



It is all too easy for a Professor to take charge, set the agenda, produce the syllabus, and then give the grades. Nothing wrong with that, except that the Professor must pay a high price: no reciprocal empathy with any students; no real chance to learn from them.

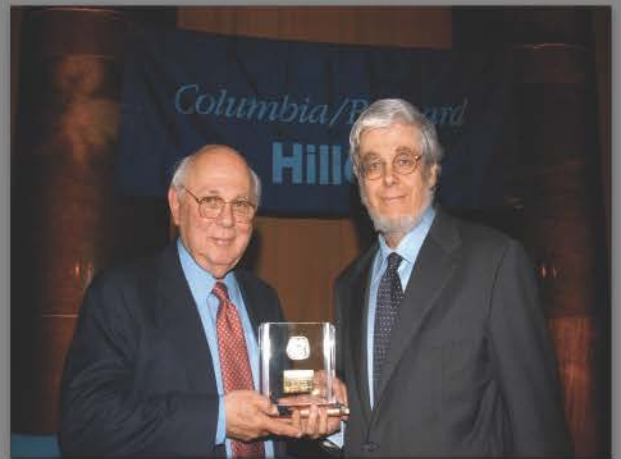
I began the experiment that has become the RCSS more than 15 years ago, when I decided to ask questions that could not be subjected to scientific disproof, and so were not in the realm of the sciences at all. We all know these sorts of questions: why must we die? How do I know the right path?

My work since then has been to construct programs that allow me to be the student of my students, as they ask these sorts of questions. The RCSS has been by far the most successful of these programs, as you will see when you read the material in this new Journal. The Journal, like all the projects described in it, was the creation of a student, in this case the graduating Columbia senior Netana Markovitz. I am happy to have been able to provide guidance and some financial support, but the creative work is all hers.

So too for the other projects described below. Before you read these, there's only one more thing to say. This work to be the student of my students, costs money. I have that money thanks to Harvey Krueger C'51, who passed away this past month. His gift, the Krueger Endowment, assures that the novelty and creativity of students interested in proposing their own projects with an elements of science, an element of service, and an element of subjectivity, shall not perish from this campus.

Thanks, Harvey.

Bob Pollack C'61
Director, RCSS



Mr. Harvey Krueger with Dr. Robert Pollack at the Seixas Award Dinner , 2008
