reference Laboratories identifying unusual pathogenic bacterial isolates.

In 2001, he accepted a position at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the Bioterrorism Rapid Response and Advanced Technology Lab (BRRAT). He develops very rapid, sensitive and specific tests to detect agents potentially used in a bioterrorism at-

tack. He also routinely responds to bioterrorism incidents and is deployed to national security special events when requested. He also has received numerous awards, commendations and fellowships from his contributions to this field and has publications on many different scientific topics.

Winchell has taught courses on various infectious diseases at UConn, Boston College, Northeastern University, Georgia Institute of Technology and Oglethorpe, teaching both non-biology and biology majors. He feels strongly that scientists have an obligation to educate the general public on infectious agents so they are able to better understand the diseases and the agents that cause them. He also enjoys preparing upper-division biology majors for a career in the sciences, including medical, veterinary and other professional schools. In his free time, he enjoys playing guitar, softball, writing articles and spending time with his wife, Kathleen.

**Q:** What courses do you usually teach?

**A:** Biology courses that are focused on infectious diseases (bacterial, viral or some aspect, such as bioterrorism). I also enjoy teaching medical microbiology and immunology courses.

**Q:** What do you consider the strengths of the UC program to be?

**A:** The commitment of the faculty

and the flexibility and uniqueness of the academic schedule.

**Q:** If you could teach a course on any subject, what subject would you choose?

**A:** I currently get to teach courses on subjects I enjoy: areas of biology that include mechanisms of disease-causing organisms and immune responses to them. Outside of biology, I wish I could teach a course that lets you eat and drink all you want and you never get fat! Think of the enrollment in that course!

**Q:** Did anyone inspire you to teach?

**A:** Both my parents were teachers, so I guess I have a genetic predisposition to teach. I had a few professors in college that were really good and they looked like they were having fun doing it, so I thought one day that it may be a great way to positively influence the younger minds heading into science careers while keeping myself up to date in the field.

**Q:** If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, living or not, who would you choose and why?

**A:** My father. He passed away when I was 20 and I know there was so much more to learn from him. He was a tremendously positive influence on me.

*“...The commitment of the faculty and the flexibility and uniqueness of the academic schedule...”*

**Oglethorpe Fact:** In 1994, Lupton Hall, Phoebe Hearst Hall, Lowry Hall and Hermance Stadium were added to the National Register of Historic Places. In addition, the 105-acre campus was designated a National Historic District.

## Get To Know: Annie Casey, UC Student



Annie Casey

**Q:** What is your major and minor?

**A:** I am a communications major with an English minor.

**Q:** When do you expect to graduate?

**A:** December 2006.

**Q:** Why did you choose to attend UC?

**A:** I chose to attend UC because it was convenient with my work location and schedule.

**Q:** What elements of the UC program do you like the most?

**A:** The location is ideal and the campus is beautiful, and I have some really amazing professors.

**Q:** What do you plan to do when you graduate from UC?

**A:** I plan to attend graduate school to get my master's degree, and possibly surrender to the lure of achieving a PhD.

**Q:** What is the most difficult aspect of going to school?

**A:** Finding the time to do homework and staying alert in class after working a full day.

**Q:** Where do you work?

**A:** I am the warranty administrator

at Jim Ellis Porsche.

**Q:** Did anyone inspire you to finish/return to school?

**A:** Myself and my family.

**Q:** If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, living or not, who would you choose and why?

**A:** Isadora Duncan and Anne Sexton because I find both women intriguing in so many ways; I would love to pick their brains.

**Q:** In 12 years, where do you see yourself?

**A:** Hopefully, introducing Dr. Karen Head somewhere as the Poet Laureate of the United States. Other than that, I would like to see myself teaching college and spending a lot of time with my family.

*"I plan to attend graduate school to get my master's degree, and possibly surrender to the lure of achieving a Ph.D..."*

## UC Dean's Academic Honor List for Fall 2005



placed on the Dean's Academic Honor List.

Students who earn a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or higher carrying 12 semester hours or more during the fall, spring and summer semester are

Congratulations to the following UC students for making the UC Dean's Academic Honor List for Fall 2005:

**Monica Antohi, David-Matthew Barnes, Remilla Bridge, Denise Cardin, Annie Casey, Maria Elie Rachel Gates, Tamara Hernandez, Leilani Hunt, Jerrod Johnson, Christopher Lewis, Nick Moreno, Brian Mullin, Rob Osaba, Wade Price, Ann Serrie, Misty Smith, Heather Symmes, Stacie Thrailkill, Burke Urban, Yuki Yata**

~\*~

## Get To Know: Christopher Lewis, UC Student

**Q:** What is your major and minor?

**A:** Communications with a business minor

**Q:** When do you expect to graduate?

**A:** December 2007

**Q:** Why did you choose to attend UC?

**A:** Oglethorpe University is a credible and respected university. Also the class/term schedule was very appealing for me.

**Q:** What elements of the UC program do you like the most?

**A:** I have enjoyed all of my professors and classes up to this point, my only complaint is wireless internet accessibility in some buildings (especially being a Mac user).

**Q:** What do you plan to do when you graduate from UC?

**A:** I am currently trying to get internships in the broadcast journalism industry (both in radio and television) in hopes of pursuing a career in the sports talk radio industry.

**Q:** What is the most difficult aspect of going to school?

**A:** For me, I would have to say being able to see my girlfriend and family for meaningful amounts of time while still being able to perform competently in my classes is the most difficult part for me.

*"...the jobs I have had since I left college the first time were all the inspiration that I needed to go back."*

**Q:** Do you work? What is your position?

**A:** I do work as a bartender and Assistant Manager at Loco's Deli and Pub.

**Q:** Did anyone inspire you to finish/return to school?

**A:** My parents and my girlfriend supported my choice to return and were equally supportive while I was not in school. As far as inspiration, the jobs I have had since I left college the first time were all the inspiration that I needed to go back.

**Q:** If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, living or not, who would you choose and why?

**A:** I couldn't choose just one. I would want to have dinner with Jesus, Muhammad and Buddha because I struggle with faith and religion all the time. I feel as though a conversation with a group like this would help me find the path that is best for me. Hopefully, it would help clear up a lot of the uncertainty I face as well as put an end to the animosity and violence between religious groups that is so prevalent today.

**Q:** In 12 years, where do you see yourself?

**A:** I only hope to be happy in both my personal life and with my career. And to have my degree of course!



### We Need You!

Are you interested in writing for the UC Newsletter? E-mail us at [ucnews@oglethorpe.edu](mailto:ucnews@oglethorpe.edu). Join our creative team!

## Get To Know: Alan Loehle



*Alan Loehle*

Alan Loehle received his BFA in Drawing and Painting from the University of Georgia in 1975 and his MFA in Painting from the University of Arizona in 1979. He has been the recipient of numerous awards and grants for his work, including a Visual Artists Fellowship for Painting from the National Endowment for the Arts, grants for painting from the Pollock-Krasner Foundation, the Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, the Ludwig Vogelstein Foundation and others. His work has been shown widely throughout the United States in solo, group and museum exhibitions. His drawings and paintings have been reviewed and reproduced in books, newspapers and magazines throughout the country, most recently in *Art Papers*, *New American Paintings*, *Manhattan Arts Magazine* and *The Paris Review*.

He is represented by Marcia Wood Gallery in Atlanta and has work in public and private collections throughout the United States. Alan has over 25 years of experience teaching drawing and painting. He is presently an associate professor of art at Oglethorpe University. He is not a vegetarian.

*"...James Herbert at UGA had a big influence on my teaching."*

**Q:** What courses do you usually teach?

**A:** I teach all UC studio courses except photography: Introduction

to Drawing, Painting and Figure Sculpture.

**Q:** What do you consider the strengths of the UC program to be?

**A:** The liberal arts basis.

**Q:** If you could teach a course on any subject, what subject would you choose?

**A:** Any course on drawing or painting the human figure.

**Q:** Did anyone inspire you to teach?

**A:** James Herbert at UGA had a big influence on my teaching.

**Q:** If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, living or not, who would you choose and why?

**A:** Edouard Manet, because he had such a big impact on the history of painting.

## Sample Work: Alan Loehle



*Quiet Room*  
2002  
50 x 34 inches  
oil on canvas

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Marcia Wood Gallery  
263 Walker Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30313  
404-827-0030  
info@marciawoodgallery.com



*Feral Dog*  
2003  
oil on canvas  
43 x 31 inches

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### Question of the Month

**What is your pick for Best Picture of the Year?**

**A. Brokeback Mountain**

**B. Capote**

**C. Crash**

**D. Good Night, And Good Luck**

**E. Munich**

E-mail us your answers at [ucnews@oglethorpe.edu](mailto:ucnews@oglethorpe.edu).

## University College Office and Staff Contact Information

**UC Front Office: 404.364.8383**

**UC Fax: 404.364.8437**

### Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday: 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Friday: 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Annie Hunt Burriss

Associate Provost of University College

Deputy to the President for Community Relations

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Assistant Director of Advising and Recruitment, University College

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### Courtney Garrett

Special Assistant to the Associate Provost, University College

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## Must Have Campus Information

**UC Office Hours**—The University College office is open Mondays through Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You can reach the UC office by telephone at 404.364.8383.

**Library Hours**—The Philip Weltner Library is open Mondays through Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., on Saturdays from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. You can reach the Philip Weltner Library at 404.364.8511.

**Financial Aid Hours**—The financial aid office is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. You can reach the financial aid office by telephone at 404.364.8354.

**Business Office**—The business office is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on

Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. You can reach the business office by telephone at 404.364.8302.

**Office of the Registrar**—The Office of the Registrar is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. You can reach the Office of the Registrar by telephone at 404.364.8315.

**Career Services**—The Career Services office is open Mondays through Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You can reach the Career Services office by telephone at 404.364.8533.

**IT Services**—The campus computer labs are available to students 24/7. The IT Help Desk is open Mondays through Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You can reach the IT Help Desk by telephone at 404.364.8518.

**Counseling Services**—The Center for Counseling Services offers individual, group and couples therapy as well as out-

reach and consultation. Services are free and confidential. Visit or call the Center for Counseling Services at 404.364.8456 to make an appointment.

**Oglethorpe Bookstore Hours**—The campus bookstore is open Mondays through Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and on Fridays 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You can reach the bookstore by telephone at 404.364.8361.

**Campus Safety**—If you have an emergency, Campus Safety is available at on-campus extension 1998 or off-campus at 404.504.1998.

**Weather Advisory Line**—In the case of severe weather or other emergencies, Oglethorpe University will use the Weather Advisory Line to communicate appropriate information to our students, including school closings. The Weather Advisory Line is available at 404.504.1800.



### You're The Voice!

Have a question, concern or suggestion for the University College staff?

Feel free to call, visit or e-mail **Nancy Keita, Director of University College**. *She would love to hear from you!*

### Extra! Extra!



Want to share big news in your life with your classmates and professors?

E-mail us your special announcements at [ucnews@oglethorpe.edu](mailto:ucnews@oglethorpe.edu) by **Tuesday, March 7** and we'll print them in our next issue!