

Dean of the College Annual Report 2005-2006

Dartmouth College

December 2006

Dear Friends:

2005 – 2006 was a year marked by unprecedented campus construction, the departure of Jim Larimore after seven years of service as Dean of the College, and national recognition for the work our community has done to welcome and support all students. When I accepted the position of Acting Dean of the College, I did so knowing that we faced the challenge of replacing staff in several key positions, needed to continue work to meet our capital campaign goals, and were embarking on a new effort to coordinate our support of first-year and sophomore academic success.

Unfortunately, the Fall 2006 term has been marked by a series of incidents that have led us to grapple with important questions about community, respect, stereotypes, racism, cultural awareness, and the role of free speech in campus conflict. Throughout, I have been reminded of how important and relevant our divisional objectives are in supporting individual students and furthering the well-being of our community. There are over 550 employees in the Dean of the College division who share these objectives in common:

- In partnership with the faculty, foster the academic and intellectual growth of students and support the College's central educational purpose.

- Work with students to create a safe, healthy, educational, and socially stimulating residential community.
- Articulate, affirm, and maintain standards of conduct for responsible student behavior within the College community.
- Sponsor a rich variety of co-curricular opportunities for students' intellectual, physical, social, emotional, and moral growth and development.
- Provide support for our diverse community of students and staff and develop educational opportunities for all community members to be enriched by one another.
- Encourage students to be self-aware and to make informed decisions in shaping their college years and subsequent lives.

I invite you to join me in recognizing the work that our division has done to further these objectives this past year. I believe that the programs highlighted in this report reflect the deep sense of community, commitment to excellence, and entrepreneurial spirit that are hallmarks of our College.

Daniel M. Nelson
Acting Dean of the College



The new Fahey and McLane residence halls

Dean of the College Offices

Academic Skills Center
Accessibility Services
Athletics & Recreation
Career Services
Collis Center
Dining Services
First-Year Office
Health Services
Office of Pluralism and Leadership
Outdoor Programs
Planning, Evaluation and Research
Residential Life
Safety and Security
Student Activities
Student Life
Undergraduate Judicial Affairs
Upperclass Dean's Office

The division also manages numerous recreational facilities open to the public including the Skiway, Morton Farm, Hanover Country Club, Moosilauke Ravine Lodge, Ledyard Canoe Club, Oak Hill and extensive hiking trails.

By the numbers:

- Advised 138 student organizations and processed 6,907 financial transactions for these groups
- Supervised 557 exempt, non-exempt and union employees
- Taught 7,903 students, staff, faculty and community members in Physical Education and FLIP classes
- Served 14,000 meals or snacks daily at 13 dining venues, operated 19 hours a day, seven days a week
- Filled 17,349 pharmacy prescriptions
- Answered 96,000 telephone calls to Safety & Security
- Welcomed over 1 million visitors to the Collis Center
- Managed an annual budget of approximately \$70 million

Supporting the Academic Mission

- Career Services offered 231 workshops, graduate school information sessions, and first-time user tutorials. Students scheduled 1,169 individual appointments with career advisors (fall/winter terms) and 1,025 walk-in sessions.
- Fourteen students were awarded First-Year Summer Research awards, totaling \$23,000, that fund independent student research under the direction of a Dartmouth faculty member. Students presented their findings at a poster session for alumni over Homecoming and during a research symposium in November.
- Student Activities' popular FAST FOOD program (Faculty and Students Together) connects faculty and students for informal conversations around a chosen book, course or common interest. 600 student/faculty pairs dined at the Hanover Inn; 90 faculty invited 885 students to join them at a FAST Talk Buffet; and 225 students and 15 faculty participated in book clubs.
- The Office of Residence Life (ORL) supported 10 senior thesis or fellowship projects with awards totaling \$10,000. Students presented their findings at a spring term symposium.
- The upperclass deans held 1,965 advising appointments. The most frequently stated reason for a visit to a dean was to discuss academic matters.
- Career Services initiated "Wraps with Faculty", a series of professional development exchanges over lunch, which has led to collaborations such as the joint production of a career information booklet for Psychology & Neuroscience majors.
- Professors Ivy Schweitzer and Tom Luxon concluded five years as the faculty associates in the East Whee-



Larry Alden and Sam Kohn '09 at an honoring ceremony for an educator at the annual Crow Fair. Sam's first-year summer research project studied perceptions of the representation of Native Americans in the K-12 curriculum in the state of Montana.

- lock residential cluster. Professor Susan Brison has succeeded them in that role. Faculty associates host programs throughout the year such as dinners with visiting Hop performers, weekly floor dinners, and discussions with faculty about their research.
- Transmitted 2,669 recommendation files in support of professional and graduate school applications.

Diversity, Equity and Community

- The Office of Pluralism and Leadership (OPAL) co-hosted Dartmouth's first Asian American studies conference entitled, "Crossings and Crossroads: Critical Intersections in Asian American Studies".
- Student Life reported that 45% of undergraduate students attended a racial- or cultural-awareness seminar, including weekly Social Justice Dialogues designed to sustain conversation about topics including privilege and identity.
- The Office of Accessibility Services, previously known as Disability Support Services, was established. The staff includes a director, two American Sign Language/English interpreters, and a technology specialist. Together, they support students with physical, psychological and learning disabilities and are available to consult with faculty and staff working with these students.
- Tim Andreadis '07, a write-in candidate, was elected as president of the Student Assembly (SA) on a platform focused on reducing sexual assault on campus and raising awareness around issues affecting minority communities. Tim is the first openly gay SA president.
- 36% of our Undergraduate Advisors identify as students of color. The

"Now I can identify my biases, and I have the strength to tactfully confront others...All in all, I have gained a greater love for, and faith in, my fellow humans."

— Shamara Baidoobonso '06
commenting on participation in an
OPAL retreat

- UGA staff is one of the most diverse leadership groups on campus.
- OPAL hosted retreats each term focused on building awareness of diversity, exploring personal bias, fostering activism to create meaningful social change and developing leadership skills.

Facility Renewal and Construction

- Alumni Gym was renovated and now includes the largest single-space fitness center in the Ivy League.
- A FieldTurf playing surface and a Tartan track were installed at Memorial Field. Construction is currently underway on the new Floren Varsity House.
- The McLaughlin Cluster, comprised of Byrne II, Berry, Bildner, Thomas, Goldstein, and Rauner Halls, opened on the northern part of campus. Fahey and McLane Halls, located on Tuck Mall, were also dedicated. These eight new residence halls house more than 500 students.
- Occom Commons, a large flexible-format programming space and residential lounge in the McLaughlin Cluster, was made possible by an anonymous donor. The commons is the first facility named after Samson Occom in recognition of his role in the founding of the College.
- The new residential clusters are models of sustainability following Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design guidelines. Many of the furnishings were constructed by local companies using wood from the Second College Grant.
- Dartmouth Dining Services is in the process of modifying Home Plate to be a 98% waste-free location. If successful, it will be first college retail operation in the nation to accomplish this.



Opening day at the new fitness center

Leadership Development

- The Diversity Peer Program has trained over 150 students to serve as peer mentors. Students in the program explore the inter-connections of core identities and develop social justice skills.
- The Leadership Discovery Program, a selective term-long program, trains 35 first-year students annually.
- Dartmouth Outing Club (DOC) Trips orient new students to the College through outdoor activities over a five-day period. The program is student-run and relies upon the efforts of over 260 upper class leaders.
- 11 Schlitz Grants were awarded by Outdoor Programs to fund outdoor learning and adventures.
- Outdoor Programs offered more than 50 outdoor skill and leadership PE classes taught by students.
- Approximately 24 students served each term on the Committee on Standards and the Organizational Adjudication Committee. Together with faculty and staff, they hear disciplinary cases concerning serious violations of the Code of Conduct.
- Dartmouth's Lambda Rho chapter of Order of Omega was recognized as National Chapter of the Year for the third consecutive year.
- The Co-ed, Fraternity and Sorority system provided an average of 10,000 service hours per term.
- DOC members initiated the reconstruction of Harris Cabin on Moose Mountain, the first cabin-building project in 16 years.



A workday at Harris Cabin II



45 students and staff assisted in gulf-coast relief efforts during spring break.

The First-Year Experience

- Orientation, an eight-day series of more than 160 programs (47% of which were academic in focus), introduced students to the curriculum and college life.
- The First-Year Residential Experience now involves 100% of the first-year class. This program consists of a curriculum of learning objectives realized through weekly floor discussions facilitated by the UGA staff. Topics range from making healthy choices around alcohol to discussions about diversity to establishing an enrollment pattern.
- Family Orientation continues to grow and attracts over 500 family members to campus annually. The program complements First-Year Family Weekend which drew 1,600 visitors.
- Student success in the Integrated Academic Support program has reached all-time highs. Students enrolled in Writing 2 & 3, Math 1 & 2, and Chemistry 3 work with tutors and study groups to complement in-class activities. The math and chemistry courses in the sequence are key gateway courses for students interested in the sciences.
- A working group implemented a residentially-organized team approach to enhance the coordination and delivery of academic support services to first-year students. The model, if effective, may be utilized in upperclass clusters in the future.

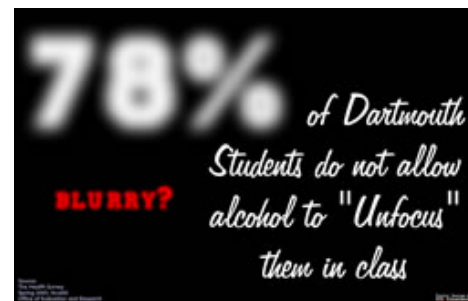


Over 90% of first-year students participated in a Dartmouth Outing Club Trip

- This was the 14th year of “Learning at Dartmouth,” a non-credit course for first-year students designed to explore college life and improve learning skills. Offered by the Academic Skills Center, the course can be taken for PE credit.

Health and Wellness

- Over 3,000 undergraduates, graduate students and their dependents are enrolled in the Dartmouth Student Group Health Plan, a self-funded insurance plan offering global coverage.
- All primary-care services are covered by tuition costs. Most other health services are also provided without additional cost to students.
- The Health Service conducted an extensive web-based student survey in Spring 2005. Based on feedback, staff implemented visit reminders, developed a new discharge follow-up protocol, hired a new counselor, and added a phone line for prescription refills.
- The Health Resources department provided a total of 165 programs, training sessions and sponsored events. Topics included general health, sexual-assault awareness, nutrition, and alcohol and other drug education. The department is staffed by a health education generalist, a nutritionist, an alcohol-and-other-drugs educator, and a sexual-assault awareness program coordinator.
- Health screening days continue to grow in popularity. This year 200 students were voluntarily screened for eating disorders, 300 for depression, and 970 students for alcohol abuse.
- More than 85% of Dartmouth students were involved with an organized athletic activity. The athletic trainers in sports medicine handled a total of 12,447 visits from varsity athletes.
- The Good Samaritan and Public Intoxication policies were revised to



Example of a social norms message—a health education strategy

- place more emphasis on health and safety.
- Each of the 182 students found responsible for violating College policy concerning public intoxication was referred to counseling for an assessment of drinking behaviors or to an alcohol-education class.
- 987 first-year students participated in alcohol.edu, an on-line alcohol education program, prior to orientation.

Divisional Performance & Improvement

- 88.2% of the Class of 2005 used Career Services and 69.4% were very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with the services they accessed.
- Dartmouth Dining Services ranked 11th nationally for best food among college dining operations.
- 85.5% of respondents to a Health Services survey rated their satisfaction with the department as good to excellent.
- The Department of Safety and Security has begun the accreditation process with the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators.
- The division completed multiple national searches including strong hires in Health Services; Athletics; ORL; Evaluation, Planning and Research; OPAL; and Judicial Affairs.
- 97% of respondents to the Senior Survey reported that they are “generally” or “very satisfied” with extracurricular programs at Dartmouth.
- Respondents to the Dartmouth Employee Survey rated interesting and meaningful work as a key reason for continuing to

I think of Career Services almost like a set of training wheels on a kid's first bike. You inspire the confidence for us to go out into unfamiliar territory and not only get from point A to point B, but to learn some valuable life skills along the way... I thank you.

- Dartmouth senior writing to his counselor at Career Services

work at Dartmouth. 91% of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with their current job.

Looking Ahead: 2006-2007 Priorities

The Dean of the College division's four priorities for the 2006-2007 academic year are to:

Support student learning, both inside and outside the classroom.

Our division's primary purpose is to support all student learning at Dartmouth. Our focus on residential delivery of academic support services and the sophomore year experience are two examples of the division's commitment to this priority.

Support and sustain a constructive sense of our richly diverse community so that learning can flourish.

Our goal is for every student and staff member to know that she or he is a full

citizen here, with the same privileges, responsibilities and opportunities as anyone else. We have an obligation to foster opportunities for all members of the community to learn from and appreciate one another's differences. We are committed to attracting and retaining staff members who reflect the breadth of diversity represented in our student population.

Attend to how we interact with students, so that they know and are frequently reminded that staff in the Dean of the College division are deeply committed to their educational success and their personal well-being.

Not every policy or decision will make students happy, but we will always

take student concerns and perspectives seriously and respectfully, and we will articulate good reasons for what we do.

Attend to how we interact with colleagues, both within and outside our respective offices and the division, so that personal friction, miscommunication, mistrust and the like does not interfere with our obligation to be highly effective in how we carry out our responsibilities to students and the college.

While we need not always agree nor will we all have close personal relationships, we must begin our interactions with the assumption that our colleagues are operating with good intentions, and that we can and will resolve differences and misunderstanding responsibly, constructively and amicably.



Over 500 students, faculty and staff gathered to protest acts of intolerance in our community during the Fall 2006 term.



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“After Katrina I was expecting nothing more than to have the absolute worst semester of my life. Everything had turned upside down, uncertainty was rampant and everyone was too busy...to help. That is of course, until I came to Dartmouth. ...Any issues that remained after the first few days were smoothed out and dealt with, mostly thanks to you and the truly incredible Dartmouth family”.

— Letter from Gulf Coast student to Deans Teoby Gomez and Lisa Thum

Comments or questions about this report or the work of the division?

Call the Dean of the College Office at (603) 646-2243 or visit us on-line at <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~deancoll/>

In the News:

- Dartmouth earned a spot on *Black Enterprise* magazine's "Top 50 Colleges for African Americans".
- Dartmouth earned the top rank for the number of Peace Corps volunteers in the small-school category (less than 5,000 undergraduates) with 37 alumni currently serving.
- Dartmouth students and the Big Green Bus appeared on *Good Morning America* on August 16th. ABC reported on the students' ten week, cross-country trip in a school bus modified to run on vegetable oil.
- Dartmouth was named among the 100 best LGBT friendly U.S. college campuses in *The Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students*.
- *Hispanic Magazine* ranked Dartmouth tenth among their "Top 25 Colleges for Latinos".
- Fourteen Dartmouth students and alumni competed at the XX Olympic Winter Games in Torino, Italy.
- Eleven varsity and six club teams qualified for national competitions. Women's Basketball, Men's Cross Country and Men's Soccer were Ivy League Champions. Men's Hockey were ECACHL Champions. Figure Skating (a club sport) earned its third consecutive national championship. The Dartmouth Ski Team placed third at the NCAA Championships.
- 32 students from Gulf Coast colleges affected by Hurricane Katrina, mostly from Tulane, attended Dartmouth in the fall term.
- Alison Crocker '06, a member of the cross-country ski team and the forestry team, was named a Rhodes Scholar. She will pursue a doctorate in astrophysics at Oxford.

Dartmouth College

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