

Colby



Colby Magazine

Volume 102
Issue 4 *Spring 2014*

Article 3

April 2014

From the Editor

Gerry Boyle

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.colby.edu/colbymagazine>

Recommended Citation

Boyle, Gerry (2014) "From the Editor," *Colby Magazine*: Vol. 102 : Iss. 4 , Article 3.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.colby.edu/colbymagazine/vol102/iss4/3>

This Contents is brought to you for free and open access by the College Archives: Colbiana Collection at Digital Commons @ Colby. It has been accepted for inclusion in Colby Magazine by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ Colby. For more information, please contact mfkelly@colby.edu.

Colby

volume 102 • number 4

Staff

Gerry Boyle '78
managing editor

Michael Kiser
executive editor

Ruth Jacobs Jackson
director of communications

Barbara E. Walls
director of creative services

Robert P. Hernandez
senior graphic designer

Stephen Collins '74
college editor

Ben Greeley, Arne Norris
online coordinators

Robert Clockedile
social media coordinator

Maria O'Connell
class notes editor

Bridget Besaw, Jared Castaldi, Emily Cotton,
Claire Edelman '15, Fred Field, Brian Fitzsimmons,
Dennis Griggs, Sean Alonzo Harris,
Robert P. Hernandez, Cal Mackenzie, Sara Miller '15,
Arne Norris, Jacob A. (Jacob August) Riis,
Dustin Satloff '15, Michael Seamans,
Hanna Tuttle '15, Barb Walls
contributing photographers

Martin Connelly '08, Christina Dong '17,
Hannah Kwasman '17, Elizabeth Leonard,
Kayla Lewkowicz '14, G. Calvin Mackenzie,
Erika Mailman '91, Kate Manning P'14 P'17,
Jacob McCarthy, Lauren Pongan '09,
David McKay Wilson '76
contributing writers

Administration

William D. Adams, *president*; Sally Baker, *vice president*; Meg Bernier Boyd '81,
director of alumni relations

Alumni Council Executive Committee

Deborah Wathen Finn '74, chair and president;
David C. Fernandez '89, immediate past chair;
Meg Bernier Boyd '81,
executive secretary/treasurer;
Boyd Allen '75, Arthur Brennan '68, Lisa Kehler
Bubar '73, David S. Epstein '86, Noriko Miyakoda
Hall '87, Shaquan A. Huntt '13, Peter Reif '83 P'16,
Arthur L. Young '72

To contact Colby:
Managing Editor, Colby
4354 Mayflower Hill, Waterville, ME 04901-8841
e-mail to: mag@colby.edu
207-859-4354

Colby is published three times yearly.
Visit us online: colby.edu/mag



facebook.com/colbycollege
twitter.com/colbycollege

To contact the Alumni Office:
207-859-4310

The Adams interview gives reason to pause

I arrived at Bro's office with a list of questions, just in case. Turned out I didn't need it. The Q&A with President Bro Adams that begins on page 16 and continues online was gleaned from more than four hours of conversations in December. We sat in his office in Eustis, recorder on the table, and chatted. I wish we'd done it sooner.

Colby is a busy place, and running it is a more-than-full-time job. As Bro put it, for many years his life has been propelled by the next meeting. The daily schedule doesn't usually allow a lot of time to reflect.

But for Bro, and all of us, it should.

That was one of the realizations I had as we talked about Colby—where it's been and where it's going, of course, but also why one would spend a career working at a college like this one and what that career would accomplish. We talked about what makes Colby "Colby," and Bro's characterization of the place (see the extended version online) was candid and perceptive and in some ways even provocative. We talked about his service in Vietnam and how that war pushed him to philosophy. We talked about how a single conversation with a bright and engaging student can turn a bad day into a very good one.

And much, much more.

I hope you enjoy reading this piece and seeing the sides of Bro Adams that it reveals. His tenure here has had tremendous impact, and he has moved Colby rapidly and significantly

forward in so many important and even crucial ways. (Think programs, facilities, stature.) Bro, characteristically, deflects credit for this to the Colby community.

In the end, though, he said the most rewarding part of being Colby's president has been the

people he spends time with. Dining Services staff. Faculty. Senior staff. Physical Plant colleagues. Trustees. Alumni.

Even a couple of first-year international students who walked into his office one day and said they wanted to get to know him. That led to a year-long and continuing friendship.

For me, this last observation was a reminder of the importance for all of us to occasionally pause and reflect on what we're doing, what we hope to accomplish, and, most importantly, the ways we enjoy the people around us. In the wise hindsight of retrospection, that message came through loud and clear.



Gerry Boyle '78, P'06
Managing Editor

CONTRIBUTORS

Kate Manning P'14 P'17

("Family Matters," P. 72) is the author of *My Notorious Life*, a historical novel based partly on the life of a controversial



midwife in Victorian New York City. A former documentary television producer, Manning has written for the *New York Times*, the *Guardian*, and other newspapers.

David McKay Wilson '76

("Go Big," P. 22) is a New York-based journalist who



writes regularly for magazines at Colby, Dartmouth, Columbia, Harvard, Stanford, and other colleges and universities. Wilson is a columnist for the *Journal News* in New York and a contributor to the *New York Times*.

Erika Mailman '91

("Exploring Common Ground," P. 32) is a writer



and historical novelist living in Northern California. Her first book, *Woman of Ill Fame*, follows a Gold Rush prostitute, while her second looks at a medieval woman accused of witchcraft. *The Witch's Trinity* was a *San Francisco Chronicle* Notable Book.