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To Dartmouth Alumni,

I am writing today to strongly support the candidacy of Joe Asch for Dartmouth trustee. Although I finally met Joe, just this past fall, I have known of him for much longer. During my stint as a columnist for "The Dartmouth" I always read Joe's many columns with great interest and was glad for another perspective on life at the College. Truthfully, I felt that Joe was an ally of students when the administration made wrongheaded decisions, and when the Board of Trustees resorted to stacking the deck in order to push its way through.

Seeing Joe as an ally to students is one of the most important things I can share with you. Joe is not running for the Board of Trustees for prestige or influence. Joe is running because he is familiar with the hills of Hanover and the situation of the College. Joe has real ideas on how to improve Dartmouth even in the midst of an enormously challenging financial crisis. Joe has spent the time necessary to understand the challenges we face in this crucial time. He has not garnered this information by talking solely to administrators who are quick to chirp the "all is well" refrain sold by President Wright. Joe has moved to Hanover, audited courses, met with students, read "The Dartmouth," talked with faculty, researched the facts behind the College's numbers, donated his time and money, and, perhaps most importantly, voiced his opinion. "VOX CLAIMANTIS IN DESERTO" is a motto that Joe has lived. He is the voice crying out in the wilderness of Hanover brave enough to be critical of the College, but smart enough to suggest real solutions to the problems he sees. Read more of my thoughts on Joe here:

<http://thedartmouth.com/2009/10/14/opinion/aubart>

The days of Trustees being nothing more than big donors to the College are over as shown in the last four Trustee Elections. That model has contributed to unsustainable business practices that are now fully revealed in the financial crisis. Joe is your opportunity to take a man deeply familiar with the College because of his first-hand experience living in Hanover and auditing classes and place him on the Board. He is your chance to contribute to the righting of the ship. Vote for Joe Asch in the upcoming elections.

Earnestly,

Phil Aubart '10