Brad & Jane Brown P’12 ’15

The Browns live near Boston, where Brad is a senior partner with McKinsey & Co. They are co-chairs of the Connecticut College Parents Council.

Tell me about your lives today.
We’ve lived outside of Boston for 23 years (and are big Boston sports fans). But we also find ourselves spending a lot of time in New York City — Jane (and her three sisters) grew up there, and Brad has his primary office in New York. More simply, our interests at home revolve around our families, our children, and their activities in sports and music. We also enjoy traveling and exploring new places.

How did Isobel and Samantha both choose Connecticut College?
Interestingly, they each arrived at the same answer independently, even though they have very different interests — Izzy is an English major and Sammi is more scientific. Their reasons for choosing Conn were, in the end, quite similar: the beautiful campus, the uniquely inclusive community, the small class sizes, the very down-to-earth student body.

What’s it like for them, being on the same campus?
They don’t run into each other very often, and actually have to schedule time to meet for dinner. They have different interests and activities, and live on opposite ends of campus. Izzy sings with the Conn Chords, for example, and Sammi is considering getting involved in athletics. The school seems to be as small or big as you want it to be, which is great.

Have you started thinking about Izzy’s Commencement?
She’s excited about the different paths open to her, leveraging her Conn experiences. She had a terrific semester abroad last year in London, and then a summer internship in New York City this summer. She’s getting wonderful support from her academic adviser and the career program, CELS, on how to move in a direction that really fits with her values and interests.

What advice do you have for parents?
Get involved! The four years go by very quickly. Explore ways to experience those years more than just by hearing about them through your children. For example, we enjoy getting to campus more frequently for the Parents Council meetings. We have hosted Connecticut College events at our home. We also enjoy speaking to the parents of prospective students who have questions. And lastly, since we are lucky enough to live within driving range, we get to campus to see performances and see what’s going on.

Why do you support the College?
We believe in higher education and Conn is a place where our efforts are really having an impact. It’s a college on the move. President Higdon is setting an energetic course forward, and the College is visibly changing. We feel like we are part of that. Our kids are getting a life-changing education. We couldn’t ask for anything more.

Members of the Parents Council are liaisons between the College and the parent community, and they lead the way when it comes to parent support for the College. For more information, email Brad Brown at brad_brown@mckinsey.com.