

On the Same Page

News for Parents + Families



Exploring Options Students made connections at the Internship Expo in October.

UP CLOSE

Crafting a Career

Many students don't even think about the Office of Career Counseling until their senior year. But they should. The office can help students find internships, explore different career paths, and evaluate their skills and interests.

This fall, a full roster of workshops were held on and off campus. These workshops offered advice and resources for students at all stages of their career planning. Here's what students learned at four of the events:

"MY FUTURE, MY FINANCES" TWO-PART WORKSHOP

Presenters: Dick Yaffa, business manager, and Gary Gordon, financial adviser

Topic: Advice for the financial decisions facing all young adults, like evaluating a job offer, establishing good credit history, creating a budget, and obtaining medical insurance

Best quote: "I just read recently that more money is spent in this country on overdraft fees than on books."

Take away: Take the time to make careful financial decisions. Even when you're not making much money, little things can make a big difference. Make sure to

establish and protect your credit history; credit cards can be good for your financial future if you manage them properly. You work hard for your money and you should enjoy it to the fullest extent—that's what it's for. Asking the right financial questions will allow you to enjoy your money now and in the future.

"WHAT TO DO WHEN THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA: TIPS TO NAVIGATE ANY WORKPLACE"

Presenter: Dede Bartlett, career coach and former executive at Exxon Mobil and Altria

Topic: How to make the most out of an internship or first job by following the unwritten rules of the workplace

Best quote: "If you're 20 years old now, you have 45 years of working ahead of you. The trick is how to combine your passion with a niche in the job market. That's the hustle, that's what it's all about."

Take away: Once you land a new job or internship, work hard to fit into that workplace's particular culture. Be collegial, enthusiastic, responsible, and a good listener. Remember most of all to listen and look, because each job environment is a new culture with different power structures. Analyze that culture and figure out how things get done. And never stop networking.

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5 Great Ways to Get Involved at SLC

Dear Parents,

We are truly pleased to bring to you the inaugural issue of *On the Same Page!* Our hope is to keep you better informed about the exciting things happening on campus. The first two issues of the newsletter will be sent to you in print, but subsequent issues will be sent via e-mail. If you have not already done so, please be sure to visit www.slc.edu/parents-contact and share your e-mail address with us so you don't miss out.

As the parent of a Sarah Lawrence student, you are a member of the vibrant College community. You know how special and valuable that community is, but did you also know that there are many ways for you to get involved? Here's how:

- 1 Host an event.** We're always looking for people across the country to host Faculty on the Road seminars, receptions for new or admitted students, and other events.
- 2 Offer an internship.** Sarah Lawrence students benefit from internships in a wide variety of fields. And since most students return home for the summer, they need opportunities all over the country.
- 3 Attend events.** If you live in or are visiting the New York metro area, you're welcome to attend lectures, events, and performances on campus. They're not only fun for you, but they'll give you something to discuss with your student. View the events calendar at www.slc.edu/events.
- 4 Stay connected.** The Parents Web site is updated regularly with relevant news, stories, and information. Check it out at www.slc.edu/parents.
- 5 Support *The Fund for Sarah Lawrence*.** The *Fund* is the College's top fundraising priority, bridging the gap between tuition and the true cost of a Sarah Lawrence education. A gift to the College speaks volumes about parents' satisfaction with SLC and makes a huge difference in the lives of our students.

If you're interested in deepening your connection to Sarah Lawrence through any of the above ways, please contact the Office of Parent Giving at (914) 395-2536. We look forward to talking with you!



ELISE SCHRAMM
Director of Parent Giving



Elise Schramm
Director of Parent Giving

As the parent of a Sarah Lawrence student, you are a member of the vibrant College community.

Crafting a Career continued from cover

EMPLOYER SITE VISIT AT STUART WEITZMAN, LLC

Presenter: Barbara Kolsun '71, general counsel

Topic: Students visited the luxury shoe company to learn about different careers in the world of high fashion, including marketing, law, and public relations.

Best quote: "Networking is everything. I've had 12 jobs since law school and every single one of them was because of people I came into contact with. Fashion is a very small world."

Take away: There are a variety of jobs out there, even in this lackluster economic climate. Don't be afraid to take entry-

level positions, because you can still learn a lot and get noticed. Use all your resources when looking for a job—relatives, friends of friends, anybody from Sarah Lawrence—and take advantage of who you know.

FUTURE IN HEALTH CARE INFORMATION SESSION

Presenters: Judy Levine, pre-health adviser, Irene King, director of community partnerships, and Angela Cherubini, director of career counseling

Topic: How to pursue internships, community service, and employment in health-care related fields

Best quote: "You don't have to work in a hospital or emergency room to get

relevant experience. Just work with people—human beings who need your help."

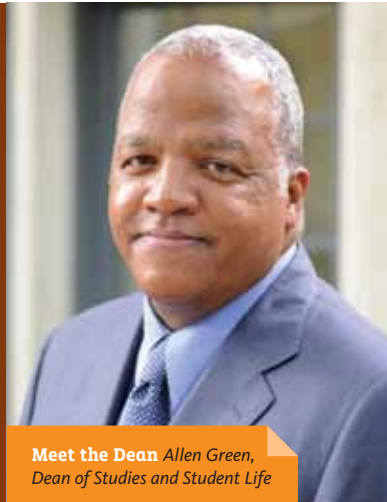
Take away: Take advantage of the resources on campus. Try a lot of different things, from volunteering to paid work, which will help you define your interests and strengths within the field. Don't be afraid of grunt work—if the environment is exciting to you, take any position you can get. Your responsibilities may develop as they see what you're capable of. Just don't wait to get started!



On the Web: Visit the Office of Career Counseling at www.slc.edu/occ.

Q+A

Questions for Dean Allen Green: *Evaluations*



Meet the Dean *Allen Green*,
Dean of Studies and Student Life

How are students evaluated at Sarah Lawrence?

Sarah Lawrence takes a distinctive approach to evaluating students. At the end of the semester, the teacher writes an evaluation of each student's progress in the class, outlining the student's work and reflecting on the student's successes and challenges. This written narrative is part of what makes Sarah Lawrence special. It provides a nuanced look at the student's progress that's impossible with a traditional letter grade.

How often do students receive evaluations?

Students receive their evaluations twice per year, in mid-January and late June. (If students register for a directed study project during winter intersession or summer break, they will receive evaluations for that work as well.) You won't receive your student's evaluations directly, but we encourage students to share them with their parents. Posting of evaluations is a great time to talk with your student about how the semester went. Ask about the evaluations and their experience in the class.

Do dons see the evaluations?

Yes. The evaluation is the key to a Sarah Lawrence education. One of the most important aspects of the donning relationship is that dons receive copies of evaluations from all their donees' classes so they can review their donees' progress. This helps the don better understand the students' interests and coursework and allows them to better advise the students.

What happens if a student is struggling?

The Committee on Student Work also reads all evaluations to identify students who may be having academic difficulties. A week or two after evaluations are submitted, we send out letters to students who are struggling, advising them about resources on campus. We also use the evaluations to identify students who we think would be good candidates for competitive fellowships, scholarships, or other awards.

Students who are having difficulty in a class should talk to their don or to one of

the deans about how to handle it. If you have any concerns, please contact me—not the faculty member—to discuss them.

+ This written narrative provides a nuanced look at the student's progress that's impossible with a traditional letter grade.

Do students ever receive letter grades?

Students do receive traditional letter grades for their transcripts, which is helpful for things like graduate school applications. While we do not necessarily encourage it, students can request to see their letter grades at the registrar's office.

Written evaluations offer an exciting chance for you to see the insights the teacher has into your student, as well as an opportunity to learn more about your student's academic experiences. I encourage you to take advantage of it, and to let me know if you have any questions.

Allen Green, dean of studies and student life, can be reached at (914) 395-2252.



Stay Connected

If you've got questions, these folks have answers.

Academics

Allen Green

Dean of Studies and Student Life

(914) 395-2252

Financial Aid

Heather McDonnell

Director of Financial Aid

(914) 395-2570

Health Services

Nance Roy

Director of Health Services

(914) 395-2350

Student Accounts

Rhoan Cassells

Director of Student Accounts

(914) 395-2553

Student Affairs

(housing, activities, etc.)

Mary Spellman

Dean of Student Affairs

(914) 395-2575

Supporting SLC

Elise Schramm

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Keep in touch!

Like what you're reading?

Go to www.sl.c.edu/parents-contact and give us your e-mail address to receive this newsletter via e-mail. After the first two issues, *On the Same Page* is going digital. Don't miss out!

On the Same Page is published by the Office of Parent Giving.

Elise Schramm, director

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Extreme Makeover: Dining Edition

With the first change in dining service providers in 38 years, food has become a much-talked about subject at Sarah Lawrence this year.

The dining facilities have been completely overhauled and updated, menus have been revamped with expanded selections, and Bates Common Dining is now open throughout the day. Though meal plan options have stayed the same in general, a new requirement is that all students who reside on campus must enroll.

Last year the College's contract with its longtime food service provider, FLIK, was up for renewal. The kitchen and dining hall had not been remodeled in more than three decades. Students were concerned about food quality and clamored for more choices. A committee of students, faculty, and staff evaluated proposals from several companies, and a new vendor, AVI Fresh, came out as the clear favorite and was awarded a five-year contract.

Five meal plans are available to students and may be purchased even if students reside off campus. First-year students are required to select from the more comprehensive plans,

while returning resident students may select a reduced plan. All of the plans allow students to eat at any of the four facilities on campus.

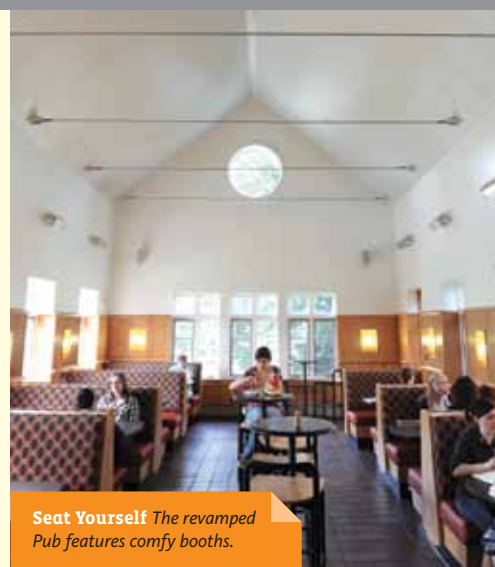
At à la carte facilities—the Pub, Bates2Go, and the Atrium Café—each meal is given an equivalency rate, and students may purchase items up to the designated equivalent value. Purchases beyond the set equivalency must be paid for in cash, meal-money, or 1Card-cash. No refunds are given if the total is less than the equivalency rate.

For students who like to cook, the new Bates2Go is a combination takeout joint and convenience store. Here students can buy the basic ingredients to prepare simple meals like pasta, cereal, or sandwiches.

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10



On the Web: Tour the revamped facilities at www.sl.c.edu/dining or learn more about the meal plan at www.sl.c.edu/mealplan.



Seat Yourself The revamped Pub features comfy booths.



Room to Lounge

Students in Hill House celebrated the opening of two new common spaces in October. In the TV lounge (pictured), students can relax on the couches and watch the big-screen TV, or hold a meeting in the adjacent conference room. Alternatively, the study lounge offers a quiet place to work. A committee of students chose the furnishings and paint colors for the rooms. The lounges—both renovated apartments on the first floor—were partially funded by a gift from Trustee David Dull and his wife, Susan Shieldkret (parents of Katy '07), to support student community spaces.





Choices, Choices Food stations offer an array of yummy options.



Mmm, Pizza Cooking is done in smaller batches, which means fresher food and less waste.



One-stop Shop Bates2Go, the on-campus convenience store

By the Numbers

5

meal plan options

53

selections at the salad bar

1,042

students on a meal plan

22,625

lunches and dinners served in Bates during September



On the Web

Visit www.slc.edu/parents for useful information and news about life at SLC, including:



Family Weekend

Tons of photos from Family Weekend 2009



SLC in the News

A roundup of members of the Sarah Lawrence community who have been featured in the media



H1N1 Information

Updates on SLC's response to H1N1



Student & Faculty Work

Descriptions of students' conference projects and highlights of faculty publications and performances



Social Media

Links to SLC's pages on Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube—follow us!

Rowing Abroad

Meet Chantal Gil '10

Returning to campus after a year abroad in Israel, Chantal Gil '10 had some uncommon advice for students going to other countries. "Try a sport. It's a great way to make friends and experience another culture—much better than just studying or partying."

Gil did more than just try a sport; she trained seriously in rowing and was asked to join the Israeli national crew team. By the time she left Israel she was one of the top-ranked rowers in the country, as well as a silver and bronze medal winner at the Maccabiah Games.

Her achievements in Israel are even more remarkable considering that before she decided to join the crew team at Sarah Lawrence during her first year here, Gil had never rowed before.

In high school she played soccer and ran track, excelling at the 100 meters. But at Sarah Lawrence, she decided to try something new. She joined the crew team because it was supposed to be a great workout—rowing utilizes all the major muscle groups—and she hoped to stay in shape and meet some friends. Gil had the strength and the discipline to be a good rower. She just needed to learn technique and gain confidence on the water.

When she traveled to Israel for her junior year abroad, Gil studied Hebrew and psychology at both Tel Aviv University and Haifa University. She also found a rowing center, where she worked out with members of the Israeli national team and their coaches. She also dreamed of participating in the Maccabiah Games.

The Maccabiah Games are held every four years and involve more than 8,000 Jewish athletes from around the world. When she first imagined participating, Gil thought she would try to join the US team. But one of the Israeli coaches at the center noticed her work ethic and mentioned how nice it would be if she could row for them. Gil told him that she had an Israeli passport—her father was born in Israel—and the coach handed her a training schedule that day.

The intense training didn't seem to faze this talented athlete. The team typically spent three

hours on the water, six days a week, and most days they were required to do weight training as well. Since all the measurements were in kilos, Gil said she didn't even realize how much she was lifting. "When I got back to Sarah Lawrence, I found out I'd more than doubled my strength."



Team Up Chantal Gil (front) and Chen Oshri prepare to win the silver at the Maccabiah Games.

At one of the weight machines I used to only pull 30 pounds, but now I can pull down 60 to 80."

Gil met her rowing partner, Chen Oshri, at the rowing center in Tel Aviv. The two friends won the silver medal in the women's pair and also rowed together in the quad race, where they helped

their team win a bronze. Gil credits the pair's success to chemistry. "We were able to help each other out in many ways. She wanted to improve her English and I wanted to practice my Hebrew. She had just started rowing, too. Together we helped each other become more confident."

Back on campus, just three years after first picking up an oar, Gil is training with her fellow Gryphons. She returned to Israel in October to race in the Israeli National Championships, where she earned a silver medal in women's singles. "I always pictured myself as sporty," she says. "But after Israel, I consider myself an athlete."

—Sophia Kelley MFA '10

"She wanted to improve her English and I wanted to practice my Hebrew. She had just started rowing, too. Together we helped each other become more confident."



GRYPHON FALL SPORTS SHORTS

Notable Events

View all events open to the public at www.slc.edu/events.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, 11/18

“In the Same Net: Biodiversity, Ethics, and the Human Spirit”

Annual Science Lecture
Carl Safina, president of Blue Ocean Institute Fisheries
5:30 p.m.

Sunday, 11/22

Men’s Basketball Home Game

vs. Albany Pharmacy
1 p.m.

DECEMBER

Monday, 12/7 and 12/14

Sarah Lawrence Jazz Ensemble

7 p.m.

Wednesday, 12/9

Mark Doty poetry reading

6:30 p.m.

Thursday, 12/10

Human Rights Day Panel on Torture

5 p.m.

Friday 12/11 - Sunday 12/13

Winter Dance Concert

times vary

Sunday, 12/13

Sarah Lawrence Chamber Choir and Women’s Vocal Ensemble

7 p.m.

Sunday, 12/16 - Monday, 12/17

Radial Courses

Student dance performance choreography by Lucinda Childs '62
7:30 p.m.

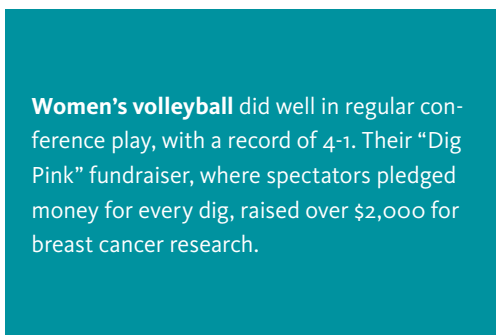
Tuesday, 12/18

Sarah Lawrence Orchestra

7:30 p.m.



The **men’s and women’s cross-country** team returned to conference competition this year, and the women’s team raced to a second-place finish in the Hudson Valley Championships in October.



Women’s volleyball did well in regular conference play, with a record of 4-1. Their “Dig Pink” fundraiser, where spectators pledged money for every dig, raised over \$2,000 for breast cancer research.



The **men’s soccer** team competed in the Hudson Valley Conference for the first time this fall, winning an upset victory against Webb Institute in their final game of the season.



The **women’s tennis** team vanquished all comers in regular conference play and continued their winning streak at the final tournament, where they became the conference champions.



The **equestrian** and **crew** teams are in the middle of their year-long seasons, traveling all over the northeast to compete. Crew has been to three regattas this fall, including the exclusive, international Head of the Charles. Meanwhile, **men’s basketball** and **women’s swimming** have just started their seasons and will compete throughout the winter.



Go Gryphons!

View highlights from every game at www.slc.edu/sports-highlights.



Dates to Remember

Wednesday, November 25
Thanksgiving recess begins

Wednesday, December 16
Winter commencement

Friday, December 18
Winter break begins

Saturday, December 19
Residence halls close at 10 a.m.

Sunday, January 17, 2010
Residence halls reopen at 9 a.m.

March 13–28, 2010
Spring break

Friday, May 21, 2010
Commencement

Visit www.slc.edu/parents/important
to see the entire school year schedule.