



Alumnae Association

Established 1986

**The Women's College of The University of Denver
Alumnae Association**

Annual Report 2005-2006
October 31, 2005 – October 31, 2006

TWC Alumnae,

This year has been a year of growth for The Women's College Alumnae Association (TWCAA). We have added the Events Committee and the Alumnae/Student Relations Committee and several events new to TWCAA. Additionally, the Board and Committees have taken great strides in creating operating guidelines to help our organization run smoother.

I would like to thank the entire Board for volunteering to serve and for dedicating their time and efforts toward building the Alumnae Association into a viable and successful entity.

The Women's College Alumnae Association maintains a commitment to its members to provide various ways we can all stay in touch through electronic media, business meetings, and various annual and special events. TWCAA also maintains a commitment to The Women's College (TWC) to continue building on the sense of community that began during our days at TWC through joint participation in various annual and special events and support of TWC's ongoing efforts to build this unique program.

Together we will continue to grow this Association through reconnecting our members to each other, The Women's College, the University of Denver Alumni Association, and the greater University of Denver campus.

Respectively submitted,
B. Dianne Calhoun, '00
TWCAA Chair
Dpeach2959@aol.com

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The following Annual Report outlines the 2005-2006 participation and involvement of the TWCAA.
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Alumnae Association Mission, Vision, and Purpose:

Alumnae Association Mission Statement:

"To offer graduates a focal point of support and coordination plus a package of activities for continual individual growth and group interaction."

Alumnae Association Vision Statement:

"A proactive and visible organization dedicated to supporting past, present, and future students while promoting a positive image of The Women's College."

Alumnae Association Purpose:

FIRST:

To promote an effective and continued relationship between The Women's College and its alumnae as well as to be a vehicle for every alumna to continue to share in the life of the college community.

SECOND:

To encourage and facilitate professional development and networking opportunities for its members as well as continuing enduring friendships and social activities for its members.

THIRD:

To operate for educational or charitable purposes, which advance the interests of The Women's College and:

- a) **Preserving** the unique traditions of The Women's College;
- b) **Promoting and recruiting** for the Alumnae Association;
- c) **Promoting** active alumnae participation and involvement through on-campus and off-campus programs;
- d) **Recognizing** alumnae for their loyalty, professional achievement, and community service;
- e) **Providing** opportunities for alumnae interaction through reunions, publications, and social events;
- f) **Promoting** networking among alumnae; and
- g) **Encouraging** the alumnae to contribute to the Association's e-newsletter.

2003-2004 Alumnae Association Board:

The Alumnae Association Board consists of a Chairperson, Co-chairperson, Secretary, Co-secretary, the Chairpersons of the standing committees, the representatives to the DU Alumni Council, and The Women's College Alumnae Association Liaison. The 2005-2006 Board members were:

Dianne Calhoun

TWCAA Chair & DU Alumni
Council Representative

Kristene Elmore

TWCAA Co-Chair

Maggy Traynom

Community Service Chair

Janet St. John

Communication Chair

Ruth Glenn & Angela Quast

Event Co-Chairs

Karen Mauler & Dana Conroy

Bookclub Committee Chair

Carolyn Washburn

DU Alumni Council Representative

Liz Withers

TWCAA Secretary

Betsy Clark

TWCAA Co-Secretary

Vicky Gonzales & Marguerite Purchio

Mentoring Program Co-Chairs

Shirley Seitz & Patricia Howard

Scholarship Co-Chairs

Flo Day

Alumnae/Student Relations Chair & DU Alumni
Council Representative

Bonney Armstrong

Archives Chair

Lorni Sharrow

Alumnae Association Liaison

2005-2006 Status:

Following is the status of the individual committees and the events and activities for the Alumnae Association of The Women's College of the University of Denver for the report period covering October 31, 2005 through October 31, 2006:

I. Alumnae Association Membership

As of October 31, 2006, the Alumnae Association proudly acknowledges a membership of over 1000 graduates.

II. Alumnae Association Board Committee Highlights:

Mentoring Program Committee:

Recruitment for the Mentor/Protégée program began in late August and continued through mid-October. Orientation for both was held on Saturday, October 28, 2006 in the Garden room. We had an excellent turn out and were able to match seven mentors with seven protégées. The pair process was determined by using the Holland's Theory,

There are six categories that you can choose to best reflect your personality. In our culture; most personalities can be categorized using categories of interest: Realistic, Investigative, Artistic, Social, Enterprising and Conventional.

People search for environments that will let them:

- Exercise their skills and abilities
- Express their attitudes and values, and
- Take on agreeable problems and roles.

This worked exceptionally well, and was a lot more interesting then just pairing our volunteers by majors.

All our schedules did not permit for all volunteers to be at the Orientation, so we meet at Driscoll for lunch on Saturday, November 4th and were able to pair 10 protégée's with mentors. So in total we were able to pair 17 protégées.

Communications Committee:

The Communications Committee published the quarterly eNewsletter within the month following each quarterly meeting: 1) December 2005; 2) March 2006; 3) July 2006; 4) November 2006; and a special New Year's Edition published in January 2006. The third and fourth quarterly issues were published in a newly-designed format. The Association continues to receive positive feedback from alumnae and the Board is always open to comments about the eNewsletter. Past issues are housed on the TWCAA website:

<http://womenscollege.du.edu/alumnae/enewsletter.html>.

The Alumnae Association's brochure was updated with the new Board and Committee information in a format similar to the new design of the eNewsletter.

The Communications Committee collaborated in developing an effective e-communications method.

The [Alumnae Web site](#) is a great way to stay connected with the TWC community. The Web site allows alumnae to easily [update their contact information](#), to learn about the [ongoing activities of the Association](#) and to [sign-up](#) to participate on one of the Association's many committees.

Community Activities Committee:

The Community Activities Committee participated in 3 events over the last year starting with last fall.

1. In November of 2005 and 2006, the TWC Alumnae Association piggybacked in the primary 9Cares Colorado Shares food drive with the DU Alumni group. Both years were record-breaking in the amount of food, clothing, toys and funds collected to help provide for the homeless and families in need in the Denver and greater Colorado area. This was a very rewarding event and one that I hope will continue in the future.
2. In October, the Alumnae Association had a small team to participate in another record-breaking Komen Denver Race for the Cure. It was a class weekend, so the students were again challenged in their ability to attend, but with a final count of 66,393 participants, Denver again had the largest race in the country behind Washington DC. Funds raised were close to a million dollars - \$977,566 – again showing strong support for a cancer that continues to take the lives of too many women – and men – each year. We usually meet in the northeast parking lot of the Pepsi Center where large alphabet signs are posted around the parking lot to assist with gathering places. This year these letters were absent, which further added to our inability to gather our team to a collective spot. While we were unable to walk as a team this year, it was a successful walk and a beautiful day with the hopes that the alphabet returns next year to assist with the gathering of friends and teams.

Scholarship Committee:

The Scholarship Committee will meet in early January to begin planning for the 2007 scholarships. The committee awarded 4 TWCAA Scholarships in 2006 to four inspirational TWC students – Julie Cordova, Rebecca Elswick, Debbra Graham and Jemina Obeng. The scholarship winners were honored at the 2006 Spring Brunch and they shared how the scholarships would help them achieve their lifelong dreams of higher education. The committee will explore additional fund raising methods in the future.

Events Committee:

April 24, 2006:

1. Events Survey Conducted
 - a. Survey was conducted using Survey Monkey, to assess Alumnae wants and use for development of future events
 - b. 34 of respondents
 - c. Included updating contact information
 - d. The top three respondent event choices were the Symphony, Museum, and Theater
 - e. 31 respondents expressed an interest in volunteering for events

May 6, 2006:

2. Annual Spring Reunion Brunch - This event was held at the Chambers Center.
 - a. Program: Dianne Calhoun (Board Chair) provided a presentation (no invited guest speaker)
 - b. Two CWC Alumnae were invited and present!
 - c. Presentation of the 2006 Alumnae Association Awards

October 14, 2006:

3. Alumnae Association Induction Brunch - The ceremony for the new TWC graduates was held in the Garden Room of the Chambers Center. Thirty-five alumnae attended the event.
 - a. Program: Thirteen new TWC graduates were inducted into the Alumnae Association.
 - b. Guest speaker was Dean Michele Bloom, who shared recent events of TWC and her plans for retirement, including continued work with TWC.
 - c. Dean Bloom was presented with a plaque recognizing her as the 1001st "honorary" graduate of TWC.
 - d. Attendees received "new" TWC products

Alumnae/Student Relations Committee:

This committee was made official this year in September of 2006. The new Chair is Flo Day. She has recruited new members for the committee and they have met once so far. This committee will be the group to keep the connection open between Alumnae, Students, and wider DU community.

Archives Committee:

The Archives committee did not have a report this year. This committee is most active around reunion time.

Outstanding Alumnae Awards Committee:**Outstanding Alumnae Award Nominations for 2006**

The Alumnae Association annually honors those alumnae who truly exemplify the "top" in their commitment and dedication to their community, The Women's College, and The Alumnae Association.

The recipients of the 2006 Outstanding Alumnae Awards are as follows:**Community Award:**

Ruth Glenn was nominated for this award because of her service to the greater community with the battered women's programs and causes. Ruth is a survivor of domestic violence. She escaped from this dreadful environment 15 years ago and has since dedicated her life to help others in this situation. She is now the head of Colorado Coalition to Stop Domestic Violence and is pursuing her Master's degree.

The Women's College Award:

Maria Tobias, co-chair of the Mentoring Program, has grown the program and made it such a success that dozens of students have already shown an interest in participating in the fall

program. She continued the legacy of the Mentoring Program from its original conception, and developed it into a program that current students seek out.

The Alumnae Association Award:

Dianne Calhoun, the new Chairperson of the TWCAA Board, has carried on the legacy passed to her, and works with her Board to further increase alumnae participation in current and new programs that will increase visibility of the TWCAA and further the success of TWC. She has led the current Board in reformatting the 'look' of the Alumnae Association, and has grown its activities. Her dedication is tireless.

Colorado Booklovers:

As of the date of this report, the Colorado Booklovers met nine times in 2006 to discuss various genres of books. We have been introduced to new authors, and have read the works of experienced authors that we hadn't tried before. We had wonderful discussions of all of these books, and talked of the emotions that were brought out in us as we read – anger, sadness, wonderment, etc. Many of the selections were suggestions referred by current members, and from various reading lists collected by different members.

Our meetings were held at libraries, and at places of businesses volunteered by our members. We have had six new members join the group in 2006.

Alumnae Handbook Committee

Working in partnership with the University of Denver, TWCAA committees foster connections between TWCAA alumnae with the same interests and goals. Some alumnae committees have a tradition of supporting the college through admissions work such as the mentorship committee while other committees work to award scholarships to aspiring TWC students. Other committees support the TWCAA ideals through service projects in the community or by building career networks for their members. There are more than 12 active TWCAA committees. As our membership has grown we have realized the need to develop a TWCAA Policies & Guidelines Handbook.

The TWCAA Handbook is in the final development stage and will be made available to all TWCAA committee members in hard copy and on our website 1Q07. Because there are important rules and requirements to be aware of and to follow, the Handbook is a neatly arranged resource for each TWCAA committee to use in planning their specific events and to achieve each committee's unique goals. Because each committee's goals vary depending on the focus of the committee, the guidelines in this handbook are tailored to meet the needs of each individual committee. Our fellow alumnae sisters serving on the different committees have generously written their policies and guidelines, procedures and templates so that the Handbook has become a complete resource for each new member joining any TWCAA committee.