



William Slack <william.l.slack@gmail.com>

Re: Gaudino newsletter

James Mathieu <james@contourproperties.com>
 To: Darlene Alderman <Darlene.J.Alderman@williams.edu>
 Cc: William.L.Slack@williams.edu

Mon, May 16, 2011 at 2:02 PM

Will and Darlene:

Will, I know how busy you must be as your last semester winds up this Spring. Well done and thanks.

James Mathieu '72/Trustee

On Mon, May 16, 2011 at 11:32 AM, Darlene Alderman <Darlene.J.Alderman@williams.edu> wrote:

The Gaudino Fund – Spring 2011 Newsletter

“Our faculty walk in the footsteps of Hopkins, Gaudino, and so many others.”

- **President Adam Falk** in his Induction Address as
 Williams' 17th President, September 25th, 2010

Friends of Gaudino,

Greetings from Williamstown! The Fund is pleased to provide you with a brief report of our activities over our recent meeting of the Gaudino Board of Trustees, and hopes you will enjoy reading about our trustees and scholars. First, we would like to give you a refresher on our successful alumni gathering to honor Professor Gaudino's legacy.

On Friday evening well over 100 Gaudino Alumni, significant others, and faculty gathered in Paresky Center for dinner and talk. Speakers at the event included Jim Burns, Fred Greene, Kurt Tauber (all of whom are still remarkable articulate, mentally sharp, and insightful), Ray Baker, Craig Brown, Charlie Baer, and George Marcus. Unfortunately, I did not make detailed notes of what they said. A few things I jotted down were: questioning as a sign of respect; Gaudino's ability to be friends with people who strongly disagreed with his views (for example, Charles Samuels); Gaudino's laughter and sense of irony; Gaudino's belief in collegiality, conversation as a form of friendship, sense of “The Commons” as from Aristotle; Gaudino never criticized other professors.... (read the rest on the website: <http://gaudino.williams.edu/report-on-the-2010-gaudino-weekend/>)

This year, our budget allowed us to sponsor 7 Winter Study projects, out of 14 applications. Our 2011 Gaudino Fellows were:

- Mohammed Lotif '11, who studied musical art forms in Bangladesh
- Kelsey Ham '12, studying leprosy and religion in Ethiopia
- Abdullah Awad '13, studying secular religion in Beirut & Cairo
- Desiree Daring '13, studying Spanish and work in Guatemala
- Mina Dinh '13, studying emigration and family in Laos
- Veronique Hob-Hob '13, studying women's employment in Rwanda

- Emily Levy '13, studying disability and culture in Ghana

You can read more about their exciting, challenging, and rewarding projects on the *Gaudino Website*. In addition to the Winter Study Fellows, we were able to sponsor in part the fourth iteration of Jeff Thaler '74's project: "Resettling Refugees in Maine."

The 2011 Refugee WSP students were:

- Laura Calloway '13, who lived with a Sudanese family and worked with middle school ELL students
- Jonayah Jackson '12, who lived with an Ethiopian family and worked with ELL adults at Portland Adult Education (directed by Rob Wood '74)
- Anh Nguyen '13, who lived with a Congolese family and worked with the Portland Community Health Center
- Ginette Sims '13, who lived with a Somali family and worked with middle school ELL students
- Jenny Tang '13, who lived with a Burundian family and worked with high school ELL students

The Gaudino Board will continue to sponsor Winter Study Programs promoting uncomfortable learning in Winter Study of 2012 as well as offer the Refugee WSP.

This summer saw the completion of the Gaudino Oral History website (<http://gaudino-oral-history.williams.edu/>), a project that has been spearheaded by Paul Lieberman since 2003. His work has also led to the creation of the film Mr. Gaudino (<http://gaudino.williams.edu/gaudino-film/>) which chronicles the life of this inspirational teacher with the narrative help of many of his closest companions: friends, family, and students.

Professor Will Dudley '89 of Philosophy entered his tenure as the college's Gaudino Scholar last fall with the mission of furthering the legacy and goals of Robert Gaudino. In his short time as scholar, he launched the Gaudino lunch initiative which facilitates students, faculty, and staff getting together over lunch for conversations on topics of mutual interest. He supported student neighborhood proposals that have worked toward strengthening student-faculty interactions in meaningful ways. Additionally, Professor Dudley spent time in the classroom teaching "Philosophy of Education: Why Are You Here?" which challenges students to question their own assumptions about the purpose and value of their time at Williams. Unfortunately, he will be stepping down as Scholar in order to answer a call to serve as the college's Provost. The Fund wishes him well as he steps into this leadership position.

We are very pleased to announce to this list that Professor Magnus Bernhardsson will serve as the next Scholar. Bernhardsson is a beloved history professor on campus, and we look forward to working closely with him throughout his tenure. He plans to use his appointment to zero in on the concept of danger. What ideas are dangerous? How do we confront danger? Can art or science be dangerous?

Thank you for your interest and support of the fund, and best wishes as Summer approaches the Purple Valley.

For the Gaudino Board,

William Slack '11
Outgoing Chair of Information/Communications

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