The art of Mary Cox
New College alumna Mary Cox, made a dramatic career move from economic forecaster to professional artist. Mary shares her inspiration, process, and reflects on her time at New College.
A letter from Vice President of Alumnae/i Affairs Jessica Rogers

Greetings!

I hope you enjoy this issue of our new and improved Nimbus! Many thanks to Alumnae/i Coordinator Sarah Thompson and Graphic Design Manager Brittany White for their hard work in taking your ideas and suggestions and incorporating them into our newsletter’s new look. The College also recently launched its new website which includes a facelift for the Association and Foundation. NCAA’s site can be found at ncf.edu/alum. There will be more alumnae/i outcome stories featured on the entire college website as an answer to the call of those who are interested in knowing more about what life is like after New College. Please continue to share with us your updates as you never know when we may call you for an interview to include online!

In November, the Association experienced a passing of the torch amongst our leadership. Cindy Hill has chaired the Association board for the past three years and through her leadership, our alumnae/i have maintained a strong and steady presence nationwide. I have to thank all of our board members for their dedication and voluntarism to continue moving forward through the difficult times as New College charts the course for its future. Special thanks to Cindy for her spirit of optimism through the challenges and determination in seeing the Association through its many recent milestones and celebrations.

Thank you to Robert Lincoln who has welcomed his new role as board chair and has hit the ground running in this capacity after 15 years of service on the association board. Robert co-chaired the Clam bake this fall, on campus, is serving on the Foundation’s Gala Committee and will be leading the association through changes in its board nomination process. See more details on this in Robert’s letter to alums on page 3.

Susan Sapoznikoff has been named Vice-Chair of the Association and Bill Rosenberg accepted a second term as board Treasurer during the November Board of Directors meeting. We thank these board members for their continued service and leadership.

I hope that you have made the decision to attend the Alumnae/i Reunion Weekend, February 9-12, 2012! We have many fun events planned and even a few “surprises”, of which you should have already received information in the mail. We will have plenty of opportunities for you to reconnect with each other. You will also have the ability to make new connections with current students and faculty that will be participating in mini-classes and other events throughout the weekend. See pages 12 and 13 and visit our website for more details.

All the best to you and yours for a holiday season filled with joy, peace and special memories. I look forward to seeing you in February!

-Jessica

News from the NCAA Board of Directors

On November 5, the New College Alumnae/i Association Board of Directors approved by-law changes to move from an elected board to an appointed board of at least twelve and up to fifteen directors. More details about the appointment procedures and time lines will be announced soon on the NCAA website.

The Board is aware that this may not be a popular decision. I want to share some of the background and logic behind this change, and communicate the commitment of the Board to ensure that the voice of our alumni body will be better heard by this change.

Previously, the Board was made up of ten elected directors, who also could appoint up to eight additional directors. Elections for three year terms were held in two cycles (for five each) so there would be two years of elections and then an “off year.” Self-nominations were solicited in the winter Nimbus, candidate profiles were published in the spring Nimbus and elections were held over the summer. In recent years, we have had from seven to eleven candidates, but the turn out has been dismal. Just 226 alums voted in 2009 and only 168 participated in 2010.

Prior to the last elections, the Board announced that if participation did not rise, we would move to an appointed board. Participation did not rise — in fact it was lower.

The election process generated several negative dynamics. First and foremost, it has been difficult to get a Board that is both representative of the demographics of the alumnae/i body and with the skills/experience needed on the Board. For reasons that are not all bad, the Board is heavy on lawyers, on graduates from the 80s/90s and on people who live in Sarasota. Second, the elections process has excluded qualified and excited alumnae/i. We have had several candidates with great potential and energy who did not get elected and would not accept appointments because they felt the “voice” of the alumnae/i had spoken against their service. With a growing base, limited avenues for “campaigning,” and poor participation, the election process has proved to be a poor reflection of the will of the alumnae/i body.

The decision to move to an appointed Board was not unanimous. The chief concerns were a loss of trust and commitment from the alumnae/i and the risk that a “bad Board” would be appointed with no means to remove them by popular vote. The entire Board takes these concerns seriously. In fact, this change has been discussed for at least ten years and probably would have occurred four years ago except for the Board’s concerns about these issues.

So I want to express to you the Board’s commitment to transparent appointment process. Nominations will be open. The application form will be published, as will a list of the qualifications that are being sought at any given time. The Governance Committee recommendations on candidates will be made available prior to the Board’s consideration. The votes on candidates will be reported. I also will commit that we will revisit this issue in two years.

If you are interested in serving, please submit an application. If you have questions, please ask. And, as always, thank you for your continued support for New College.

Rob Lincoln ’76
NCAA Board Chair
The Art of Being Mary Cox

Mary Cox ’76 talks about making the dramatic career switch from economic forecaster to artist and offers advice to others looking to break into the art scene.

Interview by: Sarah Thompson ’06

Tell me a little bit about yourself. Where are you from? How did you find out about New College?

My family moved around so much that it’s hard to say where I’m “from.” I attended elementary and high school (but not middle school) in Bethesda, Maryland. My family has lived in the San Francisco Bay Area since the late 1970s. I found out about New College doing research on colleges.

What interested you about New College? Did you have any faculty that you particularly enjoyed working with during your time here?

I was very interested in NC’s non-traditional program: the contract system, the independent study and the evaluations instead of grades. Also, I was looking for a school with no fraternities, sororities or swimming team. (I needed to make a break from a ten-year swimming career.)

What was your post graduation career path like?

After graduation I took a year off and lived in the Bay Area. I then went to Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, where I concentrated in International Finance. My first job was with a small company called Business International, doing economic forecasting. Obama worked there right after I left! For the next ten years I worked in foreign exchange trading for a series of banks: Manufacturers Hanover, Banque Indosuez, Chase, Swiss Bank. I burned out on that job and finally, when I was pregnant with my first child, I convinced my husband, who is Greek, to try living in Greece, as an adventure.

What do you feel are some of the advantages and pitfalls to living abroad?

I have lived in Brazil, Puerto Rico, and France, so Greece was not my first experience living abroad. It’s fun to see how other parts of the world work—but it can get tiring when the place is as dysfunctional as Greece. Every place has its pluses and minuses. I do wish I wasn’t quite so far from family and friends in San Francisco.

How did you become interested in painting and what led you to make such a radical career change?

The career change came after moving here. I started painting while pregnant with my second child, and became addicted. I had started painting in high school, and took a few classes at New College, and even some Saturday-morning classes in New York, but I didn’t think of painting as a career possibility until the late 90s. I studied with Open College of the Arts in the UK, and finally decided to go for a Master’s in 2005. (Completed in 2009.)

Talk to me about your style of mixed media. What appeals to you about art in this medium?

Back in the 70s and 80s, artists were still trying to have a “signature style”, a uniform product, as it were. It was frowned upon to go from abstract to figurative and vice versa. I find that too constraining. I like to do narrative work, but often there is more than one story, or there are multiple points of view, and combining different media helps relay that idea. I guess the appealing thing about mixed media is it’s ability to convey layers of meaning in the work.

Describe your process. What inspires you?

My work is very much photography based, and I try to have a camera with me (or at least a cellphone camera) so that I can catch something when I see it. The sudden mushrooming of the immigrant population in Athens was kind of exciting because it happened so fast. Downtown Athens went from being extremely homogeneous to multicultural in the space of five years. Following these changes got me interested in immigration issues such as political asylum and refugees. Usually I start with photographs, which get flattened as I do a sort of collaging of various elements, while combining other elements such as repetitive motifs. I usually paint figures in oil, in as much of a photo-real style as I can muster. Generally the subject that inspires me is change. The bicycle series is also about change, about the need to move away from petroleum and the need to slow down generally. For Americans and Europeans, the bikes might seem like a no brainer, but we here in Athens still have no bike lanes, and only recently achieved access for bikes on the metro.

“I like to do narrative work, but often there is more than one story, or there are multiple points of view, and combining different media helps relay that idea.”

Top left: Mary’s piece entitled “Theseion”. Bottom right: “Peristeri.”

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**Alumnae/i Fellows 2012**

**Nicholas Tampio ’91** taught an ISP course on Delors’s Political Vision. Nicholas teaches classical, modern, contemporary, American, and comparative political theory at Fordham University. His forthcoming book, Advancing the Enlightenment, considers how Anglo-American, Continental, and Islamic political thinkers take up Kant’s legacy for contemporary political life. Tampio has published in Political Theory, Contemporary Political Theory, the European Journal of Political Theory, Policy, and PS: Political Science and Policy. He earned his doctorate from Johns Hopkins University in 2003, Kristin spent a year as a Fulbright Fellow at Tohoku University in Japan studying regional labor movements. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the political science department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Kristin was a visiting fellow at the Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo in 2010-2011, and has traveled and conducted research extensively throughout East Asia. Kristin’s current research interests include East Asian political economy and geopolitics, the intersection of economic globalization and domestic identity politics, and radicalism in post-Fukushima Japan.

**Kristin Voksal ’98** will be teaching an ISP course entitled: US Encounters in East Asia: Geopolitics, Economy, and Identity. The ISP will address the role the United States has played in East Asia, what significance that has in East Asian politics, and what significance it has for the US domestically. After graduating from New College with a concentration in political science in 2003, Kristin spent a year as a Fulbright Fellow at Tohoku University in Japan studying regional labor movements. She is currently a doctoral candidate in the political science department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Kristin was a visiting fellow at the Institute of Social Science at the University of Tokyo in 2010-2011, and has traveled and conducted research extensively throughout East Asia. Kristin’s current research interests include East Asian political economy and geopolitics, the intersection of economic globalization and domestic identity politics, and radicalism in post-Fukushima Japan.

**Katherine Chandler ’96** plans to teach a course on technology. Katherine is a PhD Candidate in the Rhetoric Department at the University of California, Berkeley with a Designated Emphasis in New Media from the Berkeley Center for New Media. Her research draws on Science and Technology Studies, Political Theory, and Geography to develop an interdisciplinary framework to study techno-environments. By considering the multiple process forms, both materially and rhetorically, she re-thinks the concept of feedback and its political implications. This project draws on her M.A. research, completed at the University of Amsterdam in 2008 through the HSP-Huygens Scholarship Program. She followed how injustice and inequality become a part of landscapes, which are simultaneously political terrains and physical locations. Her dissertation analyses the techno-environments envisioned through UAS, exploring the relationship between military, industry, science, and politics established through these systems.

**Renee Price ’94** will teach a course on Paleolimnology. Renee is an Environmental Science and Policy graduate student at University of South Florida St. Petersburg. She is completing a project with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to determine the extent of contamination in a local estuary. In addition, she is exploring ecological consequences of minimum flow levels in Gum Springs for Southwest Florida Water Management District. Her goal is to establish baseline conditions for State water quality standards for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. While at New College, Renee was in the Environmental Studies program under the direction of Dr. Sandra Gleichrist.

**Randall Moon ’73 and Susan Mailheau**

**Invest in your future and ours**

Be among the many alums like Randall Moon ’73 and wife Susan Mailheau who are including New College in their future plans. Make a legacy gift today for the future of New College’s best and brightest students of tomorrow.

Randall had this to say about his gift: “I’ve made provisions in my estate planning for a gift to New College for several reasons. First and foremost New College provided the unique and non-traditional educational opportunities and lessons that, in hindsight, have greatly enhanced my career. Second, it’s a modest attempt to thank the faculty who poured their hearts and souls into the early days of New College, and who helped me personally. Last but not least, I’m making the gift because alumnae/i who wish New College to continue cannot count on corporations or sports teams for support—it’s up to us.”

If you are interested in making a planned gift please contact VP of Philanthropy Dennis Stover at dstover@ncf.edu or 941-487-4674.

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Hey alums,

I was asked to write an article from the NCSA for the Nimbus. As such, I did what any Archivist does: I dove into old documents to see for whom exactly I was writing. First, you all are some crazy folks. Second, we are all very similar.

I read some old issues of the Organ, Catalyst, Oracle, and Tangent for research and read articles knocking the Cold War and the student government entities from the time and chuckled as I was reminded of the current students speaking against student government. I read about the Trustee Chairman Dort signing the College over to the State University System in order to protect the continuity of the school and the split from University of South Florida ten years ago, but more importantly I read about your reactions to these events.

I read about the protests, the debates, the forums, and the action taken. I read about cuts in financial aid from the 80s and immediately thought about the cuts in my own student aid. I looked at Fact Books about the college from its inception and gawked that students then were paying less than half of what I am now as an in-state student. I gawked even more realizing that then New College was a private institution and now we’re supposedly getting state funds to subsidize our education. I read about your protests against the Sarasota Airport Authority building a road through a grove of trees on the North end of the Pei Campus and 43 students getting arrested for these demonstrations. I read about your fighting for extended library hours during finals and then I thought about our current Vice-President of Academic Affairs implementing that this calendar year. More importantly, I read about a planned party to celebrate your victory against the library, canceled because you needed to spend more time studying. I read about the twenty second graduating class being told to choose paths you love rather than what will make you the most money.

I read and I realized while situations and the people involved may have changed over the years, as New College students we still aggressively reach for our goals and protect what we value. I shudder at the thought of this awe-inspiring institution no longer existing. I cringe at the thought of willing students not being able come to this place and learning how to think out-of-the-box and be independent in the world. I love this college because we don’t just learn biochemistry, public policy, or art history, but we learn how to learn and we learn how to think. I love that the alumnae/i from this college support the current students so much and have inspired me and my peers to do the same.

Thank you.

Harrison C. Sherwin
NCSA Archivist

Want to help your alma mater? Consider participating in Alumnae/i Coffee Talks. You will speak to students about your career path and offer tips and advice. Careers of particular interest include: Education, Psychology, Medicine, Law, International Relations, and Technology, but any alum is welcome. Contact the NCAA at ncalum@ncf.edu today!
Soon to be New College graduates Ilene Gillispie, Joseph “Winn” Hasalom, Jakilah Mason and Emile Mausner share a little about themselves.

Ilene Gillispie is a fourth-year student at New College, where she has spent most of her time studying the world’s religions. Her focus is Indian religions, particularly Hinduism and Sikhism. Ilene is currently writing her thesis about the role of women in the Sikh religion, and plans to travel to India in January (with the help of a Student Research and Travel Grant funded by the Alumni Association) to finish up some thesis research at an interfaith ashram in New Delhi. She studied abroad in Spring 2011 at Madras University in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, where she wore saris every day, ate rice for every meal, and traveled to see some of India’s most historic and beautiful Hindu sights.

In her free time, she volunteers at an acupuncture clinic in Sarasota, facilitates spiritual groups on and off campus, and leads group trips to a local Sikh temple. She also plays kirtan (Indian devotional music). Ilene plans to attend seminary after graduating from New College, with the goals of leading Unitarian Universalist congregations as a minister and serving others through hospital chaplaincy and prison ministry.

Winn Hasalom is set to graduate from New College in May 2012 with a BA in Psychology. His thesis, centralized around sarcasm, is reflexive of his spirit, as an individual who never forgets that sometimes, you just have to have fun. An artist, iconoclast, and dreamer, Winn is inspired by the shining light of the soul in everyone; his passion fueled by the sacredness of his love for friends and family.

When not working on his academics, Winn can typically be found dancing about in (and especially outside) of the studio. He believes that there is always a good reason to dance, at any given time (even when there isn’t one!) and advocates the healing power of dance movement therapy.

A performer since the day he was born, Winn is most at home in the spotlight. Driven by the discrete, intimate experience shared with an audience, he is known for his signature style of performance that has evolved over his time at New College.

Knowing that this chapter of his journey is soon to close, he leaves with a smile saying, “If I have inspired just one person here, then it was a success. I am blessed to have this experience, and forever grateful to the spirit of New College, and its community, for accepting and supporting me on my journey.”

Jakilah Mason is fourth year student with a joint disciplinary area of concentration in Music and English. In the summer of 2011, Jakilah worked as a Development intern for CORE, a contemporary dance company in Atlanta, Georgia, where she got first hand experience working in the non-profit world. She intends to go to graduate school to study ethnomusicology or musicology, with particular interests in popular music, feminist and queer theory, and twentieth century literature and music. Among her favorite things are hip-hop, feminism, punk music, and cheese. Among her favorite things to hate are soap operas, math, and oatmeal.

Emile Mausner is a fourth-year Humanities AOC currently writing an interdisciplinary thesis on issues of border ambiguity in various post-modernist texts. Additionally, Emile has worked two years for New College’s Writing Resource Center as a Student Writing Assistant, an active listener for whom impartial friendliness and intellectual respect towards others are crucial. Thus exposed to the necessity of negotiation in interpersonal spaces, Emile likewise strives in academics to find meaning in between, in exchange, in conversation; they find that the most expressive or most novel realizations are produced by exploration among sets of terminologies and perspectives otherwise conceived as autonomous. Emile intends to continue their education in some form of graduate study and eventually enjoy a teaching position.

*Emile uses non-gendered pronouns.
The following class years will be celebrating anniversaries this year:

- '67 - 45 years
- '72 - 40 years
- '77 - 35 years
- '82 - 30 years
- '87 - 25 years
- '92 - 20 years
- '97 - 15 years
- '02 - 10 years
- '07 - 5 years

Put on your dancing shoes for our New College Gala honoring retiring New College President, Dr. Mike Michalson, who will be stepping down in June after eleven years as President. Please join us February 11, 2012 at The Fete Ballroom at Polo Grill in Lakewood Ranch.

During his tenure, New College became an independent member of the State University System and one of the most highly ranked public undergraduate schools in the nation. The “Dr. Mike years” have been marked by substantial growth of the student body and a major investment in new academic facilities, including two state-of-the-art science buildings, five “green” dormitories, a Public Archaeology Lab, Black Box Theatre, and most recently, the new, as yet unnamed Academic Center.

We thank Dr. Mike for the outstanding educational legacy he has created, keeping New College at the forefront of higher education. For more information and sponsorship levels, please contact Johnette Cappadona, Director of Special Initiatives, at jcappadona@ncf.edu or 941-487-4600.

**Alumnae/i Reunion Weekend**

**February 9-12, 2012**

**Schedule of Events**

**Thursday, February 9th**
- 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration/Welcome Keating Center ($5)
- 5:00 p.m. until... Students Welcome Alums Back Ham Center/Four Winds Café

**Friday, February 10th**
- 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Registration/Welcome Keating Center
- 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Emeriti Faculty/Retiree’s Brunch TBD ($20)
- 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Campus Tours
- 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Mini classes TBD
- 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Alumnae/i Reception-Beer Garden Academic Center Koski Plaza ($15)

**Saturday, February 11th**
- 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Registration/Welcome Keating Center
- 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Affinity Group Breakfast for Business/Finance & Lawyers Guild Hyatt Place Sun Room ($10)
- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Campus Tours
- 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Mini Classes Academic Center
- 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Class Anniversary Luncheons & Pictures TBD ($20)
- 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Alum networking receptions Music Room
- 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Mini Classes TBD

**Sunday, February 12th**
- 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. State of the College Address & Farewell Brunch TBD ($20)

*for details on childcare, hotel discounts, and transportation see our website at: ncf.edu/web.ncflorida/reunion-logistics*
On October 29th, amidst an unseasonable snowstorm, 42 alums and emeriti faculty braved the weather and joined us in Washington DC for an alumnae/i chapter event. The event was hosted by David Lipsey ’72 and his wife Dianne Lipsey at the historic Sewall-Belmont house, a corner stone of the suffragette movement. The event featured a panel discussion on gender and diversity. Panelists included: New College Gender Studies Program Director and Professor of French Amy Reid, White House Correspondent Alexis Simendinger ’76, and New College Associate Provost Ray Burgman ’92. All three of these successful women discussed their tips and strategies on how to combat the occasionally male-dominated workplace. They also highlighted New College’s efforts to expose students to issues of gender and diversity. Below, please read one portion of Alexis Simendinger’s speech from DC where she discusses her networking tips. This is a skill she believes many women fall behind in compared to their male peers.

1. **Build your rolodex early and keep it up in good times.** Remember that there are only 6 degrees of separation. Don’t be afraid to call on family, friends, colleagues, professors, New College alums, and anyone else you may meet at work, in graduate school, or at conferences.

2. **Social networking is okay, but you need to go beyond an occasional facebook wall post.** Drop names and solicit information through one-on-one meetings or phone calls with the contact. Treat the contact as an expert. Be charming but assertive in your interactions.

3. **Do your homework and ask for help.** You absolutely must do some research on those with whom you network to better achieve your goal.

4. **Anticipate openings in the conversation and steer towards them.** Consider where you want to be and with whom you want to work and aim to make it happen.

5. **Pick a mentor. Don’t wait for a mentor to pick you.** Figure out what it is you want from your mentor. Is it advice? Greater expertise? A sounding board? Contacts? A tug up the ladder? If you know what you want out of the relationship you can better tailor it to your specific needs.

6. **Don’t assume others know what you’re doing or accomplishing.** Tell them your qualifications and successes.
Las Vegas

"August saw a small but scintillating gathering of NC alumni attending the annual meeting of sociologists in Las Vegas, Nevada. Hosted by Foundation Vice-President, Dennis Stover and myself, the intimate gathering included alumnae/i from as far back as the early 70’s. The venue, the latest incarnation of the famous New York bar, PJ Clark’s, provided tasty eats and drinks and atmosphere to match. To be sure, a good time was had by all.”

- Chris LoFrisco ’79

Houston

“I felt star-struck walking up to alum Ruth Dreesen’s (72) elegant home in the Tanglewood neighborhood. In between delectable bites of rare tuna and miniature cups of gazpacho, we chatted about New College’s recent 50th anniversary celebrations and successful alums who’ve “made it” in spite of the troubling economic times.

After our appetites were sated, we settled in to a more formal discussion about the future of New College. News of further budget cuts was disheartening, but we rallied around the cause of encouraging more Texas students to apply to our alma mater. If our strategies take off as planned there will be lots of fresh faces at future Houston alum gatherings.”

- Mary Barnes ’06

Did you know?

New College has alumns in all 50 states with 13 chapters that meet yearly. Here are the states with the highest concentration of alumns: Florida, California, New York, Virginia, Massachusetts, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Texas, Washington, and New Jersey.

Fast Fact

The top 5 countries outside the US alumns flock to after graduation
1. UK - 33 alumns
2. Canada - 25 alumns
3. Australia/Japan - 8 alumns
4. France - 7 alumns
5. China - 6 alumns

Washington, DC

“The true gift of New College to their alums is camaraderie. Part of the quintessential New College experience is knowing that you can always find like-minded individuals who enrich your path to success or offer support in moments of defeat. Spending time with alumni in DC and having the opportunity to converse with them about our mutual love of New College is more refreshing than any other experience I’ve had this year. To know that interests in New College extend beyond campus living confirms my belief that education is not limited to the time you spend in the classroom. Rather, it is part of a daily routine to remain informed and maintain a continued appreciation for knowledge. I made many friends that night, several of which being alumni who will help me with my thesis studies in Marine Ecology. The endless love of New College that I felt that night in DC still resonates with me, and I use that feeling as encouragement to continue my thesis work off-campus.”

- Courtney Smith ’08

Miami

“So many years after graduation and I’m still amazed at how well I connect with New College alums of all generations. They lead fascinating lives and careers. My memes are still resonating, and I can hardly wait until we get together again.”

- Jonathan Kroner ’73

New York

“The event was a wonderful occasion to see familiar faces and meet the recent graduates. Our host, Pat Hennigan opened his beautiful home and created an exquisite event that made everyone feel special and proud to be a graduate of New College.”

- Miriam Green ’81

Tampa

“I was very pleased to see so many prospective students and parents at the event. I think it’s important for NCF alumns to reassure parents that their sons and daughters are making a good choice in New College, and that they will get a good job when they graduate!”

- David Bryant ’92
Engaging Students in Diversity

This year, the New College community has engaged in talks focused on improving campus diversity. As one part of these efforts, the Southern Poverty Law Center outreach director Lecia Brooks was invited to speak to students about racial issues and the importance of tolerance.

Written by: Sarah Thompson

On November 2, 2011, Lecia Brooks, the outreach director of the Southern Poverty Law Center (SLPC), came to New College to give a lecture on campus racial issues. The SLPC is a nonprofit civil rights organization which is internationally known for tracking and exposing the activities of hate groups. The SLPC’s innovative Teaching Tolerance program produces and distributes documentary films, books, lesson plans and other materials that promote tolerance and respect in our nation’s schools.

Brooks began her first lecture at New College by discussing some of what the SLPC does. She showcased a hate map, illustrating the number of active hate groups around the country. Florida is home to 49. It ranks third among the states with most active hate groups after California, 68, and Texas, 59. Brooks also discussed individual court cases on which the SLPC has offered their services. This included an impending case in which immigrant workers were hired to repair storm-damaged apartments in New Orleans. Allegedly, these workers were routinely cheated out of wages and endured forced labor while living in crowded and dilapidated employer-provided housing. Brooks also discussed a case the SLPC supported in the 1980s in which a man was lynched by a white supremacist hate group.

Brooks’ SLPC tales provided a national context to what would become a discussion of individual and campus-wide racial issues. After the presentation, Brooks lead a group exercise in which she read a statement and members of the group were required to stand if the question correctly corresponded to their experience. Her queries included: “My race or ethnicity is an integral part of my identity” and “I have experienced racial discrimination or intolerance.” The group was then split into pairs and asked to discuss what patterns emerged among those who stood or sat for various questions and to describe a personal story of their first memory of race.

After this pairs exercise, a larger discussion was led about racial issues among the more than 50 students that attended. Brooks excelled at getting the often hyper-intellectual New College students to discuss the emotional and personal affect of race on their lives. Third-year New College student Claire Cominsky commented that the talk was effective at “creating a safe space for students while still being constructive.” Claire hopes this talk will lead to more frequent discussions about diversity that engage the whole campus community. New College may be on its way with a follow up discussion hosted one week later by the pluralism committee that was, by all reports, very well-attended.

Mary Cox: Continued from page 4

I have been active in bicycle advocacy for the last five years, and the movement has really grown, so I am hoping that change will come.

What shows have you participated in?

The Lulea Art Biennial that I participated in this past summer was the most important exhibition I’ve been in so far. I felt honored to be included in that group of artists from all over the world. Previously I participated in the Athens Fringe Festival and the Athens Fringe Festival and the Athens Bicycle Film Festival. Earlier gallery shows were mostly landscapes.

What advice would you give to emerging artists or those who have an interest in a career in the art world?

Be prepared to be poor and plan on having something which will pay the bills. I tutor IB and A-Level students in art as well as running seminars in mixed media techniques.

Also be prepared to spend a lot of time promoting yourself, which I find a necessary evil to get exposure. Many artists say half the job is networking and promoting. As part of my networking effort I am currently volunteering in the Athens Biennale, which is operating on a shoestring budget, and learning to give guided tours in English. (I’m not quite sure yet how this will pay off, but you never know where life may lead!)

WHAT’S NORMAL ANYWAY?

A web comic on being a trans-gendered male from Morgan Boecher ’06

Mary Cox: Continued from page 4

I have been active in bicycle advocacy for the last five years, and the movement has really grown, so I am hoping that change will come.

What shows have you participated in?

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President Michalson Honored by NAACP

The Sarasota County Branch of the NAACP honored President Gordon E. “Mike” Michalson with the 2011 Freedom Award at the 26th Annual Freedom Awards Banquet in Sarasota on October 6. The Freedom Awards are presented to individuals, organizations and businesses that have significantly contributed to furthering the local and national goals of the NAACP.

This year’s event featured keynote speaker Leon Russell under the theme, “Affirming America’s Promise: Looking Back, Moving Forward, Changing the Future.” Russell is vice-chairman of the NAACP national board of directors and director of the Office of Human Rights for Pinellas County.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation’s oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors.

New Academic Center Earns LEED Certification

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) has awarded New College of Florida’s new Academic Center with Gold LEED certification for a number of environmentally-friendly features.

The USGBC awards point values based on sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, and innovation in design. At the New College Academic Center:

- Toilets flush using residual rainwater from the roof and A/C condensate.
- Specially designed tanks built-in under the adjoining Koski Plaza collect storm water.
- Special CO2 room sensors measure air quality and adjust the A/C system accordingly.
- High-efficiency windows let in natural light.
- Pavers and high reflective roofing materials reflect sunshine.
- More than 85 percent of construction site debris was recycled.

LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally-recognized green building certification system that was developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). LEED promotes sustainable building and development practices through a suite of rating systems that recognize projects that implement strategies for better environmental and health performance.

New College Student Receives LeRoy Collins Distinguished Alumni Rising Star Award

New College of Florida student Jodi Johnson received the LeRoy Collins Distinguished Alumni Rising Star Award during the Association of Florida Colleges Presidential Gala Dinner in Naples, Fla., on October 27. An anthropology major at New College, Johnson achieved her dream of a first college degree when she graduated last spring from State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota (SCF). After being a stay-at-home mom, she was inspired to continue her higher education as a role model for her teenage son.

At SCF, Johnson developed her leadership skills as president of Phi Theta Kappa, organizing scholarship workshops and participating in service projects. She also co-founded the Awareness Initiative Program at SCF Venice, designed to raise awareness about drug and alcohol dependence. Johnson was one of only 50 college students nationwide to be named a Coca-Cola Academic Team Gold Scholar, and her name appeared in the April 11 special edition of USA Today.

After finishing her second bachelor’s degree at New College, Johnson plans to attend graduate school and work in a museum, historical society or nonprofit organization focused on humanitarian aid.

The LeRoy Collins Distinguished Alumni Awards were created to honor distinguished alumni from Florida community colleges for the substantial contributions they have made to their college, community, state or nation. The award was named in honor of LeRoy Collins, former governor of Florida, whose leadership was instrumental in establishing a community college system for the state.

New College dedicates the newly-named Koski Plaza

New College dedicated the plaza adjacent to its new Academic Center. The Koski Plaza recognizes a generous gift of $1 million from Beverly Koski and her late husband, Robert, co-founder of Sun Hydraulics. The gift will be used to construct a bell tower in the section of the plaza adjacent to the Jane Bancroft Cook Library on Bay Shore Road. The rest of the gift will be used to fund a variety of academic priorities at New College.

“In Beverly Koski’s gift, we celebrate the tradition of giving by generous donors, which runs in the DNA of our institution, back to its private days” President Mike Michalson stated in his opening remarks.

Beverly Koski, one of Sarasota’s leading philanthropists and community leaders, has been active at New College for much of its fifty-year history, serving for many years as a leader of the New College Library Association (NCLA).

“New College is a special place,” said Koski. “It’s a place where students can come and design their own program under a mentor and the leadership of a fabulous staff. I am very proud to be a part of the New College tradition. It pleases me to think of the faculty, and students gathering in this plaza to discuss the topics of the day and the challenges before them.”

In the College’s early years, the Koski’s made one of the first large gifts to the library, and the Koski Core Collection Fund continues to help acquire new books and resources, helping make the Cook Library one of Southwest Florida’s most important public-accessible research libraries.
The Florida Commission on the Status of Women (FCSW) honored New College of Florida alumna Erica Lindegren with their annual Achievement Award for her work in improving the lives of women and families in their communities. Lindegren and the other recipients from throughout Florida were honored at a special luncheon in Ft. Lauderdale.

Lindegren, a Sarasota resident originally from Port Washington, Beach, graduated from New College of Florida in May 2011 with a bachelor's degree in anthropology, gender studies, and international and area studies.

While a New College student, Lindegren was involved in women's rights activism, both locally and nationally. She participated in groups such as Students Against Genocide and Greenpeace. In January 2010, she participated in a program that combined Spanish-language immersion with experimental learning.

Lindegren focuses on social and sexual change in Cuenca, Mexico. In 2009 and 2010, she interned with MADRE, an international women's rights organization in New York. Her New College senior thesis was an ethnographic exploration of how MADRE influences social change on a global scale. Recently, she was named to the board of the Sarasota Women's Resource Center and is serving currently as the organizer of their Community Outreach and Dance For Community Day.

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Jennifer Glass is the Barbara Bush Professor of Liberal Arts in the Department of Sociology and Research Associate in the Population Research Center at the University of Texas, Austin. She has published over 50 articles and books on gender stratification in the labor force, mother’s employment and mental health, and religious conservatism and women’s economic attainment, with funding from the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. She has received the Reuben Hill Award from the National Council for Family Relations, the 2011 Award for Excellence in Work-Family Research. She has chaired the Sex and Gender Section, the Family Section, the Organizations and Work Section, and has recently been elected Vice President of the American Sociological Association. Her most recent projects explore the wage effects of flexible work practices among parents, how telecommuting facilitates longer work hours, and whether governmental work-family policies improve or undermine parents’ mental and physical health, all as part of a larger project to understand the roots of mothers’ disadvantage in the labor market.

How do you feel about being awarded this new position?

It always feels good to be recognized by your peers. I never had to graduate school had it not been for my fantastic mentor, Penny Rosel, who encouraged me and pushed me through my thesis project (which, when I looked back on it a few years later, was better than most of the M.A. theses my students are writing today!). I remember asking her “What’s your graduate school?” when I mentioned perhaps I should think about continuing my studies. I came from a fairly conservative family and New College provided a lot of people around me who had much higher education. The New College learning environment was extraordinary – when I got to the University of Wisconsin for my Ph.D., the graduate students didn’t know what to do with me. I had already read all the books and done all the work at New College they typically asked first year students to do. So they put me in a minor-year course and I was right away! The freedom to delve into the subjects that interested me, the encouragement to ask novel questions and work with original data – all that came from New College, but proved to be essential in succeeding as an academic researcher.
New College alums win more accolades: 3 admitted to Teach for America this year

In addition to our stellar track record with Fulbright, New College alums are also excelling at admittance to other prestigious programs like Teach for America. This year three alums were awarded. Nausherwan Hafeez from Apollo Beach, FL has been assigned to Baltimore, MD. Dayna Firth from Gainesville, FL will be teaching classes in New York. NY and Agne Misluksne from Soutbourne, CT is a teacher in Seattle, WA. Previous winners have included Nina Barraclough ’06 who was awarded in 2010 and Vanessa Botero-Lowry who was awarded the grant in 2005. Teach for America is a highly competitive non-profit organization that recruits recent college graduates to teach for two years in America’s low-income communities.

Campaign Update

We are happy to report that in its first eighteen months, the Foundation’s $60 million multi-year comprehensive campaign has raised $15 million from alums & friends, like you, who are committed to helping us continue to attract the best and the brightest students and faculty. A few highlights of the campaign to date:

- The Harry Sudakoff Foundation has awarded New College the final installment of a multi-year commitment totaling $500,000 for the design and construction of an academic facility to house International Studies. The grant is eligible for $500,000 in state matching funds.
- Paul Mattison of Mattison’s Restaurant and Catering is graciously donating the hors d’oeuvres and wine for this season’s New Topics New College lecture series.
- New College received a $300,000 gift from Gregory Dubois-Felsman ’77 for a scientific computing laboratory in the recently completed Academic Center. The state will match this gift one-to-one bringing the total gift to $600,000.
- Keith and Linda Monda have made a $600,000 gift for New College scholarships. It will be used to endow out-of-state, need-based students. The Monda’s gift will be matched 70% by the state of Florida bringing its total value to $1,020,000. Keith Monda is a member of the New College Board of Trustees and is the former president and chief operating officer of Coach, Inc. in New York.
- The brain child of Teach for America, Kiah Graham, is currently involved in organizing the museum’s first lecture series and organizing an oral history project of World War II Merchant Mariners to go into the collections database. An article about Mary’s work with the museum appeared in the Houston Chronicle. The article can be found online. Click here to view this article.

from facebook:

Matt Mazzucchelli: “Awesome weekend at High Cove. Many thanks to all involved.” In response to the second annual New College re-union at High Cove on Sat, Oct 15th.

Michael Webb: “I would like to hear some of the stories the Wall could tell...” In response to the posting of an archived photo of Palm Court.

Ann Moss Joyner: “I am considering hosting an alum event at my place near Chapel Hill, if there folks nearby who are interested. Anyone?” A wall post on the NC Alum facebook.

D Ross Ohlundt: “Late walks to the bayfront.” In response to the question: “What is your favorite New College tradition” posed by NC Alum.

NCollege Facebook

Thanks to everyone who came out in DC despite the freezing temps and snow. We had over 40 people there! It was a great night.

NCollege Facebook

Be sure to check out New College band Physical Plans EP. It is available for free download here: http://physicalplans.bandcamp.com

NCollege Facebook

Ladies! Last day to RSVP for New College Event in DC is tomorrow at 12pm. Please e-mail nca@ncf.edu today with your response.

NCollege Facebook

NCollege Facebook

Update about the DC event this Saturday. Thanks to an underwriter at 5 year out or less alums go free. RSVP to nca@ncf.edu now.

NCollege Facebook

NCollege Facebook

Hosting this 2011 International Career Development Seminar Oct 20 from 8:30-3. Be of first 5 alums to RSVP to get free tickets. nca@ncf.edu

NCollege Facebook

“friends” on facebook

New College 2011 Reunion

View 7

New College Alum

D Ross Ohlundt:

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One of the few last weeks attending a couple orientations events and I bring back cold tale of response of my blog post. Share some of your favorite memories of orientation and arriving at New College?

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New College Alum

Join New College’s social media network on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter. Each day we inform and engage alumn/i about a variety of topics and events.

Currently, we are hoping to build our Facebook chapter pages and LinkedIn groups. Be sure to inquire to nca@ncf.edu about joining your local chapter group on Facebook or one of our professional groups on LinkedIn. Click the icons below to visit our pages.

www.ncf.edu/alum