

ALUMNI LIFE

WE ARE MORE THAN 18,000 STRONG, WITH ALUMNI RESIDING AROUND THE GLOBE. GRADUATES FROM OUR THREE LOCATIONS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.; BOLOGNA, ITALY; AND NANJING, CHINA, STAY CONNECTED THROUGH SAIS-SPECIFIC CLUBS AND GROUPS, AS WELL AS THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.



GIVE EVERY YEAR

CHRIS COCHRAN '12 was president of the Student Government Association and has remained a passionate advocate for Johns Hopkins SAIS since his graduation. As senior manager of corporate sustainability at Walmart, the world's largest grocer, Cochran leads the sustainability strategy for the company's produce business across 27 countries. He is also one of the founding donors of the Young Alumni Christian Herter Society, a leadership group of alumni who support SAIS through annual gifts of \$500 (five to 10 years after graduation) or \$250 (up to five years after graduation).

Why is it important for alumni to be connected with Johns Hopkins SAIS?

The SAIS family continues to be a rich professional and personal community for me. I am surprised at how often I meet and work with SAIS alumni in my current role. The "SAIS mafia" extends well beyond its stronghold within the walls of the World Bank. I also continue to count fellow SAISers among my closest life-long friends and plan many of my vacations around wherever they currently call home.

You have been an advocate of the Fund for SAIS since graduation. How does the fund strengthen the value of a SAIS degree?

The Fund for SAIS creates a virtuous cycle of paying it forward and strengthening the SAIS brand. Student fellowships enable SAIS to attract a bright and diverse student body by lowering the cost of education. In turn, students feel support from the alumni network and are motivated to give back to future students after graduation. I would like to see us create a



culture of giving at SAIS that motivates every graduating student to begin giving back immediately and to increase their donations over time as they are able. This broad-based alumni giving would move the needle on student fellowships and strengthen the SAIS brand and network.

What does it mean to you to give every year?

As a student, I was fortunate to receive the Sasine and Sorenson Family Fellowship to help me offset the cost of my education. Coincidentally, I later worked with Ron Sasine '85, a founder of the fellowship, at Walmart and was inspired by his generosity to pay it forward to future generations at SAIS. I know personally how helpful fellowships can be in reducing student debt burden and empowering SAISers to make career choices based on impact and not only salary.

What might other alumni be surprised to know about you?

I volunteered for a year in Honduras before attending SAIS and now own a small cocoa farm there with local partners. I enjoy learning firsthand about the challenges of farming as I think about my food sustainability work at Walmart.

MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY!

ONLINE:
sais-jhu.edu/giving

BY PHONE:
(202) 663-5630

BY MAIL:
Office of Development and Alumni Relations
1740 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

The Fund for SAIS

- Student support through fellowships and financial aid is the school's top priority.
- The Fund for SAIS raises 20 percent of the financial aid awarded every year. Over \$1,600,000 in 1,694 gifts last year. Every one counts!
- Direct your gift to Johns Hopkins SAIS' most urgent needs or to an individual campus or program.
- The Christian Herter Society recognizes our leading donors who make annual gifts of \$2,500 or more.

We hope you will join us next year!

Thank you to all who contributed to Johns Hopkins SAIS during our 2015 fiscal year (July 1, 2014–June 30, 2015). Look for the donor honor roll at sais-jhu.edu/giving.

