

Hello Graduation Pledgers,

Welcome back to a new academic year! Hopefully you've had a wonderful summer and are ready for a great year. My name is Steve Masters and I am the new coordinator of the Graduation Pledge Alliance, following in the steps of Zach Burton and Neil Wollman. I am a recent graduate of Elizabethtown College (PA) where I studied religion, focusing on religious ethics and religion and ecology, and co-coordinated a pledge campaign my senior year. I look forward to this upcoming year and its many opportunities.

There are several announcements and reminders for our first update:

- **20th Anniversary of the Graduation Pledge!** It may be hard to believe, but the Graduation Pledge started 20 years ago at Humboldt State University. We would like to thank all those who have supported the GPA throughout the years. We have some special activities planned to celebrate the 20th anniversary this year, including the one below.
- **Ignite: Lighting the Passion Within Leadership Conference at Humboldt!** You're invited to join us October 4-7, 2007 at Humboldt State University for *Ignite: Lighting the Passion Within*. The conference will focus on student leadership in social and environmental responsibility and feature keynote speakers, hands-on learning projects, and celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Graduation Pledge. For more information about the conference, visit <http://studentaffairs.humboldt.edu/leadership/> or contact Chris DeHart at cpd7001@humboldt.edu.
- **GPA Headquarters relocated to Bentley College:** After 10 years at Manchester College, the Graduation Pledge Alliance has now moved to Bentley College in Waltham, MA. The GPA will be housed in the Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility (BAESR) under the direction of Tony Buono. Bentley will serve as a great home for the GPA, providing many resources to make this one of our most successful years ever. For more regarding the Bentley Alliance for Ethics and Social Responsibility, visit <http://www.bentley.edu/alliance/index.cfm>.
- **Year-end Reports for 2006-07:** Thank you to those who have already submitted a report for the 06-07 school year. For those of you who have not submitted a report yet, please do! Even if nothing happened at your school, please submit a report. Visit <http://www.manchester.edu/Common/pledge/gradpledge.htm> to file a report. Thanks!
- **Start Now on Your 2007-08 Graduation Pledge campaign:** It is never too early to start planning for your Pledge campaign. Visit http://www.graduationpledge.org/GPA_at_your%20school.html for ideas and suggestions on how you can start your pledge campaign this semester.

Good Luck!

Steve