



Student-Alumni Initiatives

Our Goal: To Connect the Yale Generations – Past & Present

What happens when Yale brings together its students and alumni? Yale students and alumni form dynamic relationships that benefit both groups. Yale students fill alumni with energy, showing them what campus life is like today, and draw them back to campus – and into Yale service, sometimes for the first time since they graduated. Interacting with Yale alumni allows current students to receive valuable career advice and guidance on how to adjust to life after graduation. Students also form ties to the Association of Yale Alumni (“AYA”) even before they graduate. Yale’s traditions and values are exchanged between the Yale generations, as students and alumni form meaningful connections and lasting friendships.

Our Structure: The Student-Alumni Initiatives Committee

What is the Student-Alumni Initiatives Committee? It is a working committee of the AYA Board of Governors that creates programs to connect Yale’s alumni and current Yale students. Our committee consists of ten volunteer board members that meet in person four times a year and via telephone every month. The programs we develop are based on the input we receive from student and alumni interviews, surveys and group discussions.



Our Programs: Creating Connection Points for Students & Alumni

We work in partnership with student groups to develop and host a variety of relevant student-alumni programs throughout the year. These include: sponsoring alumni speaker panels (see image of panel announcement) where alumni share career advice about different fields (e.g., careers in medicine, academia, law, etc.); delivering speeches to students to educate them about AYA programs and how to get involved; and hosting receptions and lunches for students and alumni to network and exchange ideas (see reception photo).

Our Future: Creating Students & Alumni at Yale (“STAY”)

How do we make these student-alumni connections endure? We are currently establishing Students and Alumni at Yale, a permanent shared interest group, which will be made-up of a group of current and recently graduated students, alumni board members and other interested alumni. Expanding the leadership of this group will allow for membership continuity over time. STAY will continue to create programs that change student and alumni lives and Yale, forever.