



Back-to-Class

Reunion 2008

May 30 & 31



ALUMNAE
ASSOCIATION
MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE



Friday, May 30

Session I: 10 AM

1. No Prior Experience Necessary: Bungee Jumping into Direct Sales

[Diane Giombetti Clue '88, independent coordinator, The Body Shop at Home](#)

Did you know that a large percentage of women who earn \$100,000 or more a year do it in direct sales? Come hear one alumna's journey through this exciting, lucrative, female-dominated, *fun* industry. Learn how Diane Giombetti Clue literally jumped head-first into a new career, which led to all kinds of unanticipated rewards. **Time: 10-11 AM**

2. Harnessing the Power of Web 2.0 and Social Networking for Your Nonprofit

[Elizabeth Dunn '93, director of communications, Arts Foundation of Cape Cod](#)

Get the word out about your cause or organization—and connect with like-minded souls—with new and evolving online social networking tools. Learn about blogging, Flickr, feeds, social bookmarking, Facebook, MySpace, LinkedIn, and more. Learn why you should care, then create a strategy for your online identity and social networking plan. **Time: 10-11 AM**

3. Internet for Beginners!

[MHC Library, Information, & Technology Services \(LITS\) staff](#)

If you are feeling overwhelmed by this thing called the Internet and just want to learn the basics, this class is for you. Our LITS department volunteers will give you an introduction to the Web, and show you how to use a Web browser and a search engine—and even look at eBay and Amazon. Bring your questions; we'll share our knowledge and experience. **Prerequisite: None**
Time: 10-11:30 AM Space limitations: Extremely limited

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GENERAL NOTES



All classes, workshops, and panel discussions are offered free of charge and are open to alumnae, seniors, and their guests.

With the exception of one Saturday class planned especially for guests, all classes will take place on Friday, May 30.

Classes are arranged by sessions so that you and your guest/s may sign up for more than one class. Please make sure that the classes you select do not overlap.

Please register for Back-to-Class when you arrive on campus.

Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Some classes have very limited space, so come early to sign up. (Classes with extremely limited space are designated in the schedule.)

Come a day early and stay Thursday night, particularly if you are interested in a workshop that starts at 10 AM on Friday. Sign up for Thursday overnight accommodations on your reunion registration form.

Any updates to class information will be published on the reunion section of our Web site approximately two weeks before reunions, and will also be available at reunion registration. Go to www.alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/go/reunion.

If you have questions regarding the Back-to-Class program, please contact Maya D'Costa, associate director of campus programs, at 413-538-2066 or mdcosta@mtholyoke.edu.

4. Investment Knowledge for Board Members

[Mary Ellen Mullen '73, CFA, principal, Bridgebay Consulting LLC](#)

You serve your community as a board member of a nonprofit institution. What are your duties and liabilities with regard to the investment of the institution's funds? Asset allocation, investment policy statements, risk, returns, and reviews will be addressed. The "prudent person" vs. the "prudent expert" will be contrasted in light of ERISA and UPMIFA. **Time: 10-11 AM Space limitations: Extremely limited**

5. An Immersion Day in Spanish

[Luisa-Maria Rojas-Rimachi, visiting instructor, department of Spanish](#)

A day of refreshing activities, conducted in Spanish, focusing on the daily family and professional routine. Participants will be encouraged to not only converse but also to give spoken and written directions. We will end the day learning some cooking tricks that will help you get better acquainted with cuisine from Spanish-speaking countries. **Time: 10 AM- 3:45 PM, with a lunch break around noon**
Space limitations: Extremely limited

6. Creating Change: Transitions and New Directions

[Cori Ashworth, alumnae career and professional consultant, Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College](#)

Join Cori Ashworth for a workshop targeted toward women at midlife. This workshop is for women who are exploring new dimensions of life as they plan transitions relating to career, volunteer work, or family. We will consider models for change and life planning as they relate to midlife shifts. We'll also discuss options about staying active in professions or avocations, moving into new fields, and/or taking time to pursue untapped facets of life. Discussion and exercises to start the planning process will be included. **Time: 10 AM-noon**

Session II: 1:15 PM

7. A Time of Our Own: a Workshop in Celebration of Women Over Sixty

[Elinor \(Ellie\) Miller Greenberg '53, Ed.D., president and CEO of EMG and Associates and co-author, with Fay W. Whitney, Ph.D., of A Time of Our Own: a Celebration of Women Over Sixty](#)

This workshop will explore the "third trimester" of a woman's life, from age sixty on. Most of us have worked, raised families, and been active in our communities. Now, as we live longer and healthier lives, today's women are inventing new models for living. In particular, Mount Holyoke women of "the greatest generation" are prototypes for this new breed of older woman. In this workshop, we will review the findings of interviews with women from sixty to ninety-three, and discuss our own lives and the challenges of these older years. We will also explore intergenerational implications, relative to the 78 million baby boomers coming just behind us. **Time: 1:15-2:15 PM**

8. Among Women: South Africa

[Nancie L. Fimbel '68, dean, College of Business, San Jose State University](#)

South Africa after apartheid is an extraordinary place, all the more so because of the country's strong and powerful women. In 2007, twenty-five Seven Sisters alumnae spent two weeks meeting with famous and not-so-famous leaders, as well as with some of our own Mount Holyoke graduates. This session will introduce you to the work of these amazing women who are remaking their country. **Time: 1:15-2:15 PM**



9. Importance of Global Education in Public Schools

[Cheryl Maloney '73, Ph.D., assistant superintendent, Weston Public Schools, Weston, MA](#)

It takes a world to raise a child. How do we prepare our K-12 students to be global citizens, navigate changing economic landscapes, understand the shifting political winds, and utilize their technological skills effectively? This lecture will discuss how teachers use the curriculum of all disciplines to expand students' knowledge of the world. What concerns do these initiatives raise for parents and the community? We will also look at how other nations, such as China, are struggling with these same issues.

Recommended reading: *The World is Flat* by Thomas Friedman

Time: 1:15-2:15 PM

10. Director's Tour of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum

[Marianne Doezema, director of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum](#)

Explore what's current at the art museum, both in the galleries and behind the scenes. **Time: 1:15-2:30 PM**

Space limitations: Extremely limited

11. Sustainability at Mount Holyoke: Doing Well While Doing Good

[Todd Holland, Five College Energy Manager](#)

[Russ Boudreau, Mount Holyoke College Facilities Management](#)

How is Mount Holyoke College working to meet its existing needs without compromising the future of our environment? What are we doing to conserve resources now, while creating an environment that enhances our opportunities for the future? Come find out what Mount Holyoke's climate commitments are and how we plan to meet them. You will learn how Mount Holyoke is uniquely situated to promote aspects of sustainability, and about the steps we are taking to minimize our ecological footprints. **Time: 1:15-2:15 PM**

12. Genetics and Genealogy: Are We the Seed of Abraham?

[Curtis G. Smith, professor emeritus of biological sciences](#)

The explosive growth of knowledge about the human genome has prompted a new look at the ancient question of nature vs. nurture. One aspect of this question is how much influence your ancestors have on who or what you are. Or, alternatively, "How important is the genetic heritage I leave to my descendents?" Answering these questions has an interesting bearing on the study of genealogy. Of somewhat more social and political significance, it has some surprising insights to offer on the agitation about immigration. **Time: 1:15-2:15 PM**

13. From Rasputin to Putin: Russia in the 21st Century

[Constantine V. Pleshakov, visiting assistant professor of Russian and Eurasian studies and critical social thought](#)

This class will examine modern Russian political leadership. How can we possibly explain the Putin phenomenon? What makes him popular with so many Russians? In what ways has his tenure affected Russian society? What happens to Russia after Putin? **Time: 1:15-2:15 PM**

Session III: 2:45 PM

14. Origin and Prevention of Breast and Prostate Cancer

[Eleanor \(Elli\) G. Rogan, '63, professor in cancer research and chair, Department of Environmental, Agricultural, and Occupational Health, University of Nebraska Medical Center](#)

Thirty years of research have shown us how estrogens start the process leading to breast and prostate cancer. This workshop will discuss recent discoveries in cancer prevention, and explain effective means for preventing these two types of human cancer—and possibly others. **Time: 2:45-3:45 PM**

15. Tips and Techniques to Improve your Singing

[Leslie Luxemburg Rosenthal '68, professional singer and vocal professor](#)

Participants will be presented with simple and effective techniques to make their voices "work" better and get more enjoyment out of their singing in any situation. Bring a simple song you are comfortable singing, such as a Christmas carol, hymn, or folk song.

Time: 2:45-3:45 PM

16. Wrongful Convictions or Unlawful Conviction?

[Richard Moran, professor of sociology](#)

Richard Moran recently published a study of 124 exonerations of death row inmates in America from 1973 to 2007. The results reveal that in two-thirds of these cases, death-penalty convictions resulted not from good-faith mistakes or errors, but from intentional, willful, and often malicious prosecutions by criminal-justice authorities.

Time: 2:45-4 PM

17. From Early Computers to Current Ones: Hardware and Software

[Jean E. Sammet '48, retired programming manager, IBM](#)

This talk explains the sixty-two-year evolution from early computers (requiring special rooms) to current computers (carried in a briefcase or held in a hand). A crucial part of this history is the software that evolved from early versions, requiring awkward communication with 1s and 0s, to current versions that require relatively few keystrokes for major results and allow worldwide interaction (via the Internet and the World Wide Web). **Prerequisite:** Some previous use of a computer is preferred but no detailed knowledge is needed.

Time: 2:45-4:15 PM

18. Civil/Uncivil Religion in America

[Jane F. Crosthwaite, professor and chair of religion](#)

This class will focus on the paradox that a nation with religious diversity must depend on an over-arching secular government. Only with the separation of so-called church and state can all religious groups function with fair and equal freedom. Many dense problems, contradictions, and challenges attend this principle, but it remains an enlightened and worthwhile experiment for a democratic society.

Time: 2:45-4:15 PM

19. Wills, Trusts, and Probate

[Victoria R. Spellman '73, attorney-at-law](#)

Trusts: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly. What can trusts be used for? What are the traps for the unwary? **Time: 2:45-3:45 PM**

Session IV: 4:30 PM

20. America's Changing Role in the World: A Changing America in a Changing World

[Vincent A. Ferraro, Ruth C. Lawson Professor of Politics and Chair of International Relations](#)

Join Vincent A. Ferraro for a discussion about American foreign policy and current world affairs. A specialist in international relations and American foreign policy, Professor Ferraro writes on such topics as imperialism, balance of power, global poverty, causes of war, deterrence, terrorism, and global environmental problems.

Time: 4:30-5:45 PM

21. Money Shy to Money Sure

[Olivia \(Livvie\) Mellan '68, money coach, psychotherapist, and professional speaker, and Sherry Christie '68, professional financial writer](#)

Olivia Mellan and Sherry Christie will help you learn to debunk seven common myths that can keep you from taking charge of your money life. The two alumnae have been collaborating for years on books and magazine columns about money and relationships. Livvie has appeared on *Oprah*, *the Today Show*, and *20-20*, and Sherry has published numerous articles and books about money and finance.

Time: 4:30-5:45 PM

22. V-delivery or C-section: Doctor's Choice or Yours?

[Eloise Skelton '73 M.D., M.P.H., F.A.C.O.G.](#)

Women have been delivering babies since the beginning of human life. What should be a natural process—becoming a new mother—has become so technical that some women feel like "astronauts" ready to take flight when they go to the hospital to give birth. Eloise Skelton, M.D., will discuss medical practices, new birthing technology, and ways that expectant mothers can advocate for themselves in a hospital environment. **Recommended reading:** articles on birth statistics, birth complications, and C-sections **Time: 4:30-5:30 PM**

Saturday, May 31

23. Director's Tour of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum

[Marianne Doezema, director of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum](#)

Explore what's current at the art museum, both in the galleries and behind the scenes. **Time: 11 AM-noon** (for spouses, partners and guests) **Space limitations: Extremely limited**

