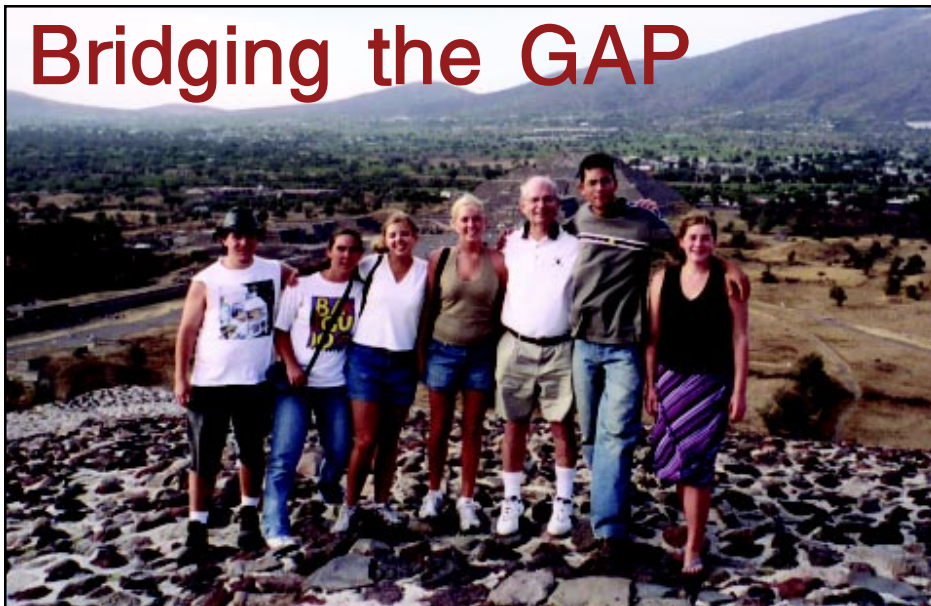


# Bridging the GAP



President Caine in Mexico with AC students.

**I**n his memoir, *"This Just In,"* veteran newsman Bob Schieffer writes about a dispute that broke out at a dinner party he attended in Buenos Aires during the 1982 war between Argentina and Great Britain over the Falkland Islands. Several Argentines argued that their country's seizure of the Falklands was equivalent to actions taken by American colonists during the Revolutionary War. They confidently predicted that the U.S. would side with Argentina. Tempers flared when Schieffer suggested that the U.S.-British ties were so deep that his country would never again take up arms against Great Britain. Things didn't cool down until an Argentine military officer, citing his experience as a student in the United States, took Schieffer's side.

In mid-March, I traveled to Mexico with the Siena Heights University president, Richard Artman, to visit our students enrolled in a cooperative program with a university in Cuernavaca. We met the university personnel, including the president, and talked with area educational leaders about exchange programs that might bring Mexican students to our institutions. We had a wonderful four days, highlighted by travels with the students to Mexico City and the surrounding area. (The photo above shows an older man atop the Pyramid of the Sun in the Aztec ruins north of Mexico City.)

I returned with many good memories from that trip. The most satisfying were seeing our students navigating so well in another culture, gaining a new

respect for Mexican civilization and learning valuable lessons about themselves. Several students indicated to me that living and studying in Mexico had been a life changing experience.

This visit reminded me once again of the extraordinary importance of educational exchanges. Each year Adrian sends a number of students abroad and welcomes students from other countries to our campus. One or two of our international students come from Northern Ireland through a special agreement signed by a number of United Methodist institutions to assist in that country's "peace process." All of our international students add to the vital mix of talents and interests that make Adrian a special place for the education of undergraduates.

This kind of educational exchange is in some jeopardy. In response to 9/11, the federal government tightened restrictions on foreign nationals seeking to enter the United States. One result has been a substantial decrease in the number of students from other countries enrolled in U.S. colleges and universities.

This is a complex and difficult dilemma. It is certainly understandable that we would want to know more about the plans and intentions of those seeking to enter our country. In the past, I have been surprised at how little interest the Immigration and Nationalization Service has shown when we have had international students leave our campus prior to gradu-



## Letter from the EDITOR

**W**elcome to the Summer 2004 issue. Inside, we take a look at what internships have done for a few of your fellow alumni. We look back at the life of Miles Peelle, sharing some of your stories about this AC great who so many of you knew and loved. And we continue the three-part series on the arts at Adrian that we started in the last issue. Part one focused on the visual arts, this time we look at theatre, and in the fall we'll turn to music.

Enjoy, and as always, we welcome hearing from you!

*Brad Whitehouse*  
Brad Whitehouse

ation. If we close the doors too tightly, however, we risk the loss of prominent voices around the world who better understand our country and what it stands for because they have lived and studied among us.

The stakes are much higher than winning the kind of dinner party debate that Bob Schieffer describes. As some of you know, I attended Macalester College with a young student from Ghana who came to this country to study on a Ford Foundation grant. It is difficult to overstate the importance to this country of the undergraduate years that that student, Kofi Annan, now Secretary-General of the United Nations, spent in the United States.

We need to find the proper balance between national security concerns and the benefits of maintaining a robust system of educational and cultural exchanges. Our national welfare, and perhaps even the cause of world peace, may depend upon it.

*Stanley Caine*

Stanley Caine, President