

## YaleWomen Council: Overview 2018-2019

Dear YaleWomen:

Under the Bylaws of YaleWomen, the Governance Committee is responsible for recommending candidates for each new Class of the Council. The Committee is beginning the process for terms starting July 1, 2018, and needs your input.

Do you know a talented Yale woman alum? Nominate her – or yourself – to join the YaleWomen Council.

Each year, YaleWomen elects one-third of its members to the central governing Council. These new or returning members are elected to serve a three-year term. We invite both eligible sitting Council members whose terms are expiring and Yale women who have an interest in serving on the Council to apply for these eight seats.

Who would be a good nominee? YaleWomen's bylaws contain the following guidance: *"The ideal Council member will be an engaged alum, who has demonstrated volunteer commitment to Yale or to a Yale alum organization (including YaleWomen). Nominees for the Council should be able to devote adequate time to Council activities and be willing to make Council service a priority. They should possess good judgment, listening and speaking skills, follow through on work they undertake, be able to work collaboratively, and be willing to serve as ambassadors for YaleWomen."*

Since YaleWomen's inception in 2011, many alums have worked together to develop different ways for us to connect and engage with one another and to use our voices to transform the world: at conferences and symposia, in webinars and chapters, in the enewsletters, and on social media.

Our mission is to create a vibrant, engaged community of alums, drawn together by the common thread of our Yale experiences, that is committed to advancing women's voices and perspectives and to enriching and inspiring one another, Yale, and the world. The Council is responsible for advancing this mission. We are especially excited to undertake the nomination process as we move into our seventh year: to chart a course for the future of YaleWomen, expand our signature initiatives – enewsletters, webinars, chapters, and social media – and develop distinctive and compelling new ways for us to connect and engage with one another and to use our voices to transform the world

Selection of the Council members will be in keeping with the criteria enumerated in the Bylaws; these criteria envision active participation by Council members, both in the work of the Council, including the Council's committees, and in one or more ongoing projects of YaleWomen. We will be asking each nominee to commit to a significant level of engagement as we move forward to build infrastructure and create programming, and do work within the four key goal

areas set forth in our strategic plan: *Building community, Promoting lifelong learning opportunities, Contributing to society* and *Contributing to Yale*. Please see the [Statement of Expectations](#) for specific information on the ways in which Council members contribute to our work.

We recognize that much of the work of YaleWomen occurs outside of the Council calls, in the growing number of Chapters and within projects such as conferences and symposia, Award for Excellence event, videos and webinars, enewsletters, and social media. We want to emphasize that while Council members are expected to attend Council calls, this is not sufficient. We have ambitious goals, and their realization will require serious commitment from the Council as well as non-Council YaleWomen members. We will ask each potential nominee to be realistic about her ability to make service to YaleWomen a priority. There are opportunities to be a significant contributor to YaleWomen without serving on the Council and some potential candidates may want to serve in ways that permit them more flexibility.

We are excited to undertake this process and move into our seventh year and we look forward to charting a course for the future of YaleWomen. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any or all members of the Governance Committee at their email addresses below. Please submit your completed [application](#) with candidate information, including qualifications and contact information, no later than **Thursday, March 15, 2018**. The election will be held by **June 1, 2018**.

With our best wishes,

**YaleWomen Governance Committee**

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