Fellow Alumni,

The beauty of Colby is that whether you graduated decades ago, or just a few months ago, it always feels amazing to connect with the College.

Last month, I was on campus for the fall Alumni Council meeting. I was taking our newest member, Ibraheem Baqai ’16, now an analyst with CitiGroup, back to campus after a downtown Waterville tour. Ibraheem’s post-grad involvement with Colby wasn’t a forgone conclusion. Although he graduated with a deep love for Colby, it didn’t begin that way. He described to me his unhappiness as a first-year, and his thoughts of leaving early in his undergraduate experience. He instead became a student leader and immersed himself in Colby. And last month he was back and as involved as ever. As we drove past the rows of maple trees, peaking in their autumn glory, he turned to me and said, “I’m not sure I ever realized how beautiful it is here, I’m so glad I came back.” What I felt in that moment was pride in having been able to work with Ibraheem as a student, and welcoming him onto the council as an alumnus.

And I feel great pride in alma mater. It is an exciting time at Colby, full of potential and momentum.

If you peek behind the field house, you can’t help but notice new playing fields being installed. This is the first building phase of a new athletic complex. The College continues to push forward in its commitment to providing facilities for Colby athletes to compete at the highest level, and a new athletic facility will strengthen our culture around a healthy, active lifestyle while providing a competitive advantage for our varsity athletes—and an inviting venue for our local community.

Colby also continues to explore how it can lead the way nationally and globally in liberal arts education. This includes leadership in environmental science and fostering an intellectual culture that supports deep engagement with learning, the exploration of challenging issues from multiple perspectives, and freedom of inquiry and expression.

As we embark on these amazing endeavors, I keep coming back to my primary role as chair of the Alumni Council—engaging you, all 21,000-plus alumni, and finding ways for you to stay connected or reconnect with Colby, no matter how long you’ve been away.

**Reconnect with the College.** If you live near or find yourself in Washington, D.C., New York, Boston, Portland, or Waterville, there’s often a Colby event happening. Events across the globe are happening on a regular basis, check our [current schedule online](#).

**Volunteer for Colby.** There are lots of ways to be involved with Colby. Our newest volunteer opportunity is a partnership with Admissions to help recruit the best students across the country and around the globe to Colby. We are particularly focused this year on ensuring that after a student is accepted as a member of the Class of 2021, we as alumni can share our love for alma mater as they decide whether to enroll. If you would like more information about helping with this initiative, please email [Nikki Jacobson ’12](mailto:), senior assistant director of admissions.

**Leverage Social Media With Colby**

Last year we started [a blog](#) about Colby alumni and all the great things they are doing. If you know a Colby story we should feature let us know. We’re expanding ways to get the word out about Colby beyond the blog by piloting a new social media ambassador program. Right now we’re working on what this commitment looks like and how to roll it out. If you are interested in helping in this early stage or want to be on a list for the eventual full roll out, contact [Dan Olds](mailto:), director of alumni programs.
Support Colby. Contributions to Colby can make an immediate impact to current students. This is another fantastic way to simply feel good about helping the College. I am proud of giving to Colby for so many consecutive years. Make your gift to the Colby Fund today.

There’s momentum at Colby. It’s a momentum unlike anything we’ve seen since the College moved from downtown Waterville to Mayflower Hill. It’s momentum that will take this institution we know and love and ensure its success for the next 100 years and beyond. It’s exciting, it’s inspiring, it’s amazing, and we want you to be a part of it!

Colby is waiting for you to become involved. #Colbyfor4ColbyforLife

Warmest Regards,
Dave Epstein ’86
Chair, Alumni Council