

AlmaMatters

THE CLASS OF 1999 NEWSLETTER



Kate Botham and Andy Hilton's wedding--back row: Jon Rivinus, Peter Wright, Brook Detterman, Travis Gardner, Baxter Wasson, Gene Wegner, Lauren Wasson, Dan Gestwick, Ben Wright, Jamie Peschel, Courtney (Vanyo) Peschel, Nate Fick, Clara Peschel (future '29), Katy Hearey, Austin Whitman, Nader Akhnoukh, Bill Helman, David Sussman, Katie Catapano, Topher Bordeau. Fron row: Tim Wright, Dick Grossman, Elizabeth Lozner, Melissa Draper, Kate (Botham) Hilton, Andrew Hilton, Allison (Sands) Akhnoukh, Ann Armbrecht, Wendy Bordeau

GOOD
2009
JULY

CLASS NEWS—We'll start off with all of the baby news-congratulations to all the new '99 parents!

Margaret (Muffy) (Davis) Werner and her husband **Tim** welcomed their first child, **Allison Elizabeth Werner**, on October 19th, 2008.

Heather (Harnett) Ross and **Chris Ross** added **Samuel Cooper Ross** to their growing brood on March 11, 2009. Samuel weighed 8 lbs 8 oz and was 21 and 1/2 inches long. He joins big sister **Bella**, who will be 5 in June, and big Brother **Ben**, 3.

Suzanne (Eastman) Baldwin and her husband, **Tony**, welcomed **Abigail Karina Baldwin** on April 29, 2008. Suzanne reports that big sister **Ella**, 2, loves her new sister!

Justin Evans wrote to announce that his wife **Angela** gave birth to **Adeline Erna Evans** on November 15, 2009. Justin and Angela live in San Francisco where Justin works at **Belvedere Capital, LLC**. Justin also had news of various promotions earned by fellow 99's-- **Jonathan Lee**, who lives in

New York City, was promoted to Vice President at **Credit Suisse** in December of 2008. **Jeffrey Munsie** was promoted to Counsel at **WilmerHale** in Boston, and **Lee Brosnick** was promoted to Managing Director at **Citi** in New York. Congratulations to you all!

Kate (Botham) Hilton married **Andrew Hilton** on August 31, 2008. Many Dartmouth alums attended including fellow '99s **Jon Rivinus, Travis Gardner, Dan Gestwick, Jamie Peschel, Courtney Peschel, Nate Fick, Katy Hearey, Austin Whitman, Nader Akhnoukh, David Sussman, Katie Catapano, Elizabeth Lozner, Melissa Draper and Allison (Sands) Akhnoukh**. Kate and Andy now live in Boston, where Kate is a newly admitted member of the Massachusetts State Bar, and Andy is the freshman lightweight crew coach at MIT.

Kate also had updates on some of her friends. She reports that **Allison** and **Nader Akhnoukh** began an epic year-long adventure around the world. They've gone confidently in the direction of their

MESSAGE FROM CLASS OF 1999 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Greetings fellow '99s!

It now officially has been 10 years since we graduated from Dartmouth-I'm sure you all remember the partly cloudy and fairly hot June day 10 years ago where we all sat together for the final time and said goodbye to Dartmouth and hello to life after college. Since then we have tried to keep you connected to Dartmouth and one another through our web site, this newsletter, mini-reunions, subscriptions to the Dartmouth Alumni Magazine, and our 5th and 10th Reunions. Of course we can't do any of this without your input! So please, please, please keep us up to date on your promotions, travel, weddings, babies and anything else interesting that is going on with your lives. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! We would also love input from you, our classmates, on other things our Committee could be doing to keep you more informed about Dartmouth news and events, and help you stay connected with each other. The best way to reach us is at the class account - class.of.99@alum.dartmouth.org. We welcome your input, concerns, and questions and will do our best to respond to you.

Recently our committee chose to support another Tucker Fellow, Monica Balanoff, who you can read about on pages 6 and 7 of this Newsletter. We draw your attention to Monica and her work because it shows how important your dues are to our Committee. If you have not yet paid your dues this year we ask that you do so now so we can continue to support Dartmouth students doing incredible work around the world. Visit our class web site www.dartmouth.org/classes/99 to pay your dues online today! Your dues also pay for your subscription to the alumni magazine, support mini-reunions and the production of this Newsletter.

We would love your help in creating this Newsletter! If you would like to contribute content (photos, articles, interviews...anything) we certainly welcome your contributions. To keep the Newsletter fresh, it is very important that we get new input and new points of view. Please consider writing an article on an interesting experience, interviewing a fellow classmate, etc. If you would like to contribute please contact Catherine (Maxson) Pieroni at catmax@alum.dartmouth.org.

Happy Summer to you all!!!

LOUISE ERDRICH '76 GAVE 2009 COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Louise Erdrich, a 1976 graduate of Dartmouth who has won acclaim as a writer in multiple genres — most recently she was a finalist for this year's Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for her novel *The Plague of Doves* — delivered the main address at the College's 2009 Commencement exercises on Sunday morning, June 14, on the Dartmouth Green. The daughter of a Native American (Ojibwe and French) mother and a German American father, Erdrich is an enrolled member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa. She grew up in Wahpeton, North Dakota and came to Dartmouth as a member of the College's first class to include women. Since then she has built a career as a novelist, poet and author of children's books, authoring 14 books that have become best sellers or won awards — including the O. Henry Prize, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize and the Heartland Prize for Fiction. She was twice nominated for a National Book Award, and was a finalist for the 2009 Pulitzer Prize. One of her four daughters, Aza, is a member of the Dartmouth Class of 2011.

In addition to the honorary degree presented to Ms. Erdrich, six other honorary degrees were awarded to the following: John P. Abizaid, Retired U.S. Army General (Doctor of Laws); Roz Chast, Cartoonist for the New Yorker Magazine (Doctor of Arts); Dr. Raymond B. Johnson, M.D. '59, Former Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Maryland (Doctor of Science); Jane Lunchenco, Ph.D., U.S. Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Doctor of Science); Maria Otero, President and CEO of Accion International (Doctor of Humane Letters); and Bill Russell, retired National Basketball Association Star (Doctor of Humane Letters)

A FOND FAREWELL TO JIM AND SUSAN WRIGHT!

MEG CASHION LYSY

I was pleased to attend a reception in honor of President Jim Wright and his wife Susan Debevoise Wright on March 3, 2009 at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Almost 400 local Dartmouth alumni were present, including fellow '99s Danni Downing and Dave Lysy, to see Jim and Susan Wright on their last visit to the nation's capital as the President and First Lady of Dartmouth. Jim Wright received the Daniel Webster Distinguished Service Award in honor of his service to veterans. The "Webby", as it is known, is given annually by the Dartmouth Club of Washington D.C. in recognition of outstanding community service. Jim Wright, an adopted member of the Class of 1964, is the first non-graduate to receive the award.

Wright, a former Marine, has been focused on creating educational opportunities for veterans since 2004. He has paid over 20 visits to wounded soldiers at Bethesda Naval Hospital and Walter Reed Medical Center, and he has partnered with David Ward, the president of the American Council on Education, to create a program to provide individualized college counseling for veterans. To the Dartmouth graduates serving overseas, President Wright sends care packages, including maple-sugar candies and Robert Frost poetry.

Jim Weiskopf '66, vice president of communications for Fisher House, presented the award. He said, "[President Wright's] initiative championing the dream of college for those who have served our nation so valiantly is public service in its truest form." Fisher House is a non-profit organization that provides housing for family members of hospitalized veterans, and the Dartmouth Club of D.C. is hoping to provide support to this foundation in the future.

The Wright's promise to stay in touch with their Dartmouth friends, and I look forward to seeing what they accomplish in retirement. I am also excited to get to know the 17th President of Dartmouth, Dr. Jim Kim, in the years to come.



A WARM WELCOME TO DR. JIM KIM, THE 17TH PRESIDENT OF DARTMOUTH COLLEGE!!

Dr. Jim Kim took office on July 1, 2009, and succeeded James Wright, who had been President of Dartmouth for the last 11 years. Some excerpts from Dr. Kim's speech upon being introduced as Dartmouth's next president are quoted below:

"Indeed, I'm looking forward to working with all of you in the years to come to preserve and strengthen what makes Dartmouth so special . . . to ensure that our College is appreciated and its influence felt ever more widely in the world . . . and to secure its future in a rapidly changing global landscape. These will be my top priorities as President and Chief Advocacy Officer of Dartmouth College."

"In my small way, I've tried to make the world's troubles my troubles. I've tackled them directly by setting up treatment programs, working to lower the prices of life-saving drugs and changing global health policy. But I've always known that my own impact as an individual will be limited. That's why I've worked to teach and mentor young people who can have a far greater impact than me. That's what attracted me to this extraordinary place called Dartmouth College. Here, we have all the tools to prepare an army of future leaders: students like you who will go out into the world and, by making the most of what you learn from your professors and from each other, make that world more productive, more enlightened, more humane and more just."



Meg Cashion Lysy and Susan Wright at the National Press Club in Washington D.C.

99's Honored at Sixth Wearers of the Green Induction Ceremony



On Saturday, May 16th, the sixth induction of the Wearers of the Green was held at the Westin Copley Place in Boston. The Dartmouth Athletics Wearers of the Green honors Dartmouth athletes that were successful on the intercollegiate level, or after graduation as professional or Olympic athletes. The society was founded in 1984, and inductions are held every five years.

The criteria established for induction are very specific. In short, to be honored as Wearers of the Green, Dartmouth College students, alumni, and coaches must be an All-American; an individual or team national champion; an Olympian; a major league professional; a member of an athletic hall of fame; a First-Team All-Ivy member three or more times; an Ivy League Player of the Year in a particular sport; a member of a winning crew in either the International Rowing Association or Eastern Sprints; or a recipient of the Kenneth Archibald Prize, the Alfred E. Watson Trophy, or the Class of 1976 Award.

Congratulations to the following members of the Class of 1999 who were inductees to the Dartmouth Wearers of the Green:

Donald Conrad- Men's Cross Country and Men's Track and Field- Two Sport All-Ivy
Jamison Peschel- Men's Rowing-National Team Member
Courtney duBois- Women's Swimming and Diving-Ivy League Diver of the Year
Tobias Hayes- Men's Swimming and Diving- Ivy League Diver of the Year
Erin Broderick- Women's Rugby- All America
Leah Campbell- Women's Rugby- All America
Stacey Davis- Women's Rugby- All America, National Team Member
Rachel Moss Mitchell- Women's Rugby- All America
Daniel Alfonso- Men's Water Polo- National Team Champion
Kenneth Kirwanek- Men's Water Polo- National Team Champion
Douglas Morton- Men's Water Polo- National Team Champion

WANTED- CLASS WEBMASTER

The Class of 1999 Executive Committee needs a computer savvy '99 to take over the Class Webmaster position. Our web site is the most important way the Committee reaches out to you, our classmates, so please consider volunteering if you have the computer skills required to update and provide content for the site.

DONATE TO THE DARTMOUTH COLLEGE FUND TODAY!

One of the goals of the Executive Committee is to increase our class participation number for donations to the Dartmouth College Fund. In this turbulent economic climate, your annual fund gift is more important than ever to help sustain financial aid, leading-edge teaching and scholarship, and a vital Dartmouth experience for all students. If you have not made a gift yet please consider doing so today. Your gift could change the lives of current and future Dartmouth students forever. To give online visit Dartmouth's web site at www.dartmouth.edu. A special thank you to all the '99s who have already made a donation this year.



dreams: kayaking in Alaska, climbing glaciers in Patagonia, dancing tango in Argentina, chilling on beaches in Brazil, and hang gliding in New Zealand. Cooking in Indonesia and exploring the rural areas of China and Tibet are next on their itinerary!

Kate also reports that **Melissa Draper** is now in New York City after five years living in Cochabamba, Bolivia. In February she hit the road on a book tour from San Francisco to Boston to promote her book, “Dignity and Defiance: Stories from Bolivia’s Challenge to Globalization,” published by UC-Berkeley Press.

Andy Maixner is completing the fourth year of his anesthesiology residency at the University of Wisconsin. He heads to the mountains in Bellingham, Washington, for his first stint as an anesthesiologist this summer.

Katie Catapano is in the first year of her internal medicine residency at Georgetown University.

And finally, Kate wrote to say that **Austin Whitman** married Victoria Arrigoni at the Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco on March 21, 2009. They currently live in Cambridge, MA.

Jess McCarter has begun working as the VP of Sales at Samasource, a not-for-profit organization that is helping to fight global poverty and unemployment by training, certifying and finding jobs for knowledge workers in the world’s most underdeveloped countries. As the economy continues to globalize, Samasource is helping smart graduates in the poorest regions keep up. In Africa and Southeast Asia, computer programmers, designers and other knowledge workers face 60-70% unemployment rates after graduation. Samasource is helping firms in those areas compete for work on a global scale by certifying them as socially responsible, verifying their existing skills, providing training in the latest skills and helping them connect with clients around the world. The group’s motto is “give work, not aid.” Anyone who is interested should head over to www.samasource.org or search for Samasource on Facebook to find out more about what they do and how they can provide work or contribute time or financial assistance.

Amanda Eaken lives in San Francisco and works for the Natural Resource Defense Council on land use, transportation and climate policy. She spends most of her free time on her bike racing for the Metromint Cycling Team. Amanda looks forward to seeing fellow ‘99s at the DOC Lake Tahoe Cabin this summer.

Jeff Fine recently attended an event cosponsored by the Dartmouth Club of Chicago and Simon Pearce, Inc. The event was held at Sawbridge Studios in Chicago to raise money for the Club’s scholarship fund. The actual Simon Pearce was on hand to sign his glass works, and fellow ‘99s **Gretchen Saegh** and **Andrea Stenger** were also in attendance. Jeff, who had rave reviews for the new Simon Pearce Dartmouth lamp, works at Ogilvy in Chicago. Gretchen works for GE and Andrea in supply chain at Pepsi, Co.

Please send news updates using the enclosed green card or e-mail class.of.1999@alum.dartmouth.org.



Top left image: Bella, Samuel and Benjamin Ross, children of Heather (Harnett) and Chris Ross.

Top right image: Rob Adams ‘91, Gretchen Saegh, Andrea Stenger and Jeff Fine at the Chicago Simon Pearce Event.

Bottom Image: Justin and Angela Evans with their daughter, Adeline, at 10 days old.



The new Class of '99 Tucker Fellow, Monica Balanoff, on location in Syria.

CLASS OF '99 NAMES NEW TUCKER FELLOW

Earlier this year, your Class Dues payments made a Tucker Fellowship award possible for Monica Balanoff '11. Monica is the third Dartmouth student to receive the Class of 1999 Tucker Fellow award. She succeeds Johann Maradey '08 and Nana Ampadu '09, who some of you heard from at our 10th reunion. With a renewed call for service across the US, you can do your part by paying your class dues. It is an easy way to make a real difference for a Dartmouth student. Please pay your dues today.

This spring, Monica Balanoff will be performing her Tucker Fellowship with the Iraqi Student Project in Damascus, Syria. Monica is an Asian and Middle Eastern Studies major. Through her fellowship, Monica will be working to help Iraqi students living in Syria as refugees from Iraq gain opportunities to study at American Universities. She will be working with students on honing their English skills and preparing them for the Test of English as a Foreign Language Exam. Specifically, she will also be helping them with the college admittance process and working with them on visa applications, tuition waiver forms, and creating support groups for them once they are in America.

Monica's previous experience teaching English abroad in Bolivia will aid her in conducting mock interview sessions and leading writing workshops with students. Monica also has also acted as an assistant teacher in a Chicago School where she worked with students with learning and language developmental disorders. Monica has also studied Arabic, and she taught an Arabic drill class. Her prior knowledge of Arabic will benefit her in Damascus.

Her strength in language and in teaching language effectively and independently will help Monica to succeed in this project. Her value of education "as a right, not a privilege" demonstrates her ability to work with the Iraqi Student Project to "correct injustice in educational opportunities". Additionally, Monica's strong organizational skills will help guide students through the college admissions process, along with enhancing her academic interest in the Middle Eastern Studies, "giving me a more personal view of one part of the Middle East". The Iraqi Student Project also provides mentors in the U.S. once a student has been accepted at an American University and they strongly review applicants for their commitment to return back to the Middle East (specifically Iraq) to help rebuild the country.

Monica also hopes that through working with this organization she will help to break down stereotypes in the United States of Iraqi students, "Often people have a mistaken image of Iraqi's as terrorists and highly conservative people, due to the images seen on the media."

TUCKER FELLOW UPDATE

An excerpt from an e-mail from Monica Balanoff, the Class of '99 Tucker Fellow

I've been in Damascus two weeks now, and oh man is it overwhelming. I struggle (a lot) with Arabic, cars nearly hit me all the time, and I keep on getting lost! Nonetheless I am having a really great time. I found a place to live in a part of a house with a Syrian family. It's in the Old City, which is walled, and as the name suggests, quite old! All the buildings are made of gray and white stone, and the houses are built around courtyards.

I spent the first week observing Iraqi Student Project (ISP) classes, and kind of learning about how the ISP operates. In my observations I acted as an assistant to the teacher and students ask me vocabulary and grammar questions. There are four levels of English in the ISP, and each has four classes a week. The program is really the whole life of Gabe and Theresa (who run the program) and they really help the students with every step of the process of getting to the United States. They begin with TOEFL prep, give additional classes on grammar, speaking, and writing; pair the students with native speakers so they can practice, help students write their college applications, find schools to give "tuition waivers," help students get visas for the US, set up support groups for the financial and emotional needs of students in the US, and many other things. I've met all the students and everyone is really friendly; I really do love it here so far. And one of the students was just accepted to Dartmouth!!

I am teaching three classes a week (each at a different language level), coaching the students on how to fill out the necessary paperwork for visas and how to answer interview questions (I am sort of the visa guru), and I am working one on one with one of the students who needs extra help with her English. I'm also working over skype with the students they have in Iraq, Jordan and Qatar. Additionally, I am trying to set up a weekly sports league with the ISP girls. The ISP boys meet to play soccer every week, so I thought it would be good for the girls to do something similar. I'm told they like swimming and basketball, neither of which I am very good at, but it should be a lot of fun anyway.

Damascus itself is pretty interesting. The buildings all look as though they were amazing at one point, but now there are bits and pieces breaking off of everything, and most buildings are sort of dirty. The sidewalks are also quite narrow and there is lots of traffic! My only complaint at this point is the air quality- there is quite a lot of pollution and people are allowed to smoke indoors.

Last week we took two field trips with the students, which was really good for me as it gave me the opportunity to have more in depth conversations with the students and I also got to see more of Syria. The first trip was to Deir Mar Musa, which is perhaps the first monastery ever built. It's built in the mountains overlooking the desert, and is unlike any place I've ever seen. The second was to Bosra, the ruins of an ancient Roman city. The most spectacular part was the theatre which is in really fantastic condition.



The sprawling city of Damascus as photographed by Monica Balanoff

ALUMNI GOVERNANCE UPDATE: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PASSES

On May 9, 2009, the Dartmouth College Office of Alumni Relations announced the election of a new Association of Alumni Executive Committee and the passage of an amendment to the association's constitution.

Alumni voted to accept the proposed change to the association constitution that was included on the election ballot by a vote of 10,375 "yes" (81.9 percent) to 2,293 "no" (18.1 percent). There were 12,668 votes cast on the proposed amendment. The amendment required a two-thirds super majority of voting alumni to pass. The amendment modifies the way in which alumni nominate trustees to the Dartmouth College Board of Trustees.

"I am pleased that the alumni supported the amendment," said board chairman Charles E. Haldeman '70. "I believe that the implementation of these new nomination procedures will help bring additional highly qualified alumni to the board."

"This amendment implements head-to-head trustee candidate races, majority victories, and a simpler voting procedure, and it leaves the petition process unchanged," said association president John H. Mathias Jr. '69. "These are all very welcome improvements."

There were 12,808 ballots cast in the election. Approximately 19.5 percent of the Dartmouth alumni body participated.

The following alumni were elected to the Association of Alumni Executive Committee. Their vote totals are in parentheses.

Executive Committee Officers

President:
John H. Mathias Jr. '69 (10,701)

First Vice President:
Veree Hawkins Brown '93 (10,604)

Second Vice President:
Douglas Keare '56, '57Th, '57Tu (10,656)

Secretary-Treasurer:
David P. Spalding '76 (10,670)

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For more information, visit www.dgala.org.

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