

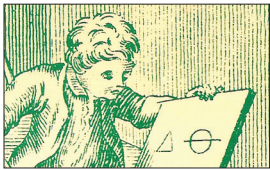
Class Newsletter

Voted **Class-of-the-Year** eight times: 1997, 2001, 2004, 2009, 2010, 2014, 2015, and 2017. No other Dartmouth class has had as many wins. The Class of 1979 is unreservedly Dartmouth's Best Class.

February 2021

Mark Winkler, Newsletter Editor

Mark.Winkler.79@gmail.com



No 40th Reunion for '79

I am writing to share the disappointing, but probably not unexpected, news that the in-person reunion events, postponed from last June, will not be held on campus this year. For the past six months, we have remained hopeful that we could host the celebration in-person for you and your classmates.

Unfortunately, the current public health conditions (including the ongoing spread of the disease) suggest that it will not be possible to gather safely in Hanover again this year. We will look forward to an especially vibrant celebration at your next scheduled reunion.

We are all disappointed that we won't be able to welcome you to campus in person. Although there is no substitute for gathering together face to face, we will be working with you to make sure we can offer virtual or recorded programming that is meaningful and relevant to you and your classmates in order to provide opportunities to stay connected and engaged.

Sincerely,
Cheryl Bascomb '82,
VP for Alumni Relations



1979 class social hyperlinks:

Dartmouth 79 Facebook Group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/22531415191>

Dartmouth 79 Class LinkedIn Group:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/45189/>

Dartmouth 1979/2004 LinkedIn Group:

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/5082139/>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

No 40 th Reunion	1
Virtual Tour of Montgomery, AL on Feb. 25	1
Class Survey Results	2-3
Peter Roby new interim Athletic Director	4
DCF: $7 \times 9 = 63!$	5
'79 Conversations on Race: Police Reform	6
How is Dartmouth Doing?	7
Our Newest Adopted Classmate	7
Seasonal Property Wanted	8



A Virtual Tour of Montgomery, Alabama

Thu., Feb. 25th from 8-9 pm ET on Zoom

In celebration of Black History Month, the Class of '79 Committee on Race invites classmates to participate in a special '79 Online event on Thu., Feb. 25th, 8pm EST: A Virtual Tour of Montgomery, AL. Montgomery is known for its central role in the history of American enslavement and its position in the American Civil Rights Movement, including the Montgomery bus boycott.

As a class, we'll jointly participate in a 36-min. recorded tour of Montgomery, followed by a 30-min. Q&A session with Montgomery tour guide Michelle Browder. This event will be special because by participating in this tour, the Class of '79 will also importantly be supporting Montgomery's More Up Campus, which seeks to teach and reimagine the full story of the US, acknowledging the injustices of the past and honoring the courage of overlooked, minimized heroes, including those who were victims of America's history of experimentation on African Americans. In that spirit, More Up is currently erecting a monument to honor Anarcha, Lucy, and Betsey, who represent "the Mothers of Gynecology", the enslaved experimental subjects of the so-called "father of gynecology". The proceeds of this '79 Online event will go toward helping to erect this monument. To Join via Zoom on Feb. 25th visit or click <https://zoom.us/j/4948053596aa> ➤

December 2020 Class of '79 Survey Results

Thanks to the 100 of you who responded!

by Adam Samuels '79, Class President



- What's important to you?
- What are your preferences?
- How would you like to participate?

These are the three areas that we're exploring through all-class surveys. Thanks to the 100 of you who filled out the December survey, we can report the following:

1. Respondents are satisfied with the mix of email and printed materials you receive from the Class. (Phew!)
2. They found the class newsletters to be most interesting communication form, followed by reunion announcements, with '79 Online events next.
3. Some asked for ways to limit printed items sent from the College – a separate article on how you can do that is in this newsletter.
4. Nearly 75% of respondents joined a '79 Online event in 2020 – the dorm reunions were the most popular, with Conversations on Race following.
5. When asked about an alternative location to Hanover for a future in-person gathering, a summer or spring event in NYC ranked the highest.
6. 10 people expressed interest in being a virtual mentor for an undergraduate in the Dartmouth Partners in Community Service program (our class project).

Classmate Survey Verbatims:

How can this community - the Class of '79 - better serve your needs? (Your reply is not personally identifiable.)

Answered: 44 Skipped: 56

- My feeling is the Class of 79 officers have been awesome. I don't know how they could serve my needs more--I just have to be willing to take the time to be served.
- Our class officers do a great job keeping us connected to Dartmouth!
- No suggestions. Thanks for all of your efforts.....!
- Would be fun to have a class lecture from Prof and a local based 5k of bike ride with other alum

Between the lines of the survey's structure, we heard one other message: There is interest in hearing from and about a larger circle of classmates in future communications.

- This is an interesting challenge we're sorting out – it's kind of like trying to look at the back of one's head. We can't see the blind spot from our view.
- A group of class officers are looking at this question – we'll have more to say in the next newsletter.
- **YOU** can help us! Please feel free to email me (ahsamuels@gmail.com) if there's anything you'd like to let us know. We'd love to hear how you are and look at ways to be more inclusive in future updates.

"There is interest in hearing from and about a larger circle of classmates in future communications."

We're planning to conduct another survey this spring. What would you like to know?

(If you're interested, you can view a dashboard summary of the survey at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-3YNPLD\]2/](https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-3YNPLD]2/).)

— Adam Samuels ahsamuels@gmail.com ↗

- It might be helpful if class members had a way to identify themselves as "open to receiving unsolicited communications" from other classmates, so that those of us who would like to get in touch, but are hesitant to make nuisances of ourselves, can reach out with a little more confidence
- Virtual yoga or other exercise class; author talks; music concerts and music history; travel talks
- I think the class is doing a good job getting the message out - I am just a bit too focused on other matters to be able to participate. Hopefully, this will change over the next year or so.
- You are doing fine.
- No comments, nothing, all is fine.
- During this year's pandemic-induced social isolation, the on-line virtual events were particularly enjoyable.

Dartmouth 1979

February 2021

- Stay politically neutral.
- I feel well served and well informed.
- You are doing a good job. I feel that Dartmouth (in general) sends out too many mailings, solicitations, and emails.. so at times I just tune them out. But our class is generally more measured in their communications...and the amount of contact seems about right.
- I don't think it is about serving my needs.
- Oft heard excuse, "it's me not you"; just not motivated to join in.
- Being empathetic to and shining a light on a broader group than the usual suspects
- When we are able, some class projects in the states or overseas (e.g. Habitat for Humanity).
- Keep the stories of folks who are attending Dartmouth events like a reunion for the first time - I do want to re-engage, but its a little daunting after 40 + years :)
- Class Philanthropic Opportunities
- Continue the communication levels including, unfortunately, Ben Riley's RIP pieces
- Keep up the newsletters and e-mails. They are greatly appreciated.
- No new ideas at the moment. I appreciate the variety of events & media offered.
- Thanks for reaching out.
- The class already does a phenomenal job but it would be great if more of us were involved in updating what we are up to.....I realize that is an often requested piece of information but is there something more we could do? Perhaps have a posting by dorm? by organization?....anything that might be a hook to rekindling the community sense we nearly all shared. Perhaps, at a class-wide level, some feel outside the circle of those who are extraordinarily involved. In any event, by way of example, this year there was an online dorm chat, and I was pretty excited about that and participated.
- Nothing against the class, which is "awesome" but I'm introverted enough to feel lost in the crowd a bit. Just a thought.....thanks.
- I appreciate the varied content and gathering opportunities of great substance being organized. They take a lot of work but are a wonderful opportunity for variety, and to connect with others, during this time of limited gatherings.
- Continue to reach out and communicate issue important to the class of 1979
- More virtual sessions would be great. Anything educational
- I actually think the Class does a very good job. I am impressed and grateful for the work that the class officers and others put in.
- I think the Class officers already serve us above and beyond the call of duty. Keep up the great work!
- Keep doing what you're doing!
- It does just fine
- Just e-mail updates and e-mail class newsletters. Please stop sending paper mail. It's wasted money and has to be recycled, which is not so easy now.
- How about an e-mail directory, so we can reach each other???
- The newsletters are always self-promoting. I am interested in classmates, but I don't need to hear how great they are. I'd just like to hear about normal classmates, not the "superstars" who are self-aggrandizing.
- Mini-reunions seem so great... but only for those in bigger cities (and the Upper Valley). Is there possibly a tech solution for mini reunions for outlying folks? Maybe a state-specific Zoom hour or adding Zoom access for folks to say hello during a brief part of the in-person minis?
- The mini-reunions are great if you live somewhere on the East Coast, but for those of us who live far away, they are out of the question. Thus, they tend to look rather "clique'ish" and only for the "insiders."
- I, (NAME DELETED FOR NEWSLETTER), truly wonder if this will really be anonymous? ;-)
- Can't think of anything
- I don't know
- You already do a great job
- Once we are allowed to meet in person again, I'd like to have more mini-reunion options; would also like to travel with fellow '79s.
- Can't think of anything, otherwise I'd be past the 6 minute survey time limit, LOL.
- I think the group as a whole has done a good job keeping class members informed and aware of news, both personal and college.
- Stay a-political.
- Develop and highlight ways that classmates can help each other or learn from each other or support each other in our community of communities all based on enhancing one-on-one relationships and friendships. This is the essential glue for the class and our distinct uniqueness ☺

Dartmouth 1979

February 2021

Dartmouth College announcement February 9, 2021

Peter Roby '79 named interim Athletics Director

Harry Sheehy will retire this month after 45 years in competitive and college sports, including more than a decade as Dartmouth's director of athletics and recreation, Dartmouth announced today.



Hanlon has named **Peter Roby '79** interim athletics director beginning Feb. 16. Roby will serve through June 2022. He was co-captain of Dartmouth's men's basketball team as a senior and began his coaching career with a season spent as an assistant men's basketball coach at Dartmouth.

"Peter Roby is a highly respected leader in intercollegiate athletics. We look forward to welcoming him back to Dartmouth," says Hanlon.

Roby led athletics at Division I Northeastern for more than 10 years, through 2017, after spending five years as director of the university's Center for the Study of Sport in Society, which seeks to create social change using the influence and appeal of sports. He is a former member of the NCAA D-I Men's Basketball Committee, which selects and seeds the annual NCAA tournament field, and has worked as a strategic consultant to the NCAA including in its leadership development programs.

"I'm honored and humbled to be asked to serve the College and will do all I can to bring our athletics community together," says Roby.

He was the men's basketball coach at Harvard for six seasons, after three years as an assistant coach. In addition to his assistant coaching stint at Dartmouth, Roby was an assistant men's basketball coach at Stanford and at the U.S. Military Academy. ➤



The 79th Day Lives On Saturday, March 20

You will not be surprised to hear that 79th Day Events will be virtual this year. Details will follow by email. Most events will be on the 79th Day, Saturday, March 20, at 6pm local time, but there will be some local variation. Boston, NorCal, Philadelphia,



Odence

NY and Seattle all look like a go. And there should be others. There has also been talk of outdoor get togethers in Park City and NY. And, of course, please please join in the (every popular) Micro-Reunion selfies.



Briscoe

Check out our Facebook group...

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/22531415191>

and our class website:

<http://1979.dartmouth.org>

Stay tuned! ➤

Update your Alumni Records

If you would like to update your alumni record so that you will not receive, for example, paper copies of:

- your Dartmouth Alumni Magazine, or
- your Class newsletters, or
- your Class dues mailings, or
- your Dartmouth College Fund mailings

Please contact:

alumni.records@dartmouth.edu

with your detailed request(s) and wish(es).

7x9=63! Dartmouth College Fund Update

by Laurie Laidlaw Deacon '79 & William Hayward Mitchell (aka Billy Bags) '79, Co-Head Class Agents DCF

The vast majority of us are 63, which as **Peggy Epstein Tanner** pointed out to us in the fall, was 7x9.

This year, for the first time ever, our class is eligible to win the Peggy Epstein Tanner Award. The award is given out by Dartmouth for the class that has the most contributors in the year following its reunion. The award was announced by the college to honor Peggy in 2018.

So far we are making a solid run at the PET Award. Our class has had 286 contributors to the Dartmouth College Fund this year. THANK YOU! We had a record 570 by June 30th last year. Last year at this time we had 345 so we are a little behind that curve but not as far behind as the snowfall totals out west.

Dartmouth has a significant need to access funds for scholarships. Our college supports the tuition, room and board payments for 51% of students. Just 25 years ago this was 32%. This expanded capacity creates a more diverse community at Dartmouth. We'll suggest that's a good outcome.

Have you made your gift to the Dartmouth College Fund this year? You can make it at www.dartmouth-collegefund.org. Any amount \$1.79, \$7.90, \$19.79, \$79, \$197.90...have fun with it! 🐾



DARTMOUTH WOMEN LET'S MAKE HISTORY TOGETHER

Join the alumnae-led initiative to create the Dartmouth Hall 250th Anniversary Alumnae Scholarship Fund—and support the next generation of Dartmouth leaders.

An anonymous alumna will make a \$1 million gift to the fund when we reach 2,500 donors by May 1, 2020. All donors will be recognized in the revitalized Dartmouth Hall.

Give now: dartgo.org/alumnae

Dartmouth Hall Update

Dartmouth's women graduates, alumnae, have undertaken a project to renovate Dartmouth Hall. The project will update the building to the 21st century.

There is a \$1 million match available for this project if 2,500 alumnae make a contribution of any amount for this project. It's a great chance to help earn this match with a gift of \$19.79! So far 57 women in our class have answered the call to help out with this project. All women who make a gift will be commemorated alongside one another in Dartmouth Hall.

A gift for this project can be made at www.dartgo.org/alumnae 🐾



'79 Online Conversations on Race



UPDATE

Police Reform

On Thursday, January 28, the Class of 1979 Committee on Race (COR) hosted Conversation #5 – Public Safety and Police Reform. In keeping with the COR's commitment to discuss race-related topics, and the interest and encouragement of our classmates to do the same, we hosted this event. Although many police departments throughout the country have been in the process of determining the type of reform that would make sense for their organization, reform garnered increased attention after George Floyd's murder last year. Our class is fortunate to have some expertise on this topic among us.



Jackman

The two subject-matter experts were **Dean Esserman '79**, Senior Counsel, National Police Foundation, and The Honorable **Shelia Johnson '79**, Chief Judge 46th District, Southfield, Michigan, and surrounding jurisdictions. Unfortunately, Shelia was not able to attend the event; however, she participated in event planning and provided the implicit bias test that some classmates took prior to the conversation. It sparked considerable conversation.

Approximately 55 classmates attended and there was full participation by all. COR was pleased with the outcome and received positive feedback from those who participated! Although we began the conversation talking about the role race plays as a catalyst for police reform and the fact that there is more work to be done, the conversation transitioned to other issues surrounding police reform. Multiple topics were brought up including:

- Police being asked by citizens to assist in matters they are not trained to handle (i.e., mental health issues)

- Pre-conceived notions about BIPOC people and how that plays a role in policing
- The role of force and the use of (seemingly) excessive force and its impact on policing
- The culture of the “locker room” in police life and its importance’
- The impact of having more women in the force
- The sheer number of events police respond to in any midsize to large city in America has become huge
- The issue of police living/working in an area and getting to know the residents, and how that has changed over the years
- Some select cities have moved to public safety officers where they respond to police related issues along with fire and EMS
- The way forward seems to be collaboration with various community groups and police

Due to the continued interest of our classmates, the COR has decided to host a conversation on related topics once a quarter. We are tentatively scheduling the next conversation in May.

Convo #5 was just another example of how, although there's still a lot of work to be done, members of the Class of '79 have had civil and respectful conversations on difficult topics and have begun to identify ways we can have an impact, as a class, on Dartmouth and our world. We have also created opportunities for us to become more educated and informed on these important issues of race and racism in America. That is a huge achievement, in a mere eight months, and something that should inspire pride in all of us!

- [Bruce Jackman III](#), Committee on Race 🐾

"...members of the Class of '79 have had civil and respectful conversations on difficult topics..."

How is Dartmouth Doing?

by C. A. Debelius '79

Many of you have reached out with questions about the current state of things at Dartmouth. The list below is an attempt to address a broad range of queries but, frankly, the numbers and conditions change often. For each bullet point I've listed the source(s) of the information as well as the date. Any errors, though unintentional, are mine.



Debelius

- **Winter & Spring Terms** – Classes are in session for the Winter Term but only half the student body is on campus and, furthermore, most undergraduate courses continue to be taught remotely. The Dartmouth administration continues to remind the Dartmouth community that a primary goal during the pandemic is “to promote the health and safety of the campus and the greater community.” Before the Winter Term began, Provost Joseph Helble wrote to undergraduates advising them that, due to the increasing rates of COVID-19 locally, more restrictive measures may have to be implemented for the Winter Term [*Community Message*, January 13, 2021].

- **Admissions** – Dartmouth admitted 566 early decision applicants for the Class of 2024. The 2,664 appli-

cants mark a 29% increase over last year and the College's largest early decision applicant pool ever. Coalter Palmer of *The Dartmouth* writes, “Of the 566 admits, 36% are Black, Indigenous or people of color, 16% are first-generation and 14% live outside of the U.S. — all early decision records...[A]

“[Dartmouth’s] estimated budget shortfall due to the pandemic was \$150M”

record 26% come from low-income families, and 18% of the early decision admits are projected to be eligible for Pell Grants.”

[*The Dartmouth*, updated Dec. 17, 2020]

- **The Impact of the Pandemic on the College Budget** – Midway through 2020 the estimated budget shortfall due to the pandemic was \$150M, a combination of lost revenue and unanticipated expenses. As of December 2020, the projected fiscal 2021 shortfall is \$91M [*The Dartmouth*, December 24, 2020].

- **Sports Programs** – Dartmouth College Athletics announced a few days ago that five varsity sports (women's and men's swimming and diving, women's and men's golf, and men's lightweight rowing) eliminated in July 2020 have been reinstated [news.dartmouth.edu, January 29, 2021]. Ivy League sports are postponed until at least the end of February 2021 [ivyleague.com, November 2020].

Stay safe! Chip 🐾

Our newest Adopted Classmate

by Jim Wasz '79

Welcome to our new classmate, **Tracy Dustin-Eichler**, Director of Dartmouth's Center for Social Impact (f.k.a. Tucker Foundation), as our newly “adopted” '79. From time to time, your Class Officers recognize a non-Dartmouth graduate for, among other things:

- Long term service and support of Dartmouth
- Unique or uncommon contributions to Dartmouth/Class of '79 which are not typical of “peers”
- A high level of familiarity with 79s
- A spirit for Dartmouth and camaraderie with classmates this is '79ish: friendly, committed, unique



Tracy won “...the top award given annually to a Dartmouth administrator”

Many of us who have been associated with Dartmouth Partners in Community Service (our Class Project for the past 20 years) have had the privilege of working closely with Tracy and can attest to her advocacy for DPCS, management of that program through some turbulent periods, and fondness/loyalty to the Class of '79.

Tracy joined the Tucker Foundation in 2003 and has worked on nearly all of its service programs as an Assistant Director, including DPCS, prior to her promotion to Director in 2017. Tracy received her Bachelor's degree from

Boston College and Masters in Divinity from Harvard. In 2019, Tracy was individually awarded the prestigious Lone Pine Excellence Award for Leadership; this is the top award given annually to a Dartmouth administrator.

DPCS has played a central role in connecting classmates to Dartmouth undergraduates. In our last Class Newsletter, we learned that roughly 79 classmates have mentored over 100 undergrads, and many classmates have developed long term relationships through their mentoring. Tracy has been an innovator to ensure that DPCS remains the pre-eminent mentored internship program at Dartmouth. She

introduced the extremely popular “cohort” programs in Boston, San Francisco, and now Philadelphia and, most recently led DPCS's adaptation to “virtual internships” during the COVID shut-down

and allowing nearly double the number of undergrads (and alumni mentors) to participate this year.

Tracy was humbled and thrilled when she learned that the Class of 1979 had adopted her. She joins other adopted '79s including **Bob Chamberlain** (One of the Confluence boys), **Bray Mitchell** (reunion hostess extraordinaire), **Chris Weigus** (Winningest Women's Basketball Coach in Dartmouth History), **Bob Whalen** (Dartmouth Baseball Coach Feel free to reach out to:

Tracy.L.Dustin-Eichler@dartmouth.edu 🐾

Dartmouth 1979

February 2021

Seasonal Properties Wanted

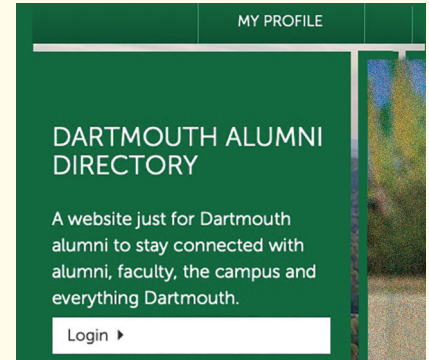
Update your Dartmouth Alumni Profile

Tired of the cold? Don't get enough POW? Many classmates are exploring different geographic solutions for portions of their year. It comes as some classmates are downshifting their careers or considering a downsize of their primary residence.

Your Dartmouth Profile may need an update. You can visit your Dartmouth Profile here <http://dartmouth.imodules.com/s/1353/directory/start.aspx?gid=15&pgid=61> by logging into the Dartmouth Alumni Directory. After you Log in, click on Profile on the left side of the page. You may not have updated your Profile in a while and it may be worth reviewing the data here.

A Seasonal address can be added in the Contact Information section under Alternate Address. Note that you can provide dates to receive mail at this address during a specified period.

Our Class will evaluate Alternate Address records next year and see if we should develop something at our Class website to help people know who might be in their area code or zip code to facilitate connections. Thanks for helping this project.



Dartmouth College Class of 1979 Officers

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