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A LETTER TO DMS ALUMNI

I am sure by now that you have received more than one piece of e-mail or regular mail (and perhaps a telephone call or two) regarding the proposed Dartmouth College constitution. I will try, therefore, to make this message as concise as possible, while offering you websites that can help you flesh out the details and opinions, pro and con.

A graduate of the College in 1960, I graduated from the Medical School in 1961. This past January I retired from my position as pediatric cardiologist with the Dartmouth Hitchcock Clinic. Recently I was appointed to be the DMS representative to the Dartmouth Alumni Council.

I am voting “YES” for the new Alumni Governance Constitution. As stated by the group *Dartmouth Alumni for Common Sense* (www.dartmouthcommonsense.org), by “voting YES on Amendment #1 and NO on Amendments #2 through #5, you will be helping to adopt a new alumni constitution that will:

- Strengthen our longstanding alumni involvement in Dartmouth’s affairs
- Give alumni more ways to participate and make it easier to do so
- Create more avenues for alumni to provide their perspective to the Dartmouth Board and administration
- Make the balloting process for Alumni Trustees and other alumni governing positions more open, accessible and representative of alumni concerns”

In the Friday, September 22, 2006 issue of *The Daily Dartmouth*, the Editorial Board affirmed “...it should be a vote in favor of a constitution that streamlines cumbersome organizations in a spirit of compromise and democratic representation. The constitution was crafted by a group composed not of insiders or outsiders but of concerned alumni volunteers across the spectrum of opinion.” (www.thedartmouth.com/article.php?aid=2006092202010) Three of my Dartmouth College classmates, for whom I have a great deal of respect, were deeply involved in this alumni governance issue over the past two years, two (Jim Adler and Joe Mandel) as members of the nine-person Task Force, and Rick Roesch as a member of the Association of Alumni Executive Committee. They have stated that the new constitution “represents a constructive compromise on a long list of issues forged in a remarkable spirit of give and take by people from different backgrounds and widely differing views.”

For information about the constitution and how to vote you can visit (www.voxthevote.org). I have given you PRO websites above. In consideration and respect for the fact that there is disagreement on this important proposal I note for you that opposing views are available at (www.hanoverinstitute.org/NoNewConstitution.htm).

Sincerely yours,

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