



the
wagnerian

MAY 18, 2012

Commencement Issue

A FAREWELL TO THE SENIOR CLASS

REMEMBER WHEN...



"I hope you will go out and let stories happen to you, and that you will work them, water them with your blood and tears and laughter till they bloom, till you yourself burst into bloom."

Clarissa Pinkola Estes, American poet

FRESHMAN YEAR



1. Alexa Lyons and Katie MacPherson 2. Mary Kendrick and Hugh Gilmore 3. Ashley Burger, Brittany Chiaffarano, Christine Gomez, Rachel Tripp, Christina Moore, and Maureen Germain 4. Brandi Adduce and Jordan Beyar 5. Leighann Colin, Tara Kirk, Susanna Gooch, Kelly Reily, Quinten Buscy.

"And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to bloom."

Anais Nin, French author



SOPHOMORE YEAR



1. Sara Auerbach, Courtney Heiserman, Marielle Nasta, Victoria Mauro, Lauren DeFilippis and Rachel Tripp 2. Lacey Flint, Brandi Adduce, Mary DeBorger and Jamie Worker 3. Rachel Zampelli, Jennifer Herbach, Jennifer Emigholz, Alyssa Fasolino and Rachel Mose 4. Diana Papa, Paige Carter and Anna Demenkoff.



By VIOLETA CAPRIC
SGA President

Final message from the 'Oval' office

Looking back at the 2011-2012 school year

The last week of being at Wagner is one that's marked by several finals, major due dates, copious amounts of caffeine and maybe one or two all-nighters in the library. Although this is all true, it is also a time to reflect on the events that have occurred throughout the year, and for seniors, it is an opportunity to celebrate on this beautiful campus one last time.

This year has truly provided our campus with several "firsts," particularly when it comes to the experiences of our students. Let's think back to August and September and the wonderful team-work of our administration and upper staff in preparing us for Hurricane Irene. I don't know about all of you, but that was definitely the first hurricane I have ever encountered, while spending the night in Spiro Sports Center. Not long after, SGA and CCP put on a fun-filled Fall Fest for the campus and provided with students with fun giveaways, which was quickly followed by our first Halloween/Blizzard/Homecoming. The fall semester also saw a record-breaking 11 new clubs and organizations that joined SGA including the Culinary Arts Appreciation Club and the Microbiology Club. The semester ended with Wagner's first Winter Mixer, where SGA raised over \$200 for charity.

The spring semester was even more exciting for SGA. Our senator committees made great progress and we were able to work with Lackmann to open up transfer hours, which was well received by all. Our senators continued to move forward in adding additional shuttles to the late night shuttle; however those plans were put on pause as we prepared to deal with SGA's budget crisis. The spending of clubs in the fall semester was far greater than any other semester in SGA history, therefore leaving SGA ill-prepared to deal with the budget

requests of our clubs and organizations in the spring semester. Despite the hardships, our club congress passed a Constitutional Amendment, which changed the way clubs applied for a budget and allowed for the implementation of various practices that would help prevent a budget crisis from occurring in the future. Continued fundraising efforts and our senators' dedication to holding events allowed for our campus to see its first ever Health Fair and for SGA's BIG NAME ACT, where Gym Class Heroes and the children's choir at P.S. 22 performed for the evening.

The year has truly been filled with new events, and several campus changes that have made for better relations between student clubs and administration. As an organization, SGA has also grown and adapted our committees and proposal groups in order to better respond to the needs of our students and organizations. The year has provided us with several insights into what works well for this campus and what we can look into changing next year, which, I have no doubt, will be handled phenomenally under the leadership of Greg Balaes and the new SGA executive board.

I have had the opportunity to get to know and work with so many of you and am extremely humbled and grateful to have had the honor in serving as your Student Government president. Wagner College is truly a place that empowers students to play a role in impacting change, and SGA has been the main organization that has proven this to me. Finally, I'd like to wish the outgoing seniors the best of luck in their future endeavors! Thank you for this wonderful opportunity and I wish you all a fantastic summer.

Signing Off,
Violeta Capric

Moving up, moving out

Editor-in-chief Marissa DiBartolo bids farewell

On the cusp of graduation, everyone keeps asking me, "if you could go back to freshman year, would you choose a different school?" The answer to this question each and every single time is: no.

My time at Wagner is something I will always look back on fondly. Like every college, there are a million things wrong with this place and a thousand things I could complain about and a hundred things that need improving, but, I can't picture myself anywhere else.

I don't love Wagner because it is (almost) the most beautiful campus in America, or because it is "so close" to the City, or because of the Wagner plan, or because the theater program is exceptional, or whatever else we brag about. This place has become my home for one simple reason: the wonderful people that I've met.

First things first: the professors are incredible. As an English major, I've gotten to know the most brilliant professors who were able to alter the way I think, make me a better writer, and inspire me to look beyond the surface and dive not only into literature, but into my life. I feel wildly privileged to learn from such wonderful people who are so passionate about literature and so dedicated to teaching. I want to throw every cliché in the book at you wonderful folks, so thank you for changing my life, I am the wind beneath your wings, the world is a better place because of all of you.

Though I knew I was always going to be an English major, journalism



was something I sort of stumbled upon. I fell in love with news writing as a freshman, and getting to be the editor-in-chief for two years completely changed my experience at Wagner. The many nights spent in the Wagnerian office designing pages, redesigning the same pages that were lost, editing my stories again and again and again, begging for last minute interviews, calling my mom in fits of rage, and waking up at 6 a.m. to send the issue all gave me a great appreciation for the art of journalism (and the struggles of a journalist).

To all of the wonderful staff writers and photographers and editors that have come and gone over the past two years, you are all amazing. This paper wouldn't be what it is without you, and all of your continued help and support inspire me to keep at this every single day.

It goes without saying that I would not be as accomplished as I am today without the unending support from Professor Claire Regan. She took on

the role as my mentor for two years, and guided me into becoming the journalist I am. She is an extremely dedicated woman, and I hope to take what she has taught me to new heights in this field.

And of course, I saved the best for last. Three lovely ladies who keep me going day after day after day: Brandi Adduce, Diana Papa and Alexa Lyons.

For most people, entering college comes with the expectation of finding new friends. I found soul mates. I found three girls who completely changed my life. They've made it possible for me to grow into the woman I am. They have watched me struggle, held me up, handed me tissues, made me laugh so hard I couldn't breathe, and, best of all, they loved me. They made me feel completely secure and at home and at ease. I am so grateful for having you three in my life, and I look forward to future book clubs and trash-talking sessions until we are 80 years old.

I know, because of these three groups of extraordinary individuals, I will always cherish the memories I've racked up at Wagner. Because of my experience here, I feel OK with not having a plan, with not knowing what is coming next, because I feel completely and utterly accomplished.

I love you all, it's been a pleasure.

"Think where man's glory most begins and ends, and say my glory was I had such friends."

-William Butler Yeats

the wagnerian

RAISING AWARENESS AT WAGNER COLLEGE SINCE 1918

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Professor Regan
Faculty Adviser

2012 Senior Gift

To help the senior gift committee reach their goal of \$10,000, contact Lindsay Hansen at Lindsay.hansen@wagner.edu or visit www.wagner.edu/institutional_advancement/main.

Details regarding how the money will benefit campus are still being determined.

Senior editors say goodbye and good luck

Susanna Gooch

Humor Editor

The end, Wagner. Cue the graduation march. I'm out of here. Now cue wailing. I mean... can I just stay? Just a little longer? Just you know, to cuddle?

If you told me on my first day of school that the next four years of my life were going to have ended up the way they did I would not have believed you.

Wagner has this spirit about it. I knew it when I came to visit for the very first time. It's what kept me here and what makes me sad to leave. Wagner is the brother or sister we love to hate but love to love at the end of the day...or just at the end all together.

My time here has been defined by the people I've met, the people I've gotten to know and the people that have surrounded me over the past four years. (I'm sure my teachers can indeed vouch that my social life was always first priority. Always has, always will be. Sorry, not sorry.) But seriously, people are what make life worth keep on keepin' on-ing and the people at Wagner are indeed what have made my experience so...um, well, life-changing.

It has been my pleasure sharing my ups, my downs, my ins and my outs with you during my time at Wagner. The Wagnerian has set the standard. All jobs will compare to this type of freedom and fun environment for the rest of my life...if only I could tell that to the line of restaurants I will be waiting tables at for the next gagillion years.

To all of the friends I have made at Wagner, I will carry your hearts with me. Whether it was a class, a bar night, a time I remember or a time I really want to remember but can't, I hope you know that I'm a better person because of it. I can truly say I love each and every person I've ever met at Wagner. In your own way, you have impacted me for good and for that, I am truly grateful.

This is not a good-bye but a see you later.



Elle Trudeau

Nation and World Editor

My four years at Wagner have been very memorable. I have had so many different experiences and have learned a lot about myself. I started off as a quiet freshman, unsure of myself and can now say that I am a confident senior with a vision of where life will take me.

My four years would not have been the same had I not joined Alpha Phi Omega. Though APO has evolved and changed over the years, I am grateful for all of the friends that I made and of all the great memories I have. I remember joining sophomore year and feeling like I had finally found a place where I could be myself. I cannot thank APO enough for that.

Instead of getting sappy about graduating, I want to share a few memorable moments/people from my four years:

After a crazy night freshman year with my roommate, Deeksha Chawla, we woke up early in the morning to find a stranger in my bed. A drunken boy had wandered upstairs and made his way into our room, thinking it was his. I'm still not sure when he came in. Maybe he spent the night? This memory is the epitome of my friendship with Deeksha. I will never forget her face as we stared at each other, wondering what was happening. Freshman year was a particularly difficult one and I couldn't have made it through without always having Deeksha to laugh with.

I went into sophomore year having applied to live on the earth floor, but not having a roommate picked out. I got assigned to live with Lana Herzig, a nice girl who had I never met before. Looking back now, I consider her one of my best friends and could not have made it through without her support and loyalty. My birthday always falls during finals week and while most people are too busy to celebrate, Lana always makes the time. Sophomore year she went out of her way to decorate our room with balloons and streamers; I really appreciate her kindness.

My Wagner experience would not have been complete had I not gone to England. It was the best decision that I made during my four years. It sparked my wanderlust.

Senior year would not be complete without mentioning Christine Rizzolo. We started off as arch-enemies sophomore year and are now inseparable. We are very different people, but have become close despite our differences. Christine is always there to lighten the mood with her great sense of humor. I cannot count the amount of times we have laughed so hard that I couldn't breathe. Thanks, Christine, for always keeping my secrets.



Trevor Sideris

Assistant Humor Editor

This is not real. It seems like only yesterday I was unloading all my stuff into Harbor View 220 and starting my career as a college student. Now it's over and I don't know if I should be happy or sad about it.

Wagner has been home for me for the past four years and the people I have met shaped me into who I am today. I used to wonder what it would have been like if I had gone to a different college, and now after four years that question has been erased from my memory. Choosing Wagner has been the best decision I have ever made in my life. I have learned so much and grown into the adult I always wished to be because of it. Yes, it had its ups and downs, but what adventure doesn't? Life here would have been boring without the twists and turns that came my way.



I came to Wagner with one thing on my mind: theater. I wanted to be an actor and nothing else. After four years I am happy to say that Wagner has opened my mind and showed me that I can be anything I want to be. It introduced new passions to me, ones I never dreamed of before. Journalism and the Wagnerian for example, are two areas I never thought of exploring before coming to college. It just shows that with the influence of the wonderful professors and the support of many friends I was able to hone my many crafts and try new paths making me a well rounded person.

From my brothers of Theta Chi to my theater friends and even my journalism buddies I can say that I am privileged to have met each single friend and will never forget the times we had together. Thanks Wagner College for making these past four years the best years of my life.

Kristen Haggerty

Copy Chief

I don't think I would really recognize the me that I was when I first stepped on campus four years ago. My mom took a picture of me and my best friend Trevor practically running up the hill from Harbor View, ready to get as far away from our high school selves as quickly as possible. But one thing that I've learned here is that there is nothing wrong with holding onto your past a little. In fact, my whole life is going to be devoted to learning and teaching about the past, as, in the fall, I will be attending the Fashion Institute of Technology to learn how to work with historical costumes in a museum setting.

Wagner has its frustrations, certainly. Who hasn't lamented the salads that taste like dirt or run screaming from a hell-monster bug they found on their wall? But Wagner has given me faculty that truly cared about my future, real-life, practical, experiences that I wouldn't get anywhere else, and the opportunity to pursue the things I love, with encouragement and guidance.

To my AOII sisters- there has never been a group of people in this world that has had the influence on me that you have. Your unconditional love and support, even when I'm at my weirdest, has done more for me than you will ever know. Spring '09 and my other seniors- thank you. You know how amazing you are, and I'm excited to go out into this big, magical world with you, knowing we can always come to each other when real life gets a little too scary.

And of course, there's the Wagnerian. This is definitely the little paper that could. In my one semester as an overwhelmed and under-rested co-editor with the amazing Caroline LaTorre, I learned more than I could ever imagine. Those sleepless nights, computer glitches, missing papers, and endless edits helped me realize that some things are worth fighting for. And Marissa, you should get a banquet or something for all of the life you have devoted to keeping this publication not only running, but moving forward. The Wagnerian is infinitely better because of you, and our next editors are lucky that you were there to teach them.

So, although I am so excited to move into my new apartment and learn about corsets and crinolines for two years, I am going to miss Wagner like crazy. It's been an amazing four years, and I wouldn't trade it for anything. My advice- take the bad things in stride. Appreciate the wonderful things that you are given here, and the amazing people you can meet. Because at the end of the day, it's a big, big world out there, and this little flower-drenched campus is going to feel like a haven as soon as you are out the door.



Caroline LaTorre

Managing Editor



My time at Wagner has been amazing! Coming to New York City from a small town in Maine I didn't know what to expect, but I couldn't be happier with my decision. From my first day at freshman orientation back in August 2008 all the way to my last day of classes this week, I have experienced so many new things and have grown both as a student and actress.

Being part of the theater program helped me learn about the business of being an actress and gave me the skills I need to master an audition. The faculty was very supportive and would challenge us to push ourselves to try new things. The most recent show I was in at Wagner, *Goddess Wheel*, was an amazing experience which allowed me to apply all the skills I had learned during my acting classes over the four years. The theater department has prepared me for the real world of acting and I am especially grateful for my work with faculty members Michele Pawk, John Jamiel and Rusty Curcio.

Another organization that made my time at Wagner truly unforgettable was my amazing sorority Alpha Omicron Pi which I have been a part of since the spring in 2009. Being part of Greek life allowed me to meet so many new girls and make lifelong friendships. Songfest, Wagnerstock and Homecoming every year wouldn't have been the same without my sorority.

Wagner College has been the best four years of my life and I couldn't imagine having spent my time anywhere else. The memories and friends that I have made here are ones I will never forget and I am sad to see my time come to an end, but I am also excited to see what the future holds.

Alexa Lyons

Life and Style Editor

If I could take a time machine back to freshman year I would. Not because I'm absolutely terrified to be shoved out into the real world of electric bills, tiring jobs, that horrendous thing called "matrimony," and the fact that having a cocktail at one in the afternoon will no longer be acceptable, but because Wagner College has grown to become my home and I'm not sure if I'm ready to get a new mailbox.

While there have been a few pitfalls like that atrocious economics class that made me want to gouge my eyes out King Lear style, and those last minute library trips where writing my literary papers turned into a cognitive debate about which movie trailer to watch next (was that just me?), the rest made up for it and have made these four years irreplaceable.

So thanks Wagna, for the infinite-feeling Oval days that were never complete without wine-filled water bottles and a minor sunburn, for the proper introduction to the Staten Island Ferry and all of its eclectic inhabitants, for giving me three best friends that now help make up the rest of me, and for the professors that have made me see the world in a different light. I am eternally grateful and will miss my beautiful green bubble on the hill.



REMEMBER WHEN...



“As long as we are persistence in our pursuit of our deepest destiny, we will continue to grow. We cannot choose the day or time when we will fully bloom. It happens in its own time”
Denis Waitley, motivational speaker



JUNIOR YEAR

1. Jennifer Herbach and Jennifer Emigholz 2. Sarah Post, Erica Vuolle, Allie Bauer 3. Sasha May and Tyrik Miller 4. Leighann Colin, Hugh Gilmore 5. Members of the undergraduate nursing class of 2012.



SENIOR YEAR



“Now I see the secret of making the best person:
it is to grow in the open air and to eat and sleep
with the earth.”

Walt Whitman, American poet



1. Kevin Austin and Elle Trudeau; 2. Courtney Heiserman, Rachel Tripp, Brianna Samson, Danny Fitzpatrick, Marielle Nasta, and Rachel Zampelli 3. Paul Emrich, Leighann Colin 4. Marissa DiBartolo, Alexa Lyons, Diana Papa 5. John Andrejack, Peter Rubin, Carolyn Clark, Melanic Garces, Casey Lindine.

What next?!

Graduating seniors speak out about their plans for life after commencement



Amanda Arcieri

"I am seeking commission as an officer in the United States Navy. I also plan on getting a higher level social psychology degree after the Navy."



Courtney Hejserman

"I'm planning on finding a job with a social service agency in the City... Eventually, I want to get a Master's in Social Work and a Ph.D., but these last four years have been so hectic that I want to take a break from school and get settled into a new apartment and job first."



Daniela Sannino

"Looking for work in IA (International Affairs) field, possibly with local politicians to start. End goal is DC."



Emily Stein

"After graduating, I will be going to graduate school for a Mental Health Counseling Master's program, then onto a PsyD or PhD program for Clinical Psychology... My plan for immediately after graduation is to spend time enjoying the company of my family and friends."



Tyrrik Miller

"The plan is to stay on campus and assist the men's basketball program with summer camp and activities, while navigating the city for jobs and apartments. Additionally, I'll be taking and teaching dance classes in preparation to audition for *So You Think You Can Dance Season 13* next year."



Lexi Cate

"I am going to make the most of the summer months and do my best to unwind and relax in my new home state of New Jersey. In the fall, I will be attending the Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College and pursuing my Master's degree in social work with a concentration in clinical practice with individuals and families."



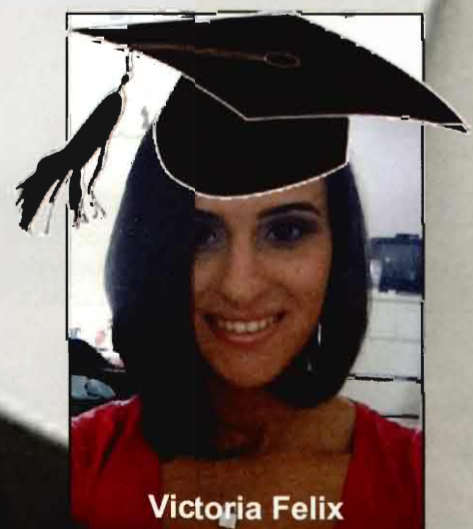
Rose Tobiassen

"I will be attending Durham University, in Durham, England to get my masters degree in culture, sustainability, and development. This is a one year degree in anthropology, focusing on development."



Sarah Suttiff

"I will be spending the summer choreographing '13 The Musical' and 'The Music Man' for Saratoga Children's Theatre. In the fall I will be moving back to NYC to audition, paint, and do other artsy things hoping to somehow make a life out of it. If all else fails I will move to India and join an Ashram or something."



Victoria Felix

"I will be attending Louisiana Tech University for my Ph.D. in counseling psychology."