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Yale College

Volume 3, Issue 1

The Community Initiative

EMPOWERING FIRST-GENERATION LOW-INCOME STUDENTS AT YALE



Welcome!

The Community Initiative is delighted to see our students return to campus and is especially excited to welcome the Yale Class of 2023! We hope you all had a blissful summer and were able to enjoy some time with family and friends! This weekly newsletter will provide you with handy information that will help you navigate the upcoming school year.

The Community Initiative is a Yale administrative effort to empower first generation, low income students academically, socially, and financially through a partnership between the Yale College Dean's Office and the Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning. Alongside various resources and initiatives, the Community Initiative also aims to foster a sense of community throughout all sectors of Yale, including undergraduates and faculty. If you have any questions, please reach out to fgli@yale.edu. Once again, welcome back!



Greetings from Jorge Anaya

Hello, my name is Jorge Anaya and I am the Woodbridge Fellow for the Yale College Dean's Office and the Poorvu Center for Teaching and Learning; during the 2019-2020 academic school year I will serve as the coordinator of the Community Initiative. As a recent FGLI Yale graduate (shoutout TD class of 2019!), I am passionate about empowering FGLI students on campus and expanding our community. The work that we collectively perform is not only for ourselves, but also for the future FGLI students who will one day call this campus their home.

The Yale of today is very different from the one established in 1701. We are a better reflection of today's society: we are more diverse, more understanding, more compassionate. While the institution is still in a process of change, much of that change has been accomplished in recent years due to student advocacy. I am proud to be part of the FGLI community at Yale, and grateful to call this campus my home. If you have any questions, please email me at jorge.anaya@yale.edu, thank you and welcome back!

RSVP to our Fall Community Dinner!

Celebrate the start of the school year and learn more about being FGLI at Yale by attending our Fall Community Dinner in Saint Thomas More on Tuesday, September 3rd from 6:30pm- 8:30pm! Please sign up for the dinner via this [Google Form](#). The event is open to all!

Visit Our Website!

Go to fgli.yalecollege.yale.edu to access key resources for all FGLI students, including:

- A **financial guide** with advice on understanding your financial aid, approaching student jobs, and saving money.
- An **introduction** to our team of student ambassadors and administration.



A **list** of academic and financial resources you can apply to.



Student Shout Out

This summer, Ruhi Manek MC'20, interned at National Geographic Partners in Washington, D.C. As a Photo Editor Intern for the Culture & History Desk, Ruhi's role encompassed everything from the visual production and design of a story, to in-depth research about relevant global topics. Over the span of 10 weeks, Ruhi had the opportunity to engage across desks and departments, including working with other interns to develop a marketing proposal for NatGeo's Planet or Plastic Initiative. A highlight of her summer, she says, was attending the annual Explorer's Festival where she not only engaged with NatGeo explorers from all over the globe, including photographers, researchers, and adventurers, but embarked on a life-changing Virtual Reality exploration of the breathtaking Okavango Delta in Botswana. Ruhi returns as a senior this fall with a newfound appreciation for the power of storytelling through technology, data and design -- one she hopes to explore further through her last undergraduate year at Yale.

Check out some of Ruhi's Productions this summer on: [death in Uganda's Bidibidi refugee camp](#), [contextualizing the crisis in Hong Kong's streets](#), and [reminiscing Woodstock 50 years later](#).

Upcoming Events

Saturday Aug. 24th: Bulldog Bash (10pm-2am) @ Old Campus

Monday Aug. 26th: Y-VISP Bluebooking with ASP Mentors (4:00pm-5:00pm) @ Poorvu Center Room 120A

Tuesday Aug. 27th: STARS I Information Meeting (2:00pm-3:00pm) @ Linsly-

Chittenden Hall

Tuesday Aug. 27th: Questbridge Bluebooking Event (7:00pm-8:00PM) @ Poorvu Center Room 118B

Friday Aug. 30th: Intercultural First-Year Mixer (6pm-7:30pm) @ AfAm House

Friday Aug. 30th: Meet Your PLs Event (8:00pm-9:30pm) @ All Cultural Centers

Monday Sept. 2nd: Welcome Back Cookout (3:00pm-6:00pm) @ AfAm House

Sunday Sept. 1st: Yale College Student Activities Bazaar (12pm-2:30pm) @ Payne Whitney Gym

Tuesday Sept. 3rd: FGLI Community Dinner (6:30pm-8:30pm) @ Saint Thomas More

Thursday Sept. 5th: AACC Welcome Back BBQ (5:00pm-7:00pm) @ The AACC

Opportunities

La Casa Student Coordinator Position: [Application](#) is open to all undergraduates and is due by Tuesday, August 27th at 11:59pm.

[STARS I](#) (STEM academic mentorship): Application is open to all first-years and is due by Monday, September 9th at 11:30pm.

[STARS II](#): Application is open to juniors and seniors and is due by Wednesday, September 25th at 11:30pm

Want to get a head start to your semester? Check out the resources available through the Poorvu Center's [Academic Strategies Program](#)! This program helps you identify and practice the approaches and techniques that will help you gain ownership and satisfaction in your academic work at Yale. Their resources include:

- **1-1 Mentoring:** De-mystify Yale's hidden curriculum! Meet with a junior or senior peer to discuss how to organize your schedule, study for exams, talk with faculty, and anything else that poses a challenge in Yalies' academic lives. Our online schedule goes live on Sept. 16th; if you'd like to schedule a meeting please email academicstrategies@yale.edu.
- **Workshops:** Last year, over 600 seats were filled in the Academic Strategies Workshops. Join them in their interactive discussions on "Time Management," "Managing a Heavy Reading Load," "Pathways for First Years," and "Creating a Timeline for Your Senior Project." Workshops are held multiple times over the course of the semester, and new workshops are added weekly. See the [Academic Strategies Calendar](#) for more information.

Questions? Contact Dr. Karin Gosselink, ASP Director: karin.gosselink@yale.edu

Tip of the Week

Textbooks can be one of your major expenses at the very start of the school year. Following is a list of possible tips and advice to help you decrease the cost of textbooks:

- Prioritize the use of your [Start-Up Grant](#) to purchase textbooks, course materials, and lab materials.
- If your professor staggers their readings throughout the entire semester, do not buy all your books at once but rather as needed!
- Purchase or rent your textbooks from an online retailer like [Amazon](#).
- Check books out from the [Bass Library Course Reserves](#).
- Share textbooks with friends, suitemates, or classmates.
- Ask your professors if they have any extra copies of the books and/or have an online version that can be accessed as a PDF.

Inspirational Quote

Quisieron enterrarnos, pero se les olvido que somos semillas // They tried to bury us,
but they didn't know we were seeds



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