Give to the Peirce College Annual Fund

Our commitment to the success of our students is ensured with your generous support of the Annual Fund. Any size donation is welcome and will help our students achieve their educational goals.

For more information, call the Office of Institutional Advancement at 215.670.9323 or visit www.peirce.edu/alumni.

PEIRCE is the college that really works for working adults. Even after graduation.

Spring Reception: Pride and Gratitude

The third annual Spring Reception celebrated the pride felt throughout the Peirce community. Guests visited with old friends and met new acquaintances while enjoying the reception under the tent on Carlisle Street and attending program-specific networking events in College Hall. Alumni learned about the College’s progress in educating students, relished their shared history, and felt the camaraderie that is present whenever Peirce people gather.

This year’s event featured the Alumni Association’s presentation of awards to two distinguished members of the Peirce community: Albert G. “Al” Cederstrom Jr. ’43 was presented with the Distinguished Alumni Award, and Babette Pace ’06 received the Distinguished Service Award. While the Association has given recognition to meritorious graduates in the past, this was the first time since the Alumni Association reorganized that these honors were distributed.

The following is a summary of their exemplary professional and personal accomplishments. To see their award acceptance remarks and a video wrap-up of the event, go to Peirce’s YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/peircecollegephilly.

Albert G. “Al” Cederstrom, Jr. ’43 enrolled at Peirce in September 1940 after graduating from Lower Merion High School. He completed his studies at Peirce on May 14, 1943 and four days later he received his active duty orders to serve his country in World War II. Toward the end of the war, he was personal yeoman to Admiral William P. “Bull” Halsey, and was with the Admiral and his staff aboard the USS Missouri for the official Japanese surrender ceremony.

After leaving the Navy, he worked at the American Society for Testing Materials in Philadelphia. He went on to hold a variety of business analyst, accounting, and human resources positions with Gulf Oil/Chevron in the Philadelphia area and in Houston for almost 38 years. He retired in 1986.

Mr. Cederstrom has served on Peirce’s Alumni Association Board of Directors, and was a co-chair of the honors and awards committees. In addition to being a generous donor to Peirce, he is a past Chairman of the College’s Annual Fund giving campaign and helped start the committee in 1968.

During his award acceptance speech at the Reception, Mr. Cederstrom galvanized the audience by announcing with “pride and gratitude” that he was pledging a $50,000 contribution in honor of his parents to start the “Albert G.
President’s Note

We have just completed the most wonderful time of the year at the College. The May and June calendars are typically chock full of events centered on the accomplishments of Peirce people. There is recognition for: scholarship recipients, donors, students who have successfully completed that ever important first year of study, those who achieved honor society status, and, of course, our graduating class. This year, through the auspices of our renewed Alumni Association, we also started a tradition of honoring distinguished alumni at the Annual Spring Reception.

Reflecting on these recognition events is a powerful reminder of the outstanding leadership we have among our students, alumni, faculty, and staff. There are so many members of the community who go the extra mile and give their talents and resources generously to fulfill our mission of transforming lives through the Peirce College experience. While there are numerous examples, the honorees from this year’s Spring Reception truly stand out.

Babette Pace has assisted in advancing Peirce by giving countless hours through her work with the Paralegal Advisory Board and the LEX Honor Society, and her consistent presence at activities sponsored by the College. Al Cederstrom, also a very visible supporter of all things Peirce, added to his leadership legacy by stepping forward on May 21, 2012 and announcing his $50,000 commitment to establish a fund to support the College’s Human Resource Management program.

The acts of Babette and Al in support of Peirce will continue to positively impact the lives of many for years to come. Most importantly, they have led the way for us to leverage their stellar work and engage more members of the entire Peirce community in creating transformational opportunities for our students and graduates.

Welcome to Our New Trustees

The Board of Trustees of Peirce College has recently elected four individuals whose professional expertise and commitment to the community will be invaluable in furthering the vision of the College. Thank you to the following new Trustees for their service to Peirce.

Mark Edwards
President and CEO
Philadelphia Works, Inc.

Joseph T. Steuer
Chief Financial Officer
The Philadelphia Zoo

Robert J. Scullin
Vice President, Sales
The Graham Company

Lisa S. Walker
Vice President, Open Innovation
Campbell Soup Company

Alumni Board Election Results

The first members of the revitalized Peirce College Alumni Association Board of Directors have been elected. Congratulations and thank you to the following individuals who serve on behalf of all alumni to better connect graduates with one another and the College.

Jovanna Bevilacqua ’81
Gregory Broomer ’03
Dorothy Forvour ’63
Natalia Gamarra ’06

Anthony Gracey ’03
Raymond Kerstetter ’75
Raymond Palzer ’52
Joseph Tamney ’70
Reginald Waller ’04
Jo-Ann Williams ’04
Steve Wurtz ’08

If you have an idea about how we can better connect with you, or if you would like to volunteer, please contact the Office of Alumni Engagement at alumni@peirce.edu or 215.670.9323.
Cederstrom and Emilie I. Cederstrom Memorial Fund for Human Resource Management." This gift underscores his appreciation for his Peirce education and highlights the example of leadership he has provided for many decades in his service to Peirce.

**Babette Pace ’06** received a certificate in Paralegal Studies from Peirce College as well as an associate degree. A member of Chi Alpha Epsilon as well as Lambda Epsilon Chi, the national paralegal honor society, Ms. Pace also earned a bachelor degree from Temple University, and is a paralegal with the City of Philadelphia.

At the institutional level, Babette has been active in both the College-wide strategic planning initiative and Middle States Commission for Higher Education self-study reaccreditation process. Babette has also been a part of community service, admissions, and special event projects as an alumna.

A member of Peirce’s Paralegal Studies Advisory Committee since 2007, she has provided a valued perspective on curriculum review and program needs and has been a key voice in constructing and implementing major symposiums, networking events, workshops, and scholarship campaigns. Ms. Pace has also been a direct pipeline to the Philadelphia Association of Paralegals and has been very active in planning, facilitating, and chairing their major legal education conferences, making sure that Peirce has had an integral presence in these programs.

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**Faculty Focus:**

**Alicia Huppman**

Peirce’s new Bachelor of Science in Human Resource Management program is the next step forward in the College’s commitment to training HR professionals. While Peirce previously offered a concentration in human resources within the business program, this shift to bachelor’s degree status reflects the need for well-educated individuals to take on the increasing number of complex and diverse roles within HR departments.

The new Bachelor’s program is led by Alicia Huppman, SPHR, MBA, an assistant professor at Peirce since 2010. An accomplished HR professional and college educator, Professor Huppman has over 20 years of experience with local corporations as a recruiter, HR director, and consultant. Her goals for the program are consistent with Peirce’s mission of providing practical education for our learning community: "I want to prepare people and have them leave here with a toolkit of what they will need to be successful in HR. They will know what will be expected of them on the job."

The program at Peirce will focus on blending online and on-campus courses with the development of a portfolio of real life work experience. An advisory board of HR professionals is being put into place to extend the reach of the program into the business community. A Peirce-based chapter of the Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM) is being chartered to better develop preparedness for credentialing as well as enhance networking and educational opportunities.

The new degree program will be beneficial for those who are already working in the profession and looking to enhance their career momentum, as well as those who have always been interested in HR as a professional vocation. In particular, Professor Huppman encourages Peirce alumni who took classes in the HR concentration to return for the bachelor’s degree as a way to build their professional portfolio.

Professor Huppman sees a promising future for the program and the students who choose a job in HR. The recent $50,000 pledge made by Albert G. Cederstrom Jr. ‘43 to the program will help assist students and enable Peirce to develop initiatives which will lead to fruitful professional relationships. Students who complete their degree will leave Peirce well-prepared for a fulfilling career in one of the many facets of human resources.

"Whatever you are good at," Alicia Huppman asserts with confidence, "there’s an HR-related job for you."

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**Welcome New Alumni**

On Monday, June 11, Peirce held our 147th Commencement and conferred 399 degrees, 238 at the bachelor’s level. For the first time this year, Peirce graduated 12 students from our new bachelor’s program in Accounting, established in 2010. Atiya Goldsmith-Irby was the Student Commencement Speaker.

Patricia A. Coulter, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Philadelphia, delivered the keynote address. She was also awarded an honorary doctorate during the ceremony in recognition of significant accomplishments in her professional career and in the community. Dr. Coulter encouraged graduates to embrace their Peirce P.O.W.E.R. (Pride, Ownership, Will, Energy and Resolve) as they embarked on their lifelong relationship with the Alumni Association.
We Did It Together

There are so many inspiring stories of how our graduates came to succeed in getting their degrees. In her own words, here is the story of Ashley Jenkins Cole ’12, and how she and her husband triumphed over adversity to receive their diplomas together at Commencement 2012.

“In the summer of 2010, after watching my husband Vector get his Associate Degree from Peirce College, I decided to go back to school. Let’s rewind a little bit further: in 2008, my family was faced with a hardship from which it was almost impossible to recover. My husband, who at the time was a Real Estate Broker, was forced to close his office due to the fallen economy.

When we talked about what our next steps should be, I asked my husband how he felt about going back to school to get his degree. I spoke to a close friend to get her opinion about colleges with the working adult in mind, and she told me about Peirce College. Vector was very skeptical about the process and how we would pay for a college education, but for some reason I wasn’t worried.

Before we both knew it, Vector was graduating from Peirce with his Associates degree with honors. It wasn’t easy for us, but we made it together. It was then that I decided that I, too, wanted to achieve my goal of getting a degree and I wanted to do it at Peirce College.

So, here we are, Class of 2012 Graduates: Vector Cole, Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration of Management, and Ashley Jenkins-Cole, Associate in Science in Business Administration with a concentration of Management. We did it together... and that’s our story (Ashley’s story is to be continued, but to give you a little preview she has already started her journey towards her Bachelor’s Degree).”

Good News!

A new feature of Peirce Perspectives, “Good News!” will focus on our graduates’ personal and professional accomplishments. To submit your “Good News”, email alumni@peirce.edu or send it to Office of Institutional Advancement, Peirce College, 1420 Pine Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19102. You can also post news anytime on the Peirce College Alumni Association Facebook page.

Peirce engenders a lifelong love of learning among our students, many of whom go on for other degrees. Congratulations to the following alumni for their recent accomplishments in furthering their education: Cherri Baxter ’04 and Shakaia Matthews ’07 were awarded Juris Doctor degrees from Widener University Law School. Melody Hinson ’85 received an associate degree in Healthcare from DeVry Institute. Natalia Gamarra ’06 received her Master of Science degree in Management from Gwynedd-Mercy College. Saleah Hinton ’08 received a Master of Science in Health Administration degree from St. Joseph’s University.

Jo-Ann Williams ’03 has been appointed Editor of The Forum, the newsletter of the Philadelphia Association of Paralegals. If you have news for The Forum, contact Jo-Ann at joann_williams@ca3.uscourts.gov.

Fiona Harewood ’09 has just written a book, “I Did It... You Can, Too!” Fiona’s story recounts her own journey to a degree and gives practical advice for people thinking about returning to school. The book, as well as additional reflections on her experience, is available through her website at www.fionaharewood.com.

Ray Palzer ’52 recently concluded his term of service as President of the Residents Association of Wood River Village, the retirement community in which he lives in Bensalem, Pa.

Steven Rodriguez ’07 is the co-host of “The No Notes Show”, broadcasted on YouTube weekly (http://www.youtube.com/user/kiloski72). The No Notes Crew describes itself as “two ethical and professional individuals who bring together a wealth of knowledge pertaining to Sports, World Events, Stats, Relationships, Media Views and Politics like it’s never been brought to you before!”

This fall, Founding Director Joseph M. Paprzycki ’77 will be presenting the eighth season of plays at the South Camden Theatre Company (SCTC). Throughout 2012-2013, Paprzycki’s New Jersey-based company, which recently concluded a year-long celebration of Tennessee Williams, will focus on “our common desire for somewhere to call home... be it in our neighborhoods, hearts or minds. These plays reflect that longing in different ways, situations and locations with all leading toward the same serenity”. For more information about SCTC, go to www.southcamdentheatre.org or call 856.409.0365.
New Day Program

This fall, students can enroll in our NEW, full-time Day Program to earn a 4-year bachelor’s degree. Classes are held 2 or 3 mornings each week. If you know someone who is trying to fit college into their schedule, contact 888.467.3472, ext. 9000 or email info@peirce.edu

Planning for Peirce

Did you know you can make a gift to Peirce College that costs you nothing during your lifetime?

Including Peirce College as a beneficiary of your will builds our long-term financial strength and is the easiest major gift you can make. Why?

• It’s Simple:
  One paragraph in your will can set up your gift.

• It’s Flexible:
  You can give us a specific asset, or a share in the net residue of your estate. Your bequest can support a particular program, or allow us to use it for the needs that are most relevant when your gift is received.

  We can help you take the next steps to plan a bequest. Visit the website at http://peirce.plannedgiving.org/ or contact Chuck Wright at 215.670.9065.