

Waldorf Graduate Research Phase II

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*T*he second phase of the Waldorf graduate study will have finished its collection of data by April 30, 2006, and will begin the analytic phase of the project this spring and summer. We aim to have a preliminary report by the end of this summer. The collection of accurate contact information has been a challenge for this project. While a handful of schools have maintained comprehensive databases on their graduates, the majority of schools have kept, at best, spotty records. This shortcoming has slowed the project considerably and necessitated expanding our contact base to all graduates between 1992 and 2002, in addition to as many contacts as we could find from

preceding years. As of this writing we have sent out more than a thousand requests to participate and received more than 500 responses, yielding sufficient data to enter the analytic phase. Many respondents have appreciated our contacting them and expressed eagerness to participate in the survey. It is too early to comment on the data itself. It is clear that better work needs to be done by most schools in maintaining contact with and nurturing their alumni base. One anecdotal trend we have noticed in this survey is that many Waldorf alumni—and their parents—feel ignored by their schools once they have graduated and moved on in their lives.

