Dear Wellesley Fund volunteers,

Greetings from campus! Spring has yet to arrive on campus, but it has been a busy few months. As you may have heard, Hillary Rodham Clinton '69 was revealed as this year’s commencement speaker. With anticipation already high, you can imagine the feeling among students and faculty when a surprise visit was announced for March 2. Alumnae Hall had standing room only for the discussion between President Paula Johnson and Secretary Clinton about women’s leadership. Students were also able to take part in a Q&A session, and it was undoubtedly an incredible learning opportunity.

Our current overall participation rate is 24.3%, nearly halfway to our goal of 50%. I would be remiss not to recognize the classes of 1955, 1957 & 1967 who are all currently over 50% participation! Additionally, we are also working towards our dollar goal of $10.5 million and presently have counted $5,686,140 in gifts to the Wellesley Fund. These next 4 months will be critical to helping us reach our goals, and as always, we are indebted to you for your commitment as volunteers for the Wellesley Fund.

We are excited to announce our first young alumnae challenge! Leading up to Marathon Monday this year, we’re asking our youngest alumnae in the classes of 2006-2016 to “run back to Wellesley” and make a gift to support the college! We hope all our volunteers and alumnae will cheer them on by making their own gifts or posting on social media.

Additionally, we have partnered with the WCAA to help raise participation among reunion classes. For the first time, we are including making a gift as part of the reunion registration process. This feature will be on the confirmation page, and we encourage you to let your classmates know!

Please feel free to reach out to your class liaison or me directly at 781.283.3366 or lchristian@wellesley.edu if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you in advance - we could not do what we do without your support and generosity.

Best regards,

Laura Christian
Director, The Wellesley Fund
Mark Your Calendars

April 12-17
As many of you know, the Scream Tunnel tradition gained momentum in the 1970s when women were officially allowed to participate as runners in the Boston Marathon. This year, we are also cheering for our youngest classes in a special Marathon Monday participation challenge! We hope to convey to our youngest classes that they are an important part of a longstanding tradition of giving back to Wellesley and hope all our volunteers and alumnae will cheer them on!

April 26
The Ruhlman Conference provides an opportunity for students, faculty, staff, friends, family, and alumnae to come together in celebration of student achievement. Students are encouraged to present their work in a variety of ways: papers, panels, posters, exhibitions, musical and theatrical performances, and readings of original work.

May 26
Graduating Wellesley seniors and their families celebrate Commencement on May 26. All Commencement festivities will be live streamed. We encourage you to tune in and welcome the newest class of alumnae with the commencement speaker, Hillary Rodham Clinton ’69!

June 2-4 & 30
Wellesley welcomes the ’2s and ’7s back to campus for reunion. Throughout the weekend, alumnae will have the opportunity to attend faculty lectures, class social hours and dinners, the 137th Annual Meeting, and the Alumnae Parade! You can now make a gift as part of the reunion registration process. The link to give will appear on the confirmation page.

June 30 marks the end of fiscal year 2017. All gifts must be postmarked and/or received by this date. We also hope to meet our alumnae participation goal of 50 percent!

Recapping the Fall

Fall 2016 was a flurry of exciting events, activity, and volunteer outreach! We are so thankful to you for your time, support, and enthusiasm during what was a historic and memorable season for Wellesley. The inauguration of President Johnson was the highlight that kicked it all off, followed closely by A Very Wellesley Weekend in October, which included many of you joining us on campus for Alumni Leadership Council (ALC). The Election Night Watch Event was one of the largest gatherings of Wellesley alumnae and current students we have ever hosted at one time on the Wellesley campus.

And finally, on Giving Tuesday, you participated in the launch of the first annual Wellesley for Wellesley drive. Wellesley Fund volunteers from the class of 1957 through 2016 engaged each other and their classmates in talking about the importance of giving back to Wellesley. An incredible 3,700 contacts (via email, phone, letters, social media, or in-person visits) were reported over the three days of the drive, the positive effects of which were clear: we received over 780 gifts during the week of Wellesley for Wellesley—nearly double what we received in the same time period the previous year. THANK YOU for making WforW a success. The work you do as a volunteer for Wellesley truly makes a difference!

Alternative Winter Break

Several groups of students recently returned from Alternative Winter Breaks, a Career Education program where students volunteer off-campus with community partners focused on a variety of issues. The @wellesleycareererd instagram has posted several photos, including this snap from the students who spent their week volunteering with God’s Love We Deliver in NYC.
Tip: Volunteer Campaigns

Did you know you can compare your progress to other volunteers or classes? When logged in, click “Reports” in the upper right hand corner. Then, click the “Compare Campaigns/Volunteers” button in the lower right corner. From here, you can choose as many classes or your fellow volunteers as you wish to see their progress! Login and try it out!

If you wish to be removed from this group's mailing list, click here