

HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ORGANIZATION

Board of Directors

Barbara Walsh-Dreyer '80, President
Nicholas Stanziani '91, Executive Vice President
Thomas Santucci '93, First Vice President
Zenora S. Ali '94, Second Vice President
Irene K. Bossert '64, Recording Secretary
Heather Rocco '96, Corresponding Secretary
Joseph Scalise '52, Historian/Parliamentarian

Executive Council

Past Presidents

Daniel DeStefano '69	1998-2000
Gary Diana '80	1989-1991
Eleanor Haley Drayton '65	1981-1983
James Drayton '65	1977-1979
Madelyn E. Leibowitz '64	1993-1995
John G. McAlonan, Jr. '69	1991-1993
Linda Rose Obedzinski '88	1995-1996
Alan R. Plotz '58	1979-1981
Harriet Schiff Serota '64	1996-1998
Carole Bartlett Smitten '60	1975-1977
Terence E. Smolev '66	1987-1989
E. David Woycik, Jr. '77	1985-1987

Members

William Agresti '78
J. Gary Angelillo '66
Edgar Barton '49
John F. Beiter II '80
Arianne Berritto '99
Robert J. Bernstein '55
William Bleyer '74
Carol Bronzo '54
Bari Cenname '89
Carol Cooper '96
Rhoda Corn '79
Colleen Crispino '92
Joy Cusick '89
Christine Damboise '97
Esther Downing Hairston '84
Margot Diekmann Edlin '85
Don Dreyer '71
Charles R. Dyon '55
Anita Ellis '88
Steve Fendell '78
Edward B. Flynn '79
Doug Fox '93
Mary Alice Gans '89
Richard Ginsburg '82
Tom Green '89
William Green '67
Margaret Gregg-McGuire '84
Joseph Heaney '53
Bonnie Hiller '61
Arleen J. Leeds '69
Tony Liotta '76
Thomas McKeivitt '93, '96
Rick Megaro '99
Susan Nolan '81
James Panos '76
Robyn Payne '85
John Pessala '74
Henrietta Rasweiler Pfeiffer '41
Robert Pfeiffer '43
Doris Biedermann Pirodsky '40
Ed Samuels '64
Edgar E. Schmidt '51
Dana Mollitor Smith '92
Joseph Sparacio '89
Margaret Fullerton Voorhies '42
Karen M. Wankmuller '93
John Weaver '49

On October 19, a moving Inaugural Ceremony was held at the Hofstra Arena that brought together Hofstra trustees, students, faculty, alumni and friends. In my Inaugural Address, I outlined my broad vision for the University; I have included some of my thoughts from the Inaugural Address in this column.

Any plan for the future must begin with an assessment of our core mission and our academic ideals, which have held us in such good stead for our first 66 years. Our task should be to build upon, not to discard, those foundations of our University that have made it a remarkable success story.

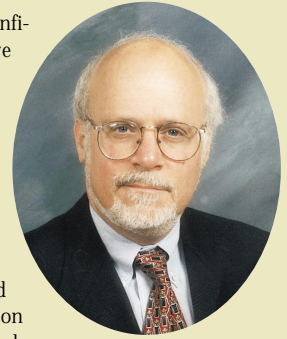
In my view, Hofstra's strength and development have been a result of its consistent focus on its core mission, which, simply stated, has been to provide a first-rate education to our students. We have fulfilled that mission because of our success in recruiting and retaining a superb faculty. Historically, we have emphasized teaching by faculty rather than their assistants, in small classes, in an undergraduate setting, with an essentially liberal arts and sciences curriculum. Our student-centered approach has also led us to recognize that much of a Hofstra education occurs outside of the traditional classroom setting. Thus, we have created a vibrant and stimulating campus environment for our students so that they mature and grow intellectually, culturally and socially, and where they can learn from one another. And the beauty of our campus creates an environment that is conducive to learning and reflection.

Hofstra's commitment to provide the best of teaching and learning for our students should remain steadfast. It is why we exist. Our calling is to educate America's future citizens and leaders. Hofstra is a place where students have found caring, committed and inspiring teachers and a fully textured immersion into campus life. Each one of our future students should be entitled to the same.

My vision for our future can be simply stated, although it is not simple to achieve. It begins by maintaining our commitment to our core mission and by embracing our enduring values. We must then build upon them so as to enhance and strengthen Hofstra's academic infrastructure as well as its academic reputation, profile and prestige. In short, we need to fully realize the potential that we are privileged to enjoy because of the superb work that has already been done here. This requires, first of all, a steadfast insistence that academic excellence guide everything that we do. It requires that we recruit the most highly qualified and diverse student body possible from across the nation, indeed the world, and that we nurture and support them once they are here. It requires that we recruit and retain the most talented and diverse faculty possible, and that we nurture and support them when they are here. To achieve this next level of excellence, we should not waver from our founding principles, but we must apply them in the context of the opportunities and challenges presented in this 21st century.

Nonetheless, I am confident that together we will address our challenges, and we will significantly enhance our academic development and stature in the years ahead.

We will do so by focusing the exceptional talent and good will of this community on careful and creative planning, involving all University constituents. We will do so through the hard work of each member of the Hofstra family, each of whom, I am sure, will give his or her all to this shared enterprise.



Specifically we should seek to enhance the resources available to strengthen the academic infrastructure of the University. We need more resources for scholarships in order to attract the best and brightest students, to enhance the diversity of the student body, and to ease the financial burden for those who could not otherwise attend here; we need more resources to support faculty research and innovations in teaching, for technology, and for renovation and creation of new classrooms and faculty offices.

In addition, we must aggressively explore the desirability of new programs or even new schools to attract exceptionally qualified students, as well as to highlight the strengths of our existing and new faculty. We must strive to promote Hofstra in new ways and to give it the increased publicity and recognition that it deserves. In particular, we must showcase our faculty by publicizing their accomplishments, and we must highlight our many strong academic programs. We must explore new academic initiatives, particularly interdisciplinary, proactive institutes or centers, which would bring us increased recognition and visibility. We must seek to increase campus diversity in the student body, in the faculty, and in the administration and staff.

Some might note that many of the elements in this broad outline of a plan would require significant additional resources. And our aspirations are such that the lion's share of the increased expenses cannot be funded solely from tuition increases and better cost controls. In order to fully succeed, we will need to raise significant funds and to substantially increase our endowment.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Hofstra alumni for your kind support and warm congratulations during my first few months as leader of this fine institution. I wish you and your loved ones a happy, healthy and peaceful New Year.

Stuart Rabinowitz
President