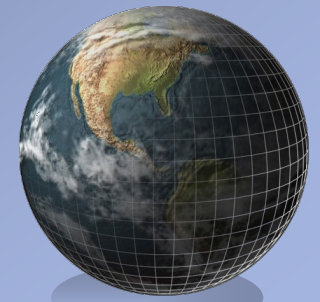
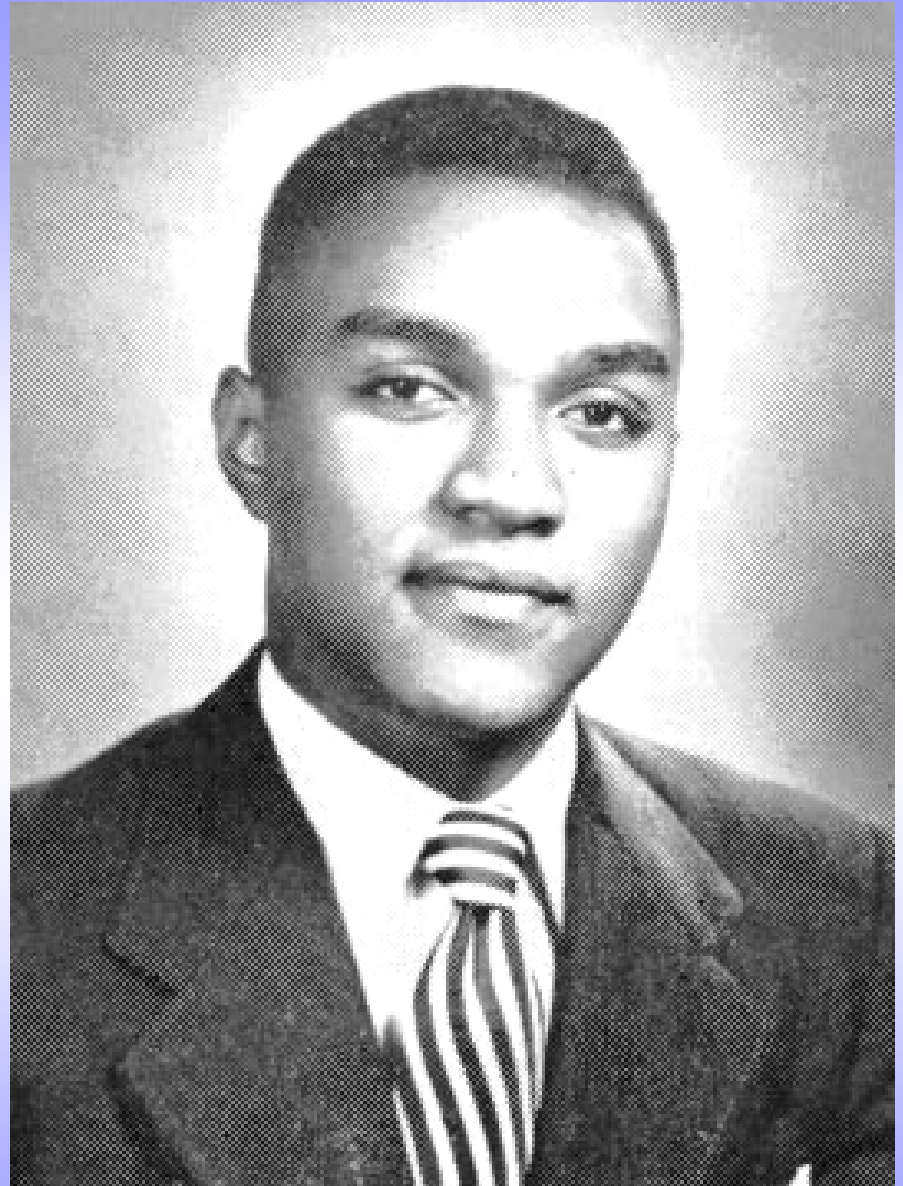


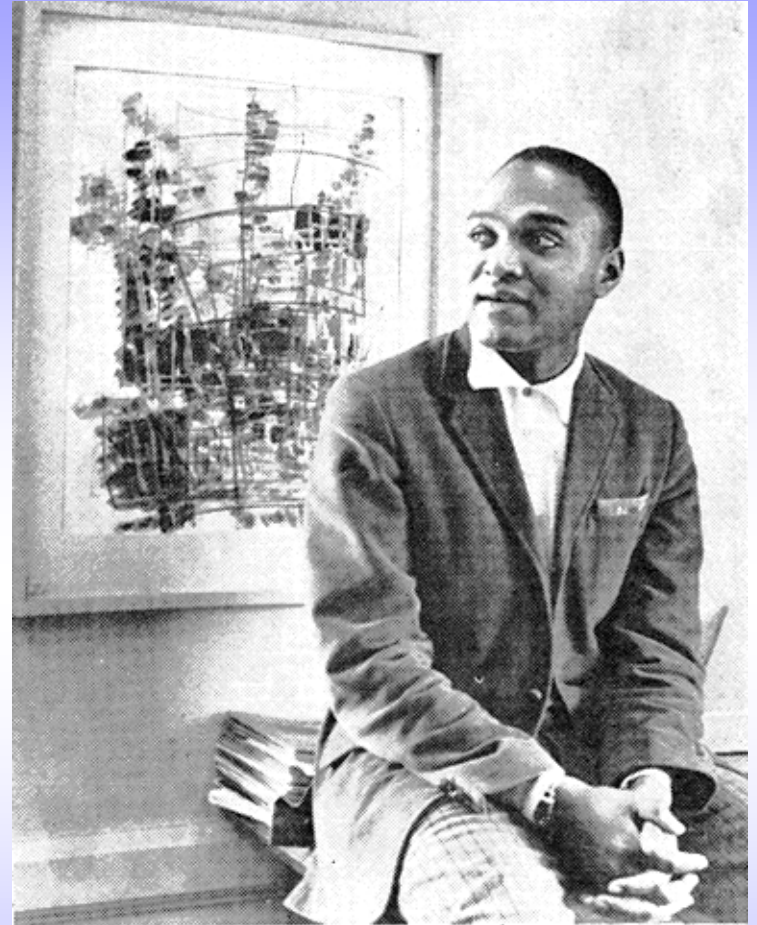
Celebrating Forty years of Quarter Abroad Semester Abroad



Robert B. Bailey, III,
“exchange student” at
Cornell College
Mount Vernon, Iowa
1950



In the fall of 1963, Bob (Doc) Bailey took his first group of UWRF students to Europe.



ROBERT BAILEY,
Sociology

Wisconsin State University
River Falls
1962 Meletean



Bob thought it was time for River Falls students to see something new, and he designed the Quarter Abroad program to enable students of modest means and from a small-town or rural environment to experience Europe as undergraduates.

Up to that time, most study abroad programs were the purview of wealthy students from private colleges or prestigious large universities.

The first UWRF groups went by student ship, but it was not long before flying became the standard mode of travel to Europe.

Fall 1998



“Wisconsin students were . . . wholesome, unspoiled, diligent, possessed of great intellectual curiosity and very excited at the prospect of going abroad.” Bailey

Paris, 1982



In the early years, the students spent a week together in Rotterdam, Holland. Now the first week in Europe is spent in Paris. Currently, the groups stay in a student residence in the Latin Quarter.





Rooftop Terrace
Foyer, Paris

This orientation week in Paris gives students a chance to experience life in Europe before setting out on their own. Two SA staff members are there to answer questions and give advice.





The SA staff member who will spend the fall in Europe meets with individual students to plan a rendezvous at some time during the semester.



Daily meetings in Paris give students a chance to share their experiences. A favorite question we ask at these meetings: “What happened to you yesterday that you didn’t understand?”



And of course students have plenty of time to explore Paris





. . . and to learn to
use public
transportation.



Students also have a chance to get to know each other better and to make final preparations to begin their independent study.

In the fall of 2000, Alec studied Italian math educational systems, and Tanya studied potato breeding in Northern Ireland.



At the end of the Paris stay, the moment of truth comes, as students head off to their study sites. One student had this thought as he got off the train in a small town, “I realized that whatever I did next was what was going to happen to me.”





And what an adventure it is . . . Trying new and interesting foods



Meeting new
and interesting people . . .

Being greeted by the unexpected.



So many things to do . . .



Munich
River Surfing

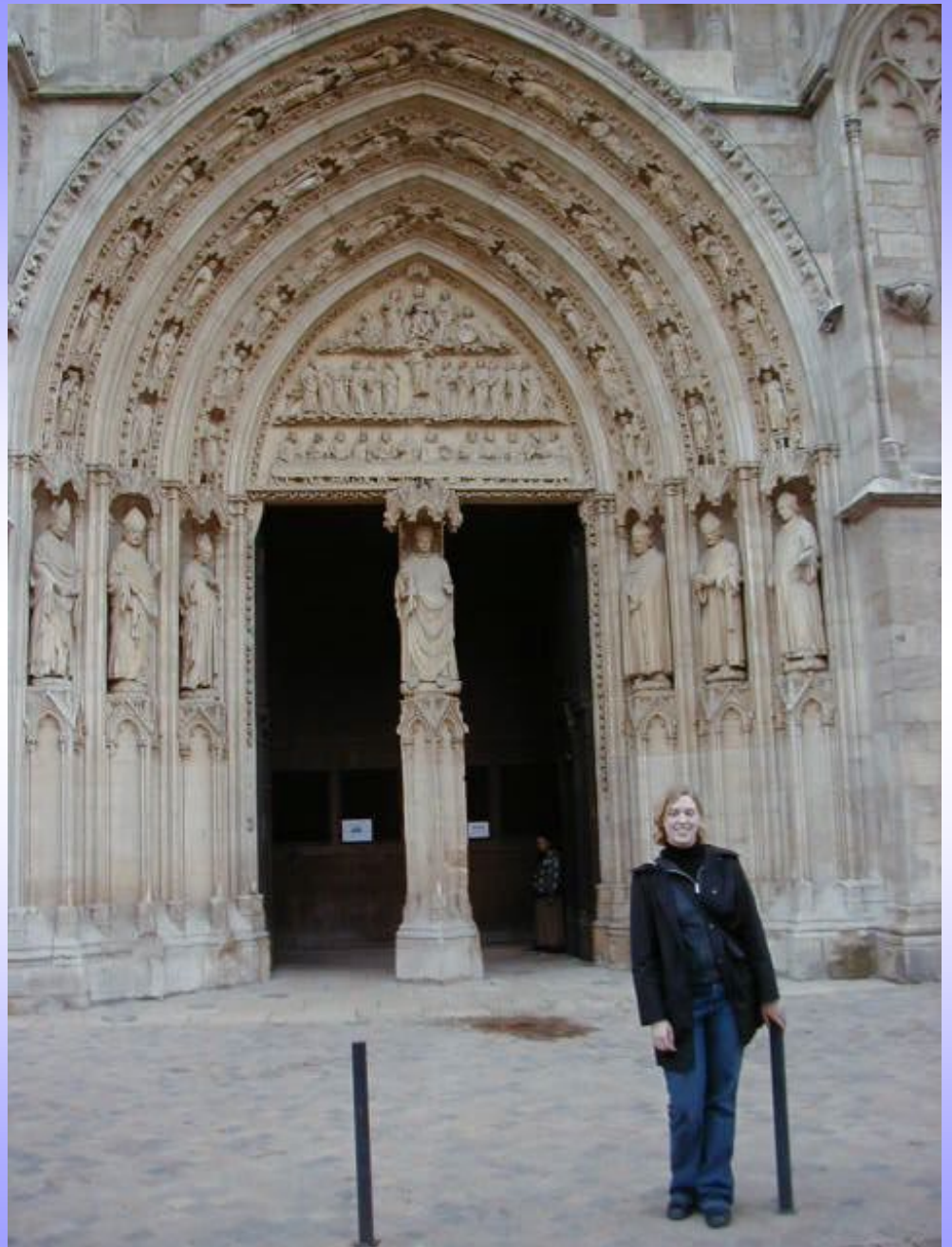


Places to see . . .

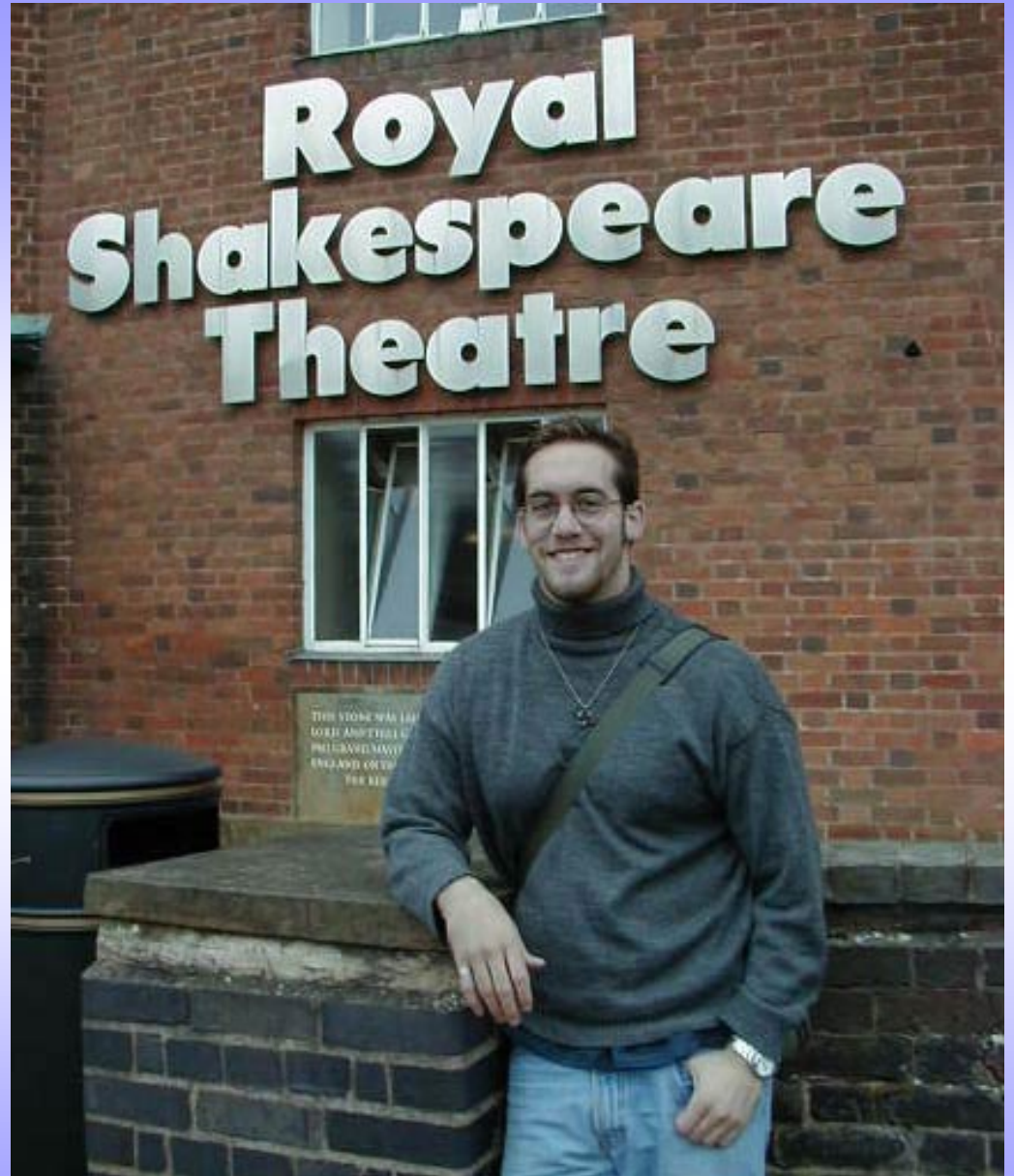


Odense, Denmark
2002

Bordeaux
2002



Stratford upon Avon
1999





Berlin Wall October 1999



Auschwitz, Poland
October 1999



Stonehenge
October 1999



Germany 2000



Athens
2002



Copenhagen, September 2001



Berlin 2001



Lake Como, Italy
September 2001



And at the center of it all -- the project.



Communications have been transformed by the internet, so students can easily stay in touch with home, each other, and the group leader. There are internet cafés all over Europe.



In the middle of the academic term, the group meets in a designated location. For many years this was Munich, during Oktoberfest.



But the semester system has made it necessary to hold this meeting later in the fall. Some years, such as the one pictured here, the group has met in Barcelona. For the last several years, the group has met in Levanto, Italy.

Mid-semester group
dinner, Barcelona,
November 1999





After the November meeting there's time to travel, explore, visit friends.



Until it's time to go home



"I've learned a lot about myself on this trip and can't wait to experience the rest of Europe. My goals of becoming more independent, confident, and assertive have already come true! Traveling is hard work--anyone who says this program is a 3 month vacation for students is dead wrong!"

2000 Semester Abroad participant



“Looking out a train window, I see framed images speed by. Everything is happening so fast that I actually swear I see columns of air moving past as if they had solid form. Does this progress report only pertain to my project? Much more has progressed than that. I’ve learned to travel on my own. I’ve gained confidence, and though I don’t really know yet, I think I’ve lost the crippling shyness that I used to rely on. I’ve also learned to persevere, I know how to get myself to keep going, even when I really want to just fly home.... I really hope my paper turns out all right, and lord knows I’d love an A, but honestly, what I’ve learned outside of my project is more important to me. As cheezy as it sounds, it’s true: this program has changed my life. PS: You know, never in my college career did I think I’d be earning 12 credits studying in Europe or writing to a professor on airmail paper on a train speeding towards France at 180 mph.”

--SA Participant 1995

For years and years they've
been going



1987



1991



1995



1997



1999



2000



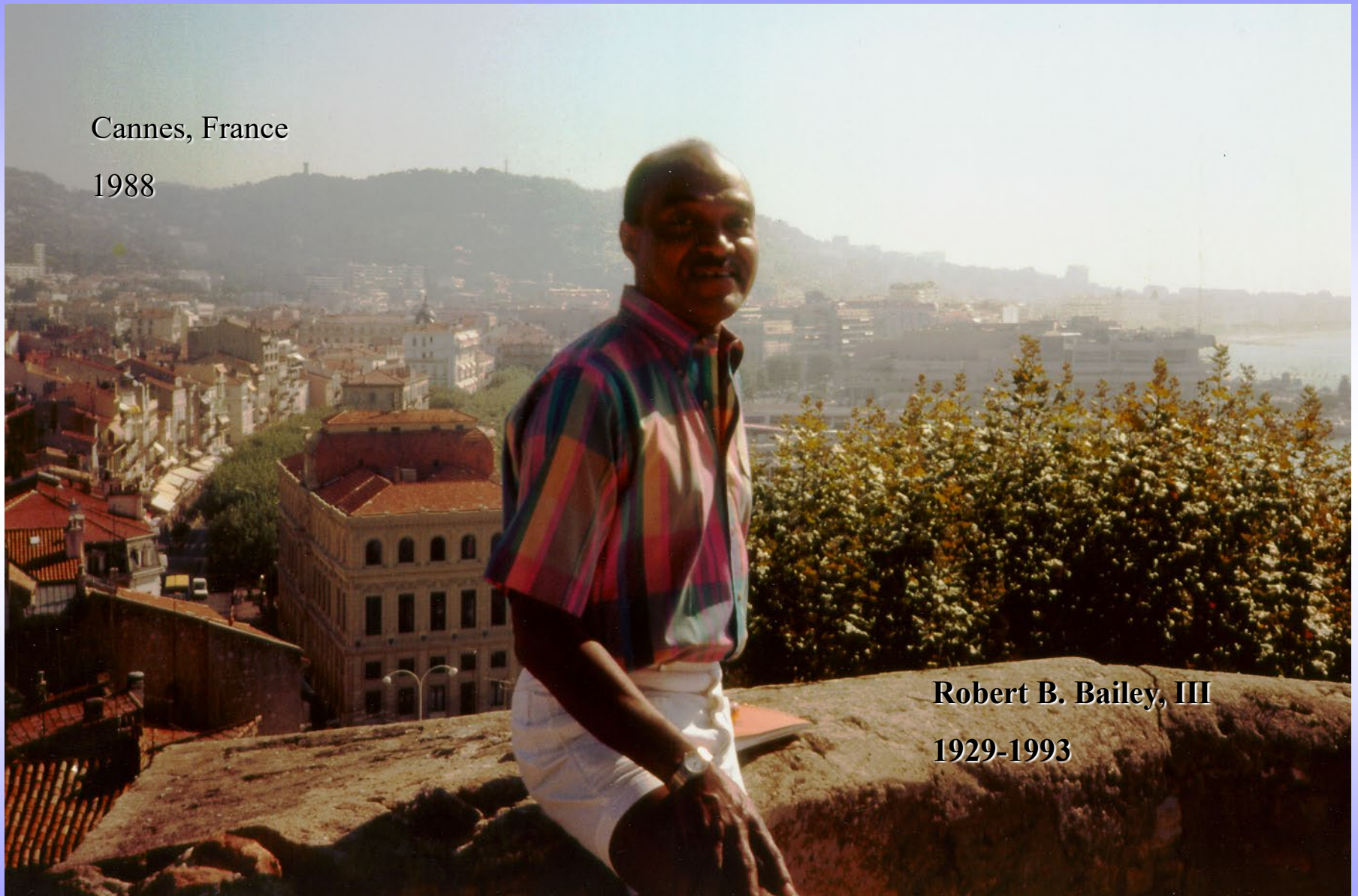
2001



25th Reunion
1988

Cannes, France

1988



Robert B. Bailey, III

1929-1993