MESSAGES FROM THE DEANS

Dear DGSAC Alumni,

Thank you for joining me this evening in celebrating 20 years of the Wharton Dean’s Graduate Student Advisory Committee. This organization has provided critical leadership in helping the School accomplish top priorities.

Over its history, DGSAC has significantly contributed to a number of Wharton’s strategic initiatives. Among its accomplishments, DGSAC contributed to creating Wharton Welcome Weekend, establishing the cohort system and designing Huntsman Hall.

Each of your contributions to DGSAC’s work has enabled Wharton to be a stronger institution for generations to come. I hope that you will also continue your involvement in the Wharton community through opportunities to contribute to Wharton as an alumnus. One of Wharton’s greatest strengths is its strong alumni base. As DGSAC alumni, you are exceptionally well prepared to continue the tradition of co-production through alumni involvement. I thank you for your continued dedication to Wharton.

Sincerely,
Patrick T. Harker

The thing I loved most about being Dean was working with DGSAC.

It was always great fun, while a lot of extraordinary accomplishments were achieved. DGSAC was instrumental in conceiving and then helping in implementing so many things that seem second nature to us now: Wharton Welcome Weekend, the Global Forums, “brown bags with the Dean”, SPIKE concept and many new technology thrusts—and really all the early strong impetus for a new building concept resulted from needs articulation and tenacious support from many DGSAC members. The School owes a great debt of gratitude to DGSAC over the years for many, many contributions. Personally, I just really enjoyed being a part of that very creative process, and I have the greatest admiration for the talent and commitment of DGSAC members over the years. I wish I could be there to celebrate this great tradition of innovation built by so many terrific students.

All the best,
Tom Gerrity

It’s great that you are all getting together and I am sure it will be a happy and productive reception. I am sorry I couldn’t be there but a prior commitment that just couldn’t be broken precludes me from being with you, except in spirit.

I was asked to give a little background of the inception of the Dean’s Graduate Student Advisory Committee. When I first went to Wharton I listened for a considerable length of time to various individuals and then I convened small groups to talk about specific subjects. In one of the groups I convened, one of the questions I put to the group is who are our customers? I must admit I got some blank stares and I think one or two may have been thinking we knew this accountant from the business world didn’t know much about academia but we never thought he wouldn’t understand that we don’t really have customers. Well, we talked about this for a while and came to the conclusion that just about everyone had customers including the Wharton School. At Wharton our customers were the students who paid high tuition to be there and the companies that came to hire them. The next step, obviously, was to get input from our customers. So, we formed the Dean’s Graduate Student Advisory Committee as well as a separate undergraduate group that we met with periodically. A great deal of the change that Dave Reibstein and others brought about were as a result of what we heard from our customers, the students. I won’t go into details but the cohort system, changes in the curriculum, the facility to handle Thursday night happy hours and other events are just some of the things that were a result totally or in part from input by the DGSAC. At the undergraduate level I remember seeing a block long line of students around registration time and asked what it was for. I was told by the undergraduate dean that it was to buy $2.00 fee cards for various classes. Later I talked with the undergraduate advisory group. I then told the undergraduate administrative group that we should do away with fee cards and long lines and compensate for that dollar amount in the overall fee we charged undergraduates.

So, all of you were an integral part of the plan for pre-eminence and it’s great to hear that you are going to celebrate, among other things, your accomplishments. Have a great time.

Regards,
Russ Palmer

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MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2005-06 Helped design Wharton’s 125th Anniversary Campaign
2004-05 Developed growth strategy for Executive Education
2003-04 Created ‘Philosophy of the Core’ as a way for new students to better understand Wharton’s core curriculum
1998-99 Philadelphia FAPs - Located approximately 8 projects, 4 of which were chosen by teams, to benefit the City of Philadelphia; arranged for positive publicity
1997-98 Undergraduate Outreach Initiative - Program through which current students and alumni visited top universities to meet with seniors about the benefits of getting an MBA and those of attending Wharton specifically
1996-97 Researched the coverage of diversity issues in the curriculum
1995-96 Made recommendations on course pack content and distribution improvements
1994-95 Created the first Wharton Welcome Weekend for admitted students, held in the Spring of 1995. Proposed Standards of Responsibility and Conduct in conjunction with faculty-student committee
1993-94 Recommended on the establishment of an MBA Cafe in Hoover Lounge. Organized a Faculty Exchange presentation, with 8 faculty and 11 students and moderators; topics covered: student preparation for class, class attendance, teaching ratings, feedback and communication between students and faculty, teaching awards, and the grading system
1991-92 Presented feasibility study for the establishment of an MBA Cafe in Hoover Lounge. Organized a Faculty Exchange presentation, with 8 faculty and 11 students and moderators; topics covered: student preparation for class, class attendance, teaching ratings, feedback and communication between students and faculty, teaching awards, and the grading system
1990-91 Recommended on the establishment of an MBA Cafe in Hoover Lounge. Organized a Faculty Exchange presentation, with 8 faculty and 11 students and moderators; topics covered: student preparation for class, class attendance, teaching ratings, feedback and communication between students and faculty, teaching awards, and the grading system
1989-90 Proposed feasibility study for the establishment of an MBA Cafe in Hoover Lounge. Organized a Faculty Exchange presentation, with 8 faculty and 11 students and moderators; topics covered: student preparation for class, class attendance, teaching ratings, feedback and communication between students and faculty, teaching awards, and the grading system
1988-89 Proposed feasibility study for the establishment of an MBA Cafe in Hoover Lounge. Organized a Faculty Exchange presentation, with 8 faculty and 11 students and moderators; topics covered: student preparation for class, class attendance, teaching ratings, feedback and communication between students and faculty, teaching awards, and the grading system
1987-88 Created a task force to study loan forgiveness for students in not-for-profit jobs. Established the annual Dean’s Awards for Excellence in Spirit, Service to Wharton, and Service to the Community
1986-87 Recommended the establishment of a cohort system and a living learning center

10 WAYS TO
STAY INVOLVED WITH WHARTON

1. Alumni Leadership Venture to the Himalayas
Participate in one of the annual 2 week expeditions in the Himalayas (except 2006).
Contact: Evan Wittenberg, evanwitt@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-573-0590

2. Mentoring Program
Volunteer as an alumni mentor as part of the new Leadership Development and Coaching program, for an
MBA student with similar industry interests interning in your city. Initial face-to-face meeting required,
thereafter at your mutual convenience.
Contact: Paula Greenberg, pgreeneb@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-4455

3. Diversity Workshop
Lead a cohort discussion, as part of the pre-term diversity workshop, on issues that may arise whilst at
Wharton around diversity. Whole day commitment on campus in late August.
Contact: Paula Greenberg, pgreeneb@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-4455

4. Alumni Speaker Series
Help facilitate interaction between students and alumni through variety of different opportunities
including: small group session with students, virtual alumni panels from around the globe focused on a
specific industry, and alumni presentations.
Contact: Paula Greenberg, pgreeneb@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-4455

5. Alumni Panelist for Admissions Events
Participate on an admissions panel organized by the MBA Admissions and Financial Aid Office.
Contact: Judith Silverman, judiths@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-2585

6. Corporate Recruiting Events
Support the MBA admissions process by hosting a Wharton recruiting presentation at your
company.
Contact: Judith Silverman, judiths@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-2585

7. Alumni Interviewers
Interview prospectives for the MBA Admissions Office.
Contact: Serita Lewis, lewiss@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-6895

8. MBA Career Management Alumni Panelists
Speak on a career-related program panel for the MBA Career Management Office.
Contact: Jennifer Savoie, savoiej@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-6240.

9. MBA Career Management
Help review student resumes for Resumania (July - October).
Contact: Jennifer Savoie, savoiej@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-6240

10. MBA Career Management
Participate on an Employer Advisory Board to provide insight and direction on hiring trends,
recruiting practices, etc.
Contact: Michelle Antonio, miantoni@wharton.upenn.edu, 215-898-8998

If you would like to get involved with Wharton as an alumnus, there are many activities to consider. Listed below are some
ways you can take a more active role.
DGSAC ALUMNI

Class of 1987
Mark Fraser
Lindá Johnson
Elizabeth Martin
Mounzer Nasr
Randy Whitestone

Class of 1988
Chris Bennett
Anne Blanchard
Bob Foley
Emilie Kaulbach
Margo Kimball
Patrick Leffer
Steve Marks
Derek Rapp
Kurt Roeloffs
Anne Swire
Marianne Vermeer-Johnson
Peter Wiesinger
Ann Wohlstetter
Wistar Wood

Class of 1989
Neil Burns
Isabelle Cegiel
Sarah Collins
Daphne Dickens
Gerald Hastie
Shaz Kahng
Craig MacKay
Marjorie Lau
Ellen Mathis
Reid Perper

Class of 1990
Mark Carbeau
Sue Carpenter
Ed Cook
Joy Janice
Greg Lowell
Eric Mullins
Doug Present
Tama Smith
Lauren Sveen
Jennifer Taylor

Class of 1991
Colly Burgwin
Nancy Deutsch
Carrie Ericson
Lawrence Gelburt
Mark Lippman
Chris Malone
Susan Moultrie
Ramin Siahpoosh
Colin Watts

Class of 1992
Scott Cahill
Joy Dicker

Chris Hilley
Tom Jantzen
Paulie Jennett
Sajai Krishnan
Peter Lee
Joe Oliver
Matt Shannon
Eileen Sullivan Thomas
Eric Wallace

Class of 1993
Beverly Edwards
Rick Fearon
Deb Ghoshal
Karen Griffith Gryga
David Keaton
Chris Lynch
Jim Morrissey
Christy Overgard
Janet Tsai

Class of 1994
Connie Cranos
David Gutman
Larry Hagenbuch
Ann Harrison
Scott Horn
Joe Sanfuk
Marcus Smith
Michael Song
Brian Zeve

Class of 1995
Christine Boron
Casandra Cummings
Andrew Goodman
Fausto Ibarra
Elizabeth Leung
Bill McCoy
Franck Noiret
Kurt Sanford
Melissa Spivack
Jen Yoshikawa

Class of 1996
Art Black
Laurie Bloomgarden
Courtney Chapman
Malcolm Conner
Rolando DeGracia
Andrew Iskoff
Lisa Levy
Carter Montague
Sri Rajan
Susan Lem Touchton

Class of 1997
Tom Armentrout
Ron Hohauser
Deidra Koenig
Jodi Miller

Patrick Meade
Richard Nagy
Misho Protic
David Saef
Kumaran Vijayakumar
Laurel Wissinger Lennon

Class of 1998
Julianne Coe
Rob Collins
Laura Dox
Ruth Gordon
Sophia Kim
Bryan O'Malley
Lisa Warner Pickrum
Dan Sterling
Vince Zosa

Class of 1999
Blair Carnahan
George Coleman
Jay Dubman
Kevin Doyle
Jeff Grass
Sean Jiam
Sharon Molinoff
Bhairav Trivedi
Diane Yin

Class of 2000
Julienne Coe
Rob Collins
Laura Dox
Ruth Gordon
Sophia Kim
Bryan O'Malley
Lisa Warner Pickrum
Dan Sterling
Vince Zosa

Class of 2001
Alex Casale
Brent Chism
Woohan Choi
Melissa Feldman
Harry Hirschman
Maybel Marte
Kelly Schneider
Norman Timmins

Class of 2002
Connie Baik
Ellen Desmarais
Evan Goldman
Arun Kohli
John MacMahon
Khadir Richie
Darren Schulz
Richard Taue

Class of 2003
Stephanie Ackley
Nick Benedict
Thomas Caleel
Melissa Carrier
Christian Hernandez
Jennly Ivanova
Taniz Jamshidi
Soyoung Kang
Gabrielle O’Boyle
Jordan Silvergleid
Brian Wong
Jennifer Yost

Class of 2004
Michael Axt
Dana Berneman
Robert Cooper
Soyoung Kang
Kanssa Kruse
Min Kim
Doohi Neel
Jason Park
Kareem Raymond

Class of 2005
Garren Bird
Kevi Haggard
Marko Kvisto
Nikhil Laiwani
Scott Sykes
Charlie Watford
Eric Wei
Victor Yip

Class of 2006
Dmitry Binkevich
Donald Felix
Braid Garrison
Rodney Gibson
Greg Hiltun
Jennifer Manuel
Mary-Elisabeth Flodden
Daniel Simon

Class of 2007
Joseph Chu
Martin Dillard
Rachna Handa
Javier Olivaros
James Tan
Kate Tan
Shalini Unnikrishnan