

Dear 50th Reunion Classmate,

As we have been discussing with classmates and planning this reunion, many of us have talked about the remarkable faculty members who influenced us. Bennington in the 1960's was an extraordinary place, filled with teachers who were (or were to become) seminal figures in the world beyond our small college in Vermont. Yet they took us seriously, treated us like colleagues, and generously gave us their time and attention. Our degree of access to, and the influence of, these teachers was much greater than others may have had at larger schools. We think this moment in history should be documented: a group of committed faculty that created an atmosphere of collegial learning for women who may not have had any such experience previously in their lives.

We are proposing to create a Festschrift, a collection of writings published in honor of scholars, for our faculty, composed of our memories in celebration of their work on our behalf. We are soliciting short essays or other writings that discuss the influence of particular faculty members, whether in the form of anecdotes, as a short memoir or story, or in some other form. We enclose a list of the faculty from 1964 to 1970 as an aid to memory.

We plan to publish this Festschrift along with archival photographs of the faculty, course catalogue listings, and other documents that illuminated our time at the College. One copy will be permanently housed at Crossett Library, a digital copy will be available online, and other copies will be available to all of us who want one. We also plan to give a copy to living faculty members, and to invite those who live nearby to a cocktail party for our class during All-Class Reunion on the night of **Friday, September 27**.

Feel free to write about one teacher, or to write separate entries for as many teachers as you like. There is no minimum or maximum length for an entry, but our hope is to generate material that celebrates the work of individual faculty members across the disciplines. We anticipate that the Festschrift will be organized by faculty member, with each entry credited to the author.

The deadline for entry is **August 15, 2019**. Please send your entry to me at goodmeatbook@gmail.com or to **Kate Holabird '69** at kholabird@gmail.com. You may also mail your entry to:

Alumni Relations
1 College Drive
Bennington, VT 05201

It's an extraordinary thing, to look back after more than fifty years to appreciate, name, and credit our teachers. I hope you will join us in this effort.

With warm best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deborah Shapiro Krasner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Deborah Shapiro Krasner '69 (and the rest of the reunion committee)