<u>The Aunt/Uncle Program</u> is a unique connection between students and alumni with a long standing tradition of support and encouragement. Someone may have helped you during your time at Wilson College and alumni "return the favor" by doing the same for current Wilson students. Historically, the pairings were anonymous with alumnae giving hints and clues. With today's technology, many pairings choose to be known and communicate in a variety of avenues, as well as, get together for coffee or a meal.

This program is open to ALL alumni and students of the Wilson College community. Any specific requests may be made on your sign-up form.

Here are a few guidelines to insure that everyone gets the most out of this meaningful bond.

- ➤ The office will NOT tell the student who they are paired with it is up to the pairing to decide what works for them and what they are most comfortable with. Please keep in mind that this is a generation that has grown up with technology at their fingertips, being told not to communicate or friend people they do not know. In many aspects, letter writing is a lost art. We have found some students love the mystery of a secret while others are very reluctant to engage without additional information. We suggest you ask your assigned student her/his preference in any initial outreach. Students, please be honest with your assigned alum and please respond, they wish to hear from you too!
- Letters and packages may be mailed or dropped off at the Alumni House c/o Alumni Relations. Alumni put the office on the outside envelope/package and make sure that the name of the intended student is marked clearly inside. The office will email the student to come across the green to pick up. Students put your name in the upper left corner of envelopes and the office will address to the appropriate "Aunt or Uncle".
- The student's address: Student Name, Wilson Mailbox #, 1015 Philadelphia Avenue, Chambersburg, PA 17201. Generally the student's email is: firstname.lastname@wilson.edu
- > Students please remember that this program is intended to create interaction. Alumni really enjoy an occasional letter or response. A few times a year, the Alumni Relations Office will host a table in Lenfest lobby with letter writing supplies to assist in this effort. Letter supplies are always available in the Alumni Relations Office.
- ➤ Our expectation is that alums have some type of contact (letter, postcard, email, text, call, small package) with the student(s) several times a semester. Students, please respond back at <u>least once a semester</u>. Your pairing will remain as long as the two of you desire some are for a semester or year, while others last through graduation and beyond. It is what you make of it it is your choice! If you need any assistance, please let us know in the office.
- Alums please remember it is not the intent to be a costly venture. Simple things really do mean a great deal and bring a smile. Life can be stressful and it is easy for any of us to get caught up in the day-to-day struggles.
- Need ideas? We have seen or heard of some really creative things over the years. Soup or flowers delivered to a student who was feeling ill, something handmade to wear or hang, lots of things connected to the spirit of ODDS/EVENS, stress or water toys, festive socks or a favorite treat. Gift cards of small amount are always a great way to assist a student. Stores such as Sheetz, Target, Panera, Starbucks, Subway, Giant, Red Robin, Chipotle, Five Guys and Kohls are a short distance from campus. Students send campus photos, write about a campus activity or class project, ask questions, say thank you!
- > The Alumnae Association of Wilson College sells t-shirts and other memorabilia that make great surprises or shop at the college store.
- Alumni watch for ongoing campus related updates and connections with the monthly e-news or social media.

Through this program we hope to remind students that they are supported by a group of strong, caring, alums. We thank you for your time, energy, and encouragement. When in doubt, please contact us via ARoffice@wilson.edu.