DEAN GREEN RETIRES FROM MULLENBERG AFTER 10 YEARS

It is with bittersweet emotions that I pen this parting note. Yes, I am retiring. Ten years have passed so quickly; my how the time flies when you’re having fun! In 2006, my knowledge of Allentown and Muhlenberg College was nil. After making progress through the search process and finally arriving on campus as a potential candidate, I immediately fell in love. The campus was beautifully maintained, students were engaging, faculty and staff were welcoming and Allentown had a Wegmans. Hailing from Rochester, NY I grew up experiencing the joy of a trip to Wegmans.

I have been privileged to know so many students and their families. It has been a joy to watch the classes come and go; so many new faces and names to learn each fall. Significant growth and maturity happens within a student’s four years on campus. When I remind them of my remarks they heard that first day of their Orientation at Senior Champagne Brunch, they, too, cannot believe four years have passed so quickly. Thanks to social media, I remain very connected to many of the students who have entered the world of being Muhlenberg Alumni.

During my tenure I have learned much about myself. I have loved my students. They can produce both laughter and tears, but at the end of the day they are all due a “Dean Green Hug!!” I was asked by the student newspaper, The Weekly, what I would miss the most. The answer was an easy one: the people. My life has been enriched by every encounter. Whether it’s Roberto from the Grounds Crew, Awa as she swipes me into the Wood Dining Commons, faculty secretaries who came to hear my Living on Purpose conversation, an amazing Division of Student Affairs staff, faculty who sought my advice about the well-being of a student or students dropping by the office for a hug, it has all been a significant part of my Muhlenberg College experience.

It has been an exhilarating ten-year love affair. Muhlenberg will remain deeply embedded in my being. I am a better person for what I’ve learned during my tenure. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve this community.
Gaining Experience in a Competitive Job Market

Internships and career-related experiences are the number one way employers identify new talent. In a competitive job market, how do students position themselves to showcase campus and career talents? Creativity is key!

One of the best ways for students to gain relevant experience is in the classroom. By looking at individual courses, class projects and research topics, resume placement is an opportunity to demonstrate the connection between classroom and career. These classroom topics can generate resume keywords that are industry/career-focused and will help a resume rise to the top. They can be directly relatable to the internship/job description, thus being pulled by an Applicant Tracking System (ATS) used by many employers as they comb through literally hundreds of resumes in an online application. This is particularly important for first-year and sophomore students who may not have had the opportunity to find meaningful internship experience.

Internships (both paid and unpaid) are the best way for students and employers to test the waters. For students, the opportunity to work in an organization will help them gain first-hand experience in a field of interest. This also gives them a taste of what a particular career has to offer. When a student is in a field that showcases their talents and skills, it provides a springboard for future opportunities. For students who decide the experience does not match their expectations, internships can provide an important learning opportunity about what they would not want to do.

From the employer perspective, the intern pool provides them the opportunity to work with a potential full-time employee. Summer interns offer the employer meaningful and valuable time and talent and a learning opportunity for the student. As with students, employers are looking for a “fit” within their organization. Even if they are not hiring full time, they can provide a valuable professional reference for future opportunities.

The Career Center has an online searchable database for internship and job postings. All students, whether on campus or abroad, have access to the ‘Berg Career Vault, which allows for 24/7 student access. We encourage your son/daughter to explore posted opportunities and to utilize the many search engines and databases available through the Career Center. We welcome individual appointments to discuss searching strategies and to foster student success. Additionally, the Career Center offers two workshops during each Friday Common Hour on a variety of career topics. We ask you to encourage your students to take advantage of these resources.

Why are these students smiling?
Because they are eating in the Wood Dining Commons!

Follow this link to find out what’s new in ’Berg dining
http://dining.muhlenberg.edu/documents/BFS16_FINAL_WEB.pdf
HOUSING INFORMATION FOR SPRING 2016

End of the Academic Year Closing (May):
College housing closes Saturday, May 14 at 10:00 a.m. for underclassmen. Underclassmen must leave within 24 hours of their last final. Those students with Friday finals must leave by 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 14. College housing for seniors closes Sunday, May 22 at 6:00 p.m. We recognize that some students may require housing after the closing time. These students may file a request at: http://www.muhlenberg.edu/main/campuslife/resserv/services/break_housing.html Requests are reviewed for eligibility and responded to on a rolling basis.

- Requests to stay late due: Friday, May 6
- College housing closes for non-seniors on May 14, 2016
- Residence halls close for non-seniors at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 14
- College housing closes for seniors on May 22, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

WHAT IS PHAM?

Brynnmarie Dorsey, Director of Health Services

Peer Health Advocates at Muhlenberg (PHAM) was formed in 2010 as a partnership between the Health Center and the Public Health program. PHAM’s mission is to promote the health and wellness of the campus community through outreach activities and programming. Our campus-wide partnerships allow the organization to address the major health issues on Muhlenberg’s campus.

PHAM holds multiple events throughout the year to increase awareness of relationship violence, STI testing, consent and ending sexual assault on college campuses. Our Health Fair Intern, Danielle Hutcher, in collaboration with Health Services, is busy planning the annual Spring Health Fair April 4, which includes health-related student research, clubs/organizations, and different health providers from the community.

General health is also promoted through monthly newsletters and social media. In the future, we hope to expand our efforts to mental health awareness and nutritional health.
For the past 10 years, the Office of Residential Services has been cultivating a relationship with the Good Shepherd Home. This relationship began because of a personal connection with several staff members’ families. The RA staff was interested in doing community service as a group and wanted to give back to the local community.

Each year the RAs participate in two programs, one in December during the winter holiday season and the other in February around Valentine’s Day. The goal is to offer a night of fun and entertainment to the residents of the Good Shepherd Home. The RA staff makes cards for the residents, bakes treats to share and shares their talents through song, dance, poetry and even telling jokes. As part of the preparation process, Danielle Slobodin ’16 shares, “My residents have always loved being able to give back to the community. Working with Good Shepherd gives us the perfect opportunity to do that. Making cards and baking for the residents always puts a huge smile on their faces. The residents at Good Shepherd love the homemade cards that help make the event even that much more special to all involved.” Additionally, long time residents of Good Shepherd who have been coming to the performances over the years have gotten involved by singing their own songs during the program.

These evenings have an impact on the students and increasingly more RAs are coming along who are not performers to interact with the residents and to support their fellow staff members. As Jeff Funk ’16 notes, “Having volunteered at Good Shepherd five times during my tenure as a Resident Advisor, I am continually amazed at how rewarding it is to see the joy that our simple, hour-long show brings to the center’s residents. It not only provides an opportunity to give back to the community, but also inspires a collective effervescence among the RAs as we work together for a good cause.”

These community programs have become a part of the RA program as much as training or planning programs for their campus residents. It is a tradition the Office of Residential Services staff looks forward to continuing for years to come.
It is hard to believe that our daughter, Ginelle, is on the verge of graduating from Muhlenberg. As we reflect on our time as parents during these four years, several themes come clearly to mind. First, and most important... Ginelle is about to complete an amazing journey!

Beginning with her absolutely one-of-a kind admissions counselor and ending with the faculty members guiding her senior research, Ginelle found an incredibly supportive and engaging community at Muhlenberg. This is an environment that encourages students to take risks, develop new talents and explore their intellectual curiosities. Along the way, we witnessed the transformation of Ginelle and her friends into mature young adults as they became campus leaders, skilled artists and dedicated volunteers, ready to take the world by storm.

We were also pleasantly surprised that as parents we were welcomed into this same Muhlenberg community. As members of the Parents Council for four years, we have developed meaningful relationships of our own with parents, administrators and students. Through this connection, we have learned about the tremendous level of commitment displayed by the faculty and staff who support the entire educational process at the College.

We realize that while our daughter’s time at Muhlenberg may be coming to a close, we don’t want our relationship with the College to end. We look forward to participating in President Williams’ networking and mentoring initiatives that will allow all of us to stay connected to the College, while providing valuable support to Muhlenberg students and alumni.

We know that many of you feel the same way about Muhlenberg and share the same strong bond with this close-knit community. Our financial support is vital to the College and its ability to provide the rich student experience we see each day through our sons and daughters. If you have not had an opportunity yet, we ask you to join us and other parents today in making a gift to The Muhlenberg Fund.

Make your gift by visiting www.Muhlenberg.edu/makeagift, calling 1-800-859-2243, or mailing a check made payable to Muhlenberg College, 2400 Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18104

Thank you for your support and for helping to make the Muhlenberg community such a special place! We wish you and your students all the best during your own amazing journeys.
Save the Date!
2016 Muhlenberg College Golf Classic
Friday, September 23, 2016

Muhlenberg
22 sports, ONE team

For More Information, please contact Corey Goff at 484.664.3388

Commencement Information can be found at:
www.muhlenberg.edu/commencement

FAQs about Commencement and Baccalaureate are also available online at:
http://www.muhlenberg.edu/commencement/faqs/

Have a safe and enjoyable Spring!