

YIRA Alumni Network





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P.O. Box 202144, New Haven, CT 06520

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Welcome

Dear YIRA members and friends,

Welcome to the YIRA Alumni Network. The momentum for creating program began when a few members of the YIRA Class of 2015 questioned the idea that YIRA membership ended upon graduation. For an organization that gave us so much (and demanded so much of us), it only makes sense that the rich community we've built in our time at Yale continues beyond graduation. YIRA has grown tremendously over the years into a flourishing organization with operations that span the globe. It has grown from a small group of dedicated individuals passionate about IR to the largest student organization dedicated to providing IR and educational opportunities around the world. It is in celebration of this growth and our everlasting spirit that we decided to create the YIRA Alumni Network. This year, with the full commitment of the YIRA Class of 2015 and the YIRA Executive board, we are launching a robust and sustainable program that will bring together the YIRA community, past and present.

Over the last few months, the YIRA Alumni Network has been quietly brewing some very exciting initiatives. We invite you to peruse the pages of this view book and take a look at what the program has in store. Keep in mind that this is just the start of what will grow into a flourishing community. We invite you to be part of it by staying active and connecting with the community. We cannot be more excited to be launching the YIRA Alumni Network - so go on, take a look!

Yours,

Grace Chiang '15 Director

Matthew Finney '15 Co-Moderator

Tristan Sechrest '15 Co-Moderator

Alexandra Small '18 Campus Coordinator

The YIRA Alumni Network is proud to support the Yale International Relations Association.

YIRA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit undergraduate organization working to raise awareness of and foster debate around global affairs.

Our Mission



Connecting a **global** *community.*

Our alumni stretch across the globe engaging in research, peacekeeping, top-level private sector work, public service, and much more. The YIRA Alumni Network (YAN) aims to connect YIRA alumni, support alumni in reaching their goals, provide a platform for alumni to continue contributing to YIRA's mission, and mobilize the resources of YIRA alumni to enrich the experience of current and future YIRA members.

Our Programs

In our inaugural year, our programming is aimed to bring together the alumni classes of YIRA and establish the foundations of a sustainable, enriching alumni network.

Mory's Cup Celebration

As part of our official launch, we're excited to announce the creation of a YIRA Mory's cup! Current and future generations of YIRA members and alumni alike can celebrate our spirit of community with this symbolic emblem of unity and friendship.

Class Gift

In our first annual class gift event, we are excited to bring the YIRA Class of 2015 together in a fundraising effort to provide a financial aid award in our class's name. The award will help enrich the experience of a current YIRA member who otherwise may not be able to participate fully in YIRA's international programming. The campaign will kick off in August and run until the end of September. As a token of appreciation for the class's generosity, we will be sending an official YIRA Alumni Pin to all donors. These special pins will earn you perks at all of our Alumni events. For more information, please visit: yiraan.wildapricot.org/2015-Class-Gift. We can't see what the class of 2015 will do!

Mentorship Program

Each of us remembers that mentor at Yale who helped us grow and cheered on our successes. As an organization, the YIRA Alumni Network hopes to formalize and strengthen such connections within YIRA by creating a mentorship program to connect recent alumni with current YIRA

members. We believe this program will provide a valuable opportunity for current YIRA undergraduates to connect with recent alumni who were in their position not too long ago. If you are a recent alumni interested in participating as a mentor, please look out for an email in late fall or visit: yiraan.wildapricot.org/mentorship.

Website/Directory

Stay connected with the worldwide YIRA community on the new YIRA Alumni Network website: yiraan.wildapricot.org! It hosts regular updates on YIRA events and programs on campus, as well as an alumni directory and forum to keep the YIRA conversation going. Throughout the fall, we will be phasing in new features on the alumni portal, including registration for exclusive alumni events, new fundraising campaigns, and other initiatives. The complete roll out of the YIRA Alumni Network website will be available to all classes by December 2015.

YIRA History Wiki

The internal YIRA History Wiki aims to document our organization's history. Members and Alumni can add and edit wikis (just like Wikipedia) to help piece together an accurate record of each constituent program and defining moments in YIRA's history. Each of us has a piece of this history, and we hope you will each take the time to contribute!

Our Programs

Here's a sneak peek of some exciting programs in the works:

Mentorship for Alumni

As the newest classes of YIRA Alumni step out into the real world, many long for that sense of community and support we found within YIRA. The YIRA Alumni Network hopes to connect recent YIRA alumni with more established YIRA alumni through a mentorship program. It is our hope that with the support of past alumni, our recent alumni members will take their first steps into the real world with confident strides. If you are an alumnus or alumnae interested in participating as a mentor or mentee in this program, please look out for an email in early 2016 or visit: yiraan.wildapricot.org/mentorship.

Full Roll Out to All Classes

As an Alumni Network, this organization aims to bring together the YIRA community at large - both current members and past alumni. As such, we expect a full roll out to all Alumni classes by December 2015. We welcome alumni near and far, regardless of depth of past participation in YIRA, to reconnect with this global community. If you wish to be a coordinator for your graduating class or to help plan festivities to mark induction of the Class of 2016, please contact alumni@yira.org. To join YIRA-AN, visit yiraan.wildapricot.org/Alumni-services.

Virtual Connectivity Events

Beyond regional reunion and connectivity events, we look forward to launching

virtual networking events to connect our alumni throughout the globe. Imagine a dial-in conversation on women's empowerment, a video-chat panel on the state of China-US relations, or perhaps even an online Q&A chat session about job searches within a certain sector or geography. These are all possible events you can look forward to participating in through the YIRA Alumni Network. Check our website often for new events and make sure to create an official alumni account on our website to receive the latest information.

Revamped Alumni Reunion Events

Apart from the annual Harvard-Yale Game reunion, we are planning to launch several other reunion events. Not only are we hoping to provide varied events at Yale, we are also hoping to host events in major hubs where our alumni are located. Look forward to events such as an IR Symposium open to all YIRA members and YIRA alumni, alumni invitations to YIRA banquet, alumni receptions during commencement weekend, and much more! If you are interested in serving as a regional coordinator to help plan and host reunion events, please contact alumni@yira.org. To stay updated with event information, please make sure to check our website and social media often and create an official alumni account on the alumni website!

Our Team



Grace Chiang

Grace graduated from Yale's Calhoun College in May 2015 with a B.A. in Economics. Grace enjoys travelling to learn about new cultures and languages while trying delicious foods from around the world. As a YIRA member, she participated in countless conference secretariats and had the honor of serving as Secretary-General for YMUN XL and spearheading the launch of the inaugural YMUN Taiwan in 2014. As Director, she is excited to be working with her good friends (YIRA-teammates from day one!) to set the foundations for a strong alumni network. Grace works at McKinsey and Company in London.



Matthew Finney

Matthew is a 2015 graduate of Calhoun College. At Yale, he majored in Economics, with a particular interest in international Development. Matthew served as a Director and Secretariat Member for many of YIRA's domestic and international conferences. Additionally, he served as President of Yale Model Government Europe 2013, and continues to advise the leadership on strategic and logistical matters. He now works as an analyst at a major federal consulting firm in Washington, D.C. In his free time, he relishes in Belgian chocolate pralines, long walks on the beach, and herbal tea.



Tristan Secherest

Tristan graduated from Yale College in May 2015 with a B.A. in History. Originally from Redmond, Washington, he studied modern European history while at Yale, focusing on the intersection of politics and nationalism in Central Europe and its international ramifications. Tristan served as Executive Director for the Yale International Relations Association in his senior year, after being Deputy Executive Director, YMUN XL USG of ECOSOC, and a chair for YMUN, YMUN Korea, and SCSY. He is currently the Fox International Fellow at the Freie Universität Berlin.



Alexandra Small

Alexandra Small is a member of Yale's Silliman College class of 2018 most likely studying economics. As part of YIRA, she has worked on many conferences including YMUN-China, YMUN-Taiwan, and YMGE. Outside of school, Alexandra works for the Global Citizens Initiative, which is a Connecticut based nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring families, students, and educators to adopt a global and holistic approach to education. She is excited to serve as the YIRA Alumni Relations Liaison and coordinate communication between YIRA board and YAN.

If you are interested in joining our team, please contact us at alumni@yira.org.

Stay
in
Touch!

We'd love to hear from you!

Email: alumni@yira.org

Facebook: facebook.com/YiraAlumniNetwork

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=2165335

Website: yiraan.wildapricot.org

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