

FOR MANY STUDENTS, GRADUATION MEANS A FOND FAREWELL TO A WELL-LOVED CAMPUS, DEAR FRIENDS, AND FAVORITE PROFESSORS. BUT PACE'S SIZE AND COLLEGIAL CULTURE, WHICH MANY GRATEFULLY DESCRIBE AS UNIQUE, KEEPS SUPPORTIVE PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN SOME PROFESSORS AND THEIR FORMER STUDENTS ALIVE AND THRIVING—TO THEIR MUTUAL BENEFIT—FOR YEARS, EVEN DECADES. HERE ARE THE STORIES OF FOUR SUCH PARTNERSHIPS.

Sharing a passion for global entrepreneurship

"I've gotten e-mails from him at three in the morning and wondered—'Does he ever sleep?'"

Students of Professor Bruce Bachenheimer, a high-energy serial entrepreneur who teaches global entrepreneurship, know that's a fairly common experience, says Rumit Mehta '03, a former student who has remained close to his former professor, even a decade after graduation.

Mehta arrived at Pace in 2001 to earn an MBA, and Bachenheimer was one of his professors. Both men, who share a passion for global adventures, had taken unusual and circuitous paths into the classroom where they met.

A trained architect, Mehta had worked for many years in Savannah, GA, before deciding he needed a totally new career, although he was unsure what his next step should be. He chose Pace because of its international focus. Mehta was born in Kenya and grew up in Tanzania, in East Africa, and hoped to use his contacts there for a future business, its exact nature yet to be determined.

Bachenheimer, a clinical professor of Management and director of entrepreneurship at the Lubin School of Business, had trod many successful paths before returning to Pace—where he received

his undergraduate business degree—to share his global business expertise. Among other things, he had worked for the Bank of Tokyo and Westpac, a major Australian bank, then lived aboard his 36-foot sailboat in the Caribbean for a few years. After that he started a teak-importing company based in Annapolis, MD, catering largely to fellow sailors. He attended business school himself at 40 in Australia.

All of which deeply impressed Mehta. "He was fresh off the boat. He's very involved with business. He's very fresh when it comes to content. That's what struck me," he says.

Their growing mutual respect deepened into friendship when Mehta started a specialized tour company in Tanzania. In 2007, four years after graduation, Mehta took a group including his former professor to the East African nation, introducing them to a wide variety of high-level contacts, including businessmen and government officials. He even organized several safaris.

Today, Mehta is the founder and owner of Immersion Journeys, a full-service destination management company that arranges private tours and awareness programs to East and Southern Africa and Ghana. He works with several corporate and academic institutions such as Harvard Business School, Yale School of Management, Pace University, Babson College, and The Africa Channel.

"I think that was the tipping point when we got to know one another as well as we did," recalls Mehta. "We bonded peer-to-

peer then, more than as professor-student."

"Rumit was international and entrepreneurial," says Bachenheimer. "Part of the appeal was his international aspirations and interest."

The two even share a birthday, June 2 (albeit ten years apart), which they've celebrated together.

"Rumit is really detailed and committed to excellence," says Bachenheimer admiringly. "He's very focused on the quality of the experience his company provides and he's someone I know I can count on."

"Sometimes we'll meet, just he and I. I'll ask his thoughts and he'll ask mine," adds Bachenheimer.

The two men look forward to many more years of friendship. "He's definitely someone I would stay in touch with for the rest of my life," says Mehta. "He's my unpaid cheerleader. Whenever I have a problem I need some advice with, I know we can have a glass of wine and figure it out."

A tough love approach for molding marketing students

For Christine Leone '12, who now works in marketing for New York Sports Club, studying with Lubin Clinical Professor of Marketing Paul Kurnit offered an

