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FALL 2002



# Alumnae List

**Fall Spotlight**

## *Task Forces Chart Course for Alumnae Association's Future*

Last fall, the **Meredith Alumnae Association** initiated three task forces that were charged with completing a comprehensive evaluation of alumnae programming and service to both Meredith and the community.

The three task forces (**Reunions, Service to Meredith, and Meredith in the Community**) presented their final reports at the Alumnae Association's annual meeting during **Reunion Weekend**.

In addition, Claire Langford '72, past president of the Alumnae Association and driving force behind the task forces, shared the task force reports with Meredith's Board of Trustees at their June 21st meeting. The Trustees responded by passing a resolution in recognition of this important undertaking by the Alumnae Association. They offered their complete support for the implementation of the recommended changes and programs.

An executive summary highlights joint recommendations that are reflective of the work of all three task forces. These recommendations will guide the planning and development of the Alumnae Association for years to come. The recommendations include:

### **Recommendations With Policy Implications**

1. The Meredith College alcohol policy should be reviewed for consistency with current practices.
2. We encourage the College leadership to take necessary steps to create an environment of affirmation of cultural, ethnic and other differences among the various constituencies of the college. We encourage engagement in specific activities, such as diversity training, that will create the affirmation and solidarity we believe is necessary for the College to succeed.

*continues on page 3*

2002



*Outgoing Alumnae Association President Claire Sullivan Langford '72 passes the gavel to incoming President Lynn Jones Ennis '75 during the Annual Meeting.*

## ALUMNAE RETURN, REMINISCE, AND REFLECT AT REUNION 2002

From teary tributes to alumnae award winners at the opening reception to fond farewells waved from the trolley after the President's Breakfast at the Massey House, over 400 alumnae celebrated Alumnae Reunion Weekend 2002 with true Meredith spirit and style. Classes ending in a two (2) or a seven (7) attended reunions this year.



*President Maureen Hartford poses with alumnae award winners (from left to right) Elizabeth Triplett Beam '72, Jane Williamson Teague '54, Jan Yow '96, and Virginia Lancaster Robertson '42.*

The weekend began with a Friday night reception at Exploris Museum in downtown Raleigh. At the reception, President Maureen Hartford recognized the achievements of four alumnae award winners.

On Saturday, alumnae heard from President Hartford in her annual State of the College Address. Hartford shared information on the construction of the new science and mathematics building, general education reform, and student and faculty accomplishments in the areas of leadership, research, and volunteerism. Later, over 70 intrepid alumnae braved a rain downpour to view progress on the new science and mathematics building in a hard hat tour led by architect Jeff Schantz and members of the science and math faculty.



*Members of the Class of 1977, who celebrated their 25th class reunion this year, gather for a photo during the opening reception at Exploris Museum.*

Dr. Jim Piazza, Assistant Professor of Politics, offered a special seminar for alumnae entitled "New World Disorder: The Roots of Terrorism and September 11th." In his remarks, Piazza detailed a research project he is conducting with student Amy Hobbs '03 on the economic roots of terrorism.

During the annual meeting of the Alumnae Association, outgoing president Claire Sullivan Langford '72 reported on the work of the alumnae task forces over the past year and thanked the task force co-chairs and members for their hard work. Other business included the election of new Alumnae Association board members and class reports on reunion giving. Adrienne Hiner Cole '93, Director of the Meredith Fund, congratulated the Class of 1942 on winning the first annual Reunion Weekend Challenge. The Class of '42 raised \$442,122 in total class giving and will be honored at a special brunch at the President's Residence.



*Julie Hall Griffin '92 (center) introduces her new son to classmates Michelle Hassell Pena '92, and Betsy Ward Roop '92.*

The weekend was also marked by the celebration of the Alumnae Association's 100th anniversary. Alumnae enjoyed a special birthday cake at the Alumnae House as part of the weekend-long commemoration of this important milestone in the history of the College. The Alumnae Association was organized by the first graduating class on their graduation day – May 21, 1902.

*Under the leadership of President Lynn Jones Ennis '75, the Alumnae Association Board will begin working this year to develop a strategic plan for the Alumnae Association.*

**Task Forces Chart Course** *continued from page 1*

3. Alumnae recognize the overall financial needs of the College; however, additional funding for alumnae programming and development will create a means for increased alumnae support for the College. The Alumnae Association pledges its support for the Meredith Fund and through its leadership will encourage increased participation and giving from all alumnae. In so doing, and expecting that gift revenues will increase, the alumnae hope that this will enable additional resources to be applied to areas within Institutional Advancement that will strategically position the office for greater success in fundraising and outreach.

**Recommendations for Staff Action**

1. Improved communication between Meredith alumnae and the College will strengthen alumnae support and involvement. Specifically, alumnae would like a stronger presence in the Meredith Magazine, on the Meredith web site, and in other College publications.
2. Alumnae would like to be better informed about the College's current goals and initiatives.
3. The College's marketing plan should include alumnae and development goals.
4. A comprehensive and effective alumnae database system and properly trained staff must be in place to maintain accurate alumnae records.
5. Alumnae would like to have the ability to access the College online to complete the following functions: register for events, make a gift to the College, communicate with classmates via class list serves, and obtain contact information for classmates through a password protected alumnae directory.
6. Support for the expansion of chapters, in a cohesive manner that ensures continuity of leadership, is essential to help communicate current information about the College (including faculty and students), assist with the recruitment of students, and promote fellowship among Meredith alumnae within individual communities.
7. Implementation of a hallmark project, *Meredith Reads*, will create increased awareness for Meredith in every community where a Meredith alumna resides. *Meredith Reads* will also provide volunteer opportunities for alumnae in service to their communities, and allow for greater interaction among alumnae and Meredith students, faculty, and staff.

Under the leadership of President Lynn Jones Ennis '75, the Alumnae Association Board will begin working this year to develop a strategic plan for the Alumnae Association. According to Ennis, this plan will include "working with the Alumnae Office to prioritize the task force recommendations and develop a process for their implementation." Ennis goes on to add that the Alumnae Association Board is "committed to putting ideas into action."

To view the individual task force reports, visit the alumnae section of the Meredith web site at [www.meredith.edu/alumnae](http://www.meredith.edu/alumnae).

**Summer Reading Program Book Selected**

The Meredith campus is about to become icebound! The Summer Reading Program Book for the coming year is "Ice Bound: A Doctor's Incredible Battle for Survival at the South Pole" by Dr. Jerri Nielson. While serving as the physician at a South Pole research station 1998, Nielson discovered a lump in her breast. Nielson was forced to perform a self-biopsy and ultimately treat herself for cancer with chemotherapy until a heroic rescue by the Air National Guard brought her back to a United States medical center. Her story is compelling, adventurous, and courageous.

According to Chrissie Bumgardner, Co-Director of the First Year Experience, "the purpose of the Summer Reading Program is to provide a shared reading experience for the Meredith campus that joins students, faculty, and staff with opportunities to connect personally and intellectually."

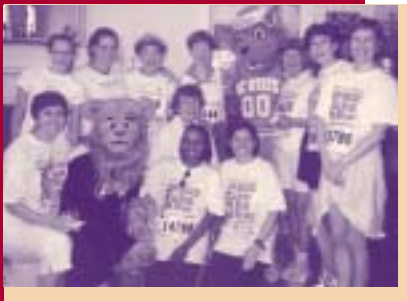
Alumnae are encouraged to join the Meredith community in reading Nielson's book. Faculty and staff are available to facilitate book discussions at alumnae chapter gatherings over the next year. For more information, contact the Alumnae Office at (919) 760-8686.

## Alumnae Race for the Cure

On June 8, 2002, more than 50 alumnae joined with Meredith students, faculty, and staff to participate on the Meredith Cares Team as part of the NC Triangle Race for the Cure. The 5K run/walk, which has been held on Meredith's campus for the past six years, benefits the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

About 20,000 people participated in the event including a total of 174 participants on the Meredith Cares Team. During the awards ceremony, the Komen Foundation recognized Meredith as the school with the most participants.

Following the Race, alumnae gathered at the Mae Grimmer Alumnae House for refreshments and a cool place to rest!



Members of the Meredith Cares Team were surprised to see North Carolina State University's team mascot Mr. Wolf and Roary, the Carolina Courage women's soccer team mascot show up at the Alumnae House following the Race.

## What's New

### MEREDITH APPROVES NEW GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Meredith has adopted an exciting new general education curriculum that will be funded in part by a \$150,000 grant from the Jesse Ball duPont Fund, a national foundation based in Jacksonville, Florida. The fund will support a three-year effort to transform the College's undergraduate liberal arts curriculum, which has been unchanged for over 30 years. The new curriculum is anchored by three multidisciplinary courses that require students to confront timeless questions about the relationship of the individual to society, about cultural interactions, and about the interdependence of our world.

In addition, Dr. Paul Winterhoff, Associate Professor of Child Development, has been appointed as Meredith's new Director of General Education. In this role, Winterhoff will guide the

implementation of the revised general education curriculum, including the creation of new courses, new across-the-curriculum "threads" and new independent learning requirements.

According to Alyson Colwell-Waber, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, "the process of reforming of our general education modeled what we do best at Meredith. It included thorough research, thoughtful reflection, broad consideration of ideas and multiple perspectives, a respect for the history and mission of the institution, and an innovative vision for quality education for the world of today and tomorrow." Colwell-Waber goes on to add that the new curriculum "will promote responsible citizenship, ethical leadership, and lifelong learning – always the hallmarks of a Meredith education." ■

## ALUMNAE LEGACY DAY – OCTOBER 26, 2002

Come back to campus and bring a future student! Alumnae Legacy Day is Saturday, October 26, 2002. Bring your daughter, granddaughter, student, neighbor, relative, or friend in grades 9-12. This will be a great time for you to come back to Meredith and celebrate your past and her future! Tentative event schedule is listed below:

- 9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Registration
- 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Campus Tours
- 11:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Student Panel
- 11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Admissions
- 12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Lunch and Program

To register for Alumnae Legacy Day, please complete the form below and send to: Office of Admissions, Meredith College, 3800 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27607-5298

You may also register via phone or email. Call us at 1-800-MEREDITH or (919) 760-8581, send an email to [admissions@meredith.edu](mailto:admissions@meredith.edu) or register online at [www.meredith.edu/admissions](http://www.meredith.edu/admissions) under "Schedule a Visit." Questions? Contact Dot Livesay Gardner '98 at (919) 760-8110 or [gardnerd@meredith.edu](mailto:gardnerd@meredith.edu). ■

### Registration for Alumnae Legacy Day, October 26, 2002 Total Number Attending Legacy Day

Alumna Name _____	Class _____	Name of Prospective Student(s) _____	Relationship _____
Address _____		Address _____	
City _____	State _____	City _____	State _____
Zip _____	High School _____	Year of Graduation _____	

Please complete this form and send to: Office of Admissions, Meredith College, 3800 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27607-5298

## ALUMNAE NEEDED TO ASSIST WITH ADMISSIONS

Alumnae are the best resource for prospective Meredith students. Our Admissions counselors reach out to students far and wide, but they also rely on alumnae to encourage students to attend Meredith. Research conducted by the Service to Meredith Task Force indicated that many alumnae are not aware of the current requirements for admission to Meredith. In an effort to educate and empower alumnae to become greater ambassadors for the College, the Office of Admissions provides the following information profiling successful applicants.

Meredith seeks to enroll students who will benefit from the total educational program of the College. Each application is carefully evaluated on the basis of academic preparation, scholastic ability, character, and motivation. The successful applicant often has the following characteristics:

- Completion of 16 units of credit earned in grades 9-12
- 3.0 GPA (grade point average) or higher
- Average score 970-1170 on the SAT or 19-24 on the ACT
- Upper 50% of high school graduating class
- Strong references supporting the student's scholastic initiative, creativity, and special talents
- Support by alumnae through letters of recommendation

Meredith alumnae have the opportunity to offer students an Application Fee Voucher waiving the \$35 processing fee. To complete a voucher, please contact the Office of Admissions at 1-800-MEREDITH or (919) 760-8581 or [admissions@meredith.edu](mailto:admissions@meredith.edu). You may also download a voucher from the Meredith web site at [www.meredith.edu/alumnae](http://www.meredith.edu/alumnae). The applicant must attach the completed voucher to her application. Meredith alumnae signed 158 vouchers in the 2001-2002 recruiting year. ■

## MEREDITH ALUMNA SPEAKS AT PRESTON LECTURE

Dr. Phyllis Tribble '54, was on campus last spring as part of the Mary Frances Preston Lecture Series in Biblical Studies. Tribble is an internationally known biblical scholar and rhetorical critic. Since 1998, she has taught at Wake Forest University Divinity School.

Tribble spoke to a large group of Meredith alumnae, students, faculty, and staff on March 19, 2002. Her remarks, entitled "The Bible: A Troubling Book for a Troubled World" focused on taking the biblical texts and bridging the gap between the ancient and the modern in an effort to find meaning in a changing contemporary world. According to Dr. Allen Page, head of the Department of Religion and Philosophy, "Tribble has the unique ability to interpret the Bible in a way that invites her listeners to wrestle with the text until it yields meaning." Page also shared that Tribble's visit was "the highlight of the year for our department and for much of the greater Meredith community." ■

## YOUR ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Executive Committee

*President*

LYNN JONES ENNIS '75  
[lennis@sprynet.com](mailto:lennis@sprynet.com)  
919-847-3991 (Home)

*President Elect*

DEBORAH DOVE SMITH '80  
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919-848-0063 (Home)  
919-848-8476 (Work)

*Secretary*

DAPHNE O'NEAL  
SAMUELSSON '97  
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919-874-0101 (Home)

*Past President*

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*Trustee Representative*

LOU PERRY TIPPETT '62  
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*23+ Representative*

CINDY QUICK '97  
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919-733-2040 (Work)

### Regional Directors

REBECCA ASKEW '76  
Raleigh, NC

ANNETTE BAILEY '79  
Marietta, GA

PEGGY BEALE '77  
Norfolk, VA

NANCY WILLIAMS  
CHEEK '63  
Chapel Hill, NC

JANE CATE FOWLER '53  
Zebulon, NC

SUZANNE MICHELLE  
HAGE '90  
Raleigh, NC

JOANNA MANIKAS  
HALSEY '91  
Richmond, VA

MARSHA MCCUTCHEEN  
HEWITT '73  
Bishopville, SC

SAMANTHA BOONE  
KILPATRICK '93  
Raleigh, NC

TRACY SALTER  
LEARY '94  
Richlands, NC

PAMELA MITCHELL  
RILEY '73  
Durham, NC

AUDREY LOCKE  
SHEARIN '87  
Enfield, NC

MARTHA  
STEPHENSON '72  
Boone, NC

## Chapter Round-up

### Foothills Chapter

The Foothills Chapter met on April 20, 2002 at the home of newly elected Chapter President Christy Sizemore Robeson '91. The gathering included a discussion of last year's Summer Reading Program Book "In the Time of Butterflies" by Julia Alvarez. If you live in the Greenville/Spartanburg, SC area and are interested in getting involved, contact Christy at (864) 233-7191 or email [upstateangels@yahoo.com](mailto:upstateangels@yahoo.com).

### Metro-Atlanta Chapter

The Metro Atlanta Chapter gathered for an evening out at Lo Spuntino in Buckhead for a special alumnae wine-tasting. Thanks to Holland Coward Muscio '93 for planning the event. For more information about this chapter, email [mcatlangels@yahoo.com](mailto:mcatlangels@yahoo.com).

### Greensboro Chapter

"Alumnae involvement in the life of the College is absolutely necessary for our future," stated President Maureen Hartford to the **Greensboro Chapter** at a brunch on April 20, 2002. Hartford shared news from the College and encouraged alumnae to stay connected to their alma mater by participating in chapter events, recruiting prospective students, attending reunions, and supporting the Meredith Fund.

### Mecklenburg County Chapter

Kudos to Michelle Smith '95 and Katherine Davis Hall '95 for organizing a festive luau for the Mecklenburg County Chapter on June 16, 2002. Catherine Davis Rideout '95, Director of Alumnae and Parent Relations, attended the event to provide an update from the College that included information on the alumnae task forces and upcoming alumnae travel opportunities.

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## MEREDITH FUND TOPS \$1 MILLION

The Office of Institutional Advancement is pleased to announce that the Meredith Fund, the College's annual unrestricted giving program, has exceeded \$1 million in donations for fiscal year 2001-2002. While the exceptional year for the Meredith Fund is due in part to two unexpected bequests, alumnae participation overall and dollars raised are up. That's good news for the College as unrestricted dollars allow the greatest flexibility to

address the most pressing needs across campus. Unrestricted gifts touch all areas of the College from student aid to keeping the grass cut and the lights on. They are vitally important. Thanks to all alumnae who support the Meredith Fund.

### The Meredith Fund

#### Two-year comparison of unrestricted funds collected from July 1 to June 4

<i>Total unrestricted giving to date</i>			
<i>Year</i>	<i>#of donors</i>	<i>#of gifts</i>	<i>amount</i>
2001-02	2973	3426	\$1,197,385.80
2000-01	2688	3012	\$537,192.67

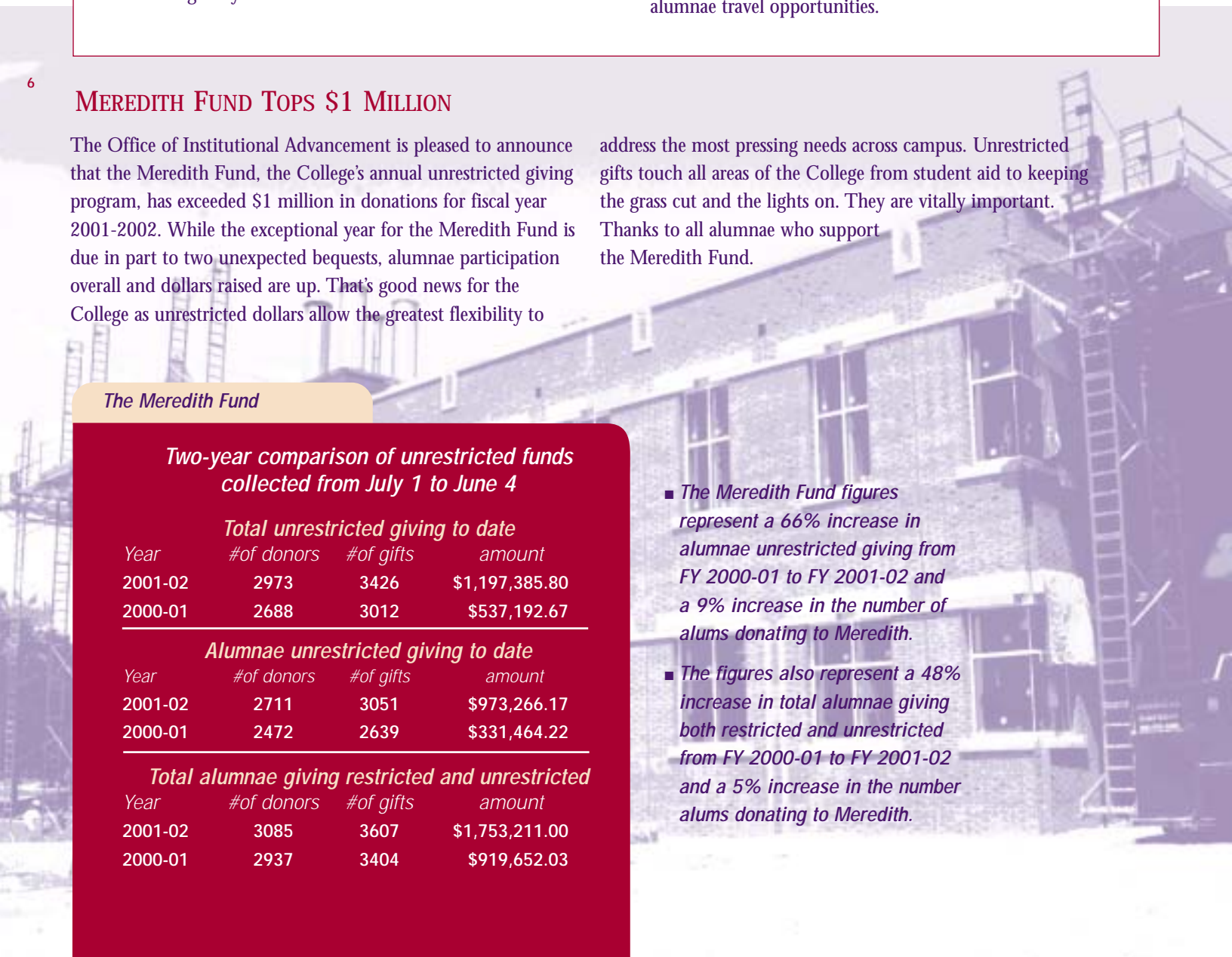
  

<i>Alumnae unrestricted giving to date</i>			
<i>Year</i>	<i>#of donors</i>	<i>#of gifts</i>	<i>amount</i>
2001-02	2711	3051	\$973,266.17
2000-01	2472	2639	\$331,464.22

<i>Total alumnae giving restricted and unrestricted</i>			
<i>Year</i>	<i>#of donors</i>	<i>#of gifts</i>	<i>amount</i>
2001-02	3085	3607	\$1,753,211.00
2000-01	2937	3404	\$919,652.03

- *The Meredith Fund figures represent a 66% increase in alumnae unrestricted giving from FY 2000-01 to FY 2001-02 and a 9% increase in the number of alums donating to Meredith.*
- *The figures also represent a 48% increase in total alumnae giving both restricted and unrestricted from FY 2000-01 to FY 2001-02 and a 5% increase in the number alums donating to Meredith.*



## What's Next

### October 5, 2002 ALUMNAE COUNCIL FALL MEETING

8:30am - 1:00pm Ledford Auditorium

### October 9, 2002 GRADUATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

6:00pm - Reception & Organizational  
Meeting – President's Residence

For more information, contact  
Wendy Dedzins MBA Director  
at (919) 760-2281 or  
dedzinsw@meredith.edu.

### October 23-26, 2002 STEPHEN SONDEHEIM'S FOLLIES

8:00pm - Jones Auditorium

### October 27, 2002 STEPHEN SONDEHEIM'S FOLLIES

2:00pm – Jones Auditorium

Following this performance, there will  
be a reception for all alumnae in the  
Rotunda of Johnson Hall.

### October 24, 2002 CLYDE EDGERTON & THE RANK STRANGERS BAND

7:00pm – Jones Chapel

### October 26, 2002 ALUMNAE LEGACY DAY

See page 4

### November 4, 2002 5TH ANNUAL MEREDITH COLLEGE GOLF CLASSIC

Registration – 8:00am

Shotgun Start – 10:00am

For sponsorship opportunities or more  
information, contact Cindy Godwin  
'74, Director of Corporate &  
Foundation Relations at (919) 760-  
8206 or godwinc@meredith.edu.

### November 15-17, 2002 ALUMNAE TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY

For more information, contact Blue  
Greenberg at (919) 760-2860 or  
blueg@meredith.edu.



### November 15, 2002 RECEPTION FOR NEW YORK AREA ALUMNAE FEATURING PRESIDENT MAUREEN HARTFORD

5:00-7:00pm  
The Park Central Hotel  
870 7th Avenue  
RSVP to the Alumnae Office at  
(919) 760-8686 or  
alumnae@meredith.edu. ■

## CLASS OF 2002 INDUCTED INTO ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

“Go out into the brave world. Go out and leap and run and play among wonders that have enchanted all women since time began. Make your mark, marry the good men and raise the better children! Conquer the corporate world but never forget that woman on the street. Educate those who need your grace and have patience with those who cannot receive. Don't stop because someone tells you to. Charge and fight like your life depends upon it because one day, it may.”

Following this challenge by keynote speaker Deborah Dove Smith '80, the Class of 2002 joined the ranks of Meredith alumnae as they were officially inducted into the Alumnae Association on April 10, 2002. The evening began with a special reception in the Rotunda prior to the induction ceremony in Jones Chapel. The new alumnae were welcomed to the Alumnae Association by Catherine Davis Rideout '95, Director of Alumnae & Parent Relations who spoke of the importance of staying connected to Meredith after they graduate. Adrienne Hiner Cole '93, Director

of the Meredith Fund, encouraged participation in Meredith's annual giving program and thanked the Class of 2002 for their class gift which included landscaping around the Alumnae House and a gift to the Meredith Fund. Other speakers included senior class president Christine Kelley '02 and Erin Grant Parsons '00, who addressed the seniors on behalf of their big sister class.

Smith captured the essence of the evening in her closing remarks by saying, “our door is always open to you. Here, you will always be young...because all paths lead home.”



*Christine Kelley '02,  
Claire Sullivan  
Langford '72,  
Erin Grant Parsons '00,  
and Deborah Dove  
Smith '80 following  
the Senior Induction  
Ceremony.*

## Alumnae Book Club Reading List

### 2002

Oct. 15 *Killer Diller*  
by Clyde Edgerton

Nov. 19 *Ahab's Wife*  
by Sena Jeter Naslund

Dec. 17 *A Single Shard*  
by Linda Sue Park

### 2003

Jan. 21 *Fugitive Pieces*  
by Anne Michaels

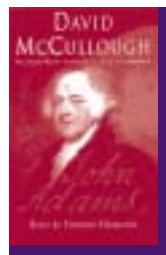
Feb. 18 *Peace Like a River*  
by Leif Enger

Mar. 18th *Victoria's  
Daughters*  
by Jerrold M. Packard

Apr. 15th *First Lady*  
by Michael Malone

May 20th *In the Fall*  
by Jeffrey Lent

Sept. 17 *John Adams*  
by David McCullough



## ALUMNAE BOOK CLUB 2002-2003

Selections have been made for the 2002-2003 Alumnae Book Club. All meetings begin at 6:30pm with refreshments, followed by book discussions from 7:00-8:30pm in the Alumnae House Parlor. All alumnae are invited to participate! For more information, contact Marilyn Jones '75 at (919) 760-8411 or [jonesma@meredith.edu](mailto:jonesma@meredith.edu).

## MEREDITH BIDS DITTMANN FAREWELL

On June 30th, the Meredith community bid Jane Dittmann, former Vice President for Institutional Advancement, a fond and congratulatory farewell. Dittmann plans to relocate to London, England, following her August wedding.

"Jane has been a valuable member of Meredith's Senior Management Team," said President Hartford. "She has built on Meredith's history of fundraising success and positioned the College for future fundraising growth."

Dittmann led Meredith's development, alumnae and parent relations, corporate and foundation relations, and planned giving efforts. Under her leadership, the advancement division strengthened the Meredith Fund, developed a major gifts program, increased participation and fundraising proceeds from alumnae and parent events, and laid the groundwork for a comprehensive campaign.

We wish Dittmann the best as she pursues the new opportunities ahead. Connie Harris, Meredith's new Vice President for Institutional Advancement, began work in August. Prior to coming to Meredith, Harris served as assistant dean for leadership gifts at Wabash College, an all-male college in Crawfordsville, Indiana.