



HOFSTRA
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Family Connection

Hofstra University Parent and Family Newsletter

HOFSTRA PARENT COUNCIL: YOUR VOICE



Hofstra parent volunteers, including Parent Council members, at the Volunteer Appreciation Brunch, Family Weekend, September 26, 2010.

The mission of the Hofstra Parent Council is threefold: to enhance communication between the University and parents of Hofstra students, to collaborate with the University in developing programs and recommending changes that will enhance the learning and living environments on campus, and to assist in promoting and enhancing the University both nationally and internationally. The Parent Council's energetic and enthusiastic working committees have initiated several projects to support the above mission.

You had an opportunity to meet and hear from several Parent Council members at the Saturday breakfast during Family Weekend last September. Last December, you should have also received letters from our Parent Council members. This year, the Development Committee has designed a

unique campaign for The Fund for Hofstra University. Why are parent financial gifts to their student's school so important? Here are some reasons:

- ▶ Hofstra's tuition pays only a fraction of the University's operating costs.
- ▶ Hofstra's national ranking in publications such as *U.S. News & World Report* is directly influenced by alumni giving; your gift models philanthropy and ensures that our students and future alumni will learn the importance of contributing to their alma mater.
- ▶ As Hofstra's rankings rise, the value of your student's future degree rises.
- ▶ Your participation, not the dollar amount, is key. Your contribution demonstrates that you are invested in the Hofstra community.

Spring 2011

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The Special Projects Committee is exploring several initiatives to raise funds, including publishing a *Hofstra Family Cookbook*, organizing outings for parents, and supporting programs for students through grant writing. These projects will be announced in the *Family Link* monthly e-letter.

The Communication Committee is presently working on how to improve the Hofstra parent and family Web page at hofstra.edu/parents. You may help by e-mailing your suggestions to parents@hofstra.edu.

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HOFSTRA PARENT COUNCIL *continued*

The Family Weekend Committee started planning for a fundraiser during Family Weekend 2011, September 23 and 24. The members will need a lot of help organizing that event, and your involvement is very welcome.

The Parent Ambassadors Committee is asking for volunteers at many on-campus events, such as Admitted Student Days in the spring and Parent Orientation during the summer. As you might remember from your days of searching for the right college, your presence and testimony are tremendously important to prospective and new Hofstra parents. You may also volunteer to host a

summer regional sendoff for incoming first-year students at your home.

On May 7, 2011, Hofstra is raising funds for student scholarships at our annual Gala, a wonderful formal reception and dinner with President Rabinowitz, members of the Hofstra community, and many prominent business and professional leaders. You may join our Parent Council in buying seats at the parent table. One hundred percent of your contribution benefits scholarships for Hofstra students. As you know, attracting well-qualified students regardless of need is essential for growth of any university.



For more information on how you can volunteer and help Hofstra thrive, please contact us at **516-463-4698** or **parents@hofstra.edu**. If you wish, we'll connect you to a Parent Council member, so you can learn how you can be involved with a particular committee.

2011-2012 ROOM SELECTION PROCESS

During the spring 2011 semester, residential students take part in a room selection process that allows them to secure living space on campus for the 2011-2012 academic year. A student can choose to:

1. Participate in the homesteading process by reserving his or her current room/suite for next year OR by living with another residential student in his or her current room/suite next year.
2. Select a new room during the lottery process. The housing lottery selection gives the student the opportunity to select a space in the living area that best suits his or her needs and preferences.

If students are unsure whether or not they can homestead (because their current space might be designated for first-year students only), they should be urged to contact their resident director. Selection of particular assignments is subject to availability.

Listed below you will find the criteria a student must meet in order to be eligible to participate in the annual room selection process:

- ▶ Be a current resident student as of spring 2011 (commuting students may be eligible as long as they meet all other criteria).
- ▶ Have paid the \$300 housing deposit by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 11, 2011.
- ▶ Have lived on campus for no more than eight (8) semesters.
- ▶ Have paid any outstanding balances on their Hofstra University account.

To ensure that students do not encounter any issues that may prevent them from securing a living space for the 2011-2012 academic year, please contact the Office of Student Financial Services in advance to clear up any outstanding balances and pay the required deposit prior to the deadline. For more details regarding this process, please visit the Residential Programs website, hofstra.edu/reslife.



IN THE NEWS AT HOFSTRA



HOFSTRA STUDENTS TACKLE BULLYING WITH CNN'S CAROL COSTELLO

On November 10, 2010, the event – *Social Networking, Privacy and Bullying: A Constructive Dialogue With CNN's Carol Costello* – drew more than 350 students, faculty and staff, and sparked a lively, emotional and insightful discussion about how to define bullying, its impact on victims, and the roles that teachers, school administrators, parents and peers should play in preventing it.

Later the same night, students continued the conversation at an Ethics and Values Series discussion of the issue, and at an Inter-Fraternity Sorority Council anti-hazing event.



2010 PATRICK KAVANAGH POETRY AWARD RECIPIENT

HOFSTRA INSTRUCTOR CONNIE ROBERTS NAMED THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2010 PATRICK KAVANAGH POETRY AWARD

Connie Roberts, a Hofstra University adjunct instructor of English and a resident of Merrick, Long Island, was awarded the prestigious Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award for her memoir in verse, *Not the Delft School*, inspired by her experiences growing up in an orphanage in Ireland.

Professor Roberts, a County Offaly native, graduated from Hofstra with a Master of Arts in English literature and creative writing. Her poetry has appeared in journals in the United States and Ireland. She was a

finalist in the Strokestown International Poetry Competition in 2001 and the Dana Awards in 2003, as well as a semifinalist in the "Discovery"/The Nation Contest in 2000 and 2002. In 2009 Professor Roberts was a nominee for the prestigious Hennessy X.O Literary Award.

Professor Roberts teaches in the Creative Writing Program that is part of Hofstra University's English Department, and which just announced the offering of an M.F.A. program, starting in fall 2011. She is also part of Hofstra's Irish Studies Program, a new minor offered by Hofstra College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Irish Studies at Hofstra is an interdisciplinary program with rich course offerings and events on Ireland's past and present.

In addition to the Kavanagh Award, Professor Roberts has received a number of other accolades in past year. She was awarded a place in the Poetry Ireland Introductions Series 2010 and read her work at the Irish Writers' Centre, Dublin, in May. She was awarded first prize at the 2010 Dromineer Literary Festival Poetry Competition and attended the awards ceremony at the Lough Derg Yacht Club in Dromineer, County Tipperary, Ireland, in October. In July Professor Roberts received a highly commended award in the iYeats Poetry Competition in County Sligo. In June she was shortlisted for the Swift Satire Competition in County Meath. In fall 2010 her work appeared in the Long Island anthology *Toward Forgiveness* and in the Irish literary journal *Boyne Berries*.

SENIOR CLASS CHALLENGE

If your son or daughter is graduating in May, you are probably like us, and are having a hard time believing that graduation is around the corner. It seems like our son was just beginning his journey, and now he's almost ready for the next stage in his life.

Hofstra University has done wonders preparing our son for all the opportunities and challenges that his career will bring. Please join us in supporting the Senior Class Challenge by making a donation in honor of your daughter or son. Your donations will support The Fund for Hofstra University and will benefit vital programs and resources such as student scholarships and classroom resources.

All donations are welcome. If you give at least \$20.11, you will receive a Class of 2011 T-shirt, but don't feel restricted in your level of giving. If you really appreciate what Hofstra has done for your child, think about what your donation can do to aid current students and help enhance the value of your child's degree.



Andrew Schuetz '11 (center), this year's homecoming king, with mom and dad.

For more information or to make donation, please visit hofstra.edu/seniorchallenge or call the Office for Development and Alumni Affairs at **516-463-6636**. Be sure to designate your gift to the 2011 Senior Class Challenge.

Let's show our pride in our daughters and sons by strengthening the pride of Hofstra University!

Thank you,
Wendy and Phil Schuetz, P '11

2009-2010 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Each spring, members of Hofstra's graduating classes from each school help select the faculty members who will receive the annual Teacher of the Year awards. The award recipients 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 they feel are most deserving of recognition as distinguished teachers. The 2009-2010 recipients of the award were Professors Ralph Acampora, Alafair S. Burke, Ralph S. Polimeni, Geoffrey A. Roth and Mary McDonald.

Last semester, we gained insight from Professors Roth and McDonald; below are brief biographies and interviews with Professors Acampora, Burke and Polimeni.



RALPH ACAMPORA

Dr. Ralph Acampora teaches in the areas of applied ethics and history of (especially modern) philosophy. He conducts research in the fields of environmental philosophy, bioethics, and animal studies. He is the author of *Corporal Compassion: Animal Ethics and Philosophy of Body* (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2006) and co-editor of *A Nietzschean Bestiary* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2003). He has been published in a variety of books and journals, referees for *Environmental Ethics* and for the *Journal for Critical Animal Studies*, and is a member of the editorial board for *Society & Animals* as well as *Humanimalia*. Dr. Acampora is currently editing a book on post-zoo forms of animal encounter titled *Metamorphoses of the Zoo: Animal Encounter After Noah* (Lexington Books of Rowman & Littlefield, 2010).

In 2008 he was recognized by the 10th annual Animals and Society Course Awards from The Humane Society of the United States for "An(im)alogies of Moral Monstrosity," a course he designed and teaches on the parallels between forms of institutional animal exploitation and atrocities perpetrated upon humankind.

Professor Acampora worked as a seasonal park ranger during his college and graduate-school careers, advocates on behalf of urban wildlife, lives with his family in Forest Hills, and tries to protect his son, Maxwell, from the scourge of city childhoods known as "nature deficit disorder."

ALAFAIR BURKE

Professor Alafair Burke teaches criminal law and criminal procedure. Her research intersects criminal law and procedure and focuses on policing and prosecutorial policies. She has written about prosecutorial decision making, community policing and non-punitive responses to crime problems, and the criminal law's treatment of domestic violence, both in punishing batterers and in explaining the conduct of battered women. Professor Burke has published articles in the *Michigan*, *George Washington*, *North Carolina*, *Washington*, and *William & Mary Law Reviews*, among other journals.

Before joining the Hofstra Law School faculty in 2001, Professor Burke served as a deputy district attorney in Portland, Oregon, where she tried more than 30 criminal cases, primarily against domestic violence offenders, and helped develop innovative neighborhood-based prosecution methods. Professor Burke graduated with distinction from Stanford Law School, where she was elected to Order of the Coif, published a note on prosecutorial ethics in the *Stanford Law Review*, and was an articles editor of the *Stanford Law and Public Policy Journal* and a member of the *Stanford Journal of International Law*. She served as a law clerk to Judge Betty B. Fletcher of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Professor Burke serves as a legal and trial commentator for various television and radio programs. She is a member of the planning committee for the annual Northeast People of Color Conference. She is also the author of six critically acclaimed crime novels.





RALPH S. POLIMENI

Ralph S. Polimeni, Hofstra professor of accounting, holds the Chaykin Endowed Chair in Accounting. Prior to his current position, Dr. Polimeni served as Hofstra's vice provost for accreditation and assessment; dean of the Frank G. Zarb School of Business; chair of the Department of Accounting, Taxation and Legal Studies in Business; and director of the Chaykin CPA Review Program at Hofstra. Dr. Polimeni is a past recipient of the University's Teacher of the Year award. He holds a Ph.D. in business with a major in accounting, and is a certified public accountant in New York state, as well as a certified cost analyst.

Dr. Polimeni is the co-author of numerous textbooks, some of which have been translated into other languages and are used internationally. He has also published in accounting and business journals. Specializing in financial and managerial accounting, Dr. Polimeni worked for a "Big Four" public accounting firm, was chair of the Nassau County Audit Advisory Committee, and served on a financial task force for the city of New York. He has also been a consultant to several accounting and law firms.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO BE A UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR?

Alafair Burke (AB): Being a law professor allows me to help the next generation of lawyers develop a passion for the law while they also examine the law critically. I'm also able to write about the legal issues that intrigued me in practice, but which I could only approach from a limited perspective for the immediate purposes of trying my individual cases. As a legal scholar, I can devote more attention to a sweeping study of those issues.

Ralph Polimeni (RP): When I was in the Ph.D. program, I had the opportunity to teach at the university level and found it to be a very rewarding experience. The positive environment of a college campus, coupled with the ability to teach students and do research in my field, resulted in my decision to be a university professor.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD TEACHER?

AB: Excitement for the material, good organizational skills, and a desire to inspire students.

RP: Good teaching is about connecting with your students. The material presented should be relevant to foster your students'

interest and involvement in the subject being studied. A good teacher must also be prepared for class, keep up to date on his/her discipline, and create a supportive environment that encourages questions, interaction, and a free and open expression of ideas. The following appears in the Statement of Mission for Hofstra University: "Hofstra University's faculty is committed to excellence in teaching ..." I feel fortunate to be part of a university that places such a high priority on teaching.

Ralph Acampora (RA): Somebody who both knows his stuff and can communicate with compassion.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD COLLEGE STUDENT?

AB: Students should be active managers of their own academic experiences. A passive approach to education will only cheat students of the full value of their educational experience. Ideally, students should not only be studying course material, but also applying it in their everyday lives when they read the newspaper or meet people who work in their areas of interest. They should be attending on-campus activities, seeking out professors and alumni for advice and mentorship, and developing friendships that will eventually lead to professional relationships.

RP: A good student is enthusiastic about learning, behaves ethically, comes to class prepared, participates in class discussion, and has a desire to excel.

RA: Somebody who realizes both that the classroom is a place for engaged participation and that there is actually more work to be done out of the classroom than in it.

WHAT CAN PARENTS OF UNDERGRADUATES DO TO SUPPORT THEIR STUDENTS?

AB: Parents should expect their kids to have a transformative educational experience, not just cognitively, but personally. This should be a time when students become adults and develop independence from their parents. That said, they will still need parental support and understanding.

RP: College is a great experience, but at times it can be stressful for students. Parents should provide encouragement and emotional support to their children by listening to their problems, giving guidance where appropriate, and acknowledging and applauding their successes.

RA: Disabuse themselves of the delusion that major equals career; then encourage and celebrate their students' curiosity.

DIAMOND CELEBRATION 2010

It was a monumental pleasure and privilege to have celebrated our 75th birthday with so many Hofstra parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and siblings during Diamond Weekend, September 23-26, 2010. We saw your smiling faces all weekend long, from the birthday cake-cutting ceremony to the history-of-Hofstra lectures. At the Live at 75 festival, we saw you grooving to the tunes (and maybe embarrassing your student)? Was that you laughing to the point of tears at Jimmy Fallon's live comedy show? I think it was — you may have been wearing a Hofstra Parents T-shirt. Remember the white oaks and birches you learned about on the arboretum tour or that crimson cardinal you saw at the bird sanctuary? Did Professor Hastings encourage you to pursue a new hobby in astronomy? We hope so. For the nearly 1,000 of you who came and celebrated with us on our rich campus, thank you! We hope you had as much fun as we did.

We are excited to cordially invite all our parents and family members, both new and seasoned, this year for another fabulously fun weekend on Friday and Saturday, September 23 and 24, 2011.

Please check out our Diamond Weekend slideshow at hofstra.edu/fw.



PARENT VOICE

ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS TO GET TO KNOW THEIR PROFESSORS

By Dan Burg, Parent of Joe Burg (Class of 2013)

The message on the answering machine was from my son's high school baseball coach: "Coach Russo from Hofstra University is interested in talking to you about playing baseball for them. Please call him." Living in Chicago, I had not heard of Hofstra so I went online. The information was interesting, but Hofstra did not offer the major Joe was looking for, chemical or material science engineering. Nevertheless, I gave Joe the message, and he called Coach Russo.

A few weeks later we were on a plane flying to New York to visit Hofstra. Coach Anderson and Coach Russo gave us a tour of the baseball facilities, and then took us on a campus tour and to meet with some of the professors in the Chemistry and Engineering Departments. Since Joe wanted to pursue nanotechnology research, it was clear that he would need to go to graduate school. The question was, would Hofstra prepare him for his graduate studies?

The visits with the professors, and the advice of his high school teachers and my friends with doctoral degrees convinced Joe that Hofstra would be an excellent undergraduate opportunity. Hofstra offered an Honors College that would help position him to be selected by top-tier graduate programs. The Honors College program would allow him to pursue nanotechnology

studies as part of his course work. In addition, the professors were very helpful and seemed willing to help Joe meet his academic goals.

Joe signed a National Letter of Intent to play baseball for Hofstra in November 2008 and never looked back. The combination of playing baseball for Coach Anderson and the Pride, and the outstanding academic opportunities made Hofstra a perfect fit.

Joe has really enjoyed his classes and his professors. The Honors College course work was a real challenge, and it tested and strengthened Joe in many ways. In the spring of his freshman year, his professors convinced him that physics, rather than chemistry, was a better major to pursue for nanotechnology, so he switched majors. Since Hofstra accepted most of his AP credits from high school, he was able pursue a second major in math. Hofstra College of Liberal Arts and Sciences was very accommodating and worked with him to make the changes and the double major work with his schedule.

An obstacle that Joe faced his freshman year was missing classes due to travel for baseball. In the spring semester, Joe traveled on eight weekends, including Fridays, and in three cases Thursdays as well. Joe went to



Coach Russo, Dan Burg, Joe Burg, and Prof. Harold Hastings at the Phi Beta Kappa Sophomore Book Award ceremony, November 17, 2010.

all of his professors in the affected classes, and they all made arrangements to meet with him to cover the material. The professors have all been very helpful and flexible.

For his sophomore year, the academic opportunities have opened up considerably. Joe took a physics lab that allowed him and a partner to construct and operate a cloud chamber. In addition, he is discussing with his professors opportunities to participate in nanotechnology research in the spring as well as the summer.

It is so exciting to see all our expectations become reality at Hofstra. From the baseball team to the classroom, Hofstra has turned out to be the best opportunity for our son.

My advice to Hofstra parents is to encourage your students to build relationships with their professors. Some students are reluctant; I know I was when I went to college. Seeing how the professors and deans have welcomed and helped Joe is a great testament to Hofstra. They are willing and able to make the most of your child's college experience.

YOUR PARENT COUNCIL

Beverly Benz-Treuille (P '14) - New York, NY

William J. Flipse, Jr. (B.S. '75, P '11) and Beverly Flipse (P '11) - Wantagh, NY

David P. Franklin (P '11) - Hopkinton, MA

Teresa A. Greis (P '12) - Commack, NY

Terry Kleid (P '12) - San Francisco, CA

Cynthia Leslie (P '10) - Montgomeryville, PA

Linda Loverde (P '11) - Centereach, NY

Vera Majerski (P '14) - Massapequa, NY

Linda Mangano (P '14) - Bethpage, NY

Ellen Miller (P '12) - West Babylon, NY

Lynn Ripak (P '12) - Kings Park, NY

Wendy and Phil Schuetz (P '11) - Knoxville, TN

Eleanor Stentiford (P '14) - Dix Hills, NY

Joann V. Thompson (P '11) - Brooklyn, NY

Joan Weibman (P '13) - Great Neck, NY

Venetia Williams (P '11) - Elmont, NY

Christine Wulf (P '11) - Hingham, MA

If you want to get in touch with a Parent Council member, just e-mail parents@hofstra.edu.



HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF PARENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

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WHAT'S COMING UP?

SPRING FAMILY DAY SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2011

A smaller version of the fall Family Weekend is our Spring Family Day, taking place on Saturday, March 19. This is a great opportunity to visit your daughter or son this spring semester and participate in some of our wonderful campus events. This year, the event will coincide with Hofstra's 62nd Annual Shakespeare Festival. You will be able to see breathtaking student performances in the Department of Drama and Dance's one-evening version of Shakespeare's *Henry VI* trilogy, *The War of the Roses*, as well as attend the Hofstra Collegium Musicum's "*These Mortals Be*," a one-hour musicale, followed by *What Fools!*, a one-hour version of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* presented by the Department of Drama and Dance. In addition, our women's



lacrosse team is meeting Fairfield University while our softball team will play against Columbia University and University of Connecticut. Spring Family Day also features an information session on career planning and a fun lunch with other parents and students.

Spring Family Day is free of charge. Please register by contacting the Office of Parent and Family Programs at parents@hofstra.edu or **516-463-4698**. Please let us know: your name(s), e-mail, phone number, home town and state, your student's name and Hofstra ID number.

For more information visit hofstra.edu/sfd.

SUMMER PARENT ORIENTATION

Parents of incoming first-year students are invited to attend a daylong parent orientation on the first day of New Student Orientation. Parents choose one of eight orientation days: Tuesday, June 14, 21, 28; July 12, 19, 26; August 2, 9, 2011. Get to know our Hofstra family. Please visit hofstra.edu/po or call **516-463-4698** for more information.

OFFICE OF PARENT AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

Phone: 516-463-4698 • Fax: 516-463-7017 • E-mail: parents@hofstra.edu • Website: hofstra.edu/parents



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