

*The 25th Anniversary Committee of
Undergraduate Women at Lehigh*



Liz Biebel
Jesse Blackwood
Becky Bowen
Mary Lynn Breiner
Tori Bronaugh
Diane Browder
Sharon Brown
Kathy Calabrese
Colleen Clark
Robin Dillon
Kami Frankel
Kerri Gaumer Freidl
Rhonda Gross
Taina Lopez
Diana Murray
Patti Ota
Hannah Stewart-Gambino
Amy Sobotkin
Joan Straumanis
Karen Stuckey
Anne Thomas
Barbara Traister
Janet Tucker
Barbara Turanchik
Susan Yee

Benefactors

Hank and Joanne Barnette
Pat Battin
Mike and Gloria Bolton
Bob and Charlotte Brown
Tony and Kathy Calabrese
Mike and Sandye Caruso
Bill and Carol Clayton
Kevin and Lisa Clayton
Jim and Michelle Duane
Ollie and Andrea Foucek
Ken and Sue Furst
Don and Lois Garaventi
Murray and Joanie Goodman
Glen and Rhonda Gross
Jim and Mary Harper
Bill and Peggy Hecht
Arnold and Janice Hirshon
Abraham and Lorna Hunter
Jeffrey and Patricia Kenner
Doug and Gay Lane
Paul and Martha Leitner
George and Linda Lemmon
Peter and Pat Likins
Kirk and Marilyn Mackes
Martha Marcon
Bill and Jean Marks
Gene and Sue Mercy
Ted and Diane Muendel
Henry and Diana Murray
Brad and Sue Yee Mulkern
Patti Ota
Phil and Linda Peller
Claude and Laura Penrod Kronk
Stan Richman
Murray and Elinor Rust
Jim Schmotter and Daphne Jameson
Ted and Terry Scheetz
George and Sandy Shoffner
Don and Dorothy Stabler
Joan Straumanis
Henry Seduski and Karen Stuckey
Jim and Roberta Swenson
Stan and Marcia Theodoredis
Barb Turanchik
Ron and Christie Ulrich
Hap and Marcia Wagner
Joe and Marcia Welch
Ron and Sharon Yoshida

Gala Committee

Mary Lynn Breiner

Kathy Calabrese

Patti Ota

Susan Yee

Welcome

to the Gala Celebration of 25 Years of
Undergraduate Women at Lehigh!



Although the fall of 1971 heralded the "arrival of women on campus," women had already enjoyed a "century of influence" at the university. They had been enrolled in adult and graduate education since the early 1900s, with the first women earning M.A. degrees in October, 1921. So, the celebration this year takes on a dual significance. In addition to the 25th anniversary of undergraduate women, it also marks the 75th anniversary of graduate women at Lehigh.

However, the introduction of women to the undergraduate ranks transformed Lehigh forever. And while many factors have contributed to our ascendancy as a university, it is clear that Lehigh women students, faculty, staff and alumnae were absolutely essential to reaching our current standing among the elite institutions of higher education.

In 1969, a committee was formed to study how and when to begin this transformation, and tonight it is important to recognize Carey Joynt, the Monroe J. Rathbone Professor Emeritus of international relations, who chaired that committee and was deeply committed to the idea of coeducation. As university committees go, there may have never been a more important or effective group of Lehigh people.

Our year-long celebration began with Communiversiety Day on September 11 and culminates tonight. It has been a period of reflection and heightened awareness. Now that the celebration is coming to an end, I am happy to report that one major product of these efforts will be the formation of the President's Council of Lehigh Women, who will advise the administration as we attempt to reach the next level.

What is the next level? Women certainly are an integral part of the university and enjoy positions of leadership in virtually every segment of our family. So some say we are there or nearly there now. Others think we have a way to go. The next level, then, is when we all agree we have reached it.

I want to thank the gala committee for its long hours of hard work in preparing for this special evening. And please join me in thanking all Lehigh women past and present who have enriched our community in so many ways.

Patti T. Ota



Schedule for the Evening

Zoellner Arts Center



Progressive Dining
with complimentary wine
(cash bar available)
6:00 p.m.

Music by
The Peter Fluck Trio

Recognition Ceremony
(program on next page)
Baker Hall
7:30 p.m.

Grace Hall

Dessert and Dancing
Featuring Bandstand
8:30 p.m.

Recognition Ceremony

Baker Hall



Greetings and acknowledgements

Susan Yee

Class of '82

Musical Medley

Debra Field

Don Hardy

Special Tributes

Patti Ota

Carey B. Joynt

Reflections

Pat Chase

Class of '74

Amy Sobotkin

Class of '97

Closing Remarks

Susan Yee

Musical Entertainment

Lehigh Gospel Choir

Depart for Grace Hall

"The Joynt Committee on Coeducation"

The Joint Commission on University Life was organized in the latter part of 1968, in response to the demonstrations on the Lehigh University campus earlier that spring. One of the responsibilities of the commission was to form a committee to "examine the desirability and feasibility of undergraduate coeducation at Lehigh." In January, 1969, the 13-member committee was established and consisted of members of the administration, faculty, alumni and students. Carey B. Joynt, then the chairman of the department of international relations, was asked to lead the committee.

In 1969, after conducting a series of surveys, the committee issued a preliminary report in favor of coeducation. The report recommended that Lehigh admit 800 women over a five-year period.

In a letter to Lehigh University President Deming Lewis, Professor Joynt stated:

"The committee began its work very conscious of the difficulty and delicate nature of its tasks. Initially, there was a good deal of skepticism concerning both the desirability and feasibility of Lehigh becoming coeducational. As the data was analyzed, however, and issues were debated it gradually became clear to the committee, on the basis of information available, that Lehigh should become coeducational with a vote from the committee of 12 to 1."

At the meeting of Lehigh's Board of Trustees in April, 1970, President Lewis presented the committee's plan for admitting women and declared that "it is in Lehigh's best interest to become coeducational." A month later, in May, the Board approved the plan.

Members of the Joynt
Committee on Coeducation
were:

Faculty

Carey B. Joynt, professor,
international relations,
committee chairman

Robert H. Mills, professor,
accounting

Roy C. Herrenkohl,
professor, social relations

George E. Kane, professor,
industrial engineering

Administration

Robert M. Holcombe,
director of development

Samuel H. Missimer,
director of admissions

Rt. Rev. Dean T. Stevenson,
Bishop, Episcopal
Dioceses of Harrisburg

James W. Niemeyer,
associate director of the
alumni association

Eric Ottervik, vice provost

Students

Thomas J. Fischer '70

David J. Gofine '69

Barry Orton '70



September 7, 1971—Numbering 169 — many more than the 100 envisioned by the trustees, women enroll as undergraduates at Lehigh for the first time. "If I had to describe the Lehigh community's reaction to the girls—and vice versa—in a single word, it would be 'mixed,'" Andrea Siegel '75 writes in the 1972 Epitome. "A consensus exists on very few points, the most noteworthy being that coeducation is a shock which the university has not yet recovered from. This applies to the student body as well as the faculty, staff and administration...."

"Has Lehigh changed that much because of co-education? I doubt it. The girls don't feel that they have revolutionized Lehigh, maybe just made it a little more 'like the rest of the world.'"

(NOTE: In the fall of 1971, the number of undergraduate women enrolled at Lehigh was 169. The fall of 1996, the female enrollment was 1,681.)

September 17, 1971—The Marching 97 votes not to allow women to join the group. Women do not join the band until fall 1973, when during the Lehigh—Delaware game, seven coeds doff their hats as the band plays "There is nothing like a dame," to reveal that gender barrier had been broken.

Fall 1971—Powder Puff Football becomes the first women's sport. Players use the men's locker rooms and some borrow the men's spiked shoes.

(NOTE: Although powder puff football is no longer offered, there are presently 11 other intercollegiate women's sports.)

September 1972—Deborah Greene (Lynott) '76 becomes the first woman to receive the class flag at the Alumni-Freshmen Rally.

September 1972—The Women' Study Program is established and expands from a few courses to nearly 30 with a minor now available.

Spring 1973—A study by the Coeducation Review Committee recommends that coeducation be adopted permanently, saying the admission of women has had "a salutary effect" on the operating budget and on Lehigh's goal of achieving academic parity among its undergraduate colleges.

Spring 1974—The national streaking fad strikes Lehigh as 400 naked men and a few women run through the campus.

Fall 1974—The Women's Caucus is refused recognition because men are not permitted to join. Approval is granted after the group modifies its by-laws.

Fall 1974—Louise Tutelian '75 becomes the first woman editor-in-chief of the Epitome.

October 4, 1974—Jane Kurzeja '78 becomes manger of the freshman football team.

1975—Alpha Phi, followed by Alpha Gamma Delta and Gamma Phi Beta, are the first sororities recognized by the university. Today, eight sororities have chapters at Lehigh.

(NOTE: Lehigh's ROTC program went co-ed in 1971. The first woman commissioned as a second lieutenant was Ann Schmoyer in 1975, her graduating year.)

Fall 1975—The Women's Resource Center, sponsored by the Women's Caucus, opens in the University Center.

1976—Berry G. Richards succeeds James Mack as director of university libraries. Richards joined Lehigh in 1969 as associate director in charge of the Mart Science and Engineering Library. Under her leadership, the university libraries become computerized information centers with CD-ROM technology.

Fall 1976—Women constitute more than 20 percent of the student body for the first time. The 903 coeds enrolled exceed the limit of 800 initially set by the Board of Trustees.

Eileen Canzian '77 becomes the first woman editor-in-chief of The Brown and White.

1977—Nancy Maginnes Kissinger is the first woman appointed to the Board of Trustees. She is the daughter of the late Albert B. Maginnes '21, a former Lehigh trustee for whom Maginnes Hall was named, and wife of former secretary of state Henry Kissinger.

(NOTE: Now, of the 40 trustees on the Board, 8 are women.)

Spring 1977—The first woman class president, Susan M. Bschorr, addresses the Class of 1977 at commencement. Bschorr is also the first woman to be an assistant director of the Alumni Association.

Spring 1978—The university bans Delta Tau Delta's annual wet T-shirt contest during Greek Week. The fraternity ignores the ban and is charged with violating Lehigh's code of conduct.

1979—The Glee Club, an all-male vocal ensemble, merges with the Women's Chorus to form the Lehigh University Choir.

Fall 1979—The Women's Roundtable is formed by the provost's office to suggest ways to improve life for women at Lehigh. Its survey of undergraduates and alumnae shows that women want more help in making career choices and looking for jobs.

May 1980—Patricia Chase '74, associate director of physical planning, is the first woman to win the Alfred Noble Robinson Award for outstanding performance in the service of the university and unusual promise of professional achievement. Chase joined the office of physical planning in 1974 and has directed it since 1985.

Fall 1980—Women make up 25 percent of the undergraduate student enrollment.

September 1981—In proclaiming a year-long celebration of 10 years of women at Lehigh, President Deming Lewis writes, "The advent of women has made a positive and profound difference in quality of university life. Their presence and contributions have enriched our lives together in many ways—academic, social, cultural and athletic."

October 9, 1981—Spouses are invited to attend the annual dinner of the Asa Packer Society for the first time.

July 1, 1983—Marsha Duncan becomes Lehigh's first vice president, taking charge of student affairs.

Fall 1985—Women make up one third of the undergraduate student enrollment.

June 1988—Sharon L. Coe and Lisa Cawley become the first mother and daughter to receive bachelor's degrees at the same commencement.

November 1988—In response to an incident of sexual harassment on campus, 500 students, faculty and staff members rally to demand an improvement in relations between the sexes on campus. Three months later, two commissions of faculty, students and staff, one on minorities and one on women, are created to study how Lehigh could better address the needs and concerns of women and minorities. The commissions make 53 recommendations.

September 1990—Alpha Chi Omega and Delta Zeta become the first sororities to live on the Hill, temporarily occupying the houses of suspended fraternities, which recolonize and return.

Fall 1990—The Lehigh University Child Care Center opens on the Murray H. Goodman Campus.

Fall 1990—*Playboy* and *Penthouse* are removed from the university bookstore because they "don't portray the positive relationship [the university] is trying to develop between men and women." Opponents call the ban censorship.

Spring 1991—Women sweep the major campus offices: Christine Cobb '92 is elected co-chair of the University Forum. Susan Lanter is class president; Pamela Brady '91 is president of the Student Senate, and Eileen Riehman '91 is president of SAC. Louise Weston '91 and Robyn Suriano '91 are editors-in-chief of *The Brown and White*; Corinne Abate '91 is *Epitome* editor.



April 8, 1991—The Lehigh University Women's Center opens in Johnson Hall. A result of the commissions on women and minorities, the center provides services to students and staff.

June 1991—Karen Stuckey '75 is elected president of the Alumni Association. A partner in the New York office of Price Waterhouse, she is a former treasurer and director-at-large of the association.

Spring 1994—The Class of 1994 is the first to graduate with all women class officers: Lori Owen, president; Meredith McGowan, vice president; Erika Giemza, secretary and Carolyn Gredys, treasurer.

June 1, 1995—Denise Blew is elected treasurer of Lehigh University and secretary to the board of trustees. Blew, who succeeded John W. Woltjen as treasurer, is the first female to hold that post.

Summer 1995—The first woman appointed dean of a Lehigh college, Joan Straumanis is named the Herbert J. and Ann L. Siegel Dean of the College of Arts and Science. Barbara Turanchik '75 becomes the first woman executive director of the Alumni Association.

September 1995—Women make up 39 percent of the incoming Class of 1999, the highest percentage ever.

March 1996—Alpha Phi, the university's first sorority, accepts an offer of a house on the Hill for fall 1996, becoming the first sorority to obtain permanent housing there.

September 11, 1996—Campus celebrates Community Day. Designed to heighten awareness and appreciation of cultural diversity, the program for the day included interactive break-out sessions, a talk by renowned novelist Alice Walker, a noon-time barbecue and entertainment. The day marked the first time in nearly 30 years that classes were cancelled for other than severe weather.

Fall 1996—The Patti T. Ota Women's Studies Award was established. The award is given to a graduating senior who was involved in the women's studies program and worked to improve the condition of women at Lehigh.

January 1, 1997—Patti T. Ota is appointed interim provost of Lehigh University and vice president for academic affairs, upon the retirement of University Provost Alan W. Pense. Ota becomes the first female to serve as provost of Lehigh.

April 1997—Special 25th Anniversary Celebration of Undergraduate Women

1997-98—Lehigh University's Council for Women to be established. Council members will begin serving their term during the 1997-98 academic year. Each member will serve a four-year term.

The role of the council is to counsel the president "on issues of importance to women students, faculty, staff, and alumnae, and to increase the participation, leadership, and contributions of women, particularly alumnae, throughout Lehigh and its constituent communities."