

# College of the Atlantic Endowment Report



FY2016





### College of the Atlantic Mission

College of the Atlantic enriches the liberal arts tradition through a distinctive educational philosophy — human ecology. A human ecological perspective integrates knowledge from all academic disciplines and from personal experience to investigate — and ultimately improve — the relationships between human beings and our social and natural communities. The human ecological perspective guides all aspects of education, research, activism, and interactions among the college's students, faculty, staff, and trustees. The College of the Atlantic community encourages, prepares, and expects students to gain expertise, breadth, values, and practical experience necessary to achieve individual fulfillment and to help solve problems that challenge communities everywhere.

### College of the Atlantic Vision

The faculty, students, trustees, staff, and alumni of College of the Atlantic envision a world where people value creativity, intellectual achievement, and the diversity of nature and human cultures. With respect and compassion, individuals will construct meaningful lives for themselves, gain appreciation for the relationships among all forms of life, and safeguard the heritage of future generations.

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## Letter from the Dean of Institutional Advancement

Lynn Boulger

### What's the Next Small Thing?

The question I am asked most about COA is: Why so small?

And I say: Think of the paper clip. Or the microchip. The ant. A seed. All small but powerful things. Their size is their strength. It predicts what they can do: Fit on a corner, in a pocket, a crevice, in the beak of a bird.

With only 350 students, COA is one of the smallest colleges in the US. We are small by design. COA has just enough faculty, staff, and students to provide a variety of intellectual, social, and cultural offerings, but still foster a close-knit community. We know one another by first name. We say hello on walking paths. We eat meals together.

The educational experience we can offer our students is radically different from most colleges.



### Remember Bio 1?

Most people's experience is this: A lecture hall with 140 other students. A long lecture, limited opportunities to ask a question, no discourse. Movement is regulated to shifting positions in a plastic chair. At COA, we believe that to study biology, it's critical to spend time not just in the lecture hall and lab, but in the field. We get students conducting field work as soon as possible, often in their first term. Introductory classes are small, typically fifteen students, and taught by full faculty members who are active researchers, skilled naturalists, and passionate teachers. We get outside. We do things. Students ask question, hold sea stars, band birds, count alewives.

You can't take 140 students canoeing through a marsh for class every week, but you can take 14. And those 14 students learn more in the field, and understand more, and retain more than those 140 students in the classroom taking notes (or watching YouTube videos).

Faculty know COA students, each and every one, by name, by interest, by learning style. And students know the faculty. These relationships are deep and real—and unstructured, organic. In many schools, a student has access to her professor during office hours. At COA, faculty eat lunch in the communal dining hall; they serve on committees together. There are pizza dinners and governance meetings and community gatherings. Every week.

The academic principles of the college were developed in large part by our first president, Ed Kaelber, who left his position as associate dean of the Harvard Graduate School of Education to build a college based on the latest research on how students learn and best practices of how to teach. Keeping things small was key.

COA has created a learning and living environment where each student is heard, seen, known, appreciated, and taught as an individual. This is possible in a school of 350. Not so, 35,000 or even 3,500. A cookie cutter is small, too, but we prefer a different educational model.

We are able to do this because for forty years, people who believed another kind of educational model was possible supported the college in all sorts of ways. The growth of the endowment can be seen as a gaining of support for this small idea. Thank you for helping us build this idea into a reality.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn Boulger".

Lynn Boulger



# From the Administrative Dean & CFO

Andrew S. Griffiths

At the end of our fiscal year 2016, our endowment investments totaled \$48.1 million, an increase of \$0.3 million from the balance at the end of the prior year. During this fiscal year, the investment gains and earnings were nearly flat, resulting in a net investment loss of \$52 thousand or 0.1%. It was a year when most equity benchmarks had losses; the dynamic benchmark<sup>1</sup> for our endowment was -1.5%. The growth in the COA endowment was due to contributions of \$2.5 million, which exceeded the annual draw of \$2.2 million.

The annual draw from the endowment is of critical importance to the mission of the college. It is based on the formula taking 4.8% per cent average of the trailing twelve quarters. It supports over 80 restricted funds in the endowment, including thirteen faculty chairs, many named scholarships, and several funds to support specific programs.

In addition to our endowment investments, the college has invested restricted funds, which are managed with, but not technically part of the endowment. Unlike the endowment funds, these funds may be spent down over a period of time. We have four such funds:

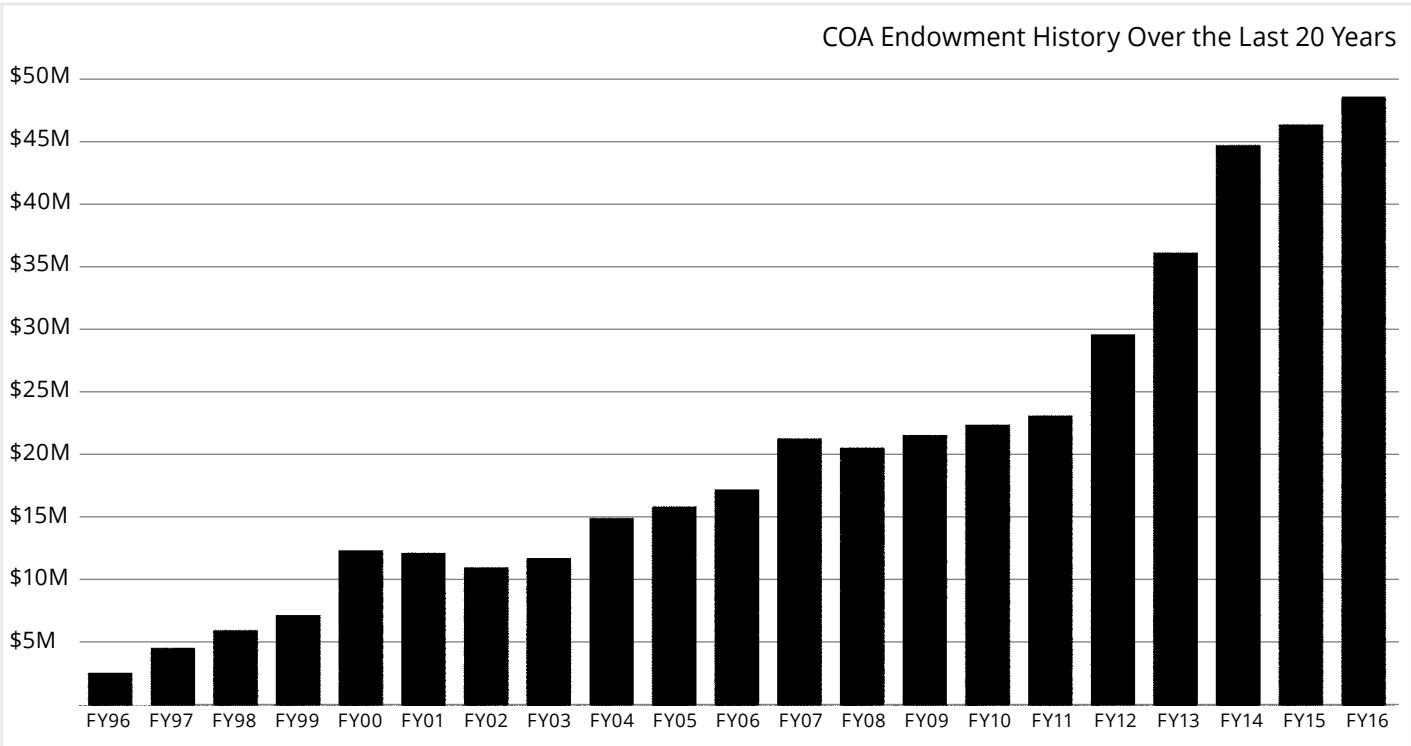
- \$3.4 million in the “Stanford-K.W. Davis Fund,” an internally established fund to support debt service on bonds
- \$530 thousand from the Partridge Foundation to support scholarships
- \$500 thousand for potential investment in future student housing
- \$10 thousand in the T.A. Cox Fund to support the maintenance of the Cox Protectorate

At the outset of the fiscal year, the investment committee concluded the selection of Cambridge Associates to provide investment advice regarding the selection and monitoring of additional managers to provide more diversity in our holdings. Last year, much of this transition was completed with the addition of eight new managers. We expect to complete this process soon, with the addition of two or three managers specializing in alternative investments.

Over the last ten years, the endowment has grown from \$13 million to its current value of \$48 million. Despite the setback in 2008–2009 when all college endowments were hit by the stock market decline, our investments have generally outperformed the market and have been recovering substantially. Over the last five years, our equity managers have out-performed the market. Similarly, our internally-managed fixed income investments performed comparably to bond indices.

More detailed reports are available upon request.

<sup>1</sup> The dynamic benchmark is an average of the MSCI ACWI and 30.0% Barclays Aggregate Bond Index.



## The Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Chair in Earth Systems and Geosciences

Chair Holder: Sarah Hall, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$2,134,538
Net Return on Investments	(\$4,964)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$99,792)
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,029,782

As the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Chair of Earth Systems and Geoscience, during the 2015–2016 school year at COA, I taught a total of 50 students, advised three students in term-long or summer independent study projects, advised one senior project student, and mentored ~11 student advisees. As in past years, I had the pleasure of working with and being supported by two excellent teaching assistants and three work-study students.

### Courses I taught during the 2015–2016 year included:

- **Geology of MDI:** In this course, students completed weekly field activities on MDI, where we visited many of the iconic landscapes associated with Acadia National Park. Students participated in one long-weekend field trip to Borestone Mountain in north-central Maine where we hiked, camped, and met with a COA alumna.
- **Rocks and Minerals:** I developed this course following a similarly titled tutorial taught in 2014. With a much more developed and catalogued rock and mineral collection at this time, it was finally time to teach a full course all about rock and mineral identification! This course was a huge success, as the students learned to identify over 65 minerals in hand samples, describe and name most common rocks, and began to explore the world of optical mineral identification using a petrographic microscope.
- **Quantitative Geomorphology:** This new course was added this year as an option for students to meet the Quantitative Research requirement through a geoscience topic. Students learned to describe and quantify processes acting on and shaping a variety of landscape types on Earth.
- **Climate and Weather:** This was the largest course I've taught to date! During the term, students learned about the science behind optical weather phenomena such as rainbows, sunsets, halos, dew, etc, as well as concepts related to seasonality, severe weather, global climate patterns, and climate change over different time scales.
- **Geology and Humanity:** This course covers the basic principles of geology, but follows a slightly different style than most of my other courses. We read a few popular science books, such as Barbara Freese's "Coal: A Human History," as well as scientific literature, news articles, and government-sponsored geoscience bulletins and websites.

### Independent Study Advising:

This year I worked with one senior project student (William Minogue '16), one student doing an independent study project for credit (Alba Rodriguez Padilla '18), and two other students who worked on projects throughout the year out of sheer interest and excitement (Spencer Gray '17 and Gemma Venuti '18). The students' hard work paid off. Four COA students (Gray, Ian Medeiros, Rodriguez Padilla, Venuti) presented posters at the Geological Society of America Northeastern Section meeting (NEGSA) in Albany, NY, and at the Geological Society of Maine (GSM) meeting in Orono, ME. My senior project student, William Minogue, established an important connection between island stakeholders (Acadia National Park, Friends of Acadia, UMO, and COA) through his project planning, development, and implementation. He was interviewed by Bangor Daily News about his stream monitoring project! All of these students benefited directly from the Bass Chair Fund.

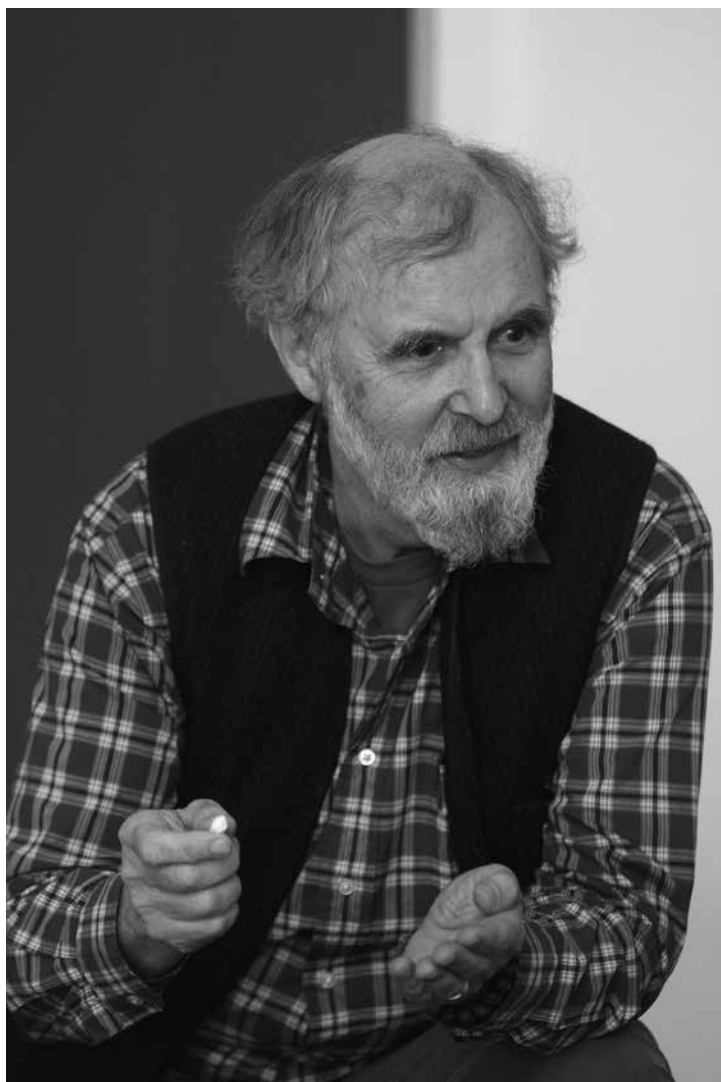
### Professional Work:

- In March 2016, I attended the Geological Society of America Northeastern Section Meeting in Albany, NY where I gave a talk on my ongoing work in Peru. Much of this work was completed with my master's student from McGill, Keith Hodson. We are now revising a manuscript of this work.
- I co-authored two manuscripts from collaborative work completed during 2013–2015 came out in print during Fall, 2015.
- Grants—Ongoing grant work and proposals:
  - » Ongoing grant work: This was the first year of funding from our proposal with the University of San Francisco: National Science Foundation Collaborative Proposal GEOPATH-EXTRA: *Field based professional development for ESTEM undergraduate students*, Co-PI (**funded**; \$340,783; 2015-2018)
  - » Ongoing grant work: I continued working as a co-author of the "Surface Process Hazards—Mass Wasting" introductory geoscience course module, part of an NSF initiative: *GETSI—GEodesy Tools for Societal Issues* with collaborator, Rebecca Walker of Mt. San Antonio College
  - » New funded proposal: Maine Space Grant Consortium: *Field-based professional development for ESTEM undergraduates*, Co-PI (Funded: \$5,000)

## The Richard J. Borden Chair in the Humanities

Chair Holder: John Visvader, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,498,747
Net Return on Investments	(\$3,401)
Contributions	\$13,064
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$64,122)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,444,288



This has been a difficult but exciting teaching year. I taught three classes with a total of 56 students, one senior project, and four independent studies. But the difficulty and excitement came from the research I had to do for my classes. I had chosen the particular topics in an attempt to investigate the philosophical aspects of what I consider to be the two most difficult issues in the sciences – the nature and origin of the universe, and the nature and origin of consciousness.

It had been many years since I taught Cosmology as a science class, so for my fall class *Philosophy and Cosmology* I had to review the latest theories on the origin and evolution of the universe and various issues in quantum cosmology, dark matter and dark energy.

The Spring class on the *Philosophy of Mind* involved an examination of contemporary theories of the nature of consciousness, which included some of the recent findings in brain research as well as their philosophical and conceptual evaluations.

My Winter class on *Chinese Philosophy* offered an alternative perspective on both of these issues, and gave me an opportunity to translate some more material from essential Buddhist texts. While I thought all of my classes went very well, the students in my Chinese Philosophy class submitted the best set of student papers I have had at COA.

I gave two guest lectures to other classes at the college and gave a 'Works in Progress' presentation to the faculty. One of the guest lectures involved 'transformation spaces' in garden and architectural design, and the other concerned mysticism and heretical religions in the late middle ages. The work in progress was called *The Three Tasks of Selo Black Crow*, and was based on a project I had done with the Lakota

medicine man. I attempted to suggest parallel lines between Selo's religious views and those of the general mystical tradition.

I have also been doing research on a new class I intend to teach in the next year, *The Self—A Comparative Approach*, which would combine Eastern and Western philosophical theories with some of the latest neuro-physiological investigations.

As usual, a lot of my effort went into arranging the *Human Ecology Forum*, which met weekly over all three terms. The speakers were drawn from students, faculty, staff, and visiting scholars, artists, writers, activists, and professionals from outside the college. The range of topics included global warming and climate change, marine resource conservation, sustainable development, the Greek political crisis, earthquake restoration in Nepal, shamanism in Guatemala, wild-ways corridors in the U.S., evolution and human ecology, immigrants in Maine, small business and sustainability, prospects for a North Woods National Park, and presentations by local artists and poets.

## The Rachel Carson Chair in Human Ecology

Chair Holder: Richard J. Borden, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,224,914
Net Return on Investments	(\$2,912)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$60,422)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,161,580

This was an active, rich and rewarding year. In fall, I co-organized and taught the Human Ecology Core Course and Personality and Social Development. I offered Popular Psychology and my Seminar in Human Ecology in winter and supervised one senior project; was reader for half-dozen human ecology essays; guided two independent studies; and advised a dozen undergraduate and two M. Phil. students.

In support of Admissions activities, I met and corresponded with prospective students and parents, participated in family weekend, and chaired the M. Phil./Advanced Studies Committee during Sean Todd's winter sabbatical. I was a member of the Academic Affairs Committee, Human Studies and Faculty Meetings, the Center for Applied Human Ecology (CAHE) and All College Meeting (ACM). Additional committee duties were: the editorial board of *COA Magazine*; faculty contract-review committee for Ken Hill; Faculty Retirement Planning Committee; and chair of Academic Priorities Committee. I was on sabbatical spring term.

In August, I attended the centennial meeting of the Ecological Society of America (ESA) in Baltimore. As governing board member and human ecology section chair, I organized a half-day symposium: *Human Ecology—A Gathering of Perspectives: Portraits from the Past, Prospects for the Future* for ESA's 100<sup>th</sup>-anniversary celebration. I am currently editing the collection, including my own contribution, "Gregory Bateson's Search for the 'Pattern Which Connects' Ecology and Mind," for a joint ESA/SHE issue of *Human Ecology Review*.

Throughout the year, Ken Hill and I were program co-chairs for the XX1st International Conference of the Society for Human Ecology (SHE), *Shaping a Livable Future: Research—Education—Practice*, held April 12-15 in Santa Ana, California. I also organized a conference workshop: *The Shape of Human Ecology: A Bird's Eye View of the Human Ecology Programs Worldwide*, and a symposium *Ecological Knowledge, Human Values and Meaningful Livelihood*, which included my presentation: "Rewriting Nature's Story: Lessons from a Century of Ecological Science."

In December I taped a half-hour *Love Maine Radio* program, featuring my book *Ecology and Experience*, that aired January 16 on WLOB/WPEI, and can be heard (on podcast) or read (in transcript) at [themainemag.com/radio](http://themainemag.com/radio).

Other professional activities included: book manuscript reviewer for Routledge, Mercury Academic, and University of California Press; editorial board membership for *Human Ecology Review* and *Environment, Development and Sustainability*; external promotion committee member for Australia National University (ANU); and international scholars' team for a new doctoral-level, human ecology program at Universidade Santa Cecilia in Brazil.

During my sabbatical, I did field research in France and Belgium, and visited Portugal's Universidade Nova de Lisboa—host for the 2018 SHE conference—where I reviewed the venue, gave presentations on COA and the history of human ecology, and was outside commentator on four Ph. D. dissertations in human ecology.

At the moment, I am writing an invited chapter on "Psychological Dimensions of Sustainability" for a forthcoming volume on Sustainability Science by Elsevier.

But best of all, this year, was conducting the marriage my son Andrew and Jennifer McGovern with a lobster-bake rehearsal dinner at COA and Pot and Kettle ceremony!





## The William H. Drury, Jr. Chair in Evolution, Ecology, and Natural History

Chair Holder: John G.T. Anderson, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,448,835
Net Return on Investments	(\$3,409)
Contributions	\$500
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$70,694)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,375,232

This was a very busy year in terms of both teaching and research. I taught seven courses: the Human Ecology Core Course; a new version of Biology: Form and Function; Ecology; Costa Rican Natural History; a new course called Heaven and Earth on the evolution of religion, and religion and evolution; Wildlife Ecology; and Conservation Biology. This was honestly too many, and I have resolved to “work to rule” in the future and only do the required five courses. I sponsored several Senior projects and continued working with Bik Wheeler on his MPhil thesis re-examining Robert MacArthur’s warbler model. I think that Bill Drury would have been at least as proud of Bik as I am.

In August of 2015, I hosted the 39<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Waterbird Society at College of the Atlantic—the first time this international meeting has been held in the Northeast. I was ably assisted by alumna Kate Shlepr ’13, and the entire team of this year’s summer research students who were simply marvelous at making sure everyone got where he or she needed to be, that rooms had appropriate AV equipment, that planes were met with buses and buses got to planes on time, etc. I would also like to acknowledge the COA Summer Program staff who made our job possible, and our simply amazing kitchen staff, who set a new standard for accommodation and culinary deliciousness that will be hard to beat in future meetings.

I presented an oral paper on our work on Great Duck Island at the Schoodic Institute Research Symposium in October, and Meaghan Lyon ’16, Audra McTague ’19, and Nina Duggan ’18 presented posters on their work on Great Duck during the summer. Nina, Audra, and Amber Wolf ’17 presented at the Northeast Natural History Conference in Springfield, MA in April, while I chaired an oral session on Mammalogy. Attendance at these meetings was supported by funds from the Drury Research Fund.

### Drury Research Fund

Beginning Fund Balance	\$304,890
Net Return on Investments	(\$707)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$14,160)
Ending Fund Balance	\$290,023

The 2016 research season has been one of our most exciting to date. Drury funds supported six students and one alumna on Great Duck Island. Projects this year included the successful tagging of eight Herring Gulls with GPS tags that provide us with the birds’ location, track, and altitude flown each time the birds return to within a few hundred meters of a base station. This information is important, both in our general understanding of gull ecology and specifically as part of a collaborative project with Island Institute, through the Fund for Maine Islands, as we examine the impact of aquaculture on bird behavior.

In addition, we color-banded a record number of gulls, developed new monitoring protocols for Leach’s Storm petrels, assessed the impact of drones on nesting gulls, furthered our database on gull breeding success, and collaborated with the New England Aquarium on assessing stress hormones in gull guano. This last project may have profound import in our on-going concern about the impact of predators on gull populations.

As always, I am deeply grateful to the donors who make our work possible, the students who do the hard work, and our captain and crew who keep us safe on the water and act as our bridge to the islands.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,797,351
Net Return on Investments	(\$4,144)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$82,271)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,710,936



This year I taught Introduction to Arts and Design, Landscape Architectural Design Studio and Land Use Planning. I assisted in a new class on sustainable design. On a trip to New York City the Landscape Architectural Design class studied parks including the High Line, Paley Park and Central Park. We walked the full length of each and discussed the various design features. On the way we visited the Olmsted National Historic Site in Brookline, Massachusetts and toured Frederick Law Olmsted’s home, office and grounds. As a final project they designed landscape plans for a recently purchased home on Mount Desert Island.

Students in Land Use Planning and GIS assisted the City of Ellsworth in determining the best connector route from the new extension of the Downeast Sunrise Trail to Ellsworth’s rail trail. They gathered and compared information on safety and road conditions for the various possible routes, determined the best option and where and how it should be signed, and presented their finding at a town workshop. The city planners were thrilled with a detailed data gathered and the numerous other recommendations students presented on how to improve pedestrian and bicycle connectivity throughout the city and the region. We provided a comprehensive report to the planners from which they took salient information and presented to the City Council in order to obtain approval for implementation of the most immediate needs.

As part of our commitment to the local community several of my students and I worked with the grass roots “A Climate to Thrive” whose goal is to reduce MDI’s dependence on fossil fuels. We continue to work on their committees. Also as a board member of the Beatrix Farrand Society (BFS) I helped coordinate installation of a pollinator garden and the maintenance and rehabilitation

of Beatrix Farrand’s last garden design at Garland Farm. Students from my classes toured this site as well as the Rockefeller, Thuya and Asticou gardens.

As I do every year, I served on the Campus Planning and Building Committee, Landscape Subcommittee, and the Center for Applied Human Ecology. I also joined the new Building Committee established by the Board to address the needs for additional arts and science teaching spaces. As part of our research I traveled along with Millard, Darron, and Heather to Hampshire College to see their recently completed “living building” and meet with alumni in the area.

At the American Society of Landscape Architects Conference in Chicago I attend continuing education sessions on emerging technologies including strategies to address climate change such as the Mill River floodplain redevelopment in Stamford, Connecticut (which I later visited and photographed). I also attended and brought a graduate student to the three-day “Building Energy Boston” conference sponsored by Northeast Sustainable Energy Association. Both venues provided a wealth of knowledge I will pass on to students at the College. I am extremely grateful for the wonderfully enriching opportunities the Eliot Chair funds have afforded me and my students.

## Steven K. Katona Chair in Marine Studies

Chair Holder: Sean Todd, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,940,170
Net Return on Investments	(\$4,475)
Contributions	\$550
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$89,034)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,847,211

This year was marked by an excellent 2015 field season out at Mount Desert Rock (MDR), and included several major facility upgrades funded by the Mars Family. As of the close of this academic year, the generator shed was externally completed and in use (it acted as the main classroom and workshop facility for the 2015 offering of Marine Mammal Biology). The boat house has been rebuilt, now includes an integrated seal blind overlooking the local seal haul-out areas, and has only a few cosmetic external needs remaining. An electrical ground has been installed that will allow us to safely expand and permanently install 12, 24, and 110 V access across the station. In 2017, we will focus on repairs to the boat ramp as well as final upgrades to the lightkeeper's house.



This was the second year of a contract with NOAA and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute to use Mount Desert Rock as a sighting platform and acoustic workstation base. The Rock continues to prove itself as a valued training ground for students interested in pursuing careers in marine field research.

Over the academic year, I taught a total of 77 students in five classes, 2 independent studies and 2 senior projects, while maintaining an official advisee roster of 26 students (including 3 graduate students). Classes taught included Marine Mammal Biology (a record number of 18 students spending 14 days out on Mount Desert Rock), Advanced Analysis in Biology, the Human Ecology Core class (team taught with several other faculty members), Biology: Form and Function (team-taught with Nishi Rajakaruna '94), and Introduction to Oceanography.

In terms of professional work, I took my sabbatical in Winter 2016, spending a total of three months aboard the M/S Seabourn and M/S Hanse Explorer, expedition cruise vessels working between Buenos Aires, Ushuaia and Valparaiso via the Falkland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula. A guest lecturer and resident scientist, I represented Allied Whale's Antarctic Humpback Whale Catalog. These trips allowed me unprecedented access to wildlife, and helped me develop my small craft operation skills (I completed the globally recognized Royal Yacht Club Power Boating Certificate). I also contributed one of the largest collections of humpback whale photo-identifications to the Antarctic Humpback Whale Catalog that season.

During the rest of my sabbatical and beyond, I continued to develop a program of scripts for the Great Courses, a project that is scheduled for release around Christmas 2017.

Chair funds were used to help subsidize the costs of the MDR-based Marine Mammals class, including the provision of transport and accommodations for 16 students attending a two-day marine mammal conservation conference in Massachusetts. Funds also assisted six presenting students attending the Biennial Society for Marine Mammalogy meeting in San Francisco, December 2015, and supported a graduate student attending a marine mammal acoustics workshop in Pennsylvania, as well as a MATLAB programming workshop in Nova Scotia necessary for their thesis.

Funds helped me purchase much-needed camera lens upgrades for Allied Whale, as well as sabbatical travel costs.

I have helped in a number of grant initiatives designed to support Allied Whale:

- Prescott Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Program, \$99,972
- Anonymous Foundation, \$30K, appl. May 2016, rec'd June 2016 (for general MDR research and photo-identification programs)
- Walsh/Oceanside Properties, \$20K (towards marine mammal research)

## The Elizabeth Battles Newlin Chair in Botany

Chair Holder: Suzanne Morse, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,081,745
Net Return on Investments	(\$2,502)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$49,905)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,029,338



The summer began with the preparation and planting of the third and final year of a Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education research project, testing the effect of chipped alder on soil quality and vegetable production. The work was completed in collaboration with students Liam Torrey '17, Ian Medeiros '16, and farm manager of Peggy Rockefeller Farms, C.J. Walke.

The community garden was plagued with woodchucks for most of the summer, which provided us ample opportunity for human ecological discussions of how we might best live with the booming populations that left little for gardeners to harvest.

In the fall term, I returned to Norway for my last year of teaching in the Agroecology graduate program at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. COA professor Doreen Stabinsky joined our course for a day on her way to Paris and led a discussion on global climate change negotiations. In addition to teaching, I advised five master's students and participated in the Power in Political Ecology conference hosted by the University of Bergen.

In the winter, I taught the Art and Science of Fermented Foods with teaching assistant Lizza Backes '16. The class included cheese making with Barbara Brooks at Seal Cove Farm and visits to fermenting enterprises, including Thirty Acre Farm, run by Simon and Jane (Herndon) Frost '06, the newly established Amish charcuterie in Unity, and Tinder Hearth Bakery.

I taught a new, advanced course, Seeds. The high point of the course was taking six students to the Organic Seed Alliance conference in Oregon, where we learned directly from the breeders and activists who are working hard to provide seed appropriate for organic systems, and to maintain the genetic resources at risk of loss. Upon our return, the students pitched several ideas of how COA's farms might move to becoming more self-sufficient in seed production.

In the Spring, I taught Plant Developmental Morphology, where we explored how the remarkable diversity of plant form is generated with just stems, leaves and roots, and Theory and Practice of Organic Gardening (together with Rebecca Haydu '16) and 12 students, who developed exquisite vegetable gardens for the local food pantry and the dining hall, flowers for the development office, and a children's garden for summer field studies.

I continue to be on the board of the Wild Seed Project, and this year we hosted, in collaboration with four other conservation organizations, an inspiring talk by Doug Tallamy (University of Delaware). The talk was well attended by COA students and faculty. The take-home message was clear: not all plants are equal in terms of supporting biodiversity—plant an oak in your yard and you may have over 100 species of moths and butterflies whose squishy larvae will be the food for many species of birds. Plant an (invasive) Asian pear, no larvae and no birds.

As in previous years, the primary expenditures from the fund covered teaching and research assistant salaries, student and faculty attendance to conferences, purchase of equipment and books, and greenhouse maintenance.

It is with deepest gratitude I thank the funders who support botanical work and infrastructure at COA.



# The Partridge Chair in Food and Sustainable Agriculture Systems

Chair Holder: Molly D. Anderson, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$3,744,728
Net Return on Investments	(\$8,646)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$171,959)
Ending Fund Balance	\$3,564,123

This was a transition year for the Partridge Chair in Food and Sustainable Agriculture Systems. Our previous chair, Dr. Molly Anderson, left COA after five productive years at the college where she taught many courses, oversaw independent studies, published widely, spoke internationally, worked on the Food Solutions New England network team, oversaw the Trans-Atlantic Partnership, and helped more closely align COA's organic farms with the academic program. She grew COA's food systems program reputation regionally, nationally, and internationally, and we are very grateful to her for her dedication and hard work.

During Winter Term, we launched the search for her replacement. The committee was led by Suzanne Morse, COA's Elizabeth Battle Newlin Chair in Botany, whose work has a major sustainable agriculture focus. The committee reviewed a large number of applicants from all over the US, brought three on-campus as finalists, and made a decision by the end of February of 2016. We are thrilled to report that we have a new Partridge Chair! Kourtney Collum!

Kourtney earned her BS in Anthropology and Environmental Studies from Western Michigan University, her MS in Forest Resources and her PhD in Anthropology and Environmental Policy, from UMaine. Of her work, she says, "My scholarship focuses on the complex problems inherent in human-environment interactions within food systems, focusing particularly on farm and food policy."

Her dissertation examined the factors that affect farmers' adoption of on-farm conservation practices in the lowbush blueberry industries of Maine and Prince Edward Island (PEI). Specifically, she "explored how farmers are adapting their pollination management practices in the face of declining commercial honeybee populations. Maine and PEI have similar climates and economies but dissimilar agricultural policies, leading to disparate pollination management between the two locations. My research compared the two regions to elucidate the complex contexts within which agricultural conservation takes place. The work demonstrated that conservation decisions are rarely the result of farmers' individual choices, but rather the result of the socio-political environments in which agriculture is embedded."

Kourtney will teach the following classes in Fall FY17: Sustainability, Justice and Policy in Alternative Food Systems, Transforming Food Systems. A full report will be available next year.

Fiscal year 2016, we used chair funds to help fund the search as well as support other classes and projects in the Food Systems program. These include:

- Gardens and Greenhouses: Theory/Practice of Organic Gardening
- Agroecology
- Agriculture and Biotechnology
- History of Agriculture: Apples
- French Food, Politics, and European Political Institutions
- Corn and Coffee
- Edible Botany
- Art and Science of Fermented Foods
- Landforms and Vegetation
- Ethnobotany
- Soils

We look forward to reporting next year, when Kourtney will have a full year of teaching at COA to discuss. Thank you once again for your belief in COA, which makes this unique type of education possible.

## David Rockefeller Family Chair in Ecosystem Management and Protection

T.A. Cox Fund in Ecosystem Management and Protection

Chair Holder: Kenneth S. Cline, JD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,350,550	
Net Return on Investments	(\$3,223)	<i>In this year of Acadia and the National Park Service's Centennials, unsurprisingly there is a strong park-related focus that permeates my teaching, research, and outreach.</i>
Contributions	\$0	
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$67,275)	
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,280,052	

**Classes** This fall I taught my Acadia National Park course. Limited to first-year students, this class uses service learning and weekly trips into the park to explore the national park idea, its historical roots, and its management. I also taught Environmental Law and Policy, an advanced policy analysis class with a strong focus on endangered species, wetlands, and public interest law. In winter, I moved to a global park focus with International Wildlife Policy, studying wildlife treaties and international protected areas. In spring, I taught Whitewater/Whitepaper, which gave students a theoretical and applied understanding of river conservation and policy. This course included an eight-day river trip with river conservationist and author Tim Palmer. I also directed seven senior projects related to the Rockefeller Chair. All of these projects focused on parks, ecosystem protection, and/or landscapes. Additionally, I supervised three independent studies concerned with water, watersheds, and a new national park, and a three-credit residency focused on the landscape of the Chama River watershed in New Mexico. Finally, in the summer I led a new summer field institute class for high school students focused on Acadia National Park.

**National Park Work** The centennial of Acadia and the National Park Service has been a major focus of the Rockefeller Family Chair this year. From the transformation of COA's Dorr Museum to illustrate Acadia-COA collaborations in the "Our Best Classroom" exhibit, to lectures, gallery shows, and other events, COA has been involved in all aspects of the centennial celebration. I gave talks, introduced movies, and provided guest lectures. This spring I was appointed to the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission by Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell. Created by Congress, the commission consults with the Secretary of the Interior, and the park superintendent, on matters relating to the management and development of Acadia National Park.

**Conservation Advocacy** Through the Sierra Club, a local land trust, and regional conservation networks, I have continued my advocacy work on behalf of land protection and ecosystems. I worked extensively in support of a proposal to create a new national monument in the Maine Woods. I have also been named to a national Sierra Club task force charged with developing board policies and a "theory of change" document that will integrate the stewardship of public lands into all of the Sierra Club's work. This has entailed reaching out to groups and constituencies not typically associated with public land advocacy so that the movement reflects the broad diversity and values of the nation.

## T.A. Cox Fund in Ecosystem Management and Protection

Beginning Fund Balance	\$287,270
Net Return on Investments	(\$637)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$11,879)
Ending Fund Balance	\$274,754

As a result of my work at the World Parks Congress, which was supported by the Cox Fund, I was invited to become a member of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's World Commission on Protected Areas. The WCPA promotes the establishment and effective management of a worldwide network of terrestrial and marine protected areas. It is the preeminent international expert body that advises countries and international agencies on the creation and management of parks. I will be attending the IUCN's World Conservation Congress as a WCPA member with support from the Cox Fund. The Cox Fund also made possible the piloting of a new collaborative program between COA and Acadia National Park: The Acadia Scholars program. Support from the Cox Fund, institutional funds, and money raised from the Davis Conservation Foundation allowed us to fund a three-month internship in Acadia for outstanding COA students interested in park management. Implemented through a new cooperative agreement between COA and Acadia, these Acadia Scholars not only have an unparalleled learning opportunity but also gain an expedited path for employment within the Park Service or other federal land management agencies.

Finally, this past fall, I was invited to attend the Renewable Natural Resources Foundation's Congress on Sustaining Western Water in Washington, DC. This national gathering of legal and policy experts examined the impacts and policy solutions to long-term drought affecting the western United States.

## The Sharpe-McNally Chair in Green and Socially Responsible Business

Chair Holder: Jay Friedlander

Beginning Fund Balance	\$2,127,384
Net Return on Investments	(\$6,514)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$97,698)
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,023,172

The Sustainable Business Program had a year of growth and recognition from around the globe. Thanks to the generosity of the Diana Davis Spencer Foundation, Alex Birdsall was hired as the Sustainable Business Program Manager to assist with COA's sustainable enterprise incubator, the Hatchery. This year, students in the Hatchery developed a wide range of enterprises, including: elementary schools in Nepal, ethical fashion, youth journalism, fine arts, disaster relief housing design, and an animal shelter. Inquiries about the Hatchery's unique curricular model came from over a dozen institutions including the Epicenter program run by Stanford, and as far away as Madagascar. The Hatchery was featured at a social innovation conference at Tulane University.



Beyond the Hatchery, there has been exceptional interest in our pedagogy. I was asked to join the Advisory Board for the University of Maine Center for Graduate and Professional Studies, an interdisciplinary law, policy and business graduate education program. I hosted a University of North Dakota doctoral candidate who interviewed faculty and staff. She used COA as a case study to develop a model for how institutions incorporate social innovation in all aspects of higher education. Similar interest led to two other short programs I taught: a two-day workshop on embedding social change in the curriculum for faculty at Hamilton College, and a Summer University food systems business course in partnership with the Germany Society of Human Ecology.

Over the last year, President Darron Collins, Dean Ken Hill and I have worked with a group of academics from Japan interested in founding a college based on COA's educational model.

Finally, students and the Sustainable Business Program were featured in publications, including the front page of the business section in *The New York Times*, as well as other media outlets. The Abundance Cycle, a sustainable business model merging strategy and sustainability, was developed and expanded over my sabbatical. The model was featured in a workshop at Brown University and articles published by MITSloan Management Review, Stanford Social Innovation Review, and Virgin.com.

## Lisa Stewart Chair in Literature and Women's Studies

Chair Holder: Karen E. Waldron, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,402,239
Net Return on Investments	(\$3,270)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$66,000)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,332,969



The Lisa Stewart Chair in Literature and Women's Studies supported both conference presentations and course work in 2015–2016. In the fall, I taught an advanced seminar, *Contemporary Women's Novels* (to both women and men), which involved dramatic, passionate discussions about international women's fiction and the kinds of stories women are living and representing. We also considered feminist literary theory, including several works focusing on women's writing from other regions of the world.

In addition, I taught a large group of students in Literature, Science, and Spirituality—one of my classes that serves students working primarily in the sciences, as well as students focusing in the humanities, which generates a wonderful mix of thoughts and perspectives on science, religion, literature, and their intersection. Gender is one of the more subtle but critical aspects of what we focus on in the course, since many of the representations of science and scientists utilize gender in ways that reveal deep social patterns and attitudes about knowledge. With works ranging from Francis Bacon to Gloria Naylor, students canvas a broad spectrum of notions about science, religion, and the burden of knowledge.

During Winter 2016, I responded to three advanced, talented students who wanted to do a tutorial on *Cross-Cultural American Women's Novels* and had missed the class the previous year. We had fabulous discussions and I was pleased to work with one of these students, Eloise Schultz ('16) (a future teacher!) to conduct a discussion on Sarah Orne Jewett as part of the Board of Trustees winter presentation. I also offered my class on *American Realism and Naturalism*, designed for College of the Atlantic as *City/Country: American Literary Landscapes 1860-1920*. A popular course, the class helps students see

US literature wrestling with the human relationship to the landscape—a very vivid and profound human ecology—during a period of dramatic social, political, geographic, economic, and environmental change. Students realize that the 19<sup>th</sup> century explains much of what they experience now, especially when thinking about the human/nature intersection in city and country, and their interdependence, in every aspect of the US landscape.

Before taking a sabbatical term in Spring 2016 to work on projects in literary ecology, I chaired panels and presented papers at two conferences: the Northeast Modern Language Association in Hartford, Connecticut, and the Popular Culture Association in Seattle, Washington. In Hartford, I presented on Sarah Grimké's use of the Bible in her 1838 *Letters on the Equality of the Sexes and the Condition of Women*. The panel I chaired was on the literary ecology of island and water worlds; I will be doing a panel exclusively on islands next year as a result of the significant response we garnered. Seattle allowed me to present on Laurie R. King's remake of the Sherlock Holmes series with the lead character of Mary Russell, combining my work on women's studies, feminist criticism, and narrative theory.



## The Allan Stone Chair in the Visual Arts

Chair Holder: Catherine L. Clinger, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,359,382
Net Return on Investments	(\$3,395)
Contributions	\$80,918
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$60,213)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,376,692

This was my final year in the role of Associate Academic Dean. Still, I maintained a full teaching course load. One of the highlights of teaching this year was offering a newly designed course on European Romanticism during the winter term. This advanced course considered the diverse body of romantic art. Although the body of scholarly work that studies the interstices of romantic art, literature, and music is enormous, the course design narrowed the scope of study by focusing on certain works as sites of a particular pictorial kind of representational transdisciplinarity. Students learned of the widespread interconnectedness within the fine and popular arts through aesthetic and material production; and, how this informed the conceptualization of romantic imagery from misty mountains to storm-tossed boats. We traveled to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston to view works in the collection that were key in the development of the movement. At the Institute of Contemporary Art, we probed new media that were informed by the nearly 200-year old ideas we were working with, noting that excellent artists are not always bound entirely by an immediacy in current discourse. The class spent considerable time immersed in the work of celebrated female writers as well as winding our way through the imagery of noted German, Norwegian, Spanish, French, and British painters and printmakers.

During the fall term, the course Contemporary Artists as Researcher and Activist introduced students to work by artists who are at the forefront of engaging with social and environmental issues, from the Colombian artist Doris Salcedo to American photographer David Maisel.

The Spring 2016 Studio Printmaking class had a wonderful opportunity to spend many hours viewing Master Prints from the Lunder Collection at Colby College. The students created a print portfolio in an edition of 12, which was, in part, inspired by their firsthand examination of works from Dürer to Goya, Hiroshige to Rembrandt. In the studio, we began to work with different etching technologies as I continue to expand the range of what is possible in our modest printmaking facility. I have begun to assemble, in earnest, a small print collection for teaching. Drawing Mineral and Botanical Matter class worked in Thuya Gardens as well as a range of locations throughout Acadia National Park during the spring.

My own work took a turn from scholarly publication to the studio arts this year. I produced two print series. One was the result of having spent significant time in New York at MoMA at the Degas Monotype exhibition and with the work of Goshka Macuga at the New Museum, finding unexpected correlations in their distant and unrelated practices.

I continue to serve as a contributing editor to the *Object Journal* in London.



## The James Russell Wiggins Chair in Government and Polity

The Philip Geyelin Fund for Government and Polity

Chair Holder: Jamie McKown, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,554,889
Net Return on Investments	(\$3,605)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$72,132)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,479,152

The past year was an exceptionally engaging and vibrant time for governance-related activities here at COA. The lengthy primary campaign cycle for the upcoming presidential election sparked a wide range of student interest in topics related to politics, campaigning, and government. To best respond to this demand, we hosted a number of events throughout the Winter and Spring terms designed to educate and engage students in the electoral process.

As in past elections, we continued the tradition of hosting “debate watch” viewing sessions for the campus community in the McCormick Lecture Hall. Every single one of these sessions this past year was standing room only, with students crowded down on the floor watching both the Democratic and Republican debates with equal interest and engagement. While the March caucuses certainly marked the highpoint of student interest, there continued throughout the Spring to be a “buzz” about the presidential campaign that was without equal during my time here at COA.

This renewed interest in electoral politics generated opportunities within the classroom as well. One of the things I have always valued about COA is our ability to be flexible in adapting course offerings to changing and timely community needs. I was approached at the end of the Winter term by a group of students interested in continuing to discuss, track, and examine the ongoing presidential primary process. With very little time to prepare, we were able to respond to that demand by quickly piecing together an advanced seminar (creatively titled “Campaign 2016”) for 14 students.

Though I was originally worried that I would not be able to keep up with the frenetic pace of the campaign, it actually turned out to be one of the most satisfying, productive, challenging, and affirming courses I have had the opportunity to teach while at COA. We covered topics from polling methodologies to campaign finance reform, the Electoral College, voting machine regulations, proportional representation systems, and much, much more. The overwhelming response from the students who participated was very positive. They were even asking for a second class for the fall! I will readily admit that I would have had much more trouble getting these same students to tackle those topics in a non-election year.

In closing, I am pleased to report that our ongoing research projects have continued to move forward with a great deal of success. Our documentary project, to systematically survey the beginnings of US Intercollegiate debate at the end of the 19th century, has garnered a great deal of interest from parties across the US and around the world. We have been contacted this past year by a number of programs hoping to use our historical data as a springboard to help advocate for the growth of debate at their institutions.

In addition to presenting our work at a number of conferences this past year, a comprehensive account of our preliminary findings will be highlighted in the first National Endowment for the Humanities-sponsored anthology on debate practices and civic education, forthcoming from Penn State University Press.

We capped off the year with a trip to Tokyo for the 5th quadrennial Tokyo Conference on Argumentation. This was an important trip, as it made possible a growing series of collaborations with Japanese scholars who are trying to document the connections between the rise of debate in US colleges and its spread to Japanese institutions of higher education. Throughout the process, COA undergraduates have been involved firsthand in assisting with all aspects of this work. It is once again a testament to the fact that research and teaching do not have to exist in a zero sum environment.

## Endowed Scholarships



### THE BROOK AND VINCENT ASTOR SCHOLARSHIP

The Brooke and Vincent Astor Scholarship Fund was established through a generous gift in Mrs. Astor's will as well as the Vincent Astor Foundation. The endowment is to be used to provide scholarship to Maine students with financial need. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$840,274. FY16's allocation was \$31,997.

Recipient: Emily Michaud '18 (Brewer, Maine)



### THE SIDNEY AND HAZEL DEMOTT BAHRT SCHOLARSHIP

The Sidney and Hazel DeMott Bahrt Scholarship was created through a planned gift by the Bahrts. We honor the legacy of our long-time friends and supporters of environmental, educational and cultural organizations. This scholarship is awarded to students from Pembroke or Washington County, Maine with first preference to an alumna/us from Washington Academy. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$1,462,537. FY16's allocation was \$29,655.

Recipient: Michael Jacoby '19 (Cherryfield, Maine)

### THE REBECCA CLARK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP IN MARINE SCIENCES



This scholarship fund was created in memory of COA alumna Rebecca Clark '96, who lost her life in the December 2004 tsunami while conducting research on sea turtles in Thailand. This scholarship is awarded to a student who embodies Rebecca's dedication, enthusiasm, passion and excellence in marine science and marine conservation. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$89,884. FY16's allocation was \$4,125.

Recipient: Marina Cucuzza '16 (Malden, Massachusetts) has done extensive work in biology and marine science and policy since coming to COA. Her coursework over the last three years focused on all aspects of marine biology, and she created independent studies or tutorials when her work went beyond COA courses. For research, Marina has been working at Allied Whale since her first year, and is using acoustics to help inform both marine mammal research and marine ecology more generally. She has worked with researchers in Maine and Washington, taken a term of classes at eco-league partner Alaska Pacific University, and after graduation plans to do graduate research in marine mammal acoustics.

### THE CHRISTENSEN SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Christensen Scholarship fund was created in 2005 by a gift from the Carmen M. Christensen Foundation. The Scholarship is awarded to qualified students seeking financial assistance, with preference for international students. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$290,011. FY16's allocation was \$14,174. There are many students who receive aid from this fund. Here are two examples:

Emma Burke '17 (Saint-Germains-de Belves, France)  
Shir Orner '18 (Tel Aviv, Israel)

### RICHARD SLATON DAVIS AND NORAH DEAKIN DAVIS SCHOLARSHIP



The Richard Slaton Davis and Norah Deakin Davis Scholarship is a need-based award honoring the memory of Richard Slaton Davis, College of the Atlantic's first faculty member in philosophy. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$121,395. FY16's allocation was \$5,927.

Recipient: Colin Lynch '17 (Oakland, Maryland) is an unusually perceptive student with wide ranging interests in philosophy and general conceptual issues, who brings both humor and imaginative examples to test the claims of theorists from his areas of interest. He brings a clarity and thoroughness to all his written work.

### THE DREIER SCHOLARSHIP



The balance of the Dreier Scholarship funds at the end of FY16 was \$38,780. FY16's allocation was \$7,500. It is split into the following two parts.

**The John C. Dreier Scholarship** This scholarship award honors John C. Dreier, a former diplomat in the US Department of State and US Ambassador to the Organization of American States, who devoted his retirement in Maine to education and conservation. He joined COA's Board of Trustees in 1973 and served as Chairman of the Board from 1976-1978.

Recipient: Ian Medeiros '16 (Rehoboth, Massachusetts) has interspersed his love of botany with a broad and diverse involvement in COA's governance, faithfully attending All College Meetings, and participating as moderator during his four years at COA.



**The Louisa R. Dreier Scholarship** Louisa Cabot Richardson Dreier, known as Isa, was an artist of remarkable talent who set aside her own work to focus on raising her family, but always kept her creativity alive through drawings, illustrated writings, and gardens. Coming back to painting later in life, her beautiful still lifes and portraits expressed her humor, happy spirit and her joy in making art. The Isa Dreier Scholarship is given annually to a junior who embodies the spirit of joy in the arts.

Recipient: Maya Critchfield '16 (South Casco, Maine) has spent her time at COA taking every possible art course, and immersing herself in all aspects of image making, book making, design, printmaking and fabric arts. She is interested in folklore, historical narrative, and the visual arts in relation to cultural objects. In addition to her artwork and her boundless enthusiasm for the arts, Maya contributed to the community through her involvement with waste management. She helped to create an installation of an aggregate week of COA waste - a remarkable spectacle. Upon graduation, Maya returns to her home in southern Maine to make music, art and map out her future.

#### **SAMUEL & MARY KATHRYN ELIOT SCHOLARSHIP**



The Eliot scholarship was established in honor of COA's first vice president, who retired in 1982, and his wife, who served as fundraising assistant to COA's first president and designed the college's iconic logo. The Samuel and Mary Kathryn Eliot scholarship provides annual scholarship aid to qualified Maine students. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$134,703. FY16's allocation was \$6,585.

Recipient: Paige Nygaard '17 (West Bath, Maine) studied a wide range of subjects before narrowing her focus to sustainable energy. She participated in several studies abroad, first in Samsø, Denmark to study renewable energy, and then in Vichy, France to study food politics and water.

#### **GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

The General Scholarship Fund was established in 1984 through the Silver Anniversary Campaign. The fund contains gifts given by hundreds of friends in every amount for unrestricted student scholarship. We continue to take donations for this important endowment. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$751,240. FY16's allocation was \$35,521. There are many students who receive aid from this fund. Here are two examples:



Ivy Enoch '18 (Farmington, Maine)  
Zakary Kendall '17 (New Sharon, Maine)

#### **CRAIG GREENE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**



Created in memory of faculty member Craig Greene, this award honors Craig's indomitable spirit, excellent teaching ability, and abundant zest for sharing his extraordinary knowledge of the natural landscape with students, friends and colleagues. The college awards an annual scholarship to a student who has excelled in botany and general biology classes, and who shares Craig's passion for botany. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$83,094. FY16's allocation was \$2,000.

Recipient: Ella Samuel '16 (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) has a deep love for plants, ecology and conservation. An accomplished artist and botanist, Ella has done work in Olympic National Park, Acadia National Park, and Wild Gardens of Acadia. For her senior project, she is examining the use of fungi to remediate contaminated soil.

#### **HARTZOG-KAUFFMANN SCHOLARSHIP**

This award honors both George B. Hartzog and John M. Kauffmann. Kauffmann, who passed away in 2014, was a former COA trustee, and retired to MDI after a long career at the National Park Service, most notably in Alaska where he helped define the boundaries of the Gates of the Arctic National Park. George Hartzog, head of the National Park Service from 1964-1972, was a hero of John's and revered by many for the way he managed the agency and defended the NPS during his tenure. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$364,603. FY16's allocation was \$20,792.



Recipients: Miguel Provencio '17 (Ojai, California) is passionate about public lands and wild places. He has spent several summers working on fire crews in national forests in California, and hopes to pursue a career in fire ecology and management. Emma Majonen '17 (Guilford, Vermont) is devoted to wild places and conservation, particularly forests in the Northeast. She combines an interest in environmental policy and natural resource management with a real talent for art, and is using her skills on exhibits for COA's George B. Dorr Museum of Natural History.



## AUGUST HECKSCHER SCHOLARSHIP



August Heckscher was an artist, author, and public servant whose life and work encompassed many of the values and principles underlying the study of human ecology. The August Heckscher Scholarship Fund provides two annual need-based awards for students focusing on public lands, government, or the arts. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$149,402. FY16's allocation was \$7,140.

Recipient: Gregory Bernard '17 (Nobleboro, Maine) pulls together all of the elements of the Heckscher Scholarship, excelling in classes on conservation and public lands, while building on his true talent as an artist.

## THE MAINE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Maine Student Scholarship Fund is an endowment created through generous gifts to the COA Silver Anniversary Campaign from the organizations listed below. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$149,402. FY16's allocation was \$33,266.

### The Betterment Scholarship Fund

The Betterment Foundation Scholarship Fund was established in 1995 and provides support for students from rural Maine. The Betterment Fund was created in 1955 for charitable purposes by the will of the late William Bingham of Bethel, ME.

Recipients: Izik Dery '17 (Gray, Maine) and Taylor Mason '18 (Union, Maine)



### The Edward G. Kaelber Scholarship for Maine Students of Outstanding Promise

The Edward G. Kaelber Scholarship for Maine Students of Outstanding Promise is awarded to an incoming first-year student from Maine who demonstrates a high level of achievement in academic and community work. Support continues during his/her four years at COA. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$685,192. FY16's allocation was \$33,266.

Recipients: Audra McTague '19 (Newport, Maine), pictured top right  
Joshua Sawyer '17 (Southwest Harbor, Maine)



### The Kenduskeag Scholarship

The Kenduskeag Scholarship was established in 1995 with two \$75,000 gifts from Dead River Company and the Kenduskeag Foundation. This fund now provides approximately \$7,500 in scholarship aid to students from Maine each year.

Recipient: Kira Marzoli '16 (Deer Isle, Maine)



### The H. King and Jean Cummings Scholarship

The H. King and Jean Cummings Scholarship supports a student from western Maine to attend College of the Atlantic. From 1995 to 2003, the H. King and Jean Cummings Charitable Trust began making \$10,000 annual gifts for a total of \$80,000. COA has endowed these gifts, which now provide approximately \$4,000 every year for scholarship support to a qualified student.

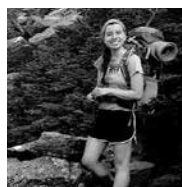
Recipient: Carly Sauro '18 (South Paris, Maine)



### The Partridge Scholarship

The Partridge Scholarship was established in 2011 with a generous grant from the Partridge Foundation to fund scholarships for rural Maine and New England students who are interested in studying the human ecology of sustainable agriculture. The scholarship is not endowed, though we include it here. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$531,605. FY16's allocation was \$150,000. A few of the students receiving this aid include:

Rachael Goldberg '19 (Bethel, Maine)  
Pepin Mittelhauser '19 (Gouldsboro, Maine)  
Jeremiah Kemberling '19 (Camden, Maine)



### **The Barbara Piel Scholarship**

This was established in honor of Barbara Piel who passed away the summer of 2003 and left COA in her will. Piel was a gifted water colorist; she studied with artist John Sloan and spent a year studying bird forms at the Museum of Natural History in New York. With her husband, she raised sheep in Aston, Maine, and created the Katahdin breed which were used to control vegetation as an alternative to pesticides.

Recipient: Maxim Lowe '18 (Sarasota, Florida)



### **Alice Blum Yoakum Scholarship**

The Alice Blum Yoakum Scholarship Fund was established by Mr. Robert H. Blum in honor of his daughter, Alice, to provide support annually to undergraduate students who plan to be actively working for biodiversity, and especially for the preservation of underwater species in various parts of the world.

Recipient: Madeline Motley '16 (Stoughton, Wisconsin) has devoted herself to marine biodiversity throughout her COA career. She has worked extensively with sea turtles in the US and abroad, including an internship with a turtle rehabilitation center in Hawaii. She also took the opportunity to study biodiversity conservation in the western US through the Great West course.



### **ELEANOR T. AND SAMUEL J. ROSENFELD SCHOLARSHIP**

The Rosenfeld Fund was established with a \$10,000 gift for general student scholarships in 2000. The gift was made in honor of Ev and Joan Shorey, longtime friends of COA. Ev joined the board in 1985, and became a Life Trustee in 2006. Ev served 6 years as Board Chair. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$12,078. FY16's allocation was \$591.

Recipient: Kennedy Johnson '17 (Saco, Maine)

### **MAURINE AND ROBERT ROTHSCHILD SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**



Robert Rothschild was a member of COA's board of trustees from 1985 until 1990. His wife, Maurine, joined the board in 1985 and was a life trustee until her death in 2004. Maurine was a strong advocate of the COA's Educational Studies Program and Teacher Certification Program. The Rothschilds endowed this scholarship fund to assist graduate students and those preparing for careers in education. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$250,307. FY16's allocation was \$12,231.

Recipients: Sarah Kearsley '16 (Portland, Maine) Sarah has focused on incorporating experiential education in a high school curriculum while pursuing a life science teaching certification. Madelaine Kellett '17 (Sutton West, Ontario, Canada) is engaged with a citizen science conservation initiative in the Antarctic, working primarily with ecotourism



### **THE MICHAEL AND ROSE RUSSO SCHOLARSHIP**

The Michael and Rose Russo Scholarship was made possible with a generous gift by Jennifer and Jay McNally '84. This four-year scholarship provides financial assistance to a high-achieving student who is a great fit with the mission of COA. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$587,667. FY16's allocation was \$21,667.

Recipient: Matthew Kennedy '18 (Mableton, Georgia)

### **DONALD STRAUS SCHOLARSHIP**



Don Straus, COA trustee from 1974 to 2007, had a deep passion for human ecology. He chaired the Academic Policy committee, pushing the college toward ever-increasing intellectual rigor. Outside of COA, he was a trustee of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Princeton Institute for Advanced Study, and the Population Resources Council. Don thrived on his involvement with COA students, and taught courses based on his extensive experience as an international mediator. The balance of this fund at the end of FY16 was \$205,891. FY16's allocation was \$10,060.

Recipient: Surya Karki '16 (Madi Mulkharkha, Nepal) Surya has accomplished a great deal in his final year at COA. He has founded a non-profit (Diyalo Foundation, created to bridge the gap between social and economic development in Nepalese communities), built 3 schools, and secured \$3 million dollars from the Nepalese government to build an additional 20 schools in the countryside that will provide education to 5,000 Nepalese children affected by the earthquake. He will be among the inaugural group of Schwarzman Scholars, participating in a new master's program in Beijing, China.

## Expeditionary Funds: A New Approach

In Fiscal Year 2016, College of the Atlantic addressed an important issue: How do we ensure that every student has the opportunity during his or her college career to have at least one immersive experience in a new culture? International travel and study help build cross-cultural understanding, deepen students' perspectives and knowledge about how other countries and cultures address today's problems, and prepare students for the 21st century workforce. More, travel anywhere outside the familiar, whether that's to the Southwestern US or Downeast Maine or the Mongolian steppe, catalyzes learning about the world, and about oneself.

Over the years, a number of COA supporters have endowed funds to help us create these opportunities for students. These funds include:

- The Kathryn W. Davis Student International Travel Fund. Established in 1999 through gifts totaling \$350,000 by then-trustee John Kauffmann and the Shelby Cullom Davis Foundation, the fund provides support to COA students enrolled in an international program. As of the last day of FY16, the value of the fund was \$401,607.
- The Beinecke Student Internship Fund. Established in 2004 with a gift of \$100,000 from the Beinecke Foundation and its president, John Robinson, to help support students who were traveling outside Maine but within the US with "travel expenses associated with the internships program and assisted living in difficult work environments." As of the last day of FY16, the value of the fund was \$82,384.
- The Maurine and Robert Rothschild Student and Faculty Research Fund. Established in 2004 by Robert Rothschild in honor of his wife, Maurine Rothschild, a long-time trustee and friend of the college. The \$100,000 gift was placed in a permanent endowment to support creation and development of projects which actively involve both students and faculty. As of the last day of FY16, the value of the fund was \$137,123.
- Rabineau Senior Project Enhancement and Student Professional Development Fund. Established in honor of COA's third president, Lou Rabineau (1984–1993), at the time of his retirement. A total of \$69,410 was raised from 91 gifts. As of the last day of FY16, the value of the fund was \$63,296.
- The Kathryn W. Davis Global and Civic Engagement Fund for Peace. Established in 2011 with a gift of \$2,000,000, as part of the COA Life Changing, World Changing Capital Campaign, this fund encourages students, regardless of their socioeconomic background, to explore a variety of urban, international, and cultural settings during their academic careers at COA. Today the fund is valued at \$2,184,427.

Rather than make students apply for each of these funds separately, COA worked with the community to create an Expeditionary Fund that would include the interest earnings on each of these funds. This has made a remarkable impact on the college. Now, every student at COA—regardless of his or her socioeconomic status—can learn French in Vichy, or study geology in the Southwest, or go to the UN Framework Convention in Marrakesh, or take an internship in Portland, Oregon, or do a research project in Labrador, with financial support.

Each student now receives \$1,800 over the course of his or her career to create or take part in one of these cultural immersion experiences. Costs that can be covered by this grant include travel, room and board, lab fees and travel expenses for classes, residencies, independent studies, internships, or senior projects of an expeditionary nature.

Here are some examples of how this project has expanded the horizons of our students:

**Christina Beddiges '18**, from Lehigh, Pennsylvania, was one of ten students who traveled to France for an immersion experience in language, food, water, and politics. She began the eight-week course in Vichy, then traveled to Marseilles, Brussels, and Paris to explore the history and politics of several contemporary issues of food and water politics within France and the European Union. The food course looks at the genetically modified organism debate and agriculture, linked with climate change politics leading up to the 21st Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change held in Paris. Vichy, as the water capital of Europe, offered a perfect platform from which to study similar trade, privatization, and human rights issues. Students attended the World Water Council in Marseilles and visited the sewers of Paris, which added additional dimensions to their learning.

**Grace Shears '17**, from Peru, Massachusetts, completed an internship with Mingan Island Cetacean Study on the Quebec North Shore, a non-profit research organization dedicated to ecological studies of marine mammals and marine ecosystems. Christian Ramp, Research Coordinator and Grace's supervisor, evaluated Grace's work performance. "Grace took part in all aspects at the field station, including guided tours of the museum, where she demonstrated her extensive knowledge about marine mammals. Her ability to accurately

communicate information in a manner appropriate for her audience matched her confidence in making public presentations to visitors.”

**Tyler Hunt '16** is from Bangor, Maine, and when he arrived at COA, he'd never seen the ocean before. A fine artist, Tyler used his Expeditionary Fund to go to Germany. He says of his time, “The Expeditionary Funds provided me an opportunity for international travel that I would not have had otherwise. With the aid, I went to Munich, Germany, to partake in a course in observational drawing. The experience was not only immersive in language and culture, but artistically immersive, as each moment was an chance to look, feel, process, and record the spirit of a city with tremendous history. I returned to the US with a clearer understanding of my place in the world, and the skills to transcribe my observations through drawings.”

**Galen Hecht '16** from Santa Fe, New Mexico, apprenticed with The Press at the Palace of the Governors, a living exhibit and a working letterpress print shop maintained by the New Mexico History Museum in Santa Fe, NM. The Press continues to produce fine books by learning to set type, designing a small book about adobe, developing an accordion book, printing posters for a local musician, binding journals to sell, and interacting with visitors. Thomas Leech, Curator at The Press, commended Galen as a young poet, environmentalist, craftsperson, and student of New Mexico history, culture and land. “Because of these interests, Galen brought creative, mature intelligence to discussions with the authors, artists, and museum professionals with whom we interact at the Palace Press. Galen left here highly regarded by both visitors and colleagues.”

**MacKenzie Watson '16** is from Ridgefield, Connecticut, and completed an internship with Gladd Electric Service, an independent electrical contractor specializing in residential and commercial services, in Bloomingdale, New York. “I have focused my academic program mostly on math and art, with large helpings of psychology, philosophy, poetry, writing, and theater. I was missing the physical and “doing” portion of my engagement with human ecology, thus this internship offered me a trial run in both electrical work and full-time employment. By exercising knowledge in math and physics in electricity, this internship engaged my mind and body.” Joseph Gladd, owner of Gladd's Electric and Mackenzie's sponsor, stated that she was always on time, got along well with co-workers, and was eager to learn. “She was very conscientious and worked well with our team. Her efforts were valuable to our company.”

**Elizabeth Farrell '16** from Hattiesburg, Mississippi, was a farm apprentice at a Herbaculture Program in Oregon. She was trained in specific cultivation and seasonal life cycles of over fifty medicinal plant species and was responsible for organic weed control, transplanting, and harvesting of production-grown herbs. In addition, Elizabeth maintained the farm's one and a half acre botanic education garden.

**Lucas Greco '16** from North Haven, Connecticut, used his fund to travel to the American Southwest. He visited and researched various national parks as part of his senior project, done as a comparison between the proposed national park in northern Maine and the multitude of well-established parks in that region. He had a senior show in the Blum Gallery where he shared his findings.

**Joanna Weaver '16** from Gouldsboro, Maine, is the production and teaching intern for Docs in Progress, a non-profit organization which offers documentary filmmaking classes, workshops, presentations, and other film-education events in Washington, DC. “As the production and teaching intern, I assisted in teaching two classes, pitched project proposals, made five promotional videos, and served as the photographer and videographer at film festivals, screenings and business conferences, and organized a database for archival footage.”

**Emilie Schwarz '17** from Willis, Virginia, spent the summer in the UK, following a literary journey. “I used the Expeditionary Funds to complete a residency in England. Travels Through English Literature embodied fifteen weeks of independent study in English literature while simultaneously traveling throughout England. I visited locations such as The British Library, Westminster Abbey, and Canterbury Cathedral in addition to dozens of author homes and memorable literary settings. The project was my attempt to break out of my narrow knowledge of English literature—which mainly centered around 18th and 19th century novels— and begin to place it in a larger context. The residency was founded on my previous studies at COA and has provided much of the inspiration for the senior project I will complete this winter. Due to the length of the project and the constant travel involved, I could not have completed this residency without the support of the Expeditionary Fund program.”



## The Shelby Cullom Davis Faculty International Studies Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Gray Cox, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$373,207
Net Return on Investments	(\$921)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$20,079)
Ending Fund Balance	\$352,207

### Dru Colbert: \$1,400

I had a unique opportunity, as part of my COA sabbatical activities, to be a collaborating member of a multidisciplinary team of professionals on board a research and outreach vessel in the Northern Isles of Scotland with the Clipperton Project, a not for profit expeditionary team of researchers and artists. I received professional development funding from The College of the Atlantic to support these activities because it directly benefits the college through advancing my experience and knowledge as an artist and educator. It also serves as a study model for a course that I hope to develop in collaboration with the Clipperton project in the Shetland Islands, and also as a model for a potential course offering focused on islands in Maine. This project was also partially funded through the Shelby Cullom Davis Faculty International Studies Fund and the Kogod Fund. The monies from the Davis Faculty International Studies Fund were spent on travel to the Shetland Islands to participate in this program.

Background: “The Clipperton Project” is a program that assembles artists, scientists, doctors, journalists and other professionals together as research and project teams to embark on challenging expeditions to remote locations of geographical, historical and ecological interest. The aim of each Clipperton expedition is to enable people to work across boundaries, whether personal, cultural or professional. I was a member on the August 2015 one-month expedition around the Northern Isles of Scotland. This voyage focused on sustainable coastal communities, plastics, remote populations and empowering science dissemination. The team consisted of interdisciplinary participants from Scotland and further afield, including other artists, scientists, filmmakers and journalists. This expedition was in partnership with the Scottish Government, and Voltaic Systems, among others.

### Doreen Stabinsky—Paris Hostel and per diem: \$1,467

COA professor Doreen Stabinsky was named the first first holder of the Zennström Visiting Professorship in Climate Change Leadership at Uppsala.

Participants from around 190 countries gathered at the UN climate change negotiations COP 21 in Paris between November 30 and December 11. The goal was to negotiate a new agreement on reducing emissions of greenhouse gases. For the first time, an official student delegation from Uppsala University also participated. Doreen Stabinsky was one of the researchers representing the university at the conference. She also met with a group of COA students from the student-run environmental diplomacy group, Earth in Brackets, at the COP.



Photo by Mikael Wallerstedt.

### Costa Rica Class: \$6,000

This team-taught, intensive, field-based course examined the ecology and biotic diversity found at several sites in Costa Rica. Whereas primary emphasis will be placed on Central American herpetofauna and avifauna, we will also discuss and examine issues of botanical, mammalian, etc. diversity and abundance, and the significance of the full array of species in more general studies of land-use and protective strategies.

Students met during the winter term to discuss a range of articles and book-chapters dealing with aspects of conservation biology and Costa Rican natural history and culture but the major emphasis of the course was a two-week immersion in key habitats within Costa Rica itself during the March break. Early to late-morning, students did fieldwork and in the afternoon listened to lectures/presentations followed by early evening to late night fieldwork.

The course was based out of three field sites: lowland Caribbean slope rainforest at Tirimbina ecological reserve in north central Costa Rica, montane forest of the Arenal and Tenorio volcanic region, and Pacific slope dry forest of the Nicoya Peninsula.

## The Faculty/Staff Enrichment Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Sean Todd, PhD

Beginning Fund Balance	\$251,174
Net Return on Investments	(\$583)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$11,674)
Ending Fund Balance	\$238,917

A total of \$5,760 in requests were approved this year by the Academic and Associate Academic Deans. Details of awards are provided below in alphabetical order.

Nancy Andrews MFA received \$800 to attend the Independent Filmmaker Project's 2015 Screen Forward Lab. This experience champions the future of storytelling by connecting artists with essential resources at all stages of development and distribution. Nancy was one of ten projects chosen for the IFP Screen Forward Labs—a five-day workshop in New York with professionals and creators from various media platforms, agencies and projects, all addressing challenges of financing, marketing, publicity and other concerns of creating serialized content, essentially a five-day boot camp of information and strategy.

Dr. Heath Cabot received \$1,500 to attend the Modern Greek Studies Association Conference in Atlanta, as well as the American Anthropologist Association conference in Denver, Colorado. At the first of these, Heath was on the organizing committee where she vetted, assigned, and organized panels and, while in attendance, served as a chair. In November, she attended the AAA where she served as a discussant on a panel, and took part in a roundtable on the Anthropology of Police. She attended numerous meetings necessary in her new capacity as co-editor of the Political and Legal Anthropology Review.

Dr. Bill Carpenter received \$350 to attend the Radcliffe DNA Seminar entitled *DNA: past, present and future*. He went to several events within this meeting, particularly following the work of John Hawks, who had just introduced *Homo naledi* to the world, and gave an important talk on that subject that fed right into the earlier part of Bill's team-taught *Heaven and Hell* class. Several other approaches to contemporary and future uses of DNA sequencing and manipulation were presented throughout the day. Bill described the learning curve as "very steep, and all uphill", but says it was a good way for him to prepare for the teaching experience of a science/religion class.

During her sabbatical, Dru Colbert MFA used \$1,400 to be a collaborating member of a multidisciplinary team of professionals on board a research and outreach vessel in the Northern Isles of Scotland with the Clipperton Project—a not-for-profit expeditionary program that assembles artists, scientists, doctors, journalists and other professionals together as research and project teams, to embark on challenging excursions to remote locations of geographical, historical and ecological interest. Dru's trip was a one-month expedition around the Northern Isles of Scotland. The voyage focused on sustainable coastal communities, plastics, remote populations, and empowering science dissemination. The experience served as a study model for a course that she hopes to develop in collaboration with the Clipperton Project in the Shetland Islands—as well as a model for a potential course offering focused on islands in Maine. The project was partially funded through the Shelby Cullom Davis Faculty International Studies Fund and the Kogod Fund.

Dr. Nishi Rajakaruna '94 used \$700 from the Faculty Development Fund to attend the Northeast Natural History Conference with undergraduate students Ian Medeiros '16 and Ella Samuels '16, who all presented work to the peer science community.

Finally, Dr. Bonnie Tai used \$1,010 to attend the meeting of the Association for Interdisciplinary Studies, presenting her work in Nepal training teachers. Bonnie was drawn to this conference by its theme, "how interdisciplinary studies can play a pivotal role in advancing and expanding notions of the common good, and also to highlight interdisciplinary partnerships between the academy and community that can serve as models for change." In addition to presenting, Bonnie attended two outstanding keynote presentations in public health and criminal justice as well as several panels and paper sessions on service-learning and community partnerships. These inspired her ongoing thinking and course design, including ideas she will propose to the faculty and the Academic Affairs Committee regarding an advanced *Applied Human Ecology through Service-Learning* studio course, and that she will implement in her existing and forthcoming courses that include service-learning and community partnership components.

## The Elizabeth A. and Henry B. Guthrie Chemistry Enhancement Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Donald Cass, PhD, Professor of Chemistry

Beginning Fund Balance	\$55,097
Net Return on Investments	(\$128)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$2,556)
Ending Fund Balance	\$52,413

Last year, the income from the Guthrie chemistry fund went to support improving the “Chemistry of Foods and Cooking” class.

The funds were used as follows:

- \$500 for 6 instant-read thermometers so that each cooking “group” could have one to use in preparing dishes for each weekly class
- \$160 for a Knife Sharpness Tester: Evaluate durability of different blades and effectiveness of different sharpening methods
- \$500 for Two Anova Sous Vide Temp Controllers and Two water baths to have a total of 3 temperature baths to assess the importance of cooking temperature in different recipes

## The Barbarina M. and Aaron J. Heyerdahl Beech Hill Farm Endowment Fund

Beech Hill Farm Manager: Tess Faller and Anna Davis, Beech Hill Farm Managers

Beginning Fund Balance	\$85,281
Net Return on Investments	(\$198)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$3,974)
Ending Fund Balance	\$81,109

The endowment for Beech Hill Farm was donated by COA alumni Aaron '87 and Barbarina '88 Heyerdahl who were owners and managers of the farm from 1988-1999. The Heyerdahls donated Beech Hill Farm to COA the same year. Since then, the endowment has generated budget relief for BHF operations.

Beech Hill Farm had another great year under the management of Tess Faller '09 and Anna Davis. The farm's field production and greenhouse production each increased by twenty percent. We doubled our pork production, too. All of that pork went to the COA's dining hall.

Many people ask why they don't see Beech Hill Farm produce at Farmer's Markets, on restaurant menus, or at markets. The Heyerdahl Fund is one reason: Our farms are supported by philanthropy. Our farmland was given to us. We do not want to compete with local farmers who have had to pay for their land, take loans to buy equipment—that would not be fair. Instead, we strive to be good neighbors and share our resources and know-how with the community. Both Beech Hill and Peggy Rockefeller Farms offer free workshops in subjects such as tree pruning, composting, butchering, and poultry processing.

We give back to the community in other ways, too. COA has a Share the Harvest program which provides a \$50 voucher for fresh organic produce to clients of local food pantries. Over 50 families received these vouchers last year. BHF also worked with the Good Shephard Food Bank to provide over 1,000 pounds of food to the local food pantries. We donated an additional 1,000 pounds of food through Healthy Acadia's gleaning initiative to food banks and pantries. We received two grants to plan and implement a small poultry processing facility and a commercial kitchen at Beech Hill Farm. We're excited about the value-added foods we could create with this new infrastructure and we want to share this facilities with other farmers, schools, and individuals.

Thanks to all those who visit, volunteer, shop at, and support Beech Hill Farm in so many ways!

## The Robert P. and Arlene Kogod Visiting Artist Fund

Faculty Supervisor: Ken Hill, PhD, Academic Dean

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,405,341
Net Return on Investments	(\$3,328)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$68,692)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,333,321

### Activities Supported by the Fund Income This Academic Year:

Conference/Sabbatical and Search support for Arts Faculty

#### Courses Offered by Visiting Instructors

Principles of Comedic Improvisation I  
Principles of Comedic Improvisation I  
Principles of Comedic Improvisation II  
Principles of Comedic Improvisation II  
Sustainable Design in the Built Environment  
Introduction to Contemporary Dance & Composition  
Dramatic Writing for Stage and Screen  
History of Photography  
Analog Photography: B&W  
World Percussion  
Chinese Calligraphy  
Voice

#### Instructor

Larrance Fingerhut  
Jennifer Shepard  
Larrance Fingerhut  
Jennifer Shepard  
John Gorden  
Sachi Cote  
Andrea Lepcio '79  
Josh Winer '91  
Josh Winer '91  
Mike Bennett  
Philip Heckscher  
Jamie Hagedorn

#### Teaching Assistants For

- African Drumming
- Documentary Film Studio
- Museum Design
- Piano
- Animation
- Movement

#### Field Trips, Workshops, and Class Visitors

- Spring residency, workshops and performance of The Odyssey with Double Edge Theatre (site visits, fees and materials)
- Winter production at the Criterion Theatre of Chekov's The Sneeze (sets, costumes, scripts and royalties)
- Class Field trip to MassMoCA
- Boston field trip (visiting art museums and art shows)

#### Visiting Artists

- Erin Endberg Filmmaker/writer
- Ashley Bryan Puppeteer/writer

#### Equipment Purchases

- Ceramics building upgrades
- New easels and painting chairs
- Six new keyboards for piano class
- 13 reusable wood and glass painting pallets
- DSLR Camera
- Print shop supplies (photography, graphic design, museum display)
- Software for Graphics lab (Adobe Creative Cloud)
- Secure storage for art supplies and materials



## Fund for Maine Islands

Staff Supervisor: Lynn Boulger, Dean of Institutional Advancement

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,050,728
Net Return on Investments	\$1,681
Contributions	\$632,600
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$10,000)
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,675,009

The Fund for Maine Islands (FMI), a collaboration between the Island Institute (II) and College of the Atlantic (COA), was formed in October, 2013 through the vision and generous support of the Partridge Foundation. The stated aims of the collaboration are to foster stronger institutions with more innovative academic and community programs, more sustainable island communities, replicable models, and a new generation of philanthropists.

### **FMI Island Fellow: Agriculture on the Cranberry Isles**

Island Fellow Jessi Duma is working with COA professor Todd Little-Siebold and the Great Cranberry Historical Society to research the agricultural heritage of the Cranberry Isles. In the fall of 2014, she created an exhibit to showcase island agriculture from 1760 to 1890 that included maps, artifacts, photographs, oral histories, and census data. She has turned her exhibit into a research paper and booklet, and is currently at work researching a paper and exhibit on the island community's agricultural history from 1900 to the present.

### **Focus on "SuCCESs" in Education: Strengthening school curricula through project-based learning**

Education faculty member Bonnie Tai from COA and Education Director Yvonne Thomas from the Island Institute formed a new collaboration in 2015 aimed at strengthening student engagement and learning through project-based and experiential education. Sustainable Coastal Communities, Educators, and Schools (SuCCESs) includes 10 island and remote coastal schools (Mount Desert Elementary School, Milbridge Elementary School, Frenchboro School, Deer Isle-Stonington High School, Connors Emerson Elementary School, Ashley Bryan School, Mount Desert Island High School, North Haven Community School, Pemetec Elementary School and Swan's Island School), and five organizations (II, COA, Maine SeaCoast Mission, Island Readers and Writers, and the Hurricane Island Foundation).

The goals of SuCCESs are:

- Enrich pre-K-12 student learning through increased student ownership in their education and engagement with their communities in all participating schools.
- A high-quality professional development infrastructure to increase understanding of experiential and place-based education (EPE) and the ability to practice these forms of learning and teaching in participating communities in a proficiency-based education context. This will include assessment of students, teachers, schools, and community outcomes for all participating educators and community members (including parents and school board members).
- An intergenerational and developmental network of schools and communities that fosters student, teacher, and leader mentors through multiple entry points, (i.e., pre-K-12 students, COA education majors, teachers, school leaders).
- Knowledge transfer from one school and community to another, in which shared geographical and historical knowledge can be more widely disseminated.
- High quality PK-12 sustainability curricula, weaving learning about self, other, and systems—agriculture/food systems, energy, and climate change mitigation—into proficiency-based school curricula.

Energy Learning into Energy Action. Collaborative for Island Energy Research and Action (CIERA) was just the beginning of energy leadership capacity-building and stewardship on Maine's islands. The 2015–16 project has led to on-going energy cost and use savings, and the exploration of additional means for reducing carbon footprints on islands through renewables. We are excited to continue to support island energy education, leadership, and action, and we have prepared to respond to emerging needs of island communities to understand and mitigate the local impacts of climate change through education and action.

For example, COA has started a Community Energy Center (CEC) that grew out of the work on Samsø. The CEC aims to bring economic, social, and environmental sustainability to local communities. Using our local communities, College of the Atlantic and Mount Desert Island, as a test bed for sustainability initiatives, the CEC explores and implements innovative renewable energy projects that increase public participation, utilize novel forms of financing, and optimize local governance to establish successful community sustainability initiatives, such as community solar, energy efficiency, and e-vehicle exploration.

We are very grateful to the Partridge Foundation for their support. This fund is making an enormous impact in the lives of students, community members, and island residents throughout Maine.

## The McCormick Library Director Fund

Staff Supervisor: Jane Hultberg, MLS, Director of the Thorndike Library

Beginning Fund Balance	\$588,001
Net Return on Investments	(\$1,419)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$30,071)
Ending Fund Balance	\$556,511



The library director oversees the library, which encompasses three areas: information resources, the college archives, and audio-visual services. A snapshot of the year includes the following: 1,335 books and 77 videos cataloged; 610 books withdrawn from the collection; 647 items loaned to other libraries; 1,162 items borrowed from other libraries; books, equipment, and reserves were checked out 16,287 times; and 121 events were supported by AV services.

We had a number of projects that carried over from last year:

- A major weeding project is now in its final stages. This involves reviewing books on our library shelves and deleting those we felt should be withdrawn. We also continued with a reconciliation project, the goal of which is to ensure that items on our shelves match items in our online catalog. This key project will be completed in FY17.
- In the archives, we fulfilled a 2015 agreement to transfer the Bill Drury papers from Witchcliff to the COA archives, and the collection inventory is almost complete.
- A master list of all the senior projects was created and the process for adding governance minutes to our Google drive for easy searching was streamlined.
- We populated the library portion of the new COA web site and ensured the information was easy to navigate.
- We participated in an Acadia Senior College class in which seniors visited various island libraries.
- In audio-visual services, new audio equipment was researched, purchased, and installed in Gates. New cameras for class use were researched and purchased. To help with summer programs, a new podium was purchased with built-in microphone capability, preventing the need for someone to operate the Sound Booth for basic audio needs.
- Daily operations continued in addition to projects. Library items circulated, purchased or donated materials were cataloged, interlibrary loan services were available, and research assistance was provided. In the archives, historical materials were inventoried, forms were updated, problem records were cleaned up, and photos in the online photo collection were given tags. In audio-visual services, maintenance of circulating A/V and classroom equipment continued, as well as the training of patrons on equipment use and A/V support for events and lectures.

## The Peggy Rockefeller Farms Endowment

Staff Supervisor: C.J. Walke, Farm Manager

Beginning Fund Balance	\$1,093,300
Net Return on Investments	(\$2,468)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	\$0
Ending Fund Balance	\$1,090,832

In fiscal year 2016, the funds from the Rockefeller Endowment continued to support the Peggy Rockefeller Farms farm manager position held by C.J. Walke, as well as the maintenance of farm infrastructure.

The gardens produced over one ton of potatoes and a half-ton of butternut squash for Take-A-Break. C.J. supervised a senior project by Rebecca Harvey '16 titled "Charcuterie: Meat Fermentation and Preservation Around the World".

Community interactions have continued to increase, with numerous school groups and organizations engaging in educational farm tours to learn more about Peggy Rockefeller Farms and COA. For the second year in a row, we hosted a Family Fun Day (August, 2015) so that families would come learn about what we are doing at the farms.



The farm's operations now include a flock of eight Belted Galloway cattle, 50 sheep, 100 egg laying hens, 450 meat chickens (broilers), 100 turkeys, a half-acre vegetable plot, 100 apple trees, 50 acres of pasture/hay land, and a compost production system utilizing food debris from the Blair Dining Hall. This year was the first year the farm produced 100% of its own hay as winter feed for the sheep flock and cattle herd.

Todd Little-Siebold and C.J. hosted a hands-on apple tree grafting workshop, where participants learned the basics of grafting fruit trees. They were able to take home the trees they grafted! We offered this in collaboration with the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association. We held a similar workshop pruning workshop at Beech Hill Farm with a focus on renovating old apple trees.

## The Doug Rose Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Enhancement Fund

Staff Supervisor: Isabel Mancinelli, MLA

Beginning Fund Balance	\$42,212.47
Net Return on Investments	(\$98)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$1,963)
Ending Fund Balance	\$40,151.54

This year, the Doug Rose Memorial Fund made it possible for me to attend two important conferences, one in San Diego and the other in Philadelphia. I feel these conferences helped advance COA's GIS capabilities and resources, and a better understanding of the field of Landscape Architecture.

### **ESRI International User Conference, San Diego, CA July 20-24, 2015**

Attending this conference significantly expanded our ArcGIS Online resources available to students. The expansion includes interactive online GIS maps that can be customized and printed. The maps represent areas commonly visited on field trips and studied in classes. Many applied projects occur in these areas. These maps provide a starting point where students with an ArcGIS Online account can modify and save them as their own, accessible from anywhere.

These maps can also be accessed from smartphones and tablets using the free Explorer for ArcGIS app. This is very helpful for students doing work on COA properties or in Acadia National Park to know where the boundaries and other features are relative to their location. This requires no special software or training. The development of ArcGIS Online maps and apps makes supporting more classes across the curriculum possible because it is web-based and students may use their own personal computers.

The Landscape Architecture Foundation Conference included over 60 well-known professionals who spoke on topics ranging from urban planning to global conservation and climate issues. This conference was in honor of the 50th Anniversary of Ian McHarg, et al. forming the foundation. While there, Gordon Longworth '91, GIS director, had conversations with the new dean of the School of Landscape Architecture at UPenn, former McHarg student Fritz Steiner. This inside connection could help COA students enter the UPenn Landscape Architecture (LA) and Planning program.

Many of the conference speakers were academics and we now have a list of some of the best LA programs and their mentors. One interesting fact is that there are only 22,000 LAs in the US. That seems like a low number compared to how important the work of LAs is. Another point is that speakers felt there is a necessary shift as to the best background to have when seeking a Master in Landscape Architecture. And it is not design, historic preservation, gardening or any focused discipline. They feel a liberal arts degree is the best preparation—a degree such as a BA in Human Ecology. Another interesting point is that most LAs practice in urban settings and not so much in rural and wild settings. The US needs more LAs and environmental and regional planners, and this conference reaffirms that the COA experience is the right background for entering these important disciplines.



## Thorndike Library Book Funds

Staff Supervisor: Jane Hultberg, MLS, Director of Thorndike Library

### The Thomas & Mary Hall Book Fund

Beginning Fund Balance	\$79,334	<i>This fund was established in 1986 in honor of Dr. Thomas and Mary T. Hall to enable Thorndike Library to purchase and build a collection of science and history of science books. When Tom, a former COA trustee, died in June 1990, his family requested that donations be directed to this fund.</i>
Net Return on Investments	(\$184)	
Contributions	\$0	
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$3,692)	
Ending Fund Balance	\$75,458	

In FY16, this fund helped support the purchase of more than 100 science books for the library. Books are considered for purchase based on the following:

1. They are requested by faculty or a COA community member.
2. They are needed for course reserve.
3. They support classes and areas of study that are of interest to the COA community.

Here is a sample of the science titles purchased during fiscal year 2016:

<i>Approaches to Plant Evolutionary Ecology</i> by G.P. Cheplick (2015)	<i>Holistic Midwifery: A Comprehensive Textbook for Midwives in Homebirth Practice, Vol. 1: Care During Pregnancy</i> by Anne Frye and K. Hindall (2010)	<i>The Triumph of Seeds: How Grains, Nuts, Kernels, Pulses, and Pips Conquered the Plant Kingdom and Shaped Human History</i> by Thor Hanson (2016)
<i>Early Life History of Marine Fishes</i> by Bruce S. Miller and Arthur W. Kendall (2009)	<i>Smart Grid (R)Evolution: Electric Power Struggles</i> by Jennie C. Stephens et al. (2015)	<i>The Walking Whales: From Land to Water in Eight Million Years</i> by J. G. M. "Hans" Thewissen (2014)
<i>Ecology of Freshwater and Estuarine Wetlands</i> by Dr. Darold P. Batzer and Rebecca R. Sharitz (2014)	<i>The Equation That Couldn't Be Solved: How Mathematical Genius Discovered the Language of Symmetry</i> by Mario Livio (2006)	
<i>Fractals and Chaos in Geology and Geophysics</i> by Donald L. Turcotte (1997)		

### The Elizabeth Thorndike Senior Class Book Fund

Beginning Fund Balance	\$8,864	<i>In 2001, Thorndike family members started a fund in honor of Betty Thorndike, for whom Thorndike library is named (with her husband, Amory). Each year this fund pays for the Thorndike "Senior Books" which are selected by the graduating class for inclusion in the library's collection.</i>
Net Return on Investments	(\$115)	
Contributions	\$25,000	
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$397)	
Ending Fund Balance	\$33,352	

<i>Lonely City: Adventures in the Art of Being Alone</i> by Olivia Laing (2016)	<i>The Inhabited Woman</i> by Gioconda Belli (2004)	<i>See Under: LOVE</i> by David Grossman (2002)
<i>Not Far From the Tree—a Brief History of the Apples and the Orchards of Palermo Maine 1804–2004</i> by John Bunker (2007)	<i>A People's Art History of the United States</i> by Nicholas Lampert (2013)	<i>Waste Management and Sustainable Consumption: Reflections on Consumer Waste</i> ed. by Karin M. Ekström (2015)
<i>Culture as the Core: Perspectives on Culture in Second Language Learning</i> ed. by Dale L. Lange and R. Michael Paige (2003)	<i>Capacity</i> by Theo Ellsworth (2015)	<i>Not That Kind of Girl</i> by Lena Dunham (2014)
	<i>Measurement</i> by Paul Lockhart (2014)	
	<i>Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde</i> by Moisés Kaufman (1998)	

## COA's Physical Plant Funds

Beginning Fund Balance	\$263,978
Net Return on Investments	(\$619)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$12,578)
Ending Fund Balance	\$250,781

**Ethel H. Blum Gallery:** The Ethel H. Blum Gallery was dedicated in 1993 to Ethel H. Blum (1900–1991), an accomplished watercolorist who studied at the Art Students League and the Brooklyn Museum Art School, and exhibited widely in her lifetime. A longtime summer resident of MDI, she took special pleasure in painting Maine coast views.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$506,319
Net Return on Investments	(\$1,249)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$27,255)
Ending Fund Balance	\$477,815

**Brewer-Gower-Sawyer-Garber Fund:** Created by founding trustees Les Brewer and Father James Gower and local businessmen Charles Sawyer and Michael J. Garber, to support campus grounds improvements.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$276,031
Net Return on Investments	(\$647)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$13,152)
Ending Fund Balance	\$262,232

**Kathryn W. Davis Center Building & Grounds Fund:** Created by gifts from the Shelby Cullom Davis Foundation in support of the maintenance and upkeep of the Davis Center and grounds. The Kathryn W. Davis Center for International & Regional Studies is currently used for faculty and staff offices, classes, and a meeting place for COA's international population. The Davis Carriage House is a rustic addition to student housing. The Kathryn W. Davis Residence Village is the newest and "greenest" housing complex.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$64,651
Net Return on Investments	(\$150)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$3,022)
Ending Fund Balance	\$61,479

**Thomas S. Gates, Jr. Community Center:** Gates is regularly used for lectures, theatrical productions, music and dance performances, and large meetings or workshops. The hall has a stage with optional podium, seating on the main floor and balcony, a lighting and sound booth, and digital projector with screen.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$465,599
Net Return on Investments	(\$1,149)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$25,064)
Ending Fund Balance	\$439,386

**Thorndike Library/Kaelber Hall:** Thorndike Library was named in honor of Robert Amory Thorndike (1900–1972) and his wife Elizabeth (1908–1992) in recognition of their support and contributions to the college. Kaelber Hall is the large natural-shingled building located in the center of campus. Kaelber Hall overlooks the water and houses the Thorndike Library, the Blair-Tyson Dining Hall (Take-A-Break) and kitchen, as well as the Admission Office.

Beginning Fund Balance	\$296,869
Net Return on Investments	(\$689)
Contributions	\$0
Less Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$13,799)
Ending Fund Balance	\$282,381

**The Turrets:** The Turrets was designed for John J. Emery of New York in 1893 by Bruce Price, designer of Québec's famous Château Frontenac. In 1975 it was placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is still one of the most important examples of cottage-era architecture in Maine. The Turrets currently houses classrooms and administrative and faculty offices.

## General Unrestricted Endowment

Beginning Fund Balance	\$3,463,786
Net Return on Investments	(\$7,064)
Contributions	\$40,702
Allocations/Withdrawals	(\$150,626)
Ending Fund Balance	\$3,346,798

The general unrestricted endowment is primarily comprised of gifts to the college, which the trustees have designated to be part of the endowment. The normal 4.8–5% draw down rate is applied and allocated to the general operations of the college and, if needed, special allocations can be made with board approval.

## New Endowment Accounts



*Enjoying the beauty of a natural well.  
Photo courtesy of PICY.*

We celebrate the following new endowment accounts established in 2015:

- Diana Davis Spencer Hatchery
- Cox Protectorate Fund

These funds were established in FY14. Endowed funds are individually reported, once fully vested.

- Deering Endowment
- Performing Arts Chair
- Computer Science Chair

### College of the Atlantic's Development Office

If this book has inspired you to learn more about possible investment opportunities, please let us know.

Contact the Development Office at 207-801-5620. You can also learn more about College of the Atlantic's endowment needs and make a gift online at [www.coa.edu/donatenow](http://www.coa.edu/donatenow).

### College of the Atlantic's Investment Committee

Hank Schmelzer, Chair  
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Les Brewer  
Gifford Combs  
Winston Holt  
Jay McNally '84

Robert Milotte  
Brooke Parish  
Tony Robinson  
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*Students learn to harvest honey during the Yucatan Program. Photo by Polly McAdam '14, courtesy of PICY.*