



NEWSLETTER

March 11, 2014 | Issue II

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View of Galen Stone Tower from East Campus taken by Ryan Ackell '17, February 2014.

Presidents' Letter

We are excited to announce the dates of the first W₃A regional events in the 5 cities with the largest populations of W₃A alumnae! Thanks to the efforts of our programming team, we will be hosting happy hours in Boston, Chicago, New York City, San Francisco, and Washington, DC.

This issue we are also pleased to more formally introduce our "Campus Corner" section, where we will be sharing recent news of on-campus happenings (March is Asian Awareness Month!). Our "Recipe Round-up" aims to tap into our collective wealth of cooking knowledge, post-all-you-can-eat dining hall life. We also continue our Alumna Spotlight interviews with Lisa Chau.

Please remember to join our [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) groups to begin connecting and engaging in the kinds of conversations you'd like to see! Looking ahead, we are working to organize an event to welcome our incoming class of new alumnae during Senior Week, and to connect with alumnae during reunion. Be sure to check out our third issue (to be released May '14) for more information.

Happy Spring!

Yours,

Connie Yee '11 and Jessica Chin '11, Co-Presidents W₃A



Stay Connected with W3A

Send us an email if you have any questions, comments, or feedback at wellesley3A@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you!

You can also check us out online:



[W3A Wellesley Asian Alumnae Alliance](#)



[Wellesley Asian Alumnae Alliance \(W3A\)](#)



[Wellesley College Website](#)

We want to make sure we keep you connected to W3A no matter where you are. Please be sure to keep your contact information with the College current. You can call 1-800-339-5233 or email updates@alum.wellesley.edu with any changes.

Join us for Throwback Thursdays #tbt on Facebook!

It's time to pull out your photo scanners! Post an old photo of you and your Wellesley friends (either on campus or a post-graduation reunion), tag everyone in the photo, and then reminisce on the good times and memories! We love seeing old photos that show what Wellesley meant to all of us through the years!

Upcoming Events

Join us for our very first event! W3A members across the country will gather in five cities during the month of April to connect with fellow Asian/Asian American Wellesley alumnae. Come to have some fun and socialize with friends or meet new ones. This is also a chance to learn more about W3A, offer your suggestions for future programming, and get involved if you're interested. We look forward to seeing you all in April! Email W3Aprograms@gmail.com if you have any questions.



Boston: April 12, 2014, 5:00-6:30 pm | | Meadhall, 4 Cambridge Center, Cambridge, MA
Reps.: Christine Lee '13, Belle Pang '13

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/362383080567259/>



Chicago: April 16, 2014, 6:00-8:00 pm | | Three Dots and a Dash, 435 N. Clark, Chicago, IL
Rep.: Christine Usmen '02

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1426224367624530/>



New York City: April 9, 2014, 6:30-8:00 pm | | Kristalbelli, 8 W 36th St, New York, NY
Reps.: Scarlett Kim '02, Esther Im '12

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/465987183501781/>



Northern CA: April 26, 2014, 6:30-8:00 pm | | Palomino, 345 Spear Street, San Francisco, CA
Reps.: Amy Chen '88, Rachel Tau '77

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1428015794106700/>



Washington D.C.: April 9, 2014, 7:00-9:00 pm | | Va Piano, 623-625 H Street N.W., Washington, DC
Rep.: Gail Kan '02

RSVP here: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1402011430062280/>

Want to get involved?

Director of International Programs - The Programs team is in need of a Director for programming on the international side. The Director will work with the VP of Programs to plan and implement programs and activities for Wellesley alumnae living abroad as well as share best practices for programs among regions. If you are interested in filling this role, please contact [Leah Driska](#).

Regional Representatives - The Programming team is looking for regional representatives to help coordinate local events! If you're interested in getting involved with organizing and running events in your city, please apply here. If you have any questions about the position, email [Leah Driska](#).

Alumna Spotlight

Lisa Chau

*The Alumna Spotlight solely represents the views of the alumna interviewed.
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Year: Undisclosed
Major: Economics
Minor: Philosophy

Lisa Chau is an international executive published in Forbes, Huffington Post and US News & World Report on the topics of business, leadership and technology. She is also a TED-Ed lesson creator and founder of [Alpha Vert](#), a private consultancy focused on social media strategy and cross-platform marketing. Previously, she earned her Masters degree from Dartmouth College and spent five years working for her alma mater as Assistant Director of Alumni Affairs and Assistant Director of Public Relations for the Tuck School of Business. She has also taught at MIT, and guest lectured MBA and undergraduate courses in e-business strategy at Baruch College and The New School.

Lisa recently moved back to Manhattan and works closely with the Dartmouth College Club of New York as their social media strategist and photographer. Her most recent project was hosted at Columbia University, where she presented and moderated a high-level panel on [how technology is changing the business landscape](#).

What do you remember most about Wellesley? Are there any vivid memories, or much-told stories, you could share with us about your experience as a Wellesley student and/or alumna?

When I think of the College, I envision the immaculately manicured campus. In fact, *Travel+Leisure* recently recognized Wellesley as one of the most beautiful college campuses in the country. Surely before Tony Matelli's "Sleepwalker" sculpture was installed! I prefer Auguste Rodin's "The Walking Man", which used to live outdoors in the Jewett quadrangle. I am impressed that the College did not immediately re/move the Matelli statue in a kneejerk reaction to student protests. Matelli's "Sleepwalker" succeeds as art because it inspires fervent discussion.

Speaking of art, I miss studying aesthetics with the dynamic Ingrid Statler at Wellesley. Ingrid was not only my favorite professor, she was my role model who was well educated, professionally successful and fulfilled. She was staunchly flamboyant into her later years, eccentric, well traveled and loved. I have vivid memories of Ingrid's cherry red Porsche and how like Ingrid it stood out in the parking lot among the black and blue sedans driven by the younger peers. Professor Statler and her husband lived in a modern duplex in Cambridge, filled with Japanese toys she collected during her global travels.

I've always supported incorporating philosophy into academic curricula. Philosophy cultivates critical thinking, which is a wonderful foundation for the study of any subject or profession. Further, as a writer, I realized my study of aesthetics at Wellesley has helped me look at things from various perspectives both literally and figuratively.

In the Economics department, I studied with Julie Ann Matthei and the very popular Marcellus Andrews. The latter was my faculty advisor.

(Alumna Spotlight continued on next page)

* Correction: In the Alumna Spotlight of W3A's January 2014 newsletter, interviewee Vickie Nam's majors at Wellesley were incorrectly listed. She was a proud double major in Women's Studies and American Studies.

Alumna Spotlight Continued



While at Wellesley, what were your interests/involvements/goals? Later, how did those interests endure, grow, change, etc.?

I joined the yearbook staff at Wellesley to indulge in my love of photography. I continued to take photographs after graduation particularly portraits, and scenes that tell a story and everyday objects shot at interesting angles (Magritte influence). I want my art to be engaging and make the viewer think and feel. My recent work can be seen in my [online portfolio](#). My favorite and most influential photographers are: Helmut Newton, Guy Bourdin, Richard Avedon, Irving Penn and Robert Mapplethorpe.

At Dartmouth, I cultivated a deep affinity for rowing by participating in inter-dormitory crew. Unfortunately, living in Manhattan makes rowing difficult. In graduate school at Dartmouth, I also started to play squash, which is more feasible to sustain in the city.

Reflecting on your personal/professional decisions, could you talk about the paths you've taken and the work that is most meaningful?

As an economics major at Wellesley, it isn't a surprise that I considered investment banking as my career. My first boyfriend at the time had just finished his Masters degree at Columbia and started a job in the mergers and acquisitions division of UBS Swiss Bank. He shared an apartment in Manhattan with his twin brother who worked in finance at Merrill Lynch. Observing them, I had a close look at the life that would have been mine if I had chosen to go down that path. I took a slightly different route, working as a financial analyst for Tommy Hilfiger and it allowed me to merge finance with my interest in fashion.

Within a year of working with Tommy Hilfiger, I was unexpectedly offered an opportunity to work in Hong Kong. I took it and that was the beginning of the end of any "five year plans"! Now in my 30s, I find that my professional and personal life is nowhere near what I had ever planned nor imagined – a straight-line trajectory within one industry. Instead, I've held several different roles: Financial Analyst, Logistics Manager and Assistant Director of Public Relations and have worked for an internationally known fashion house, a biotechnology startup and a top-tier Ivy League business school. I have been published in *Forbes*, *Huffington Post* and *US News & World Report* and developed a [Ted-Ed lesson](#) on networking because it is an invaluable tool and skill in any facet of life.

At the beginning of this year, I joined a fellow Dartmouth graduate, Jorge Montalvo, to work pro bono with the New York State Office for New Americans. Last month, I hosted and moderated a high-level talk at Columbia University on [how technology is changing the business landscape](#). Panelists included [Tim McDonald](#) from AOL/Huffington Post Live, Mickey Lukens from The New School and Michael Jones from Iris House. Audience members included M. Joseph Curro from *Business Wire* and Polina Opelbaum from *PR Newswire*.

(Alumna Spotlight continued on next page)

Alumna Spotlight Continued

What are some noteworthy challenges you've encountered (e.g., home, school, work, community)? And, what are some critical skills/insights you've gained in the process of navigating these situations?

The business ecosystem is changing in a heightened frenzy because of technology and entrepreneurship. Jobs are being lost and gained at a dizzying pace and everyone must adapt or perish. It's a time of incredible change and I am currently searching for a full-time opportunity where I can make the greatest impact in a consumer goods or technology company. In order to stand out, I spent the past year really taking a step back to propel my career forward. Dorie Clark explains this decision well in [Harvard Business Review](#). I removed myself from the traditional corporate structure and worked on reinventing myself for my next career transition.

Working for myself has been challenging and I have had to be extremely disciplined, creative, patient and diligent. Every two weeks, *US News* publishes one of my economic intelligence articles, which I have sourced with comments from experts. I attend entrepreneurship conferences and hackathons, keep current on new developments and engage industry leaders to keep my finger on the pulse of innovations. I am always on social media and networking with new people and consider the organic nature of my work more challenging.

Most of my friends have been very supportive and applaud my courage for taking a non-traditional route. Yet, still others are confused by my objectives and how my strategy is committed to a greater long-term vision and goal. The positive feedback I've received within a year of my decision is very encouraging and necessary. I'm finally able to construct a compelling narrative of my professional background that doesn't limit my next step. People have approached me knowing my skill set and have consulted me for advice on their own unconventional professional journey. My story is a constructive framework rather than a liability.

What take-away lesson/advice would you give our alumnae?

My extremely varied background prevents me from fitting into an existing mold, and many hiring managers have a difficult time envisioning where I would fit in their organizations. Personally, I believe versatility as well as the ability to quickly adapt to ever-changing environments and continually learn new skills are assets. Proving my value-add and explaining my trajectory has become easier over time because I've carved out specific niches by building an [online writing portfolio](#) that documents my professional journey.

Networking has been pivotal in enhancing my career; however, I didn't learn this lesson until well after college. I wrote a lengthy article in *Huffington Post* about how I navigate [corporate challenges and the bamboo ceiling](#). I am very comfortable networking and leverage it when it is necessary.

And, cultivate genuine and lasting friendships! (I highly recommend reading [Faux Friendship](#) by William Deresiewicz. It the best essay I have read on the progression and demise of friendship.) Be open to one another and in the words of my friend, [Ted Rubin](#), "Just Be Nice, Be Good To People." Meaningful connections in your personal life are invaluable. I love, love, love my Dartmouth family, and I hope that I might find myself in a strong Wellesley alumnae community in which we can reach out to each other professionally and socially.

(Alumna Spotlight continued on next page)



Alumna Spotlight Continued

Have you visited Wellesley recently? When you were last on campus, what do you most remember about the experience? What was it like?

I was invited back to the College for officers weekend because I was the Vice President of the Wellesley Club of New Hampshire 2009-2010. I also returned to campus in 2012 for a milestone reunion, for which I served as the Insignia Chair.

I would really like to create a photographic journal of campus. I didn't have enough time, however.

The Lulu is amazing!



Photo of the Lulu Chow Wang Campus Center taken by Jie Han '12.

To quote from Whitman:

"O me, O life of the questions of these recurring,
Of the endless trains of the faithless,
Of cities filled with the foolish.
What good amid these, O me, O life?"

Answer

That you are here. That life exists and identity,
That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse."

What will your verse be or what has it been?

If you are interested in being interviewed for an Alumna Spotlight or would like to nominate someone, please email **Afshan Bokhari and Vickie Nam** at W3Aalumnaspotlight@gmail.com.

*Please note: The editors of the W3A bios will make every attempt to include all submitted bios, however, they cannot guarantee inclusion.

Campus Corner

March is **Asian Awareness (AA) Month** at Wellesley, and this year's AA Month committee has so many exciting events lined up! The month kicks off with a spoken word poetry performance by a queer South Asian performance and literary arts duo called **DarkMatter**. Kent Ono, Ph.D., is delivering the keynote lecture on **"Asian/Asian Americans and the Media: Representations & Counter Representations."** There will also be a film screening of the highly-acclaimed **Linsanity** about NBA basketball player Jeremy Lin. The month concludes with a performance called "Slanty-eyed Mama" by stand-up comedian **Kate Rigg**. For more information, click [here](#).



Recipe Roundup

How to Make Chinese BBQ Pork (Cha Shao)

Honey roast pork or 叉烧 (cha shao) is a Cantonese specialty. It is very popular, and can be itself (usually cold), or used as an ingredient for other dishes such as Cha Shao Bao (steamed pork buns), or in noodles or rice.

INGREDIENTS

- 3-4 pounds of pork (country style pork ribs)
- 1 cup of light soy sauce
- 1 cup of sugar
- 3 tablespoon cooking wine
- 1 tablespoon ground bean sauce (mo yuan si 磨原)
- 1 tablespoon dark soy sauce (jiang you)
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil
- 3 tablespoon of honey
- Optional: 1 teaspoon chicken flavoring
- Optional: 3-4 drops of orange or red food coloring



Thanks to **Hoi-fei Mok** '10 for this family recipe!

MATERIALS

- Large mixing bowl
- 2 oven baking racks
- Brush

Have a great recipe you want to share?
Send an email to Rachel Shuen '12 at rshuen@wellesley.edu.

1. Cut the pork into pieces roughly $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick and about the size of your palm. If there are parts with too much fat, try to avoid cutting those. A good balance of fat and meat is needed.
2. In a large mixing bowl, soak the meat in the soy sauce, cooking wine, sugar, ground bean sauce, and sesame oil. The chicken flavoring is optional for flavor and the food coloring is optional for intense red coloring.
3. Mix the ingredients in the bowl evenly.
4. Allow the meat to marinate for 4 hours. Occasionally turn the meat over so that all of it can marinate.
5. After marinating, put foil on the top baking rack and arrange the meat on top. On the bottom rack, pour water in to fill up to $\frac{1}{3}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ height. Put the rack with the meat on top of this.
6. Allow the meat to bake for 25-30 min. at 510F. Check at 20 min. for brownness. At 25-30min, turn the meat over and bake for another 20-25 min. at 500F.
7. Once the meat is done, take it out. Mix the honey with 4-5 tablespoons of the water on the bottom baking rack (now with oil and seasoning that had dripped from the meat). Brush this honey mixture onto the meat on both sides. If there is not enough flavoring, add soy sauce to the honey mixture.
8. When the meat is cool, cut into smaller pieces for serving.