Ellen Hunter Gans ’09
2015 CSB Decade Award recipient

Since graduating in 2005, Ellen Hunter Gans ’09 has completed her Master of Arts degree from the University of Southern California and her Master of Science degree from the London School of Economics. She has founded a successful consulting business, traveled much of the world, completed an Ironman triathlon and is a new mother. It has been a busy decade for Ellen. And, frankly, we’re excited she’s agreed to slow down for the weekend to join us for reunion.

Ellen finished her second graduate degree in 2009, just in time for the bottom to fall out of the economy and ruin the job market. But Ellen moved forward and did the best she could with the skills she had. Her desire to gain experience and “feel like a productive member of society” motivated her to begin freelance writing or, in her words, “I hired myself and haven’t looked back since.” That strategy has proven to be incredibly successful for her, and she has continued to march to the beat of her own drum.

While Ellen has gone on to attend and graduate from two other institutions of higher education since her time at CSB, when asked where she went to school, she still replies with “Saint Ben’s.” As a matter of fact, when she was hired for the biggest contract she has ever had, the client stopped reading her resume after seeing she attended Saint Ben’s. “What other school has that?” asks Ellen. “Simply the fact that you attended says so much about who you are.”

Ellen now owns a healthy, growing writing consulting business, writing content for organizations of every variety. Her quick wit and creative spirit have made her an asset to companies looking for an extra hand in the writing department. Then, as if being a young entrepreneur wasn’t a full-time commitment, Ellen has found ways to balance her business with traveling, motherhood and training for races like an Ironman triathlon and the Boston Marathon.

While having a child has helped Ellen realize the importance of spending time with those near and dear to her, it has also motivated her to continue accomplishing her goals. “I want to provide for our son, but I also want him to see as a young boy that women can contribute to the family, financially. It’s important to me that he see that model of a working mom.”

These past 10 years have been filled with milestones for Ellen, and there is no doubt the next 10 are looking just as bright. Motivated by her “big, scary goals,” the sky is the limit for Word Couture Consulting, whether that means expanding her company or even breaking into the publishing industry. Whatever her next big, scary goal might be, there is no doubt that Ellen can accomplish anything to which she sets her mind.