

Maximizing Communication Among CU-NYHSN Alumni

By Cathy Eten, May, 2025

In addition to Mary Belmont's historical account of Annie Goodrich's contribution as a premier pioneer in nursing education, the Alumni Association Members engaged in a lively discussion regarding maximizing communication as we move forward.

Prior to Alumni Day, the Board discussed improving communication given that with the passing of time, a decrease in participation and communication becomes a natural phenomenon in any organization. The Board decided to open a discussion with the alumni. During Alumni Day, there were several recommendations as to how to best increase communication moving forward.

Existing vehicles have been biannual Newsletters, the Annual Alumni Day, and our website cornellnursingalumni.org. Since we have email addresses for only half of our alumni base, it has not been used for routine communication, but during the discussion, it became clear that many felt more frequent use of email would complement the existing forms of communication in 'real time'.

Chat Log comments were recorded simultaneously along with the participant discussion; it was made available after the meeting. (Look to the Fall Newsletter for the Chat Log in its entirety.) It contains all comments written by participants during the discussions. Overall, there were 25 documented comments. Twelve direct comments were in support of more frequent use of email. Two comments expressed concern that Class Secretaries don't receive responses to their emails. Two comments cited physical disability making the use of email difficult for aging populations.

The intention is to continue a dialogue that may facilitate communication moving forward.