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ALUMNI  
ASSEMBLY

BICENTENNIAL ALL-CLASS REUNION

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2019

2:00 P.M.

COLGATE MEMORIAL CHAPEL



# ALUMNI ASSEMBLY

## **PRESIDING**

Brian W. Casey  
*President*

## **WELCOME**

Melissa Coley '79  
*President of the Alumni Council*

## **BICENTENNIAL VIDEO**

## **REFLECTIONS OF COLGATE**

James Allen Smith '70

## **AWARDS**

Alumni Corporation Humanitarian Award  
Ann Yao '80 Memorial Young Alumni Award  
Maroon Citations  
Wm. Brian Little '64 Alumni Award for Distinguished Service

## **TO SERVE ALMA MATER**

Diane Ciccone '74 and James Speight '14

## **SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Brian W. Casey  
*President*

# AWARDS

## ALUMNI CORPORATION HUMANITARIAN AWARD

### CHRISTINE D. HART '05

When Chrissy Hart was growing up outside Buffalo, her family imbued her with a strong sense of civic responsibility.

From that beginning, “Colgate opened my eyes to a wider realm of possibilities,” she said, citing in particular the chance to study abroad in London, an internship in Washington, and a core course that introduced her to Kenya. Professor Christopher Vecsey recalls her “energetic intelligence.” She won the Dean’s Community Service Award for her work with Max A. Shacknai Center for Outreach, Volunteerism, and Education (COVE). Her academic honors included induction into the history honors society.

At Thanksgiving dinner her senior year, an aunt planted the idea of joining the Peace Corps. That led to 27 months in Burkina Faso, in landlocked West Africa. “Living in a foreign place, by yourself, in a culture you couldn’t imagine, and realizing the underlying reality that you have so much in common with people in other parts of the world — it’s life-changing,” said Chrissy, “and something you can’t teach in a classroom.”

Her Peace Corps work in human rights and gender equality, especially the empowerment and education of young girls, set the course for her life’s work. She returned to work for the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice & Human Rights, which led to graduate school at the University of Denver. Her thesis research took her to northern Uganda, where she studied the negative impact when humanitarian foreign aid is withdrawn from a region.

She has worked in policy and advocacy with Women Thrive Alliance, the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women, and UN Women. Today, as senior advisor at the public-private partnership Together for Girls, she coordinates with national governments, UN agencies, and private sector organizations to address sexual violence against girls. The work advances individual rights, gender equality, and sustainable development globally. Based in New York City, her travels are mostly to sub-Saharan Africa.

When Chrissy returns to campus to talk with students about careers in public service, she describes “the privilege of working with people whose guiding principle is bringing pragmatic, grounded hope” and extending the international reach of human rights and democracy. She, of course, is a kindred soul.

We are pleased to recognize Christine Hart with the Colgate Alumni Corporation’s 2019 Humanitarian Award.

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## ANN YAO '80 MEMORIAL YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

### ALEXANDRA L. MEYER '14

Ali Meyer majored in English with a minor in biology. A study group to Venice, living in the city, and studying classical archaeology with Professor Rebecca Ammerman were once-in-a-lifetime experience.

On campus, Ali was a Tri Delt and treasurer of the Network, a team that worked closely with the Oneida Women’s Shelter, providing support for survivors of assault and violence by advocating for a violence hotline and raising money for the shelter. Through the Center for Outreach, Volunteerism, and Education, she participated in literacy and tutoring programs at Hamilton Central School and The Refugee Center in Utica. That experience led to her formation of a group within her company that tutors students at schools in New York. “It all goes back to the exposure at Colgate,” she said.

Ali is a technical recruiter for The Orchard, a music, film, and TV distributor in New York. Maintaining up her Colgate connection, she volunteers for the admission office, meeting with prospective students from her area and counseling them through the admission process. She is active in the New York City district alumni club.

Last year, Ali and a fellow alumnus and co-worker hosted a hackathon, where attendees heard entrepreneurial pitches from a student and an alumnus as part of the Thought Into Action program and then helped the presenters develop business plans. The day also included a presentation on design thinking — a solution-based approach to solving problems.

Colgate is pleased to recognize Alexandra Meyer with the Ann Yao '80 Memorial Young Alumni Award.

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## ANN YAO '80 MEMORIAL YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

### JAMES A. SPEIGHT IV '14

James Speight’s father advised him, “It’s not about where you go; it’s what you do when you get there.” He lived that credo on campus, and he lives it still in his career and as an alumnus.

As a first-year student, James won the Stimets Award for contributing the most to campus life. That summer, COVE sent him to Kenya as a volunteer. As a Link, he advised freshmen. He sang with the Thirteen. He was a senator, ALANA liaison, and senior policy coordinator in student government. He coordinated alumni affairs and was a “wise man” for the Brothers and an Ambassador for ALANA. He played rugby and was a member of Theta Chi. He was tapped for Konosioni. As a senior, he won the Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Award and the Voice of Conscience Award for efforts that enriched the campus and the community of color.

To his degree in political science, James added an MA in management from Wake Forest. Looking for work in finance that focused on the common good, three years ago he joined the Robin Hood Foundation, supporting the best-performing nonprofits fighting poverty in New York City.

James is a member of the Presidents’ Club Membership Council and is active in the New York City district club. He supports the Brothers and Alumni of Color and has spoken at Mosaic weekends. And he shares valued career insights with students.

James Speight is “paying it forward,” and we are pleased to award him the Ann Yao '80 Young Alumni Award.

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## ANN YAO '80 MEMORIAL YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

### JOSEPH S. SPINA JR. '14

When he entered Colgate in 2010, a first-generation student from Utica on financial aid, Joe Spina said he “didn’t realize how amazing the experience could be.”

A dual major in biology and Spanish, Joe’s sophomore independent study culminated in his presentation at a science conference at Harvard. He spent that summer working full time in his adviser Priscilla Van Wynsberghe’s on-campus lab, leading to a senior year tutorial and independent study. His junior year, Joe traveled to Madrid on study group and polished his language skills while living with a family there.

An admission volunteer throughout his time on campus, Joe’s freshman suite in Curtis Hall was a regular stop on the admission tour for prospective students. He was a resident adviser, was a George Cobb Fellow, won the David Jutten Prize in Spanish, and was named to Beta Beta Beta, the biology honor society.

When he graduated, *cum laude*, Joe worked for a year at Boston's Brigham & Women's Hospital before settling into his current research position with the biopharmaceutical company AbbVie. He earned his master's in biology from Tufts and is studying toward a PhD from Northeastern.

Still he finds time to volunteer for Colgate, returning to campus regularly for SophoMORE Connections, hosting students for a Day in the Life, and sponsoring interns. He is the alumni admission chairperson in the Boston area, matching prospective students with alumni volunteer interviewers. He is a proud Presidents' Club member.

The Alumni Corporation is pleased to recognize Joseph Spina with the Ann Yao '80 Young Alumni Award.

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MAROON CITATION

**P. BART HALE '04**

Bart Hale has returned to campus more than 50 times in the 15 years since he graduated. His record of voluntary service to Colgate and its students during those visits is deep and wide.

On the Alumni Corporation's Board of Directors, his assignments included chair of the University Relations Committee. He was also a representative to the Fraternity-Sorority Alumni Initiative.

In support of career services, on six of his campus visits, Bart met with students attending Real World and SophoMORE Connections. He also volunteers for the admission office. He is a class agent and longtime member of the Presidents' Club Membership Council.

A brother of Phi Delta Theta, Bart advised the chapter after graduation and served for a decade on Phi Delt's alumni board.

As an undergraduate, Bart was president of the Student Government Association and helped establish the Colgate Cruiser and 'Gate Card. He was co-captain of the sailing team, a senior admissions fellow and tour guide, a deacon in University Church, and a member of Konosioni. His brother Jack and sister-in-law Erin are Class of 2007.

Bart lives in New York City, where he works as director of alumni relations for his other alma mater, The Calhoun School.

Including the events he staffed as an undergraduate, this is Bart Hale's 18th consecutive reunion. We're pleased to recognize his long record of involvement and service to Colgate with this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**DENNISTON M. REID '94**

A year ago, when Denniston Reid received the Alumni Corporation's Humanitarian Award, a former colleague from his days in the Colgate admission office remembered him being a "larger-than-life presence, teaching us to think differently."

Classmates from his undergraduate days remember him the same way. A leader in the Black Student Union and the Coalition for a Better World, he received the Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Award for his outstanding contributions to campus life and the community of color. He was a member of Konosioni and a George Cobb Fellow.

With his degree in education, he returned home to New York City to join Teach for America. That is where he has made his career. Aside from three years in the Colgate admission office, Denniston has spent his professional life as a teacher, administrator, visionary, and innovator, improving educational opportunities for underserved students.

He is currently chief schools and innovation officer for Excellence Community Schools. He earned his master's from Columbia and is in the doctoral program at Penn State University.

For years, through his *STEM and Shakespeare* summer program, he has brought his students to campus for a weeklong introduction to college-level life and academic work.

He is an engaged alumnus. A member of the Alumni Council, the Board of Trustees, Alumni of Color, and the Presidents' Club, his service includes speaking at admission events, Common Good receptions, and the recent Entrepreneur Weekend.

Denniston and his wife, Charlene, are parents of Kennedy and Denniston III.

As he celebrates his 25th reunion, we are pleased to present the larger-than-life Denniston Reid this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**EDWARD P. WITZ '89**

Ed Witz, who attended Colgate on scholarship and was mentored by alumni on his way to a career in finance, gives back, with interest.

Ed's record at nearby Cicero/North Syracuse High earned him a scholarship to Colgate. He was captain of the rugby team, president of Beta Theta Pi, vice president of the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC), and a member of Konosioni. An English and economics major, Ed graduated with honors in economics. An alumnus steered him to a financial analyst's position at Goldman Sachs.

Two years later, Ed enrolled at Northwestern's Kellogg School. MBA in hand, he resumed his career in positions at Lehman Brothers and Credit Suisse before joining Barclays Capital as a managing director a dozen years ago.

Ed's insights from 30 years in finance are invaluable to the students and alumni he mentors through programs such as Real World, SophoMORE Connections, A Day in the Life, and the Finance and Banking Professional Network. As a recruiter, he has helped many promising students get their start on Wall Street. He is a strong supporter of Colgate-funded internships, financially and philosophically, and gives generously to the Colgate Fund and the Colgate Fund for Financial Aid.

A long-time member of the Presidents' Club Membership Council, Ed co-chaired '89's class gift effort. He currently serves on the Alumni Council, where he chairs the council's Career Initiatives Committee.

A classmate and friend said Ed has been recognized since undergraduate days as a quiet, positive leader who puts others first and takes pride in what he does. Colgate takes pride in awarding Edward Witz this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**MARK R. DIMARIA '84**

Mark DiMaria — "Deemo" to his friends and "Mr. Deemo" to his friends' kids — has been stepping up for Colgate since his graduation 35 years ago with a degree in political science.

He has served as president, treasurer, and board member for the New York City district club, one of the Alumni Corporations largest and most active. A stalwart member, Mrk has created connections among many alumni. He has been a volunteer in the network of Colgate legal professionals and regularly counsels students with an interest in law during programs such as Real World and SophoMORE Connections. He volunteers in admissions and raises support for Colgate as a member of the Presidents' Club Membership Council and the gift committee for the Class of 1984.

On the Alumni Council, Mark served a four-year term, often focusing on admissions, or

teaming with legal counsel Co Bertsche '63 to address legal affairs, including a revision of the council's bylaws.

Informally, Mark is known for rallying friends around athletic contests, reunions, and any other event that inspires Colgate spirit.

He is a brother of Beta Theta Pi. As an undergraduate, he was both an on-air personality and a member of the governing group for WRCU. His love of music endures.

Mark attended Fordham Law and earned his JD in 1987. He and his father — also a Fordham Law graduate — have been in practice together in Paramus, New Jersey, for nearly a quarter century. Mark and his wife, Sarah, are parents of Haley, a rising high school senior.

Mark DiMaria's enthusiasm for Colgate is a gift we gratefully acknowledge with this Maroon Citation.

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#### MAROON CITATION

### DIANE MUNZER FISHER '84

Diane Munzer Fisher has been a person with a purpose for as long as any of her Colgate friends can remember.

As an undergraduate, she led services and coordinated the activities of the Colgate Jewish Union. She provided technical support for University Theater. She was a senator in the Student Government Association. She was president of Maroon Key and co-chair of Konosioni. She was a George Cobb Fellow. As a leader among undergraduate tour guides for the admission office, she helped establish the April Visit Days that remain a feature of the office's outreach to this day. Diane graduated with a major in psychology and a minor in religion and went on to earn a master's in education from Harvard.

After beginning her career as a member of the staff in the University's admission office, Diane's professional work included time in the alumni office at New Jersey Institute of Technology and coordinating efforts for Hadassah, but mostly she has focused on helping students and their families think about college.

As an alumna, Diane has served on the Alumni Council, volunteered for admission, advised students on careers, networked with fellow alumni, chaired her class gift committee, and been a leader among district clubs, namely: secretary of the Westchester district club, vice president in D.C., president in Boston, and active organizer in Atlanta. She's reported alumni news in the University's magazine for the Class of 1984 since 2000, and no one can remember her missing an issue.

Diane and her husband, Jeffrey, are parents of Allison and Michelle.

Marianne Janack '86 said her friend Diane Fisher has been preparing to receive a Maroon Citation since she was a sophomore. Now she has one, and it is well deserved.

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#### MAROON CITATION

### ERIC T. SEIDMAN '84

In demand professionally as a strategic planner and marketing expert, Eric Seidman thinks long term. He combines those same skills with a generous spirit and dedication in his work for Colgate.

A mathematical economics major, Eric also holds a Wharton MBA. He began his career as an actuary with Coopers & Lybrand and had a turn as marketing manager with the natural cookie phenomenon, R.W. Frooties, before joining private-brand marketing specialists Daymon Worldwide. Today, his insights advance his clients at ESSM, the firm he started a dozen years ago.

A past member of the Alumni Council, Eric offers wise career counsel at SophoMORE Connections. Entrepreneurs he mentored as students through Thought Into Action stay connected as their ideas scale nationally. He engages with Colgate networks of entrepreneurs and marketing professionals.

He and his wife and classmate, Leslie, have served as co-chairs for their class gift committee. Advocates for the liberal arts, they are Presidents' Club-level supporters of student aid.

Eric may be best known on campus for his tireless efforts on behalf of the Colgate Thirteen. He is president of the Thirteen Alumni-Association. He was a key organizer of the Thirteen's 75th anniversary celebration. Researching safe transportation for the undergraduate Thirteen, he has become an authority on large-passenger vehicles.

In his community, Eric is president of A Better Chance of Westport, ensuring educational opportunities for high-ability students.

Eric Seidman has a reputation as a willing volunteer who does his homework and delivers on his assignments. On the occasion of his 35th reunion, we are delighted to award him the Maroon Citation.

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#### MAROON CITATION

### PATRICIA L. SPINDEL '79, P'11,'17

Patti Spindel — with her husband and classmate, Kenny — is a spirited force for good for Colgate and the Class of 1979. Whether raising funds, organizing reunions, volunteering in admissions, or serving broader alumni interests, Patti is a devoted alumna and Colgate parent and a trusted leader among her classmates.

On the Alumni Council's board of directors, Patti is co-chair of the committee planning the centennial celebration of the Colgate Alumni Corporation. She was also an alumni representative to the task force that reviewed the campus Torchlight celebrations.

She joined Colgate's Alumnae Leadership Council in 2012 — a group that provides financial aid and program support, mentors students, and models volunteerism that advances the University.

Patti graduated *cum laude* in mathematical economics and entered General Electric's financial management training program. By the time she retired more than two decades later, she had risen to managing director of GE Capital. These days she applies the same kind of focus and dedication to her volunteer service as an emergency medical technician in her hometown of New Canaan and as a child advocate in the court system.

The Spindels' daughters, Jennifer and Julie, are Colgate alumnae; son Jeffrey graduated from Skidmore. An endowed Spindel Family Scholarship Fund provides financial aid for deserving undergraduates.

As Patti Spindel celebrates her 40th reunion, we are pleased to recognize her service to Colgate with the Maroon Citation.

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#### MAROON CITATION

### ANITA GROVER '74, P'14

The Anita Grover and Tom Hargrove Digital Learning and Media Center in Case/Geyer Library is internationally recognized as a model for teaching communication in the digital age. The center provides facilities and instruction where hundreds of students in dozens of classes each year can discover and practice the skills and techniques made possible by new media.

Anita Grover, whose leadership gift with her husband, Tom Hargrove, made the center a reality, was herself a Case Library regular when, as a transfer into Colgate's first class

of women, she earned her degree *cum laude* with honors in biology. She went on to a degree in medicine from New York Medical College and then distinguished herself in an all-women practice in Mount Kisco for more than three decades.

A generous supporter of the Colgate Annual Fund and student aid, Anita was a founding member of the Alumnae Leadership Council. She and Tom also gave a study room in Case/Geyer. They were inducted into the James B. Colgate Society in 2017.

Anita's brother Douglas, Class of 1972, encouraged her to transfer to Colgate. Her daughter, Melanie Grover-Schwartz, is a member of the Class of 2014. Niece Elizabeth Grover is Class of 2011.

The advent of coeducation was a signature event in Colgate's first 200 years. Anita Grover is a leading example of the remarkable group of women who seized on that opportunity and whose achievements have contributed immeasurably to the success that the University enjoys today. We are pleased to award her this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**CYNTHIA J. PERRY '74, P'19**

In this Bicentennial year, Colgate is closing fast on another significant anniversary: the 50th reunion of its first class of women. Cynthia Perry, who is both a member of that class and a professional at crafting messages that capture the essence of an experience, plays an active role in reaching out to alumnae from her era.

Cynthia has provided career insights to students through SophoMORE Connections and internships. She has been a member of the Society of Families Steering Committee, and she and her husband, Robert Herman, hosted an event for Colgate parents. On the Alumnae Leadership Council, Cynthia is a source of wisdom and support for University initiatives. In addition to her current work for Colgate, Cynthia has a history of sharing her expertise as a trusted adviser to the University's presidents and staff on communications strategies and branding.

Cynthia majored in political science. In spring of her junior year, she was one of the first Colgate women to participate in the Washington, D.C. study group.

Over more than four decades in marketing and advertising, Cynthia has tailored messages for national and international clients. Her career includes creative management positions with industry icons J. Walter Thompson and Foote, Cone & Belding. Fifteen years ago, she co-founded New York City based Curtis + Perry.

Cynthia is a long-standing member of the Presidents' Club. Her son, Michael, graduated with the Class of 2019.

With appreciation for all that she does for Colgate, we are pleased to present Cynthia Perry this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**JANE NAJARIAN PORTER '74**

When Jane Najarian Porter mentors the young would-be entrepreneurs in Colgate's Thought Into Action program (TIA), she does so from a place of conviction and experience. On the website for her Alexandria Textiles, Jane attributes her love for beautiful fabric and color to the generations of Armenian weavers and dyers from whom she descends.

Growing up she was influenced by her grandmother, a fashion designer, and marketed her own line of Egyptian cotton dresses in Philadelphia boutiques while still in high school. Designing costumes for Colgate Theater productions in the early '70s further enhanced her skills.

An English major in the University's first class of women, Jane was a resident adviser and won a George Cobb Fellowship for outstanding leadership. She trained and worked as a nurse after Colgate, and later sold stocks and managed investments. But the art of textiles is her true calling. For a time, she marketed her designs from her Porter Studio on the Hamilton Village Green.

Daughter, sister, sister-in-law, and mother of Colgate alumni, Jane serves the University in multiple ways in addition to TIA. A member of the Alumni Council, she also volunteers in support of admission and parent programs. With her husband, Robert, she has been host to Colgate events in Philadelphia and at their home in Chadds Ford, including a presentation by poet, author, and fellow Armenian-American, Professor Peter Balakian.

A community builder, thoughtful, and kind, a friend said of Jane Najarian Porter, "She gives from the heart in everything she does." We are delighted to recognize her service with this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**ARTHUR E. CLARK JR. '69, P'02**

Of the many reunions a Colgate alumnus will celebrate, the 50th is the epitome. So planning a 50th reunion is an awesome responsibility. Planning a 50th during the University's Bicentennial ups the ante exponentially.

But that's what reunion chairman Art Clark has done for his mates in the Great Class of 1969: planned their 50th during Colgate's biggest reunion ever.

Many hands and minds have made this celebration possible. Art, as always, will lavish all the praise on others. Classmates and staff engaged in executing his master plan want you to know that Art is "the man."

Other ways they describe him include: "Relentless devotion." "No one comes close." "Inspires the class." "Tireless." "Always thinking." "Passionate about Colgate." "A terrific guy."

A member of the class gift committee for years, Art was the reunion gift chair for '69's 30th in 1999. He stepped up to program chair in 2009 and was the architect of the class's 40th and 45th reunions before planning this year's grand celebration.

An economics major, Art was a Phi Psi who chaired the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) and was a member of Konosioni. In the reunion yearbook, he writes about how he grew as a person during those years. With an MBA from NYU, he pursued a career in marketing that led to founding his own consulting firm, which is still active.

Wife Lynne was his college sweetheart. Their kids are Matthew and Meggan, who is Class of 2002. Art Clark wrote that family and Colgate are the two biggest influences in his life. We're delighted to recognize his dedication with this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**RICHARD J. JOHNSON '64, P'90**

Dick Johnson has been reporting the news of the Class of 1964 for 29 years. Colgate's alumni periodical has published 153 issues over that time. Dick has never missed one.

As reliable as Dick is, it is the quality of his writing that sets his columns apart. Comfortable, at ease, newsy, funny, insightful, compassionate — whatever style best suits the subject, Dick delivers, like a favorite cousin keeping you up to date on news of the family. Dick's approach invites participation, and his classmates respond, not only with their news, but also by coming together at events like this 55th reunion at the college's Bicentennial.

A Colgate Scholar, Dick played hockey on a high-scoring line with classmates Mike Foley and Joe Spadafora. Their team went 53-19-1.

Dick's Phi Gam roommate, hockey manager Priit Vesilind, recalls their trading Shakespearean insults in Old English. "Hold, what hempen homespun have we swaggering here?" I'd say as I came into our room. 'Hold, whey-face!' he might reply, 'Where got'st thou that goose look?'" With Foley, they were "three public school English majors laughing at their new-found erudition."

After a tour teaching English and coaching hockey at Albany Academy, Dick launched a career in the investment business. He married Deni during a post-graduate year at Colgate. They have four kids; son Rick is Class of 1990.

Dick Johnson is a regular supporter of the Presidents' Club and Silver Puck. As '64's scribe he is the fount of knowledge from which springs class spirit. We are pleased to award him this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**PAUL W. BEARDSLEE '59**

Paul Beardslee closed his class notes in the September 1990 *Scene* with this announcement: "Yes, we have found our Bed & Breakfast. Anne and I are innkeepers at ... a beautiful country home sitting on five acres in the side of a mountain." By November, Paul could report, "Taking early retirement from the professional world has made us rich, not in dollars, but in quality of life."

A Phi Psi and member of the Glee Club, Paul played basketball and lacrosse and earned his degree in geology with honors. After graduating, he taught high school earth science and worked as a field geologist before entering college admissions. Over the next quarter century as an admission officer and dean, he enrolled thousands of college students at Monmouth, Muskingum, Franklin & Marshall, Susquehanna, Georgetown, and Shippensburg.

Elkins, West Virginia, where the Beardslées opened their bed and breakfast named Riverside Retreat, is home to Davis and Elkins College. Life as innkeepers allows time to engage with the college and with other civic activities.

It also allows time for Paul to help keep the Class of 1959 informed and together through his reporting as class editor, a responsibility he took on 55 years ago at the class's fifth reunion. In a letter nominating Paul for recognition, a classmate wrote: "For over 50 years, Paul has been our class scribe. For many of us, it's been a contact that connects us." Paul also took on the work of program chair for the class's 60th reunion.

For all that he means to Colgate and the Class of 1959, we are pleased to award Paul Beardslee this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**LORI CHLAD**

*Associate Vice President for Human Resources*

The Office of Human Resources is clear in its purpose: "The quality of our staff is as important to preserving the standard of education as the quality of our faculty and students. To ensure that quality, we try to provide an environment where each employee is treated as an important contributor, and can continue to learn and grow."

For going on four decades, Lori Chlad has been a key caretaker of that environment in which more than 1,000 employees contribute to the education and welfare of Colgate students. In a succession of positions that require attention to detail and the deft application of policies, tempered by humane consideration and an appreciation of individual rights and circumstances, Lori has proven herself a leader.

Her positions have included employment services coordinator, assistant and associate director, director, and since 2012, associate vice president. She was honored at the Service Awards Dinner in 2016 as "a great colleague, mentor, confidante, and friend to many."

A colleague describes her as "incredibly hardworking and loyal, a perfectionist who gets the job done right and on time." Perhaps more important, "She is approachable — everyone knows they can trust her to help with any workplace issue."

Lori and her husband, Mike, an electrician on the Buildings and Grounds crew, have two grown children, Kevin and Samantha, and two grandchildren.

Behind the scenes, Lori Chlad has had an enormous influence on shaping and maintaining the Colgate experience for everyone who has paid a tuition or drawn a paycheck here since 1980. With great appreciation, we award her this Maroon Citation.

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MAROON CITATION

**STEVEN R. CHOUINARD**

*Associate Director of Athletics*

Steve Chouinard was Colgate's head trainer from 2005 until last month, when he accepted the position of associate director of athletics. Nicki Moore, vice president and director of athletics, spotted Steve's strengths and brought him into the "inner circle" of athletics administration soon after she arrived on campus last year.

She describes him as a good observer and adviser: student-centered, humble, generous, wise, sincere, witty, and smart. "Steve's a genuine professional who both lightens the mood and provides perspective," she said.

The move means that Steve will not be behind the bench for the men's hockey team next season for the first time in 23 years. Head Coach Don Vaughan praised Steve as an exceptional trainer and more. "We didn't always have an equipment guy or a strength coach," Coach Vaughan said, "so Steve got himself certified as a strength coach. Then you'd find him at the rink at all hours sharpening skates. He's the ultimate team player, doing what needs to be done. He remains close friends with all the guys who've come through the program."

As head trainer, Steve supervised a staff of six professionals and 17 students. In his new role, he'll oversee health and performance, physical education and recreation, and outdoor education.

Steve thought hard about the new assignment before accepting, said AD Moore. She's happy he committed: "With Steve in a leadership role, all our varsity teams will have a chance to experience his influence. He's the kind of guy you hope your students will become."

High praise, worthy of a Maroon Citation. Steve Chouinard's wife, Jennifer, and their kids, William and Maddie, will be proud.

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MAROON CITATION

**PATRICIA (TRISH) ST. LEGER**

*Vice Provost for Administration and Planning*

Trish St. Leger's unpretentious demeanor belies her portfolio of responsibilities. Recently awarded the new title of vice provost for administration and planning, Trish has been providing both strategic leadership and daily coordination of the business operations that support the academic enterprise that is Colgate University for 21 years.

Part of the dean/provost's leadership team, her assignments include planning and managing an \$80 million-plus budget, meeting facilities needs, overseeing academic

support staff, and developing policy on issues from energy use to affirmative action. Because she manages whatever she does with the utmost professionalism, Trish is often asked to take on special assignments, most recently interim chief information officer.

Yet for all that swirls around her, it is Trish's approach that those who know her best admire the most. "She keeps people first." "She gets things right without offending." "She listens." "She's positive and cooperative and upbeat, no matter the circumstance." "Trustworthy." "A faithful steward of Colgate's resources." "Everyone likes Trish."

Trish has served a succession of dean/provosts, beginning with Jane Pinchin. As "the thread that runs through," said Professor Pinchin, Trish knows the details and provides a seamless continuity. "Trish's efficiency, integrity, and kindness provide an indispensable support to any dean/provost," said Constance Harsh, who served two years in the position.

Trish graduated *cum laude* from SUNY Oswego and holds an MBA from University of Rochester's Simon Business School. She arrived at Colgate with 14 years of business experience. Trish and her husband, Mike, are parents of Brigid, Clare, and Seamus.

For her countless contributions to Colgate, we are pleased to present Trish St. Leger the Maroon Citation.

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WM. BRIAN LITTLE '64 ALUMNI AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

## KATHLEEN A. DILL '89

Colgate story: Kathleen Dill applied to Colgate because her adviser, her favorite teacher, and a dorm proctor at the Millbrook School — all Colgate alumni — encouraged her to.

On campus, Kathleen majored in English, played rugby, fell in love with art as a docent at Picker Gallery, traveled on Peter Balakian's first London Study Group, and joined Delta Sigma Upsilon because that was her dorm proctor's sorority.

Kathleen began her career teaching English, inspired by the two alumni who taught her at Millbrook, and later joined Prep for Prep, helping gifted students of color achieve their academic promise.

After a decade in education, she changed careers to corporate communications, first with Lehman Brothers, later with JPMorgan, and just recently joined the private equity firm Advance.

Wherever her career has led, volunteering for Colgate has been central in Kathleen's life. She's active in the New York City district club, served on the Women's Advisory Committee, represents the admission office counsels students and alumni about careers in finance and communications, and participates with Alumni of Color.

On the Alumni Council, Kathleen's roles included treasurer, member of the nominations committee, and chair of the admissions committee. She was elected to the Colgate Board in 2013 as Alumni Trustee and has just completed her second three-year term. She received a Maroon Citation in 2009.

A wise and tenacious fundraiser, Kathleen has been a member of her class gift committee for years. She is a longtime member of the Presidents' Club. As she approached her retirement from the Alumni Council and Board of Trustees, she led an appeal among alumni that added more than \$10,000 to an assistance fund available to students through the Office of Undergraduate Studies.

One veteran staff member who has known Kathleen in all her roles calls her "as good as it gets for a volunteer."

Direct, tireless, committed, enthusiastic, smart, and fun, Kathleen Dill has devoted 30 years to Colgate, and we're counting on her for 30 more. The Colgate Alumni Corporation is delighted to recognize her many contributions with the Wm. Brian Little '64 Alumni Award for Distinguished Service.

WM. BRIAN LITTLE '64 ALUMNI AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

## RONALD J. BURTON '69

Ron Burton was a sophomore playing his first season on varsity when *EBONY* magazine featured him as one of only a half dozen black athletes starting at quarterback on "big-time football campuses." He was in the vanguard then as he has been throughout his college and professional life.

Colgate finished that season 8-1-1, its best record in 30 years, and Ron led the team in total offense. He graduated as Colgate's all-time leader in passing and total offense and won the inaugural Andy Kerr Trophy in 1968 as offensive MVP. He also lettered in baseball for three years, playing center field.

One of Ron's favorite receivers was tight end Dean Taylor, his high school teammate from Montclair, N.J. At Colgate, they became the first African American members of Lambda Chi Alpha. Denis Cronin '69 was president of the house when the LXA national said its exclusionary clause required that Ron and Dean be expelled. In a significant statement from the turbulent year of 1968, the brotherhood unanimously voted instead to withdraw from the national.

Ron and Denis would later serve together as Colgate Trustees, Denis as board chair. Ron's leadership for the University also includes member and vice president of the Alumni Council, mentor to prospective and current students, and roles supporting every capital campaign since his graduation. A member of the Presidents' Club, he is one of four founders of an endowed scholarship fund memorializing Thomas M. Wilson '67, a fellow member of the Athletic Hall of Honor. Ron received the Maroon Citation in 1979.

He was a history major. During a 29-year career with Dun and Bradstreet, he rose to vice president, as he notes in the reunion yearbook, "One of the few African Americans to hold that title in corporate America at the time."

Ron has been a commissioner of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority and served on the boards of the Jackie Robinson Foundation and the Yogi Berra Museum. His wife, Carolyn, is his partner in much of his good work. They are the parents of Christopher and Alison.

Ron Burton, a leader in business and in life, elevates Colgate and his community. We are pleased to present him the Wm. Brian Little '64 Alumni Award for Distinguished Service.

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WM. BRIAN LITTLE '64 ALUMNI AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

## ROBERT B. SEABERG '69

Apropos the bachelor's degree he earned with honors in philosophy and religion, Bob Seaberg quotes Plato on the website of his consulting firm: "Human behavior flows from three main sources: desire, emotion, and knowledge."

A first-generation college student and son of immigrants, Bob was an undergraduate leader at a time when students drove dramatic changes in campus mores that would lead to a more enlightened, egalitarian Colgate. He was Student Association president, a member of Maroon Key and Konosioni, a brother of Tau Kappa Epsilon, and a member of the board of University Church. He was also a Dean's List student, an Austen Colgate Scholar, a George Cobb Fellow, and a Dana Fellow who graduated Phi Beta Kappa.

Bob's graduate education included a year at University of Chicago Divinity School before enrolling in the PhD program at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, where, in 1977, he earned his degree in history with distinction.

Bob's career in higher education included faculty and administrative positions at SUNY Oswego, SUNY Binghamton, and Reed College before he changed course to financial services, focusing on strategic marketing and professional development. He retired in 2014 as managing director and head of wealth advisory solutions for Morgan Stanley. For the



past five years as a private consultant, he has been sharing his wisdom and insights with wealth management professionals and with nonprofit executives and board members.

He advises students on careers in finance. He has presented at Reunion College and is a past member of the Presidents' Club Membership Committee. As chair of '69's 50th reunion gift committee, he reached out to classmates with a recorded video. Bob served on the Alumni Corporation Board of Directors and, in 2018, completed a three-year term on the University's Board of Trustees.

Bob and his wife, Marilyn, are generous supporters of the college — financial aid and faculty initiatives, in particular. They have lifelong friends among Colgate faculty. Recipient of the Maroon Citation at his 40th reunion, we are pleased to present Bob Seaberg with the Wm. Brian Little '64 Alumni Award for Distinguished Service.

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WM. BRIAN LITTLE '64 ALUMNI AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

## GREGORY A. THREATTE '69

When Colgate has needed him, Greg Threatte has been there.

One of seven black students in the Class of 1969, Greg said of that group in a Colgate *Scene* profile 35 years later: "Here are seven very successful African Americans, and what did we have in common? Colgate stretched us to a place where we didn't take no for an answer."

Greg was a charter member of the Association of Black Collegians (ABC), a group central to fundamental changes in the University's social structure. In 1968–69, in addition to calling the question on restrictive clauses in some fraternity charters, ABC advanced the idea of creating a cultural center. Greg was there, and he was there in 1989 when the University dedicated the center, renamed in 1996 as the ALANA Cultural Center.

Living in Syracuse for most of his professional life, Greg has always made himself available — to talk to the Office of Undergraduate Studies summer program, to counsel students and alumni on cultural issues, to advise on careers through programs such as Dream Catchers and Real World, and especially to encourage and support those with an interest in medicine. "From the moment he graduated, he helped other students," remembers Diane Ciccone '74. "There wasn't anything he wouldn't do."

As a Colgate trustee, he was part of the Task Force on Campus Culture, formed in response to a tragedy. He is completing a term on the Alumni Council, where he served on the Torchlight Working Group. He raised money from his class to support Colgate and gave generously to the Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Scholarship Fund. He volunteered in admission and on the campus committee on medical professions. Presidents have sought his advice on issues affecting alumni of color. He received the Maroon Citation in 1999.

In addition to his Colgate degree in physics and astronomy, Greg holds an MD from SUNY Upstate. He retired in 2014 as professor emeritus and chair of pathology at Upstate Medical University. He is a former president of the Onondaga County Medical Society and current president of the Albany County Medical Society. He and his wife, Stephanie, have three grown children.

A lifetime friend calls Greg Threatte "a presence for Colgate." We are pleased to acknowledge that truth by awarding him the Wm. Brian Little '64 Alumni Award for Distinguished Service.

WM. BRIAN LITTLE '64 ALUMNI AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

## ROBERT A. FOX '59

"Leaders are not born; they are created over time," Bob Fox told the 200 students gathered on campus in August 2008 to officially launch the endowed Leadership Institute that bears his name. The Institute supports innovative programs that have already helped hundreds of students to become more effective leaders on campus and in their careers.

Bob's own education and career illustrate the power of the liberal arts in preparing leaders. A scholarship recipient who majored in German, Bob graduated with high honors while serving as a student leader and setting records as a varsity swimmer. After earning his MBA with distinction from Harvard, he went on to head seven national and international companies. His management and leadership skills earned him a seat on dozens of corporate boards. He is a member of the dean's advisory council and former executive-in-residence for the Graduate School of Management at University of California, Davis.

A formative presence in Bob's education was Coach Mark Randall, whom Bob helped memorialize with several gifts to Colgate, including the lead gift to endow the position of head coach of swimming and diving. Bob's gifts attracted the support of dozens of others who honored Coach Randall. Bob himself swam competitively into his 70s and was ranked among the top 10 in the world in the butterfly for his age category.

A generous supporter of financial aid for many years, Bob's \$10 million leadership commitment in 2014 attracted additional gifts that resulted in support for endowed financial aid totaling more than \$27 million, proceeds from which will aid promising Colgate students in perpetuity.

A former Colgate trustee and member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors, Bob was inducted into the James B. Colgate Society — recognizing the University's most generous benefactors — in 2005. He received the Maroon Citation at his 50th reunion in 2009. Today we are pleased to present Bob Fox the Alumni Association's highest honor, the Wm. Brian Little '64 Alumni Award for Distinguished Service.

# CLASS OF 1969 DISTINCTIONS

## MAROON CITATION RECIPIENTS

Lawrence N. Blake  
Ronald J. Burton  
Arthur E. Clark  
Denis F. Cronin  
Richard W. Herbst  
Richard W. Johnson II  
Michael S. Martin  
Read D. McNamara  
Cornelius J. Milmoie  
Stephen K. Pond  
Robert B. Seaberg  
Gregory A. Threatte

## ATHLETIC HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEES

Ronald J. Burton  
John W. Reid

## ALUMNI COUNCIL (FORMER AND CURRENT)

Lawrence N. Blake  
Ronald J. Burton  
Denis F. Cronin  
Richard W. Herbst  
Michael S. Martin  
Read D. McNamara  
Cornelius J. Milmoie  
Robert B. Seaberg  
Gregory A. Threatte

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES (FORMER AND EMERITI)

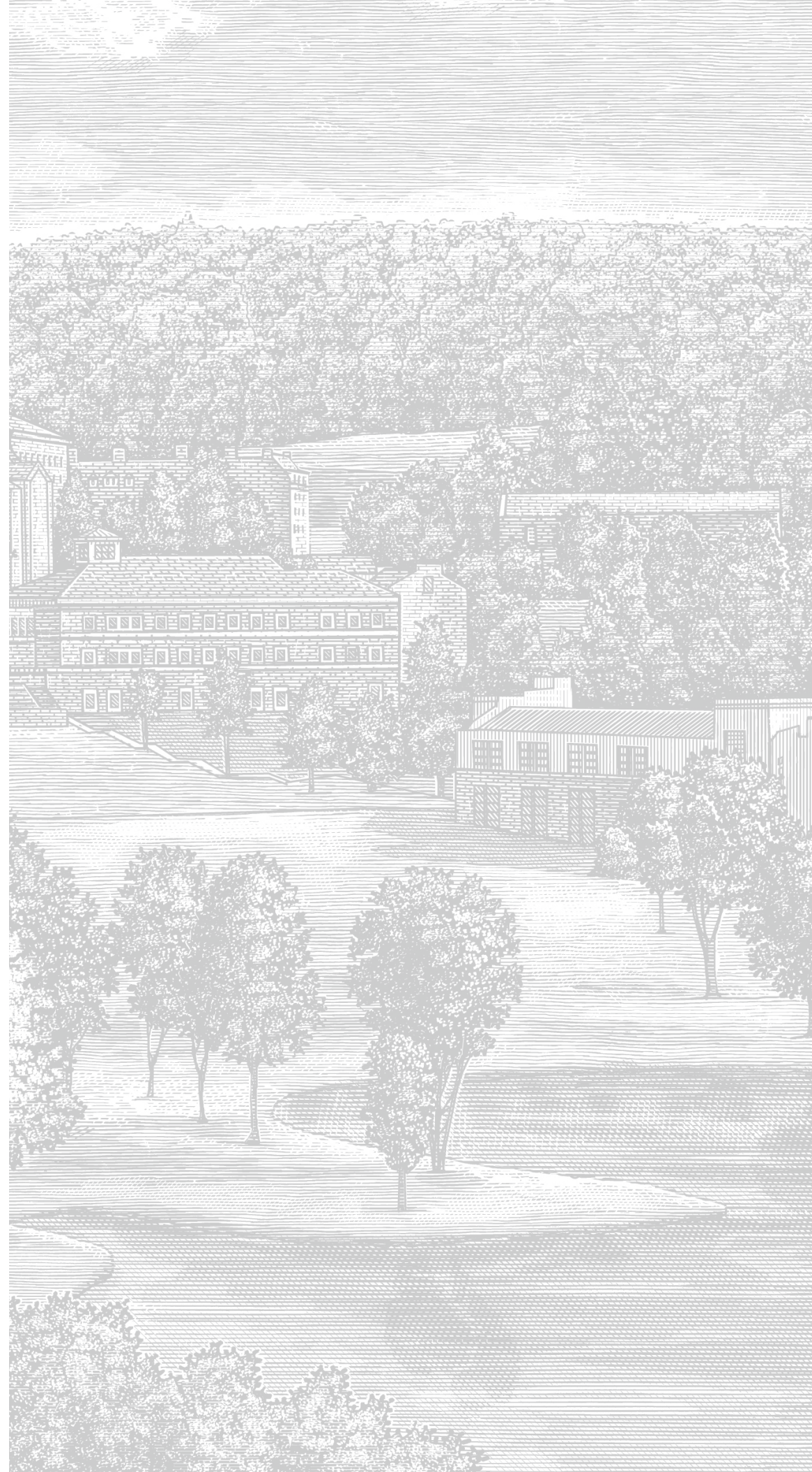
Ronald J. Burton  
Denis F. Cronin  
Richard W. Herbst  
Michael S. Martin  
Stephen K. Pond  
Robert B. Seaberg  
Gregory A. Threatte

## JAMES B. COLGATE SOCIETY

Denis F. Cronin  
Richard W. Herbst  
Michael S. Martin  
Thomas H. Weidemeyer

## WM. BRIAN LITTLE '64 ALUMNI AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Ronald J. Burton  
Denis F. Cronin  
Richard W. Herbst  
Michael S. Martin  
Robert B. Seaberg  
Gregory A. Threatte



**COLGATE**  
AT 200 YEARS