

# Annual Fund Update

May 29, 2007



## 2006-2007 Annual Fund Goals

Alumni Fund	\$7,375,000	62%
Parents' Fund	\$ 625,000	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,000,000</b>	

## Comparative Stats

	5/25/07	5/26/06
Dollars (Alumni Fund)	\$6,748,993	\$6,267,703
Participation	44.7%	45.6%
Donors	8,410	8,495
1821 Donors	1,121	1,049
<b>Total Annual Fund</b>	<b>\$7,308,096</b>	<b>\$6,828,989</b>

## Fun Facts and Places to Visit

- [A Harvard trustee was recently quoted in The New York Times](#) about the new Harvard Plan that advocates for a renewed focus on undergraduate teaching. He suggests Harvard should be more like Amherst, which is well-known for its excellence in teaching.
- Did you know that Amherst is one of the first institutions to record the use of Latin honors, dating back to 1881? Documents from the time suggest the system was new to American colleges and universities.
- The New York Times recently ran a wonderful article about [Anthony Jack '07](#), who won the Obed Finch Slingerland Memorial Prize this year. Tony has done amazing things at Amherst and is going to be a Fellow in the Office of Alumni and Parent Programs.

## A Message from the Annual Fund Chairs

Graduation was commemorated this weekend, and the weather, which threatened to rain, turned at the last moment. There was a lot to celebrate beyond the sunshine as the 409 seniors accepted their diplomas. It was another amazing group of graduates, with plans ranging from teaching to medical school to Wall Street to the ever-popular undecided.

The Class of 2007 heard talks from alumni including federal prosecutor in the Valerie Plame leak case, Patrick Fitzgerald '82 (whose comments were covered by CSPAN) and chemist J. Peter Toennies '52, known for his pioneering work in the development of helium droplet spectroscopy, used to determine the chemical composition and physical properties of molecules, ions and atoms. At the end of the weekend, it was clear that the alumni who were present were just as varied in their careers and their lives as the majors and home states of this year's graduates.

This year's seniors, like the almost 20,000 before them, were encouraged to face challenges, were reminded not to forget Amherst and their time at this, the Fairest College, and were sent off to futures both decided and undecided.

Even for those sure of the path ahead, there will be surprises as there have been for so many of us, but having lived together with peers who have challenged each other, who pushed each other to achieve more, to do better and to work harder, there is much to celebrate and to look forward to in the years ahead for the Class of 2007.

Thank you again for all you do for Amherst,

David Moore '78

Chris Noyer Seaver '81

## A Word about Fundraising

Each year, we are grateful for the Abbey Challenge, generously underwritten by Doug '71, P'10,11 & Nancy Abbey P'10,11. The class, in the following ranges, who secures gifts from all their LYBUNTs or the highest number of them, receives \$10,000 added to their class total: two to ten years out, 11-25 years out, 26-50 years out and 51-65 years out. So get out there and get those LYBUNT gifts!

As we approach the end of the fiscal year, we also have something to celebrate. Amherst has always had been among highest rates of participation of any Annual Fund in the country. That success is because of your hard work. This year, 61% of the Class of 2007 made a gift to the Annual Fund in honor of their Amherst experience. If graduating seniors can reach this mark, how can we do less?