“What I really like about Wellesley: The College truly allows me to focus on research and teaching. Other institutions lean one way or the other. Wellesley lets you have it both ways. Of course, having it both ways is demanding, but I enjoy the fact that my days are varied and varied over time. I can do different things at different times. At Wellesley, I feel appreciated for being a good researcher and a good teacher and for the hard work in striving to do both. Though my own education, undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate, was at large research institutions, I am now—after 12 years at Wellesley—a huge fan of the liberal arts college.”

—A Wellesley College Faculty Member
From the President

At Wellesley College, we are proud of the central role our faculty play in the creation of a vibrant intellectual community.

Wellesley makes a commitment to its faculty that we will support them in the pursuit of their intellectual passions. We know that engaged scholars are inspiring teachers. This is important because we enroll bright and motivated women who represent a diversity of perspectives but who share a dedication to acquiring an excellent education.

It is a wonderful thing to be part of a community constituted for, and dedicated to, the love of learning. This dedication is evident in the high standards to which our faculty hold themselves in all arenas—their teaching, their research, and their active involvement in our joint enterprise through their service to the College and participation in our shared governance structures.

Our goal is to have Wellesley College continue as one of the top liberal arts colleges in the world and to become even more widely recognized as such. Our goal is also to have Wellesley be the premier destination of choice for all bright and promising young women. As you think about the next phase of your career, I hope you will consider joining us as we work toward achieving these goals.

H. Kim Bottomly
From the Provost’s Office

Wellesley College’s mission unites three aspirations: To educate women, to strive for academic excellence, and to produce graduates whose lives and careers will exemplify engagement in the world. Together, these elements have produced a college with a strong sense of identity and a long record of intellectual achievement and distinction, a college that has played a decisive role in shaping leadership models for women. Such clarity of mission is gratifying; it is also inspiring.

In recruiting new faculty members, Wellesley is looking for special kinds of people—people who are effective and inspiring classroom communicators and first-rate researchers, and who take a broad view of what it means to be an educator. For more information about the Office of the Provost and Dean of the College, please visit wellesley.edu/DeanCollege.

Provost Andrew Shennan is a specialist in twentieth-century French history. His books include: Rethinking France: Plans for Renewal, 1940–1946 (1989), De Gaulle (1993) and The Fall of France, 1940 (2000). A gifted teacher and winner of the Pinanski Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Shennan has taught a range of courses in European history, with a particular emphasis on the twentieth century, modern France and the World Wars. He was a founding director of Wellesley’s International Relations program and of the College’s Summer School. Shennan served as Associate Dean of the College from 1999–2004 and Dean of the College from 2004–2010.

Dean Richard French is Dean of Academic Affairs and Louise McDowell & Sarah Frances Whiting Professor of Astrophysics. In his role as dean, he works directly with departments in the natural and physical sciences and the empirical social sciences. Before assuming his position as dean, he served as Chair of the Astronomy Department and Director of the Whitin Observatory. Professor French has published over 85 peer-reviewed scholarly articles on his studies of planetary atmospheres and rings. Since 1990, he has been a science team member of NASA’s highly successful Cassini Mission to Saturn. In 2004, he was awarded the College’s Pinanski Prize for Excellence in Teaching.

Dean Kathryn Lynch is Dean of Faculty Affairs and Bates/Hart Professor of English. In her role as dean, Lynch works directly with departments and some inter departmental programs in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. Before assuming her position as dean, she served two terms as Chair of the English Department. Lynch is the author of The High Medieval Dream Vision: Poetry, Philosophy, and Literary Form, 1988, and Chaucer’s Philosophical Visions, 2000. She has also edited two books and written numerous articles and book reviews focusing on late medieval literature and especially the work of Geoffrey Chaucer. In 1996, she was the winner of the College’s Pinanski Prize for Excellence in Teaching.
Why are people happy to teach at Wellesley? First, Wellesley students are not only good, they are serious about being in school. They go on to do remarkable things, and as a professor, the feeling that one has made a difference is highly satisfying. Second, the College is a well-endowed institution and its leadership is committed to supporting faculty research as well as teaching; at Wellesley, good ideas find research funding. Third, Wellesley College’s generous policies—with respect to parental leave and teaching loads—make it a place where faculty members can build lives with room for teaching, research and family.

—David Lindauer
Stanford Calderwood
Professor of Economics

Teaching at Wellesley is an incredibly good job for a number of reasons. Wellesley College is spectacularly successful in combining a mandate to teach undergraduates with support for faculty research. I cannot imagine a liberal arts college finding more ways of being supportive of both teaching and scholarship. Part of this support has to do with the financial resources that are available to faculty at the various stages of research projects. Part is related to generous academic leave policies—as generous as those anywhere. Part is due to the two-two teaching schedule. But part is that there is just something remarkable about the College’s commitment to its faculty.

—Roxanne Euben
Emerson/Palmer
Professor of Political Science

Quotation on front cover by Ann Trenk, Professor of Mathematics
Faculty Voices

Ask a cross-section of Wellesley professors why they find Wellesley College a stimulating place to teach and do research and you will hear remarkably similar answers—excellent students, excellent support for teaching and research, excellent benefits. These reasons are stated emphatically—without qualification—whether faculty members originally came to Wellesley from large universities or smaller institutions, whatever their special field, whatever their professorial rank.

Wellesley is a women’s college. For more than a century, Wellesley faculty have played a decisive role in the education of the nation’s women leaders. Today’s faculty remain committed to this educational mission. In the words of one professor, “At Wellesley the stereotypes are gone. The smartest student in the class is always a woman. Wellesley is one of the only colleges in the country where the senior faculty is half men and half women, even in the sciences and mathematics.”
Excellent Students

How do Wellesley professors describe their students? “Motivated,” “bright,” “focused,” “curious,” “diverse,” “engaged,” “full of enthusiasm”—the list reads like a thesaurus entry of superlatives. Indeed, it is not unusual to hear professors say that Wellesley students stimulate their own creative energy. Marjorie Agosín, Luella LaMer Slaner Professor of Latin American Studies and Professor of Spanish, puts her appreciation of her students this way: “Wellesley students are remarkable—a joy to teach. When you teach them, you become very creative. This is so for me as a writer. I am able to share my ideas and creativity with my students. When I work with students—the sharing of creative experience, the connections—give me a freedom to write.”

Wellesley Students: What Wellesley Professors Say

Wellesley students are extremely exciting. As a group, they present a range of perspectives. They are cosmopolitan, very sophisticated. Their multiple voices make the classroom an exciting place to be.

—Patricia Gray Berman
Feldberg Professor of Art

When I talk about the wonderful colleagues I have at Wellesley, I refer not only to faculty but also to the phenomenal students who have worked in my lab. These students have a fresh perspective that frequently allows them to bring original ideas to my research projects. Consequently, they regularly present their work at national conferences and many of them are my co-authors on research publications. The opportunity to watch these students develop into young scholars has been one of most rewarding aspects of my first years at the college.

—Don Elmore
Assistant Professor of Chemistry

Wellesley students are exceptionally serious about academics. For them, the classroom is the place on campus where important things happen. I find that my enthusiasm builds theirs: they want to follow me into the questions that I find interesting. In class discussion, we can quickly get past the basics into a level of discourse about literature that’s exciting and real. I get energy back from the classroom.

—Sarah Wall-Randell
Assistant Professor of English

Wellesley has a brilliant bunch of students. I can’t imagine a better group of students to teach; they are extraordinarily imaginative. Many of the ideas that I have for research flow out of the classroom. Though I have taught at Wellesley for 25 years, I am still surprised at how many ideas I get from students. I find that my students think in open ways, free of preprofessional considerations.

—Martin A. Brody
Catherine Milli Davis Professor of Music

In the classroom, I can raise political dilemmas and moral complexities. Wellesley students can handle complexity. They want to understand contrasting positions, not to be given prepackaged views.

—Lidwien Kapteijns
Elizabeth Kimball Kendall and Elisabeth Hodder Professor of History

Many undergraduate institutions have research programs for students, but at Wellesley students get involved early, some during their first year. With an early start, Wellesley undergraduates soon find that they are doing work comparable to graduate students. Nor does research slow down in the summer. The College runs a summer program for approximately 70 students each year.

—Nancy H. Kolodny
Nellie Zuckerman Cohen and Anne Cohen Heller Professor of Health Sciences and Professor of Chemistry
Wellesley faculty members take pleasure in watching their students’ intellectual development—from seeing them take in new concepts as first-years to their transformation into mature thinkers. From the arts to the sciences, professors speak of students who do work comparable to graduate students. Teaching and advising such dedicated students is rewarding. At Wellesley, teaching is exciting—energizing—for professors as well as students. Composer Martin Brody, Davis Professor of Music, makes this observation: “At Wellesley, discussions in the classroom provide feedback that is challenging, a spur to originality.” With such excellent students, Wellesley professors find that their own energy—for both teaching and scholarly work—is continually renewed.

**Wellesley Professors:**

**What Wellesley Students Say**

At Wellesley, professors are interested in students as people and in their opinions of what they are learning and of the learning process. They want our reactions to the texts and bring them out in class discussion.

I realize how lucky I am to have small classes and engaged professors. I remember my first year the experience of coming out of a class and feeling elated by a discussion. It was a religion class. Everyone was involved in the discussion, energized by the professor’s enthusiasm. This feeling happens a lot at Wellesley.

I consider the faculty as role models for the kind of person and thinker that I want to be.

— Katherine Miller ’06

Recipient of the Katharine Malone Sophomore Student Prize for Academic Excellence

I have admired the respect that professors have for each other and for each other’s work. The students can feel the camaraderie that the professors share. I don’t think that you would find such respect or camaraderie at larger colleges.

— Lauren Flamer ’05

At Wellesley, the faculty members are as invested in teaching as in their research. They are dynamic speakers and thinkers, and they encourage their students not just to learn but to become fully engaged with the world. Students feel free to converse with professors outside of class, and many students find their professors to be wonderful mentors.

— Emma Townsend-Merino ’12

What would I say to encourage a prospective faculty candidate to consider Wellesley?

It is an institution with wonderful resources and facilities—a place where the faculty truly believe in students and encourage their progress. In addition, to a prospective minority faculty candidate, Wellesley is an institution where you can make a difference.

— Garen Wolff ’07
Resources for Teaching

Professors from all departments describe the Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center (PLTC) as a valuable resource for faculty as well as students. For new faculty, the Center offers a number of workshops, discussion groups and information sessions throughout the school year. In addition to serving as a great way to meet peers across departments, these events focus on the tools of teaching—how to manage a classroom, how to write letters of recommendation or grade student work, how to reflect and act on one’s own evaluations, etc. The Center also offers a variety of workshops aimed at the entire faculty—opportunities for colleagues to share innovative ideas that have worked for them in their own teaching.

Faculty members stress the important support that the PLTC offers their students. The Center’s peer-tutoring program is extensive and complements the work being done in the classroom. All initiatives are based on a model of collaborative learning, facilitating conversations between students and between students and faculty. There are a variety of peer-based resources available to students at the PLTC. Drop-in Tutors hold weekly office hours at the PLTC and are linked to many departments. Assigned Tutors provide one-on-one supplementary instruction to their Wellesley peers. Academic Peer Tutors (APT’s) provide one-on-one and group advising and study skill support in the residence halls. And Supplementary Instruction (SI) Leaders work closely with faculty members to construct weekly supplementary classroom sessions tied directly to what is happening in lecture and/or lab. Also available to students are peer writing tutors and peer public speaking tutors.

Last year, the PLTC employed almost 250 students in these various roles and well over 50% of the student population used one or more of these peer-driven services. In addition, the PLTC now offers Academic Coaching services. The purpose of this initiative is to help students articulate and prioritize their academic goals and identify the barriers that inhibit their success. Through weekly meetings and follow-up email and telephone calls, the coach, who is a member of the PLTC staff, works with students to keep them on track and moving towards successful goal completion.

Finally, new faculty members may themselves choose to be paired with a mentor—a senior faculty member from another department. Over time, this mentor can provide advice on everything from effective teaching to how to address evaluations and assemble a tenure portfolio.

Resources for Teaching: What Wellesley Professors Say

The Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center is a resource that is a great benefit for the physics department. In addition to availing themselves of faculty office hours, students who need help can seek the guidance of peer tutors. In addition to the Center’s programs for students, it offers faculty seminars on nuts-and-bolts teaching topics that are very much appreciated.

—Glenn Stark
Professor of Physics

At some large research institutions, it is said of faculty, “Teaching pays them; research sustains them.” This contrast in attitudes toward teaching and research is not the case at Wellesley.

—Richard G. French
Louise Sherwood McDowell and Sarah Frances Whiting
Professor of Astrophysics and
Professor of Astronomy, Dean of Academic Affairs

At Wellesley, there are enormous resources for student learning, both off campus and on campus. Wellesley students are provided with opportunities (and financial support) to travel—abroad or in the United States—and to pursue internships, in their professors’ areas of expertise. The abundance of the opportunities open to students raises the level on which one can teach and makes teaching very exciting.

—Lidwien Kapteijns
Elizabeth Kimball Kendall and Elisabeth Hodder
Professor of History

Wellesley offers us the financial and intellectual resources to expand our teaching in new directions and to bring cutting edge research to our classrooms. Importantly, the college appreciates that the “classroom” is not always a physical space on campus, but it can be the Museum of Modern Art in New York City, an archeological site in Dmanisi, Georgia, or a language acquisition conference in Boston.

—Jennie Pyers
Assistant Professor of Psychology
H₂O = very polar
Slightly polar
Non-polar

5 mL

Cooling slowly

-50°
Wellesley professors speak appreciatively of the variety and depth of support that is available for faculty research. It is a small college, but not in terms of resources. At Wellesley, the resources are available to permit faculty to develop a focus that combines research and teaching. New faculty members have only to ask, “What do I want to accomplish?” Awards are available through the Science Center and the Provost’s Office. Wellesley faculty also stress that the internal technical support for research at Wellesley is excellent.

For scientists at Wellesley, the Science Center offers state-of-the-art instrumentation that is more typical of a research institution than an undergraduate college. New science faculty members receive generous laboratory start-up funds to facilitate their research. Instrumentation is shared between departments and is available for student use. Instrumentation highlights include two confocal microscopes, varied biologic and petrographic microscopes, two NMR spectrometers (one with a micro-MRI accessory), microcalorimeters, a high-power pulsed tunable laser, an excimer laser, a MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer, a GC mass spectrometer, an ICP mass spectrometer, a DNA sequencer, a well-equipped rock-preparation laboratory, several environmental growth chambers, and an ultrahigh vacuum chamber (built by Chemistry Professor Chris Arumainayagam and five students). An Engineering design classroom houses a laser cutter and 3D printer. Computer scientists work in both Mac and PC platforms and with multi-touch surface (Microsoft Surface) tabletop-computing interfaces. Astronomy faculty have 12- and 24-inch research telescopes available in the recently renovated campus Observatory. The Science Center also houses an animal-care facility.

Resources for Research: What Wellesley Professors Say

To anyone considering a teaching position at Wellesley, I would emphasize the support. The support—the network, the availability of grants for teaching and research—is terrific. And unlike large universities, course and research budgets aren’t absorbed by charges for college services.

— Andrea S. Sequeira
Associate Professor of Biological Sciences

I came out of a big university, where most of my peers were focused on continuing their research and not interested in teaching at a liberal arts college. The stereotype of a liberal arts college where there is no time for research does not apply to Wellesley. My former colleagues would be amazed at the active research and the level of scholarship here.

— Brian Tjaden
Teresa Mall Mulrarkey Associate Professor of Computer Science

At Wellesley, one is expected to do teaching and research well. Interest in cross-disciplinary work is high as well. What happens in the classroom matters. Research matters. The importance of both is reflected in the availability of research funds, grants for teaching innovations, and good computer support. Wellesley is a supportive place to work.

— Marion R. Just
Kenan Professor of Political Science

In a time when many institutions are scaling back, Wellesley remains committed to its generous sabbatical policy. The College understands how important it is for faculty to stay fresh, to keep moving, in terms of our professional development. It is incredibly important for teachers to be engaged outside of the classroom.

— Patricia Gray Berman
Feldberg Professor of Art

Wellesley’s generous leave policy (as generous as that at any research institution), its faculty research awards and travel policy demonstrate the sense in which research is honored at Wellesley. The level of faculty support found at Wellesley is not duplicated at many other colleges.

— Martin A. Brody
Catherine Mills Davis Professor of Music

The internal support for research at Wellesley is excellent. Consider the instrumentation in the Science Center. Every piece of equipment is acquired with a maintenance contract. In addition, the Science Center staff includes two equipment technicians who oversee the equipment. As a result, researchers are able to be very productive.

— Barbara Beltz
Susan M. Hallowell and Ruby Frances House Farwell Professor of Biological Sciences

Wellesley grants have supported my research. College funding enabled me to finish my first book, to take a research trip for the book I have just finished, to keep up with my Arabic language skills, and to develop a novel course on Modern Islam and Western Political Thought.

— Roxanne Euben
Emerson/Palmer Professor of Political Science
Although some other colleges offer time off in the first semester to set up a lab or to publish, Wellesley offers a full year of leave with the possibility of full salary in the fourth year. Dean of Faculty Affairs Kathryn Lynch explains the policy as “an investment in the ‘whole’ faculty member: We know good teaching takes time, and we also want to insure that each faculty member also has the time and resources that make possible an active research career.” Says Margaret Keane, Professor of Psychology, “For someone who comes from a strong research-oriented graduate program and who loves to teach, it doesn’t get any better than Wellesley.”

Another aspect of research at Wellesley that is noted by many faculty members is the encouragement to do interdisciplinary work. At Wellesley, there is a high level of interaction between faculty members in different departments. Mathematician Ann Trenk observes, “This closeness differs from universities where you know the individuals in your department and that’s it. Here faculty across departments are connected; one doesn’t feel isolated in one’s own world.”

Faculty interaction is encouraged by physical design—the intermixing of offices and open spaces in the Science Center, the lounges of the Knapp Social Science Center, and the Newhouse Center for the Humanities. Interdisciplinary inspiration and creativity is also encouraged by the College’s relatively small size.
Benefits

Wellesley professors speak with appreciation of the benefits offered by the College. Younger faculty members often cite the availability of excellent and affordable rental housing of varied types and sizes; tenured professors note generous mortgage assistance. Faculty members appreciate that salary increases at Wellesley are very good when compared to those at the highly selective colleges. They note that the College’s salary scales are published—open information—another point that distinguishes Wellesley from peer institutions. Deeply appreciated also are sabbaticals. The College is committed to offering excellent benefits—housing, health insurance, parental leave, child care, college tuition assistance, and pension—designed to support faculty members through their careers.

Benefits: What Wellesley Professors Say

When the College extends an offer for a tenure-track position, it does so with the assumption that the candidate will stay. The College’s benefit policies are designed to support faculty members throughout their careers. New faculty are offered great housing near campus, then generous mortgage benefits, parental leave, a fourth-year sabbatical, reduced teaching load options, and tuition benefits for college-age children.

A further benefit of the College’s housing is the fact that the town of Wellesley has one of the top-ranked public school systems in the state.

Faculty also appreciate the College’s policy of regular annual raises. A prospective faculty member should consider the initial salary offer in relation to the increases that may be expected over the years of his or her contract. At some state schools, budget pressures have led to multi-year salary freezes.

—Ann Trenk
Professor of Mathematics

As a junior faculty member, I have found faculty housing to be a wonderful resource. I am a biologist, and being able to walk across campus to my research lab has been a blessing. The proximity to the campus provides me with opportunities to interact with students and colleagues and to invite them over for dinners. Living in faculty housing has also allowed me to attend campus events and be more involved in activities at the College.

—Yui Suzuki
Assistant Professor of Biology
Community

Ask Wellesley professors about the College as a community. You will hear great appreciation for Wellesley College as a community of teachers and scholars bonded by friendship and respect. Young professors feel welcomed by colleagues in their department and by professors in other departments as well. Senior professors value younger colleagues. Looking back on three decades at Wellesley, Professor Adele Wolfson, Director of The Three-College Collaboration, notes that a feeling of community sets Wellesley apart from other academic institutions: “At Wellesley, people really listen to what others are saying. In the classroom, there is enormous respect from student to student and from student to faculty. This respect carries over to faculty interactions. Visitors who spend time in Wellesley classrooms often comment on the exceptional sense of respect that they find at the College.” The pace at a top academic institution like Wellesley is a fast one; being part of a community of teachers and scholars where respect governs relationships provides support as valuable as any of the physical or financial resources offered by the College.

Community: What Professors Say

I have the best set of on-campus colleagues of anyone in my field that I know; my Wellesley faculty colleagues are unusually creative, passionately concerned about their scholarship, and catholic in their interests. Because this is a liberal arts college, many of the colleagues I value the most are in fields far from my own. They stretch me. They make me a better scholar, and they are responsible for much of what (if anything) I have contributed to my own field.

—Craig N. Murphy
M. Margaret Ball Professor of International Relations and Professor of Political Science

Recently, I served on the Merit Committee, which advises the College’s president on the merit increases that full professors are eligible for every three years. I was stunned by how much care committee members take in reading and reviewing their colleagues’ work. Their effort is an example of the depth of community at Wellesley.

—Martin A. Brody
Catherine Mills Davis Professor of Music

Wellesley has allowed me to meet my needs and my family’s needs in a way that no other institution I know of does. I have had two children since I received tenure. The College’s family-oriented policies—parental leave, flexible course scheduling, options for part-time teaching—have allowed me to be a good mother and a good professor. Wellesley provides an unbelievably positive environment in which to be a female faculty member trying to raise a family. The College makes it possible to have both your life and job at once.

—Ann Velenchik
Associate Professor of Economics and Director of the Writing Program

As a new professor, I found—even in my first year—that Wellesley is an inclusive place—a community that respects individuality and encourages faculty members to follow their interests.

—Carlos A. Vega
Professor of Spanish

Wellesley had a holistic attraction for me. The faculty here offers role models for how I want to live my life. I can have conversations about family. My research can be more curiosity-driven. And in a small department like mine, I enjoy the challenge of being broader, of teaching some courses outside of the areas that I focus on in my research.

—Daniel J. Brabander
Associate Professor of Geosciences
Wellesley, Boston, New England

Professors at Wellesley sometimes observe that they have “the best of both worlds.” This view applies especially to the College’s location. The over 450-acre campus—one of the most beautiful in the country—is an oasis that buoys spirits through busy academic days and semesters. At the same time, Wellesley faculty members appreciate that, just 30 minutes’ drive from the College, are Boston and Cambridge with their rich academic, historical, and cultural resources. One Wellesley professor notes this advantage when he goes to seminars in Boston with professors who share similar research interest: “Most professors get that once a year at their annual meetings of professional academic associations. I get it weekly.” In addition, the collaboration among Wellesley, Olin, and Babson Colleges (“the three-college collaboration”) allows cross registration and other inter-institutional programming.

And then, too, there is New England to explore with its diverse academic institutions, geography, and cultures. A morning’s drive will take you to Dartmouth, Yale, Amherst, or dozens of other colleges or universities. Says mathematician Ann Trenk, “I have a research partner at Wesleyan—a two-hour drive from Wellesley, and we manage to get together several times a semester.” Similarly accessible are any number of recreational destinations—historic villages, beaches, coastal islands, and mountains with hiking, rock climbing, and skiing for every taste and ability.

Wellesley’s Location:
What Professors Say

My husband is an economics professor at another leading Boston area university. Wellesley’s proximity to Boston provides academic dual-career couples opportunities that aren’t available many other places.

—Ann Velenchik
Associate Professor of Economics and Director of the Writing Program

The three-college collaboration (Wellesley-Olin-Babson) is aimed at increasing opportunities for students to extend their undergraduate education by making connections across the liberal art and sciences to the professions. We are just beginning to explore the ways in which students, faculty, and staff from across the three institutions can develop connections among the diverse fields of engineering, entrepreneurship, and the liberal arts and sciences, and hope to break new ground in interdisciplinary studies and projects.

—Adele Wolfson
Director of the Three-College Collaboration and Nan Walsh Schow ’54 and Howard B. Schow Professor in the Natural and Physical Sciences

Wellesley offers scholars a great working environment—generous research awards and reimbursement for travel expenses, excellent computer support, sophisticated teaching tools, and job benefits that are among the best. I would tell young scholars in the social sciences that Wellesley is a great place to work, but one must take the initiative in maintaining a network to support one’s specialized research interests. Wellesley’s location near Boston offers many options.

—Wilbur C. Rich
Professor of Political Science, emeritus

The resources at Wellesley—and in the Boston area—are extraordinary. As an art historian, I spend a lot of time in the Harvard libraries. I appreciate the fact that the College provides a Harvard University library card for any faculty member who wants one. Harvard library cards are not that easy to come by. Wellesley’s willingness to underwrite the expense of outside library cards is a reflection of its commitment to supporting faculty research.

—Patricia Gray Berman
Feldberg Professor of Art

The proximity to the large research universities in the Boston area is a particular advantage. I came from a post-doctoral fellowship at Harvard, and so I had research ties there and at MIT. Over the years, I have collaborated with faculty at both places. I sometimes bring my students to talks in Cambridge, and invite MIT and Harvard faculty to Wellesley. And Olin College—a new engineering school in nearby Needham—is an interesting, inherently interdisciplinary, place that offers future opportunities.

—Glenn Stark
Professor of Physics

Being in the Boston/Cambridge area provides incredible benefits for the Wellesley scientific community. Many faculty members collaborate with local institutions, providing additional resources for students, including access to extensive equipment and laboratories, such as at Harvard Medical School. Boston also attracts many prestigious speakers and events, scientific and otherwise.

—Nancy H. Kolodny
Nellie Zuckerman Cohen and Anne Cohen Heller Professor of Health Sciences and Professor of Chemistry
The Perfect Job

Ask a Wellesley professor who has made a career at the College if he or she would choose differently were it possible to make postgraduate choices over again. You will hear remarkable satisfaction. It’s not unusual to hear “Wellesley is a great place to work” or “I have the perfect job.”

I have had the perfect job for what I was trained to do. At Wellesley, I have had good students, I have been able to take teaching seriously, and I have been able to do research in an environment where research is taken seriously. Wellesley offers all the best advantages of a liberal arts college, with the additional advantage that it is next to a major research center. For me, it has been a very productive environment. My research has made me a better teacher. The best predictor of a good tenured teacher is productivity—immersion in research—in the early years. I have been good for Wellesley; Wellesley has been good for me. I’m not exaggerating; it’s been a perfect job.

Looking back on nearly 30 years of teaching at Wellesley, I can say that the job has been all-consuming—in a good way. It has been continuously rewarding. I have been fully engaged as a teacher and researcher over a long career. With the prospect of retirement coming closer, I realize that I can’t imagine not being part of a community of colleagues and students who are interested in learning. I guess I’m here forever.

—Andrea Gayle Levitt
Margaret Clapp ’30
Distinguished Alumna
Professor of French and Linguistics

As a junior faculty member, I find that the College could hardly be more supportive of my research ambitions—both materially, in the form of available research funds and generous leave policies, and otherwise, in the atmosphere on campus. I have been able to teach in the areas of my field that I love the most, and I have been able to use teaching as an opportunity to explore new areas of research interest. The College offers me the room and scope to become exactly the kind of scholar I want to be. For me it is the perfect job.

—Sarah Wall-Randell
Assistant Professor of English

—Karl E. Case
Katharine Coman and A. Barton Hepburn
Professor of Economics, emeritus
Wellesley College:
An Overview

The College

The mission of Wellesley College is to provide an excellent liberal arts education for women who will make a difference in the world. The College’s campus is located just 12 miles west of Boston on over 450 acres of woodlands, hills, meadows, an arboretum, ponds, and miles of footpaths and trails bordering Lake Waban. Inside the College halls, state-of-the-art academic facilities, ranging from creative arts media to advanced scientific research equipment support Wellesley’s curriculum and are available for the use of students and faculty.

Wellesley College has been a leader in the education of women since 1875. Today, Wellesley is one of the top liberal arts colleges in the country, whether measured by the strength of its admitted and enrolling students, awards and fellowships received by its graduates, graduate school admissions, statistics measuring resources available to students and faculty, or assessments from peer institutions.

With 2,300 undergraduate students from 50 states and 83 countries, Wellesley is also one of the most diverse colleges in the country. In addition, approximately 60 nontraditional-aged students are enrolled each year through the Elisabeth Kaiser Davis Degree Program. Admission to Wellesley is need-blind for residents. More than half of all students receive some form of financial assistance from the College.

The Wellesley curriculum has been dynamic and responsive to social change and new fields of study. Wellesley offers more than 1,000 courses, and 55 majors, both departmental and interdepartmental. To ensure that students gain insight and awareness in areas outside of their major fields, the College requires that they elect nine units drawn from eight designated categories as part of the 32 units required for graduation. Distribution course groups are defined in terms of their substance or methodology—language and literature; visual arts, music, video, film and theatre; social and behavioral analysis; epistemology and cognition; ethics, religion, and moral philosophy; historical studies; natural and physical science; mathematical modeling and computer science. Other requirements for the Wellesley degree include a first-year course in expository writing; demonstrated proficiency in a foreign language; a multicultural course; quantitative reasoning course work; and at least four advanced courses.

One of the distinctive characteristics of Wellesley is that it is an undergraduate institution which also houses a number of centers for specialized research. The Child Study Center, directed through the psychology department, serves both as a preschool and as a laboratory for early childhood research. The Wellesley Centers for Women sponsor research on women’s psychological development and on the prevention of psychological problems and conduct scholarly and policy-oriented research on issues related to women’s experience.

The Wellesley faculty is a community of scholars and researchers. Dedicated to teaching, they bring a vast range of academic and professional interests to the College. The excellence of the College springs from their energy and talent, without which the potential of Wellesley’s many resources could not be fully realized. Professors at Wellesley are committed to all aspects of life in the community and are available to students outside of the classroom.

Excellent academic facilities support teaching and research at Wellesley. At the intellectual heart of the College is the Wellesley College Library, which received the first national “Excellence in Academic Libraries” award in 2000. The collections of the Margaret Clapp Library—the College’s main library—and the art, astronomy, music and science libraries, all of which are accessible online—contain more than 1.5 million items, including special collection treasures. Access to research resources beyond these is afforded through a rich network of rapid interlibrary loan services that the library maintains.

The Knapp Media and Technology Center—a gift from Betsy Wood Knapp ’64—provides state-of-the-art course-support services. Dedicated Information Services specialists assist faculty and students in the use of the College’s technology and information resources and collaborate in the development of multimedia projects.

Students and faculty in the arts enjoy excellent facilities in the Jewett Arts Center and the Davis Museum and Cultural Center. Jewett houses the music and art departments. The art wing contains offices, classrooms, studios, photography darkrooms, video and computer facilities, the art library and a gallery for exhibiting student work. The music wing contains the music library, listening rooms, practice studios, classrooms, and offices. The Jewett Auditorium, a 320-seat theater, is used for music performances, theater events, lectures, and symposia.

The Davis Museum and Cultural Center is the fine arts museum of the College. The Davis Museum, designed by Raphael Moneo, is one of the most significant examples of museum architecture in the country. Its spacious galleries house the College’s permanent collection of more than 8,000 works—one that spans 3,000 years of history and includes masterpieces by artists seminal to the history of art as well as works by emerging artists and those deserving greater attention.

The Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center, which opened in 2005, is a building designed to facilitate strong bonds among students, faculty, colleagues, and alumnae. The mission
of the Campus Center is to enable faculty, students, and staff as well as their friends and associates to play and work together in a common space; to give student organizations flexible meeting space; to allow small and large groups of students to gather spontaneously and for planned events.

The Diana Chapman Walsh Alumnae Hall renovation completed in 2010 brings an important campus building into the 21st century. The updated structure retains its traditional charm, nestled on a hill between the Sports Center and the Wang Campus Center. Its remodeled facilities serve our active theater program, host campus group activities, and play a ceremonial role for the campus community, our vigorous alumnae body, and the surrounding community.

Faculty

One of Wellesley College’s greatest assets is its excellent faculty. Of the 326 faculty members, 271 faculty members are full-time. Of full-time faculty, approximately 99 percent of the tenured and tenure-track faculty hold doctoral degrees or the equivalent. Of the 175 tenured faculty, 51 percent are women; in the tenure-track ranks, 55 percent of the faculty are women.

Minority faculty constitute 18 percent of the tenured, 33 percent of the tenure-track rank, and 23 percent of the total tenured and tenure-track faculty. The College is committed to recruiting and retaining the highest quality and most diverse faculty and to fostering their continued development as teachers, scholars, and members of the community.

It is the College’s hope that junior faculty will take advantage—for the years prior to the first reappointment decision—of the opportunities available for improvement of teaching offered by the Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center (PLTC) and grant funding for teaching innovation available through the Provost’s Office. At the start of the fall term, the Center invites new faculty members to attend an orientation which highlights programs and services of the PLTC. In addition, the PLTC conducts frequent discussions, presentations, and workshops that provide opportunities for new faculty members to engage in serious, sustained conversation about teaching in an atmosphere free of evaluation.

Within departments, senior faculty are expected to mentor their junior colleagues. Given that the former are also required to make judgments leading to reappointment and tenure decisions, the College has in recent years offered two non-departmental, voluntary mentoring programs for tenure-track faculty. One of these mentoring programs, called “teaching partners,” has been administered by the PLTC and focuses on pedagogy. The other program pairs a tenure-track faculty member with a senior faculty member outside of his or her department. This mentor advises the junior colleague on all matters related to succeeding at Wellesley College.

Faculty Course Load

The faculty course load at Wellesley has been four units per year, generally two each semester, since 1988. This course load is designed to allow Wellesley faculty members to maintain a healthy and creative balance between their roles as teachers and researchers. It also allows faculty members time to play a strong role in advising students.

Evaluation of Faculty Performance: Before Tenure and Beyond

Evaluation of faculty performance, fully described in the College’s Articles of Government, Book I, Article IX, is the responsibility of the Reappointments and Promotions Committees of the individual departments and the college-wide Committee on Faculty Appointments until a faculty member is promoted to full professor. The evaluation process includes visits to classes by senior colleagues for pretenure decisions as well as student evaluations in assessing teaching performance for all reappointments, tenure, promotion and merit decisions. Faculty members being evaluated present a statement of their professional achievements and plans for the future.

Evaluation of scholarly achievement depends on direct evaluation of the candidate’s work (publications, works of art, and other submissions) by members of the department, Reappointment and Promotion Committees, and the Committee on Faculty Appointments. These committee evaluations are aided by external professional evaluations, including five letters solicited from scholars in the field for tenure decisions. Service to the College and to the profession also play an important role in faculty evaluation.

Evaluation of Teaching

As an institution, Wellesley is committed to excellence in instruction. In an informal way, faculty think and talk about teaching continually. This culture of teaching is bolstered by a range of formal policies which are intended to monitor the quality of instruction and encourage improvement and innovation in teaching.

Characteristic is the system of student course evaluation, introduced in 1971 and now administered online. Faculty class visits are another means of development and evaluation of teaching. Class visits consist of visits by tenured faculty to untenured colleagues’ classes.

Advising of Students

Faculty members are expected to assume responsibility for advising first-year students and sophomores, majors in their own departments and in related interdepartmental programs. The first-year advising program is particularly important given the diversity of backgrounds and college preparation of entering students.
Resources for Innovation in Teaching
Funds to support the development of experimental courses are administered by the College’s Committee on Educational Research and Development (ER&D)—a committee in the Provost’s Office.

Resources for Student-Faculty Collaboration
Faculty research involving student co-investigators takes place through the academic year and the summers. Each year, 500–750 students elect courses numbered 250, 350 (research or individual study) or 360/370 (senior thesis research/senior thesis). Summer research programs, involving in excess of 100 students each year, are located in the Science Center, and in other areas of the College, including the Knapp Social Science Center.

The College also provides internal funding for student-faculty collaboration and travel for students to academic conferences. This funding was made available after a Ford Foundation initiative at Wellesley demonstrated the benefit of collaboration to both students and faculty participants.

Resources for Faculty Research
Faculty research, both with and without student involvement, has become increasingly important at Wellesley. Also important has been a significant increase in the funds available for internal faculty research awards. Since 1989, the College has created endowments for faculty research support in the humanities, social sciences, and the natural sciences.

Sabbatical Leaves
Support for faculty scholarship is also reflected in the College’s generous sabbatical leave program. Faculty are eligible to apply for a semester leave after six semesters of teaching, or a year leave after six years of teaching. They are required to undertake a rigorous search for outside funding in order to receive a fully funded leave (100 percent of salary and benefits), though full salary and benefits will be given even if the proposals are not funded. Tenure-track faculty are also eligible for a year of early leave after the first multi-year reappointment. Early leaves are funded in the same way as sabbatical leaves.

Parental Leaves
The parental leave benefit enables tenure-track faculty to exclude the year in which a parental leave is taken from the years in rank. The benefit includes two units of course release to the parent who takes primary responsibility for the new child in the semester of the birth or adoption, or one unit each semester in the following year.

Early Childhood Centers
The College has two early childhood centers on campus. Wellesley’s Child Study Center is a model nursery school for children ages two, three, and four years as well as a laboratory for Wellesley College students taking developmental psychology and/or education classes. The school strives to maintain heterogeneous classes in terms of ethnicity and socioeconomic status. Although the school receives applications from many more children than it can accept, the children of Wellesley faculty members receive priority. Another child-care option on the College campus is provided by the Wellesley Community Children’s Center which offers infant and toddler care in addition to a preschool program.

Pension Benefits
Similar to faculty salaries, the pension benefits offered by the College have continued to be most generous.

Health Insurance and Dental Insurance
Faculty members working half-time or more are eligible to enroll in either individual or family coverage. These faculty members are eligible for the normal College contribution to either individual or family coverage. Faculty members must enroll within the first 30 days of employment to comply with provider enrollment regulations. The faculty member’s contributions for health and dental insurance may be deducted from the faculty member’s monthly paycheck on a before-tax basis.

Faculty Housing Benefits
Over the years, the College has shaped a generous housing program to address the fact that Wellesley is an affluent town with housing prices to match. The College now owns 100 units—40 houses and 60 apartments—of different types and sizes, all within walking distance of the campus.

Many new faculty choose to live in college housing when they arrive, and move to bigger units as their families grow. Senior professors recall the years when their children were young and they lived in faculty housing on the quiet, child-friendly streets adjoining the campus as an idyllic time.

When a faculty member receives tenure, he or she becomes eligible for a generous mortgage program. Under this program, the College shares the purchase of a house—two-thirds (college) to one-third (faculty member)—within a ten-mile radius of the campus.

The Academic Centers
Susan and Donald Newhouse Center for the Humanities
The humanities departments at Wellesley College are well known for their strength—whether measured in terms of teaching, scholarly publications of faculty, or accomplishments of graduates. In 2003, in recognition of the important place of the humanities at Wellesley, Susan Marley Newhouse ’55 and her husband, Donald, gave the College a gift to create a new humanities center, including a visiting assistant professorship in creative writing. The vision for the Center, which inspired the Newhouses’ gift, was of a space, both physical and conceptual, that would allow for connections across disciplines and...
bring the extended College community together for intellectual exchange on the arts, classics, culture, history, languages, literature, and philosophy. Lectures, “salons,” workshops, and dedicated seminars have, as a result, become regular features of programming in the beautiful and welcoming space of the Newhouse Center.

**Knapp Social Science Center**

The Knapp Social Science Center—home to anthropology, economics, international relations, political science, and sociology—was created to integrate the social sciences and to provide instructional space that is varied in design and layout. Dedicated in January 2001, the Center—made possible by a generous gift from Trustee Betsy Wood Knapp ’64 and her husband, Bud—is a place where faculty and students across the social sciences can learn and teach together, using state-of-the-art technological tools. The Knapp Center fosters interdisciplinary exchange among faculty and students as well as social interaction. Since the Center opened, the social science departments and programs have held several faculty seminars each semester. These seminars have focused on seminal books and articles in the social sciences—works that have resonated outside the field of the author. Out of these exchanges have come proposals for team teaching and discussions of research that cross departmental boundaries.

**Science Center**

Wellesley’s Science Center provides a home for faculty from eight departments—astronomy, biological sciences, chemistry, computer science, geosciences, mathematics, physics, and psychology—as well as six interdisciplinary programs—astrophysics, biological chemistry, cognitive science, cognitive and linguistic sciences, environmental studies, and neuroscience—in a contemporary setting that fosters interdisciplinary discussion and study. The Science Center building—more than 130,000 square feet in size, with spaces designed to facilitate interdisciplinary cooperation—includes up-to-date teaching and research laboratories equipped with state-of-the-art instrumentation, extensive computer facilities, and modern classrooms.

The Science Center’s auxiliary facilities include an observatory, greenhouses, arboretum, and botanical gardens.

*The Whittin Observatory.* The College’s historic observatory, located behind the Science Center, has recently been renovated and expanded to provide a superb facility for undergraduate training in astronomy and related fields. It contains laboratories, classrooms, and the astronomy library. Its teaching and research equipment includes a fleet of small telescopes for hands-on learning, 6- and 12-inch refracting telescopes for nighttime viewing, and a state-of-the-art computer-controlled 24-inch telescope and camera for advanced studies and research projects.

*The Margaret C. Ferguson Greenhouses, the Alexandra Botanic Garden, and the Hunnewell Arboretum.* The College’s 15 greenhouses contain a diverse collection of exotic plants (over 1,000 varieties) representing various climatic regions from around the world. The 22 acres of the arboretum and the botanic garden showcase an extensive collection of hardy trees and shrubs for New England (500 species in 500 families), many having been planted in the early twentieth century. These collections support courses and research in the sciences as well as in the humanities and social sciences. The facilities are an outstanding teaching and community resource visited by thousands each year.

**Houghton Chapel and Multifaith Center**

The recently remodeled Multifaith Center reflects the College’s commitment to an inclusive religious and spiritual life program. The Center offers a place for quiet reflection, meditation, study and conversation, and hosts regular lectures and events in collaboration with academic departments, as well as offering space for display of religiously inspired art and sculpture.

**The Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center**

The Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center supports the intellectual life of both students and faculty at Wellesley. Established in 1992, the Center was renamed in honor of Elizabeth Strauss Pforzheimer ’59 and her husband, Carl, in 2001 in recognition of a permanent endowment for the Center. The Center helps students realize their full academic potential, with programs such as peer tutoring, peer advising, and effective public speaking. The Center also supports faculty in sharing innovative teaching techniques among themselves. For both students and faculty, the Center supports the powerful educational exchange that happens when peers teach one another.

Other colleges and universities have learning centers, but the Pforzheimer Learning and Teaching Center is unusual in having a dual focus on learning and teaching. Effective student support translates directly into the teaching and learning atmosphere in the classroom. Wellesley faculty appreciate the quality and motivation of the students they teach. Good students who are fully engaged in the classroom make teaching at Wellesley a pleasure—one that adds to faculty members’ own learning, to their creativity and research, and to their development as teachers.
WELLESLEY COLLEGE

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