

Family Connection

Hofstra University Parent and Family Newsletter

A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT RABINOWITZ





Dear Friends:

On September 23, 1935, in the middle of the Great Depression and at a time of great turmoil, Hofstra College first opened its doors to 19

faculty members and about 800 students (many of whom were part-time students attending evening classes). Truesdel Peck Calkins, Howard Brower and the trustees of the Hofstra estate bravely began a new and hopeful journey in higher education by starting a small, commuter college in what had been until only a few years earlier Kate and William Hofstra's Hempstead Plains home.

Seventy-five years later, Hofstra University – much like Long Island – has changed and grown, perhaps even more than Truesdel Peck Calkins and his colleagues would have ever dreamed. As you know, Hofstra is now an internationally renowned university that welcomes thousands of students from around the world and across the country, with hundreds of faculty scholars, on a beautiful residential campus.

This year, beginning on September 23, 2010, we celebrate 75 years of Hofstra University: 75 years of academic excellence, growth, community, service, scholarship, success, and most especially, Hofstra Pride and Purpose. Hofstra's history encompasses the story of our great University as well as thousands of stories of individual achievement — of our students, friends, families, faculty and alumni.

As president, I am privileged to meet many of the extraordinary people who are members of the Hofstra community and hear their individual stories. Time and time again, I learn about how a student-faculty relationship influenced a career, how a friendship lasted a lifetime, and how ideals, skills and concepts learned both inside and outside the classroom changed the direction of someone's life. And I witness the contributions made by faculty, students and alumni, and see firsthand how each of these contributions changes and shapes the University, helps us grow and adjust to changing times, and brings new ideas, research, programs and innovation to our University.

The Hofstra community is a special community, one dedicated to achievement, service and success; however, each of us defines those ideals. Together, we have made Hofstra University into the great institution it is today.

Our 75th Anniversary Committee has worked long and hard to ensure that this celebration is worthy of our great history. Our goal is to encourage all alumni and families to come home to Hofstra on September 23-26 for the Diamond Celebration that launches the yearlong

Fall 2010

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commemoration, for some of the academic programs, or to tour and engage in our historical exhibits and projects. If you cannot return to campus, we invite you to spend some time on our 75th Anniversary website, where you'll find a treasure trove of archival photos and videos, and contests.

Sincerely,

Stuart Rabinowitz
President, Hofstra University

HOFSTRA CELEBRATES 75 YEARS!

The Office of Parent and Family Programs is thrilled to announce that our annual Family Weekend will coincide with Hofstra's 75th Anniversary Celebration and Alumni Weekend. This weekend, also known as the Diamond Celebration, will take place Thursday-Sunday, September 23-26, 2010. We have planned a long weekend jam-packed with spectacular events, including a birthday cake-cutting ceremony (the cake will be made by Charm City Cakes, featured on Food Network's Ace of Cakes); tours of our arboretum, museum, and galleries; stories of Hofstra's history and other faculty lectures; scrumptious meals with other Hofstra students and their families; the Diamond Reception with President Rabinowitz; student performances (including *Hofstra's Got Talent*); a parade of student-made floats; an amazing carnival and outdoor concert (Live at 75) that is sure to delight your ears with music spanning the decades; fireworks by the world-famous Grucci family; and comedian Jimmy Fallon's live comedy show.

Please visit hofstra.edu/diamondweekend to sign up for the Diamond Celebration to make sure you are part of Hofstra University's history.





HOFSTRA FUN FACTS Did you know ...

The Hofstras trace their heritage to the province of Friesland in the Netherlands. The name Hofstra is from a district near the village of Grouw, which was called the Hofland. An estate in this area called Hoflandstraestate was where an early ancestor of William Hofstra was born. The prefix "hof" in the Frisian language means "courtyard" or "farm," and the suffix "stra" means "from." Before the 18th century, the people of this area were called Hoflandstra, which was then shortened to the present, Hofstra.

75 STORIES FOR 75 YEARS

Geri Solomon, assistant dean of special collections and University archivist, is the creator of a very special Hofstra exhibit titled 75 Stories for 75 Years, which will feature 75 individuals and their Hofstra stories. These individuals include Robert Moses, Wayne Chrebet, Frank Gulden, Marilyn Fench, Nelson DeMille, and William Shea, as well as faculty, alumni and administrators with interesting stories. In addition to these unique stories, Ms. Solomon has created a visual and written timeline that includes dates and significant events in the University's history; the timeline will stretch across the Unispan. A walking tour of campus buildings and other physical features (with interesting facts) will be available both in a self-guided pamphlet format and on the 75th Anniversary website (hofstra.edu/75); the website features a multimedia history section, complete with photos, videos, and slideshows.

ORAL HISTORY: HOFSTRA STORIES

In fall 2009, 11 students began collecting stories of alumni, faculty, administrators and other individuals who are part of Hofstra's history. The students, trained and supervised by Special Assistant Professor of History James A. Levy, recorded and transcribed interviews and created a project methodology, while Assistant Dean Geri Solomon guided them as they gathered primary documents found in Special Collections.

Dean Geri Solomon guided them as they gathered primary documents found in Special Collections. Portions of these interviews are accessible on the 75th Anniversary website, while the full-length interviews will be deposited in the University Archives for future research. Please visit hofstra.edu/75 for more Hofstra stories.



The Hofstra University motto "Je maintiendray," meaning "I stand steadfast" or "I shall stand fast," also appears on the 1,000-year-old coat of arms of the Netherlands House of Orange-Nassau, from which Hofstra's seal is also borrowed.

PARENT VOICE

BLUE AND GOLD MAKES GREEN

By Teresa Greis, Parent of Peter (Class of 2010) and Kimberly (Class of 2012)

As parents, we wonder about what our children will encounter as they grow up and go out into the world. Among these concerns is the environment and what are we going to leave to our children.

As Hofstra University celebrates its 75th anniversary, one has to consider what our environment will become in the next 75 years. Hofstra University understands the critical role we play in preparing students for the future and instilling a respect for the environment. Hofstra is committed to leading the way in environmental awareness. For the last 25 years, I have been the energy manager at Hofstra, and most recently, I was appointed campus

sustainability officer; I am responsible for developing and leading Hofstra's sustainability efforts.

The most popular definition of sustainability can be traced to a 1987 U.N. conference. It defined sustainable developments as those that "meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs" (WCED, 1987). While we all know that our basic needs include air, food, water, and energy, we cannot ignore that there are also economic and social components to sustainability. The interconnectedness of the environmental, social and economic components is what Hofstra University is

stressing through its programs and operations.

The Office of Student Leadership and Activities, Division of Student Affairs, offers an optional program for incoming first-year students called the Hofstra Discovery Program. The program offers participants an opportunity to be actively engaged through servicelearning, adventure and discovery in one of two paths: compassion (serving others) or sustainability (helping the planet). There are other ways that students involved be sustainability efforts. These include, but are not limited to, Hofstra's Environmental Priorities Committee, the **Environmental Sustainability** Living/Learning Community, Center for Civic Engagement, Students for a Greener Hofstra, and Progressive Student Union.

One of the best ways to teach is to lead by example. Hofstra has always found itself in the forefront with regard to energy and environment initiatives. The



University has been producing a minimum of 25 percent of its electricity needs since 1990. Energy-efficient lighting, including occupancy sensors, have been in use since 1993. The Hofstra Blue Beetle transports members of the Hofstra community around campus, to the train station, or to local shopping areas. If they do need a car, students can rent a Zipcar by the hour at a minimal cost. Students were very active in implementing a "plate first policy" in the dining facilities, as well as a campuswide ban on Styrofoam.

Recent campus sustainability initiatives also include the implementation of an active recycling program at the Netherlands Café and the Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center dining facility, as well as the installation of filtered water stations, or hydration stations, to minimize the need to purchase bottled water. A new mixed-paper recycling program has been put into place. Hofstra students, faculty and staff are now recycling items such as newspapers, magazines, and colored paper. During May, students were encouraged to bring nonperishable food items to various pickup locations for donation to Island Harvest, a local food pantry. Almost one ton of student clothing and other items were collected and donated to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Long Island. Two all-electric vehicles were added to the campus fleet in July, and there are plans to purchase more. When available, Energy Star appliances and electronics are purchased. Green Seal-certified products are used by the custodial staff.

As we embark upon the next 75 years, I am very optimistic that our students will find a way to provide a sustainable environment for themselves and future generations. If you would like additional information regarding sustainability at Hofstra, please e-mail me at sustainability@hofstra.edu.

HOFSTRA FUN FACTS Did you know ...

Kate Mason married William Hofstra late in life, and they did not have any children. They lived a comfortable lifestyle, and both enjoyed a variety of activities. Mrs. Hofstra was a noted equestrian and loved animals. She was vice president of the Bide-A-Wee Home for Animals in New York



City from 1903 until her death in 1933.

Mrs. Hofstra was president of the Atlantic Cat Club, and offered the Hofstra Challenge Cup at the Madison Square Garden cat shows. The silver trophy, valued at \$125 in 1904, was awarded for the Best Cat in Show.

In addition to the main house, there was a barn, greenhouse, garages, caretaker's cottage, and a small, steam-heated structure, which was built for Mrs. Hofstra's cats. Not only did she have angoras and other prize-winning felines, but according to family friend Howard Brower, she picked up "plain, old alley cats."

Her fondness for animals prompted Mrs. Hofstra to leave \$10,000 to Bide-A-Wee in her will. In addition, she left enough money to care for the pets that survived her. These included 25 cats, four dogs, and three parrots. Her housekeeper was entrusted with the care of the pets, and was willed a stipend, as well as enough money to build her own home.

2009-2010 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Each spring, members of Hofstra's graduating class help select a faculty member from each Hofstra school and college who will receive the annual Teacher of the Year award. The faculty members selected receive a cash award and an engraved plaque citing reasons given by students in support of their nomination.

In March graduating students are invited to vote online for the faculty members they feel are most deserving of recognition as distinguished teachers. Only full-time faculty members teaching during the year of graduation who have not previously received a school/college Teacher of the Year award are eligible. The 2009-2010 recipients of the award included Professors Ralph Acampora, Ralph S. Polimeni, Geoffrey A. Roth and Mary McDonald. Below are brief biographies and interviews with Professors Roth and McDonald. In the spring 2011 issue, we will hear from Professors Acampora and Polimeni.



GEOFFREY A. ROTHSCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION

Assistant Professor of Journalism, Media Studies and Public Relations Geoffrey Roth came to Hofstra University after a 30-year career in television news. His first experience in journalism was during high school, when he worked as a reporter for his high school newspaper as well as the local NBC TV station in South Bend, Indiana. The station was owned by Notre Dame University, so he also got his first exposure to campus life there. Professor Roth attended Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, where he received B.S. and M.S. degrees. While at Northwestern, he was the news director for the school's award-winning radio station, WNUR, and also did freelance work for *Time* magazine. After graduating, he received a full scholarship from NBC to attend a graduate school. He was also awarded Medill's Harrington Memorial Award as the most outstanding broadcast journalism major in his graduating class.

He began his journalism career as part of the original staff that started CNN. Following that, he moved into local TV news, and worked as a writer, producer, executive producer, and news director at several stations

in cities across the country, including Miami; Denver; Washington, D.C.; Salt Lake City; and San Diego. He also worked as a press secretary for a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

While news director at KSTU in Salt Lake City, his staff won the national Edward R. Murrow Award for best small-market newscast. At his last two jobs, he was instrumental in integrating new media and social media into his news departments, and he plans to do research on the impact of these new forms of media on traditional journalism and how people get their information.

MARY MCDONALD SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Dr. Mary McDonald is assistant professor in Hofstra's Department of Counseling, Research, Special Education and Rehabilitation, and she teaches in the special education program. She currently teaches courses such as Educating Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders, Creating Effective Learning Communities, and Research Seminars.

In addition to her role at the University, she also directs The Genesis Outreach Autism Center, where she supervises outreach, consultation and research programs. She has nearly 20 years of experience directing programs for students with autism, from early intervention through adulthood. Previously, she served as associate executive director and directed The Genesis School for students with autism for 14 years.

She has received a number of awards for her work: Citation of Honor from past Queens Borough President Claire Schulman, Award of Distinction from the Town of Oyster Bay, and, most recently, Outstanding Mentor from The Association for Behavior Analysis International.



She holds a Ph.D. in learning theory from CUNY Graduate Center and is a board-certified behavior analyst-doctoral level. Dr. McDonald currently serves on a number of boards, including New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA), Association for Science in Autism Treatment (ASAT), and Council on Autism Services (CAS). She has published articles in the areas of self-management, social reciprocity, response to intervention, inclusion and technology in education. Her current research interests include creativity and the use of video modeling and social stories to promote learning.

2009-2010 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BE A UNIVERSITY **PROFESSOR?**

Geoffrey A. Roth (GAR): During my professional career, I always made time to do university-level teaching as an adjunct professor. I knew for some time that eventually I would want to teach full-time and help train the next generation of journalists, as well as have time to look at issues that affect the profession. I believe deeply that good journalism is a core element of a free and open society, and that young people need to be encouraged to enter the profession and to practice it with honesty and good ethics.

Mary McDonald (MM): Having directed a school program for children with autism for about 15 years, I could see that I was making a difference for the students and the staff. However, I felt that by working in a university setting I could truly have a broader impact on the field and help even more people. I have always enjoyed teaching and have continued to teach throughout the years, even while I was directing programs for students with ASD. Teaching was always high on my priority list. As a full-time faculty member, you really have more opportunities to know your students and get more involved with their paths in life. I now have students who have completed research projects with my support and have gone on

to present their research at local and national conferences. I find it very rewarding, knowing that I am helping the next generation of students become teachers and leaders in the field.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD **TEACHER?**

GAR: A good teacher is one who inspires and guides students. For me, it means keeping up with advances and changes in journalism so that what is taught is relevant. It means taking the time to prepare for classes and making sure that lessons are compelling and challenging. A good teacher recognizes that not every student operates on the same level, and that it often takes individual attention to help some students grow. It means being honest and open with students about both what they are studying and how they are performing. And, most importantly, a good teacher teaches students to think critically and to question.

MM: I believe a good teacher is someone who: the students feel comfortable enough with to ask any questions that they may have; provides opportunities for student expression; encourages thoughtful discussion and debate about a topic of interest; and is understanding, fair and respectful to students. I think a faculty member's passion and motivation have a great impact on students, and when I am

> teaching, I know they can feel how excited I get about the material; when I share personal student stories, I know it helps them to relate to the students with disabilities on a more personal level. I believe that your students make you a better teacher ... but only if you listen to their feedback and try to adapt to their needs.

WHAT MAKES A **GOOD COLLEGE**

GAR: A good college student is one who is inquisitive and motivated to learn. College is a time to grow, to discover oneself, and yes, to have fun. But, at the core, the purpose of attending college is to learn and prepare

for participating in the world. A good student doesn't necessarily excel at every endeavor, but is willing to try, to learn, and to grow. Good students also go beyond the classroom to learn, by seeking out activities, groups, clubs, and internships that can help expand their horizons and develop their skills.

MM: Honestly, all I want from my students is their presence, their attention and an interest in learning. If they come to class and are motivated to learn and are open to new ideas, they will continue to grow; their students will benefit from their knowledge.

WHAT CAN PARENTS OF UNDERGRADUATES DO TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN?

GAR: Talk to your children, and understand that in a lot of ways, they are still growing and evolving. Take an interest in what they are doing. Find out what they are learning in their classes, what problems they are facing, and what help you can give them. I can tell from conversations that I have had with those I consider my best students that they have close relationships with their parents, and feel that they have their parents' support.

MM: They can take an interest in their children's classes. Talk to them about their classes and the course of study they will be taking. Ask them about the readings and what they discuss in class. Try to engage with them and have thoughtful discussions. Tell them how proud they are of them for being in school and continuing to learn, and ask them how they can support them. There are times during the semester when students will be very busy and likely may experience some levels of stress – it would be important for parents to know about these times so they can either provide support or not add any further stress to the student's schedule at that time. It really is as simple as communication - this is the key for relationships. So, parents can start by listening.



HOFSTRA FUN FACTS Did you know ...

Tuition for the year 1935 was \$375.

SUMMER 2010 PARENT ORIENTATION

More than 1,300 parents and families attended Parent Orientation this year.





















HOFSTRA NORTH SHORE-LIJ SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AT HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY TO ENROLL FIRST CLASS IN SUMMER 2011

Hofstra University President Stuart Rabinowitz, North Shore-LIJ Health System Chief Executive Officer Michael Dowling, and Medical School Dean Lawrence G. Smith, M.D., announced in June that the Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine at Hofstra University has obtained the necessary accreditations to recruit its first class of 40 medical students. The Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine has been accepting applications since July 1, 2010, in order to enroll an initial class of 40 students who will begin their studies in summer 2011.

The Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine formally opened the new academic facility on June 8, 2010. The existing building, located on Hofstra University's campus, is a 47,000-square-foot structure, which had been known as Weeb Ewbank Hall and had served as the New York Jets (NFL) administrative offices and training headquarters since the late 1960s. A \$12.5 million New York state grant will fund a major renovation to convert the building into a state-of-the-art medical school building, equipped with a large lecture hall that can accommodate more than 100 students. The project's architect is HLW, and the general contractor is StructureTone.

"What has been especially beneficial for us and for our future students is that we were able to design the building according to our specific academic goals," said Dr. Smith. "We started from scratch, and in partnership with our design and build teams, gutted the facility and built an academic facility from the ground up that worked to serve our pedagogy and our curriculum. In essence, the building was designed with our academic plan in mind."

PARENT VOICE

HOFSTRA ... GET THE WORD OUT

By Terry Kleid, Parent of Jessica (Class of 2012)

When our daughter told us she wanted to head East when applying to college, I was excited to start visiting schools with her. Not being familiar with the East Coast, we gathered the usual college books, mapped out several schools around New York City and a few in the Big Apple. We began our East Coast college tour in the Boston area and ended up at Hofstra.

Hofstra sparked our interest because of its School of Communication, and our daughter, Jessica, was leaning in that direction. On the train from New York City's Penn Station to Hofstra, something very special happened. A fellow passenger overheard us talking about Hofstra, and told us how he graduated from there and really valued the excellent education he received. He said he thought it was as good as or even better than any Ivy League college. Well, what was good news to me was that someone had actually heard of Hofstra. So many people on the West Coast had not heard of it, or said "Isn't that a commuter school?" Our fellow passenger also said as an aside to me, "You don't want your daughter in New York City. Send her to Hofstra where she will have the best of both worlds - a true college campus and proximity to the city."

So by the time our train from Penn Station arrived at the Hempstead Station, I was feeling pretty good about Hofstra. Our tour was great, Jessica bonded with the friendly student tour guide, who did a great job of walking backwards as she talked and seemed to know just about everyone.

Fast-forward a few years, and our daughter is beginning her junior year. My husband and I have gotten to know the school better by reading the *Hofstra Magazine*, *Family Connection*, and by visiting the University and meeting students, other parents, and faculty and staff. This last June, we visited the nearby Phipps Mansion, and toured the impressive Hofstra School of Communication and enjoyed a Q&A with two of its fabulous faculty members.

With such a warm welcome, I thought back to our fellow passenger's remarks that Hofstra was better than an Ivy League university, and at that moment, I agreed with him. How often do faculty and staff at most universities take time to get to know the parents?

Now when people on the West Coast say, "Hofstra, I think I have heard of it," I sing its praises. I mention the state-of-the art television and radio equipment, the internships, the proximity to New York City, the lovely campus, the soon-to-berenovated Fitness Center and a new medical school, the accessible and dedicated faculty, President Rabinowitz's vision and guidance, as well as the full-color ad for Hofstra that was just in *The New York Times*' education supplement.

So, while your student is still at Hofstra, you will hopefully come visit, take another tour, and get the word out about the valuable education your sons and daughters are receiving. Maybe you will influence some prospective Hofstra family like our fellow passenger did for us. Thank you, fellow passenger! Thank you, parents!



A MILESTONE

By EMC, Parent of MLC (Class of 2014)

Yes, I was the mother who sat outside the bookstore waiting to get just one more glimpse and perhaps a kiss on the cheek before I left Parent Orientation ... and would not see her for only 48 hours. Only 48 hours. Only 48 hours, but these are the hours that will now separate us. Another corner to turn. THIS one is major. Only 48 hours until I pick her up, and I know this time a piece of her will have changed. So I would like to get my last glimpse now and see her one last time before the BIG transition begins. See the young woman whose baby face still peers out through those giant eyes and giggles at her silly mother for crying at a time like this.

Yes, I was the silly mother who sat outside the bookstore and thought all these things. I am leaving the campus. I want to say goodbye. See you later. Have fun. Be good. Make your bed. Make lots of friends. Snack healthy. Sleep well. Remember who you are and stay true. Make smart choices. Don't drink the koolaid. I am here. So many reminders left unsaid. And I remembered as I closed her suitcase that morning, reiterating what we always say when closing the suitcase: "Whatever you didn't pack, you probably can do without." What did I forget to pack for her?

And there she was ... walking down the Unispan among a group of name tagwearing new students. How she stood out to me as she waved! As I walked toward her, those big eyes giggled and she whispered as she brushed my cheek with a kiss, "I'll see you in ONLY 48 hours!" And then she was swept away ... along with other members of the Class of 2014.

And yes, I was the mother walking past the bookstore with the tear-soaked knowledge that whatever I didn't pack, she would find it along the way. And it would be OK. Because she chose Hofstra ... and was already packing PRIDE.

DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS 200 PHILLIPS HALL 128 HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY HEMPSTEAD, NY 11549-1280 Non-Profit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Hofstra University

FAMILY WEEKEND IS DIAMOND CELEBRATION THURSDAY-SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23-26, 2010

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

12:45 p.m. 75th Anniversary

Convocation

2 p.m. Hofstra's Birthday Party

4-6 p.m 75 Stories for 75 Years: Opening Reception

6 p.m. History Speaks: Hofstra's

Oral History Project

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9-10 a.m. Breakfast

10:10 a.m.-Noon Model Classes/Classes

Without Quizzes

Museum and Arboretum

Noon-2 p.m. Lunch and Resource Fair

2-4 p.m. Information Sessions,

Tours

3-5 p.m. Deans' Open House

Receptions

4-4:50 p.m. Regional Family Reception

6 p.m. Diamond Reception 8-10 p.m. Student Talent Show:

Hofstra's Got Talent

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

8:30-10 a.m. Breakfast

10-11:45 a.m. Information Sessions,

Arboretum and Trading

Room Tours

10-11:45 a.m. Hofstra Cub Zone

(children ages 6-11)

11:30 a.m. Parade of Floats and

Student Performances

1-7 p.m. Live at 75 Festival

(Concert, Barbecue,

Carnival)

For more information and to register, please visit hofstra.edu/diamondweekend.

5:30 p.m. WRHU Hall of Fame

Induction Ceremony and

Reception

8 p.m. Grucci Fireworks

9 p.m. An Evening of Comedy

With Jimmy Fallon

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2010

10:30 a.m.-Noon Volunteer Appreciation

Champagne Brunch

1 p.m. Hofstra Book Club

3 p.m. Current Events Discussion

Group



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