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STATE OF VERMONT
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE
April 2, 2020

Dear Sir:

I am a Canadian, but back in 1977, I signed on for graduate school in Vermont, met a professor from Marlboro College, married, and a few years later became Director of Admissions at Marlboro College. My bosses were President Tom Ragle and then the redoubtable Rod Gander. One of my most respected colleagues was Will Wootton.

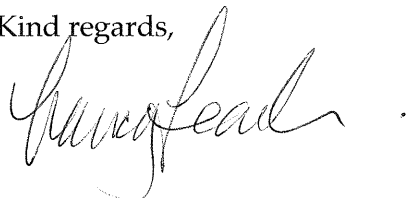
My family and I left Vermont in 1989 so first an acknowledgment: my knowledge of the College is 9 parts heart and only one part current knowledge. Certainly, I can tell you that it was always hard to fill a class at Marlboro College. I was hired when the former director was fired. That July of 1979, only thirty-two students were confirmed for the following September. I think we hit 70-something by Labour Day. This was before we had computers; I called everyone who had ever stepped onto the campus.

The value of marketing notwithstanding, Marlboro has always been about one individual reaching out to another. Why then were efforts of the alumni so determinedly spurned?

I am aware of what is happening with small colleges in the US (Canada is not immune) And I have no issue with organizations and institutions coming to the end of their time, even very special places like Marlboro. I do take issue with lack of transparency, lack of respect for alumni, and a huge decision that has been made, apparently without opportunity for the larger community to participate. These things violate everything that inspired Marlboro College's creation and has been prized and protected by staff, students and faculty ever since. It pains me to write the words. This would never have happened were Ragle, Gander – or Wootton - at the helm.

This is just one voice, and a foreign one at that. But I care deeply about the College, the town of Marlboro, and the wider community. The College may have to fold, but I urge you to do what you can to put a stop to what many see as egregious errors on the part of the current leadership.

Kind regards,



Nancy Leach

