



Northwestern College Magazine

WINTER 2008-09
the **Classic**

Global Perspective

International students bring
the world to Northwestern

Also

The Thinker Behind the Mask
Inauguration Images
Exam Déjà Vu

2008's Greats

NWC honors three distinguished alumni during Homecoming



Dr. Charollene (Vander Pol '51) Coates **PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT**

Charollene Coates' 50-year career in education included teaching students in preschool through graduate school; numerous administrative roles, including six years as executive director of School Administrators of South Dakota; and 15 years on the faculty at Chadron State College in Nebraska.

Named Nebraska's Professor of the Year in 1996 by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Coates also received the Nebraska State College System Teacher Excellence Award in 1994 and the Chadron State College Faculty Achievement Award in 1989.

Currently retired and living in Rapid City, S.D., Coates continues to supervise student teachers and served as president of the South Dakota Retired Teachers Association from 2006 to 2008.

Coates earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Chadron State in 1964 and '70, respectively, and a doctorate in education administration from the University of South Dakota in 1984.



Dr. Ron Juffer '56 **SERVICE TO NORTHWESTERN**

Ron Juffer rarely forgets a face, name, hometown, or other details that enable him to warmly greet nearly every student he ever had—even years after graduation.

He earned a bachelor's degree in history from Morningside College in 1959 and master's and doctoral degrees from the University of South Dakota in 1965 and 1974, respectively. Juffer taught and coached in Akron, Iowa, and Sioux Center before joining Northwestern's education faculty in 1967. In 1990 he won Northwestern's Teaching Excellence Award.

In addition to inspiring numerous future educators, the diehard Raider fan was also Northwestern's baseball coach for 14 years, finishing with a 228-170 record and five conference championships.

Although he retired from full-time teaching in 2002, the Orange City resident still teaches occasionally and supervises student teacher placement and teacher licensure.



Rob Roozeboom '01 **SERVICE TO HUMANKIND**

Rob Roozeboom was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy as a teenager. He became rebellious and abused drugs. He was depressed, even suicidal. Through God's grace he came to understand that even if he couldn't control his ailment, he could control his attitude.

In 2001, Roozeboom established RISE Ministries, an organization that seeks to encourage teens and adults to overcome adversity. The Sheldon, Iowa, native shares his insights on Rise Above Radio, a daily program on more than 250 radio stations worldwide, and travels nationally, sharing the stage with musicians and performers like MercyMe and Ken Davis. Roozeboom's ministry also produces an annual Christian music festival.

A member of the Muscular Dystrophy Association's National Task Force on Public Awareness, Roozeboom has appeared on the Jerry Lewis MDA telethon. In 2005, he was Iowa's recipient of the MDA Personal Achievement Award. 🏠

a time to Celebrate

Lindsay Squires, front, and Jennifer Sybesma were among four liturgical dancers heralding the beginning of the inauguration ceremony.

Presidential inauguration commemorates God's faithfulness to NWC

BY DUANE BEESON

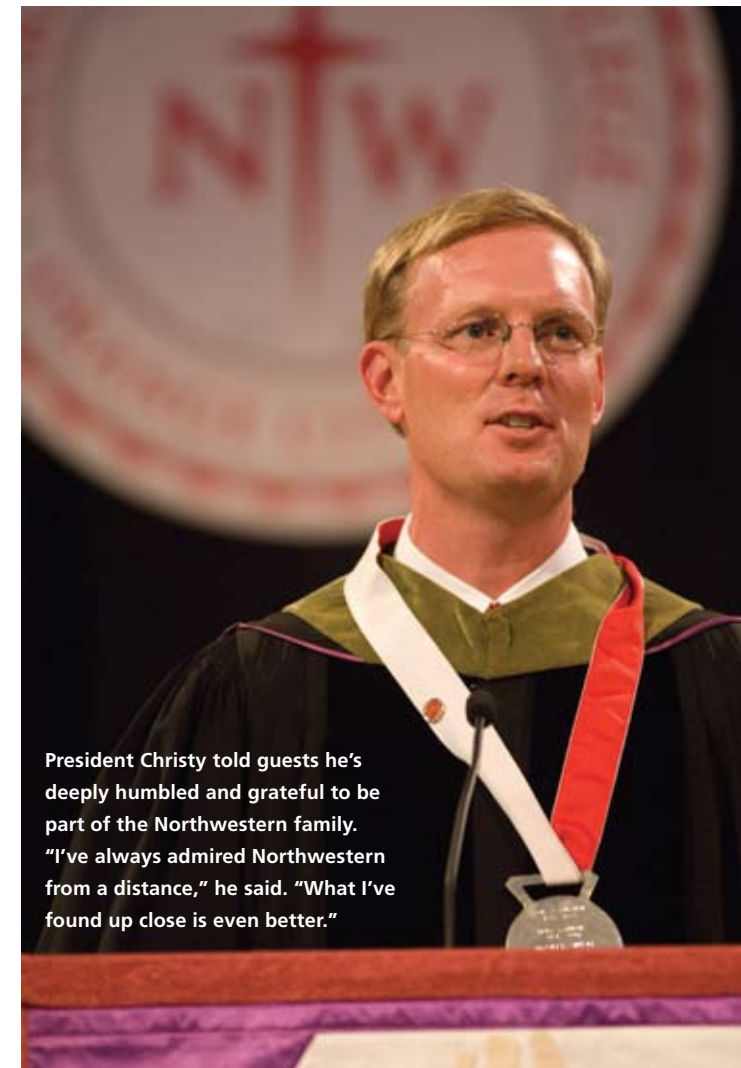
It may have been Greg Christy's presidential inauguration, but he made it clear throughout the day's activities on Oct. 10 that he wanted a much broader focus.

"This day is really not all about me, nor do I want it to be," Northwestern's ninth president told a packed Christ Chapel audience. "Today is about celebrating what God has done, is currently doing and will continue to do through the hands and feet of his servants here at Northwestern College."

Christy briefly reviewed how God has blessed Northwestern—from its humble origins in the consistory room of First Reformed Church in 1882 to its current status as a distinctively Christian liberal arts college that has earned numerous external commendations.

"Our greatest assets by far are the authenticity of our Christian mission and our people. We have a noble mission and are blessed to have some of the brightest and most talented professors you will find anywhere," said Christy.

Western Theological Seminary's president, the Rev. Dr. Tim Brown, gave the inaugural address. Focusing on the story of midwives Shiphrah and Puah, who defied the Egyptian king's order to kill Hebrew baby boys (Exodus 1), Brown challenged Christy and the audience to dare to make a difference. "God is looking for people who say, 'No, we don't do it this way. We march to the beat of a different drummer,'" Brown said. "Keep the Lord in mind with every step you take."



President Christy told guests he's deeply humbled and grateful to be part of the Northwestern family. "I've always admired Northwestern from a distance," he said. "What I've found up close is even better."



Board chairman Drew Vogel places the presidential medallion upon Greg Christy during the investiture.



Former Sen. George McGovern, a personal friend of President Christy's, was one of 11 speakers at a luncheon attended by 300 guests.

Looking Ahead

After being officially invested with Northwestern's presidential authority, Greg Christy cited seven goals he has for the college:

1. Adhere solidly to the core mission of academic excellence with a Christ-centered focus.
2. Provide the best possible integration of faith, learning and living.
3. Improve Northwestern's visibility in Iowa, the Midwest and nationally.
4. Enhance recent efforts to provide more multicultural experiences.
5. Implement the new strategic plan and complete the Imagine capital campaign.
6. Help make NWC and Orange City better places to live and work.
7. Improve Northwestern's kingdom impact every year.

On the Web *exclusive*

View a gallery of inauguration photos at classic.nwciowa.edu.



Ceremony participants, including former presidents Jim Bultman and Bruce Murphy, lay hands upon Greg and Michelle Christy during the prayer of blessing.

Are You Smarter Than a College Student?

At Northwestern, the arrival of Christmas signals more than the celebration of Christ's birth and a time to be with family. It also marks the end of a semester brought to a close by a week of finals. We've compiled some test questions from actual exams given by NWC professors. See how you stack up against today's students. (Answers on page 31)

1. A journal entry to record the sale of inventory on account will include a

a) debit to inventory
b) debit to accounts receivable
c) debit to sales
d) credit to cost of goods sold

From Accounting 315, Intermediate Accounting I, taught by Vonda Post

2. The membrane that surrounds the heart is called

a) visceral metapleura
b) parietal pleura
c) visceral pericardium
d) pericardial pleura

From Biology 121, Introduction to Human Anatomy, taught by Dr. Elizabeth Truesdell

3. How is depth of field affected by aperture?

From Art 164, Photography I, taught by Phil Scorzo

4. If snow begins to fall at midnight Monday at a rate of $6 - 2t^2$ inches per day (t measured in days since midnight Monday), how much snow will have accumulated by midnight Wednesday?

From Mathematics 111, Calculus for Management, Life and Social Sciences, taught by Dr. Kim Jongerius

5. Which of the following has/have a cloaca? (There may be more than one answer.)

a) kangaroo
b) snake
c) turtle
d) platypus
e) perch

From Biology 280, Vertebrate Zoology, taught by Dr. Todd Tracy

6. A second-grade student explained how she solved the problem, $36 + 23$, mentally. She said, "36...46...56...57...58...59." Which mental computation strategy is the student using?

a) doubling
b) counting on
c) adding from the left
d) making tens

From Education 323, Teaching Mathematics, taught by Ryan Zonnefeld

7. T F The wealthier the nation, the less likely its people are to believe that poverty is due to injustice.

From Sociology 101, Principles of Sociology, taught by Dr. Mike Yoder

8. Which of the following statements about ribosomal peptidyl transferase is correct?
- Its activity resides in the large ribosomal subunit.
 - It facilitates transfer of the N-terminus of the aminoacyl-tRNA from the A-site to the C-terminus of the peptidyl-tRNA in the P site by deacylation of aminoacyl-tRNA.
 - It hydrolyzes GTP in order to allow for translocation of the ribosome.
 - It recognizes stop codons to facilitate termination of translation.

From Biology 327, Biochemistry: Molecular Genetics, taught by Dr. Sara Tolma

9. In general, economists are more concerned about:
- the size of the debt relative to GDP
 - the absolute size of the debt
 - the size of the debt relative to net national income
 - the per capita debt

From Economics 101, Survey of Economics, taught by Dr. Eric Elder

10. Match these blood terms to their corresponding conditions:

1. Hgb	a. infection
2. Hct	b. anemia
3. RBC	c. clotting
4. Platelets	d. volume of blood
5. WBC	

From Nursing 320, Promoting Shalom with Ill Clients, taught by Linda Ver Steeg and Deb Borgaars

11. Name the seven sacraments:

1. _____	5. _____
2. _____	6. _____
3. _____	7. _____
4. _____	

From Religion 262, Introduction to Christian Theology, taught by Dr. Mitch Kinsinger

12. Because the founders believed they were creating a government of limited powers, they felt it unnecessary to

- impose checks on presidential power
- specify what Congress could not do
- have the Senate elected directly
- include a Bill of Rights

From Political Science 101, American National Government, taught by Dr. Jeff VanDerWerff

13. "Both parties deprecated war, but one of them would make war rather than let the nation survive, and the other would accept war rather than let it perish, and the war came." The form of speech emphasized in the italicized words is called:

- mimesis
- antithesis
- parallelism
- recompense

From English 220, Introduction to Literary Study, taught by Dr. Ann Lundberg

14. List four artistic qualities identified with Romanticism present in Edmund Rostand's *Cyrano De Bergerac*.

From Theatre 344, History and Theory of Theatre, taught by Dr. Bob Hubbard

15. List these five items in chronological order in the five blanks, putting the earliest (oldest) item (determined by the birth date for a person or the beginning date of an event) in the top blank and concluding with the latest (most recent) item in the bottom blank.

Suleiman I	1. _____
William of Normandy	2. _____
Hundred Years' War	3. _____
Thomas Aquinas	4. _____
Magna Carta	5. _____

From History 101, Western Civilization to 1789, taught by Dr. Doug Anderson

16. The chemical process that can be represented as $C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2 + 36ADP + 36P_i \rightarrow 6CO_2 + 6H_2O + 36ATP$ is called:

- beta-oxidation
- translation
- deamination
- glycolysis

From Kinesiology 325, Physiology of Exercise, taught by Dr. Dean Calsbeek

17. Several theories provide possible explanations for the gendered division of labor. Which of the following statements can be supported without qualifications or exceptions?

- Males exclusively perform certain tasks because of their greater body mass and strength.
- Hunting is an activity which is not compatible with childcare.
- Women will only do work which does not jeopardize their fertility.
- none of the above

From Sociology 290, Cultural Anthropology, taught by Dr. Scott Mansma

18. Name two ways we can help boys become more successful in the classroom.

From Education 343, Diagnosis and Correction of Reading Problems, taught by Laura Heitritter

19. At about what velocity do you enter the water if you jump from a 15-meter cliff? (hint: use $a(t) = -9.8 \text{ m/sec}^2$)

From Mathematics 112, Calculus I, taught by Dr. Wayne Westenberg

20. Why is John not a Synoptic Gospel?

From Religion 110, Introduction to Biblical Studies, taught by Dr. Jackie Smallbones

21. In the blank, write the letter that best defines or describes the term given.

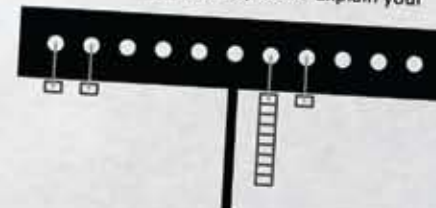
1. _____ Enharmonic	a. Scale degree 3 in both major and minor
2. _____ Subtonic	b. The interval of an augmented fourth or diminished fifth
3. _____ Parallel keys	c. Connects two notes of the same pitch, combining their durations
4. _____ Tritone	d. Scale degree 4 in both major and minor
5. _____ Subdominant	e. Different spellings of the same pitch
6. _____ Slur	f. Connects two or more notes of different pitches
7. _____ Relative keys	g. Natural scale degree 7 in minor
8. _____ Nearly relative keys	h. Keys that have the same key signature, but different tonics
9. _____ Mediant	i. Keys whose key signatures differ at most by one accidental
10. _____ Tie	j. Keys that have the same tonic, but different key signatures

From Music 101, Music Fundamentals, taught by Dr. Luke Dahn

22. People around the world are about _____ percent genetically identical.
- 99
 - 50
 - 75
 - 85

From Psychology 221, Developmental Psychology: Childhood, taught by Andrea Donahoe

23. A pegboard balance is set up in which the weight of three paper clips is equal to one nut. Nine nuts are hung from one paper clip one hole to the right of the fulcrum. Another nut is hung from a paper clip two holes to the right of the center. One nut is hung from one paper clip five holes to the left of center. One last nut is hung from one paper clip four holes to the left of center. Including the effect of the paper clips, will this arrangement tilt clockwise, tilt counter-clockwise, or stay level? Explain your answer.



From Physics 101, Conceptual Physics, taught by Dr. Thomas Bogue

24. The most basic and frequently used form of contrast in graphic design is

- spatial depth
- size
- texture
- structure

From Communications 263, Layout and Design, taught by Dr. Carl Vandermeulen

25. There may be a "peak marriage age" in which the chances of divorce are significantly lower and the quality of the marriage is higher than the start of a marriage in any other age group. That age range is:

- 23-27
- 18-23
- 39-47
- 28-38

From Social Work 231, Human Behavior and the Social Environment I, taught by Mark De Ruyter

HOLY PHILOSOPHY, BATMAN!

Northwestern prof explores how philosophy relates to popular culture

BY AMY SCHEER

Without warning they came. Good memories of philosophy classes crashed down on the unhappy chemistry major. Shaken but not defeated, he emerged from the rubble promising to pursue the field with a vengeance. He soared through graduate school on his newfound quest, a once-undisciplined student transforming himself into a pedigreed philosopher ready to save the world.

"Philosophy can help," says superthinker and philosophy professor Randy Jensen. And though he won't pin down exactly what that means ("There is no agreed-upon definition of philosophy"), he'll get you thinking, which is exactly the point.

Jensen contributes regularly to the Blackwell Philosophy and Pop Culture series, with essays in books such as *Batman and Philosophy*, *Battlestar Galactica and Philosophy*, *The Office and Philosophy*, and *24 and Philosophy*.

"It's a kind of evangelism for the discipline," he says of the books. His essays' light, witty tone is the perfect foil for teaching serious philosophical concepts as they intersect with popular culture's current hits. When it bothers you that Dwight Schrute of *The Office* calls himself "assistant regional manager" instead of "assistant to the regional manager," turn to Jensen for definitions of deception and self-deception. And when in the course of a very long day you see *24*'s Jack Bauer face yet another moral dilemma, join Jensen in wrestling with ethics and moral theory.

Ultimately, the Northwestern professor wants readers to appreciate philosophy on its own merits.

"To become interested in philosophy is to become curious, to become interested in life's big—and little—questions," he says. "While we might start by wondering what we think of Jack Bauer's latest attempt to save the world, we can end up reflecting on what we do and how we treat people—and that's a good thing."

*"Where do superheroes come from?
Where do they get their powers?
... Who decides to leave the house
wearing tights and sporting a cape?"*

Northwestern professor Randy Jensen in "Batman's Promise," an essay in *Batman and Philosophy: The Dark Knight of the Soul*

Battling Evil

In his essay "Batman's Promise," Jensen points out that Batman's mission—to rid Gotham City of crime—is a promise he makes to his murdered parents before he has acquired the skills necessary to carry it out. Jensen, too, knows a little about how life's circumstances can send you into territory you're not fully prepared to enter. In 1995, his father died of cancer at the age of 55, not long before Jensen's first daughter was born.

"It was a defining moment for me. I teach pretty regularly on the problem of evil—why do bad things happen in God's world? Well, that was a pretty awful thing for me, on an existential level. Of course, I already knew that lots of good people die in horrible ways, so in a sense this added nothing new to the world. But when you're living out some philosophical issue, you're motivated to work through it in a more urgent way, and 'solutions' that might have seemed acceptable may sound hollow."

Jensen appreciated the chance to explore issues of death and the afterlife in his essay "Resurrection One Piece at a Time" for *Johnny Cash and Philosophy*. In Cash's songs and life, Jensen writes, "No matter how bad things may get ... there's always hope that things will be made right."

Regarding his dad's death, Jensen says, "Philosophy didn't make the experience less painful. But it helped me to work through how I felt and what I thought, to make sense of it all as best I could. And I needed to do that, perhaps because of the kind of person I am."

To the Rescue

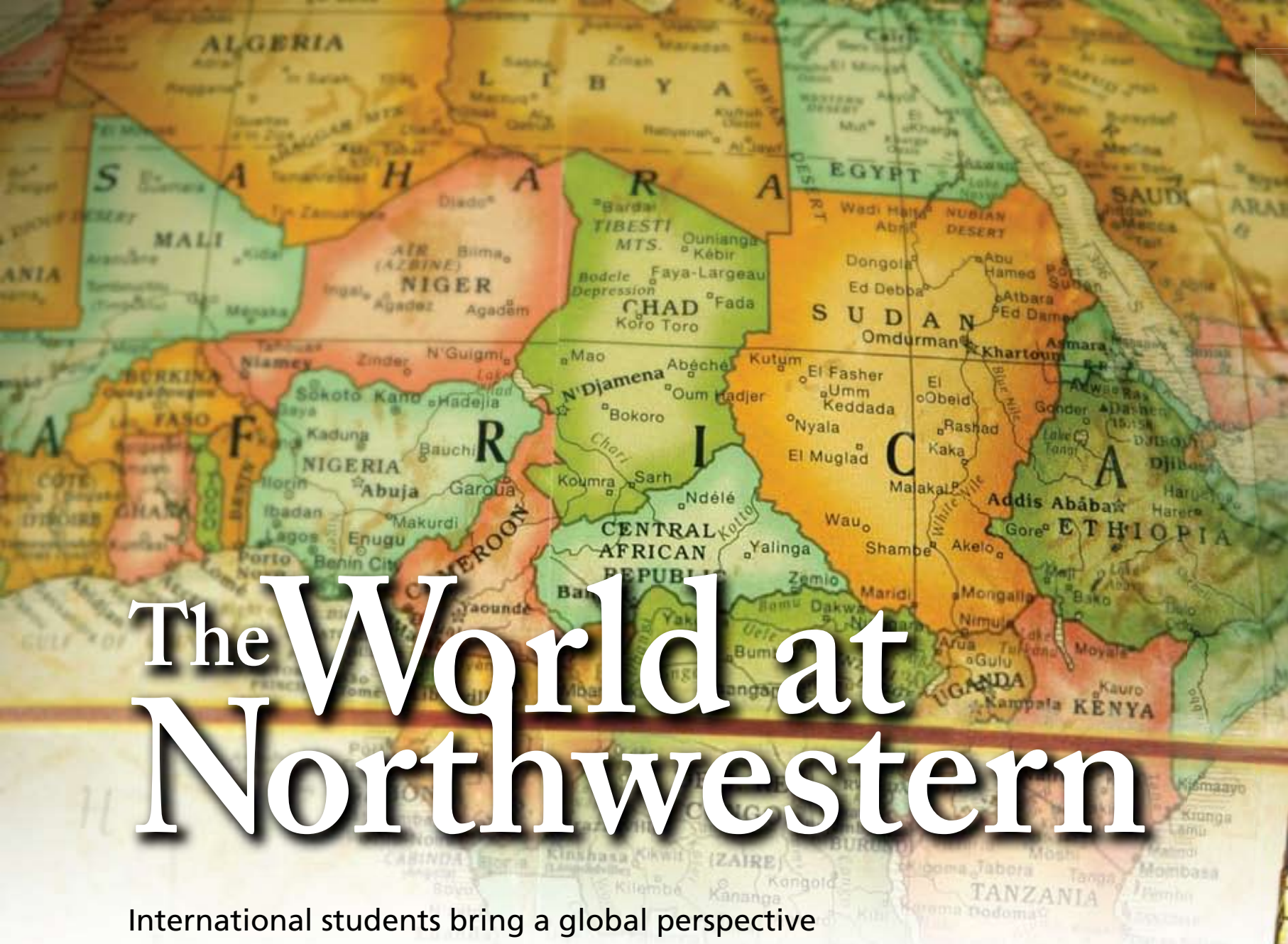
What kind of a person *is* a philosopher? Brown tweed coat, plaid bow tie? Clark Kent glasses?

"I'd like to think I don't always wear those glasses," Jensen says. But try as he might to occasionally change out of his philosopher getup, his wife can attest otherwise. "There's the occupational hazard of asking questions about everything. Conversations can take that sort of turn. That's when Darlene says, 'Hey, I was telling you something about my day—I didn't want to be interrogated about it!'"

You may want to think twice before inviting a philosopher to your New Year's Eve party, then, but consider consulting one on the important matters of the day. This constant thinking is the philosopher's superpower, and Jensen would like to see more of his colleagues on the public scene. On ethical issues of stem cell research, for example, philosophers need a panel seat right up there with the scientists and theologians.

"We can help," he says. [*Cue theme music.*] 🏠





Warmth

The World at Northwestern

International students bring a global perspective

BY TAMARA FYNAARDT

Among Northwestern students, there are as many perspectives on the world as there are curious individuals in this community of learners. The majority of students are Americans, and although they are drastically different, they still hold mostly common values—like government of, by and for the people—and understand common experiences—like Super Bowl Sunday. Northwestern's 39 international students are distinct in more ways than they are similar. Born and raised in 20 countries on five continents, their reasons for choosing Northwestern include excellent academics, opportunities for spiritual growth, and a safe-from-distractions location.

Many are Christians. Several are followers of other world religions, like Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam. Others don't claim a faith. Most don't go home for the holidays. Many speak several languages. More than American students, they have battled homesickness, communication frustration, and cultural misunderstanding and embarrassment. They also appreciate—possibly better than their classmates—the beauty of diversity, understanding and acceptance. What follows are select stories that offer a glimpse into their different lives.

At the end of her first semester, Guerda Muzinga was finally starting to get over her culture shock. The 21-year-old had never been away from her home in the Democratic Republic of the Congo before this year. After she finished high school, Guerda was directed by her father to attend a Congolese university and study economics, like her older sister. But Guerda had her own ideas: learn English and study business abroad. During a three-year standoff over her future, Guerda lived at home. She didn't study or work. She and her father argued until finally her mother intervened and convinced her father to let her go. Located near the equator, Guerda's country is hot—and getting hotter, especially along the Rwandan border where rebels are causing a refugee and humanitarian crisis. Guerda's family is in the western capital city of Kinshasa and safe so far, but they have uneasy recollections of the "African World War" of the late 1990s. Guerda remembers the staccato of shooting during the night. Unable to leave the house, she and her siblings listened to their parents whisper about children rounded up and sent to fight as soldiers. This fall, in preparation for her first trip out of Africa, Guerda packed hardly anything from home. "Where's your stuff?" her roommate asked when she arrived at Northwestern. "I'm starting a new life," Guerda said—a life that has included the American habit of shopping to fill her empty closet. Guerda says she has been cold since arriving in August. When it snowed on campus in early November, her Fern Smith Hall wingmates asked if she'd ever seen snow. "Of course," she said, "on TV." They told her it will snow more and get colder. She groaned. Someone asked if she owns an electric blanket. "What is that?" she asked, "and where can I buy one?" She picks sweaters and scarves off store racks and asks, "Will this be warm enough for me to survive?" "Yes," her new friends assure her, "You'll survive." Guerda's starting to believe that. Defiantly independent before she left home, she spent the first weeks at Northwestern crying during long-distance calls to her mother, who reminded her: "You wanted to go. Now stay—and learn." Guerda's mother—a believer who was comforted when her strong-willed daughter chose a Christian college that would nurture her tentative faith—told her, "Read the Bible. Pray. You will be OK." Guerda has dried her eyes and is exploring her new home. "I do want to learn," she says, "and share my culture too." She searches for the words to express herself: "I'm not sure what I can offer, but I would like to be part of this family."

PHOTOS BY TOM BECKER



His jaw tightens. An indignant spark flashes in his dark eyes. “No one wants a Cold War again,” he acknowledges, “but we’re a sovereign country.” Russia should back off from Georgia, he says.

Two days after Irakli Naridze returned to Northwestern for his senior year, Russian soldiers invaded his country, escalating tensions between Georgian armed forces and Ossetian separatists into a full-scale war.

While Irakli moved belongings, including his prized Georgian flag, into Heemstra Hall, his boyhood friends were getting 3 a.m. phone calls with instructions: “It’s time to serve your country.”

If he hadn’t traveled to Iowa, Irakli would have been drafted too and spent August putting out fires and evacuating the wounded. Every Georgian man between 18 and 24 submits to a month of mandatory military training, he explains. “I still don’t know how to hold a gun properly, though,” he admits, and expresses worry for his friends who are similarly ill-prepared for combat. “They’re just kids—like me.”

Torn between his nationalistic impulse to defend his homeland and gratitude that his parents were spared the worry of his involvement in the conflict, Irakli spent the fall semester trying to focus on his business classes and responsibilities as a resident assistant.

A former intern with the United Nations, he has abandoned his goal of a career with the organization, in part because of the U.N.’s recent indecisiveness about aiding Georgia. Instead, after graduation he hopes to pursue an M.B.A. so he can return to Georgia and contribute to its notable economic growth and reforms.

The situation along the Russian border remains tense, but fighting in eastern Georgia has halted—for now, says Irakli. He grew up in the capital city of Tbilisi during the civil war that followed the country’s declaration of independence from the former Soviet Union and hopes his country won’t return to those dark days. “There were many shortages,” he remembers. “No jobs, no food; I stood with my father in line for bread.”

During this season of “Peace on earth, goodwill toward men,” Irakli missed attending Christmas Eve services with his family, who are Christians. “Worshippers stand all through the night,” he says, “eight or nine hours, until the sun comes up Christmas morning.”



It’s a lot like Christmas,” Nasiba Khalikova tells her friends about Ramadan, still her favorite holiday. Culturally Muslim and a committed Christian, Nasiba celebrates both.

The petite Tajikistani grew up in the capital city of Dushanbe. Her mother, a bread factory worker, was killed during the country’s civil war in the 1990s. Her father and an aunt raised her and her younger brother to have traditional Muslim, family-oriented values, although they weren’t particularly devout.

During a spiritual search in her teenage years, Nasiba told her aunt she wanted to pray five times daily. Her aunt advised her to wait to start practicing Islam until she was older.

“I was looking for a relationship with God,” Nasiba recalls. “I felt he wanted something, and I wanted to know what.”

A high school friend invited her to a Christian church, and Nasiba remembers she was interested—then irate. “I thought, ‘These people are crazy, singing and jumping.’ I told my friend, ‘Thanks, but no thanks.’”

Her friend’s new faith continued to intrigue her, though, and Nasiba accepted more invitations to church in an effort to understand. “Why did they go there,” she wondered, “and why were they so joyful?” She told her aunt not to worry: “I said, ‘I don’t want to be a Christian. I just want to learn.’”

Then, she says, “I started learning and soon I became one of those crazy people.”

The only Christian in her family—a secret she keeps from her grandma and uncles—Nasiba smiles wryly as she recalls her father’s reaction: “He didn’t support my decision—but he didn’t kick me out of the house, either.”

A foreign-exchange experience in Huxley, Iowa, introduced the senior actuarial science major to the Midwestern U.S. and focused her search for a Christian college.

“God worked a miracle,” she says, explaining Northwestern has been a safe place to pursue her deep passion for increasing understanding between Muslims and Christians. “From both sides I hear things that hurt me,” says Nasiba. “Christians think Muslims are terrorists. Muslims think Christians just want to convert everyone” with no cultural sensitivity or desire to understand different—but just as deeply held—beliefs, she adds.

A former RA in Hoppers Hall, Nasiba is described by the women who look up to her as wise, discerning and understanding. She listens and respectfully asks the same in return.

“I pray to be a good representative of Muslims for my friends here and of Christians for my family there. I believe God found me in my country for a reason—he chose me for this.”



Impressive. Robi Bogdanffy uses that word a lot. As a kid, after being impressed by a stunt biker in his hometown of Hunedoara in Romania’s Transylvania Mountains, he taught himself to trick ride and became one of the best in his city. He gave that up when cross-country mountain biking impressed him. Tolstoy impresses him, Dante’s *Divine Comedy*, the wisdom writings of Ecclesiastes, the book *Coal* he’ll read for Western Civ. The freshman was impressed by the number of Christmas lights his roommate hung around their Colenbrander Hall room. Delighted to be surrounded by sparkle, Robi says, “Back home, we can only afford one string of Christmas lights.” The son of a Jiu Valley mining engineer who’s lucky to be among the 60 percent of the country’s employed, Robi grew up in the decade immediately after communism fell in Romania. Years of secrecy, skepticism and social conformity were difficult to overcome, and necessities remained scarce. Robi remembers waiting in line—sometimes as long as three days—for six gallons of rationed gasoline. As a teen, he got involved with his neighborhood’s Impact Club, one of a number of clubs established by New Horizons Foundation (NHF), which hosts Northwestern’s Romania Semester. The clubs aim to give Romanian young people a chance to experience camaraderie, generosity, trust and accountability—currency of social capital that was destroyed during communism. One of the club’s projects was providing Christmas meals for families that couldn’t afford groceries. “Our little club raised \$500—more than a month’s salary—and brought Christmas dinner to six families. It was impressive,” he says. NHF leaders were so impressed with Robi’s intelligence and leadership, they chose him for a special assignment: Get an American education; then return to Romania to further the foundation’s goals for hope. The political science major intends to learn about government and political systems so he can understand the context within which nongovernmental organizations like NHF can flourish. He is adding Russian and Mandarin Chinese to the list of languages he already speaks: Romanian, Hungarian, German, French and English. Robi’s trip to Northwestern was his first time on a plane, and he says the U.S. is—you guessed it—impressive. “This country is the melting pot of all the civilizations,” he says. “It’s a mirror of the world.” 🏠

In addition to the U.S., NWC students are also from:

Brazil
Bulgaria
Canada
China
Democratic Republic of Congo
Dominican Republic
Georgia
Germany
Hungary

India
Jamaica
Japan
Mauritius
Romania
South Korea
Sudan
Taiwan
Tajikistan
Trinidad & Tobago
Uzbekistan

Among Northwestern’s employees are people from:

Argentina
Bahrain
Brazil
Canada
India
South Africa
South Korea
Sri Lanka
Taiwan

In addition, a number of faculty and staff have lived, studied or served in places like Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Cameroon, China, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Pakistan, Peru, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Spain, Switzerland and Thailand.

On the Web *exclusive*

Comment on this article and read more student stories from around the globe at classic.nwciowa.edu.