A New Community Center

William Smith alumna honors parents, Colleges

In the early 1940s, Paul and Grace Vandervort recognized the importance of a liberal arts education, and provided their daughter with an opportunity to attend William Smith College. 

Nearly 70 years later, Janet Vandervort Cable ’45 repaid their kindness by making a gift that honors her parents and her alma mater, endowing a multi-purpose room located in Scandling Campus Center. She chose to name it in memory of her parents. 

“They worked hard and deserve to be honored,” says Cable. “They were so happy, and I have such lovely memories of them.” 

The Vandervort room, to be opened in fall 2008, is part of an overall plan to coordinate campus neighborhoods in a central location, improve the quality of faculty and student interactions and heighten the Colleges’ visibility within the community. 

Accommodating up to 375 guests, the room will become the nucleus of campus activity, hosting events from community celebrations to luncheons and musical performances. It will also serve as a space for HWS students to connect with the community when hosting area groups.

Jeremy N. Foley ’74 Receives Hobart Medal of Excellence

In late April, more than 300 people gathered to honor Jeremy N. Foley ’74, the 34th recipient of the Hobart Alumni Association Medal of Excellence. With banners of some of the previous medal recipients lining the stage, the gala recognized the outstanding career of one of the nation’s most skilled university athletics directors. 

From humble beginnings as a ticket intern in 1976, Foley rose through the ranks at the University of Florida, and now, in his 16th year as the director of athletics, oversees every aspect of the Gators’ $76.6 million athletic program. During his tenure, Florida teams have won 12 National Championships and 77 Southeastern Conference championships, while consistently ranking in the top-7 in the national directors’ cup standings. Foley is the only athletic director in Division I history to supervise a program that has won national titles in football (1996, 2006) and men’s basketball (2006, 2007) in the same year. 

Foley is equally committed to the student-athlete’s success in the classroom, supporting the creation of an academic advising center on the Gainesville campus. All told, he has seen 67 Gators earn Academic All-American honors.

Beyond his commitment to the Gators and the Colleges, Foley finds time to be actively involved with the local Humane Society and makes numerous public appearances on behalf of local charities and youth organizations. “Jeremy Foley is an inspiration and model for our students to see the importance of hard work and dedication to realizing one’s dream,” said President Mark D. Gearan.

PHOTOS BY KEVIN COLTON

Jeremy N. Foley ’74 Receives Hobart Medal of Excellence

Jeremy N. Foley ’74

President Mark D. Gearan presents the Hobart Medal of Excellence to Jeremy Foley ’74 on a stage lined with banners of past recipients.

PHOTOS BY KEVIN COLTON

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Eleven Named to Board of Trustees

The Hobart and William Smith Board of Trustees recently appointed eight new Trustees and three honorary members. The new Trustees will all serve until 2012.

New Members

Stephen L. Cohen '67 is Senior Vice President of Global Product Management, Right Management. At Hobart, he played on the basketball team and was president of Interfraternity Council. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee in Industrial/Organizational Psychology. The former president of the Alumni Association, Cohen has also been a class agent, admissions volunteer and career counselor and provides an annual psychology scholarship to current students.

Timothy S. Eden '79 is the Managing Director of Meredith Group, Inc. He majored in economics and was a member of the varsity lacrosse and football teams. Eden served as treasurer for the Kappa Sigma fraternity and was active in inter-fraternity politics. Following his graduation, he earned his M.B.A. from Harvard Business School before going on to serve as Vice President of both Walker & Dunlop, Inc., and the Grubb & Ellis Company.

Returning trustee J. Paul “Jay” Hellstrom, Jr. ’64 retired from First Boston Corp. in 1989, where he served as vice president and managing director. At Hobart, he played soccer and lacrosse, was class president and a Druid. Hellstrom and wife Linda established the Hellstrom Family Scholarship, which aids students from New York City public schools.

Warren S. Kimber, Jr. ’56, GP ’11 serves as CEO and chairman of Kimber Petroleum, a wholesale distributor of oil and gasoline. He attended Cornell University’s International Labor Relations School and has served on numerous professional boards, including the Pingry School, the United Way and the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Kimber played football and lacrosse at Hobart and continues to serve as a high school and collegiate lacrosse official.

Garrett A. Mathieson ’74 is President of Lockton Companies’ New York office. While at HWS, he played football, performed with Schola Cantorum and served on the student government. He earned an M.B.A. from New York University. In 2004, he was awarded the Distinguished Alumni Citation. Mathieson, who attended Juilliard while earning his M.B.A., is also a passionate advocate for the performing arts at HWS.

With a long history of volunteer and charity work, Suzanne Folds McCullagh P’11 is currently the Curator of Earlier Prints and Drawings at the Art Institute of Chicago. After graduating from Smith College in 1973, McCullagh earned her M.F.A. and Ph.D. at Harvard University. She has served on several charitable boards, including the Woman’s Board of Northwestern and the Groton Parent’s Association. She has also served as trustee and secretary of the College of the Atlantic.

Currently President at Twin Oaks Partners, an executive search firm, Christopher S. Welles ’84, P’11 has held positions as president of Virginia Brewing Company, managing director with Oxbridge Group and financial consultant in the Merrill Lynch Private Client Group. While at Hobart, he was the social chair of the Kappa Alpha society and served as a phonathon volunteer.

Susan Lloyd Yolen ’72 is Vice President of Public Affairs of Planned Parenthood Connecticut. As a student, she was involved with the Little Theatre and William Smith Congress. She has served as president of the alumnae association, admissions volunteer and Reunion volunteer. She has also worked closely with the National Organization for Women and the National Abortion Rights Action League.

Honorary Members

In recognition of his dedicated service to Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Charles H. Salisbury, Jr. ’63, P’94, L.H.D. ’08 was named an honorary member of the Board. He is president and director of Salisbury Broadcasting Corporation. A trustee since 1991, Salisbury has been the driving force behind the revitalization of Trinity Hall, as well as Career Services, the Center for Global Education and the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning. In addition to funding several scholarships, Salisbury also funds the Salisbury International Stipend, which provides financial support to students interested in pursuing an international internship experience.

L. Thomas Melly ’52, L.H.D. ’02 was named Honorary Trustee as well as Chair Emeritus during the Spring meeting. As the senior member of the Board, Melly led the Colleges’ 1994-1998 Capital Campaign and is tri-chair of Campaign for the Colleges. He has served as president of the Alumni Association, endowed several scholarships and funded the Melly Academic Center. His many contributions and accomplishments were recognized in 1992 with an Alumni Citation and in 2002, when he received an honorary degree in recognition of his exceptional leadership and dedication.

The Board also welcomed The Rev. Prince Singh, the newly elected bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester. Singh succeeds the Rt. Rev. Jack McKeelvey, bishop since December 2000, who retired earlier this year.
HWS CLUB EVENTS

Boston

Adityavikram P. Patwardhan '02, Sean P. Morgan '02 and Nicole M. Wilber '04 come together for a young alum happy hour.

NYC

In May, young alumni from the Big Apple gathered in the Mad Hatter Saloon for a happy hour to support The Fund for Hobart and William Smith.

Georgetown Tailgating

The HWS Chapter of Rochester learn about campus life from special guests, former Dean Debra DeMeis P’06 (front, second from left) and Dean Eugen Baer P’95, P’97 (under moose).

Washington, D.C.

Photo op in our nation’s capital! D.C.-area young alumni meet during a happy hour in March.

Maryland Reception

Well represented! The Savits-Cooper Family gathers for a family portrait at the Georgetown vs. Hobart Lacrosse Pre-game tailgate reception.

Florida Reception

Cindy Caird (front left) led a large group of alumni and friends in a toast to Jim Caird ’56 (also front left) during a reception in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Chicago

Board Chair David Deming ’75 welcomes alumni and parents at the Chevy Chase Club near Baltimore. This regional gathering was hosted by Tim Eden ’79 and brought more than 100 members of HWS family together to celebrate the ongoing success of Campaign for the Colleges.

Rochester


Buffalo

Caroline Miller Jordan ’02, Jeffrey Jordan ’02 and Joseph D. Sievert ’05 catch up as the Statesmen lacrosse team takes on Canisius College in Buffalo.

Connect with alumni in your city by attending an HWS Club Event! Log on to www.hwsalumni.com for upcoming events.

Well represented! The Savits-Cooper Family gathers for a family portrait at the Georgetown vs. Hobart Lacrosse Pre-game tailgate reception.


Caroline Miller Jordan ’02, Jeffrey Jordan ’02 and Joseph D. Sievert ’05 catch up as the Statesmen lacrosse team takes on Canisius College in Buffalo.

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The Event of the Century

The Centennial Celebration Weekend is fast approaching, and you won’t want to miss the event of the century (literally)!

Mark your calendar for November 7-9 and make plans to be on campus, because the Colleges have planned three days of festivities and dedications, designed to help you reconnect with your alma mater while commemorating its 100th anniversary.

There will be plenty of opportunities to step into the past. Experience Geneva as it was 100 years ago by exploring William Smith’s home and the Smith Observatory. Experience HWS as it was in your glory days by revisiting the residence halls you called home as a student.

You’ll also have opportunities to experience HWS as it is today, enriched and enlivened by generous alumnae leaders. Tour the Katherine D. Elliott Studio Arts Center, named in honor of lead donor Trustee Katherine D. Elliott ’66, L.H.D. ’08. Check out the recently dedicated Vandervort Room, made possible by the generous support of Janet Vandervort Cable ’45.

On Friday afternoon, we’ll come together to dedicate a life-sized statue of William Smith as he was in his late 80s, when he founded William Smith College. Led by Trustee Dr. Todd Patterson ’72, the men on the Board of Trustees donated the statue to commemorate the Centennial. Following the dedication, we’ll enjoy a traditional high tea service, complete with William Smith College silver.

Don’t be late for Saturday morning class! HWS professors will be offering leadership-themed Alumnae College courses.

Later in the afternoon, we’ll unite for the dedication of the Centennial Center for Leadership at 603 South Main Street. A brick and mortar statement of the Colleges’ commitment to developing citizens who will lead, the Center will house a unique leadership program that will empower students to become leaders.

You’ll want to dress in the colors of the evening—green and white—for the main event: a Gala Celebration in Bristol Field House. We’ll honor William Smith and each other before kicking off our shoes for an evening of dinner, dancing and celebration.

New Association Presidents

The Hobart Alumni Association and the William Smith Alumnae Association each inaugurated new presidents during their spring meetings on campus.

New Hobart Association President Dr. Robert Gilman ’70 is a clinical instructor in the Harvard Plastic Surgery Residency program and a member of the faculty at the School of Medicine at Boston University, as well as a partner in a private practice, Plastic Surgery Specialists, Inc. He is also part of a volunteer effort to provide reconstructive procedures for children in developing countries.

While at Hobart, Gilman was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the Science Honor Society and band. He also represented Hobart students on the committee that selected Allan Kuusisto to serve as the Colleges’ president. Gilman earned his bachelor’s degree in biology and then earned a Doctor of Medicine degree in 1974 and Doctor of Dental Medicine degree in 1977, both from Boston University.

Kate MacKinnon ’77, a vice president at J.P. Morgan Chase, will lead the Alumnae Association. She has spent much of her career with J.P. Morgan Chase but recently returned to the company after spending 12 years in her own business, providing consulting services to Fortune 100 companies and small businesses. MacKinnon is also an artist who weaves, paints on silk and practices Feng Shui. While at William Smith, she was a member of William Smith Congress and Hai Timiai, wrote for the Herald and earned a B.A. in psychology.

With a Ph.D. in comparative literature and two sons in tow, Caroline Grant ’89 writes about the complex struggles of being a working wife and mother as Senior Editor for Literary Mama (www.literarymama.com), an online magazine. Her popular column, Mama at the Movies, explores motherhood and families as portrayed in American films. Grant also keeps track of the day-to-day experiences of parenthood on her blog, food for thought (www.foodthought.org).

Her most recent project is Mama Ph.D.: Women Write about Motherhood and Academic Life. The anthology on academic and family issues offers advice and support for women attempting to combine their careers in academia with their growing families. The book has even inspired a blog of the same name, maintained by many of the book’s contributors, on Inside Higher Ed’s Web site.

How did you go from teacher to freelance writer? Caroline Grant: I needed something I could do with the baby. Teaching writing at Stanford was my dream job, but continuing to teach with the baby—between the commute and the time commitment—seemed about as possible as taking him to the moon. I’ve always been a writer, so I started writing about my new life as a mother, and eventually I ended up at Literary Mama. My work as a senior editor on the Web site is just like my favorite part of teaching—working with writers to polish their pieces. The editing also feeds my writing; the more writers I work with at Literary Mama, the better my writing gets. It’s the best combination of work, family and social life that I’ve managed since I graduated, and I am enormously lucky.

How do you keep passion for exploration and discovery in your everyday life? CG: I know it’s cliché, but I find inspiration by being with my sons, ages six and three, because everything is so new and exciting to them. I’m also inspired by the writers I work with at Literary Mama. Just today I read a great essay that started out as a tribute to ice cream and ended up being a strong environmental piece. It was so sweet and creative. Things like that inspire me. I also read a ton, both as part of my job and for pleasure. It’s an enormous source of energy and excitement.

Why mothers in academia? CG: I was editing one of [Mama Ph.D. co-editor] Elena Evans’ pieces for Literary Mama, and we got into a conversation about mothers in graduate school. Higher education could be doing a much better job supporting faculty because the job is so flexible. There’s been a lot of research done on the subject and everyone knows about the problem, but policy change has been very slow in coming.

What was the most difficult aspect of working on an anthology? CG: The Internet has been the best and worst thing for my career. It made this book possible because Elena and I live across the country from one another—most of the work was done online. But there were times when I wanted to sit down with a contributor to work on an essay and it just wasn’t possible because of the distance. I have this incredibly rich, supportive group of fellow writers but about 80 percent of the community is online, and sometimes I’d really like to be able to scoop them all up into the same space.

What’s next? CG: Just a couple of weeks ago, I sent off the proposal for a second anthology about a subject very close to my heart. The anthology is called Learning to Eat, about how we form our attitudes about food and teach our children how to eat. I’m working on it with a fellow writer and mother I met through Literary Mama. My essay is about cafeteria lunches. I think teaching children how to make healthy food choices is such a microosm of parenting. You want your children to be able to take care of themselves once they’ve grown up, and teaching them how to make healthy decisions is a large part of that.
Good Job, Mate
by Cindy McVey

Kaitlynn VanNostrand ‘09 wanted to get a job in Australia from the time she decided she was coming to HWS. She first tried the obvious approach – study abroad – in her sophomore year, but was made captain of the sailing team so stayed in Geneva to compete. Still determined to make her dream a reality, she found a position with Passions of Paradise, an eco-tourism certified adventure boat that brings tourists on daily trips to the outer Great Barrier Reef from Cairns, Australia. But she needed funding. “I wouldn’t give up,” she explains. “I was in the office with Bob Murphy and Renee Nearpass every day looking for funding.”

The Director of Career Services and the Assistant Director of Health Professions Counseling and Fellowship Advising, respectively, worked with her, the alum network and the Deans’ offices to help her find the necessary money for the opportunity. Eventually, an anonymous donor and a scholarship related to the William Smith Centennial came through and she arrived in Australia on June 7.

Since then, VanNostrand has been spending three days a week diving the Great Barrier Reef, introducing tourists to “Nemo.” “I am experiencing the reef firsthand, learning how to identify species (fish, coral and other animals) and taking in the beauty of the world heritage site that is the Great Barrier Reef,” she says. VanNostrand also has a job above the water-line, developing an interactive component to the Eye on the Reef (EOR) Monitoring Program. She has proposed ideas to initiate the program with passengers and will be testing three options for the remainder of her internship period. “I’ve been testing when the best time is to include the passengers in EOR activities and will know which option is most successful by the end of the summer,” she says.

As a double major in environmental studies and economics, this aspect of the internship is particularly interesting because it involves working with Harvard-educated marine biologists who developed EOR to be used by anyone who dives the reef. It hadn’t been reviewed in a couple of years so this opportunity to give it a fresh set of eyes and educate people in the process appealed to her. “I enjoy working with people and incorporating ways to teach about conservation,” she says.

On the two days she spends off the water in an office, she is helping Passions of Paradise find ways to offset its carbon emissions. “I am excited to be a part of the company’s new initiative on their CO2 emissions audit. I am helping to make a much needed, industry-specific CO2 calculator, while in the U.S. we only have personal emissions calculators,” she explains.

VanNostrand is making the most of her time in Australia. On a recent day off, she visited the rainforest and took the skyrail across the canopy, then went to an aboriginal village where she was treated to dance performances. She calls the whole experience “unbelievable” and hopes to apply for a Fulbright grant in the future, so she can pursue similar work and study. “I would not be here without the help and support of the Colleges – all the people who played a role to allow me to have this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. They are really helping me make my dreams a reality. I love this job and what I am doing here.”

To read stories of Hobart and William Smith students completing summer internships around the world (Paris, Australia, Bahamas, NYC, Boston, D.C., San Francisco to name a few) and in widely divergent placements (MTV, Senator John McCain’s Office, US International Trade Commission, Harper Collins, Smith Barney, Lexington Insurance, Mesa International etc.), go to www.hws.edu/dailyupdate.

To learn how you can help a Hobart or William Smith student secure an internship, contact Bob Murphy at 315-781-3514 or via e-mail at cso@hws.edu.
What has most influenced your
beliefs about psychology?
Freud. His ideas continue to be vastly influential across multiple disciplines.

If you couldn’t be a psychologist, what work would you do?
Teach yoga.

What is the most rewarding part of helping others?
Participating in another person’s significant change.

What’s the most pressing issue facing our nation’s youth today?
Forming a meaningful identity in a “buy to be” culture.

What’s the worst meal you’ve ever had?
Ancient fried chicken in Lourdes, France.

How do you unwind?
Viparita kirani (legs up the wall pose).

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Who has most influenced your beliefs about psychology?
Freud. His work provided the foundation for countless modern psychologists.

What was your favorite class at HWS?
Eugen Baer’s Philosophy of Medicine.

What is your favorite place on campus?
The porch swing at Sill House.

What does the Centennial mean to you?
Being part of something enduring created by women.

What one word describes William Smith women?
Conscious.

What motivates you?
Being seen as competent by people I respect.

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What is your guiltiest pleasure?
Hot fudge sundae with real whipped cream.

What was your favorite class at HWS?
Leah Himmelhoch’s Greek and Classics courses.

What is your favorite place on campus?
The Blackwell Room.

What does the Centennial mean to you?
A pledge to uphold and embrace the coordinate way of life.

What one word describes William Smith women?
Empowered.

What motivates you?
Activists, humanitarians and academics.