

# Colby



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## Letters

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## Letters

### A Brush With Political Diversity

I enjoyed meeting Peter Brush '03 on Q&A (winter 2002 *Colby*). Would the college be brave enough to allow him space in the *Echo*? Or would the thought police send a raiding party to steal all the copies, as at many other campuses across the country? It is really sad to see so many words used to describe Diversity (except Conservatism and other dreadful thoughts) by colleges and universities who advertise "Liberal Arts" education! It is a good thing Peter was not in the U.S.S.R. 20 years ago.

*Burton Hinckley '48*  
Kennebunkport, Maine

Having just read the winter 2002 edition of *Colby* I am saddened. The Q&A on page 38 is tragic. When we read that Colby's lofty goals are shouted from every page, especially diversity, there is apparently no political diversity accepted on the campus. What, a Republican! String him up!

Peter Brush ['03] sets a fine example as a person of principle and character. Too bad there are not more like him with the gumption to stand up and be counted.

The College has a responsibility of providing more than one side of political issues. The administration should take another look.

*William N. Taylor '52*  
San Diego, Calif.

### Lazarus Bassett

Anent my friend Brad Mundy's characterization (winter 2002 *Colby*) of retirees as corpses "with all the rights and privileges thereof." I'd like to counter with the Lazarus theory.

I've been in various Colby classrooms ever since I "died" in '99—admittedly with the begrudging reluctance of some of the administration (morticians?). But as Mark Twain and some of my Colby students have said, "The rumors of my death have been greatly exaggerated."

The College does itself an academic disservice by consigning retirees to the grave when they could indeed occasionally dispense "wit and wisdom" that will enrich the Colby experience for some young people who are not afraid to sit at the feet of the experienced living dead.

*Charles Bassett*  
Lee Family Professor, Emeritus  
Waterville, Maine

### A Change of Heart

For personal reasons, much too numerous to mention, I elected to forego my annual contribution to the College's alumni fund. Yes, there was a smattering of pain — but not very much. However, I have changed my mind!

Volume 91, number 1 of *Colby* magazine is at hand and I have been admiring it. The improvement over past editions is evident in so many ways. Most of all, I think, the quality of the magazine in so many respects, speaks volumes about the college itself. In the past I viewed Colby as a relatively unsophisticated, back-water place that I would not care to attend myself were I to choose to do it all over again. But, now, my mind is changed; probably for good and for ever.

Hearty congratulations to everyone in Waterville who shares responsibility.

*Leonard Caust '43*  
Goldens Bridge, N.Y.

### Cover Charge

Colby is constantly recognized as having a beautiful campus. Why not feature it on your cover instead of that weird stuff on the Summer – 2001- Vol 90? When alumni think of Colby in their annual giving or their wills that "artistic" mismosh is not very inspirational. Close your eyes and think about it.

*E.A. Waller '49*  
Columbus, Ohio

### Letters Welcome

*Colby* welcomes your letters. Send them to Gerry Boyle, editor; *Colby* magazine; Office of Communications; 4180 Mayflower Hill; Waterville, ME 04901, or by e-mail to [mag@colby.edu](mailto:mag@colby.edu). Length should be limited to 400 words or less. *Colby* reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.