

Alma Matters



The Class of 1999 Newsletter

March 2005

Class News

Compiled by Michelle Sweetser

It's hard to believe, as 2005 flies by, that we're coming up on six years out of Dartmouth. I don't know about you, but after six years, I'm starting to consider "adult" things that have loomed on the horizon out there for some time. Like buying a house. Some of you have already done that; Ben and I just signed with a buyer's agent and hope that by the next time I'm compiling this newsletter, we'll be in a place we can truly call our own. If any of you have any advice, we'd more than welcome it!

Class executive committee member **Liz French** purchased a home near Mt. Hood with JD Storn '01 at the end of last year. It's a bit of a fixer-upper, and Liz will write a bit about her experience in the next issue of our newsletter. In addition to purchasing a home, Liz switched jobs at the end of the year and is now working for the City of Sandy, a switch that cut an hour each way off of her commute. She and **Kate Turpin** currently serve as co-chairs of the Portland Young Alumni group, so if you find yourself in that area, be sure to look up Liz and Kate.

While we're still (sorta) on the topic of change, you may have noticed that this issue of Alma Matters looks a little different. This is because I have switched graphic design programs so that I don't have to take ridiculous measures to get the old program (PageMaker) to interact with my OSX Mac. If you like the changes (or if you don't), let us know!

Jeff and Holly (Smith) Munsie were married on July 10, 2004 in Sparta, NJ, with many Dartmouth friends present to celebrate with them. The bridal party included **Sarah Delaney, Beth (Westman) Gaus, Michelle**

(Ouellette) Coleman, Dave Wagner and Jon Lee. Beth (Knowlton) Schubert was also a bridesmaid "in absentia." As she and her husband now live in Japan, they weren't able to make it for the special day.



Big smiles from the Capitol. **David Hawkins, Emily Schopick, Becky Prestel, Danni Downing, Mike Vasiliadis, and Adam Looney** enjoy the September mini-reunion in DC.

Other Dartmouth alumni at the Munsie wedding included **Emily Schopick, Susan (Sagebiel) Fox, Dave Fox '97, David Coleman '97, Jason Shamberger, Kate (Winter) Shamberger '00, Evan Walsh, Adrienne (Wilson) Wagner, Catherine Maxson, Meghan McMenemy, Kristin Chartier, Justin Evans, and Doug Lee.**

Jeff and Holly now live in Cambridge, MA, very happy to finally be in the same place since Holly had been up at Tuck for the past two years.

Our Washington, DC mini-reunion chair, **Danni Downing**, wrote in with an update on events there. Last September, a nice group turned out for drinks at the Terrace at the Hotel Washington (see photo above). More recently, the Dartmouth Club of DC and other Ivy clubs threw a party at a local bar for all the young Ivy alums in the area. Several hundred turned out over the course of the night, and Danni was able to catch up with **Becky Prestel, Cathy Emery, Joe Peters, and Dinah Knight.** The date for the next DC mini-reunion had not been set at the time we went to press, but it promises to be exciting - the First Annual '98 vs. '99 Bowling Challenge. Watch your e-mail and the class website for further details. If you're in the DC area and have suggestions for other fun and interesting events, write Danni at her alumni account.

Karen Menuz has been named one of the First Annual EOreal USA Fellows, according to the Summer 2004 issue of AWIS Magazine. Menuz, one of five fellows, received a grant of



Holly (Smith) and Jeff Munsie with the rest of the Dartmouth cast at their July 2004 wedding.

**Class of 1999
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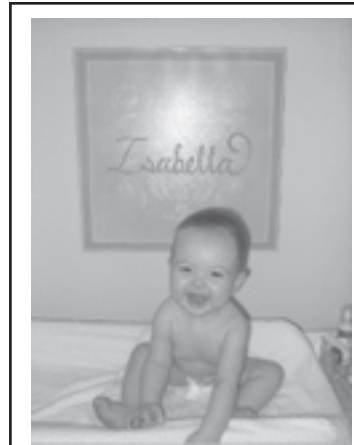
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\$20,000 to pursue her research as a neuroscience student at the University of California, San Francisco. LOreal established the fellowship to applaud women for their work in the sciences; Dr. Mae Jemison was the keynote speaker at the awards presentation in May at the New York Academy of Sciences.

Pete Land describes himself as entrenched in Burlington, Vermont, where he and Bill Finnegan '00 have started a company that produces videos, websites, and other educational and marketing materials for environmental causes. Pete hangs out with a crew of young alumni in Burlington, including Paul Biggs '01, Jon Potter '01, Jesse Foote '01, Mike Foote '01, Lu Neuse '02, Dave Gordon '00, Chad Butt '04, and Dave Anderson '04.

Annette Gaynes is part of a new activist organization - the Younger Women's Task Force (<http://www.womensorganizations.org/pages.cfm?ID=170>) - focused on getting younger women (generally 18-35) more involved politically. She serves as the director for the Southwest/Four Corners region (which includes Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, and Texas), and was recently involved in an agenda setting meeting in Washington, DC. The task force aims to provide a stronger voice in the policy creation process for younger women, to increase the impact of younger women activists through collaboration and articulation of a common agenda, and to define and develop the next generation of the women's movement. If you are interested in learning more about the organization or becoming involved, feel free to send Annette an e-mail, as she can assist you in locating a contact in your region.

Chris and Heather (Harnett) Ross sent along a birth announcement.



Isabella Caroline Ross, daughter of **Chris and Heather (Harnett) Ross**, born June 9, 2004.

Isabella Caroline Ross joined them on June 9, 2004, weighing 6 pounds, 14 ounces. Isabella, now 9 months old, is growing quickly, can sit up (as evidenced by the striking photo Mom and Dad sent in at left), and can't wait to start walking. Chris continues to work in New York City as a reinsurance broker at Guy Carpenter & Co., while Heather is a stay-at-home mom, busy caring for Isabella and "three mutts."

James Mykytenko is now in his third year of general surgery residency at Emory. He has completed two clinical years, and will spend this year and next in the cardiothoracic lab, where they look mostly at reperfusion injury, in particular postconditioning which basically means that they look for ways to decrease the magnitude of damage to the heart muscle from a heart attack. After he finishes in the lab, he has three more years of general surgery and then two to three years of cardiothoracic fellowship if he goes that route. Outside of his work, James has been doing some hiking in the Smokies on the weekends, and is thinking about auditioning for the Emory Symphony Orchestra.

Finally, congrats to **Rex Morey** on his recent appointment as Assistant Director for Young Alumni & Student Programs back up in Hanover. Rex is already busy planning YADA! programs and has plans in the works for events in Wash-

ington, DC on April 5, in San Francisco in late April, and in Boston and New York in mid-May.

Have news to report from your corner of the world? Drop an e-mail to the class account at: Class.of.99@alum.dartmouth.org, and we'll include your news in an upcoming issue of Alma Matters.



Catherine and Justin Ruiz, children of **Cesar and Emily (Cornell) Ruiz**.



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(Smith) and Roy Wildeman were married October 2004 at an outdoor ceremony at the Boston Public Gardens.

College unveils new on-line tools for social and career networking



In recent months, the Office of Alumni Relations has unveiled two new online tools to facilitate networking amongst alumni.

The Career Alumni Advisory Network (<https://myvan.dartmouth.org/career/careernetwork.asp?new=1>) went live in November and provides access to 15,000 alumni who have volunteered to assist other alumni in career exploration, job searches, and graduate school choices. After authentication, the site allows alumni to limit a search in a number of ways, including by employers, career fields, job titles, locations, and graduate schools. A notebook function allows users to save contacts, access contact information, and enter notes regarding a contact.

inCircle is a social networking tool launched in late February. Think Friendster for the Dartmouth community. Users create their own personal profiles (to which they can upload photos and resumes), access those of other alumni, and invite friends to join their network, which grows Kevin Bacon-style by degrees of separation (individual alumni networks in inCircle extend three degrees). Users can post messages and list events for those in their network and search across all alumni to find those who share common Dartmouth, work, social, and educational backgrounds. At the time of this writing, two '99s - Rex Morey and Damali Rhett - are amongst the top four in terms of the size of their networks.

on record pace in giving to Dartmouth College Fund

The Dartmouth College Fund reports that the Class of 2002 is doing well to meet its goals for contributions and participation for Fiscal Year 2005, which ends on June 30. As of February 21, 202 classmates had contributed cash or pledges for a total amount of \$13,114 towards the goal of \$25,000. The 202 classmates who have done so or pledged represent 19.4% of the class; we hope that 35% or more of the class participate this year. We are over half way there on both fronts, with 3 months remaining!



If you haven't already contributed this year, you can make your contribution by going online to <https://dartmouthcollegefund.org/securefrm.htm>. The site accepts Visa, Mastercard, Amex, and Discover. Alternatively, if you don't have cash on hand right now, you can make a pledge at <http://www.dartmouth.edu/-alfund/pledge.htm>. Pledges must be paid by June 30.

You can allocate your gift to an area that fits your personal interests, including financial aid, the arts, student programs and services, athletics, technology and digital library, the campus, academic programs and student support,

Head agents - Karen Mangold, Jonah Sonnenfeld and Juan Bell - can assist in answering any questions you might have about giving.

Any gift, no matter the amount, can make a difference for a current student, and will help the class meet its participation goals. Please don't hesitate - make your contribution today!

Alumni trustee voting under way... Exercise your right to suffrage

Balloting for the two alumni trustee vacancies on the Dartmouth Board of Trustees began on March 7, with six candidates on the ballot to fill two alumni trustee seats on the Board. All alumni will have the option to vote either via traditional paper ballot or the Dartmouth web site. You should have received by now a paper ballot, and, if the College has an e-mail address on record, an e-mail with instructions for electronic voting. If you have not received your voting materials, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at alumni.relations@dartmouth.edu. You can find additional information about the candidates - Sheila Cheston '80, Gregg Engles '79, Richard Lewis '84, Peter Robinson '79, Curtis Welling '71, and Todd Zywicki '88 online at: <http://alumni.dartmouth.edu/leadership/trustee-candidates-announce.htm>. The deadline for voting is April 22.

CLASS OF 1999 FLEECE BLANKET SUPPLY LIMITED!

Weren't able to attend the reunion in June? Lost your reunion souvenir? Don't fear - you can still obtain your very own fifth reunion fleece blanket in Dartmouth green.



A small supply remains, so don't delay! For your limited edition blanket, send your check for \$15 (includes shipping), payable to "Dartmouth Class of 1999" to:

Michelle Sweetser
2140 N. 70th St.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Alumni Council Update

By Michelle Sweetser

When the Alumni Council met in December, its ranks included two '99s as its members - Adrienne Wilson Wagner, who represents our class and the class of '00, and myself, representing the Class Newsletter Editors Association. As Adrienne was unable to attend the Hanover meeting, I'm writing with an update this time around.

The Council, which serves as a clearinghouse for alumni sentiment and is the official two-way liason between the College and her alumni, meets twice a year. At our last meeting, we held a "Working Session" with the Trustee's Working Group on Alumni Relations and Communications, chaired by Trustee Karen Francis '84. The working group's mission is to better understand and address alumni governance and representation, alumni communications, and individual alumni sentiment. Our time together was an opportunity to bring up issues and raise questions for the Board's consideration. Just a few of the sentiments brought forth at the meeting were:

- questions of how to substantively involve alumni in the life of the College;
- a need for better communication from the Board and the College in terms of why and how decisions are made;
- a need for a survey of alumni sentiment and to better solicit input from alumni in decision-making, and other volunteer and advisory capacities; and
- the need to ensure that the College embraces the entire alumni demographic.

In a jam-packed weekend, we had the opportunity to hear

from Dean of the College James Larimore and several undergraduate members of the Council about student life; from Thomas Cormen, the Director of the Dartmouth Writing Program; from Dean of Admissions Karl Furstenberg; and Carrie Pelzel, Vice President for Development.

As a member of the Communications Committee, I had an opportunity to see the newly revamped (as of September) Dartmouth website and discuss motivating factors behind the change with representatives of Public Affairs. Already the College is beginning another rehaul of the website, which tends to take place in 18-24 month cycles.

The Young Alumni Committee plans to outreach with local clubs to establish more young alumni chairs and to create a manual for clubs on how they can more effectively reach young alumni. The committee discussed and supported the development of additional travel programs geared toward young alumni, will work to further develop the Seussism=volunteerism program begun last year, and plans to develop a better site for young alumni that includes a marketing and branding strategy.

Much more took place at the meeting, but I've run out of space. For those who are interested in the full minutes of the meeting, they are available online at: http://alumni.dartmouth.edu/leadership/council/189_summary_pr.html. Please contact either Adrienne or myself if you have particular questions or concerns you would like us to bring to the Council's attention at its May meeting.

