Come to Our Summer Reunion!

Connect with old friends and meet new friends! All alumnae (campers and staff) are invited and encouraged to attend!

Friday, July 20  
5:00-8:30pm

5:00: Join Reach 2007 campers for dinner at Higgins House behind the Campus Center. For a reminder of where Higgins House is, see Campus Maps at www.wpi.edu/About/Visitors. Dinner and everything else is FREE, thanks to Camp Reach supporters!

6:00-8:30: We have all sorts of new, fun things planned this year:

- Get your caricature made!
- Try henna art!
- Play Dance Dance Revolution! (and see the dance pads that the 2007 campers will have made that day!)

8:30: Pick-up time, at the Campus Center Information Desk.

Please RSVP! We need to pre-order the correct number of meals, and we get charged for that number, regardless of how many people show up! So saying you’ll come should be a firm commitment. Please respond to help us with these logistics! Sorry, we’re not able to accommodate friends— only Reach alumnae. RSVP by calling the Office of Women’s Programs at (508) 831-5819, or send an e-mail message to reach@wpi.edu by Friday, July 13. Thanks!

Here’s What’s in our Newsletters for Each Reach Class!

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2006 Design Project Updates

Clockwise from left: Gayle, Danielle, Beth, Gee, Abby, Jess, Eliana, Eva, and Cecile with their awesome model. Unable to attend: Brianna and Haley, and TAs Amy, Frannie, and Jenn.

Broad Meadow Brook Project Moves Forward

Earlier in June, nine members of the 2006 Broad Meadow Brook got together to build a model of the all-persons accessible bridge and viewing area they envisioned for the wildlife sanctuary. We all got delightfully soaked in a deluge while making measurements near the brook. Then we dried off while making a model of the area using modeling clay, colored paper, rocks, and lots of simulated trees and shrubs! We all decided that building models is pretty hard, but we did a good job!

Martha Gach and Debbie Cary, directors of the sanctuary, asked to keep the model on hand to show potential donors. They really liked the extra touch of the couple sitting on the bench! 😊

Funding was recently obtained to build an all-persons accessible switchback trail from the visitor center down to the Frog Pond Trail. According to Debbie, fundraising for the bridge begins next!

Temporary Delay in Friendly House Project Implementation

In the January newsletter we reported that Friendly House received some funding for the plantings the team recommended for its 87 Elm Street emergency shelter. In May, however, we heard from the Executive Director, Gordon Hargrove, that the funding fell through L. The good news is that beautification of the property remains a high priority, and Gordon is continuing to seek funding for the landscape improvements, fence repair, and dumpster replacement! As we all know, limited resources are a common constraint for non-profits, but hopefully something will come through by this fall when the weather is good for planting again. Stay tuned!

WINTER REUNION

So many people—close to 40—came to our reunion in February—it was a blast! Batz Mutetwa, Health Coordinator for the 2005 and 2006 programs, taught everyone a bit about cryptography, and we were able to use linear algebra to decipher and create secret messages. Then it was off to Gompei’s Gutters where the strikes, spares, and gutter bulls abounded. Fun was had by all despite finicky pin- and ball-handling mechanisms!

Above from left to right: Maggie, Beth, Erin, Beth, Eliana, and Danielle, all alumnae from 2006.

Above from left to right, alumnae from 2004 and 2005: Lauren, Jamie, Adrienne, and Caroline, and maybe that’s Amanda?
Staff and Projects for Reach 2007 in Place!

Again this year we have assembled a terrific group of TAs, MSTs, and RAs who become the heart of the Reach program. All of the TAs and several of the RAs are Reach alumnae! Congratulations and thanks to the following alumnae who will be serving as TAs: KT Rich ('01), Brittany Garrett and Tanya Hakim ('02 alumnae returning as TAs from 2006), Angela Harvey ('02), and from 2003: Megan Beaver, Adrienne Cocci, Gabi DeFosse, Elise Murphy, and Kelsey Sterczala. And the following alumnae will be among our group of RAs: Erin Dagle ('00) and Jenn Giard ('01).

The sponsors for this year's design projects will be Broadmeadow Brook Wildlife Sanctuary (a happy return customer from 2006) and the Rainbow Childhood Development Center (RCDC), formerly Edwards Street Day Care. (We completed projects there in 1997 and 1999.) Two projects on playground safety and equipment storage will be done at the RCDC. Watch for details in the next newsletter!

This year we also have a new Academic Coordinator position. WPI senior Kasia Koscielska (Biology and Biochemistry double major) is in the midst of planning all of the workshop activities. In addition to the always-popular Robotics Engineering, Rehabilitation Engineering, Sandcastle Building, Wacky Shoes, and Segways & Gyroscopes activities, Kasia is planning a new Electrical Engineering workshop called Dance Pad Mania, an Environmental Engineering workshop on water filtration, a Civil Engineering activity involving spaghetti bridges, and a challenge to design and build a water- and heat-resistant s'more package! AND... a new crime has occurred at WPI for this year's campers to solve! We've heard that Professor Berka has a rock-solid alibi!!

We want your new postal address and E-MAIL!

If you move: Please take a moment to contact us, either by phone, letter, or e-mail. We very much want to keep in contact with everyone!

AND if you get access to e-mail or change your e-mail address please let us know so we can update our e-mail list! This allows you to get announcements of Reach events as soon as they are known, as well as other useful postings (typically no more than one per month).

There is an easy form you can use on the Reach website to submit changes in postal and e-mail addresses. The Reach website is http://www.wpi.edu/~reach, and the change of address form is in the Alumnae section.
From Alumnae and Staff

Class of ‘97
Crystal Tolman (TA’01): Hello REACH! I hope everyone is enjoying the summer! It has been 10 years since REACH 1997... TEN YEARS!!! I can’t believe it. A lot has changed since my days at REACH, but here are some delightful updates. I graduated from the University of New England (Biddeford, ME) in May with a B.S. in Biochemistry and another B.S. in Medical Biology (which is comparable to pre-med at other institutions). I also received the Student Award from the American Institute of Chemists for 2007. Additionally, as part of the award, I was able to attend a reception dinner hosted by the New England Institute of Chemists at Boston College. Currently, I work for Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston in the Department of Nuclear Medicine. Here, I’m involved with a variety of projects aimed, more or less, at understanding cancer metastasis. We use a lot of different laboratory techniques and instrumentation, and mice. I hope to attend graduate school in the next couple of years and work towards a PhD in cancer biology/immunology. Things have been absolutely wonderful. I have been so very fortunate, and am confident that I would not be enjoying the successes I have now if it weren’t for the teachers, professors, mentors, friends and family that have taught, supported, and inspired me along the way. Thank you, REACH, for all you do! Best Wishes.

Right: Photo of Crystal from our archives, when she was a TA in 2001!!

Class of ‘98
Holly Anne Dame: Just dropping a quick little diddy to let you know what I’ve been up to this summer. I’m a dual major going to school for a BA in both Music Industry and English. This summer I’m interning full time at Eyeball Records in New Jersey— the label that discovered and developed such bands as My Chemical Romance and Thursday. So far it’s a blast! :) Can’t wait to hear what everyone else is up to. Founder & Editor, 12 Bar News; Founder & Editor, Sideswiped Zine.

Class of ‘99
Samantha Wilner (TA ’03, ’04, RA ’06). In the fall, I’m going to be a junior at Columbia University, majoring in Chemical Engineering. This summer I am working as a research intern at a company in Worcester. I started work in the middle of May, and I am already enjoying this lab experience. I have also been busy getting ready for the two sprint triathlons that I will be doing this summer. I hope everyone is having a good vacation!

Class of ‘00
Carolyn Purington (TA ’04, RA ’06) I finished my first year at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, MD. I am studying biomedical engineering, but during the first year I mostly took general science and math classes. I really enjoyed my freshman year, mostly because I always stayed busy with lots of activities like a Capella, tutoring, and Engineers without Borders (see below). I am leaving on June 12 to spend 2 months in Istanbul, Turkey, volunteering to teach English at an inner city summer camp. I can’t wait to go!

Engineers Without Borders

“EWB-USA is a non-profit humanitarian organization established to partner with developing communities worldwide in order to improve their quality of life. This partnership involves the implementation of sustainable engineering projects, while involving and training internationally responsible engineers and engineering students.” —from the EWB website, www.ewb-usa.org.

Editor’s Note: Many, many colleges and universities now have Engineers Without Borders chapters, and you don’t need even need to be an engineer or engineering major to participate!

Class of ‘01
Amanda (Kight) Muller, Ph.D. (Health Supervisor ’01): Hello REACH ladies! Things continue to go well for me here in Florida. In February, I was named the Space Coast Distinguished New Woman Engineer of the Year! I was nominated for the award by my boss and my colleagues, and the criteria were outstanding performance in engineering; activity in professional, technical, community, or social organizations; and no more than seven years cumulative engineering experience. There were fourteen other nominees from various companies around the Florida Space Coast
(including the Air Force and NASA), so needless to say, I was very surprised and happy to win! I'm really enjoying working as a human factors engineer (see below) for Northrop Grumman. I'm currently working on designing the user interfaces for a new upgrade to an Air Force plane. It's challenging work, and a lot of fun! I'm also finding that my engineering skills are coming in handy as a homeowner--I recently designed and installed an automatic sprinkler system for my lawn to help it thrive in the Florida sunshine. I hope you are all doing well--keep REACHing to be the best that you can be!

Right: Amanda with her award plaque. Congratulations!

What Is Human Factors Engineering?
Broadly stated, Human Factors Engineers seek to design jobs, machines, operations, spaces, environments, and work systems so that they have ease of use, considering a wide variety of human capabilities and limitations.

Chelsea Sheehan: Hello everyone! I just finished my senior year of high school and I'll be a freshman at WPI in the fall! I plan to major in Biology and Biotechnology. In the midst of schoolwork and applying to colleges this year, I spent a lot of time cheerleading for my high school, at games and at competitions. In March, we became Central Massachusetts Champions in our division and moved onto the State Championship where we placed 4th. It's been an exciting and busy year, but I know the next 4 years at WPI will be full of new and exciting things!

Congratulations to everyone in the Camp Reach Class of 2001 who graduated from high school this year! Best wishes and please stay in touch!

Class of '02
Brittany Garrett (TA '06,'07): Hey everyone! I hope your years are going by just lovely. Last summer I was a TA at Reach and I'm going to be this summer, again. I'm also going to Italy this summer which is pretty amazing! Ah, and then next year I'm going to be a senior which is even crazier! I'm starting the college search process, &most of them are on the east coast. I want to major in International Business and minor in French, so hopefully that works out that way! I hope everyone is going to the reunion this summer because obviously, I'll be there, so you should all attend too!

Angela Harvey (TA '07): This year has been an extremely busy one. I just finished my first year of advanced placement courses (I prepared for 4 tests), had solos in both string ensemble and concert band and went to regional's for my swim team. This summer I can't wait to work with a veterinarian, participate as a TA for Camp Reach and attend summer camps. Next year I look forward to further success in school, sports and music including a pre-veterinary medical course and possibly helping to start a select chamber strings group.

Christina Ouellette (TA '06): I've had a wonderful junior year so far. I finished all my AP testing at the beginning of May and I am now working on a group project called Performance Assessment, which is the Junior Final Exam for my English & History classes. Along with all my school work, I was also admitted into the National Honor Society. I will be attending a 4 week summer program at UNH this summer which will focus on Biotechnology and Nanotechnology, which I am very excited about. I hope to see many of you at the reunion in July!!

Class of '04
Melissa Cowan: Well, I have been playing soccer for my club STS. I have been doing okay in school. Plus, I have gotten ready for doing a play and construction for a play that begins in the middle of June. I can't wait for summer! It ends June 11! Yay!

Molly Eldredge: Hello! I am now in 9th grade at the Bromfield School in Harvard, MA. I thought it might be interesting for everyone to hear about what I do in the winter. I volunteer at the White Mountain Adaptive Snowsports School at Loon Mountain in Lincoln, New Hampshire. I volunteered over 150 hours this season and loved every minute of it. I am in a group called the PreAdaptive Coaches (or the PAC) this basically means that I get to teach some awesome kids how to ski. The students are all developmentally disabled, so this is a great, rewarding opportunity not just for me, but for

Left: An example of a bi-ski from superlite.org.
them as well. In day to day life for these kids they are often separated from their peers due to their physical challenges, so it is great we can provide a chance to fit in and have fun doing a challenging sport. In the PAC, we are in charge of all the adaptive ski equipment and the designs of this gear is incredible. It allows the kids to use all of the equipment, like the sit-down ski chairs or bi-ski. We spent a lot of time learning about handicapped accessibility and universal design to assist our students. Sound familiar? I remember that from Camp! My little sister Sarah is coming to Reach this summer and I hope she has as much fun as I did. Hope to see everyone (including my sister!) at the reunion.

Grace Maliska: Hey. Well it’s a fast year. Field hockey dominated. Basketball we crushed. For our musical we did South Pacific in which I was a leading nurse. Throughout the year I’ve participated in multiple groups including student council, class secretary, Chamber Singers (select group), Fire Crackers (all girls group singers), the play, basketball, chorus, field hockey, spring track and softball. I also went to a leadership seminar called NYLSC. SUPER AWESOME TIME and now I am going to be attending People to People leadership seminar in August for 3 weeks out in Cali. :D During spring track I throw the shot put and javelin and run the 4X4. We had many meets and during the district meet I had my personal best throw of javelin of 105’8”. During leagues our 4×4 team took 2nd place and I took first in javelin. During softball we have merced all our teams we have played. Life is good but extremely fast. I hope you all are kicking butt and using your mind to its full potential.

Class of ‘05

Nikki Henry: Eighth grade has been very busy. I just finished finals, graduation and end of the year parties. I am going to Algonquin Regional High School in Northborough. I had to decide between five schools, mostly private but ended up with Algonquin because I think it has all the things I am looking for in a high school. I have just finished playing on two lacrosse leagues, one for my town and the other a travel league. Basketball was exciting this year, my school team made it to the finals where we won for our league and placed second in the district. I completed in our school science fair and went to the districts where I got to see some Camp Reach alumni! I have a job babysitting this summer and plan to attend some camps for basketball and lacrosse to get ready for high school. Looking forward to the reunion.

Ashley Racicot: Hey Everyone!! SCHOOL IS OUT! Here in Dudley we got out the twelfth of June, so I am on vacation. Well, for what I’ve been up to; I received a Scholar-Leader Award in May, and apparently so did Julie from ’05 because I saw her there! What else? I graduated 8th grade at DMS and it was a very hard day for me because I love school so much! Next year I am going to Shepherd Hill where I will be at school with Emily and Aubrey from our year (we live in the same district). Oh, and on June 23 I leave from Rhode Island with my friends Matt and Jay (almost 15 and almost 11) from Oxford until the 30th. I hope to see you all at reunion, and Reach ’05 is still awesome, even if its been 2 years since we’ve been there! REACH ROX!!

Natasha Sivananjaah (TA’05) dropped us a note recently. A graduate of the Massachusetts Academy of Mathematics and Science, she just finished her first year at Wellesley College and was recently chosen as a cast member on the new PBS/WGBH reality TV show, Design Squad! (Check it out at http://pbskids.org/designsquads/). She was too modest to mention it, but close to 300 people auditioned for only 8 spots! There’s a great article and photo of her at http://www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/Releases/2007/022207.html. She’s planning to apply to law school and noted that the analytical skills from her engineering experience will help in her continuing studies and career.

Right: Natasha building a crystal radio during Camp Reach in 2005.

Class of ‘06

Abby Ferm: Hi Peoples!!! First off, I kind of lost my address thingy, so I can't email you all, so could you, like email me at Cowcatgirl@msn.com. School's all right and fine, but I can't wait to get out!! I have been on the honor role all year and sum-such, but my biggest achievement is getting a poem of mine published!!! There were about 325 entries, and only 60 got in!!! It's called The Path. Anyway, I've seen Lydia, Gee, Beth, Beth B, Erin, Jasmine and Kamille. Most I played against in soccer, but Lydia I saw at soccer practice, and Beth B. and Erin I saw at my school's play. LULAS

Eliana Perlmutter: Hi everyone, school has been going so fast, I can't believe camp was almost a year ago. Earlier this week my class went on a
camping trip. It was really fun even though we and all of our staff got totally soaked. I’ve been having fun doing ice skating, gymnastics, dance, and other sports. I’m so excited it’s almost summer and school will be out so shortly. I hope to everyone soon! Love.

**Sandy Tarasika:** Hi everyone! I am so excited summer is almost here! This year I have done a lot of interesting things. I am in National Junior Honor society and got elected secretary. I went to Burger King in a limo because my teachers recommended me out of my whole team. I am in girl scouts and I am working on my silver award. I just finished sewing my first quilt. My softball team is, so far, in first place! I can’t play, but I can keep score! I went through one surgery already and on July 2nd I am having my second and hopefully last surgery. I am going down to the Cape to baby-sit my cousins. Maybe we will go to that marsh! Well, I love and miss you all!

**Italy Vasquez:** Hi everyone, It’s me Italy and I just wanted to say hello to everyone. Well this school year was exciting. I meet new people made new friends stayed cool with old ones. I went to lots of parties and they were all fun. This summer I’ve got a trip to go to with my family for 40 days. I’m very excited about that one. We are going to start out by going to Argentina and meet my moms aunt there then a couple of days later we will travel to Spain and stay a few days from there we are going to Rome, Italy and finally I’ll get to see the country that I’m named after. After there we should head up to Africa for another few days then to Sweden again for a few days then Uruguay and back to Argentina to say bye to my mom’s aunt. She lives there because of her job; she is a USA Ambassador there. Then we head back to Worcester for like a day then we are going to Pennsylvania where my aunt lives for a week then we are back here in Worcester and rest for a week before school starts. So with the Help of God and if everything goes well my summer will be the coolest one ever. My mom’s aunt paid for this trip. We had to get our passports done and my moms aunt already made arrangements with the embassy of these countries letting them know of this trip because we are going to visit each embassy building. She is going to show us what her job consists of in every country she goes. I am proud of my great aunt. Her job is cool. Again like always thank you WPI for the opportunity in being part of the Camp Reach program.

★★★★★ **Support for Camp Reach ★★★★★**

Camp Reach in 2007 and 2008— both the two-week program and all of the alumnae activities— is made possible by donations from the following organizations and individuals who are committed to the diversification of our nation’s technological workforce and to providing milestone experiences for young women. Together they have contributed more than $35,000 annually to keep tuition low for everyone and to provide additional financial aid to those with need. **Our sincere thanks for your generous support!**

- 3M Foundation
- Bose Foundation, Inc.
- Cardinal Brook Trust
- Intel Corporation
- Albert W. Rice Charitable Foundation (Bank of America, Trustee)
- Silver Crescent Foundation
- Teradyne, Inc.
- United Way of Central Massachusetts’ Women’s Initiative
- Whaley Family Charitable Trust
- WPI Alumni and Friends
- Friends of Camp Reach

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