NUCLEAR SUB ELECTRICIAN TO DUNWOODY PRESIDENT:
The unusual, yet perfectly logical, career path of Rich Wagner

When Rich Wagner was operating and repairing electrical systems on nuclear submarines 25 years ago, he never imagined that one day he’d be a college president.

“I always enjoyed learning but I didn’t become a successful student until after I joined the Navy,” says Wagner, who assumed the Dunwoody presidency on July 1. “Of course, the military provided discipline, but it was the hands-on applied nature of the education that connected with me. That’s why I feel so strongly about the brand of education here at Dunwoody. It changes lives. It certainly changed mine.”

Wagner enlisted in the U.S. Navy after a rocky time at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. “I went to Lehigh to play football and wasn’t ready for the large class sizes and had a hard time with the abstract nature of the academics.” That changed in the Navy. “All of our training was hands-on learning, done in small classes. We learned about a particular theory, saw it applied and then completed a job to demonstrate that we understood the theory and its application. Suddenly I went from struggling student to top of my class. That success inspired me to complete my bachelor’s, then my MBA and finally my doctorate at the University of Minnesota.”

It was also in the Navy that he realized he had a love for teaching. “I come from a family of educators, so I’m sure that’s part of it,” he says. “But in those small classes and close, personal interactions, I learned that I had a passion for teaching. I got a real kick out of seeing the confidence of young, inexperienced sailors grow as they learned new skills and capabilities.”

Still, he didn’t see a long-term career for himself in education. Instead, after 10 years in the Navy, he took the MBA he earned while in the service and pursued a career in financial services and investment banking. “I really wanted to help clients establish solid financial plans, which is what the best brokers and advisors do. But in the end, I just wasn’t getting the satisfaction I got from teaching.”

So he took the skills he learned as a Navy instructor and joined Emerson Electric Motion Controls as a corporate trainer. Success there led him to pursue a career in higher education.

“When I walked into the electrical lab at Dunwoody that first day as an instructor, I knew I was home,” he says. “The lab was set-up just like we had it at Great Lakes (Naval Training Station, near Chicago). It just felt right.”

Still, it’s a long way from Dunwoody instructor to Dunwoody president. And reaching the presidency wasn’t part of any grand plan.

“After a year or two as an instructor, I realized I could have a greater impact as the department director. I thought the same thing when the dean’s job opened — that I could accomplish more there.”

It was then that he decided to pursue his doctorate. “In order to positively affect what was happening in the classroom and help prepare Dunwoody for the future, I realized it was important to better understand how education policy is shaped. I also needed that theoretical piece to round out my education, which got me thinking on a much larger scale.”

By the time he completed his doctorate (and after a brief stint away from Dunwoody at Hennepin Technical College), he had taken on the larger role of Dunwoody’s Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Given Dr. Wagner’s experience in — and love for — the classroom, expect his administration to focus on teaching and learning. “Over the past several years, we did the essential work of rebuilding the physical campus. Now we need to focus on ensuring academic excellence.”

Wagner believes the future is bright — and a bit unsettled. “This college has enormous potential to serve students, our industry partners and the broader community, but these are also challenging, dynamic times. To continue to fulfill our founders’ mission, we need to move aggressively toward the future in terms of technology, teaching methods and student services. We need to create a meaningful, sustainable vision for our second hundred years, one that is forward-thinking but still closely aligned with our core values and strengths. That’s going to make this a very exciting campus.”
Spring Commencement

More than 400 students participated in the College’s three spring Commencement ceremonies. The key message from the various speakers was that even though the job market is down right now, a Dunwoody education positions graduates to be competitive job candidates now and when hiring picks up again.

(LEFT) Bernie Wagnild (1957, Automotive), president of Valley Automotive Group, told the graduates: “Do you want to stay young? Try everything twice.” He went on to quote his “dear deceased friend Teresa Willis: ‘Life should not be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in a pretty and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out and proclaiming loudly, Wow! What a ride!’”

(ABOVE) President-elect Rich Wagner presents outgoing President C. Ben Wright with a token of appreciation for his 25 years of service to Dunwoody.

(BELLOW) Prepress graduate Ann Pelton (left) talks to HVAC instructor Janet Corio.

Career help

It’s the toughest year in quite some time for job seekers, whether they are recent graduates or alumni who are out of work. Do you have openings? Want to hire one of Dunwoody’s fantastic graduates? You can either fill out the form found at dunwoody.edu/student/career or contact Career Services at careerservices@dunwoody.edu or (612) 381-3334.

Are you an alum who needs help finding a new job? Career Services is here to help all alumni — not just recent graduates. Visit dunwoody.edu/student/career for details.
Celebrating the Dunwoody-Crosby partnership

Since Dunwoody’s founding in 1914, the Crosby family has been deeply involved with and dedicated to the school. Because of the family’s generous support over the years, including more than one million dollars in donations, the new Crosby Family Board and Conference Room was officially dedicated on May 29. The room features photographs and artwork that celebrate the Dunwoody-Crosby relationship.

Six members of the Crosby family have provided a total of 162 years of continuous service on the College’s Board of Trustees since 1914. Among the family members who attended the dedication was David Crosby, a current member of the Board of Trustees, along with 15 other members of the family.

At the dedication, both David and then President C. Ben Wright discussed the history of the Crosbys’ association with Dunwoody. The Last Will and Testament of William Hood Dunwoody named two Crosbys, John (IV) and Franklin, to serve on the original Board of Trustees. Both had been business associates and friends of William Dunwoody at the Washburn Crosby Company, which would later become General Mills, Inc.

Morris Eisert recognized for entrepreneurial success

When Morris Eisert (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, ’62) co-founded American Industrial Refrigeration (AIR) back in 1978, he knew that he would be able to draw on his Dunwoody education to help him succeed — and not just the technical skills and knowledge he had gained, either.

“I learned from Dunwoody to work hard, not give up on a project, have a positive attitude and work together with your team,” Morris said.

One of the reasons those lessons stuck so well was the personal touch the faculty in his program brought to his campus experience. “The instructors gave me the feeling that we were a part of their families and showed great interest in what we did and accomplished in their classes and labs,” he said.

Thanks to both the technical and managerial expertise of Eisert and his two co-founders, AIR grew over the next three decades from a small manufacturing plant into a large-scale company offering engineering, construction, consulting and educational services. In recognition of that success, Dunwoody bestowed Eisert with its 2009 Alumni Entrepreneur Award at a June 4 Commencement ceremony.

AIR provides a wide range of systems, parts and services for those who operate and maintain refrigerated process equipment and systems. Morris became president in 1992 and sole owner in 2004.

Eisert holds a license in master refrigeration and over his career has served in a variety of roles with the International Institute of Ammonia Refrigeration, including chairman of its board of directors.
Dunwoody has good showing at SkillsUSA

Dunwoody’s SkillsUSA team won medals in two of the three categories it competed in the national competition held June 25 in Kansas City. Collision student Allan Zimney won the gold medal in Collision Repair (College category) and the Quiz Bowl team took bronze (College category).

“I’m proud of the results, of course,” said Dean of Learning and Chief Student Affairs Officer Jeff Ylinen, who attended the competition. “But even more I am proud of the hard work the students and faculty put in to get ready. We learned a lot and are hoping to field an even larger team next year.”

The competitors earned entry in to the national SkillsUSA competition by winning gold awards in their category at the Minnesota competition held earlier this year. Allan not only won gold, beating out competitors from 28 other colleges, but he also won by a healthy margin of 18 points. The Quiz Bowl team — Phill DeLeeuw, Jon Hill, Jason MacKinnon, Jim Stenstrom and Eric Uzpen — answered questions in three categories: current events, academic knowledge and professional development. Electrical student Joe Provo competed in Residential Wiring in the High School Division and scored well but did not place.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled work force.

Introducing The Carlson Family “First Class” Scholarship Program

Beginning in the fall of 2010, two accomplished graduating seniors from Dunwoody Academy will receive a $10,000 grant over two years to attend Dunwoody College of Technology thanks to a generous gift from the Robert W. and Virginia Carlson family.

The Carlson Family Scholarship will fund tuition, books, equipment, tools and other direct educational costs for each student recipient while they are enrolled at Dunwoody College of Technology. Dunwoody Academy Seniors may apply for the Carlson Scholarship between January 1 and March 31, 2010. Applicants must be accepted for admission to Dunwoody College.
As we celebrate victory in the *Good to Great* Campaign, we want to thank the friends of Dunwoody College of Technology whose contributions both transformed our campus and provided needed scholarships to deserving students. More than 5,300 alumni, companies, foundations and industry partners contributed over $31 million to ensure that William and Kate Dunwoody’s vision remains as vital today as it was in 1914.

Below you’ll see how your contributions changed Dunwoody College and the lives of those served by it.

**Anderson Legacy Room** — To commemorate a significant gift that provided much needed infrastructure and technology, a key conference room was renamed the Anderson Legacy Room. Clifford I. Anderson and his wife Nancy were key supporters of the *Good to Great* Campaign.

**Anthony L. Ferrara Career Service Center** — The renamed Ferrara Career Services Center is a campus connecting point for employers and potential employees — whether they are students, recent grads or alums seeking new opportunities. Board member Ted and his brother Todd Ferrara made the gift in honor of their father Anthony.

**Campus Beautification** — Some of the most significant physical improvements to Dunwoody in recent years are to the grounds and parking lot.

**Crosby Family Board and Conference Room** — Since 1914, members of the Crosby family have provided 162 years combined service on the College’s Board of Trustees.

**Elftmann Student Success Center** — The Elftmann Student Success Center, made possible by a gift from alum and former Dunwoody board chair Joel Elftmann and his wife Mary Ann, is an inviting, attractive academic space housing key learning support services.

**HAAS Technical Education Center** — Dunwoody’s Machine Tool Technology program has flourished thanks to the generous support of Haas Automation Inc., and Minnesota-based Haas distributor, Productivity Inc.

**Harper Center of Graphics Technology** — Ron and Katherine Harper committed to provide support to upgrade the College’s printing and graphics lab and endowed the Ron and Katherine Harper Scholarship Fund.

**Robert W. Carlson Commons** — This 24,000 square foot addition, a generous gift from former board chair and current trustee Robert W. Carlson and his family, provides much needed dedicated student space.

**Warren Building Improvements** — The home of Dunwoody’s leading-edge automotive programs features the new Adamich Automotive Lab, along with new hoists, lighting, flooring, production lab benches and a widened drive-in lane that mirrors the customer service write-up area found in today’s automotive dealerships and repair facilities.

**Wenda W. and Cornell L. Moore Multi-Cultural Center** — Thanks to a generous gift from long-time trustee Cornell Moore and his wife Wenda, Dunwoody now has a warm and inviting space to welcome new and prospective students, host meetings, build collaborations and provide information about community resources.
Lake Region Medical partners with Dunwoody Custom Training to increase the number of qualified precision grinders

As a growing company and a global leader in medical device technology, Lake Region Medical needs employees who can succeed in the demanding environment of high-level manufacturing. Very few area residents possess the highly-specialized skills necessary to perform such tasks as precision grinding.

Headquartered in Carver County, Lake Region Medical partnered with the Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative and Dunwoody Custom Training to create a multi-stage training program in precision grinding. The program consists of four levels, each level building on the competencies and knowledge base developed in the previous training level. Students are awarded a certificate from Dunwoody upon completion of each training level.

“The training program has been a major contributor to the success of Lake Region Medical’s continuous improvement initiatives in the precision grinding department,” said Mark G. Fleischhacker, Lake Region Medical President and COO. “Dunwoody has done a wonderful job in providing the teaching tools necessary to develop the first comprehensive training program on centerless grinding in the United States.”

The end result is an efficient way for the Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative to assist area residents who are in transition and looking for work; as well as provide a reliable pipeline of highly-skilled, trained employees for corporations such as Lake Region Medical. Additionally, this project offers Dunwoody another opportunity to fulfill its mission of providing hands-on, applied training leading to immediate employment and successful careers.

Founded in 1947, Lake Region Medical has evolved from a manufacturer of pacing lead coils and precision machined products into a global leader in interventional and diagnostic guidewires and other medical devices. Lake Region Medical currently markets to customers in more than 50 countries and has more than 1,400 employees at its headquarter facilities in Chaska, manufacturing facilities in Chaska as well as New Ross, Ireland, and a business office in Shanghai, China.
What do the majority of Dunwoody’s students have in common? Almost all of them take Arts and Sciences (A&S) courses. Whether they are prerequisites, program requirements or electives, Arts and Sciences classes are not the first thing most people think of when they think about Dunwoody. But they are an integral part of a Dunwoody education.

“The Arts and Sciences courses help students build a foundation for life-long learning as well as broaden their interests and knowledge base in the five content areas,” said Ann Iverson, dean of learning and former director of Arts and Sciences (see sidebar).

The five content areas are: Arts and Humanities, Communications, Math and Science, Social Sciences, and Business and Industry. That’s a lot of ground to cover, and in a typical quarter Arts and Sciences offers about 40 different courses (many with multiple sections) to certificate, associate’s and bachelor’s degree students.

A technical slant
Because Dunwoody remains focused on technical programs, the development of A&S courses often happen in response to the needs of the various programs. Many of the programs require students to take such subjects as composition, math, accounting and public speaking, but specialized courses are offered as well.

The recent addition of four Health Sciences and Technology programs has led Arts and Sciences to develop courses in Anatomy, Biology, Chemistry and Physiology. Other examples include, Graphic Design where students are required to take a Humanities course in Museum Studies and the four-year Interior Design degree which includes a Geosciences course on LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards and certification.

Industry also influences the development of A&S courses. With the way the marketplace changes, industry is recognizing more and more that all workers need core skills in communication, management and analysis in addition to technical skills. Meanwhile, students and alumni recognize that by having both technical and general education training, they have a strong base on which to build a career — no matter what turns that career path takes.

“A lot of the classes we offer will fit in with a particular program or area,” said Michael Resnick, director of Arts and Sciences. “For example, we develop different math classes based on the skills the industry has told us they are looking for.”

Igniting student creativity
As much as A&S courses support the technical curriculum, they are also valuable in helping students increase their knowledge and understanding of the world and of themselves.

“Students appreciate the opportunity to gain information and new skills from highly knowledgeable faculty members,” Iverson said. “We are often surprised at the different student talents that emerge in the varied and unique Arts and Sciences classes.”

One way that manifests itself is in the department’s Ignite awards. Founded three years ago by Principal A&S Instructor Ted Gundel, Ignite highlights superior work produced in the Arts and Sciences courses as nominated.
Faculty Profile: Ann Iverson

Ann Iverson embodies the Dunwoody approach to Arts and Sciences. She is an accomplished poet and has taught humanities and compositions courses at the College since 1992. But she has also chaired committees on continuous learning improvement and student learning evaluation. Earlier this year, Iverson was promoted to Dean of Learning and Chief Academic Affairs Officer and is one of two deans of learning at the College.

“Ann brings a wealth of experience managing faculty from a variety of disciplines to the position,” said President Richard J. Wagner. “That she also brings a creative sensibility to her work is an added bonus. I’m pleased that she is willing to move in to this new role and am confident that she will succeed in it.”

Iverson began her career at Dunwoody as a writing and humanities instructor, eventually becoming English Composition and Humanities Content Area Leader. She was named Director of Arts and Sciences in 2005 and Senior Academic Director of Arts and Sciences and Computer Technology in 2007. She has been published in more than 20 print and online journals and literary magazines, including The Oklahoma Review and Dos Passos Review. Ann is the author of two collections of poetry Come Now to the Window (Laurel Poetry Collective) and Definite Space (Holy Cow! Press), which was written in response to the events of 9/11 and her son’s subsequent deployments to Iraq. Definite Space was nominated for a Minnesota Book Award and the Pushcart Prize in 2008.

A sampler of unique Arts and Sciences courses

Dunwoody offers a variety of courses in the humanities, sciences, social sciences and other academic disciplines. Here are the course titles and descriptions for four unique courses:

Humanities 110 - The Auto: History & Sociological Impact | This course uses lecture, class discussion, videos, group projects, and individual research projects to explore the history of the automobile and its impact on society. It focuses on the concept of the automobile as a cultural icon as a means of studying how industrial innovations shaped the character and lifestyle of twentieth century America.

Sociology 110 - History of the Twin Cities | A history of the Twin Cities from before the actual founding of the two cities up through the 1960s. Its main sections are 1) The Land, 2) Pre-Settlement, 3) Early Settlement, 4) Years of Growth, 5) The Politics of Growth, 6) Prohibition, Gangsters and the New Deal, and 7) Rise of Suburbia and Decline of Downtown.

Humanities 210 - The Holocaust: Voices of Suffering and Perseverance | This course examines the poetry, essay, narrative, music, movie, and visual art of the Holocaust. Through these artifacts we will study the human condition in unfathomable degrees of suffering and survival.

Humanities 240 – Ethics | This course introduces the students to the field of ethics. The development of ethical standards is explored as related to the individual, government, business, and society.
1999

Jason Oberg, Civil Technology and Land Surveying, is presently working as an Engineer for Blattner Energy Inc., a heavy construction firm that specializes in wind farms. He holds a Master’s Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of North Dakota, is registered in Minnesota as an Engineer-In-Training (EIT), and is a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in six states (Minn., Hawaii, La., Nev., Maine, and Kan.).

Dann J. Barr, Machine Tool, and his wife welcomed their first child.

1976

Fred Hayen, Engineering Drafting and Design, stated “Dunwoody was one of the best choices I’ve made in my life. I’ve enjoyed 35 years in the metal stamping industry and work as an engineering manager at Top Tool Co. in Blaine.”

1967

Dave Simpkins, Printing, reconnected in May at Dunwoody with Kent Esby, a classmate and current Dunwoody Printing Instructor. Simpkins lives in Sauk Centre, Minn., and is the owner and publisher of four newspapers including the Sauk Centre Herald, Minnesota Trails, the Dairymen’s Regional and Old Times, an antique newspaper.

Wayne Greenfield, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning and Appliance, was employed with Woodman Refrigeration in Aberdeen, SD, for 43 years and appreciates the wonderful education he received at Dunwoody.

1957

During a March visit to Dunwoody, Bernard Gaffron, Engineering Drafting and Design, stopped to see the “3M Taper,” a piece of equipment in the automated line for the Automation and Robotics program that Bernard holds the patent on. He is a retired 3M engineer and former Technical Action Committee member.

1950

A. Wesley Carlson, Electrical, currently lives on Lawrence Lake at Outing, Minn., in a home he and his wife built while they were working in Minneapolis. Now they enjoy playing lots of golf and spending time with all of their good neighbors.

1947

Mervin J. Daniels, Refrigeration/Auto Electrical, who passed away April 16, 2008, was employed by General Motors from 1963 – 1980. He and his sons Jim and Jack are proud of their Dunwoody heritage.

1934

Edward J. Kolinski, Electrical, and his wife Mary celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on June 20, 2009. They have six children.

Do you have a story to tell? Have you recently been married? Had a baby? Retired? Received a promotion? Moved? Send any and all alumni news updates and/or pictures with captions to: development@dunwoody.edu or Dunwoody Alumni Department, 818 Dunwoody Blvd., Minneapolis, MN 55403. Or call (612) 381-3064.

In Memoriam

Dunwoody extends its sympathies to the families and loved ones of the following alumni and friends who have recently passed away:

Robert A. Anderson 1967 Engineering Drafting and Design Technology 4/29/09

Donald John Beauchamp 1949 Civil Technology and Land Surveying 4/24/09

Rodney E. Biedron 1958 Engineering Drafting and Design Technology 1/10/09

Richard W. Carlson 1930 Automotive Service Technology 12/16/07

George Damjanovich 1953 Carpentry March, 2008

Mervin J. Daniels 1951 Auto Electrical 4/16/08


William N. Gerlach 1963 Printing and Graphics Technology 3/2/09

Lawrence R. Gregg 1964 Sheet Metal 4/8/09

Michael Hogen 2001 Electronics 11/14/01

Clifford R. Jarvi 1953 Electrical Construction 5/23/09

Clarence E. Lamb 1943 Radio and TV Repair 4/7/09

Harold A. Markland 1948 Engineering Drafting and Design Technology 2/24/08
Help future generations of students succeed. Give back.

Include Dunwoody in your will.

Your will is one of the most important documents you will ever sign. It’s your legal mechanism for providing for the financial security of your loved ones. It’s the way you distribute everything you’ve accumulated in your lifetime. It’s also how you can give back to future generations of students at Dunwoody.

Unfortunately, more than 50 percent of Americans die without a will, trust or other essential estate planning documents. Without a will the government decides how your hard-earned assets will be distributed. Yet, it costs less than you think to complete or revise them. One of the biggest expenses is legal fees. But with a little planning before you see your attorney, you can reduce your costs by reducing the amount of time an attorney spends gathering information from you.

Dunwoody’s Guide to a Successful Will booklet can help you save money by helping you prepare for a meeting with your attorney. For your complimentary copy, contact Becky Seemann, alumni stewardship manager, at (612) 381-3057 or bseemann@dunwoody.edu.

There’s still time to register to play golf at the 6th Annual Dunwoody Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament

You don’t want to miss a chance to golf at one of the “Top 3 Golf Courses in Minnesota” rated by Golfweek magazine. Please join us!

Tuesday, September 22, 2009
11:30 a.m.
Legends Golf Club
Prior Lake, Minn.

Registration: $125 per person includes range balls, box lunch, cart, green fees and dinner.

To register, contact Kat Christopherson at (612) 381-3064 or kchristopherson@dunwoody.edu.

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**Rudolph Mollner**
1937 Printing and Graphics Technology
3/3/08

**Gerald R. Opsal**
1948 Engineering Drafting and Design Technology
1/24/09

**Richard J. Pederson**
1952 Electrical Construction
8/6/08

**Burton K. Peterson**
1940 Electrical
5/8/09

**Norman Pfahning**
1968 Baking
10/8/06

**Benton C. Press**
1949 Printing and Graphics Technology
5/22/09

**Andrew J. Pukay**
1948 Air Conditioning
6/27/08

**John Rahko**
1958 Automotive Collision Repair and Refinishing
6/24/04

**Amil C. Rude**
1956 Electronic Systems Technology
Notified 5/27/09

**Joseph E. Russ**
1948 Refrigeration
6/2/08

**Lawrence C. Schmit**
1953 Power
Notified 4/27/09

**Orville J. Schoen**
1948 Baking
5/4/07

**Joseph Schumi**
1937 Electrical Construction
12/29/08

**Terry L. Stenson**
1985 Refrigeration
Notified 3/18/09

**James J. Thelen**
1958 Baking
3/24/09

**Edward Eugene Turner**
1939 Electrical Construction
1/18/07

**Leonard H. Van Hoover**
1951 Baking
11/3/08

**William H. Wiessner**
1948 Automotive Service Technology
5/25/09

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**Calendar of Events**

Be sure to save the date for these exciting upcoming events!

**SEPTEMBER**

16  Presidential Inauguration
22  Dunwoody Golf Tournament at Legends

**OCTOBER**

23  Kate L. Dunwoody Luncheon

**DECEMBER**

2  Fall Quarter Commencement
14  Founder’s Day
Mid-summer daffodils in bloom on the Dunwoody campus.