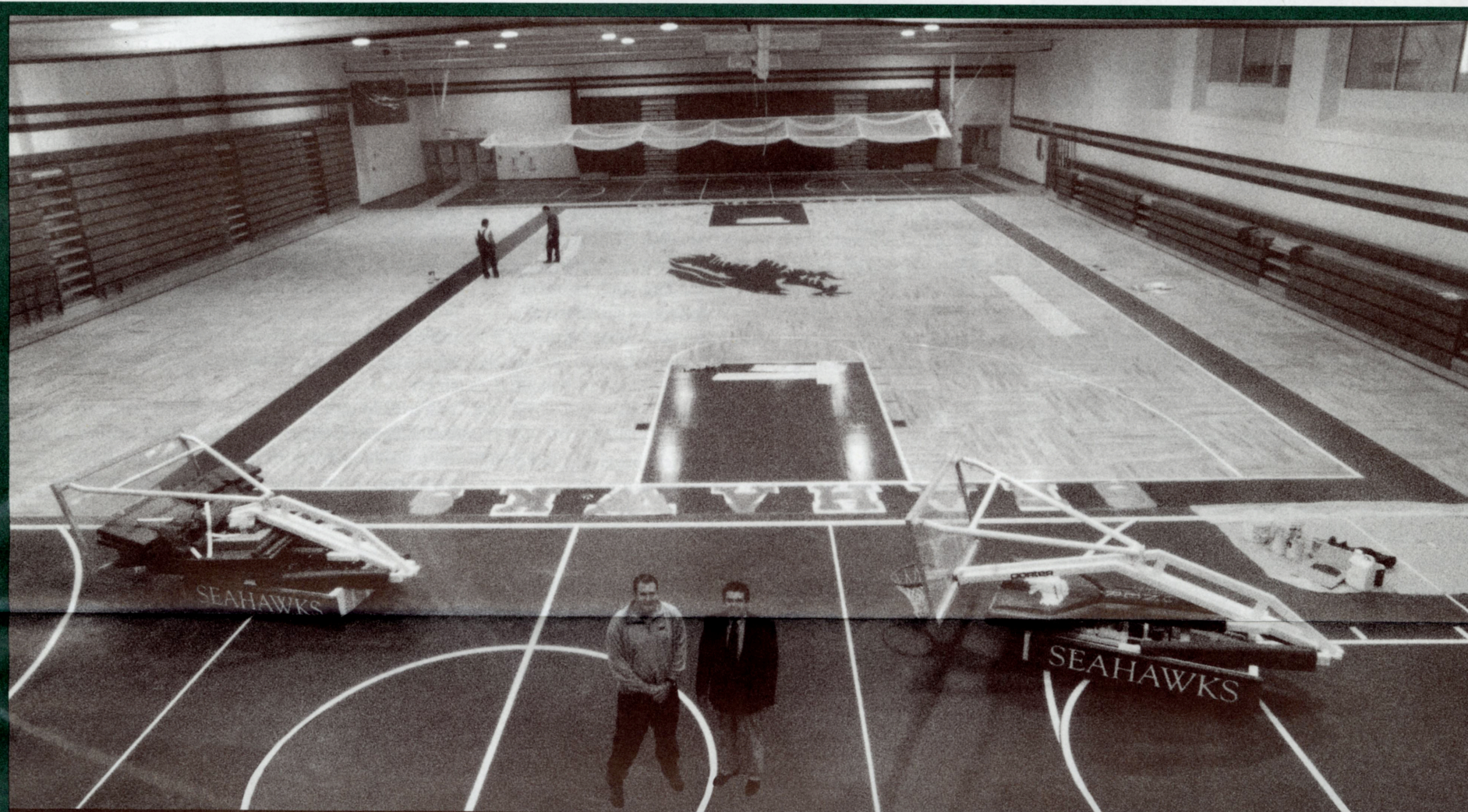




WAGNER *Link*

Winter 1999

Spiro Sports Center Nears Completion



The Finishing Touches...

Athletic Director Walt Hameline and Assistant Director Andrew Schwartz stand in foreground of the expanded basketball arena, which has triple the floor space of the old gym. Either end is a composition multipurpose surface for basketball, volleyball and other indoor sports (far court sports an overhead batting cage for winter baseball practice). The center court parquet wood main basketball court is receiving the final SEAHAWKS logos. During basketball competitions, stadium seating electronically covers both end courts with sideline seating surrounding the main court. To the upper right of the photo is the Hospitality Room "superbox" windows that overlook center court and will also be the television broadcast camera vantage point. Professional arena portable basketball nets flank Walt and Andrew. Photo taken from Hall of Fame Room windows above end stadium seats.

Basketball Arena will be ready to Host Northeast Conference Championship Series February 25-March 1, marking first nationally broadcast ESPN game from new facility

The finishing touches are being put on the Spiro Center gymnasium/basketball arena in preparation for the February 25 to March 1 Northeast Conference Basketball championships which will mark the first official sporting event in this new 95,000 sq. ft. athletic facility. "The building exceeds all of my expectations," observes Dr. Norman Smith, Wagner College president. "The arena is much bigger than I had thought would be the case. We have a showpiece here."

As the photo above shows, the old Sutter gym has been doubled in size. All that remains to be done is general construction cleanup followed by the affixing of logos to the parquet playing floor, followed by the final lacquer.

Elsewhere, the main entrance is nearly complete as are all main floor restrooms and lower level team and locker rooms. The next steps include the interiors of the upper level Hall of Fame Room (seen as the windows at the far end of the photo above) and the VIP/Trustee Reception Room, both of which overlook the main basketball stadium. ESPN will be telecasting the NEC tournament from these second floor sites, making their completion the next priority.

The fitness center, aerobics center, swimming pool and athletic department offices will follow as soon as the February tournament is over.

While the completion date for the entire

facility is tentative, the goal remains to open for students before the end of the Spring semester. The official dedication will follow on Saturday, June 5, 1999 during the annual Class Reunion celebrations.

"We thought reunion day was best suited for this historic dedication so that a maximum number of alumni can share in the celebration of Wagner's first major construction in over 30 years," said Smith. "An added distinction is that the 50th Class Reunion on that day is the Class of 1949, the graduating class of the Sports Center namesakes, Dr. Donald and Dr. Evelyn Spiro." Also scheduled to participate in the dedication is Spiro classmate and Staten Island Borough President, Dr. Guy Molinari.

Dedication is Set for CLASS REUNION DAY on June 5, 1999
Look for Information on Inside Pages of this Edition

FROM THE PRESIDENT

**"Top Tier" Ranking has its Rewards**

While there is no certain and singular reason for the one-year application surge, there is little question that U.S. News & World Report's 1999 BEST COLLEGES ranking of Wagner College as a "top tier" institution contributed to the cause. We have definitely received acknowledgments that the top ranking stimulated interest among many who had not realized the progress Wagner had been making in recent years.

Spiro Sports Center is about to Open

As the front page of this edition heralds, the 95,000-square foot Spiro Sports Facility is about ready to open. The basketball stadium will be the first phase opening which occurs concurrent with Wagner's hosting of the Northeast Conference basketball championship series beginning February 25th. Shortly thereafter, we expect the fitness center and aerobics rooms to be opened. Then, all dance classes will be moved from Main Hall to Spiro.

I hope you'll make note of the June 5th Class Reunion Day which will mark the official dedication of the facility. The dedication will be the first such moment for Wagner College in over 30 years and therefore a particularly festive and historic occasion that I trust you'll not want to miss.

Business Program is Accredited

I'm pleased to report that our business programs have received accreditation from the Association of Collegiate Business Programs and Schools (ACBSP). This is a first-time achievement for Wagner College and represents an important "seal of approval" that will enhance the program's reputation and credibility. Professor Tony Carter, head of the Business faculty, and his fellow professors deserve our gratitude and congratulations on this distinction.

Harvard University taps Wagner

The Harvard Medical School has commissioned the Wagner College science programs to conduct basic research for a \$15 million research project being conducted by Harvard into the relationship between mind and body. Put simply, and not very scientifically, I admit, the investigation seeks to ascertain the power of the mind in influencing the health of the body. For further details, note the article elsewhere in this edition.

Thanks to Alumni and Friends like YOU

As you'll read throughout this edition, there is an exciting array of developments since the last WAGNERLink edition, all of which are indeed catapulting Wagner College into "top tier" recognition and distinction. Without question, none of this good news would be occurring were it not for the many alumni and friends, like you, who have so generously "given something back" in order to help today's generation of students have access to high quality education. Unless otherwise designated, all donations to Wagner are passed along to currently-enrolled students in the form of scholarships. This helps Wagner to recruit students of high academic promise while also helping to enroll undergraduates who might otherwise be unable to afford a college education.

You're helping make history and, in doing so, assuring that Wagner College enters the 21st Century as one of the highly regarded private residential colleges---anywhere. I hope that you'll stay with us in the coming millennium.

Dr. Norman R. Smith
President

Dear Alumni and Friends,

This Winter 1999 issue of WAGNERLink brings with it some of the most exciting news about Wagner College that I have been able to report since beginning my presidency nearly 11 years ago. To begin with, our fall 1998 freshman class once again reached record highs accompanied by similar increases in academic quality and geographic diversity.

Admissions applications up 40%

While we have been experiencing annual increases in applications for several years, the fall 1998 recruiting season experienced a particularly dramatic increase---40% over the previous year. Since we are full-to-capacity already, this impressive increase will permit us to continue our improvements to academic quality which, in turn, heightens Wagner's academic reputation.

Portraits Unveiled Honoring Two Wagner Trustees, Dr. Margaret Bambach Buck Reynolds '40 H'98 and Dr. Eva Megerle H'97

This past fall, two portraits were added to the College's Honor Roll of Trustees who have taken leadership roles in the recent history of Wagner and have thereby received honorary degrees. The paintings presently are on display in the President's Office and in the reception area of the Senior Administrative Offices in the Union. The paintings were created by Professor Bill Murphy of the College's art faculty. Dr. Reynolds has been a trustee since 1996 and was instrumental in the realization of the Spiro Center. Dr. Megerle finished a twelve-year maximum term as a member of the Board of Trustees in 1997. Upon stepping off the Board for one year, she was unanimously re-elected. Dr. Megerle has followed in her parents' footsteps as a major supporter of the College. In addition to her support of the Megerle Science Center, she has also been a strong advocate for women's athletics and for the Spiro Sports Center construction.



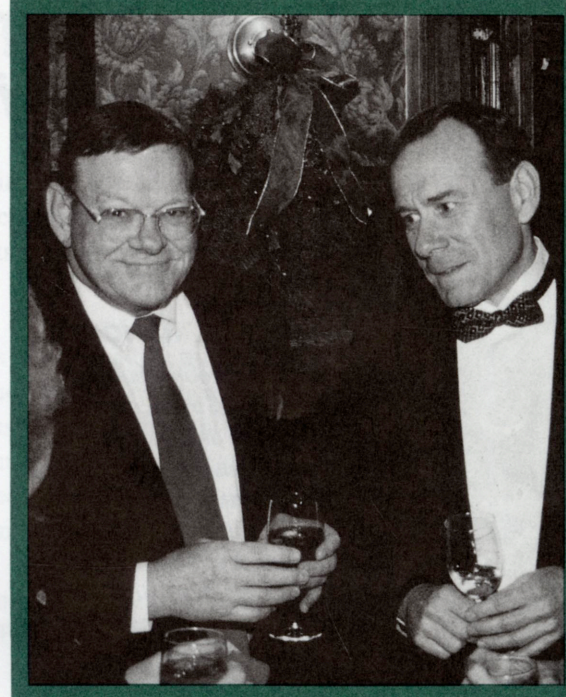
Dr. Megerle



Dr. Reynolds



Tony Venturella '83 outperforms Bobby Short at the piano as Dr. Susan Robinson makes a request while Polly Moles '68, Greg Knapp '66, Ellen Gloistein, Fred Williamson '64 and Fred Lange '53 get in the holiday spirit.



John Campi '62 and Fred Williamson '64

1998 Inner Circle Scrapbook

Wagner Major Supporters Celebrate Another Record Year

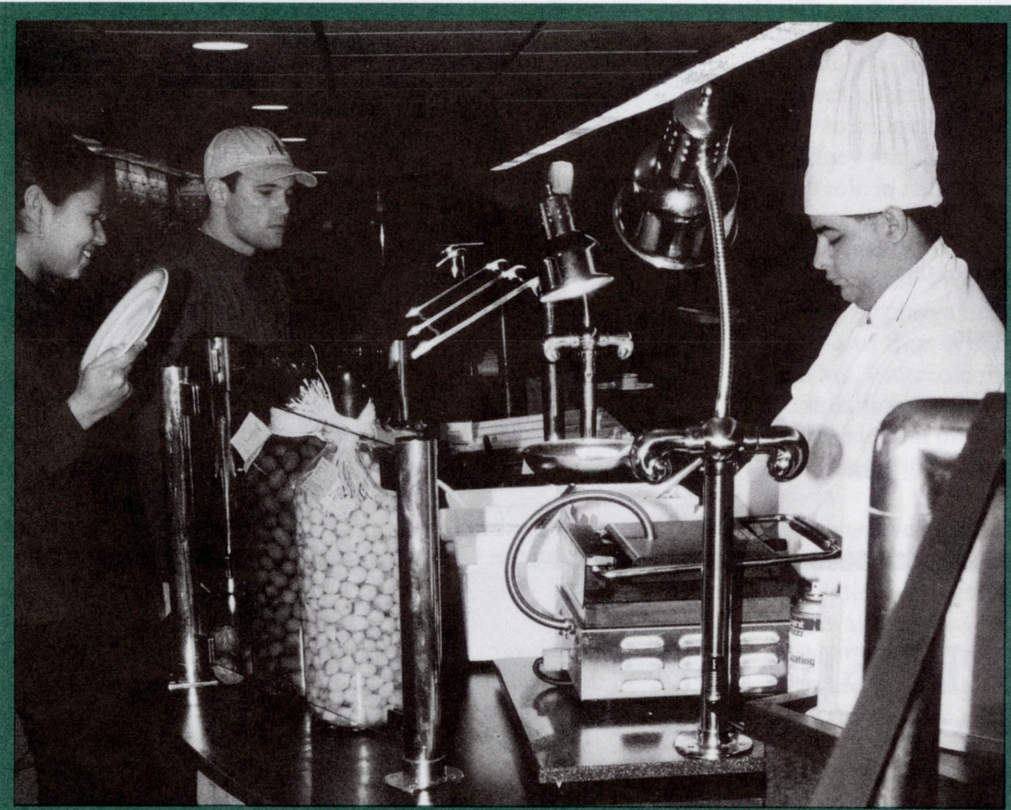
For the eleventh consecutive year, Wagner College's Inner Circle celebrated another successful year by convening at the President's residence on Saturday, December 12, 1998. The Inner Circle is Wagner College's society of major annual donors who were leaders in Wagner's 1997-1998 annual fund campaign.

As always, the evening included a gourmet meal, piano music by Tony Venturella and a special holiday performance from the Wagner College choir. Board chairman Dr. Donald Spiro and College President Dr. Norman Smith also extended their thanks to the assemblage crediting them for the College's many advances.

Michael Fiore '68 with Trustee Maureen Robinson '67 (right) and Louise Kaufman '75.

Dr. Charles Fager '44 and Margaret Fager

Professor Walter Kaelber and Sally Kaelber '81 (left) with Provost Dr. Richard Guarasci and Carin Guarasci.



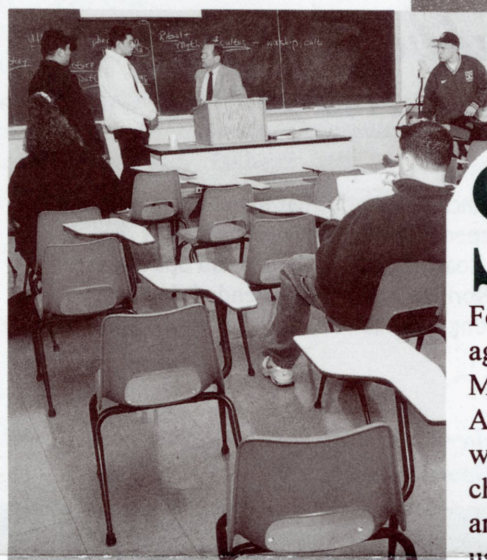
"It's too Gourmet!!"...

was one student's reaction to the newly renovated student dining hall in the Wagner Union--who, incidentally, opted for a platter of hot dogs and onion rings. The more prevailing reaction includes comments from "WOW" to "BRAVO." The change is a result of a new food service, Compass Group's Chartwells division that introduced an also new college food dining concept. Gone are the cafeteria serving lines. Replacing them are a collection of on-the-floor food preparation stations that bring the chefs out of the kitchen and in front of the diner where they prepare their offerings directly for diners. At any meal, five or six stations are in operation, each with different offerings. One chef may be preparing pesto tortellini while another offers chicken fajitas. And for the not-so-gourmands, pizza, burgers, onion rings and fries remain menu staples. Desserts are also made on the premises. Thank goodness the Spiro Sports Center is opening not a calorie too soon.

\$300,000 Grant from Richmond County Savings Bank Enables Major Classroom Renovations to Main & Spiro

AFTER (right) & BEFORE (below) ...

Main Hall classrooms had not been refurbished in decades and thereby offered only seat-and-tablet accommodations for students that were often far too cramped for adult-sized users. The renovations have furnished all first floor classrooms with tables and chairs that permit multi-use configurations including conference table seminar settings. Also included in the renovations are carpeting in order to improve acoustics, new window shades that better enable multi-media presentations and new paint.



Serendipity knocked on the doors

of Wagner College this past fall when the recently-established Richmond County Savings Bank Foundation granted the College \$300,000 to renovate classrooms in Main and Spiro Halls. "We're once again very grateful to Richmond County Savings Bank," said President Smith. "Bank President Michael Manzulli and his team have been long time supporters of Wagner including coming forward to install an Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) in the Student Union for students and staff. The grant will go a long way to greatly improve the College's teaching conditions." Students and faculty immediately applauded the change, noted Wagner Provost, Dr. Richard Guarasci. "The new rooms set a much more professional tone and greatly improve the conduciveness of our classrooms," affirmed Dr. Guarasci. "They'll be especially useful for seminars and for the learning community component of the revised undergraduate curriculum."

Harvard Medical School selects Wagner Science Program to be Research Partners in Mind and Body Research Project

Wagner College has been designated a research partner of the Harvard Medical School's Institute of Mind and Body Research, giving Wagner's Science faculty and undergraduates the opportunity to conduct basic studies underwritten by this multi-million dollar project directed by Harvard.

The opportunity comes as a result of an initiative by Provost, Dr. Richard Guarasci, who last Spring organized a Science Advisory Council comprised largely of Wagner alumni/ae. One of the alumni volunteers was George Stefano '66 who had just recently been appointed Director of Basic Research at the Harvard Medical School. During his visit, Dr. Stefano told Dr. Guarasci that he was impressed with Wagner's science programs, faculty and students and proposed the collaboration. Dr. Guarasci jumped at the invitation which resulted in a site visit from the senior professors heading the Harvard study highlighted by an inspection visit from the nationally regarded researcher, Dr. Henry Benson.

"The Harvard visiting team was equally impressed with what they saw and we were signed up on the spot," recounted Dr. Guarasci. The purpose of the study will be to better understand the role of the mind on the body in healing. The outcomes could have important effects on finding ways to better control blood pressure and other physiological conditions. The Wagner research activities will be overseen by Wagner biologist and Professor Zoltan Fulop. Among the students who will aid Dr. Fulop are Alexandra Kotlyar, Julia Bondarenko, Jene Tesoriero and Michael Rotondo.

Wagner's Business Program is accredited by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Business (ACBSP)

For the first time in its history, Wagner has won accreditation from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Business (ACBSP). The certification followed an on-site visit hosted by Wagner business department head, Professor Tony Carter. "Tony took the lead in the quest for this very important acknowledgement for Wagner's business program," commended President Smith. "Clearly, this certification will give our business graduates an enhanced credential and will also help us recruit and retain faculty in the years to come."

Professor Carter also announced the formation of an Alumni Business Advisory Council that will meet throughout the year to advise faculty and students on ways to strengthen the program. Alumni members include:

Michael Nicolais '49, Sr. Mng. Director, Carret & Co.
John Campi '62, Manager, A.I.G.
Jay Hartig '67, Partner, Price Waterhouse
John Birstler '68, Director of Technology, Merrill Lynch
Doug Matthius '72, V.P., Union Bank of Switzerland Sec.
Marta Yagos '73, VP Trading, Oppenheimer & Co.
Pat Jordan '81, Managing Director, Standard and Poors
George Gates '74, V.P., Chase Bank
Barbara Ann Matthius '75, VP, Dean Witter
Harold Theurer '79, Manager, Paine Webber, Inc.
Laura Marhefka '81, Vice President, J. P. Morgan
Greg LaMorte '81, V.P., Morgan Stanley
John Lombardo '85, Comptroller, Anateus Enterprises
Max Gbanite '85, Milliken-Hill Group Ltd.
Paul Kelly '89, Vice President, Bear Sterns
Tony Williams '97, Reg. Sales Mgr., Phillips Electronics

HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING

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BEST MUSICAL TONY AWARD WINNING BLOCKBUSTER

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CALL WEEKDAYS FOR TICKETS 718-390-3259

National Higher Education Association selects Wagner College to Host Summer Institute for Senior Professors & Officers

Wagner to also be cited as a case study exemplar for improving academic quality

The Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU) has selected Wagner College to be the site of its July 1999 annual Institute on Collaborative Leadership for Academic Change. The four-day institute annually convenes college presidents, provosts and senior professors for a four-day collaboration aimed at finding new ways to improve academic quality while also managing costs effectively. Last year, the conference was held at the University of Vermont and attended by a group of senior faculty and officers from Wagner.

In its materials announcing the summer institute, AACU cites Wagner as a college that "has recently made a path-breaking curriculum revision that takes advantage of its urban location and

mission." The opening day case studies will include Wagner's new learning communities undergraduate curriculum as an exemplar of "increasing quality, constraining costs while strengthening the institution."

"We're very honored to be selected as a model academic institution by the AACU," stated President Smith, noting that Wagner's new Provost, Dr. Richard Guarasci, was instrumental in gaining the recognition for Wagner. He noted that Dr. Guarasci's stature as an institute leader and as a Board member of the AACU has helped bring overdue visibility to Wagner's academic programs.

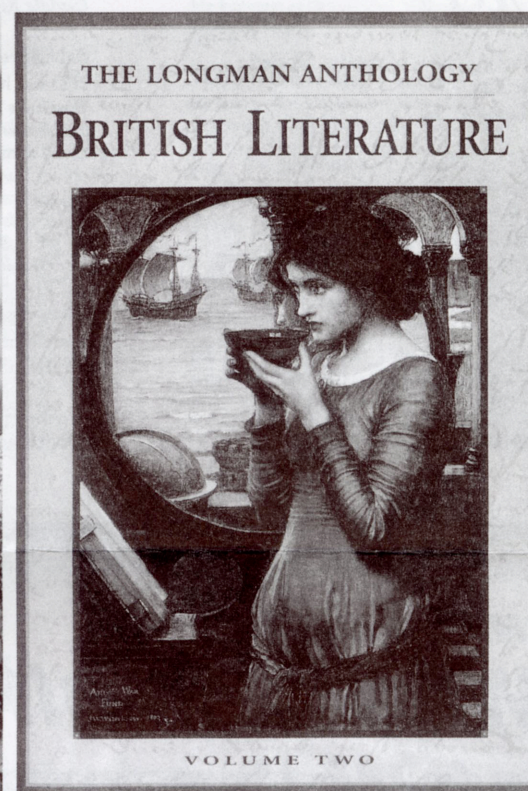
Smith added that he looked forward to hosting the conference because "more college presidents, provosts, CFO's and senior professors will be visiting Wagner's campus in those four days than have visited the College in the past decade. The more of our colleagues who see us in person, the better it is for the College's reputation."

Wagner Professor edits Ambitious Anthology of British Literature

Humanities Faculty Chair, Dr. Anne Schotter, recently "unveiled" the two-volume, 6000-page *Longman Anthology of British Literature*, the first new anthology in its field in 25 years. The *Anthology* compiles British literature from the Middle Ages to the present including fiction, poetry and drama, both classic and new, including in-depth contributions from women writers.

As one of only 12 editors compiling this exhaustive anthology, Dr. Schotter brings Wagner College into the company of her fellow professors from Columbia University, Barnard College, Clemson University, Mount Holyoke College, University of Southern California, Fordham University, University of Virginia, Claremont Graduate University and Princeton University.

The anthology is expected to become the definitive text for undergraduate literary studies in the field of British literature.



Professor Richard Gaffney, Chair of Wagner's Fine & Performing Arts Faculty dies suddenly at 63

The campus community was stunned last September upon learning of the sudden and unexpected death of one of its most senior faculty statesmen, Professor Richard Gaffney. He died in his sleep on Tuesday, September 22, not long after the beginning of the fall semester. While having a history of heart trouble in recent years, including bypass surgery, "Gaff", as he was affectionately known to his colleagues and friends, appeared in every way to be in robust health as his passion for outdoor sports affirmed. Professor Gaffney joined the Wagner faculty in 1966 and for decades had played a leadership role in faculty affairs. President Smith noted that he was one of two faculty representatives to the 1988 Presidential Search Committee that had selected him. Subsequently, he served on several committees to select other senior officers including two Provost Search Committees during the last decade. Gaff's art was widely displayed on campus. A Penn and Pratt graduate with a master's degree in fine art from NYU, Professor Gaffney worked in many mediums including pen and ink, watercolor, oil and pastels. He was also a printmaker. Among his contributions to the Wagner academic program is a highly regarded arts administration program that has resulted in many important career placements for Wagner graduates.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Ann, his son Walker who has served as an adjunct faculty member at Wagner, his daughter Elizabeth and two grandchildren. His duties at Wagner were assumed by two faculty members. Professor Bill Murphy, who was recruited by Professor Gaffney, oversees the fine arts department and former Provost, Professor Gary Sullivan, assumes responsibility for the Chair of the Fine and Performing Arts Faculties. Memorials for "Gaff" are in the planning stages. "His fingerprints are all over Wagner and they're indelible," observed President Smith at a fall memorial service. "His positive spirit and can-do attitude were infectious and played an important role in the College's many achievements. He was a friend, an important colleague and a great mentor for our undergraduates."



Around campus Around campus Around campus

Upon request, orders made through this announcement can be personally autographed by Dr. Smith

Class notes Class notes Class notes Class notes Class notes

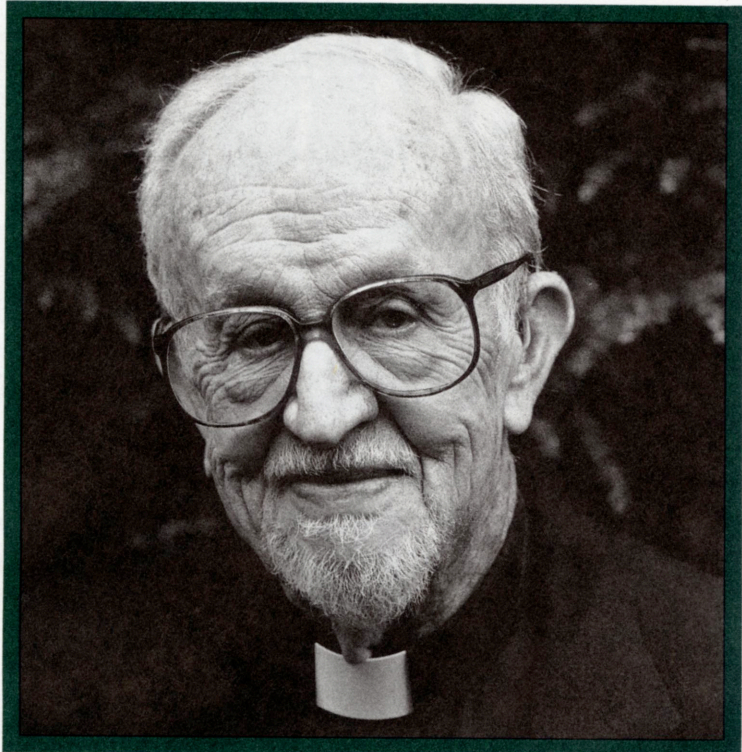
THE CLASS OF 1949'S 50TH YEAR REUNION

THE CLASS OF 1944's 55TH YEAR
THE CLASS OF 1954's 45TH YEAR
THE CLASS OF 1964's 35TH YEAR
THE CLASS OF 1974's 25TH YEAR
THE CLASS OF 1984's 15TH YEAR

The Dedication of the Spiro Sports Center
followed by a Reception & Dinner-Dance in the new Center

**Look for additional information and details in the coming months
or call the Alumni Office at 718-390-3224.**

Theresa Bruno Mehrtens (Staten Island, NY) married Keith in September 1998. She is an actress in the Metropolitan area.

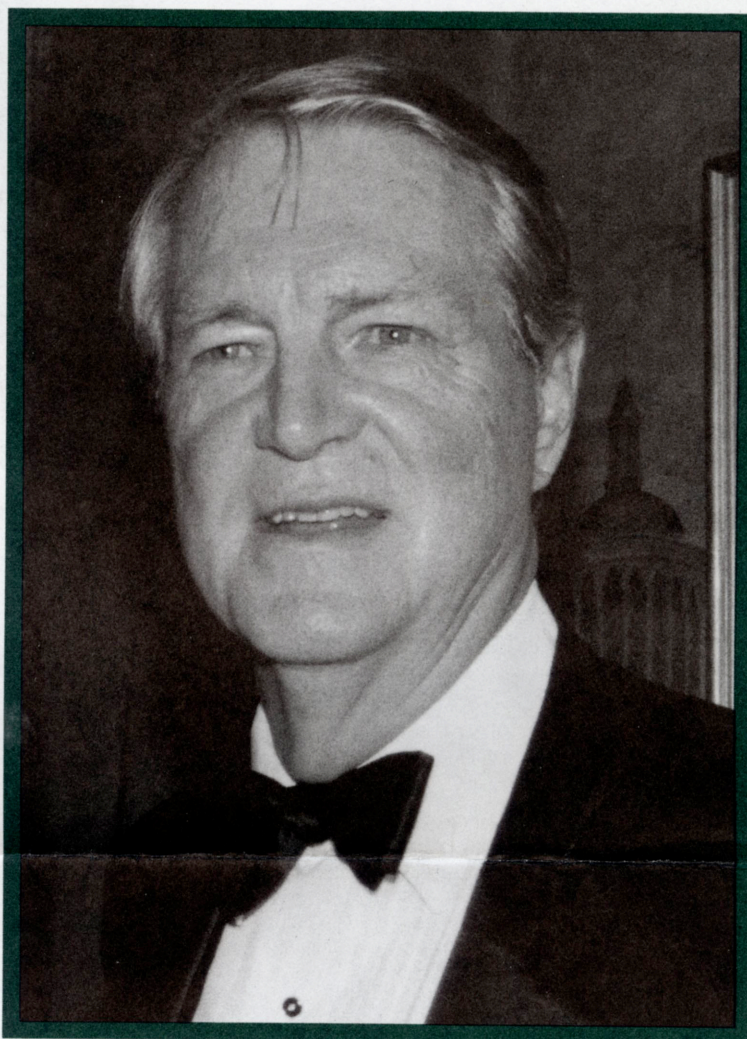


Reverend Carl J. Sutter, Jr.
1907-1998

Son of Wagner's Grymes Hill campus founding father Frederic Sutter, Reverend Carl Sutter, Wagner Class of 1929 and Trustee Emeritus, died last October. He was 91 and had spent his life---except for post-Wagner studies at Princeton and at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia---on Grymes Hill having moved there at 7 months old when his father assumed the pastorate at Trinity Lutheran Church. He later succeeded him as Pastor and remained active as Pastor Emeritus until his death. During his tenure, he oversaw the addition of Trinity Lutheran School. Dr. Sutter served three terms as a trustee of Wagner College and remained an active attendee of Board meetings throughout his life. He was the College's living historian and an important symbol of Wagner's heritage. He is survived by his two sons, Frederic and Carl Richard, three grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

William L. Reynolds
1918-1998

William Reynolds, Wagner College Trustee and member of the Board Executive Committee, died last September at his home on 68th Street in Manhattan. Bill was not a Wagner alumnus, graduating instead from George Washington University Law School after previously having attended the University of Kansas and the University of Chicago. Prior to retirement, his career culminated as President of Litton Industries International. He became involved with Wagner less than 10 years ago when his wife, Dr. Margaret Bambach Buck Reynolds '40, H'98 became active as an alumnae benefactor. In his short time with Wagner, he was a leader in strengthening the College's financial base and its credit rating which rose to a Standard & Poor's AA+ level. With Peggy, Bill was also a leading advocate of the sports center construction and contributed \$1 million to its completion. Bill also bequeathed \$2 million to Wagner College in order to renovate the College Union which will be renamed in his memory and honor.



***Dr. Fran Horn, H'69, former VP
at Wagner and president of several
colleges and universities dies at 91***

Fran Horn, former Executive Vice President of Wagner College who amassed one of the most impressive career histories, and certainly one of the most prolific in higher education leadership died in January at his home on the campus of the University of Rhode Island, one of many institutions where he had been President. Other presidencies included Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, Albertus Magnus College in New Haven and the American University in Beirut. He had also served as President of the New York Council of Independent Colleges and Executive Secretary of the American Association of Higher Education. He had accumulated what many in higher education think may well be the most honorary degrees ever conferred on a college educator including his 1969 honorary doctorate from Wagner College. Last fall, he received final commendation, the rank of Executive Vice President Emeritus of Wagner College, which was conferred upon him at his Rhode Island home by Wagner President and longtime friend, Dr. Norman Smith, and Wagner Vice Provost and also longtime friend, Rev. Lyle Guttu (pictured above). Fran was a frequent visitor to Wagner during the last decade and he was a national cheerleader, and an important one, for the College's recent achievements.

IN MEMORIAM

Ada Arftsen, Benefactor
Richard W. Gaffney, Professor
Dr. Fran Horn, EVP Emeritus
William Reynolds, Trustee
Margaret M. Smith, Staff
Rev. Dr. Carl Sutter '29 H53
Theodore Hoffmeister '30
Joseph Gambin '32
Dr. Michael S. Rapp '34
Herbert Vaughn, Jr. '34
Robert Swartwout '35
Justus Ahrend '36
Rolf E. Danielson '36
Ruth Davies Anstedt '38
Dr. Charles De Groat '38
Hector Perneti '38
Reverend Philip J. Anstedt '39
Henry C. Sondergaard '39
Donald A. Browne '41
Rev. Herbert Gibney '41 H73
Dr. Einar Henriksen '41
Bette Nuss Fauth '42
Dr. Conrad Schroeder '42
Dr. Bradford O. Smith '44
Dr. Frede Mortensen '49
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Donald Tomsuden '50
John P. De Vivo '51

Claire Perlstein Hoffman '51
George C. Sherman, Jr. '51
Edward Armstrong '52
William C. Kummer '52
Frederick A. Schneider '52
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Peter W. Steinmaker '52
Francis Tiner '52
Dr. Donald D. Wilson '52 M57
William V. Farella '53
Philip Shaw '53
Rev. Frederick Frick '54
Faye Zitzkat Frick '55
Juri Liiv '57
Christian S. McCarthy '57
Frank DeTommaso M59
William J. Mitchel, Jr. '59
Joseph P. Robinson '60
Eleanor O'Connor Kobrin '61
Harold E. Merrick M61
Howard M. Reiss '61
Walter Bonk '64
Daniel C. Coughlin '65
Ann De Luca '67 M72
Kevin D. Quinn '72X
Martha E. Housman '80
Albert A. Neste '88
Ajit K. Hira '96
Daniel E. Callahan M96

Two million dollar bequest from William Reynolds estate will be used to renovate Union featuring Louvre-like new entrance

Union will be named Reynolds Union; Improvements scheduled to be underway later this calendar year



Much needed repairs and renovations to the Student Union have been enabled by the estate of William Reynolds, Wagner College Trustee and Executive Committee member. Reynolds, who died last fall, left the College \$2 million. With his wife, Dr. Margaret (Peggy) Reynolds '40, H'98, he had previously donated \$1 million to the construction of the Spiro Sports Center. The renovations will be extensive and will most notably feature the construction of a glass geo-dome over the front entrance (LEFT), similar to the Pei-designed glass pyramid that is the new entrance to the Louvre in Paris. The new entrance (BELOW) has both an aesthetic and functional rationale. Foremost, the building has been leaking because the outer terrace is also the roof over the dining hall. Contractors have advised that the only way to prevent leaking is to enclose the outer terrace.

Other improvements will include bathroom renovations, handicapped-accessible ramps and an elevator. "The Union is probably the one building on campus that almost everyone uses every day since it includes the dining halls and the college bookstore. These renovations are sorely needed and we were unsure how we would

ever be able to get the work done in time," said Dr. Norman Smith. "Bill Reynolds was a strong advocate of making Wagner's facilities a symbol of the institution's excellence. I know he would have wanted to see his donation invested in making the College's facilities more competitive. "The improvements will make the Reynolds Union one of the College's showpiece structures. At night, the lit geo-dome will be as dramatic a structural effect as exists at any college."



Architectural Rendering of
Reynolds Union Renovation

WAGNER *Link*

WAGNER COLLEGE
One Campus Road
Staten Island, New York 10301

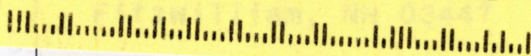
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