Charlotte’s unsung partner

With her pipes, Priscilla Barclay teamed up with Charlotte MacJannet to find new ways to repair a shattered world.

SELMA ODOM AND JOHN HABRON

Talloires, spring 1958: Charlotte MacJannet and Priscilla Barclay, two elegant educators in their 50s— one born German, the other English— greet colleagues at the opening of a course organized by the International Union of Dalcroze Teachers.

(Continued on page 2)
They have gathered in the garden at the crumbling 900-year-old Prieuré, which Charlotte and her husband Donald MacJannet had recently acquired. Here Charlotte guides performers and teachers from Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, France, England, Austria, and Denmark through a ten-day exploration of “the body as an instrument for artistic expression.”

Their four-person teaching team was originally trained in the methods of movement and improvised music developed by the Swiss pianist-composer Emile Jaques-Dalcroze. The curriculum includes tension and relaxation (taught by Gerda Alexander, founder of the somatic education called Eutony), body technique (with the expressionist choreographer Rosalia Chladek), group movement composition (dancer Jeanne Braun) and sensory awareness exercises for drama and opera (Gisela Jaenicke).

Amid what Priscilla called the “calm beauty” of the Prieuré, Charlotte reads excerpts from Jaques-Dalcroze’s letters to his friend, the stage reformer Adolphe Appia. Chladek performs the moving solo dances Archangel Michael and Trinity. On Easter morning, Else Brems of the Royal Opera in Copenhagen sings a Bach chorale while a choir of 30 from the course expresses the same work in movement directed by Braun. The festivities include a sextet of pipers from three countries playing 17th-century airs and dances, ending with Easter eggs and daffodils for everyone.

Dalcroze roots

This vignette suggests how Charlotte MacJannet (1901-1999) reached out to connect people, but it also reflects the wide-ranging synergy generated by her long association with Priscilla Barclay (1905-1994) — and, by extension, the many people they touched through the connecting thread of music. After World War II, Charlotte steadily mended bridges, reuniting the Dalcroze world and helping it move toward a more inclusive future that transcended national differences. If Charlotte was the leader in this movement, Priscilla Barclay was surely her most important ally.

Charlotte’s father, Otto Blensdorf, one of the first German students of Jaques-Dalcroze, founded a school for rhythm in Elberfeld in 1906. Charlotte herself went to Geneva for professional training with Jaques-Dalcroze in 1919, going on to teach in Sweden and then alongside her father and Gerda Alexander at his schools in Germany during the 1920s. She demonstrated her highly-regarded kindergarten work in the first Congrès du Rythme (Geneva 1926) and in conferences on new approaches in education.

While teaching at the progressive Frensham Heights School in England from 1928 to 1930, she met Margaret James, who pioneered the making and playing of bamboo pipes. Charlotte quickly recognized their potential and integrated them in teaching solfège and improvisation. Pipes were part of the varied experience she took to France when she married Donald MacJannet in 1932. For decades, except during World War II and the postwar recovery in the 1940s, she interwove her music and leadership at the MacJannet Camps with support for the Dalcroze method and the fields (such as therapy) that it influenced.

Patients respond

During Charlotte’s tenure as president of the Union Internationale des Professeurs de la Rythmique Jaques-Dalcroze (1954-1965), she visited teachers across Europe, North and South America, and the Far East to learn about the scope and diversity of Dalcroze practice. She gave talks and organized courses and conferences, always following up with detailed reports in the journal Le Rythme. She encouraged people to participate in meetings of major organizations such as the International Society for Music Education. Her goal was to motivate this community of colleagues to inspire each other, and make their teaching known. “In our kind of work,” she wrote, “sharing is the very breath of growth.”

It was during the 1950s that Charlotte emerged as a champion of international understanding and openness to change, often against resistance from more cautious colleagues in the Dalcroze community. She hoped above all to build respect for differences among colleagues. This perspective shaped her huge contribution to the Jaques-Dalcroze Centenary in 1965. She not only instigated ambitious celebrations in many countries, but she also recommended speakers for the second international Congrès du Rythme in Geneva. One of her ultimate goals was to demonstrate that Eurhythmics could be successfully utilized as a therapeutic technique. Priscilla reported that Maria Scheiblauer’s film presentation, taken at a hospital, showed how the playing of a bamboo pipe aroused the first flicker of interest in profoundly disabled adults and children.

Calm and authoritative

After the memorable course of Easter 1958, it would be a matter of months before Priscilla Barclay returned to Talloires, this time as director of arts and crafts for the MacJannet summer camps, a role she had held for a decade. As an occupational therapist by training, Priscilla supervised children in a range of crafts: weaving, clay modeling, and making bamboo pipes. As Priscilla later described it, Charlotte was her inspiration: “From her I learned to make and play a bamboo pipe, and at one fête day, 73 children and counselors played the instruments each one had made.”

Linda McJannet, a distant relative of Donald, was a camper in 1954 and remembers Priscilla as a calm and authoritative figure, who also led the children in singing French rounds. In July 1949 — the camps’ first post-war summer with American campers — Priscilla wrote to her mother that she found the cultural and developmental differences between the nationalities astonishing: “The
Americans are so overgrown and sophisticated,” she remarked, “and the French so much more childish and small.”

**Soft sound**

Priscilla’s contribution to the MacJannet Camps transcended music. “There is a terrific lot to do to get everything ready,” she wrote her mother in 1949, “… fixing beds and heaving around mattresses. Charlotte and I were alone the first few days. Then the American group arrived at 4 a.m. She went over to Geneva to meet the plane and I kept the soup hot.” The proximity of Talloires to the Swiss border was important for Priscilla and Charlotte, helping them remain in contact with staff and visitors at the Institut Jaques-Dalcroze in Geneva and facilitating their visits to Jaques-Dalcroze himself, a year before his death.

Charlotte had a major impact on Priscilla’s professional development. Not only did she recruit her to the summer camps, she also invited Priscilla to carry out a study trip of music therapy in the U.S. during the winter of 1948-49. This was a formative experience for Priscilla: As a Dalcroze practitioner and occupational therapist, she was developing a music therapy practice at a time when America was considered advanced in this area. On the tour, which crossed seven states, she also demonstrated Dalcroze Eurhythmics in medical settings where the method was unknown.

In the mid-1950s, a crucial meeting took place at Talloires between Priscilla and Dr. Doreen Firmin, physician superintendent at St. Lawrence’s Hospital, Caterham, Surrey. On returning to England in 1956, Priscilla was appointed senior occupational therapist for special work in music at St Lawrence’s. For more than 20 subsequent years, she combined Dalcroze Eurhythmics exercises, songs, drama, and bamboo pipe-making in what was the first music therapy service in the United Kingdom. Priscilla noted the way children responded to the soft sound of the pipe and how they respected instruments more if they had made their own.

**Toolbox preserved**

Despite her pioneering work in music therapy, Priscilla is remembered by the global MacJannet community primarily as a craftswoman and musician. “I still have the bamboo flute I made at Camp MacJannet 63 summers ago,” wrote former camper Bob Rottenberg in *Les Entretiens* in 2017. “I painted ‘1953’ on it, and found it in the cabinet in my father’s living room in New York after he died in 2013. It still plays a sweet tune!”

The image on the cover of this issue—Priscilla with three budding musicians at Camp MacJannet—reflects not only the attention, discipline, and satisfaction developed through attaining a craft, but also the care for people and materials that characterized Priscilla’s work, both as a camp counsellor and a music therapist.

Priscilla’s toolbox, as well as some of her pipes, now reside at the Dalroze UK archive at the National Resource Centre for Dance, University of Surrey. The Dalcroze network that she and the MacJannets helped create lives on today as the Fédération Internationale des Enseignants de Rythmique. The International Conference of Dalcroze Studies, launched in 2013, brings together teachers, performing artists, therapists and scientists every two years, echoing Charlotte and Priscilla’s gathering at Talloires more than 60 years ago.

Dr. Selma Landen Odom was founding director of the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in dance and dance studies at York University in Toronto, the first offered in Canada. Dr. John Habron is head of Music Education at the Royal Northern College of Music, UK, and Senior Research Fellow at North-West University, South Africa. He is currently undertaking a long-term research project about Priscilla Barclay and would welcome reminiscences from those who knew her. He can be reached at john.habron@rncm.ac.uk.
MacJannet School students gathered on Memorial Day 1937 to sing at the American Cemetery in Suresnes nearby. The author is in the front row on the right. Donald MacJannet can be seen at top left.

How I earned my ‘MacJannet Ph.D.’
A retired professor reconsiders his education

GUY BENVENISTE

I was born in Paris into a large immigrant family that had fiercely adopted French culture and language. My parents spoke French; my father did not know English. My numerous cousins, aunts and uncles all spoke French.

In 1936, when I was nine, my mother’s sister moved to Paris from Prague and enrolled her two children at The Elms, the MacJannets’ school outside Paris. My aunt arranged with Donald MacJannet to allow me to attend some classes and activities at The Elms on Thursdays and Sundays, when the French schools did not hold classes.

That summer, my cousins went to the MacJannet Camp in Talloires, and I joined them there for the summers of 1936, ’37 and ’38. I also went skiing with a MacJannet group led by Donald’s brother-in-law, Emory Foster, in Caux and Font Romeu in ’37 and ’38. By then my English had improved. (I learned to sing “Our Indiana,” the fight song of Indiana University, from one of my camp counselors.)

In 1942, when my parents and I left France for Mexico, I was still flunking English in the French Lycée. But the MacJannet experience had changed my outlook. I had become aware of different cultural attitudes, of different ways of behaving and especially of American ways and styles.

In Mexico City, I attended the American School full-time. Thanks to my MacJannet experience, I was able to transfer from the French program directly into the American high school. I graduated in 1944, age 17, and was accepted at Harvard.

Harvard was another cultural adaptation: a university in a country at war. So once again, I had to adapt—not only to speaking English continually, but also to being in a different country with different customs.

Once again the MacJannets came to my rescue. Conveniently, they were then at Tufts, just north of Cambridge. They invited me to garden parties, where I met new friends. In fact, I started dating a young woman Tufts student to whom they introduced me.

I graduated from Harvard in 1948 (with Bobby Kennedy) and went on to a complex international career. I helped launch an international program at the Stanford Research Institute, served in cultural affairs at the State Department during the Kennedy administration, went to Afghanistan for the World Bank, and joined UNESCO in Paris. In 1968 I obtained a Ph.D. from Stanford and joined the University of California’s Berkeley faculty during that year’s student turmoil.

Looking back, my preparation in acculturation enabled me to have a life experience I never would have dreamed of when I first attended The Elms in 1936. That is what the MacJannets did: They gave their students and campers the equivalent of a Ph.D. in acculturation. Between them, they taught me to adapt.

In today’s interconnected world, understanding and being able to deal effectively with other cultures acquires far more importance. This is why the work of the MacJannet Foundation has so much more significance today than it had, even in 1936.

Guy Benveniste is professor emeritus at the University of California, Berkeley. For more MacJannet tales, see his memoir, From Paris to Berkeley.
MacJannet Prize: 2018 winners

The MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship, launched in 2009, recognizes exemplary university student civic engagement programs around the world. Today the Prize is a key element in the MacJannet Foundation’s work to build a community of global citizens. The prize is sponsored jointly by the MacJannet Foundation and the Talloires Network, a global association of 388 universities in 77 countries on six continents, all committed to developing student leaders who are actively engaged with society.

In addition to providing international recognition to outstanding student initiatives for civic engagement and community service, the Prize provides a financial contribution and encourages communication among the groups to share their experiences and strengthen their effectiveness. For the 2018 Prize, 25 student-run programs were nominated from 16 universities in 14 countries. Out of these, three were awarded prizes last October by a selection committee consisting of respected educators from member universities of the Talloires Network along with representatives of the MacJannet Foundation (see page 6). One other was recognized for Honorable Mention.

1st Prize ($7,500):

Mahabba Association, Ahfad University for Women, Sudan

Mahabba Association was established by students at Ahfad University for Women to help to release women who were incarcerated because of small debts. The students work with the prison inmates by providing educational and entrepreneurship training to create handicrafts to sell, as a way of relieving their debts. The students then sell the crafts on campus and in the community.

“It is a human mobilization inside the jail,” says Safia, the program’s co-founder. “It gives them hope and lets the community and society know that even though they were once prisoners, they should not be stigmatized. It creates peace and empowerment.”

2nd Prize ($5,000):

Alas de Mujer (Women’s Wings), Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico

This program seeks to reactivate the economic activity of the rural community and empower not only rural women but rural communities as a whole. This initiative has allowed the men in the community to recognize the potential of the women in their community. “We’ve created a community that deeply cares about its holistic well-being,” says Ruth, a student. “The female entrepreneurs also deeply care for the students who conduct the workshops and engage with them on a daily basis. They trust each other with their personal issues.”

3rd Prize ($2,500):

Protection of the Environment through Income Generation, LivingStone International University, Uganda

Many students at LivingStone come from Ugandan villages that are highly dependent on the surrounding environment.

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This program seeks to reconnect them to their home villages and to learn that exploiting natural resources does not always produce progress. The program encourages students to explore novel ways to work with local leaders and create social enterprises that will generate income for their communities without exploiting the environment. They also work with community members to install energy-saving cook stoves.

“The idea came to me while I was still a young boy,” says Filliam, one of the program’s founders. “I was raised by a single mother, and we depended on agriculture to make money and to survive. While I was a student, I realized that we were destroying the environment through practices like cutting down trees for charcoal.”

Honorable Mention:

Programa de Intervención Comunitaria/Community Intervention Program, Universidad de las Américas (Chile)

The Community Intervention Program registers, systemizes, and disseminates the knowledge produced by students and community social leaders to address social problems. In the process, the program democratizes knowledge while also providing a space for students to develop their leadership skills, apply their knowledge, and grow as individuals. Students from all disciplines develop community projects that range from setting up mobile health care clinics to public art installations. The program draws from best practices of community-based research and interventions.

MacJannet Prize Selection Committee

The MacJannet Prize winners are chosen by a rotating committee consisting of volunteers from both the MacJannet Foundation and the Talloires Network.

Judges for the 2018 Prize were:

- Seyma Sevik, Anadolu University, Turkey
- Sebastian Suze, University of Zimbabwe, Zimbabwe
- Mark Wilson, Director of Civic Learning Initiatives, Auburn University (Alabama, United States).
- Enrique Ochoa, Centro Latinoamericano de Aprendizaje y Servicio Solidario, Argentina.
- Trang Vuong, Hanoi Architecture University, Vietnam
- Bruce Berzin, treasurer, MacJannet Foundation (Massachusetts, United States)
- Dan Rottenberg, board member, MacJannet Foundation (Philadelphia, United States)
‘Like living in a movie’
MacJannet Scholars recall Tufts in Talloires, summer 2018

GABRIELLA GOLDSTEIN

Every summer, the Tufts University European Center organizes the Tufts in Talloires program, a six-week academic program for Tufts undergraduate students. Its students—75 in summer 2018—receive a unique combination: two credit-bearing Tufts University courses from a range of disciplines, plus the opportunity to live with a French host family and get firsthand experience of French culture. With a nod to Donald MacJannet’s belief in learning by experiencing, all the classes offered in Talloires connect in some way with the local region to give students an experiential component to their coursework.

As students have become more globally minded, the popularity of our program has grown. The Tufts in Talloires Program has become an important (and sometimes the only) vehicle for students to live abroad and to discover the world beyond what they’ve always known.

The MacJannet Foundation has been instrumental in making this possibility a reality for many students through its generous annual support of the Tufts European Center’s scholarship fund. Last summer, the MacJannet Foundation’s grant of $36,525, combined with other scholarship support from Tufts, helped the European Center offer financial support to 29 students who might not otherwise have been able to travel to Talloires. These “MacJannet Scholars,” in turn, help ensure a more diverse student community for the Tufts in Talloires Program, something that enriches our own community while also teaching our French neighbors and hosts about the richness and diversity of American students.

Every year, we on the Tufts staff see how six weeks in Talloires can have a profound and long-lasting impact on students’ lives. Last summer’s MacJannet Scholars reflected on their experiences. Excerpts of their comments are below.

It’s the environment

This program is what you make of it in truly every sense. I cannot stress enough how amazing this environment is and how conducive it has proven to be to learning, exploring, and falling in love with a new culture and experience.

Growth amid difficulty

I think that Tufts in Talloires is one of the best things I have ever done. After a difficult year at Tufts, coming to Talloires has helped me grow and change so much. I have made so many connections with students, teachers, and faculty members, and I know that I have found some of my best friends for life. I am so beyond grateful and happy that I decided to come on this unique, once in a lifetime experience.  

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Amazing community

This experience has been the best thing I’ve done at Tufts. I felt constantly welcome and supported during my time here and felt as if the staff did a great job fostering an amazing community.

Life’s most important lesson

This place taught me to appreciate all facets of life (talk to new people, eat all the cheese, run with the cows). The program reinvigorated in me an interest to excel academically, to care about doing well, to want to succeed because I love what I’m doing.

From now on, I’m determined to hold on to the most important lesson I learned here: Life is to be enjoyed. Do all the things or nothing, with friends or flying solo—it doesn’t really matter. Derive excitement from the details of the experience.

Location, location, location

Talloires is the best thing Tufts has to offer. These six weeks were some of the best of my life. I had no idea how much I’d love France. I just know I’m going to come back.

New friends

This was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to study in a special place with special people. I learned so much and really feel like I made many new friends going into my next semester at Tufts.

Community with professors

I would tell future students that Tufts in Talloires is an amazing and life-changing experience that will teach you more about yourself, the world, and other Tufts students in the best possible way. It is the most beautiful place I have ever been, and I know that I will stay friends with the friends I made here in just six weeks for a long time. The classes here are unlike any other class you’ll take, and the community that is fostered between students and professors is wonderful.

Perfect mixture

I had an incredible experience here. It feels and looks like a hidden paradise; it’s like living in a movie.

Indispensable

Talloires really changed my life. I was given a chance to explore the richness of the French culture including the language, food, religion, politics, water, etc. These are experiences that none wants to miss. They are indeed indispensable.

Pushed beyond my comfort zone

It’s been an experience unlike any other I’ve ever had, one during which I learned so much about not only culture and life, but about myself. Being here has pushed me out of every comfort zone I had before arriving and helped me better understand myself as a person.

What I learned at dinner

I was placed with a host family that spoke no English. Despite lots of frustrating miscommunications, there was one time every day where I felt incredibly connected to my gracious hosts and their community, regardless of the ever-present language barrier: the dinner table. My host parents lived quite modestly and did not cook elaborate meals, but that did not matter—every ingredient had a story, and every dinner lasted several hours. At the end of our meal every night, my host mom would bring out a plate of local cheeses. Before we were able to eat them, we learned about their stories. My host dad would explain the origin and taste of each cheese. For example, he would explain how our Tomme des Bauges came from the mountain outside the dining room window. He also taught me how to differentiate between a summer Beaufort and a winter Beaufort, as they taste different based on what the cows graze on during that season. I was exposed to the true meaning of terroir at this tiny dinner table. I learned so much about how communities are tied to their local foods and how slight changes in climate can change their appeal. This experience made me reevaluate what and how I eat, because, more often than not, I cannot say where my food came from.

New best friends

I only knew a couple of people going in, and I was pretty nervous about making friends. However, my nerves faded quickly, because it wasn’t too difficult to find my “people.” Three weeks in, and I felt like I had already made new best friends. I think it is really amazing that this program can bring people together in such a short amount of time.
Editor’s note: With funding from the MacJannet Foundation, each year Les Amis du Prieuré de Talloires provides scholarships to students living around Lake Annecy to spend four weeks attending the English summer program at Tufts University in Medford, Mass. Three students were chosen last summer. Excerpts from their accounts appear below.

Where everything seems possible

TOM PORTE

For someone like me who had never traveled very far from my hometown before, this trip to the U.S was a precious opportunity to discover a new culture. Thanks to the scholarship I was offered, not only did I study English to improve my terrible French accent, but I also met students from all over the world, and they became good friends of mine, because we shared a lot and learned many things from each other. I’m glad to keep in touch with them, because it gives me a better overview of how our world is seen from other countries.

The program itself is amazing. I’ve obviously spent the best summer of my life, and I’m now a better English speaker. I’m very thankful to Tufts University, Les Amis du Prieuré de Talloires and the MacJannet Foundation for the chance to participate in such an experience.

I discovered the beautiful city of Boston with locals, and that was the great advantage of this program. For a future engineer like me, visiting places like Harvard or MIT was a huge moment in my life. The morning classes were very interesting and represented a preview of what the American education looks like, which is very different from the education I got in France. Tufts University is a unique place for me: a lovely campus with a lot of great facilities, a very welcoming administrative team, and beautiful places to see—it’s like a miniature village!

We made the most of our stay in the U.S. by traveling to New York City for a weekend, and in this way we discovered this city where everything looks possible for anyone who has

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Young Savoyards discover America
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ambition. After having seen places like Wall Street, Central Park and the Empire State Building, Boston looked like a small town. But still, I believe I prefer it as a city to live and work in.

Now I’m back in France, finishing my engineering studies, but I have way more ambition for my future career. This trip gave me the wish to travel as much as possible to discover new places and meet people from other horizons, just like I did during this summer with Saudi, Japanese, Canadian, Spanish and Korean students. But it also gave me the hope to share my knowledge and my culture, because, after all, I’m proud of being French. For me, the best way to succeed is not to learn, not to teach, but to share, because everybody has something to share.

Tom Porte is a student at Lycée Lachenal in Pringy, outside Annecy.

New and different viewpoints

RUBEN Aigon HERRERO

My name is Ruben and I am a French student who had the chance to go to Tufts University during the previous summer holidays with two other French people, Tom and Pauline. It was an amazing experience for me because I live in a small town in France and I am studying in a small high school. So to discover a university like Tufts and a big city like Boston was amazing. The activities that we did in Boston remain an incredible memory. We did canoeing on the Charles River, visited New York, went to the beach… It was a wonderful summer.

Moreover, this trip permitted me to learn more about American culture, the history of the USA and especially about Boston, a city in a beautiful environment. The teachers at Tufts were so funny and very effective. My relation to the other students in this program was very good, and enriching. It is very interesting to discover a new country with different nationalities because we did not have the same point of view. The sharing of emotion, memories, and values makes this experience a unique moment in my life.

One of my biggest dreams

PAULINE CUSIN

I was so happy to participate in this wonderful trip. When I learned I was selected, I didn’t believe it. This trip taught me so much. First, I improved my English so much, with incredible teachers. In fact, the morning was dedicated to two different courses: one to teach us grammar, the other about American society. Nowadays, I often use what I learned during the second class in my English orals (and I commit fewer grammatical errors!).

Moreover, I discovered many cultures: American, Japanese, Saudi, Quebecker, Chinese, and Spanish. This is the thing that brought me the most important emotions, because it can allow me to realize one of my biggest dreams: to interact with other cultures and become aware of the way they think (despite some disagreements with Saudi boys, haha). Today, I stay in touch with some of them and I think, surely, we will see each other soon.

This was my first time in the USA, and this travel granted me the pleasure of seeing beautiful American landscapes. Actually, Boston is a pretty town with some buildings like in American movies, a beautiful park (the Boston Common), a pleasant port (with delicious lobsters), a nice central market (Faneuil Hall), pretty neighborhoods (Beacon Hill), and giant universities (Harvard and MIT). We saw too that this is a sportive city, with Fenway Park.

Beside Boston, I visited New York City too. It was a different experience—more dynamic, there is always movement in it. I prefer Boston, which I found more human, more friendly.

As a consequence of this trip, I also did a road trip with my parents around the USA. We found recreational vehicles are welcome, and people were so happy to show us their country and way of life. I liked to be with people of my age, because they selected activities they enjoy for us to conceive Boston as they do—for example, kayaking on the Charles River.

The scholarship from Les Amis du Prieuré helped me to improve my English, to learn a new philosophy of life, and to open my mind to different cultures. I think it will bring me two benefits: a better English comprehension and an experience that can be written on my résumé. I want to be an engineer, and all of this experience can be relatable and helpful in my future job. I would like to thank Lizzie Rindborg and Les Amis du Prieuré de Talloires for this organization, and for all they have given to make it possible.

Pauline Cusin is a 20-year-old, student in mathematics and physics who hopes to make a career as an oceanography engineer.
Conquering new worlds (and the Olympics)
Our 2018-19 MacJannet Fletcher fellows look back, and ahead

Note: Since 1967, an endowment from Donald MacJannet has helped support graduate-level international studies and an exchange program between the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. This year this program helped support eight “MacJannet Fletcher Fellows”; by now the Fletcher-Geneva exchange program numbers some 200 alumni, and support has been provided to an additional large number of European students studying at Fletcher. Each fall, the MacJannet Foundation supports an annual dinner at the Fletcher School to honor these Fellows. The dinner held in December 2018 was attended by seven of these outstanding students, representing six European and Asian countries and a broad range of interests and experiences. Below, six of this year’s Fellows discuss their hopes and dreams—for themselves as well as the planet.

—ANTHONY KLEITZ

Andrea Baldini (Italy): I am originally from Italy and completed my undergraduate work at University G. Marconi in Rome, in political science and international relations. My interest expanded into humanitarian studies when I researched in detail the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Humanitarian Law.

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Although I won a gold medal for foil fencing at the 2012 London Olympics, the study of international relations was such a dominant interest for me that I did not defer my thesis in order to prepare for the Rio Olympics in 2016. I focused my thesis on UNICEF’s efforts in fragile states affected by conflict—more specifically, how to support education in these regions.

**Mara Menz (Switzerland):** I am originally from Switzerland, and completed my undergraduate work at the University of St. Gallen in International Affairs. My interest in international relations—specifically international energy and resource policy—rose when I started to realize the crucial influence of energy access and supply on national and international politics. Access to energy also presents an important building block for the development of rural areas or even whole countries. Yet energy—and especially renewable energy—often gets too little recognition in international, national, or private affairs. This is why I feel highly motivated to contribute to a more sustainable, development-fostering energy future.

As a recipient of the Donald R. MacJannet Scholarship, I have relied on the funds made available to me to prepare and plan for a career related to Renewable Energy Projects in the Developing World.

Coming to Fletcher enabled me to take several specialized courses on energy, entrepreneurship and the developing world. In addition, talking to professors and attending alumni events put me in contact with interesting people who work in the field and are willing to share their experiences with me.

I am excited and grateful for having the opportunity to meet the broad student body from all over the world and form lifelong friendships with extraordinary people. In addition, the many extracurricular opportunities the Fletcher School offers, such as Simulex, the career trips or the Culture Nights, present unique opportunities—personal as well as professional. Both academically and personally, this is a fulfilling, once-in-a-lifetime experience.

**Samuel Werthmuller (Switzerland):** I am originally from the French-speaking part of Switzerland, and completed my undergraduate work at the University of Fribourg in Economics. My interest in international relations, and specifically international political economy, was reinforced after an internship in the Embassy of Switzerland in India. This internship convinced me to apply to Fletcher.

The Fletcher School has been both a rewarding and challenging experience. I am particularly appreciative for being able to benefit from Professor Ibrahim Warde’s expertise as I write my master’s thesis on the topic of refugee education in Lebanon. His support ensures that my analysis of this challenging situation is truly meaningful.

As a recipient of the Donald R. MacJannet Scholarship, I have relied on the funds made available to me to prepare and plan for a career with the Foreign Service of Switzerland.

**Matthia Balsiger (Switzerland):** My passion for the transatlantic relationship and my desire to understand the U.S. eventually brought me to Fletcher.

Luckily, these aforementioned passions are shared here by many. Together with like-minded students, in spring 2019 I am organizing the European Conference at Harvard. This event—co-hosted by the Fletcher School, Harvard’s Kennedy School and the Harvard Business School—has been one of the most challenging, yet fulfilling, activities I have ever been engaged in. As I look toward graduation, I feel both relief and a sense of melancholy. I have had truly transformational experiences, both intellectually as well as personally. The network and the knowledge that I have gained will undoubtedly be of great value to my future career in the Foreign Service of Switzerland.

**Christina Klotz (Germany):** At Fletcher, classes such as “Leadership: People, Team, Organizations” or “International Business Strategy” have allowed me to evaluate my strengths and weaknesses as a manager and understand why some strategies and actions that my team and I implemented succeeded while others failed.

I have also highly appreciated relationships with faculty and staff who root for their students’ success. The Career Services team, as well as Professor Alnoor Ebrahim, who teaches the two aforementioned classes, have been instrumental in helping me develop a career plan.

From my incredible fellow students from diverse backgrounds. I have gained deeper understanding of, among other things, African American history, South Asian culture, and bread making. I am also grateful to have been welcomed into the MacJannet family and to have met many kind individuals at the annual dinners. I plan to pursue a career in change management consulting.

**Juliette Devillard (Switzerland/Britain):** At Fletcher, my studies have focused mainly on international environment and resource policy, as well as business for social impact. In line with my newfound interest in sustainability and green innovation, last summer I worked at Greentown Labs, the largest clean technology incubator in the U.S., and helped to support clean tech start-ups. Over the course of my second year at Fletcher, I have sought to deepen my expertise in innovation and clean technology, and I have focused my thesis research on how we can better support start-ups working on reducing greenhouse gas emissions in industry.

I was delighted to attend the MacJannet Foundation dinner for the second time last December and meet many of the people involved in continuing the MacJannets’ legacy. I am proud to be one of the MacJannet scholars.
A new MacJannet tradition?
A bike ride takes one resilient Foundation trustee across 80 years in the lives of Donald and Charlotte.

STEPHEN CALLAHAN

Donald MacJannet cherished activities that combined mental and physical stimulation. The annual pilgrimage/hike/run from Talloires to the chapel of St. Germain is part of his legacy. So are the annual MacJannet Games at Tufts in Talloires, which require participants to use their brains as well as their bodies. So last June, when the MacJannet Foundation trustees traveled to their annual meeting via plane, train and automobile, I chose a novel but appropriate alternative transportation form: a five-day bike-ride that took me not only across 700 kilometers but also across 80 years, from the site of the defunct MacJannet School at St.-Cloud outside Paris to the MacJannet Foundation’s 2018 annual meeting in Talloires.

It was a truly memorable experience. Many of us live in places that encompass extraordinary beauty as well as extraordinary people, yet we seldom get a chance to step back and simply take it all in. It is true that getting out of Paris on a road bike, even on a Sunday morning, can be treacherous, and my initial day turned into a much more challenging stage that extended from 120 kilometers to roughly 170. However, the sunshine, the simplicity and beauty of the small backroads and French villages kept me going.

A voice in my head

I have always appreciated the enormous diversity that can be found in a country that is essentially the size of Texas, and it is even more evident when one gets out into the countryside—through small villages, along rivers, and across vast farmlands or dense forests. Some of the roads looked simply like there was absolutely no end in sight. Yet kilometer after kilometer, the thought of Talloires as well as the supportive comments from our WhatsApp group kept my motivation intact. (Also helpful was a motivational voice inside my head that seemed to come from Rocky Carzo, the former Tufts athletic director and MacJannet Foundation trustee, when we were sprinting up from Angon to Saint-Germain for the MacJannet Games in 1988… yes, 1988!)

I thank everyone who provided support along the route during each stage, and for the superb welcome I received at the finish in the port of Talloires. The Reblochon cheese and white wine really hit the spot. Having made this journey, I can testify that there is simply no other place on Earth that matches the sensation of the descent down along the winding turns above Talloires while beholding the ultimate view of the bay below and our beloved Prieuré. It’s “postcard perfect,” to be sure, yet it represents so much more to all of us in the MacJannet community.

The MacJannets did more than preserve this treasure; they endowed it with far greater importance than its physical structure and its surrounding natural beauty.

So I hope that we can find some way to continue this MacJannet Legacy Ride in future years, preferably with some other cyclists to keep me company. Should you know cyclists who are motivated and enjoy some connection to Tufts, the MacJannets or Talloires, or simply want to support the Foundation, I would like to hear from you. As Donald and Charlotte MacJannet demonstrated by deeds if not word, when there is a will, there is a way.

Stephen Callahan is president and CEO of Cobico International S.A.S., a multinational plush toy company based in Normandy. He has been a MacJannet Foundation trustee since 2014.
New faces on the board

The MacJannet Foundation welcomes two new trustees

Fabienne Gaudemard  (joined January 2018) is a French-born certified public accountant who spent more than 20 years with Ernst & Young Audit in France (where she was a partner), Luxembourg, Switzerland and the U.S. She currently divides her time between her homes in New Jersey, Lyon and Menthon-St.-Bernard, France. She first entered the MacJannet orbit in 2004 as a board member of Les Amis du Prieuré, Talloires, where she organized weekly summer lectures and events as well as a sale of paintings and pictures of Lake Annecy, and helped select local French high school students to receive scholarships to Tufts University’s summer “English as a second language” program in Massachusetts. She also played the host family to a Tufts student three years in a row. In New Jersey, she teaches after-school French classes to American students and serves on the board of New Jersey Accueil, which welcomes French newcomers to the state. As a result of these eclectic activities, she says, “I developed a professional mindset in a multicultural environment. My involvement in local associations in Talloires and in New Jersey also contributed to developing an open mind.”

Christine Bagatelas  (joined January 2019) is a French/Swiss banker and educator who has lived and worked in France, Boston, New York, Los Angeles, Athens, Dubai, and her current home, Geneva. She spent 17 years in the United Arab Emirates as a teacher and regional coordinator for the Aristotle Circle, which guides students in the application process to U.S. universities. Christine became acquainted with Charlotte MacJannet in the late 1980s, when, as a graduate student at Tufts University’s Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, she was awarded a MacJannet Fellowship in Fletcher’s Geneva exchange program. Since her graduation from Fletcher, she has maintained close ties with both Fletcher and the Graduate Institute in Geneva. Her husband, Paul Bagatelas, is also a Fletcher graduate as well as a member of its Board of Advisors. They have three children.

Worthy of note: One of Christine’s two master’s theses in 1987 presciently predicted that eventually most communication would be conducted through mobile devices.

Departures

Renee Cary, an active supporter of diverse international causes from public TV to UNICEF to the Mount Holyoke European Alumnae Council, died July 24, 2017 in Santa Barbara, California, age 91. As a MacJannet student and camper in the 1930s, she was at camp in the summer of 1939 when Donald MacJannet called all parents to pick up their children early as World War II approached.

Jack Grosslein, a purchasing manager who helped Asian Atlantic Industries expand into European and Asian markets, died January 18, 2019 in Georgetown, Mass., age 58. As a recent Tufts graduate between 1982 and 1985, he played a critical role in clearing out centuries of debris from the Prieuré and installing plumbing and heating for the newly established Tufts European Center there. “His unfailing good humor, added to his physical strength and dogged work ethic, fit right into the MacJannet/Talloires/Tufts mode,” writes Mary Harris, the Center’s director through most of the 1980s. See Les Entretiens, 2018.

James Halsey Jr., M.D., founder and longtime chief of the Department of Neurology at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, died February 3, 2019 in Birmingham, age 85. He was born in Paris, where his father was a MacJannet teacher and camp counselor, took his first steps at Camp MacJannet a year later, and subsequently served as a counselor there. Thus immersed in MacJannet values, he served as a teacher, mentor and colleague to generations of medical students, rarely wasting a minute. As head boys’ counselor at Camp MacJannet in 1955, he urged the same philosophy on his campers: When one sullen teenager groused, “This is supposed to be a vacation!”, Jim replied, “There’s no vacation from life.”

Augustus (Gus) Nasmith, who promoted peaceful coexistence through such organizations as the World Youth Forum and the UN General Assembly, died February 15, 2019 in Rutland, Vt., age 74. As a global advocate for AIDS education and health care funding, he traveled to more than 60 countries on six continents. In 1967 he was one of the four original Tufts graduate students chosen to study abroad as MacJannet Fletcher Fellows in a groundbreaking academic exchange program conceived and funded by Donald and Charlotte MacJannet.
Dear Friends of the MacJannet Foundation,

I cannot really say that meeting Donald and Charlotte MacJannet completely changed my life; yet they strongly confirmed me in my interests and motivations and made possible the fulfillment of my goals to a large degree.

I grew up as an “Army brat,” the son of a U.S. Army officer. In my youth, we were stationed in various parts of the U.S. and were also posted three times in Germany. Although I attended American dependent schools, I had young German friends in our neighborhood and was fascinated by cultural differences.

As I grew older, I was attracted to the idea of entering the U.S. Foreign Service. During my undergraduate years at Stanford University, I spent six months studying at Stanford’s center in Tours, France. Later I pursued graduate work at Tufts University’s Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, participating in the first year of that school’s exchange program with the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva, Switzerland—a path-breaking initiative to build links between two of the world’s oldest and most prestigious graduate schools of international studies.

At home abroad

At this point I met Donald and Charlotte MacJannet, whose grant to the Fletcher School launched the Fletcher-Geneva exchange program in 1967. During the program’s early years, the MacJannets themselves mentored the students selected for the program from their apartment in Geneva as well as their summer home in Talloires, France—the thousand-year old Prieuré that become the Tufts University European Center in 1978.

In retrospect, it was a magical period of my life, allowing me to experience and feel at ease in different academic systems and cultural environments. Donald and Charlotte, through their own experiences running an international school and camp in France, were the perfect mentors for the small group of graduate students who profited each year from the exchange program.

Despite my continued interest in foreign service work, the controversies at that time surrounding the Vietnam war convinced me to focus on work related to economic development and world peace. I was fortunate to find a job in that very field at the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in Paris. The stimulating environment at the OECD involved research and studies in teams of experts from many countries, and I ended up spending my entire professional career there.

This year I was asked to assume the role of president of the MacJannet Foundation. I have been a trustee since 1998, so I greatly appreciate how the Foundation has steadfastly adapted its founders’ idealistic people-to-people values to today’s increasingly technologically connected world. For a small foundation like ours, this challenge is enormous. Yet I feel confident that our Foundation, with its dedicated team of volunteers, will continue on paths that would make our founders proud. In some of history’s worst times, Donald and Charlotte served as indefatigably optimistic role models for everyone who came in contact with them. The least we can do is transmit their positive vision to future generations.
THE MACJANNET FOUNDATION
The MacJannet Foundation is a non-profit charitable foundation created in 1968 and dedicated to creating a community of global citizens. To unleash individual potential in an international context, it supports exchange programs, the Tufts University European Center in Talloires, France, and the MacJannet Prize for Global Citizenship. Visit us at www.macjannet.org.

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