



AA Council: Sarah Clement '75, Norma Valentine '93, Josie Beets '00, Phyllis Jordan '80, Jane Dure '82, Sarah Reidy Ferguson '96, Debra Elkins '93, Sarah vonRosenberg '72, Cathy Foose '78, Heather Ewing '90, Katie Schellhammer '95, Alex Grobman '12, Sara Parsatoun '11, Michelle Badger '06, Eleanor O'Connor '07, Katie Robertson '97

AR&D Staff: Clelie Steckel, Claire Griffith '80

PlusOnes: Jeanette Pillsbury '72, Jessica Hiveley '97, Martha Fruehauf '80, Frances Morse '68, Julia Schmitz '03, Liz Jarvis '71, Muffy Parsons '78, Martha Holland '72, Sarah Ince '99, Carter Frackleton '72, DeDe Conley '72, Linda Uihlein '77, Myth Bayoud '80, Cyndi McCabe '74, Amy Lamphere '80

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.

Council Operations:

As appropriate, the Council will identify action items per teleconf, 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 teleconfs with AR&D.
- **Keep the “4 P’s”** – Passion for our alma mater, Professionalism, Patience, Perseverance
- **AA Council** meets twice per month via teleconf. **NOTE: March 6 meeting is cancelled, next meeting will be held March 20, 2018.**
- After each meeting, minutes are drafted and reviewed by Council members. See minutes online at <http://sbc.edu/alumnae-development/alumnae-alliance/>

AA Council Co-Chairs Transition: Three interim co-chairs are Sarah Clement '75, Norma Valentine '93 and Josie Beets '00 who are shadowing Debra and Sarah V until the transition at the February 22-24 on-campus AA Council meeting at which time they will assume operations responsibilities for the Council. Debra and Sarah V will step down and become Plus Ones. The interim Co-Chairs will serve until a regular nominations process can be run later this Spring and the new successors selected. The Governance WG is currently finalizing a recommended formal nominations process as part of their work, to be presented to Council at the February meeting.

AR&D Updates and Requests for the Alumnae Alliance

- AR&D thanked Sarah von Rosenberg '72 and Debra Elkins '93 for their service, and welcomed the new interim chairs for the AA Council.
- AR&D highlighted that Liza Mundy, the author of “Code Girls”, would be speaking on campus on February 20th, and that the College was also hosting a number of events for Black History Month on campus, including a Gospel Fest on Saturday, February 24th.
- For National Engineering Week, Sweet Briar would be hosting Christine Darden as the keynote speaker for the Engineering Banquet. The event is sold out with over 300 attendees expected.
- For Reunion 2018, AR&D is planning to coordinate with the AlumComms Working Group to share information broadly. AR&D is also working with the AA Council to organize the Festival in the quad, which has been well received for the last two years. All classes are welcome: Register online at <http://sbc.edu/reunion/registration>
- AR&D also encouraged AA Council Members and Plus Ones to nominate other alumnae for the Outstanding and Distinguished Alumnae awards to be presented at Reunion -- nominate someone at <http://sbc.edu/alumnae-development/awards/>

Working Group Updates

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

- **Sweet Briar Days:** 31+ club events have been planned this year, up from 15 last year, with over 428 attending. This is the largest number of Sweet Briar Days held in years!
- The Chicago Sweet Briar Day event on Feb 17th with President Woo had Sweet Briar alumnae attending from multiple states in the Midwest including Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.
- **Facebook page views** – featuring SBC Day photos from Clubs (Jan 20 to Feb 16) – 12,781 people reached!

President Woo's Spring Tour Dates		
• Feb 17 – Greater Chicago Area (President Woo attending!)	• March 6 – Ponte Vedra Beach, FL (near Jacksonville)	• March 11 – Lynchburg, VA
• March 4 – Savannah, GA	• March 6 – Indian River Shores, FL (near Vero Beach)	

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

- Ambassadors are asked to keep helping with upcoming college fairs and encouraged to submit any questions that they might have.
- Heather, Michelle and Claire briefly discussed Presidential Scholars weekends, which are competitive merit scholarships for students with grade point averages over 3.5. The 1st Presidential Scholars weekend had over 30 students and their families attending, and the 2nd had over 50 students and their families attending. Invited students interact with faculty and staff as part of the weekend visits.
- **Admissions Open House Dates:** March 30th. Also: Saturday visits: Mar 24, Apr 14, May 5

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

- YAS is still recruiting 15 young alumnae to serve in various YAS leadership roles. The direct link to the nomination form is here: <http://sbc.edu/alumnae-development/alumnae-alliance-council-nominations/>
- YAS reported that the social campaign & contest to encourage young alumnae to update their contact information was very successful, with 339 alumnae, including 188 young alumnae and 151 “young-at-heart” alumnae, updating their contact information with Sweet Briar. Kudos to Clelie Steckel in AR&D and the AlumComms WG for also helping execute the social media campaign.

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

- This working group is working closely with Clelie Steckel (AR&D), Melissa Richards and Amy Ostroth (College Communications) to enhance communications to nine decades of alumnae.
- **January 2018 @SBCAlumnae Twitter Statistics Update:** 96 tweets, 102K tweet impressions, 2384 profile visits, 40 mentions, 12 new followers
- **SBC Magazine** – next issue on track for April. Prior issues: <https://sbc.edu/magazine/magazine-archives/>
- **REMINDER: CLASS NOTES** You can submit online at <http://sbc.edu/alumnae-development/class-notes/>
- **Fun digital media for Class Communications**
 - Archived old student handbooks, SBC news, etc. <https://archive.org/search.php?query=creator%3A%22Sweet+Briar+College>
 - Yearbooks (Briar Patches) – as far back as 1915! <https://archive.org/search.php?query=Sweet%20Briar%20College%20briar%20patch>

Development Working Group: Cathy Foose '78

- **Upcoming Day of Giving and Week of Giving Challenges:** March 1st and March 2nd – 10th with a goal of \$500,000 for March 1 and another \$500,000 for March 2-10. An additional goal is to have 2000 unique donors in March.

- **Class giving statistics** (as of December 5, 2017) - <http://sbc.edu/alumnae-development/class-giving-statistics/>
- AR&D will also host an upcoming webinar for Class Officers to help with the Day of Giving and Week of Giving challenges.

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

- Katie R and Sarah C reported that the WG has a working draft Principles of Governance that will be debated while the AA Council is on campus for their Feb 22-24 working meetings. The document will also be shared with AR&D and the Board / Alumnae Committee for their input and comments. The intent is to gain general agreement on governance among AA Council members so the Governance WG can finalize the document and move forward quickly toward holding nominations for Council leadership. This governance document will be revisited annually, and posted as part of Alumnae Alliance documents on the sbc.edu Alumnae Alliance website information.

Council Operations: Sarah Clement '75, Norma Valentine '93, Josie Beets '00 (*interim*)

- **Council Leadership Transition:** Debra Elkins '93 and Sarah vonRosenberg '72 are continuing to transition Council leadership to the interim co-chairs, who have been confirmed as interim by the AA Council until such time as a full formal nominations and selection process is adopted and executed (expected Spring 2018). Sarah C, Norma and Josie will shadow Sarah V and Debra from now until the official transition, which will occur at the February on-campus meeting of the AA Council. All three women currently hold other positions within the Council and will continue to assist as they can in those other roles until those roles are filled using the formal process that is expected to be presented at

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

- This Working Group is **helping arrange a networking tour to Washington DC for March 4-5, 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>
 - You can login using your Facebook or LinkedIn account – no separate username and password required!
 - Alumnifire now has **1,760 alumnae, students, faculty and staff** registered since the launch in Jan 2015.
 - **Spring mini challenge:** To beat last spring's 175 posts of jobs and internships for students and alumnae. **Current status: 39 new job and internship postings since Jan 3, 2018!**

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

CAMPUS UPDATES AND EVENTS ON CAMPUS

College of Distinction! Sweet Briar College has been recognized by **Colleges of Distinction** for its excellent programming in business, education and engineering — while enhancing those programs with a strong liberal arts foundation. “Sweet Briar College continues to be an outstanding representation of the teaching-centered colleges that we believe provide the elements crucial for student development and an effective undergraduate education,” “In addition to such an impressive implementation of high-impact practices, Sweet Briar College has enriched professional programs with a stellar foundation in the liberal arts. <http://sbc.edu/news/sweet-briar-recognized-for-excellent-business-education-and-engineering-programs-with-solid-liberal-arts-foundation/>

Admissions blog: “I’m a minority student. Why should I come to #SweetBriar?” Sophomore DaZané Cole and first-year Ajhani Oxendine have a million answers for you. Watch the full video on our #Admissions Blog: <http://sbc.edu/news/admissions-blog-im-a-minority-student-why-should-i-come-to-sweet-briar/>

Annabeth Griffith '18 on living with art: @Sweetbriaredu #LivingWithArt: "The philosophy major in me loves this piece for its sublime effect from the cosmic setting & the rigid lines matched with the organic, earthly fish. This piece makes me think. It transcends my space and uplifts it" Annabeth Griffin '18.

Skiffle Steel Orchestra: While prepping for tomorrow's Panorama finals in [#Trinidad](#) w/ Skiffle Steel Orchestra, [#SweetBriar](#) music prof. Jeff Jones got to chat w/ Prime Minister Keith Rowley, who stopped by to wish the band luck. [@WhenSteelTalks](#)

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

Explore Events 2018 Schedule [@Sweetbriaredu](#) [#EXPLORE](#) Weekend w/ [#Arts](#) [#Engineering](#) [#History](#) [#Chemistry](#) [#ComputerScience](#) [#EnvironmentalScience](#) - "The [#EXPLORE](#) series offers high school girls in their sophomore, junior and senior years opportunities to investigate different fields of study in a small-class setting" <http://sbc.edu/explore/>

Sweet Briar invites high school girls to explore engineering and computer science. <http://sbc.edu/news/sweet-briar-invites-high-school-girls-to-explore-engineering-and-computer-science/> Registration is now open for two upcoming Explore weekends at Sweet Briar: [Explore Engineering on March 30-31](#) and [Explore Engineering and Computer Science on April 13-14](#). Priority registration ends on Feb. 1 for Explore Engineering and on March 1 for Explore Engineering and Computer Science. The total cost for each event is \$65, which includes room and board, snacks, supplies and a T-shirt. For more information, contact Rebecca Girten at rgirten@sb.edu or 434-381-6447.

Summer Collegiate Riding Clinics | June 8-10, 2018 and June 22-24, 2018

Sweet Briar College offers three-day summer riding clinics for rising juniors and seniors in high school who ride at an intermediate or advanced level. Students will improve horsemanship while learning how to set competitive goals as part of a team experience. Portions of mounted sessions are videotaped for review with instructors. <http://sbc.edu/riding/riding-clinics/>

Young Writers Workshop at SBC, June 24-July 6 two weeks open to 9th grade through rising 12th grade, and July 8-27 three weeks, open to Rising 10th grade through rising college freshmen: <http://www.theyoungwriters.org/summer-program>

Mar 13: Conversation in the Gallery with Linda S. Fink, Duberg Professor of Ecology, and Merrilee J. Wroten, Director of Riding in conjunction with the current exhibition The Beauty in the Beast, professors lead an informal discussion of their research at the Pannell Gallery, 12-1pm, all are welcome, bring your own lunch.

Mar 14: Waxter Environmental Forum, Ginette Hemley, Keeping Tigers Alive: A Story of Recovery and Hope, 7:30-9:30pm at the Conference Center, Boxwood room.

Spring Riding Schedule:

Feb 24: IHSA Regionals @ Liberty

Mar 17: SBC Spring SWVHJA Equitation/Jumper Show

Apr 14: SBC 91st Annual Horse Show

Apr 28: SBC Bedford Co Fox Hunt

SBC Dance Going Global: Summer News! [@Sweetbriaredu](#) Dance Professors Mark Magruder & Ella Magruder, SBC '75, [#SweetBriar](#) students Haylei Libran, Olympia LeHota & Rachel Woods, and SBC Alumnae, are traveling to Australia in July to attend & present work [#daCi](#) & [@WDA_Americas](#) <https://daci.international/en/>

Sweet Briar Theatre: <http://sbc.edu/news/sweet-briar-theatre-tackles-lifes-big-questions-in-rosencrantz-and-guildenstern-are-dead/>

Celebrating Black History Month: Our 1st profile in celebration of #BlackHistoryMonth features #SweetBriar alumna Dr. Marshalyn Yeargin-Allsopp, who has been driving progress in developmental pediatrics @CDCgov since 1981. <http://sbc.edu/news/celebrating-black-history-month-at-sweet-briar-marshalyn-yeargin-allsopp-68-finds-her-fierce/>

Celebrating Black History Month at Sweet Briar: Rachel Woods '20 forges her path: <http://sbc.edu/news/celebrating-black-history-month-at-sweet-briar-rachel-woods-20-forges-her-path/>

Feb 24: Gospel Fest: 3-5pm in Chapel. <http://sbc.edu/news/sweet-briar-to-host-annual-gospel-fest-on-saturday-feb-24/>

Mar 19: Spring Step Singing

Mar 21: 7:30pm, Library, Writers series Jennifer Ackerman: Science and Nature Writer, latest book, The Genius of Birds

Vixen Swimming: Once again the Sweet Briar swimmers have been honored for their academic prowess. The College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America has announced that 688 teams have earned the distinction Scholar All-America Team. Sweet Briar made the list, sporting a 3.05 fall term grade point average. <http://www.vixenathletics.com/sports/wswimdive/2017-18/releases/20180129lklqhx>

Vixen Tennis: The Sweet Briar tennis program was selected 11th in the Old Dominion Athletic Conference Women's Preseason Tennis Poll. SBC will open up 2018 play against ODAC rival Washington and Lee on February 20 at 4:00 on the Vixen Tennis Courts. <http://www.vixenathletics.com/sports/wten/2017-18/releases/20180201hky218>. Complete ODAC preseason poll: <http://www.odaconline.com/sports/wten/2017-18/releases/020118-wten-preseasonpoll>

Vixen Lacrosse: Sweet lax will open its season at home on Feb. 10 against a familiar foe in Ferrum College. Complete 2018 Schedule: <http://www.vixenathletics.com/sports/wlax/2017-18/releases/20171116nuchgr>

NEWS ABOUT SWEET BRIAR AND THE ACADEMIC REPOSITIONING

Forbes and new educational business models: And there is Sweet Briar College, a woman's college in Amherst, VA which is reinventing itself after almost closing in 2015. With a new president since May, 2017, the College has changed its term structure, redone its core curriculum, created three interdisciplinary centers of excellence in place of traditional departments and reduced its tuition by \$15,000. <https://www.forbes.com/sites/lucielapovsky/2018/02/06/the-changing-business-model-for-colleges-and-universities/#56b8e1095ed5>

Randolph Riding: The competitive riding program possibly could continue through a partnership with another college. Locally, Liberty University, Lynchburg College and Sweet Briar College all also offer riding programs. According to the Randolph equestrian program website, there are 18 current team members. Bateman was confident an equine studies minor offered at Randolph will remain regardless. http://www.newsadvance.com/news/local/randolph-college-riding-center-facing-financial-uncertainties/article_c9a6e5c4-11e4-11e8-bea2-2391ba720207.html

International Recruiting: Sweet Briar College @Sweetbriaredu. Thanks to our #SweetBriar team in Korea for helping us at an education fair this past weekend! We connected w/ dozens of college-bound students looking for places to study in the U.S. #SweetBriarFIERCE . Savannah Klein '16, Admissions Counselor and Music Professor Josh Harris represented SBC at this successful event.

Sweet Briar's Endowment Grows: Study shows growth for local college endowments, Annual study by the National Association of College and University Business Officers and Commonfund Institute on college ... While Randolph College and Sweet Briar College did not participate in the report, both schools saw their endowments grow from 2016 to 2017. http://www.newsadvance.com/news/local/study-shows-growth-for-local-college-endowments/article_f287cbc3-2c50-56a3-9c97-37f2cf1eb5d1.html

SBC ALUMNAE HIGHLIGHTS

Harpreet Bedi '93, owner Hotel Vagabond, Congratulations! Top Ten Hotels in Singapore! From Trip Advisor 2018. #5 Luxury Hotels Singapore, #6 Top Hotel Singapore, #8 Best Service Singapore.

Jane Sigloh, SBC class of '56: author of "Like Trees Walking: In the Second Half of Life." Available on Amazon. recommended by Bexie Faxon Knowles '55: "Many of us are fast approaching the "golden years" of retirement, wondering with fear — and hope — what the future holds for us. And you won't find a better companion for the journey of aging than Jane Sigloh. She's witty, perceptive, and wise. A retired Episcopal priest, she is possessed of both reverent awe and irreverent honesty about the facts and fantasies of growing old. She interweaves the insights of Scripture, poetry, fiction, and philosophy into her memories and reflections on the challenges and opportunities that maturity brings. Dip into any of these chapters and find a refreshing perspective, a humorous anecdote, or an intimate confession that will ring true to your own experience."

Sakinah Bryant '17: More great news from the [#Classof2017](#): [#SweetBriar](#) grad Sakinah Bryant is pursuing an M.S. in clinical mental health counseling at [@indianastate](#). Congrats!

Kathryn Cunningham-McMahon '97 of [@TryonResort](#) International Equestrian Center speaks with [@RCSNC](#) students about volunteer opportunities during the [@EquestrianGames](#) in this session sponsored by the Z. Smith, Isothermal Comm Coll [@isothermal_edu](#) . Posted by Katie Robertson: Proud of my [@Sweetbriaredu](#) sister

Helen V. 'Honey' Passano '55 update: Obituary: An environmentalist who embraced cultural and civic causes passed away Jan 19. http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/obituaries/bs-md-ob-helen-passano-20180124-story.amp.html?_twitter_impression=true . **Mitzi Halla '55** attended the memorial service along with Mary Pope Hutson '83 and Claire Griffith '80, Anne Lyn Harrell Welsh '55 and her daughter Margaret also attended.

Lyndia Plamp Mower '55 passed away Dec 24.

Mitzi Halla '55: Sally Mott Freeman plans to speak in June at Vinson Hall, our retirement community in McLean, VA.

Sally Mott Freeman '76 on TV! Steve Aduato, PhD: [@SteveAduato](#), Tonight, Feb 6, I sit down w/ Sally [@MottFreeman](#), [#author](#) of "The Jersey Brothers," to learn about her years of research into her family's war-time mystery - tune in at 7pm [@njtv](#) + 12:30am [@ThirteenWNET](#) .

'92 Mini Reunion: Love Seeing These Beauties From The Class Of 92 Get Together at Lyford Design Weekend! Jacqueline Geets Henry, Jennifer Cacioppo & Pokey Schiff. [@sbcalumnae](#)

Rachel Grey '96, Anne Biddle, Rosewood Farms: http://www.cecildaily.com/business/biz-beat-former-terrapin-station-winery-to-become-rosewood-farms/article_359d7d20-5592-5ddb-8b97-977ce6051c58.html

Meredith Haga Fox '16: In honor of [#NationalDonorDay](#), shoutout to [#SweetBriar](#) grad Meredith Haga Fox '16 for turning her own fight for survival into a fierce commitment to others: first at Tennessee Donor Services, now as an organ recovery coordinator at [@LNHFoundation](#).

Casey Fleming '05: Congratulations to [#SweetBriar](#) grad Casey Fleming '05, who was just named partner at Foley & Lardner! Casey holds a law degree from [@wlulaw](#). <https://www.biztimes.com/bubbler/casey-fleming/> via [@BizTimesMedia](#)

Shelby Benny '18: [#SweetBriar](#)'s Shelby Benny is at [#swpaca18](#) in Albuquerque, N.M., today, to present her paper on gender and sexuality in "Game of Thrones." After graduating a year early w/ the [#Classof2018](#) in May, Shelby heads to [@UFLaw](#) this fall.

Alex Dagher '17:[#SweetBriar](#) [#Classof2017](#) grad Alex Dagher is a math & English tutor for [@AmeriCorps](#). The former psych major & dance educ. minor makes sure kids in Newark, N.J., have the tools they need to succeed in college: "My professors really helped prepare me for this challenge," she says.

Sweet Briar College Alumnae Alliance Council: Calendar Planning Dates
DRAFT as of February 18, 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 9	Admissions Open House
Aug 18-22	New Student Orientation and Registration	Feb 22	SBC National Engineer Week Banquet; “Hidden Figures” Dr. Christine Darden, keynote speaker
Aug 24	Classes Begin	Feb 22-24	Board of Directors on Campus AA Council meetings on campus
Sep 22-24	Founder's Day, President Woo’s Inauguration, Alumnae Leadership Training Conference	Mar 2-11	College Spring Break
Sep 22-23	Explore Chemistry Weekend for High School Girls	March 23-24	Explore the Arts Weekend
Sep 28 – Oct 1	College Fall Break	March 30	Admissions Open House
Oct 6-7	Explore Archaeology Weekend for High School Girls	March 30-31	Explore Engineering Weekend
Oct 8-9	Admissions Open House	April 6-7	Explore Chemistry Weekend
Oct 13-14	Explore Chemistry Weekend for High School Girls	Apr 19-21	Board of Directors on Campus
Oct 13-14	Explore Environmental Sciences Weekend for High School Girls	April 21-22	Explore Environmental Science Weekend
Oct 13-14	Families Weekend	May 1-7	May 1: Classes end; May 3-7: Exams
Oct 19-21	Board of Directors on Campus	May 12	Commencement (Class of 2018)
Oct 28	Amherst County Day at SBC	June 1-3	Reunion (3’s and 8’s as featured classes). All classes invited to “come home”
Nov 10-11	Fall Explore Engineering Weekend for High School Girls	July 29-Aug 3	Summer Explore Engineering Design Course
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		