Ada Alum Class Notes for Spring 2019

Teresa Mahoney-Mullen AC’89
Each of my three children have graced our lives with grandchildren: three grandsons and three granddaughters. We had a wonderful summer week together at the Cape this past summer. Still practicing law and also doing mediation which I love. Moved our law office closer to home after 20 years in same location. Mentoring a high school girl and encouraging her to look at Smith: life is good. Will always remember and cherish Ellie Rothman’s support and encouragement. My Ada days changed my life.

Alison Tilghman Kline AC‘89
I’m happy to report that after Smith and graduate school at Yale University (M.A. & M.Phil, in American Studies) I returned to Woods Hole, where I have been in the Development Office at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution since 1998 – this is my 20th year! I currently serve as the Interim Chief Development Officer and Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations. I can honestly say that Smith gave me the break I needed in life and I am so deeply grateful. I’ll never forget the first semester I was there and I went to purchase my books for the courses I was taking and the pile was huge – seemed like a couple of feet high! I remember thinking, how am I ever going to read all these books in a few short weeks – but I did it – and more importantly I loved every minute of it. I use the skills I learned at Smith every day in my job. Reading, learning, thinking, analyzing, making connections, further research, thinking more broadly, communicating, writing, planning, executing. Being persistent and determined is key and you have to be that way to succeed at Smith. Although I was in the humanities at Smith (American Studies) I was fortunate to do a “Semester at the Smithsonian” in Washington, DC. I was placed in the National Museum of American History, where at the time they were preparing for an exhibit on genetics. I worked on a paper there about the related field of biotechnology, which in the mid-1980s was a fairly new field. That was my introduction to science, and now it just so happens that I’m in science all day. What a wonderful opportunity. I am ever grateful for my experience at Smith and I recommend it to many a young woman. Thank you Ellie and Smith!!

Creigh Yarbrough AC’89
Smith finally--30 years later--has realized that both its "traditional age" students and Adas expect a forward-looking education with professional / career utility. This is worlds away from the humiliation I endured in '86 - '89 when I sought guidance on a post-Smith career from the "Career Center" and was castigated for wanting something so...non-academic. Even at a 30-year remove, the embarrassment I endured remains a stain on my Smith years.

Keishya Salko AC’90
Hope that you are well and life is good. I am still here struggling to recover my tourism business in Puerto Rico. My update is that Barefoot Travelers Rooms and Adventures Guesthouse has re-opened for the winter season and we really hope to welcome tourists again soon!
**Alina Green AC'98**
Hello, Sisters from "La Capital del Sol." Praying for those who were affected by the recent hurricane! I'm still trying to get my right arm fully healed, and would appreciate if y'all would send me some positive vibes! At 68, and with Osteoporosis, the body doesn't heal very fast. On to Acupuncture next week! Sending also some sunshine your way...and, don't forget to vote!

**Charolett Baker AC'99**
After a professional career focused on international affairs in Washington, D.C., I moved to Sarasota, FL and got involved with the Smith College Club of Sarasota and am now the president of the very active club.

**Donna VanderPloeg AC '05, just returned from a 17 day Rick Steve's Best of Italy tour. She toured with her sister, Mary Zius. It was an amazing trip with wonderful local guides who were so knowledgeable about history, art and architecture.**