





Dr. Peggy Reynolds donations greatly enhance campus aesthetics including walkways

## 1988-2002 - Fourteen Years of Breakthoughs & Achievements

1988 — Dr. Smith arrives in May. By October, Les Trautmann '40, Editor of the Staten Island Advance reports "Norman Smith came on campus like a strong, fresh breeze on a smothering hot summer's day. He revived the life, rallied the troops, gave new hope and beautified the campus and the immediate neighborhood. Wagner indeed has a leader again. Tough problems remain and dog him, but he has wiped away fears that they won't be overcome."

1989 – Dr. Donald Spiro '49, assumes Chairmanship of Board of Trustees and donates \$250,000 for installation of College's first student computing center. His gift represents largest from an alumnus in history and the beginning of over \$10 million in Spiro family giving since 1988.

1990 — Student Union, residence halls and classrooms are renovated. Campus walkways and facades are lit with street lamps and flood lights. Local media herald "Wagner's turnaround elicits accolades" citing faculty comments that include "I've been here for almost 20 years and I have never seen so many changes take place in so short a period of time. President Smith has accomplished a turnaround that appears to be nothing short of miraculous."

1991 — Wagner is fully accredited by Middle States for first time in decades commending "first and foremost, a dynamic and talented new president who made strong, necessary and extremely gutsy decisions which have resulted in the College being the vibrant institution we find it to be and one positioned for a very promising future."

1992 — Dr. Donald & Evelyn Spiro contribute Wagner's first \$1 million gift for renovation of Spiro Hall enabling an expansion of the student computing center and upgrades to all classrooms and amphitheaters.

1993 — Trautmann Square is dedicated. Augustinian tract is acquired adding 18 adjacent acres and preventing high density development thus preserving a rural atmosphere for the campus while adding playing fields for soccer, lacrosse and softball.

1994 — Application rates begin to soar which will lead to a doubling of undergraduate enrollment. Academic quality also skyrockets as Wagner's reputation becomes more widespread.

1995 - Operating revenues up \$10 million from three years earlier.

1996 - Enrollment growth exceeds 450 students over past four years.

1997 — Wagner achieves "top tier" ranking from U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges for first time. Wagner Plan curriculum is introduced. New football stadium opens.

1998 - Spiro Sports Center, Wagner's first major construction in decades is underway.

1999 — Association of American Colleges & Universities cites Wagner Plan curriculum as one of the most noteworthy new developments in undergraduate education in America. Wagner's business program receives its first accreditation from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Business.

2000 — North Hall is renovated and renamed Reynolds House in honor of Trustee William Reynolds who died in 1998. Campus walkways upgraded to brick surfacing through gifts from Trustee Dr. Margaret Bambach Buck Reynolds '40. Classrooms are renovated through a major gift from Richmond County Savings Bank Foundation.

2001 — In their "2002 Colleges of the Year" edition, TIME magazine cites Wagner College as one of four notable liberal arts colleges in America. Middle States reaccredits Wagner with commendations for "visionary leadership" and "significant progress over the past decade."

2002 - The Smith-Spiro era comes to a close.

## Fourteen years of ....

Consistent balanced operating budgets since 1988.

-Best fundraising outcomes in the history of the College far exceeding total giving for the entire previous history of the College.

-Undergraduate enrollment evolves to capacity including exceeding the capacity of the residence halls.

-Enrollment profile reverts from principally local and commuting to over 75% residential and over 50% out-of-state.



