

## TRAILBLAZERS AND INNOVATORS EXHIBIT BEGINS THIS FALL

The new Hankey Center exhibit, *Trailblazers and Innovators*, explores the roles Wilson alumnae have played in breaking free of gender constraints in higher education and in the workplace, concentrating primarily on the century between 1880 and 1980.

The exhibit, which opened in October, focuses on Wilson alumnae who earned graduate and professional degrees in a variety of disciplines, including many fields which traditionally had been closed to women. Individual narratives of alumnae in academia, medicine, the sciences and social sciences are highlighted, as well as those in more women-centered fields such as education, social work and library science.

The changing attitudes toward women's roles can also be seen through excerpts from the *Alumnae Quarterly* included in the exhibit. Shortly after World War II, there were articles discussing the exciting opportunities in science and technology newly available to women. But then in 1955, an article by President Paul Swain Havens assured parents that there were more than sufficient opportunities for "every Wilson freshman to make acquaintances of desirable

young men." And in 1965, an article called "Marriage as a Career" explained how women can think about solutions to important world problems while doing the routine household work of making beds and washing dishes.

By the fall 1971 issue, the entire *Quarterly* was devoted to "The Debate on Women's Role," featuring an article by Cesi Kellinger called "Almost Equals," suggesting that "imaginative counseling is needed to break the barriers of traditional occupations and enable young women to enter new fields."

We are still discussing remedies for the lack of women in the C-suite and in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. *Trailblazers and Innovators* highlights the history and some of the reasoning behind the complex expectations of highly educated women.

— The new exhibit can be viewed at the Hankey Center and will run through Reunion Weekend in June 2016. —CDB

---

## WILSON CONFRONTS CLIMATE CHANGE AND EXPLORES THE APOCALYPTIC

Wilson's 2015 fall lecture series explores two popular—and somewhat interconnected—topics: climate change and the apocalypse.

The dual lecture series will alternate between the "Confronting Climate Change" discussions sponsored by the Global Citizens Fund and Wilson's 2016 Orr Forum lectures on the topic of "The Return of the Apocalyptic."

The genesis for the climate change lecture series came from recent suggestions for Orr Forum topics. "The Orr is religious and climate change falls more into ethics," said David True, chair of the philosophy and religion department and Orr Forum director.

But True sees symmetry between the two topics. The dual lecture series allows for a multi-disciplinary discussion on climate change—specifically its effect on human society and culture—along with its warning of a coming apocalypse, which ties into the subject of the 2016 Orr Forum.

The fall lecture series culminates Tuesday, Nov. 10, with two lectures by geologist Richard Alley, Ph.D., sponsored by the National Academy of Sciences. Alley will speak at noon on "Abrupt climate change and sea-level rise: How we don't know what might hurt us," and at 7 p.m. on "Good News in the Greenhouse?"

Alley is the Evan Pugh Professor of Geosciences at Pennsylvania State University and has authored more than 200 publications on climate change. He hosted the 2011 PBS mini-series *Earth: The Operator's Manual*, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2008 and was elected as a American Academy of Arts and Sciences Fellow in 2010.

The dual lecture series will continue with new discussions during the spring semester. —Courtney D. Wolfe '12