

April 2019

# ALMA MATTERS

A DARTMOUTH CLASS OF 1999 PRODUCTION



Classmates gather in front of Dartmouth Hall during reunion, June 2018.

## WELCOME!

Class of 1999, welcome to this issue of Alma Matters! We (Michelle and Adrienne) are excited to be working together as co-editors of our Class of 1999 Newsletter. Like many esteemed Alma Matters editors before us, we hope to use the class newsletter as a vehicle for '99 engagement with fellow '99s and to connect our class with dear ol' Dartmouth between our reunions and visits to Hanover. We hope to create great content based on our classmates and to communicate digitally and sometimes in print with you about what "matters." Specifically, in this upcoming issue, one focus will be '99s and their involvement with non-profits, dovetailing with the Call to Lead effort the College has launched for its 250th anniversary.

If you find yourself checking your Blitz Inbox regularly for the next newsletter issue (like you spent many a Thursday night in Hanover looking for the "Weekend Update"), please consider submitting some content to us!

Feeling hungry for more Dartmouth? No longer can you call (603) 643-6135 to get EBAs (sadly) but you can connect with the "Dartmouth College Class of 1999" or "Dartmouth" on Facebook or [visit the Class of 1999 on the web](#). And though we can't meet up at the Hop anytime soon, at least we'll have the newsletter.

Looking forward to connecting with you! Go Big Green!

Michelle Sweetser - [msweetser@gmail.com](mailto:msweetser@gmail.com)  
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## CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER	2
REUNION RECAP	3
MEET CLASS LEADERS	5
CAMPUS NEWS	9
SESTERCENTENNIAL EVENTS	10



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Robert Tichio

Greetings, Class of 1999!

It is with an air of excitement that I pen my first note as President of the Class of 1999, having gathered in Hanover with the other newly elected members of your Executive Committee for Class Officers Weekend this past autumn. I am enormously grateful to so many of our classmates who are continuing their service to both our Class and the College, and want to make special mention of Jeff Fine's long tenure as President prior to passing the baton. He will continue to serve as Class Representative to the Alumni Council and will no doubt prove invaluable to the incoming Committee. Thank you, Jeff!

As the new Executive Committee gathered for the first time, we organized around what our mission would be. Having just come off a very successful 20th (well, 19th) Reunion, we have the luxury of taking a breath to think long-range between now and our 25th Reunion (June 2024). We came to the conclusion that we would pursue two overarching objectives: (i) serve as a link between the College and her alumni and (ii) identify and cultivate ways for our Class to connect with the College. A bit more on each of these themes:

First, to anyone who has had the chance to make trips up to Dartmouth since we departed some 19+ years ago, the breadth and scope of the advancement of what the College aspires to be is immediately evident. From new facilities construction to the preservation of established places of identity; from the ambitious Call to Lead capital campaign to the formation of new centers, institutes and initiatives; the College is growing in a myriad of ways, all to advance her stated mission of preparing students for a "lifetime of learning and of responsible leadership." While she may seem far away to those of us who don't visit Hanover from time to time, we want to make sure that our Class is informed and engaged with what is happening at Dartmouth. There are various existing channels through which many of our classmates consume Dartmouth "information" – such as campus alumni affiliations or sports teams – but we have the chance to highlight the ways that Dartmouth is changing that may be most relevant or noteworthy to our Class. These pages and other forums will serve as that tool, so please stay tuned for a slightly different approach with respect to communication than you may have seen in the past.

Second, this winter I personally had the chance to visit Hanover on three separate occasions: Class Officers Weekend, the Call to Lead retreat for campaign leaders, and the opening of the new Hood Museum. I was inspired by the countless ways Dartmouth alumni engage with their alma mater and felt compelled to remove obstacles for more of us to do so in the future. The Executive Committee sees so much potential in our collective alumni class "giving back" to Dartmouth, not only through philanthropy, but through service and time as an expression of our individual and communal gratitude towards an institution that has shaped us each tremendously. Stayed tuned for concrete ideas as to how you can get more involved with Dartmouth over the coming years.

In summary, it is a great time to be an alumnus of Dartmouth! On behalf of the entire Executive Committee, I thank you for your love of the College, and I look forward to reconnecting with so many of you over the coming years.



## REUNION RECAP

By Catherine Maxson Pieroni,  
20th Reunion Chair

From June 15th-17th, 2018, more than 200 members of the Class of 1999 returned to Hanover for our 20th Reunion.

Check in was at our shared cluster tent on the Gold Coast Lawn. As classmates trickled in starting Friday afternoon, it was great to see so many people reconnecting, meeting each other's spouses, guests and children, and just soaking in being back at Dartmouth. Highlights of the weekend included socializing with the classes of 1998 and 1997 during late night in the tents, our Class of 1999 dinner at the BEMA under the stars, a DAM entrepreneurship panel, and our Dartmouth Author's event with President Wright that highlighted books published by members of all three classes in our cluster. The dorms were packed with returning alumni, and we set records for attendance for a cluster celebrating its 20th Reunion. The Green was magical on Saturday night as Dartmouth alums from all the classes back on campus rocked out to a concert and fireworks. Classmates gathered one more time on Sunday morning over Lou's pastries to say goodbye, with promises to return for our 25th Reunion in 2024.

## HER SPELL ON THEM REMAINS

Save the date now for that one, where we hope to see even more classmates return to campus. Our 25th Reunion matches up with our 25th year after graduation because there is no clustering for the 25th -- it will be only 99s for the weekend. Unless the alumni office changes course, however, we will again cluster with our friends the 98's and 97's for our 30th (gasp!). For a final time, I'd like to thank all the 99's who worked on the Reunion Committee, especially Jeff Fine and Scotty McConnaughey, both of whom were a pleasure to work with and did an amazing job! See you in 2024!

## VIEWS FROM REUNION



## MEET THE CLASS LEADERS

### ROBERT TICHIO, PRESIDENT

Robert continues to be a Partner at Riverstone Holdings, the New York based energy private equity fund, where he has been for 13 years, having joined the firm from Goldman Sachs after receiving his MBA from Harvard. Although he spends his days captaining the firm's investment activities in exploration and production globally, he is also active in a number of philanthropic initiatives – specifically around youth, arts and education in New York City and Nantucket, MA – and wrapped up a nearly 8 year term on the Rockefeller Board of Visitors here at the College. He is passionate about his daily triathlon and Ironman training and enjoys travel all over the world, having touched down all over the globe in 2018, including stops in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Singapore, Australia, France and Brazil (amongst others). As President of the Class of 1999, Robert is hoping to build upon the incredible legacy of his predecessors by elevating engagement and making sure the College is connecting to her alumni near and far. As a member of the New York Regional Committee for the Call to Lead Capital Campaign and an ardent supporter of the recent Hood Museum renovation and expansion, he hopes to be in a position to articulate the vision of the College's leadership to his classmates. Although perhaps he has a soft spot for the second-story arched alcove armchairs in Sanborn or the Orozco Murals in Baker, he is tough pressed to pick any one spot in Hanover as his favorite!



### CATHERINE MAXSON PIERONI, VICE PRESIDENT

Catherine lives in Maplewood, NJ with her husband Marc (Williams '99) and her two sons, Joshua (11) and Andrew (8). As a stay-at-home Mom, Catherine is blessed to be able to spend time with her kids, cheering them on from the sidelines, reading stories, building Legos, and talking with them about their lives and the day's events. She has become an expert on Pokémon, the arcane rules of flag football, and how to entertain herself and a younger sibling at a 3+ hour baseball game! She spends most of her free time volunteering and is currently working with other parents in her town to improve their athletic fields and as treasurer of the HSA at St. Rose of Lima Academy. Catherine tries to take advantage of her proximity to New York to see shows and visit museums, and in the summer, she can be found down the Jersey Shore most weekends. Catherine spends as much of her free time as possible reading, so send any book recommendations her way!

Catherine is the Vice President, a position she has held for 10 years! After chairing Reunion last year, she wanted to remain part of the Executive Committee to help provide some continuity and institutional memory. Her goal is to work to support Robert's vision for our class, and help the other committee members engage with the Class of 1999 and staff at the College.

## DANIELLE BUCZEK, DIGITAL CONTENT MANAGER

Danielle lives in Whitinsville, MA, with her husband of 15 years, Matt, and their two dogs, Sadie and Penny. She is the Director of Special Programs at Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, where she runs a summer program for aspiring veterinarians and works in the admissions office. In addition to work and family, Danielle keeps herself busy curling with and helping run the Blackstone Valley Curling Club, and singing in the Greater Milford Community Chorus. Danielle has served as the class webmaster since 2010, though the College has now renamed the position to be Digital Content Manager. As part of that role, she manages the class website. The site is quite old, so it could stand a redesign. Danielle would love to hear from you about the elements you like about our website, or what you'd like to see in the future. Her favorite place on campus? "It's always so hard for me to pick a favorite of anything! I had so many favorite places on campus. My sorority house (Alpha Xi Delta, which is now back to housing Beta) was truly my home, where I could always find friends, fun, and support. I spent many hours "studying" in the Tower Room at Baker, though if I'm honest, I really spent more time watching everybody else! And of course, I loved hanging out on the Green during that brief period between mud season and the end of spring term."



## ALLISON FISCH GIFT PLANNING CHAIR

Allison lives in NYC with her husband and two kids (both boys) and is a partner and portfolio manager at Pzena Investment Management, where she has worked since 2001. As the gift planning chair, she is here to help! Favorite song from our Dartmouth years? So many! But let's say anything performed by Groove Merchant. Favorite place on campus: The Hop. Naturally. And a favorite memory from our time at Dartmouth? Sitting on the Green, wasting the afternoon with friends.

## JEFF FINE, ALUMNI COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

After a year and a half in Boston, Jeff moved back to Chicago at the end of February and is working in Grainger in marketing strategy. Says Jeff, "It's been great seeing all of my Boston Dartmouth friends over the past 18 months!" After two terms as Class President, Jeff now represents the class on the Alumni Council. The Council meets twice a year in Hanover. Jeff shares news from the Council with the class and welcomes feedback from each of you to bring to the Council. Jeff serves on the Communications Committee; his first meeting was a snowy day in Hanover last fall.



## MICHELLE SWEETSER, NEWSLETTER CO-EDITOR



Michelle lives in Perrysburg, Ohio and is the Head Librarian and University Archivist at the Center for Archival Collections at Bowling Green State University, where she has been employed for two and a half years. In addition to preserving the records documenting the university and the northwest Ohio region, Michelle teaches a graduate course on archival administration in BGSU's public history certificate program and is active in her regional and national professional associations. When she and her husband, Ben '97, aren't ferrying their two kids - Jonah (3rd grade) and Jude (kindergarten) - between all of their activities, she attempts to make time for her own athletic pursuits and is planning a couple of duathlons and half marathons this year. Michelle enjoys camping, biking, hiking, and playing games with her family and fits in as much craft time (mostly quilting) and reading as is possible. Her favorite reads of late are "The Great Believers," and "Pachinko."

After serving as class treasurer for 10 years, Michelle wanted a change of pace and decided to return to the newsletter role she took on shortly after we graduated. She looks forward to hearing from classmates, helping to connect members of the class with one another and the efforts of the College, and to having a role that allows her to be a bit more creative once again.

Favorite place at Dartmouth: Rauner Special Collections, where I discovered and fostered my love of archives and archival research!

## ADRIENNE (WILSON) WAGNER NEWSLETTER CO-EDITOR

Adrienne and her husband, David Wagner '99, currently live in Adrienne's hometown Dallas, Texas with their three children: Allison (5th grade), Austin (2nd grade), and Wilson (K). They joke that they're a "Green Family" as their daughter attends Hockaday (school colors green and white), their youngest son attends Meadowbrook and Adrienne is president of their Parents' Association this year (school colors green and white), and their middle son attends St. Mark's (school colors blue + yellow = green), and their daughter's tribe at camp is green and white! When Adrienne is not volunteering for the kids' schools or scout troops, she is taking literature classes at the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture. She and Amy Stone Altizer '99 have just taken over as co-presidents of the Dartmouth Club of Dallas.

Favorite song from Dartmouth days: every song sung by the Decibelles, something from Sweeney Todd, or dancing to Jesse's Girl!



## JACKIE RIOUX GLADSTONE SECRETARY



Jackie lives on the Seacoast of New Hampshire, raising her children, Embry, 6, and Maven, 4. She and her husband, Daryn, own a sunroom and window company and love sharing their love of the outdoors with their kids. They spend most of their winters skiing and summers at the beach or riding bikes.

Jackie currently serves as the Class Secretary and loves connecting with old friends, new friends, and classmates she doesn't know yet. She has been trying to reach out by email and social media to connect with classmates. Jackie loves learning what everyone has been up to and hearing their memories of Dartmouth. She is always looking to reach out to new people, so if anyone wants to connect, or has any ideas on how best to connect with fellow '99's, please let her know!

Jackie's favorite place on campus is the Green. It's the place she first fell in love with Dartmouth on her prospective student visit. And when she go back and visits campus, it's the place she most feels at home. When Jackie was a student, sitting on the green with friends on a warm spring day, or trudging across in the snow, hearing the Baker bells on her way to class, always made her feel so connected to Dartmouth.

## 1999 RING FOUND IN TEXAS! DOES IT BELONG TO YOU?

Did you or someone you know lose a Dartmouth ring? The one at right was turned into the Grimes County Human Resources Office in Anderson TX, who then mailed it to the Alumni Relations Office at Dartmouth. The ring has a red stone, has 1999 as well as BBA and business inscribed on the outside. The inside has L1C876253007 inscribed on the band.

To claim it, please be in touch with Nicole Losavio, Assistant Director for Class Activities, Alumni Relations, 603.646.3578, [Nicole.B.Losavio@dartmouth.edu](mailto:Nicole.B.Losavio@dartmouth.edu).





## CALL TO SERVE

*Excerpted from Dartmouth News*

Generations of Dartmouth community members have had an impact on the world through their service to others. Now, in honor of the College's 250th anniversary, a new initiative will unite the community in an effort to inspire acts of service around the world.

The Call to Serve is a year-long initiative to make a positive impact by contributing a total of 250,000 hours of service in 2019. That's the equivalent of 28.5 years of volunteer time by an individual. Through this collective effort, Dartmouth alumni, faculty, staff, and students, as well as parents and families, can volunteer wherever they are with organizations of their choice.

"Dartmouth has a longstanding history of public service, and we want to honor that as part of our sescentennial celebration," says Vice President for Alumni Relations Cheryl Bascomb '82, co-chair of the 250th committee. "This is a wonderful way for all members of our community to join forces to share their time and talents to make an impact on our world. [Read the article.](#)

[Track your hours of service.](#)



## STORIES OF MOOSILAUKE: SHARING THE MOUNTAIN

Plan a trip this summer to check out the newly reconstructed Moosilauke Ravin Lodge (dedicated October 2017). Or for a different kind of Dartmouth experience, just enjoy reminiscing about the old one.

This oral histories project aims to gain insight into the expansive and intricate community that has been established at the Moosilauke Ravine Lodge by sharing the stories and experience of Dartmouth students, Alumni and community members... to capture a communal memory of the space.



# CELEBRATE DARTMOUTH'S 250TH!

There are so many events happening in Hanover and across the country to celebrate Dartmouth's 250th year. To learn more about or register for these and many other events, simply go to the College's website.

1

**APRIL 2**

Dartmouth 250th Anniversary and Campaign Celebration (New York City)

2

**APRIL 13**

Big Green Fun Run (Hanover, NH)

3

**APRIL 27**

250th Symposium: Walk in the Footsteps of Eleazar Wheelock and Samson Occom (Columbia, CT)

4

**MAY 4**

Alumni Day of Service (Global!)

5

**JUNE 15**

Envisioning Dartmouth's Future in the 21st Century (Hanover, NH)

6

**JULY 26**

Dartmouth's 250th Anniversary Summer Celebration (Hanover, NH)

7

**SEPTEMBER 14**

Dartmouth on Location 250 (Minneapolis, MN)

8

**OCTOBER 11**

Homecoming (Hanover, NH)

9

**OCTOBER 26**

Dartmouth on Location 250 (Philadelphia)

10

**NOVEMBER 9**

Dartmouth v Princeton Football (Yankee Stadium)

11

**DECEMBER 13**

Light It Green! (Global)

12

**DECEMBER 13**

Charter Day Celebration (Cambridge, MA)



DARTMOUTH

250

# YOUR OFFICERS.

WE'RE HERE TO SERVE THE CLASS OF  
1999! LET US KNOW WHAT YOU NEED!

President, Robert Tichio

Vice-President, Catherine Maxson Pieroni

Secretary, Jackie Rioux Gladstone

Treasurer, Jeffrey Loeb

Newsletter Editors

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Adrienne Wilson Wagner

Digital Content Manager, Danielle Buczek

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Gift Planning Chair, Allison Fisch

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