

Good Morning.

For those of you have not met me, my name is Marybeth Famulare and I am the Director of Alumnae/i Relations.

I have just completed my second year and this is my third reunion. Admittedly I will tell you, there are days when it seems just like yesterday ... and days where I feel like I have been here forever. From my vantage point, I have spent the past two years meeting and forming relationships with a very passionate Wilson Community.

I am frequently quoted as saying that Wilson College is full of challenges and full of opportunities. The reality is that for most of you, the class years of 4 & 9... since your last reunion, I am the fourth staffing change in the position that I hold. When I hear comments questioning communication, relationship or institutional knowledge... in this context of the significance a Director of Alumnae/i Relations should and could have... I understand some of the unrest and angst.

My priorities over the past 26 months have been building relationships, increasing communication by way of updating the webpages, utilizing our monthly e-news and AR Wilson Facebook, increasing alumnae/i student opportunities and working to capture information about how alumnae wish to receive communication and capturing individual interests for volunteer opportunities. Many of the activities were a direct result of you, our alumnae/i, providing suggestions, creativity, time and treasure. Many of the activities show a renewed commitment to rebuilding collaboration. They show an ongoing support to current Wilson students. I understand we are capable of more.

I repeat a few words I said last year at this time...

It is my job to serve as a bridge between the college, the alumnae association, you as individual alumnae and current students. In that role I work closely with the board volunteers seated next to me. I communicate with other offices of the college to share the varied messages I hear from you. I work to create opportunities for collaboration and I seek avenues to foster ongoing Wilson connections.

With each inquiry, I will freely share what I can and cannot do, usually with an explanation. I am not afraid to push back and state my own concerns or questions. I am not afraid to admit I may not know something and need to get back to you or acknowledge if I made a mistake. I have called upon many of you in one capacity or another.

I urge you to please inquire when you have questions and let's talk things out. Even if we agree to disagree, we move forward with a greater understanding of each other.

Please enjoy this time of friendship and reminiscing. Please introduce yourselves and allow me the privilege of getting to know you. I cannot be successful without your assistance.

I remain Proud to be Wilson.

With Warm Regards,

Marybeth "Mb" Famulare