

# FROM THE EDITOR

Can you believe that we have less than seven weeks left in this semester? Sometimes it feels like we just arrived on campus a few days ago. It's too soon! I'm still getting into the swing of things! As December graduation approaches, I realize more and more the truth of the words that Dr. King has shared with his classes many times:

"When you get your bachelor's degree, you'll think you know a lot of stuff. When you get your master's degree, you'll realize that there's a lot you don't know. When you get your doctorate, you'll realize that *you don't know nothing*. The more you know, the more you realize you don't know."

That is, as your body of knowledge expands, the more aware you become of how much there is to learn. It's a wonderful and humbling experience. When I started this semester, my brain was geared up for all sorts of "important, English-majorly and Senior-type business," that is, writing my thesis (gulp), taking Worldviews (hurrah! At last!), participating with The Whetstone and SGA, and trying to prove that I'm ready for the real world in IS 461. Also, as a side note, I had to take Biology 101. In my vain inner self, I chuckled and thought dismissively, "Oh, a freshman class. This will be so easy, and everyone will look at me and think I'm so cool because I just breeze through with my grand Senior's brain. Never mind that I haven't taken any biology since 2002—I'm just so mentally awesome, I'll make straight As with no effort whatsoever!"

Merlin's Beard, was I in for a surprise! I thought I had such a handle on "knowledge" because I've reached the culmination of my undergraduate English studies. But the minute that I stepped outside of my field, I was bombarded with how much I don't know. That wake-up call was a little scary at first. The initial two or three weeks of class were overwhelming, as I scrambled to remember even the simplest of high school biology—*wait, what's an ecosystem again? I know I learned what a coral reef is made of. Photosynthesis...yes, that's definitely something important.* I was incredibly humbled, and incredibly appreciative of Dr. King's words. Thus happily humiliated, I was able to step down from that "top rung" of being a senior, and realize that in so many areas, I am still on the bottom rung—and that's okay. I haven't lost any of my excitement and pleasure at being so near to graduation—I think I've done well and I'm proud of myself. But the closer I get to that impending date of December 12th, the more I feel like my little piece of learning is so tiny in comparison to the expanding scope of all human knowledge. I'm not getting smaller—the world is getting bigger, and God is getting bigger. Far from feeling insecure and insignificant, I feel pretty wonderful. I think it's easy to accept God's love when you think of yourself as this big, important human. But when you realize that you are really so very tiny in relation to everything else, and this enormous, powerful God still notices you? That's a grand thing indeed.


In other news, as I'll be departing these hallowed halls of fine academia, The Whetstone will have a vacant staff position next spring. It is essential that we hire someone with strong editing skills, so if you are interested in working on the newspaper, drop us a line! We'll be sending out emails with more information soon.

Thinking happy thoughts,

*Chelna R. Baber*



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## The Whetstone

Montreat College's Student Voice

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"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

Proverbs 27:17



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