

From the Alumni Association President

Dear Fellow Alumni,

As I reflect on the past few years of change for the KSC Alumni Association. I am pleased to report on the progress we have made “*Promoting the welfare of alumni and Keene State College.*” I have just completed my last term as a Board member of your Alumni Association and my fourth year as your president. So I would like to briefly recap the past years of change – very positive change.

With the support of President Giles–Gee in my first year, we created a strategic plan, we next changed our by laws to better reflect a process to allow us to accomplish the initiatives in or plan and in this past year we have worked diligently to make real progress against our strategic plan which can be visited at our web site (www.keene.edu/admin/cpd/goals.cfm).

The college has been an active partner in our journey. President Giles-Gee reorganized the alumni office, elevated the Alumni Director position and has added additional resources to support our programming and strategic plan efforts.

In addition this past year, Board members have taken an active role in evaluating better ways to serve you the alumni and engage with students. This year saw alumni being invited into the classrooms to act as judges of senior student projects and other alumni returned to serve on career planning panels. We, the alumni, have begun a new era of engaging with students on and off the campus. As Bruce Mellion '69 has challenged us “return re-connect” in 2009 but to also return to connect, support and aid students on their trip to “...going forth to serve.”

Lastly I would like to report that there is still much change ahead of us. It will be change that will enhance our organization and more strong bind us to our strategic plan and the College. I leave you with a strong Board and leadership in my wake. A year ago, some Board members said to me that they were concerned about the Board and their involvement with it for many factors. I asked some of them to wait and stay with me. I said ‘we have been through the hardest part - the “change” part. Stay and see the fruits of your work and enjoy the rewards of your labors. They have for the most part done so...and now with strong leadership and many new and dedicated Board members. Our alumni association is in good hands and I am confident that much goodness, no greatness, is in store for us in the forth-coming years.

As we move through 2009 and the college’s Centennial celebration, you should all be very proud of your outstanding alma matre. Keene State has been

referred to by many as “the Jewel in the Crown” of the University of New Hampshire System and this is as it should be.

It has been a privilege for me to serve you over the past few years and I thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president for the past four years. I look forward to seeing you around campus as we attend many of the special events this year. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted

David L. Gagne '73

President

Promoting the welfare of alumni and Keene State College.