The 2009 Alumni Medalists

Jacqueline Anne Bello, MD FACR P&S’80 began her Columbia affiliation in 1954 at birth, in the Harkness Pavilion. As Director of Neuroradiology at Montefiore Medical Center and Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Dr. Bello is the immediate past president of the N. Y. State Radiological Society and the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons Alumni Association. She serves as Class Chair for P&S ’80, and in 2009 will be awarded the gold medal for meritorious service to the P&S Alumni Association. Her father, Edward T. Bello MD P&S’49 celebrates his 60th anniversary this year. With her husband, Peter W. Carmel MD DMedSci’70, Jacqueline has established the Edward T. Bello MD Listening Award. Currently in its tenth year, it is awarded annually to a graduating P&S student. Carmel’s son, Jason, MD P&S’03 PhD, and his wife, Amanda Stein Carmel, MD’04 continue the P&S tradition. A family total of 6 grandchildren (under two) currently await their “placement” within the Columbia system!

Margarita S. “Ari” Brose’84BC served as President of the Alumnae Association of Barnard College ’01–’04. A Barnard Trustee from ’01–’05, she chaired its Audit Committee for 3 years. She was Careers Chair on the AABC Board and was also a class officer. A cross-country/track and field alumna, Ms. Brose, known on campus as “Ari,” was a member of the selection committee for the 2008 Athletics Hall of Fame inductees and served on the Steering Committee celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Barnard-Columbia Athletic Consortium. As part of that celebration she was selected one of the “25 Most Influential Alumnae.” Her endowed scholarship at Barnard supports varsity athletes. Ms. Brose, a financial services consultant, earned a JD from The George Washington University, where she served a term as an alumni trustee, and an MBA from The Wharton School. She is delighted her niece Chelsea is Barnard ’12.

Stephen H. Case ’64CC,’68LAW, has been a Columbia Trustee since 1997 where he was chair of the audit committee. He was proud to serve as the first chair of the Columbia Alumni Association for two years. He graduated from Columbia College in 1964 and Columbia Law School in 1968. Starting in 1968, he worked for Davis Polk & Wardwell, until he retired as a partner in 2004. Then, he became Managing Director and General Counsel of Emerald Development Managers LP, a New York-based concern, currently focused on opportunities in Northern Ireland. He is married to Margaret Ayres, the father of two sons, the stepfather of one stepson and one stepdaughter and the fortunate grandfather of five really swell kids: Anguel Case, 9; Charlie Edmonds, 5; Samuel Case, 4; Kathryn Edmonds, 2; and Theron Case, 2.
Helen Coleman Evarts ’70GS is currently a docent for high school and adult groups at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and is on several boards in NYC and Maine. She was a member of the high school history faculty of the Nightingale-Bamford School for 17 years, and was a volunteer assistant to Dean Aaron Warner of the School of General Studies, where she advised women over 29 who were returning to school. Ms. Evarts graduated Magna Cum Laude with Honors in History and Phi Beta Kappa. She went on to help institute the Friends of General Studies, a group committed to raising scholarship funds and to make the School better known both in New York City and on the campus. She is on the Advisory Board of the School, and received the School’s Owl Award in 2000. She has been married to William M. Evarts for 61 years. They have three daughters, Holly, Kate, and Alice, and three grandchildren.

Lois A. Jackson, D.D.S, ’73BC, ’77CDM, ’80CDM is a pediatric dentist practicing in New York City and an Associate Clinical Professor at CDM. She is the immediate past president of the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine Alumni Association and is a member of its Executive Board. During her time in office, she strive to create a greater sense of community between students and alumni through mentoring and social events designed to encourage alumni participation after graduation. She has been a personal mentor to Barnard and CDM students as they seek to shape their careers in practice, research, and academics. Dr. Jackson was a member of the Alumni Trustee Nominating Committee and a past member of the CDM Admissions Committee. She currently serves on the Dean’s Advisory Council and the Subcommittee on Global Initiatives which is charged to make recommendations for incorporating public health experiences in the dental school curriculum.

James Leitner ’77 MIA, manages absolute return portfolios at Falcon Management Corporation. He grew up in Germany and Turkey and graduated from Yale with a BA in economics with an emphasis on Russia and Eastern Europe. He earned his MIA at SIPA specializing in International Finance and Russian Studies and a JD from Fordham University Law School. Prior to Falcon, he worked as an FX trader at Morgan Guaranty, chief dealer at Bank of America International, Vice President for proprietary trading at Shearson Lehman, and Managing Director at Bankers Trust. He is a member of the Yale Investment Committee and a Fellow of Pierson College. A member of the Dean’s Council of the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia and a member of the Manhattanville Ad Hoc Committee, he is particularly engaged in Columbia’s international efforts. He serves on the advisory board of the Leitner Center for International Law and Justice at Fordham University Law School.
Katharina Otto-Bernstein '86CC, '92MFA has been working as an independent filmmaker and author for the past fifteen years. Her production company Film Manufacturers Inc. (FMI), has produced numerous internationally acclaimed film and television productions. Most recently she directed and produced the award winning documentary feature *Absolute Wilson*, which chronicles the life of America’s leading theater artist Robert Wilson. She is also the author of *Absolute Wilson – The Biography*. Committed to excellence in Arts Education Mrs. Otto-Bernstein has served on the Dean’s Council of the School of the Arts since 1999 and established the FMI Fellowships in screenwriting and directing in 2000. She is married to art dealer Nathan A. Bernstein. Together they have two wonderful and talented sons, Nicholas and Jonathan. She is very happy to see her stepson Martin, GS '11 enjoying Columbia University as much as she did.

Richard M. Smith, ’69 SIPA (IF),’70 JRN, is Chairman of *Newsweek*. He works closely with the magazine's editor and CEO as senior adviser on all editorial, business, and media industry issues. Smith joined *Newsweek* on a four-week writing tryout in 1970 and went on to lead the magazine as editor-in-chief from 1984 to 2007 and CEO from 1991 until the same year. He is a former chairman of the Magazine Publishers of America and in 2002 received the magazine industry's highest honor, the Henry Johnson Fisher Award for Lifetime Achievement. Smith was a member of President Bollinger’s task force on re-thinking journalism education and has been a member of the Journalism School’s Board of Visitors for more than 15 years. He is married to Dr. Soon-Young Yoon and the father of Scott, Song-Mee and Anna, CC, ’95.

George L. Stern ’58CC, ’59SEAS has spent 50 years in railroad transportation including being President of two railroads. During his extensive career, Mr. Stern has been a frequent speaker, lecturer, and author. Mr. Stern has continued his commitment to SEAS where, as an undergraduate, he was editor-in-chief of its engineering magazine and president of student council. He has visited high schools and interviewed students ever since graduation and has been general chairman of his class reunion for nearly 30 years. He served several years on the Engineering Council including two years as president. He has a twin brother Carl ’58CC ’59JRN.

George L. Van Amson ’74 CC, a Managing Director with Morgan Stanley, is a University Trustee Emeritus and current Vice Chair of the Columbia Alumni Association. Active in alumni and community affairs, he serves on the Columbia Campaigns for athletics and undergraduate excellence, the board of directors of Community Impact, the Manhattanville Committee and has served as a member of the College Board of Visitors. In 1994, Mr. Van Amson established the Black Alumni Scholarship. He is the recipient of the 2000 John Jay Award, 2003 Alumni of Color Heritage Award and 2004 Community Impact –Making a Difference Award. A 30-year veteran of Wall Street, Mr. Van Amson earned his BA in Economics from the College where he lettered in varsity football and MBA with 2nd year honors from Harvard Business School. He and his wife Wendy PH’83 have three children: Schuyler, Victoria, and Alexandra who entered the Columbia College Class of 2013 this fall.