

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Annual Letter 2016

Campus-Based and Regional Alumni Events

On 30 November 2016, alumni at Harvard—currently 36 undergraduates—were invited to our first campus-based event. Over a dozen alumni (photographed right and below) came out despite the rain to share Washington Week memories and food from Flour Bakery and Café. Catherine Zhang (PA 2015) was the lead coordinator, who brought everyone and everything together to make this event happen—all with a pair of crutches! Enormous thanks to Catherine.



At USSYAA, we are excited to build connections across alumni years and distance, and we have been looking for fresh ways to introduce alumni and develop a strong network. Campus-based and regional events are just one way we aim to do this. For under \$200, we were able to get alumni from four different years in the same room to reinvigorate the lifelong bond of USSYP. Thanks to your charitable donations, we're starting to build a nationwide network.

If you're interested in hosting an event in your area or at your school, please get in touch. In the meantime, if you're a student at Yale or an alum living in the Chicago area, look out for our next event in spring 2017.

Alumni Weekend 2016 in Review

On 4 March, the Friday before the start of USSYP 2016, alumni from around the country continued our reunion tradition. This time, alumni gathered at the National Press Club Ballroom, a space filled with the grandeur and history one expects in the nation's capital. The alumni were surrounded by imposing portraits of famous politicians on the walls and lively conversations across the tables. 2006 alumni (photographed below) were celebrating their tenth anniversary.

After sharing a wonderful meal, alumni heard from our two annual award winners. Colonel (retired) Micki King received the James T. Molloy Alumni Service Award. Col. King was a military mentor (formerly called escorts officers) for USSYP, and she shared highlights of an illustrious career that was hallmarked by serving in the Air Force long before it was commonplace to have female officers, participating in the U.S. Olympic diving team, and later becoming a diving coach at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

Jo Ann Jenkins, CEO of the nation's largest lobbying organization AARP, accepted the Rosalie Wynn Hearst Distinguished Public Service Award. As Chief of Staff and later Chief Operating Officer at the Library of Congress, Mrs. Jenkins was responsible for ushering the government research body into the 21st century. Both speakers delivered insightful advice and assessment of the modern workforce, and afterwards they were available for photos and discussions with all alumni.

On Saturday, alumni reconvened at the Mayflower Hotel for mentoring tables and the annual meeting. 2016 delegates weren't lacking in ambition and promise. They asked lots of questions of our diverse alumni's professional successes. In the annual meeting, officers were elected for the 2016-2018 cycle.

To finish off the alumni weekend, the group of nearly 40 alumni went over to the Daily Grill, a more recent tradition where the alumni association hosted an informal gathering with drinks and appetizers.



News from USSYP

During the Introductory Dinner of Washington Week 2016, Executive Director Dino Dinovitz and Eastern Director George Irish had the privilege of making an important announcement. To the surprise and delight of everyone in attendance, the college scholarship awarded to each delegate was doubled from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per student beginning with this program year. Seldom has a greater sound of jubilation been heard in the Grand Ballroom of the Mayflower Hotel.

The Board of Directors of the Hearst Foundations chose to pursue the scholarship increase in light of the ever greater financial burdens of higher education. The delegates shared this welcomed news with the seventy-eight senators and the D.C. delegate to Congress who attended the 54th annual USSYP Senate Reception where senators congratulated their student delegates and presented them with their \$10,000 college scholarship certificates.

Alumni Association Scholarships

The Rosalie Wynn and George Randolph Hearst Sr Alumni Scholarship offers \$5,000 to graduate studies for our incredibly talented and ambitious alumni. The majority of this funding comes from wise investment of our endowment and alumni donations. The scholarship committee has been discussing expanding the scholarship program to offer more awards. We can't do this without your help. If you'd like to donate, please visit ussyaa.org and fill out our easy donation form. With your support, we can fund post-graduate studies of more people like Katherine Davis and Elaine Sedenberg. Read more about these talented scholars below.

A Note from USSYAA's 2014 Scholarship Recipient Katherine Davis (FL 2006)

In the year that I received the Rosalie Wynn and George Randolph Hearst Sr Alumni Scholarship, I spent three months assisting prosecutors at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague, The Netherlands. As ICTY internships are unpaid, the scholarship was a welcome assistance.

The United Nations Security Council established the ICTY to prosecute genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity committed during the Balkan conflicts in Crimea and Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1991 to 2001. The court began in 1993 and most cases are complete, though a few continue today.

The ICTY was the first international war crimes tribunal since World War II's Nuremberg and Tokyo tribunals. Given its unique place in history, the ICTY set groundbreaking precedents in international criminal law. In a nod to the value of America's adversarial judicial system, many ICTY trial teams were led by alumni of the U.S. Department of Justice.

While the atrocities cannot be undone, the ICTY endeavors to hold perpetrators accountable for their crimes and to vindicate victims by proving that the crimes occurred. Those tasks are mammoth. For example, the trial of Radovan Karadžić, a founding member of the Serbian Democratic Party, lasted from October 2009 through October 2014. The prosecution presented 336 witnesses and the defense presented 243 witnesses. After the trial, Karadžić filed ten unsuccessful motions to re-open the case. A decision is yet to be issued.

I assisted three trial teams in The Hague. For the prosecution of Ratko Mladić, I researched and wrote strategy regarding "tu quoque" evidence. "Tu quoque," Latin for "you also," is a defense asserting that alleged perpetrators cannot be punished for crimes also committed by their opposition. For the prosecution of Goran Hadžić, I sat with prosecutors during the defendant's direct examination and analyzed his answers for cross-examination strategy. I also profiled evidence for the prosecution's final trial brief against Radovan Karadžić.

My experiences at the ICTY were invaluable. I am grateful that the USSYAA expanded its reach to give this award to a law student for the first time. I hope other law students will benefit from the award in future years.

Katherine Maddox Davis, FL '06, is a law clerk for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. Beginning this fall, she will clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Katherine is a 2015 graduate of Emory Law, where she was Editor-in-Chief of Emory International Law Review. Prior to law school she assisted sex trafficking prosecutors in International Justice Mission's Kolkata, India office. She holds a master's degree in Contemporary India from Oxford University and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Auburn University. Outside of court, Katherine writes on comparative international law and serves on International Justice Mission's Alumni Leadership Council.

**A Note from USSYAA's 2013 Scholarship Recipient
Elaine Sedenberg (TX 2006)**

Elaine is in her third year as a doctoral student at the University of California, Berkeley School of Information, where she studies the legal, ethical, and policy aspects of information sharing and data access for research and other public good purposes. Her recent projects include a comparative legal and policy analysis of public health information sharing practices and their applicability to the field of cybersecurity.

Elaine is currently working on instances and potential for open data in the private sector, with a focus specifically on sharing and access practices within cybersecurity. This work on private sector open data also includes analysis on the potential for sharing and ethical use of "biosensed" data collected by wearables, sensors, and the IoT. Another project looks at reclaiming the meaning and use of informed consent in modern data-gathering, digital contexts. On the side, Elaine leads a project at the Berkeley Social Science Matrix making publicly available data about UC Berkeley social scientists accessible via a research network graph.

Outside of work, Elaine enjoys putting her chemistry training to work in the kitchen, hiking with picnics, dabbling in amateur photography, visiting her friends scattered across the country, and letting everyone know she is a proud Texan. She volunteers with the Junior League of San Francisco, and enjoys speaking with young girls and women about careers in science and technology.

Thanks to the scholarship from USSYAA in 2013, Elaine was able to choose research projects based on intellectual interest instead of financial availability. She continues to serve on the USSYAA Board of Directors as the Western Regional Director.

You can follow Elaine's research and writing on her website: <https://blogs.ischool.berkeley.edu/elaine/>

**President's Letter
Michael Gonzalez (NM 1973), USSYAA President**

Fellow U.S. Senate Youth Alumni:

In March of this year, I had the honor of assuming the role of President of your U.S. Senate Youth Alumni Association and I, and the other members of our U.S. Senate Youth Alumni Association Board, continue to have the privilege of representing you, as we approach the end of the first year of our two-year term. Our Association was founded in 1999, when we adopted our organizational mission statement and by-laws and on January 2001, our organization was awarded it Federal tax exempt status, under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. The Association attained public charity status under Section 170 (b)(1)(A)(vi).

Throughout its tenure, the Association has continued to carry out Ms. Rosalie Wynn "Mom" Hearst's vision of continuing her mission of reaching out to all alumni of the William Randolph Hearst's Foundation United States Senate Youth Program and thanks to the efforts of our founders, and my other predecessors, both in the Office of President and those on the Board of Directors, we have made great strides in this arena. This year has been no exception and I would like to thank our sitting Board of Directors for their dedication and hard work, as we continue to carry of our duties of carrying our Mom's vision by promoting programs and supporting efforts on behalf of our Alumni and youth.

We continue to reach out electronically to those members, who have kept in touch with us and whose e-mails we have in our data base, and this year we are making a special effort to reach further to those via conventional mail, even if the only addresses we have are those which we, or the Hearst Foundation, has provided us from their archives. We have also expanded our membership eligibility to include our Military Mentors, formerly referred to as our Military Escort Officers. Our intent is to reach out to all former delegates and military mentors, from all year groups, with maximum inclusion and diversity, as hallmarks of our recruiting campaign.

This year, the composition of our Alumni Association Board reflects this diversity, as we have former delegates from various States, year groups, regions, ages, races, ethnic groups, religions, genders and political persuasions, represented and our intent is to expand this even further, so that our Association, clearly reflects the composition of our Nation. I am proud to say that this diversity has helped us to expand our vision and to be more inclusive, both in the selection of those that we honor each year with the Rosalie Wynn Hearst Distinguished Public Service Award and the James T. Molloy Alumni Service Award, as well as those who we have selected to receive the U.S. Senate Youth Alumni Association Scholarships. Our goal is to reach out to all of our Alumni and Military Mentors, to invite and encourage you to join us, as active participants, in the Association, so that you can be integral members, not only as members of the Board, but so that you can assist in supporting our efforts, in our missions of mentoring our younger delegates as they move forward in pursuing their education and careers, so that we can establish an active network to help each other in our own career and business endeavors, so that we can continue our own efforts as individuals and as a group to contribute to the Nation and so that we can reignite and renew the friendships that we made during our own Washington Week experiences.

As we move forward one of our objectives is to expand our relationships with the William Randolph Hearst Foundation to share data and efforts to reach out to former delegates, support them in promoting the U.S. Senate Youth Program in our States and in our communities and to strengthen our visibility and ties with other Distinguished Alumni, who may not be aware of our efforts and who may be willing to join and support our organization. The closer we work together, the more successful our organization will be and the better we will be able to carry out Mom Hearst's charter to us.

In this regard, I would like to extend you a personal invitation to attend our Nineteenth Annual U.S. Youth Alumni Association Annual Reception and Dinner on the evening of Friday, March 3rd, 2017, our mentoring session with the new delegates on the afternoon of Saturday, March 4th, 2017, and our Annual Alumni Meeting and Social that evening, all here in the Washington, D.C. area. More details, such as the specific times and locations of these events, will be provided to you as they become available. We sincerely hope that you can join us, but if for any reason, you cannot attend, we ask that you continue to be engaged with us by communicating your thoughts, becoming a member of our Regional Planning Committees by contacting one of our Regional Directors listed in this newsletter, participating in our periodic Town Hall meetings and contributing what you can, to our fundraising activities.

This is your Association and we welcome your input and participation! As President, I am open to your ideas and your suggestions. Please let me know if you have any questions, or concerns. We look forward to having you join us in promoting the efforts and programs of our organization and in participating in our National and Regional events, including our Nineteenth Annual Reception and Dinner, Mentoring Sessions, Annual Meeting and Social, as a precursor to the 2017 William Randolph Hearst's Foundation's Washington Week. On behalf of the U.S. Senate Youth Alumni Association Board of Directors, I would like to thank you allowing us the honor and privilege of serving as your voice as we attempt to take this organization to another level and ask for your continued confidence, guidance and support.

We would like to wish you and your families, a beautiful, blessed, safe and prosperous Holiday Season. May God, bless you, our Association and the United States of America!

Very Respectfully,

Colonel (USA, Ret) Michael R. Gonzales (NM 1973)
President
U.S. Senate Youth Alumni Association

Meet the Board

The USSYAA Board of Directors meets monthly to coordinate our scholarship, awards, alumni weekend, and other opportunities related to the alumni association. Ideas for how to improve alumni relations and communications are always welcome! We want to make the organization a useful resource for all alumni. Thank you to the members of the board for their commitment to the alumni.

President: Michael Gonzales (NM 1973)
President-Elect: Andrew Bradley (IN 1996)
Vice President: Elaine Sedenberg (TX 2006)
Secretary: Amanda Patarino (CO 2012)
Treasurer: John Blakley (MI 1976)
Liaison Officer: Rawle Andrews (TX 1983)
Parliamentarian: André Gonzales (NM 2016)
Communications Director: James Brown (CO 2008)
Technology Director: David Zavadsky (WI 1990)
Alumni Programs Director: Victoria Cundiff (CO 1973)

Eastern Regional Director: Gil Valadez (DE 1997)
Central Regional Director: Katie Jo Baumgardner (KS 2006)
National Capital Regional Director: Rustin Fakheri (IL 2008)
Northern Regional Director: Hirsh Shekhar (MN 2013)
Southern Regional Director: Dallas McCash (TN 2015)
Western Regional Director: Elliot Smith (WA 2001)

Alumni News

Class of 1966

Michael J Churgin (NY 1966) is a professor at the University of Texas School of Law in Austin.

Class of 1967

This summer **Patrick Pinnell (MO 1967)** hosted a group of architect colleagues from around the world, as a part of a biannual tradition since working on a project in 1988-1992. He led the group around New York City, including a stop at Hearst Tower. Patrick has also been on several drawing class reviews with Gilbert Maurer, Hearst Corporation Director and trustee of the Hearst Family Trust. Gil provided a building tour, an insider view of the design process, and a walk through the art collection on the executive floors, closing a nice loop between professional life and USSYP. The very fond memories of a special week in Washington, now a few years ago, came back as prelude to a fantastic tour in New York.

Class of 1970

Chandini Bachman (AZ 1970) retired from the U.S. Capitol Guide Service in December 2015. In 2016, she attended her 40th reunion at the Rhode Island School of Design, took courses in Project Management at Montgomery College, joined the Project Management Institute, and will soon take an exam for certification. She re-certified as a Certified Interpretive Guide with the National Association for Interpretation, volunteered at the White House Visitor Center, and worked freelance proofreading and discussing college essays with high school seniors. The next project to manage is finding her encore career. She would love to network with alumni of all ages. Please send an email to chandinibachman@gmail.com.

Tom Holmes (MS 1970) and his wife, Emily, welcomed twin grandsons, Tommy and Johnny Holmes in January 2016. They plan to move next April to Oxford, Mississippi, to be near their grandchildren, their son Sean, his wife, and their extended family. Tom's daughter, Erin, a wildlife biologist with "Pheasants Forever," has been selected to head that organization's field operations in Illinois.

Rev. Dr. **Bob LaRochelle (CT 1970)** is serving as Pastor of Christ the King Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Windsor, Connecticut. He is the author of six books and many articles.

Class of 1971

On 2 November 2016, **Gary Welz (AZ 1971)** launched the Science and Medicine Video Library at SciMedTV.com. This site enables visitors to search over 250,000 videos from 300 of the world's leading universities, research centers, medical schools and hospitals. Science and medical professionals are able to search the full transcripts of these videos and quickly share the most relevant portions with students, colleagues, and patients.

Class of 1973

Vicki Cundiff (CO 1973) attended the Washington Week alumni reunion, caught up with alumni at the Saturday get-together, and saw the presentation of the James T. Molloy Alumni Service Award to her USSYP military mentor, Colonel (ret.) Micki King. Vicki continues to practice law in New York, concentrating on intellectual property law issues, and has enjoyed meeting alums while serving as a Visiting Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School. In January she will teach a class at Penn Law School on trade secrets law. If any alumni will be around, please look her up.

Donna Aszman (IL 1973) retired 4 November 2016 after 42 years in Nursing. She has been married over 36 years to Bob. They have four daughters and five grand dogs. They have lived in Peachtree City, Georgia, for the last 14 years.

Rex Gale (NH 1973) and his wife, Susan, live on Hilton Head Island South Carolina. Rex is the National Accounts Director of Sales with BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina. Rex, a leadership trainer and certified member of the John Maxwell team, has delivered a TEDx Talk on the Freedom of Reflection. Rex's daughter and son-in-law in Austin, Texas, recently welcomed a daughter, Juliette.

After 20 years in the U.S. Air Force, **Joe Alfano (NJ 1973)** has been an international pilot at Delta Air Lines for 20 years. Joe was recently nominated to replace the Dos Equis "Most Interesting Man in the World," following a week in which he flew a Delta Boeing 767-400 to Rome, Italy, where he attended a Papal Mass celebrated by Pope Francis, two days before attending four days of Super Bowl 50 festivities in San Francisco as a guest of his daughter, Angela, who worked for the National Football League.

Colonel (Ret.) **Michael R. Gonzales (NM 1973)** is president of the U.S. Senate Youth Alumni Association. He is also the president and chief executive officer of Three Towers Strategic Consulting, LLC, in Alexandria, Virginia. He is a member of the National Board of Directors of the Army Scholarship Foundation, the 4th Degree of the Knights of Columbus, the National Security Task Force of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and the National Guard Association Homeland Security Task Force. Michael, his wife, Christine, and their two children, Gabrielle, 18, and Michael, 16, reside in Waldorf, Maryland. Before retiring, Michael was nominated for promotion to Brigadier General but had to retire for family reasons.

Class of 1975

Rob Lawrence (LA 1975), BS and MPA, Louisiana State University, has been working for more than 26 years with US EPA regional office in Dallas, serving as Energy Policy Advisor Areas of concentration: Clean Power Plan; hydraulic fracturing and induced seismicity; and liquefied natural gas terminals for the past 13 years.

Mark Dykowski (MI 1975) has been practicing OB GYN in Birmingham, Michigan, for 33 years now. 5,700 deliveries and still being reproductive. Mark was named a TOP DOC by Detroit HOUR Magazine. He's been married now for 35 years. Mark's son, Scott, got married last year. His daughter, Sara, is in her second year at the Oakland University William Beaumont Hospital School of Medicine.

Harry Thibedeau (WI-1975), a 30 year veteran of the satellite/telecom industry, is now focusing on bringing reliable high-speed Internet service to small/medium-sized business locations for Exede by ViaSat. He is based out of Denver. Harry is also the English language commentator for select Ariane 5 rocket launches from Kourou, French Guiana. His next global broadcast will be early in 2017.

Class of 1976

Orlando Lucero (NM 1976) has been in the title insurance business for 13 years, after 20 years in a private law practice. This enjoyable phase of his career allows him time to pursue many bar activities (not of the drinking kind!). Orlando currently serves on the Board of Governors for the American Bar Association. This year he was elected to the American College of Real Estate Lawyers (ACREL). Orlando is a frequent writer and speaker on matters involving title insurance and related real estate matters. He also maintains a blog: blog.stewart.com/olucero

Class of 1977

Alan Aldinger (OH 1977) is a vice president, media relations, for PNC Bank in Pittsburgh.

Class of 1979

Rev. Harry Knox (GA 1979) retired due to health issues. He and his husband, retired civil rights attorney C. Michael Bozeman, live, garden, enjoy family and remain politically active in Brooks County, Georgia.

Class of 1982

Joseph Perkins (IN 1982) has been named Vice President - General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for NIBCO Inc.

Class of 1985

Steven C. Rice (WY 1985), Foreign Service Officer, has returned to Washington, D.C., from his last overseas assignment as political-military chief in Ankara, Turkey. He is currently waiting for reassignment as part of the transition between Administrations.

Class of 1986

Glenn Aga (MN 1986) recently joined Deloitte as Managing Director of Cyber Risk Services where he leads cyber security strategy development for major corporate and government clients. After serving as an Air Force intelligence officer, he continued his public service as a member of the Homeland Security Advisory Council to improve intelligence sharing, and served his local community as a Public Safety Commissioner and Vice Chairman of the Planning Commission. Glenn lives in Laguna Niguel, California, with his wife, Tina, and his 9 and 12 year old children.

Class of 1989

Mara Galus (MA 1989), MSW, LCSW, graduated with a MSW from Smith College School of Social Work in August 2015. Mara is now working as a hospice and pediatric palliative care licensed clinical social worker for the Hospice of Franklin, County in Greenfield, Massachusetts.

Class of 1990

Stephen Malone (IL 1990) is Vice President, Employment Law at NBCUniversal in New York City, advising company management on labor and employment issues nationwide.

Class of 1991

Winston Sakurai (HI 1991) was named as a 2016 National Digital Principal of the Year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and by the Hawaii Association of Secondary School Administrators as the 2015-2016 Hawaii Secondary Principal of the Year.

Class of 1993

After serving for Vice President and Dr. Jill Biden in the first term of the Obama-Biden Administration, **Courtney O'Donnell (CO 1993)** moved to Berlin, Germany, with her family for two years. Since the fall of 2013, she has been living in the Bay Area with her husband and two sons, and she works in Communications & External Affairs for the global hospitality company Airbnb. She sends a big hug to all fellow 1993 alums.

Adam Schumacher (ND 1993) passed away 9 August 2015 after a 4 year battle with melanoma. In 1998, Adam graduated summa cum laude with a degree in international economics from Georgetown University. He earned a master's degree in applied economics from Johns Hopkins University in 2009. At the time of his death, Adam worked at the Brattle Group, an economic consulting firm. Adam was awarded the inaugural Brattle Award for his achievements in collaboration, respect, integrity, and performance, even under the most challenging circumstances.

Class of 1994

John Morris (WV 1994) is an anesthesiologist practicing in Anchorage, Alaska.

Class of 1995

Kathryn Royster (TN 1995) lives with her husband and 10-year-old daughter in Nashville, Tennessee, where she has spent the last 12 years working in content marketing and corporate communications. She started as a freelancer and is now the Director of Marketing & Strategic Relationships for HouseLens, the nation's largest provider of visual marketing services for real estate. Having joined HouseLens when the company was still a startup has been an exciting challenge to help grow the business from the ground up.

Class of 1996

Callie Whitfield Babbitt (FL 1996), an associate professor of Sustainability at Rochester Institute of Technology, was awarded a nearly \$1 million grant to lead an interdisciplinary team of researchers in a four-year project to study how innovative technologies, waste management systems, and policies can reduce the environmental and economic impacts of food waste. This award, funded by the National Science Foundation, was one of only 17 funded in a new program called Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems.

Todd Harding (KY 1996) serves as the Deputy Chief of Staff for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's Satellite and Information Service. As Deputy Chief of Staff, Todd is responsible for managing the program and policy team. In addition, he is responsible for guest and communications activities around NOAA's satellite launches. The NOAA Satellite and Information Service is a \$2 billion organization responsible for providing secure and timely access to global environmental data and information from satellites and other sources to promote and protect the Nation's security, environment, economy, and quality of life.

Heidi (White) Sipe (WA 1996) was named Oregon Superintendent of the Year 2016. The annual award ceremony was held in Washington, D.C., and Heidi enjoyed being back at the Mayflower again for the SOYA Gala for the first time since her USSYP days. While there, she thought fondly of the USSYP experience and all the work and planning that went into ensuring a meaningful time for the participants.

Class of 1997

Kevin Bruce (LA 1997) recently joined Fieldwood Energy LLC, the largest operator in the Gulf of Mexico, as the Director of Government & Industry Affairs. Kevin, his wife, Susan, and their daughters Caroline, 3, and Sutton, 1, live in Houston.

Steve Fitzpatrick (MT 1997) is currently living in Great Falls, Montana, with his wife Julia. Julia is a nurse practitioner. They have three daughters – ages 8, 5, and 1. He is an attorney in private practice focusing on civil litigation. He graduated from Montana State University in 2001 with a degree in biological sciences. In 2004, he graduated from the Arizona State University College of Law with a juris doctorate degree. In 2010, he was elected to serve in the Montana House of Representatives. He was reelected in 2012 and 2014. This November he was elected to serve in the Montana Senate. He will begin his term in January.

Class of 1998

Marisa Futernick (CT 1998) published a book about her cross-country journey to visit the 13 presidential libraries. Each president from Herbert Hoover to George W. Bush is a protagonist in a series of short stories. The accompanying photographs depict details of the presidential hometowns. The book combines fact, fiction, personal narrative and cultural observation. Marisa completed a US and UK book tour that culminated with an Election Night event at London's Institute of Contemporary Arts. *13 Presidents (\$40/£25)* is available from the publisher and from distributor Cornerhouse Publications: <http://slimvolume.org/marisa-j-futernick-13-presidents-13-stories/>

As a member of the Indiana State Board of Education in 2015, **Gordon Hendry (IN 1998)** proposed a teacher scholarship program to address a teacher shortage. In April, the "Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship" was passed and signed into law by Governor Pence. Starting in 2017, the scholarship will provide up to 200 students per year a \$30,000 scholarship in exchange for a five-year teaching commitment following their graduation.

Brianne Nadeau (MI 1998), a member of the D.C. Council, was recently named chair of the Subcommittee on Consumer Affairs. Brianne was elected to the Council in 2014, and is serving her first term. In January she will be named chair of a full committee, along with the other three members who took office in 2015.

Meredith Bell Alvarez (PA 1998) and her husband of ten years, David, welcomed their second son, Theodore "Teddy" Richard, on 5 February 2016. Josiah, their first son, will turn six in January. Meredith is COO and Associate Artistic Director of The Playhouse, a 104 year old theater located in downtown San Antonio. She is also active onstage and has performed in over 25 productions in both San Antonio and Chicago since 2002 (when she graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in theater). Meredith is also the owner of Bell Papel, a custom social stationery business.

Class of 1999

Virginia Suvieu (CA 1999) was awarded with the "Distinguished Instructor Award" from University of California, Irvine, on 8 December.

On 20 August 2016, **Kimberly Burnell (CO 1999)** married her partner of 11.5 years, Ricky Bates, in Santa Barbara, California, where they live. After eight years at Toad&Co, formerly Horny Toad, Kimberly joined Deckers Brands as Sales Operations Manager, Canada and Latin America, leading sales operations for all brands—UGG, Hoka One One, Teva and Sanuk.

Chris Kaergard (IL 1999) has been a political reporter /columnist at the (Peoria) Journal Star since 2005. He also serves as an adjunct instructor of communication at Bradley University and sits on the board of the Illinois College Press Association. During the past 18 months he covered campaign stops by presidential candidates including Bernie Sanders, Ted Cruz, Scott Walker, Marco Rubio and Rick Perry. During the ongoing state budget impasse in Illinois, to document to readers the amount of time the state went without a budget, he went unshaven from May 31, 2015, through July 9, 2016. The resulting #BudgetBeard label on social media drew attention across the country. He lives in Peoria, Illinois.

Colby Witherup (MI 1999) is a third year PhD candidate at Northwestern University and the Chicago Botanic Garden studying the evolutionary genomics of meiosis genes.

Jake Rodenbiker (ND 1999) was appointed an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of North Dakota in 2016. He resides in Fargo with his wife and two kids.

Class of 2000

After a couple years of marriage, **Michael Marisco (IL 2000)** and his wife, Jennie, are expecting their first child on 4 January. He recently returned home to Chicago after traveling for six years for work. Currently he serves as Midwest Region Director for Brinker International/Maggiano's.

Class of 2001

Chad Robinson (DE 2001) is the Director of Strategic Initiatives for the Food Bank of Delaware. Among his responsibilities is overseeing the advocacy and public policy for the organization. Outside of work, Chad is the EMS Financial Secretary of the Harrington Volunteer Fire Company and enjoys traveling whenever he can.

Chris Clark (IL 2001) was re-elected to Mountain View City Council (Silicon Valley, California). He served as the city's youngest mayor in his first term and hopes to serve as mayor again in his second term (the council elects a mayor each year from amongst its membership). His day job is running operations at Y Combinator Research, which is sponsoring research projects focused on new cities, basic income, artificial intelligence.

Karim Meijer (TX 2001) is a practicing orthopaedic surgeon fellowship trained in sports medicine in Dallas, Texas. Karim and his wife, Sarah, have three kids. Jaxson, 5, twins Ashton, 3, and Brooks, 3.

Class of 2002

Ashley Roberts (WY 2002) bought a 1976 camper van, called Serenity, for renovation. In February, Ashley spent a month completing yoga teacher training at the Yandara Yoga Institute in Mexico. Upon her return, Ashley and her partner of seven years got engaged. This summer, they lived in Serenity as camp hosts at a remote campground in the Big Horn Mountain National Forest. Ashley and her fiancé closed on a home in Wyoming this month.

Class of 2003

Alan Wang (AZ 2003) is finishing his last year of neurology residency at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital as a chief resident, and will be moving to Miami, Florida to begin a fellowship in epilepsy starting in July 2016.

In June **Allison (Schmidt) Lycke (IA 2003)** and her husband welcomed their third son, Walker. He joins big brothers Jackson, 4, and Gabe, 2. Alli lives in rural Iowa, works in Christian ministry, and maintains two blogs at Goodness Grows Here (www.goodnessgrowshere.com) and Start with Grace (www.startwithgrace.com).

Elizabeth Post (KY 2003) recently launched a public relations and public affairs firm that serves clients in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Louisville, Kentucky. She can be reached at elizabeth@epostpr.com.

Travis Jordan (WY 2003) graduated from the George Washington University Law School evening division in May 2016 and is now a law clerk to the Honorable Judge Scott Skavdahl for the U.S. District Court of Wyoming. Travis returned to Wyoming to practice law after serving U.S. Senator Mike Enzi for nine years as a Senior Legislative Assistant.

Class of 2004

Elizabeth (Kurtz) Thottam (DC 2004) married in April, completed her MBA at UNC Kenan-Flagler, and transitioned from supporting the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to providing communications and change management leadership on a U.S. Department of State contract. She would like to transition to a remote position in editorial or communications and marketing. Elizabeth would like to connect with anyone in or passing through the D.C. area.

Class of 2005

Dr. **Kaitlin Spak (CA 2005)** passed the Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam this year and is now a licensed mechanical engineer. She is working at an engineering and scientific consulting firm and looks forward to hearing from fellow USSYP alumni. She can be reached at kaitlin.spak@gmail.com.

William Haun (CT 2005) and his wife welcomed the birth of their second child, Clare Marian Haun, on 18 October. William started a one-year clerkship for Judge Janice Rogers Brown of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in July. Earlier in the year, he received an award for his amicus brief writing in support of former Virginia Governor Bob McDonnell's successful Supreme Court appeal and the Little Sisters of the Poor's successful Supreme Court challenge to the HHS mandate. He also wrote an article on the original meaning of the Freedom of Speech for National Affairs. William lives with his family in the D.C. area and is always keen to meet up with other USSYP alums.

Thomas Leeper (MN 2005) and his wife, Heather, moved to London, where he is in his second year as professor in Political Behaviour at the London School of Economics. Heather is a grants officer for the Wellcome Trust. Thomas is researching public attitudes toward the European Union and teaching on LSE's masters programs. Since starting at LSE, Thomas has provided commentary on American politics for the British press. Thomas and his wife travel often and will be in Morocco this month. Thomas welcomes any alumni in London to get in touch.

Class of 2006

Andrew Keaster (AR 2006) graduated from Ohio State University with his MD in 2014, and after completing his Internal Medicine residency in summer 2017, he will remain at OSU as clinical faculty. During his time at OSU, he founded OSU's Transgender Primary Care Clinic and has had the opportunity to travel to around the world for global health work.

Chanda Choun (CT 2006) left his Senior Cyber Security Analyst position at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security to become the Federal Program Manager of Securonix, a software company specializing in Security User and Entity Behavior Analytics (UEBA). He currently resides in Northern Virginia and continues to serve in the U.S. Army Reserve part-time at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Post-graduation from Princeton, **Anthony Soroka (DoDEA 2006)** worked in Finance as a Trader. He is studying towards a Master of Science in Computational Science at Harvard.

Katie Jo (Baumgardner) Lunningham (KS 06) is an attorney in the Kansas City office of Husch Blackwell LLP, where she practices higher education law and commercial litigation. Katie Jo spent October and November working remotely in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, where her husband, Justin, was conducting research for his PhD in Quantitative Psychology.

Alex Stroman (SC 2006) was named the Deputy Director of Communications for the 58th Presidential Inaugural Committee.

Class of 2007

Jonathan Padilla (CA 2007) is in a Masters of Public Policy Program at Oxford's Blavatnik School of Government and was named a Schwarzman Scholar at Tsinghua University in Beijing where he'll study International Relations next year.

Danielle Desaulniers (NJ 2007) was selected Editor-in-Chief for Virginia Law Review and will graduate from UVA Law in May 2017.

Class of 2008

Jake Smith (AR 2008) graduated from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine with his MD in May of 2016. He is now a Urology Resident at Baylor Scott & White in Texas.

In August, **Rustin Fakheri (IL 2008)** started working at McKinsey & Company in its Healthcare Analytics group, helping both public and private systems deliver healthcare more efficiently.

Danielle Hoskins (IA 2008) is a PhD candidate in the History Department at the University of Iowa, working on a dissertation about women in state legislatures from 1945-1965. She recently received a Graduate College Post-Comprehensive Research Award for the spring 2017 semester, and will use the award to travel for dissertation research.

In January 2016, **Adam Smith (KS 2008)** left his position at Oklahoma State University and returned to his alma mater, the University of Kansas, to join the Self Engineering Leadership Fellows Program as a Senior Coordinator. There, he works with junior and senior undergraduate engineers to develop leadership skills. He was also accepted to a PhD program in Social and Cultural Studies in Education, focusing on the development of queer identities in a digital world.

Kayla (Kermode) Six (MI 2008) and her husband, Steve, welcomed a son, Fulton in July 2015. Kayla won the Institute of Supply Management "30 under 30 Rising Supply Chain Stars" award, an industry award recognizing supply chain professionals who have contributed to their organizations and the profession.

Brian Helm (NC 2008) moved to Oak Island, North Carolina. He is teaching Middle School English Language Arts at Thomas Academy (formerly known as Flemington Academy).

Matthew Becker (ND 2008) will receive his MBA from the UCLA Anderson School of Management in June 2017, at which point he will enter the Leadership Rotation Program at Experian in Costa Mesa, California.

After three years teaching, traveling, and tinkering for start-ups in Thailand and Hong Kong, **Stephen Stolzenberg (WV 2008)** repatriated to our nation's capital. He is now at FS Card Inc, a startup that markets a credit card with upfront pricing to the under-served. He plans to make it to Washington Week for the first time in 9 years.

Class of 2009

Adam Klein (CA 2009) was a contestant on Survivor: Millennials versus Gen X. He is using the reality TV platform to raise awareness and support research for lung cancer, to which he lost his mother, Susie, on 14 May 2016. Please visit youcaring.com/susieklein to learn more about Adam's experience, his mother, and the cause.

After a year living in Tel Aviv working on the English version of the podcast Israel Story, **Benny Becker (WV 2009)** moved back to Appalachia in February. He lives in Whitesburg, Kentucky, working as a public radio reporter at WMMT. He covers issues of jobs and money in the coalfields for the Ohio Valley ReSource—a collaboration of seven public radio stations across Kentucky, West Virginia, and Southeast Ohio. Audio clips are available at soundcloud.com/bennybecker.

Class of 2010

Christopher Liebold (OH 2010) got engaged to Erin Messerly, and they plan to marry on 11 November 2017. He is a law clerk at the firm of Albrechta & Coble, Ltd. Christopher ran to become the youngest county commissioner in Ohio. He was the best performing fundraiser in any county race.

After graduating from the University of Oklahoma in 2015 with an accelerated B.A./M.A. in International Studies, **Hunter Brunwald (OK 2010)** served as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant in Lütjenburg, Germany, between August 2015 and June 2016. In the 2016 election season, he worked as a field representative for a successfully re-elected Oklahoma state legislator. He lives in Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

Class of 2011

Seungkwan Baek (GA 2011) received a Harvard University post-graduate travel fellowship to Stockholm, Sweden, to study the effects of refugee integration.

This November, **Kevin Saucedo-Broach (MD 2011)** began serving as the Associate Director of Scheduling and Advance for Mayor Muriel Bowser of Washington, D.C. Previously, he served as the Scheduler for Representative Donna F. Edwards, since graduating from the University of Virginia in 2015. Kevin now lives in the District of Columbia and hopes to see everyone at the reunion next year.

Rachel Brown (NJ 2011) is currently a second-year M.D.-Ph.D. student at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.

In April, **Adam Caldwell (NC 2011)** accepted a position with Senator Thom Tillis (R-N.C.). As the Senator's Regional Representative for Eastern North Carolina, he serves 28 counties on issues related to economic development, agriculture, military affairs, and transportation. He married his high school sweetheart, Sarah, in September, and they currently reside in Benson, North Carolina, with their black lab, Annabelle.

Neel Mandavilli (NC 2011) joined the office of U.S. Congressman David Price (D-N.C.) in January 2016 where he now works as a Staff Assistant handling policy in the areas of Science and Technology, Telecommunications, and Consumer Protection.

Robert Lauf (ND 2011) was Political Director for Doug Burgum's campaign for Governor of North Dakota. Robert is now working as a policy advisor in Governor Burgum's office.

Class of 2012

Benjamin Attia (DE 2012) graduated with his B.S. in Economics and Energy & Environmental Policy and a Masters of Energy & Environmental Policy from the University of Delaware, moved to Boston, started work as a Solar Research Associate at GTM Research, and married his fiancée Rebecca.

Julia Brown (ME 2012) will be graduating from Hunter College - City University of New York this January with a degree in Gender Studies and Public Policy. She is graduating as Jewish Foundation for the Education of Women "Eleanor Roosevelt Scholar" and a Public Service Scholar.

Jared Thompson (SC 2012) graduated from the University of South Carolina in May and received a Fulbright grant to teach conversational English in South Korea, where he will be living for the next year.

Class of 2013

Justin Korth (NE 2013) will graduate from the University of Nebraska in May 2017 with degrees in accounting, finance, investment science, and banking. He has accepted a job as a tax and consulting accountant at a CPA firm in Omaha, Nebraska, is taking the CPA exams, and writing an honors thesis on tax policy.

Sarah Rudasill (PA 2013) was selected as a 2016 Truman Scholar from Pennsylvania.

Class of 2014

Mansi Arora (OH 2014) graduated in May 2016 from The Ohio State University. She works for Accenture Consulting.

Jesse Austin (NH 2014) is a sophomore at the University of New Hampshire studying political science and security studies. He joined the Anti-Defamation League's Mission to Israel educational program. Jesse was an intern on the Floor Access Control Team at the Democratic National Convention and also worked on the Hillary Clinton presidential campaign and the Kelly Ayotte U.S. Senate campaign. Jesse continues to serve as an executive officer both of his University's Student Senate and on his state's Legislative Youth Advisory Council.

Haley Hamblin (NM 2014) is a college sophomore, studying political science at Davidson College in North Carolina. At Davidson, she started a Young America's for Freedom chapter to promote free speech, conservative voices, and open dialogue on campus.

Class of 2016

Alex Yom (IN 2016) and other delegates started a non-profit to civic engagement and participation among students across the country. After being founded and officially incorporated in May, Civic Duty has 20 regional divisions working around in high schools and college campuses across the country. They have worked voting drives in local high schools and a video campaign called #speakup4cd that interviewed public servants about the importance of political participation. More information can be found at the website: civicdutyco.org.

Andrew Figueiredo (KS 2016) was chosen to serve as a Director of Liberal McGill, the Liberal Party's chapter at McGill University in Montreal.

Matt Saxton (MD 2016) is a first-year sophomore at the University of Maryland, College Park studying finance. He is intern at the Department of Justice, Criminal Division in downtown Washington, D.C.

Adrien Inman (WV 2016) is currently a freshman at the United States Naval Academy. He is studying Chinese Language with a minor in French Language.

Alumni news has been edited for brevity, clarity, and relevance.

From the Editor's Desk

In 2016, I moved to Chicago, where I work at United's head office. I also completed my first marathon in Berlin this September. I will be hosting an alumni event in Chicago in early 2017 and look forward to meeting old and new friends in the area.

Thank you all for your contributions to the newsletter. Without alumni participation and news throughout the year, we wouldn't have as strong a network as we do today.

We have gaps in our alumni database. Especially if you were a delegate before 2000 and you are still in touch with USSYP friends, please make sure they receive this letter through both email and post. If they don't, we need your help getting reconnected.

If you have ideas for how to grow and strengthen our alumni connection, please send me an email. I can always be reached at communications_director@ussyaa.org.

In early 2017, I will send a reminder about attending our Washington Week reunion festivities—3-5 March. Mark your calendars and consider making a trip to D.C. this year.

Happy new year, and hope to see you all in 2017!

-James Brown (CO 2008)
Communications Director



Please consider joining USSYAA's Official Facebook group named

United States Senate Youth Alumni Association

and LinkedIn group named

United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) Alumni Network

A digital version of this newsletter may be retrieved online at <http://ussyaa.org/news>