



THERE ARE BOOKS IN BALTIMORE

BY: ANONYMOUS

The front page of the previous Grad News carried an article with the noble ambition of whining about the new bookstore. Even though I don't share the author's belief that university bookstores are meant to be anything other than a place to overpay for the books you forgot to buy online, I applaud the author's intent. Nobody wants to hike to some off campus dormitory to buy an envelope or AA battery. I, however, have to take exception to the boilerplate Baltimore bashing comments tossed off in the introductory paragraph.

The "City that Reads" campaign former mayor Kurt Schmoke started ended in 1999 when governor-elect Martin O'Malley started the slightly less ironic "Greatest City in America" bus-bench campaign. "The City that Reads" is like Marion Barry's crack use: They're just so funny that we hope you'll forget how old the stories are as we tell them.

The statement that "Baltimore... has so few books, be they held in public trust or private stores" is reposterous. Public trust: The Enoch Pratt Free Library, slightly younger than the Johns Hopkins University itself, is a vital resource with dozens of

branches accessible by any resident of the city. It is part of the Maryland Public Library Community which makes free dial-up internet access available to any resident of the state of Maryland (<http://www.sailor.lib.md.us/help/ppp/cruise.html>) and hosts a mirror of the texts at Project Gutenberg (<http://www.gutenberg.org>) an attempt to archive digitally, every public domain piece of literature ever created in plain, searchable text.

You can get millions of titles from Enoch Pratt without having to access the world class facilities at the Milton S. Eisenhower library which anybody over sixteen years old with a photo ID can (actually checking the books out costs \$200 per annum for non-students). If you just want to see how beautiful a library can be, you can visit the George Peabody library (<http://www.peabodyevents.library.jhu.edu/>) in Mt. Vernon. It's non-circulating collection is still available for use by the public and it's architecture is breathtaking.

Private stores: Baltimore is host to many great used and new bookstores. For used books, you can go to Normal's (<http://www.normal.com/>) in Waverly (or go across the street to Al's used books). For new books, you can try Red Emma's (<http://www.redemmas.org/>), down-

town, where you can simultaneously buy a new book and a cup of a fair-trade organic coffee over which you can denounce the Starbucks in our bookstore. Unique to Baltimore: The Book Thing (<http://www.bookthing.org/>) in Waverly is unique to this city. It is a building where you stroll in, peruse the shelves and walk out with as many books as you like. If you'd like to leave some, just take them to the back. What better monument to the literacy of Baltimore's residents could there be than this thriving non-profit.

The problem with finding these books is that they require you to travel more than two blocks from campus. Unlike most universities comparable to ours in academic history and stature, Johns Hopkins is located in an actual city. This means that there is no faux-small-town road lined with shops to buy hacky-sacks, coffee, used books, and posters of Bob Marley. As graduate students, we have to take it upon ourselves to explore the city in which we will spend the better part of a decade. Mocking Baltimore's poverty, record homicides, and adult literacy rate is like shooting fish in a barrel, but it's very difficult to try to say that the city of Mencken and Poe actually has a dearth of physical books.

Opinions expressed in the Grad News do not necessarily represent those of its staff, the GRO, or graduate students in general.

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If only I had known, I would have become a locksmith.
-Albert Einstein

WHAT IS HOPKINS' STANCE ON SUSTAINABILITY?

BY: SOREN EUSTIS, MICHAEL LANCI, PETER MCPHEE

Isaac Newton once said, "I have seen further than others, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants". The meaning of this quote invokes a certain respect for those who have come before us and laid the way for our success. It is acknowledgement that without our predecessors we would not have a foundation of knowledge and technology to build upon. The ability to progress with every generation is unique to the human race.

How many times have you heard a phrase like Johns Hopkins University researchers discovered ... or a study by Johns Hopkins University has determined ... on a national news broadcast? Johns Hopkins University is a world leader in the areas of science and technology due to the efforts of our predecessors and we have been given the opportunity to stand on a world's stage. We have the responsibility to provide the world with information concerning the problems of today and the challenges of the future.

The knowledge we have gained has led us to a pivotal point in the state of the world. If we follow the path that we are currently on, our world may change so significantly in our lifetime

that it may not be recognizable by the time we reach retirement.

Scientists around the world and at Hopkins believe that the equilibrium of our ecosystem is being disrupted by the irresponsible actions of the human race. Scientists have correlated the abnormal rise in carbon dioxide to the increase in the average



temperature of our planet. This has been interpreted as a trend that will lead to catastrophic consequences for our planet unless drastic changes are made in the way we think and go about our daily lives.

Many businesses and universities have begun to make changes in the way they operate that benefit the world around us as well as their bottom-line. Some of these institutions include, Toyota. With a focus on the world as a whole, these companies have started programs to minimize their impact on the environment and to sustain the

world as a whole.

Where does Johns Hopkins University stand? When Johns Hopkins University speaks, the world listens. This is a great power to have and if we can somehow use this power to spread knowledge of these issues to the rest of the world, Johns Hopkins University would benefit in many ways. We would improve our environment and our economy while becoming a public relations star. The benefits could be great but we need to make huge changes to be effective. Changes start with the individual; as an individual we can influence each other and together we can push Johns Hopkins University to achieve great things.

You can begin by requesting for more effective placement of recycling containers, encouraging your department to use paper with a higher percentage recycled content, turning your lights off when they are not necessary, keeping the heat in your building during winter by keeping your windows and doors closed or just turning your heat down and putting a sweater on. You could ride your bike to work, as many of us do. If we don't make the change, how can we expect the university to take a greater stand on environmental sustainability?

GRO COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY

*BY: JOHN MATSUI and
NEENA MAHADEV*

In light of the numerous recent events that bring up concerns of diversity and its understanding on the Johns Hopkins Homewood campus - touching the graduate and undergraduate communities alike - a Committee on Diversity Issues will be formed to discuss these and any future incidents, as well as to draft proposals for GRO action. A few members of the GRO General Council who are willing to commit to up to three meetings during the 2006-07 academic year, will be convening to discuss these matters.

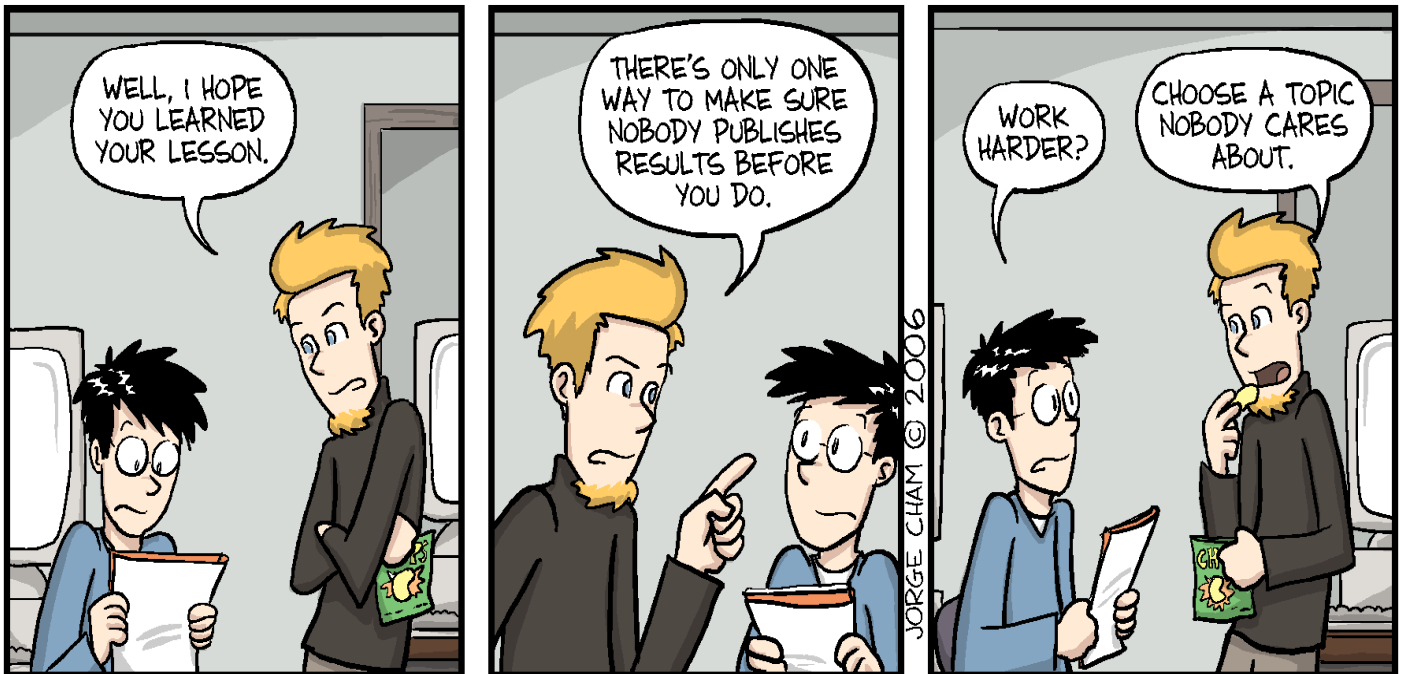
The meetings will confer on various issues, to consider:

- 1) how to educate our undergraduate colleagues on issues of racism and social inequality (which may include offering suggestions on curricular changes); as academic support to attend to the needs of grad students for whom English is a second language),
- 2) how to ensure that there is adequate support for students of color, while promoting dialogue between various groups; in resources for international students
- 3) advising the University on existing gaps in resources for international students (such as academic support to attend to the needs of grad students for whom English is a second language),

- 4) how to improve the relationship between Johns Hopkins (as a student body (grad and undergrad), and as an institution) to the wider Baltimore community, and to explore ways that we can be more positively involved with people of our city, despite the divides of social inequality; 5) other actions that the committee decides to take through the GRO.

The Committee will be chaired by John Matsui, Diversity and Academic Programming Coordinator, with GRO Chair Neena Mahadev serving ex officio. If you are not already involved in the GRO, but would like to be involved with these initiatives, please contact John Matsui.

PHD Comic by Jorge Cham



RESTAURANT REVIEW: BRASSERIE TATIN

BY: ADAM RUBEN

In the past half decade, I've eaten at every single restaurant and takeout place within walking distance of the Homewood campus. I've put away the pancakes at Pete's Grill, hobnobbed with vegans at One World Café, and even, on multiple, regrettable occasions, stretched my stipend across the too-many-Coronas-and-tacos special at PJ's. Brasserie Tatin was last on my checklist, and with good reason—a restaurant that lists its chefs on its website and effuses over the newest Beaujolais (“Mark your calendars!”) is not quite the place at which I typically look to snack between trips to the lab.

What set of circumstances, you ask, would possibly lead to a grad student bankrupting himself on contemporary French cuisine? A dinner special, perhaps, like the \$10 Tuesdays at Gertrude's? A discount using that little black-and-yellow card that everyone always forgets about? Nope—I owe my splurge to the generosity of the GRO, which will reimburse me up to \$40 for writing this review. And as you'll soon see, to be able to live with myself, I'm going to need it. I called to make a reservation. I left my name with a man who had the classic French accent you hear in cartoons where waiters say things like, “Would Monsieur care for fresh jam?”. Monsieur now had a table for two at 7:00 sharp. Thankfully, he confirmed that there was no dress code, though I imagined him turning up his nose at the question.

Upon arriving, I noticed that the décor would have, under other circumstances, warranted terms like “elegant” and “contemporary” and

“elegantly contemporary.” But there was something odd about it, and halfway through the meal, I figured out what it was: *The place looked like Levering Café.* That's right. Big, high-backed booths with large patches of bold, solid colors. Track lighting in sizeable swoops across the ceiling. Zigzags for no reason. I only hoped the food would be better.

My fiancée and I started by splitting the Cocktail de Fruits de Mer (\$13.00), a mélange of shrimp, crabmeat, and scallops clustered into a small cake with bits of honeydew, avocado, and pineapple and drizzled with a tropical fruit vinaigrette. One of the best two words to describe this innovative salad is “cool,” because of the temperature of all ingredients and the inherent mildness in the mix of crab and melon. The other best word is “small.” The thing was the size of a hockey puck and cost more than I'd like to spend on a whole entrée. About this time, I noticed something unusual but not totally unexpected about the clientele: My fiancée and I were clearly of a different social class than our fellow diners. Almost uniformly, the other patrons were professor-and-spouse types, men in turtlenecks and blazers and women sniffing red wines. In fact, the only other person our age looked to be with her parents, and she wore a fur-lined coat and talked on her cell phone for most of the meal. (Meanwhile, in the Grad Student Caste, we tried to figure out if we'd need to tip the woman who took our coats or whether we could just grab them from the closet ourselves.)

For my entrée, I tried the Steak Frites (\$24.00), a grilled steak with thin little French fries and green beans. I found it pretty good with a nicely caramelized outside, though cooked

medium rare rather than the medium well I had requested. The fries got soggy after a while from sitting in the steak juice, but it was a tasty juice, so no harm done. My fiancée ordered the Shrimp & Artichoke Pizza (\$15.00) with mushrooms, tomatoes, and fontina cheese, which I got to eat for lunch the next day, as it turns out she doesn't like fontina cheese. The dish fit the theme of Brasserie Tatin: Good, well-made, well-presented, and I could have gotten the same meal at the Macaroni Grill for half the price.

We finished the meal with a dessert of Moëlleux au Chocolat (\$7.50), another little hockey puck, this time made from chocolate cake with a molten chocolate center and a drizzle of crème Anglaise. It's hard to ruin chocolate cake, and they didn't, but the dessert wasn't phenomenal. We agreed that it would have been much better served hot, rather than room temperature—the molten center ended up more like a thick pudding than like hot fudge. For those of you keeping score at home, that brings the total bill, with tax and tip, to about \$70. At about half that price, I'd gladly return to Brasserie Tatin on rare occasion. But with graduate stipends keeping us barely above food stamps, I can say with certainty that Monsieur will most likely fill himself with tacos and Coronas at PJ's long before marking his calendar for the debut of the new Beaujolais.

Brasserie Tatin is located at 105 West 39th Street. Lunch is served Tuesday-Friday, 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM; dinner begins at 5:00 PM every day and continues until 9:00 PM Sunday-Monday, 10:00 PM Tuesday-Thursday, and 11:00 PM Friday-Saturday. Learn more at www.brassrietatin.com.

EVENTS: HOW TO BECOME A BETTER NEGOTIATOR

BY: ELIZABETH LIU

Did you know that by not asking or negotiating your starting salaries, you could lose more than half a million dollars in earnings by the end of your careers? Research shows that men are four times more likely than women to ask for higher salaries. In fact, it turns out that whether it is better opportunities at the workplace, or more help at home, studies have shown that women don't ask, and sometimes don't even know that they can!

Do you have a fear of negotiating? Are you just thankful you got the job, or fear that the offer may be withdrawn if you ask for a higher salary? Want to learn how to decrease your anxiety, anticipate roadblocks, and plan counter-movers so that you can get what you want and deserve? Want to become a better negotiator?

Now you can! The Women of Whiting, in conjunction with GRO, WSE, KSAS, ERC and the Engineering Departments of AMS, BME, CS, DOGEE, ECE, ME, and MSE, is proud to bring to the JHU community, Sara Laschever, coauthor of *Women Don't Ask: Negotiation and the Gender Divide*. Mrs. Laschever is a writer and editor with a longstanding interest in the life and career obstacles faced by

women in the workplace. She has published works in *The Harvard Business Review*, *The New York Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Boston Review*, and many other publications. Her first book, *Women Don't Ask*, explores the phenomenon of why women are much more reluctant than men to use negotiation to improve their circumstances. On March 28th, Mrs. Laschever will speak about her book and discuss her findings on gender differences in approaching negotiation. She will also offer concrete tips on how to identify the underlying problem and methods of negotiations that will allow you to move ahead.

So come join us and learn how to be a better negotiator. This free seminar will be held in **Bloomberg Hall 272** on Wednesday, **March 28, 2007** at **5:30 pm**. Admission is **FREE** for **ALL** students, faculty, and staff. Though this talk emphasizes ways women can become stronger negotiators, we can **ALL** benefit by learning different negotiation techniques and styles that work, and all are welcome! A light refreshment will be served prior to the talk and a larger reception and book signing will follow immediately after the talk. For refreshment order purposes, your RSVP to wow@jhu.edu is greatly appreciated, though not required. For more information on the seminar and on WoW, please visit our

website at <http://www.jhu.edu/wow/public/events.htm>. The information regarding the speaker and book is used with the permission of Sara Laschever.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

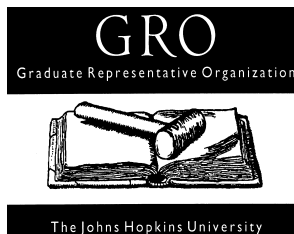
(from www.womendontask.com)

Sara Laschever was born in New York City and grew up in New Jersey and rural Connecticut. She attended the Kent School and earned her bachelor's degree in English Literature from Princeton University and a master's degree in creative writing from Boston University. She has worked as a writer and editor for almost 25 years and her work has been published by the *New York Review of Books*, the *New York Times*, the *Village Voice*, the *Harvard Business Review*, *Vogue*, *Mademoiselle*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Phoenix*, the *Boston Review*, and many other publications. She has taught writing at Boston University and privately edited books published by the Harvard Business School Press, Perseus Books, Hyperion Books, and Alfred A. Knopf. She also worked for three years as a senior writer and editor at Mercer Management Consulting in Lexington, Massachusetts. Sara Laschever lives in Concord, Massachusetts, with her husband, the music critic Tim Riley, and their two sons.

MARCH 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 Coffee Hour in Levering 3-4pm	6	7	8 Happy Hour at Hopkins Deli 7-8pm	9	10
11	12 Spring Break Begins	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Classes Re- sume Coffee Hour in Levering 3-4pm	20	21	22 Happy Hour at Hopkins Deli 7-8pm	23	24
25	26 Coffee Hour in Levering 3-4pm	27	28 Women of Whiting Event in Bloomberg Hall 272 at 5:30pm	29 Happy Hour at Hopkins Deli 7-8pm	30	31

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