



Sweet Briar College Alumnae Alliance Council (SBC AA Council) Teleconf

January 9, 2018; 12 pm – 1:00 pm ET

Teleconf Info: (641) 715-3580; Participant Code: 424-117#

AGENDA

AA Council Members: Kathryn Yunk '91, Norma Valentine '93, Heather Ewing '90, Michelle Badger '06, Debra Elkins '93, Sarah Clement '75, Sarah vonRosenberg '72, Phyllis Jordan '80, Jane Dure '82, Sarah Reidy Ferguson '96, Cathy Foose '78, Sara Parsatoon '11, Alex Grobman '12, Katie Schellhammer '95, Eleanor O'Connor '07; Ann Kiley Crenshaw (alumnae at-large representative to the Board / Alumnae Committee)

AR&D and other College Staff: Clelie Steckel, Rachel Pietsch and Lea Harvey

Plus Ones: Jean Bryan '82, Dianne Doss '93, Francis Morse '68, Brandi Hilder '99, Sarah Ince '99, Mary Sue Thomas '72, Sarah Machinist '01, Jeanette Pillsbury '72, Nancy Wright '68, Julia Schmitz '03, Jessica Hively '97, Amy Lamphere '80, Liz Jarvis '75, DeDe Conley '72, Phoebe Peacock '68, Myth Bayoud '80, Flo Barnick '80, Carter Frackleton '72

Meeting Purpose: Regular teleconf of the SBC Alumnae Alliance Council (AA Council) to coordinate efforts. PlusOnes who listen in on standing AA Council teleconfs, and participate as appropriate, include alumnae who are active in a number of Alumnae Alliance related activities and are assisting with improving overall alumnae communications.

AR&D Updates and Any Requests for the Alumnae Alliance

Clelie Steckel reported that Sweet Briar Days are going just great. She encouraged club leaders to send photos and sign-in sheets back to the office. Photos will be displayed in the magazine. President Woo and key staffers had a great session in Denver and were flying to Houston at the time of the meeting.

Clelie said the AR&D staff is working on Reunion schedule in June (and hope to get online registration up soon). AR&D is also working on plans for the AA Council and AR&D meeting on-campus in February. In terms of fundraising, the college continues to make substantial progress toward our \$13 million goal, but have a way to go and are hoping to close the gap earlier than the June 30. Clelie said Lea Harvey is doing a phenomenal job connecting with foundations and other organizations. President Woo is making some personal visits to non-profits during her tour of the country.

Other updates include:

- Lynn Rainville has been named as SBC Associate Dean of Academic Affairs <http://sbc.edu/news/lynn-rainville-named-associate-dean-of-academic-affairs-at-sweet-briar/>
- Requesting nominations for the SBC Outstanding and Distinguished Alumna Award. For more information on these awards and the nomination process, see <http://sbc.edu/alumnae-development/awards/>
 - **Outstanding Alumna Award:** This award may be given to graduate alumnae who have been out of college for at least 15 years in recognition of their outstanding service to SBC in a volunteer capacity.
 - **Distinguished Alumna Award:** This award was created to honor alumnae who have brought distinction to themselves and to Sweet Briar College through outstanding accomplishment in a volunteer or professional capacity.

Working Group Updates from the AA Council

Clubs and Virtual Auction: Kathryn Yunk '91 and Norma Valentine '93

Norma Valentine said Sweet Briar Day events have had great attendance. An Orlando event was canceled due to illness, and the Hampton Roads event was pushed back a week to Jan. 14 because of bad weather. Kathryn said the Milwaukee event drew two prospective students. One who attended last year ended up going to Sweet Briar, so these can be powerful events.

- **29 Sweet Briar Day Events!!:** AR&D point of contact: **Rachel Pietsch (434-381-6163** or email rpietsch@sbcedu)

2017-2018 Sweet Briar Day Events		
✓ Dec 19 -- Indianapolis, IN	✓ Jan 6 – St. Paul, MN	Jan 8 – Denver, CO (President Woo will attend)
✓ Jan 5 – Fredericksburg, VA	✓ Jan 6 – Winter Garden, FL (near Orlando) – CANCELLED	Jan 10 – Houston, TX (President Woo will attend)
✓ Jan 6 – Amherst, VA	✓ Jan 7 – Alexandria, VA (Northern VA / DC)	Jan 10 – New York, NY
✓ Jan 6 – Apex, NC (near Raleigh)	✓ Jan 7 – Charlotte, NC	Jan 13 – Cleveland Heights, OH
✓ Jan 6 – Atlanta, GA	✓ Jan 7 – Jenkintown, PA (near Philadelphia)	Jan 14 – Coral Gables, FL (near Miami)
✓ Jan 6 – Dallas, TX	✓ Jan 7 – Marshall, VA (Hunt Country – near Gainesville / Warrenton)	Jan 14 – Pacific Palisades, CA (near Los Angeles)
✓ Jan 6 – Ferndale, Michigan (near Detroit)	✓ Jan 7 – Middletown, NJ	Jan 17 – Jacksonville, FL (President Woo will attend)
✓ Jan 6 – Milwaukee, WI	Jan 14 – Norfolk / VA Beach, VA [RESCHEDULED from Jan 7]	Jan 20 – Arden, NC (near Asheville)
✓ Jan 6 – Richmond, VA	✓ Jan 7 – Portland, OR	Jan 27 – Kansas City, MO
✓ Jan 6 – San Francisco, CA	✓ Jan 7 – Prospect, KY (near Louisville)	
✓ Jan 6 – Sterling, MA (near Boston)		

Admissions Ambassadors: Michelle Badger '06 and Heather Ewing '90

Spring recruiting

- Heather said the admissions team is working on materials to explain the new curriculum. It seems like more of an informational piece and talking points for Ambassadors but may be something to be shared with students. If you have questions email, call or text Michelle or Heather. She also said Savannah Oxner from Admissions is reaching out to AAs for help covering upcoming college fairs - if you know of a fair in your area, please contact Savannah.
- High School visits & meetings with guidance counselors / students - we will be in touch with updated materials and suggested follow up strategies.
- Please remember to talk about SBC when you see friends and family with High School age girls. If they are interested, get their permission to refer them to SBC <http://sbc.edu/admissions/refer-a-student/>. We need to be sure the students are aware that they will get contacted by the College.

Development Working Group: Cathy Foose '78

- Cathy Foose said great things are happening in terms of development. The working group has started its phone calls and thank yous to many of the donors. The response has been extremely positive. The recent audit came back completely clean. The fundraising is moving along well. Onward and upward.
- Lea Harvey reported that there have been some “important validating signals” from several foundations, including invitations to submit proposals. She said she is scoping out opportunities, working with faculty to develop new proposal. A foundation in Lynchburg has given a new grant for scholarships from students from the region. The Another Lynchburg foundation has given us a small grant for development of courses under the leadership core. She is preparing descriptions of the three new centers that can be shared with foundations. She has had conversations with Google and Arriva to support the engineering program.
- **Reunion Save-the-Date:** scheduled for June 1-3, 2018. 3’s and 8’s are celebrating 5-year milestone reunions; all classes are invited to “come home!”

Governance and Strategic Initiatives Working Group: Sarah Clement '75 and Katie Robertson '97

- Katie Robertson reported that there is an interim process to confirm volunteers to take over from Debra and Sarah to take over their roles in council operations.
- The WG is reviewing and refining the nominations process to fill Council co-chairs vacancies as they arise, and how to recruit various working group members. They hope this will be ready for review by the February meeting. The processes should be in place for the next cycle.
- The WG is also revising a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for how the partnership with AR&D works (to be reviewed and revised with AR&D), Alumnae Alliance Guiding Principles and Core Values. Efforts are framed by the Sweet Briar Institute Trust and Board By-Laws, SACS Accreditation Principles, best practices for non-profit governance and alumnae associations governance practices, etc.

Council Operations: Debra Elkins '93, Sarah vonRosenberg '72 and Sarah Clement '75

- Debra Elkins reminded council members and plus ones to look at the schedule for calls. She and Sarah vonRosenberg have a draft set of priorities and have been organizing the AA Council meeting in February 22-24, as well as a briefing that will be delivered to the Board of Directors.
- **Proposed AA Council and Plus Ones Teleconfs Spring Schedule:** (Tuesdays from 12-1 pm ET) Jan 9, Jan 23, Feb 6, Feb 20, Mar 6, Mar 20, Apr 3, Apr 17, May 1, May 15, May 29, Jun 12, Jun 26, Jul 10, Jul 24, Aug 7, Aug 21, Sep 4, Sep 18, Oct 2, Oct 16, Oct 30, Nov 13, Nov 27, Dec 11. Note: calls occur every 2 weeks, but skip a week around REUNION June 1-3
- **AA Council AGENDA for On-Campus meetings for February 22-24, 2018** – will discuss preliminary inputs and potential meeting topics with AR&D.
- **AA Council Updated 6-Month PRIORITIES** for January to June 2018 – first draft completed, and will discuss with AR&D leadership. Draft aligns AA Council areas of focus to top areas of College need.
- **AA Council Updated HUB-AND-SPOKES Structure** – first draft completed and will discuss with AR&D.
- **Alumnae Alliance Council Briefing to the Board of Directors during on-campus meetings for February 22-24, 2018** – will coordinate draft briefing with WG Co-Chairs to showcase highlights from July – December 2017.
- **Council Operations:** Agendas development and distribution. Minutes available at <http://sbc.edu/alumnae-development/alumnae-alliance/>.

Alumnae Communications: Phyllis Jordan '80, Jane Dure '82, Sarah Reidy Ferguson '96, Eleanor O'Connor '07

- Phyllis Jordan described how the Alum Comms team kept busy over the holidays dealing with the fallout on Facebook over changes in the curriculum. She thanked council members and Plus Ones who chimed in to share facts and tamp down concerns over the direction of the college.
- Phyllis also said the team had talked with several students in the process and wanted to find a way to meet with students when the AA Council is on campus in February. She suggested that Deb and Sarah work that into the agenda.
- Jane Dure told how the working group is planning to develop a toolkit for those who want to take oral histories of older alums. This will include information on how to tape them and what to ask. She asked for any alums with technical experience to help out. She also said this would tie into our efforts to post alumnae bios in various majors on the website, something that is helpful for recruiting and career development. Sarah Parsatoon said she's interested in this sort of project and has suggestions for how to get good quality video footage.
- Sarah Reidy Ferguson reminded members and plus ones to post photos of the Sweet Briar Days on various social media platforms. These really demonstrate the range of ages that are showing up for these events. They're on Twitter, Instagram, as well as Facebook. She encouraged people to share on their class pages, as well, and add information about how the event went and who was there.
- This working group is working closely with Clelie Steckel (AR&D), Melissa Richards and Amy Ostroth (College Communications) to enhance communications to 9 decades of alumnae.
- **SBC Magazine** – The next magazine will come in the spring. Prior issues: <https://sbc.edu/magazine/magazine-archives/>
- **Operational focus to tailor postings** for alumnae similar to official SBC social media (e.g., Sweet Briar College website, Sweet Briar College Now and Forever Facebook, SBC Twitter and Instagram accounts). Class and Club Leadership Teams are encouraged to use the news roundup at the end of this agenda, and Alumnae Alliance social media feeds to share to Classes and Clubs alumnae.
 - Traditional media: SBC Magazine (2 x per year), Briar Wire (9x per year), class notes

- Social media:
 - Alumnae Alliance Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/sweetbriaralumnae/>
 - Alumnae Alliance Twitter Feed: [@sbcalumnae](https://twitter.com/sbcalumnae)
 - Alumnae Alliance Instagram Feed: [@sbcalumnae](https://www.instagram.com/sbcalumnae)
- **Sweet Briar College Flickr:** <https://www.flickr.com/photos/sweetbriarcollege/>. Latest photos posted from events at Sweet Briar. Click on albums for specific past events like Sweet Work Weeks.

“The Network” and Lifelong Learning: Katie Schellhammer '95 and Heidi Trude '07

- Katie Schellhammer said she is working with Barb Watts and alums to line up the March career development trip for students. She outlined some of the ways that alumnae are helping out, including tours of the Capitol and special events. Phyllis Jordan asked if they would need places for students to stay, and Katie said she would report back. Phoebe Peacock offered to arrange a tour of the Library of Congress.
- **Lifelong Learning** – Working Group has divided up to work on a couple options under development.
- This Working Group is also developing **initial ideas for a “Virtual Happy Hour” technology pilot** in Google Hangouts or Zoom to talk about getting connected to the “Network” and “How to Network.”
- This Working Group will **explore arranging a networking tour to Washington DC in Spring 2018** working with Career Services Director Barb Watts
- **Career Services / Career Beam:** New 24/7 platform is now live and can assist students and alumnae with career and job exploration, resume writing, and interview practice. Here's the link to Career Beam <https://cb.careersearch.net/register/sweetbriar.tt2>
- **Alumnifire** – You can post internships and jobs online for students and other alumnae in our secure portal at <https://sweetbriar.alumnifire.com> (P.S. you can login using your Facebook or LinkedIn account – no separate username and password required!). Alumnifire now has **1,737 alumnae, students, faculty and staff** registered since the launch in January 2015. The networking challenge for this spring is to beat last spring’s 175 postings of jobs and internships for students. Alumnae are also encouraged to post jobs and internships for other alumnae (i.e., those who are in graduate school, law school, etc.). The Network will report statistics regularly versus this networking challenge!

Young Alumnae Squad: Sara Parsatoon '11 & Alexandra Grobman '12

- Alex Grobman thanked the council and Plus Ones for all the support they’ve given. She said the team is working on sending specialized thank you notes to all the young alums who have given gifts.
- The team has redefined who is considered a young alum. After researching what other colleges do, they’ve decided that it will anyone who graduated in the past 15 years,
- They are working with a social media “update your information” campaign, part of their work with AR&D to help enhance young alumnae cross-cutting concerns including communications, giving societies, representation on the Alumnae Alliance Council, interfacing to Student Government Association / Student Relations Committee (SRC), and remaining connected to the College after graduation.
- They are moving forward with draft nominations / recruiting posting to seek out additional young alumnae for this advisory group. And they are implementing survey to solicit inputs from young alumnae who previously served on the Alumnae Board

PlusOnes Round Robin – additional Q&A / feedback (Sarah V. / Sarah C. / Debra)

- Francis Morse asked about information she could share with her reunion class on the new curriculum. Clelie Steckel said AR&D is creating new talking points for class and club officers to share in the next week. DeDe Conley reminded people that not everyone is reading what’s posted on Facebook so it’s key to get this information out on all platforms possible.
- Katie Schellhammer asked about reports of students transferring, and Clelie said there were no numbers on that. The student life office is actively addressing on campus social activities concerns, including aligning schedules with nearby colleges. Michelle Badger said she has talked to some students concerned they are not consulted on key decisions, such as library hours. Alumnae who talk with students as mentors are encouraged to point students to talk with Dean Rob Granger and Marcia Thom Kaley in student life.
- Janet Gibson reported that the SB Day event in Fredericksburg was wonderful. Professor Linda Fink spoke and was able to answer a lot of questions the students and alumnae had about the curriculum changes.

- **Expanding PlusOnes** – continuing to recruit and engage PlusOnes using personal outreach. Initial pilot in Jan – Feb 2017 had 34 invited alumnae to evaluate idea; 1st Phase Soft Rollout in Mar – June 2017 had around 30 participants (15 going forward from pilot, and 15 additional recruited), Phase 2 Expanding Alumnae Operational Volunteering – added 70+ alumnae from July – Dec 31 2017, Phase 3 Sustain and Refine - January 2018 onward
- PlusOnes – you can submit questions in advance to Sarah vonRosenberg '72 (svonrosenberg@smoote.com), Sarah Clement '75 (scjr@comcast.net) and Debra Elkins '93 (DebraElkins@comcast.net)

12:55 – 1:00 Closing Remarks (Sarah V. / Sarah C. / Debra)

News to Pass Along to Alumnae (Special thanks to DeDe Conley '72 for the news roundup!)

CAMPUS UPDATES AND EVENTS ON CAMPUS

Admissions Blog, Emily Dodson '18 How Women Become Leaders at Sweet Briar: Imagine a place where every student leadership position is filled by a woman. A place where women are encouraged to work hard — in the classroom, in the library and laboratory, on the playing field, in the board room, and every place in between. <http://sbc.edu/news/admissions-blog-how-women-become-leaders-at-sweet-briar/>

Admissions Blog: Shifti Kamal '20 is an international affairs and psychology double major with a philosophy minor from Dhaka, Bangladesh. She’s a resident advisor and was an admissions ambassador. She also serves as the international students representative on campus, is president of the Model UN club and loves teaching her friends weird words in Bangla. “Being an international student at Sweet Briar is not an experience found anywhere else. Here, you will find a home, no matter where you’re from. You will find your voice — I know I have. At Sweet Briar, you are a leader. You are a woman with vision. At Sweet Briar, you are fierce.” <http://sbc.edu/news/admissions-blog-my-home-away-from-home-studying-at-sweet-briar-as-an-international-student/>

EA - Interscholastic Equestrian Association: A Big THANK YOU to SWEET BRIAR COLLEGE for again sponsoring our baseball caps for Hunt Seat and Western National Finals participants for the 2017-2018 Season. We appreciate your continued support of the IEA. <https://www.facebook.com/sweetbriaralumnae/>. We are huge supporters of the [IEA - Interscholastic Equestrian Association](#) and all they do! It is an incredible program for young riders to get a taste of what collegiate riding will be like. Learn more about the riding opportunities at Sweet Briar College at sbc.edu/riding/ #rideIEA #RideIHSA #SweetBriarFierce. <https://www.facebook.com/sbc.riding/>

Happy Holla Days Video: <https://www.facebook.com/sweet.briar.college/>

Professor Lynn Rainville presentation in Amherst: From Tusculum Institute at [@Sweetbriaredu](#): "Learn about the surprisingly large role that Virginia played in the Great War. Join us for an illustrated lecture by [@DrLynnRainville](#), JAN 14th [#AmherstCountyMuseumandHistoricalSociety](#)" <http://www.amherstcountymuseum.org> And The Tusculum Institute amazing web page: <http://lynnrainville.org/tusculuminstitute/>

Professor Lynn Rainville interview on the Forgotten War: One of the ways that Virginia contributed, more so than many other states, was training horses. We bred, trained, and shipped hundreds of thousands of horses at remount stations throughout the state. Then we had Hampton Roads, one of the deepest harbors on the Atlantic. Newport News became one of two points of embarkation during the war, the other one being in New York City. Hundreds of thousands of men and horses were shipped abroad from Hampton Roads. Virginia also had an elaborate railroad network that was used to send supplies and raw material to the coastal ports. We had over a dozen training camps, one of the largest concentrations of any state. With such a large number of resources and facilities, Virginia was vital to the war effort. <http://virginiahumanities.org/2016/10/remembering-the-forgotten-war/>

Martha Malloy, wife of Joe Malloy, SBC Librarian, obituary: http://www.newsadvance.com/obituaries/malloy-martha-mason/article_ed3c487e-5f64-59d3-a438-95e7b22c98f8.html our sincerest condolences. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Macedonia Community Association, 1408 Coffeytown Rd., Vesuvius, VA 24483. http://www.roanoke.com/obituaries/malloy-martha-mason/article_2f862f4e-779d-5933-9780-02a20769abae.html

SBC Advertising: Many thanks to [@Sweetbriaredu](#) graduate Polly Crawford, class of 1993, for sharing photos of [#SweetBriar](#)'s ad campaign seen at [@ShopTysons](#). Have you spotted [#SweetBriar](#)'s message while out & about? Take a pic & share! AA FB.

Shifti Kamal '20: While on holiday break back home in Dhaka, Bangladesh, [@Sweetbriaredu](#) student Shifti Kamal '20, international affairs & psychology double major, is a featured speaker [@EMKCenter](#)'s 'Ask The Current Students' 1/3, 3pm . We have 3 speakers from 3 amazing Universities in USA. Ms. Tarannum from : Cornell University , Ms. Shifti from : Sweet Briar College, Mr. Rubayet from: Saginaw Valley State University. They will talk about the following: The Facilities at their Current University, US University Experience, How to be an Outstanding Candidate, Common Application Completion TIPS.

Art on Campus: Music major Katie Leaver '18 picked Salvador Dali's "Velazquez" (1968) "for a bunch of reasons" when given the chance through President Woo's Living With Art Initiative. "I took Philosophy of the Arts this semester, and we looked at this piece during a class," Katie says. "It's a sketch by Dali of himself as a Spanish conquistador, which I thought was really cool. I also picked the piece simply because it's a sketch by Dali — I might never have the opportunity to have a Dali piece in my room again, so I'm taking the opportunity now! I also have a very colorful room, so I wanted to challenge myself to pick a black-and-white piece. I absolutely love having the art in my room. I hope this project continues in the future!"

Living With Art on campus: St. Cecilia Playing the Organ" (artist unknown) is another work brought out of storage by President Woo's Living With Art Initiative. This one adorns the Green Village apartment of Cassie Fenton '18, from Peachtree City, Ga. "I chose my piece because it couldn't have been more perfectly tailored to my field of study," says Cassie, a double major in music and history with a minor in medieval and Renaissance studies. "Music and history are my two greatest intellectual passions, and not only is this a sketch of Saint Cecilia, the patron saint of music, but it also dates back to the 1590s, which makes it that much more special. This engraving isn't just a piece of art, it's a historical artifact, and seeing it every day just reminds me of how much I love what I do."

SBC Gold Award Girl Scout Scholarships Announced: <http://sbc.edu/news/sweet-briar-college-and-girl-scouts-announce-scholarship-for-gold-award-achievers/>

SBC New Art Initiative: http://www.newsadvance.com/news/local/new-initiative-aims-to-share-sweet-briar-s-art-collection/article_da695af9-753e-544e-882b-78acfc9eac14.html

Admissions & Student Recruiting: EXPLORE EVENTS coming up: <http://sbc.edu/explore/>

March 23-24, 2018, Explore the Arts Weekend

March 30-31, 2018, Explore Engineering Weekend

April 6-7, 2018, Explore Chemistry Weekend

April 21-22, 2018, Explore Environmental Science Weekend

July 29 – August 3, 2018, Summer Explore Engineering Design Course

Amherst County Fair to be held at SBC next August 24, 25, and 26, 2018.: <http://wset.com/news/local/first-amherst-co-fair-in-40-years-to-be-held-in-august-at-sweet-briar>. And http://www.countyofamherst.com/egov/documents/1511365605_6726.pdf

Jan 18, Jan 25th, Feb 1st and Feb 8: Faculty Research Seminar Series Prothro 12pm. Faculty will present their research in 30 minutes to interested folks over lunch.

Jan 20 Swimming: SBC hosts Hampden Sydney and Emory and Henry 2pm

Jan 26-27 Brownie Science Day: Brownies can earn up to three badges!

Jan 29: Beauty and the Beast: This new exhibit will be open to the public from January 29- April 26. Regular gallery hours are Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. until 4 pm Pannell Gallery

Jan 31 Swimming SBC hosts Roanoke 6pm

Feb 1: Medford Taylor, Professor of Photography: Opening and artists gallery talk for the exhibition Medford Taylor: In Motion. All are welcome. 5:30-6:30 Babcock.

Feb 3 Riding NCEA at U of Ga, Bishop, Ga.

Feb 8: New exhibition in Benedict begins: Ted Batt: A Passion for Clay. On view through March 11, 2018. All are welcome. Free. Opening reception 5:30.

Feb 9-10: Senior Rachel Rogers presents her senior dance concert under the direction of Mark and Ella Magruder. Upper dance studio 7:30-9:30 pm.

Feb 11: The Janet Lowrey Gager Community Concert Series is made possible by the support of Forrest Gager, in memory of his wife, Janet, who served as Sweet Briar's director of public relations. The series features classical music from around the world performed by Sweet Briar College faculty and students, as well as guest artists. Chapel. 3-5pm.

NEWS ABOUT SWEET BRIAR AND THE ACADEMIC REPOSITIONING

Sweet Briar's Curriculum Comes at a Cost: <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2017/12/19/sweet-briar-eliminating-tenured-faculty-positions-it-puts-new-curriculum-place>

Sweet Briar Unveils New Women's Leadership Program: <http://www.newsplex.com/content/news/Sweet-Briar-unveils-new-womens-leadership-program-465239093.html>

Sweet Briar College, Which almost Closed, Gets a Rating Upgrade: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-12-18/sweet-briar-college-after-near-closing-now-sees-rating-inch-up>

Sweet Briar Chooses a Core Curriculum: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/Sweet-Briar-Chooses-a-Core/242083>

Virginia 2017: http://www.roanoke.com/opinion/editorials/editorial-we-had-questions-for-here-are-answers/article_1312cb09-51d6-5912-95f2-c00383686522.html

Sweet Briar's Curriculum Comes at a Cost: <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2017/12/19/sweet-briar-eliminating-tenured-faculty-positions-it-puts-new-curriculum-place>

Sweet Briar Unveils New Women's Leadership Program: <http://www.newsplex.com/content/news/Sweet-Briar-unveils-new-womens-leadership-program-465239093.html>

Sweet Briar College, Which almost Closed, Gets a Rating Upgrade: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2017-12-18/sweet-briar-college-after-near-closing-now-sees-rating-inch-up>

Sweet Briar Chooses a Core Curriculum: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/Sweet-Briar-Chooses-a-Core/242083>

Faculty Positions: <http://insidehighered.com/news/2017/12/19/sweet-briar-eliminating-tenured-faculty-positions-it-puts-new-curriculum-place>

Standard and Poor Upgrade! Sweet Briar Recognized for Strategic Initiatives: S&P Global Ratings announced yesterday that it has raised its long-term rating to "B+" from "B" on bonds issued for Sweet Briar College, with an outlook of "stable." The rating upgrade reflects our view of the college's new board and senior leadership team, including a new president who officially took office in May 2017, who have taken a number of actions to stabilize the college following the previously announced closure of the college in March 2015," according to S&P Global's report. "These actions include an overhaul of strategic initiatives and developing related objectives to address the college's immediate

and intermediate priorities that include curriculum restructuring, reexamination of SBC's tuition policy, and implementation of multi-year planning. In addition, during fiscal 2017, the college refinanced its direct placement debt with a loan from the endowment, thereby eliminating acceleration risk, which had been a prior credit concern." S&P further noted that Sweet Briar's "continued elevated fundraising support and astute financial management and budgeting practices support the college's attempt to stabilize and sustain its operations." <http://sbc.edu/news/sweet-briar-recognized-for-strategic-initiatives-with-upgraded-rating-from-sp-global/>

Sweet Briar Gets Improved Rating: <http://www.newsplex.com/content/news/Sweet-Briar-gets-improved-rating-464205333.html>

Sweet Briar Debt Rating Upgraded: <https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2017/12/14/sweet-briar-debt-rating-upgraded>

Sweet Briar Bond Ratings Increase: "This is unquestionably a milestone of sustainability and stability," Tomlinson said. http://www.newsadvance.com/news/local/sweet-briar-bond-ratings-increase-for-second-straight-year/article_d2166bb2-514b-5ae7-ba12-2f7d1dd0a317.html

ALUMNAE HIGHLIGHTS

Leigh Ann White '86, SBC Professor Econ Emeritus, SBC BA Mathematics, PhD Johns Hopkins Health Economics and Health Policy, new job Senior Director at [Evidera](http://www.evidera.com). This is her group: <https://www.evidera.com/what-we-do/market-access/>. Congratulations Leigh Ann!

Professor Emeritus Mary Oliver: It's a morning for miracles. Merry Christmas!" - from poet [#MaryOliver](https://www.maryoliver.com), shared from her Facebook page. In 1991, Mary Oliver held [@Sweetbriaredu](https://www.sweetbriar.edu)'s Margaret Banister Writer in Residence position. <https://mobile.twitter.com/sbcalumnae/status/945339422626729985/photo/1>

Michelle Raymond '08: Holla Holla! [@Sweetbriaredu](https://www.sweetbriar.edu) graduate [@Mray_says](https://www.mray.com) class of 2008 has released a single on [@iTunes](https://www.apple.com/itunes/)!!

Kim Uglum '17: "I didn't have any difficulty adjusting to [@UVA](https://www.uva.edu) in the School of Architecture as [@Sweetbriaredu](https://www.sweetbriar.edu) had similar work loads, reading and writing-wise." This fall, Kim began a master's program in architectural history at the [@UVA](https://www.uva.edu) School of Architecture. Kim is as fierce in real life as she is on billboards. Her "Fierce" photo for Sweet Briar advertising is up [@ShortPumpMall](https://www.shortpumpmall.com) in Richmond! [#SweetBriarFIERCE](https://www.sweetbriar.edu) (Photo on twitter [@sweetbriar.edu](https://www.sweetbriar.edu)).

Delia Ann Taylor '34: Author [@lizamundy](https://www.lizamundy.com) includes how [@Sweetbriaredu](https://www.sweetbriar.edu) graduate Delia Ann Taylor, class of 1934, helped break a key Japanese Army code, featured in her book [#CodeGirls](https://www.codegirls.com) + Read more from a recent article [@Roanoker](https://www.roanoker.com) <https://theroanoker.com/magazine/departments/mundy-national-gone-local/>

Kayla Kishbaugh '17: [#SweetBriar](https://www.sweetbriar.edu) [#ClassOf2017](https://www.sweetbriar.edu) business grad Kayla Kishbaugh is a management trainee [@enterprisecares](https://www.enterprisecares.com). "Everyone here goes out of their way to help me succeed, which reminds me a lot of Sweet Briar," says Kayla, who just sold her first car. Congrats! [@sweetbriaredu](https://www.sweetbriar.edu).

Sarah Babcock rode in the Rose Parade for New Years! Our Alumnae Are Awesome! Thank you Chris Svoboda for sharing this photo of Sarah Babcock from The Rose Parade! [@sbcalumnae](https://www.sbcalumnae.com). Sweet Briar alumna Sarah Babcock rode for the 27th year in the Rose Parade. She was one of three outriders on a Fresian accompanying the Valley Hunt Club Carriage 43rd in the order behind the City of Irvine float. She said she would be "be waving like crazy to all my Sweet Briar sisters everywhere". The Valley Hunt Club started the Rose Parade over 100 years ago.

Jana Portman Simmons '82: Our sincerest condolences to [@Sweetbriaredu](https://www.sweetbriar.edu) graduate Jana Portman Simmons, class of 1982, on the passing of her father, world-renowned architect John Portman. Our thoughts go out to the entire Portman Family <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/30/obituaries/john-portman-dead.html>

[@nytimes](https://nytimes.com/2017/12/30/obi...)

Leah Busque '01, Engineer, entrepreneur, early-stage investor, Boston native, SF transplant. Founder, TaskRabbit. GP FUEL Capital. Mother of two, Dec 6: The Anatomy of the Marketplace, Marketplaces as Living, Breathing and Complex Organism: <https://medium.com/@labunleashed/the-anatomy-of-a-marketplace-16b9d4ee8174>

Georgiana Conger '87: New Aiken Art Annex: Painting w/ Acrylics Class, led by instructor & [@Sweetbriaredu](#) graduate Georgianna (Girl) Conger, class of 1987 in S.C. Thanks for the photos + Girl adds: "Art classes have begun at the new [#AikenArtAnnex](#)! What a wonderful space to bloom artistic endeavors!" <https://aikenartannex.com>

Sam Schwartz '13 Vixen Sports Alumna Spotlight: After graduation, I moved to Nags Head, NC (OBX) and worked in action sports and tourism for two years before returning to SBC to get a second degree. Since coming back to SBC, I have taken advantage of the opportunity to help coach lacrosse. This spring will be my third season as a volunteer assistant coach, and I absolutely love doing it! Along with finishing my Engineering Degree, I am working at BWX Technologies as a Nuclear Process Engineering Co-op. I will again be done with my degree in May and will be moving back to North Carolina to be a Mechanical Engineer at the Naval Air Systems Command at MCAS Cherry Point. <http://vixenathletics.com/general/2017-18/releases/20171201f03bal>

Sally Mott Freeman : Top Books of 2017 for the Smithsonian and the Marine Times! @simonbooks: Excellent! [@MottFreeman](#)'s "The Jersey Brothers" named one of [@smithsonian](#)'s 10 best history books of 2017! Well deserved! <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/ten-best-history-books-2017-180967416/> . And <https://www.marinecorpstimes.com/off-duty/2017/12/12/best-books-of-2017-a-dozen-cant-miss-military-reads/>

Helen Murchison Lane '46: An homage to Helen Lane. http://www.aquilaarts.com/oldortega_gallery_homagetohelenlane.html

Evangeline Taylor '00: On Dec 4th - Loyal Oliver Taylor, 6 lb,5oz was born in Knoxville! Congratulations!

Sydney Hodge '17: @sweetbriaredu [#SweetBriar](#) [#Classof2017](#) grad Sydney Hodge is at [@UVAMcIntire](#) earning a dual M.S. in global commerce & global strategic management w/ a cert. in international business. After stints at [@UVA](#), in China & at [@ESADE](#) in Spain, she'll start as district manager w/ [@AldiUSA](#). Congrats!

Hannah Marron '21 Vixen Cross Country: [@Sweetbriaredu](#) [@VixenAthletics](#) [#sbcxc](#): "I'm Hannah Marron & I'm a first year in the [#Engineering](#) Program at [#SweetBriar](#) as well as a runner on the [#CrossCountry](#) team. The team has been a great community for me & I loved going to ODACs with them this year!"

Mary Ames Booker OK, SBC sisters we need to vote for Mary Ames Booker and the USS North Carolina. Mary Ames is the Historian for the Battleship. If you are in or near Wilmington, it is a MUST VISIT. She has gathered so much information and made some amazing exhibits! Sharing for [Elizabeth Perkinson Simmons](#). <http://www.10best.com/.../battleship-north-carolina-wilmington.../>

Claude Wasserstein '82 Awarded Chevalier of the Legion of Honor: What else did she get from her experience at Sweet Briar? She lists, rapid fire: deep friendships, analytical capabilities and an appreciation for art in all forms. <http://sbc.edu/news/france-awards-the-chevalier-of-the-legion-of-honor-to-sweet-briars-claude-becker-wasserstein-82/>

Sweet Briar College Alumnae Alliance Council: Calendar Planning Dates
DRAFT as of January 7, 2018, (Updates noted in RED font and yellow highlights)

Summer and Fall Semester 2017		Spring Semester & Summer 2018	
July 30 - Aug 13	Alumnae Clubs hosting Back-To-School events	Sweet Briar Day Alumnae Club Events	Alumnae Clubs hosting events in December / January before students return for classes
July 31 – Aug 18	Sweet Work Weeks	Jan 15	Classes Begin
Aug 24-26	Board of Directors Meetings	Feb 22-24	Board of Directors on Campus AA Council meetings on campus
Aug 18-22	New Student Orientation and Registration	Mar 2-11	College Spring Break
Aug 24	Classes Begin	March 23-24	Explore the Arts Weekend
Sep 22-24	Founder's Day, President Woo's Inauguration, Alumnae Leadership Training Conference	March 30-31	Explore Engineering Weekend
Sep 22-23	Explore Chemistry Weekend for High School Girls	April 6-7	Explore Chemistry Weekend
Sep 28 – Oct 1	College Fall Break	Apr 19-21	Board of Directors on Campus
Oct 6-7	Explore Archaeology Weekend for High School Girls	April 21-22	Explore Environmental Science Weekend
Oct 8-9	Admissions Open House	May 1-7	May 1: Classes end; May 3-7: Exams
Oct 13-14	Explore Chemistry Weekend for High School Girls	May 12	Commencement (Class of 2018)
Oct 13-14	Explore Environmental Sciences Weekend for High School Girls	June 1-3	Reunion (3's and 8's as featured classes). All classes invited to "come home"
Oct 13-14	Families Weekend	July 29-Aug 3	Summer Explore Engineering Design Course
Oct 19-21	Board of Directors on Campus		
Oct 28	Amherst County Day at SBC		
Nov 10-11	Fall Explore Engineering Weekend for High School Girls		
Nov 10-11	Explore Creative Writing Weekend for High School Girls		
Nov 12-13	Admissions Open House		
Nov 18-26	College Thanksgiving Break		
Nov 28	Giving Tuesday (sbc.edu/give)		
Dec 2	1-Day Admissions Open House		
Dec 8	Classes End		
Dec 10-14	Exams		