



# CONNECTICUT COLLEGE



## **Alumni Insights: A Note from *Chip Clothier '79 P' 10,* *Alumni Board President***

**Fellow Alumni,**

I am so happy to share some exciting updates from the Alumni Association. At our February meeting, the Board elected the following alumni as executive officers for terms effective starting July 1, 2025:

President – Jennifer Lapan Mann '94

Vice President – Veronica Venture '86

Vice President – Michael Boswell '10

Secretary – Tamsen Bales Sharpless '89

Incoming President Jen Mann '94 is currently Secretary of the Board and has served as chair or member of multiple committees for the Board. The Alumni Board will be in her very capable hands, and I wish her and her team all the best.

As I reflect on my time on the Alumni Board, I have these three

observations:

**The College will do great things under the leadership of Dr. Andrea Chapdelaine.** Liberal Arts and small liberal arts colleges face a number of challenges, but Dr. Chapdelaine is facing them head-on with a steady, experienced hand and a realistic understanding of the college's capabilities. She is working with all of the campus stakeholders to ensure that voices are heard as she determines the path for the College.

**The Alumni Board consists of hardworking volunteers whose goal is to bring the Conn College Alumni closer as a community.**

Coming out of COVID, this board worked in partnership with the College's Advancement Team to create opportunities for alumni to come together either in person or through virtual meetings. They have expanded programming from 4 to 15 cities through the "Camels Connect" events and Holiday parties. In addition, the Alumni Board has hosted 10 virtual events in the past three years on a variety of topics that have attracted 400-500 alumni and helped the College increase Reunion attendance by more than 100%. I want to thank them for their time and dedication to this work.

**Our connection to Conn runs deep, whether Commencement was 5 or 55 years ago!** During my tenure as President, I have been honored to meet so many alums from all ages. I have attended a number of Conn College events — interacting with generations of Alumni. We all speak with great affection for the college and remain curious about improvements and happenings. There may only be one campus, but we ARE Connecticut College, no matter where we find ourselves.

At our core is the Liberal Arts education that Connecticut College provided us. The critical thinking from that education helps navigate these unusually uncertain times. We need Conn to sustain that mission of delivering a liberal arts education to future generations. Starting tomorrow, Conn begins its 1911-minute fundraising event for the Annual Fund, **Conn Giving Day**. This is a great opportunity to give back to:

Show your support of Dr. Chapdelaine's leadership in her first year as our 12th President,

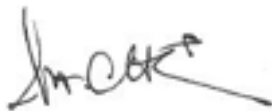
- Show appreciation for the Alumni Board and the Advancement Staff's hard work to continually bring us together as a community, and
- Show the College your support as so many Alumni have done for us when we were students.

Please join me in making a gift to the Annual Fund over the next two days to ensure that goal.

My term as Alumni Board President soon concludes, but I will remain a proud member of our mighty Alumni Association, as are you all. The College and your Alumni Board have worked to improve communications with you whether it is in this Newsletter, through social media, the *CC Magazine*, or letters. With this knowledge, I charge you to let the world know what we have for years — Connecticut College is where liberal education is being redefined for the 21st century. There is so much to celebrate and our voices remain the best to amplify Conn's message. Alumni are the most credible ambassadors for any college. Share your Conn Spirit everywhere... in the workplace, your social circles, to your family and friends, and do it LOUDLY! (This is not the time to be demure).

Stay Informed. Be Connected. Show your Pride. Raise Your Voices.

Go Camels!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chip Clothier".

Chip Clothier '79 P'10

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