



The Four Columns

Hood News is Good News

Summer 2024 E-Newsletter

Happy Summer, Hood Alumni, Families, and Friends!

Most anywhere you live, it's a pretty safe bet to assume it's been an especially hot summer.

After picture-perfect weather on campus for Reunion Weekend in June, it has indeed been *very* hot at Hood, but that didn't slow the schedule of camps, events, meetings and festivals that come to campus--they simply adapted, as we all do.

This got us thinking about sustained heat and other climate changes. How are Hood College faculty and alumni involved in the broader race to adapt to and head off harmful effects of these and other historically significant ecological changes? And what can the average person do? Our theme for this edition of *The Four Columns* is all about the "Great Outdoors," and how our programs, faculty, students and alumni are contributing to the effort to preserve it.

We also want to know how *you* "keep it green" in your everyday life. Share your thoughts and be eligible to win a sturdy (and reusable) Hood College Canvas Tote!

Stay cool everyone,

Michelle Burnett, assistant director of alumni and constituent engagement

Kellye Greenwald '86, director of alumni and constituent engagement

Write us at alumoffice@hood.edu

Find us on social media: [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [AlumniFire](#) [LinkedIn](#)



Parks Protector

Katelyn Horn '11

You might say that Katelyn Horn was genetically *and* environmentally destined to be an ecologist. Her mother was a science teacher who instilled in her a love and deep curiosity about the natural world. Katelyn knew what she wanted to study at Hood--after all, it was partly the coastal studies minor that drew her here, along with the then-new Hodson Science and Technology Center. But it wasn't until she was truly out in the field with her professors that she saw some "career opportunities that I hadn't considered." Today she's the only woman in the state of Maryland to hold the position of land manager for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Wildlife and Heritage Services, enhancing and protecting state lands for native species. We ask her how she got there. ([MORE](#))

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The Godfather of Coastal Studies

For nearly a quarter century, Dr. Drew Ferrier has been teaching and shepherding Hood students through the Coastal Studies semester, and the results of his and Hood's investment appear to be a growing cadre of alumni ecologists, scientists, and advocates who are making a difference in the broader environmental struggle (some of whom we profile in this very newsletter). We asked him how he sees the program now and his thoughts about the future. ([MORE](#))



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Watching the Waters

Christi Campbell Smith '11 used her excellent Hood education and experiences with professors like Drs. Drew Ferrier and Eric Annis, plus a bit of inspiration from President Volpe, to develop an international career path as a commercial fisheries biologist. "Ultimately, the spirit of collaboration and the warm, friendly 'Hood Hello' culture strengthened my ability to connect with diverse stakeholders in my international projects, more than any one fact I learned in class." ([MORE](#))

Know a high school student
who would love Hood?



Tell seniors to add Hood College
to their common app!

Student not a senior? Help Hood connect with
them at hood.edu/alumnireferral

"Wonder-Maker": Park Naturalist Educates the Public

Katrina Fauss '01 had a great experience as a student at Hood (there may have been some memorable Pink Spoon shenanigans, among other adventures). After graduation, thanks to mentors in student engagement, she decided to pursue a career in higher education. More recently, though, Katrina found a professional second act connecting park visitors to nature through innovative educational programming. ([MORE](#))



How do you Go Green?

Tell us your favorite ways to “Keep it Green” and protect the environment in your everyday life. We will feature some answers on social media, and one lucky entrant will win a sturdy and reusable (of course) canvas Hood tote.
Click to answer and enter.

Reunion 2024 Recap



Look who came Home to Hood! Reunion 2024 was a blast, thanks to our wonderful alumni guests and an army of magnificent volunteers. Enjoy more of our official photos [here](#). See the photos you and other guests shared [here](#). Keep adding them!

Congratulations to our **Distinguished Alumna Award** recipients, [Carol Deck Montoya '94, P'26](#) and [Kimberly B. Roth '04, Ph.D.](#); the **Excellence in Service to Hood College Award** recipient, trustee emerita [Susan L. Whaley '74](#); and the inaugural honoree of our newest award, the **Distinguished Faculty Award**, faculty emerita [Dr. Margery Elfin](#). We are currently accepting nominations for 2025 award recipients: [learn more](#).

Mark **June 6-8, 2025**, on your calendar – it's Reunion Weekend for classes that end in a '5 or '0, with a spotlight on the class of 1975 as they celebrate their 50th! Want to get involved? Collab with a classmate and [volunteer](#) as Reunion Co-Chairs for your class!

Upcoming Events

- **Sept 12:** Virtual Meet & Greet with Dr. Debbie Ricker, Hood's interim president, 6-7 p.m. on Zoom ([register here](#) - required to attend).
- **Sept 26:** Alumni Executive Board Fall Meeting, 6-7:30 p.m., Zoom
- **Sept 29:** Alumni & Friends event, Atlanta GA, hosts Marylou Herrmann Foley '64 and Donna Peterson '79
- **Oct 4:** [Blue & Grey Golf Tournament, P.B. DYE Golf Course, all day](#)
- **Oct 4-5:** [Homecoming & Fall Family Weekend](#)
- **Oct 22:** Alumni & Friends event, Brooklyn NY, host Ellen Sacks '70
- **Nov 1:** Women's Ice Hockey Kick-off Party, Frederick MD
- **Nov 19:** Alumni & Friends event, Lancaster PA, host BethWard Ross '80
- **Dec 11:** Hood Holiday Party, Frederick MD, hosted by Institutional Advancement

April 4-24, 2025 Hood Journey to Ghana: Register Today!

DESTINATION GHANA

Let's make new memories as we mark our golden jubilee with an extraordinary trip to Ghana in April 2025. This is a transformational journey to the very roots of our ancestry, a birthright that connects us to a continent steeped in heritage, breathtaking beauty, culture and timeless traditions.

This is an incredible opportunity for personal growth and self-discovery. It's a chance to make new connections, strengthen friendships and create lasting memories, as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of BSU. Please join us for this extraordinary experience!

SECURE YOUR SPOT TODAY! SCAN THE QR CODE TO WATCH A VIDEO TOUR WITH ABA BLANKSON '99, H'22, AND REGISTER FOR THE TRIP.



hood.edu/ghana-trip-2025

If you have questions about any events, please email alumoffice@hood.edu or call 301-696-3900



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Throwback: 1953 Rhythmic Swimming Team



Photo courtesy of the [Hood College Archives](#).



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