

## PREPARING CHRISTIAN LEADERS

By Dr. Phillip Cary  
Associate Professor of Philosophy

The Templeton Honors College was founded at Eastern University to meet a need. Intellectually gifted Christian students can easily find their way to any number of highly reputable universities where they are subjected to an education that is at best secular and at worst actively hostile to Christian faith. The Templeton Honors College offers them an alternative, an opportunity to make the training of their minds an integral part of their spiritual lives. It thus takes its place alongside Eastern University's many initiatives and programs for nurturing future Christian leaders in an environment promoting the integration of faith, reason and justice.

Most of us have felt the force of social pressures against such integration, pressures to divorce the life of the mind from the life of Christian faith, worship and service. The students of the Templeton Honors College benefit from the special efforts of faculty to counteract these pressures by introducing them to the intellectual riches of the Christian tradition, with its power to mold our character in the image of Christ.

Students learn from experience that to cultivate their minds is a transforming work of spiritual obedience as well as a deep joy.

Indeed, perhaps the first thing you notice about classes at the Honors College is how much fun everyone is having. The inherent pleasure of learning is amplified by the fact that the classroom is a place of friendship. Students' friendships are strengthened by the bond of common studies, in which all truths point toward a common center in Christ, the beloved. The result is often a palpable level of shared exhilaration.

This atmosphere of friendship is deliberately cultivated from their first week at Eastern, which is not spent on campus, but literally out in the woods, camping in the Adirondacks in New York State. Students' first memories of the Honors College are formed as they help each other set up camp, carry gear, do some demanding hiking, and try to stay dry. By the time they walk into their first class back in St. Davids, they know each other better than they had thought possible. For they have also in this first week begun to form a community of learning as they pray and worship and study Scripture together, led by

faculty and other students who have been on this trip before.

Thus at the Templeton Honors College the cultivation of the life of the mind is not separated from the cultivation of friendship, which is not separated from the cultivation of the life of faith and Christian character. This group of friends find they have many great companions on the way of Christ, as they discover Augustine, Dante, Luther and Flannery O'Connor and they find that their teachers, too, are on the way with them, leading them to demand from themselves a disciplined Christian life, the practice of the virtues and diligence in study.

The life of the mind is fun, but it also serves a purpose beyond itself. Our country and the world need more educated Christians—steeped in the great books of the Christian tradition, enlivened by the fine arts, knowledgeable of God's work in created nature, and pierced by the cry of those who are beset by injustice. In cultivating all these things in its students, Eastern University gives the world a great and necessary gift. In founding the Templeton Honors College nearly ten years ago, the University enriched that gift and to that extent enriched the world.





# Templeton Honors

# College Alumni



**JOHN CHAMBERS '05**  
**Economic Development**

THC alumni John Chambers is living in Brooklyn, NY, and works in downtown Manhattan for the Economic Development Agency for the government of Ireland, while also writing, playing, and recording folk inspired music in his free time. He is also applying for graduate school for next fall. Chambers credits THC for his initial exposure to philosophy, a subject he plans to study for his doctoral program. "THC's goal was to teach students how to think and not what to think, this is something I hope to convey if I have the opportunity to teach in the future," said Chambers.

**JONATHAN WILSON-  
HARTGROVE '03**  
**Social Justice**

With two books being published next year, Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove, graduate of the THC program, is influencing the world with his views about the church and Christianity. While writing, he is currently working as the director of the School of Conversion at the Rutba House in Durham, NC. The Rutba House is a new monastic community, which focuses on hospitality, peace-making and discipleship. While teaching courses about Christianity

as a way of life at the House, Hartgrove also speaks and writes about discipleship and community. He credits the curriculum of the THC program "for having me read the great thinkers of history and the public intellectuals of our day, and for giving me the necessary background to accurately speak about God's kingdom." With the goals of working for the unity of God's people, praying for the kingdom, and continuing to walk with Jesus, Hartgrove continues to seek education, although this time outside of the classroom. He is currently doing this by working with Ann Atwater, a veteran civil rights leader, to learn about how to organize for social change.

**CHLOE BROWN '06**  
**Music as Worship**

After graduating from Eastern, Chloe Brown thought she had a life plan until things changed completely for her. "I would have liked to continue in my pursuit of a master's in social work but God led me here," said Brown. She's referring to the Christ of the Nation Bible School in Texas where she is in her 3rd year of a program which focuses on worship and technical arts. In addition to her studies, Brown plays the piano and sings for two worship teams. Brown's dream would be to work towards eliminating systemic poverty in America, but she is still grateful for her little detour to Texas. As a THC student she never thought she would be led to where she is today, but she feels the program exposed

her to a lot of things she would not have encountered otherwise. "I'm a well rounded person now," said Brown.

**AMY GILBERT '04**  
**Dynamic Teaching**

Working towards a dual master's and doctorate in psychology at the University of Virginia, THC alumna Amy Gilbert has been busy since graduating from Eastern. With her goal to finish her master's work and her dissertation on the horizon, Gilbert has begun her first teaching position this semester. She hopes to incorporate similar educational practices to those she experienced in the THC program into her own teaching methods and classes, as they have had an impact on how she views education. Gilbert praises THC for how it "emphasized the importance of an educational foundation on broader areas, keeping away from the specific, focused subjects." Instilled with a love for the history of philosophy at THC, she plans to write and continue teaching.

**ANGELA STOWELL '03**  
**International Focus**

Languages have always been of interest to Angela Stowell, who was a French and history major at Eastern. She plans to travel to Latin America this spring to study Spanish. She has also researched many academic programs in Mexico and Costa Rica and will choose one that she hopes will help her to achieve her goal of becoming fluent in Spanish. After graduating

from Eastern, Stowell attended George Washington University for her master's in international affairs and she immediately noticed a difference in class structure and instruction. "The professors at THC are unique in that they are dedicated Christians who live out their belief in God on both an academic and personal level," she says. "It was inspirational to find that you can be an intellect and excel academically while also remaining true to God." It is this THC philosophy that she hopes to live by while pursuing her endeavors in international affairs.

**JOSHUA MESERVEY '04**  
**Fighting AIDS**

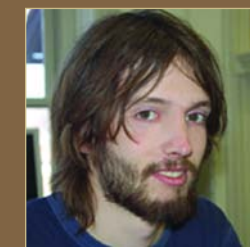
Working as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Muyembe Village in Zambia, Joshua Meservey is the embodiment of justice in action. Meservey, who received a degree in history from Eastern, works for the LIFE program, which is the Linking Income, Food and Environment program affiliated with the Zambian Forestry Department. His primary focus has been helping the Agriculture Department implement new programs, while also being involved with anti-AIDS work. He has served as both a liaison and advocate between his village and the government ministries and NGOs, and has worked on a water sanitation project. His time spent in the THC program provided him with the tools needed to deal with various situations he has encountered in this position. He says, "Often times the ability to take a fresh

approach to a problem, to think critically and creatively about an issue, has been proven to be as helpful to me in my job as any technical knowledge could be. THC helped me immeasurably in developing and refining all those skills." Next year Meservey will transfer to Zambia's capital, Lusaka, to work on the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS relief (PEPFAR). With the goal of working in the international arena, Meservey plans to continue his education with either a master's or a doctorate once he returns to the U.S.

**ERIC GLENDINNING '06**  
**Medical Research**

Eric Glendinning is a biochemistry major who worked with Dr. Jeff Lawton, assistant professor of biochemistry, studying the fire blight pathogen. He and fellow students Erin Abler and Elijah Jung presented their findings with three posters at the 2006 Sigma Xi Research Symposium. Eric's research and lab skills impressed the Merck Pharmaceuticals group in the department of biologics and vaccines, and they hired him as soon as he graduated from Eastern.

**REMEMBERING BEN CARR**



*The Eastern University community was greatly saddened by the death of Benjamin Carr '06, who drowned Sept. 28 at age 23. A philosophy major and member of the Templeton Honors College, he was recently working enthusiastically as managing editor of the Northfield News and Transcript in Vermont.*

*Joyce Munro, adviser to The Waltonian, recalls that Ben joined the staff in fall 2002 and was quickly promoted to news editor. She says, "His vision was to test Eastern's motto of faith, reason, and justice, especially to see how the reason aspect was realized in campus life. What was happening in the classroom and in the administration were of great interest to him." Sarah Vanacore '06 worked with Ben at the Waltonian and recalls, "He would be particular, wanting everything right, but he knew when you were tired and was always willing to help."*

*His other passions were movies, music and his family. Joyce Munro says, "I know that Ben was beginning to be fulfilled by his work as managing editor at the Northfield News and Transcript. He had begun to contribute immensely to the decisions and to take pride in the paper. I felt as though I were hearing his own heart's song, something he had not always heard himself. None of us knows who the 30-year-old or 50-year-old Ben might have been. Surely a wonderful uncle. Surely still a wonderful friend. For deep inside the man throbbed an interest in others."*

## The JOY of GIVING

**F**ounded in 1999 and funded primarily through the gifts of Drs. John Jr. and Josephine Templeton, the Templeton Honors College at Eastern University is designed to challenge and prepare academically gifted undergraduate students for leadership and service. It prepares them to be individuals of influence in culture, society and their professions by providing a holistic program focused on the life of the mind, character formation, and skill development.

John M. Templeton, Jr., M.D. is a long-time member of the Eastern University Board of Trustees and generous benefactor of the University. He is also president of the John Templeton Foundation, and directs all Foundation activities in pursuit of its core mission to serve as a philanthropic catalyst for discovery in areas engaging life's biggest questions in science and philosophy. One of their recent grants was to the study of glossalalia, or speaking in tongues (see story on page 20).

After earning a bachelor of arts degree from Yale University in New Haven, CT, Dr. Templeton earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School in Boston. He com-

pleted his internship and residency in surgery at the Medical College of Virginia in Richmond and subsequently trained in pediatric surgery under Dr. C. Everett Koop at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. After serving two years in the U.S. Navy, he returned to the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia in 1977, where he served on the staff as pediatric surgeon and trauma program director. He also served as professor of pediatric surgery at the University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Templeton was board certified in pediatric surgery and surgical critical care and is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He serves as a board member of the American Trauma Society and as president of its Pennsylvania division. He has published numerous papers in medical and professional journals, in addition to two books, *A Searcher's Life* and *Thrift and Generosity: The Joy of Giving*.

Born in Capri, Italy, Dr. Josephine (Pina) Templeton came to the U.S. in 1949 with her family, returning to Italy in 1961 to attend medical school. She met her husband during her post-graduate training at the Medical College of Virginia. Dr. Templeton then completed a residency in anesthesiology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania followed by a fellowship in pediatric anesthesiology and critical care at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia under Dr. John Downes, subsequently working in the same department. She is now retired from the practice of medicine and involved in many philanthropic activities.

## Values of the Templeton Honors College

*The Templeton Honors College at Eastern University is guided by the following premises:*

- That one's love, service and worship of God is manifest equally through the development of heart, soul, and mind;
- That the gifts of the mind are best expressed in informed leadership in the public square, within the framework of objective moral truth;
- That the life of the mind must walk hand-in-hand with continued character development;
- That God's self-revelation lays the foundation for understanding the natural order of the physical universe and the proper relationships which should exist at every level of human society;
- That it is critical not only to know the technical skills to make a living, but also to understand what makes a life.