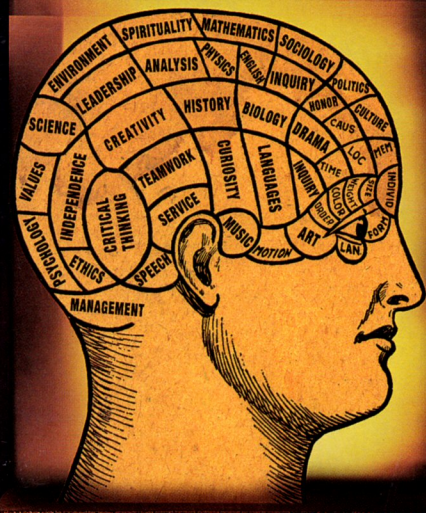


The Link

SPRING
2007

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF WAGNER COLLEGE



MINDS MATTER

How do you take
the measure of a
college education?



The Link
Wagner
College
Magazine

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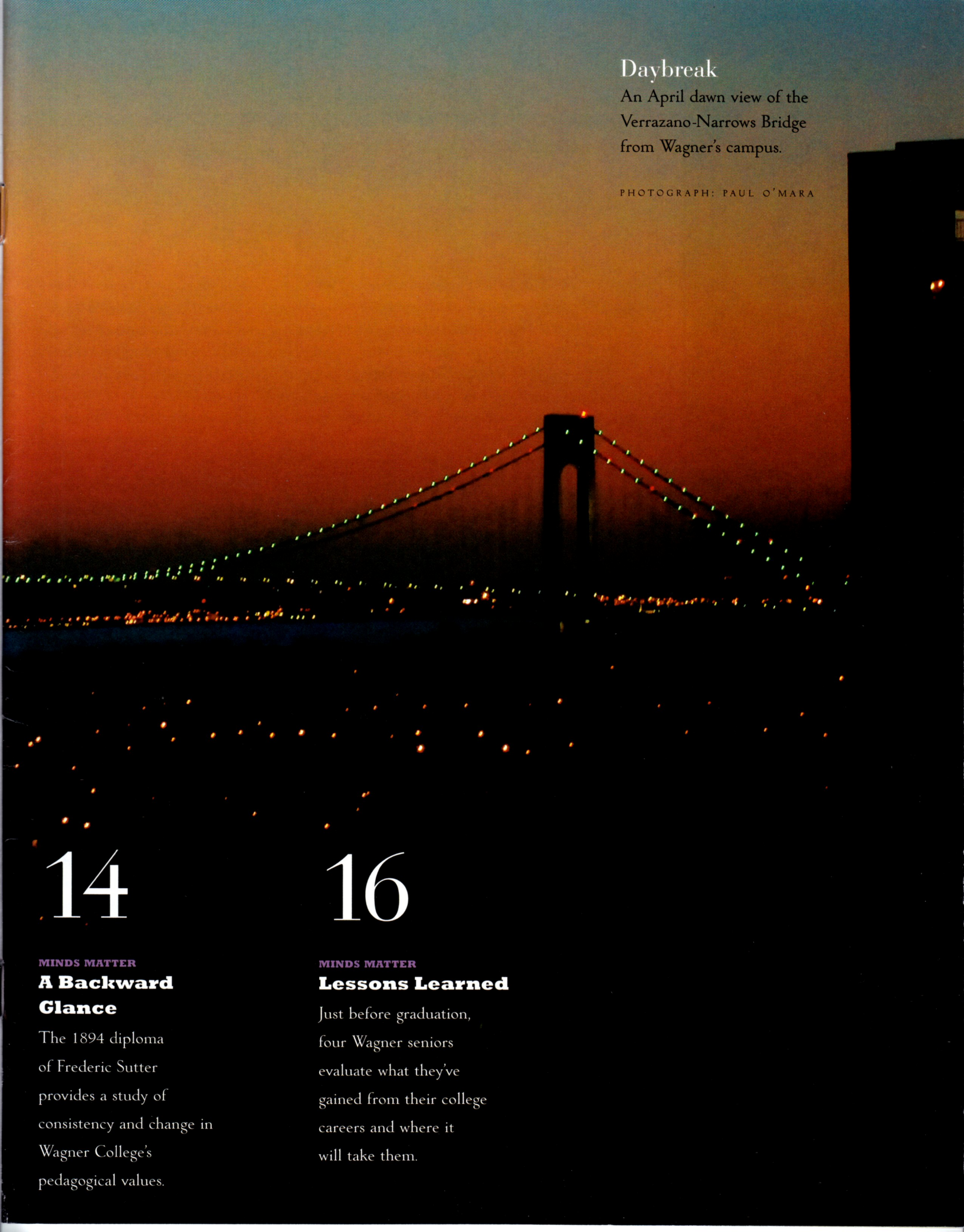
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PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL O'MARA

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The Link

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From the President

The freedom to learn



Liberal arts colleges are uniquely American in character—individualistic, inquisitive, and innovative. Usually founded by religious orders, they avowedly aimed at preparing students for significant and responsible public and private roles necessary to advance our democratic society.

They boast a healthy legacy of achievement in this regard. These colleges and small universities educated many talented scientists, artists, clergy, public officials, institutional leaders, doctors, nurses, and entrepreneurs. By challenging students to think for themselves and to engage ideas foreign to their personal experience, liberal arts colleges supported the independence of mind, spirit, and action so critically important to vibrant democratic cultures and successful economies.

Often these institutions would take detours in the name of new ideas. Sometimes these experiments would prove off the mark, while at other times they led to remarkable advances in science, economics, the arts, and culture. But one fundamental element—the freedom of inquiry, the freedom to learn—has always served as the bedrock of liberal education.

Today, we see a severe challenge to the independence of these important institutions. While rightfully concerned about the issues of affordability, accountability, and access, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings has promised to initiate (without legislation, but through “negotiated rule-making”) a wholesale revision in the long-honored protocols of the regional accreditation agencies, and to replace oversight of educational standards with a more narrowly focused national governmental accreditation process. This radical idea is likely to rob liberal arts colleges of their distinctive personalities in favor of a

national standard that will produce normed mediocrity.

Meanwhile, in the U.S. Senate, legislators are considering proposals to increase student aid and college tax credits in exchange for increased federal regulation over tuition pricing, endowment spending, and other aspects of colleges' prerogatives to chart their own courses in line with their respective, long-held missions.

Private liberal arts colleges have provided the nation with the gold standard of undergraduate learning for over two centuries. Most of the European and developing world is struggling to imitate an educational model that prizes independence, innovation, and unbounded inquiry. Reform is always part of liberal education—curriculums change to accommodate new theories of learning, new technologies, and new ways of making college accessible. Like all service providers, colleges are exposed to spiraling costs in health care, utilities, employee compensation, deferred maintenance, and new technology. Federal price controls, regulations, and other centralized governmental requirements seem counter to solving the central problems of affordability, access, and accountability. Private education is responding to these issues in its own unique and progressive ways. Robbing this sector of its autonomy will prove inadequate to the task and will likely rob this nation of one of its singular assets.

Liberal arts colleges have achieved a remarkable standard for learning. The American people should challenge them to meet the new realities of access, affordability, and accountability without sacrificing their independence and unique personalities. They will—as they have for over 200 years—successfully respond to the task

RICHARD GUARASCI
PRESIDENT

From the Editor

The gifts of a liberal arts education

During the last gasp of the '80s, I was a brand-new college student at a small, liberal arts institution—an idyllic place, with a compact 100-acre campus of lawns and mature trees and red-brick buildings, just on the outskirts of a major city.

No, I'm not talking about Wagner College; this was Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Georgia, just east of Atlanta's city limits. It was founded by Presbyterians in the late 1880s (just a few years after Wagner) as a "school for young ladies" (these days, "women's college" is the preferred term).

I write this just to say that, although I am a complete newcomer to Wagner College and to New York City, I feel a connection to the educational atmosphere here, where the haven of campus provides a stimulating, yet also homey base for exploring the big city, endless and fascinating and sometimes overwhelming.

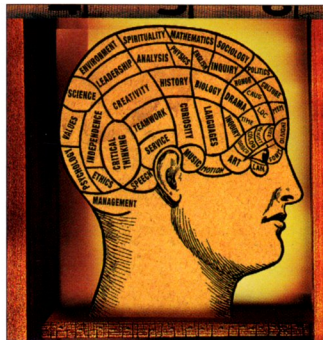
Having been educated in the liberal arts tradition myself, I also feel a kind of missionary zeal about its benefits, even though they stubbornly resist quantification in this age ruled by ratings and standardized measures.

In this issue of *The Link*, we're asking what it means to be a well-educated person. Can you define it and even measure it, as the Bush administration and many other critics of higher education are demanding? By no means do I claim to present any final answers here, and I hope that you will choose to enter this conversation, whether you just discuss it with friends or write us a letter.

I agree with Mr. Rick Sutter, grandson of Wagner founding father Frederic Sutter (see pages 14-15 for more about him), when he cited his father's definition of a well-educated person: One who feels comfortable in any situation and in the company of all types of people.

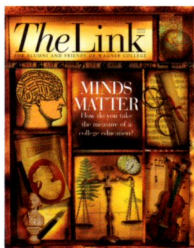
That flexibility is one of the immeasurable gifts of a liberal arts education—one which is standing me in good stead as I learn to live in a new place, with different customs, foods, and even language than those I had known before.

I look forward to getting to know all the people who make up the Wagner community. Please feel free to drop



me a line and share your wishes and ideas for this publication, produced to keep your link to Wagner College alive.

Laura Barlament
EDITOR,
THE LINK



On the cover

Gina Binkley created this illustration using objects that represent aspects of a liberal arts education. The head is inscribed with values and subjects that students are expected to learn at Wagner.

We'd love to hear from you...

The Link magazine welcomes letters from readers. Letters should refer to material published in the magazine and include the writer's full name, address, and telephone number. The editor reserves the right to determine the suitability of letters for publication and to edit them for accuracy and length.

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College & Campus

Learning, teaching, giving and achieving on Grymes Hill and beyond

'A Turning Point'

Alumni couple makes largest single gift ever to Wagner

More than 50 years after leaving Grymes Hill, Michael and Margaret Nicolais continue to give back to the school where they met as students as part of the class of 1949. The most recent example of their generosity is history-making. In April, President Richard Guarasci announced news of the couple's \$10 million gift, the largest single donation ever made to Wagner College. "This," said President Guarasci, "marks a significant turning point for Wagner College."

Mike Nicolais says he likes to think of the gift as an "inflection point," and hopes that it will be the catalyst for even greater support among members of the Wagner community.

Nicolais said he and Margaret decided to make a significant gift now because they are convinced that Wagner is doing well and continuing to improve.

"The school has come a long way," he said, referring to the institution's economic challenges of the '80s. "I think President Richard Guarasci is the right man for the job, and he and his staff are doing the right things. Though I believe I got a very good education from Wagner, which prepared me well, I believe that it is even better today. What I am saying is that we have the makings for becoming one of the top-notch educational institutions in the country, and I want to help it

move in that direction."

Characteristically, Nicolais is modest about his contributions to Wagner and cites classmate Donald Spiro as one whose earlier gifts helped to stabilize the school in difficult times. "Don and his cohorts really deserve credit," says Nicolais.

Six weeks after graduating from Wagner in 1949, Mike Nicolais joined The Clark Estates, Inc., a financial and business management company located in the Wall Street area and named for Edward C. Clark,

founder of the Singer Sewing Machine Company. He retired from Clark in 1991 after serving 42 years, the last 23 as president.

Previously, the Nicolais donated \$2.5 million to Wagner College to fund renovation and expansion of the president's house on Howard Avenue.

Perfecting Democracy

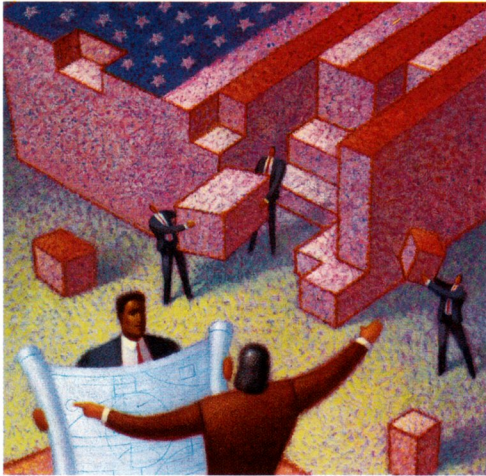
Lachman to lead government reform center

Former New York Governor Hugh Carey has agreed to lend his name to a center for government reform that will be established at Wagner College in the fall of this year.

The Hugh L. Carey Center for Government Reform is the brainchild of Seymour Lachman, distinguished professor in residence at Wagner College. Elected five times to the New York State Senate, Lachman is perhaps best known for his critically acclaimed 2006 book *Three Men in a Room*, which



GIVING BACK:
Margaret and Michael Nicolais '49



exposed government dysfunction in Albany. Lachman proposed the center as a way to make permanent and ongoing the work he began with his book.

"Winston Churchill once said that democracy is the worst form of government, except all the other alternatives," says Lachman. Nevertheless, Lachman believes that New York and other states need to work on perfecting the democratic process of governance.

Specifically, Lachman hopes the new center will begin to address what he and others (similar work is being done at the Brennan Center for Justice at the New York University School of Law) see as major problems in state government, including the budget process, lack of accountability and transparency, redistricting procedures designed to favor incumbents, ineffective oversight of lobbying, and control of the legislative agenda by the assembly speaker and the senate majority leader rather than by uniform rules.

In the center's inaugural year, Lachman is planning a major symposium, talks by distinguished lecturers who are seeking to reform state government, and the production of two monographs.

Lachman will also begin work on a memoir of Gov. Carey's efforts to prevent New York City from sinking into bankruptcy during the mid-1970s. That work, Lachman says, likely prevented similar crises in the state and federal governments, and was one of the greatest examples of economic reform ever enacted within the 50 states.

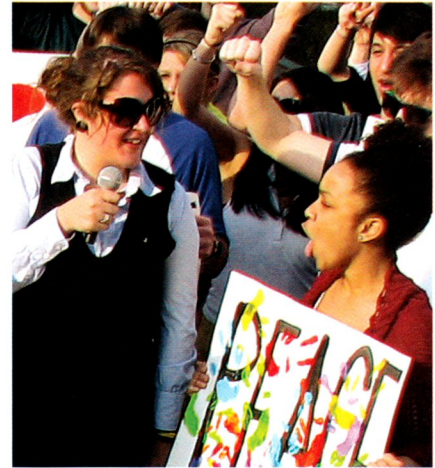
Initial funding for the Hugh L. Carey Center for Government Reform was provided by distinguished Staten Island resident, businessman, and philanthropist Jerry Berg, while additional major support has been provided by friends and associates of Gov. Carey.

Another Day, Another Play

Wagner students part of international debut

In March, Wagner students took to the streets as part of the international theatrical project *365 Days/365 Plays* by Suzan-Lori Parks. Featuring one play for each day of the year, *365 Days/365 Plays* is being premiered by theaters and universities

around the nation and the world. Each group performs one week's worth of the play cycle. In this photograph, Wagner College actors stage an antiwar protest in *More of the Same*, directed by Trisha

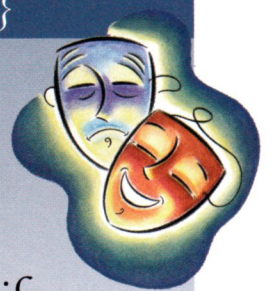


Arnold '06. *365 Days* continues until November; for more information, visit www.365days365plays.com.

{ QUOTE / UNQUOTE }

“The first time I got on stage as Petruchio, I knew that acting would be my life.

But I couldn't tell my Papa!”



~Actor Robert Loggia '51, who started acting at Wagner College in Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*; from a master class on campus on April 16. See story, page 20.

Culture and Conflict

Global travels impact students

For the second year this January, Wagner's Expanding Your Horizons program sent faculty and students around the globe for educational, cultural, humanitarian, and religious encounters in foreign lands. This year's EYH trips included visits to Israel and the West Bank, Kenya, France, Spain, and Bangladesh.

The European trips exposed students to the cultural riches of Paris and Madrid.

In Kenya, Wagner students worked at an AIDS clinic.

In Bangladesh, they helped monitor the levels of arsenic in rural wells.

In Israel, they encountered for themselves one of the defining conflicts of the past century: the Jewish struggle to establish the modern state of Israel, and the Palestinian quest

to form their own homeland.

That trip included visits to Jerusalem, Masada, Bethlehem, the security barrier between Israel and the West Bank, the Sea of Galilee, Nazareth, and Tel Aviv.

Part of the trip's impact came from the group's encounters with the *mélange* of

cultures represented in Israel and the West Bank.

"It was almost overwhelming," said Alex Jacobs, a senior English major, "this layer upon layer of history, of religion, of culture."

The group also encountered the conflicts—and the struggles toward reconciliation—

that characterize the social and political environment of the Middle East.

"All three religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—coexist within a stone's throw of one another," said Kimberlea Karper '09, "which I guess is evidence of God's sense of humor."

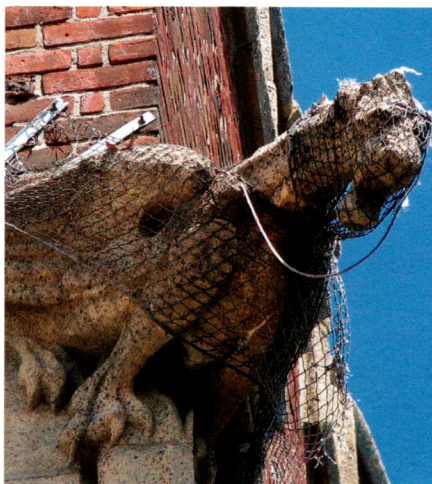
Angela Kahres, a senior English major, particularly wanted to experience the Israeli-Palestinian conflict "in context, not just as something we see on the 11 o'clock news."

One of her most memorable encounters was the Wagner group's visit with members of Seeds of Peace, an organization that brings Israeli and Palestinian young people together to learn the skills of healing their lands and peoples.

"These were people who had been raised to hate one another, to want nothing more than to kill one another," Kahres said, "and they were learning how to talk to one another."



IN THE RUINS of the ancient synagogue of Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee, students who traveled to Israel with Wagner's Expanding Your Horizons program: (back) DeAnna Bay '10, Angela Kahres '07, Lindsay Lucas '08, Kimberlea Karper '09, Katharine Dodd '09; (front) Alexandra Jacobs '07, Stephanie Burnett '09.



That's No Butterfly

Main Hall gargoyles stabilized for restoration

The Board of Trustees recently authorized several important physical-plant improvement projects. A major exterior renovation of Main Hall, Wagner's signature 1929 building, is one of the more obvious ones. Other critical campus updates include the installation of sprinklers in Harborview Hall and renovation of a chemistry lab in Megerle Hall. With these and other improvements, Wagner will have completed \$10 million in projects for campus enhancements within two years.



THIS SPRING AT the Horrmann Library gallery, Marilyn Kiss exhibited photos from her travels in the Spanish-speaking world during her Wagner sabbaticals. Shown here is "Charango Player" from Cuzco, Peru.

World Citizen

Marilyn Kiss receives ODK award

Wagner's chapter of the national leadership honor society Omicron Delta Kappa this spring presented its annual faculty award to Marilyn Kiss, associate professor of modern

languages and director of the study abroad program.

"I have never gone to work a day in my life," said Kiss in her acceptance address. "I have always gone to school. ...The classroom is a place I love, a space where learning occurs, where young people blossom. It is a space I cherish."

Raised in Kirksville, Missouri, and educated at the University of Missouri, Columbia University, the Middlebury Graduate School of Spanish, and Rutgers University, Kiss taught junior and senior high school Spanish for 18 years before beginning her college teaching career at Illinois State University. She joined the Wagner College faculty in 1989. Initially, Kiss taught courses in language methods for future Spanish teachers, in addition to serving as Wagner's only full-time professor in modern languages. (Today, there are four.)

"Of all the courses I have ever taught, watching future teachers develop their confidence and teaching styles gave me the most satisfaction," she said. "It seemed to fulfill the need to 'pass on the passion,' a definition of teaching that truly explains what it is one wants to do in a classroom setting. It doesn't happen all the time, but when it does, it is magical."

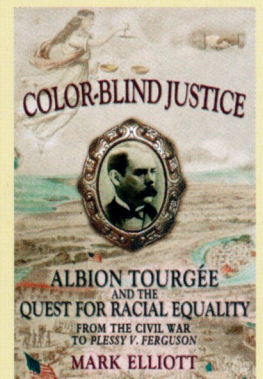
Kiss also spoke about her love of travel, which has found expression in her work with the study abroad program. "I want students to study abroad because it is a transformative experience," Kiss said. "I wish it were a requirement for every college student. I love to speak with students who have returned from programs abroad and learn that the experience has indeed converted them into citizens of the world."

History professor's first book wins national award

Mark Elliott, assistant professor of history, received the 2007 Avery O. Craven Award from the Organization of American Historians for his study of an almost-forgotten early crusader for civil rights: *Color-Blind Justice: Albion Tourgée and the Quest for Racial Equality from the Civil War to Plessy v. Ferguson* (Oxford University Press, 2006)

The Craven Award, created in 1985, is given each year for "the most original book on the coming of the Civil War, the Civil War years, or the Era of Reconstruction."

Albion Tourgée served as a judge in post-Civil War North Carolina. In the 1890s, he was lead counsel on the losing side of *Plessy v. Ferguson*, the infamous U.S. Supreme Court case that provided the legal basis for more than half a century of segregation in the United States. Tourgée argued for "color-blind justice"—a phrase he coined—yet his case was struck down as the Supreme Court established the doctrine of "separate but equal."



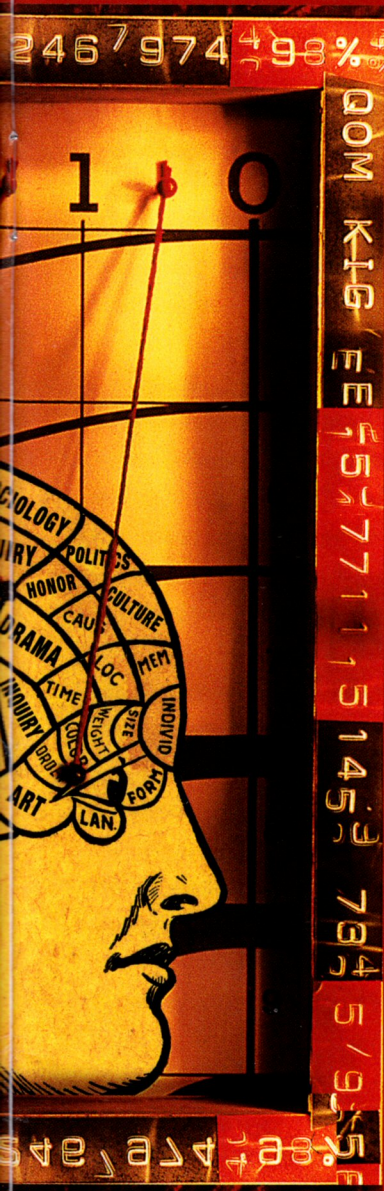
MINDS MATTER

What does it mean to be a well-educated person? Can you define it? Can you measure it? And how do we know that colleges and universities are providing the kind of education that students need? The U.S. Department of Education has lately been asking some probing questions like those. In the following stories, we review that work and find out what people in the Wagner community think about it. We look back at what a Wagner education has meant in the past. Finally, we present a few of Wagner's newest alumni and find out what they've experienced and learned. We hope these stories will cause you to reflect on what education has meant to your life, whether you can put a number on it or not.



*Minds
Matter*

No College Left Behind



College mind

Wagner College has a beautiful campus overlooking New York City. Its faculty members are distinguished in their fields. Its endowment has grown tenfold over the last five years. Its incoming students have high SAT scores.

Can standardized measures tell America whether its colleges and universities are actually teaching anything?
By Lee Manchester

The school's innovative curriculum, and especially its First-Year Program, has been widely praised

in the world of higher education. • But how do we know that Wagner College students are actually learning anything? • That's the question which, on a much broader scale, President George Bush's Education Department has been asking for the last two years: How do policymakers, employers, parents, students, and the public at large know that America's multi-billion-dollar investment in higher education is producing satisfactory results?



The body asking the question is the Commission on the Future of Higher Education, a group convened by U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings. Commonly referred to as the Spellings Commission, it issued its final set of recommendations, known as the Spellings Report, in September 2006.

The commission reported some alarming findings about the state of American higher education (see sidebar, “What’s Broken?”), similar to the issues that led the Bush administration to propose the No Child Left Behind Act for reforming American elementary and secondary education.

Like NCLB, the Spellings Report’s most controversial proposal for reforming higher education is a stepped-up emphasis on measurable, verifiable results:

To meet the challenges of the 21st century, higher education must change from a system primarily based on reputation to one based on performance.

We urge the creation of a robust culture of accountability and transparency throughout higher education. Every one of our goals, from improving access and affordability to enhancing quality and innovation, will be more easily achieved if higher education institutions embrace and implement serious accountability measures.

To achieve this transformation, the commission offered several recommendations, including creating a “consumer-



Secretary Margaret Spellings wants to reform higher education by stepping up the emphasis on measurable, verifiable results.

friendly information database on higher education with useful, reliable information on institutions”; calling on postsecondary educational institutions to “measure and report meaningful student learning outcomes”; and suggesting that the agencies that accredit these institutions “should make performance outcomes, including completion rates and student learning, the core of their assessment.”

Early in the Spellings Commission’s proceedings, according to a September 1 article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, Chairman Charles Miller went so far as to suggest that “the commission might propose tying an institution’s eligibility for federal student aid to standardized testing.”

Why standardized testing? Why not rely on the college accreditation system to ensure quality?

Because, according to the Education Department, the accrediting agencies are themselves creatures of the very colleges and universities they oversee.

“This is not to suggest that institutions [of higher learning] are ignorant of or antagonistic toward the public purposes of accreditation,” writes Education Department official Robert C. Dickeson in a Spellings Commission issue paper on accreditation reform. “But a system that is created, maintained, paid for, and governed by institutions is necessarily more likely to look out for institutional interests.”

Reaction was strong to the possibility of some sort of federalized accreditation system.

In a July 3 opinion piece published on the *Inside Higher Ed* news Web site, Bernard Fryshman, executive vice president of the Association of Advanced Rabbinical and Talmudic Schools’ Accreditation Commission, wrote, “A federal accrediting system that is not of the academy itself, that does not enjoy the confidence of the schools being visited, would quickly reduce to a regulatory system, and a regulatory system simply will not work.”

And, while Secretary Spellings repeatedly pledged to accreditors regarding accreditation reform, “We’re going to do it with you, not to you,” many observers felt that the actions of the Education Department said otherwise.

In December, the Education Department barred a small accrediting agency from accrediting new institutions or programs for at least six months. The reason? The agency

had not imposed minimum standards for what students must learn, according to a December 6 article in the *Chronicle*.

At this writing, the Education Department has scheduled one more meeting with accreditors' representatives to hash out new rules for college and university accreditation. Secretary Spellings has said that she wants to have new federal rules in place by the summer of 2008.

Meanwhile, Congress is working through a reauthorization of the Higher Education Act this year. Members of Congress have signaled that they are watching the department's moves on accreditation and the Spellings Commission's agenda closely, and warned department leaders not to overstep their bounds.

In the meantime, what effect do these issues of educational quality, accountability, and choice have on Wagner College's curriculum, faculty, students, parents, and administrators? How do Wagner College faculty and administrators answer the Spellings Commission's questions, and how do they react to its proposals?

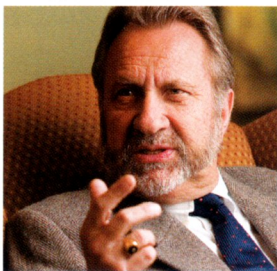
The following interviews will give you a snapshot of thoughts and reactions from the Wagner College community.

'Look at the Mulch'

In Secretary Spellings' public talks about her ideas for reforming higher education, she often relates her own experiences selecting a college for her daughter. By her own admission, comparing colleges was a confusing and difficult process.

In light of Secretary Spellings' complaints, we talked with Walter Kaelber, a professor of religion at Wagner and the author of a recent article in the magazine *Liberal Education* about his experience as the father of a new college student. With the special insight of a longtime faculty member, how did he navigate the college selection process?

Kaelber: First of all, I found that the most important step in choosing a college or university was the campus visit. But first, we narrowed down our choices by answering questions such as, What major do you want to pursue? Do you want a small college with an emphasis on teaching? Do you want a large university with an almost countless number of special-



You have to talk to the students; there's no substitute for that. No chart, no statistic is ever going to replace that.

WALTER KAELBER

ized majors? Do you want to live close to home, or far away? What extracurricular activities are important to you? We used college guides to help us find places that met our criteria.

After this preliminary research came the campus visits. Most colleges are more than thrilled to have you on campus. Take the tours. Speak with professors if they're available. Take any opportunities that the school offers your son or daughter to visit classes or even to stay overnight in a dorm. Most of all, speak with students.

When I was considering schools for my daughter, I'd go into the student union, get myself a cup of coffee, sit near some students who were talking, and just listen. After an hour, I knew an awful lot about that school.

Of course I also looked at the condition of the buildings. I checked out the endowment and the faculty-to-student ratio. I even looked at the mulch. Invariably, if a school is not doing so well, they will start cutting corners someplace, and mulch is a place where they might start.

In sum, you have to go to the school, and you and your son or daughter have to get a viscerally good response to this place. You have to ask yourself, "Do I want to spend four years of my life here?"

And you have to talk to the students; there's no substitute for that. No chart, no statistic is ever going to replace that.

'Learning is Lifelong'

To get the perspective of Wagner faculty on the Spellings Commission and its recommendations, we talked with a panel of four Wagner faculty members about standardized tests, college accountability, and what it means to be "well-educated."

What's broken?

From an issue paper by the U.S. Department of Education, here are some findings that point to problems with postsecondary education in the U.S.:

- Among the 30 member nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the United States ranks seventh in the percentage of citizens who enter postsecondary education and then complete a bachelor's degree or postgraduate program.
- While the percentage of students entering higher education has increased 20 percent in 20 years, the number graduating has risen only three percent.
- College costs are rising faster than family income.
- In the most recent National Assessment of Adult Literacy, less than a third of college graduates could demonstrate an ability to read complex tests and make complicated inferences. Just 25 percent of college graduates scored high enough to be deemed "proficient" from a literacy standpoint. These rates have declined over the past decade.

To find the full text of this report ("Accountability/Assessment" by Charles Miller and Geri Malandra) and of the full Spellings Report ("A Test of Leadership: Charting the Future of U.S. Higher Education"), go to www.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/hiedfuture/.

MINDS MATTER



Our panelists were Mohammad Alauddin, professor of chemistry; Mapy Chavez-Brown, assistant professor of education; Marilyn Kiss, associate professor of languages; and Jennifer Toth, assistant professor of art.

Alauddin: An educated person is someone who recognizes that learning is a lifelong process. Getting a Ph.D. is not the end—it is just the beginning. [In college,] your advisor will give you the tools with which to navigate, but a good advisor will not tell you where to go with them. Once you get those tools, you can go out on the ocean and go anywhere you want to go.

Kiss: Standardized tests look at education as something finite that ends the moment you get your degree, instead of the creation of habits of the mind and curiosity and inquiry that you can apply to the rest of your life.

Chavez-Brown: I think it's important to introduce some accountability to higher education. It never made sense



It never made sense to me, as a teacher, that if my students failed, I wasn't being held responsible.

MAPY CHAVEZ-BROWN

to me, as a teacher, that if my students failed, I wasn't being held responsible. It was always, "Oh, they didn't study hard enough; it was all their fault, not mine."

Toth: I would hope that, in large part, any measure of learning we used would test the accumulation of skills, not just facts.

Kiss: What I'm concerned about is that, with the kind of standardized tests they've

introduced for K-12, schools start teaching to the test instead of allowing for inquiry, curiosity, and creativity. You can't "pass on the passion" for daily learning and lifelong inquiry if you're teaching to a standardized test.

At the college level, with regional accreditation, specialized accreditation, the CLA, the NSSE, GREs, MCATs, LSATs, I think we're testing our students to death! I had one student tell me that he felt like he was taking a never-ending SAT!



I think we're testing our students to death! I had one student tell me that he felt like he was taking a never-ending SAT!

MARILYN KISS

Another measure of learning that takes a lot more time to evaluate but that may be a broader measure is the portfolio. It shows added value if you can compare something a student wrote as a freshman and to something he or she wrote as a senior.

'A Sea Change in Higher Education'

Finally, we talked with Wagner College President Richard Guarasci about the Spellings Report and what Wagner is already doing to determine how much its students are learning.

We began by asking Guarasci his thoughts on the Spellings Commission's concern about increasing the accountability of American higher education.

Guarasci: I have no doubt that there has been a sea change in higher education. Understanding your responsibilities, being accountable, assessing the value of what you provide—I think that's a very healthy thing.

The question is how to do that in a way that captures the

An Alternative

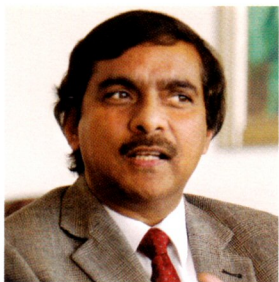
What do students need to know?

There are many voices in the national conversation on how to shape higher education. In January, the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U), an organization with more than 1,000 member institutions, released its own blueprint for learning in the 21st century. Based on a multi-year dialogue with colleges and universities, alumni and business leaders, the "College Learning for the New Global Century" report outlines essential outcomes in four key areas:

- Knowledge of human cultures and of the physical and natural world tops the list of AAC&U's desired outcomes. The report recommends study in the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities, languages, and the arts, with a focus on the big questions addressed by each discipline.

richness and texture of learning, and does not just reduce it to a test and a number. Everybody wants to have a number—is this a 10 school, a 9 school, an 8 school, a 7 school? That's not going to work. It's like medicine; you don't reduce the quality of your operation to a number.

There are ways to measure if a student is learning. For instance, there's the Collegiate Learning Assessment. We were among the first colleges to take it; it just started two years ago. The CLA attempts to measure learning in critical thinking and writing. They have a regression analysis, where they look at your SAT scores and project what performance should be two, three, and four years out. Then they look at where your students are and ask, Are they where they are supposed to be? Do



Your advisor will give you the tools with which to navigate, but a good advisor will not tell you where to go with them.

MOHAMMAD ALAUDDIN

they go above their expected growth pattern?

Then there are self-reported tests of different levels of engagement, like the NSSE [National Survey of Student Engagement]. Statistically, there's a close correlation between student engagement and learning. We've participated in the NSSE now for a number of years.

We do a third thing, what's called portfolio analysis. When we started the First-Year Program, we started to track the written work of a selected group of students. There's a group of faculty who, during the summer, read all of these students' assignments from the last year and look at how much growth has taken place—the ability to form an argument, the use of evidence, their articulation in terms of writing skills, their ability to be persuasive, to be grammatically correct. They continue the analysis after the students' sophomore and senior years.

The purpose is to measure their actual learning in terms of writing and thinking.

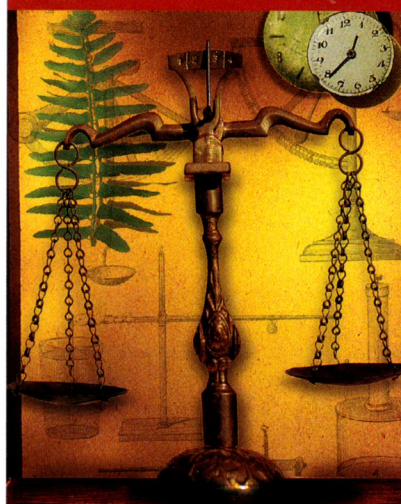
Was the Spellings Commission a good thing or a bad thing? Probably, like all government commissions, it started with a more noble intention than higher education gave it credit for. Why is higher education so costly? What about access? And accountability?

But, the big debate comes over whether we are going to federalize accreditation. Is government going to become involved in reforms that could be better encouraged in other ways? That's the point that many in higher education are stressing.



I would hope that, in large part, any measure of learning we used would test the accumulation of skills, not just facts.

JENNIFER TOTH



What do you think?

What are your thoughts about America's higher education system, the Spellings Commission and its recommendations, and Wagner College's place in these discussions? What makes a person "educated" and a college "successful"? Are these qualities quantifiable?

Send us your thoughts. Write to:
Laura Barlament
Editor, The Link
Reynolds House
Wagner College
1 Campus Road
Staten Island, NY 10301

Or e-mail:
laura.barlament@wagner.edu

We appreciate all letters. The editor reserves the right to determine the suitability of letters for publication and to edit them for accuracy and length.

Active View

- Intellectual and practical skills that include inquiry, analysis, critical and creative thinking, and written and oral communication should be practiced extensively across the curriculum.
- Personal and social responsibility—including civic knowledge and engagement, intercultural knowledge, and ethical reasoning—should be promoted through active involvement with diverse communities and real-world challenges.
- Integrative learning rounds out the list. Students demonstrate this outcome by applying their knowledge, skills, and responsibilities to new settings and complex problems—that is, by drawing connections from the classroom to the boardroom and beyond.

Of particular interest to the Wagner community is that the report holds up the college and its innovative curriculum as a prime example of these principles in practice. According to the report, "The practical liberal arts are deeply embedded in Wagner's prize-winning college curriculum."

MINDS MATTER



A BACKWARD GLANCE

The diploma of
Wagner founding father
Frederic Sutter

Historically, each age has formulated its own answer to the question, “What makes a well-educated person?” Just look at this document: the 1894 diploma of Friedrich (i.e., Frederic) Sutter—one of the college’s first graduates, who later became the force behind its move from Rochester, New York, to its current location on Staten Island, and its development into a liberal arts college.

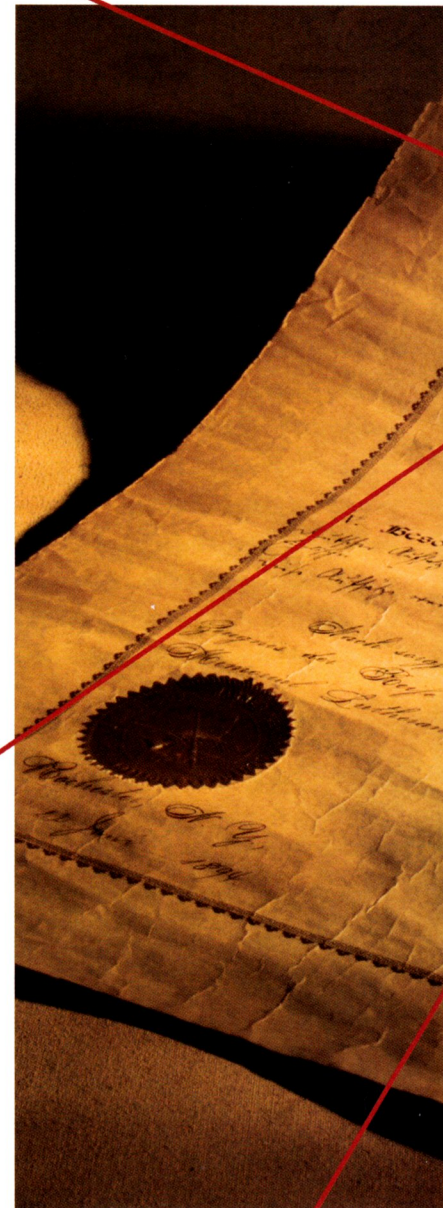


Star Student:

Friedrich (Frederic) Sutter was born in Stambach, Germany, on February 26, 1875, and moved to the United States during his childhood. He attended Wagner from October 12, 1888, until June 22, 1894—at that time, the college offered a six-year course of study. In 1897, he graduated from Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia and was ordained by the New York Ministerium. He was called to the German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Stapleton (later Trinity Lutheran Church), Staten Island, in 1907.

Ethical Standards:

Wagner College has always existed not only to educate its students in intellectual pursuits but also to mold them as people. Today, the college emphasizes “leadership” and “citizenship”; in 1894, Sutter received marks for “comportment” (I. *Betragen*) and “diligence” (II. *Fleiss*) as well as for academic knowledge (III. *Kenntnisse*).



Writing Requirements:

On June 18 and 19, 1894, Sutter completed two essays: one in German on the topic “Mohammad and His Life,” and one in English on the topic “John Milton.” Today, Wagner’s writing requirements are incorporated into students’ general-education coursework.

Why 'Wagner'?

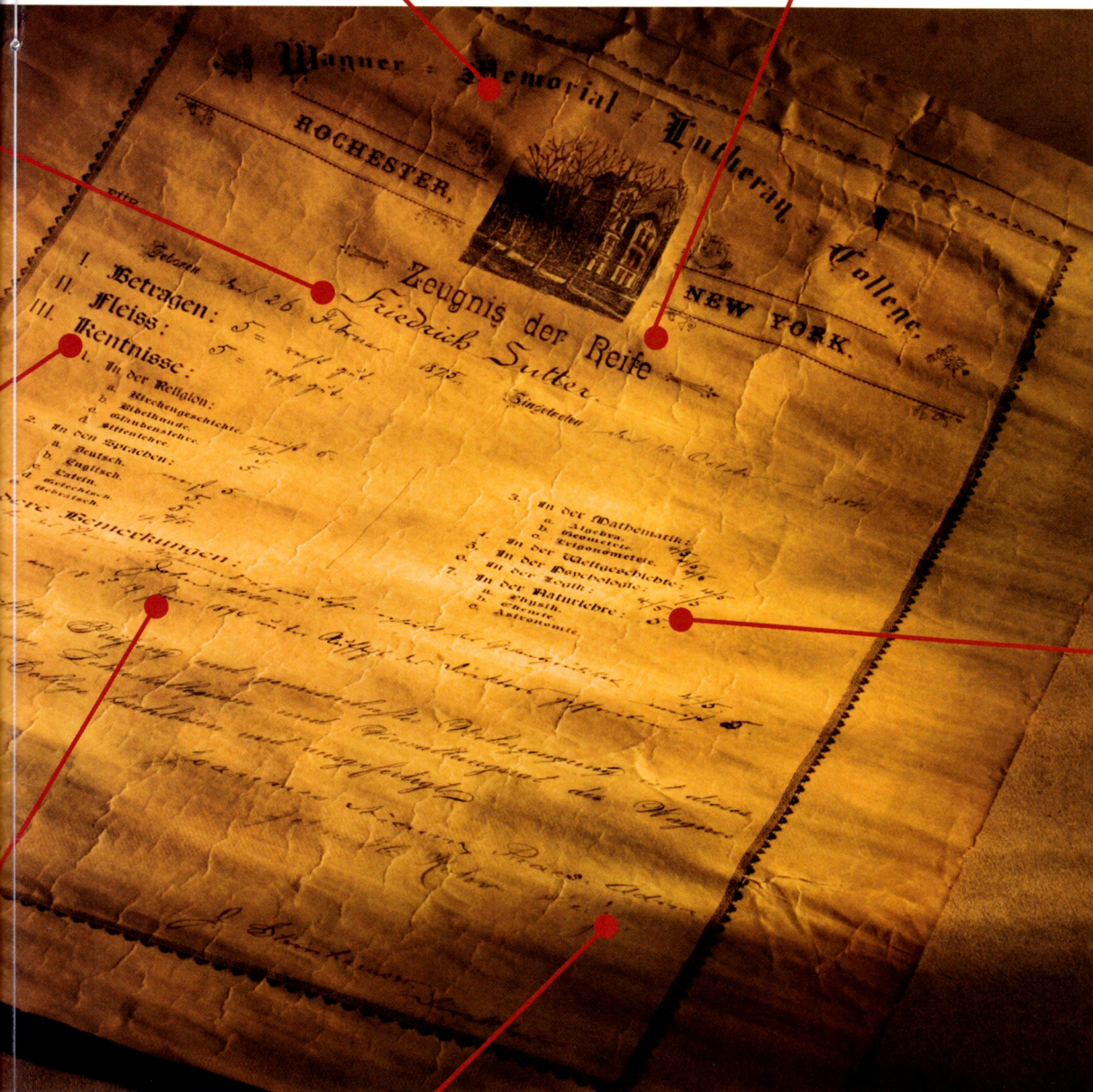
Founded in Rochester, New York, in 1883 as the Lutheran Proseminary, the college was re-named Wagner Memorial Lutheran College shortly thereafter. The

name memorializes George Wagner, a student who died before realizing his ambition of becoming a minister. His parents gave \$12,000 to provide the college with a new building.

German Heritage:

Reflecting the culture of early Wagner College, this diploma (*Zeugnis der Reife*) is in German. Wagner was founded to train ministers for the Lutheran church,

which was born of the reform efforts of Martin Luther in 16th-century Germany. Late 19th-century Rochester had a flourishing German population, with its own schools, churches, and other cultural institutions. In fact, Germans were coming in such large numbers that in 1883—the same year that Wagner College was founded—Rochester German-Americans established an immigrant aid society. The German educational model continued at Wagner until it moved to Staten Island in 1918. Frederic Sutter was instrumental in guiding both the college and his congregation into adopting English and becoming fully integrated into American society.



Academic Standards:

Sutter received good marks in seven major disciplines: religion (including church history, Bible, theology, and ethics), languages (German, English, Latin, Greek, and Hebrew), mathematics (algebra, geometry, and trigonometry), world history, psychology, logic, and the natural sciences (physics, chemistry, and astronomy). Today, Wagner College requires students to complete 12 to 18 units in a major course of study as well as five categories of general education requirements: Foundations (writing, mathematics, speech, and computer science), Intercultural Understanding, Reflective Tutorials, Learning Communities, and Disciplinary Perspectives (humanities, social sciences, sciences, and arts).

Authorization:

The signatures read, "Jo[h]annes Nicum Praes. Adm." (John Nicum was chief executive of Wagner, 1894-1904), "John H. Rohr Sec'y," and "J. Steinhauser, Direktor" (Jacob Steinhauser was chief executive of Wagner, 1888-1894).

Lessons Lea

MINDS MATTER



The future of Wagner College—and of our world—lies in the hands of today’s college graduates. Just before commencement, *The Link* asked four outstanding seniors what they learned at Wagner, what led them into the fields of study and work they have chosen, and what they consider to be a “well-educated person.”

Molly Judge

College is about creating yourself.

HOMETOWN: Green Bay, Wisconsin

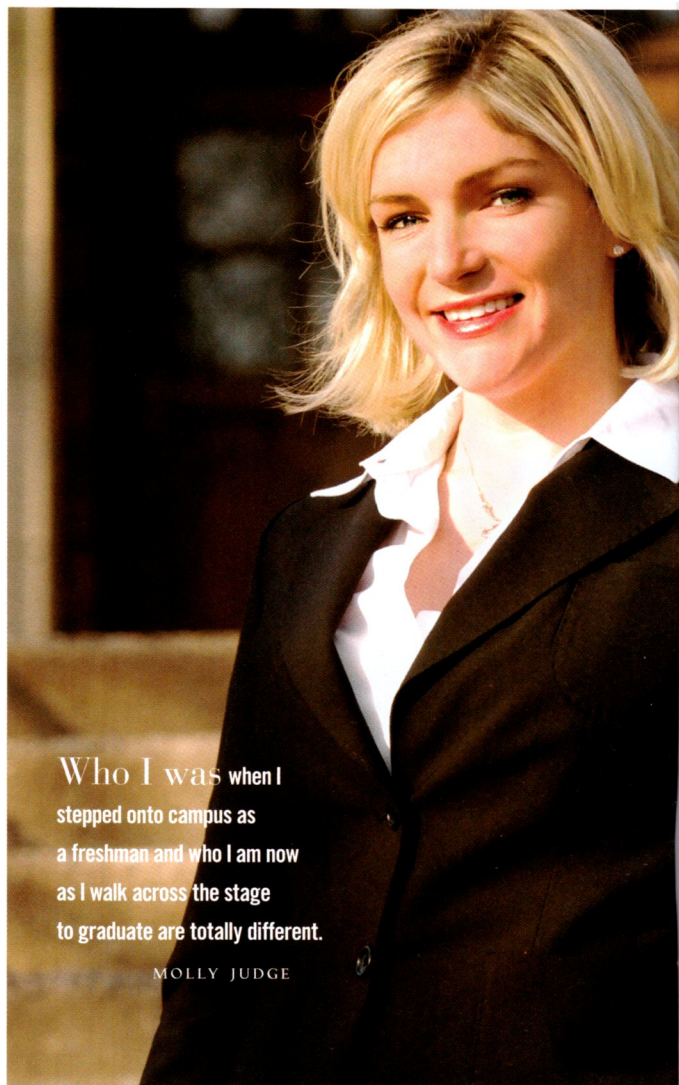
MAJOR: English, with a minor in journalism

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT: Member of the women’s volleyball team, writer for *The Wagnerian*, assistant director of the Writing Center, president of the national English honor society Sigma Tau Delta

PLANS FOR AFTER GRADUATION: I’m pursuing work in broadcast journalism or entertainment PR, and I accepted a job as account coordinator with Coyne Public Relations in Manhattan.

WHAT ATTRACTED ME TO THIS FIELD: Communications has always sparked my interest. I decided to be an English major and journalism minor because I felt that if I mastered my writing skills, I would be able to communicate my thoughts both verbally and in writing in whatever profession I chose. The thrill of being an English major is that, although many people presume I would want to teach, I have no intention of teaching at all, but rather the door is wide open. I can venture into public relations, journalism, media, and even law school. The possibilities are endless!

OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES AT WAGNER: My freshman Learning Community studied the history of New York City, both in



Who I was when I stepped onto campus as a freshman and who I am now as I walk across the stage to graduate are totally different.

MOLLY JUDGE

rmed

Four seniors reflect on their educational experiences at Wagner College



and out of the classroom. Coming from Wisconsin, I was fascinated by city life and loved going on field trips to historical sites as well as tourist attractions. I made a lot of lasting friends in my LC, many of whom were also in my senior LC.

HOW I DEFINE "WELL-EDUCATED": I would describe a well-educated person as someone who is not only well versed in various walks of life, but someone who is articulate and able to communicate with others verbally or through writing in an intellectual fashion.

MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED AT WAGNER: Faculty, staff, and administrators are there to help and guide you; but, to get the most out of college, you must immerse yourself into activities, various groups of friends, and classes. I also learned that you can never plan too far in advance. Lastly, I grew as an independent individual. Who I was when I stepped onto campus as a freshman and who I am now as I walk across the stage to graduate are totally different. College is about creating yourself.

Molly was honored at commencement with the Spiro Award, based on her high academic performance and service to the college.

Chris Allen

Giving back motivates me.

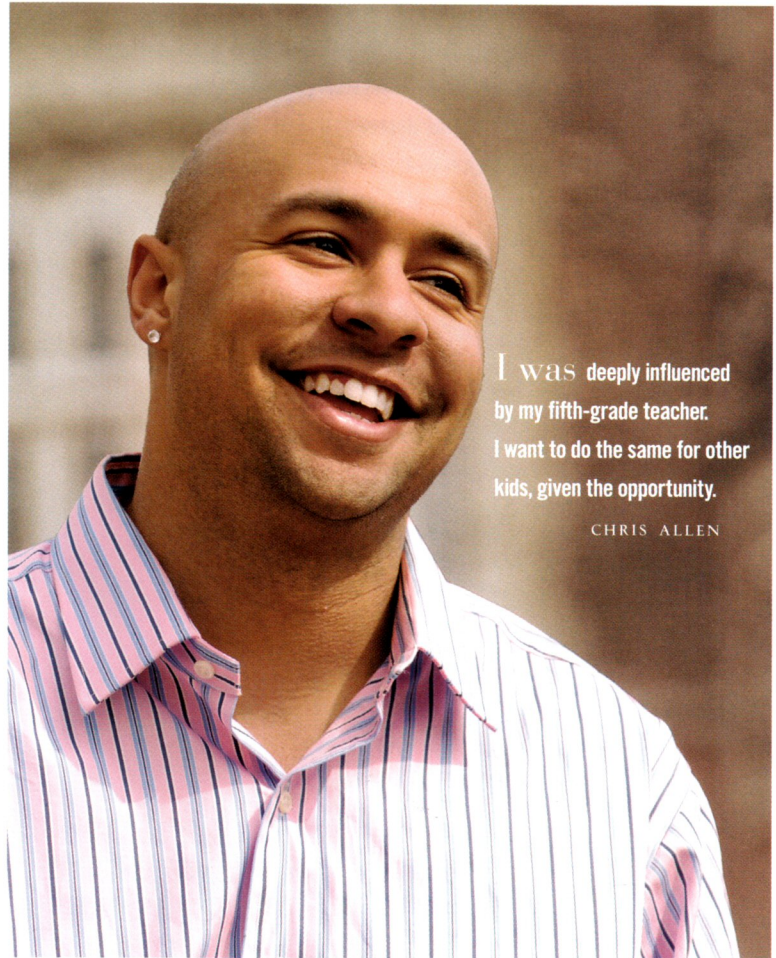
HOMETOWN: Ravenna, Ohio

MAJOR: Natural science and education

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT: Member of the football team and of the team's Leadership Council, vice president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, resident assistant, peer leader for new-student orientation

PLANS FOR AFTER GRADUATION: Furthering my education at Wagner College in the education master's program. I would like to teach science in elementary school, especially in fifth grade.

WHAT ATTRACTED ME TO THIS FIELD: I have



I was deeply influenced by my fifth-grade teacher. I want to do the same for other kids, given the opportunity.

CHRIS ALLEN

close ties to those in the field of education. My grandmother was a home economics teacher, and many family friends are educators as well. I was deeply influenced by my fifth-grade teacher, Mrs. Stikes, who worked alongside my grandmother before her passing. Her influence on my life motivated me to do the same for other kids, given the opportunity. As for science, I have always expressed an interest in this field. I loved to make a mess with baking soda and vinegar as a kid, and jumped at the opportunity to do any experiments.

OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES AT WAGNER: Wagner allowed me to learn in a constructive atmosphere since day one. My freshman

MINDS MATTER



Learning Community introduced me to the different cultures and diverse areas within New York City. Taking trips to areas that actually house the cultures we were studying proved to be very valuable. Any time there was a chance to immerse students in a topic, Wagner took advantage of that opportunity and provided an unforgettable experience.

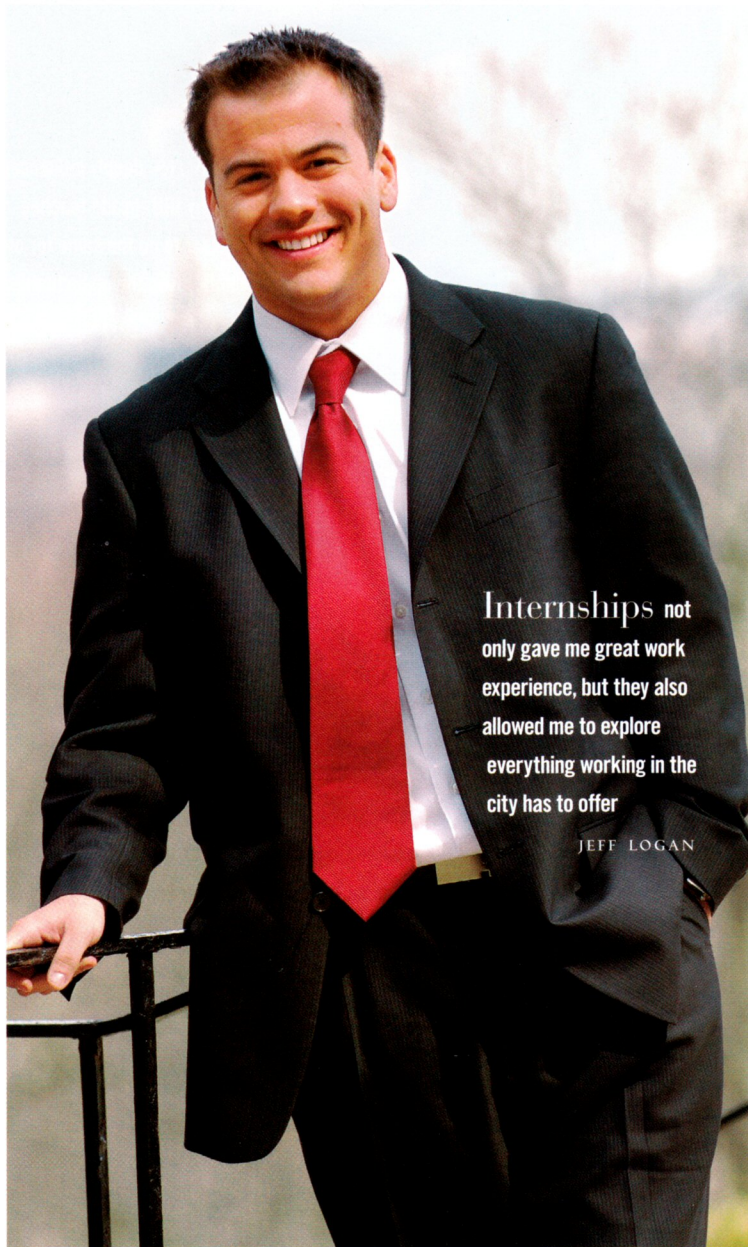
HOW I DEFINE "WELL-EDUCATED": Being an education major, I have studied and used various ways to measure or assess students' progress in understanding and learning. I would describe a well-educated person as someone who makes well-informed decisions and puts their prior

knowledge and experience to everyday use.

MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED AT WAGNER: Once you receive an opportunity, take it without worrying about what others may think of you. I also learned that no matter where a person is from, we all came to school with a common goal: to succeed. Lastly, I learned to be a leader.

Jeff Logan

Wagner gave me a chance to excel.



Internships not only gave me great work experience, but they also allowed me to explore everything working in the city has to offer

JEFF LOGAN

HOMETOWN: Monroe, New Jersey

MAJOR: Business administration, with a concentration in marketing

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT: Student ambassador for the admissions office, secretary of the Student Government Association, resident assistant

PLANS FOR AFTER GRADUATION: I'm pursuing work in health care administration.

WHAT ATTRACTED ME TO THIS FIELD: What attracted me to the business field was the excellent program Wagner offers and the opportunities that lie just across the harbor, in the most economically vibrant city in the world. Wagner has great connections with respected companies. I knew that if I pursued the field of business, I would be able to graduate from Wagner with a bright future.

OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES AT WAGNER: Applying what I learned in the classroom in the outside world. I had the opportunity to intern in New York City with MTV Networks and with the food brokerage Grant Hanson Metro. These internships not only gave me great work experience, but they also allowed me to explore everything working in the city has to offer—getting dressed up, facing the hustle-bustle on the streets during the morning rush, and heading to work in a city where some of the world's best companies are located.

HOW I DEFINE "WELL-EDUCATED": A well-educated person is not just an individual who learns and takes in material from someone of great knowledge, but it is someone who puts forth the time and energy to absorb the information they have learned and apply it to real-life experiences.



After spending a summer in an autistic classroom, I knew that I wanted to better understand this complex disease.

KRISTINA EELLS

WHAT ATTRACTED ME TO THIS FIELD: From the time I took my first biology class in high school, my destiny as a scientific researcher was set. However, my love for many different areas of science made it difficult for me to declare a major. I reasoned that biopsychology, which overarches two different fields, would better prepare me for the multidisciplinary field of neuroscience. Additionally, my desire to perform autism research influenced my decisions. After spending a summer in an autistic classroom, I knew that I wanted to better understand this complex disease. My career goal will allow me to perform multidisciplinary research and work toward impacting the lives of these amazing individuals.

OUTSTANDING EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES AT WAGNER: Being one of six in the honors program selected to travel to Rome after graduation; conducting

an independent research project in a psychophysics laboratory through an internship at the University of Idaho Microelectronics Research and Communications Institute.

HOW I DEFINE "WELL-EDUCATED": Well-educated individuals should be well versed in multiple arenas, from science to politics to art, although simply being able to recite numerous facts does not make an individual well educated. In addition to intelligence, a well-educated individual must possess the ability to grasp abstract concepts, critically analyze the arguments of others, and apply their knowledge to real-life situations.

MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED AT WAGNER: I have learned the importance of supplementing knowledge gained in the classroom with practical experiences, whether they be in a laboratory or job setting. Being involved in Greek life taught me how to take a proactive role and become an effective leader. Finally, I have learned that success is measured not just by your academic achievements, but also by your social involvement.

MOST IMPORTANT LESSONS LEARNED AT WAGNER: Take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way; get involved on campus as much as possible; and don't forget to have fun.

Kristina Eells

Success requires involvement.

HOMETOWN: Meadville, Pennsylvania

MAJOR: Biopsychology, with a chemistry minor

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT: Executive board member and vice president of programming and ritual for Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority, executive board member and recruitment chairperson for the Panhellenic Council, member of the Wagner College Campus Activities Board

PLANS FOR AFTER GRADUATION: Obtaining a Ph.D. in neuroscience.



For Robert Loggia, it all worked out OK

Actor reflects warmly on his experiences playing football for Wagner College and his roles on stage, TV and film. *By Jay Price*

The guys from the '48 team were busy trading war stories over coffee and cake in the Hall of Fame Room at Wagner College's Spiro Center when Walt Hameline, the football coach, showed up with a freshly painted game ball—the kind they usually give the kid who just scored the winning touchdown at Homecoming—for Bob Loggia, the actor.

"See if you can punt it without getting it blocked," Jim Gilmartin said, which set off another round of storytelling about the days when they were all playing ball on the hill for Jim Lee Howell, the part-time coach who graduated a few years later to his own

version of Broadway, coaching the Giants to three conference titles and an NFL championship.

This wasn't how it was supposed to go for Loggia, a onetime *Advance* paperboy from Grant City: Swapping lies with old teammates on the back nine of an acting career that stretches from *Somebody Up There Likes Me*, the 1956 bio of boxer Rocky Graziano, to *The Sopranos*.

Turns out he had to play football at Wagner to find out he wanted to be an actor.

He was the smart one, the athlete Elizabeth Smith and Sol Feinberg, his teachers at New Dorp High School, had

figured for more than just another neighborhood jock.

"They had it all mapped out for me," Loggia was saying on the way to a surprise screening of *Beautiful upon the Hill*, a 1940s Wagner recruiting video that is surely his first film role.

"The way they figured it, I would go to the University of Missouri to study journalism. Then I'd go to the New York Giants."

Not that he didn't have other offers.

Loggia was walking past the storefront next to LeMole's drugstore in New Dorp, the one everybody knew was a bookie joint in those days, when one of the proprietors flagged him down.

"Hey, kid," he said, "you want to work for me?"

A scene right out of *A Bronx Tale*, one of the few movies Loggia didn't do.

"No, thanks," he told his would-be benefactor. "I want to go to college."

He was already playing ball when Nicholas Moss, director of the school theater company, drafted him to play Petruccio in

Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*.

Sixty years later, he can still do the big scene, "the seduction of Kate," from memory, and with feeling.

Everything else—the Actor's Studio; the Academy Award and Emmy nominations; the signature scene where he and Tom Hanks dance on the giant electronic keyboard on the floor of F.A.O. Schwarz in *Big*—came after that, and after that Wagner recruiting film where Loggia plays the role of "Robert Allen," a freshman finding his way on campus.

"It sounds corny," he says, "but I knew I'd found a calling"

He was 17 when he got to Wagner—a three-sport athlete who learned to kick bare-foot at Semler's Oval, a piece of the island that's not there anymore, and changed sports with the season—on a campus full of older guys just out of the Army, the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard, going to school on the G.I. Bill.

Now he was back, almost 60 years and 100-plus movies later, white-haired but still moving like the single-wing halfback he used to be, swapping stories with Gilmartin and Ted Doerzbacher and Chris Kartalis, and mourning lost friends like Chester Sellitto.

For a laid-back Arkansas farmer, Howell ran a tight ship.

"Like infantry basic training," Loggia said.

The football players lived in barracks in those days, and did odd jobs around campus as part of their scholarship, which is how Loggia found himself painting a fence in the middle of winter.

"It was snowing, and somebody left me with a bottle of wine, which led to me running naked across campus.

"I thought they were going to kick me out of school," he said, banking on the statute of limitations having run out on streakers.

"The place is different now," Loggia was saying, looking out a second-floor



Victorious

Women's water polo earns second trip to NCAAs in three years

The women's water polo team shows off their Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championship trophy. The team defeated Marist on April 29, earning an automatic berth to the NCAA tournament. They are the fourth team in school history to make the NCAAs, and they qualified for the second time in the last three years. In the NCAA tournament, the team lost a 7-6 heartbreaker to Pomona-Pitzer, taking home eighth place.

window in the Spiro Center.

And that's not all that's changed since the days when he went to Wagner to play football for ol' Jim Lee, invented streaking, and found out he wanted to be an actor.

"It worked out OK," he was saying on the way to meet with a Wagner theater class.

The old football players were saying their goodbyes, Loggia stopping to hug Chris Kartalis on the way back to his other life.

"Yeah," he said, "you could say it worked out OK."

Seahawks Football 2007

Sept. 8.....at Iona

Homecoming / Hall of Fame Day / 1967 Reunion

Sept. 15.....Marist

Sept. 22.....at St. Peter's

Family Weekend

Sept. 29.....Sacred Heart*

Oct. 6.....at Robert Morris*

Oct. 13.....at Monmouth*

1987 Reunion

Oct. 20.....Central Connecticut State*

Oct. 27.....Albany*

Nov. 3.....La Salle

Nov. 10.....Saint Francis (PA)*

Nov. 17.....at Jacksonville

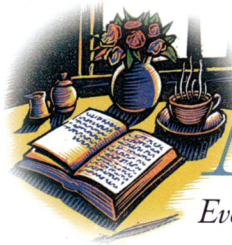
For more information

Call 718-420-4039 for tickets.

* conference games



Reprinted courtesy of the Staten Island Advance, April 17, 2007



Alumni News

Events, opportunities, and celebrations for the Wagner family, both near and far

Helping Others Find Their Way

Senior class raises funds for campus maps

The class of 2007 raised \$7,002 to provide two pedestal campus maps for Wagner College.

Led by committee chair Traci Tucker '07, this senior class raised a record-breaking sum to create a lasting campus

enhancement. The maps are located on the Sutter Oval, close to Howard Avenue, and on Trautmann Square.

"It's a great way to leave a legacy," Tucker said. "Each map has a plaque saying that they were a gift of the class of 2007."

Next time you are on campus, look for these strategically placed maps to help newcomers and visitors find their way.



TRACI TUCKER '07 looks on after the new campus map is unveiled.

{ FROM THE HILL }

Dear Alumni,

Wagner has been a part of my life for almost 15 years. For many of you, it's been a lot longer than that. The common bond we all share is our dear alma mater. Started in 1883, Wagner is celebrating many milestones in the year ahead: 125 years as an institution; 90 years on Staten Island; and 10 years since our renowned curriculum, the Wagner Plan for the Practical Liberal Arts, was launched.

There is much to celebrate, and our planning process has involved many people. We have gathered ideas from a 125th anniversary committee, composed of faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Additionally, in my monthly e-newsletter (sign up by sending me your e-mail address), I surveyed all alumni. Your feedback and suggestions will help shape our upcoming events and activities.

Throughout the celebration year of 2008, we will offer many occasions for alumni to get together, both on and off campus. We will have regional gatherings, stops along the Choir

Tour, and parties at sporting events. More details will follow.

In the meantime, mark your calendar for Homecoming on September 15. Events will include the Hall of Fame induction, an alumni luncheon, the Seahawks v. Marist football game, and a special celebration of the undefeated 1967 squad. On October 20, we will honor the Division III national champions of 1987.

Keep us informed of what's new in your life, and keep sending suggestions for alumni events. Hope to see you at a Wagner event in the near future!

From the Hill,

GAIL KELLEY '97
DIRECTOR OF
ALUMNI RELATIONS
718-390-3224
GKELLEY@WAGNER.EDU





COLLEGE CHAPLAIN

Lyle Guttu gave the invocation, while the Staten Island Marine Corps League stood at attention, during the October 7 war memorial dedication.

Never Forget

Delta Nu sponsors war memorial, beautifies campus

On October 7, in a solemn ceremony including a 21-gun salute, Wagner dedicated a memorial to its war dead, especially those from Delta Nu fraternity.

The Delta Nu War Memorial, located just off the Sutter Oval in front of the Spiro Sports Center, was established in 1990 "to the memory of Wagner College students who sacrificed their lives in

service to our country," as a plaque at the foot of the flagpole reads.

In an effort to better mark the spot and to beautify the campus, Delta Nu fraternity raised \$35,000 to create a small, landscaped garden with benches dedicated to four Delta Nu brothers killed in action in Germany and Vietnam.

"It's what all alumni groups should ideally be doing for the school," said John Iasparro '72. "We hope that other groups will join in these efforts."

Alumni Opportunities

HEALTH CARE ADVISORS WANTED Wagner College is forming a health care advisory committee, composed of alumni who would like to mentor students. If you are in the health care industry and would like to participate, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 718-390-3224. Shown at right, Heather Cook, assistant professor of biology (left), and Wendy deProphetis, assistant professor of chemistry (right), greet Allan Goldstein '59, professor of biochemistry at George Washington University. Goldstein spoke with Wagner students on October 23.



RECIPE ROUNDUP The Wagner College Guild is compiling a book of recipes from the Wagner community. Please submit your favorite recipe to the Guild by e-mailing it to alumni@wagner.edu; include your name, address, and telephone number along with the recipe. The Guild cookbook is a fundraising effort that will be available in time for the 2007 holiday season.



Wagnerian Spirit

Young alums and seniors join for spring break cruise

With 65 Wagnerians aboard, the 2007 young alumni and senior class cruise on the *Norwegian Spirit* made a promising beginning to an annual event. The ship departed from New York City on April 1 and cruised down to Florida and the Bahamas, returning on April 7. Scheduled in conjunction with Wagner's spring break, the next cruise will be on the *Norwegian Gem* and will sail from New York, March 15-22, 2008. It will make stops at Port Canaveral, Great Stirrup Cay, and Key West. The cruise line is donating a portion of each cabin booked to the senior class gift.





‘Cead Mile Failte’

Alumni and friends experience true Irish hospitality

The more than 30 alumni and friends who traveled to Ireland March 30-April 7 found out that ‘one hundred thousand welcomes’ is not just a traditional Irish greeting, but a way of life for the hospitable people of the Emerald Isle.

The group—including some who had traveled with Wagner before and others who were experiencing their first trip abroad in decades—was met at Shannon airport by “steerologist” Adrian Daly, our tour guide and bus driver for the week.

The Cliffs of Moher were our first destination, and they proved to be more thrilling than any picture can capture. Three nights in the quaint town of Killarney gave us a great opportunity for day trips, one of which was to Blarney Castle. After kissing the stone and receiving the “gift of eloquence,” we all

enjoyed shopping at the Blarney Woolen Mills.

From Killarney we drove to Waterford, where we toured the crystal factory and made more purchases. On the way, we stop-

ped at an Irish pub and were treated to the musical entertainment of Christy O’Neill, who sang favorites like “Goodnight Irene” and “Oh Danny Boy” while we enjoyed Irish coffees

and Guinness. That evening we stayed in Faithlegg House, an Irish manor, which we all agreed was a highlight of the trip.

After visiting the monastic grounds of Glendalough we made our way into Dublin. After a bus tour of the city, we had plenty of time to explore on our own. Some visited the Guinness factory, some saw the famous *Book of Kells*, while others strolled through the beautiful parks and paid homage to legendary wit Oscar Wilde. A literary pub crawl one evening gave everyone a taste of some of the best Irish literature as well as brews.

Leaving Ireland was not easy. We experienced true Irish hospitality and some amazing weather. Not a drop of rain was felt, and the Irish welcome will remain with us forever.

—GAIL KELLEY, DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

‘One hundred thousand welcomes’ is not just a traditional Irish greeting, but a way of life for the hospitable people of the Emerald Isle.



From Coast to Coast

Theater students bring Wagner talent to the Golden State

Last November, President Guarasci and Alumni Director Gail Kelley brought some special guests to visit alumni and friends across the state of California: ambassadors from Wagner's top-rated theater program.

In northern California, the group gathered at the home of Dave and Naomi Klc Pockell, both '66, in Lafayette. In the southern end of the state, the gathering was held at the Wyland Gallery on South Coast

Highway in Laguna Beach.

Rebecca Arnold '07, Kathleen Fehrle '08, Ryan Latour '08, and Timothy Pratt '07 entertained the groups with selections from familiar shows such as *42nd Street* and *West Side Story* as well as new musicals such as *Songs for a New World*. They were accompanied by Lauri Young, assistant professor of theater and department musical director.

The guests, who included not only alumni of all ages but also parents of current Wagner students, loved the performances and enjoyed meeting the students as well.



CALIFORNIA ALUMS:
Ted Gibson '42, in his Wagner jacket, with Francine Hupfer Kelly '89



THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT:
Timothy Pratt '07, Rebecca Arnold '07, Kathleen Fehrle '08, and Ryan Latour '08, in the Wyland Gallery in Laguna Beach, California

Cheers for the Champs

Alumni and friends root for Seahawks water polo

Alumni, parents, and friends gathered in southern California to cheer on the Seahawks women's water polo team as they played the University of California, San Diego, on February 3. "It was a lot of fun, and Wagner had the loudest cheering section, as always," said Karen Robinson '00. These fans helped the team get a strong start to an incredible season. In April, the team won the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Championship.

Eye on Wagner
Wagner's webcam shows live views of Trautmann Square 24 hours a day:
www.wagner.edu/resources/webcam



Alumni News

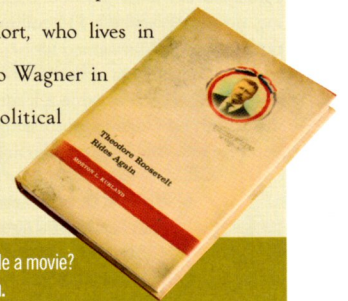
New & Noteworthy

Morton Kurland '52

Theodore Roosevelt Rides Again
Lazy K Press Llc, 2006

Mort Kurland's historical novel centers on Theodore Roosevelt's 1900 campaign for vice president. William Randolph Hearst, Mark Twain, and "Bat" Masterson have roles in an adventurous plot that involves

blackmail, murder, and intrigue. Mort, who lives in Rancho Mirage, California, came to Wagner in October to talk with history and political science students and to sign his book.



Have you published a book, released a CD, or made a movie?
Drop us a line at laura.barlament@wagner.edu.



Class Notes

Updates from old friends across the generations

'39

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Class Fund Agent
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718-984-8547

John "Bunny" Barbes and Lila Barbes '40 celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on October 18, 2006. George Rapport writes, "Not many alive since 1939. I visited Wagner College in 1999, my 60th reunion year. I live in Charlotte, N.C., and I'm old!"

'40

Lila Barbes and John "Bunny" Barbes '39 celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on October 18, 2006.

'42

Theodore W. Gibson
Class Fund Agent
778 Ynez Circle
Danville, CA 94526

'43

After 58 years as a Lutheran pastor, the Rev. Reinhold K. Weber has retired. He and his wife, Lois Reisch Weber, will live at the Passavant Retirement Community in Zelenople, Pa. They would be delighted to hear from friends.

'48

Claire M. Fagan H'93 has received a major honor to add to her long list of awards and accomplishments. The University of Pennsylvania's nursing school building, now undergoing a \$15 million renovation, will be named for her. Claire is dean emerita of Penn's School of Nursing, which became a leading institution for nursing education and research under her leadership.

'49

Margaret Christie Nicolais
Class Fund Agent
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Keep in Touch!

Submit your news and photos:

E-mail: classnotes@wagner.edu

Web: www.wagner.edu/alumni/class_notes_update_form

Mail: Alumni Office, Reynolds House, Wagner College
1 Campus Road, Staten Island, NY 10301

Or contact your class agent, whose address is listed with your class's notes. If you would like to volunteer to serve as a class correspondent, please contact Laura Barlament, editor of *The Link*, at laura.barlament@wagner.edu or 718-390-3147.

Publication policies:

Deadlines: This issue reflects news received by April 1, 2007. The submission deadline for the fall 2007 issue is August 1, 2007.

Content: *The Link* welcomes your news and updates, and we will happily share them with the Wagner family. We ask that you send us announcements of weddings, births, and graduations after the fact.

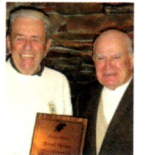
Photos: We accept photos of Wagner groups at weddings and other special events. With the photo, send the names and class years of all alumni pictured; birth date, parents' names, and class years with photos of children; and dates and locations of all events.

Photo Quality: Digital and print photos must be clear and of good quality. Prints should be on glossy paper with no surface texture; they will be returned at your request (please attach your address to the photo). Digital photos must be jpegs of at least 250 pixels per inch; low-resolution photos converted to a higher resolution are not acceptable.

Guy Molinari and his wife, Marguerite, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and renewed their wedding vows last September. Trygve Skarsten has written a 700-page illustrated work, at the request of his 10 grandchildren, entitled "Grandpa Remembers: The

Americanization of the Skarstens from Farsund, Norway." The work includes a family tree going back to 1550. Trygve and his wife, Ruth Stangeland Skarsten '52, took two of their grandchildren on a trip to Norway this past summer to meet their Norwegian relatives. Two

more trips to go, and they will have taken all 10 of their grandchildren on a "roots" trip to Norway. Fred Witte M'75 was honored for his 16 years of service to the Wagner College Golf Classic on January 22, 2007, at a Wagner College Golf Classic dinner. Of the \$650,000 raised for the Athletic Endowment Fund, Fred raised nearly 10 percent. The plaque reads: "A special thanks to Fred Witte who, as a charter member of the Wagner College Golf Classic committee, generously volunteered his time and efforts to help ensure the Golf Classic's continued success." He is pictured receiving the plaque from Bob



Peirano '50, golf classic chairman.

'50

Robert S. Peirano
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Eleanor Harsch Smith sold her company, Hago Manufacturing Co., to Danfoss-Denmark. She retired and is living in California and Idaho. She writes, "Best memories of my years at Wagner!"

'51

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Ted Livingston Jr. won first prize in the CASC poetry contest at the Old Bermuda Inn on November 8 for his poems "Acrobat" and "A Moment in the Aztec Sun." A poet from Poet's House in Manhattan served as the judge for the contest.

'52

Frances Marks Fisher is living in a retirement community in Peabody, Mass. She writes that she keeps active, volun-

teers as a writer for TV stations, and spends her summers in Maine. **Ruth Stangeland Skarsten** and her husband, **Trygve Skarsten '49**, took two of their grandchildren on a trip to Norway this past summer to meet their Norwegian relatives. Two more trips to go, and they will have taken all 10 of their grandchildren on a "roots" trip to Norway.

'53

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'54

Manfred W. Lichtmann
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Manfred W. Lichtmann writes, "During the fall of 1970, I was part of the 32nd MASH, which was airlifted into Amman, Jordan, as per King Hussein's request. We went into a country which had undergone severe fighting during the civil war. Ever since that time, I have had a keen interest in the Middle East. I would recommend the following books, which give in-depth insight into the area's history: *A Peace to End All Peace* by David Fromkin, published by Henry Holt & Co., 2001; and *Paris 1919* by Margaret MacMillan, published by Random House, 2003. Current events become much clearer after reading these books."

'55

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'56

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Robert "Chuck" Connors writes, "Just a note to those who remember me. I am still alive, healthy, and still working full time. After a 30-year career in advertising and marketing communications (Coca-Cola, Dr Pepper, Schlitz, Pabst), I am currently president of Identification Plates, Inc., a medium-sized (\$10 million) manufacturing firm located in Mesquite, Tex., a suburb of



Photo: Irving Silverstein, Staten Island Advance

'Deep in Our Memory'

Former Wagner football teammates **Robert Loggia '51** and **Chris Kartalis '50**, left, and **Ted Doerzbacher '50**, right, joined Coach **Walt Hameline** to reminisce about their days playing football under then-coach **Jim Lee Howell**. They also viewed a screening of *Beautiful upon the Hill*, a 1940s Wagner PR film that was Loggia's first screen role. See story, page 20.

Dallas. I have been with this corporation for over 10 years now. My wife, Charlotte (a Texas beauty), and I have been married for 30 years; we have five grown daughters and four grandchildren. I'd welcome any



calls, e-mails, or visits from any of the old crowd." **Harry O. Lysgaard** retired to Portland, Ore. He is doing research for a book entitled *Scientific Miracles*, which will explain that events biblical witnesses saw as supernatural "are really super-technological. Religion deals with 'who' and 'why.' Science deals with 'how.' UFOs have been around a long time. I'm connecting the dots."

'57

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Annemarie Jensen Godston has been a master gardener for the past 17 years or so, but now does most of her gardening on the Internet through her blog: <http://ncmg.blogspot.com>. She enjoys answering gardening questions and hopes that other alumni will add comments as well as ask questions. She writes, "It's important that we have a dialogue about how gardening can help us all keep our world a good and healthy place!" **Betty Zindel Hagen M'57** and her husband, John, decided to leave the snow and ice of New Jersey and are now in a nice new brick ranch in North Carolina.

'58

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Edie Haack was inducted as a charter

member of the Grace Episcopal Day School (Massapequa, N.Y.) Hall of Fame last year. Edie has been part of the school for over 25 years, first as a teacher, then for 20 years as head of school, and, following retirement, as a member of the Board of Trustees. **Walter Hartung** let us know that he has joined the blogosphere; visit <http://myretirement-suncitywalt.blogspot.com>. **Mary Anne MacLean Heuser** is retired from teaching in Yonkers, N.Y. She is a survivor of uterine cancer for over two years. She was treated at Sloan Kettering. Her mother, Isabel MacLean, celebrated her 99th birthday on October 23, 2006.

'59

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Joseph Coscia and his wife, **Domenica**, celebrated their golden jubilee last October in New Dorp on Staten Island. **Henry D. Melofchik** traveled to New Jersey on October 14 for the wedding of his granddaughter, Erin Melofchik, to Jose Gamboa. While there, he was able to see his great-grandson, Aiden Tyler Melofchik, who was born on August 10 to his grandson, Jarrett, and Ashley. The Melofchiks celebrated Christmas with their nine children and spouses, 16 grandchildren, and one great-grandbaby. **Paul C. Walley** retired after 36 years as a campus pastor for the Christian Center at the State University of New York at New Paltz. He was featured in the *Poughkeepsie Journal* on February 12, 2007.

'59

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'60

Alma Costie Vincent
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Joseph Caterina and his wife, **Frances**, celebrated 50 years of marriage last December in Dongan Hills on Staten Island.

'62 Rita King
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Richard Bolstein retired as chairman of the Department of Statistics at George Mason University in 2006, after 33 years. He lives in Lyndhurst, Va., with his wife, Sharon Adams. Richard enjoys playing piano, consulting part-time, and going for walks with Sharon in the Blue Ridge Mountains.

Bjarne "B. J." Gabrielsen retired in November 2006 after serving in the federal government's National Cancer Institute, part of the National Institutes of Health, from 1986 to 2006 as a senior advisor, drug discovery and development. He had previously served as an associate professor of chemistry at Wagner College (1969-79) and at the University of Florida (1979-86). He and his wife, Marie, live in Punta Gorda, Fla.

Nancy Born Goodwin spent over 80 days snowboarding at Big Mountain, Mont., this past winter. "There's so much more to retirement than grandchildren!" she writes. **Beverly Whipple** has a new book out, *The Science of Orgasm*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press. She travels around the world to speak and received the Kinsey Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality on November 11, 2006. *The New Scientist* has named her one of the 50 most influential scientists in the world.



Wagner Spirit

Elizabeth Ebers Press '58 sent along this picture of a Wagner alumni brunch at the Missions Hills Country Club, Rancho Mirage, Calif.

Lou Deluca '59 and **Cynthia de Heyman Spry '62, M'82** were joined by **Walter Baumhoff '59**, Betsy, and Bob Press. Betsy received the American Cancer Society Spirit Award of the Year in Palm Springs, Calif., in December. It was her third award in eight years. Her district extends from Morongo to Blythe, Calif.

'63 John Donovan
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Donald Emmeluth joined Ben Farmer, president and principal broker of Ben Farmer Realty in Savannah, Ga.

'64 Butch Savage
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Bruce R. Barnhard has been appointed clinical assistant professor in the Postgraduate Department of

Prosthodontics at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. He was also appointed to the Essex County Bar Association Ethics Committee by the Office of Attorney Ethics of the Supreme Court of New Jersey. **Bob Hauptman** writes, "I was at the Burlington, Vt., airport awaiting a visitor when I noticed a man wearing a cap that said 'Wagner.' It was green and white. I asked him what Wagner is, and he said that it is a college. I said, yes, I know; I graduated in 1964! His daughter graduated a few years ago. It was his second or third cap. He wears them out.... I have a daughter, too, but she is not yet in college; Kira is just five years old!" **William C. Johns** traveled to Turku, Finland, to visit his in-laws. With a renewed interest in Scandinavia, he started learning Finnish again and became acquainted with the Finnish school system, which he considers to be the best in the world. **Fred Williamson**, a member of the Wagner Board of Trustees, had a huge gathering on campus last fall to celebrate the 90th birthday of his mother, Ann Williamson Murphy, who is also the mother of **Ray Williamson '68**, **Joanna '72**, and **Gerry '79**, and grandmother of **Bob Williamson '91**, **Scott '93**, and **Nicole '10**. Family and friends gathered to enjoy a great fall day of Wagner football, at the request of the birthday girl. Also in attendance were **Janet Merkel '57** and many other grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Grandson Ryan Monday, a Monmouth University graduate, helped coach Monmouth to victory over the Seahawks this year, but the Williamson family says, "Wait till next year!"

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'66 **Gerry Magliocca**
Class Correspondent
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908-407-3104

Alastair C. Brock is happily retired with his wife, **Janet '68**, and they now have one grandson. They also share fond memories of their days at Wagner. **Gerard Magliocca** would like to share the wonderful news that his son, Gerard N. Magliocca, published his first book, *Andrew Jackson and the Constitution*. He is an associate professor of law at Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis.

'67 **Maureen L. Robinson**
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Veronica Cattani-Basker retired after 35 years as a social worker for the San Francisco Department of Social Services. **Robert Smith** lives in Oakville, Conn., and has owned the Robert C. Smith Agency for Allstate Insurance Companies in Watertown, Conn., since 2003. Insurance, however, is not his only line of work. As a student, he was a member of the folk trio The Grymes Hill Singers (which even recorded one album in 1965). Today, he is owner of AutumnSong Recordings, a label that specializes in singer-songwriters, folk, American, and roots music. You can learn more about his label and the artists he promotes at www.autumnsong.com.

'68 **Richard W. Ball**
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Dana Miller Moihel retired from nursing in July 2006 and is now working at the county animal shelter. She has three grandchildren, ages 12, 4, and 2. "See you at the June '08 reunion!" she writes.



Warren Procci had a very special guest at his 60th birthday party in California on March 25, 2007: legendary singer

Paul Anka, pictured here with Warren and Linda Procci. **Dan Stormer**, an attorney at Hadsell & Stormer in Pasadena, Calif., lectured at Wagner last October. Several



Never Missed a Beat

Anthony Maniscalco '84, a member of the 1981 baseball team, reunites with Coach **Larry Anderson '64** at a February 24 reunion of the team, part of Winter on the Hill celebrations. "It was awesome to see all my old teammates," said Anthony. "We all owe a special thanks to Larry Anderson. Feels like we never missed a beat, like we've seen each other once a week for the past 25 years."

classes attended his lecture, entitled "Law and Social Responsibility: Fighting the Good Fight." Afterward, he met with students interested in going to law school. **Doris "Dorry" Thomson** and her husband, Herbert, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 18, 2007. **Chris Zazakos Jr.** is a founding/senior partner of H.O.P.E. (Hematology Oncology Patient Enterprises) with offices in Charlottesville, Fishersville, Culpeper, and Farmville, Va. He and his wife, Connie, have three children, Melissa (33), Chris (30), and Elle (7), and twin grandchildren, Ashton and Riley (5).

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Barbara Barinque and her husband, Jean, have become grandparents. Their new grandbaby's name is Cole Ryland.

'76 **John M. Zawisny**
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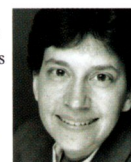
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'78 **Maria Lind Jenkins**
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Nick Kvasic was selected as a coach for a special New York City high school boys' soccer team that traveled to Ghana during the winter holidays. The trip was sponsored by the Public Schools Athletic League. "We'll have limited time to prepare the team. But this trip is more about culture than competition," he told the Staten Island *Advance* before the trip. Nick is a coach at Petrides High School on Staten Island.

'79 **Meryl Efron** was inducted into the International College of Dentists on October 16, 2006.

The college is an honorary organization that recognizes outstanding service to the profession and the community. She maintains a private practice as a partner of Dental Associates of Richmond on Staten Island. **Elissa Malcohn** has a book forthcoming from Koboca Publishing: *Covenant*, the first installment of the *Deviations* trilogy. To find out more about it, visit <http://home.earthlink.net/~emalcohn/index.html>.



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Edward Burke was named Staten Island deputy borough president in November 2006. **Jeannae Wojno Halliwell** is a reading specialist at Seabrook Elementary School in Seabrook, N.H. She was included in the 2005-06 edition of *Who's Who among America's Teachers*.

'81 **Lauretta Zitano**
Class Correspondent
732-449-4883
Sharon Stakofsky-Davis

has been named director of education for Tidewater Tech College. Sharon and her husband, Marc Davis, live in Virginia Beach, Va. Their son, Andrew Robert Davis, graduated from the University of Virginia with a major in chemical engineering.

'82 **John Spadaro**
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Al Stewart wrote that he had "the experience of a lifetime"—refereeing a hockey game at the Staples Center in Los Angeles in front of nearly 17,000 fans. "Pretty impressive for a 47-year-old transplanted New Yorker whose day job is editor of a magazine," he said. "I played hockey for Port Richmond High School and Wagner College back on Staten Island, but that was 25 years ago. This was the show. The NHL! OK, maybe not exactly. The 'game' was actually a 10-minute exhibition by a local youth hockey league, presented between periods of an L.A. Kings game." A friend of his coached for the youth league and asked him to serve as ref. "For someone who has loved and played hockey all his life, this was an enormous thrill."

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On Center Ice

Al Stewart '82 glides across the ice at the Staples Center in Los Angeles. In front of 17,000 fans there to watch the L.A. Kings play the Detroit Red Wings, he refereed a youth hockey league's exhibition between the periods of the NHL game. "My most vivid recollection was when a big 14-year-old kid rammed a much smaller 12-year-old into the boards. The crowd reacted with a thundering roar of approval (hockey fans, you gotta love 'em!)."

'85 **Andrew G. Williams**
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Linda Bach Hansen and her husband, Robert, announce the birth of Ross Christian, on May 10, 2005, joining sisters Lindsay Hannah and Kari. Linda is the infection control coordinator at Lutheran Augustana Center in Brooklyn, N.Y.

'86 **Wade C. Appelman**
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Ken Cultraro and his wife, Lezlie, announce the birth of Brandon Ford Cultraro on October 10,

2006. **Ed Nitkewicz** has a son, Edward, who was diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder at age 3. Ed, who is an attorney, has since become very involved with fund-raising and support of families affected by autism, a severe developmental disorder that is on the rise among children. In 2006, Ed chaired the Cody Comedy Festival, which raised more than \$100,000 for the Matt and Debra Cody Center for Autism and Developmental Disabilities at Stony Brook University. In his law practice, Ed is representing families of children with autism who are seeking special education services from their school districts. **Karen Miklos Osborne** and her husband, Brian, announce the birth of Nina Osborne on August 13, 2005, joining her big sister, Amelia.

'87 **Meredith Acacia**
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Brian Celardo, his wife, Kathleen, and their children, Ian (5) and James (7), made a trip to the Power Horn Ski

Mountain near Grand Junction, Colo.

'88 **Kenneth Nilsen**
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Vincent Price received a very special gift from a stranger. Kathy Brackett was walking along the beach one day and found a ring. It happened



to be the 1987 National Championship Team ring that belonged to Vincent, and she was later able to

return it to him. The 1987 championship football team will celebrate its 20th reunion on October 20 at Wagner College.

'89 **Jennifer Solaas Nilsen**
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Tammy Riggs Chami and her husband, Zakaria, announce the birth of Zakaria Tyler Chami on October 6, 2006.

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'91 **Jennifer A. Norton**
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Maya Frisci Geiger and her husband, Michael, had another baby boy, Michael Dylan Geiger, on July 27, 2006. **Helen Icochea Hernandez** graduated from the Hunter College School of Social Work with honors

on January 18, 2007. She received a master's in social work. Helen also won the Jacob Goldfein Award for her paper "Smoking Cessation in the Elderly Mentally Ill and the Utilization of Social Workers." **Marguerite Perinelli** welcomed three more grandchildren in 2006; she's delighted to have four boys and four girls. She teaches childbirth and family education at Staten Island University Hospital North and works in maternal child health and hospice.

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'93 Stuart Plotkin
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Jennifer LaFata Hughes and her husband, James, announce the birth of Sienna Grace Hughes on June 9, 2006, joining big sister Abigail (5).

'94 James J. Hickey M'96
Class Fund Agent
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Jennifer Mellon Scott
announces the birth of Peter Albert Scott on November 11, 2006. Peter joins big sister, Rebecca (6), and big brother, Anthony (2).

'95 Nancy L. Salgado-Cowan
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Allison O'Donnell Ballschmieder M'97 and her husband, CJ, announce the birth of Emma Paige on September 26, 2006. She joins her sister, Madison (3). **Brian O'Neill M'97** and **Cheryl Fromberg O'Neill '97** announce the birth of Danielle Lynn on July 7, 2006. She joins her sister, Julia. Brian was promoted to lieutenant in the New York City Fire Department. **Andrea Piccininni** married Stephen Brenner in West Nyack, N.Y., on September 10, 2006. She is a neonatal physician assistant with Newark Beth Israel Medical Center, and he is a vice president in the compliance department at Bear Stearns, Whippany, N.J.



Wedding Bells

Leigh-Ann DePascale '96 married Michael Nowicki on November 4, 2006, at the Lord Thompson Manor in Thompson, Conn. Pictured are (back row) **Gail Kelley '97**, **Nicole Anzuoni**, **Arlene Fennessy McGuane '95**, **Christina LaBue Cashman '97**, **Jeremy Trager**, **Tiffany Vacca '97**, **Stephanie DePiano '97**, **Carin Guarasci** and President **Richard Guarasci**; (front row) **Michelle Habingreither '95 M'97**, **Colleen Schilling Trager '95**, **Leigh-Ann DePascale Nowicki '96**, **Melissa Fabrizio '96**, **Cari Christopher '03**, and **Douglas Jesse**.

'96 Rebecca Wallo Rose
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41481 NYS RT 180
Clayton, NY 13624
315-778-8419
harrypottter71674@yahoo.com

James Robert Higgins Jr. married Maureen Elizabeth McLaughlin in Brooklyn on October 7, 2006. **Stephanie DeSilva** married Craig Cannizzaro on Staten Island on October 20, 2006. She teaches third grade at PS 52, Dongan Hills. He is a retired city firefighter now employed with Banca Intesa in Manhattan. **Rosemarie Stazzone** was named executive vice president at Richmond University Medical Center.

'97 Alison N. Boyd
Class Fund Agent
14 Essex Drive
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
631-451-8220
Marianne DellaDonna married Brian Joseph Zumbano in South Salem, N.Y., on June 10, 2006. **Flavia Manske Feltner** and her husband, Shaun, welcomed their second child,

Robert Sean Feltner, on July 26, 2006. **Vincent Lenza** has been named the first executive director of the Staten Island Not-for-Profit Association. **Cheryl Fromberg O'Neill** and **Brian O'Neill '95**, M'97 announce the birth of Danielle Lynn on July

7, 2006. She joins her sister, Julia. Brian was promoted to lieutenant in the New York City Fire Department. **Aileen Terjesen** is engaged to be married to Mark Dulski. She teaches third grade at PS 42, Eltingville, and he is a city firefighter.

'98 Tara Yeo Lagana
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TL.Lagana@hotmail.com
Darren L. Greco
Class Correspondent
24 Daniella Ct.
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718-761-6069
dgreco25@mac.com

Michelle Crowley married Joseph McAllister on September 23, 2006. She is a certified public accountant with Holtz Rubenstein Reminick, Manhattan. He is an owner of Moe's Southwest Grill in New Dorp. **Sara Frazier** and her husband, Rennie Muzii, welcomed twin boys William John and Ryan James Muzii on December 11, 2006. Sara writes, "They are already huge Yankee fans!" **Laura Persichetti** gave birth to Mathew Thomas on March 8, 2006. He joins Nicholas Richard (3).

'99 Vinnie S. Postestivo
Class Fund Agent
226 Shippen St., 2nd Floor
Weehawken, NJ 07087
201-558-7922
Melissa Ferrari Sant Lofer M'02 is a

Golden Award

Stanley Drama gives 50th annual prize

Congratulations to Peter Snoad, winner of the 50th anniversary Stanley Drama Award for his play *Guided Tour*. The national Stanley Drama Award competition, administered by the Wagner College Theatre Department, was established in 1957 by Mrs. Alma Timolat Stanley to encourage and support aspiring playwrights. The illustrious list of past award winners includes Lonnie Elder III, Megan Terry, Adrienne Kennedy, Jonathan Larson, and Terrence McNally.





Sometimes the shortest sentence can have a long-lasting impact.

You can help ensure that Wagner continues to flourish by establishing a bequest in your will or living trust. The language can be very simple, such as, "I give to Wagner College on Staten Island a specific amount of money, specific percentage of my estate, or a specific percentage of the remainder of my estate." You may also direct your gift to a particular program.

For more information, contact Frank Young, director of major gifts, at 718-420-4494 or frank.young@wagner.edu. If Wagner College is already in your estate planning, please let us know so that we may include you in the Heritage Society. As with all financial matters, contact your own attorney or advisor before making any decisions.

staff accountant for Heart Share Human Services of New York. She married Nathan Sant Lofer on June 3, 2006. Nathan is a salesman for Pella Windows and Doors in Staten Island. **Leslie Scamardello** married Robert Kasegrande in St. Patrick's Old Cathedral in Manhattan on September 9, 2006. She is an associate attorney with Securities Industry Automation Corp., Manhattan. He is a manager with Deloitte, Manhattan. **Danielle Monaco Schaffer** and her husband, Robert K. Schaffer, announce the birth of R. Jackson on November 26, 2006.

'00 Erin K. Donahue
Class Fund Agent
5 Inverness Ct.
Wading River, NY 11792
516-463-9070
edonahue45@optonline.net

Tina A. Becker graduated from NYU in May 2006 with a master's degree as a midwife. She's working with the Maimonides Midwifery Service in Brooklyn. **Jennifer Bocchino** is engaged to be married to Michael Romano. She teaches second grade at PS 58, New Springville, and he is a city firefighter. **Ian A. Inverno** was looking forward to the early winter release of *Destination Fame*, a family-oriented movie with Cuba Gooding, Joe Jackson, and other musical stars. Look for him in the role of Todd. **Lauren Rinaldi M'00** married Ralph Grimaldi on August 19, 2006. **Danielle Serini** married Giacomo Guardavaccaro on September 16, 2006. **Rosemarie Serio** married Eric Filipowicz on October 7, 2006. She is a physician assistant on Staten Island, and he is an employee of the city's Department of Sanitation.

'01 Simone Diaz
Class Fund Agent
1655 N. Colony Rd., Unit 19
Meriden, CT 06450-1967
203-639-4855
simoneamcbride@yahoo.com

Kimberley Hooper is engaged to be married to Gerard W. Abrahamsen. She is a physician assistant at New Jersey Spine Center in Chatham, N.J., and he is a physician assistant at Manhattan Spine & Pain Medicine in New York City. **Kristyn Jantz** married Robert DiFortuna on Staten Island on October 21, 2006. She is a registered nurse in the post-anesthesia care unit of



In Appreciation

During Family Weekend 2006, President Richard Guarasci presents Dr. **Jay Guariglia '74** and **Joyce Cini Guariglia '75** with a certificate of appreciation for their commitment to the Parent Association. The Guariglias, past co-chairs of the association, are the parents of Dana Guariglia '06, M'07. If you'd like more information about this group, contact Clare Rich, director of development, at 718-390-3304 or crich@wagner.edu.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. He is a certified public accountant with Weiser in Manhattan. **Liza Kuchar** married Christopher Marzilli on June 3, 2006. Several Alpha Omicron Pi sisters were in the wedding party: **Debra Lahti '00** was maid of honor, **Gina Noce '02** was a bridesmaid, and **Rosalia Tierno '96, M'98** did a reading. The wedding was also attended by Alpha Omicron Pi sisters **Katherine Keller '04** and **Julie Gatto Intoppa '03**. Lisa works for Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston as a labor and delivery registered nurse. She lives in Medford, Mass. **Jeffrey Pampinella** married Nicole Novello on Staten Island on November 3, 2006. He is a physician assistant in cardiac

surgery and she is an assistant patient care unit manager and registered nurse, both at Staten Island University Hospital, Ocean Breeze. **Leslie Tanzillo** and **Christopher Gerlach** were married on September 30, 2007. She is a perfusionist in the cardiothoracic-surgery department of Mount Sinai Medical Center, Manhattan. He is a system administrator with Financial Executives International, Florham Park, N.J. Master's degree graduate **Robin Habacht** was featured in *The NJ Cooperator* in January 2007 in an article on women professionals in real estate. The article, "Reaching the Top of Their Field," offers a personal account of her transition from Wall Street to a successful career

in property management.

'02

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Brick, NJ 08724-1059
732-840-2069
nay537@yahoo.com

Melissa Brochin married Steven Last on November 12, 2006. Melissa is a speech language pathologist with the Department of Education on Staten Island. **Linda Desyatnik** married John Urgo on Staten Island on October 7, 2006. She is a behavioral specialist with the Cerebral Palsy Association of New York State, Mariners Harbor; he is a co-owner of PipeRite Plumbing and Heating Corp., Manhattan. **Shauna Dignan** married Brian Horvath in Sterling, Mass., on June 24, 2006. **James Fagen** married Alyssa Ehret in Manasquan, N.J., on July 28, 2006. **William High** married Christie Casalino on November 11, 2006. **Gina Mucciariello** married Cliff Varriale on Staten Island on October 6, 2006. She is a registered nurse with Staten Island University Hospital, Ocean Breeze. **Christen Spirocostas** married Kevin Heiden last summer. **Nicole Wakie** is engaged to be married to Anthony Mangano; they planned a May wedding.

'03

Co-Class Fund Agents
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Amy Lynn Probst married Johnny Kirk Page in Aspermont, Tex., on March 25, 2006. **Diana Theodorakis** is engaged to be married to James Allan. She teaches fifth grade at PS 1, Tottenville.

Crib Notes

Classes of 2027 and 2028

Some of the newest faces to join the Wagner family.

1. Brian O'Neill '95, M'97 and **Cheryl Fromberg O'Neill '97** announce the birth of Danielle Lynn on July 7, 2006. She joins her sister, Julia; **2. Flavia Manske Feltner '97** and her husband, Shaun, welcomed their second child, Robert Sean Feltner, on July 26, 2006; **3. Danielle Monaco Schaffer '99** and her husband, Robert K. Schaffer, announce the birth of R. Jackson on November 26, 2006; **4. Ann Marie Pascarella '92** and her husband, David Anthony Pascarella, announce the birth of Amanda Barbara on June 14, 2006, joining big sister Theresa Anna; **5. Sara Frazier '98** and her husband, Rennie Muzii, welcomed twin boys William John and Ryan James Muzii on December 11, 2006; **6. Karen Miklos Osborne '86** and her husband, Brian, announce the birth of Nina Osborne on August 13, 2005, joining her big sister, Amelia.



We'd love to see your baby's face. Please see page 26 for publication guidelines.

'04 Alexis D. Hernandez
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Jessica M. Caracappa is engaged to Joseph Scott. Doran A. Kerri is engaged to Vincent Lyman. Jessica Errico is engaged to be married to Lance Cpl. Joseph DiMarco, who is with the U.S. Marine Corps. Jenny Ludvigsen and Matthew Brooks Madden '05 became engaged on December 24, 2006. They are planning an October 20, 2007, wedding in Newport News, Va. Erika Thorenz and Dan Emanuele '05 announced their engagement for a May 16, 2008, wedding. Erika is employed at Bisys-RK Alternative Investment Services, Inc. in Columbus, Ohio. Dan is the owner and president of D&E Marketing Concepts, Inc. in Powell, Ohio.



Reunion at the Rink

Nearly 50 alumni and friends of Wagner's hockey program enjoyed a reception at Wagner and a game at the Clove Lakes Arena on October 5. This gathering will become an annual tradition to kick off the hockey season. Alumni from the '70s up till recent graduates attended. President Guarasci congratulated Coach Charlie Crispino on his previous season and wished the team luck for their second game of the year.

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Matthew L. Sheehan
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Dan Emanuele and Erika Thorenz '04 announced their engagement for a May 16, 2008, wedding. Dan is the owner and president of D&E Marketing Concepts, Inc. in Powell, Ohio. Erika is employed at Bisys-RK Alternative Investment Services, Inc. in Columbus, Ohio. Sean Ferguson and Ariello Maggio '06 are engaged and planning a fall 2009 wedding. Robyn Jaffe married Jarrett Bowers in West Orange, N.J., on July 9, 2006. Matthew Brooks Madden and Jenny Ludvigsen '04 became engaged on December 24, 2006. They are planning an October 20, 2007, wedding in Newport News, Va. Gena L. Mimoso was the director of a production of *Reefer Madness: The Musical* for the Snug Harbor Underground Theatre Festival in February. The festival was geared toward bringing younger audiences into this Staten Island cultural center; *Reefer Madness* is a spoof of a 1936 movie. In an article in the Staten Island *Advance's* entertainment weekly, Gena said, "I would like people to realize that there's a young theatre-going, theatre-loving group on Staten Island. I think it's really important that the arts don't get brushed

aside, here or anywhere else. Art is the world's entertainment, a global language that we all understand. It's where people can really be themselves." Christine M. Tanzi and Matthew Hersh are planning a June wedding at the Heldrich Hotel in New Brunswick.

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Dana Guariglia
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dana.guariglia@wagner.edu

Ariello Maggio and Sean Ferguson '05 are engaged and planning a fall 2009 wedding. Jonathan Katz joined WithumSmith+Brown, Certified Public Accountants, in the company's Red Bank, N.J., office. David CJ Rahner has been volunteering for 10 months with AmeriCorps*NCCC, rebuilding the Gulf Coast. He was set to graduate from the program on May 1 and receive an award from the President and a national Congressional Medal of Honor.

Reading Rome

Da Vinci Society sponsors honors program in Italy

Congratulations to the winners of the 2007 Da Vinci Society travel scholarships:

Richard Caro '07

Kristina Eells '07

Laura Kohberger '07

Ashley Martin '07

Kelly Opotzner '07

Yevgeniy Statnikov '07

Along with members of Wagner College's Da Vinci Society, these students enjoyed the honors program Rome: City-as-Text, held in Rome, Italy, May 31-June 8, and led by Mapy Chavez-Brown, assistant professor of education. Thanks to the Da Vinci Society for making these scholarships possible. If you would like to learn more about the Da Vinci Society, visit www.wagner.edu/institutional_advancement/davinci or contact Betty McComiskey, development office liaison for the Da Vinci Society at 718-420-4014 or emccomis@wagner.edu.



In Memoriam

ALUMNI

Roy Wood '36
 Ralph L. Tellefsen '38
 Willard M. Grimes '40
 Dr. Kenneth J. Kerwin '42
 Wilbur D. Henriques '43
 Louis Chrampanis '44
 Neil MacIntyre '48,
a founding brother of Delta Nu
 Dorothy Fischer '49
 Andrew Johnson '49
 Ruth Danischewski '50
 Alexander Graves '50
 Frederick V. Hurst '50
 Richard W. Lindenberger '50 M'56
 William Schorkopf '50
 Jane Stowell Brown '51
 Charles E. Cortelyou '51

Dr. Peter D'Arrigo '51
 Calvin H. Johnson '51
 Frank J. Clay '52
 Emil P. Bader '52
 Bruce G. Geary '52
 Elmer Arrindell '54
 David Suarez '54
 Joan L. Corradino '55
 Ronald Peterson '55
 Augustus Story '55
 Rev. Carl Werner '55
 Gerald J. Jannone '56
 Barbara Schoen '56
 Robert Slegel '56
 Frederick W. Bosshardt '57
 George Grauer '58
 Bothwell Thomas '58
 Joan Yannon Mansueto '60
 Vincent A. Bilotti '61

Renato De Maria M'62
 Carol Berger Klein '63
 James R. O'Donnell '63
 Charles H. Wood '63
 Norman C. Anderson '64
 Robert E. Osborn '65
 Barry Dress '69
 Tiina Piller '69
 Stephen Lawrence '70
 Caroline Primus-Carroll '71
 Robert Minot '72
 Gwendolyn Ellis '73
 Harold T. Broderick M'76
 Earline M. Benjamin '79
 Marian Stegmann M'93
 Michele White M'95
 Ronald Liss M'02

FORMER EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF WAGNER COLLEGE

Ruth V. Anderson
 Helen Annan
 Albert Baez
 Bob Balut
 Joanne DiSalvo
 Dorothy H. N. Dudley
 Roslyn A. Hinson
 Grace Ludwig
 Josephine A. Manzi
 Frank Sortino
 Elizabeth "Betty" van Stolk

{ FACULTY REMEMBRANCES }

Albert Baez

Father of Joan Baez was a beloved physics professor at Wagner

Albert Baez, who taught physics at Wagner from 1940 to 1943, died on March 20, 2007, in San Mateo County, California. He was 94. Baez was born in Pueblo, Mexico, but grew up in Brooklyn. His father moved the family to New York, where he served as a Methodist minister.

Baez earned a bachelor's degree from Drew University and a master's degree from Syracuse University, both in mathematics. He began his doctoral studies in mathematics at Columbia University in 1939, and it was during that period that he started teaching at Wagner College.

Baez and his wife, Joan Bridge Baez, and their first child, Pauline, lived on Staten Island, where his second daughter, Joan, was born. In his memoirs, Baez fondly remembered the family's house in Westerleigh and his teaching at Wagner: "I stayed up late preparing lectures and devising demonstrations and experiments. I involved my students in projects. [W]ord got around that I was very demanding, but that physics as I taught it was very exciting."



Baez was quickly promoted by President C.C. Stoughton from instructor to assistant professor. In 1943, he was appointed professor with tenure, but he left Wagner in 1944 to move to California, where he switched his doctoral studies from mathematics to physics. He became famous while he was still a graduate

student for co-inventing the X-ray reflection microscope. The imaging technique could be used to examine living cells; it is still in use today in astronomy.

During the Cold War, Baez refused to participate in developing weapons, and instead devoted himself to education. He taught at several universities and worked for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization. He wrote a widely used physics textbook, *The New College Physics: A Spiral Approach* (1967).

He was predeceased by his daughter, the folk singer Mimi Fariña. He is survived by his wife, Joan Bridge Baez, and his daughters Joan Baez and Pauline Bryan.

A Hope, a Wish, and a Prayer

By Lyle Guttu, Wagner College chaplain

Hope can mean a lot of things—it's even the name of a town in Arkansas. But the hope I am thinking of is a wish or a prayer, lying somewhere on the continuum between despair and confidence. I think we harbor hope more often for other people than for ourselves—whether in trivial situations, such as hoping the kid at the free throw line will make the net “swish,” or in circumstances serious beyond despair, such as praying that your daughter's life-threatening illness can be cured.

Hope is umbilically attached to truth. If I were to say, “I hope to become a billionaire,” I would not be telling the truth; one doesn't go to seminary to become a billionaire. But when my daughter was ill, 15 years ago, I hoped and prayed that she would get well. Neither my hope nor my prayers guaranteed that she would, but it was true that that was my hope and my prayer.

Now, so as not to leave you wondering, my son did not make the net “swish,” but my daughter did get well and in May graduated from NYU law school.

But what is the source of hope? Some of you will expect me to say “God”; and, after a fashion, I'm willing to do that—except, well, I'm not sure that answer is of much help, even if that answer would be true for some. Therefore, I would rather say truth is the source of hope. Let me try to explain.

On the evening of September 11, 2001, Mayor Giuliani, a little dusty, wearing a hard hat and with his hand holding a mask over his nose and mouth, was walking with a few aides near Ground Zero. I was watching this on TV. A reporter approached him and, as the camera crew drew close and Giuliani removed his mask, you could see he was not just dusty but also haggard and slightly out of breath. The reporter asked him, “How bad is it?”

“Probably more than we can bear,” replied the mayor.

The candor of his answer stimulated not despair, but

“Where there is truth, there is hope.”

hope. Unrehearsed, it caused the public to resolve, “But we will.” Where there is truth, there is hope.

In the late 1980s, Wagner College began facing its own truth—if something didn't change, the college would be no more. What we had been doing resembled an *All in the Family* script: loveable, but so wrong-headed you had to laugh to keep the tears from distorting your sight. The recovery began modestly; we started to cut the grass; the faculty got a pay raise for the first time in three years. By the early '90s, there was a new spirit on campus. It was called hope.

It is now more than a decade later. The college has never been in better fiscal shape. But that is not grounds for complacency. We have so much catching up to do. We have good and able people serving the college, but we need much more support. That's the truth. I hope, I pray that causes hope in you. And, as was the case that night of September 11, 2001, I hope and pray it also spurs pride in one's city (i.e., college), respect for its leadership, and resolve in its citizens (i.e., alumni). We will!





Campus Events

Highlighting a few coming attractions at Wagner

Summer 2007

July 2-August 17

Children's Summer Camps
External Programs

July 12 & 24, August 15 & 20

Campus Overview Days
Admissions

July 14-September 1

Golf Lessons
External Programs

July 18, August 7

Campus Visit Days
Admissions

July 28

Polo Match on Long Island
Alumni Relations

August 2

Staten Island Yankees v.
Lowell Spinners
Alumni Relations

August 4

Young Alumni Event,
Bar-A, Belmar, N.J.
Alumni Relations

August 18

Wine Tour, Lehigh Valley, Pa.
Alumni Relations

Fall 2007

August 24-26

New Student Orientation
Dean of the College

September 10

Sal Alberti Memorial Golf Classic
Hopewell Valley Golf Club;
Hopewell, N.J.

September 15

Homecoming, Hall of Fame
Induction, 1967 Reunion
Alumni Relations, Athletics

September 23, October 28, November 17

Campus Visit Days
Admissions

September 25

Da Vinci Society
Scholarship Dinner
Hilton Garden Inn, Bloomfield,
Staten Island

September 25-November 15

How to Become a Wedding Planner
External Programs

September 29

Family Weekend
Dean of the College

October 2-December 11

CFP-Retirement Planning
and Employee Benefits
External Programs

October 3-6 & 10-14

Fiddler on the Roof
Main Hall Theater

October 10

Dinner and a Show:
Fiddler on the Roof
Alumni Relations

October 20

Breeders' Cup Steeplechase,
Far Hills, N.J.
Alumni Relations

October 28

Italian Heritage Month
Finale Concert, Choirs of
Wagner College
4 p.m., Campus Hall
Performance Center

November 4

Fall Choral Concert,
Choirs of Wagner College
4 p.m., St. John's Episcopal
Church, Rosebank,
Staten Island

November 14-17 &

November 28-December 2
Our Town
Main Hall Theater

November 18

Jazz Ensemble Fall Concert
3 p.m., Main Hall Theater

December 2

Holiday Concert,
Choirs of Wagner College
4 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church,
Stapleton, Staten Island

December 9

Concert Band Concert
3 p.m., Main Hall Theater

Winter & Spring 2008

January 3-10

Trip to Greece
Alumni Relations

February 8-17

Trip to Napa and
San Francisco, Calif.
Alumni Relations

February 20-23 & February 27-March 2

The Mikado
Main Hall Theater

April 16-19 & 23-27

Footloose
Main Hall Theater

Dates are subject to change.
Some events and programs require
tickets or fees.

For more Information

Admissions.....	800-221-1010 or 718-390-3411
Alumni Relations.....	718-390-3224
Athletics.....	718-390-3433
Athletics Box Office.....	718-420-4039
Da Vinci Society.....	718-420-4014
Dean of the College.....	718-390-3423
External Programs.....	718-390-3221
Music Department.....	718-390-3313
Sal Alberti Golf Classic.....	718-420-4008
Theater Box Office.....	718-390-3259

<http://calendar.wagner.edu>





In Good Hands

Gray skies and cool temperatures could not quench the beauty, spirit, and dignity of the 2007 commencement ceremonies, held May 18 on the Sutter Oval. Dean Julia Sinisgalli Barchitta '64, M'81, led the procession of 650 graduates. She carried the faculty marshal's mace, shown here, a Wagner tradition since 1950.

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