

Spring 2023

DUKE BOW

NEWSLETTER



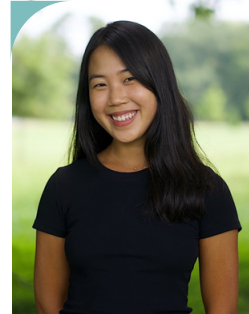
EXECUTIVE BOARD

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

LUCY REN, Co-President
SARA MEHTA, Co-President

DIVISIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

MELANIE CHEN, VP of Professional Development
VALERIE DELIGIANNIS, VP of SBC
THEIJA BALASUBRAMANIAN, VP of Consulting
ELIZABETH MASTRANGELO, VP of Sponsorship
AMY ZHANG, VP of Social Impact
OLIVIA GERACI, VP of Entrepreneurship
XIXI LEI, VP of Finance
NEHA KARNA, VP of General Body Meetings
SOPHIA STAMESON, VP of Business in Tech
CHRISTINA LEE, VP of Diversified Industries
DILYS WANG, VP of Membership
GINNY HAGERTY, VP of Alumni Relations
LILY VORE, VP of Community Engagement
CHRISTINA YOH, VP of External Initiatives
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ANNIE CUI, VP of DEI



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DAISY DAI, Alumni Relations Chair
SUSAN FENG, Social Media Co-Chair
NYA WILLIAMS, Social Media Co-Chair
NAGGENA OHRI, Membership Chair
EMILY YANG, Logistics Chair
MAYA TODD, DEI Chair



A Letter From Our Current Co-Presidents

Dear BOW Supporters,

We hope that you have been well! BOW greatly appreciates all your support, guidance, and encouragement in Spring 2023 as we continued working toward our mission of empowering the next generation of women leaders in business.

This semester, we were excited to offer over 100 events for our members and the Duke community, including our flagship Spring Business Conference, which was completely in-person for the first time since 2020. This year, the theme was *Reaching New Heights* and the conference featured 7 incredible in-person speakers and panelists, including our opening keynote speaker Elizabeth Sandler, Founder and CEO of Echo Juliette and Juliette Works, and our closing note speaker Melissa Bernstein, Co-Founder of Melissa & Doug. Our sponsors also attended and offered coffee chats in-person.

In addition, BOW was able to invite a diverse array of trailblazing and inspirational female leaders in our monthly General Body Meetings. In January, we heard from Marilyn Ceci, Managing Director and Senior Advisor of the Center for Carbon Transition at JP Morgan. In March, we hosted Stephanie McCullough, founder of Sofia Financial and co-host of the award-winning Take Back Retirement podcast. In April, we were excited to chat with Andrea Crane, founder and CEO of Bigwin Talent. In addition, BOW was thrilled to, once again, take a leading role in building an intercollegiate network of collaboration with women in business organizations domestically and internationally.

In total, BOW organized over a hundred events for our members this semester across a variety of industries, ranging from finance and consulting to technology, social impact, marketing, fashion, healthcare, and more. We successfully launched the Spring Innovation Internship Program, connecting our members with part-time internships at startups and Durham businesses. In addition, our Entrepreneurship division has also continued producing episodes for BOW's podcast, Boss with a BOW, which aims to recognize and interview outstanding entrepreneurs. Moreover, we also had a successful recruitment cycle, welcoming 49 new members, bringing our membership up to 388 members.

We are thrilled to announce Valerie Deligiannis and Theiija Balasubramanian as BOW's Incoming Co-Presidents. These two women have made significant contributions to BOW throughout their time in the organization. This year, Theiija and Valerie were BOW's VP of Events: Consulting and VP of Events: Spring Business Conference, respectively. During the 2021-2022 school year, Theiija coordinated event logistics for BOW programming as Logistics Chair, while Valerie worked on scholarship decisions and marketing as a member of the Sponsorship Committee. Theiija and Valerie have deep knowledge of BOW and clear visions of how our organization can continue to thrive next year. We are confident that the future of BOW is in great hands!

As we near the end of the school year and look toward graduation, we are incredibly grateful for our journeys in BOW and all the incredible people whom we have met, learned from, and collaborated with during the past few years. BOW has been instrumental to our personal and professional growth, and we are honored to have been able to lead it in our final year and give back to the community that is so meaningful to us. We are excited to follow BOW's growth over the next few years and remain connected with the BOW network as alumni!

We want to thank you again for your unwavering support of BOW. We are incredibly grateful to all our corporate partners, faculty advisors, alumni, and other supporters who guide and mentor us. From every one of us in BOW, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You allow us to continue providing the best resources and opportunities for our members and the Duke undergraduate community. Our mission at BOW has always been to help women achieve their fullest potential in their careers and in life, and your generosity is shaping the lives of countless women for the better – for that, we cannot thank you enough.

With Gratitude,

LUCY REN & SARA MEHTA
BOW CO-PRESIDENTS, 2022-2023



2023-2024 CO-PRESIDENTS

Theiija Balasubramanian
Valerie Deligiannis



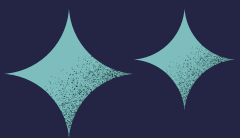
Hi BOW Members!

We are so excited to serve as your co-presidents for the 2023-2024 school year. BOW has been an integral part of our college experiences, and we are grateful for the opportunity to give back to and grow our BOW community. This upcoming year, our goal is to foster innovation and creativity in BOW by expanding the types of events that we offer. More specifically, we are hoping to increase our upperclassmen event offerings, design new interactive and skill building workshops, host large scale internal events such as case and pitch competitions, and incorporate a technical skills curriculum in new member programming. We are also dedicated to building a more diverse membership by continuing our work through the DEI division. Over this next year, we look forward to continuing to offer our 400 members access to invaluable career resources, but also equip them with the skills and community necessary to succeed in all their future endeavors beyond Duke.

How has BOW shaped you and how have you shaped BOW?

Theijia: BOW was one of the first student organizations I joined in my freshman year at Duke, a time during which the ongoing pandemic and resulting uncertainty made college all the more confusing and intimidating. Despite all of the challenges of such a time, BOW provided me the opportunity to build my leadership skills and the satisfaction of giving back to a campus community; for that reason, it holds a special place in my heart. In my sophomore year, I served as Logistics Chair, a position that taught me patience, organization and diligence. This year, I have served as the VP of Consulting, a position that helped me gain confidence in cold calling and emailing, carrying out new projects such as the DC Consulting Trek, and growing relationships between BOW and external partners. As I reflect on my involvement in BOW, I know that this organization has pushed me to develop skills and parts of myself that I otherwise would not have been pushed to until my first job. Thanks to BOW, I have already spent time refining the way I lead, honing my communication skills and practicing community building, and these are all skills that I know will be invaluable to my life post Duke. In my new position as Co-President with Val, I am beyond excited to build and carry out our vision for an organization that continues to touch so many.

Valerie: When I joined BOW my sophomore fall, I was entirely unsure about my professional interests and goals. Immediately upon joining this incredible organization, I was able to take advantage of BOW's abundance of resources, event offerings, and mentorship opportunities. The amount of support and guidance I received from BOW was invaluable to me, and I always knew I wanted to give back to the incredible community that had given me so much. Eager to take on more responsibility within the organization, I joined the executive board this past year as the VP of Events: Spring Business Conference. Through organizing this event, I was able to bring inspiring speakers and their important lessons to the BOW community, as well as create an environment where BOW members could come together. The experiences I have had in BOW, both as a general committee member and while serving on the executive board, have taught me invaluable life lessons and provided me with many amazing friends and mentors. As I look to the year ahead as Co-President, I am genuinely humbled and honored to co-lead this organization alongside Theijia, and I am extremely excited to see all of the incredible things that the 2023-2024 Executive Board accomplishes!



MEET BOW'S INCOMING 2023-24

executive board



EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

VALERIE DELIGIANNIS, CO-PRESIDENT

THEJIA BALASUBRAMANIAN, CO--PRESIDENT

DIVISIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

CRYSTAL BAI, VP of Alumni Relations

JENNIFER OZ, VP Communications

CAMPBELL LAWSON, VP Community Engagement

MAYA TODD, VP Diversity, Empowerment & Inclusion

ELIZABETH MASTRANGELO, VP Events: Finance

ELENA CHRONIS, VP Events: Consulting

MADELEINE REINHARD, VP Events: Diversified Industries

SUSAN FENG, VP Events: Entrepreneurship

SHANAYA PIRAMAL, Co-VP Events: GBM

TANYA MANOCHA, Co-VP Events: GBM

EMILY YANG, VP Events: Business in Technology

NAGGENA OHRI, VP Spring Business Conference

AMELIE COELHO, VP External Initiatives

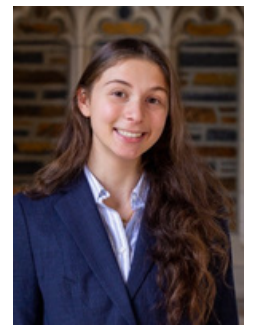
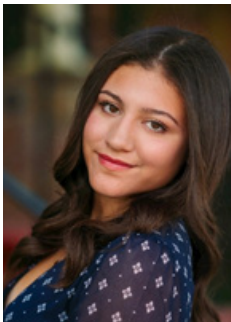
DIYA PATEL, VP Membership

EMILY MCREYNOLDS, VP Professional Development

JESSIE GOLDBLATT, VP Sponsorship

SUZIE CHOI, VP of Social Impact

KRITI VASUDEVAN, VP Logistics



DIVISIONAL CHAIRS

TAYLOR DELGADO, Social Media Chair

YASMINE KAPLAN, DEI Chair

DIANE LIN, Membership Chair



senior REFLECTIONS

NEHA KARNA



"Coming into college, I was unsure what career opportunities I wanted to pursue. BOW played such an important role in helping me determine my path. Both the diverse event offerings and mentorship opportunities allowed me to explore different industries and ultimately discover my interests. Beyond utilizing BOW's resources, serving on the executive board helped me gain confidence as a leader and exposed me to a group of incredibly supportive and driven women. I am so grateful for the connections I've made through the organization!"

LUCY REN



"Being in BOW has been the most meaningful part of my Duke experience, and I feel incredibly lucky to have been part of such a supportive and empowering community of women. As I look back on my four years in BOW and three years on Exec, I am so grateful for the valuable skills I have gained, the invaluable lessons I have learned, and the wonderful people I have met. It has been an honor to lead the organization this year. I cannot wait to give back as an alumna and watch BOW continue to thrive!"

LILY VORE



"BOW's breadth of events and depth of knowledge truly helped me discover and determine my path. I then had the opportunity to serve as VP of Sponsorship and VP of Community Engagement from my sophomore to senior year, developing a strong skill set in communication, leadership, and organization while forming strong relationships with members of BOW. The transition from being a mentee to serving as a mentor really allowed me to give back and help those who are encountering many of the career and life questions that I did just a few years ago. I'm so grateful for my time in BOW and all the women I've met!"

Spring Business Conference 2022

TURNING YOUR STRENGTHS INTO A CAREER

The theme of this year's Spring Business Conference was *Turning Your Strengths into a Career*, featuring female speakers from a range of industries sharing their honest insights and advice on how they navigated their own career journeys



Melissa Bernstein
Melissa & Doug Founder

What inspired this year's theme, "Reaching New Heights", and what is one important takeaway you wanted the attendees receive?

Valerie Deligiannis (VP of Spring Business Conference): This year, it was a priority to make SBC as engaging for BOW members as possible. When it came to deciding on a theme, we came up with 3 possible theme ideas that we thought would make the conference both applicable and useful to our members, and we then opened the decision up to a vote on the BOW Instagram. One of the many valuable takeaways from this year's conference is that finding purpose and being fulfilled by your career takes trial and error: it is normal not to know exactly what you want to do at this stage in our lives.

What was the most challenging aspect of planning this year's Spring Business Conference?

Valerie: In my time in BOW prior to this year, I had never attended the Spring Business Conference totally in person. After the hybrid model last year and the virtual model the year before that, there was a lot of planning and additional details that went into organizing the conference totally in person for the first time since 2020. Thankfully, we were able to be joined by incredible speakers and sponsors from all over the country to be with our organization in person for the 2023 Spring Business Conference!



Elizabeth Sandler
Blackstone & Deutsche Bank, Former COO



Anne Sempowski Ward
CURiO Brands, CEO

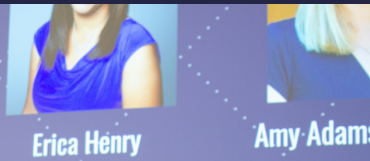


What was the most rewarding part of seeing the whole conference brought together?

Valerie: Another important aspect that went into SBC planning was the intention to incorporate feedback from previous conferences. This year we decided to have two breaks during the event to give attendees more opportunities to speak with SBC speakers and sponsors. As we went into our first break, seeing members of BOW eager to meet and chat with all of the amazing people that came to Durham for the conference was extremely rewarding, and I have since heard from many of our speakers and sponsors that they were so grateful for the enthusiasm and eagerness our members demonstrated at the event.



Nancy Spears *DC Comics, VP Sales*
Barbara Wixom *MIT Sloan Center, Researcher*

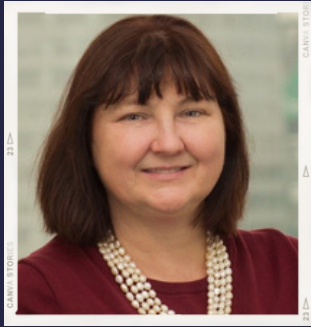


Erica Henry *CNN, VP*
Amy Adams Harding, *Google*



General Body Meetings

January: Marilyn Ceci



BOW's first GBM speaker of 2023 was Marilyn Ceci, Managing Director and Senior Advisor in the newly formed Center for Carbon Transition at JP Morgan. In her role, she is responsible for building out the strategy for a new business that will put ESG at the forefront across clients in all sectors and products. Marilyn spent the evening discussing success in a male-dominated industry and topics in sustainable finance and climate change.

March: Stephanie McCullough



Stephanie McCullough is the founder of Sofia Financial and co-host of the award-winning Take Back Retirement podcast. One of Investopedia's 100 Top Financial Advisors of 2022 and 2021, Stephanie provides truly holistic financial planning for professional women. She holds degrees from Duke University and the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. Stephanie spoke to members about her mission to empower women to make wise financial decisions so they can control their future.

April: Andrea Crane



Andrea is the founder and CEO of Bigwin Talent, an executive recruiting firm focused on operator roles at PE, VC, Search fund and family office backed companies. Prior to Bigwin, Andrea was an operating executive for several private equity backed portfolio companies and was previously part of Alpine Investors CEO-In-Training program. She holds an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and a BA in Public Policy from Duke University, where she was a four-year member of the Varsity Soccer team. Andrea spent the night discussing her experiences in entrepreneurship and advice she's gained.

FEATURED EVENTS

Louis Vuitton: An Intro to Navigating Business, Law, and Real Estate

This year, Diversified Industries held an event with Ellen Seo, Senior Counsel Director of Real-Estate at Louis Vuitton, and Olivier Adler Labossiere, a Junior Real Estate Attorney at Louis Vuitton. We had a conversation on what it's like to work at the intersection between business, real-estate, and law!

Business in Tech Virtual Trek

This semester, the Business in Tech committee hosted our first ever hybrid Tech Trek. We had speakers and panels from a variety of companies, including Caraway, Tanium and Apple. Events ranged from group discussions to 1-on-1 coffee chats and zoom calls!

Patagonia's Social Impact Initiatives

This Semester, the Social Impact Committee hosted Duke alumna Amanda Happel who is the Associate General Counsel for People and Culture at Patagonia. At the event, Happel discussed Patagonia's initiatives regarding reproductive healthcare, philanthropy, support for grassroots activist organizations, and employee involvement in their communities. At the event, members learned how the evolving practice of CSR has a place within businesses and our communities.

BOW Mentorship



Chris Liang
mentor

"Laura and I met up this semester in person and talked about finance recruiting, Girls Who Invest, networking, internships, life advice, classes, etc. It was awesome being able to pass down some of the knowledge I had learned from my mentors, as well as from my own internships. A lot of the tips and tricks about navigating the finance world are really hard to find online, so it's really when you talk one-on-one that you can tell someone about the straightforward, truthful bits about any obstacles for navigating this world. I'm super excited that Laura is also doing Girls Who Invest – it was an absolutely amazing program, the girls are super cool and nice, and I had the best summer. I'm excited to see Laura then join the GWI alumni community with the rest of the Duke girls!"

"I had the pleasure of meeting Chris at the beginning of this semester through BOW, and through talking with her, she provided invaluable advice and resources. We discussed a wide range of topics from career advice to personal growth and it was clear that Chris was invested in helping me succeed. It was valuable to have someone who was in my shoes just one year ago offer me advice. In particular, Chris shared some of her own experiences and gave me practical tips on how to approach professionals and make meaningful connections. Additionally, Chris also participated in Girls Who Invest and so we talked about her experiences in the program and how to make the most of my time at GWI this summer!"



Laura Tan
mentee

THANK YOU

to our generous sponsors



BOW's sponsors have priority access to all the initiatives, programs, events, and activities that BOW organizes, all of which increase sponsors' exposure within the Duke community. BOW is committed to helping our members meet their potential as leaders. If you would like to support our mission as a BOW sponsor, please contact dukebow.assoc@gmail.com.