Dear First Name,

As they say, the more things change, the more they stay the same. On campus in September, I enjoyed the traditional pomp and pageantry of a high academic occasion, the inauguration of Bryn Mawr’s 9th president, with two differences: the College Mace, recently constructed from old wood rescued from a renovation, preceded President Cassidy as she left the platform; and the uproarious, frequent, and clearly delighted outbursts of Anassa Kata from the assembled undergraduates.

I don’t remember uproars at College formal occasions. Indeed, I recall Professor Gardiner admonishing us at graduation rehearsal that we were about to participate in a solemn occasion and should behave accordingly. Such things, do, of course, change with the times as do many other aspects of life at Bryn Mawr.

Today there are courses we may only have dreamed of; a theater major, a geoarcheology concentration, a biochemistry and molecular biology major, minors in Japanese, neuroscience, Chinese and, of course, computer science. Undergraduates run more than 150 clubs and organizations ranging from “Bryn Mawr Engineers” to the alternative literary magazine Kaleidoscope and including, of course, our first in the nation Self-Governance Association. Today’s students run cross-country, do indoor track and row Bryn Mawr shells on the Schuylkill. Through College programs in civic engagement, Bryn Mawr students serve the communities around them at home and across the world.

In short, changes at the College in many ways might boggle the mind. Yet one thing stays the same: the students and their need for our support. Over seventy-five percent of them receive some financial aid—up considerably from just a few years ago. By giving to the Bryn Mawr Fund, we alumnae can make a tremendous difference. We can help more than 200 students get funding each summer for internships, community service work and science research. We can help more than 500 students collaborate with faculty on independent projects.

Giving to the Bryn Mawr Fund is easy. You can give with a check in the mail, a phone call to 610-526-5121 or online at www.brynmawr.edu/makeagift. If you have areas of particular interest, when you give to the Bryn Mawr Fund, you can designate the where you want your gift to be used:

--Opportunities: scholarships and internships
--Innovations: curricular, faculty recruitment and instructional technology
--STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math): provides special support for the more than 30% of undergraduates who major in these fields.
--Bryn Mawr’s greatest needs—leaving to the College how to use your gift.
Your gift need not be large—every gift counts. Last year, just half of you gave to the College. It would be wonderful if we could get back to the magic 63% -- or more. Please show these wonderful young women that you care.

With best wishes,

Susan Travis Egnor
196XBryn Mawr Fund Chair