2014 Alumni Medalists

Mitchell Freinberg ’73CC, ’77BUS, P: ’10CC has been head of the Alumni Representative Committee (ARC) in the UK for the past 23 years. During that time his objective has been to raise the profile of Columbia College and SEAS among secondary schools and to encourage the country’s highest caliber and most interesting students to apply to Columbia. To do so, he regularly visits schools throughout Britain—often times with officials of the Admissions Office—in order to meet with prospective applicants and to build interest in the undergraduate programs. With responsibility for the interviewing process, Freinberg has encouraged Columbia graduates in the UK to join the ARC in order to provide alumni interviews to as many UK applicants as possible. During his tenure, the number of UK applicants has risen from a handful to over 325 and ARC membership has grown from 8 to 76. Freinberg has been an investment banker in London since 1983 and is a founder and Chairman of Noventus Partners, a corporate finance advisory firm. In addition, he serves as a Governor of Norland Place, an independent primary school in Kensington. As an undergraduate, he was treasurer of Blue Key, an editor of the Columbian and a founder of the Heeltap Reunion.

The Hon. Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr. ’78CC, after earning his B.A. in history from Columbia College in 1978, Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr. attended Harvard Law School, graduating in 1981. Currently a federal appellate judge sitting in Newark, N.J., Judge Greenaway’s legal career has included experience in a law firm, as a law clerk to a federal judge, as an Assistant United States Attorney in New Jersey, as in-house counsel for Johnson & Johnson, and as a federal district judge. Judge Greenaway is a member of the Columbia Board of Trustees, Chair Emeritus of the Columbia College Black Alumni Council, as well as former secretary of the Columbia College Alumni Association. He also is a member of the American, National, and Garden State Bar Associations. Judge Greenaway served as an adjunct professor at Columbia College as well as at Rutgers School of Law in Newark. Currently, he is an adjunct professor at Cardozo School of Law. Among the many honors and awards he has received, Judge Greenaway was the 1997 recipient of the Columbia University Medal of Excellence, and a 2003 recipient of Columbia’s John Jay Award. In 1998, Judge Greenaway delivered the Class Day address at Columbia College’s commencement.

K. Daniel Libby ’82SEAS, ’84SEAS, P: ’18CC began his alumni engagement in the mid-1980s interviewing high school applicants for the Alumni Representative Committee (ARC) and continues to do so. He is former President of the Columbia Engineering Alumni Association (CEAA) where he commissioned the Samuel Johnson Medal and serves today as Chair of its Nominating Committee. He served on the Founding Committee of the Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) in 2005 and has been a member of its Board of Managers since that time. He is a University Senator since 2009 where he co-chairs its Alumni Relations Committee and serves on its Budget Review Committee. Mr. Libby has spent his career on Wall Street in roles progressing from research to trading and portfolio management. He began his career at Goldman Sachs & Co and has held senior positions at Nomura, IBM Pension, and BlackRock Inc. Mr. Libby is a principal for an alternative asset management company, and has successfully managed private investment funds in the hedge fund community for the past 10 years. Mr. Libby is the proud father of a son entering Columbia College in the fall of 2014.
Philippa Feldman Portnoy '86BC, '90BUS is on the Columbia Alumni Association Board and is the Vice Chair of the CAA Arts Access Committee. As an undergraduate, she was the captain of the Women’s tennis team and has remained active in Columbia Athletics through the Varsity C Club. She was the first female Varsity C Club president, the first female recipient of the Varsity C Alumni Award and was honored as one of Columbia’s most influential athletic alumnae at the Athletic Consortium Silver Anniversary. She is a co-founder of the Women’s Leadership Council for Athletics. She remains active at Barnard as a founding member of the Athena Center for Leadership Studies and has served on the Barnard Scholarship Dinner Committee. Philippa ran the Latin American Aviation Finance Group at Citigroup before leaving in 2000 to have a family. Philippa and her husband Larry live in New York City. They have 12-year old triplet boys who love Roar-ee and enthusiastically follow Columbia Athletics.

Donald O. Quest, MD ’70PS is a son of the Midwest, born in St. Louis, attended the University of Illinois on a Navy Scholarship, and served in combat as a Naval Aviator aboard the USS Kittyhawk in the Vietnam conflict, prior to matriculating at Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1966. He spent two years as an intern and resident at the Massachusetts General Hospital before returning to the Neurological Institute of New York at the then Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, before joining the faculty at Physicians and Surgeons where he has risen to Professor of Neurological Surgery, served as Vice-Chairman and Acting Chairman of the Department of Neurological Surgery, and has added the responsibilities of Assistant Dean of Students to his duties. He has been an active member of the Physicians and Surgeons Alumni Association for many years and has served as its president. “In large measure P&S and Columbia have made me what I am. I have been able to fulfill my dream of becoming a doctor, serve my patients, and help lead my department and the medical school in becoming the best that it can be. I am most impressed, even amazed, at the breadth and depth of excellence that makes up the essence of Columbia and am grateful and proud to be a part of it.”

Sabin C. Streeter ’67BUS retired in 1997 from Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette Securities Corporation as a managing director and member of the firm’s commitment committee after 30 years in the investment banking industry. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Middlebury College in 1963, where he served as a Trustee. Streeter, a Beta Gamma Sigma graduate of Columbia Business School, presently serves on the Board of Overseers, is a director of the School’s Eugene M. Lang Entrepreneurship Initiative Fund, and co-chaired the Warren Hall building campaign. Since returning to Columbia Business School, Streeter has been a dedicated Executive in Residence, advising and mentoring more than 3,000 MBA students and graduates on their career opportunities. As an Adjunct Professor, he has actively participated in the classroom teaching classes in finance and leadership. Streeter is a forceful and enthusiastic advocate for student startup ventures in the Entrepreneurship Program. He and his wife, Beverley, live in Chappaqua, New York and have three sons and four grandchildren. Four members of Streeter’s family have Columbia degrees: Sabin Streeter Jr., ’96SOA, Krista Whetstone ’95SOA, Gordon Streeter ’99P&S, and Rebecca Petrush ’94CC, ’01P&S.
Fred Strype '02SOA is an award-winning screenwriter and filmmaker whose work has been screened and honored internationally. He is a tenured professor at Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, NY, where he heads their Filmmaking, Screenwriting & Media Arts Program. Strype served on the faculty of the School of the Arts Graduate Film Division where he earned his MFA in 2002. He was appointed Chairman of Columbia’s Alumni Trustee Nominating Committee where he was a member for eight years. He was also on the initial ad hoc committee to help draft the documents that would eventually launch the Columbia Alumni Association. Strype served on the CAA Board from its inception until this year and during his time co-chaired the Events and Programs Committee as well as served on the Governance Committee. He has just joined CAA’s Arts Access Committee this spring. Strype was a long-term lecturer for the Columbia University Speakers Bureau, conducting screenings and talks on Columbia student films for alumni groups across the country. His production company, Raindance Pictures most recently completed the web series, Socially Active, and will release the web feature, Elusive this spring.

Adam Vane '01TC is managing partner of Paragon Global Consulting, LLC. Shortly after earning an M.A. in Organizational Psychology from Teachers College in 2001, he organized a speaker series featuring leading authors and scholars from the field of leadership development. The series, held at the Columbia Club and other venues in New York City is now in its 12th year. In 2003, Vane joined the TC Alumni Council and served in multiple leadership roles, including co-chair of the awards committee. In 2008 he founded one of the first alumni LinkedIn Groups (TC COLA) which serves as a catalyst for online discussion, event announcements, and career opportunities for alumni of TC’s Department of Organization and Leadership. From 2011–13 Vane served as president of the TC Alumni Association and instituted a new “Affiliate Council Member” role, which expanded the reach of the council. He is a member of the Grace Dodge and John Dewey Societies and lives with his wife Kathleen in New York City.

Linda A. Winslow ’67JRN has served on the Journalism School's Board of Visitors since 2007 and received the School's Outstanding Alumni Award in that same year. She recently chaired a BOV task force that explored opportunities for creating a cultural diversity center at the School. She has sponsored many annual Dean's Fund scholarships and, since attaining a senior staff position with MacNeil/Lehrer Productions in 1983, has recommended, mentored, or hired scores of students and graduates of the Journalism School. She is now the Executive Producer of PBS Newshour with Gwen Ifill and Judy Woodruff, a nightly one hour news broadcast distributed on public television, which she helped create. Linda is the daughter of two Columbia alumni: Gyda Jensen Winslow, '42BC, and Edgar Willard Winslow, '42CC. Her paternal grandfather, William S. Winslow, was also a graduate of Columbia College.

Virginia Bloedel Wright '51BC came to Barnard College in 1949 as a transfer student from the University of British Columbia. She majored in art history and was lucky enough to take courses with Julius Held at Barnard and Meyer Shapiro at Columbia. Those studies established her lifetime interest in art. After graduating in 1951, Ms. Wright worked in the Sidney Janis Gallery in New York. In 1955 she and her husband moved with their children to Seattle, where she became very active with the Seattle Art Museum. In 1992 Ms. Wright joined the Barnard Board of Trustees and was active until 2003, chairing the Endowment Campaign from 1998-2000. She currently serves as a Trustee Emerita.