Founded in 1951, Westover’s Alumnae Association Board of Governors is a truly effective liaison between the School and over 3,300 alumnae around the world. Working in conjunction with the Alumnae and Development Office, the Governors’ initiatives foster an engaged Alumnae Association as well as strengthen the Westover community. In addition to their work on various committees, every Alumnae Governor is a member of the Westover Fund Committee and works year round to raise awareness of the importance of the Westover Fund to the School’s immediate operating needs. As a result, the percentage of Westover alumnae supporting the Westover Fund is consistently one of the highest amongst our peer schools.

In addition to fundraising, the Board of Governors help plan Alumnae Weekends each spring and regional alumnae gatherings to strengthen the link between School and alumnae, parents, and friends. The Governance Committee is continually searching for new members to maintain a full Board that reflects our alumnae’s diverse backgrounds and talents. For more information, please e-mail me at npelaez@westoverschool.org.

We look forward to working with our 2017-2018 Board of Governors and thank them for their enthusiastic dedication to Westover!

Nancy Aordkian Pelaez ’86, P’17
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNAE & COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Maura Tansley ’00
JOINED BOARD IN 2010
PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Maura describes herself as being “beyond excited to be able to give back to Westover” by serving as a member of the Alumnae Association Board of Governors. “I attribute so much of who I am today to the experiences I had at Westover and the support the School gave me,” Maura said. “I am honored to be more involved and I look forward to working hard to keep this impressive school in the forefront in all respects.”

Maura worked for five years at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston after her graduation from Simmons College with a B.A. in Arts Administration and French. Following a senior year internship with the museum, Maura was hired as the museum’s Manager of Tours and Visitor Learning Programs. Later Maura was named Administration and Planning Associate, a new post established to oversee the internal operations of the museum.

She graduated Boston University School of Law in 2012. That fall, Maura joined the Committee for Public Counsel Services of Massachusetts and served as a Trial Attorney in the Worcester County Superior Court’s Public Defenders Division.

In July 2017 Maura joined the firm Murphy & Rudolf, LLP where she will practice as a private criminal defense attorney while also still accepting appointments for indigent defendants accused of superior court level offenses.

At Westover, Maura was Second Head of School and Second Head of Overs. Since her graduation, she has been a Class Secretary and has coordinated several alumnae and student events in the Boston area. In 2013, Maura was instrumental in reviving the School’s community service trip to Jackson County, Kentucky (a trip she first made as a student in 1999). She has now been an alumna volunteer for four successive trips to Kentucky. Maura also served as the Commencement Speaker for the Class of 2016’s graduation in June.

A resident of Worcester, Maura loves cooking and spending time with her family in Connecticut. She added, “I always try to have a book to read for pleasure at the end of the day no matter how much legal reading I did that day.”
Dorie Milner Pease ’57  
**JOINED BOARD IN 2012**  
**VICE PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Dorie is a third-generation alumna and a retired occupational therapist who credits Westover “in challenging me towards reaching my career goals as an occupational therapist working in a variety of settings for 45 years.” Dorie added, “I loved Westover as a student, and I am so proud of being asked to serve Westover as a Governor as my mother did. It is wonderful to see the School thriving under the leadership of Julie Faulstich.” Dorie noted, “Music was so important to me at Westover and still is. Sylvia Schumacher [the wife of long-time Art History teacher Joachim Schumacher who taught piano] was a mentor in those days as well as Mrs. Carmen Congdon, our Glee Club Director.” Dorie was a Glee Head and played the “grasshopper,” a small pump reed organ that was stationed in the hallway to help students in Chapel Line stay in tempo with the Chapel organ processional.

A West, Dorie has been a Class Agent for more than 50 years and is a past Reunion Gift Chair. Her alumnae relatives include her grandmother, the late Dorothy Smith Soule, a member of the Class of 1910; her mother, the late Dorothy Soule Milner ’34; her sister, Lillian Milner Smyser ’59; and her cousins Sandra Soule Ashley ’54 and Andrea Soule Graves ’57. After graduating from Westover, Dorie received an A.A.S. in Music from Briarcliff College and a B.S. in Occupational Therapy from Columbia University’s College of Physicians and Surgeons.

A long-time resident of New Canaan, Dorie is relocating to Essex, Connecticut. In addition to her volunteer work on behalf of Westover, Dorie has been active in a variety of music and ministry positions with the Congregational Church of New Canaan, including service as a Stephen Minister and as a volunteer for its Meals on Wheels program. She is President of the American Association of University Women – New Canaan Branch. She has also served as a hospice volunteer for Masonicare Home and Hospice. Dorie is the stepmother of three daughters: Susan, Sarah, and Katrina. Her interests include her grandchildren as well as music, needlepoint, reading, and travel.

Sarah Bliss Seamans ’79, P’09  
**JOINED BOARD IN 2012**  
**SECRETARY/TREASURER, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Like many alumnae, Sarah has experienced Westover over the years as a student, a parent, and as a volunteer. Being asked to join the Alumnae Association Board of Governors, she said, was an exciting honor because “I am now able to support Westover in a new way.”

Over the years, Sarah has been a Class Agent, a Class Secretary, a Reunion Chair, and a volunteer for the Governors, helping with their gift shop and at Alumnae Weekends. A West, Sarah shares Westover ties with her daughter, Holly Seamans ’09; her sister-in-law, Jody Bates Bliss ’81; and her niece, Courtney Bliss ’14.

A resident of Newbury, MA, Sarah works as a library assistant for the Amesbury Public Library. She holds a B.A. in Developmental Psychology from Pine Manor College.

In addition to their daughter, Holly, Sarah and her husband, John, are also the parents of a son, Daniel. Sarah is a team captain and committee member for an American Cancer Society Relay for Life team since 2008. In May 2015 Sarah was elected Secretary to the Board of Directors for the NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Northeast Essex Affiliate. Her other interests include reading, walking, gardening, cooking, yoga, and Red Sox baseball.

Elizabeth Coffin ’92  
**JOINED BOARD IN 2012**  
**GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Lizzie is one of those alumnae for whom Westover was not just their high school but also their home. As the daughter of long-time English teacher Bruce Coffin and his wife, Maria, Lizzie grew up at the School. As a student, Lizzie was First Head of Owers during her junior year and Third Head of School during her senior year. After Westover, Lizzie graduated with a B.A. in Anthropology from Grinnell College and received her Master’s in Social Work from the Hunter College School of Social Work.

A resident of Brooklyn, New York, Lizzie is the co-founder of and social worker for Jamaica Children’s School in Jamaica, Queens, and is a consultant for charter schools in New York City.

“I’m so honored and happy to have the opportunity to serve Westover in this way,” she said, “and to deepen my connection to the School and its alumnae.” She has served as a Class Agent.
Lizzie has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity International in Honduras and for Kibera School for Girls in Kenya. She enjoys travel, music, reading, Latin dancing, and exploring New York City.

**Victoria Viera ’00**
**Joined Board in 2014**
**Westover Fund Committee Chair, Executive Committee**

Vicki is an Account Director for Lautman Maska Neill & Company, a fundraising consulting firm based in Washington, DC. Vicki manages the direct marketing programs for Heifer International, Human Rights Campaign, and the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. Before joining Lautman Maska Neill & Company, Vicki also worked as a Development Associate and Database Administrator at The Calhoun School in Manhattan.

A proud West, Vicki has served as a Class Agent for Westover since her graduation in 2000. “It may sound trite,” Vicki said, “but next to my family, Westover has truly been the greatest influence in my life. It challenged me in ways that I never imagined, instilled in me a sense of service to my community, and filled my life with friendships that will last a lifetime. As a member of the Board of Governors, I’m honored to do whatever I can to ensure that Westover remains a vibrant and thriving place for future generations.”

Vicki holds a B.S.M. in Marketing and a B.A. in Spanish from Tulane University. She resides in New Orleans, Louisiana.

**Molly Walker Allen ’85**
**Joined Board in 2017**

“Westover gave me so much during my time there,” Molly said. “I’m excited to be able to give something back to the School that means so much to me.” While she has remained connected to Westover over the years, Molly said she is “looking forward to spending more time there as seeing firsthand all of the exciting things going on at the School.”

A West, Molly is the daughter of Mary Maier Walker ’54. She is a past Class Agent and has served as a Reunion Chair for the Class of 1985.

Molly holds a B.A. in Journalism from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, as well as an associate’s degree in Interior Design from Harrington College of Design. Molly serves on boards for Friends of Art Milwaukee, the University School of Milwaukee Parents Association, the Antiquarian Society of Wisconsin, and the Wildcat Booster Club. She also has volunteered as the Gala Chair for Prevent Blindness Wisconsin, serves on the North Shore Congregational Church Deaconite Board, and is active in the Junior League of Milwaukee. She enjoys antiquing, needlepoint, paddle tennis, and tennis.

A resident of Fox Point, Wisconsin, Molly is the mother of four children – Henry, Karlie, Gordon, and William. “Selfishly, I’ll be happy to have another reason to visit Connecticut,” she added. “I have twin boys at Avon Old Farms, so I will get to see more of them.”

**Greta Atchinson ’02**
**Joined Board in 2016**

Greta says she is the woman she is today because of her experiences at Westover. “Westover profoundly shaped who I have become,” Greta said, “and it is a privilege to be able to serve and connect with others who had this unique, rigorous educational experience. From the moment I walked through the green front door, Westover felt like the right place for me; it was as though I had found a home. Westover allowed me to explore my interests, instilled me the discipline to study, inspired me to serve others, and introduced me to friends for life. I am honored and thrilled to be serving on the Board of Governors and to be able to share my enthusiasm for Westover with others.”

Greta is an estate planning and elder law attorney with the firm of Dennis Sullivan & Associates in Wellesley, Massachusetts. She is a member of the Women’s Bar Association and offers pro-bono services to those in need.

Greta holds a B.A. in International Studies, with concentrations in Russian Language and Politics, from the University of Maine – Farmington, and received her law degree from the University of Maine School of Law.

A West, Greta has served as a Class Secretary and is a past Reunion Chair for the Class of 2002.

A native of Maine, Greta currently resides in Newton Highlands, Massachusetts, with her partner, Jay Campbell. She enjoys hiking with her beagles, reading, knitting, and seeing live music.
MARY HELEN VELDE BLACK ‘84  
JOINED BOARD IN 2015

Mary Helen Velde Black ’84 has seen the Westover experience extend well beyond her years at the School. “We are all alumnae for longer than we are students,” Mary Helen said, “and this provides us a lifetime of opportunity to discover and engage with Westover in abundant and evolving ways.

“I believe in the power of the Westover network,” Mary Helen added. “As a Governor, I enjoy meeting and working with alumnae, faculty, staff, and our Head of School, Julie Faulstich, to enhance the ever widening world of Westover.”

A West, Mary Helen served as Class Secretary for more than 20 years and co-chaired her 10th Reunion. At Westover, Mary Helen was on The Wick staff and the Westover Social Committee, sang with the Glee Club and Overtones, and served as Head of the Middlebury Convalescent Home Volunteers.

Mary Helen is the Director of Alumni Clubs & Associations for the Harvard Business School, overseeing the global network of more than 100 alumni clubs in 49 countries. She holds a B.A. in English from Drake University and an M.A. in Political and Organizational Communication from Emerson College.

An active community volunteer, Mary Helen serves on the board of directors of Charlesview, Inc. and is a member of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America. Mary Helen resides in Boston, Massachusetts, with her husband, Lee; they are the parents of two children, Luke and Tripp. Her hobbies and other interests include skiing, hiking, horseback riding, travel, civic affairs, and historic preservation.

LAWA ENGLISH BOOGAERT ’83, P’17  
JOINED BOARD IN 2015

“Westover was an amazing experience for me as a student,” Laura English Boogaert said. It’s an experience she shared with her daughter Callie-Marie, a recent graduate of the Class of 2017.

“Among many things, Westover nurtured my sense of empowerment as a young woman and taught me to follow a passion. I am honored to serve on the Board of Governors,” Laura added. An Over, Laura was Head of Dramat, a member of the Social Committee, a captain of both Varsity Field Hockey and Lacrosse teams, and a member of the Swim team.

Laura is the Director of Volunteer Engagement at the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, where she is responsible for the creation, leadership, and matrix management of an enterprise-wide volunteer program. Prior to this Laura was the Director of Canine Services for Fidelco, where she managed the breeding, volunteer puppy raiser, and kennel departments. Additionally and consistently throughout her non-profit career, Laura is heavily involved with fundraising, event planning, and community outreach. Her business background also includes her being the founder and operator of a health club.

Laura’s volunteer activities include working with Achilles International, where she serves as Vice President on the AchillesCT Board. She is a running guide for disabled athletes competing in events, as well. Laura also serves on the board of The Friends of Heublein Tower, Inc., a preservation society. And, she is a volunteer reader for CRIS radio, Connecticut’s only radio reading service. Her interests include hiking, cycling, stand-up paddle boarding, and reading. Laura and her husband, Erik, reside in Simsbury, Connecticut. In addition to Callie-Marie, they are the parents of a son, Austin.

SUSANNE CHARBONNEAU CARPENTER ’93  
JOINED BOARD IN 2016

Susanne brings to the Alumnae Association Board of Governors two decades of experiencing working in admissions for private schools. She is the Assistant Head of School at Walnut Hill School for the Arts in Natick, Massachusetts.

“Westover has had a lasting impact on my life,” Susanne said. “I credit my four years at Westover for helping me develop the confidence and leadership skills that have shaped the woman I have become. I am honored to serve Westover as a Governor and look forward to working with this dynamic group of alumnae.” A West, Susanne has served as a Class Agent and as a Reunion Chair for the Class of 1993.

Susanne holds a B.A. in Political Science from Wheaton College, and serves as the Wheaton Fund Gift Chair for its Class of 1997. A resident of Belmont, Massachusetts, Susanne and her husband, Peter, are the parents of a daughter, Tess. Susanne enjoys yoga and cooking.
Constance Seely Brown Cliffe ’56, P’81
Joined Board in 2016

A retired registered nurse and a very active community volunteer, Connie is pleased to serve on the Alumnae Association Board of Governors.

“Westover was, and still is, very important to me,” Connie said. “I am happy to do what I can now for the School.” An Over, she is a past Class Agent and served as a reunion chair for the Class of 1956’s 40th Reunion in 1995.

Connie is the mother of two children, Margaret McClellan ’81 and Anthony Pirruccello-McClellan.

Connie worked as a nurse “on and off” for 35 years in a number of specialties, ranging from pediatrics to geriatrics, and in a range of settings: hospitals, doctors’ offices, and nursing homes. For many years, she focused on Medicare services, managing cases and medical records, and making sure patients were receiving appropriate benefits and care. After attending Mount Vernon Junior College, she received her nursing degree from the Newton-Wellesley Hospital School of Nursing in 1960.

A resident of Old Lyme, Connecticut, Connie is a board member for the Old Lyme Visiting Nurse Association, cooks at a local soup kitchen, is a member of the Old Lyme Historical Society and St. John’s Church, and is the past chair for the Estuary Council Seniors, a large regional senior facility that provides Meals on Wheels for a nine-town area and offers a variety of senior activities at its center.

Connie enjoys reading, gardening, cooking, and exercising at the gym.

Linda Williams Cox Heins ’61
Joined Board in 2016

Linda brings to the Board of Governors extensive experience in the field of design.

The owner of the design firm Portfolio2, Linda offers services in publication and book design, branding, photo production, and copywriting. She also serves as an associate with her husband’s architectural firm, Robert Heins Architect.

Earlier in her career, Linda worked in New York City as Art Director for Cosmopolitan Magazine, House & Garden Magazine, and Holiday Magazine. She was also the Promotion and Publicity Director for Atlantic Records. She was the President and founder of Maxelle, owning the Master Franchise for developing Jean Louis David salons in seven Eastern European countries.

An Over, Linda is the daughter of the late Harriette Dimon Williams ’34 and the sister of Marie Williams Maclean ’56; she also has several cousins who are Westover alumnae.

After Westover, Linda attended Briarcliff College and Parsons School of Design, where she studied Graphic Design.

Linda and her husband, Robert, reside in Utica, New York. Between them, they are the parents of ten children – Christian, Topher, Jaime, Kristie, Brooke, Ashley, Missy, Bobby, Mandy, and Alex. In addition to “nurturing 20 (so far) grandchildren,” Linda enjoys historical research and writing, travel, and the restoration of an 1873 Queen Anne house. She serves on the boards for the Central New York Conservancy and the Oneida Historical Society and she volunteers at the Midtown Utica Refugee Center.

As a new member of the Board of Governors, Linda said, “I am looking forward to becoming more involved with a school that gave me so much as a young teenager.”

Lucy Fenn ’94
Joined Board in 2014

Lucy is Counsel for AXA Art Americas Corporation, an art insurance specialist serving private collectors, corporate collections, museums, galleries, private dealers, and auction houses.

A resident of Brooklyn, New York, Lucy holds a B.A. in History from William Smith College and a law degree from New York Law School.

A West, Lucy served as Second Head of the Athletic Association during her senior year at Westover.
Erin Zyko Hussein ’88
Joined Board in 2012

For Erin, her time at Westover was instrumental in shaping her life. “I look back at Westover as four of the best years of my life,” Erin said. “It transformed me from a disorganized, directionless child to a successful college and then law student. Most importantly I learned the value of sisterhood and friendship, and my very best friend today is still the friend I made my freshman year. I am a strong believer in all-girls high schools and am thrilled to have the opportunity to help Westover meet the challenges that may face it over the coming years.”

An Over, Erin served as Editor of The Lantern, Third Head of Glee Club, and Head of Undertones while at Westover. After graduating from Westover, Erin earned a B.A. in English and Comparative Literature, with a concentration in Medieval and Renaissance Studies, before earning a law degree at Columbia Law School.

After working for several years as an associate in a law firm, Erin has become what she describes as “a novelist and stay-at-home mom.” She and her husband, Samir, live in New York City with their daughter, Lila, and son, Kadin.

In addition to volunteering as a past Reunion Co-Chair and Reunion Gift Chair for Westover, Erin serves as a Vice President of the Board for the Stewart House Tenants Corp. and was co-chair of the 2012 Scholarship Benefit Auction for the Grace Church School. Her outside interests include writing, reading, and cooking. Her sister, Eileen Zyko Wolter, is a member of the Class of 1989.

Neil Patterson King ’88
Joined Board in 2016

“I have such a fondness for Westover and what it has given me,” Neil said. “I am happy to have a chance to serve in any way I can.” An Over, she is the daughter of Elise Thayer Patterson ’61 and the grandniece of the late Virginia Hutchinson Gray ’25. In addition to agreeing to serve on the Alumnae Association Board of Governors, Neil has demonstrated her deep commitment to the School as a Class Agent for 25 years. She also has volunteered as both a Reunion Chair and a Reunion Gift Chair for the Class of 1988.

Neil works in human resources and training and holds a B.A. in International Studies and French from Southwestern University. Neil and her husband, Roger, currently reside in Ashburn, Virginia, with their two children, David, 17, and Thayer, 16. Neil serves as a volunteer for several community organizations and in her childrens school and sports activities.

Danielle Stewart Knope ’03
Joined Board in 2014

Danielle is a Manager of Supply Chain Finance at Darden Restaurants. She holds a B.S. in Corporate Finance and Accounting, with minors in International Studies and French, and an M.S. in Finance, both from Bentley University.

As a Westover volunteer, Danielle serves as a Class Secretary, has been a Reunion Chair for her 5th and 10th Reunions, and is a mentor for Westover’s Invest in Girls (IIG) signature program. An Over, she was Day Student Head during her senior year. Her sister Alyssa is a member of the Class of 2005.

Danielle and her husband, Zach, live in Orlando, Florida, where she began working for Darden Restaurants in 2014. Previously, she lived in the Boston area for seven years and worked at Gorton’s Seafood in several positions within the Finance and Accounting departments.

“My experiences at Westover truly shaped who I am today,” Danielle said. “I am proud to support the School as a Governor to ensure the same opportunities are available to other young women for years to come.”

Alicia Lyttle ’94
Joined Board in 2017

“What an honor to be nominated as a Governor for Westover’s Alumnae Association,” Alicia said. “My time at Westover has had the most influence in my life.” Alicia was First Head of School during her senior year and was First Head of Wests during her junior year. As an alumna, she served for many years as a Class Agent.

“The confidence Westover gave me,” Alicia said, “helped me to become a business owner and a positive contributor to society.” She serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Pow Social, which focuses on internet marketing. She is a trainer.
and speaker on social networking, membership sites, affiliate marketing, and the outsourcing needs of internet businesses. She serves on the board for the Local Internet Marketing Professionals Association.

Alicia holds a B.A. in Earth Science and Environmental Studies from Tulane University and an M.S. in Public Health, with a concentration in Environment Health Science, from the Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine.

Alicia resides in Palm Bay, Florida, with her husband, Andrew Reid. She enjoys fishing, swimming, travel, and entrepreneurship.

**HEATHER LUNDY MACDONALD ’85, P’19**

**JOINED BOARD IN 2017**

“Westover has always held a special place in my heart,” Heather said, “and I am fortunate to be able to relive those days through my daughter’s time there now.” Emily, Heather’s daughter, is a member of the Class of 2019. A long-time Secretary for the Class of 1985, Heather has twice served as a Reunion Chair for her class.

An Over, Heather was a member of the Coagess staff, the Outdoor Club, and the Photography Club while at Westover, and she played on the Volleyball and Field Hockey teams.

After Westover, Heather attended Lehigh University, where she earned a B.A. in Art.

Heather and her husband, Robin, reside in Lakewood Ranch, Florida, with Emily and a son, Jack. Heather has worked for Paradise Gallery, the Sarasota County Arts Council, and as a substitute art teacher. She is a volunteer at Girls, Inc. of Sarasota. She enjoys travel, yoga, movies, and art.

**KELLY AGNEW MEDVIGY ’96**

**JOINED BOARD IN 2013**

Kelly currently teaches fifth grade at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Elementary School in Baltimore.

“While at Westover,” Kelly notes, “I knew I was a part of something special, but it was only after I left that I realized the lasting impact that my Westover education would have on my future schooling and life in general.” Speaking of her experience on the Board of Governors, Kelly said, “I am excited to work with such a wonderful group of women to promote Westover and all of its wonderful opportunities!”

Kelly has been active as a volunteer for Westover. She has been an Admission Representative for Westover at school fairs “talking to young women about all of the wonderful reasons to attend Westover.” She also enjoys staying in touch with her classmates as a Class Secretary and has served as a Reunion volunteer for her class.

At Westover, Kelly was an Over, a Lantern editor, an Admission tour guide, a member of Peer Support and the Cooking Club, and she played JV Soccer and Paddle Tennis. Following her graduation, she attended Gettysburg College, receiving a B.A. in Psychology. She later received an M. Ed in Educational Leadership from Loyola University. She has chaired the Gettysburg College Baltimore Alumni Club, spearheading a number of alumni events in the greater Baltimore area. A resident of Catonsville, MD, Kelly and her husband, Brian, are the parents of two sons, Owen, 10, and Grayson, 7.

**PATRICE PECK ’05**

**JOINED BOARD IN 2017**

“I am honored to join this awesome group of women,” Patrice said, “and also contribute to the development and cultivation of a more engaged alumnae of color community network.”

A writer for BuzzFeed, Patrice holds a B.A. in English and Black Studies from Amherst College and an M.A. in Journalism from New York University. Earlier in her career, she was a reporter at BET, reporting on national and global news and writing for the company’s women’s website, B* Real. While pursuing her master’s degree from NYU’s Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute, she was in its Studio 20 program, which focuses on innovation in journalism.

A West, Patrice is the sister of Krysten Peck ’11. She is a volunteer mentor for Westover’s Invest in Girls program, which helps students gain the skills needed in the world of finance. While at Westover, Patrice was a member of the Dance Ensemble and Glee Club, participated in the drama program, and was a volunteer for the Dialtones, students who helped with fundraising for the Alumnae Development Office.

Patrice resides in Brooklyn, New York. She enjoys dance.
ALYSSA SIEFERT ’05  
JOINED BOARD IN 2016

Alyssa credits Westover for helping her achieve success both in college and beyond, and welcomes the opportunity to serve as a member of Alumnae Association Board of Governors. “I absolutely loved Westover while I was there,” Alyssa said, “and the value and lessons of my Westover experience grow each year. I’m tremendously honored to give back to Westover, which has played such an instrumental role in my life and the lives of many people close to me, and I am excited to stay involved in this dynamic and increasingly impressive community.”

An Over, Alyssa is the sister of two alumnae — Jacqueline Siefert ’07 and Angela Siefert ’08 — as well as Madeline, a member of the Class of 2020. A Class Agent and a past Reunion Chair, Alyssa has also served as an Admission volunteer, speaking with prospective families about her Westover experience and how it helped prepare for her college and beyond.

Alyssa is an instructor and the Engineering Director at Yale University’s Center for Biomedical and Interventional Technology. She holds undergraduate degrees in Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, as well as a minor in Professional Writing, from Carnegie Mellon University, and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Yale University.

Alyssa volunteers for a number of Yale programs, serving as Treasurer for Students and Alumni of Yale, as an Engineering Representative for the Yale Graduate Student Association, as a Sustainability Leader for Malone Engineering Center, and as an organizer and leader for Western School Science Nights for the Yale Pathways to Science program. She is a founder of the McDougal Money Mondays Financial Education Programs and Marathon Mentors.

A resident of Madison, Connecticut, Alyssa participates in sprint triathlons and tough mudders, makes pottery, and “loves bunnies.” She added, “I enjoy making a fool of myself learning new things. I devote myself to various projects that integrate science and art, meditation, habit formation, theology, skin care and fashion, respectively.” She maintains a personal blog, thesociablescientist.com, which helps translate “the latest and greatest research insights to level up people’s lives.”

CAROL CAMERON VON KAENEL ’64  
JOINED BOARD IN 2015

“The more I have learned about Westover through the years,” Carol said, “the more impressed I have become. I would very much enjoy being a student here now! I love the diversity on all levels: people, course opportunities, volunteer opportunities.” Carol is impressed with the energy within the School. “It feels like a very happy, productive, supportive place,” she explained. “When I think of Westover now, I think of sunshine and smiling faces.” An Over, Carol is the daughter of the Carol Hall Smith Cameron ’41 and the sister of Anne Trowbridge Cameron ’71.

Carol holds a B.A. in English Literature from Elmira College. She is a Reiki master, an interfaith wedding officiant, and a CoreLight teacher and mentor. She serves on the CoreLight Board of Directors and as a hospice volunteer. She also was a member of the Board of the Northeast Reiki Gathering for 10 years. Carol and her husband, Pierre, reside in Gansevoort, New York. They are the parents of two children, Peter and Anne, and grandparents of Chelcie, Jack, and Noah Graham and Zelan and Mei von Kaenel. Carol’s interests include health and healing, photography, gardening, knitting, sailing, reading, birding, and walking.

SUSAN SILLIMAN TRACY ADDISS ’47  
LIFE GOVERNO

Being a member of the Alumnae Association Board of Governors, Susan says, is “a way of serving the School that served me so well.” In recognition of her work on the board, Susan was named a Life Governor by her fellow Governors in 2012.

An Over, Susan was honored with the 2002 Westover Award for her accomplishments in the field of public health. She served as Commissioner of Health for the State of Connecticut from 1991 to 1995. Previously, she served as Director of the Quinnipiac Valley Health District, was chief of the State Bureau of Health Planning and Resource Allocation, and held other positions with local and district public health departments in Connecticut.

Susan was a founding board member of the Connecticut Health Foundation and of Environment & Human Health, Inc., a non-profit that conducts research into environmental harms to human health. She also serves on the Advisory Board of the Fund for Women and Girls of the Community Foundation of Greater New Haven, and she is on the board of the Watershed Fund, affiliated with the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority. She is a member and past president of the American Public Health Association and the Connecticut Public Health Association, and is a past president of the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health. She is also a member and past president of Quota International of New Haven.
Honored for her work in public health, Susan has received the American Public Health Association’s Health Administration Section Award for Excellence in Public Health Administration, the New England Public Health Association’s Hiscock Award for outstanding contributions to public health, and the Connecticut Public Health Association’s C.-E.A. Winslow Award. She also is a recipient of the Smith College Medal. Susan graduated from Smith College with a B.A. in Music and holds master’s degrees in Public Health and in Urban Studies from Yale. A resident of Branford, CT, Susan has two children, Justus Addiss and Susan Hemingway. Her hobbies include tennis, sailing, duplicate bridge, and rowing.

Maria brought to Westover and to the Board of Governors a unique and invaluable perspective, drawing on her experience as the School’s Archivist from 1975 to 2012 and serving as the School’s Alumnae Director from 1970 to 1978. Over the years, countless alumnae, faculty, and students relied on her treasure trove of Westover lore to provide answers to questions about the School’s founding, customs, personalities, growth, and changes. She devoted countless hours gathering and cataloguing the memorabilia, records, and photographs housed in the School’s Archives. In recognition of Maria’s lifetime of devotion and service, the Governors in May 2011 announced that the collection would be named the Maria Randall Allen ’42 Archives in her honor.

Maria is a Life Governor on the Board, having served as a Governor for more than 30 years. “It has been the greatest of privileges to have been associated with the Board of Governors since 1969,” she said, “seeing how the Board has grown and developed and continually admiring the talents and dedication of its members.”

For her outstanding personal contributions to Westover, Maria was the recipient of the 1986 Westover Award. At the May 1998 Reunion, Maria was awarded the first Maria Allen Volunteer Service Award, which is given to alumnae for their outstanding efforts on behalf of Westover. She co-chaired the School’s 75th anniversary in 1984, has served as a Class Agent, a Class Secretary, and as a volunteer for the Second Century Campaign, and has co-chaired the Class of 1942’s Reunions.

At Westover, Maria served as Head of Wests; she was editor of The Lantern and Class Orator during her senior year. After Westover, Maria received a two-year diploma from Sarah Lawrence.

When not devoting her time to Westover, Maria was active in the Connecticut Secondary School Archivist Association. A resident of Watertown, CT, Maria enjoys history and UConn basketball. She is the mother of Heather Allen ’71 and has two grandchildren.

Abby was named a Life Governor in 2017 in recognition of her long service on the board, it was added to a long list of her volunteer service activities on behalf of Westover.

In addition to serving a number of terms on the Board of Governors, Abby served as a member of the Board of Trustees from 2001 to 2007, and has been a Class Agent, Class Secretary, and a Reunion Chair for the Class of 1961’s 50th Reunion. While on the Board of Trustees, she co-headed the committee responsible for overseeing the renovation of the Louise B. Dillingham Student Activities Center into the School’s refurbished Performing Arts Center.

In volunteering for Westover, Abby has brought “a lifelong commitment to children’s issues, including education. I have wanted to do whatever I can to support Westover and all its staff, faculty, and students.” An Over, Abby is the daughter of the late Fanny Homans Mason ’29 and the niece of the late Helen Homans Gilbert ’31. She holds an A.B. in Drama from Sweet Briar College and a Master’s Degree in Public Health concentrating in Social and Behavioral Sciences and Health Law from Boston University.

From 1984 to 1991 she was a member of the Boston School Committee and chaired its Standing Committee on Special Education and served on its Human Services and Curriculum Instruction Committees. A resident of Peabody, MA, Abby and her husband, Alfred, are the parents of two children, Alfred Jr. and Priscilla, and are the grandparents of two granddaughters “who certainly have enriched our lives.”