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PLANNED GIVING NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021



CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE SOCIETY

Lasell alumni and friends gathered for a virtual celebration of the Heritage Society and to spotlight the 30-year-old group’s significant role in helping the institution grow and thrive through the years.

The event, which was hosted in the spring by Lasell President Michael B. Alexander, himself a Heritage Society member, featured a discussion about the planned giving society past, present, and future, and an update on the University’s success in meeting the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19.

“Both individually and collectively,” Chelsea Gwyther, Lasell’s vice president of university advancement, told the Heritage Society members, “you have helped lead Lasell on a

transformational journey that has turned the country’s first junior college for women into a thriving, coeducational University with more than 2,000 students.”

The program opened with welcoming remarks from Thomas E.J. de Witt, who helped establish the Heritage Society during his tenure as Lasell president from 1988-2007 and serves as honorary co-chair. Co-chairs Helena Hartnett, Margo Hicks Waite ’63, and Robert Menson also spoke.

Anna King ’22 described the adversity that students faced during the pandemic: remote learning, limited interaction with peers, and rigorous health and safety protocols.

“As a student leader, I felt it was my responsibility to encourage

engagement and participation among my fellow students,” she said. “But there were many silver linings and opportunities for us to connect.”

Alexander spoke with pride about the way that faculty and staff came together to provide a positive educational experience for students through in-person, remote, and hybrid learning. Because of the community’s commitment to safety, Lasell avoided the outbreaks that ravaged some campuses.

The event closed with members reminiscing about the early days of the Heritage Society, marveling at the growth of the institution, discussing their connections to Lasell, and pledging to get together again soon – either virtually or on campus.

Nancy Goodale '66



Nancy Goodale '66 left Lasell with just one regret: She wished her college experience had lasted longer.

At what was then Lasell Junior College, Goodale developed a love for learning that continues to this day; matured in the school's intimate, nurturing environment; and expanded her worldview through exposure to a wide variety of people, coursework, ideas, and experiences.

"I wished Lasell had been more than two years," Goodale says. "It was such a formative time in my life."

Goodale has done her best to continue the college experience after graduation, earning her bachelor's degree from Northeastern University in 1987 and serving Lasell in a number of volunteer capacities. She recently stepped down after 33 years on the Lasell University Alumni Association board and is a member of the University's Board of Overseers. She also gives generously and joined the Heritage Society by making a provision for Lasell in her will.

[Read more about Nancy online:](https://plannedgiving.lasellalumni.org/Nancy-Goodale) *plannedgiving.lasellalumni.org/Nancy-Goodale*

Nancye Van Deusen Connor '57 P'84



Nancye Van Deusen Connor '57 P'84 marvels at how much has changed since her days as a student at Lasell Junior College.

Back in the mid-1950s, there were two – yes, two! – television sets on the entire campus. On the way to crew practice, Connor and her teammates were required to wear trench coats over their shorts to hide their bare legs. And students needed permission slips, signed by their house mothers, to leave campus.

Although there are many more students on campus today (not to mention more TVs and no house mothers!), Connor is

pleased that the essence of her alma mater has not changed in the six decades since she graduated. She has been an eyewitness to the institution's growth as an active alum. She generously supports the Lasell Fund and established two charitable gift annuities to qualify her for membership in the Heritage Society planned giving group.

[Read more about Nancye online:](https://plannedgiving.lasellalumni.org/Nancye-Van-Deusen-Connor) *plannedgiving.lasellalumni.org/Nancye-Van-Deusen-Connor*



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Beneficiary designation – You may wish to direct a contribution, to be made at the end of your lifetime, from your bank or other financial accounts.

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For questions, please contact:

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