Yellin Wins $100,000 Ford Grant

DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH EMERITA JEAN FAGAN YELLIN and her staff were awarded a Ford Foundation grant of $100,000 to complete her two-volume edition of Harriet Jacobs’s papers. Jacobs (1813–1897) was a fugitive slave who wrote the landmark memoir *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl: Written by Herself* and is the only African-American woman held in slavery whose papers are known to exist.

Yellin calls the grant an “enormous relief. We have really been understaffed because we’ve been under funded.” She added that “the prestige of the Ford Foundation behind our project is very, very meaningful.”

Fifteen years ago, Yellin established that *Incidents* was indeed written by Jacobs and not a white abolitionist writer who has long been credited with its authorship. Yellin also discovered letters Jacobs had written from the South during the Civil War and began work on a biography.

The wide range of materials Yellin turned up inspired her to undertake the papers project. In 1995, she received a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship for College Teachers, and more recently the papers project received additional NEH funding and was named a “We the People Project.” Other funding has come from Pace University, the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, the University of North Carolina Press, the UNC Center for the Study of the American South, and the UNC Libraries. The National Historical Publications and Records Commission endorsed the project.

The collection now encompasses approximately 600 items, housed in various archives in the U.S. and England. The new funds will pay for the remaining cataloguing and annotating, scheduled for completion in 2005.

The project’s staff includes Kate Culkin, associate editor in residence at Pace, and Joseph Thomas, associate dean of Caldwell College, who is advisory editor. Says Culkin, “The knowledge of Jacobs’s life and work enriches our understanding of gender, identity, pluralism and social change.”

Yellin’s biography of Jacobs, *Harriet Jacobs: A Life*, was published in January by Basic Books. The January/February issue of *Humanities*, the bimonthly publication of the NEH, features an article on the Jacobs papers, and PBS will air a documentary featuring Jacobs this fall. Yellin was also nominated for a Pulitzer prize for *Women and Sisters: the Anti-Slavery Feminists in American Culture*.

Visit www.harrietta-cobspapers.org for more information on the Harriet Jacobs Project.
Dyson College Celebrates 30th Anniversary of its Naming

Without the many contributions of Charles H. Dyson, it is difficult to imagine what Pace University’s School of Arts and Sciences would look like today.

In honor of Pace alumnus and then-trustee Charles H. Dyson, Pace University’s Board of Trustees agreed to rename the School of Arts and Sciences as Dyson College of Arts and Sciences in 1974. Reacting to the trustees’ decision in his characteristically unassuming manner, Dyson, a partner in the Dyson-Kissner-Moran Corporation, a privately owned investment company, said that he regarded the trustees’ action as “a distinct honor,” adding: “In today’s world, the arts and sciences are at the core of all programs of study, and are becoming more important in every aspect of our living.”

Then-Pace President Edward J. Mortola observed, “In naming the School of Arts and Sciences for Dyson, the trustees have acknowledged the tremendous support that he has extended to Pace in his years of association with it. To count the ways he has provided that support is to cover the gamut from bricks and mortar and scholarships for deserving students to an extraordinary willingness to be available to administration, faculty, and students.”

And those ways are many. Charles Dyson:
• Served on the Board of Trustees from 1961 to 1976
• Served as its chairman from 1970 to 1976
• Named the first building on the Pleasantville Campus, the Dyson Hall of Science in 1963
• Was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Commercial Science from Pace University in 1965
• Received Pace University’s Leaders in Management Award in 1969
• Contributed a lead gift towards the Mortola Library in 1987
• Contributed to the Goldstein Academic Center in 1993
• Made a $10 million challenge grant to Dyson College of Arts and Sciences
• Established the Dyson Moral Obligation Scholarships

And in his memory, the Charles H. Dyson Profile in Courage Scholarship Award was established.

Charles H. Dyson was born August 2, 1909, and died at the age of 87 on March 14, 1997. He was well known as a financier, entrepreneur, and philanthropist. He was considered a pioneer in the field of leveraged buyouts and was best known for his government service. After graduating from Pace Institute in 1930, he began a career in public accounting. Dyson was a lifelong Democrat who worked for President Franklin D. Roosevelt and served in World War II. In 1954, he founded the Dyson-Kissner-Moran Corporation, a New York investment company that has become one of the nation’s largest privately held corporations.

In pursuit of his philanthropic interests, he founded the Dyson Foundation in 1957 and later the Dyson Charitable Fund. He also served as a member of the Governing Trustees of the Metropolitan Opera Association and served as Chairman of the Board of the American Ballet Theatre.

Dyson’s contributions, both in spirit and in generous financial support, continue to this day, and his legacy as a supporter of and advocate for the arts and sciences is evidenced by Dyson College’s remarkable expansion in the 30 years since its renaming in his honor.

As the arts and sciences continue to be the foundation of all academic and professional programs, Dyson’s words ring just as true in today’s world as they did in 1974. —Charles H. Dyson
Assistant Professor Honored with Navy Achievement Medal

Cited for biological warfare agent testing laboratory support

A MEMBER of the Naval Reserves, Assistant Professor of Biology James Martiney was recently mobilized to active duty as part of Operation Noble Eagle/Iraqi Freedom. He was awarded a Navy Achievement Medal, one of the highest noncombat military medals, for his work while deployed at the Naval Air Station in Sigonella, Sicily, from March to August of last year.

As stated on his medal, Lieutenant Martiney was recognized for “professional achievement in the superior performance of his duties as Microbiologist and Laboratory Department Head, Navy Environmental and Preventive Medicine Unit Seven, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Lt. Martiney’s outstanding work was instrumental in maintaining the unit’s critical theater Biological Warfare testing capabilities during a time of depleted laboratory staff. He ensured maintenance of laboratory accreditation for the only rapid onsite analysis of biological warfare agent testing facility in the European Command area of responsibility.”

A reservist for the past six years, Martiney is up for promotion to Lieutenant Commander. “It was indeed an honor to receive this award, as it demonstrates that my time away from my family was of service to the active duty military,” he reveals.

We congratulate Professor Martiney on receiving this honor and salute his dedication to serving our country.

Schwartz Receives $180,000 NSF Grant

A SSISTANT PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY JOSHUA SCHWARTZ received a National Science Foundation Grant for his research project “The Functional Significance of Chorus-Mediated Changes in Signaling Behavior in the Gray Treefrog.” Animals that aggregate in large groups, such as insects, frogs, and birds, often communicate under challenging natural conditions where levels of background noise can be high. This research project will investigate aspects of the vocal behavior of treefrogs with the goal of learning how flexibility in the pattern of male calling improves their ability to communicate and achieve reproductive success. Findings should shed light on how the ear and brain may improve the ability of individuals to exchange information under very noisy conditions and provide valuable insights into the factors shaping signal evolution. Additionally, the research will illustrate new approaches to the study of communication in groups while providing undergraduate students with valuable research experience.

Congratulations, Professor Schwartz.

Michael H. Roberts, PhD
Acting Dean
Program Notes

New Online MS in Publishing Debuts this Fall
The EMSPUB@PACE is a fully accredited, online master of science degree designed specifically for the new generation of publishing professionals. Conducted entirely online, this 36-credit degree can be completed within two to three years. Its curriculum is designed to give students the tools they need to succeed in their careers.

Like the classroom program, the online MS in publishing degree, which begins this fall, offers professionals flexibility and unique courses that reflect the current trends and issues facing the publishing industry today. Publishing professionals from outside the New York metropolitan area now have a unique opportunity to further develop their expertise and an opportunity to keep abreast of the latest trends and technological developments in the industry. The dynamic discussions, expert lecturers and small classes of professionals, make it a valuable and exciting learning experience for anyone looking to advance their publishing career.

For more information on this program, visit the MS in publishing Web site at www.pace.dyson/mspub or contact the department at emspub@pace.edu.

State Approves New Combined BS in Biology/MS in Environmental Science
Beginning this fall, a new program will give students the opportunity to earn both a bachelor of science in biology and a master of science in environmental science in five years. This joint program is offered by the department of biological sciences and the graduate program in environmental sciences of Dyson College. After obtaining a solid foundation in the biological sciences, students in the graduate portion of the program have a choice of either a basic track that emphasizes laboratory and fieldwork or a track in public administration that is related to environmental issues. Therefore, the program has broad appeal for a number of careers in environmental science or policy.

For more information, contact Dr. Richard Schlesinger, chair of biological sciences, at rschlesinger@pace.edu.

Students Shine at Forensic Science Meeting
A large representation of Pace University Forensic Science students and faculty participated and presented at the annual American Academy of Forensic Sciences meeting held in Dallas this February. The University provided funding for the trip for six of the students and two of the faculty; as a result, Pace had one of the largest representations at a conference attended by more than 2,500 forensic scientists from around the world.

Left to right are Christina Aligizakis, Michael Mor-dente, Taylor Dickerson III, Jennifer Dondero, Monica Bartoli, Brian Gestring (assistant director), Melyn Orelman (director), Jason Berger, Linda Monigault, Sheila Estacio, and Jennifer Ellis. Camera shy is Jason Bomberger.