

Have You Heard?

NEWS ABOUT MEMBERS OF OUR MLA COMMUNITY

Alexandre Da Silva, MLA '03, is pursuing a PhD in Political Science at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. His research and study also includes Life Science and Public Administration. This past spring he presented a paper entitled "Citizen Participation in Watershed Management: Northwest Indiana as a Case Study," at the Midwest Political Science Conference in Chicago. Ellen Szarleta-Yancy co-authored the paper.

Steve Fouts, MLA '98, is currently working as director of graduate support and family services at a west side Chicago middle school while pursuing a EdD degree in higher education and organizational change at Benedictine University. Steve writes: "The focus of my dissertation builds on my MLA thesis at Chicago, which compared the guardian class of Plato's *Republic* to urban African American communities. I will be rendering Plato's *Republic* in a children's story and introducing it, along with some other liberal arts curricula, to measure changes in attitudes toward authority and perception of leadership roles in society among 5th through 8th graders. I hope to work with the MLA program in the future and pursue more comprehensive leadership initiatives to address challenges facing Chicago at-risk youth."

Marcia Danits, MLA '04, was honored in April with the Silver Circle award for lifetime achievement by the Chicago Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, recognizing her more than 25 years of excellence in television news as a courtroom artist. To quote Marcia, "This was almost as satisfying as attaining my MLA!" Marcia continues her education at the University of Chicago as a student in the Graham School's Asian Classics program.

Michael Goode, MLA '02, has published a second book, *Your True Self*, the result of four years of research. He travels across the United States and Canada lecturing on his first book, *Stage Fright in Music Performance and Its Relationship to the Unconscious*. He continues consulting performers and others about stage fright in Los Angeles, gives private trumpet lessons, presents workshops and lectures, and writes a monthly column, *Ask Mike!*, for *The Overture*. In April he was appointed principal trumpet of the Brentwood/Westwood Symphony based in Los Angeles.

Linda Keller, MLA '06, joined her family in welcoming niece Aurora Olivia Thorson Keller to the world on June 9. At 6 pounds 11 ounces and 20 inches in length, she is a delight to Mom, Dad, Aunt Linda, and the rest of the family! Linda describes Aurora as "adorable and civilized, as she waited until I'd had my morning tea to arrive." Linda is developing a seminar for attorneys and judges about how to work with translators and interpreters. Possible venues may include organizations such as Illinois Continuing Legal Education or the University of Chicago Law School. She is also applying for an online master's program in Ecumenical Studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University. This is a continuation of her MLA thesis and is connected to finishing her magnum opus, which will be a translation of her grandfather's book "*The Spirit of Russian Christianity*." Information can be found at www.iesdistance.org.ua.

Renee Serino Lau, MLA '06, and husband are expecting a child, scheduled to arrive in mid-September! They do not know the gender yet and are not sharing their name ideas, so we will have to wait a bit to find out the who, what, and when. According to Renee, big brother Jaxon Serino Lau will be two years and four months old when Baby Lau arrives. In addition to waiting for the baby, Renee is still teaching high school and has also found time to take additional MLA classes. Now off for the summer, Renee will be on maternity leave in the 2009–10 academic year. She is looking forward to the time off from teaching to devote time to her family.

Sonja Velins, MLA '97, has a business called *Proofreading Matters*. Aside from correcting text and offering suggestions to professors, her business allows her the opportunity to keep up with the latest in science and medicine. Sonja credits her 10 years working at Rush University Medical Center, in the research department of the Department of Orthopedics, for the skills she acquired and the ability to polish grant applications and manuscript submissions to medical journals.

Did You Know?

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO T-SHIRTS: FUNNIER THAN YOU THINK

The year was 1987, the place was Hale House, and Joel Stitzel, AB '88, had a date with destiny. Stitzel, who drew comic strips for *The Maroon*, was asked to design the house's fundraising T-shirt. The infamous slogan, which as Stitzel recalls, was created by Patrick Paulin, AB '92: "Hell Does Freeze Over." The slogan has been repurposed for other T-shirts over the years, but several aspects of the original have been forgotten—such as Stitzel's image of the U of C phoenix on a pile of ice cubes. The original also included a Latin slogan, "Crescat Tutula, Universitas Ditetur," which "was supposed to translate as, 'By Increasing Tuition, Let the University Become Enriched,'" Stitzel says. "But I was relying on a guy named Dan, who swore up and down that he knew Latin (as I'd never taken it) for the translation, and it may not be entirely correct."

Until recently, such T-shirts would have ended up—as Stitzel's did—buried in a box in the basement. Now the library's Special Collections Research Center, which houses papers and other objects documenting University history, is trying to increase its T-shirt holdings. The shirts may still end up in a box in a basement, but it will be an archival box in the Regenstein, kept at a constant temperature and humidity.

Unfortunately, Special Collections has no acquisitions funds whatsoever. So far, donations have brought in about 20 shirts, as well as a kimono commemorating a baseball game played against Japan's Waseda University in 1925. "I wouldn't call what we have a collection," says university archivist Daniel Meyer, AM '75, PhD '94. "I would call it 'a gathering.'"

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The University of Chicago Online Community
alumniandfriends.uchicago.edu/site/c.mjJXJ7MLIsE/b.5207305/k.42AE/University_of_Chicago_Tshirts.htm*