



Sweet Briar College Alumnae Alliance

Council + Plus Ones Zoom Call

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

Meeting Notes

Alumnae Alliance Council: Kathryn Yunk '91, Sarah Reidy-Ferguson '96, Sarah Clement '75, Morgan Deal '16, Cortney Lewandowski '12, Vikki Schroeder '87, Jessica Hiveley '97, El Warner '85, Martha Tisdale Cordell '82, Catharine Laufer '96, Abby Anzalone '00, Courtney Hurt '10, Kelly Collins Lear '96, Ellen Saunders '75, Jane Dure '82, Melaina Macone '11, Katrina Balding Bills '97, Charlotte Barbour '16, Epiphany Soward '15.

AR&D Staff: Claire Griffith '80, Clelie Steckel, Mary Pope Hutson '83, Rachel Pietsch, Lee Anne Chaskes '83, Emily Dodson Sadler '18, Heather Ewing (Admissions Office) '90, Keeley Jurgovan '92.

Meeting Purpose: Operations coordination among AA Council Working Groups and with College Alumnae Relations.

Council Operations:

-As appropriate, the Council will identify action items per calls, and coordinate with the College Alumnae Relations & Development Office (AR&D).

-AA Council will focus efforts toward "Alumnae Engagement, Students, and Money" to support AR&D. Council Co-Chairs will continue weekly calls with AR&D.

Keep the "4 P's" – Passion for our alma mater, Professionalism, Patience, Perseverance.

AA Council meets biweekly via Zoom, alternating between Open Calls with Plus Ones and AR&D, and Working Calls with Council and AR&D.

-After each meeting, minutes are drafted and reviewed by Council members. See minutes online [here](#).

AR&D Updates

-Claire Griffith '80 shared wonderful news about Sweet Briar Athletics:

- Swimming (8-4, 6-3 ODAC) finished the 2022 Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) Championships in seventh place out of twelve teams with 165 points. First-year Acadia ElzHowe (from Georgetown, TX) was named All-ODAC First Team. [Check out more here.](#)

-Riding's NCEA Team celebrated a win against Sewanee, 7-1, at the Harriet Howell Rogers Riding Center. This was the first ever matchup between the two programs. [Check out more here.](#)

-7 members of Riding's IHSA Team have qualified for regionals. The team will head to the Liberty University Equestrian Center on Saturday, February 19 for its final show of the 2021-22 season before regionals. [Check out more here.](#)

-Lacrosse will head to Brevard on Saturday, February 19 to kick off the 2022 season. This is the first matchup ever between the two programs. Members of the SBC Asheville Alumnae Club will be attending the game and cheering on the Vixens! [Check out more here.](#)

-Golf will be heading to Ocean Isle Beach, N.C. for the Pfeiffer Invitational, February 28 – March 1. Alumna Karen Nickels '86 has offered to host the team for dinner. [Check out more here.](#)

-Tennis has been picked to finish second in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference (ODAC) for the second-straight year! The Vixens kick off their 2022 spring season against Meredith and Ferrum on February 26. [Check out more here.](#)

-Emily Sadler '18 and Caroline Hazarian '09 (both alumnae work in the AR&D office) are working with Barb Watts, SBC Director of Career Services, on an Alumnae Mentorship Program with current seniors. 27 seniors are participating in the program.

-Valerie Winborne '86 will be visiting campus on February 21-22 as a special Black History Month guest. She will be speaking to students in a variety of dance classes as well as speaking to the community for a "lunch and learn" conversation about her career in the performing arts. Valerie has had an extensive, multi-faceted career as a dancer, choreographer, repetiteur, actor, dance movement therapist, educator, and presenter. She is the founder and director of V2W Experience Dance Theater Company following a successful career in a variety of dance companies, including Urban Bush Women where she toured internationally. Valerie also owned a dance studio in Brooklyn, N.Y., and is now a Creative Dance instructor for Portsmouth Public Schools.

-Clelie Steckel has been working on creating a landing page to view virtual events from the college. [Click here to watch 2022 virtual events and highlights from the 2021 Reunion.](#)

-On February 14, over 100 people joined President Stone's virtual talk entitled, "How Lincoln Saved and Renewed the Union." [Watch President Stone's discussion and additional virtual events here.](#)

-Rachel Pietsch shared details on the upcoming Scholars events for SBC Admissions, happening on campus Saturday, February 19 and Monday, February 21. Scheduled events included: a welcome from President Woo, breakfast in the Conference Center, meetings for parents, and students meeting with professors and participating in classes. Legacy students from the West Coast and the Virginia area attended the event. [More info here.](#)

-Emily Sadler '18 shared details on I ♥ Sweet Briar week, happening the week of February 14. Watch for posts & photos on the [Sweet Briar College Now and Forever Facebook](#) page from alumnae sharing why they love Sweet Briar. 83 alumnae are registered for the Class Leaders Zoom on Tuesday, February 15 at 7pm. The call will be reviewing details and info for [March Days of Giving.](#)

-Lee Anne Chaskes '83 shared that [March Days of Giving](#) is 13 days away! Goals: Reach \$500,000 on Tuesday, March 1 and reach an additional \$500,000 March 2-10. Lee Anne discussed the details of You + 2 - Consider reaching out to 2 classmates and ask them to join you in making their gift to Sweet Briar. [Watch the progress by state and by class here.](#) Lee Anne added that it was great to see so many Class Leaders joining the Alumnae Alliance Plus Ones Zoom calls.

-The Briar Wire February issue features Black History Month events on campus. Keep updated with news in The Briar Wire [here.](#)

-Come back to campus! Learn more from the campus events calendar - [check out more info here.](#)

-Read current and past Sweet Briar Magazine issues [here.](#)

-For more campus news: sbc.edu/news

Working Group Updates from the AA Council

Young Alumnae Support: Morgan Deal '16 and Cortney Lewandowski '12

-Local Liaison Spring events are in the final draft stages and creating marketing materials. The areas include: Amherst/Nelson/Lynchburg, VA and NoVA/DC.

-We will be featuring SBC Alumnae on Instagram (@sbcalumnae) in the next few weeks for Black History Month.

Alumnae Communications: Co-Chairs Jane Dure '82 and Melaina Macone '11

-We are supporting the nominations committee with an adhoc/subcommittee. We have been developing content/posts to share on social media, highlighting the Alumnae Alliance, Working Groups, and current Council members.

-We encourage the AAC to assist us by engaging - liking/commenting/sharing - with our posts.

-We're focused on cascading the news from the College.

-Please share all SBC posts on your social media platforms, your class pages & club pages.

Other Social Media:

-[Facebook](#)

-[Twitter](#)

-[Instagram](#)

-[YouTube](#)

-[Sweet Briar Now and Forever Facebook](#)

Governance and Strategic Initiatives Working Group: Co-Chairs El Warner '85 and Martha Tisdale Cordell '82

-The Nominations Committee has completed the revision to the nominations form for the 2022-23 nominations period. Clelie Steckel (from AR&D) has created the form on the new platform, Google forms. We think the new form and platform will work much better than Wufoo.

-The nominations communications committee has been busy putting together marketing pieces to explain the function of the AAC and the various Working Groups.

-The nominations process is on schedule and we will be ready for the nominations form to go live on April 1.

Clubs: Co-Chairs Catharine Laufer '96 and Abby Anzalone '00

-Cheer on the Vixens at upcoming athletic events! Check out the attached graphic below for the spring schedule. Holla Holla to members of the SBC Asheville Alumnae Club for supporting SBC Lacrosse as they kick off the 2022 season at Brevard on Saturday, February 19.

-Spring alumnae events are being planned in Cleveland, OH and Austin, TX.

-We are grateful to Club leaders for planning a variety of fun events. If you know of alums who would like to plan future events, please encourage them to participate and pass their names to Keeley Jurgovan (kjurgovan@sbcedu). This is a great way to engage with fellow local alumnae. We are always looking for new volunteers to help with club efforts.

Class Leadership: Co-Chairs Courtney Hurt '10, Kelly Collins Lear '96, and Ellen Saunders '75

-Our leadership is contacting class leaders to develop strategies for outreach to classmates in anticipation of March Days of Giving and preparing for Reunion.

-Class Giving Lists will be distributed to class leaders on Friday, February 18 with talking points and social media graphics to share during March Days of Giving.

-We encourage you to participate tonight, February 15 at 7pm, in the class leader Zoom update. Many class leaders are new to their role and it's important for them to see the alumnae leaders who represent them. We're all joyfully invested in the successful alumnae involvement in SBC.

Admissions Ambassadors: Co-Chairs Katrina Balding Bills '97, Charlotte Barbour '16, and Epiphany Soward '15

-SBC Book Award: From Boston to Georgia to California, 18 AAs have reached out to their local High Schools to see if the High School wants to participate in the SBC Book Award. We hope all the High Schools will participate! It's not too late to reach out to your High School! Contact Heather Ewing '90 - hewing@sbcedu for more info.

-Outreach to Prospective Students: We have continued to reach out to students and can definitely use more help! **Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina** are top areas - it's so easy - please join this important effort! Email Heather Ewing '90 hewing@sbcedu (or one of us) if you

have any questions! Our AAs have been assigned follow up to 887 students this year!! [Sign up info here.](#)

-[Fly-in Program](#): We continue to hear that people don't know about this important program! Please share that SBC will pay for a student (must be junior or senior) to visit Sweet Briar - we can arrange their flight and they'll stay at the Elston Inn. While we know from our experience that a visit to SBC is life-changing - we track the numbers and it does make a difference!

-Share Sweet Briar with a prospective student! Contact Heather Ewing '90 hewing@sbcc.edu for any help and/or more info. Also check out this [link to the Student Referral form.](#)

-While students can visit campus anytime - we also have Saturday and Sunday visit days...here are some upcoming special dates! [More info here.](#)

-Scholars Days: February 19 and 21

-National Engineering Week Banquet (if you are local!): February 24

-Accepted Student Day: March 19

-Spring Open House: April 2

-Check out SBC Riding's 2022 [Summer Camp schedule.](#)

-[We have a new AA LinkTree](#) – any Alumna can access it, which is cool because it's a one stop shop for quick facts about Sweet Briar, the programs of study, dates for admissions, etc. You must be a registered AA to access the actual Portal where you would then see your assigned prospective students and their information. There is a link on that page to become an official AA!

-As always, the *MOST* important thing we each can do is to find a great new student (or two or more!) for the college. By wearing our SBC swag, sharing about the college via social media, through our own kids and connections, and organizations.

-Admissions is working on a Legacy List. If you know anyone in your class or alumnae that have daughters, granddaughters, cousins, nieces, etc, please contact Heather Ewing '90 (hewing@sbcc.edu). Please share with your classmates.

Sweet Work Weeks: Co-Chairs Vikki Schroeder '87 and Jessica Hiveley '97

-Join us for the Spring 2022 Sweet Work Weekend, March 26-27, with projects focused on landscaping, trail work, and indoor painting. Annie Colpitts '11 will be leading the weekend. Please register early to save your spot. Room and board will be provided by the College, but space will be limited. [More info + Register here.](#)

-Save the dates for the Summer SWW event – July 22-August 7. Please email Vikki (redrosevs@gmail.com) or Jess (jessicahiveley@aol.com) if you would like to receive info about registration as soon as it opens.

Council Operations: Co-Chairs Kathryn Yunk '91, Sarah Reidy-Ferguson '96, and Sarah Clement '75

-We encourage alumnae to cheer on the Vixens! Please see the attached graphic below for the spring sports schedule and check to see if the Vixens will be competing in your area.

-Black History Month events have been planned on campus throughout February. Please see the attached graphic below for more info.

-Please send to Kathryn, Sarah and Sarah your feedback about the new Zoom format for AA calls.

-Please note upcoming 2022 dates to mark on your calendars:

-May 6-7: Council will be joining the Sweet Briar Board of Directors for an on-campus meeting.

-June 3-5: Reunion 2022 at Sweet Briar.

-September 16-17: Leadership meeting at Sweet Briar.

-Reminder to Co-Chairs to please send your WG updates to Sarah RF to be submitted for the call minutes.

Notes—Upcoming Meetings:

*Future Zoom Schedule:

-Sweet Briar College Alumnae Alliance Council + Plus Ones - Tuesdays @ 7:15 EST

March 15

April 12

May 10

June 7

-Alumnae Alliance Council-Only - Tuesdays @ 12 noon EST

March 1

March 29

April 26

May 24

FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Students, faculty and staff plan Black History Month events

Together with the Black Student Alliance, students, faculty and staff have been planning a suite of events for the month of February to celebrate Black History Month at Sweet Briar. While these events are primarily for our students, we wanted to show the exciting events they have planned!

Feb. 1

Trap Karaoke with BSA, 7 - 8 p.m., Vixen Den
Do you love to sing in the shower? Are you a fan of 90's classics and gospel? Start Black History Month right by singing, dancing, and cheering on your friends as they sing their hearts out during this karaoke night.

Feb. 3

Heal n' Paint, 7 - 8 p.m., Vixen Den
This event will focus on collective stress relief and healing through artistic expression. At the end of the workshop, participants will have the opportunity to share their work through social media to inspire healing through art and connection through community.

Feb. 5

Get Free: Open Mic, 7 - 9 p.m., Wailes Building
Put on by the BSA and the First-Year Student Success Program in collaboration with Randolph College and the University of Lynchburg
Got a word? Join us for an evening of spoken word poetry, including workshopping poems and the exploration of the power of one's voice. Bring your favorite poem, an original poem to share, or come and listen to be inspired.

Feb. 9

Virtual Event: Peace Corps Celebrates Black History Month
Highlighting RPCVs of the African Diaspora who served in each decade of Peace Corps. Hear stories that highlight the challenging, rewarding, and inspirational moments from Peace Corps service.

Celebration of Art, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., Johnson Dining Room
A celebration of black artists of all mediums. Bring something by a favorite artist you would like to share. This can be an excerpt of writing you'd like to read, a song you want to play, or art you want to showcase. There is no limit on what you can bring to discuss!

Courageous Conversations: Lessons in Leadership with BSA and Leaders of Tomorrow, 7 - 8 p.m., Josey Dining Room
Join us for a dynamic panel conversation on leadership, wellness, and purpose. We will explore

the following topics together:

- realities of black academia
- diversity, equity, and inclusion in higher ed
- prioritizing wellness
- the importance of consuming space, discovering purpose, and inspiring confidence

Feb. 14

Virtual Lecture with Former President Phillip C. Stone: Lincoln's Presidency and the Reconstruction Period, 7 p.m.

Join alumnae and friends to hear a lecture by Sweet Briar's 12th president, Phillip C. Stone, renowned expert on the United States presidency of Abraham Lincoln. Details available at alumnae.sbc.edu/sweet-briar-days.

Feb. 15

Love Series: Love Language with BSA and GLOW, 7 - 8 p.m., Prothro
Join us for a powerful conversation about love languages. We will explore what the five love languages are, how to discover your primary love language, and how to navigate the love languages of others.

Feb. 16

Rep Your Flag with BSA, LatinX, and GLOW, 5 - 7 p.m., Prothro Atrium
Join BSA, LatinX, and G.L.O.W to decorate a cookie that reflects you! Design your flag, express your passions, showcase your brilliance.

Feb. 18

Poetry Slam with BSA, Randolph College, and University of Lynchburg, 5 - 7 p.m., Wailes Building

Feb. 15

Love Series: Love Language with BSA and GLOW, 7 - 8 p.m., Prothro

Feb. 21 - 22

Dance Workshops with Valerie Winborne '86
A Sweet Briar alumna, Winborne is the founder and director of V2W Experience Dance Theater Company following a successful career with international dance companies, including Urban Bush Women, ownership of a dance studio in Brooklyn, N.Y., and is now a dance instructor for Portsmouth Public Schools.

Feb. 27

Soulful Sunday with BSA and Delight Ministries

Feb. 1, Feb. 8, Feb. 15, and Feb. 22

Black Out Tuesday

Blackout Tuesday is dedicated to honoring the black lives that have been lost, as well as celebrating black culture, experience, and being. Join us as we dress in all black to honor these lives.

SPRING ATHLETICS SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY

Event	Date	Location
NCEA vs. Georgia	2/4	Sweet Briar, Va.
IHSA vs Mary Washington	2/5	TBD
SWIM - ODAC Championship	2/10 - 2/13	Greensboro, N.C.
LAX vs. Brevard	2/19, 10 a.m.	Brevard, N.C.
IHSA vs. Liberty	2/19	Rustburg, Va.
NCEA vs. SUNY New Paltz	2/25	Sweet Briar, Va.
LAX vs. Eastern Mennonite	2/26, 1 p.m.	Harrisonburg, Va.
TEN vs. Meredith	2/26	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Ferrum	2/26	Sweet Briar, Va.
IHSA Region 4 Show	2/27	Sweet Briar, Va.
GOLF vs. Pfeiffer	2/28 - 3/1	Ocean Isle Beach, N.C.

MARCH

Event	Date	Location
LAX vs. Warren Wilson	3/3, 4 p.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
NCEA vs. Southern Methodist	3/4	Dallas, Texas
NCEA vs. TCU	3/5	Fort Worth, Texas
LAX vs. Cazenovia	3/7	Sweet Briar, Va.
LAX vs. Bethany College	3/10, noon	Sweet Briar, Va.
GOLF vs. Lynchburg	3/14	Lynchburg, Va.
LAX vs. Hollins	3/14, 4 p.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Mary Baldwin	3/15, noon	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Washington and Lee	3/15, 4 p.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Bridgewater	3/18, 2 p.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Bluefield	3/18	Sweet Briar, Va.
GOLF vs. Virginia Wesleyan	3/18 - 3/19	Virginia Beach, Va.
NCEA ECAC Championships	3/18 - 3/19	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Johns Hopkins	3/19, 4 p.m.	Baltimore, Md.
TEN vs. Randolph-Macon	3/20, 11 a.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Averett	3/20, 2 p.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Lynchburg	3/22, noon	Lynchburg, Va.
TEN vs. Southern Virginia	3/22, 5 p.m.	Buena Vista, Va.
TEN vs. Trinity	3/23, noon	Sweet Briar, Va.

MARCH (CONTINUED)

Event	Date	Location
TEN vs. Randolph	3/23, 3 p.m.	Lynchburg, Va.
LAX vs. Randolph	3/23, 5 p.m.	Lynchburg, Va.
TEN vs. Marymouth	3/23, 4 p.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Salisbury	3/26, 1 p.m.	Newport News, Va.
TEN vs. Christopher Newport	3/27, 11 a.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.

APRIL

Event	Date	Location
TEN vs. Virginia Wesleyan	4/1, 2 p.m.	Norfolk, Va.
LAX vs. Keystone	4/2, 10 a.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
GOLF: Historic Triangle Invitational	4/4 - 4/5	Williamsburg, Va.
LAX vs. Bryn Athyn	4/6, 7 p.m.	Bryn Athyn, Pa.
LAX vs. Centenary (N.J.)	3/10, noon	Sweet Briar, Va.
IHSA Zone 4 Show	4/9	Laurinburg, N.C.
TEN vs. Hollins	4/10	Sweet Briar, Va.
TEN vs. Guilford	4/10, 1 p.m.	Greensboro, N.C.
TEN vs. William Peace	4/10	Sweet Briar, Va.
GOLF vs. Southern Virginia	4/11 - 4/12	White Sulphur Springs, W.Va.
NCEA Championships	4/13 - 4/17	TBD
TEN vs. Pfeiffer	4/16, 2 p.m.	Misenheimer, N.C.
LAX vs. Wilson	4/16, 2 p.m.	Chambersburg, Pa.
TEN vs. Johnson & Wales (Charlotte)	4/16, 3:30 p.m.	Misenheimer, N.C.
TEN vs. Shenandoah	4/20, 4 p.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
GOLF: ODAC Championships	4/23 - 4/26	Glen Allen, Va.
LAX vs. Notre Dame (Md.)	4/23, 2 p.m.	Sweet Briar, Va.
LAX vs. Montreat	4/24, noon	Sweet Briar, Va.
LAX vs. Cedar Crest	4/30	Allentown, Pa.

MAY

Event	Date	Location
IHSA National Championships	5/5 - 5/9	Harrisburg, Pa.