

THE TORCH

The Brooks College Newsletter

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Vol. 1, Issue 9



Emilie Moore
Staff Writer

Celebrating the Inaugural Year of Brooks College

Members of Brooks College,

As this year comes to a close we remember and anticipate simultaneously. We form fond memories of this past year and reminisce on the joys of the community we have built. Join us as we look back on a year of deep and relational experiences.

Parting

There's no use in weeping,
Though we are condemned to part:
There's such a thing as keeping
A remembrance in one's heart:

There's such a thing as dwelling
On the thought ourselves have nurs'd,
And with scorn and courage telling
The world to do its worst.

We'll not let its follies grieve us,
We'll just take them as they come;
And then every day will leave us
A merry laugh for home.

When we've left each friend and brother,
When we're parted wide and far,
We will think of one another,
As even better than we are.

Every glorious sight above us,
Every pleasant sight beneath,
We'll connect with those that love us,
Whom we truly love till death !

In the evening, when we're sitting
By the fire perchance alone,
Then shall heart with warm heart meeting,
Give responsive tone for tone.

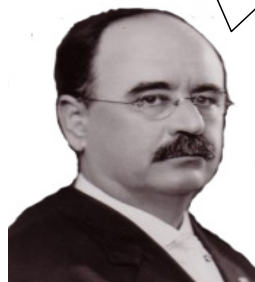
We can burst the bonds which chain us,
Which cold human hands have wrought,
And where none shall dare restrain us
We can meet again, in thought.

So there's no use in weeping,
Bear a cheerful spirit still;
Never doubt that Fate is keeping
Future good for present ill !

- Charlotte Bronte

Sammy Says...

We only
part to meet
again...



disclaimer Dr. Samuel Palmer Brooks did not
(to our knowledge) actually say the above quote.
We also have no record that he ever went by the
nickname of 'Sammy'.

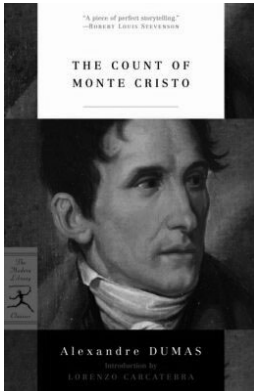
Senior Reflections

Several of our seniors take the opportunity to tell us about themselves, their plans, their contribution to the Brooks Library, and their memories.



Name: James Matthew Bondy
Major: B.S. Mechanical Engineering
Minor: Mathematics

Post Graduation Plans: I will be taking a 5th year (victory lap!) but I was just accepted to be an Air Force developmental engineer (1 of 38 out of 2000), I will be going to Boston where I will conduct research and development. This summer I will be working in Houston for an engineering firm redesigning an apparatus that plugs depleted oil wells. In the future I hope to teach at the collegiate level and do research into renewable energies and efficient desalination methods.



Book presented to Brooks College Library: "The Count of Monte Cristo" by Alexandre Dumas

Quote from book: "Tell the angel who will watch over your life to pray now and then for a man who, like Satan, believed himself for an instant to be equal to God, but who realized in all humility that supreme power and wisdom are in the hands of God alone."

Favorite Brooks College Memory: Watching the sunset from the Brooks Tower, it's enough to make you forget you're in Waco.

Name: Paul-Ryan Godfrey
Majors: University Scholars, Philosophy and Political Science
University involvement: Not much... Brooks College, but you knew that already... hmmm maybe the honors program

Post Graduation Plans: I want to go to law school.

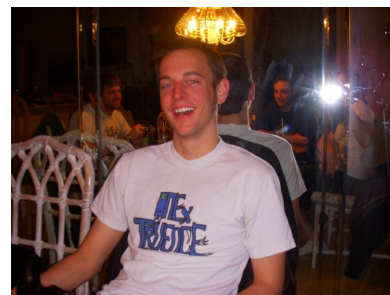
Book: Simone Weil

Why that book? In personal interactions, it teaches that love is most clearly expressed through attention and concern.

Quote from book: "My natural disposition is to be very easily influenced, too much influenced, and above all by anything collective."

Extra Advice:

Go with your gut instinct in times when action is immediately necessary, it tends to be right 90% of the time, and beware the lies of others for they can change your destiny.





Name: Emily Rodgers

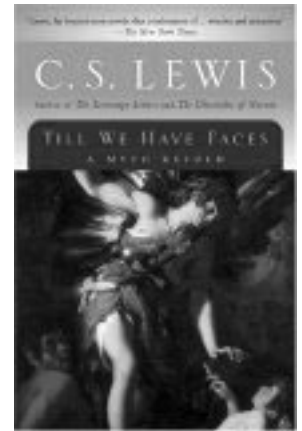
University Involvement: University Scholars, Brooks VP, CL&L Student Advisory Board, Ethics Policy Committee, Phi Beta Kappa, etc.

Plans: I hope to pursue a Master's in Student Affairs Administration at Baylor starting in the Fall. I know I would love to work within the context of university life with students in some capacity.

Book: "Till We Have Faces" by C.S. Lewis is my favorite book because it is a pre-Christian myth that sheds abundant life on Christianity. It is about a woman's journey towards self-discovery and the love that opened her eyes to truly see herself for the first time. One of the most incredible pictures of redemption I have ever been privileged to experience. My favorite line is:

"When the time comes to you at which you will be forced at last to utter the speech which has lain at the center of your soul for years, which you have, all that time, idiot-like, been saying over and over, you'll not talk about joy of words. I saw well why the gods do not speak to us openly, nor let us answer. Till that word can be dug out of us, why should they hear the babble we think we mean? How can they meet us face to face, till we have faces?"

Favorite Brooks memory: I think that one of my favorite memories was doing Treat Night, and I think also the first dinner was a very special moment when I looked around and saw the college gathered for the first time. Something I had dreamed about for two years had become real, and it was amazing to behold.

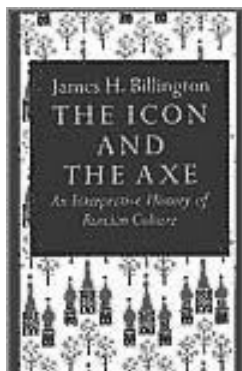


Name: Gary Guadagnolo

Major: University Scholar, emphasis in Russian history

University Involvement: Phi Kappa Chi fraternity, Brooks College Board of Trustees, Order of Omega, Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board, Phi Alpha Theta, Student Government

Plans: I will be spending the summer in Samara, Russia studying Russian on a Critical Language Scholarship from the US State Department. After returning to America for about a month, I will go to St. Petersburg, Russia to study at a university there for the academic year. My goal is to become completely fluent in Russian before beginning a PhD program in Russian History in the fall of 2009. Eventually I would like to become a professor of Russian History.



Book: I selected James H. Billington's "The Icon and the Axe." This seminal work on Russian cultural history has been a pivotal text in my own studies and represents the kind of research and writing that I hope to do in the future.

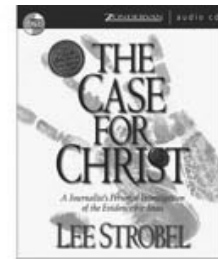
"It is only in resurrection, some unforeseeable 'metamorphoses of God,' that sense could ultimately be made out of the implausible aspirations of Russian thought and the repeated rejection of higher ideals in Russian reality." (595)

I have been involved in the Brooks College project since there were only drawings and ideas on paper, and to live in a place that represents the future of Baylor has been the most rewarding aspect of living in this community.

Bryan Watt
Vocal Performance Church Music
Baylor A Cappella Choir, Baylor Men's Choir, and Brooks College
Council President

Plans after College: I will be attending Belmont University's graduate church music school in Spring 2009. I have chosen to take semester off because I feel that I need some time to "be still" and refocus my life completely on the LORD. Over the last year, the words of psalm 46 "be still and know that I am GOD," have taken on new meaning. It seems to ... From experience, I can testify that there nothing more important, no matter what the circumstances, than intentionally spending time daily in prayer and in GOD's word.

I have decided to dedicate the books Case for Christ and Case for Faith by Lee Strobel to the Brooks College Library because they have both had a significant impact on my life.



Name: James Nortey
Philosophy Major/ Criminal Justice Minor
University Involvement: Brooks Residential College Senior Community
Leader; Chief Justice of the Student Government Student Court; Sunday
School Leader at University Baptist Church
Model United Nations Assistant Head Delegate



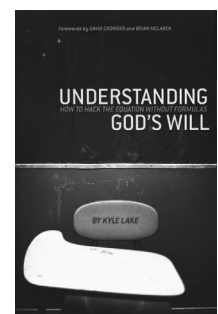
Plans: Next year I will be attending Harvard Law School as a 1L. After graduation I hope to become a federal prosecutor in the Department of Justice and specialize in public corruption cases.

Book: Understanding God's Will: How to Hack the Equation Without Formulas by Kyle Lake

I chose this book because the author, Kyle Lake, was my friend and my pastor. Unlike many Christian books that boast about God's will, I believe Kyle was on to something. He had such a miraculous grasp of the truth, the way, and the life that I felt compelled to etch his character and his words into my soul. He will be missed and none of us will ever understand what happened on Sunday, October 30th, 2005.

"Now, imagine the god of 100 percent sitting in the heavens awaiting our next decision. Many of us will be immobilized from ever stepping out and making a decision in the first place! We will be incapacitated with the fear that once we finally make a decision regarding a job, finances, a college major, or a living situation, God will be sitting high in the sky angrily saying, "WRONG, YOU LOSE!" And at that point, all we'll be left with is a second-rate life because we just took one wrong turn. And after our next faulty decision, we'll be onto plan C...then plan D...then plan E...and so on." Pg. 15

Favorite Memory: My favorite Brooks Memory was the very first Rock Band Thursday. Tucker Shields brought down his X-box and Rock Band Set, Ben Hernandez brought cases of bottled water, and I ordered 15 pizzas. It was a recipe for some great memories and music. For the first time the JCR was packed with over 50 people getting to know each other and hanging out.





Name: Courtney Jewett

Major: English; Philosophy minor

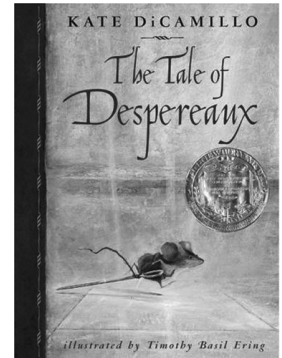
University Involvement: Editor of The Torch; Baylor Interdisciplinary Core; Sigma Tau Delta; Baylor Women's League; Kappa Delta

Plans: I'll be in San Antonio studying English literature in grad school. I want to focus on contemporary poetry and become a professor so that I can share my love of literature with others. I also want to teach in an interdisciplinary program (like the BIC). I'll be writing for San Antonio Weddings Magazine as a side job next year.

In the future, I want to travel, write poetry, and someday start a family and adopt children.

Book: The Tale of Despereaux [being the story of a mouse, a princess, some soup, and a spool of thread] by Kate DiCamillo

This is the unforgettable tale of Despereaux, a mouse who must overcome the impossible in the pursuit of love, light, and the greater ideals of life. It is a heart-warming, suspenseful story that, once opened is simply impossible to put down. I hope you open this short tale and find it a great source of encouragement, as you follow your own dreams. No dream is impossible.



Quote: "Despereaux's dire situation suddenly became quite clear to him. He was a two-ounce mouse alone in a dark, twisting dungeon full of rats. He had nothing but a sewing needle with which to defend himself. He had to find a princess. And he had to save her once he found her." ---p.240

Favorite Brooks Memory: Jane Austen movie nights!

Dear Torch readers,

When I first started working as Editor of The Torch, I had never even heard of the InDesign program, and had no idea how many people would be willing to jump in and help make this publication happen. Luckily, lots of fellow Brooks College members were happy to help in any way needed. Thank you to everyone who has contributed their writing, time, and hard work throughout the year! And to Emilie Moore, Anson Jablinski, and Emily Rodgers-thanks for sticking it out from that first meeting when we were just brainstorming names (good thing we chose The Torch), all the way to the last issue of the year. Your dedication is simply amazing. I've loved getting to know this community better by working on the newsletter and can't wait to see the issue you all create in the future.

The purpose of this publication is and always will be to bring us closer as a community. I'm proud of the tradition we've started and am happy to announce that Emilie Moore will be taking over as Editor in the fall. I know she'll do a wonderful job.

And so, it seems fitting to say...(quite literally)...

To Emilie, our new Editor, and all future/returning Brooks College members-

We pass on The Torch!

-Courtney Jewett

Editor '07- '08





Gracious Father, who out of bounty and love meets all of our truest needs, grant to us worthiness of character, strength of mind, and godliness of heart, that we who receive this meal and all your gifts may use them rightly to your glory and be brought thereby into the fullness of your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Acknowledgements

In closing out this incredible year, we want to extend thanks to all those who helped lead our community.

To the Council officers (Bryan Watt, Emily Rogers, and Robert Weissenberg)

Thank you for putting so much time into the community and people at Brooks. As the first officers ever, you have set high standards for the future, and we hope to follow in your steps. You have given so much of yourselves, and we hope it has paid off. Brooks College would not be what it is without you.

Dr. Henry and Dr. Henry

Thank you for caring about students, learning, and relationships. You have helped to foster many friendships and new ideas here. We would be lost without your vision and love for Brooks. Thank you for being reachable and earnest. We look forward to next year with great anticipation.

Faculty

Thank you for making yourselves so readily available for students. It is a blessing to have you so near, and we hope to create a stronger relationship in the year to come.

Staff

Thank you for all you do to maintain the quality of this building and the Great Hall. This place would not run without you, and we appreciate you so much.

Ann Garner

Thank you for showing love and concern for us, and for doing us so many favors. Your presence is a joy to us.

Larry and Christy Correll-Hughes

Thank you for being willing to work with students on so many levels and areas of life. You mean so much to this community, and we need you. You give your time to fix our problems, spend time with us, and encourage us.

Committee Co-chairs

Thank you for volunteering to take part in the leadership of Brooks. You gave each committee its direction and purpose this year. You planned activities, worked behind the scenes, and helped knit the Brooks community together.

Community Leaders

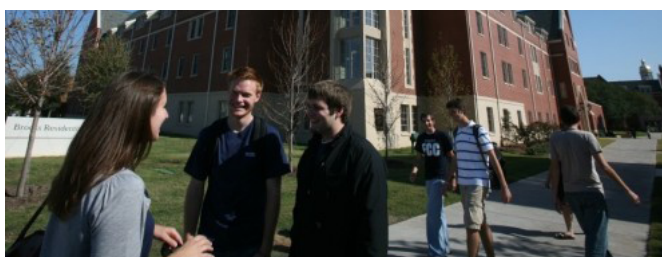
Thank you for loving students and being mentors for us. The relationships we have formed with you are priceless and have been instrumental in our lives. Thank you for giving up your lives for us.

Collin and Candice Bullard

Thank you for your spiritual impact on the Brooks community. Your availability and kindness to us is unfathomable, and we are so blessed to have you here.

Board of Trustees

Thank you for allowing Brooks to come into existence, and for having that vision in the first place. This is a wonderful place to live and learn, and each of us has been shaped by it in some way. We are grateful for your support and faith in the ideal of community.



Looking Forward

We present to you next year's *College Council*:

Amber Como, President

Jonathan Coffield, Vice President

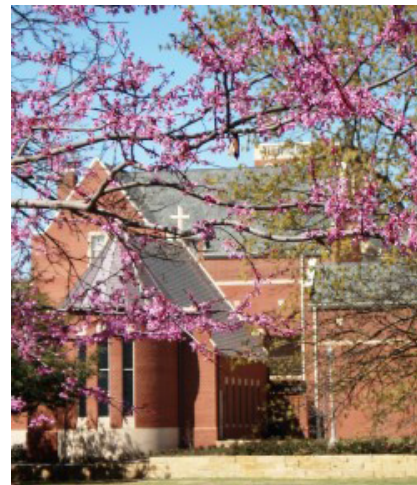
Elisha Alvarado, Secretary/Treasurer

Co-chairs:

Community and Traditions: Tyler Walton and Jennifer Atwood

Campus Life: Mike Bailey and Lauren Hardy

Academics: Daniel Abernathy and Anson Jablinski



Passing on the Torch since Fall 2007



Emily Rodgers.....Staff Writer

Anson Jablinski.....Staff Writer

Alex Tworkowski.....Staff Writer

Justin Ross.....Artist

Courtney Jewett.....Editor

Emilie Moore.....Staff Writer

Thanks to all of you for your involvement in this community. You have made it what it is. But this is not an ending to anything but a school year. New things begin all the time, and while we may miss those leaving us or even those we will not see for a few months, the future holds so many exciting prospects. We have great hopes and plans for the years to come, and many goals to reach. Paul writes in Philippians regarding *the* goal: "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Let our future desire be to strengthen the community of Brooks College and form it into one that focuses heavenward. Blessings to you this summer and beyond. Go in peace, remembering the words of Samuel Palmer Brooks...

...Because of what Baylor has meant to you in the past, because of what she will mean to you in the future, oh, my students, have a care for her. Build upon the foundations here the great school of which I have dreamed, so that she may touch and mold the lives of future generations and help to fit them for life here and hereafter. To you seniors of the past, of the present, of the future I entrust the care of Baylor University. To you I hand the torch ...