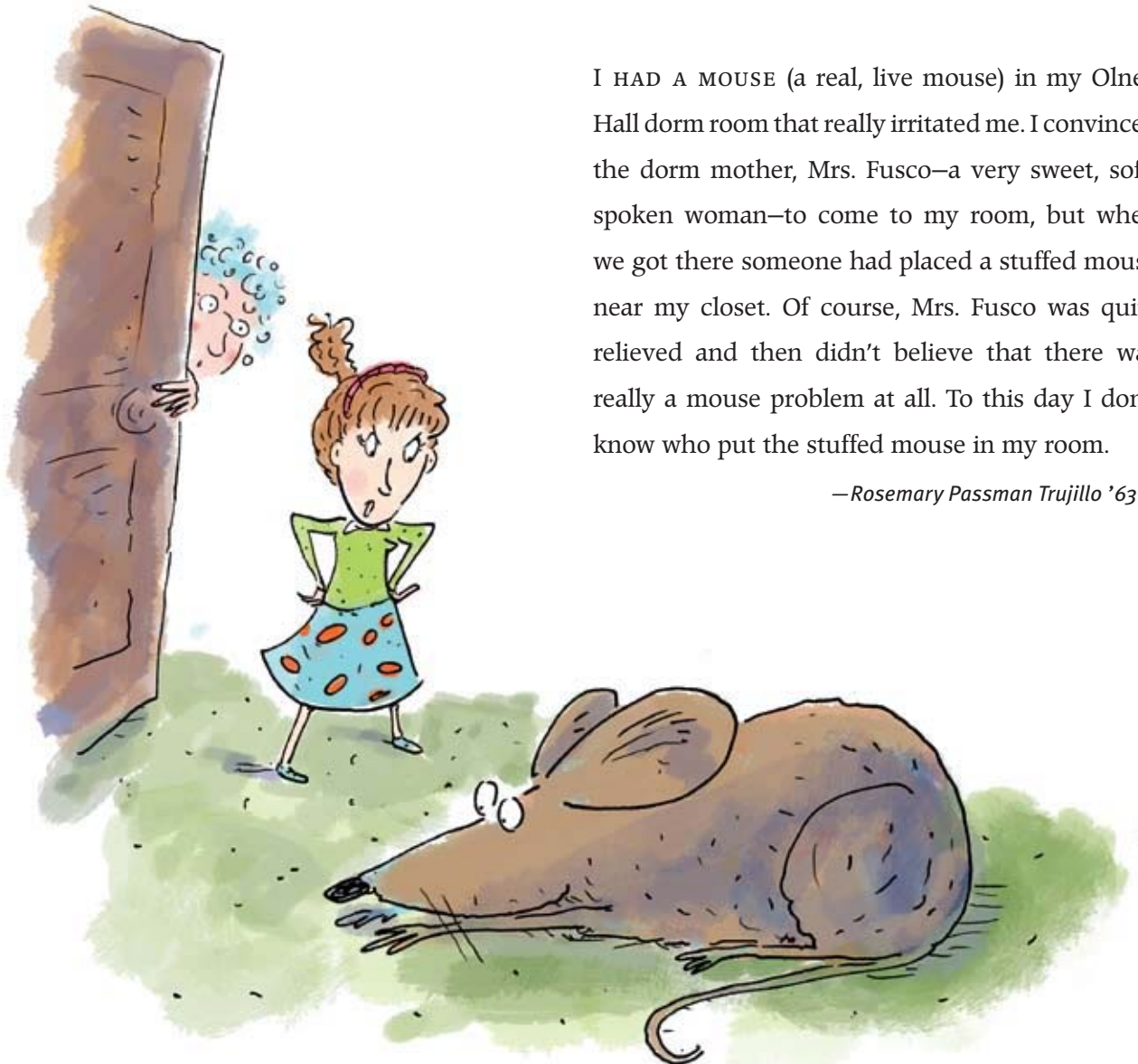


## Sound off!

**Tell us the best prank you pulled— or that was pulled on you.** College life isn't all about serious academic inquiry. Sometimes it's more about serious fun.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY DEBORAH ZEMKE

I HAD A MOUSE (a real, live mouse) in my Olney Hall dorm room that really irritated me. I convinced the dorm mother, Mrs. Fusco—a very sweet, soft-spoken woman—to come to my room, but when we got there someone had placed a stuffed mouse near my closet. Of course, Mrs. Fusco was quite relieved and then didn't believe that there was really a mouse problem at all. To this day I don't know who put the stuffed mouse in my room.

—Rosemary Passman Trujillo '63

Want to be part of the next "Sound off"? Sign up for the @mills email newsletter—just send your email address to [alumnae-relations@mills.edu](mailto:alumnae-relations@mills.edu) along with your full name, any previous name, and class year. Write "@mills" in the subject line of your message. We'll also post the next "Sound off" question on Mills' Facebook page.

I RETURNED TO MY TOP-FLOOR ROOM in Olney Hall one afternoon to discover that my bed was teetering on the wall of the sleeping porch, right above the entrance to the dormitory! It didn't take long to gather friends to help me pull the bed back where it belonged. I was sure I knew who had done it, so I called her brother, and he sent me a picture taken of her when she was a child. I saw to it that the picture was printed in the next edition of the *Mills Weekly* (now the *Campanil*). The perpetrator was my future sister-in-law Aimee Wolff Minkin '43. We have now lived next door to one another for 35 years so you know there were no hard feelings!

—Ann Sulzberger Wolff '42

A FAVORITE OF THE CLASS OF 1952 was ringing the Campanil chimes 52 times and running fast. We also moved all the furniture from the Mills Hall living room to the second floor. Aside from water bagging over the Mills Hall front portico, I think the best was removing bedroom doors (they came up by lifting them off the hinges) and installing them under the victims' mattresses, awaiting discovery when victims finally decided to go to bed after a fruitless search. Good Lord, we were energetic!

—Louise Levis Weiss '52

FOR WHATEVER REASON, a holiday had been cancelled—it might have been Heyday Playday—and classes were to be held as usual. Someone (not me, really!) stole a piece of President Barbara White's letterhead and wrote a memo restoring the holiday and cancelling classes. The typed and signed (forged, of course) memo was taped up on the doors of all the dorms the night before and so everyone went crazy and made plans to stay up late, sleep in, blow off whatever assignments were due.... Administration conceded defeat and we had our holiday.

—Sara McClure '81

WHEN WE CLEANED OUT the storage area in our dorm, Reinhardt Hall, we found an enormous stuffed St. Bernard that we affectionately named "Ho-Bag." A few weeks later, on a warm spring night,



a group of us—including Therese Poncy '87, Karen Simi '89, and Cindy d'Armand '87—enjoyed some "liquid refreshments," then decided to explore the mysteries of the upper floors of Mills Hall, which had been closed since before we arrived on campus. Somehow we managed to pull down the fire escape ladder and climb in through an unlocked window.

At some point, realizing our adventure would be nothing but a memory unless we did something about it, we climbed back down, ran to the dorm, and picked up Ho-Bag. We somehow managed to get him up the ladder in our inebriated state and placed him prominently in the center window of the fourth floor.

—Cheryl Reid-Simons '87

A SMALL ROOM off the entry hallway in Ethel Moore Hall is called the Date Room, because in the old days when a gentleman came to call on a resident, they had to sit together in the date room under the supervision of an adult staff member.

One of my dormmates had a date with a guy who had never been to Mills before, so my friends and I made arrangements with her. My friend Rebecca, a theater major, dressed up in spinsterish clothes, pinned up her hair, and put on some spectacles. When the young man in question showed up he had to meet the "dorm mother" in the Date Room. He and his date sat there for almost half an hour while Rebecca peppered him with questions to determine his suitability. We watched from the next room, trying not to giggle too loudly. After he was given strict admonishments to have her home by 10 and to "act like a gentleman," they were finally allowed to leave. I don't know if he ever had the courage to come back for a second date!

—Stephanie Saad Thompson '88

I ALSO SNUCK INTO Mills Hall's third floor with some friends on a bored night. We donned black outfits, berets, and flashlights, studied the frequency of security patrols, and climbed up the tree and fire escape. Spooky! There was a big stuffed St. Bernard dog in the top floor middle window—his silhouette got all of our adrenalin pumping!

—Stephanie Griffin '91



DURING OUR SENIOR YEAR, we had a publication party for our literary magazine, the *Walrus*. Two of my friends left the reception, taking with them one of the delicious sourdough bread bowls filled with spinach dip. A friend and I decided to "punk" them by sending them a letter on ASMC Academic Board letterhead, stating that they were seen stealing the spinach dip and potentially would not be able to walk the stage during Commencement. They both panicked; one was on the verge of tears. I let them sweat it out for almost 24 hours, then let the cat out of the bag. I endured a couple of their loving expletives, then we all had a huge laugh afterward. Yes, those spinach dips were quite tasty.

—Sonja Piper Dosti '92

**Celebrate  
Commencement**

**May 15, 2010**

Honor Mills' recommitment to  
women's education with Speaker

**NANCY PELOSI**



See page 6 for details

# Mills Quarterly

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## The Three P's: People, Planet, Profit

**The Second Annual Conference  
of the Center for  
Socially Responsible Business**

Lorry I. Lokey Graduate School of Business at Mills College

Friday, April 9, 2010 ✨ 8:45 am–5:00 pm

Business and nonprofit executives, economists, policy makers, scholars, and students are invited to learn how a variety of companies fulfill their commitment to sustain the environments and communities where they do business. Speakers at this free one-day event will discuss the idea of the “Three Ps,” in which a corporation’s success is measured not only by the financial bottom line, but also by its social, ethical, and environmental performance.

Registration is free but space is limited; lunch will be provided in the Student Union.

Please register online by April 8 at [www.acteva.com/go/csrb](http://www.acteva.com/go/csrb). For more information, visit [www.mills.edu/mba/csrb](http://www.mills.edu/mba/csrb), call 510.430.3248, or email [csrb@mills.edu](mailto:csrb@mills.edu).

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2

**1. Mike Hannigan,**  
President and Co-founder,  
Give Something Back

**2. Simran Sethi,**  
Associate Professor,  
University of Kansas  
School of Journalism and  
Mass Communications;  
author of *Ethical Markets:  
Growing the Green  
Economy*



**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Suzanne Fallender,** Director of  
Corporate Social Responsibility  
Strategy and Communications,  
Intel Corporation

