

### Biographical Sketches of the *Agora* Writers

**Jennifer Bolt** is a commuter student from Forest, Virginia, who will be graduating a year early in May, 2006. She is an English major with a concentration in writing and a business minor. She works in the Wilmer Writing Center as the supervising tutor. After graduation, Jennifer will marry Lynchburg College alumnus Boyd Ervin '05 in July and then plans to pursue a master's degree in English or business and obtain a job in the publishing or business field.

**Beverly Brown**, a native of Arizona, lives with her husband, who is also her best friend of thirty-four years, in Bedford, Virginia. Together, they have raised three children. She works as an accountant at Southern Air, Inc. With support and encouragement from home and work, she will realize her goal of graduating in May 2006 with a degree in accounting.

**Dr. Richard Burke** studied at Fairfield University in Connecticut, St. Peter's College at Oxford University, Penn State, and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In 1985 he came to Lynchburg College, where he teaches courses in nineteenth-century English literature and children's literature, among others.

**Katelyn Coyle** is a junior at Lynchburg College, with a double major in art and psychology. She lives with her family, her hamster, and four cats in Chester, Virginia. She would like to remind all pet owners to spay and neuter their pets.

**Rosalind Eberhart** is a sophomore with a double major in theatre and English, with an emphasis in writing. She comes from Phippsburg, Maine, and has fully enjoyed her foray into Southern culture thus far. Eventually, Rosalind hopes to become a best-selling novelist and the artistic director of a community theatre. She enjoys black-and-white photography and pineapple pizza.

**Jackie Fox** is in her first year at Lynchburg College, but she entered with enough transfer credits to be classified as a sophomore. She plans to double major in English literature and political science. Jackie spends her free time reading classical novels, and *Nine Stories* is her favorite book. She has a passion for politics and one day hopes to work in this field.

**Elizabeth Giglio** graduated from Lynchburg College in January 2006 with a bachelor of arts in English, with an emphasis in writing, as well as a minor in religious studies. She works as an English tutor at Amherst High School and plans to attend graduate school to continue her studies in English literature. Following graduate studies, she hopes to pursue a career in the publishing field.

**Leslie Harris**, a sophomore at Lynchburg College, comes from Gretna, Virginia. A member of the Westover Honors Program, she is a human development and learning major with an elementary education emphasis. After graduation, Leslie plans to work as a kindergarten teacher. She is a tutor at the Wilmer Writing Center and the vice president of Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority.

**Leigh Mackintosh**, from South Boston, Virginia, is a senior working on a music education degree at Lynchburg College. Aside from playing the violin and a new instrument every six weeks, she enjoys working on cars, skipping rocks, and making people laugh. A member of Disciples on Campus, Leigh also works with the youth strings at First Christian Church and tutors Spanish in the Modern Language Resource Center. Following graduation in 2007, she hopes to teach or pursue graduate studies.

**Rebecca McGowan** is a twenty-six-year-old junior enjoying her second semester at Lynchburg College. Her major is English, and she hopes to go into broadcast journalism with National Public Radio or possibly editing. She enjoys reading, cooking, yoga, and running with her two dogs: a golden retriever, "Lola," and a Maltipoo, "Finnegan."

**Mary Mohay** comes from Fairfax, Virginia, where she grew up in a large family with four siblings. She is a sophomore and a pole-vaulter for the Lynchburg College track and field team, provisionally qualifying for the NCAA National Competition on three occasions. Mary is a member of Phi Eta Sigma honorary freshman academic society, the Society of Westover Fellows, and the Connection Leaders Program. Mary is an exercise physiology major, and her name has appeared on the Dean's List three semesters in a row. She is looking forward to moving on to physical therapy school at Duke University, where she hopes to earn her doctorate of physical therapy.

**Rachel Moore** is a sophomore communication studies major from Richmond, Virginia. After graduating from Lynchburg College, she plans work in public relations or feature writing. In her spare time, Rachel enjoys working with children, being outside, and swimming.

**Lydia Nilsen** grew up in Moyock, North Carolina. She enjoys playing and watching all kinds of sports, as well as writing poetry and reading all types of literature in her spare time. Lydia would like to thank her family, especially her parents and older brother, for their support and inspirational attitudes.

**Bridgette Polite** is a sophomore from Tuxedo, New York. She is majoring in biomedical science in the Westover Honors Program, and for the past year, Bridgette has been collaborating on research involving the immunomodulatory effects of *Echinacea purpurea* with her advisor, Dr. David Freier. Following graduation from Lynchburg College, she hopes to pursue graduate studies in microbiology and immunology.

**Grace Rochfort**, a junior from Baltimore, Maryland, is active on campus as a member of Kappa Delta Sorority, Pan-Hellenic Council, and the Writing Center staff. She is majoring in graphic design and will pursue an interest in art history by studying abroad in Florence, Italy, during summer 2006.

**Gail Silveira**, who comes from South Hadley, Massachusetts, is a senior with a major in biomedical science. She has conducted research in cancer biology with Dr. Allison Jablonski. At Lynchburg College, Gail is active in sorority life and as a member of the Writing Center staff. Gail has completed an internship and volunteered at the Johnson Health Center, a primary care center for low income individuals located in downtown Lynchburg. Following graduation, she hopes to do graduate study in dentistry.

**Dana Sliva** comes from Evington, Virginia. She is a first-semester junior at Lynchburg College and is an aspiring English major with an emphasis in writing and an international relations minor. She has recently been accepted into the Westover Honors Program and has worked as a tutor in the Wilmer Writing Center since fall 2005. She enjoys spending time with her family, friends, and cats. After she graduates in fall 2007, she wants to attend law school and to pursue a career in international or business law.

**Derrick Van Leer** was born in 1987 in Manassas, Virginia, and enjoyed a happy childhood in Bealeton and Culpeper. Never without a pencil on hand, Derrick enjoys writing and drawing. At Lynchburg College, he is a freshman member of the Westover Honors Program and plays the trumpet with the Lynchburg College

Wind Symphony. Derrick plans to double-major in graphic design and Spanish, and he looks forward to three more exciting years at Lynchburg College.