



PAULSMITH'S COLLEGE

Alumni and Friends Newsletter

January 2020



GRATEFUL FOR THE PAUL SMITH'S COLLEGE COMMUNITY

Thank you!

Deep within the Adirondack Mountains, in a forest covered with snow, sits Paul Smith's College. The spectacular lakeside campus is a place like no other, where students find solace in the peace and quiet surrounding them. It's also a place where many careers began and where many people fell in love with all that Paul Smith's College is. We are thankful to all of our alumni and friends who have helped to keep this amazing place alive and well, and whose commitment has provided endless opportunities for our current students, as well as our graduates and the entire college community.

CREATING A FUTURE

The Phelps Smith Society leaves a legacy for future generations.

Members of The Phelps Smith Society have provided estate gifts through bequests, trusts and other planned gift arrangements. These gifts provide countless opportunities to the next generation of Smitties. We are grateful to all our members, whose support will ensure a bright future for PSC.



Read more: www.paulsmiths.edu/give/project/phelps-smith-society/

STUDENTS OF PAUL SMITH'S COLLEGE



Building the Hoyt-Peroni Memorial Forest

By Emily Segada

Forestry education at PSC can trace its beginnings to Gould Hoyt and George Peroni, two highly dedicated professors whose powerful legacy is still felt on campus today.

In 1953, armed with pure determination and young forestry students, Hoyt and Peroni set out on a mission. They were going to take a 42-acre plot and make trees grow where they hadn't in years. The plot was heavily logged in the 1880s, and affected by wildfires from 1904

to 1906. The sandy soil could not hold nutrients so Hoyt and Peroni, with the help of students, uprooted a 2-foot square area around each seedling, filled it with rich compost, and planted a forest. They planted red and white pine, jack pine, scotch pine and white spruce. Students went out to the site again in the 1970s to prune trees infected by *Scleroderris lazgerbergii*. NYSDEC purchased the land from Paul Smith's College in 1990, and it is now part of the "Forever Wild" Adirondack Forest Preserve.

Fast forward 66 years, and four determined students with the help of Dr. Brett McLeod '03 are applying their knowledge, just like the forestry students did in 1953. Rachel, Forrest, Mattie and myself have been working to create a mile-long loop trail with interpretive signs throughout, as well as an ADA compliant picnic area. Because of a pending lawsuit between the NYSDEC and an environmental group, we are prohibited from cutting any trees. However, we made the best of the situation and with permission brushed out a trail and developed interpretive signs. We hope future students can build on this project. We have had the best time taking our senior capstone and honoring two legendary figures from Paul Smith's College's rich history.

EYES ON ALUMNI



Go Ape with this Smitty.

Bryan Millea is a 2005 graduate of Paul Smith's College with a B.S. in Recreation, Adventure Travel, and Eco-tourism. Before leaving the Adirondacks, Bryan was a Summit Steward in the high peaks with the Adirondack Mountain Club and a wilderness instructor at Adirondack Leadership Expeditions. He lives in Virginia with his wife and son and is currently the Director of Operations at Go Ape, a tree-top adventure company with 15 courses throughout the US and over 30 courses in the UK, with the mission of inspiring everyone to live life adventurously.

Go Ape is based out of Frederick, Maryland, and their facilities offer the unparalleled outdoor adventure experience of a self-guided 2-3-hour journey through the forest canopies. Tackling dangling obstacles, exploring the trees from a new perspective and flying around on multiple zip lines from exciting heights are just a few of the thrills that this adventure offers.

Go Ape opened their forest doors in the US in 2010 with their first course in Rockville, Maryland, just outside of Washington D.C. Since then they've expanded through partnerships with public parks across

the country that see money being given back to the parks through a revenue share with their partners. Park and preserve partners pay nothing but receive a percentage of each ticket sale to reinvest back into their local communities. Go Ape Treetop Adventures can be found throughout the country in thirteen states (with more being added every year), and they have a thriving team of +200 rock stars.

By Bryan Millea

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AROUND CAMPUS

PSC FFA goes Alumni!

There is a long standing tradition of Future Farmers of America finding collegiate success at Paul Smith's College. To capitalize on that student body, the PSC Chapter of FFA was chartered by NYS and the National FFA Organization in 2017. This was because of the hard working students who began this process in 2016. With the support of the outstanding Admissions Team, PSC's visible presence at both the state and national conventions has enabled us to grow. We have hosted high school students on campus during the summer InTense Tour, as well as for preparation in October for teams heading to competition in Indianapolis.



Moving towards the future, it became apparent that revising our charter to become a 'college – non-traditional FFA Alumni and Supporter Chapter' would provide benefits that had not yet been realized. So, we've made the change! You can join us by registering yourself. Please do this via FFA.org,
<https://rosterffa.org/Pages/MemberSelfRegistration.aspx>

Member Type: Alumni

State: NY

Chapter: NYA0060 Paul Smiths

Thank you for your continued support.

Rebecca Romeo, Advisor

Human Health and the Environment at Paul Smith's College



"This Program focuses on training students in the science of human biology as it relates to environmental impact on human health and offers an integrated approach to help humans thrive on this rapidly changing planet."

-Lee Ann Sporn, Biology Professor and Coordinator of Human Health and the Environment

Human health is intimately linked to the health of the environment. Due to rapidly increasing human population, demands on and degradation of the environment, threats to human health are escalating. Among these threats are an increasing incidence of cancer caused by pollution of air, land and water and outbreaks of infectious disease caused by habitat disruption. This program focuses on training students in the science of human biology as it relates to environmental impact on human health and offers an integrated approach to help humans thrive on this rapidly changing planet. Studying environmental health among fellow students focused on wildlife, forestry, psychology, recreation and ecological restoration offers a unique perspective on humans as part of our ecosystem (not separate from it), and can promote a much-needed holistic approach to maintaining and preserving human health.

The focus on human health is part of Paul Smith's College's history, and the history of the region. Paul Smith's Hotel was the place that physician and scientist Edward Livingston Trudeau came to "cure" from tuberculosis. Ultimately, nearby Saranac Lake became home to the famous "fresh air" cure, where patients from urban areas came to restore their health. Today, the Adirondack region is a popular destination for those wishing to restore their connection with the natural world.

The job market in environmental health and safety, epidemiology and public health education is rapidly growing and our students will be well-suited to enter these fields. Human Health and the Environment students have the opportunity to complete a minor in GIS and Chemistry, receive OSHA and EMT certification, study environmental policy or connect knowledge with wildlife biology.

Lee Ann Sporn, Ph.D.

Professor, Biology

Coordinator, Human Health and the Environment

Esports

It's the newest type of sport, and believe it or not our students love it! Esports has become popular among college students, and more than 50 colleges now have varsity esports teams. So, what is it? Esports is competitive online video gaming, with the potential for participants to earn big bucks. Over 380 million people watch it worldwide, so it's no wonder it has become a billion dollar industry. Paul Smith's College joined the esports world last fall and formed a new team, which included a large number of students. The PSC Esports Team is looking forward to hosting a college Overwatch Tournament with the Empire State Winter Games and the ECAC. This will be hosted on campus and will be the mid-season finals for all colleges in the ECAC.



Read More: <https://www.paulsmiths.edu/esports/>

Paul Smith's College appoints Frederick as Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations

By Andy Johnstone

Paul Smith's College has welcomed Steve Frederick, a North Country native previously with Clinton Community College, to serve as vice president of development and alumni relations.

Frederick replaces Ray Agnew, who has been with the college since 2011.

"I've always wanted to work at Paul Smith's," Frederick said. "I'm impressed by the initiatives here—Nordic skiing, esports, the master's degree, the campus—it seems very progressive."

Frederick worked 28 years in public higher education, including 18 as vice president for institutional advancement at CCC. There he was involved in major projects that included efforts to make the college more integrated with the community, securing a nearly \$12 million grant for the Institute for Advanced Manufacturing, and a capital campaign for the college's library, tutoring center and accommodation services.

Frederick estimates to have brought in some \$18 million in fundraising during his time with the Plattsburgh institution.

Now transitioning outside the state system, Frederick said he expects a nimbler environment and looks forward to spending the coming months on what he called a "listening tour" with various college stakeholders and learn about their vision for Paul Smith's.

"I want to hear what everyone thinks about the school," Frederick said. "I love working with alumni. Everybody has a story and I love to hear it. How they got here, what it was like going to school here, and what they've done after."

While the position is a change for Frederick, the environment isn't. An avid paddler and outdoorsman, he has long since come to the area for recreation and would visit the campus to see what was going on.

"Since high school my favorite place in the world to paddle is Black Pond. Thirty-five years later, what do you know?" added Frederick. "The timing was right in my career."

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