



Webb News

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Mission Statement

To inspire and educate tomorrow's leaders in an extraordinary learning community focused on engineering and design in the marine field.

- Provides a rigorous education in the principles of engineering and the fundamentals of naval architecture, marine engineering and related marine technologies.
- Develops skills that will enable graduates to become leaders in, and make significant contributions to, their chosen profession and the wider community.
- Instills in graduates the highest ethical standards and sense of professionalism.
- Cultivates curiosity in the arts, sciences and humanities and provides the background and encouragement necessary to support lifelong learning.

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President's Message



Just over a year ago, I stepped into my new world – the world of higher education – with the same excitement (and concern!) that all first-year students share when they first pass through Webb's gates. No tearful departing hugs with Mom and Dad this time around, but the sense of adventure, of learning the ropes, the desire (and need) to soak up every experience, and to put in the extra hours to get things right – we were all in the same boat.

My shipping career focused on providing a great customer experience to those who did business with my company. Should we consider students in the same way as customers? Yes – and no. Great student experiences are essential for high graduation rates (we want every Webbie to graduate!) and to forge enthusiastic alumni who will support Webb over their careers, following in the footsteps of those who came before us, walking the talk of “giving back.” Unlike customers, some students need occasional reminders on proper decorum in the Webbisphere, on keeping living/eating spaces shipshape, and guidance on adhering to rules and responsibilities. I should know; in my student days I received my fair share of “guidance” from Admiral Payne (then-President) and Doc Joe (then-Dean). Lessons learned at Webb go a long way in one's life.

I did not expect my first year to be consumed with an unexpected problem: the new fire standpipe system in Stevenson Taylor Hall was not approved because of low water flow from the City of Glen Cove, so students couldn't occupy our new dorms, and we couldn't begin the conversion of dorms above Robinson Model Basin into faculty apartments. It was painful for our students and painful for our budget since the eventual solution – installing a pumping system to use the model tank as a reservoir in case of fire – will cost close to \$300,000. Webb now has – like many a ship – its own pump room.

With the intervention of Nassau County political support (through a Webb alum), we obtained a waiver on our soon-to-complete pumping system two days before students returned in August, and they happily moved into their new dorms. The Robinson dorm-to-apartment conversion is proceeding apace as Webb News goes to print.

Our goals for the 2023-2024 year focus on innovation (in the curriculum and made visible on campus, sustainability in coursework and in our facilities); strategic development (curriculum review, infrastructure planning including major projects); increasing Webb's visibility (admissions recruitment, website review); and planning next steps in securing Webb's long-term financial sustainability. With the support of the Webb community in celebrating our past successes and in addressing our future challenges, I enthusiastically look forward to this year and to graduating the Class of 2024 next June.

Mark Martecchini '79, P'09



Beyond the classroom

At Webb, we believe education goes far beyond the confines of the traditional classroom. It's about getting your hands dirty, feeling the spray of the sea on your face; it's where theoretical knowledge meets practical experience. At the heart of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering is - sailing boats.

Meet the Class of

Here is a glimpse into the lives of a diverse group of 28 students hailing from 13 different states and 3 different countries.

The class is geographically diverse with 46% from the Mid-Atlantic, 25% from New England, 11% from the South, 7% from the Midwest, 7% being international students and 4% from the West.



Kyle



Aiden



Alexander



Oskar



Eric



Lexi



Sam



Serafin



Dominic



Molly



McGregor



Julian



Sean



Ian



Nikos



Hunter

2027

The class excels in athletics, participating in 19 distinct sports, while showing an impressive commitment to boating and marine research. They've demonstrated leadership in various roles and clubs, including scouting - with 5 reaching prestigious scouting ranks.

Many have a knack for robotics and musical talent, playing instruments ranging from the piano to the bass. Meet the future leaders, the Class of 2027!



Leo



Karissa



Gio



Jack



Spencer



Chris



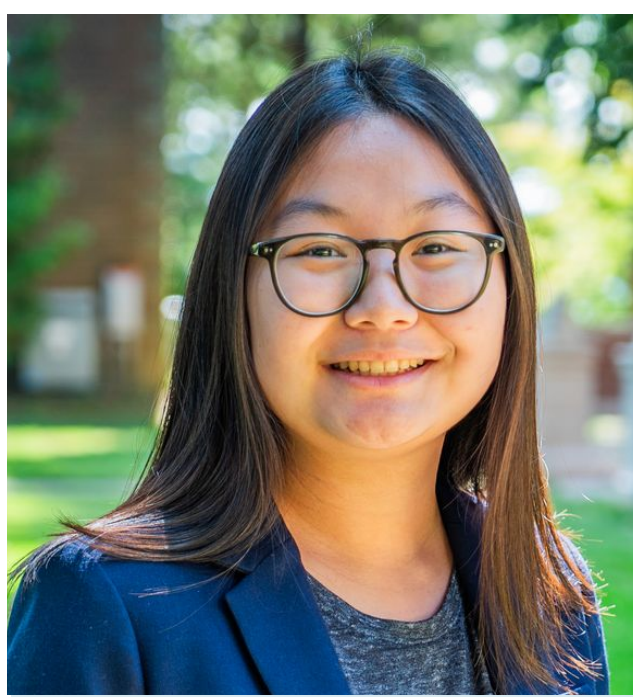
Lauren



Dom



Juliette



Emma



Ben



Audrey

The Class of 2023 Commencement



On June 17th, Webb was pleased to award 22 deserving Webb seniors with a degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering.

In addition, Webb awarded two honorary degrees, the highest degree Webb Institute can award. Joseph J. Cuneo '57 chose a Doctor of Commercial Science degree, and Christopher J. Wiernicki (President & CEO, American Bureau of Shipping) chose a Doctor of Science degree. We were also honored to have Dr. Wiernicki as our principal commencement speaker. One of his standout remarks from his speech that resonated with our graduates was:

"Leadership means making a friend of uncertainty and being comfortable with embracing change and the unknown. To do that successfully means working hard, creating opportunities, trusting your intuition and not being afraid to take risks and bouncing back if things go wrong.

I encourage you to remember that no matter the obstacles you face in your lifetime, you are today and will be for all time... proud Webbies!"



Decklyn Uttmark presented the senior farewell. Included in his remarks:

"No matter where we all end up from here, I am proud of us all. Whether you think you know where your path might lead or not, I know you'll get there because ultimately, Webb prides itself not just on creating the best ship designers, but on the quality of character which every student carries with them, and the legacy of William Webb."

The new graduates will join the workforce or continue their education. We wish them nothing but success!





Post Graduate Plans

Gabe Allen	Thayer Mahan
Jonathan Allen	Dartmouth
Si Cong Chen	University of Strathclyde
Jacob Dillistin	Murray & Associates
George Hambleton	Resolve Marine
Eric Heilshorn	University of Michigan
Kasey Kennedy	Bristol Harbor
Tori Kim	Chevron, San Ramon
Jack Kirk	Glosten, Providence
Alex Lytle	Glosten, Providence
Spencer Margosian	Glosten, Seattle + WSU MS Program
Cole Matthes	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard
Kyle Murphy	Applied Physical Sciences
Lorenzo Pensabene	Glosten, Providence
Nathaniel Phillips	Capital One
Erin Postma	ABS
Mark Reed	Gilbert Associates
Alex Resio	SERCO
Luke Sullivan	SERCO
Adriana Torres Rodriguez	Technical University of Denmark
Deck Uttmark	Undecided
Natalie Webb	CACI International

Awards

- RICHARD A. PARTANEN HUMANITIES AWARD**
Adriana Torres Rodriguez
{Sponsored by the Class of 1987}
- CURRAN MEMORIAL PRIZE**
for most outstanding & consistent improvement
Kasey J. Kennedy
{Sponsored by Trustee, John A. Malone '71 & his wife Amy}
- The CHARLES KURZ II (Hon.)**
Community Service Award
Jonathan W. Allen
for exemplary commitment of service to others through volunteerism, community service, and civic outreach
{Sponsored by Honorary Trustee, Charles Kurz II (Hon.)}
- PATRICK S. MATRASCIA GOOD SHIPMATE AWARD**
Gabriel J. Allen
working unselfishly and in harmony with classmates
{Sponsored by President Emeritus, R. Keith Michel '73 & Family}
- PAUL E. ATKINSON MEMORIAL PRIZE IN ETHICS**
Gabriel J. Allen
for ethical behavior
- LEWIS NIXON MEMORIAL PRIZE**
Gabriel J. Allen & Natalie A. Webb
for excellence in the senior thesis
{Sponsored by Trustee Emeritus, John W. Russell '67}
- KEELER MEMORIAL PRIZE**
highest average in mathematics
George R. Hambleton
{Sponsored by Past Trustee, Dr. Luther Tai}
- JENS T. HOLM '41 MEMORIAL AWARD**
George R. Hambleton
for excellence in Marine Engineering
{Sponsored by George A. Gilmore '57}
- J. LEWIS LUCKENBACH MEMORIAL PRIZE**
George R. Hambleton
highest general average over four years
{Sponsored by the American Bureau of Shipping}
- CHARLES A. WARD, JR., MEMORIAL AWARD**
excellence in naval architecture
Kyle L. Murphy
{Sponsored by Chairman of the Board, Bruce S. Rosenblatt (Hon.) and the Ward Family}
- STEVENSON TAYLOR MEMORIAL PRIZE**
Eric J. Heilshorn, Jr. & Kyle L. Murphy
for excellence in the senior thesis
{Sponsored by the American Bureau of Shipping}
- CHAFFEE MEMORIAL PRIZE**
general excellence
Eric J. Heilshorn, Jr.
{Sponsored by Trustee Emeritus, Joseph J. Cuneo '57}



Thesis Titles

GABRIEL J. ALLEN & NATALIE A. WEBB

DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND TESTING OF AN OPEN-SOURCE LOW-COST BOUOYANCY-DRIVER UNDERWATER GLIDER

JONATHAN W. ALLEN & ALEXANDER P. LYTLE

FEASIBILITY OF A MODULARIZED FUEL CELL SYSTEM AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION FOR A FERRY

SI CONG CHEN & ADRIANA TORRES RODRIGUEZ

THE SEAKEEPING OF A TENSION LEG PLATFORM (TLP) IN STOCHASTIC SEAS

JACOB DILLISTIN

SIMULATING INLAND WATERWAYS: A MICROSCOPIC MODEL OF INLAND WATERWAY TRAFFIC FLOW

GEORGE HAMBLETON & MARK REED

A SIMPLIFIED TEST FOR RECREATIONAL VESSEL STABILITY: INVESTIGATING THE SALLYING CONSTANT

ERIC HEILSHORN & KYLE MURPHY

CREATION OF A RIDE CONTROL ALGORITHM USING AN ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORK

KASEY KENNEDY & ALEX RESIO

THE U.S. APPLICATION OF THE STOCKHOLM AGREEMENT: A FEASIBILITY AND COST ANALYSIS

TORI KIM & SPENCER MARGOSIAN

DEVELOPMENT OF A METHOD FOR COMPARISON OF SHIPBOARD POWER TRANSMISSION MODELS

JACK KIRK & LORENZO PENSABENE

EXPERIMENTAL ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECT OF MOONPOOL RECESS GEOMETRY ON TOTAL RESISTANCE IN CALM WATER AND INCIDENT WAVES

COLE MATTHES & LUKE SULLIVAN

THE STIMULATION AND EFFECT OF FLUTTER INSTABILITY ON A FAT FOIL IN A CURRENT ENERGY GENERATOR

NATHANIEL PHILLIPS

AN INTELLIGENT COLLISION AVOIDANCE SYSTEM BASED ON DEEP REINFORCEMENT LEARNING

ERIN POSTMA

CARBON CAPTURE ON SHIPS: A FEASIBILITY STUDY

DECKLYN UTTMARK

VALUATION AND EMISSIONS ANALYSIS OF SLOW STEAMING TANKERS MAXIMIZING WIND PROPULSION

Thesis posters, descriptions, senior spotlights and presentations are available at:
<https://www.webb.edu/academics/class-of-2023/>

Webb Alumni Association

by Ted Dickenson '92, WAA President

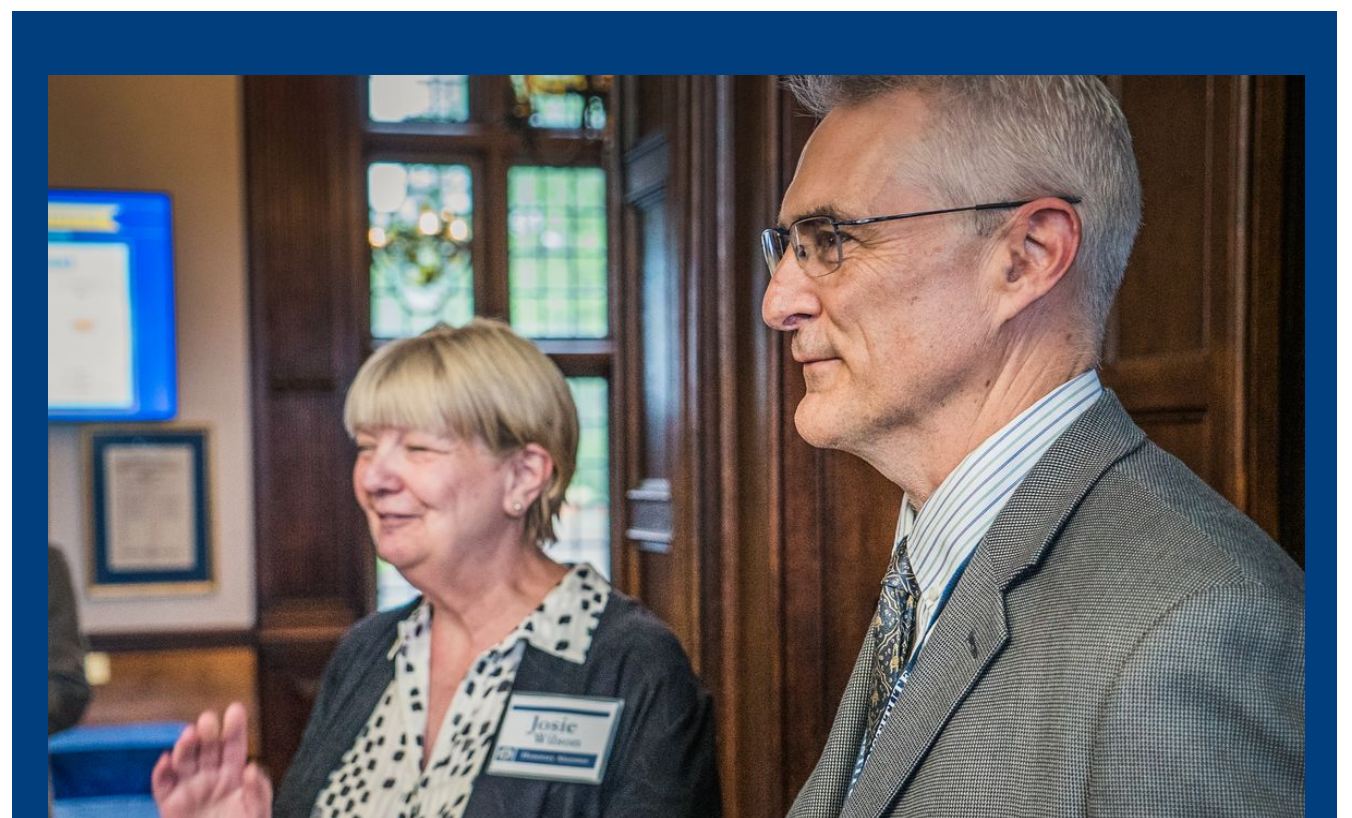
Hello Alumni, Parents, and Friends, I'd like to give you a brief update of recent Alumni Association happenings.

On May 20, 2023, the WAA held our Annual Meeting on campus during Homecoming, which was a whirlwind of activity. Annual Meeting proceedings were held in the Auditorium with nearly a full house attending in person, and more than twenty others attending online. During the meeting we remembered WAA members who passed away during the previous year, presented Student Athletic Awards to a member of each class, and unanimously voted 22 members of the Class of 2023 into the Association. When this is published, you will officially be graduates – congratulations and welcome aboard! We presented an updated set of the Association's by-laws to membership for approval, which passed as well. And, elections confirmed the nominations of Executive Committee members for two-year terms: Andrew Pidduck '19, 5th Member; Eric Linsner '70, 6th Member; Joe Signorelli '54, Spencer Schilling '82, and Katri Heitman '19, Members at Large; and Jake Neuman '93, Alumni Fund Chair. Congratulations to all six of you, and thank you for serving.

After the Annual Meeting concluded, we presented member Josie Wilson (Hon) with a certificate of appreciation, as well as a couple of retirement gifts reflecting the contributions of many alums who appreciate Josie's service and wish her well. And as the capstone of Homecoming's events, we presented the 2022 (57th) William Selkirk Owen award to Jon J. LaBerge '76. Jon was recognized in particular for his outstanding service on Webb's Board of Trustees over the past dozen years. Introducing Jon was Keith Michel, President Emeritus and 46th WSO award recipient.

The Webb Alumni Mentorship program, now in its 8th year, is continuing to experience strong interest and positive reviews. This year 20 members of the junior class have signed up to participate. Topics discussed in mentorship relationships may include career path, graduate education, thesis work, job opportunities, networking, communication skills, and more. Thank you to all the alums who volunteer to serve as mentors – there are currently over 100, and we encourage more to become involved.

We look forward to seeing many of you soon at the Annual Banquet, a regional event, or in other forums. Thank you!



Sailing to the Olympics

Webb News interviews Daniel Escudero '25

How did you become interested in sailing, and what led you to compete at such a high level?

I was introduced to sailing through a learn-to-sail summer camp program at Bay of Quinte Yacht Club in Canada where I grew up. During the summer of 2016, they offered a racing camp during which I started sailing Lasers (now ILCAs). I had so much fun at the regatta that culminated the camp, I really wanted to continue racing. My parents started signing me up for some local regattas, which is when a coach suggested I join the Lauderdale Yacht Club Racing Team. Anywhere from 20 to 30 boats would show up to practice every weekend. I went to high school near Atlanta, so I had to drive or fly down to Lauderdale to get to weekend practices. At first, I would go to practice once every two or three weeks, but by my junior year, I was in Lauderdale every weekend. At one point, I even took my SAT exam in Lauderdale to not miss practice. I was sailing during all my breaks and holidays. During my last two years of high school, I was ranked 1st Laser Radial (ILCA6, youth class) in North America and made it onto the US Sailing Olympic Development Team. After graduating, I transitioned into the ILCA7, the Olympic class. It was a tough transition as it was like learning to sail a new boat. While at Webb, I managed to work my way into the top 3 ILCA7 in the US putting me into a position to qualify for the 2024 Olympic games.

Can you tell us about your journey from being at Webb to your ongoing campaign to qualify for Olympic sailing?

Given the academic workload at Webb, my goal during the Webb semester was focus on my fitness while trying to maintain my sailing skills the best I could. A typical week consisted of at least 2 sailing sessions, weightlifting 3-4 days, and about 80 miles cycling with a local team. I also joined some friends on a few weekends during the semester for some ILCA racing at American Yacht Club. Fortunately, President Martecchini, Dean Werner, and the faculty are extremely supportive of my sailing, and even allowed me to take time off to train and compete.

What are some of the challenges that you face in training for the Olympics?

Campaigning for the Olympics is a logistical, planning, and funding nightmare. I don't stay in the same country for more than two weeks at a time before I travel to the next. I have to make sure my equipment stays in order and everything I need gets to the next place. I'd like to take this moment to thank my parents and my coach. Without them it would be impossible.

Of course, performing and improving is another challenge. The skill gap between the U21 and Senior fleet is massive. Competing against the best in the world is a very humbling experience. Dealing with the stress and pressure of personal expectations of improvement, especially when extremely tired from training, and competing, can be very challenging. Mentally draining-resilience.



How does it feel to represent both Webb and the USA- on a global platform?

I am very proud to represent Webb and the USA on a global platform. It is great to know that I have my college supporting and cheering for me, and it adds motivation to do my best while training and competing!



How has Webb impacted you on your journey to the Olympics?

I'd say Webb has helped me greatly improve my stress and time management skills. Since Webb's academic load can be quite stressful at times, I've found that it has improved my resilience and work efficiency, especially when having to complete assignments and exams while competing at regattas at the same time.

I also find it funny when the things we learn at Webb for designing and building container ships apply to my sailing. Webb has helped me gain a better understanding of my boat and look at my sailing from a more technical and analytical perspective, which gives me an edge over my competitors. I am very grateful for the invaluable skills I have learned at Webb.

What advice would you give to other student-athletes?

The main advice I would give is that everything comes down to time management and prioritizing. Especially with Webb's demanding academic workload, fitting in the necessary training while leaving some free time available is very tricky but totally achievable.



The Impact of AI on Webb's Admissions Process

By Lauren Carballo, Director of Admissions and Student Affairs



Sailing into the Future: A Generative Artwork done by StockAI

In November 2022, OpenAI released ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot that is revolutionizing the way the world communicates and searches for information. Its release has been met with mixed reactions, ranging from excitement for its ability to make information accessible, enhance productivity, automate tasks, and so on, to concern regarding the ethical implications, biases, and potential misuse of AI (among others). AI's impact on the college admissions process has been met with similar sentiments.

On the one hand, AI provides students with a quick means of accessing information, greatly enhancing accessibility, and aiding students in their college search processes. For example, ChatGPT's response to the query "What makes the Webb Institute experience unique?" mirrors what we in the Office of Admissions typically include in our elevator pitch (See Figure 1). Students now have access to this information without having to sit in on information sessions, schedule a tour, or navigate through pages of information on college websites. AI also allows students to quickly and more easily compare multiple institutions or even request college recommendations based on certain parameters or other institutions they are considering. And ChatGPT can even take this a step further and create a surprisingly exciting and engaging sales pitch when asked. An example of this can be seen in Figure 2, which shows ChatGPT's response to the query, "Can you sell Webb Institute to me in 150 words or less?" In these cases, only a few minor errors were generated (... Can you spot them?). With the ease of finding information through AI, it's no surprise that many students are preferring to use AI in their college search processes, and Webb will continue to look for ways to improve the quality of information generated and use AI to improve Webb's visibility.

Figure 1: ChatGPT's response to the query,

"What makes the Webb Institute experience unique? On 6/10/2023.

- 1. Webb's exclusive focus on Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering,**
- 2. Webb's Full-Tuition Scholarship,**
- 3. Winter Work Term,**
- 4. Small Class Size and Close-Knit Community,**
- 5. A Mix of the Theoretical and Practical,**
- 6. Strong Industry Connections, and**
- 7. High Job Placement Rate**

On the other hand, concerns have also been raised regarding AI's impact on college admissions. These range from AI generating misinformation, biased information, oversimplified information, information that is based on certain limited metrics, and so on. However, one concern has recently received particular attention in the media—student misuse of AI to write college admissions essays. Webb Institute's application includes two essays—a more general Common

Application essay that is shared by all institutions who use the Common Application and a second, more specific essay, which asks, "Why Webb? or Why Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering?," which Webb has used in recent years to gauge interest and fit early in the process. However, now, with AI, students can type these questions directly into ChatGPT and easily copy and paste the response into an application with little effort if they so choose. This comes at a time when colleges are already rethinking their admissions processes. With over 80% of colleges and universities (including all Ivy League institutions) having a test-optional or test-blind policy (meaning that students are not required to submit SATs, ACTs, or other standardized test scores), and with many secondary schools continuing to see grade inflation, ...and now with students able to use a chatbot to write their essays or respond to supplemental questions, how can colleges ensure they are admitting students who are a good fit for their respective institutions?



Navigating Tomorrow: AI Illustration by Stock AI

Figure 2: ChatGPT's response to the query, "Can you sell Webb Institute to me in 150 words or less?" on 6/10/2023.

"Unlock your potential at Webb Institute, an unparalleled institution where innovation meets adventure. Specializing in naval architecture and marine engineering, Webb offers a transformative education that propels you to the forefront of these dynamic fields. With a hands-on approach and access to cutting-edge facilities, you'll develop practical skills to bring your ideas to life. Webb's close-knit community fosters mentorship and collaboration, ensuring personalized attention and support from world-class professors. Immerse yourself in the legendary Sea Term, a global voyage aboard a training ship where you'll apply classroom knowledge in real-world scenarios. A Webb degree opens doors to limitless career opportunities in prestigious firms, shipbuilders, research institutions, and government agencies. Join the ranks of Webb Institute's exceptional alumni who have made their mark on the maritime industry. Ignite your passion, chart new territories, and become a driving force in shaping the future of naval architecture and marine engineering. Webb Institute is where your extraordinary journey begins."

This question has been raised in many college admissions forums. When such conversations arise, I always feel grateful to work at an institution that values a more human approach to college admissions. For years, Webb has required a 24-hour, in-person, overnight visit as part of the application process to allow the admissions committee to delve further into the information that students submit on their applications. While the application serves as an initial introduction to each candidate, Webb understands that there is more to learn about students, and, therefore, selects approximately sixty finalists to invite to campus, with the goal of enrolling a class of 28 students. Our finalist process allows Webb to learn more about a student's preparation, background, skills, and experience—whether it be through our informal interactions with the candidates, our interviews, or our internal math and English-focused assessments. Webbies are impressive not only because of their test scores, GPA, or ability to write but because of other traits as well. Over the past several years, Webb has continued to refine our on-campus Math and English Assessments, which not only focus on better understanding their foundational knowledge in these areas but also their ability to problem solve. Furthermore, over the past two years, Webb has continued to refine our process of collecting information on the impact that grit, ownership, integrity, leadership, and gratitude can play in a student's success at Webb and beyond. We look forward to continuing to refine the process over the upcoming years.

There is no doubt that AI will impact the college admissions process moving forward. Webb continues to have a strong foundation to evaluate applicants in this changing world and looks forward to continuing to refine our process in order to enroll students who will continue to make an impact in the maritime industry and beyond.

Bringing Nutrition Education to Webb

By Kayla Green,
Assistant Director of Admissions and Student Affairs

Nutrition initiatives in college are crucial for promoting a healthy lifestyle and improving the overall well-being of the student body.

I realized the importance of maintaining a balanced diet and making informed food choices when I was in college, and I continue to use what I learned to make health-focused decisions in my life.

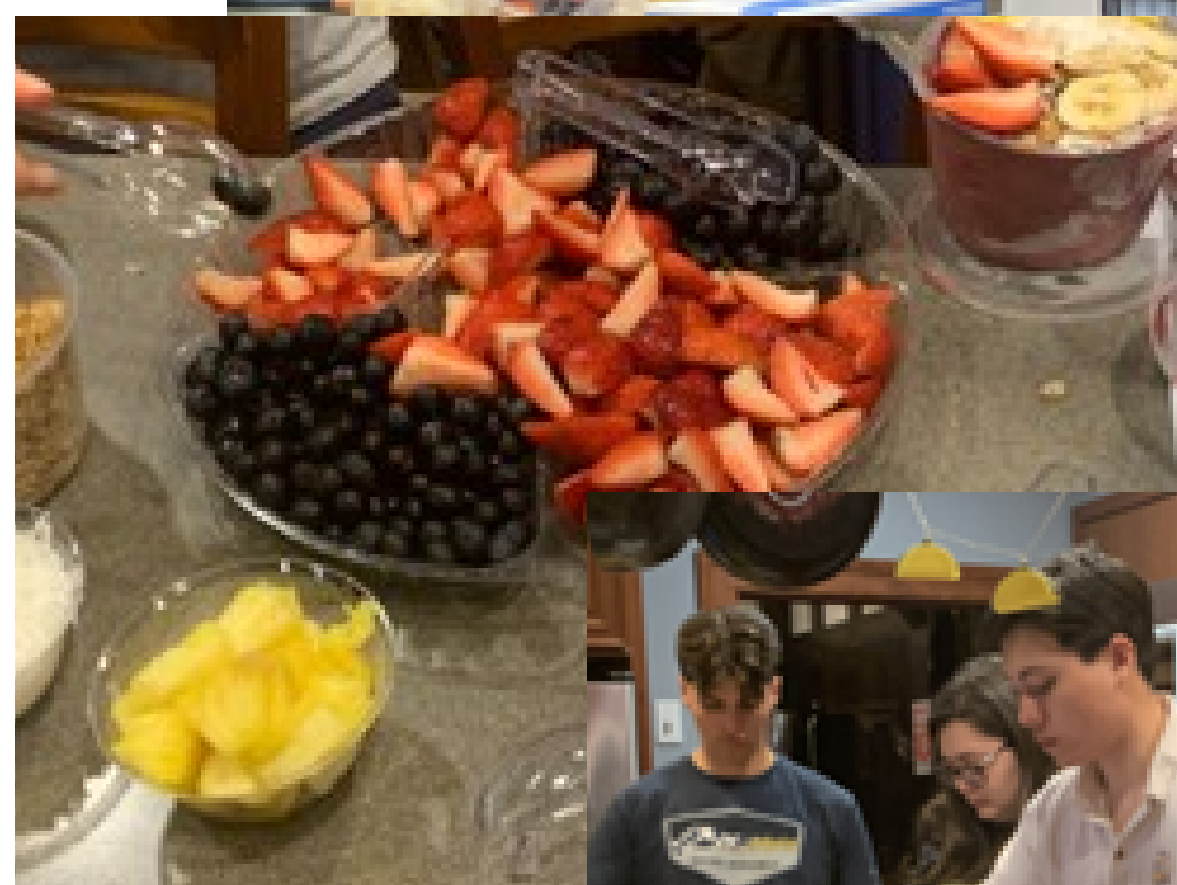
FLIK, Webb's culinary service prides itself on putting "wellness center stage." They provide a wide range of fresh fruits, vegetables, and whole grains on their menus and account for a variety of dietary restrictions and allergies. Having these options readily accessible makes it easier to prioritize nutritious meals and snacks; however, even so, knowing what to eat to maintain a healthy and balanced diet can be difficult.

At Webb, where students are regularly challenged by a rigorous curriculum, packed schedule, and academic stress, maintaining a healthy lifestyle is especially important, but can often fall behind other priorities.

This Spring, the Office of Admissions, therefore partnered with health educators, to educate our community on nutrition. This started with a Monday Lecture from Christina Brockett, MS, CNS, LDN, a licensed Clinical Nutritionist, who offers individual nutritional counseling, group nutritional programs, custom educational talks and presentations, and corporate wellness programs. Ms. Brockett also explored how nutrition impacts mental health. At the Monday Lecture, Ms. Brockett provided Webbies with insight on how to properly fuel their bodies and adopt good habits while trying to meet the demands of Webb's rigorous academic program. Using Webb's food menus provided by FLIK, she tailored her presentation to Webb's current food offerings. Her ability to present the subject in an engaging way, while connecting it to the Webbie experience made the presentation relevant and memorable.

Building off of this lecture, I had the opportunity to co-host several mini, cooking classes with Anna Boyd, MS, RD, RND (and Webb Professor Spenser Boyd's wife), whose field of expertise is in nutrition and dietetics. Final exam season is typically a time when studying takes priority and healthy eating takes a backseat, which can impact student performance. I, therefore, developed a Brain Booster Smoothie Bowl demo series. Smoothie Bowls are a healthy, but tasty snack that can support students with the nutrients needed for a full day of studying.

In this series, I reviewed the equipment and ingredients needed to make acai, pitaya, and matcha bowls, demonstrated how to make them, and Ms. Boyd presented the science behind the nutritional ingredients within the smoothie bowls (and beyond). This series incorporated the nutritional value of different ingredients and how they impact one's body to help students make more informed choices when serving themselves in the dining hall or going grocery shopping, and best of all, the community was able to enjoy their personalized smoothie bowls afterward.



The goal of these initiatives was to provide information that could equip students with the practical skills, nutritional knowledge, and appreciation for healthy eating. These classes have the potential to shape one's approach to food and promote a balanced, nutritious lifestyle. By prioritizing the physical well-being of students, colleges can create a supportive environment that fosters healthy habits and empowers individuals to make positive choices for their long-term health and success.



PAWS for a Study Break!

by Alyssa Caliguri,
Associate Director
of Admissions and Student Affairs

There are typically high levels of stress on college campuses during the weeks leading up to Final Exams. To help address this, a practice common across colleges in the U.S. involves bringing trained therapy dogs to their campuses to interact with their students and provide emotional support. Webb already has a long tradition of dogs visiting (or even residing on) campus. Over the past few years, Sully, Barney, Duke, Pebbles, Callie, Dan, Beau, Diego, Holly, and other employee dogs have spent some time on campus with Webbies. On Tuesday, June 15th, two therapy dogs from Therapy Dogs of Long Island joined in on the fun and visited the Webb Institute campus.

to help relieve some stress before final exams. Toby, the golden retriever, and Lucy, a Labrador retriever, greeted students in the Visconti Reception Room and provided some well-deserved relief from the workload and studying. According to Therapy Dogs of Long Island, "Dogs can help improve mental and physical health, pain management, and behavior/interpersonal interaction.

Dogs can also reduce heart rate, blood pressure, fear and anxiety, and aggression." Toby and Lucy brought unconditional love and many smiles to the students' faces during this time.



Pawsitively uplifting our Webbies' spirits during crunch-time.

There is something special and calming about a dog's companionship, and its ability to understand feelings and situations around it, without ever having a conversation.

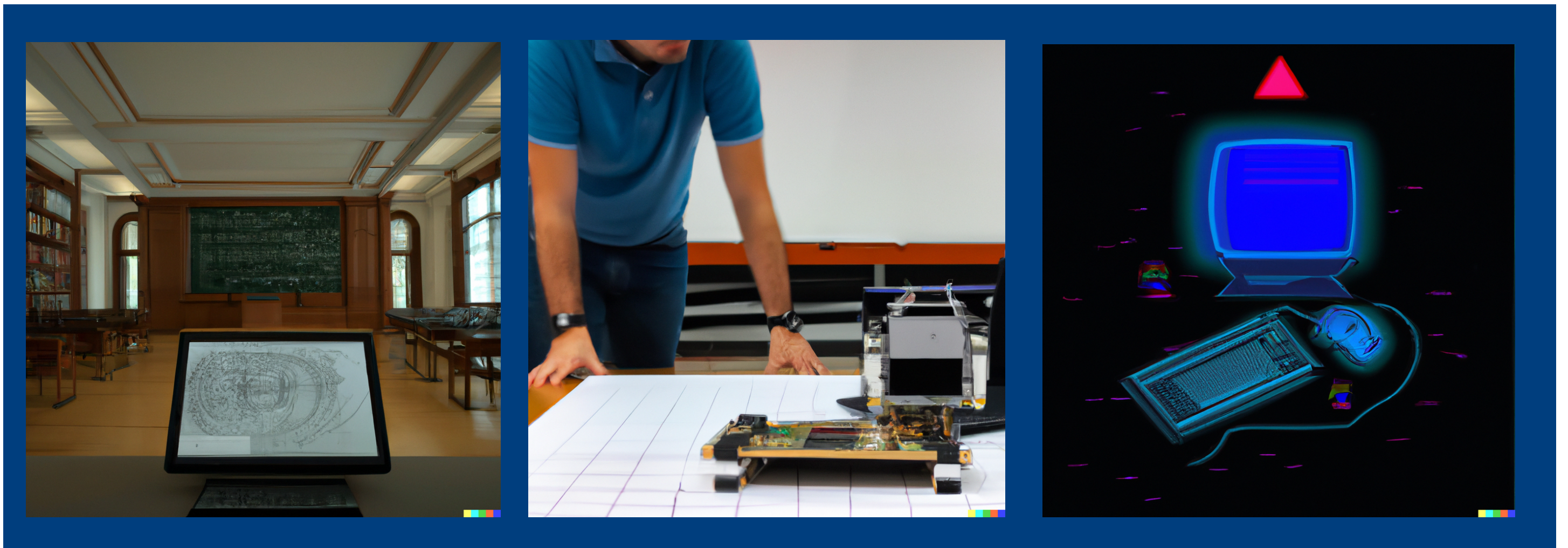
Marguerite Caliguri, Toby's owner states, "Bringing Toby to therapy visits has been very rewarding for both of us as a therapy dog team. Toby can really pick up on people's feelings; at the same time, I've seen people's attitude change completely for the better once they see Toby coming. It is also equally as rewarding for Toby to socialize, lend a paw, and brighten someone's day.

He thrives on being with people and seeing that he loves it so much, I knew I had to share it with as many people as I can."

Student wellness is key to academic success. The Office of Admissions and Student Affairs hopes to continue providing wellness initiatives throughout the upcoming year to help the students thrive in and out of the classroom environment.



Meet our four-legged stress buster, Toby!



Photos of computers and classrooms from Dall-E generated images.

The Role of Artificial Intelligence in Webb's Academic Program

Much has been said and written about the rapid development of AI, and the opportunities, challenges, and risks that this technological revolution creates. In academia, concerns have been raised about the dangers to academic integrity that tools such as ChatGPT pose.

Will term papers be the product of a student's labor or the output of an AI-powered language model? How can a course instructor be assured that the solutions on a student's exam were not sourced through an online resource that uses the latest in AI. This past summer, Matthew Collette '99 Professor of Naval Architecture at the University of Michigan posted to LinkedIn that through his testing he found that ChatGPT was able to score a "B" on typical questions from his hydrostatics course, and therefore validating the concerns of educators.

The faculty at Webb shares the concerns about academic integrity expressed by our peers throughout academia. At the same time, as engineering educators we cannot help but to be excited about the capabilities and possibilities of AI. AI tools have the promise to greatly augment the abilities of naval architects and marine engineers. Over the past several years, projects at Webb have explored the use of AI and machine learning on problems such as planning craft ride control and autonomous vessel maneuvering and collision avoidance. There are many ongoing projects across the breadth of the marine industry that seek to benefit from the capabilities of AI. Recent journal articles and news reports explore opportunities to improve ship design, construction, and operations through the application of AI tools.

Webb is fortunate to have the tradition of a robust honor code that is integral to our academic program. The faculty feel confident that the honor code and Webb's collaborative learning environment will allow the school to navigate the implementation of incorporating AI in an undergraduate program. The faculty's direction to the students can be summarized as follows: AI is a powerful tool that can enable learning, and it is appropriate to use AI tools for the acquisition of knowledge and the development of skills. Academic integrity is violated when AI is used to do the work for the student, such as writing a paper or solving a complex math problem. The intentional misuse of AI on academic assignments and assessments is an honor code violation.

To ensure that there is a clear understanding between students and faculty of what constitutes acceptable AI usage, this semester the faculty members added statements explaining the limitations on the usage of AI tools in their course policies. In addition, course instructors were encouraged to discuss with the students at the start of the semester their expectations regarding the use of AI in their course. Technology, subject matter, and teaching methods may evolve over time but the commitment to academic integrity and honor are Webb standards that must be and will be maintained.

Matthew R. Werner
Dean
ABS Chair of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering

Awards & Rankings

Showcasing our commitment to excellence in education and our students' and alumni's successes, we're proud to share a roundup of our recent accolades and national rankings. These honors not only affirm our dedication but also pave the way for our future growth and collaborations.

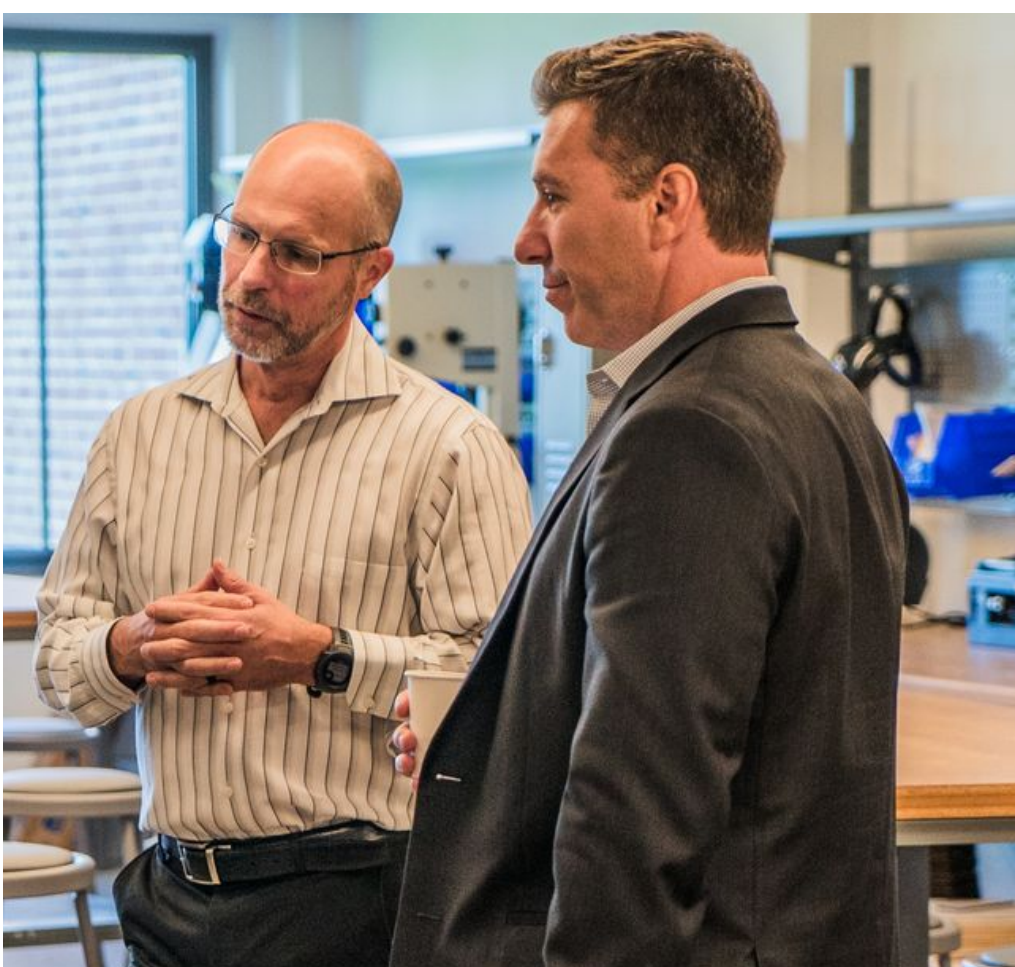
(Click on the light blue hyperlinked boxes for more information.)

Princeton Review

Ranking: Webb Institute is proud to be listed among the top 389 colleges in the United States.

Special Mention: The Princeton Review team visited our campus and expressed their admiration both on social media and directly with us, highlighting future partnership opportunities.

Testimonial: We received a glowing quote that features prominently on our website.



Dean Matt Werner passionately showcases some of Webb's cutting-edge equipment to Princeton Review.



President Mark Martecchini warmly welcomes Princeton Review Editor-in-Chief Rob Franek and AVP of Business Development, Josh Escott, during their illuminating campus tour at Webb Institute on October 3rd.

National Recognition, Rankings & Lists

College Raptor

Ranking: Recognized as #14 in top 25 Best Small Colleges in the U.S.

Financial Aid Excellence:

New York: Number #1 ranking in Financial Aid.

National: Ranked #6 nationwide in Financial Aid for the academic year 2020-2021.

Graduate Earnings

MSN: Webb was ranked 27th out of 100 colleges for top graduate earnings.

CNBC: Our Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering [NAME] major secured the #4 spot among top-earning majors, outperforming both Computer Science and Computer Engineering.

Payscale:

Financial Aid: Ranked #6 when evaluated with financial aid considerations.

Overall: Marking our commitment to quality education and student success, we hold a proud #13 overall ranking on Payscale.

Niche Ranking

Ranking: Placed at #87 out of 503 for the best Engineering Schools.

Founder's Day



Founder's Day at Webb Institute is an annual tradition that celebrates the lasting legacy of our founder, William H. Webb. As a visionary shipbuilder and philanthropist, Webb's impact extends beyond the walls of this prestigious school.

Founder's Day isn't just about reflecting on history, it's also about celebrating the present and looking to the future. Students, faculty, and staff gathered to participate in a variety of activities. These events not only strengthen the Webb community but also foster creativity and innovation, integral parts of the Webb Institute's ethos.

Welwyn Clean-Up



On behalf of the Leadership Committee, I wanted to say thank you to everyone that participated in the Welwyn Clean-up on October 28, 2022. In total we had over 90 Webbies that volunteered. Together, we collected over 70 bags of trash, painted about 3,000 square feet of graffiti, and made the trails a lot nicer. The Board of Welwyn are extremely appreciative of everyone's efforts.

Christopher Grieves '24
Vice President, Student Organization

Freshman Year

by Hank Wolfe '26

Over the last year, I have received the honor of becoming a Webbie and learning what the title holds. It's more than a nickname or label, being a Webbie is a way of life - one that includes the excessive wearing of flip-flops and late night burrito orders. Jokes aside, becoming a Webbie has shined a light for me on the power of community. I came into Webb excited and ready to work but with some hesitation-hesitation about figuring out how I would fit into the Webb family I had heard so much about. The idea of living with a hundred peers seemed daunting. My nerves would settle as I joined my new home.

What a great first year it was! My classmates and I meshed from the start. Laughter became a norm in the design studio. Even on the nights when the homework seemed endless, the optimism and humor of my friends got me through. Learning to have fun and acknowledging the work will inevitably get done is the key to success at Webb. Having fun consists of different things for different people. Sailing is a huge part of it for me. Thanks to the opportunities the Webb sailing team and NEKA have provided, I traveled the east coast to sail, going as far as Key West with Zach Doerr '24 for a weekend during our Winter Work term.

The Webb family extends far beyond the classroom. I had the privilege of working at Michael Rybovich and Sons Custom Boatworks under Dusty Rybovich '15, the talented foreman, "Flipper," and the rest of the crew. They eagerly took me under their wing, teaching me all there is to know about constructing sportfishing yachts. The hands-on experience I gained at the shipyard will last me a lifetime. While working in Florida, numerous other Webbies invited me to join them for dinner, and even stay with them for a weekend. The endless generosity from the Webb network was a constant reminder of how lucky I am to be a part of this community.



Going into sophomore year I am looking forward to meeting the next round of freshmen. I hope to lead by example, showing them the responsibilities of being a Webbie. I am excited to dive further into the NAME world, make more memories, and share laughs - all from the comfort of a pair of flip-flops.



Winter Work & Senior Year

Webb News Interviews Si Cong Chen '23

Tell us a bit about yourself.

My name is Si Cong Chen, and I grew up in Brooklyn, New York. I am a first-generation Asian American.

How did you get to Webb?

Before Webb, I attended Brooklyn Tech, the largest high school in NY. I always had an interest in engineering, so I decided to study Mechatronics and Robotics there. Not long after, I realized I wanted a change of pace. I still enjoyed the technical aspects of engineering, but I also desired a career with more hands-on work. After my Prospective Freshman (PF) visit to Webb, I learned about the different Winter Work periods students were exposed to at an early time of their careers. From there, I was convinced this was the place for my undergraduate studies.

What are some experiences that you remember at Webb?

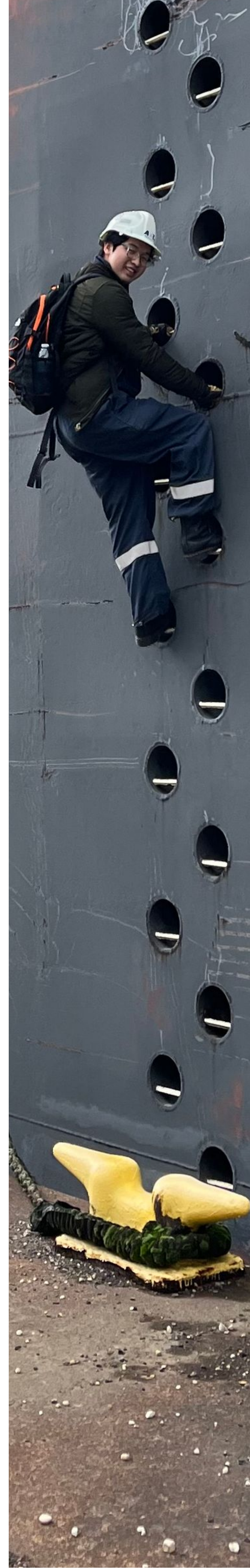
For Homecoming one year, the student body hosted a boat race. My classmates salvaged some parts from the Freshman Boat Building Competition earlier that month and successfully assembled the remnants into a large wooden boat suitable for nine people. Though we did not win the race against the other classes, we managed to stay afloat for the entirety of the race—I think.

Why were you interested in the company you chose at Winter Work?

I was interested in surveying when I started at Webb but had little luck finding a position during the peak of Covid. After contacting several alumni, I was finally able to find a surveying internship with Sean Murphy, an alum from 2013. I worked at ABL Group / Offshore Wind Consultants located in New York City's Financial District. The office was comprised of three different teams: maritime, engineering design, and offshore wind. With the maritime team, I had the privilege of crawling tanks, climbing my first pigeonhole ladder, and inspecting machinery equipment with a senior surveyor.

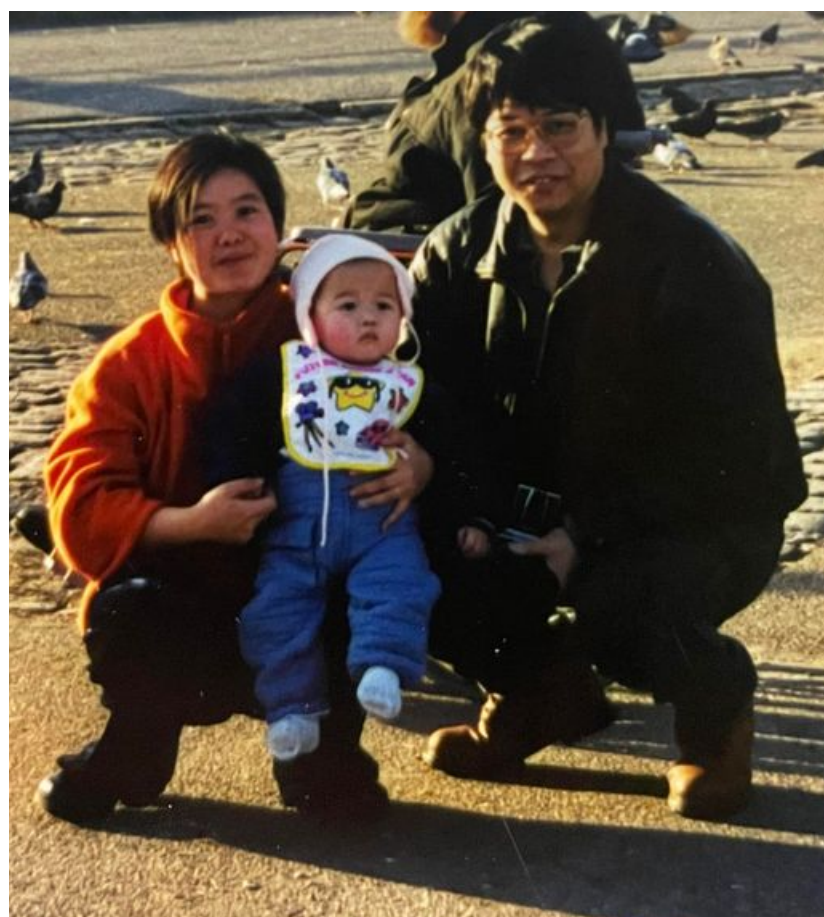
How do you feel your Asian heritage has influenced your decision to pursue a career in engineering?

Going to Brooklyn Tech, I noticed my classmates and friends were all studying STEM, and I decided to pursue it. Naturally, I found myself inclined to explore a career in STEM. While I cannot say my parents pushed me to get into engineering, they always encouraged me and my brothers to get a good education. The environment at Tech along with my parents' support, sparked my passion for engineering.



What are some unique experiences or challenges you faced as an Asian American in life/school?

My cultural differences at Webb were most noticeable during mealtimes. One time I brought an aloe vera beverage which is a staple in the Asian community. My peers did not understand why I was drinking that; after all, aloe vera is used as an ointment for sunburns. Some tried it and liked it...others would not take their chances. It was a funny interaction for sure. I think the food choices are difficult to get accustomed to. I grew up on Asian food, and I love it.



What role do you think Asian American engineering students play in shaping Webb's culture and contribute to promoting diversity here?

While at Webb, I was a member of the Minority Establishment of Webb (MEOW). We would occasionally cook different foods together, including bubble tea, rice balls, and sushi. During one of the sushi events, I experimented and created Si Cong special. I coated the sushi roll rice with crushed BBQ chips for an extra crunch. Although it was "allegedly" the crowd's least favorite, I still look back on that event with fondness. I still laugh over countless events such as this one with my fellow Webbies.



How do you hope to give back using your engineering program to your communities?

My class is donating a Senior Class gift of a scholarship for need-based incoming students, and I hope to continue to encourage people of different income levels to come to Webb without worrying about room and board costs.

I want to help others who are also like me and be able to support need-based scholarships for incoming students, ensuring that Webb remains accessible to people from all walks of life. Webb prepared me for the corporate world, and I am very thankful for the opportunities it has given me—from the Winter Work internships to networking opportunities with the Alumni Association. I hope to one day become an alum who also generously gives others a helping hand.



First-Generation College Graduate to Finance Chair

by Paulo Almeida, '95



1995: Paulo and his family celebrate his graduation at Webb

Background

I'm a first-generation college graduate and first-generation American from Danbury, CT, which unsurprisingly was recently rated the most diverse (ethnic, religious and socio-economic) city in New England. My parents grew up 15 miles apart in Portugal but met in Danbury, where many people emigrated from the mountainous parts of Portugal and the Azores. My father moved solo after military service in what was Portuguese Mozambique then a stint in Nashua, NH.

Value of Hard Work and Education

With essentially all of my interactions until kindergarten being Portuguese-speaking extended family and babysitters – other than a bit of Sesame Street and cartoons – I entered kindergarten with very little English. With the U.S. generally being a great assimilator and probably some long-forgotten hard work from me, I, along with my brother and cousins in the same boat, quickly graduated to English as our first language. My parents came to the U.S. with little more than decent job prospects through family friends, so we all saw the value of both hard work generally and education specifically. My parents invested in Catholic schooling – and lots of Legos – for me and my brother. My parents happily paid for my brother to get his mechanical engineering degree at Rensselaer, and would have done the same for me, but surely it was more comfortable all around that I had a full-tuition scholarship at Webb. With socio-economic mobility nowadays not being as strong as it was in the 70s to 90s, and although the U.S. is still far ahead of most of the world, the full-tuition scholarship at Webb is very valuable – even if it is not quite enough to meet the needs of all.

My mother's entire close family immigrated in the mid 60s after earlier generations (including my grandmother who turned 102 a few months ago) returned to Portugal from New Bedford, MA, during the Great Depression. Friends who know my roundabout transatlantic family history say it is not a surprise that I wound up in London. Despite being an ocean away, I'm happy to be very close to Webb in several ways.

Finding Webb

I only barely remember now, but after my parents dissuaded 12-year old me from trying to become a chef or start my own construction company (Thank you again for that!), I wanted to be an engineer. I investigated top engineering programs in the Northeast then visited several. Webb was love at first sight. First literally, because of the amazing campus, but also the small tight-knit community. Secondly, the pitch to me from an underclassman that ships are the perfect type of machinery to design because they involve disparate, challenging, interesting topics while at the same time many ships are simple enough that one person could complete the most interesting 80% of the design, leaving the detailed but often less interesting work to others. While this description is probably not 80% true, it is very powerful, and I do very regularly repeat it.

Unlike many Webbies who were very interested in sailing or military ships, although I was always fond of submarines, it was global commercial shipping that appealed to me. It is the intersection of my loves of applied science, geography and economics. Through yet another circuitous route, this led to me running a portfolio of over 60 ships from London for institutional investors. The practical aspects of the Webb education were big selling points to me. This was primarily Winter Work, but also field trips. With hard work being so highly valued from a very early age due to my family background, and at one point having wanted to start my own business before I was 20, the practical experience was a big differentiator versus other programs. Winter Work also helped build lifelong bonds. I was lucky enough to not only be with Dean Werner twice for Winter Work but also celebrate his wife's birthdays then. My favorite field trip was to the Sealand Quality, arranged by fellow Trustee, Manny Hontoria '88. The legendary late Prof. Rowen in his characteristic wit said it could have been called the Sealand High Quality if it only had an MAN B&W engine!

Achieving My Goals After Graduation

My Webb education, both in the narrow and broader senses, gave me a strong intellectual foundation, a commitment to hard work, and the confidence that I could then build upon in my career. It prepared me well for being one of the youngest Masters in Finance ("MiF") students at London Business School in '99/'00 and later among the older Chicago Booth executive MBAs in London '16-'18, as well as my time in investment banking and investment management. Towards the end of my MiF, because of reasons familiar at Webb, I pulled an all-nighter after only basic knowledge of a math modelling package to design and price a complex financial derivative that earned an A+.

Giving Back

Coming back to an earlier point, I'm an ocean away from Webb but am privileged and extremely pleased to be very close in several ways. After all, the traits I brought to and that were reinforced by my Webb education gave me the skills and confidence to facilitate my transatlantic journey and professional evolution. I've been lucky enough to be in a position where I can increasingly give back meaningfully financially. Separately, for nearly at least seven years I've been giving a guest lecture to freshmen on buying a ship, making analogies to buying a house while also touching on many of the interesting commercial aspects of the global shipping industry.

Other than family celebrations/holidays, this is always one of my favorite days of the year. A few years ago I joined the Webb Board of Trustees, and soon became Finance Chair as a small part of a broader well-planned succession program. We have a strong, dedicated and increasingly diverse Board. This shows just how important Webb is not only to alumni, but to the maritime industry. As John Malone '71 and of course others say about the Heritage Society, it is never too early or too late to give back. I've been lucky and very pleased to be able to give back in different ways, and especially hope this helps well-deserving students who also want to give back however they can in the future.

Since completing my MiF, I have worked in high-performing organizations, advising on large corporate deals or equity raisings, bidding on large infrastructure assets and most recently building and running a large portfolio of globally-trading commercial ships with capital raised from very sophisticated investors, including large pension funds. My personal background and Webb education gave me the broad and deep technical foundations and confidence to succeed.



The Ties that Bind

By Kaye Lin, Director Of Communications & Marketing

Our newest initiative, “The Ties that Bind,” is a blog series spotlighting the incredible journeys of our Webb alumni as they inspire current and future students.

The series explores our extraordinary alumni's diverse paths, revealing how their Webb education in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering (NAME) opened doors to opportunities both within the maritime industry and beyond.

In a Q & A format, we dive into our alumni's experiences, presenting their inspiring journeys and invaluable insights. We handpicked some of our favorite responses to showcase how their Webb experience has made an impact on their lives.

(Click on the highlighted names to link to their blogs.)



From Webb Campus to Shark Tank: Wombi Rose '09 and John Wise '09 turn paper into passion with Lovepop

Take a peek into **Wombi Rose's** world of creativity. As the CEO and co-founder of Lovepop, Wombi fondly remembers his time at Webb - reminding us all that connection is fundamental to both personal and professional fulfillment. Within his blog, he talks about how Webb helped him create a successful venture (with his best friend, John Wise from Webb) that brings joy and jobs to people around the world.

Wombi Rose '09:

"In hindsight, I can't imagine a better place than Webb for teaching two things I find essential to building a business: (1) an incredible work ethic, and (2) a sense of interconnectedness and how things fit together. These two have served us very well.

The one fairy tale that leaving Webb we took for granted was the incredible sense of community and ease of making friends and building relationships. Those are very special opportunities that Webb offers, and in some ways, makes it too easy in the incredibly formative years in college."

In honor of Women's History Month this year, we showcased **Monique (Mo) Sinmao** '93, a woman who has broken barriers and made significant strides in her field. Mo's journey from engineering to managing wealth for high net-worth clients is a testament to the power of resilience and the value of a Webb education. She encourages us to embrace challenges, take risks, and build a support system.



Where It All Began: A young Monique with her dad discovers her engineering calling - one wrench and car at a time.

Monique Sinmao '93:

“Make thoughtful and honest decisions for yourself. For success and happiness, aim for the intersection between what you love doing, what you are committed to becoming excellent at, and the kinds of people you want to be around. Even when way off course, one of those three will lift you. Own your path. The things that stand between you and your goals won’t be unique to Webb. Don’t depend on others – family, faculty, and friends – to remove roadblocks for you; practice coming up with solutions and invite their feedback to find your path around obstacles, work your way to a stronger position, and fix the things you care about. Your own validation is powerful.”

Climate Change advocate, **Peter Bryn** '06 writes in his blog post about the importance of merging maritime engineering with environmental advocacy. He encourages Webb students to utilize their special skills and knowledge to make meaningful contributions to global issues like climate change.

Peter Bryn '06:

"My time at Webb didn’t directly impact my sustainability mindset. But Webb did prepare and position me with the tools and connections needed to have a successful career in which I could make sustainability the focus.

A Webb transcript, Webb professional connection, and Webb alum-turned-MIT-professor facilitated my path to MIT for grad school. After MIT and with a freshly formed decision to focus on climate and energy, another Webb connection helped start my career with Exxon Mobil. Fifteen years on, I continue to find opportunities where my Webb network, education and connections still help me on a regular basis."



From Green Guy to Capitol Hill: Peter advocates for change in the halls of power.

Their stories provide a unique peek into the lives of our alumni, highlighting the connections they’ve formed through Webb and the paths they’ve paved for others.

We hope these narratives will ignite a spark in our readers, highlighting the bonds they’ve formed and reinforcing the ties within our Webb community. Remember, your journey is part of Webb’s legacy. We look forward to hearing your story and sharing it with our global community. Join us as we continue to celebrate and cherish “The Ties that Bind” us all.

Josie Wilson's Retirement

Among the hallowed halls of Webb and the Long Island Sound landscape, where memories have been woven over decades, we gathered to bid farewell to one of our most esteemed figures, Josie Wilson, the Director of Academic Services.

Over the years, Josie Wilson has been a beacon of guidance, inspiring countless students with her unwavering dedication and tireless service. As she announces her retirement, marking the onset of a well-deserved new chapter, we come together as a community to celebrate her legacy.

In June of 2023, at her retirement dinner, Josie took the stage to deliver her heartfelt speech. This momentous occasion was preceded by acknowledgments from President Mark Martecchini, and the Dean, Matthew Werner, both of whom honored Josie's significant contributions and profound impact at Webb. Below, we revisit her touching farewell speech from Homecoming in May of 2023. It was a moment that brought a blend of smiles and tears, a testament to her profound impact.

Farewell, Josie, and may this new journey be filled with the same inspiration and excellence you've instilled in all of us.



"As we all know, Webb Institute is a unique and special place, where students not only receive an excellent education, but also develop lifelong friendships, values, and passions. I have witnessed firsthand how students have grown from their shy first days on campus to confident seniors ready to contribute to the maritime industry.

As I look back on my 33 years here, I cherish the many moments I have shared with the students in the hallways, in my office for a tissue, a hug, or a piece of chocolate, or just to hang out and talk about a recent Winter Work experience or what they will be doing in the summer. You have inspired me and taught me so much too. You have given me joy, laughter, and friendship. You are more than just alumni; you have made me a part of the Webb family, which is truly an honor. The alumni are the reason why Webb Institute is such a wonderful place. And the reason why I am standing here today with a smile on my face and a tear in my eye.

When I was little, I always said when I grow up, I want to be a Mommy. And that dream came true. I was a Mom for many years of about 100 students a year. And I loved every minute of it. And one final thank you to William Webb. It was because of his insight to create such a wonderful, unique college that I have had the most fulfilling career anyone could ever hope for."



Josie delivers her speech at Homecoming.

From a Professional Partnership to a Lifelong Friendship

by Gailmarie Sujecki (Hon.)

On January 3, Webb Institute announced the retirement of Josie Wilson, Webb's Director of Academic Services, who has served Webb for a total of 33 years! Josie began her Webb journey working in the Research Department (then the Center for Maritime Studies) in the winter of 1979, under the direction of our much beloved Professor Jacques B. Hadler (Hon.).

She later moved to the president's office, supporting VADM C. Russell Bryan, USN (Ret.). In 1984 she left us to start her own family and to raise her daughter, Megan, and son Timothy. Once the children were established in school, she heard the call of Webb once again. Returning to Webb in the fall of 1995, she joined Webb's Admissions & Student Affairs Department, before taking her current role in support of Webb's academic program.

During her time at Webb, Josie has been a valued member of the Webb community, actively participating in many aspects of campus life.

She placed students in their Winter Work assignments, coordinated rehearsal and ordered caps and gowns for graduation, worked endless hours on student financial aid, and served as Webb's Registrar.

She supported student services in various capacities, including having served as a member of Webb's Assessment and Care Team and Emergency Response Team that are charged with keeping the campus community healthy and safe, supporting student activities by attending Webbstock or cheering on the basketball team, and providing experience and guidance to students and alumni as they established their livelihoods. She was also part of the welcoming committee during Freshman Orientation. Josie spent endless hours submitting data to reporting agencies, while ensuring every student felt like they were more than just a number.

She worked directly with Dean Emeritus Roger Compton '61 & PG'64, Faculty Emeritus Rick Neilson '70, most recently with Dean Matt Werner '95 & PG'97, and with the faculty during all those years.

Josie is held in high regard by the Webb Alumni Association who bestowed upon her the title of Honorary Alumna in 2014.



A Glimpse into the Past: Josie at the Library on Founder's Day, circa 1990s.

Webb is forever in her debt, but her story doesn't end with retirement.

She maintains strong relationships with many faculty, administration, alumni, and current students. We will welcome her back to campus with open arms anytime she wishes to visit, and we know she will.

Having known Josie since 1981, she has become more than a co-worker, she's a good friend and someone whom I look up to and greatly admire. I will miss her dearly! With a heavy heart, we wish Josie the very best of what the next chapter has to offer. We know she will thrive in her new environment and will be able to spend more time with her grandsons, whom she adores!

Much love to you, my friend.

Gailmarie xo



W. Selkirk Owen Award 2022

by Keith Michel '73

It is my pleasure to present the 57th annual William Selkirk Owen award to Webb alumnus, Jon J. LaBerge.

William Selkirk Owen served as Dean of Webb Institute during the period from 1928 to 1950. Dean Owen distinguished himself through his dedication to Webb's students and his unwavering commitment to the long-term success of the Institute. The 1930s and 1940s were difficult years for Webb. The Great Depression left its impact on our financial resources. In addition, New York City liberated our Manhattan real estate holdings through eminent domain, offering a fraction of its actual value. It was Dean Owen who recognized that the alumni and friends of Webb must shoulder more of the financial burden if Webb were to prosper and continue to offer each student a full scholarship. He established the "Week for Webb" giving program which served as the predecessor to the robust Alumni Annual Fund that exists today.

Likewise, Jon LaBerge has dedicated a significant portion of his life towards helping to ensure the financial sustainability of Webb.

Jon was elected to the Webb Board in 2011 and has served for many years as a Vice Chairman of the Board. His extensive background in financial services including investments, operations and analysis, has served the Institution well.

During his 12-years of service as a Trustee, Jon served as Chair of the Investment, Finance, and Audit committees, and as a member of two presidential search committees, the Gift Acceptance Committee and the Academic Center Design Committee, that oversaw the design and construction of the Couch Academic Center. During his 9-year tenure as Chair of the Finance Committee, Jon developed a sophisticated analytics tool to assess the long-term financial sustainability of Webb – a tool the Board applies annually to assess our financial health and to inform our financial policies.

As Webb's president from 2013 through 2022, I frequently leaned on Jon for his analytical skills, financial expertise and advice. Never once did he hesitate to make time available, going above and beyond any reasonable expectations. Jon played a key role in our successes of the last decade, including the design and construction of the Couch Academic Center, the growth of our endowment, and the advancement of our financial policies and practices.

Following graduation from Webb, Jon moved to the Washington DC area where he worked as a naval architect at Gibbs & Cox, Advanced Technologies, and Gianotti & Associates. He then attended Harvard Business School with the help of a SNAME Landers scholarship, which led to a successful career in financial services.

He worked as a management consultant and corporate executive, ultimately serving as COO for a \$20 billion a year investment management subsidiary of a global reinsurer. Jon retired from corporate life in 2013, after which he dedicated himself to the support of Webb and other not-for-profit community organizations. This past week, I communicated with many of Jon's classmates and friends from his Webb days. All passed along fond memories of their time with Jon at Webb.

Wrote classmate Rich Smith: "Jon was one of the most studious guys in our class so he didn't get into too much trouble. I was a member of the basketball team with him. He was first-string due to his jumping ability and height, and we actually won some games. He was also a very talented member of the ultimate frisbee team which was formed at Webb by our class. Unfortunately, in one game Jon was hit in the air by an opposing player and shattered his forearm. Because of pins in his arm and a full-length cast, drafting proved difficult after that.

From Andy Zahn came recollections of their electrical engineering lab group. "Jon, Andy Zahn, Dave Greeley, and Walter Ziobro were one team, and they named their group the Hole in the Wall Gang. On their lab report cover they used their Webb freshman entrance pictures as wanted posters. Jon was Jon "Baby Face" Nelson after the 30's gangster since Jon looked so very young when he entered Webb. And he still does."

Chris Tupper from the class of '75 explained: "Jon was a vital part of the Webb team that finally broke the curse and won a basketball game. Somewhat lost in the excitement was the fact that Jon LaBerge can fly.

I saw it myself from the court floor. Headed down the sidelines to the north end of the Webb home court, Jon leaped into the air, gracefully turned mid-flight at the corner, and zoomed toward the basket for a score. It was beautiful. I have never seen it duplicated. I have described this very clear memory often and quite a few folks doubt my grasp of physics - you had to be there.

Chris also noted: Jon was a wonderful teammate - calm, steady, reliable and talented. He was always a gracious sportsman, both in victory and when "coming in second." Jon is considered an honorary member of the class of 1975. We are very pleased that his contributions are being recognized.

For the past 36 years, Jon and his wife Deborah have resided in their home in Stamford, Connecticut. It was there that they raised their son Peter, who is an exceptionally talented writer. Yes – some things just cannot be explained by genetics. I would like to take a moment to acknowledge Deborah and Peter, who are here with us today.

Jon and Deborah are major benefactors of Webb. The green-roof terrace located on the East side of the Couch Academic Center bears their family name. Their philanthropic support and commitment to service also extends to their community. Jon serves as Chair of "Coffee for Good" and Deborah serves as its volunteer coordinator. "Coffee for Good" is a non-profit organization headquartered in Stamford that operates a high-end coffee shop as a training platform for young adults with special needs, and then helps to place them in permanent positions with local businesses. Both Jon and Deborah are also active members of their church where Jon serves as chair of its investment committee and Deborah previously served as Treasurer.

The Webb Alumni Association is pleased to honor Jon J. LaBerge for his outstanding achievements and service to his profession, his Alma Mater, and his community. Jon -- please come forward to accept this prestigious award.



Speech by Jon LaBerge '76 at Homecoming

Our 2022 recipient of the William Selkirk Owen Award, Jon LaBerge accepted his award at Homecoming, and spoke about his sense of gratitude for community. Opening with a heartfelt thanks to his wife, son, nephew, and classmates, Jon talks about the great support he has had over the years.

To illustrate a sense of community and support that exists among fellow Webbies, Jon speaks of Coffee for Good, a nonprofit he and his wife helped launch, and how pleased he was to have received an unexpected donation from the Class of 1975.



2023 Junior Small Vessel Design Highlights

by Bradley Golden '99, Associate Professor of Naval Architecture

On Thursday, May 18, 2023, the Class of 2024 presented the results of one of their most comprehensive projects of their fledgling professional careers – the concept designs of their SD1 small-vessel design projects. Since joining Webb, the students have been learning the principles of naval architecture and marine engineering and, this past semester, they were given the opportunity to show the world what they've been learning.

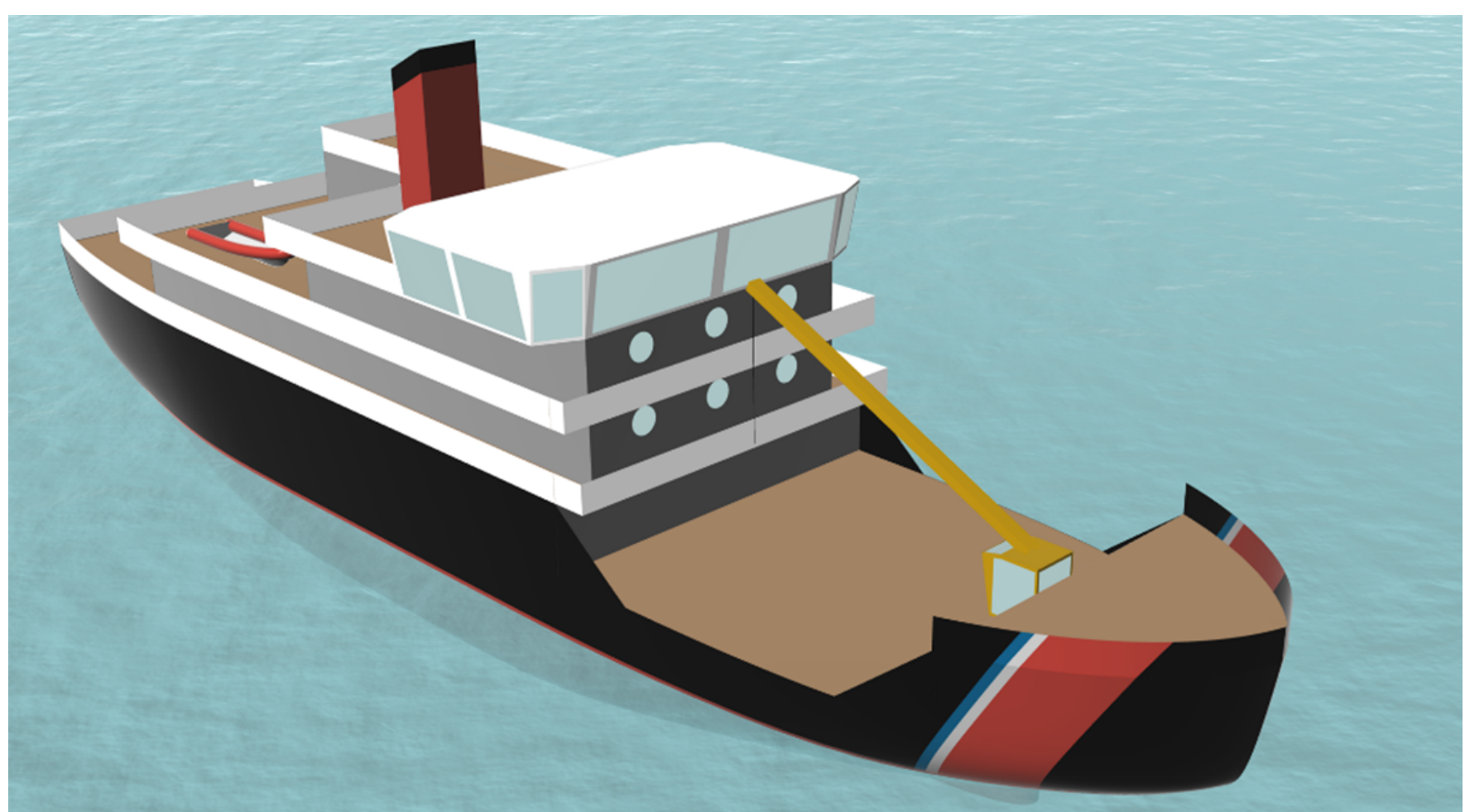
At the start of the spring semester, the class was divided into small groups and tasked to design six different vessels. Each group was given a statement of design requirements which outlined the objectives of their vessel and listed a number of requirements that had to be met. The groups were also connected with a team of industry mentors who volunteered their time and expertise. The class met weekly and, through lectures, assignments, and design meetings, the groups developed their designs. They prepared general arrangements and hull models, drew lines plans and midship sections, and calculated weights, centers of gravity, and stability. Jointly in the SD1 class and in their marine and electrical engineering classes this semester, the groups also selected machinery and propulsion systems, and designed some of their vessels' shipboard electrical and piping systems.

Since the spring of 2018, I've had the privilege of leading this ship design course, and I'm impressed each and every year with the professionalism of the groups and their results. For most of these students, this project is the first time they've produced a complete vessel design, and this year's design presentations were some of the best that I've seen. As I told them at the end of the semester, they should all be proud of what they created.

This year's projects included a Coast Guard icebreaker/buoy tender, a coastal patrol vessel, a heavy lift vessel, a luxury cruising/diving liveaboard, an offshore aquaculture support vessel, and rocket landing/recovery ship, highlights of which can be found below.

1. Coast Guard Icebreaker/Buoy Tender

While the primary purpose of the vessel is to serve as an icebreaker in winter months and as a buoy tender when icebreaking is not required, the vessel is to serve as a multi-mission capable platform to help support the U.S. Coast Guard's wide range of missions, and be capable of interoperability with other Coast Guard assets afloat, ashore, and in the air. The vessel is to provide domestic icebreaking capability in U.S. rivers, sounds, and bays, including the Hudson River, coastal New England, and the coastal areas of the Great Lakes.



The vessel will facilitate safe navigation through maintenance and repositioning of aids to navigation, monitor and report on vessel traffic in assigned areas, enforce boating regulations and the laws of United States, provide security for assigned events, perform search and rescue (SAR) operations, and provide environmental pollution response.

2. Coastal Patrol Vessel

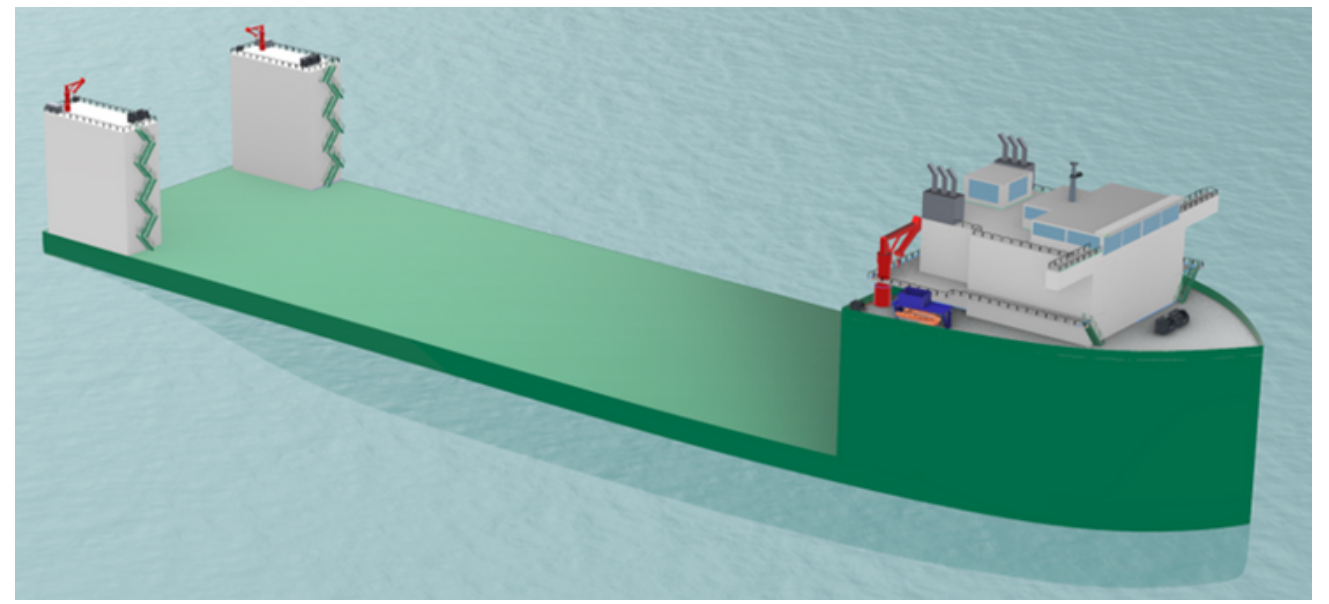


The U.S. Department of State, in conjunction with Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), is planning for the construction of 20 coastal patrol vessels to be provided to NATO allies in Europe. The vessels would be procured under a Foreign Military Sales (FMS) case and would operate in the harbors and coastal areas around the Baltic, Black, and Mediterranean Seas. They are to provide Coastal Security and Law Enforcement (CSLE) missions with an asset that will be able to deploy rapidly, have high-speed capability, and have a shallow draft in order to easily operate in and near the surf of the countries' coastal regions. The vessels will need to be multi-mission capable to provide assistance with scenarios, including antiterrorism patrols and response, drug enforcement and interdiction, local search and rescue, and more.

4. Luxury Cruising / Diving Liveaboard

Wonderous Explorers of Borneo and Beyond (WEBB), a luxury cruising/diving operator, is interested in designing a new fleet of vessels for luxury diving charters throughout the Pacific. The company currently operates several older, wooden-hulled vessels, but the maintenance and upkeep of these boats are no longer proving to be cost-effective. So new boats are desired. The vessels are to offer one- and two-week diving vacations throughout the western Pacific, from Malaysia to Micronesia. While SCUBA diving will be the focus of the vacations, WEBB also wants to provide its customers with a luxury travel experience when the passengers are out of the water. It is anticipated that each vessel in the fleet will be deployed to a specific warm-water diving destination.

3. Heavy Lift Vessel

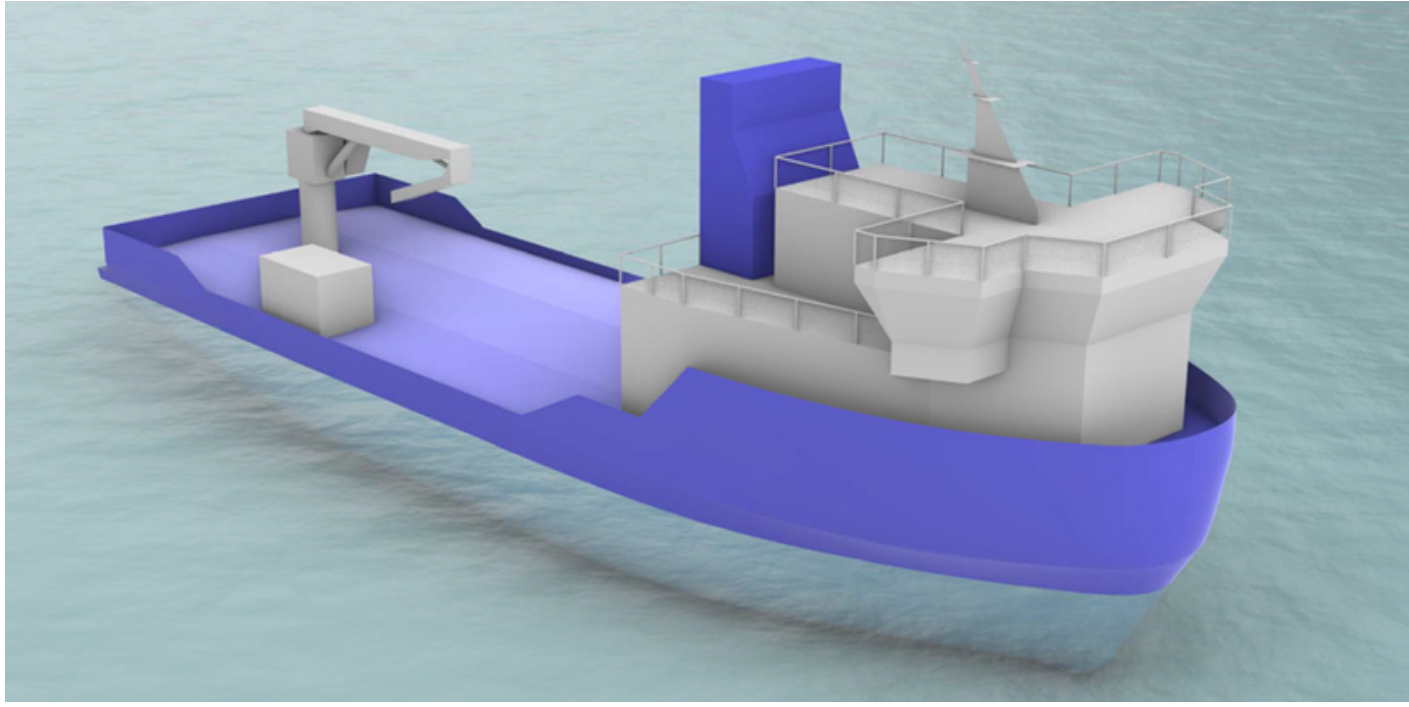


A new offshore wind start-up, Wind Energy Big Breeze (WEBB), is planning to develop a series of offshore wind farms along the U.S. East Coast. Each wind farm will be located about 20 miles offshore and will consist of approximately 60 fixed turbines rated at 15 MW each. As much of the existing offshore wind construction infrastructure (installation vessels, turbine manufacturers, etc.) is located in Europe, WEBB has determined that it will be necessary to transport the vessels and construction materials to the wind farm site and between locations on a purpose-built heavy lift vessel. The vessel is to lift and transport large items up to 10,000 MT in weight. Floating assets are to be capable of self-loading/unloading by the vessel without any additional lifting assistance in 24 hours or less. Smaller items up to 2,000 MT may be lifted aboard by external cranes or similar. When not in use as a heavy lift vessel, the vessel's deck may be utilized as an offshore construction platform for the assembly and organization of the offshore wind turbines and associated equipment/supporting structure.



Water depths for most locations will be on the order of 15-30 m, so single tank no-decompression dives will be the norm. There are a few destinations where deeper or longer dives may be desired, so there may be some doubles diving that go beyond the no-decompression limits. Provision should be made for onboard tank refills of air, nitrox, and tri-mix.

5. Offshore Aquaculture Support Vessel



The Developers of Aquaculture Globally on Oceans Nearshore (DAGOON), an offshore fish farming operator, is interested in expanding its offshore aquaculture business off the U.S. East Coast. In order to do so, the company will have to invest in fish cages, feed barges, and offshore aquaculture support vessels. The vessels are to offer transportation and delivery of personnel, equipment, feed, and other liquid and dry cargo to and from offshore fish and shelled farming locations. They shall be capable of handling, securing, repairing, deploying, and recovering aquaculture equipment in the open ocean within the exclusive economic zone of the United States. The vessels shall offer a flexible platform capable of carrying liquid and dry cargo, a re-configurable working deck with low working freeboard and gridded tie downs and container locks, available power, seawater, compressed air, and freshwater connections for fisheries gear or operations. They shall be capable of maintaining position relative to free floating gear, the water's surface, or over the ground. Crane capacity shall be provided to restock feed barges, transfer fish between pens/cages and to the transportation vessels, and to position/recover various aquaculture equipment including mooring buoys, ground tackle, and spares. Deck equipment shall be provided to allow for line handling of aquaculture ground tackle, floats, divers, and a tender.

6. Rocket Landing Recovery Ship



The Mission for Inter-Galactic and Universe Exploration Limited (MIGUEL), a new space exploration and technology company, is planning to develop its own rocket launching and recovery infrastructure to send manned and unmanned vehicles into space. The company will use land-based arrangements in the Bahamas launching of its vehicles. The purpose of this vessel is the recovery of rockets, launch vehicles, and other equipment over open ocean after launch. These missions will include having rockets landing directly on the vessel and the recovery of items after splashdown. For direct rocket landings, it will be important to ensure protection of personnel and equipment from the engine blast. This protection will be achieved through the efficient arrangement of topside equipment behind blast protection/shielding and by means of remote operations to remove the vessel's crew during landing activities. Post-splashdown asset recovery will be carried out with a fast boat launch and cranes. Once recovered, assets will have to be stowed and secured. Some equipment may also require processing, including washdown, cleaning, venting, and similar. To facilitate processing, the storage of fresh water, solvents, compressed gasses, and applicable supporting systems will also be necessary.

Sustainability in Ship Design

by Bradley Golden, '99
Associate Professor of Naval Architecture

In November of 2021, Webb hosted its first sustainability conference, a one-day event with a focus on natural propulsion including wind-powered vessels and wind-assist technologies. While largely attended remotely because of the pandemic, the conference was deemed a success, as over 200 attendees joined us in-person and online. Based on this turnout and the overwhelmingly positive feedback received, Webb decided to hold a second conference to bring together industry and academia to discuss the concepts, technologies, case studies, and success stories related to sustainability in ship design and the greater maritime industry.

In association with its partners at MARIN and Wind Support NYC, Webb's second conference, named Sustainability in Ship Design, was expanded to two days and broadened the areas of interest to encompass a wider variety of topics including, but not limited to, alternative energy and power technologies, emission reduction methods, the financing of sustainability, natural propulsion methods and technologies, noise pollution, and regulatory regimes.

Speakers from across the United States and Europe came together to present their ideas and share their thoughts with the assembled group of industry participants and students. Panel sessions were held to provide forums for open discussion on these developing technologies and concepts.

By the end of the two-day conference, concepts were introduced and ideas were discussed. New contacts were made and partnerships were formed. Between the in-person and remote attendees, the conference reached over 200 people in 17 countries across five continents. Once again, Webb's sustainability conference was a success!

We all want to do what we can to reduce our impact on the environment. Although much remains to be done, Webb's Sustainability in Ship Design conference showed that there are like-minded people out there with ideas that will make a difference. As part of the maritime industry, we can play a role in promoting sustainability, and help contribute to minimizing the effect our sector has on our global community.

(Please click on the blue and yellow boxes on the right for more information.)

SISD 2022 Presentations & Panel Discussions

- Financing Shipping Decarbonization
- Sustainable Ship Design and Shipping: on the influence of alternative power sources, infrastructures and operations
- On-board Ocean Wave Energy Harvesting for Supplemental Powering of Small Autonomous Vessel
- From Ships to Shipless: Sustainability in Oceanographic Research Operations
- How I Learned to Stop Worrying, and Love Carbon
- Froude-Limited Ships and Global Warming: A Proposal
- Underwater Radiated Noise from Ships: Status Review and Related Work at MARIN
- Stolt Shipshave In-Water Hull Cleaning Technology
- Lunch / Webb Lab Facilities Tour
- Retrofitting Existing Jones Act Vessels with Wind Assisted Propulsion Systems
- Dynamic Open-Source Velocity Prediction Program (VPP) for Merchant Sailing Vessels
- Vessel electrification and future fuels
- Panel Discussion: Latest developments in wind propulsion technology
- Panel Discussion: Latest developments in ship design, construction, and operations
- Panel Discussion: The Education of Sustainability

Full details of the conference, including recordings of the presentations, can be found on the event webpage at :
<https://www.webb.edu/2022-sustainability-in-ship-design-conference/>.

Join us for the upcoming conference:

Sustainability in Ship Design and Operation 2023,' a pivotal gathering for industry leaders and enthusiasts. Discover the full details at Webb.edu's Event Page. See you there!

Senior Thesis

by Spencer Margosian '23 and Tori Kim '23



It is the beauty of research that in pursuit of solving even a seemingly simple problem, one will inevitably discover far more new problems to solve than they will answers to publish. Looking back on the past year, the best example of this was when our electrical engineering thesis was almost completely derailed for well over a month, by a problem fundamental to naval architecture. In this article, we would like to discuss how we came across this problem, how we solved it, and how this detour in our work taught us a fundamental principle of research. The minimum viable background for discussion of our thesis takes about four sentences. For large vessels, medium-voltage alternating current is usually used to transmit electrical power.

An emerging technology, medium-voltage direct current power transmission, is poised to be ready for commercial application approximately within the next decade. Because MVDC is a new technology, it is not well known to marine engineers and will likely be underutilized if it remains unknown.

We are immensely grateful to Webb for preparing us not only with the education in marine engineering necessary to understand marine electrical engineering, but also for providing us the naval architecture background that we needed to solve our resistance problem. Despite neither of us identifying as naval architects at heart, the Webb education prepared us to tackle every problem our research threw at us.

Our thesis sets out to identify in simple terms whether MVAC or MVDC is the better system model for a given application so that a marine engineer does not need to do so from first principles. The first time we attempted to compare the two system models directly, we created two calculation methods which modeled steady-state operation of a given vessel. When we tested the two methods with a computer script, the answers they returned looked like they made sense when considered one-at-a-time. Upon examining the entire set of cases, however, we realized that not a single case actually implied that DC was preferable to AC—not even those which we were positive would be.

The discovery of this fault effectively stopped us in our tracks, not knowing what we had done wrong or how we might fix our program to account for such error. To solve this problem, we would have to embrace a core principle of research: that setting out to solve a problem in one field will often result in encountering new problems in unrelated ones. Following the failure of the original analysis, we would come to realize that using a steady-state analysis failed to account for the biggest advantage of MVDC systems, which is their high efficiency in loads which vary over time. This meant that to properly compare the two system models, it would be necessary to model them as dynamic systems and not constant signals.

We had found a new problem to solve—how does a ship's electrical load change throughout a voyage?—and despite our original research being one of theoretical electrical engineering, the answer to our new question relied almost exclusively on our understanding of naval architecture.

The biggest load experienced by a ship at sea is naturally the energy required to propel the vessel through the water. As a ship sails through waves, the resistance imparted on the vessel varies constantly, changing the propulsion power. This phenomenon, called added wave resistance, cannot be easily predicted using statistics—in fact, it is not analytically possible to do so. However, by algebraically manipulating a well-documented standardized wave spectrum, we were able to closely approximate what the added wave resistance spectrum would look like and solve our original problem of characterizing how resistance varies over a voyage.

ATHLETICS



Tennis

The Webb tennis team played against Vaughn College at the U.S. Tennis Center this spring. It was aerodynamics versus hydrodynamics on the courts as Vaughn won the match with a 4-3 victory. At #1 Singles, Ryan “Seacrest” Krimper ‘26 shot down his opponent with an impressive score of 10-0. At the #2 Singles, Nathaniel “Hale” Phillips ‘23 grounded his opponent in a 10-9 victory after winning the tiebreaker to seal the win. Moving up to the #3 and #4 flights were Mark “Cuban” Reed ‘23 and Erin “Brockovich” Postma ‘23. They both enjoyed the atmosphere that the hallowed grounds of the U.S. Tennis Center offer to anyone who plays there. And, of course, there was “Angel” Gabriel Allen ‘23 who was recruited at the last minute and created all sorts of turbulence for his opponent in a 10-1 victory at the #5 Singles flight.

The Webb tennis team played their second match against Vaughn College at the U.S. Tennis Center, and once again it was aerodynamics versus hydrodynamics on the courts. This time Webb won the match with a 5-4 victory. At #1 Singles, Ryan “Seacrest” Krimper ‘26 won with an impressive score of 8-3 for his 2nd Webb victory. At the #2 Singles, “Cool Hand” Luke Foye ‘25 followed up with a nice 8-2 victory. Ryan and Luke then paired up in the #1 Doubles and won by a tally of 8-5. Sealing the Webb VICTORY were the #3 and #4 flights with Eli “Manning” Murray ‘25 and Zane “Smooth” Ballister ‘24. They both enjoyed the U.S. Tennis Center, each with wins of 8-3 scores. We want to thank Caz Lesiewicz ‘25, Thomas Motyka ‘25 and Jeff Basti ‘25 for filling out our squad and showing some outstanding athleticism and potential tennis stardom as they enjoyed the best place to play tennis! It is really great to see everyone out there enjoying our tennis courts this spring. Next season looks like things will be back to a full schedule!

REMEMBER:

Education is important, Tennis is importanter!

Coach Pat

Volleyball

Since Covid, many schools have dropped several of their athletic programs, including Volleyball. Webb has always had a big interest in playing, so we registered with an independent local volleyball program called VB-LI. They host numerous single-day tournaments throughout the year at various competitive levels of play. Gabriel Allen ‘23, Jonathon Allen ‘23, Eric Heilshorn ‘23, Alex Lytle ‘23, Tori Kim ‘23, Max Mah ‘24, Caz Lesiewicz ‘25 and Owen Klimczak ‘26 took advantage of this program, and everyone agreed that it was a great experience. Not only were they able to play competitively, but they learned a lot from some very good players. The hosts were fantastic and our teams practiced weekly to keep busy after a long day of classes and study! We look forward to being an active member of VB-Long Island!

ATHLETICS



Soccer

by Kyle Koleda, Assistant
Director of Communications & Marketing



The Webb Soccer team took to the field this year as an excited and enthusiastic bunch of Webbies. Having a regimented Tuesday and Thursday practice schedule, the team was able to develop their skills and learn the finer art of team communication while out on the field. With a six-game schedule for the season (although only played four games because of weather), Webbies were excited to showcase their newly developed skills and strategies with major guidance stemming from team captains Jonathan Allen and Eric Heilshorn.

Winning two out of the four games played, including the Engineer’s Cup (a Webb vs. Cooper Union tradition), Webb ended the season with a 2-2 record and a trophy to hold onto until next year’s tournament.

The team showed great sportsmanship, communication, and overall fun while out on the field this year, which led to one of the most memorable soccer seasons to date.



ATHLETICS

Webb Basketball History



by Richard Harris, Assistant Dean, Professor & Coordinator of Humanities

It was certainly at least twelve years ago, and maybe seventeen. Some think maybe longer. However that may be, on November 5, 2022, history was made at Webb. The basketball team won a game! The fall of 2022 saw an influx of freshmen players—Finn Ackerman, Caleb Breckenfelder, Kyle Breen, Ethan DesJardins, Jack Jackson, Aiden Kavanagh, Ryan Krimper, and Corbin Olney, and the return of juniors, Tim Lazouski, Max Mah, Jack Otto, the first appearance of junior Addison Pope. Four seniors—Gabe Allen, Jonathan Allen, Eric Heilshorn, and Mark Reed—anchored the starting team, with the fifth senior, Jacob Dillistin, always calm and dependable, a backup at the guard position. And then there was freshman Andrew Karafa, one of the very rare breed among Webb basketball players: he is 6’4” and he played high school basketball.

So, when the first game of the 2022 season arrived, Coach Koleda and I were wondering how things might go. “Coach K’ had already led the soccer team to two victories in their season, which had ended only ten days before the basketball season began. Now it was up to the basketball team to try to find at least one win too. Unfortunately, true to the Webb tradition, the basketball players had not been able to shoot the 100 to 150 jump shots per day that is considered a bare minimum for development as an effective shooter.

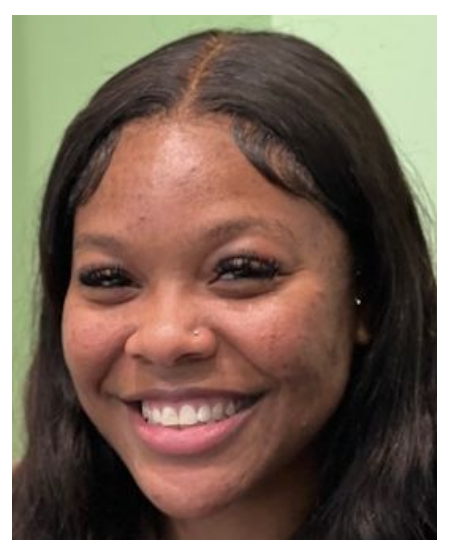
Evidently, the players from the Culinary Institute hadn’t been able to do that either. At the end of a low-scoring first half, Webb led 15 to 10. With many shots being missed, it was important to control the backboards, and Gabe, Eric, and Mark did just that. When Culinary attempted a full-court press, Webb easily broke it. With his ballhandling skills, Jonathan was able to control the ball and set up the offense. As far as scoring was concerned, Andrew took care of most of that. He had ten points at the end of the first half.

A few minutes into the second half, with Webb holding its lead, Lauren Carballo began emailing the students on campus who weren’t at the game to come to the gym to see the possibility of a Webb win. Andrew added another eleven points in the second half. Down the stretch, Jonathan and Caleb added key baskets, and when the final buzzer sounded, the score was 31 to 25. I probably should have searched for a line from Shakespeare that would suit the moment, but I didn’t. I told Lauren that I was simply stunned.

The remaining games proved more difficult, but I think everyone on the team will remember that day. The win was a tribute to the Webb players who came out for the team in the greatest number ever in Webb basketball history; to the leadership of the team captains, Jonathan and Mark; and to the players’ dedication and commitment to become better players and, win or lose, to enjoy playing the game.

Women’s Basketball

The 2022 Women’s Basketball team started their season with four returning Seniors. Captains Erin Postma ’23 and Kasey Kennedy ’23 led the way along with Natalie Webb ’23 and Tori Kim ’23. The team was led by our new Women’s Basketball Coach Shayla McCombs, our very own Shanna Hamilton’s daughter! She was an All-Star player in High School and College. The team learned a lot about the game and enjoyed their season. Hopefully, we can get enough interest in the coming years to keep the Women’s team afloat. Congrats to all of the Lady Webbies. Shayla will be the Assistant Coach of the basketball team alongside Richard Harris this fall.



SOCO: A Year in Review

by Phoebe Garrett '25
Annabel Bornebusch '26

This year, students returned to campus in August of 2023 excited to begin a new school year! The first event of the year was a welcome back Community Social to celebrate faculty and students after the first week of classes was completed! Throughout the fall semester, the Social Committee continued to host Community Socials to bring together Webb students, faculty, and staff each month. The Yacht Club socials were especially fun for students and faculty who enjoyed the warm weather, the beautiful yacht club and beach, and swimming and fishing in the Long Island Sound.



(Pictured left to right) Students Eliott Ocheltree '24, Ryan Krimper '26, Steven Katz '26, Max Mah '24, and Millay Metz '26 performing jazz music at a Ruby Lounge Social

In October, the freshman class hosted their first Webb event: the annual Halloween party! The party took place in the Pub, which was decorated with spooky decorations and had fun halloween-themed food, music, and activities! The costume contest was a highlight of the night where the students with the most creative costumes were recognized!



Student Tim Lazouski '24 dressed up as a wizard



(Pictured left to right) Students Annabel Bornebusch '26, Kasey Kennedy '23, Kira Shaw '24, and Millay Metz '26 dressed up for the Halloween party

During the week of Halloween, the Social Committee also hosted a pumpkin carving contest; each class was able to carve a pumpkin with Webb students voting a winner. The Junior Class pumpkin "Wear your PPE... or else" won, and they had a pizza party celebration.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, it was time for SoCo's annual Casino Night. The senior class, led by class representatives, Victoria Kim and Erin Postma, planned a magical casino night full of poker, blackjack, roulette, horse racing, arm wrestling, and more! All Webb students were dressed up and had a wonderful night. One of the highlights was the silent auction which students used the Webb casino money they earned throughout the night to bet on the array of prizes displayed at the event.



The Women of Webb posing for a picture at Casino Night



Students Luke Feeney '26 and Hank Wolfe '26 looking classy

Following Casino Night's great success, SoCo had a holiday decorating social where all of Webb's faculty and students came together to decorate the Visconti reception room with a beautiful winter village and a christmas tree! There was holiday music, and many snacks as well.

The SoCo Christmas Party was the last big event of the year. Ugly Christmas sweaters were encouraged for the event, and the Webb jazz band played holiday music for the students to dance and sing along to. Each class had fun gifting each other with gifts and celebrating the end of the fall semester.

In the spring of 2023, the first event was the annual St. Patrick's Day party hosted by the junior class. Festivities included a potato bobbing and potato throwing.

For Pi Day, students participated in a school-wide pie baking competition for a SoCo-sponsored froyo trip by baking a pie that was judged on its taste, difficulty, originality, and presentation. The winning submission this year was the beef and stout pie by Will Calli, Miguel Sanchez, and Emma Passariello.

At the beginning of May, students attended the annual Cinco De Mayo party hosted by the sophomore class. Students packed into the Brocket Arms Pub for Cactus-Cafe catered appetizers, drinks, and dancing. Some sophomore students, including Tyler Zylinski, Luke Foye, and John Feleciano, took on the role of DJ for the fun evening. Events in the month of May also included numerous yacht club socials and a Founder's Day Social.

To continue an entertaining spring semester, on June 3, we had Webb's Annual Webbstock! This year the festivities were fully revived after the pandemic, and over 100 guests were in attendance. Everyone got to enjoy eating hot dogs and hamburgers while listening to live music performed by faculty and students as well as a band called "Yesterday's News," which included Webb alum, Joe Cole (Class of 1992). Students were also able to enjoy singing some karaoke and rotating through the various lawn games, especially a new Webbstock Cornhole Tournament. Many students enjoyed racing through the inflatables, which included a 65-foot obstacle course and a double water slide. The class of 2008 sponsored the event in loving memory of their classmate, Johanna Lee Exner. During her time at Webb, Johanna was very involved in the Webb Social Committee and worked extremely hard to plan events such as Webbstock. It was extremely fitting for Webb's largest event of the year to be held in her memory. A big thanks to the class of 2008; we think Johanna would have been very proud!



Group photo of the Women of Webb with the poster made for Johanna at Webbstock 2023

Webb's wonderful Gailmarie hosted a WoW event for the female members of the Webb community to spend time together and get off campus. She made a great barbecued meal for everyone and provided fun crafts and activities!



Professor Gallagher and Professor Boyd performing as a part of the Faculty Band 'Freeboard'



Professor Matthew McMahon with his wife, Jessica and baby Thomas.



(Pictured Left to Right) Seniors Alex Lytle, Jonathan Allen, Kasey Kennedy, and Natalie Webb enjoying their last Webbstock as students

On June 19, students dressed up in elegant evening attire to attend a fun-filled Great Gatsby-themed night. After a fancy dinner, students opened their bottles of champagne to a beautiful sunset. Students also played croquet and listened to music performed by a swing band, with a special feature by Max Mah '24.



Phoebe Garrett '25, Kasey Kennedy '23, & Annabel Bornebush '26

Webb Alumni Association

Regional Events - 2023



With the ending of the COVID restrictions, the regional meetings of the Webb Alumni Association continued in 2023. This year, an effort was made to coordinate the events with the availability of Webb students during Winter Work term and the Offshore Technology Conference in Houston. The goal was to introduce future graduates to alumni and hopefully continue their association with Webb Institute.

The meetings were held in Manhattan; New London, CT; San Diego, CA; Fairfax, VA; and Houston, TX. The students were invited with the assistance of the office of the President, and in some cases their costs were subsidized by individual alumni. The venues varied, including the US Coast Guard Academy, Rice University, Balboa Park, and various restaurants. Student and alumni turnout was good, with a combined total of about 140 attendees for all events. The participants noted the positive interactions between the generations of Webbies in attendance and look forward to next year’s program.

Dates of Interest:

Classes Start August 21, 2023	Fall Recess November 20-24,2023
Family Weekend September 22-24, 2023	Classes End December 8 , 2023
SNAME Maritime Convention in San Diego, CA September 27-30, 2023	Grades Issued December 18, 2023
Alumni Banquet in San Diego, CA September 29, 2023	Winter Work January 2 - February 23, 2024
Fall Break October 6 (3pm)-9, 2023	Start of Spring Semester February 26, 2024
SWE Annual Conference in Los Angeles, CA October 26-28, 2023	Homecoming May 18, 2024
	Commencement June 15, 2024

Heritage Society Spotlight



Dr. Roger H. Compton

'61, PG'64

Dean Emeritus, Webb Institute

I was introduced to Webb Institute of Naval Architecture quite by accident when I visited our high school guidance counsellor, Mr. Chiles, who was consoling me for not being the primary appointment in my class to attend the U.S. Naval Academy. He handed me a folded piece of paper with an anchor logo on it and said, "you're interested in boats – you might be interested in this." Thus began my life-long involvement with Webb.

After an interview with Admiral Haeberle, I was surprised – but delighted – to be offered a position in the Class of 1961 with 20 other young men from all over the U.S. Over the next four years, we bonded as a class, drank beer and ate pizza at Stango's, struggled through Benny's math courses and Doc Joe's chemistry, metallurgy, and thermodynamics courses, and had many tales to tell about our Winter Work experiences. I enjoy telling my friends, who know nothing about Webb's class size, that I graduated fifth in my class in both high school and college (without explaining that we had almost 600 in my high school class, but only 10 in the Webb Class of 1961)!

My first full-time job after graduation was at Electric Boat (EB) in Groton, CT, during the early days of the U.S. Navy's Fleet Ballistic Missile (FBM) program. Exciting stuff! After working for a year in the Naval Architecture Department, I applied for a position in the EB Research Department. I was told that I needed more formal education. As it turned out, that was coincident with Webb offering a civilian master's degree while working part-time in the newly formed Webb Research Department. George Kerr, Webb '59, classmate Charlie Pieroth, and I were chosen to be in the first class. I was fortunate to have been able to take a couple of courses at Stevens Institute with Dan Savitsky and to be sent to IBM Headquarters in Manhattan to learn FORTRAN. That training allowed me to become the "computer guy" at Webb and to teach a few sessions of programming to Prof. Otto Karst's junior math students. That experience, along with the superb mentoring of Bob Zubaly (Webb '55), Norm Hamlin (Webb '44B), and Dean Tom Curran (Webb 1925) were instrumental in getting me to apply for a faculty position at the U.S. Naval Academy (USNA). During my 32-year tenure, my colleagues and I were able to establish an ABET-accredited major in naval architecture and build a world-class towing tank. Among the great young midshipmen that I had the pleasure to mentor, was Tom Kiss (USNA '88), the son of Ron (Webb '63) and June Kiss (Hon.).

While in Annapolis, I became involved in a very active community theater culture and, in 1981, was cast as Curly in Oklahoma! Guess who was Laurie? Jill and I have been together – and making music – ever since. Jill has made my life complete.

In August of 1998 I retired from USNA to accept the best job on the planet – to be the Dean of Webb Institute, while enjoying the shortest commute on Long Island. Although it was difficult to leave USNA and Annapolis, a dinner with Ron and June Kiss at which we discussed our mutual "adventure in Glen Cove," sealed the deal for Jill and me. We thoroughly enjoyed our 13-year tenure during which we were able to introduce a small craft design experience with a formal presentation to an invited panel of professionals to juniors (SD 1), and to encourage Webbies – students and staff – to enjoy and participate in musical and theatrical activities. We were most proud of the success of the Webb Family Singers (aka the WooFS) and the two fully staged productions at our 2010 and 2011 Homecomings. After officially retiring in 2011 – the 50th anniversary of my Webb graduation - we were delighted to enjoy an encore year to teach a couple of naval architecture courses to the Classes of 2017 and 2019. From about 2005 until 2019, we enjoyed getting to know incoming freshman classes with the freehand drawing "coursette" offered the week before classes actually started.

In December 2016, we sold our boats and home on Maryland's Eastern Shore and moved to a retirement community in Vero Beach, Florida. What we found was a town with many opportunities to sing, play water volleyball, and ride our bikes. Our two real boats have been replaced by three remote-controlled model sailboats – fun, but not quite the same as the real thing!

We are happy to be charter members of the Heritage Society when we named Webb the beneficiary of a life insurance policy and named Webb, along with my kids, Dawn, and Brian, to divide up the balance of our estate.

Without a doubt, I owe everything that I accomplished in my professional career to Webb Institute.

1951



Carl P. Wilson passed away very early August 6, 2022 at the age of 92, at Bride Brook Health and Rehabilitation Center in Niantic. He was the last surviving member of his graduating class.

He was predeceased by his first wife Mary; his second wife Ann; his daughter Maryellen; and two beloved dogs, Maggie, and Sophie. He is survived by his son, daughter-in-law, and stepchildren.

Immediately after graduation, he went to work for the Electric Boat division of General Dynamics in Groton and remained in engineering management there until his retirement in 1991.

Carl's grandfather gave him his first boat in 1943; and Carl remained a dedicated and avid sailor for the rest of his life, even during the extremely brief boatless times. He was always happiest with a fair wind and a tiller or wheel in his hand. He was an engineer to the marrow of his bones; he could fix anything - electrical, plumbing, carpentry were all subjects to his keen mind and clever hands.

He played trumpet in the Waterford Community Band for many years; in fact, that is where he and Rory met. He loved growing his many beautiful roses, reading books about the Napoleonic Wars, going to local plays and concerts, and "gallivanting" with Rory.

1953

John W. Larson passed away on August 10, 2023, in Maple Glen, PA at the age of 91. John attended Shrub Oak Central School, Webb Institute of Naval Architecture, the University of Michigan, and Virginia Tech. He worked at Pratt and Whitney Aircraft, General Electric, and the Department of Energy. He is survived by his wife: Cynthia.

1954



Frank P. Falci, Jr.: These are some highlights of his time after Webb. August of 1954, U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, Division of Reactor Development, Naval Reactors Branch, Washington, DC under Admiral Hyman G. Rickover, ("father of the nuclear submarine").

Work covered reactor powerplant designs for the first nuclear-powered ships. Earned a Master of Science degree in nuclear physics in 1960. In 1961, joined Operations Research, Inc. in Silver Spring, MD.

Antisubmarine warfare, naval mine warfare. Developed a new concept for naval mine clearance in highest risk mineable waters.

Presented the results of this work to NATO at The Hague, Netherlands in 1963 for United States Navy.

In 1970, joined Hydrospace Research, Inc.: naval acoustic defensive systems and clandestine operations in the Caribbean. Continued doctoral graduate studies in theoretical acoustics. Returned to U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (later Department of Energy (DOE)) in 1973. Chief of project control for Fast Flux Test Facility, Hanford Reservation. Management of nuclear fuel cycle.

Much international travel to engage international nuclear partners of the U.S. on nuclear matters including European countries, Japan, and the Soviet Union. Frequent visits to the International Atomic Energy Agency headquarters in Vienna, Austria. Corrective actions at Three Mile Island. In 1990, organized and managed for DOE a major (and first ever) technical visit by a U.S. delegation to the Soviet Union to assist the USSR Ministry of Atomic Energy (Minatom) in management of nuclear wastes at formerly "secret" cities and at the Chernobyl "sarcophagus." In 1993, established International Energy Consultants, IEC.

1955



David S. Lawson Jr. of Bemus Point, NY passed away on November 27, 2022 at the age of 89.

1956

He served in the U.S. Navy from 1955-58 and went to Naval Officer Candidate School in Newport, RI. During his active-duty time in the Navy, David received training in damage control, atomic, biological, and chemical warfare school on Treasure Island, CA. In 1956 he served on the USS White Marsh LSD-8 and was ranked as the Repair & Auxiliary Officer/ Damage Control Officer. He was also involved with amphibious operations in Hawaii, California, and Alaska. From 1956-57 he was the Chief Engineering Officer on the USS Carter Hall LSD-3. In 1958 he served as Ship Superintendent at the US Naval Repair Facility in San Diego, CA. He served as a liaison between military and civilian work force regarding landing craft, patrol boats, admirals' barges, captains' gigs, and aircraft carriers.



Paul H. Diehl of Poulsbo, WA, was the founder of Diehl Engineering Company. He was licensed by the State of WA to practice Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. Paul had over 55 years of marine and mechanical engineering experience, with more than 45 years in successful independent practice. During that time, he was involved as an engineer or consultant in hundreds of mechanical power transmission projects.

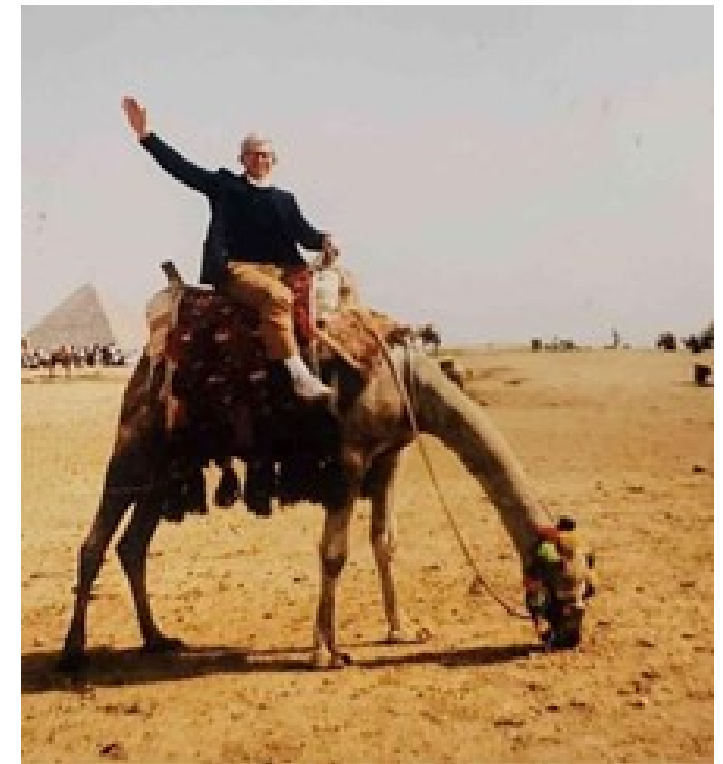
Paul passed away in 2020. Diehl Engineering's great reputation and success is a tribute to Paul.

Even though he retired in 2012, his knowledge, skills and methods carry on in practice by the entire engineering staff.

Paul was pre-deceased by his wife, Priscilla and survived by his 3 sons, 6 grandchildren, and 9 great grandchildren.

Edmund G. Tornay passed away on January 25, 2023 at the age of 88, at his residence in Jenkintown, PA, surrounded by loved ones.

Survivors include his beloved wife, Joan Marie, his four sons, and his three grandchildren.



He traveled the world throughout the course of his career and raised his children in London, England, Genoa, Italy, New York, and Charleston, SC. His greatest joy in life was playing tennis with his friends and family. Edmund was a dedicated husband and father with a great sense of humor who made an impression on everyone he met. He was loved by many.

1957



Donald L. Caldera a loving father and friend, passed away in his home surrounded by his family on February 18, 2023 at the age of 87.

Don attended St. Augustine's School and was a member of Archbishop Stepinac Class of 1953. Supporting Webb in many fashions would become a lifelong endeavor.

After completing his active duty in the Navy, David served in the U.S. Naval Reserves for 32 years. He was the commanding officer for two years at each assignment. While serving in the reserves he served on several augmentation units:

Naval Ship Engineering Center, Naval Sea Systems Command, Philadelphia Naval Fleet, Surface Forces Atlantic Staff. He retired from the naval reserves in 1987 with the rank of Captain.

David took over the family business, L. S. Aero Marine, Inc. in Bemus Point, NY and on the Chadakoin River at Clifton. He served as President from 1968-2018. In 2010, the Bemus Point property was donated by David and became the Lawson Boating Heritage Center, where David remained active on the Board of Trustees.

Following Webb, Don attended Yale Law School with a focus on financial and business, graduating in 1960. Donald began his professional career practicing maritime law, but quickly joined an international shipping firm, American Export Industries, in NYC, where he grew to be the CFO in the maritime conglomerate.

In 1972, he became a partner in a trucking complex operating between the east coast and Denver. In 1978, Don became Executive VP of a Philadelphia ship management firm, Interocean Management, that operated 50 vessels of various types worldwide.

In 1982, he became the Senior VP of the US's largest inland river barge line, the Ohio River Company, headquartered in Cincinnati. Don became the Chairman/CEO of a 3-vessel cruise line in 1985, which he listed on the stock exchange and managed its sale in 1990. That year he moved to Geneva as Chairman of a Swiss bank/Russian government tourism venture, Global SovCruise.

In 1993, Don joined Hide Shipping of Fort Lauderdale as EVP Development of tankers, tugs and oil service vehicle operations and spearheaded its OTC listing. After Don "retired" in 1998, and relocated full time to Lake Placid, in NY's Adirondack Mountains, he became a business broker, real estate investor and was active in regional growth associations and initiatives.

Subsequent moves were Grand Junction, CO, in 2010, and then the Dallas Fort Worth area in 2018 to be near family, explore new vistas, enjoy a milder climate and travel.

Donald loved spending time with his family, cruising and traveling, playing golf and bridge, reading, and listening to classical music.

He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who generously provided for his family and friends and was a generous philanthropist for his alma maters, Webb, Stepinac, Yale Law as well as numerous Catholic and classical music charities.

Donald is survived by his beloved wife of 63 years, Yvette, two children, three grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

1962



Fred Peter Endrizzzi, 82 of Osprey, FL, died peacefully in hospice care on January 25, 2023, surrounded by family.

Gifted with a sharp analytical mind, he had a successful career with the Mobil Corporation for over 30 years. Fred's work may have been with ships and tankers, but his passion took him to the greens. He was an avid golfer and member of the Oaks Club of Osprey, FL, winning the President's Cup in 2000. Fred also appreciated exceptional design and performance in the automotive industry, and he engaged in lively discussions about which cars met his high standards and which fell short. An oenophile, Fred enjoyed tasting and sharing wine with family and friends.

Fred is survived by his wife of 25 years, Joan Donohue Endrizzzi, a daughter, son and three grandchildren.

1963



David 'Randy' Rodger passed away at the age of 81. What follows appeared in the 125th Celebration Book.

"An experienced project and fleet manager, David R. Rodger has spent the past 50 years in a wide variety of naval architecture and ship construction roles. Career highlights include his time as technical manager at Energy Transportation Corporation, where he was responsible for eight American flag liquefied natural gas (LNG) tanker vessels of 125,000 cubic meter capacity; as assistant vice president, program manager, design manager, manager of level of effort contracts, and change order manager at M. Rosenblatt & Son, Inc.; and as director of new building, cranes, and technical services at Horizon Lines. He is currently the president of Rodger Associates LLC.

He is a Life Fellow of the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME), was chairman of the New York and San Diego sections, was a vice president of the society, and was the recipient of SNAME's Distinguished Service Award and Centennial Medallion.

He is also a Fellow and past chairman of the eastern U.S. branch of the Institute of Marine Engineers, a member of the Society of Marine Port Engineers, a member of the American Bureau of Shipping as well as a member of its technical committee, and past President of the Webb Alumni Association. He holds a Bachelor of Science in naval architecture and marine engineering from Webb Institute, and is a registered professional engineer in New York, New Jersey, and California."

Dave is survived by his wife Miko, a daughter Erika, a son-in-law and two grandchildren. A memorial service was held in August.

1966

F. Roland "Nick" Bjorklund passed away at his home with his wife at his side on June 10, 2023 at the age of 78.

He earned his bachelor's degree at Webb Institute, and a master's degree at MIT in naval architecture and marine engineering. After graduating, he was employed by the U.S. Navy, in Washington, and Roslyn, VA, designing hulls for Navy ships.

He was married in 1969. They moved to Indian Head, MD, and had two sons, Eric, and Dennis.

Nick was a guitarist who played with various bands at military bases in VA, MD, and DC. He opened a music store where he sold record albums with his friend. He then began his own business selling musical equipment, amplifiers, microphones, etc.

After 11 years, Nick left his Navy position. Using his skills in writing programs he was contracted with a variety of companies in DC, VA, and MD. He also wrote programs for banks in the DC area as they moved into the world of computers. He later moved to PA and was contracted with several companies in the Harrisburg area as a computer programmer.

Later, Nick decided to learn how to drive tractor-trailers and got his CDL license. After long haul driving for about a year he fell and broke his heel. He was unable to drive for a while and was relegated to office duty at the trucking company, handling their paperwork. He immediately began writing computer programs and modernized the handling of office paperwork. He then saw an opportunity to start his own drivers' daily logs software company and began writing programs for individuals driving tractor-trailers. He modernized the daily log reports required by drivers.

Nick volunteered and was an active member of the local nonprofit, Shamokin Creek Restoration Alliance. He enjoyed building and flying radio-controlled airplanes and metal detecting with his young sons.

Nick leaves behind his wife, Leanne, two sons and two grandchildren.

1967

William R. McCreight died at home in Washington, DC, on July 11, 2022. The cause was Parkinson's disease. He was 76.

Following graduation from Webb, Bill studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he earned an SM in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering and a PhD in the field of Hydrodynamics. His thesis on Exciting Forces on a Moving Ship in Waves was done under J. N. Newman. At the Navy's David Taylor Model Basin in Carderock, Maryland, Bill worked on surface ship seakeeping, maneuvering, and station keeping, covering a range of areas from basic and applied research through development of design tools and the hydrodynamic evaluation of specific designs.

Bill's survivors include his wife of 47 years and their two sons, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter; a sister and two brothers.

1968



John L. Glaeser of Richmond, TX, passed away on January 17, 2023 at the age of 76, after a lengthy battle with pulmonary fibrosis complicated by pneumonia and pseudomonas. Born in Amityville, NY, and raised in Islip, Long Island, NY where he spent his free time sailing on Long Island Sound. He eventually pursued his passion for boats further and attended Webb Institute.

Once graduating from Webb, he was commissioned into the U.S. Coast Guard during the Vietnam War. During his short tour, he completed a master's degree in mechanical engineering which he would use to shift his professional trajectory. After his time in the Coast Guard, he joined the petroleum industry working for several companies that sent him all over the world.

Despite his international travels, his primary residences were in Anchorage, AK and Houston, TX where he helped raise two children. John took an active hand in the extra-curricular activities of his son (John, a Webb graduate of '03) and daughter, being active in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and travel softball.

He briefly retired between 2005 and 2007 to sail his boat the "Let's Play". John then did consulting work for several companies before finally retiring in 2015. In retirement, he pursued his main passions: traveling, boating, fishing, flying, cooking, building model boats, and reading.

1969



Steven F. Wolgamot of Mahtomedi, MN passed away peacefully on August 18, 2022 at the age of 75.

Steve was diagnosed with Glioblastoma in January 2021 and fought a courageous battle against brain cancer.

He leaves a legacy of contributions to the Mahtomedi and White Bear Lake communities which include service to St. Andrews Lutheran Church, Mahtomedi Basketball Association, Mahtomedi Area Education Foundation, Mahtomedi School Board,

White Bear Lake Center for the Arts, Mahtomedi City Council and Lake Links Association. He was also the unofficial Camp Director of the "Camp White Bear" neighborhood where he and Karen have lived since 1978. Steve taught hundreds of people how to waterski and sail on the lake and play neighborhood games in the yard.

Steve is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Karen; a son and daughter, and four grandchildren.

1972

Peter D. Canning of Stonington, CT passed on January 4, 2023 at the age of 72.

After graduating from Webb Institute, he moved to Berkeley, CA, to work as a yacht designer with Gary Mull. In 1973, he returned to CT, where he started his own design firm.

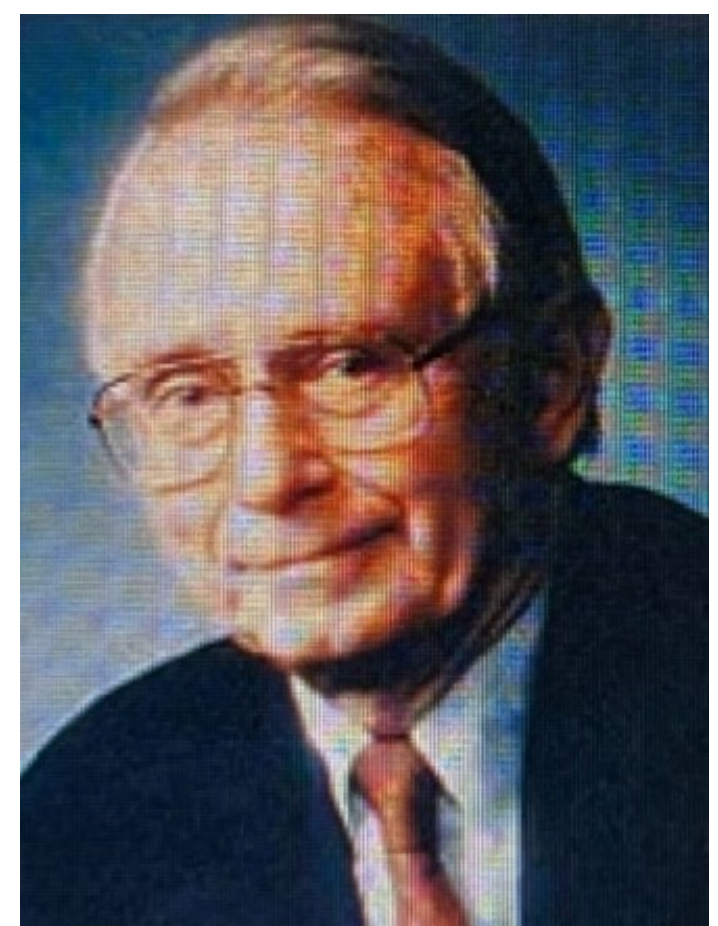
In 1980, Peter began his career at Electric Boat, where he worked for 37 years in various roles, including serving as the Manager of Naval Architecture. He found great purpose in designing submarines for the U.S. Navy, and in working at Electric Boat.

Peter loved boating, hunting, and fishing with his brothers. Peter also loved spending time with his wife, Sarah, his daughters, Katherine and Martha and their family and friends at the Mason's Island Yacht Club. He was obsessive about dandelion removal from his yard but refused to use pesticides. He taught his girls to sailboat race and fly kites

A relentless problem solver, he always had a solution for any pending problem his daughters had. He loved dogs, woodworking, single malt scotch, snowy days, family parties, hazy summer mornings by the water and snappy bowties.

Peter is survived by his immediate family, Sarah, Katherine, and Martha Canning; two brothers, nephews, and nieces.

Honorary



Richard T. Soper passed away on October 21, 2022 at the age of 97. He became a Webb Trustee in 1985 and later an Honorary Trustee. Webb awarded him with an Honorary Doctor of Science degree in 1998. He was President of ABS 1986-1987; Chairman 1987-1990.

1952

Tom Gillette wrote: Gene Schorsch and I are active, keep in touch with our remaining classmates, John Sims, and Gaby Lefebvre

1958

Rob Goldbach wrote: My latest book, “A Cheerful Heretic, Meditations About Life and Love” will soon be up on Amazon in Kindle and hard cover. Back cover describes it as follows: A Cheerful Heretic offers 40 meditations by a plain-spoken lifetime Christian, each introduced with a related quotation from history. Written in a reader-friendly blank verse style, the author attempts in each meditation to enlighten and leave the reader with something to contemplate at its end. I will be contributing all net proceeds to a charity of the book buyer’s choice, with the default going to Webb.

Len & Karen Thunberg recently moved to a senior living facility in Alexandria. Before moving he had been assembling a three-piece kayak kit capable of assembly/disassembly using just 10 bolts. It’s now finished and ready for a test paddle. He said he gets a few odd glances from other residents when carrying it one piece at a time down in the elevator from his apartment. Our class still has an active shipbuilder!

1959

Pete & Jo Gale traveled to San Diego in February and enjoyed fine weather.

Pete reports that he had the opportunity for a day sail on a replica of the Spanish galleon “San Salvador”. The original vessel was used by the explorer Cabrillo in 1542 during the discovery of San Diego Bay and the California coast. The ship exterior and rigging is an exact replica as best as can be known. Below decks are modern facilities and twin diesel propulsion engines for use in emergencies and flat calm seas. It was an exciting sail with breaking whitecaps and significant roll. Several passengers lost footing and others became seasick. Pete did well without these issues for a fine day of sailing on a 16th century Spanish Galleon.



Larry & Donene Harrison pose for a picture

Larry & Donene Harrison traveled to South Dakota and Minnesota in September. We started with a visit to Mount Rushmore in the Black Hills and then drove across the breadth of both states though the Badlands, crossed the Missouri River and ended the drive with a visit to the expansive Minnesota Arboretum near Minneapolis vibrant with fall colors.

The trip was an “explore your roots” trip for Larry whose ancestors were homesteaders and early pioneers to these states. We visited the towns and farmlands that they lived and worked in. Larry had thoughtful visits to rural cemetery’s, the burial locations of grandparents, great-grand parents and other ancestors. We stayed a few days in a bed and breakfast ranch located on the high lonesome prairie and visited a history museum of early South Dakota settlement in nearby Wall, SD. In keeping with the trip theme, we took a 1880s era steam train ride through the Black Hills and posed for our portrait in 1880s attire in the historic town of Keystone. This coming summer we will visit Western North Dakota and Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The Park, with its eroded high plateaus, bluffs and badlands is considered the Grand Canyon of the North.

Mary Yourch reports that she is doing well. She and Gene enjoyed their 26 foot Stamis for many years in their ‘boating condo’ which has a dock for each unit. Mary continues to live there and has downsized to a 22-foot Boston Whaler to continue enjoying the boating life with family. Mary now has the Webb “spousal designation” which has been instituted for spouses of deceased Webb grads. She will continue to be one of the 1959 classmates.

Ed & Diann Shope continue to live in their Seattle house and maintain extended family interactions with their two sons and grandchildren who all live the Seattle Area. One son is the maintenance manager for a local cement plant, the other son runs Clean Republic a company that sells lithium batteries for electric bicycles. He travels to the battery supplier in China. Diann stays busy as a board member of the Waldorf teacher training school to prepare individuals to teach in Waldorf Schools. Ed reports that he been retired from his marine surveyor work for 4 years and is dealing with significant back and other health issues. However, he is happy with his team of doctors and physical therapists who enable him to keep active and walking in his neighborhood.

1962



Mark Henry won a Gold Medal at the Chevy Chase Fencing Club

Mark & Elaine Henry resumed their world travels in the fall of 2021. Their most recent trip was a cruise from Rio de Janeiro to Cape Town with port calls in Brazil and ten West African counties.

Mark is still fencing, winning his two most recent national competitions including the 80+ Men's Epee US National Championship in Phoenix, AZ, in July 2023.

1963

Our learned classmate **Max Altmann** has self-published his 12th novel, which can be purchased via Barnes & Noble, Amazon or other booksellers. There have been four involving Norse sagas: 1) A Telling; 2) Rerir; 3) Volsungs; 4) Andvari's Gift. The other eight are as follows: 5) The Burning; 6) The Long Defeat; 7) Nor Hell A Fury; 8) Outlaw; 9) Whisperer; 10) The Neighborhood; 11) A Covid Summer; 12) Relics. All can be ordered thru Amazon. Go to Author Page to order. He is making good use of all those frozen winter hours in Minnesota. **Don & Mary Deckebach** are fighting their way through the bureaucratic pitfalls in trying to finish the repairs and renovations to their new mansion in Santa Barbara. They have owned it for well over a year and still can't move in. Our former classmate, **Tim Graul** continues his globetrotting ways, both to see his daughter in Barcelona, but also to see the rest of the world. Latest missive extolled the beauty of Prague.

Bill Hall, and his special lady, Mary, who reside in the Seattle area, were last seen at Mary's house in Santa Cruz. They are planning to head East soon to see one of Bill's sons.

June Kiss (Ron) and **Joyce Lindenmuth** (Bill) both made it to the Webb reunion, obviously a bittersweet experience for both.

They were joined by **Bill & Linda Smith** and **Abbott & Barbara Weiss** for the festivities, including the Heritage Society dinner. Smitty was on the East Coast to also attend college graduations for grandkids. Bott has cut way back on his world travels, as did most of us during the Covid period, but he and Barb are headed to Arizona soon to see their son. Kurt Kramer, another former classmate, has become the class historian, with his research turning up interesting historical articles on Webb and its founder. On a personal note, he also turned up articles on my grandfather, Hulbert Footner, an author who was honored this past year with the dedication of the Hulbert Footner room at the Calvert County Historical Society Museum.

Bill & Marion Birkhead, along with their oldest son and many cousins spent several fun days on Solomons Island for the festivities. Have little news to relate from **Bridget Lisnyk-Washlack**, **Marge Verdon**, **Gene Seib** or **Larry Stephens**. Larry Stephens is still working 25 hours a week and will do so until his patience runs out.

I know Bridget and family are still dealing with the death of her husband and honorary (to us) Webbie, Mike Washlack. Larry is apparently doing well health wise. As mentioned above, we had a Zoom meeting on May 20, which was well attended. married in Yosemite Valley on Oct 14.

Younger son and significant other reside in Gulfport, FL.

Roberta Silber had been in assisted living for a while after working through Mike's passing, but she is stronger now and happily back in her own home. Somehow Hank has managed to avoid the ravages of fire and weather out in CA, both for his home in Albany and his mountain cottage retreat. He will be proudly attending the wedding of his son soon in Yosemite Valley on October 14. Younger son and lady are still in Gulfport, FL.

1966



CC2

John Newcomb: It took too long, way too long, but Cathy's Choice II (CC2) is finally complete and afloat. CC2 was built to the Jiffy V-22 design drawn by Arch Davis of Belfast, Maine. In profile, she has the appearance of a Maine Lobster boat, but she is hard chined rather than having the round bilges typical of the type. As a result, the hull is (mostly) developable surfaces and can be planked with sheet plywood, a much easier and faster build process than spiling and fitting



The boat's keel, stem, chine logs, sheer clamps, rub rails and deck beams are made of white oak that was milled from a tree that grew on our lot and was felled by hurricane Isabel in 2003. Fortunately, rather than cutting it up for firewood, I had the tree milled and used the wood for several furniture projects as well as this boat and Wooden Nical (more on this boat later).



The boat is made from Okoume plywood, an African hardwood similar to mahogany. The hull and weather decks are sheathed in fiberglass set in epoxy. Power is provided by a 90 hp Suzuki outboard. Design displacement is 3350 lb., and judging by how she floats at rest, I think the finished boat is close to that, although I have not had her weighed. On builders' trials, she reached 28 mph with full fuel and water, and two people aboard.



CC2 follows her older siblings, Cathy's Choice (Is there a pattern here?) and Wooden Nical (pronounced like the coin, nickel).

Cathy's Choice is a Simmons 18, a design developed in North Carolina's Outer Banks in the late 1950's. These boats were launched (and recovered) from the beach and often ventured 20 or more miles offshore to fish in the Gulf Stream. The high bow, springy sheer and raked transom, with the motor set in a well forward of the transom, helped to prevent the boats from swamping during the launch and recovery operations. Cathy's Choice is the first boat I built after retiring in 2000.



My second build is Wooden Nical, a Joel White Pooduck Skiff. At 13-feet long, she is the largest of a family of three boats designed by White in the late 1980's. The other two are an 8-foot pram and an 11-foot skiff. I chose to build the Pooduck skiff because it is sloop rigged (the other two are catboats) and I wanted to have a jib for better balance and performance, especially up-wind. After sailing the boat for more than 10 years, I am happy I made that choice. The names of the three boats is another story that will wait for telling at a later time.

1967

Bob & Joyce Hall and I are just back from taking all three of our kids (including Sarah '95) and their families on a 7-day Alaska cruise out of Vancouver. Great family time!

We came from Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and northern Nevada. I have a long-term exercise goal of riding my street bike 100 miles a month year around. I have just completed 3 years (36 months, for the mathematically challenged) riding over 3700 miles.



Kit Ryan and family at Grand Teton National Park.

Kit Ryan, Cathy, with son Todd, his wife Jamie, and our only grandchild Nathan at Grand Teton National Park 2 weeks ago - mid May. Weather was fantastic - 70 and sunny every day - after snowing incessantly only one month before. Smoke from Canadian fires crept in after the photo was taken and detracted from the clarity of the blue sky and mountains but could not dull the beautiful scenery very much. Grandson giving the peace sign - taking after his grandfather! Everyone here in good shape. Planning a trip to Portugal in October.

1968



Pete, Ralph, Les and Bill

In addition to their regular monthly ZOOM meetings which include graduates of Webb and classmates who graduated from other colleges, the **Class of 1968** held an in person 55th reunion in Alexandria, Virginia in early September 2023. We met in person for two days at **Ralph Johnson's** home with **Pete Fontneau** providing food and refreshments. Also attending were Ralph's wife, Debra; Pete's wife, Karen; **John O'Dea** and his wife, Mary; **Les Gray** who came up from Florida; and **Bill Buote** who came down from Massachusetts and is a graduate of MIT. Sea stories and old Webb stories were featured among various other topics. Stories went about 90 minutes longer than the advertised times in both sessions. Although a regular member of the zoom group, we had not seen Bill in person for over 50 years. Now everyone being about 77-years old, it was now important for all of us to get together in person. We enjoyed learning about our careers after our Webb years' together; remembering our other classmates and learning about each other's families.

Joel Snyder: Loved the Prof. Ward article. I did my Master's thesis for him and won the 1969 SNAME Graduate Paper Honor Prize.

Both my wife and one daughter wore Grace Ward's sixpence on their wedding days. I picked up my Webb diploma at the end of our honeymoon. Then I continued my 40+ year career at NNS&DD Co. pushing computers into steel shipbuilding and some of my methodology is still in use after I retired in 2005. I still play trumpet in the band created to celebrate the NNS centennial in 1986 after 38 years. I participate in the '68 alumni Zoom meeting on the first Friday each month.

1970



Jon Amy and Scott Bristol '71 - two Webbies sailing in Austria

1973

Members of the Class of 1973 reunited to celebrate their 50th Anniversary during Homecoming.

Attending were **Dave Collins**, **Paul Kamen**, **Steve Lardie**, **Doug Loeser**, **Keith Michel**, **Lorne Sheren**, **Ted Slotwinski**, and **Rich Celotto**.

Also joining them was Jim Leigh, Class of '74, who started with the class and was a member for three years. Several spouses were also present, and everyone had a terrific time catching up with one another and reminiscing about their time at school. During the Webb Alumni Association meeting, the class also described their anniversary gift initiative to begin a major renovation of the Goldbach Boathouse that is planned to start next summer.

1977

Roy Neyman wrote: Mid-April found me back in Vava'U, Tonga, after spending a wonderful nine months visiting in the US. While based out of my daughter's home in a Portland suburb, I got around quite a bit with a couple of visits to Seattle and a leisurely three-month, 360 degree driving tour of the U.S. That really was pretty much of a full circuit road trip, and I visited all my siblings plus some cousins and several Webbies, not to mention some really nice places. Now I'm working to get my CT41, SV Mabrouka, in shape for the transit to Fiji. Classmate **Bob Bunnell** is arriving soon to assist in that effort. Hopefully, the prep can be done in time for him to make the sail with me, although that's a tall order.

It includes reinstalling the engine that was rebuilt while I was gone. Cruising plans now comprise getting to Fiji this cruising season (mid-April to early November), sheltering there over cyclone season, spending most of next cruising season exploring Fiji, then sailing to Australia via Vanuatu and New Caledonia. Anyone interested in a tropical visit should contact me on Facebook and, if you're not already, I'll send you an invite to join my Go West Mabrouka FB page.

Dave St. Amand reports that he is still working writing term papers about ships (aka management consulting to the maritime industry). He's been feeling very connected to Webb of late. He's serving on a National Academy of Science Committee examining the Coast Guard's process for providing approval for foreign-flag gas carriers to call in a U.S. port. Also on the Committee is **Rich Gilmore '77** (anybody know him?), **Mark Martecchini '79** (the new Prez), and **Eric Linsner '70** (a lot of LNG experience on this Committee). It's been fun.

1993



Class of '93 get together for some fun in the sun.

Erik Nilsson stepped up to get a 35-Year reunion on the calendar with a 3-day cruise out of Miami. Others pitched in to ensure logistics were great.

In addition to Erik and wife Josie hosting a pre-cruise BBQ for those in town the night before, we had **Carey & Diana Filling, Cathy Anderson, Ben & Debbie Rising, Amee & Amish Shah, Joe Corvelli, Monique Sinmao, Al Kamahi and Jake Neuman**. Several had to send their regrets and we truly missed them but enjoyed catching up with each other on personal and professional levels at meals, poolside, beach, and over drinks! Many are in different phases, Cathy being semi-retired, Corvelli's achieved empty nester status, Monique Sinmao on Webb's Board of Trustees, Al's entrepreneurial life in healthcare products. Too many updates to list but it was a great experience and one that really maximized interactions with each other. Many years have passed but the comfortable friendship of the group had only grown stronger. It was a great time. Other notes include **Peter Wallace** joining Lloyds register and really enjoying it so far. He and Chris Lacato '15 hosted an alumni event in Houston during OTC which was well attended from JuniorsClass of 2024 to representation from Class of 1952, Tom Gillette.



Jake & Mary Neuman welcomed a 600 lb. steer into the family because our daughter, Ellie, is embracing Texan life and raising a steer for FFA (Future Farmers of America). She'll raise it to about 1200 lbs. and show it in February!

2000

Scott Furr wrote: We are still loving living in Maine. My oldest is going to be a sophomore at University of Pittsburgh. I recently started the first and only kiteboarding school in Maine! Life is good. KiteMaine.com

2007



Kathleen Minnich and Elizabeth Singleton

Elizabeth Singleton recently received her D.Eng. in Engineering Management from The George Washington University. Pictured are Elizabeth and Webb classmate **Kathleen Minnich**, following the Doctoral Hooding Ceremony on May 18th.

2008



The class of 2008 celebrated their 15-year reunion during a September weekend at Cherry Hill Park, MD. With almost as many children present as adults, the weekend was quite different from previous reunions, with more Capri Suns consumed than beers. In attendance were 23 adults (14 from '08) and 19 kids, ranging in age from 3 months to 7 years. Some highlights were Friday night chili cook-off, kids playing at the pool and splash pad, and the complete disassembly of a ladder ball set. Our class reunion gift to Webb was the sponsorship of Webbstock in memory of our classmate, Johanna (Lee) Exner. We think she would have loved all the family fun and class shenanigans at our reunion weekend.

Alumni News | Class Notes



Porter Bratten and his family.

Porter Bratten and his family are enjoying life in Anacortes, Washington. In 2020, he and Kami had a girl, Anna, joining Jamie, 8 and Beau, 5. Porter works full time as the co-owner of a race production company and recently completed his first 50 miler run. Kami will be going back to school this year to earn her MFA in creative writing. Porter is thinking about building a wooden boat this winter for his family to sail in San Juans.

Luke Soletic and his wife, Christina, welcomed their daughter, Penelope, on Christmas Eve. Mother and baby are doing well, and it won't be long now before she starts learning her sea legs! Luke finished his Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery training at NYU-Langone last spring and is now practicing on Long Island.



Leah and Sebastian

Leah Sosa and Richard Barrett welcomed son Sebastian Jay Barrett into their family on 2-June at 3:54am. We're happy, healthy, and very in love.

Freshly promoted big sister Abi is taking her new role very seriously, and we are quickly realizing that life with 2 is a lot different!



Class of 2008 gathering

2010

Simmy Willemann and Keith are excited to announce the birth of Sahni Schwarz Willemann. Sahni is three months old and enjoys walks and discordant music. She kicks away on a keyboard in her bassinet. Her smiles are our joy and fulfillment. Before taking maternity leave, Simmy led the launch of Apple's first carbon neutral products.

2013



Class of 2013 celebrating their 10th anniversary.

Happy tenth anniversary to the class of 2013! Hard to believe that it has already been 10 years since living and working all within ear shot of one another. Time sure does fly when you're not doing work that you procrastinated a little too long on. In the time since graduating the class has been able to do something that rarely happens while at Webb, the class has been able to grow in size with the addition of classmates in law, don't worry there is no post grad 15. **Doug Zangre** married Samantha Griswald and lives in Seattle, WA where he works as a naval architect at Glosten working on a variety of marine projects with a recent focus on decarbonizing passenger transportation.

Colin Spillane married Angela and lives in Boston, MA where after helping with the start of Lovepop is currently working to assist other entrepreneurial pursuits.



Andy, Nathan and Kierstin

Kierstin Del Valle married **Andy**, lives in Reston, VA with their two cats and works as the Secretary General of the Liberian Shipowners' Council, the shipowners' association to the world's second largest ship registry. They will be married five years this summer. Time flies! **Dan Dwyer** married Deanna and lives in historic Portsmouth, NH working as a marine engineer for Curicta Technologies Corp focusing on retrofit designs for ballast water treatment systems and emissions compliance for the tanker industry. **Troy Zangle** married Maggie and lives in Portland, ME where he works for the University of Maine's Advanced Structures and Composite Center researching the use of additively manufactured materials for maritime structures. The class of 2013 has also been fortunate to have a few nieces and nephews to add to its numbers as well. **Sean Murphy** married Laura and lives in Somerville, MA where they welcomed their daughter, Camellie, into the world. Sean works with the ABL group consulting on offshore wind and renewable projects within the United States and abroad.

Jonathan Soja married Jamey and lives in Hampton Roads area where they recently welcomed their son, Benjamin, into the world. Jonathan has been working for DLBA Naval Architects since graduation involving himself with “a wide range of projects across all the disciplines taught at Webb” he says.

Donald Rickerson married Erica and lives in Chesapeake, VA where they had their two sons Levi and Jamie. Don currently works as an engineering manager at DLBA Naval Architects. **Roxanne Schacht** married Chris and welcomed their daughter, Maren, into the world. Roxanne works in defense research and development at Applied Physical Sciences. She would also like to thank Webb for preparing her for the sleep deprivation that comes along with raising a child, a sentiment likely shared by all classmates currently raising children. The class of 2013 finds themselves involved across a variety of industries. **Justin Van Emmerik** lives in Kalispell, MT where he works for Orsted building wind and solar power around the U.S. **Gerardo Nixion** has been in the DC area since graduation working for NOAA's Platform and Infrastructure Acquisition Division as a Program Manager. **Marc Smith** has been living in Newport, RI since graduation where he works for BBN technologies doing design, modeling, and simulation of naval vessels. **Roland DeMarco** lives in Omaha, Nebraska after leaving the maritime world in 2020 to serve in the United States Air Force global reconnaissance missions.



Celebratory cake!

Samuel Waterhouse has been living in Seattle, WA since graduation while working at EBDG where he manages the naval architecture team and is supporting a variety of hybrid, all-electric, and alternative fueled vessel designs. **William ‘Bryce’ Bartling** lives in Houston, TX working for VARD Marine, Inc. as a naval architect with a focus on propulsion, dynamic positioning, radiation, and is looking to expand into stability. **Michael LaRose** lives in Bay Shore, NY and while recovering from his accident has involved himself with a number of paralympic sports such as sled hockey, handcycling, and wheelchair racing and is looking forward to getting back to work. **Lidia Needham** started a new job at Serco, where she’s working closely with a number of Webbies. She and Schuyler took a memorable trip to the Bahamas with their two boys on their first sailing vacation this March.



old picture of the Class of 2013

2017

Spenser Boyd has joined the Webb community as a faculty member and Sustainability Coordinator!

In September 2022, **Alex Dzinbal** and wife Ali welcomed their first child, Ava! Alex, Ali, and Ava live in Colville, WA.



Alex, Ali and Ava

2020

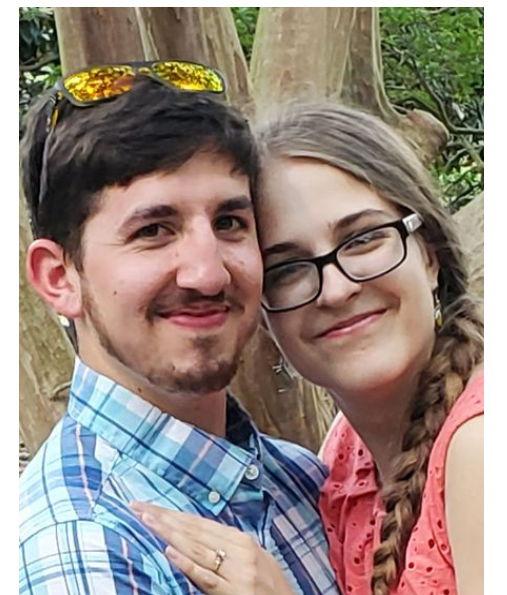
Duane Lee is still working as a Surveyor at ABS but will be going expat in August, relocating from Seattle to Geoje Island, South Korea. **Chris Bal** is relocating from San Diego to San Francisco in June starting a new position as a Naval Architect at CalWave.

2021

Big news out of 2021 is that **Jackson Juska** spilled his pasta!



Jackson Juska



Dan Desio and Holiday Nelson

Dan Desio is engaged to Holiday Nelson, a Navy nurse stationed at the Portsmouth, VA hospital. They will get married in August accompanied by God, family, and friends! Once they're married it will conclude Dan's fourth move since graduation.



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