



SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

Master of Liberal Studies

LAKE FOREST COLLEGE

BUCHANAN HALL 110

MARCH 2024

WELCOME, SPRING SEMESTER

Director
Cynthia Hahn

**Associate
Director**
Carol Gayle

**Department
Associate/
Newsletter
Editor**
Joy Markee



The spring seminar, *Romanticism: Self and Society*, is well underway and is already initiating some lively discussions. Taught by Professor Robert Archambeau, Lake Forest College Professor of English, the class has an enrollment of fourteen students and focuses on the the Romantic era (ca. 1780-1830), a period of revolutionary change in politics, literature, music, and the visual arts. The students are examining the evolving relation of self and society through five transformational decades of modern European history. Discussions are focused on the works of a number of major figures, including Blake, Burke, Schiller, Wordsworth, Keats, Beethoven, Schubert and Mary Shelley.

MLS student Ginny Primack, who has already completed four seminars, shared the following about Bob's class: "It is challenging. He offers a whole new view of the Romantic era's poets and artists, giving unique insight into their lives and works. Each session is filled with imagination and humor, and many times, we don't want to leave at the end of class!"

CIVICS SUMMER COURSE FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS

This summer, the MLS program is offering a civics course for teachers, *American Foreign Policy: The Currents of Isolationism*, taught by James Marquardt, Professor of Politics. The course will be fully remote, meeting on select Fridays from mid-June through early August. All civics courses carry 4 hours of graduate-level credit and emphasize working collaboratively. Please pass the word to high school social studies or civics teachers who might be interested in earning graduate credits or continuing education credits. For more information, visit our website at www.lakeforest.edu/civics



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RETIREMENT ON THE HORIZON

Congratulations, Carol!



Please join us in congratulating Carol Gayle as she retires from Lake Forest College with over 50 years of service. A member of the History Department, she taught Russian and European history as well as women's history to thousands of students over the years. At the end of the 1970s she joined the recently founded Master of Liberal Studies program and has worked with MLS students for more than 40 years. Over the years she advised hundreds of students, both traditional and non-traditional, and took immense pleasure in seeing them graduate from Lake Forest College. She has been a firm believer in the idea that the College could and should serve adults from the surrounding communities as well as the traditional age students whose education is the main mission of the College.

Carol worked with all three previous Directors of the MLS program, Arthur Zilversmit, Rosemary Cowler, and Dan LeMahieu, and is delighted at the appointment of Cynthia Hahn as the new Director. As Associate Director, Carol has been the main contact for most MLS students, from their first inquiries about the program, through their course work, and up to graduation and then their years as alumni. She also taught more than half a dozen MLS seminars and directed many MLS tutorials, independent studies, and theses.

Carol studied at Swarthmore College and Columbia University. In addition to publications in Russian and European history, she has an interest in architectural history and in 1998 published a biographical account of James Bogardus and the invention of cast-iron architecture in America.

Carol says that she will miss the MLS program, particularly the MLS students and faculty, who together made the program a constantly interesting and rewarding experience. She sends you all her warmest good wishes.

MLS FALL 2023 RECEPTION

On October 23, 2023, current students and alumni of the MLS program gathered at Glen Rowan House for lively conversation and some tasty treats. Dr. Tara Natarajan, our new Dean of Faculty, stopped by to meet MLS students and learn more about the program. After the mingling was over, the MLS 514 class met in the Glen Rowan library, with Glenn Adelson guest lecturing about the impacts of climate change on the world's water.



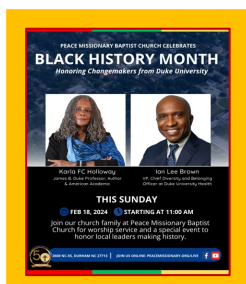
Next year's Fall Reception will be **Monday, October 21, 2024**. Please mark your calendars. All MLS students and alumni are invited. We hope you will be able to attend!

SAVE THE DATE!

GRADUATION IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

Congratulations to our 2023-24 MLS graduates, **Sondra DeRosier Adam, Michael J. Heinrich, and Mallory Kolodziej**. Please mark your calendar for this year's **Graduation Reception and Hooding Ceremony on Thursday, May 9, 2024**, when we will celebrate our graduates and all that they have achieved. Invitations will be sent out shortly, please keep an eye on your mailbox!

MLS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Ian Brown (MLS 2009) is Vice President and Chief Diversity and Belonging Officer of Duke University Health System, a position to which he was appointed in 2022 when the position was created. He joined the Duke University Health after many years working with senior living communities and healthcare systems, notably the Erickson Senior Living corporation. Ian was Executive Director of Sedgebrook, a retirement community in Lincolnshire, when he applied to the MLS program in 2007. While at Lake Forest Ian always worked to bring people

together. He led the way in founding the MLS Alumni Council in 2009-2010, a group that lasted until COVID closed it down. This month Ian sent us a poster about a program he participated in at Peace Missionary Baptist Church in Durham, which shows that at Duke University Health he continues his efforts to build bridges to the community.

Congratulations to **Mallory Kolodziej, MLS Dec '23**, on her new position as Director of Development-Corporate Relations with the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund. Previously, Mallory worked as the Director of Events at A Safe Place. If you would like to learn more about the Daniel Murphy Scholarship Fund, which provides high school scholarships to low-income students with high academic potential, please visit dmsf.org

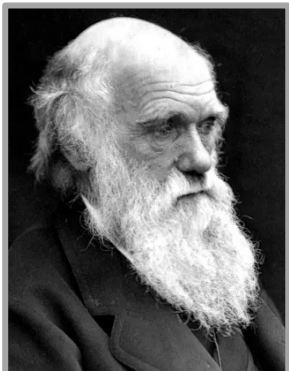
REMEMBERING KARIN GORDON



We'd like to take a moment to remember Karin Bente Gordon, a 1995 MLS graduate, who passed away in November 2023. Karin was born in Denmark where she studied interior design. She married the love of her life, Julian, a microbiologist, and his career took them to Sweden, New York, Switzerland and eventually, Lake Bluff, IL. While in Lake Bluff, Karin joined several writers' and poets' groups. She completed two books and wrote and published prolific poetry. To complete her MLS studies, Karin wrote a thesis entitled *Henrik Ibsen's Doll House: Translating Between the Lines*, in which she offered a new interpretation of one of Ibsen's famous plays and provided a new translation to support her argument. The term paper is archived at the Center of Ibsen Studies Library at the University of Oslo, Norway. Karin's lifelong passion for learning was evident during her time with the MLS program and we will miss her.

LOOKING FORWARD: FALL 2024 SEMESTER

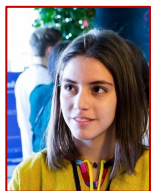
Fall 2024 Seminar: Darwin's Controversial Legacy and Current Influence



Next fall, our MLS seminar offering will be **Darwin's Controversial Legacy and Current Influence**, taught by Professor Glenn Adelson, of the Environmental Studies department. The seminar will examine Darwin's work and legacy, which continues to influence much of our current thought, across diverse fields of inquiry. The importance of the work of Charles Darwin, whether acknowledged or unrecognized, is as strong — and controversial — today as it has ever been. While a significant portion of the U.S. public may continue to reject evolution, believing to some extent that humans have always existed in their current form, the scientific community not only accepts Darwin's theory of evolution by natural selection, but entire research programs have been built around it, ranging from evolutionary biology itself to those in genetics, medicine, psychology, sociology, anthropology, geology, and philosophy. This seminar examines Darwin's seminal text, *On the Origin of Species*, as well as selections from several of his other books. David Quammen's *The Reluctant Mr. Darwin* and several essays by Stephen Jay Gould inform discussion, while John Dewey's "The Influence of Darwin on Philosophy" is a touchstone for the course. These foundational readings serve to shape our analysis of the ongoing debate surrounding Darwinian concepts, not only regarding issues of creationism and intelligent design, but ongoing controversies related to Darwin's theories within the current disciplines of biology, philosophy, psychology, and sociology. **If you are interested in joining the MLS program, or know someone who may be interested, please call us at 847-735-5083 for more information.**

OUR MLS SPRING STUDENT WORKERS

WELCOME VALERIA "VALU" CORZO GOMEZ '27



¡Hello MLS Community! My name is Valeria, but everyone calls me Valu. I am a first-year student at Lake Forest College from the state of Chiapas, Mexico. Outside of school, I have worked in different organizations that promote education and empowerment for girls and women. Upon graduation, I hope to work for the public education sector to continue using my voice to inspire positive change.

Additionally, we are grateful that **Shaheen Haji '25** has returned to help us this semester.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

We always enjoy hearing from our alumni. If you have recently had a milestone in your life, have changed addresses, or would just like to reach out and reconnect, please contact us via email at jmarkee@lakeforest.edu or phone at 847-735-5083. If you are interested in donating to the MLS program, please scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to make an online donation. Thank you!

