

ALAS

Association of Latina Alumnae of Smith

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Co-Networking Chair

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Open

Mission Statement:

The Association of Latina Alumnae of Smith (ALAS) works to create community among Latina alumnae and Smith College.

ALAS works collaboratively with the Alumnae Association of Smith College (AASC) and alumnae across the world to establish an organization that is strong, responsive to the changing needs of alumnae and creative in our approaches. We are flexible, vibrant and embrace the diversity of our alumnae and ever-changing world.

ALAS Admissions Report

SPECIAL ISSUE 2011

Rebeca Ames '01

Admissions Outlook

2011 was a once again a record year for admissions! Applications were at a record high of 4125. The class hails from every state, and once again has the largest population of international citizens ever. The growth has been in 2011 is focused in Asia where international study is popular with a strong Smith reputation.

Latina Admissions Outlook

394 women who applied to Smith self-identified as Latina. Percentage wise to the over-all applicant pool this is a decrease; however, there is a trend of students choosing to identify as being of another race or ethnicity. Of these 394, nearly 50 were interviewed by alumnae, including ALAS volunteers. From the 394 applicants, 160 Latina students were admitted to Smith. I will know the yield in a few weeks. There are 86 women currently on the waitlist. There were also 9 Stride scholars admitted. I am waiting to hear about those who attended Discovery weekend.

Geographic Breakdown of those Admitted



Massachusetts: 15
Other New England: 9
South: 2 (has only been 2 for the past 3 years!)
New York: 24 with 14 from New York City
Mid Atlantic (PA, NJ, DE, MD, DC): 18
Western Mountain: 6
South East: (includes Florida and PR): 10
Midwest: 4
Southwest: 13 (12 from TX)
Pacific West: 60 (58 from CA, DOUBLE last year)

"From the 394 applicants, 160 Latina students were admitted to Smith"

Last year, I worked closely with alumnae in certain regions with overall improvement. The largest increase was in California, particularly Southern California, with the double the applicant pool and total admitted students! I know the LA club has been working tirelessly and cohesively to attract women to Smith. Thanks to Monique Chavoya '02 and the many alumnae from Los Angeles who are committed to the recruitment process.

Next Steps

As a result of my geographic breakdown for 2010, I have decided to focus on three areas to increase applications and admissions. My resources are limited in both volunteers and my personal time. The areas are: **Miami, Texas** and **Washington DC**. These areas were chosen because they either have a strong volunteer base that would benefit from support (Washington, DC), or because they are known to have a large Latina population but have surprisingly few applicants (Miami, TX).

Please send me an e-mail if you are interested in joining the recruitment efforts at
rebeca.ames@gmail.com

Website: <http://alumnae.smith.edu/smithcms/alas/>
Email: AlasAlumnae@live.com

ALAS Admissions Report

(continued from page 1)

Other News from Northampton

Smith has developed four new **Centers for Engagement, Learning and Leadership**. The Centers are designed to be interdisciplinary and engage with contemporary issues. The Smith Centers for Engagement, Learning and Leadership offer the opportunity to respond to emerging student and scholarly interests, to provide contexts for internships and independent projects and to address real-world challenges.

Center for Community Collaboration: The Center for Community Collaboration promotes a campus-wide culture of community engagement, responsive citizenship, and the active generation of knowledge to benefit society. The center will be an active resource for academic development and will coordinate the training in methodology, ethics and community structures that students need to make their experiences productive.

Center for the Environment, Ecological Design & Sustainability: The Center for the Environment, Ecological Design and Sustainability advances environmental literacy, fosters innovative research, and effects sustainable practices in its operation. CEEDS positions faculty, staff and students to lead societies toward a sustainable future by supporting curricular development, facilitating collaborative projects and providing resources for environmental research.

Center for Work & Life: Linking programming on leadership, work preparation and wellness practices, the Center for Work and Life provides a context where students can learn about current research on women's lives, reflect on their own experiences, and explore concepts of fulfillment uniquely suited to them.

Global Studies Center: The Global Studies Center engages Smith students in international studies and cultivates an understanding of the global context and implications of their work. The center integrates, enriches and makes more prominent these opportunities through its programs, advancing the college's mission to prepare women for global leadership.

Increased International Focus:

- Smith has exceeded 100 Fulbright Fellowships garnered in the nine years 2001--10 since establishing its Fellowships Program. In the five years 2004-09, Smith College produced **76 student Fulbright Fellows**, the most among colleges nationwide;
- Smith ranks first in the nation among U.S. baccalaureate institutions in the number of students studying abroad for a full year. The college encourages students from all academic disciplines, including the sciences and engineering, to become informed global citizens and to engage with communities beyond Smith;
- With 21 alumnae currently serving around the world, Smith **ranks third in the nation** among small colleges and universities in the production of Peace Corps volunteers.

Final Thoughts

We hope that you will consider joining ALAS' efforts in increasing the qualified pool of Latina applicants to Smith. I will be happy to provide you with details about the recruitment cycle at Smith and equip you with recruitment tools. Once again, please send me an e-mail if you are interested in joining our efforts at rebeca.ames@gmail.com.

Elections!

The current board of ALAS will turn over in July 2011. ALAS is searching for its future leaders. Please consider volunteering for a leadership role in the upcoming board. Elections will be held in June 2011. If you are interested in a position, or know of an interesting candidate, please submit your information to Normamelgoza@hotmail.com.

The positions that are open include: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Fundraising Director, and two Co-Networking Chairs.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Upcoming Event!

Graduation Tea at Smith College Saturday May 14, 2010

Please join ALAS for a graduating tea at the Alumnae House on Saturday, May 14th from 2:30-3:30. ALAS alumnae will have the opportunity to meet the 2011 graduating class and wish them the best in their new adventures. ALAS will be distributing roses and good wishes to the graduating seniors. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP at ALASAlumnae@Live.com.

ALAS Membership Form and Survey (Membership year is July 1-June 30)

Please update your information:

Name	Class Year	
Address		
Home #:	Work: #:	Cell #:
Email:		

Membership Dues:

Class of 2011	Free
Basic membership	\$25
General Support	

Checks should be made payable to the:

Alumnae Association of Smith College
c/o Norma A. Melgoza
1007 W. Armitage, 2F
Chicago, IL 60614
Attention: ALAS Dues

I would like to make this contribution to the Smith College Women of Color Emergency Fund. **Please make your check payable to Smith College and indicate that it is for the Women of Color Emergency Fund.**

Total Enclosed: \$ _____.

Please indicate your interest in attending or helping to organize either locally or regionally, the following group functions or events:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ALAS Big Sister Program/Mentoring Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Career Panel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Admissions Interviews/Recruiting | <input type="checkbox"/> Book Club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women and Financial Independence Seminar | <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting an Event |

Would you be interested in Career Networking breakfasts/roundtables? ___Y ___N

Would you be interested in a Working Mothers/Balancing Family and Career Support Group? ___Y ___N

Would you be willing to be contacted for informational interviews? ___Y ___N

What kind of programs and events would be most appealing and/or helpful to you?

Suggestions:

Email: ALASAlumnae@Live.com