

Jan. 5, 2006

From: students@the powerof141.com

Dear R-MWC Alumna,

Changes are being considered at Randolph-Macon Woman's College. Entwined with a warm 'hello' from your sisters currently attending Randolph-Macon Woman's College is our plea for the help of the wonderful network of strong and talented women known as Randolph-Macon Woman's College Alumnae.

A recent decision by the Board of Trustees, of which you may or may not be aware, has brought us to reach out to you to help the college that we, as we are sure you as well, have grown to love. The Board has hired the firm Art & Science Group LLC to find R-MWC's "niche" in the marketplace; this analysis is not due to a looming financial crisis like one might expect, but is rather 'a look down the road to ensure the viability of the school in 10, 15, 20 years.' After testing many options that would differentiate the college in the marketplace without going coed, the firm was hired to conduct further research solely focused on the school's appeal as a co-educational institution. This option is very real.

While the market research may be helpful in some ways, we believe that an outside firm whose members have never stepped foot in Main hall lobby, eaten in Cheatham Dining hall, had class in Martin Science, played sports in PER, or stayed up all night talking with friends in Bell Hall, could not possibly understand the true value of R-MWC. Hence, we are attempting to help the Board to find, enhance, and market those positive attributes which differentiate our college from all others, while also showing areas on which we might need to work. We are working towards a simple goal: to maintain the educational standards, traditions, and way of life of our school, while finding ways to enhance quality of life such that it would increase enrollment and retention- without the need for the creation of a co-educational institution. And we ask for your help in reaching this goal.

Whether you graduated in 2005 or 1945, you know the value of a Randolph-Macon Woman's College education- inside and outside of the classroom. You know what attracted you to the school as a prospective, what made you choose to enroll, and what made you stay. On the other hand, you know what might have enhanced your experience more, what may have made you question leaving, and what made some of your friends choose to leave. We ask you to tell these things to the Board, or at the very least to voice your opinion about the current situation. As Alumna and soon-to-be Alumna of Randolph-Macon Woman's College, we know better than outsiders what is best for our college. Let us work together to find solutions to ensure the future of our college for another 100 years.

Thank you very much,

Kelly Chapman, Class of 2007

Eighmey Zeeck, Class of 2007

Annie Johnson, Class of 2007

Katie Stewart, Class of 2008

Bekah Pauli, Class of 2008

Eve Lincoln, Class of 2007

Anne Haley, Class of 2007

Sara Rechnitzer, Class of 2007

Contacting the Board of Trustees:

M. Jolley Bruce Christman '69, President

1933 Pine St.

Philadelphia, PA 19103

jbchristman@earthlink.net

We also ask if more than anything for you to educate yourselves on the current state of affairs at R-MWC so that as these changes begin to be proposed or enacted, you understand the situation fully. Here are some readings to help you in this:

[http://www.rmwc.edu/alumnae/news\\_detail.asp?nid=60](http://www.rmwc.edu/alumnae/news_detail.asp?nid=60)

[http://www.rmwc.edu/strategicplan/as\\_results.asp](http://www.rmwc.edu/strategicplan/as_results.asp)