

Horizons Extra

Spring 2012

Lifelong Education at Colby-Sawyer College

A Conversation with President Tom Galligan

On January 25, Morris Edwards, president of AIL, had the chance to sit down with Tom Galligan, president of Colby-Sawyer College, for a friendly chat covering a wide range of topics, from the "State of the Union" between AIL and the college, Tom's experiences as a study leader for AIL and his advice to future study leaders. Here are excerpts from that conversation.



PHOTO: Joyce Kellogg

Q. It has been 14 years since Colby-Sawyer College joined with members of our community to create Adventures in Learning. How much progress do you think we've made?

A. I think the progress has been incredible; membership has grown; participation has grown; and the number and breadth of courses have all expanded. Most importantly, AIL has proven over and over again that learning is a lifetime occupation and avocation.

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Study Leader Profile: Dr. Robert D. Mack

Sour gas? Sweet gas? If you had taken Dr. Robert Mack's course on oil and natural gas in 2011, you would know the definitions.*

This spring you will have the chance to learn about an equally fascinating power source—nuclear energy—its history from the discovery of radiation in the laboratory, through the Manhattan Project and the practical application of nuclear energy power from the military perspective, and an assessment of the relative viability of other power sources. It is a timely subject to address; for many it is controversial, and there is considerable misinformation. Bob looks forward to a

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Dr. Robert D. Mack

* Sour gas is produced gas containing a designated amount of hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), making it more difficult to handle and process before it can be used as a fuel. Natural gas that does not contain this amount of H₂S is called "sweet gas."

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SAVE THE DATE

for the

13th Annual Meeting

Thursday,

May 17, 2012

Visit the Adventures in Learning web site at colby-sawyer.edu/adventures to view articles, photos and the spring 2012 course catalog.



Some Interesting Facts and Figures about AIL

By the Numbers:

- ALL started with **24** members in 1998 and now averages **460** members annually.
- Charlie Carey was the first president of AIL. There have been **6** since. Morris Edwards is the current president.
- ALL started with **4** courses per term and now offers up to **13** per term.
- ALL introduced a summer term in 2009 with **2** courses and now offers **6**.
- There are currently **8** different venues where classes are held.
- Some members have driven for **2** hours each way to attend an AIL course.
- To date there are **11** Distinguished Study Group Leaders. One becomes a Distinguished SGL after leading **10** courses.
- One of ALL's study group leaders celebrated a **90**th birthday while leading a course.
- Another study group leader has offered **25** courses.
- Our general mailing list has more than **750** addresses.
- There were **1,047** registrants for courses last year, a record, compared to **323** when the program started in 1998.
- One participant took **7** courses in the fall of 2010.

Did You Know?

- Colby-Sawyer College was instrumental in the founding of AIL.
- Going digital with our newsletter *Horizons Extra* will provide significant savings each year in print and mailing costs as well as reduce our carbon footprint.
- The college supports AIL with office space and equipment, the equivalent of one full-time employee, professors who volunteer as study leaders (including President Galligan), the use of Clements Hall for large courses when the space is available, the expertise of College Communications, publicity for AIL events and with three free guest passes to the Hogan Fitness Center given annually to ALL members.
- Just as *Horizons Extra* is available on the AIL pages of the Colby-Sawyer web site, each term's course catalog is also posted online. Don't wait for the catalog to arrive in the mail to sign up for courses. Go to www.colby-sawyer.edu/adventures and click on "Courses" for this spring's catalog.
- ALL sponsors an annual scholarship for an outstanding junior at Colby-Sawyer College.
- In addition to the **Board of Directors** there are five standing committees:
 - **The Finance Committee** oversees the ALL budget and makes financial recommendations to the Board.
 - **The Curriculum Committee** arranges for each term's courses and offers a Study Leader Guide and mentoring support for study leaders.
 - **The Public Relations Committee** is responsible for the newsletter, press releases, special events and travel.
 - **The Long Range Planning Committee** identifies and studies issues affecting long-term plans and programs of ALL.
 - **The Nominating Committee** creates the slate of officers and Board members for a vote at the Annual Meeting.

~Betsy Boege

Your Curriculum Committee at Work



Winter term study group leaders review AIL class procedures at the orientation meeting led by Curriculum Committee members on Jan. 4, 2012. (From left to right) Standing: Martha Regan-Smith, Mike Moss, Charlie Kellogg, Derek Hunt, Millard Hunter, Tom Graves and Chuck Kennedy. Seated: Dan Allen, Jim Bowditch, Louise Cyr and Morris Edwards, President. (Not present: Aarne Vesilind.) PHOTOS: Joyce Kellogg

The Curriculum Committee conducts much the same functions within AIL as an academic dean's office does for a college. Known within AIL as the CC, members of the CC recruit study group leaders, generate ideas for future courses, review and approve course proposals, review participant and study group leader feedback, and will, starting in the fall of this year, schedule course venues and coordinate the use of audio-visual equipment.

Chaired by Joanna Henderson, the CC is comprised of experienced study group leaders. Other current members are Sheldon Boege, Jim Bowditch, Van Crawford, Morris Edwards, André Hurtgen, Joe Kun, Jim Moore, Les Norman, Dan Schneider, Tom Vannatta and Aarne Vesilind.

Some of the work of the CC is conducted through subcommittees. One subcommittee, chaired by Van Crawford, schedules and conducts orientation meetings for study group leaders prior to the beginning of each term and debriefing meetings following the conclusion of the term. The orientation meeting is an opportunity for study group leaders to meet and share information with each other and to discuss questions or concerns they may have. At the debriefing meeting study group leaders receive their completed participant evaluation forms, share their course experiences with each other and discuss any suggestions they have for future AIL courses.

Most importantly, at these meetings study group leaders and CC members discuss ways in which AIL could improve the future course experience for participants and study group leaders. AIL programs are continually evolving, and in order to develop, AIL listens carefully to our study group leaders and course participants.

~Dan Schneider



Dan Schneider, a member of the Curriculum Committee, explains a section of the Study Group Leader Guide to Louise Cyr, a first time AIL study group leader.



Many diverse educational and cultural programs are offered by Colby-Sawyer College, and most are free of charge to members of AIL and the community. Click on www.colby-sawyer.edu/campus-life/campus_activities/culturalevents/Spring2012.html to learn about the spring programs and how to purchase tickets for those events that require them.



AIL Achievement Award 2011–2012 Recipient

Ashley Anne Reynolds, a junior and member of the Class of 2013, is from Merrimack, N.H. Ashley is majoring in Environmental Studies. She chose Colby-Sawyer because she wanted a small college and was impressed with its Environmental Studies Program. One of its components, the junior year project that involves real life, community-based work, was of particular interest to her. As part of this program, Ashley has worked with the local farming community to promote a program to grow



Ashley Anne Reynolds

and eat local foods.

Ashley's academic achievements are many. She is a member of the Wesson Honors Program, available to highly motivated and capable students, is a member of Alpha Chi National Honor Society, putting her in the top 10 percent of her class, and has been on the Dean's List.

In addition to serving as a resident assistant, Ashley is involved in several college activities. She is secretary of the Sustainability Core Club, which encourages and promotes student participation in the adoption of envi-

ronmentally sustainable practices at Colby-Sawyer, and she is a member of the Campus Activity Board, providing entertainment and educational programs to the campus community as well as the community at large.

Ashley's plans after graduating from Colby-Sawyer are not definite at this time. She is considering graduate school or moving directly into the job market. Whichever she chooses, she knows that she wants to continue her interest in environmental issues, here and in other countries. Ashley is an impressive young woman and a deserving recipient of the 2011–2012 Adventures in Learning Achievement Award.

~Joyce Kellogg

Dr. Robert D. Mack (continued from page 1)

lively discussion of the facts and everyone's views concerning this topic during his upcoming course, "The History, Technology and Future of Commercial Nuclear Power."

Few study group leaders are as well qualified for the task as Bob Mack. A metallurgical engineer educated at The Ohio State University, Bob was at the right place at the right time. After graduate school he worked at Battelle Memorial Institute's Houston Operation working on materials for the production of oil and gas in aggressive downhole environments. Four years later, in 1984, he joined the Materials Science and Engineering Department at Shell's Westhollow Research Center in Houston—a boom time for R&D in the oil industry. Bob continued in research with Shell for more than 24 years, in Houston and during two assignments in the Netherlands, performing research to assure and improve the integrity of metals as they relate to the production of oil and natural gas.

Like the researcher he is, Bob will augment his engineering expertise with extensive research for this course. He believes all of us should understand and respect nuclear energy as a power source, its downsides and potential commercial applications. The course will consider the why and how of nuclear energy, its military and practical applications, the world surrounding nuclear energy development today, and will put into context the many questions relative to nuclear power.

Why lead classes for Adventures in Learning? He enjoys science and technology, and the interaction with and interest of the participants make the courses enjoyable and

worth the many hours of preparation he puts into them.

And why New London? After participating in eight summer Gordon Research Conferences held at Colby-Sawyer College, Bob, an Ohio native, and his wife, Jennifer, retired here in 2008. Additionally, New London is close to Jennifer's hometown in Massachusetts. "The summers were wonderful... the winters, now that we're here, well..." AIL is the beneficiary of Bob and Jennifer's move to New London, and all of us appreciate Bob's involvement and commitment to the program.

~Maggie Ford



A Conversation with President Tom Galligan *(continued from page 1)*

Q. What is the relationship between AIL and the college?

A. AIL and Colby-Sawyer are partners. To paraphrase what Rick says to Louie at the end of “Casablanca”: “It has been a beautiful friendship.” The college and AIL have worked together in a fantastically collegial manner. I know AIL was very important to Anne Ponder, the president of Colby-Sawyer when AIL was created, and I have tried to follow Anne’s lead to work to foster the program while respecting AIL’s educational and programmatic autonomy.

Q. AIL clearly benefits from the college’s generous support in providing the office and staff to manage and administer AIL, as well as classroom and meeting facilities. In addition, you and college faculty members participate as speakers and study leaders. How does the college benefit from its relationship with AIL?

A. Colby-Sawyer benefits from the relationship in ways too numerous to count. For those of us who have lectured or lead courses, we have benefited from the learning and from the collegiality inherent in participation. All of us are better off because, thanks to AIL, more people in this community know about Colby-Sawyer. When folks move to a community, particularly when they are moving from the professional stage of their lives to the next stage, they value having a college in town. Our relationship with AIL makes the connection to the college very real for many people. And, we benefit incredibly through AIL’s generous support of a scholarship for a deserving Colby-Sawyer upper class student.

Note: For more information about the 2012 Colby-Sawyer scholarship recipient, see the article on [Ashley Anne Reynolds](#) in this edition of Horizons Extra.

Q. Which aspect of the relationship makes you the proudest?

A. I am proud of the fact that so many people’s lives have been made better, richer, more informed through their participation in AIL. When I was in school I looked forward to the start of every semester because it would mean new courses, new materials and new books. I loved getting the books. In retrospect I suspect I was in love with learning. That’s what AIL is all about—being in love with learning. And that is something of which to be very proud.

Q. AIL prides itself on enriching and embracing the community. How does this mesh with the college’s goals and what can AIL do alone, and with the college, to deepen its embrace of our community?

A. It meshes like the woven yarn of a knitted sweater—perfectly. As you know our four strategic themes at Colby-Sawyer are: engaged learning, living sustainably,

linking to the world, and a dynamic devotion to excellence. AIL is all about lifelong engaged learning—study leader leading; participants participating! AIL’s commitment to lifelong learning is all about living sustainably throughout the course of a person’s entire intellectual life. And, your courses on science, nature and ecology are directly related to sustaining our very beautiful surroundings. Finally, AIL makes sure that all of its programs are outstanding—excellent—and are responsive to the changing interests of its members—dynamic!

Q. You obviously enjoy being a speaker and study leader for AIL. What do you like about the experience?

A. My wife, Susan, says I love the sound of my own voice. Maybe that’s what I like but, vanity aside, I always love my subjects and I love having prepared and interested participants of a different generation from my college students’ generation. I have also had the great good fortune to have partnered several times with my friend and fellow former law professor, Dick Pearson, in preparing and presenting courses and parts of courses. Dick is intelligent, provocative and a great friend. Working with Dick has truly been a highlight.

Q. As a speaker or study leader you’ve talked about a Founding Father, the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. Supreme Court. What’s next?

A. Boy oh boy, let me tell you—next up in the spring Dick and I will lead a course on the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. Dick will discuss the religion clauses and I will deal with freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Then next fall, I will be part of a team led by John Ferries on “Six Great Americans Who Were Also Secretary of State.” I will talk about John Marshall. Then, the following fall I’ll be talking about Machiavelli as part of a course you and Julie Machen are putting together on the Renaissance.

Q. What advice would you give to prospective study leaders?

A. Pick a subject you like. You don’t have to be an expert in it. You just have to be interested in it. Decide if you want it to be primarily a lecture class or a discussion course. But either way, be flexible; be ready for questions and conversation. And, most importantly, have fun!

Q. What could AIL do in the next few years to make you say “wow”?

A. I already say “wow” about AIL. So it is hard to imagine what would make me say “WOW.” But since you asked, I’d say keep on keeping on. Stay responsive to what the members say and keep asking, how can we be even better next year than we are today?

~Morris Edwards

Spring Courses Open for Registration

It is not too late to register for ALL spring courses, which start the week of April 9. Once again the Curriculum Committee offers an exciting program of 12 courses covering a wide range of subjects. To view the complete spring course catalog and a full description of each course, click on www.colby-sawyer.edu/assets/pdf/springcatalog.pdf. To print a copy of the registration form, click on www.colby-sawyer.edu/assets/pdf/ailspringregform.pdf. The registration deadline is March 9. Register now to ensure your place in the courses of your choice.

- **The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution** with *Tom Galligan and Dick Pearson*
The first amendment covers the freedoms of religion, speech, peaceful assembly and the press. This course will discuss the issues and boundaries surrounding this amendment based on different interpretations.
- **Time Travel: Italy from Prehistory to Nationhood** with *Kenneth Tentarelli, Tony Parra and Thomas Aprille*
This course covers Italy's dynamic and turbulent past by examining the life of the people and those in government, business and the arts who shaped the country's culture and spirit.
- **Memoir Writing** with *Susan Nye*
Take the first steps in writing your memoirs with the guidance of Susan and the input of your fellow participants. This course will assist you in removing roadblocks and enable you to take that first step and start telling your story.
- **The Seven Ages of Man (Woman, too) in Poetry** with *Dan Schneider*
In this truly interactive course, participants will examine how poets have interpreted seven stages of a person's life-time—birth, youth, lover, soldier, middle age, old age and death—by focusing on one stage in each of seven weeks.
- **Dorothy L. Sayers: Lord Peter Wimsey and more** with *Les Norman*
A minicourse focusing on the detective novels of Dorothy L. Sayers, linking her novels to life in Britain as she perceived it. Enjoy her use of words in exposition and argument.
- **"Many Mansions"—Religion in the Americas** with *Colby-Sawyer College Professor Randy Hanson*
A lecture and discussion-based minicourse offering a comparative exploration of religion and churches in the United States and Latin America. Topics range from the spiritual conquest of the New World to secularization in the Americas.
- **Great Composers II** moderated by *Van Crawford* with *six guest lecturers*
Learn about the creative lives and works of six notable composers whose music continues to enrich the lives of us all: Jan Sibelius, Charles Ives, George Gershwin, Maurice Ravel, Igor Stravinsky and Arvo Pärt.
- **What's Wrong with the American Political System?** with *Colby-Sawyer College Professor Emerita Hilary Cleveland*
Guaranteed to be a lively and thought-provoking course, Professor Cleveland will lead discussions on the issues and concerns resulting in the all-time low public opinion of our elected officials and the dysfunction in our government.
- **The Isles of Shoals: Your Passport to Adventure** with *Brenda Watts*
A minicourse covering the history, mystery, poetry, art, music and food of these islands, which have long attracted explorers, artists, scientists, naturalists, families and those seeking spiritual connection, as well as the current efforts to sustain it in its natural state. Guest speakers will share their unique perspectives on the Shoals.
- **Titans of the Gilded Age: Up Close and Personal** moderated by *Morris Edwards*
Astor, Vanderbilt, Carnegie, Morgan, Rockefeller and Mellon - Learn who they were and how they became titans of the industrialization of America, dubbed "robber barons" by critics and benefactors by their supporters.
- **Arab Spring** with *Chuck Kennedy*
Starting in January 2011, this multi-country revolution in the Middle East and Africa immediately affected us and the world through today's advanced communications. Examine the circumstances, the impact of evolving technology and what may be the political and economic consequences of these changes.
- **The History, Technology and Future of Commercial Nuclear Power** with *Robert Mack*
Compared to fossil fuels, nuclear energy is a relatively green source of energy. However, for many it represents a scary option. The Fukushima Disaster exacerbated this view and affected government policies on its use. This course will increase understanding of the technology, issues, challenges and benefits of using nuclear energy.

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Adventures in Learning *Horizons Extra* highlights the activities of the lifelong learning program at Colby-Sawyer College.

The thoughts and opinions expressed in the articles in this publication are strictly those of the respective authors. Information offered should not be considered authoritative or complete, nor should it be construed to reflect the views or opinions of the Adventures in Learning program or Colby-Sawyer College.

Credits

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Adventures in Learning Happenings



PHOTO: Maureen Rosen

On November 17, 2011, more than 90 members and friends of Adventures in Learning gathered for a sumptuous meal and friendly conversation at Rockwell's at the New London Inn for AIL's Thursday's Child dinner. Proceeds from the evening help provide scholarship assistance to a deserving and outstanding Colby-Sawyer College student through the Adventures in Learning Achievement Award. Seated at one of the tables left to right are Sheldon Boege, Joy Kubit, Joe Kubit, Sue Buehler, Nick Buehler and Joyce Kellogg.

AIL and EIN: "Working Together"

In 2009 AIL joined the Elderhostel Institute Network (EIN), North America's largest educational organization for older adults, which provides free-of-charge support and guidance to more than 400 affiliated lifelong learning programs across North America. In "Working Together" the director of EIN, Nancy Merz Nordstorm, outlines recent developments in adult education and how it has grown tremendously since its inception, especially with the aging of the baby boomers. As a member of EIN, AIL sends its course catalogs and newsletters to EIN as a resource for other similar organizations. Check out "Working Together" to learn more about EIN and the vast array of educational travel programs it sponsors and to keep up with the world of lifelong learning. www.keene.edu/sitemedia/uploads/conted/pdf/working_together.pdf

Inclement Weather Policy

Adventures in Learning follows the Kearsarge Regional School District policy on weather closure. For information on the district's cancellations call (603) 526-2051 extension 224. If questions arise about a course cancellation, please call your study group leader.

Reminder

Spring course
 registration deadline:

Friday, March 9, 2012



PHOTO: Maureen Rosen