



**College Park Scholars**  
alumni association

2008 Annual Report



## *A Message from Our Chairman and President*

Since its founding in 2004, the College Park Scholars Alumni Association has worked diligently to serve our alumni and current Scholars. Its mission is to connect alumni back to Scholars and to each other, and sponsor enriching programs for current Scholars. During the first three years, we focused primarily on building a solid foundation and infrastructure upon which to grow. In this, our fourth year, we have made great strides in transitioning to focus on growth of programming and membership.

To meet our programming goals, we were pleased to participate in many of the events sponsored by the College Park Scholars program such as Service Day, Scholars in New York and the 11th Annual Charity Softball Tournament. We also saw record participation and fundraising in our annual golf tournament. We were thrilled to broaden our programming to include sponsoring Lise Van Susteren's presentation on campus around global warming—an event that was attended by more than 100 current Scholars and faculty. We launched a new study break initiative for current students and a trip to Camden Yards to see the Orioles play the Yankees. Finally, we ventured to the theater to see *Avenue Q*. We were also honored to participate in a Chautauqua program and brunch entitled “Creating a Sense of Place and Purpose: A Celebration of College Park Scholars” hosted by William Kirwan, Chancellor of the University System of Maryland at his home in Baltimore.

We have also been focused on increasing our membership, gathering contact information for our members, and finding new and innovative ways to communicate with our Alumni. While we have continued to send e-newsletters, our website experienced a facelift and we deployed a welcome video on our main page. Ever mindful of our changing demographics, we launched a number of new social networking sites through Facebook and TerpNation. These methods give you the latest news and schedules for all things CPSAA. In the coming years, we will continue to look for innovative ways of serving our membership and the Scholars community.

We are pleased to present the third annual report of the College Park Scholars Alumni Association. It is our sincere hope that you will find the contents to be informative and may choose to become more involved with our organization. It is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with old friends, meet new ones with whom you already share a common and special experience, and support College Park Scholars. Please stay in touch: <http://www.collegeparkscholars.com>.

*Erica M. Rossi, Public Leadership '99  
Chairman of the Board, College Park Scholars Alumni Association*

*Kevin S. Baxter, Advocates for Children, '98  
President, College Park Scholars Alumni Association*

## *About the College Park Scholars Alumni Association*

The College Park Scholars Alumni Association was founded in 2004 to provide services and resources to the greater College Park Scholars community, including alumni, current students, faculty, and staff. In pursuit of its mission, the College Park Scholars Alumni Association holds networking events for alumni, academic events at the University of Maryland, and experiences allowing alumni and students to connect to each other.

The College Park Scholars program at the University of Maryland is a community of twelve interdisciplinary living-learning programs for academically talented first- and second-year students. Each program focuses on a specific theme and offers specially designed courses and experiences relating to that theme.

## *Year in Review*

The College Park Scholars Alumni Association enjoyed another exciting year as it carried on a few traditional events and inaugurated some new events.



In September, alumni, volunteers and sponsors made a fantastic turnout at our Third Annual Golf Tournament. The event was held at the University of Maryland Golf Course where 32 players enjoyed an 18-hole round of golf and generated support for the association. BearingPoint, Meiwah Restaurant, and Lighthouse Information Systems were premier sponsors, providing generous support for the event. Prizes were awarded for best team score, best individual score, longest drive, and closest to the pin. All participants were given a customized tournament gift and were provided complimentary beverage services throughout the day.

Reflecting on the day, Matt Hulcher, alumnus of Science, Discovery and the Universe said, "Despite our lousy final score, the weather, participants and organizers made for yet another phenomenal golf tournament that I look forward to playing in again next year." CPSAA generated more than \$2,000 from the event.

Lise Van Susteren, environmental activist, spoke at the University of Maryland on November 6, 2007 to educate the campus community about global climate change and its implications. As participants in an environmentally conscious program, Scholars are grateful to have attended her lecture on our world's climate situation. Van Susteren was widely received with nearly 100 students, alumni, and campus members in attendance. Van Susteren was chosen as one of the first fifty persons trained by former Vice President Al Gore to give her version of his global warming presentation.





William Kirwan, the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland, hosted representatives from the University of Maryland, the Board of Regents, and the College Park Scholars Alumni Association in December. At this event, CPSAA presented its cause to the senior governance and showed the value added to the University of Maryland.

In March, Scholars hosted an exhibition at the Sewall-Belmont House to pay homage to the American struggle for women's suffrage. This included a guided tour of the house and museum, and an exposition on the legislative battle for the Equal Rights Amendment.

In April, CPSAA hosted its annual booth at the Maryland Day campus-wide festival. This year, the Scholars booth moved out of the Undergraduate Studies tent and occupied its own place in Cambridge Quad, surrounded by its students with alumni managing the booth. CPSAA provided games and other entertainments to all comers.



In addition to raising money for charity, CPSAA joined current Scholars at a variety of social events aimed at networking and building relationships among and between Scholars and Alumni. For instance, CPSAA joined current Scholars on the annual New York City trip where students and alumni attended Broadway shows and networked at dinner. CPSAA also held a mixer in Washington followed by Avenue Q, aimed at young professionals in the Washington DC area in order to foster continued fellowship.

Scholars also underwent a leadership change, as Chris Branin, founding member of CPSAA left his long-standing role as chairman and president to pursue graduate school. CPSAA treasurer Erica Rossi was elected president and chairman of the board. We wish Mr. Branin good luck and welcome Ms. Rossi into her new role.



Finally, CPSAA would like to congratulate Sammy Popat, Arts '99, on receiving the College Park Scholars Alumni Association Outstanding Alumni Award. Mr. Popat was honored at the Scholars Awards Ceremony in November 2007. Members of the Board of Directors joined Scholars faculty and students in celebrating the contributions made by Mr. Popat to the Scholars program, the CPSAA, and the University of Maryland.

## *Financial Report\**

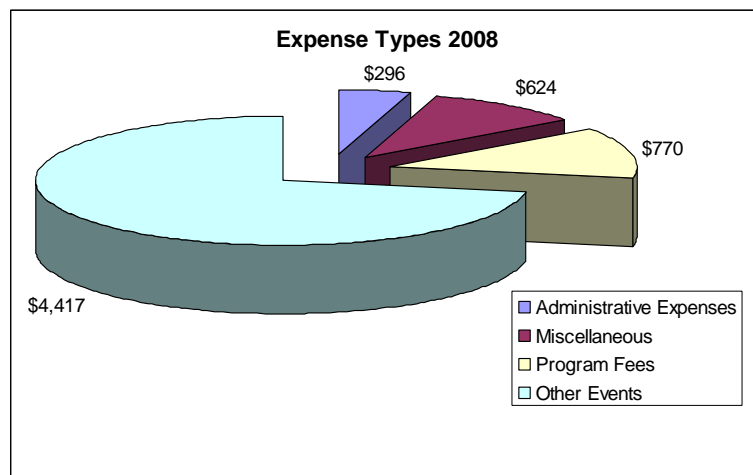
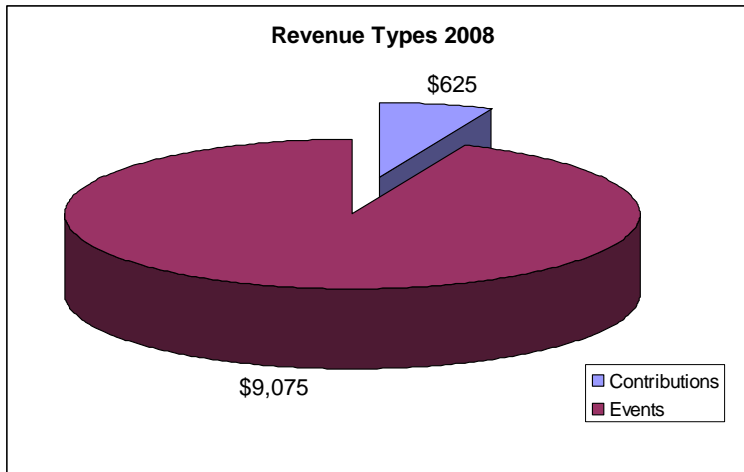
The College Park Scholars Alumni Association Board of Directors strives to make solid financial decisions and run the organization by the highest principles of non-profit management.

### *Revenues – FY 2008*

Contributions	\$625	6.44%
Events	\$9,075	93.56%
Total	\$9,700	100.00%

### *Expenses – FY 2008*

Administrative Expenses	\$296	4.84%
Miscellaneous	\$624	10.23%
Program Fees	\$770	12.60%
Other Events	\$4,417	72.33%
Total	\$6,106	100.00%



**2008 College Park  
Scholars Alumni**

\* Please note that these figures have not been audited by an external auditor.

## Association Board of Directors

**Chris Branin, President and Chairman of the Board**

*Arts '00*

**Erica Rossi, Treasurer**

*Public Leadership '97*

**James Howard, Secretary**

*International Studies '00*

**Jessica Seidel, Alumni Council Co-Chair**

*Advocates for Children '02*

**Megan Dillard, Alumni Council Co-Chair**

*Public Leadership '03*

**Ron Willoughby, At-Large Member**

*Life Sciences '98*

**Kevin Baxter, Ex-Officio Member**

*Advocates for Children '98*

## 2008 College Park Scholars Alumni Association Council

**Jessica Seidel, Alumni Council Co-Chair**

*Advocates for Children '02*

**Megan Dillard, Alumni Council Co-Chair**

*Public Leadership '03*

**Laura Allred**

*Earth, Life & Time '04*

**Kevin Baxter, Ex-Officio Member**

*Advocates for Children '98*

**Heather Bartholomew**

*Media, Self & Society '07*

**Stefanie Fogleman**

*Science, Technology & Society '96*

**Emily Guskin**

*Media, Self & Society '04*

**Brad Howell**

*Science, Discovery & the Universe '02*

**Karen Lees**

*Life Sciences '97*

**Jenny Levy**

*International Studies '99*

**Jim McGee**

*American Cultures '99*

**Max Nickey**

*Environmental Studies '05*

**Sammy Papat**

*Arts '99*

**Tatiana Posada**

*Public Leadership '03*

**Yohannes Tilahun**

*Advocates for Children '03*