

Letter from the President

November 16, 2006

Dear Alumnae,

This week we will complete the first 23 regional alumnae gatherings to discuss the College's new strategic direction. While our alumnae and friends have many different responses to the direction, I have been impressed most, by how deeply they care about the College.

In the course of our meetings, some alumnae have raised questions based on the documents circulated by PEC to the Board and media. My response is available at <http://www.rmwc.edu/response/>.

While I have been on the road, faculty, staff, students, and alumnae representatives have been engaged in defining the components that will implement the strategic plan. The College's website will be updated regularly with progress of the implementation committees.

I was on campus for the Philip Thayer Memorial Lecture on October 23. There is great coverage of Richard Dawkins' electrifying presentation to a packed Smith Hall theatre on the College's website at http://www.rmwc.edu/newsevents/pressreleases/news_detail.asp?id=573. You can also find Dawkins featured in the October 22 New York Times Sunday Book Review, the New York Times Best Seller list, and the current issue of Time magazine. Remembering how much Dr. Thayer enjoyed interesting discourse, I believe he would be proud that the College featured this controversial, clear thinker.

Earlier in October the College celebrated the dedication of the Steinway grand piano given by the Stella Boyle Smith Trust of which Catherine Hamilton Mayton '78, husband Michael Mayton, and mother Maxine Hamilton serve as Trustees. Acclaimed pianist Vanessa Perez presented a program of Mozart, Villa-Lobos, Albéniz, Ravel, and Rachmaninoff in beautiful Wimberly Recital Hall in Presser.

Thank you all. This is an historic year in the life of the College. I am privileged to be a part of it and grateful for your affection for the College.

I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving.

Ginger Worden '69
Interim President