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The Link: Olin's Campus-Wide E-Bulletin May 10, 2013

This newsletter includes news and information that will keep you informed of campus happenings.

If you have information you would like distributed to the Olin community, please send it to Announcements@olin.edu

The next edition of **The Link** will be available on **May 31, 2013.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Build Day 2013

Olin's inaugural Build Day - a day dedicated to strengthening our community and building our College - took place on May 3 and a great time was had by all. Projects were completed and the community was strengthened. You can read all about the day's events and see lots and lots of pictures via the [Build Day Tumblr](#); you can view some of the finished projects by clicking on [OlinCasts](#) and [OlinProjects](#) and the latest post in the [PGP Blog](#) is a re-cap of Build Day.

Something New in Milas Hall

Through the entrepreneurial efforts of Diana Dabby, Olin has acquired a used but pristine conditioned Steinway B grand piano at a much reduced cost. The purchase will be funded by gifts, a number of which have already been pledged. The piano, which is located in the mezzanine of Milas Hall, will be used for musical performances, such as the Olin Conductorless Orchestra and the Music program in general, and event entertainment. This new arrival is another example of Olin's dedication to the integration of technology and the arts.

Summer Housing Applications are due by May 13

Students that plan to live on campus this summer must complete the Summer Housing Application & Agreement Form in order to receive a room assignment. Please submit the form to [Loretta Dinon](#) in the StAR Center by the due date. After May 13 rooms will be filled on a first come, first served basis with no guarantee for accommodations. The form can be found [here](#).

Commencement Gift Ideas for Grads: Custom Diploma Frames & other OlinGear Options

OlinGear now offers custom diplomas frames. Choose the frame style, mat color and other features to customize to your order. Each diploma frame is hand crafted using the finest materials and state-of-the-art equipment. For more details on how to build your own custom diploma frame in 3 easy steps, simply click [here](#) to build your frame today. If a diploma frame isn't what you had in mind, check out our [OlinGear Commencement Gift Giving Guide](#) to view some of our many other options.

Call for Creativity

The Family and Alumni Relations (FAR) office is looking for help in designing next year's Parent Handbook cover! Every year the FAR office issues a *Parent Handbook* (similar to the *Student Handbook*) to all parents. The past several *Handbook* covers have been student or alum designed, and we'd like to continue the tradition, so we are looking for a volunteer to design this year's cover! It can be techy or establish a warm Olin family feel. The final draft is due by **Monday, June 4**, and the artist would receive credit in the acknowledgements section of the *Handbook* as well as a thank you gift from FAR. If you are interested in designing the cover for the *2013-14 Parent Handbook* please contact [Krissy Raposa](#)! Parents are welcome to submit ideas as well.

Host an Olin Family & Alumni Summer Party!

It's fun. Welcome the entering Class of 2017 families and gather the entire Olin community together in parks, homes and clubhouses across the country and the world. Parents, alumni, current students or any combination all make great party hosts. Some areas that have a significant concentration and don't already have hosts for include: the Silicon Valley/northern California, Hawaii, Houston/Austin Texas, and Florida but feel free to still express interest if you are not in those areas. The Parent Advisory Board (PAB) and Olin Alumni Council (OAC) look forward to hearing from you. Contact **Linda Louie** (via email linda@thelouie.org or phone 626-688-1311) before Monday, May 20 to volunteer or for more information. Thank you!

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ON-CAMPUS EVENTS

Olin EXPO and SCOPE EXPO

We invite you to join us in celebrating student projects, accomplishments and assignments at [Olin EXPO](#) and [SCOPE EXPO 2013](#). Day one (**May 13**) will feature work from underclassman at Olin (a complete schedule of events and list of projects being presented can be found [here](#)) and day two (**May 14**) will focus on SCOPE teams presenting their project findings and results. Both day's activities will include poster sessions, presentations and lunch.

Commencement 2013

Alumni Social with the Community

Friday, May 17, 5:30 – 7:30 pm Oval Tent

Join us for our first Diners, Drive-ins and Dining Services social as alumni reconnect with staff and faculty and socialize with the graduating class. Dining Services has done their homework to bring you favorite recipes from the top five areas in which our alumni are residing. We will be showing a CW inspired slideshow of alumni updates including submissions from those who aren't able to make it back to campus. Hope to see you there!

Traffic Alert

The Annual Wonderful Wellesley Weekend including [Wellesley Parade](#) is the same weekend as Olin's Commencement this year. Thus, traffic coming from Rte. 16 and 135 may be a challenge due to this event. Please plan accordingly.

Weekend Welcome and Recognition Event

All graduating seniors and their immediate families are invited to the Inaugural Commencement Weekend Welcome and External Achievement recognition event beginning at **3:30 pm on Saturday, May 18 in the Auditorium**, followed by the **President's Reception from 4-6 pm in the Oval**. Current Olin College staff, faculty and their spouses have also been invited to attend.

For additional details regarding commencement and its corresponding events please click [here](#) or visit <http://commencement.olin.edu/>.



SAVE THE DATE!

**Employee
Appreciation
&
Recognition
BBQ**

Please join us to celebrate your hard work and to recognize those employees who have dedicated themselves to Olin College with 5 or 10 years of service!

We will also be presenting the Outstanding Service Award to this year's winner!

Date: Tuesday, May 21st
Time: 12-1pm Lunch / 1-2pm Awards
Place: Olin Oval

We hope that you will be able to join us!

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OFF-CAMPUS NEWS & EVENTS

XSITE 2013 - Discounts Available to Olin Community Members

The fifth annual XSITE conference - June 19 at Babson College - will focus on the biggest global opportunities and challenges facing Boston-area innovators. At the conference Xconomy will convene top leaders across sectors in which New England is particularly strong: education, e-commerce, healthtech, big data, security, devices/robotics, mobile software, and social marketing and media. If you're interested in attending this high-spirited event click [here](#) to learn more and stayed tuned for information about discounts available to the Olin community.

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ATTENTION ALUMNI

Community Directory: Stay Connected!

We'll be launching the [Community Directory](#) (formerly known as the Alumni Directory) to faculty, staff and students very soon. To ensure you can connect with them and Olin (and one another), please keep your information current. Remember, you can set preference to which groups can see your information. You can email [IT Help Desk](#) if you forgot your password. A User Guide is also in the works and will be posted to the [Alumni website](#) for further information.

REMINDER: [Commencement Events with/for Alumni!](#)

We hope you can join in the Commencement Weekend celebration. Many fun and engaging activities await you.

Friday, May 17

- **5:30-7:30 pm:** Alumni Social with the Community - *Oval Tent*
- **7:30-8:30 pm:** Alumni Strategic Planning Session - *Crescent Room*

Saturday, May 18

- **7:00-11:00 pm** Alumni Night on the Town - *Champions, Cambridge, MA*

Sunday, May 19

- **3:00 pm:** Class of 2013 Commencement Ceremony and Reception - *Great Lawn/Oval Tent*

For more details including submitting an [alumni update slide](#) for Friday night's Alumni Social with the On-campus Community and how to purchase tickets for Saturday's Alumni Night on the Town, visit the [Information for Alumni page](#) of the Commencement website or the [CVENT site for this event](#), also previously sent to your email.

Seniors Announce Class Gift

The Class of 2013 narrowed their class gift options and the **Student Alumni Engagement** was chosen as the most preferred way to show their support, leave a legacy and have impact on the Olin experience as a class. This fund would be used to support initiatives that promote engagement between students and alumni including but not limited to sponsoring an alum to return to campus to speak or teach a brief class over a break based on their experience or area of study. Thanks to more than half the class who has already shown their support for their alma mater through single and multi-year pledging. The goal for this fiscal year (ending on June 30, 2013) is to increase their class pledging participation rate to more than 75%. Soon-to-be alumni, the clock is ticking...if you haven't already done so, commemorate your commencement by pledging [here](#) (or submitting [this pledge form](#) to the Development office) today!

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KUDOS

Scientific American Quotes Professor Jon Adler & References his Study

Early in 2012 Assistant Professor of Psychology Jonathan Adler published a study which suggests that changing our personal story can change our mental health. This study has generated a great deal of interest and last last month, *Scientific American* published a story "[Negative Emotions are Key to Well Being](#)," which references Professor Adler's study throughout. Additionally, WBUR's [Commonhealth blog](#) picked up the article as well. It is a fascinating read.

Project BlueGene by Avery Louie is Featured on AwesomeFoundation.com

The Awesome Foundation, an ever-growing, worldwide network of people devoted to forwarding the interest of awesomeness in the universe, is currently featuring Project BlueGene - an effort led by Avery Louie '14 to make indigo with bacteria. At the heart of this process is a small gene that takes indole from e coli and turns it into indigo. The foundation distributes a series of monthly \$1,000 grants to projects and their creators. Click [here](#) to learn more. Additionally Avery's involvement with Boston's Open Source Science Lab (BOSSL) was recently referenced, and Avery quoted in a "[Biology Hacklabs](#)" article by *The Scientist*.

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TRIVIA

In the previous issue we asked "Can you name the two Olin students appearing in [this photo](#) from a fashion show in Needham that helped to raise money for Child Assault Prevention Services?"

Trivia buffs, do you know...

Q: In what year was [this](#) photo taken?

A: First person to respond to [Alyson Goodrow](#) with the closest answer receives a prize.

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