October 20, 2014

Dear Students, Alumnae and Friends,

As co-chairs of the Women’s Leadership Council’s Mentoring Committee, we are so pleased to welcome you into the 9th class of the Women’s Launch Pad mentoring program!

Since the establishment of the program in September 2006, the overarching goal of the Women’s Launch Pad has been to create a strong multigenerational community among Brown alumnae and current female students. Through the Women’s Launch Pad, a structured mentoring program, students receive guidance from their mentors on life after Brown. By way of individual mentoring pairs, mentors discuss their own personal and professional paths and mentees provide alumnae with a personal and active way to stay connected with the Brown community.

Over the years, the Women’s Launch Pad has experienced tremendous growth and engaged more than 1,000 Brown students and alumnae as program participants. Based on the number of student applications seeking a mentor and the enthusiastic interest on the part of alumnae to mentor, we feel confident that we are addressing a meaningful need within the Brown community! We are delighted that this year the program is supporting 150 mentoring pairs.

We are fortunate to have an expanding group of mentors committed to our students’ success. The Women’s Launch Pad would not be possible without the participation of our alumnae mentors who hail from around the country and beyond. The varied paths you have traveled since leaving Brown are inspiring and impressive. We thank you for making the time to be a part of this program and hope you find the Women’s Launch Pad to be a wonderful way to further engage with Brown, to personally connect with the current generation of Brown students, and to enjoy collaborating with our exceptional group of Brown alumnae mentors.

And finally, we are thrilled to welcome this year’s mentees into the program! You are an incredible group, with a vast range of experiences and interests. We encourage you to make the most of this opportunity to connect with and learn from Brown alumnae.

Thank you again to everyone participating in the Women’s Launch Pad mentoring program this year – please be in touch if we can be of any assistance.

Joan W. Berman ’74, P’05, P’11  
Co-Chair, Women’s Leadership Council Mentoring Committee

Sharon Curhan ’83, P’10  
Co-Chair, Women’s Leadership Council Mentoring Committee

Amy Reiss ’85  
Co-Chair, Women’s Leadership Council Mentoring Committee
The Office of Alumni Relations manages the Women’s Launch Pad. Alumni Relations works closely with the leadership of the Women’s Leadership Council and other University offices to ensure the day-to-day and long-term success of the program.

**Office of Alumni Relations**
- Donna Curry
  Director of Alumni Leadership Programs
  Donna_Curry@brown.edu
  401-863-6143

- Heather Wilkerson
  Assistant Director of Career and Leadership Programs
  Heather_Wilkerson@brown.edu
  401-863-9693

- Johanna Hussey
  Alumni Programs Coordinator
  Johanna_Hussey@brown.edu
  401-863-2738
Women's Leadership Council Officers

Shelley Fidler '68, P’09, WLC Co-Chair
Elizabeth Munves Sherman '77, P’06, P’09 WLC Co-Chair
Leslie Rohrer ’78, P’12, Communications Co-Chair
Alexandra E. Mandis ’95, Communications Co-Chair
Patricia Ralph Fowler ’81, Membership Co-Chair
Sandeep Ting Simshauser ‘84, P’18, Membership Co-Chair
Joan W. Berman Ph.D. ‘74, P’05, P’11, Mentoring Co-Chair
Sharon Curhan, M.D. ’83, P’10, Mentoring Co-Chair
Amy L. Reiss ’85, Mentoring Co-Chair
Marcia J. Dunn M.D. ’82, Programming Co-Chair
Lauren A. Corrao ’83, P’16, Programming Co-Chair
Adina Chouequet Young ’82, Programming Co-Chair
Nancy Fuld Neff ’76, P’06, P’14, Chair, Emerita
Genine M. Fidler ’77, P’04, P’12, Chair, Emerita
Susan Pilch Friedman ’77, P’08, Chair, Emerita

Mission of the Women’s Launch Pad

The Women’s Launch Pad (WLP) is a Brown-based mentoring program seeking to facilitate relationships between alumnae and female students in their senior year at Brown. Through these relationships, the program seeks to:

1. Provide transitioning senior Brown women with practical advice on next steps after graduation.
2. Provide students with the opportunity to learn from the experiences and expertise of Brown alumnae.
3. Offer mentors the opportunity to reflect on their own paths and serve as role models for the next generation of Brown women.
4. Create relationships between mentors and students that establish a supportive community of Brown women with lasting engagement to the University.

In striving towards these goals, the Women’s Launch Pad supports the objectives of the Women’s Leadership Council and the University as a whole.

The Women’s Leadership Council

First convened by President Simmons in the fall of 2004, the purpose of the Women’s Leadership Council (WLC) is to create engagement opportunities designed to bring more alumnae into volunteer roles within the University community and secure leadership support from women philanthropists and their families. Engagement opportunities include networking and relationship building among alumnae and female students as a means to increase connections among these women and in turn, benefit the long-term vitality of Brown University. Cornerstone to this effort is the Women’s Launch Pad (WLP) that was first piloted in the 2006-2007 academic year and pairs alumnae and senior class women in a yearlong mentoring relationship.
Guidelines

The success of the Women’s Launch Pad is incumbent on the ongoing commitment of participating alumnae and students. Please review the guidelines below to assist you in establishing and maintaining a successful mentoring relationship.

Program Guidelines: General

If at any time, you (mentor or mentee) determine you cannot continue with your participation in the Women’s Launch Pad, please communicate this decision as soon as possible with Heather_Wilkerson@brown.edu in the Office of Alumni Relations.

If a mentor determines she cannot continue with the program, Heather will work to identify a new mentor for the mentee. If a mentee determines she cannot continue with the program, it is unlikely that a new mentee will be identified for the mentor.

Mentors and mentees will receive periodic e-mail reminders and articles of interest which to assist in your role as mentor.

Program Guidelines: Interaction between Mentors and Mentees

Please observe the following guidelines in your mentor/mentee interactions:

1. At your initial meeting, please determine for your pairing:
   a. what means of communication (phone, e-mail or Skype) works best
   b. how frequently you will be in touch with one another
   c. who will serve as the catalyst in most communications
   d. what a reasonable “turn-around time” for communication follow-up is (i.e., ideally, e-mails will be responded to within 48 hours, etc.)
   e. what times of day and days of week that work best for communications
   f. the degree of formality preferred in communications

2. To avoid miscommunication due to competing priorities, let your mentor/mentee know if you will be unreachable for any extended period of time (1 week or more) due to work projects, exams, vacations, etc.

3. Always treat your mentor/mentee with respect, professionalism and courtesy both in written correspondence (e-mails, etc.) and in face-to-face meetings (arriving on time to pre-arranged meetings), etc.

4. Treat all interactions as confidential.

5. Contact Heather_Wilkerson@brown.edu if questions or concerns arise regarding your experience with the Women’s Launch Pad or within your mentoring relationship.
Baseline Time Commitment for Mentors & Mentees

- Attendance as possible at the Kick-Off on October 23, 2014
- A minimum of six contacts (via e-mail, telephone or in person) throughout the academic year
- Attendance as possible at the End of Year Celebration tentatively scheduled for May 7th 2015

Selection of Mentors
150 alumnae mentors have been secured to participate in the 2014-2015 program. These alumnae were invited to participate based on a number of criteria, including serving as a mentor in previous program years, serving on the Women’s Leadership Council, recommendations from fellow classmates, recommendations from University staff, self-identified, etc.

Selection of Mentees
150 senior class women have been selected to participate in the 2014-2015 program. The participants were selected from a pool of nearly 168 applicants. Over a third of the selections made based on the applicants mentoring needs expressed via the application process. The remaining participants were selected by lottery.

Program Evaluation
At the conclusion of the academic year, mentors and mentees will be asked to complete a survey to evaluate the program and recommend specific suggestions for improvement.

Proper Use of the WLP Program Guide
The information contained within this guide is for the explicit use of the Women’s Launch Pad program and should not be re-created, in whole or in part, etc. without written permission from the Office of Alumni Relations.
University Resources for Mentoring

- **Center for Careers and Life After Brown** - Career LAB (formerly called the Career Development Center) offers general and specialized advising to meet the full range of students’ career advising needs such as preparing a resume, finding an internship, interviewing for a job, applying to professional school, or in person advising.

- **Law school advising through the Office of the Dean of the College** - Provides advising and support for students and alumni interested in applying to law school. The Deans for law school advising hold information sessions for Law School advising in order for students to familiarize themselves about the application process, and hold organized events throughout the academic year related to legal education and practice.

- **Pre-Med and Health Careers Advising** - Through a collaboration between the Office of the Dean of the College and Careers LAB assists current Brown undergraduates and recent alumni interested in applying to medical school or other health profession training programs. Individual advising, group information sessions, discussions and workshops are offered throughout the academic year for students and graduates at any phase of their preparation for medical or other health profession schools. In addition to advising, the office prepares Brown University’s committee letter of recommendation on behalf of any eligible applicant to medical school or other health profession training programs.

- **Business Careers Advising** - The newest Pre-Professional Advising program, is a collaboration between the Office of the Dean of the College and CareerLAB, based on comprehensive online resources, information sessions and workshops, on-campus recruitment, and individual advising. We encourage all Brown students and recent alumni interested in business careers and education to explore our resources and connect with our office.

- **Office of International Student and Scholar Services (OISSS)** - Provides a full continuum of support for international students studying at Brown. On behalf of the University, OISSS issues applicable documents to international students and guides them through processes such as immigration, employment, taxation, social security card and driver’s license applications, all of which require interaction with various governmental agencies.

- **Alumni Careers and Connections** - the BAA’s online suite of career tools for alumni – at any stage in their career development. These resources focus on the job hunt, career networking, coaching and assessment and expert advising through a webinar series.

- **Psychological Services** - Provides assessment, brief psychotherapy, and crisis intervention to all Brown students. The counseling process can result in healthier adjustments and personal growth for people who seek it. Students from all of the diverse backgrounds represented in the Brown community make use of our services.
- **BrownConnect** - BrownConnect offers unique opportunities for students' career development and exploration through the support of the Brown community of alumni, parents, and friends. The goals of BrownConnect include increasing funding for low-paying and unpaid summer internship and research opportunities, increasing the number of summer positions posted by alumni, parents, and friends of the University in key industries and geographies, to centralize information about summer positions and funding sources coordinated by entities across campus, and to track this information through improved technology, and to connect more students with alumni, parents and friends of the University for valuable mentorship and career advice.

- **Curricular Resource Center** - The CRC is a place where students help each other engage with Brown's curriculum and utilize its academic resources.

- **Open Dean Hours** - Open hours are designed for quick questions, exploratory conversations, and emergencies. Students are seen in order, upon arrival. However, we also encourage you to arrange individual appointments with deans, especially if the issue you wish to discuss falls under a dean's particular area of responsibility, or requires an extended conversation.

- **Advising Central** - Advising Central is an inviting space for undergraduate academic advising at Brown. Located in J. Walter Wilson 313, Advising Central allows students to discuss academic plans, expand individual networks of support, and connect with faculty and academic advisors. Students can drop in any weekday afternoon for open hours.

- **Writing Center** - Brown's Writing Center provides individual and group writing support free of charge to any member of the Brown community. Individual writing conferences are available on the hour from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday, 12 p.m. to 9 p.m. Monday - Thursday, and 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. Friday. Students may request an appointment by using the online scheduling tool.

- **Academic Support** - Brown's Dean of the College office provides academic support services that supplement the support provided by course instructors. Students are encouraged to visit faculty and TAs during office hours, to attend problem sessions, and to access other departmental resources for learning, whether or not they are experiencing academic difficulty.
Academic Calendar 2014–2015 — Important Dates

**Fall 2014**

Nov. 4-11  Registration for Semester II

Nov. 11   Last day for advisors to approve second concentrations in ASK for students in their 7th semester.

Nov. 26-30  Thanksgiving recess beginning Wednesday at noon

Dec. 1  Classes resume.

Dec. 1  Deadline for declaring a leave for Semester II. Mid-year Completion Celebration.

Dec. 7-11  Reading Period (optional and at the discretion of the instructor.)

Dec. 11  Classes end for courses not observing Reading Period. Last day to drop a course.

Dec. 12-20  Final Examination Period.

**Spring 2015**

Jan. 1  Last day for payment of charges.

Jan. 19  Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. No University exercises.

Jan. 20  Registration of new students for the second semester.

Jan. 21  Classes of the second semester begin. Web registration begins at 8:00 am.

Feb. 3  Last day to add a course on-line and/or without a fee.

Feb. 14-17  Long weekend. No University exercises.

Feb. 18  Classes resume. Last day to add a course, change from audit to credit, or change a grade option declaration.

March 6  Mid-semester deadline. Last day to change from credit to audit in a course.

March 21-29  Spring Recess.

March 30  Classes resume. Deadline for students on leave to confirm readmission for Semester I.

April 14-21  Registration for Semester I, 2013-14.

April 24 - May 5  Reading Period (optional and at the discretion of the instructor).

May 5  Classes end for courses not observing Reading Period. Last day to drop a course.

May 6 – 15  Final Examination Period.

May 24, 2015  Commencement