Blood for the People
Money for the Soul

Written by Katie Dirks, 2011

Three members of the Periclean class of 2011 were spooking it up in Moseley to raise funds and awareness for their joint three-year plan. Pericleans Elizabeth Dobbins, Elizabeth Leman, and Katie Dirks manned a thoroughly Halloween-themed Moseley table from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Friday, October 30th, complete with cobwebs, spooky posters, and a giant vase full of something that looked like blood. The three juniors’ efforts contributed to their three-year plan to raise funds to treat a genetic blood disease in Sri Lanka called Thalassemia (tal-a-seem-ia). Thalassemia, also known as Cooley’s Anemia, is a genetic condition prevalent in north and northeastern Sri Lanka, which mainly affects small children. It is a relatively complicated disease, but essentially, it is a protein deficiency, which when treated leads to a toxic buildup of iron in the blood. Thalassemia patients must use blood pumps to filter out the iron and administer additional medication. The Sri Lankan government supplies patients with the necessary blood pumps; however, these are usually not of very high quality, and they tend to break. Lack- ing the financial resources to purchase another pump, many families, especially in impoverished rural areas, are helpless as their children succumb to the fatal condition.

Dobbins, Leman, and Dirks plan to partner with a clinic or hospital in the northern Sri Lankan city of Kurunegala (koa-rune-egg-alah) in order to provide quality medical equipment and staff training for the treatment of Thalassemia. Their time in Moseley on the 30th was spent asking for donations towards their first blood pump (each pump costs about $200.00), and raising student awareness of Thalassemia, their three-year plan, and Periclean initiatives in general.
deal of study, research, team building, collaboration, planning, outreach, fundraising and plain old “roll up the shirtsleeves” work. But there is one more essential ingredient to this success, and that is the Mentor for each Class. Each and every Mentor that has been a part of this program has put in tremendously long hours, far beyond that of the typical discipline based courses they regularly teach. These hours are put in over a four-year period, the first year committed to the time intensive process of recruitment and selection of his/her Class. Each Mentor has a deep devotion to student learning and development, and possesses an unwavering commitment to justice issues. Very simply put, without the selfless dedication of the faculty Mentors, the Periclean Scholars program could not exist.

Without the leadership of Dr. Jim Brown (Department of History and Geography) the Class of 2007 would never have fallen in love with the children of Honduras. Only some of you will remember that Jim taught one section of the first class of Periclean Scholars, giving up his work with the Class of 2006 to lead his own ’07 students south to Honduras. Without the patience and guidance of Dr. Michael Frontani (School of Communications), the Class of 2008 would not have traveled to the highlands of Chiapas and come face to face with the Zapatistas, forging a partnership with the Schools for Chiapas and leaving a legacy for the Class of 2013 to follow.

The vibrant enthusiasm of Dr. Crista Arangala (Department of Mathematics) has infected the Class of 2011 as they create a unique and path breaking three-way partnership between them-

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That this program is successful in reaching its goals is without question, but none of what has been – and will be – accomplished would be possible without each Mentor’s tireless dedication to a job far more involved than most non-Periclean faculty will ever realize. I salute each of them, and am humbled to be their colleagues. On behalf of all Periclean Scholars past, present and future, I thank them.

Only Dr. Martin Kamela (Department of Physics) would be intrepid enough to choose arguably the most diverse and complicated nation on this planet: India. His leadership in the use of technology and, more importantly, in learning how to understand and deal with the rich cultural tapestry of India has already facilitated productive discussions among this newest Class of Periclean Scholars, the 2012’s.

Now into the fold – yet to fully realize what he has gotten himself into – Dr. Brian Nienhaus (Department of Business Administration) is putting in many hours responding to the many details and events necessary to recruit the next Class of Periclean Scholars, the 2013’s.

The caring and visionary leadership of Dr. Stephen Braye (Department of English) nurtured the Class of 2009 through many dead ends as they redirected their energies from Angola to Zambia, eventually leading to a long-term partnership with Habitat for Humanity International-Zambia and many smiling faces in Kaoma. Bringing the Periclean Scholars program to an even higher level of academic rigor, Dr. Heidi Frontani (Department of History and Geography) has inspired and led the Class of 2010 to remarkable heights, and the Class now sets its sights on insuring the sustainability of their partnerships with the people of Ghana. Under her direction the program made the significant change of having the faculty Mentor choose the country of focus.

His decision to “recycle” the country of focus of the 2008’s is a benchmark in our history.
### 2010, Senior Class Update

Written by Dr. Heidi Frontani

The 2010 class surpassed the $50,000 fundraising mark and was featured in the Pendulum (Nov. 4th issue, page 3). Amanda Brown, 2010 student accountant, has arranged for new Ghana discount cards to be released around Thanksgiving. Some new local businesses have signed on. Anyone who purchases a new Ghana card for $5 will receive 10% off all non-alcoholic food/beverage purchases at Fat Frogg and if they buy a large pizza at Dolly’s, they’ll get another free. Mike’s Deli, Smitty’s, Little Italy, Dan Thai, Red Bowl, Dominos and others will still offer the same discounts they did on the original Ghana Card.

Several 2010 Pericleans are presenting at national level conferences: Katie Strickland presented her research on Kpoeta this week at the Association of Humanist Sociology conference in New Orleans, and Kristine Silvestri and Lauren Taylor will present their research on the outmigration of medical professionals from Ghana and South Africa at the Association of American Geographers conference in DC in April.

The 2010 Class of Periclean Scholars has two new members, first year students Will Brummett and Jordan Duffey. Will and Jordan, along with sophomore Frank Stiefel, have strong Africa interests and will help support the sustainability of the Kpoeta Community Clinic and staff housing project.

Finally, Pericleans Angela Sparrow and Andie Diemer were accepted into the honor’s society, Omicron Delta Kappa.

### 2011, Junior Class Update

Written by William Lyle, 2011

The class of 2011 is focusing their sights on literacy this winter. We will be running a book drive starting on November 30, running through December the 4th. Depending on the success of this measure, we are also hoping to continue this project through January Term.

Our major project in Sri Lanka, the rebuilding of several schools, has been proceeding apace. We are now finishing our fundraising for the construction of a new library at one of the schools.

Our work at Graham middle school has also gone quite well. We have recently refurbished the cold-frames and are currently in the process of replacing the mulch. We are also almost finished with painting the murals on the school’s outer walls, which face the outdoor classroom.

Finally, plans for our trip to Sri Lanka in Winter Term 2011 are likely to be accepted by the Elon administration. We hope that we will be able to help our project in person soon enough.

### 2012 Sophomore Class Update

Written by Ashley Jobe, 2012

The Periclean Scholars class of 2012 just said goodbye to our two Pericleans in Residence, Ms. Divya Krishnan and Mr. Sankar Krishnan. During the week of November 2nd, they offered valuable insight into the cultural norms and issues that Indians face in current times. And though they both live in Southern India now, their respective hometowns in both the northern and eastern areas of the country lent them varying perspectives on the people that live in a variety of conditions. We met with both of them within our project groups (microfinance, environment/sustainability, public health (prevention/administration), and education) and swapped ideas on how to make the first move in creating a sustainable partnership. Other topics included identifying crucial issues that afflict the Indian people, which geographical areas are hardest hit by water shortages, and how to find potential NGOs and partners which best align with our goals. They were helpful, humorous, and refreshing companions to our classes, giving us a tangible source to identify with, while processing our next step in our collective mission. We are excited than ever to move forward.
World-renown author Khaled Hosseini visited campus on October 13th, and with the right connections (hurray for Periclean Scholars) and just a bit of luck (timing really is everything) I had the unparalleled honor of sharing a dinner with him before his Convocation speech. Mr. Hosseini was nothing to what I might have imagined: international fame has done nothing to jade him and he is, quite the contrary, a quiet, soft-spoken man with a passion for his country and sharing its story with the world. address issues from the plight of Afghanistani refugees to women’s rights.

He is, basically, exactly what I want to be when I "grow up." I came to the lunch and Convocation ceremony having read both of his books ("The Kite Runner" and "A Thousand Splendid Suns") and represented the entire Frederick family when I shook his hand, dorkily told him how much my dad and I adore his writing and watched him sign his name to my two fresh copies of both novels.

It was a wonderful thing to see how interested he was to learn more about Elon; instead of spending lunch fielding questions about his travels and experience, he asked us, the students gathered, what we saw at Elon that made us strive to be global citizens.

His speech at Convocation was both inspiring and down-to-earth, and sent me away refreshed and ready to pursue my dreams -- not an easy thing for a senior in the middle of her thesis research and a semester of senior seminar!

~Jordan Fredrick

Special Thanks to the Many People Who Made This Visit a Success

Dr. Tom Arcaro, Periclean Director
Soul (Continued, Page I)

The donation process was given an interactive Halloween twist, as people coming by the table could fill a vase with a red liquid—symbolizing ‘clean blood’—after making a donation. Despite not having a meal swiper, the three 2011’s persevered, adding about fifty dollars to their growing funds, and currently have enough money for almost two pumps.

Looking ahead, they plan to elicit grant money from various organizations to continue fundraising, and establish contacts in Kurunegala to turn their plans into action.

Periclean Cook-off Big Success

Written by Katie Dirks, 2011

On Friday, October 16, several members of various Periclean classes and their friends came together in La Cucina for the Second Annual Periclean Cookoff. The event was hosted last spring by the Periclean class of 2010. Some of the 2010’s, upon returning from a study abroad in Ghana, were eager to share the flavors of their class’ country of focus. Because their Ghanaian dishes were so delicious, it only followed that the Cookoff became a regular Periclean tradition.

This year, senior Periclean Alison Brooks returned to the kitchen in Carlton with all of the favorites from last year, including a delectable chicken stew, a bean dish, tons of rice, and of course, fried plantains. Joining her from the Periclean class of 2011 was Katie Dirks, who brought with her the tastes of Southeast Asia with a Sri-Lankan eggplant curry and deep-fried coconut sweets for desert.

Senior Periclean Jordan Frederick had been looking forward to another Cookoff ever since her class hosted the Ghanaian meal in La Cocina last year.

“The fact that we had representatives from other Periclean classes present at this event was a welcome addition,” she said.

Periclean 2010 Mica McCullough was also excited to be in attendance at the Cookoff, saying “It’s especially nice to hang out with Pericleans outside of class, and when we’re doing something fun. Because each class represents such a unique global culture, I love attending Pan-Periclean events where authentic food is served.”

The event was another great success, with delicious food and wonderful company all around—that’s not to say that the night didn’t go down without a few comedic hitches. At one point, for instance, some smoke from the plantain oil sent off the fire alarms in La Cocina. After a few members of the Elon Fire Department graciously stopped by and the windows of La Cocina were opened to air out the room, it was simply back to the festivities as usual.

“This cookout was a great chance for me to ‘bond’ with the Periclean Scholars from other classes, eat delicious ethnic dishes, chat with our resident Ghanaian student, and get chased out of the kitchen by a looming smoke cloud,” said McCullough. “You should definitely come to the next one!”

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Wanted!
Photographers and Artists to Send in Their Work