• The Philosophy Department has found a novel way to use our handsome new Lynx Lair. Since, as noted on the department’s Web site, “Philosophy is best done in conversation,” the faculty host Pub Talks following film and speaker series events, providing students an opportunity to interact with faculty in informal conversation. Pub Talks are also scheduled to discuss other items of interest.

• Because the field of education abroad is complex and diverse, encompassing student and scholar exchanges along with volunteering, service learning and internships, the Buckman Center for International Education hosts multiple opportunities for students to explore their options. The next one is today at 4:15 pm in the Orgill Room where one of the leading experts in the field, Dr. Mary Dwyer, President of International Education of Students, will speak.

• If you attended the kickoff of the Campaign for Rhodes on October 19, you may remember the handsome backdrops that illustrated the four imperatives of the Rhodes Vision. The 8 x 8’ free-standing enactments of student access, learning, engagement and inspiration are available to any campus department that has a use for them. Contact the Communications Office if you’re interested.

• The college will meet this week the first deadline associated with the Presidents’ Climate Commitment that Dr. Troutt recently signed. As part of this agreement, Rhodes has pledged within two months’ time to establish or designate an institutional structure to oversee development and implementation of the school’s program to comply with the PCC and to choose two tangible actions that have an immediate impact on our greenhouse gas emissions. The Environmental Planning Cooperative, a cross-campus group of students, staff and faculty, will serve as our structure and focus its efforts over the next few years on implementing a long-term GHG reduction program. For our two immediate actions, we will implement a campus-wide Energy Star purchasing program, and we will participate in the Waste Minimization component of the Recyclemania competition. Other elements of the commitment include completion of an emissions inventory within one year and establishment of a climate neutrality action plan within two years, which will include a target date and interim milestones for becoming climate neutral. We will also look at ways to integrate sustainability into the college’s curriculum to make it part of our educational experience. More information about the commitment can be found at www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org.

Charlotte G. Borst, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Rhodes College
2000 North Parkway
Memphis, TN 38112
Phone: 901-843-3795
Fax: 901-843-3291
email: BorstC@rhodes.edu