

**Subject:** Swarthmore Alumni of Color Fall Newsletter  
**From:** Swarthmore College <alumni@swarthmore.edu>  
**To:** challor2@swarthmore.edu  
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Dear friends and allies,

We want to say thank you for the enthusiastic, passionate response we received when we sent our first newsletter in May. Alumni of Color was an idea, and then a work-in-progress, for many years before it became “official.” To see the excitement it generated is incredibly energizing and encouraging for us as we continue our work together.

**We're growing!** We're pleased to welcome the following members to our volunteer-led steering committee: Kira Alvarez '05, Anna Mello '08, Kimberly Rosa-Perez '18, Louis Lainé '16, and Kevin Li '13. [Read their bios on our website.](#)

We've recently established three committees to mirror our main goals: connecting the alumni network, engaging with current students, and supporting College priorities like volunteerism and philanthropy. You can read more about our 2019–20 plans in supporting the campus community, providing student career support, and alumni events below.

**Are you interested in getting involved?** We're always looking for new volunteers, whether it's for a one-day career advising panel, or supporting the initiatives of the Steering Committee. If there's a committee or concept that sounds interesting to you, please email Caitlin Halloran Edwards at [challor2@swarthmore.edu](mailto:challor2@swarthmore.edu). [Read more about volunteering with the Swarthmore Alumni of Color network.](#)

Here's to a wonderful fall!

In solidarity,

Alumni of Color Steering Committee

Please forward this newsletter to others who may be interested, or have them fill out [this form](#).

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## Campus News

**A warm welcome to new Intercultural Center staff members!**



Imaani El-Burki



Tiffany Thompson

Alumni of Color volunteers warmly welcome to the Swarthmore community [Assistant](#)

Dean and Director of the Intercultural Center Imaani El-Burki and Associate Director of Gender and Sexuality Initiatives, WRC Program Manager Tiffany Thompson, who both joined the Intercultural Center staff this summer. For many of us, the Intercultural Center (IC) and its various student organizations hold a special place in our hearts. We hope future generations of Swarthmore students will have similar experiences of belonging and community through the IC. We look forward to working with Dean El-Burki and Tiffany Thompson and wish them the best in their new positions.

## Connect with Students

### Introducing AOC-led Career Panels

The Alumni of Color Steering Committee is proud to announce the launch of a series of AOC-led student panels!

**We are currently seeking volunteers for panels to take place during the 2019–20 academic year.** In particular,

the Student Support Committee is seeking a diverse group of nonprofit professionals, law school graduates, immigration law experts, and alumni with experience in employee relations (e.g., business owners, human resources, labor, and employment professionals) who are willing to contribute their time and expertise to help prepare Swarthmore students for their transition to the workforce. Help current students think about their future professional lives with the same rigor that they approach their academic studies.

2019–20 proposed panels will address:

- Working in the nonprofit sector
- The decision to attend law school
- Immigration and visa considerations
- The employment relationship

Panelists will be asked to travel to campus or make themselves available via webcast. Panel presentations will be open to all students. If you are interested in volunteering for one of these career panels or would like to contribute to other panels, please contact Laura Damerville '03 at [ldamerville@gmail.com](mailto:ldamerville@gmail.com).



### Diversity Showcase Alumni Dinner and Career Fair

Join Career Services for the Tri-Co Diversity Showcase in November, preceded by a Swarthmore alumni dinner the night before.

Alumni are welcome to participate in one or both parts of this series. Contact Jackie Moriniere at [jmorini1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:jmorini1@swarthmore.edu) or 610-328-8555.

### **Diversity Showcase Alumni Dinner**

Nov. 21, 2019

6-8 p.m.

The alumni dinner is an opportunity for students to engage candidly with alumni on the topic of diversity in the workplace in an informal setting. The event will consist of a panel and round-table discussions. This event is not a Tri-Co event.

### **Tri-College Diversity Showcase Career Fair/Networking Event**

Nov. 22, 2019

12-3 p.m.

Employers from the Greater Philadelphia area and beyond will have the opportunity to engage with students from underrepresented and diverse backgrounds interested in learning about employers dedicated to hiring and developing a diverse workforce. Our sponsors include M&T Bank, BCG, Citigroup, Ballard Spahr, FEMA, and PFM.

### **Career Showcases**

Each year Career Services partners with each of the three academic divisions at the College for a Career Showcase. Faculty nominate alumni for a career related panel, which is followed by roundtable discussions with the panelists, faculty, and students. Career Services welcomes panelist nominations from Alumni of Color!

In Spring 2020 we will have the Social Science Career Showcase for majors in Classics, Economics, Educational Studies, History, Linguistics, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Anthropology.

Please nominate alums by emailing Kristie Beucler at [kbeucle1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:kbeucle1@swarthmore.edu).

### **Externships**

An externship is a weeklong job-shadowing and mentoring experience that allows students to explore careers and develop professional knowledge. Your time and advice helps students make informed decisions about their academic majors, career paths, and work-life balance. Extern Week 2020 is January 13–17. [Watch a short video to learn more about the program.](#)

We specifically want to highlight externships opportunities that elevate the visibility of alumni of color in various fields.

1. **Be a workplace mentor**

Host a student at your workplace during Extern Week. Introduce them to colleagues, bring them to meetings, and share your work.

2. **Be a homestay mentor**

Invite a student to stay in your home during their externship. Share your wisdom about college, work-life balance, and more.

If you have additional questions, please contact Jen Barrington and Kristie Beucler in Career Services at [extern@swarthmore.edu](mailto:extern@swarthmore.edu).

Did you know? You can offer career opportunities for students year-round in [Handshake!](#)



**Alumni Online Community**

Make sure you're in the [Swarthmore Online Community](#) with an updated profile! Students and alums use this space to find classmates and potential mentors in their field of interest, career,

or geographic area. You can also opt-in to show your affiliation with the Swarthmore Black Alumni Network, Latinx community, and LGBTQ+ Alumnx Network. We're working on more identity options as well.

## Events

**Celebrating Black Excellence**

Recently we heard from President Valerie Smith about *Celebrating Black Excellence at Swarthmore College: Honoring Our Past, Imagining Our Futures*. This yearlong celebration in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Black Cultural Center, the 50th anniversary of the Black Studies Program, and the 25th anniversary of the Chester Children's Chorus, among other important anniversaries, includes a full schedule of events and programming.

Visit [swarthmore.edu/blackexcellence](http://swarthmore.edu/blackexcellence) to learn more.

Save the date! The [Swarthmore Black Alumni Network \(SBAN\)](#) will host a reunion during Alumni Weekend May 29–31, 2020.



**CELEBRATING  
BLACK EXCELLENCE**  
AT SWARTHMORE COLLEGE HONORING OUR PAST. IMAGINING OUR FUTURES



## Welcome to the City

Every year, hundreds of young Swarthmore alumni move to new cities for new jobs, research opportunities, graduate school, or just to resettle. Alumni Connection groups host informal Welcome to the City events where Swarthmoreans can welcome new residents, pass on valuable information about their new locale, and socialize

and network with other members of the Swarthmore community. Check your email for an event near you!

Questions about Alumni of Color or anything listed in this newsletter? Email [challor2@swarthmore.edu](mailto:challor2@swarthmore.edu)

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