

# COA

Keep in Touch



November 24, 2008

Dear recent alumna/us,

We miss you! While we may not see you frequently on campus, you will always be part of the global community of COA alumni. We are sending this booklet to highlight the myriad ways you can stay connected to the college. Whether you are taking advantage of resources available to you or acting as a resource for COA, we hope you will cherish your new role as an alum.

We trust that your friendships with students, staff, faculty and fellow alumni will continue as you celebrate the value of your COA education. Some alumni have found the transition from being a student to that of being an alum difficult; we hope your COA relationships and the information in this booklet will ease that challenge. The community of COA alumni can be a valuable resource for networking and support.

Even if you just left in June, you might not recognize some areas of campus. With new housing and a campus center, things are looking a little different at 105 Eden Street. You are surely making some changes too, as you make choices about places to live, jobs to pursue, and loves to commit to. Yet, both for you and for the college, these changes are guided by core values.

We are always excited to hear how each human ecologist from COA is making his or her way in the world, whether the path is direct, winding or about to branch in a new direction. Please keep in touch and share news of your life and your journeys with us.

Best wishes,



Mike Staggs '96  
President, COA Alumni Association



Dianne Clendaniel  
Alumni Relations and Development Coordinator

## COA Alumni Association

So, you thought governance and committee work for COA ended after that last ACM you attended? Not so—you can still be involved in the tradition of adding your voice and making a difference in the College of the Atlantic community, as a member of the COA Alumni Association.

Founded in 1982, the COA Alumni Association (COAAA) promotes the welfare of College of the Atlantic and maintains a mutually beneficial relationship between College of the Atlantic and its alumni. COAAA supports and provides communication between the college and its alumni as well as among its members.

COAAA and the Alumni Relations and Development Office work together closely to foster communications, facilitate connections among alumni, and bring resources to the college through special events, including the Earth Day reunion weekend, newsletters, phone-a-thons, volunteer recruiting and website presence.

As a member of COAAA you have the right to vote at the annual meeting of the Alumni Association in June and nominate yourself or others to serve on the governing board. In addition to setting goals for the coming year, the annual meeting has made decisions regarding the organizations bylaws and policies.

You will find multiple services in this book—all available to you as a COA alumna/us. For more information about the College of the Atlantic Alumni Association please visit [www.coa.edu/alumni](http://www.coa.edu/alumni).

## Important Contacts

### **College of the Atlantic Switchboard**

207-288-5015

### **College of the Atlantic “Back Door” Automated Switchboard**

207-288-2944

*We offer the “back door” number for COA, which eases the load on the front desk, as a way to contact faculty and staff on campus. You can either enter an extension or use the directory.*

### **Office of Alumni Relations and Development**

Dianne Clendaniel,  
alumni relations and development coordinator  
207-288-2944, ext. 268  
dclendaniel@coa.edu, alumni@coa.edu

### **Office of Internships and Career Services**

Jill Barlow-Kelley,  
director of internships and career services  
207-288-2944 ext. 236, jbk@coa.edu

### **Office of the Registrar** (for transcript requests)

David Baldwin, registrar  
207-288-2944 ext. 366, dbaldwin@coa.edu

Darlene Nolin, assistant registrar  
207-288-2944 ext. 224, dnolin@coa.edu

### **Office of Admission**

Sarah Baker, dean of admission  
207-288-2944 ext. 233, sbaker@coa.edu

Tony Victor, assistant director of admission  
and alumni admission volunteer contact  
tvictor@coa.edu

### **Development Office**

Lynn Boulger, dean of development  
207-288-2944 ext. 350, lboulger@coa.edu

Laura Johnson, annual fund director  
207-288-2944 ext. 327, ljohnson@coa.edu

## Regional Alumni Networks

Camaraderie, shared vision, great stories and common understandings are all celebrated when COA alumni get together. Many find they are inspired and grounded when they connect with one another. Groups in the following regions are engaged in getting together for social, educational and community service activities. If you are relocating, a COA Alumni Network can be a good resource for learning about a new community.

We are expanding our Alumni Networks; please contact us if you are interested in developing a group in your area. Call or email Dianne Clendaniel, alumni relations and development coordinator at 207-288-2944, ext. 268 or [dclendaniel@coa.edu](mailto:dclendaniel@coa.edu) to get connected to any of the groups below or to start one in your region.

California—Los Angeles and San Francisco Bay

Washington, DC

Illinois—Chicago

Maine—Bar Harbor and Portland

Massachusetts—Boston

New York—New York City

Oregon—Portland

Pennsylvania—Philadelphia

Vermont

Washington—Seattle

## Office of Internships and Career Services

The Office of Internships and Career Services (OICS) is a resource available to alumni throughout every stage of career development and life work. Whether you are looking for your first job, making a career transition, or considering further education, OICS can assist you. All career services are free of charge.

Resources available include:

- comprehensive career and labor market information
- cover letter and resume redesign
- graduate school guidance and application assistance
- relocation contacts
- one-on-one career counseling (in person or by phone)
- A searchable database for jobs and internships is available on the internship web page:  
[www.coa.edu/html/internshiplinks](http://www.coa.edu/html/internshiplinks)



Another resource is the Alumni Mentorship Program. Through this program, we can assist you in contacting alumni who may be helpful in:

- the job search process
- expanding your professional network
- sharing information about graduate programs
- offering support and advice

Mentor profiles are sorted by occupation or graduate program and include volunteer activities, additional areas of expertise and professional associations.

A mentor is anyone interested in being a resource to both current students and fellow alumni. You can offer to share your knowledge and become a mentor. Learn more about participating or sign up online at [www.coa.edu/html/volunteer.htm](http://www.coa.edu/html/volunteer.htm).

To schedule an appointment or obtain more information about the OICS resources and services, please contact Jill Barlow-Kelley, director of internships and career services, at 207-288-2944, ext. 236, or [jbk@coa.edu](mailto:jbk@coa.edu).

## Reunions and Events

The alumni reunion weekend at COA, when all alumni are invited back for celebration, commemoration, conversations and fun, is held in conjunction with Earth Day. In addition to the festivities of Earth Day, the weekend is filled with receptions, film and art openings, the COAPalooza dance party, and many opportunities to see fellow alumni, COA faculty, staff and current students. You can join the parties, exhibit, perform or volunteer.

The Alumni Association hosts an annual Winter Solstice party in Bar Harbor with dinner, music and a bonfire. Please join in welcoming back the light with alumni from all eras of the college.

Many alumni join us at graduation. You may relish another perspective of our distinctive ceremony and enjoy honoring friends and new graduates. The annual meeting for the COA Alumni Association is held the weekend of commencement as well, and all alumni are encouraged to attend.

Alumni are invited to the senior cocktail party each spring to welcome graduating seniors to the COA community beyond campus. The invitation is also extended to join in the annual the tug-of-war fundraiser. The time has come for an alumni challenge to the reigning team!

Convocation is always a special occasion to kick off the new academic year. Alumni are invited to welcome new students and hear a fellow alumnus speak at the ceremony. Perhaps you will dare to dive in for the Bar Island Swim, but even if you choose not to take the plunge, you are welcome to the community picnic which follows.

We also plan special events and regional gatherings for alumni throughout the year. If you wish to stay connected, celebrate and learn with us, please be sure we have a current address and email. Invitations are always sent electronically and many have a paper follow up.

Contact Dianne Clendaniel, alumni relations and development coordinator, at [dclendaniel@coa.edu](mailto:dclendaniel@coa.edu) or 207-288-2944, ext. 268 to learn more about reunions and events, to propose new ideas, to volunteer to help organize these activities and to keep your information current.

See [www.coa.edu/alumni](http://www.coa.edu/alumni) for more information about events.



## Alumni Admission Volunteers

As an alumna/us, you know personally about the distinctive education offered at COA. Alumni Admission Volunteers assist the Office of Admission in attracting bright, creative, passionate students. As a volunteer within this network of alumni, you can help College of the Atlantic reach more potential candidates and provide additional personal contact to prospective students as they navigate the admission process.

Prospective students gain a deeper understanding of life at College of the Atlantic when conversing with those who experienced a COA education first-hand. Besides, by connecting with prospectives in your area, you help the COA community overall by saving admissions staff some travel and reducing our carbon footprint.

If you are interested in representing COA at college fairs, interviewing prospective students, or speaking with parents of applicants, please contact Tony Victor, assistant director of admission and alumni admission volunteer contact, in the Office of Admission at [tvictor@coa.edu](mailto:tvictor@coa.edu).

We also appreciate any conversations you have about COA that may help inform or influence a possible future student. Please be sure to talk about your College of the Atlantic experience with friends and neighbors and wear your COA t-shirt proudly. And if you need a COA t-shirt, Tony can help you with that too!

## Magazine



COA, College of the Atlantic's magazine, comes out twice a year. It is meant to be a kaleidoscopic portrait of College of the Atlantic throughout its history. In it you'll find articles, essays, short stories, artwork, poetry, photography, class and community notes and more. Articles are written by and about alumni and current students, along with an ongoing history of the founders of COA.

COA is entirely written by the COA community and welcomes your submissions. Donna Gold, publications director & COA editor, is your contact at [dgold@coa.edu](mailto:dgold@coa.edu), or 207-288-2944, ext. 291. Please send your poems, short stories, art work, article ideas and particularly a 500–600 word revisit of your human ecology essay. What does human ecology mean to you now that you have graduated?

## Additional Alumni Services

### Website

Visit [www.coa.edu/alumni](http://www.coa.edu/alumni) and find links to forms for transcript requests, news, events, volunteer opportunities, a directory of alumni, and more. The website is a doorway into learning more about alumni services.

### Alumni E-Newsletter

Sent three times a year, this electronic newsletter features submissions from alumni, including articles, op-ed pieces, poetry and other reflections. You can also read updates from the Alumni Association, news from campus, and announcements of interest to alumni. If you haven't received an e-newsletter, be sure to let us know at [alumni@coa.edu](mailto:alumni@coa.edu). Send your stories, art or other submissions.

### Classes

Your COA education doesn't need to end with receipt of your diploma! You can audit or enroll in more courses at COA. To audit, contact Darlene Nolin, assistant registrar, in the registrar's office, [dnolin@coa.edu](mailto:dnolin@coa.edu) or 207-288-2944, ext. 224. If you prefer to receive credit for the course, contact Donna McFarland, associate director of admission and student services, to apply as a special student at [dln@coa.edu](mailto:dln@coa.edu) or 207-288-2944, ext. 230.

## Library

Alumni are welcome to use the library and databases on campus anytime it is open. Discounted rates for Interlibrary Loan are extended to alumni, and those living in Hancock County may acquire a library card for borrowing. The library staff is happy to talk with you about any special needs you may have. Please contact Jane Hultberg, director of the library, at [jhultberg@coa.edu](mailto:jhultberg@coa.edu) or 207-288-2944, ext. 210 or Tricia Cantwell Keene, associate director of the library, at [tcantwell@coa.edu](mailto:tcantwell@coa.edu) or 207-288-2944, ext. 211.



## Webcasts

Want to hear Karen Waldron, Joanne Carpenter or other faculty presentations? Wondering what students have to say at graduation? Open a webcast of presentations from special events, graduation, and human ecology forums, found at [www.coa.edu/html/librarywebcasts.htm](http://www.coa.edu/html/librarywebcasts.htm). You can also browse through the COA DVD collection in Thorncat, the online catalog, and request to have items from the collection made available as webcasts by contacting Zach Soares, library media specialist, at [zsoares@coa.edu](mailto:zsoares@coa.edu) or 207-288-2944, ext 213.

## Campus events

You are welcome to attend the variety of events on campus, including plays, music, lectures, gallery openings and other fun opportunities. If you would like to be emailed “This Week at COA,” please send that request to [dclendaniel@coa.edu](mailto:dclendaniel@coa.edu). Or check out the online calendar of events at <http://calendar.coa.edu/>.

## Facebook & COAtribe

Join hundreds of other alumni in the COA Alumni and COA Community groups on Facebook. The COAtribe *Yahoo!* Group is a means for discussion, news and communication among alumni.

## Email

You can keep a life-long [@coa.edu](mailto:@coa.edu) email address.

## Discount rate for summer programs

A 20% discount is offered to alumni who participate in one- or two-week field-based content courses for K–12 teachers. Or you can give your family a taste of the COA and MDI experience during a week of Family Nature Camp also at a 20% discount. For more information about either program, visit [www.coa.edu/html/summerprograms](http://www.coa.edu/html/summerprograms) or contact Jean Sylvia, assistant director of summer programs, at [jsylvia@coa.edu](mailto:jsylvia@coa.edu) or 800-597-9500.

## Don't Get Lost

We don't want to lose our connection to you. Stay in touch. As an inquisitive and passionate human ecologist, your life is likely to take several twists and turns. Send us updates on your life changes and choices—wherever they may take you. Call us at 207-288-2944, ext. 268 or email [alumni@coa.edu](mailto:alumni@coa.edu).

Let us know when you start a new job, earn a degree, receive awards, start a family or move. When you stay in touch, we can keep you up-to-date on news about the college, invite you to events, send you the COA magazine, connect you to other alumni and help you network with others in your field.

You may use one of these methods to update your personal information:

**website:** [www.coa.edu/alumni](http://www.coa.edu/alumni) and click on update your contact information  
*(The website provides a directory for graduates of the college; you can find contact information about your peers here.)*

**phone:** 207-288-2944 ext 268

**email:** [alumni@coa.edu](mailto:alumni@coa.edu)

We love to hear from alumni and wish to work with you on building and celebrating a global community of COA!



College of the Atlantic  
life changing. world changing.

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