Empowering SAIS leaders to excel in their professional and personal lives, and to promote women around the world

Overview of SWAN

The purpose of the SAIS Women’s Alumni Network (SWAN) is to position SAIS as a leader on the issue of global women's leadership within the international relations community. In order to accomplish this goal, this global network works to identify and equip SAIS leaders with the tools necessary not only to excel in their careers, but to empower women economically around the world. Practically, this means expanding opportunities for the global SAIS community to connect to discuss important foreign policy issues (including the challenges facing women globally), gain the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in international careers, form lasting partnerships, and contribute to women’s leadership through local and global community impact efforts. SWAN consists of hubs in cities around the world (including newly-established major hubs in Washington, D.C., New York and London), publishes quarterly newsletters of its activities and events, and is developing a robust and dynamic online community (visit Facebook and LinkedIn), where members can discuss personal and professional issues that are important to them.

SWAN Programming

Alumni preferences drive the programming in each hub, but activities may include:

- **Panel Discussions and Speaker Events**: Larger events that highlight recent research and developments on issues related to foreign policy, especially those facing women globally, industry-specific updates, tools and strategies to navigate both demanding careers and women’s leadership.

- **Career Advisory & Transition Networks**: Small, regular gatherings of SAIS alumni in similar career fields, where members share experiences, discuss pertinent issues and offer advice. For Career Transitions, members may discuss on-ramping, off-ramping and major changes in location or career.

- **Neighborhood Coffees, Cocktails, Conversations**: Gatherings of SAIS alumni in similar geographic areas to foster personal and professional connections.

- **Extracurricular Activities**: Activities such as “Walk & Talks,” where members meet to explore a new area, learn about a new subject, attend trunk shows or cooking classes, visit museums, etc.

- **Alumni Mentorship Program**: Formal or informal programs connecting current students and young alumni with established women in their fields of interest.

SWAN Community Impact Initiative

A major component of the global network’s mission is the SWAN Community Impact Initiative (SCII). The SCII aims to address one of SWAN’s main objectives: to empower woman leaders around the world. Through local and global efforts, the initiative leverages the knowledge and skills alumni
have gained at SAIS and beyond to provide a meaningful and tangible positive impact on women in communities around the world.

SWAN Leadership

**Founder and Director:** Sara O’Rourke ’13, Associate, McKinsey & Company

**Executive Committee**

Mission Statement: The SWAN Executive Committee will:

- Oversee and maintain SWAN’s Strategic Vision
- Ensure coherence, collaboration, and consistency across SWAN hubs
- Drive collaboration with other initiatives, within SAIS, Johns Hopkins and beyond

Membership:

- **Sara O’Rourke** ’13 (Chair), Founder & Director, SAIS Women’s Alumni Network; Associate, McKinsey & Company
- **Anne Erni** ’88, Head of Human Resources, Bloomberg LP
- **Anne Marie Kelly** ’12, Hub Chair, SWAN DC; Senior Associate, Booz Allen Hamilton
- **Camilla ter Haar** ’07, Hub Chair, SWAN London; Barrister, Five Paper Chambers
- **Carmen Neithammer** ’97, Gender Advisor, Odebrecht S.A.
- **Elizabeth Madigan Jost** ’98, Co-Chair, SAIS NY Alumni Club; Managing Director, CRO for Latin America, Morgan Stanley
- **Flory Wilson** ’04, Hub Chair, SWAN NYC; Director, B Lab
- **Katherine Maloney** ’02, VP, Career Development, SAIS NY Alumni Club; Director, Development and Exempt Organizations, KPMG LLP
- **Kathy Pike** ’83, Member, SAIS Advisory Council; Executive Director, Global Mental Health Program, Columbia University
- **Linda Filardi** ’83, Member, SAIS Advisory Council; Senior Counsel, G.E. Capital Americas
- **Sarah O’Hagan** ’86, Member, SAIS Advisory Council; Board Co-Chair, International Rescue Committee
- **Terri McBride** ’99, Member, SAIS Advisory Council; President, JHU Alumni Association; COO EMEA Organization Practice, McKinsey & Company

**SWAN D.C. Hub**

The SWAN D.C. Hub had its “brainstorming” launch event in December 2013, and a leadership team has been selected. The hub hosted its formal launch event in April 2014.

Leadership:

- Hub Chair
SAIS Women’s Alumni Network (SWAN)
saiswomen@jhu.edu

- Anne Marie Kelly ’12, Senior Associate, Booz Allen Hamilton
  - Career Advisory Networks Committee Co-Leaders
    - Sonia Koshy ’07, Portfolio Manager, Export-Import Bank of the United States
    - Courtney Rickert McCaffrey ’08, Senior Analyst, Comparative Analytics, Eurasia Group
  - Community Impact Committee Co-Leaders
    - Kimberley Roberts ’93, Vice President for Government Affairs, SAIC
    - Niyati Shah ’10, Senior Gender Advisor, USAID
  - Extracurricular Events Committee Leader
    - Natalya Lyoda ’12, Senior Research Analyst, Energy Insight, HIS
    - Dara Iserson ’09, Associate, Overseas Private Investment Corporation

Contact swandchub@gmail.com to join the hub or learn more about its activities and events.

SWAN New York City Hub

The SWAN NYC Hub had its “brainstorming” launch event in December 2013, and a leadership team has been selected. The hub formally launched with a networking event in May 2014.

Leadership:

- Hub Chair
  - Flory Wilson ’04, Director, B Lab
- Major Events and Speakers Series Chair
  - Emilee Deutchman ’10, Research Associate, Offit Capital Advisors
- Career Advisory Networks Committee Co-Chairs
  - Emily Howells ’08, Emerging Markets Application Specialist at Bloomberg
  - Leela Ramnath ’08, Consultant, Tau Investment Management
- Extracurricular Events Committee Chair
  - Joanna Wisniecka ’05, Payments Infrastructure Specialist, Federal Reserve Bank of New York
- Community Impact Initiative (SCII) Committee Co-Chairs
  - Maren Lange ’12, Business and Client Development, Sotheby’s
  - Valerie Gadala-Maria ’13, Bank Examiner, Federal Reserve Bank of New York
- Coffee, Cocktails, and Extracurricular Events Committee Chair
  - Amanda Larson ’10, Senior Associate, Deloitte Business Intelligence Services
- Online Presence + Communications Committee Chair
  - Linda Lee ’99, Advertising and Brand Manager, GE Capital

Contact swannychub@gmail.com to join the hub or learn more about its activities and events.
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SWAN London Hub
The London Hub is set to have its first “brainstorming” launch event in May 2014. Stay tuned!

Leadership:

- Hub Chair: Camilla ter Haar ’07, Barrister, Five Paper Chambers

Contact cterhaar@me.com to join the hub or learn more about its activities.

Contact SWAN at saiswomen@jhu.edu to learn more, or to join the listserv and/or a hub.