

Alma Matters



The Class of 1999 Newsletter

September 2005

Class News

Compiled by Michelle Sweetser

Give a rouse for **Sarah Billmeier**, who will deliver remarks at this year's Convocation ceremonies on September 20. The timing is certainly opportune, given that the incoming class is exactly 10 years younger than us. For those who are unable to make the trip to Hanover to see Sarah (I'm guessing that would be most of us), we'll keep you posted as to whether the comments might be available online (or perhaps Sarah will share them with us). Sarah is now a fourth-year at Harvard Medical School. Congrats, Sarah!

Class Vice-President **Kevin Findlan** reports that **Cat McCarthy** and **Muhammad Hutasuhut** were married in a beautiful outdoor ceremony at the Primrose Cottage in Roswell, GA on August 6. Several '99s participated and were in attendance. **Mark Kutolowski** officiated, and among the wedding party were **Justin Evans**, **James Min**, **Aiyana Thompson**, **Jing Wang**, and **Grace Eboigbe**. **Jeannine Murray-Roman**, **Sara Carmichael**, **Jean Blackerby**, **Ros (Prabarasuth) Douglas**, **Willy Wong**, **Jen Anderson**, and Rodrigo Vargas '00 also made it down for the festivities.

Carolyn Wachsman graduated from Harvard Business School in June 2004 and married a business school classmate, Dan Stone, last December. The ceremony took place in Jerusalem, Israel, with **Polina Globerman** and Yuri Feldman '98 making the long trek over to the Middle East to celebrate with the couple (see their wedding photo on page 7). Carolyn now works for Time Inc. in New York City doing consumer marketing for Entertainment Weekly magazine.

Also employed in the magazine industry is **Skye Gurney**, who works for Time magazine in the art department. Skye is recently engaged to Patrick Lewis and the two will marry next spring in Virginia.

Todd Griset married in 2003, with Dart-



Grace Eboigbe, Jing Wang, and Willy Wong show their pearly whites at Cat McCarthy and Muhammad Hutasuhut's wedding in August.

Photo courtesy Willy Wong.

mouth well-represented in the wedding party. Groomsmen included **Andy Bollinger**, Victor Shafor '98, and David Stoner '00. He is currently practicing energy law in Portland, Maine while also working to invent a way to slow down time, for, as Todd writes, "if you add up the number of days that my wife Olivia and I surf, ski, paddle, and climb, we'll soon pass 365 days per year." Todd, if you come up with that invention, please let me know, as I find I never have time to do all of the things I'd like to do, and I'm sure I'm not alone. We're glad to know, though, that life is good in Vacationland.

After going through something of a 'mid-twenties crisis' in late 2002, **Marc Sikkes** quit his job, packed up all his belongings and embarked on a road trip across America with Ben Mishkin '00. After completing the road trip, he dropped off his stuff at home in Canada and bought a one-way ticket to London to sort himself out. After working in a pub for six months, Marc ultimately decided to give law a try and just gradu-

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Campus Round-Up

Spalding named new Vice President for Alumni Relations

In mid-August, the College announced that David P. Spalding '76 has been appointed Dartmouth's Vice President for Alumni Relations, effective in early October. Spalding is currently Vice Chairman of The Cypress Group LLC in New York City and Chairman of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro New York. He also serves on a number of corporate boards, including the Lear Corporation, RNCC Holdings, AMTROL Inc. and Cooper Standard Automotive Inc. As Vice President for Alumni Relations, Spalding will be a member of President Wright's senior management team and will head an office that maintains close connections with and helps foster connections among alumni (us!). Spalding succeeds Stanley A. Colla, Jr. '66, Tu'86, who has served as Vice President for Alumni Relations since 1993.

College with a Conscience

Dartmouth has been selected as a College with a Conscience by The Princeton Review. Eighty-one schools, including Dartmouth, were selected from over 900 as those with the most exemplary public service programs, on campus and off. Selection criteria included admissions practices and the availability of scholarships rewarding community service, the level of social engagement of the school's student body, support for service-learning programs, student activism, and student involvement in school governance, as well as survey data from students, faculty, and staff.

Class of 2009 first to enjoy media convergence

The incoming Class of 2009 will be the first generation of Dartmouth students to benefit from media convergence, experiencing a campus environment that enjoys Internet, television and phone service all courtesy of the Dartmouth computer network. Convergence was achieved in the spring of 2005 when Dartmouth launched the pilot program of DarTV, where the cable and satellite television system was switched to the network. Hundreds of this year's incoming first-year students will also receive eTokens, a Public Key Infrastructure security device that operates on the principles of cryptography. The tokens require two levels of authentication: something you have (the actual key) and something you know (a password to unlock the credentials on the key). At Dartmouth, they will be rolled out slowly, and will ultimately help protect all sensitive data and applications.

Tuck tops in alumni ROI

Forbes magazine has ranked the Tuck School of Business first among the world's business schools (U.S. and abroad) based on the return on investment for alumni. To calculate the worth of an MBA degree, Forbes surveyed 25,000 alumni of 111 MBA programs who received MBAs in 2000 and compared the salary gains the degree generated to the cost to obtain the degree. According to this study, Tuck grads gained the most from completing the degree, followed by graduates of Wharton, Chicago, Columbia, and Yale.

Compiled from a number of Dartmouth news releases. To see other Dartmouth news releases, visit the Dartmouth News webpage at <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~news/releases/>.

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ated from BPP Law School in London. He is currently working as a Corporate Paralegal in the London office of Dewey Ballantine and next year will start work as a trainee solicitor in the British Government's Legal Service, where he will specialize in human rights law and freedom of information. Marc says he plans to be in London for the foreseeable future and that anyone who finds themselves across the pond should definitely drop him a line.

Change seems to be a major theme in all of our lives of late, and I must also report that our adopted classmate, **Sylvia Langford**, is moving on to the University of Massachusetts Amherst to be with her husband, George, who has accepted the position of Dean of Natural Sciences and Mathematics there. Many of us benefitted from Dean Langford's wise advice and the College won't be the same without her.

Ken Graham wrote in for the first time since graduation (it's never too late to write in with an update!). He's completed his Ph.D. in theoretical physics in June and is moving to the University of Michigan for a postdoctoral fellowship.

About to start the second year of his masters program in bioinformatics at Northeastern is **Matt Wrobel**. Matt says that as usual there seem to be a lot of '99 grad students in Boston, including **Laura Gibson**, who is finishing up her PhD in social psychology at Harvard, and **Dave Rapson**, who is wrapping up his PhD in economics at BU. Dave and Matt recently had a poker night and were joined by new Boston resident **Scott Jacobs**. Matt is still doing some singing in the area, currently with a group called Playback (www.playbackboston.com) and he recently won the Boston regional of the national Harmony Sweepstakes a cappella competition with another short-lived a cappella group called Firedrill! made up of 7 guys he used to sing with on the Cape (www.hyannisound.com/firedrill). They flew the group out to San Francisco for the finals where they had a "complete blast."

I came across an article in the online version of the *Chicago Sun-Times* about a new television show featuring **Sarah Wayne Callies**. It's called *Prison Break* and, according to *Sun-Times* Television Critic Doug Elfman, "tells the tale of a man who robs a bank in order to get caught. He's not crazy; he has a plan. He gets sent to the same prison where his older brother wrongly sits on Death Row for an assassination. The younger brother



Taken in March, Hai Gi Li, Michael Ho, and Jorge Valcarcel - senior year roomies - live it up in China. Photo courtesy Hai Gi Li.

plans a breakout for the both of them." Sarah plays a prison doctor in the show, which airs on Mondays on Fox. To read the full article on the show, including several quotes from Callies, go to <http://www.suntimes.com/output/entertainment/sho-sunday-elf28.html>.

It's been a while since we've heard from **Hai Gi Li**, who wrote in for the first time since the first issue I prepared. Hai Gi worked with JP Morgan in Asia from 2001 until April 2005 as an investment banker helping regional power companies raise money and grow. Over his final two years in that role, his most exciting project was helping the Thai government privatize its national utility and his work and travels brought him to a significant portion of Southeast Asia, including Hong Kong, Manila, Bangkok, Beijing, Kuala Lumpur, and Shanghai. He reports that he met many Dartmouth alums along the way, including **Mark Fulenwider** and Ryoji Takeyama '00 in Tokyo, Jamelle Berry '97 and Yuhka Miura '00 in Bangkok, and **Leonora Lok** in Hong Kong. In March, his senior-year roomies **Michael Ho** and **Jorge Valcarcel** came to visit Asia and together the three had a blast in Shanghai and Nanjing, China.

Dara Hysmith also wrote in with her first update since late 2001. After living in various parts of Boston for nearly five years, she moved to the Los Angeles area last September because she felt it was time to stir things up. It just so happened that in June 2004 she spent two weeks visiting friends in Newport Beach, San Diego and San Francisco, having previously spent a total of two days in California. While the wildfires, mud-

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Every Little Bit Counts!

Fully one-third (yes, exactly 33.3%) of the Class of 1999 made a contribution to the Dartmouth College Fund last fiscal year. Your unrestricted gifts pay for financial aid and teaching, for sports and the arts, for computers and the campus - for all the things that sustain the Dartmouth Experience for current and future students. Our fund-raising efforts earned us two College awards this year: the Raymond J. Rasenberger '49 Award for Outstanding Non-reunion Achievement and the Charles J. Zimmerman '23 Award for the Highest Participation 6-14 Years Out. Thanks to all the following who contributed for making this a successful year for the class and the College.

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Dear Class of 1999,

I must say that this past May, we had another fascinating and invigorating Alumni Council meeting, replete with information on all aspects of campus life and plans for the future. Talking with President and Mrs. Wright, faculty and deans, and of course, students, it sounds like Dartmouth is becoming an even more incredible institution than when we attended, but sometimes messages to the alumni get twisted.

Professors Barlowe and McClung of Biochemistry and Biological Sciences spoke to the Council, giving faculty points of view highlighting

- Dartmouth's commitment to a liberal arts education and focus on undergraduate education,
- Dartmouth as a unique place to teach because scholarly work and teaching go hand in hand,
- Demand from students for more interaction with professors and to be a part of their research. More students than ever come to Dartmouth expecting to do research with professors and have one-on-one time.
- Graduate program enhancement of the undergraduate experience. Thirty-five percent of Presidential Scholars are matched with faculty in the professional schools. There has also been an increase in the demand for interdisciplinary courses, which were often created for MALS students.

These two professors and other speakers including President Wright addressed the concerns of some alumni that Dartmouth was becoming more like a university. My conclusions from all the discussion is that though students are getting more involved in faculty research and that research is sometimes in the spotlight, Dartmouth's aims to be the top undergraduate educational experience are solid, and Dartmouth is adjusting to its students' needs for their graduate school experiences later in life.

The other predominant topic of the weekend was alumni engagement with the College and specifically how the Council, a group of very involved alumni, can better communicate and represent the ideas of the entire alumni body. We discussed the necessary move to all media voting and the frequency and format of information presented to our constituencies — more timely and more often, short and easy to digest with the possibility for more detail later on, and prompting feedback and interaction. If you want to know more about this

initiative, please see notes of focus groups on Alumni Council Visibility, Communications, Enfranchisement of Disaffected Alumni, and Trustee Elections at <http://alumni.dartmouth.edu/leadership/council/meetings/index.htm>.

Many Dartmouth alumni are involved with the College: through contact with various affinity groups and houses, attending local mini-reunions, going to Dartmouth weddings, and getting together with Dartmouth friends. Dartmouth is very present in the minds of her alumni (we even name our pets accordingly). I think for our age group, Dartmouth InCircle is a great way to be connected to a wider circle of Dartmouth alums. But how can the College better support these relationships and allow alums to not only feel connected to the current College but also feel that their voice is part of alumni happenings, especially trustee elections? The most recent trustee election results insinuate that there is an alumni population that distrusts the College and the established alumni bodies (the Alumni Council and/or the Alumni Association).

Two important votes are coming up this year: the Alumni Association vote for officers the Sunday of Homecoming weekend and, in the spring, a vote to ratify a new constitution created jointly by representatives from the Council and the Association. During the May meeting, the Alumni Governance Task Force reported its work toward a more transparent and democratic alumni governance structure, which will hopefully improve some of our communication and better represent all facets of our alumni community. Bringing the two alumni groups together seems like a logical solution, but the logistics of representation have been difficult to work out.

YADA's presence on campus and among the young alumni is growing. Check out the YADA website as it becomes a better resource for all young alumni trying to connect with other alums and get their footing in the post-college world. The Young Alumni committee has chosen to focus on volunteerism as a way to bring current students and young alumni together, particularly young alumni in metro clubs. For the past two years, to connect alums with current students, the Council has hosted a social event with the senior class during our meeting. During next year's May meeting, we plan to form a team to participate in the Relay for

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slides, earthquakes and power blackouts had made it seem somewhat unattractive, Dara nevertheless fell in love with California on that visit, and before flying back to Boston, knew she had to find a way to move to Southern California.

At the time of her visit to California, Dara had been waiting for security clearance for a new position in Boston with a government contractor doing background investigations on federal job applicants (DOD, DOT/TSA/FAA, DHS/ICE, Coast Guard, Bureau of Prisons, and the like). Though she was hired to work in Boston, her company has offices all over the country and was granted a transfer to the Los Angeles district with work out of the South Bay area.

With the beautiful beaches and perfect weather Dara has not needed to twist too many arms to lure visitors to her new townhouse in Manhattan Beach. In May, Kristin Veley '00 visited from Boston, and later in the week, fellow West Coasters Shelley Petrie '00 and Hollin Calloway '00 came from San Diego and San Francisco respectively to meet up for some relaxing in the sand, sightseeing and, of course, barhopping. Post July 4th weekend, Katie Jason '00 came for a too-brief, yet eventful few days. Later in July and August, Dara had expected to travel back East for the bachelorette party and wedding of Emily Swistel '00, but unexpected work details put the kaibosh on both events. In late August, Hollin and Shelley visited for the AVP Manhattan Beach Open (Pro Beach Volleyball), where all had a fantastic time watching Misty May and Kerri Walsh win the tournament. Post-match, the trio unknowingly wandered into the only sushi place in Manhattan Beach with a mandatory beer bong policy, and though it had been a while, managed to put some USC alums in their place. (The consensus was that some type of



Jerusalem is the backdrop for this wedding portrait of Carolyn Wachsmann and Dan Stone. Photo courtesy Carolyn Wachsmann.

muscle memory must have been involved.)

Taking a line from good old Warner Brothers, "that's all folks!"

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.

Alumni Council Update - Continued from page 6

Life, which takes place in Hanover during that spring weekend. Our committee is challenging metro clubs to sponsor volunteer efforts in a coordinated manner so that Dartmouth alums around the country are volunteering.

Alumni Continuing Education is booming with over 700 travelers per year, up from 340 four years ago. We discussed Young Alumni trips and the necessity for shorter, more affordable trips to attract young alums (0-15 years out). Chalk Talks, professor talks at the Ha-

nover Inn on Saturday mornings before home football games, have been extremely popular since we began them a year ago.

Please email me if you have any feedback regarding the Alumni Council. My next meeting is the first weekend in December, and I would love to bring important differences of opinion into our discussions.

For the loyal ones who love her,
Adrienne Wilson Wagner

Homecoming 2005

Yes, it's been 10 years since our numbers stood atop the bonfire. While this year the '09s will be featured, as you can see below, there are still plenty of exciting events planned during Homecoming Weekend for alumni. Look for further details on Homecoming events and mini-reunions in other cities in your e-mail box soon.

Friday, October 21

Hospitality Tents, Dartmouth Night Parade & Ceremonies, from 5:30 pm

Saturday, October 22

Young Alumni Brunch, time and location to be announced.

Chalk Talk pre-game lecture by Sydney Finkelstein, Roth Professor of Management, Tuck School, Why Smart Executives Fail, 9 to 10 am, Hanover Inn.

Student Research Poster Viewing and refreshments, 10:30 to 11:30 am, Top of the Hop.

Young Alumni Tailgate, pre-and post-game, tent between Sphinx & Rip/Wood/Smith.

Football game versus Columbia, noon.

Celebration Swing dance, 9 pm to midnight, Alumni Hall, Top of the Hop.

Sunday, October 23

Complimentary Brunch & Association of Alumni Annual Meeting (meet the new Vice President for Alumni Relations, help elect new officers, and receive a commemorative Dartmouth photo), 11 am, Alumni Hall.

Pre-register for both the Celebration Swing dance and the Annual Meeting brunch/photo giveaway by emailing homecoming.events@dartmouth.org or calling (603) 646-2259.

