



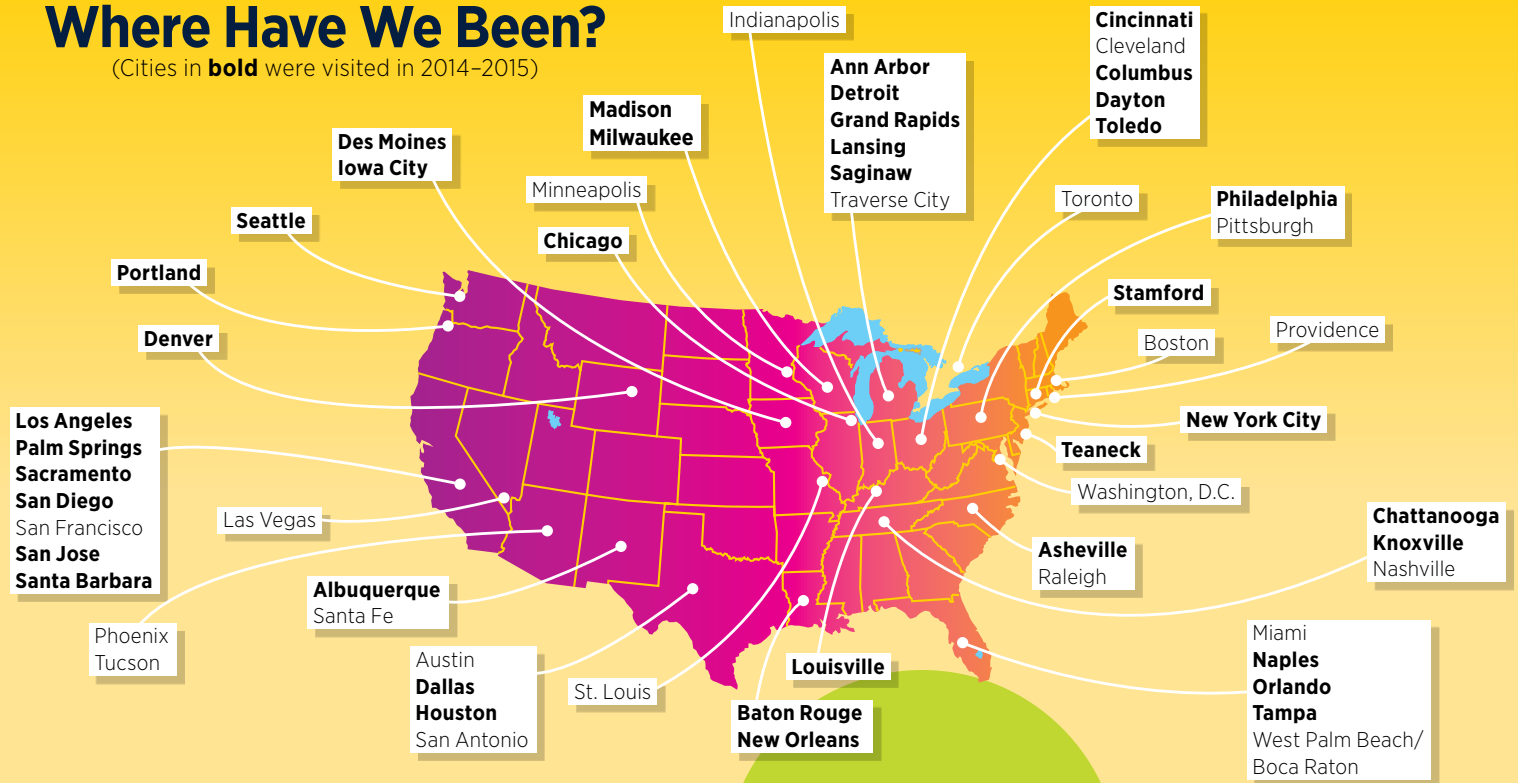
COLLEGE
CONNECTIONS
ANNUAL
REPORT 2015



LSA Through the Ages

Where Have We Been?

(Cities in **bold** were visited in 2014-2015)



906

Alumni Visits

41

Parent Visits

5,178

Total Program Visits

2014-2015

2008-2015



Read about our international visits in the College Connections Abroad section

LAST SUMMER, LSA WELCOMED A NEW DEAN, Andrew D. Martin, who brought with him big ideas, enormous intellect, and a genuine sense of humor. Dean Martin's background in mathematics and government from the College of William and Mary, and then as a political scientist and vice dean in the School of Law at Washington University in St. Louis, prepared him well to lead the country's preeminent public liberal arts college. As a new dean, he has looked to those who have the most insight on the LSA experience to teach him the ins and outs of Michigan: our alumni. The College Connections Program has gathered feedback and stories from more than 5,000 individuals of all graduate years and disciplines, representing more than 75 cities across the country — and even the world. Through one-on-one interviews, we have amassed a compelling and vibrant oral history that will help ensure the lasting excellence of the College. It is a pleasure to share what our program has uncovered over the last seven years with those who made these discoveries possible.

HAVE YOU EVER wondered what it would be like to be a student at Michigan in a different decade? Collecting your memories through the College Connections Program has helped shed some light on what it was like to be here five, 10, or even 60 years ago. Step into the shoes of your fellow alumni and find out what we have learned about the LSA student experience through the ages.



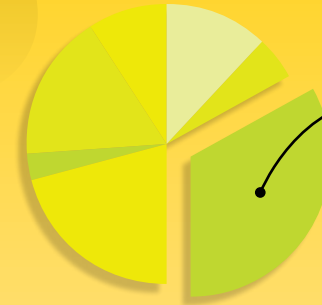
1950s

The Nifty Fifties

Curfew. Single-sex dorms. "J-Hop" dances at the Union. 1:00 P.M. football games. The '50s at Michigan were a time of tradition, prosperity, and classic fun. The end of World War II resulted in a surge in enrollment, and many students attended U-M supported by the G.I. Bill. Campus as we know it today was just starting to take shape: South Quad was erected in 1951, and shortly thereafter Mason Hall and Haven Hall were completed in 1952. The Shapiro Undergraduate Library opened its doors a few years later in 1957 and truly earned the nickname "the UGLI."



■ 33% of graduates from the 1950s and earlier most remember the friendships they formed at Michigan, whether in the dorms, in class, or through Greek life.



- ANN ARBOR/DIAG ATMOSPHERE 12%
- SCHOOL SPIRIT/SPORTS 5%
- FRIENDSHIPS/RELATIONSHIPS 33%**
- CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE 21%
- STUDY ABROAD 0%
- HISTORIC MOMENTS 3%
- STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS 17%
- "OFF-THE-RECORD" STORIES 9%



Eight of my best friends from Michigan stayed in touch with a chain letter that went around the country – we were spread out across Washington, California, Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. That letter went on for more than 50 years. We started numbering the letters, and the last one I wrote was No. 630.”

– Lawrence Sweet (A.B. '53), Birmingham, Michigan

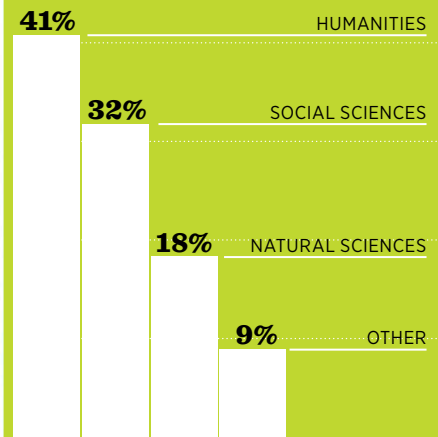


Allan Seager, renowned novelist and University of Michigan alumnus, taught creative writing at LSA throughout the '50s.



Dwight Dumond, (Ph.D. '29), brought history to life in his vibrant and impassioned lectures on 20th century American history.

■ In the '50s, the humanities dominated campus, with more than 40% of students majoring in disciplines like English and history.

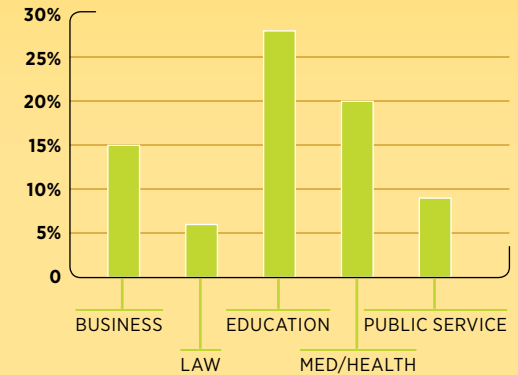


At that time female undergraduates were often pointed towards education and nursing. There were very few female students in the business or engineering schools – and there were absolutely no women allowed in the marching band or cheerleading team!” — Jean Sweet (A.B. '53), Birmingham, Michigan

Leading Industries

■ 1950s

■ The majority of 1950s graduates went into education (28%), medicine/health (20%), and business (15%). As one might expect, most of those going into medicine were men, and those going into education were women.



JUMP BACK IN TIME THROUGH THESE CAMPUS SOUND BITES FROM THE 1950s

The Legacy

1953

Crazy Jim's Blimp Burger opens, quickly becoming a hot spot on campus.

1956

Women are permitted to enter the Michigan Union without an escort, even through the front doors!

1957

As a gift from the class of 1953, the Block M is installed in the center of the Diag. Today, legend has it that if you step on the block M before you take your first blue book exam, you will fail it!



* When you see this yellow box, click on it for more info.

19

60

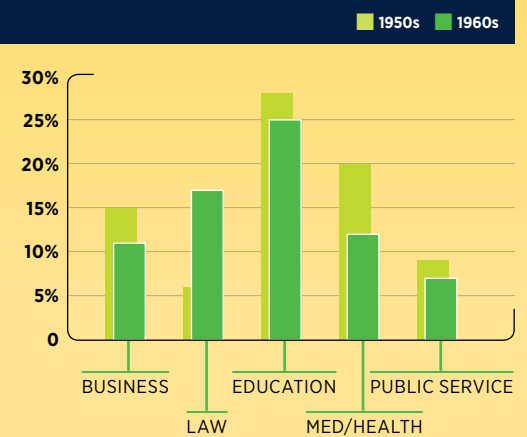


The Psychedelic Sixties

The '60s marked an age of tumultuous change — from the dominance of tradition to the power of counterculturalism. For decades, the notion of *in loco parentis*, or “in place of parents,” had defined the relationship between the University and its students. The University served not only to educate, but also to cultivate a student’s moral character, as would a parent. One lingering policy from the 1950s was the strict dormitory curfew — which only applied to women. The first crack in the curfew system occurred in the spring of 1963 when, after much lobbying, senior women were allowed to leave their dorm rooms past curfew. By 1968, dormitories were permitted to determine their own visitation hours.

Leading Industries

■ Of the 600 alumni interviewed from the '60s, 17% went into the legal profession, compared to 6% in the 1950s — a growth of 300%. This jump is mostly attributed to men — only 4% of women went into the legal track. The number of graduates going into education — women in particular — remained high.



The campus mood in the early '60s was still very 'collegiate': Skirt lengths were at the knee, and skirts were required in the women's dormitory dining halls. When I returned to Michigan in 1967 to do graduate work, it was to quite a different campus. Sit-ins and teach-ins and anti-war demonstrations were the order of the day. Long hair, mini-skirts, and the grunge look were the fashion. After a year, I collected my M.A. and left the campus to a younger crowd to sort out."

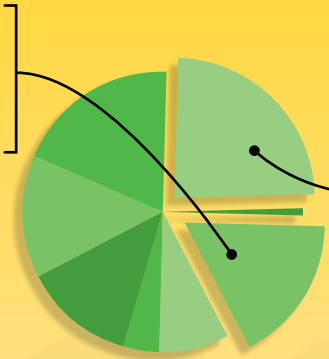
—Barbara Leitch LePoer (A.B. '63), Washington, D.C.

■ While Greek life had a relatively large presence on campus throughout the 1950s, the dominance of organized student groups began to fade midway through the '60s as anti-establishment sentiment sank in. Instead, many students were involved, at least in some way, with various movements occurring on campus.

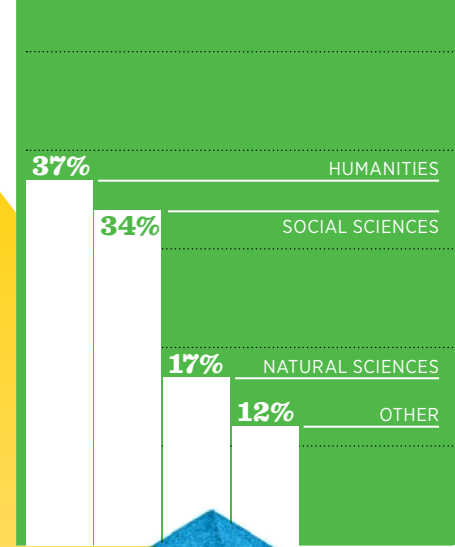
In fact, 17% of alumni who graduated in the 1960s report political and societal events as their most vivid memory from that time.

■ The most common vivid memories among alumni from the 1960s, however, relate to academic experiences: learning from such renowned scholars as historian Sidney Fine (M.A. '44, Ph.D '48) and poet laureate Donald Hall.

Top Majors



- ANN ARBOR/DIAG ATMOSPHERE 13%
- SCHOOL SPIRIT/SPORTS 14%
- FRIENDSHIPS/RELATIONSHIPS 19%
- CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE 24%**
- STUDY ABROAD 1%
- HISTORIC MOMENTS 17%**
- STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS 8%
- "OFF-THE-RECORD" STORIES 4%



■ The 1960s also saw the height of students majoring in English — even while the gap between social science and humanities majors diminished.



1960

JFK stands on the steps of the Union and announces his plans to create the Peace Corps.



1962

The award-winning Ann Arbor Street Art Fair is established.

Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) hold their first convention.



1965

The first teach-in in the nation is held on campus to protest the Vietnam War.

1968

The Cube, commissioned by the class of 1965 and designed by a U-M alumnus, is installed in Regents Plaza.

The Legacy

1960S

1970S

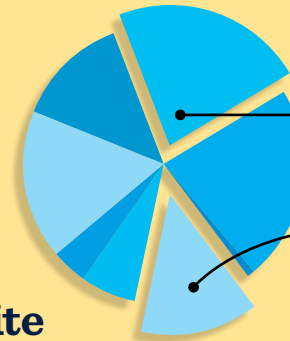
The Far-Out Seventies

Building upon the student activism of the '60s, the early '70s at Michigan were defined by rallies around environmental causes, protests for racial equality, and demonstrations against the war in Vietnam. A general fear of conscription pervaded the minds of young men on campus, ultimately coloring their educational experiences.

There were protests and people with missions. The fishbowl was always filled with tables of people passing out things. I didn't get the sense that it had quite the activism of the '60s, but it was still quite hopping."

—Steven Leber (B.S. '76), Ann Arbor, Michigan

- Graduates from the '60s and '70s report political and societal moments as their most vivid memory six times more often than graduates from other eras.
- Moving into the mid-to-late '70s, after the war in Vietnam, student life began to take on a slightly different shape. Many alumni that we interviewed who graduated later in the decade referred to both on- and off-campus jobs as their chief extracurricular: Working in a lab, library, or in local restaurants helped pay for school.

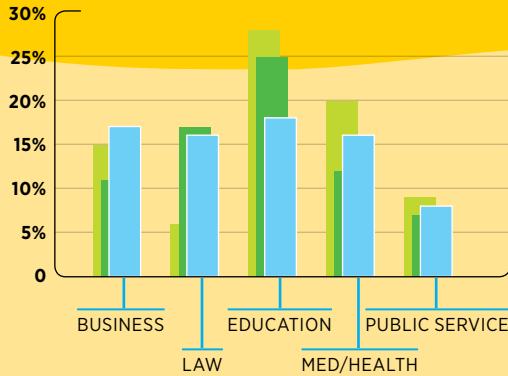


ANN ARBOR/DIAG ATMOSPHERE **17%**
SCHOOL SPIRIT/SPORTS **13%**
FRIENDSHIPS/RELATIONSHIPS 22%
CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE **22%**
STUDY ABROAD **1%**
HISTORIC MOMENTS 14%
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS **7%**
"OFF-THE-RECORD" STORIES **4%**

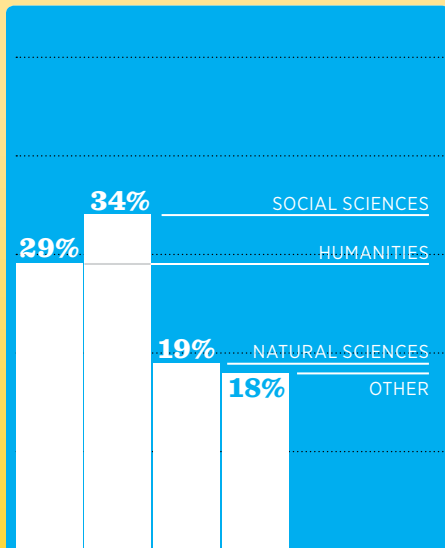


Leading Industries

1950s 1960s 1970s



- The business (17%), law (16%), education (18%), and medicine/health (16%) industries were evenly represented among interviewed alumni from the 1970s. However, of these totals, more men went into business than education, and the number of women in medicine/health more than doubled (6% to 15%).



- Of the more than 900 alumni interviewed from the '70s, the most common degree program was a Bachelor of General Studies (10.4%), which narrowly beat out English (9.5%) and history (9.9%). Yet despite the large representation of these degree programs, the 1970s also marked the first decade in which more interviewees, both male and female, majored in the social sciences than in the humanities.

The Legacy



1970

The Black Action Movement (BAM) closes the University for 18 days. Protesters demand that the University recruit more black faculty and students, provide financial support and services for minority students, and create a Center for African American and African Studies.

1971

The original Trotter Multicultural Center opens its doors as a black student cultural center at the corner of South and East University avenues. It was destroyed by a fire in 1972.

The first computing center on campus opens.

1978

Nineteen inches of snow fall on Ann Arbor, classes are canceled, and Jimmy Carter declares a state of emergency in Michigan. Students, meanwhile, spend the day of January 28 lounging in the snow – some even report sunburns.

1979

Students listen to Bob Ufer call Anthony Carter's last -second game-winning catch in the game against Indiana.



My favorite class was with Dr. Warren Wagner – he was in charge of the Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Sometimes he'd say, 'I'm going to be gone for a week and, when I get back, I will have discovered a new fern – and this is what it's going to look like!'"

– Nancy Beights (A.B. '72), Naples, Florida

There were a lot of activists objecting to various things, and they weren't afraid to say it."

– Nancy Beights (A.B. '72), Naples, Florida

The Electric Eighties

Economic downturn in the early '80s meant student concerns turned more inward. Outside of the classroom, many students spent their time working part-time jobs, and in the classroom, more were choosing to major in fields like economics than ever before. When students weren't working or holed up in the grad library, they were spending time with friends.

The Legacy

1980

Membership to the University Club (U-Club) is automatic upon enrollment. This, combined with a license to serve liquor, makes the U-Club a popular student hangout. Live bands, poetry slams, and reggae nights attract a diverse group of students to this campus hotspot.

1989

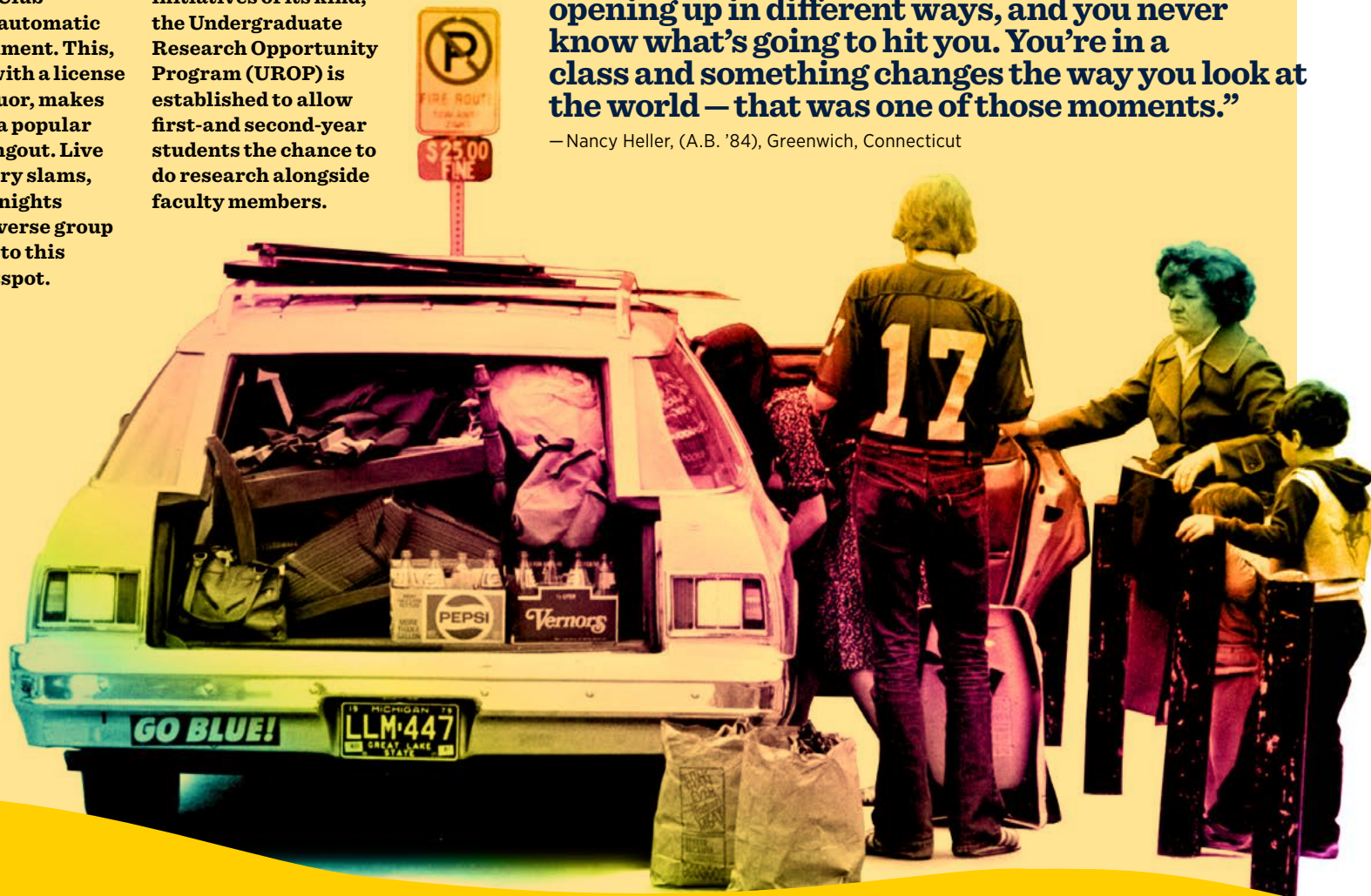
One of the first initiatives of its kind, the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) is established to allow first- and second-year students the chance to do research alongside faculty members.

I always thought that drug companies came up with this stuff like magic, but with just a basic understanding of chemistry I was able to synthesize a medicine in a student lab. It blew me away! At that age your world is opening up in different ways, and you never know what's going to hit you. You're in a class and something changes the way you look at the world – that was one of those moments."

— Nancy Heller, (A.B. '84), Greenwich, Connecticut

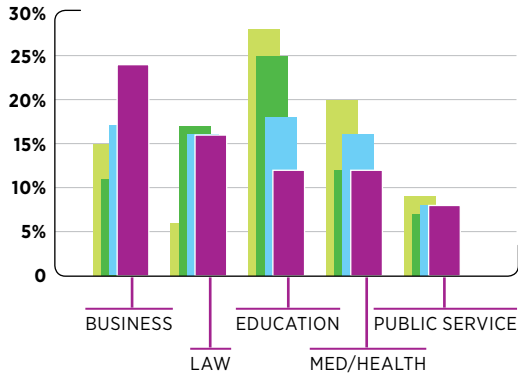
It takes
3!

In the fall of 1984, more women enrolled in LSA than men by a slim margin — there were three more women than men. It was the first time women comprised the majority, and every semester since fall of 1985, women have maintained a slight majority.



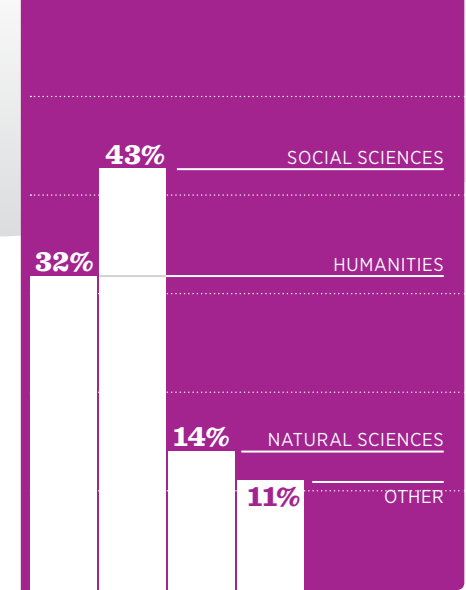
Leading Industries

1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s



■ In the 1980s, business skyrocketed, particularly among men. For the first time, the primary industry among women was no longer education — instead, it was business and law. Medicine/health remained constant across both genders.

The big thing in the late '80s was apartheid. Students built wood shanties on the Diag that represented the conditions in which blacks lived in South Africa. There was tension because some people thought these beat-up wooden shacks were messing up the Diag, but other people thought it was a perfectly appropriate way to protest apartheid.” —Drew Watt (A.B. '88), Portland, Maine



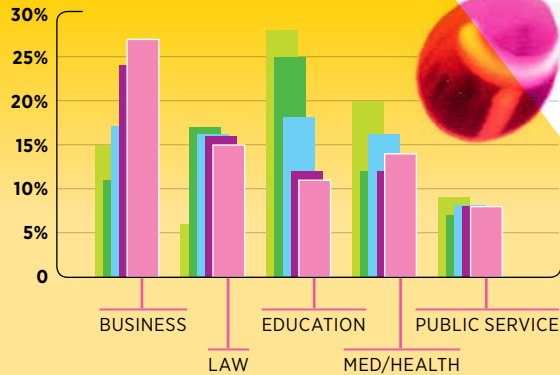
■ In the 1980s and 1990s, we saw the height of students majoring in economics, and for the first time more women were majoring in the social sciences than in the humanities. This trend has continued every decade since.



Leading Industries

1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s 1990s

■ Of the nearly 900 alumni interviewed from the '90s, 27% went into business after graduation. Considering only 11% of 1960s grads went into business, this growth is quite remarkable.

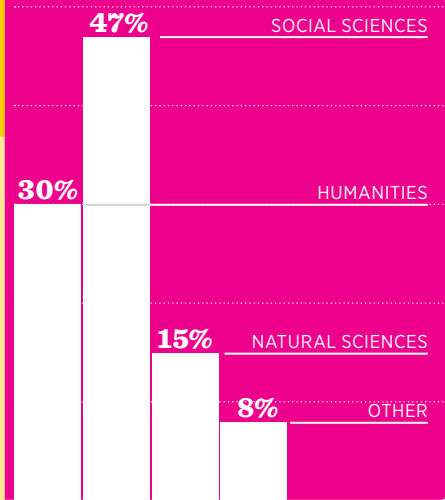


The Dot Com Nineties

The '90s at Michigan saw the internet beginning to take off and the introduction of campus email. The Fab Five “shocked the world” and Desmond Howard brought home the Heisman Trophy. Alumni who graduated in the 1990s remember, perhaps too vividly, the Naked Mile. Started in the mid-'80s as a celebration on the last night of classes, the event brought students together by the hundreds to streak down South University, across the Diag, and back towards the Cube. By the early 2000s, Ann Arbor police cracked down on the Naked Mile, and a press release called the event “unlawful, dangerous, and an embarrassment,” which only served to amuse its free-spirited participants.

Espresso Royale was viewed as sort of a bohemian, only-people-with-black-turtlenecks-go-there kind of place; Starbucks was still a West Coast thing. Bo Schembechler was God, and Desmond Howard won the Heisman in my senior year. He struck the Heisman pose in the 1991 U-M/OSU game after a 93-yard punt return – that pose has since been recreated by hundreds of football players!”

— Lee Bowbeer (A.B. '92), Stamford, Connecticut



■ Almost half of graduates interviewed from the 1990s majored in a social science.

Popular Prof



John Rubadeau

Stop by John Rubadeau's office and you will see photos of former students covering the walls from floor to ceiling — it's clear that to Rubadeau, teaching at Michigan is much more than a job. He has written thousands of recommendation letters and officiated the weddings of more than a dozen former students.

Top Majors

Psychology
Political Science
Economics (Tie)

12%

The 1990s marked the first decade of psychology's reign as the top major in LSA. Psychology is still the largest major in LSA today, graduating more than 500 students each year.

11%

1990s



The Legacy



1990

The Prison Creative Arts Project (PCAP) is founded with the mission to collaborate with incarcerated adults, incarcerated youth, urban youth, and the formerly incarcerated to strengthen community through creative expression.

1996

The Ark, a small, not-for-profit music venue known for its intimate atmosphere, moves to its third and final location on Main Street. It continues to be a popular student hangout for live-music lovers.



The Millennial Two Thousands

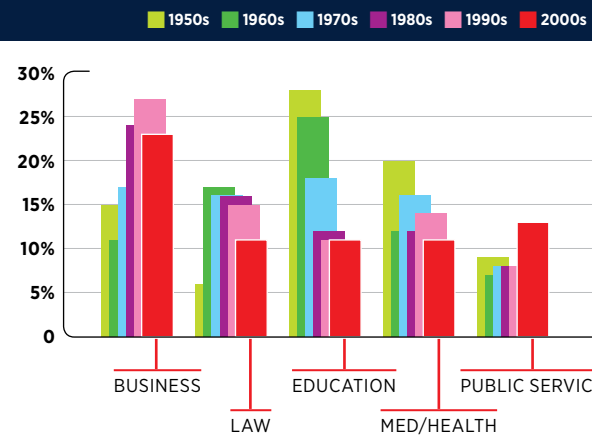
When the clock struck midnight to end the '90s, and the tech world did not collapse, Y2K apocalypse-believers heaved a sigh of relief. The new millennium would begin just like any other year. But in only the second autumn of the new century, everything changed.

September 11, 2001, was a formative thing for young people at that time. I remember it was my first day working in my mentor's chemistry lab when I heard it on the radio. It was a turning point – the first two years of school were much more carefree, and this happening was very sobering.”

— Alex Poniatowski (B.S. Chem., '03), Ann Arbor, Michigan

Leading Industries

■ The public-service sector became more and more popular among 2000s grads, increasing in numbers by almost 65%. And, for the first time, women made up a larger percentage of health professionals than men.



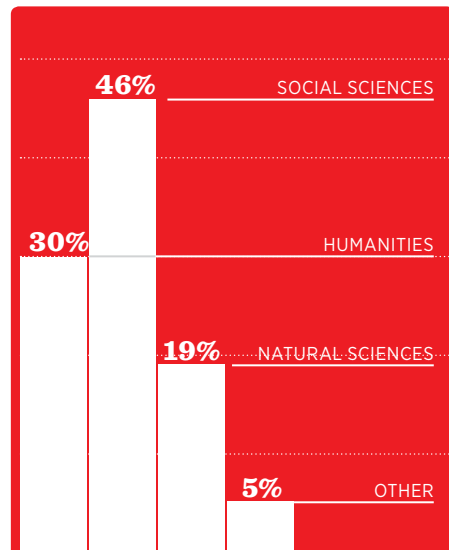
■ Many alumni who graduated in the early 2000s recall where they were when they first heard about the attacks on 9/11, and how it changed them. They recall candlelight vigils on the Diag, and the realization that the world they would enter after graduation would look very different than before.



A professor of English literature since 1970, **Ralph Williams** (Ph.D. '70) has perhaps touched the lives of more students than any other LSA professor. A natural performer, Williams's larger-than-life lecture style captivates students as he bounds up and down the lecture hall, zealously reciting passages from Shakespeare or the Old Testament. [Read how](#) Shannon Kellman (A.B. '09) stumbled upon Williams's class her freshman year and "got bit by the Shakespeare bug."

2004 = Facebook 2005 = YouTube 2007 = First iPhone

Student organizations began to dominate campus life in the 2000s. Thousands of students flocked to the Diag in the first week of the fall term to sign up for student organizations in an event known as “Festifall.” By the late 2000s, social media helped make student-run events like Dance Marathon, Mock Rock and DP Day larger than ever before.



■ From the 1990s to the 2000s, natural science majors grew by almost 30% — in large part due to an influx of women going into the sciences.

The Legacy

2008

Mosher-Jordan (MoJo) is renovated to include a state-of-the-art 700 person dining hall.

Barack Obama wins the presidential election.

2009

Stockwell Residence Hall, named after Madelon Louisa Stockwell, the first woman to attend Michigan, is renovated and becomes co-ed.

Top Majors

Political Science
English (Tie)
Economics

12%

11%

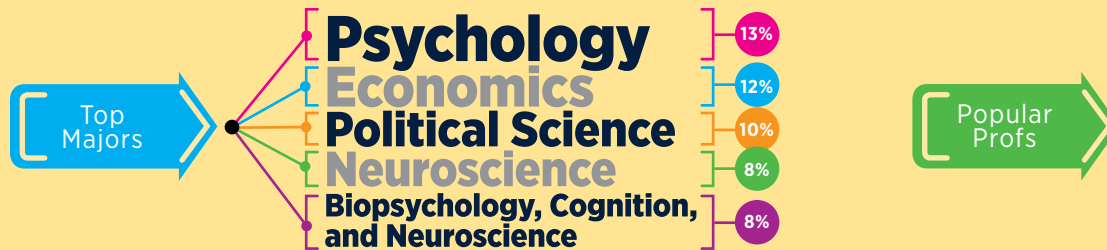


2000s

During my first year at Michigan, Facebook revolutionized how students connected with one another. Back when there were only a handful of universities on the network, Facebook would count how many people from your school had signed up — I was literally something like the 30th student here to have an account. I’m still sadly proud of it to this day.” —Rachel Reed (A.B. '08), Detroit, Michigan

The Plugged-In Twenty Tens

What's it like to be an LSA student today? Current LSA students are more involved on campus than ever before. Every year, thousands of students study abroad, participate in research, serve in the community, and do meaningful work through student organizations.



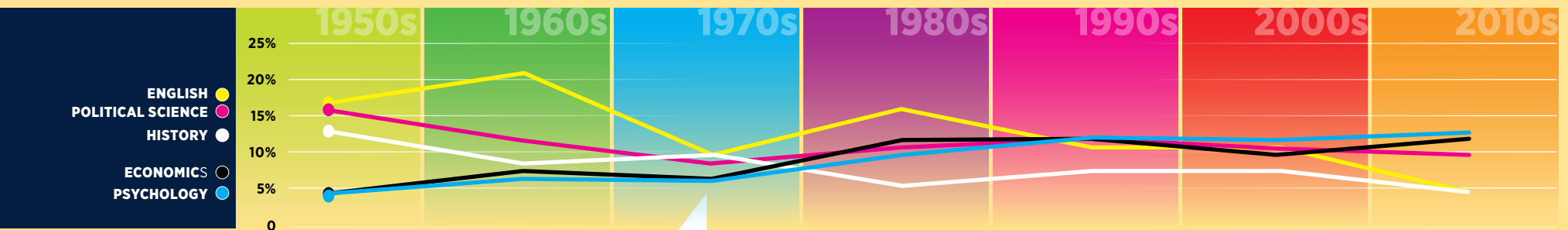
In Stats 250, it's not uncommon to see **Brenda Gunderson** (Ph.D. '89) do a backflip for the class. Renowned for her exceptional clarity, spunky and warm spirit, and an uncanny ability to make her students feel at home in a large lecture hall, Gunderson has been a constant favorite ever since she began teaching in the '90s. And if you get an A+ in her course, she'll send you a personal letter thanking you for your hard work and attention.



Organic chemistry, the class that induces panic and all-nighters among its students, is actually fun in **Kathleen Nolta's** (B.S. '88) class. This animated chemistry lecturer is known for throwing out candy to students who answer questions correctly, and even starting the wave to keep the energy up in class. Nolta is one of the most highly ranked Michigan professors on RateMyProfessors.com. Her student reviews range from "God bless this woman" to "I want Dr. Nolta to adopt me."

CHANGE IN POPULAR MAJORS OVER TIME

■ While we have seen a decline in classic concentrations, such as English and history, this is in part due to an increasingly wide array of majors to choose from.



NUMBER OF MAJORS IN THE 1970S:

51

NUMBER OF MAJORS TODAY:

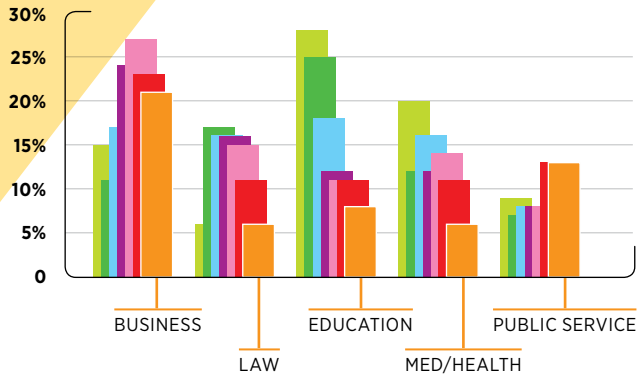
102!

Of the 51 majors available in the 1970s, 60% still exist today.

Leading Industries

1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s 1990s 2000s 2010s

■ Among female graduates, public service surpassed business as the most popular career track, while men in business once again skyrocketed. Lower numbers in medicine/health and law may also be attributed to the almost 25% of interviewed 2010s grads who are currently enrolled in graduate and professional programs.



POPULAR STUDENT ORGS

Dance Marathon: In its 17-year history at Michigan, this student-run non-profit has challenged thousands of students to stand for 30 (now 24) hours straight, in order to raise awareness and millions of dollars in support of pediatric rehabilitation.

Alpha Phi Omega & Circle K: As the two largest community service clubs on campus, they work to cultivate commitment to community among students by organizing hundreds of volunteer projects, collaborative events, and fundraisers each year.

optiMize: The desire to change the world has always been strong among LSA students — optiMize trains students to take that idealism and turn it into something real. OptiMize students are engaged in work as diverse as managing organic farms in Detroit to shipping medical supplies to developing countries.

Men's Glee Club: Founded in 1859, the Men's Glee Club is one of the oldest collegiate choruses in the United States and the oldest continually run student organization on the Michigan campus. Also of note: U-M has 16 different a capella groups including Amazin' Blue, the Compulsive Lyres, and the G-Men.



+ **117%**

More than 3,600 students participated in a global experience from 2012 to 2013 — that's more than two times the number of students who studied abroad a decade earlier.

1,400+

The number of student orgs today, ranging from 10 active members to more than 1,000, and representing a wide array of interests.

1,300+

Number of students conducting research alongside faculty members as part of the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program.

THE TIES THAT BIND

As we examine Michigan's present, we find ourselves continually pulled to the past – to the students who lived and studied here before us.

How have alumni memories differed over time?



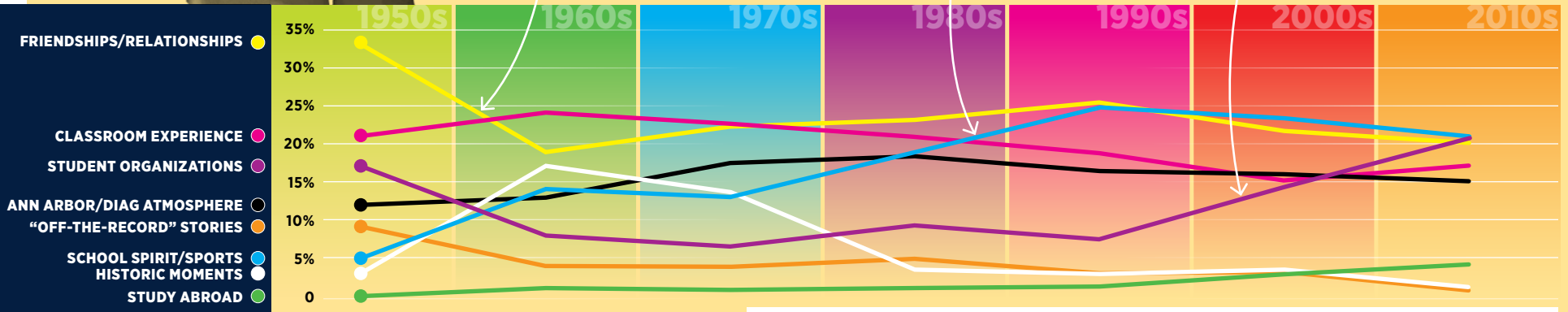
Looking back across all decades, the connections you made with the people around you – whether classmates, roommates, or professors – consistently stood out as an important aspect of your college days here at Michigan.



Unsurprisingly, the number of vivid memories relating to athletics soared beginning in the mid-'70s, the age of Bo Schembechler. But it wasn't until the late '90s that tales of the Big House and the Fab Five began to outstrip – albeit minimally – stories of friendship: Michigan sports defined the experience of almost 25% of recent graduates.



About 14% of 2000s graduates credited their student organizations with providing the most enriching memories – almost double that of 1990s graduates. And among more recent graduates, the growth is larger still: Nearly a quarter of those who graduated in 2010 and after felt that their student groups left the most significant impression on them.



Much has changed over the years, but perhaps most striking are the timeless moments: that lecture you had in Angell Hall Auditorium B, those long nights you spent poring over readings in the Law Library, that feeling that hits you when you drive up State Street and campus unfolds before you. Those timeless experiences will forever feel magical to those of us who have lived them.

I spent a lot of peaceful mornings in a rowing shell on the Huron River. Lots of great walks in the Arb. Many long nights in the Grad and the Law Library. Is the Undergrad Library still called 'the UGLI'? But, above all else, my favorite place is anywhere on the Diag – throwing a Frisbee on the grass, sitting on the benches, avoiding stepping on the M. – Lee Bowbeer (A.B. '92), Stamford, Connecticut

Campus Map

A History of Campus Hot Spots

Frieze building

In 1956, the University bought the Ann Arbor High School and renamed it the Frieze Building in honor of the first dean of LSA. When North Quad replaced the Frieze building, elements of the original high school were integrated into the facade of the new building.



The Cube

Commissioned by the class of '65, The Cube was designed by a U-M alumna, Bernard "Tony" Rosenthal (A.B. '36). Give it a gentle push and this massive structure easily spins on its axis.

Drake's Sandwich Shop

Alumni who attended U-M before 1993 fondly remember Drake's, the sandwich shop on North University. Famous for its limeade and penny candy, Drake's was frequented by a diverse group of students and locals.



The Block M

Donated by the class of '53. Legend has it that if you step on the M you will fail your first exam.

Old Chemistry Building "Chemical Laboratory"

When the Chemical Laboratory was built in 1856, it was the first chemical laboratory at a state university. It was destroyed by a fire on Christmas Eve in 1981.



East and West Engineering

Before the College of Engineering moved to North Campus, engineering students went to class on Central Campus in "East and West Engin." Despite the move, the Engineering Arch maintained its name.



The Brown Jug

Named after the Michigan vs. Minnesota football trophy, The Brown Jug has been a student stomping ground since 1938.



Dominick's

Tucked between the law school and the business school, "Casa Dominick's" has been a student destination for sangria, pizza, and Constant Buzz since 1959.



E. HURON ST

E. WASHINGTON ST

N. UNIVERSITY

STATE ST

S. UNIVERSITY

Your Input Matters

Because of your feedback on the alumni experience, our team established the **Dean's Young Alumni Council (DYAC)**, a highly engaged group of recent graduates whose mission is to encourage their peers to articulate the impact of their LSA education, and to create a culture of giving back as alumni.

Percentage of member growth in 2014-2015

16.5

Alumni involved in the DYAC Network across the country

8

325

DYAC events held in NYC, D.C., Chicago, Ann Arbor

Last summer, the **College Connections** team launched a program that trains LSA study abroad students to meet with and interview alumni living abroad. The students share Michigan updates and record alumni impressions of U-M, adding a valuable international perspective to our program.

Students interviewed alumni from all walks of life, from places such as Argentina, Japan, France, India, and Ghana, and representing a diverse array of academic backgrounds. Almost half of alumni were either economics, political science, and/or international studies graduates, and another 13% studied a language in LSA. They ended up working in just as diverse a range of fields — from law to nonprofit and research, to education and business.

“The alumna I interviewed let me use her extra bike for the entire summer in Copenhagen for free, which was a total lifesaver!”

—Karinne Smolenyak, 2014 Student Ambassador



45 students

16 cities

19 countries

70 alumni

33%

of alumni living overseas studied abroad when they were students. These alumni often mention the influence of study abroad in their decision to live internationally after graduation.



Check out our website for more information

43.8%

of alumni reported that they would like to see more career preparation for students, especially through internships and mentorship. Your feedback has helped make this a college-wide priority. The College Connections team started a **mentorship program** two years ago that pairs students interning in Chicago, New York, Washington D.C., and Michigan with young alumni living in these areas. One-on-one meetings, social events, and professional development workshops provide invaluable learning experiences and allow alumni to make meaningful connections with students.

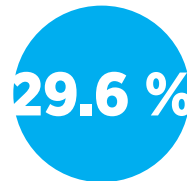
1000+

Alumni & Students

My mentor was super supportive and helpful. We instantly connected and she was very warm and welcoming!” — Nida Javid, 2015 Student Ambassador

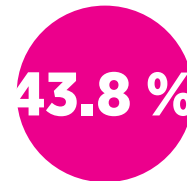
What should LSA prioritize?

(More than one option could be selected)



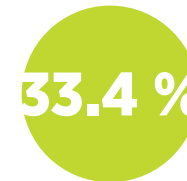
GLOBAL EXPERIENCES

LSA offers more than 90 global programs in more than 30 countries. Students study, conduct research, and even intern abroad.



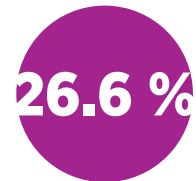
INTERNSHIPS/ CAREER PREPARATION

LSA actively recruits employers to hire LSA students – more than 1,000 internships have been posted in the LSA Internship Network. In addition, LSA provides direct funding to students who want to take internships but are limited by financial obstacles.



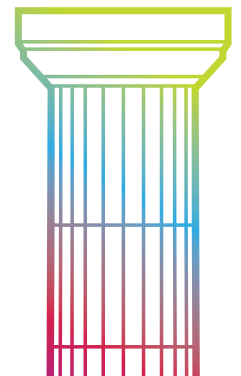
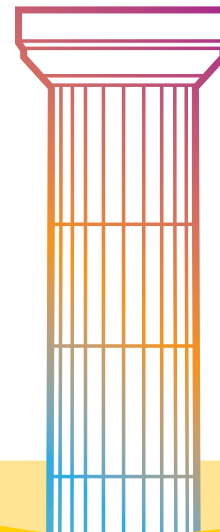
ENGAGED ACADEMIC LEARNING

Engaged learning challenges students to apply the knowledge they learn in the classroom to real world problems. LSA students are constantly asked to apply their knowledge – whether in the laboratory or in the local community, LSA students are pushed to combine theory with practice.



GUIDANCE/ADVISING

Prior to 1995, faculty advisors weren't trained in the nuances of academic counseling. The college has since revamped its advising structure to better serve the needs of students. Today, every student is paired with a general academic advisor, in addition to a major advisor and a minor advisor. Students are also encouraged to meet with peer advisors and pre-professional advisors.



Team Updates



MARK CHOU

Mark “graduated” from the College Connections Program in April 2015, moving to Brooklyn, New York, to work as a special projects coordinator at Uncommon Schools’ Bedford Stuyvesant Collegiate. Mark had an incredible two years interviewing alumni across the country — he most enjoyed meeting with a diverse group of alumni passionate about sharing their experiences from their undergraduate years, and learning about the University’s history through storytelling. He is excited to stay engaged with the College through the DYAC in the New York region.



ELLIE CHESSEN

Ellie “graduated” from the College Connections Program in June 2015. In the fall, she will embark on a new journey as a full-time graduate student at the University of Michigan’s Ford School of Public Policy. She feels incredibly fortunate to have had the opportunity to meet so many inspiring alumni and to have recorded their stories over these past two years. Attending U-M changed her life, and it has been a privilege to be of service to the University and the alumni community.



CHRISTINA PECHETTE

Christina had a fantastic year running the College Connections Abroad Program and interviewing alumni and parents locally and across the western United States. This coming year she looks forward to managing communications for the College Connections Program, as well as finding new ways to enhance both the student and the alumni experience. Christina will continue to travel to the western region to conduct interviews with alumni and parents.



MONICA PHILIPP

Monica had a great first year with the College Connections Program interviewing alumni and parents in the central region of the United States. In the coming year, she is excited to manage the DYAC and hopes to foster new DYAC regions in the West. Monica will travel across the country to high priority regions — cities we’ve never visited — to interview alumni and parents.



PATRICK PJESKY

Hailing from St. Joseph, Michigan, Patrick joined the College Connections team in June 2015, shortly after graduating from LSA with a degree in classics and political science. Largely due to the smaller size of the Department of Classical Studies, he was able to form several meaningful relationships with his professors and considers these relationships essential to his student experience. Serving as the president of the University of Michigan Men’s Glee Club was Patrick’s driving force behind his interest in alumni relations. Patrick is thrilled to join the College Connections team and looks forward to doing his part to further the mission of LSA.



AVERY GLEASON

Avery joined the College Connections team in July 2015, shortly after receiving his degree in economics from LSA. Growing up in Holt, Michigan, Avery always dreamed of attending the University of Michigan — a dream that was made possible by the Lefkofsky Family Foundation Scholarship. During his time as a student, he participated in the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program and worked with Appreciate + Reciprocate, a student organization that raises money for need-based scholarships. This experience led Avery to the Development Summer Internship Program, where he worked as a development intern at Ozone House Youth and Family Services, a local youth homeless shelter. Avery is excited to be a part of the College Connections team and meet with LSA alumni like you!

STAY CONNECTED

- Hire an LSA student intern
- Join the Dean’s Young Alumni Council
- Follow the Young Alumni Tumblr
- Sign up for the Young Alumni Newsletter
- Mentor a student
- Give to LSA or your favorite department

Thank you

Thank you again for taking the time to share your feedback with the College Connections Program. Since 2008, it has been our mission to hear from you, document your favorite Michigan memories, and incorporate your feedback into LSA’s current priorities. Although we have interviewed more than 5,000 people, our program is unique in our dedication to personal, one-on-one interviews. As ambassadors for the College, our favorite part of the job is meeting each of you. It has been a privilege to represent your voice to the College. It’s the people that make the Michigan community so special, and you remind us of that every day. Thank you.

Photos provided by the Bentley Historical Library, the University of Michigan Athletic Department, the Men’s Glee Club of U-M, and Dance Marathon at the University of Michigan.