



WELLESLEY COLLEGE

Diana Chapman Walsh
President

To the Members of the Class of 2000:

Congratulations and warm greetings as you approach your 5th reunion. I am especially eager to welcome you back to Wellesley to celebrate your first reunion. I hope many of you will be able to make the trip.

Those who do return will find the same beautiful campus you knew and loved, along with some improvements such as the recently-renovated Margaret Clapp Library, and, in Pendleton East, the new state-of-the-art classrooms and the Knapp Social Science Center. Just beyond the Keohane Sports Center, you will find five new athletic fields above a boardwalk along the lake that takes you through lovely wetlands, a 30-acre area restoration project on the site of the former Henry Woods Paint factory. You'll also see the progress we are making on our "Alumnae Valley" project: the new Wang Campus Center, the Davis Parking Facility, and the valley itself. I hope you'll come away with a sense of the excitement this ambitious project is generating.

Everywhere, now, we are enjoying the fruits of the enormously successful Wellesley Campaign, which will conclude shortly after reunion. The campaign has enabled us not only to improve the campus but also to grow our financial aid endowment, to create new interdisciplinary programs, new professorships, more opportunities for experiential learning and for study abroad, the Newhouse Humanities Center and many other initiatives. These efforts, in which so many of you have so generously participated, are enhancing a Wellesley education for women in this new century.

Among the special pleasures of reunion is the opportunity to meet some of today's talented students. Their commitment to Wellesley -- to our standards of excellence and our motto of service -- carries forward the values and traditions that have made our college so strong. In conversations with them, you will likely discover how much inspiration these young women draw from the examples of your lives.

Reunion is a time to resume old friendships and to establish new ones. It is a time to share your stories, diverse and moving stories of struggle and accomplishment, fulfillment and loss, growth and resilience, all laced through with the bright thread of Wellesley friendships and memories. Reunions are happy times and poignant times, rare times in our busy lives to step back, take stock and reflect on the multiple meanings our lives have assumed. I look forward to seeing you, to hearing some of your stories, and to thanking you for all that you do for the College.

With warm regards,

Diana Chapman Walsh