

Spiegel, a 12-year-old seventh-grader, says with a laugh.

IN JULY, the school will move into its own building at Mills College, a 150-year-old women's college a couple of miles away. The two-story stucco structure, which encloses an inviting courtyard, was built in the 1920s as an orphanage for Chinese girls; more recently, it was used as a campus conference center. Fittingly, the building was designed by Julia Morgan.

With a 25-year lease, the institution named in the famous architect's honor won't be moving again anytime soon. Last fall, students celebrated by wrapping the building in ribbon, which DeBare, as president of the school's board, cut during a gala dedication ceremony.

But her work is far from finished. The new building is undergoing \$2.5 million in renovations, many required to bring it into compliance with earthquake codes and accessibility laws. The institution still has no endowment and its oldest alumnae are only in high school. So, between trips to promote her book, DeBare is overseeing an ambitious capital campaign. "There's no quiet phase," she sighs. "The most we ever raised before in one year was \$200,000." To date, they've raised about \$900,000.

Meanwhile, her fourth-grade daughter is more than a year away from applying to the Julia Morgan School. But DeBare says she already feels gratified at knowing others choose to send their children to an institution whose culture she helped shape from its inception, one whose traditions are still evolving. And if she could repeat her own adolescence, she'd make one big change: she'd enroll in a girls' school.

—ANNE STUART

Share and Share Alike

THE Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) has taken a big step toward adding shared interest groups (SIGs) to the list of alumni organizations it serves.

Earlier this year, the HAA board approved a policy enabling the association to support alumni SIGs. "We hope to work with groups such as the Harvard Black Alumni Society and Harvardwood," an entertainment-industry networking group, says Charles Cardillo '91, HAA's

Commencement Week on the Web

For on-line information about Commencement and reunions, visit:

Harvard University Commencement Office (www.commencementoffice.harvard.edu): The official Commencement website includes maps, a schedule, a rain program, and other details about the morning and afternoon exercises.

Harvard Alumni Association Commencement Website (www.haa.harvard.edu/class/html/commencement.html) and **Harvard College Parents Association Website** (www.fas.harvard.edu/~parents/): Both sites contain information on Commencement

week activities for graduating seniors and their families.

Harvard Alumni Association Major Class Reunion Websites

•25th reunion: <http://classes.harvard.edu/college/1979/>

•35th reunion: <http://classes.harvard.edu/college/1969>

•50th reunion: <http://classes.harvard.edu/college/1954>

Radcliffe Office of Alumnae Services (www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/alumnae/reunions/index.php): This site contains a schedule for Radcliffe Day (June 11) and details about Radcliffe reunions.

director of University-wide affairs. "They exist already without our help, but we want to make them feel like they're more a part of Harvard."

Ultimately, the HAA will offer eligible SIGs the same kinds of benefits it now offers College classes and regional alumni clubs: help with operations, membership, and promotions, including website hosting and on-line discussion capability. But first the association must figure out exactly how to apply eligibility criteria, especially regarding political activity.

"Classes convene around a shared experience over a period of time. For clubs, you're gathering people based on regional proximity," Cardillo says. "With SIGs, it's more complicated." That's because, by definition, many SIGs are activist groups. To receive HAA benefits, they must agree to abide by University restrictions on using the Harvard name and logos, and by HAA's policy that the association itself will "remain neutral on all political issues both inside and outside the Harvard community." If SIGs take public positions on any issue, they must make it clear that they don't represent the University or the HAA.

Within the next few months, the HAA will invite a handful of SIGs—for example, the black-alumni and entertainment-industry groups and the Harvard Gay and Lesbian Caucus—to test the policy in a pilot project. Later, the initiative will be extended to other groups as well.

Comings and Goings

HARVARD CLUBS regularly host lectures, seminars, and social gatherings. Following is a partial list of Harvard-affiliated speakers scheduled to speak to local clubs in May. For details, contact local clubs directly, call the Harvard Alumni Association at 617-495-3070, or visit www.haa.harvard.edu.

On May 1, Marshall Goldman, associate director of the Davis Center for Russian Studies, speaks on "The Piratization of Russia" at the Harvard-Radcliffe Club of Maryland. Michael Ignatieff, Carr professor of human rights practice and director of the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Kennedy School (see "Harvard Portrait," March-April 2004, page 64), will be the speaker at the Harvard Club of Toronto's gala centennial dinner on May 11. His topic: "The Lesser Evil: Political Ethics in an Age of Terror." On May 13, Richard Cooper, Boas professor of international economics, addresses the Harvard-Radcliffe Club of Worcester on "Prospects for the World Economy: A Glimpse of 2015." On May 20, David Mitten, Loeb professor of classical art and archaeology and curator of ancient art at the Fogg Museum, discusses "Alexander the Great: Man for All Seasons" at the Triad Harvard-Radcliffe Club of North Carolina. Clowes professor of science Robert Kirshner visits the Harvard-Radcliffe Club of Rhode Island on May 25 to discuss "The Extravagant Universe."