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At Wellesley, you will be inspired to think and act independently, to take risks, to develop confidence and self-awareness. It is an environment that creates lifelong friendships, that develops leadership, that is supportive and nurturing, that connects students and impassioned alumnae into a strong, cooperative community. Some may wonder whether going to a women's college will be limiting—in fact, it's limitless.

WHY A WOMEN'S COLLEGE?

LIMITLESS OPPORTUNITIES. Wellesley is committed to its mission of educating women. The friendships you develop at a women's college are deep and enduring. The ability to draw on the connections of well-placed and supportive alumnae will give you an edge in your chosen profession. And, the opportunities for self-enrichment—including an active social life and the chance to build your leadership skills—abound.

A SENSE OF COMMUNITY. Ask any student what she likes best about Wellesley, and you will likely hear enthusiastic descriptions about the opportunities for forming deep friendships. The reasons are many: shared personal, social, and academic experience; and deliberate attempts by the College to support strong communities in residence halls, organizations, student government, and athletics.

Friendship and community are unique to colleges like Wellesley, which place an emphasis on residential life. Residence halls, for example, provide an environment that fosters the sense of community for which Wellesley is known. Says one student, "I was amazed to learn that some of my friends at other schools hardly knew people in their residence halls. Here, everyone is friendly. When I went out with non-Wellesley friends one night, I came back quite late. Five women in my hall were sitting around talking in the kitchen. I joined in. It's so nice to come home to great conversation no matter what the hour."

ABUNDANT OPPORTUNITIES TO SOCIALIZE. At Wellesley, there are many opportunities to socialize, relax, and have fun. You might participate in any of the 160 student clubs and organizations on campus, community service opportunities, and a range of athletic and recreational activities. Or, you might want to chill out with friends at the "Lulu" (Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center) or take a leisurely walk or run around the lake. Because there are so many colleges in the Boston area, you also have many avenues for meeting students from other campuses. So, yes, it's possible to have a well-balanced social life at a women's college.

THE BOSTON FACTOR. The College provides numerous opportunities to meet other students both at on-campus events and at other local colleges. Mixers and parties are important dates on the social calendars of students from nearby campuses. If your interests are in theatre, music, sports, the arts, clubbing, cultural

events, community service, or religious organizations, all await you in Boston as well.

Students from MIT, Boston University, Tufts, Harvard, Boston College, and other colleges in the area publicize notices of social and educational functions at Wellesley. Similarly, Wellesley functions are advertised at the other colleges. In addition, Wellesley has cross-registration with MIT and exchanges with Brandeis University, Babson College, and Olin College of Engineering.

More about student life on page 39.



Unquestionably, I see more bonding at a women's college. Women develop a stronger feeling of sisterhood. They form a support system and a connection that is often missing at coed schools.

Kristine Niendorf, director of Residential Life

THE INTELLECTUALLY ADVENTUROUS WELLESLEY WOMAN

Wellesley encourages students to be self-directed and intellectually curious, and provides an environment where this can happen. In the classroom, professors challenge your thinking and encourage a free exchange of ideas. Living and learning in this environment helps you develop the skills, confidence, and poise needed to succeed in any number of professional fields.

PARTICIPATE. The presence of more than 160 campus organizations, as well as the social, cultural, volunteer, and professional activities that abound in nearby Boston, are evidence of the opportunities that await you at Wellesley. Participating in these organizations gives you many venues for meeting other students, both on and off campus. You are bound to find the wide range of organizations appealing—from intellectual, dramatic, humanitarian, social, artistic, environmental, and literary clubs to multicultural, political, athletic, spiritual, artistic, intellectual, spiritual, and dramatic groups.

More about student life on page 39.

More about campus and beyond on page 61.



A VIBRANT COMMUNITY



As strange as it sounds, I tend to forget that Wellesley is a women's college. It is really cool that the president of your club, the leader of your class, and the person sitting next to you will be a woman. Saying that, it's not like if you come here, you'll never see a boy again. Boston has so much to offer, from museums to restaurants to other colleges. I love the fact that I can go hang out

with my friends in the city and then return to our gorgeous suburban campus. **Regina Hogle '09**

When I came to Wellesley I expected to find friends, but I didn't expect to find a family. The Mock Trial team has been just that for me, a family on campus. We work together and laugh together; we tease and argue with each other like sisters. My team

is an amazing group of women who I can always count on to support me and cheer me on. No matter how tired I am, I'm ready to go to practice, because it's kind of like going home. **Jennifer Blankenship '10**

My fellow students are diverse, motivated, and compassionate. The experience of living and learning at Wellesley cannot be matched simply because Wellesley is not a place that can be duplicated. We are Wellesley; we make it what it is. **Monica Colunga '10**

Despite my initial hesitation, I really love the environment of a women's college. There wasn't much about Wellesley that gave me pause. Gorgeous campus? Check. Giant library? Check. Small classes? Check. Fantastic course selection for such a small school? Absolutely check. Proximity to a great city? Check. And wonderful, hilarious, intelligent, insane-when-it-counts (like when you need to go rolling down Severance

Green at two in the morning) women to hang out with? Check!

Rebecca Schachter '11

I wanted to take courses that would push me outside my comfort zone. I've taken Chinese history. Since I was at a women's college, I thought it would make sense to take a women's studies course. When I met with four or five other students to study for the midterm, we had fascinating discussions that lasted well into the night. This experience really stood out as a "Wellesley moment." I realized that's why we're here. It's not so much about the test or the grades at Wellesley. Rather, it's about learning and interaction. **Savanna Johnson '09**



NONTRADITIONAL STUDENTS

THE DAVIS DEGREE PROGRAM AND POSTBACCALAUREATE STUDY

In addition to reaching across cultures, diversity at Wellesley means reaching across the generations through the College's two programs in continuing education, the Elisabeth Kaiser Davis Degree Program and the Postbaccalaureate Study Program. Students in these programs are held to the same standards and attend the same classes as traditional students.



Davis Scholars—women aged 24 and older—come from many different walks of life and have extraordinary life stories to tell. They bring wonderful new perspectives to the classroom. Professors and students appreciate their experiences and the level of maturity they bring to their studies.

www.wellesley.edu/admission/admission/davis.html

The Postbaccalaureate Study Program is designed for men and women who already hold a bachelor's degree and wish to do further undergraduate work for a specific purpose, such as to prepare for application to medical school or other graduate programs.

www.wellesley.edu/admission/admission/Postbac.html

LIFE ON AND OFF CAMPUS



I love the dynamics within Wellesley's student population. The woman who debates avidly against you during class could very well be the same person who lets you borrow her notes when you are sick. I feel that students here are quite willing to voice their ideas. But at the same

time, they never let a difference of opinions hinder them from extending a helping hand. **Juliet Bu '09**

Everything about Wellesley enriches the life, heart, and soul of women who seek to make a difference on campus and in the world. I love the academics, the students and professors, and the engaged academic discourse in all of our campus activities. **Susan Hall, Davis Scholar**

Everyone here is always working hard, which makes Wellesley a challenging, productive, and also exciting environment for learning. It's fun to be so involved in schoolwork along with one's friends, studying together in the common room or quizzing each other at dinner. **Alexandra Boehmke '12**

I like the sense of empowerment that I think you can only find at a school like Wellesley. I truly feel there is no limit to the opportunities available to students. Also, my

friends are amazing—they aren't kidding about the sisterhood thing! **Jeanine Navarrete '10**

I thought of the all-women's atmosphere as a unique opportunity that would stand out in my overall education. I had been in coed environments my entire life, and I could not think of another chance I would have to live in a similar all-women's

environment ever again. However, when I came home for winter break after my first semester at Wellesley, I could instantly tell it was not just the all-women's atmosphere that set my college experience apart from those of my high school friends. When comparing topics from professors to student organizations to friends, I knew I had chosen the right place for me. **Samantha Keefe '09**



At Wellesley, you will find a community in which students and professors help one another to grow and where the life of the mind is taken seriously. *Shahar Groode, Davis Scholar*



PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS. At Wellesley, student leaders are the rule: in residence halls, classrooms, student organizations, committees, volunteer groups, and more. The following profiles illustrate some of the venues—on campus and beyond—in which students have discovered their leadership skills.



LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES. If having a voice in the administration and management of the College is important to you, the possibilities for getting involved are endless. Wellesley gives you extraordinary opportunities to participate in nearly every level of College decision making through student government. College Government not only gives students a voice in

the administration of the College, but also fosters the cultivation of leadership skills. Sixty students sit on the Wellesley Senate, which is composed of representatives from each residence hall. Also, multicultural and special-interest groups have voting representatives in the Senate, effectively giving every student a voice in the governance of the College.

In addition, student representatives sit on major committees, such as the Board of Trustees, the Board of Admission, and the Committee on Curriculum and Instruction. Wellesley students also have countless opportunities to gain leadership experience at all levels and areas of college life, including residential life, student clubs and organizations, social and cultural organizations, community service, and athletics.

Each student who walks through the gates will have a different experience. Wellesley gives you what you need to take on the world. There is something magical and tangible about this strong community that you will carry with you forever.

Linda Wertheimer '65, National Public Radio correspondent

Giving a compelling presentation is key to effective leadership. Hanna Kupnick '10, an art history and Jewish studies major, presents her work entitled, "Understanding God and Man through Creation," to the College community at the Ruhlman Conference.



SERVING HER COUNTRY

ANDREA HERBIN '10

MAJOR: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

HOME: PONTE VERDE, FLORIDA



As a cadet, house president, hockey player, and sustainability advocate, Andrea Herbin demonstrates her leadership abilities in contrasting venues at Wellesley.

Andrea, as a cadet in the U.S. Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC), which she attends at MIT, was recently awarded a scholarship from the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation and the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association for her outstanding academic and leadership abilities. Only one student from each branch of the military is selected from the nation.

"I love the structure of the military," she says, "the time I get to spend outdoors and doing things like riding helicopters, doing land navigation, shooting, and tons of other amazing opportunities that I would never get the chance to do as a civilian. I knew I wanted to serve my country in this way." Andrea enjoys the combination of Wellesley and ROTC and says she wouldn't have it any other way. "Both are such an integral part of my identity," she says.

Andrea is also house president of her residence hall, a member of the Sustainability Advisory Committee, and founder of the ice hockey club. "Balancing everything is definitely not always easy, but it's always worth it," she says. "I've just had to learn how to prioritize and that as long as I'm trying my best, then I'm doing great."



LEAVING HER HEART IN TIJUANA

DAEUN IM '10

MAJOR: NEUROSCIENCE AND WOMEN'S STUDIES

HOME: TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA

DaEun (Dana) Im (*above, second from left*), the president of the Wellesley College Hippocratic Society, contacted Healing Hearts Across Borders (HHAB) last year to see how she and her fellow Society members could help. HHAB unites American medical staff and volunteers to provide free medical care to the needy in Mexico. The organization responded by inviting Dana to join them for their November service trip to Tijuana.

With classmates Sana Aslam '10, Rosalind Lai '11, Lauren Eby '10, and Tania Dhawan '11, Dana found sponsorship for their trip from Wellesley's Center for Work and Service. The team further collaborated with the Wellesley Pre-Dental Society and Neuroscience and Spanish Departments to secure 400 toothbrushes, tubes of toothpaste, and coloring books for children at the clinic. On this trip, volunteers helped more than 1,000 patients in need. Dana says, "It was just so shocking to see how thankful the locals were for our work."

Back at Wellesley, Dana's research on how ovarian hormones act in the brain to regulate hormone-dependent behavior was supported by a National Science Foundation Award and a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Summer Research Fellowship. A neuroscience and women's studies major, Dana is the recipient of Wellesley's Katharine Malone Prize for Academic Excellence, awarded to students who exhibit "the harmonious combination of academic excellence, active and contributing citizenship, and accomplishment."



During their last week of classes, seniors imaginatively bedeck campus with their class color each year. To demonstrate their commitment to sustainability, seniors artfully arranged a week's worth of recycled bottles they collected around campus, urging their classmates to be more environmentally aware.

Wellesley is a college where everyone, especially your fellow sisters, wants you to succeed. Wellesley not only offers an outstanding education, but also the chance to belong to its powerful worldwide sisterhood your whole life. *Katie Champong '10, College Government president*

ADVISING AND CHOREOGRAPHING

ELISHIBAH MSENGETI '09

**MAJORS: INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND AFRICANA STUDIES**

HOME: NAIROBI, KENYA

"I never thought I could learn so much in such a short time! I am grateful to be here," says Elishibah Msengeti. Both inside and outside the classroom, she has made impressive contributions to the Wellesley community.

A Peer Advising Leader at Slater International Center, the focal point for international activities at Wellesley, Elishibah plays an important role as a source of support to



new international students. And, as co-president of the Wellesley African Students Association (WASA), she has organized lectures, panels, a film festival, as well as cultural events with African students' associations at MIT, Tufts, Harvard, Brandeis, and Babson. For four years, she also choreographed dances and skits for the annual *Mamaland* shows, which represent Africa's many cultures and traditions, and for Slater International cultural shows. As music coordinator and retreat coordinator at the Newman Catholic Community, Elishibah says, "I grew a lot through planning spiritual weekend retreats, creating

activities to revive and refresh retreat attendees."

She also feels fortunate to have participated in two summer internships funded by Wellesley's Center for Work and Service: one at a primary school in Kenya and the other at the Forum for African Women Educationalists in Kenya. Elishibah presented her honors thesis, "Beyond Language and Geography: Why Ethnicity Continues to Threaten Kenya's Stability as a Nation," at the Ruhlman Conference. After graduation, she will be a teaching fellow at the African Leadership Academy in Johannesburg, South Africa.

QUINTESSENTIALLY ORGANIZING

JOY CLARKE '11

MAJOR: POLITICAL SCIENCE

HOME: HEMPSTEAD, NEW YORK

On any given day, Joy Clarke might be found helping to organize poetry slam performers at Harambee

House, planning the annual standing-room-only Ethos fashion show, or crunching numbers for the Wellesley College Dancers, where she is both dancer and treasurer.

A leader in Wellesley's African American community, Joy is vice president of the executive board of Ethos, a student organization that serves as a support group for women of African descent. Ethos enhances the cultural, political, social, and academic experience of women at Wellesley.

She also works as a student assistant at Harambee House, where Ethos meets. Harambee House provides a venue for social, emotional, and academic support to students of African descent, as well as enlightening cultural activities

for the community. It has been the setting for many Black History Month events in February, as well as receptions for speakers on Quintessence Day, an annual lecture given by a person who represents the "essence of black womanhood." Speakers have included Queen Latifah, Maya Angelou, Angela Davis, Dominique Dawes, Naomi Tutu, and Derek Walcott. The 2009 speaker was Linda Johnson Rice, chairman and CEO of Johnson Publishing Company, which publishes *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines.

A political science major, Joy has also served as an academic peer tutor in her residence hall, McAfee, helping classmates with study skills and learning strategies.



ENHANCING AWARENESS

CATHY CHU '10

MAJOR: WOMEN'S STUDIES

HOME: WEST WINDSOR, NEW JERSEY

Cathy Chu was the recent recipient of an Excellence in Leadership award for her role in a student advocacy group seeking to improve resources and support for queer students at Wellesley. She has played a major role in the Campus Wide Diversity Initiative and served as president of Spectrum, a group of lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and straight students interested in queer issues.

"This year, we advocated for additional awareness, and other organizations—Wellesley for Equality, Wellesley Asian Alliance, the Campus Wide Diversity Initiative, and Residential Life—really supported us," says Cathy. "Having their different perspectives really helped. From the beginning, it was definitely a group effort to define what we saw as core issues."

As part of their awareness initiative, Spectrum sponsored the first-ever queer culture show. Cathy explains, "It was a super fun, satirical poke at the queer community at Wellesley and the Wellesley community in general, complete

with a fashion show, skits, interpretive dance, musical numbers, a drag king band, and a political slideshow! We definitely achieved our goal; people were talking about it before and after."



Kate Thompson '09 presents her research on gender issues.

When I was involved in College Government at Wellesley, I recall a study that looked at the number of female college government presidents at coed institutions, and that number was shockingly, appallingly low. At Wellesley, there is no hesitation to be part of leadership. It's an element you take with you—being assertive and proud of your intellect and abilities.

Ashleigh Georgia '05, J.D. candidate '11, Harvard Law School



House presidents are active members of the Residential Life team and serve as student leaders in their residence halls and beyond. Here, Lauren Allison '10 (center), house president of Bates Hall, relaxes with a group of friends in her room.

THE NETWORK OF SUPPORT. Wellesley's alumnae network is strong and deeply loyal. Like at many prestigious schools, our alumnae boast impressive credentials. But at Wellesley, past and present generations share a potent and powerful connection, creating a network that is enduring, available, and endlessly helpful, in virtually any field.

Not many academic institutions can lay claim to an alumnae network as strong or active as “The W Network.” Wherever you decide to make your place, you are likely to encounter a Wellesley alumna who is willing to make introductions for you, write you a letter of recommendation, or even mentor you.

Many regard this network as one of the most compelling benefits of attending a women's college. There are more than 36,000 living Wellesley alumnae and 100 active Wellesley Clubs. Many alumnae have gone on to careers in medicine, business, politics, social service, journalism, law, diplomacy, research, education, the arts, and finance—and an unusually high percentage of them will be eager to assist you. In fact, approximately 20,000 Wellesley alumnae are currently on the “will help” file at the Center for Work and Service.

This network of support will be with you for a lifetime. Alumnae are interested and caring. When

it's time to look for a job, you will be pleasantly surprised by the reception you will receive from these alumnae. They are more than willing to arrange that most important first interview or to help you network throughout their firms, institutions, or organizations.

The Wellesley network is not just a professional network; it's social and personal as well. Alumnae can be helpful when you relocate to a new city. They can help anchor you with a group of friends or help you find a place to live. If you're traveling, they'll take you out for lunch or dinner.



Whether you dream of working for Teach for America or Bank of America, the Wellesley sisterhood is there to support you and help you reach your goals. *Jessica Johnston '09*

CONTACTS, CONNECTIONS, AND MENTORS

KIIRA GUSTAFSON '06

MAJOR: ENGLISH AND PREMED PROGRAM

CURRENT RESIDENCE: NEW YORK CITY

JOB: PUBLIC RELATIONS BY DAY; WRITING COMEDY

SKETCHES OVER LUNCH BREAKS; CURRENTLY

APPLYING TO PUBLIC HEALTH SCHOOLS

“I was a straight-laced Minnesotan, when I arrived at Wellesley,” says Kiira Gustafson, “and my friends were of the scholarly and studious sort.” But over the course of her four years, Kiira discovered her less serious side, one that loves making a roomful of people laugh. She discovered comedy.

“I've always been interested in comedy, but I wasn't as conscious of it until I came to Wellesley,” she says. Although a liberal arts college may not seem like an obvious beginning for a budding career in comedy, Kiira says that Wellesley gave her the space to figure out who she was—and to do so in a setting where it's okay to make mistakes, particularly since slipping on a metaphorical banana peel provides great comedic material.



She performed in Dead Serious, an improv comedy group, and did standup comedy Wednesday nights at the pub. “At no other college could I have had an hour at the mic on the stage by myself,” she says.

Perhaps most significantly, Kiira took advantage of Wellesley's Wintersession term and lined up an internship at the National Public Radio program, *A Prairie Home Companion*, occupying the office

next to the show's host and creator, Garrison Keillor. “I always worried that I was breathing too loudly!” she laughs. Although Kiira was the program's first comedy-writing intern, Keillor treated her on a par with his other writers, assigning her scripts to write or punch up.

Upon graduation, Kiira joined the creativity team of a Manhattan public relations firm. Three years later, she reports, “I'm still living and working in New York, a very funny city. I've been taking comedy classes at the Upright Citizen's Brigade, started by comedian Amy Poehler. This summer, I will start performing at a comedy venue in Williamsburg [Brooklyn]. I still freelance for *A Prairie Home Companion*, and my blog houses daily funny riffs. Also, I'm applying to public health schools—my other passion.”

Kiira also joined the New York Wellesley Club. “Just sitting next to these Wellesley women who are radiating success in their own ways drives me to work harder,” she says. “Wellesley really puts some force behind its students.”

PURSUING ONE'S PASSION

LESLIE J. KIM '06

MAJOR: ENGLISH

CURRENT RESIDENCE: NEW YORK CITY

JOB: MARKETING AT TURNER BROADCASTING

Leslie Kim didn't choose Wellesley because her older sister preceded her. On the contrary, it may have been in spite of that fact. "When I entered as a first-year," Leslie says, "I was a bit concerned that I wouldn't be able to forge my own experience and identity at Wellesley."

As it turns out, she needn't have worried: "I quickly realized that even though Wellesley is a small school, there are so many different opportunities for all types of people," she explains. "One of the most important aspects about Wellesley that I came to realize is the ability to make it your own."

Through a unique combination of work and experiences inside and outside the classroom, Leslie indeed forged her own path—straight on through to her first job in the "real world." Interested in pop culture and entertainment, she set her sights on exploring the field of television. Although Wellesley doesn't offer a communications major, Leslie says the College's emphasis on liberal arts provided her with an excellent foundation. Instead of being locked into a specialized track of study, "I was able to take a variety of courses that piqued my interest,

and I think that's an aspect unique to the liberal arts education that I wouldn't trade." Moreover, she says, "My writing and presentation skills grew stronger, and my overall intellectual curiosity increased."

In a series of summer internships, Leslie was able to try her hand in a variety of departments, from public relations to development and marketing—experiences that helped Leslie define her long-term interests. She also received a major boost from a lunch meeting with broadcast journalist Lynn Sherr '63 (see below). An award-winning correspondent with ABC's *20/20*, Sherr provided encouragement, understanding, and more than a few professional contacts.

Today, as a marketing coordinator at Turner Broadcasting, Leslie feels confident that her path has



landed her in the right place. In many ways, she credits her college experience with getting her there: "I believe Wellesley is a place where people discover their passions," she says, "and perhaps it is this feeling that made me confident enough to pursue my own."

Wellesley nurtures friendships in an extraordinary way. I left Wellesley with a strong connection to other students—unlike any other I've experienced. As the College says, "Wellesley is for life." Every time life takes a turn, there is a Wellesley sister nearby to inspire or support me. *Paulina Ponce de León Baridó '05, associate, Boston Consulting Group*

ALUMNAE CONNECTIONS AT WORK

Wellesley's Center for Work and Service (CWS) provides extensive resources for internships and community service programs, as well as for career and graduate school advising for students and alumnae. The Wellesley network is perhaps the single greatest resource available to Wellesley students and alumnae. More than 34,000 alumnae provide guidance and support on career and life issues.

The CWS recently introduced a new online offering, MyCWS, which provides access to career resources, including job postings, exclusively for Wellesley women. "I don't know how to describe it better than it's our nepotism folder," laughs Folly Patterson '85, associate director of Alumnae Career Programs, who reports that over 200 jobs were posted in the first few months the site was live.

According to Joanne Murray '81 (above), director of the Center for Work and Service, "Wellesley alumnae have one of the richest networks in the world, and utilizing that in more vivid ways is going to be absolutely key. When everything else is uncertain, one certain thing is that they're going to be able to rely on their Wellesley sisters."

www.wellesley.edu/CWS



LYNN SHERR '63

CURRENT RESIDENCE:

NEW YORK CITY

MAJOR: GREEK

JOB: BROADCAST JOURNALISM

World-renowned correspondent, network anchor, and acclaimed author Lynn Sherr has covered an impressive array of stories and investigative reports—presidential elections, NASA space missions, and a look at the tiny Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan—to name a few.

She has received numerous professional honors, including an Emmy® award, national awards from American Women in Radio and Television, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as well as a George Foster Peabody Award.

According to Sherr, studying Greek at Wellesley transformed her and continues to inform her career and professional activities. She became hooked on the classics on her



first day of Greek 101, when her professor recited lines from Homer's *Iliad*.

To this day, she "cares deeply about the lessons of the ancient world" and finds herself drawn to them over and over again.

Like many Wellesley alumnae,

Sherr continues to generously give back to the Wellesley community, whether mentoring a student like Leslie Kim '06 (above), speaking about journalism on a career panel, or serving on the Board of Trustees.

As former Wellesley College President Diana Chapman Walsh '66 said when introducing Sherr as the 1999 Commencement speaker: "What's distinctive about Lynn Sherr's career as a reporter—the thing that really stands out—is the abiding curiosity and critical integrity that she brings to every story, something to do, perhaps, with her Greek major at Wellesley. Lynn never just skims the surface. She always digs deep, and there is invariably something infectious in the palpable fun she finds in her explorations."

If anyone, ever, should ask whether you know your place, the answer, of course, is: Yes—my place is everywhere. *Lynn Sherr '63, broadcast journalist*

ALUMNAE
OF NOTE



(Left to right, first row)
Joan Wallace Benjamin '75, CEO, Home for Little Wanderers
Ophelia Dahl '94, global public health activist
Emi Kolawole '04, political fact checker
Kyra Reppen '85, SVP, GM, MTV Networks
The Reverend Nancy Eaton Gossling '74, Curate
Susan Choi '06, golf coach, professional golfer

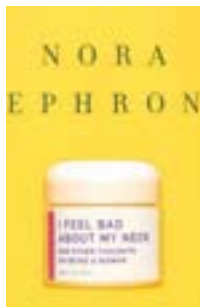
(Second row)
Pamela Melroy '83, NASA astronaut
Paula Geier Grant '89, JAG attorney
Kimberly Dozier '87, CBS News correspondent

(Third row)
Hillary Rodham Clinton '69, U.S. Secretary of State
Lulu Chow Wang '66, founder, CEO, Tupelo Capital Management

(Fourth row)
Elizabeth Barlow Rogers '57, urban planner
In-ho Lee '60, former Korean ambassador, professor
Laura Caparoso '89, EPA program officer
Katie Johnson '03, personal secretary to President Barack Obama
Patricia J. Williams '72, professor, Columbia Law School

(Fifth row)
Desiree Rogers '81, White House social secretary
Martha McClintock '69, psychobiologist
Nora Ephron '62, screenwriter, producer, author
JudyAnn Rollins Bigby '73, physician, Massachusetts Secretary of Health and Human Services
Carolyn Johnson '96, chef de cuisine, Rialto restaurant

(Sixth row)
Sarah Karim '03, nonprofit research, Pakistan
Persis Drell '77, particle physicist, professor, Stanford University
Meredith Sorensen '01, Peace Corps volunteer
Laurie Geronimo '92 and Michele Geronimo '97, cofounders, Secure Sponsorship
Joy Dickson '92, teacher





My dream of running the Boston Marathon and going through Wellesley as the women of Wellesley cheered me on had arrived. I just wanted to thank the College for one more moment of inspiration, for the camaraderie of Wellesley, for the reminder that dreams really do come true and often in unexpected ways. I heard your cheers and they carried me all the way to the finish line. Many, many thanks. *E. Jane Carter, M.D. '78*

THE DOMINO EFFECT

LOUISA OLLAGUE '93

CURRENT RESIDENCE: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MAJORS: POLITICAL SCIENCE & LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

JOB: LOS ANGELES BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



As a senior deputy for a member of the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, Louisa Ollague focuses on local issues: from homelessness and jobs to public welfare and budgets. Her constituency is made up of the 10 million residents of Los Angeles County. But, in many ways, the Los Angeles native says, her work

in public service “all goes back to Wellesley.”

A political science and Latin American studies major, Ollague participated in the Wellesley in Washington Internship Program, which turned out to be a pivotal piece of her education. “It opened a series of opportunities for me,” she says. Her work during the summer of 1992—interning at the National Association of Latino Elected Officials and analyzing the media’s coverage of that spring’s Los Angeles riots—has in fact served as the

There’s constantly that motivation to give back to Wellesley because of the nurturing environment that says you can do almost anything. *Louisa Ollague '93*

BUILDING AND BONDING WITH ALUMNAE

HOI-FEI MOK '10 (bottom row, left)

MAJOR: BIOLOGICAL CHEMISTRY

HOME: SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA

As a first-year student, Hoi-Fei Mok felt homesick during her first semester at Wellesley. “Coming to the East Coast was a big change,” says Hoi-Fei, who grew up in San Leandro, California. “I went through a bit of a culture shock trying to get used to a new environment, but I learned that this is the right place for me.”

One convincing and transformative experience occurred during Wintersession her first year, when Hoi-Fei, a group of 10 students, and 10 alumnae traveled with representatives from the College to Slidell, Louisiana, where they worked with Habitat for Humanity on its rebuilding effort in

the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

“Wellesley’s attitude toward volunteering and making a difference was one reason why I chose to come here,” she says. “Taking what abilities I have and applying them in the real world in order to give back to the community has always been an ideal I value. From the moment I learned that Wellesley’s motto is ‘Not to be served, but to serve,’ I knew this was the right place for me.”

During their time in Louisiana, the students worked alongside alumnae from graduating classes that ranged from 1949 to 2003. “They were absolutely extraordinary in what they accomplished,” says Hoi-Fei, who eventually hopes to pursue a career as a veterinarian. “Their confidence and enthusiasm were inspiring.”



A WORLDWIDE JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY

LAURE-ANNE VENTOURAS '05

MAJOR: BIOCHEMISTRY

CURRENT RESIDENCE: CAMBRIDGE, MA

JOB: PH.D. STUDENT IN

BIOENGINEERING AT MIT

As a student at Wellesley, Laure-Anne Ventouras logged as many miles with her passport as her lab book. She conducted water-quality testing in Honduras; a tropical-ecology class sent her to Belize and Costa Rica; and she worked summer internships in labs in Germany and Cambridge, England. Then, as a senior, she was awarded a



Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, affording her the chance to spend the following year traveling to China, India, Madagascar, the Comoros Islands, New Caledonia, South Africa, Egypt, and Australia. Throughout the year, she studied the production of essential oils for the perfume industry. Whether through financial aid, stipends, or grants, all

of these journeys were made possible by financial support. "The best gift you can give someone is aid for education," she says. "I was able to do so many things, and it made me grow in so many ways."

A native of Paris, France, Laure-Anne chose Wellesley for its liberal arts curriculum. Reflecting back, she's most grateful for the opportunities that it opened up for her: "They're just there for you to go after," she notes. Beyond the travel, "Wellesley has tremendous resources in terms of lab equipment that undergraduates can use, which is different in big universities. And the departments are small, so you develop strong relationships with professors. One of the first courses I took at Wellesley was organic chemistry with Professor Julia Miwa. She really sparked my interest."

Although she arrived as a very focused first-year student, Laure-Anne says the years and experiences that followed have opened her eyes to fields of study that she hadn't previously considered. Her Watson Fellowship, for example, convinced her that life in a lab is not for her. She'd prefer to do more fieldwork. Currently a Ph.D. student in MIT's bioengineering program, Laure-Anne says her greater journey has been about discovering what you can do in life. And the journey is definitely not over yet.



In so many ways, this all-women's college prepared me to compete in the all-boys' club of presidential politics.

Hillary Rodham Clinton '69, with Wellesley students during the primary for the 2008 Democratic presidential nomination

Going to Wellesley taught me something about the concept of leadership. The College instills a sense of confidence and encourages risk-taking, while also providing a safety net. Wellesley women are a breed apart—aggressively inquisitive and stubborn. We strive constantly to be the best. I assume a Wellesley degree and alumnae networking will never let me down.

Cynthia Crosswhite '07, graduate student in organic chemistry, MIT

