



The WAGNERIAN

Wagner College

Sept. 4, 1992

Staten Island, N.Y.

Hickey has big plans as SGA president

By JEN BURSIN
Wagnerian Staff Writer

It is a hot and sticky summer of 1992, and the vacationing students are enjoying their time away from the "Wag". Well, maybe everyone except the new President of the Student Government Association.

James Hickey is instead busy at work in the SGA office literally cleaning up the Student Government. This hard summer work, however, is just the beginning for the new President. He, and the other members of the Executive Board, are gearing up for a challenging and fulfilling new year.

In addition to James, the executive board includes Tabitha Stefankiewicz, Secretary, and Brian Hassinger, Treasurer. Those wondering about the absence of a Vice President must first understand the unusual circumstances surrounding our recent elections.

First, a note to say that there will be an appointment of a Vice President by the Executive Board. During the interim, a revised constitution will be presented to the Student body for a majority approval. Submitted in referendum form, the revisions will be made available for review by all students during the time of elections for Freshmen Class Officers. With

approval of the constitution, there will be ratification and a review of the performance of the interim Vice President.

As long as no major problems or conflicts arise, he/she will remain in that position until the next election. If there is a less than positive result from the review, a special election will be held for the position.

As for the absence of a regularly elected Vice-President, that is a little complicated. The candidate elected to the position of Vice-President at the close of last semester was actually James Hickey. However, he moved into the position of President due to certain stipulations in the College's Student Government constitution.

First, the two declared candidates were deemed unqualified for election due to College policies. Secondly, the constitution stipulates that no elections for executive board be held after April 30th. Therefore, again based on the school constitution, James, who had been inaugurated as Vice-President on May 6th, assumed the office of President following Commencement. If this sounds like a mess of bureaucratic red tape and unfortunate, archaic regulation, you are not alone.

Because of the circumstances surrounding his position, James has to

first wade through in-depth revisions and explanations, before he can even tackle the responsibilities of his new office.

James is definitely poised for the attack, though, and his efforts this summer can only be described as tremendous. When it was previously stated that he had to clean up, it was in fact the literal truth. Refiling, reorganizing, and basically cleaning house in the SGA office were among his less glorifying duties.

Comments Hickey, "These were things that just should have been taken care of". Naturally, the payoff has been increased efficiency. Letters have been sent out to the Class officers that indicated in a no-nonsense manner exactly the format the government will take, as well as the role and duties of the officers. For those people involved who might have thought that it would have a do-nothing job, they had better find a less strenuous activity to participate in.

Hickey's goals include an improved relationship between SGA, the College administration, the Greek community and the student body. More efforts will be made to keep the students better informed and more involved in campus life, activities, and Student Government itself.

James mentioned the lack of student participation as a major concern of his. The inauguration of the Executive Board on May 6 had a turnout that James describes as "pathetic."

"It seems that the only people who attend the open SGA meetings are those who are mandated to go so they won't lose funding." As the only powerful liaison between the students and the administration, James feels that more of an effort should be made be students to become involved with SGA.

With James Hickey in the top position, the students can expect an accessible an open-minded executive. He welcomes suggestions, and will try to act on as many proposals as possible. With enough ideas, committees will be set up which will hopefully increase the involvement as well as output of the individual students. It should be appealing to students who are not heavily involved in other activities and wish to become more active during their college career.

Either way, the summer will only last so long before meetings will be held, and plans made for an exciting year. James Hickey took this vacation off to come back to Wagner and get the ball rolling again. Wagner College can anticipate great things from this Student Government.

Meet Marc Davis, Director of Admissions

By MICHAEL I. HOFFMAN
Wagnerian Editor

"Semper Fidelis" — The motto of the United States Marine Corps, conveying honor, integrity, and a continuing strive towards personal and professional improvement. It is not coincidental that these words apply so well to our newest Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, as well as former Marine, Mr. Marc Davis. Mr. Davis is replacing Dr. Susan Robinson, who is stepping down from the post to spend more time with her new baby.

The first thing one notices about Marc Davis is his style. Mr. Davis is the epitome of understatement. The briefest encounter shows a man who is a consummate professional, yet with an easy-going, approachable personality and the most pleasant of mannerisms.

He speaks with an even, quiet tone, and appears equally comfortable in meeting with top College administrators as well as off-the-cuff conversations with visiting applicants, inquiring parents, and pretentious school newspaper editors. He appears to be well-suited to the Wagner community.

Marc Davis says there are two things that attracted him to Wagner College... the school and the City. Mr. Davis is a New Yorker by birth, growing up in the Brooklyn neighborhoods

of East New York and Sheepshead Bay. He attended SUNY Potsdam and received his degree in Mathematics. Mr. Davis went on to join the United States Marine Corps, and served for nine years, including a long stint in Vietnam. There, he served as a Marine Intelligence Officer, specializing in interpretation-interrogation. Mr. Davis was honorably discharged as a 1st Lieutenant.

In addition to obvious life experience, Marc Davis brings to Wagner ample experience in college admissions as well. Mr. Davis returned to

SUNY Potsdam to work for his alma mater's admissions office, and then went on to be Director of Admissions at Wilkes University, in Pennsylvania. He spent a number of years there trying to reorganize the admissions staff, and it is from that position that he joins Wagner's staff.

When asked about his goals for the admissions and financial aid offices here at Wagner, Mr. Davis had this to say.

"The goals of admissions and financial aid are very similar, that is to

service the incoming students and to make their adjustment from high school to college a little easier."

As far as the admissions office is concerned, Mr. Davis doesn't see any changes needed to be made. According to him, his main objective will be to "fine-tune" the office, and to pick up the "bugs" which may arise, and act accordingly.

It seems to this writer that Marc Davis is an excellent choice for Wagner, and hopes that Mr. Davis finds Wagner to be as good a choice for himself.

Welcome to Wagner!

Inside the first issue of the Wagnerian:

Messages from our college president
and the new SGA president— Page 3

Editorial Page

From the editor's desk

By MICHAEL I. HOFFMAN
Wagnerian Editor

Every year around the same time, in mid-August, I seem to get the same strange feelings. No, it's not hormones. It's more of a sense of anxious anticipation, a feeling like things aren't moving quite fast enough. It's almost like taking a ride on a roller-coaster, and you've just reached the pinnacle of that 1st dive.

You know, that one spot just before the cars break the top of the hill. You're terrified of seeing what is on the other side, but at the same time, it feels like the ride just came to a stop, and you want to move! That's sort of how I start feeling right before the beginning of each new academic year.

Now don't get me wrong. My life doesn't begin and end around Wagner College, and there are plenty of times when you'll see me high-tailing it off campus as fast as my feet can carry me.

It's just that as I look back, and also look forward, I realize that every year since I began at Wagner, the beginning of the year has seemed to hold something in store for me.

Obviously, the summer before my Freshman year, I had alot to look forward to. Coming out of high school, I was preparing for a new school, but more importantly, a whole new way of life. I wondered what college life was really about.

Am I going to get the bends from all the pressure, or is it just a "four-year party with a \$40,000 cover charge"? Am I going to fit in? Will I want to fit in? What classes will I take? What will I major in? WHAT AM I GOING TO DO FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE? Well, you get the picture.

Sophomore year presented other challenges. I already knew the ropes around school. I had plenty of friends, and I was comfortable enough with the way things had gone my first year, that I was prepared to make my move. The big question was ... Where to?

I wanted to get involved in SOMETHING, but there are quite a number of "somethings" to get involved in at Wagner, and I didn't know what to choose. Should I pledge a fraternity? Run for student government? Join a club? Start a streaking organization? Well, maybe not, about the beginning of my 2nd year did bring alot of choices.

And then, here I am now, a junior in college. I'm already halfway through my college career. I know what I want to study, and I've already included myself in the clubs and organizations I wanted to join. You might say I'm completely on track (not!), so what could I be anticipating now? Well, you're looking at it. This year I'm taking on probably the hardest job I've ever thought of taking at Wagner, the position of Editor-In-Chief of the Wagnerian.

It may not sound like much, but it's a hell of alot more than you think. For instance, consider the paper you're reading right now. Who do you think put it together? This issue was conceived, written edited and published by a party of 3, those being myself, my Assistant Editor James Hickey, and my good pal, and all around good egg, Jen Bursin, and of course our faculty advisor, Claire Regan. While you were all deciding what bath towels to bring with you to school, we were writing your newspaper.

Now, don't get me wrong, I am not complaining about the job, much as it may sound like it. Being the Editor is a pretty cool job. I get my own desk, a certain amount of prestige, and (heh, heh, heh) alot of authority. Besides all that, I'm looking forward to this year for the Wagnerian, and I can tell you right now that we've got alot of ideas for the paper.

First off, there's news (of course). I want to see the Wagnerian really get involved with the Wagner community. Even on a small campus like ours, alot goes on that sometimes remains unknown to the campus as a whole. I think the paper has the responsibility of keeping you informed of what's going on. The better informed you are, the easier it is to get adjusted to campus life, and the less we upperclassmen have to worry about you getting underfoot (Just kidding).

I also know that it can sometimes be difficult to stay on top of the "outside world" when you get caught up in the day-to-day routine of classes, exams, papers, etc. To that end, I want to see the Wagnerian also covering off-campus news. Keeping in mind that the Wagnerian is only published every two weeks, we can't give you that "as-it-happens scoop", but we will keep you abreast of issues and events that have a longer time period. For instance, watch for our articles on the Presidential elections, and the ever active Middle East crisis.

On campus, we'll keep you up on everything Wagner has going on, from the annual Homecoming events, to the coming and going of Wagner faculty and administration. See, for instance, this issue's article on our new Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, Mr. Marc Davis, and about our newest faculty members.

Then, of course, there will be sports. Wagner has some great prospects in our Seahawks and Shehawks, and we will let you know how they're doing, if you can't make the games yourself. Again, we will also try to

keep you updated on professional sports.

The Wagnerian will also have some regularly featured articles and editorials. Some of these will address issues affecting particular groups of students, like the Residence Life and Commuter student columns we're trying to convene, and regular communication from SGA President (and Wagnerian Assistant Editor) James Hickey. You won't find the former two in this issue, but with some luck and support, they'll be up and running very soon. I will also be writing regularly, because a) that's what Editors do and, b) because it's the only time I can run at the mouth, and nobody can stop me!

In addition to "regular" editorials, we're also planning a few different special features. One of my favorites is tentatively titled, "What's Your Problem?" The basic idea is you have a beef with something, anything, about Wagner College. You write us a letter telling us your problem. We go and get your problem answered by the appropriate administrator, faculty member, or staff person. Then there will be our "Faculty Spotlight". This feature will appear every other issue, and will be just what it sounds like.

We are also planning a culinary corner, where one of our more creative fellow students has devised a multitude of recipes for dips, beverages, etc. which do not require anything more than the ingredients and a little time. These are just a few of the plans we have been forming for the school newspaper so far. I also hope that you will write to us, too. I not only encourage you put your thoughts on paper for us, I'm counting on it! I've been going on and on about what I did, what I want, etc., but this paper cannot operate successfully without YOU! There is plenty to be done at the Wagnerian, and there's something for everybody!

Whether you want to write, photograph, edit, do layout, whatever, we need you! Working on the paper is a great way to meet people, familiarize yourself with the faculty and campus, and, best of all, you get your name in the paper! What could be better? The point is, in all seriousness, that the Wagnerian is a student newspaper.

If the student body doesn't support the paper, and put in the minimal effort it takes, then the paper can't operate. You'd be surprised how many people have said to me, "When's the paper coming out? Is it going to be good this year?", but when I ask them how much they've done for the paper, the usual reply is, "Oh, I'm too busy." Well, that's crap! One article every two weeks or so is NOT difficult and it's worth alot more to you than you would think.

So, before you start saying, "What am I going to do with my spare time?", give the Wagnerian a thought. Our door is always open, we always need people, and you might find it more interesting than you expect. To that end, let me just point out that the first Wagnerian meeting is on Wednesday, September 2nd, at 4:30 pm, in the Student Union rm. 201 (At the end of the hall on your right, past the Wagnerian office). I hope all of you will give us a chance.

JOIN THE WAG!

First meeting of the semester

**Wednesday, Sept. 9
at 4:30 p.m.
in Union 201**

**Needed:
Reporters, editors, typists,
layout artists**

**Support your school newspaper
with enthusiasm!**

Correspondence

From the President's desk

By DR. NORMAN SMITH
College President

Welcome back! ... or, in the case of new students, just plain welcome.

While I'm certain that this issue of the Wagnerian will include a number of stories about developments at the College, let me try to summarize some of the things that have happened since last academic year.

As usual, we've had a busy summer. With respect to the campus, the most notable improvement you'll likely see is the renovation of the Communication building into Spiro Hall. This was funded through a gift from Drs. Donald and Evelyn Spiro, both alumni of the college who have been extremely supportive in recent years. Their latest project was to renovate this important teaching facility. The improvements include an expansion of the personal computer center on the second floor and a redecoration, including new seating, for all the amphitheater-type classrooms on the first floor. Later this fall, we will officially rename the building Spiro Hall in honor of these two alumni for which we all have so much to be grateful.

Another important development is the arrival of several new faculty in important academic areas. Without going into detail, all these faculty come highly qualified and provide important depth and richness to the College's academic offerings.

There are some changes to the student affairs staff. Velvet Miller, our Vice-President for Undergraduate Life is on leave to finish her doctorate. JoAnn Mangerelli, Dean of Students, has taken a new post at Rutgers University where she can also begin her doctorate. In the interim, Reverend Lyle Guttu will serve as Dean of Students.

Dean Guttu is a veteran member of the Wagner family and brings intellectual depth and maturity to this important post. He's been a Wagner for nearly 20 years and many students can attest to his genuine interest in and support of students. That's why last year's Kallista yearbook was dedicated to him.

For those of you who may not know, Dean Guttu is a graduate of Harvard College where he was a hockey star during his undergraduate days. Look him up. He's definitely worth knowing.

Another new and important development this year is the merging of Academic Advisement and Career Planning. Part of this merger includes the arrival of Professor Tony Carter who, in addition to teaching business courses, will head our already underway alumni mentor program. I encourage every student to become involved in this very exciting career development program.

Professor Carter will be linking students to alumni volunteers in high ranking executive and professional positions throughout the greater New York City area. This is a way to better understand career opportunities and it is also a golden opportunity to make critical job contacts that could lead to internships while enrolled at Wagner and your first job following graduation.

Let me close with a reminder that so much of your college education is what you make it. Take the initiatives to be involved. Your college years go by like a blur so don't waste precious time. Have an active and productive year!

From the SGA President

By JAMES J. HICKEY
SGA President

Ever since I was a freshman, I perceived SGA to be a well organized, powerful, persuasive, and efficient organization. It was not until I gave my inaugural address in May that I realized SGA fell short in these areas. Believe it or not I was far from disappointed, I was actually pleased I now had an opportunity to ameliorate SGA.

Becoming head of an organization needing improvement is far more challenging than becoming the head of one that doesn't. What I wish to convey to you is that I have a goal — to improve SGA by making my office a position sought by almost every member of the student body by the time I leave office.

In order to become president of SGA I had to resign as president of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. As president of TKE I brought the organization back from an all time low to a recognizably strong fraternity. When I passed the TKE gavel on to the new president it was a proud moment knowing that I brought the fraternity the recognition it deserved. It is my goal to accomplish the same for SGA.

I hope I am not sounding idealistic to you because I am very much a realistic person. I cannot improve SGA alone. I need your help! During the summer a lot of necessary preliminary work was done for SGA. Now that the Fall semester is beginning, your input into the organization will be greatly needed and appreciated.

With the help of the Executive Cabinet, we amended the SGA constitution; but it will not be valid until it is ratified by the entire student body. The amended version of the constitution will be submitted to you in referendum form. This is your opportunity to tell me whether you approve or disapprove of the amendments. If the referendum fails I want feedback from you as to why it did. It is very important that we get an amended version of the constitution ratified because the current one is simply outdated.

Another area in which you can help me is your participation in campus events. I would like to see a large growth in this area. I sent letters out to politicians in the area up for reelection this year asking them to make a campaign stop at Wagner.

I am working on two debates to be held at the college in the Fall; one between Congresswoman Susan Molinari and her challenger, City Councilman Sal Albanese and the other between Senator Alfonse D'Amato and his Democratic opponent. Events such as these are good publicity for Wagner especially if we have a large student showing.

With so many different areas to get involved in — SGA, Student Activities Board, sports, clubs, Greek life — there is no reason not to get involved. No matter what your interests are, one of Wagner's many organizations must be right for you.

I would like to see an increase in attendance at the Student Government meetings. These meetings are open to the Student Body and are your opportunity to voice your opinions, concerns, etc. or to just stop by and see what SGA is up to. Keep in mind that I and my fellow SGA officers are unable to help you if we don't hear from you. I will keep you informed about all SGA events through advertisements in the Wagnerian and posted flyers throughout the campus.

The flip side of the coin is for you to keep us up to date with your concerns. Student Government officers are supposed to represent the Student Body, but we won't be very representative of you if we are left in the dark.

SGA has most of the resources needed to be successful — money, facilities, a supportive college administration — however; we lack the most important resource — student involvement. With the anticipated increase of student involvement this year, I am confident SGA will be the best it has ever been. Your involvement will someday allow me to pass on the SGA gavel to a new president with complete confidence. I am looking forward to a productive year.

**Letters to the Editor
are welcome**

**Drop them off
at Union 204**

In the next issue: A Wagner Theater preview

The Wagnerian needs a staff! You can become part of your school newspaper by coming to the first meeting on Sept. 9 at 4:30, or by filling out this form and dropping it off at Union 204.

NAME _____

CLASS (Circle One)
(Frsh) (Soph) (Jr) (Sr)

ADDRESS _____

MAJOR _____

PHONE _____

OF CREDITS THIS
SEMESTER _____DO YOU HAVE ANY EXPERIENCE IN SCHOOL JOURNALISM? (Y) (N)
IF SO, DESCRIBE: _____

_____DO YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE/INTEREST IN CREATIVE WRITING? (Y) (N)
(Outside of Classes)POSITIONS INTERESTED IN: (Check All Appropriate Choices)

EDITORS:

News _____

Business _____

Sports _____

Asst. Business _____

Features _____

Arts &
Entertainment _____

PHOTOGRAPHERS _____

STAFF WRITER:

News _____

Sports _____

Features _____

A & E _____

We want to know!
How you'll vote in the presidential election

We're conducting an informal survey for a story in the next issue of the Wagnerian. Circle your choice and drop it off at Union 204 by Wednesday, Sept. 9.

Bush/Quayle

Other (fill in) _____

Clinton/Gore