

wily CONNECTS

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Blue Hills Bank

PROGRAM

February 7, 2019
Dana Hall School



Wily Connects You to How College Works

PRESENTING THE
Kathy and Bill Parent Award

FEATURING
Dan Chambliss
Author of How College Works

wilyCONNECTS SCHOLARS TO A BRIGHT FUTURE

WHAT IS A WILY SCHOLAR?

Wily Scholars are bright and hardworking students who are navigating college on their own. They manage their own academic and financial lives, make their own career and life choices, secure their own year-round housing, and work to provide themselves with food, books, clothing, and other essentials.

Wily Scholars have experienced foster care, homelessness, or parents who are challenged by addiction, incarceration, or mental health issues. Unlike the majority of their peers, they are attending college without a safety net.

WE SUPPORT 34 SCHOLARS AT SEVEN COLLEGES



Boston College, Boston University, Bridgewater State University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Middlebury College, Northeastern University, and UMass Dartmouth (as of 1/2019)

WHAT DOES THE WILY NETWORK DO?

The Wily Network provides a support system from orientation through graduation by connecting Wily Scholars to a caring and consistent coach who will walk by their side, the resources to ensure a college experience commensurate with that of their peers, and other students and volunteers who understand their story and care about them.

HONORING KATHY AND BILL PARENT

Kathy and Bill Parent stand out in the Wily community for their thoughtful engagement in our mission and generous support of our growth. Kathy and Bill joined the Wily community early in our development, participating in every facet of the program. They are gift givers, networkers, donors, amazing ambassadors, and creative problem solvers. Most recently, they supported Wily in becoming part of the Blue Hills Bank community by facilitating the donation of office space in West Roxbury.

The Kathy and Bill Parent Award is given to the Wily Scholar who most exemplifies the spirit and integrity that Kathy and Bill have demonstrated. This year's Scholar exemplifies strength of character and the determination to make the most of what college life has to offer.



Eric S. James, our very first Wily Scholar, was chosen by the Wily Network coaches to receive the **Kathy and Bill Parent Award**. Eric embraces, engages in and contributes to his college community to improve the opportunities available to others to learn, grow, and succeed in school and in life.

Eric is a senior at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, studying criminal justice. He is currently preparing for his law school entrance exams and hopes to attend law school in the fall.



The Wily Network is important to us because we want all young adults to have the support that we were able to provide our

children through their college years. We've watched the Wily Network evolve from an idea into a successful organization that is making a profound impact in the lives of motivated, resilient, deserving Scholars. We believe in Wily's mission and in the leadership team and staff who work incredibly hard to ensure that the mission is fulfilled and the Scholars thrive in their college experience and beyond.

—Kathy and Bill Parent

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

6 pm Registration and Reception

7 pm **Welcome**
Katie Bramley
Board Co-chair

Kathy and Bill Parent Award
Judi Alperin King
Founder and Executive Director

Acceptance of Award
Eric S. James
Wily Scholar

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Judi Alperin King

Keynote Speaker
Dan Chambliss
Author of *How College Works*

Closing Remarks
Katie Bramley

8 pm Dessert

After the program, copies of *How College Works* will be available for purchase (\$20/book).

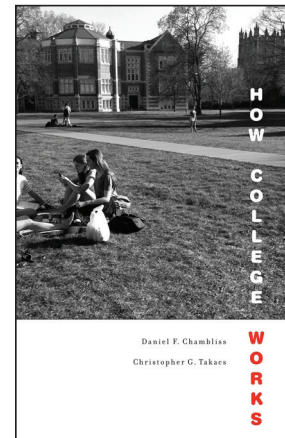
MEET DAN CHAMBLISS



Daniel F. Chambliss is the Eugene M. Tobin Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Hamilton College, and co-author, with his former student Chris Takacs, of *How College Works*. In 1991 Chambliss's book *Champions: The Making of Olympic Swimmers*, was named "Book of the Year" by the U.S. Olympic Committee, and he

has received the American Sociological Association's Theory section prize for his work on organizational excellence. In 1998, he won the ASA's Eliot Freidson prize for his book *Beyond Caring: Hospitals, Nurses, and the Social Organization of Ethics*. He is also co-author, with Russell Schutt, of *Making Sense of the Social World*, a research methods text currently in its fifth edition.

In 2014 Harvard University Press named *How College Works* as winner of the Virginia and Warren Stone Prize as the Press's book of the year on Education and Society. *How College Works* was also chosen as the *Chronicle of Higher Education's* featured Book Club Selection for September-August 2014, named to the *Chronicle's* "Top Ten Books on Teaching" for the year, and listed in the *Washington Post's* "Summer Reading List for College Counselors," as well as being featured in a half-page interview in the *New York Times's* special Education Life section.



How College Works by Dan Chambliss

Constrained by shrinking budgets, can colleges do more to improve the quality of education? And can students get more out of college without paying higher tuition?

How College Works reveals the surprisingly decisive role that personal relationships play in determining a student's collegiate success, and puts forward a set of small, inexpensive inter-

ventions that yield substantial improvements in educational outcomes.

At a liberal arts college in New York, the authors followed a cluster of nearly one hundred students over a span of eight years. The curricular and technological innovations beloved by administrators mattered much less than the professors and peers whom students met, especially early on. At every turning point in students' undergraduate lives, it was the people, not the programs, that proved critical. Great teachers were more important than the topics studied, and even a small number of good friendships—two or three—made a significant difference academically as well as socially.

For most students, college works best when it provides the daily motivation to learn, not just access to information. Improving higher education means focusing on the quality of a student's relationships with mentors and classmates, for when students form the right bonds, they make the most of their education.



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OUR VISION

Establish the Wily Network on college campuses across New England to improve graduation outcomes for students navigating their college careers independently.



OUR MISSION

- To ensure our Scholars have the tools and networks necessary to thrive in four-year residential colleges.
- To empower our Scholars to transition successfully into post-college life and become vibrant members of their communities.

Wily Scholars are promising students who have experienced life challenges such as foster care or homelessness, or whose parents may be dealing with addiction, mental health issues, or incarceration. The Wily Network provides a critical safety net for these Scholars as they navigate college on their own. The Wily program offers weekly coaching, financial assistance, community-building support, and networking opportunities to help them move from surviving to thriving.

Rely on the strength of your pack

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