



## 20/20 Hindsight: Ask MGO

An update of *The MacDo Book*, with thanks to Mary Gwen Owen, the arbiter of the social graces at Macalester.

Dear Ms. Owen,

*While I am intrigued by the idea of returning to my alma mater, I am also afraid I might be disappointed by too many changes to the beautiful campus I enjoyed in my youth. I have heard that the student union was replaced, and the library is no longer a library. What other dastardly things have been done to the campus I loved?*

Signed,  
A Romantic

Dear Romantic,

Change is hard, isn't it? Never fear, your campus is alive and well! Yes, things have changed, but I do believe for the better. The old library still stands but is now offices and gathering spaces. The new library is an amazing building, mirroring the beloved Old Main. There are new athletic facilities and a lovely student gathering space. However, in my opinion the best change is to the arts center. Oh, how my wonderful Drama Choristers would have loved the theater spaces. I get chills thinking about orators up on the catwalks perhaps! A campus tour will make you proud of the place you called home for four years.

Lovingly,  
Mary Gwen Owen

Mon. thru Fri. 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Sat. 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**DuBau's**  
**dress shop**  
1682  
GRAND AVE.  
PHONE  
698-3321

# MAC HALF CENTURY

## Celebrated Author Returns to Campus

Tim O'Brien '68 will join us for Reunion weekend and will conduct an all-campus discussion of his much-acclaimed new work, *Dad's Maybe Book*. Another good reason to come back for our 50th!

## classifieds

**LOST:** Keys and lighter. No Exit. Keys have peace symbol keychain. Zippo Grateful Dead bear. Sentimental value. Dayton 224.

**MISSING:** 3 much played and cherished LPs: Richie Havens, FeverTree, and Ian & Sylvia! No questions! Return to Wally Hall 125.



*Hit the road to  
our 50th Reunion,  
June 5–7, 2020!*

## Jump On the Website!

Friends, the Class of 1970 has a great way to connect!  
Visit [macalester.edu/reunion/50yearreunion](http://macalester.edu/reunion/50yearreunion) and you're there!

You will find links to the following:

- Classmate updates
- SWAP/International blog
- Show & tell
- Memorials
- Where have you been? (photo sharing page)

New news is posted all the time so check back for your friends' updates and program additions. It's shaping up to be a wonderful weekend! Registration is less than two months away! Be there or be square!

## More Gift Committee Q&A: Reunion Giving

**Q:** What if something happens in the future and I need to change my planned gift?

**A:** We all recognize that circumstances change. First, many gifts can be structured to minimize the impact that a change would have, such as gifting a percentage of an asset, instead of a fixed sum. Second, any will and most trusts can be revised to accommodate future events. In fact, many advisors suggest that persons our age revisit their estate planning at least every five years.

**Q:** Is there a way for me to continue to receive income from my asset during my lifetime and also benefit Mac after my passing?

**A:** You have been doing your homework! You can use a charitable gift annuity, or charitable remainder trust, to receive lifetime payments, often at an advantageous rate, with the remainder to provide support for Mac in the future. You may also receive tax advantages now.

**Q:** Can my planned gift to Mac benefit my specific priorities and interests for Mac?

**A:** Absolutely! Your gift can be as individual as your own goals have been. It can be designated for scholarships, research, career development, entrepreneurship, faculty support and a host of other areas.

**Q:** Can my gift to Mac provide me with tax advantages even if I don't itemize deductions?

**A:** Yes! You can save on taxes by directing a portion of the required minimum distribution from your IRA to Mac.

### CLASS OF 1970 GIVING PARTICIPATION

**GOAL:**  
70% Participation

**YTD:**  
36% Participation

**RAMONO'S  
PIZZA  
Carry-out &  
Booth Service  
698-0377  
Snelling at St. Clair**

**KMAC RADIO  
550**

## Liberal Arts Education: Then and Now

Have you wondered how your time at Macalester compares to that of today's students? Rest assured that Macalester is still a liberal arts college. However, as the times have changed, so have the course offerings. Many new areas of study are topics that were not even known to us in 1970. Areas of study in the sciences provide more specific topics within the basics of biology, chemistry, and general science. Studies in English and history have widened the focus to more world communities. A modest breakdown of some of the changes is offered below.

In the sciences, some notable additions are environmental studies, computer science, and neuroscience. Within those majors some concentrations of study include community and global health; food, agriculture, and society; and cognitive science. Geography majors jumped from 8 to 36 students and there are 21 students majoring in the newer area of environmental studies. Biology and chemistry continue to be strong but are now broken into areas of neurobiology and biochemistry as well.

In the humanities, the greatest change is a broadening of topics to encompass more of a world view. History majors are now more specific. Students are offered a wide range of course studies including Asian, American, Middle Eastern and Latin American studies; media and cultural studies; and women's, gender, and sexuality studies. English has dropped from 88 to 30 majors, replaced by more specific courses of study. One interesting tidbit: there was one student who graduated with a major in international studies in 1970, and 42(!) graduates in the same major in 2019. By the time we graduated in 1970, a major in education was no longer possible, but you could get your teaching certificate. With changes in state licensing for teachers, that is no longer possible.

As you can see, Macalester has stayed true to its calling as a liberal arts college. While some of you may regret the loss of such requirements as passing a swimming test or attending convocation, our alma mater has grown with the times. Interim is now gone, but study abroad thrives. International students continue to be a vital part of the student body. Areas of study are global, and concerns about the environment and governmental policy at home and abroad have increased.

Dear Old Macalester, ever the same...

**REUNION JUNE 5-7, 2020**

Look for print and e-newsletters in the coming months with more information about special Reunion programming and activities, and visit [macalester.edu/reunion/50yearreunion](http://macalester.edu/reunion/50yearreunion).

Registration opens in March.

