



THE GEDUNK

GROVE CITY COLLEGE ALUMNI MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2019



YOU ALWAYS HAVE A SEAT AT

Our Table



CONNECT • GIVE • CELEBRATE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A SEAT AT OUR TABLE IS READY AND WAITING FOR YOU

What comes to your mind when you think of a family eating a meal around a table? Growing up in my neighborhood, a loud siren marked the arrival of six o'clock every evening. My mother had a rule: be in the house ready for dinner no later than the siren. You can imagine my stress levels when I often heard the blasts of that alarm while playing baseball on a field 15 minutes from home (or longer if my bike chain fell off). I don't know if my mother's strict enforcement of this rule propelled me into my career in criminal justice, but I definitely learned the importance of the family dinner table.

Years later when Brenda and I assumed responsibility for establishing our own supertime rules, we too emphasized the importance of the family meal. Conflicting activities were to be kept to a minimum, though my responsibilities on Capitol Hill and the Justice Department often required either eating late or Brenda and our four kids going on without me. The value of fighting for this time together was obvious. We prayed, we laughed, and everyone enjoyed a deep sense of belonging. Gradually, one after another went off to college, and the empty chairs made us miss them even more. Yet there was always a place at the table ready and waiting for them.

That's the image we hope you appreciate with this issue of our alumni magazine. You always have a seat at our table waiting for you at this College, our home away from home. Remember cutting through the Gedunk on the way to class and seeing students and faculty hanging out at those huge oak tables? I recall fondly the tables in MAP and Hicks at which I could always expect to enjoy a meal with close friends. This constant fellowship around tables is one important part of our distinctive Grove City College community. Our mission includes being a special place in the lives of all alumni and friends, a place where everyone feels welcomed and connected to our vital work.

Connection is a big part of the Alumni Association's new "A Seat at Our Table" initiative that is detailed in this issue. We connect around the table. We also celebrate each other's achievements and give of our time and our resources. Now, when you hear "give" from your alma mater, it doesn't necessarily mean what you think it does. Our feature story focuses on another way that alumni and friends can contribute to the future of our beloved College – recruiting students. Trustee Bill Mehaffey '64, Amy (Fisher '08) Mucha and Brandon McCall '08 are shining examples of this. They've devoted themselves to guiding young people in their lives to consider attending Grove City College and find their own seat at the table. As well as hearing their stories, you'll find on page 33 a concise summary of the College's strengths, from our Christ-centered community to our amazing outcomes, that you can share with prospective students and families looking for a transformative liberal arts and sciences education.

The tables we have set together here on campus in the Gee, Hicks, MAP, and elsewhere are rich with potential for feeding our souls, building relationships, and changing us completely through the word, the power, and the love of Christ. They are waystations on the road to the ultimate destination, the heavenly banquet table where we will enjoy a feast in the kingdom of God. And where you always have a seat.



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Your feedback is very important to our editorial staff and we encourage you to register your comments, questions, concerns, and, hopefully, compliments. Our mailing address is The GeDUNK, 100 Campus Drive, Grove City PA, 16127-2104, but there's no need to put pen to paper or stamp to envelope, we'll be happy to hear what you think via email at alumni@gcc.edu. Please use GeDUNK in the subject line and indicate if your letter is intended for publication.



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