#### WOMEN OF ISENBERG

## **NEWSLETTER**

Happy Thanksgiving everyone! The Women of Isenberg (WoI) Planning Committee is excited to share the November issue of our monthly newsletter.

#### This newsletter features:

- Community Council Applications
- Ticket Registration!
- Why Wol?
- The 2023 Women of Isenberg Conference Campaign
- Wol x WiB Meditation Night
- Tips and Treats
- Conference Schedule
- Panel Preview
- Panel Topics
- DSP Event Recap
- Wol is thankful for...

• Ways to give back to the Amherst community

# WOLMISSION

Since 2014, our conference mission has been to connect current UMass Amherst students with alumni, faculty, and corporate sponsors in a full-day professional development event. The Wol Conference creates a welcoming community for attendees from diverse backgrounds and industries to share experiences, foster confidence, and discuss the challenges we face as students in the classroom and women in the workplace.

# COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The Wol Community Council application is now open!

Community Council is a group of UMass students who are interested in being involved with the Women of Isenberg Conference planning process!

The Community Council Members serve as a general body for the Women of Isenberg Conference.

This year, we are dividing our Community Council Members into 3 main groups: Marketing & Communications, Operations, Events & Technology, and DEI Leadership.

.Applications are due by 11:59PM on Friday, December 2nd, 2022. Click here to apply!

# **Ticket Registration**

The 2023 Women of Isenberg Conference registration opened today, November 29, 2022! Click <u>here</u> to purchase your ticket, or view our website. If you register for this year's conference before February 28, 2023, you will receive the early bird ticket price special of \$20. Any tickets purchased after February 28th, 2023



will be \$25. We recommend buying your ticket soon, as tickets sell out quickly.

**UMassAmherst** 

Women for UMass

Women for UMass is offering a limited number of ticket waivers for those who are interested in attending the Wol conference but may need financial assistance.

The ticket waiver will cover the cost of admittance to the 2023 Wol Conference, please apply using the link on our website!

# Why Wol?

The 2023 Wol Team has created a short clip commemorating the 10 years of fulfilling our mission to connect current students and faculty, with alumnae, to build a support network and community of empowerment for collegiate women in business. We hope you are just as excited as we are for an inperson conference and look forward to seeing you on March 25th, 2023!

Click <u>here</u> to view our "Why Wol?" Video

#### **Your Professional Wish**

#### 2023 WOI CAMPAIGN

For the 2023 Women of Isenberg Conference, our team is implementing the marketing campaign, Your Professional Wish. To coincide with our theme of <u>Exploring Passions and Sustaining Success</u>, in this campaign, we are highlighting individuals across the UMass Amherst community - the dreams and aspirations they each have for their futures. It is important to continuously define your goals - your professional wishes - and understand how and when your goals can be achieved and that the journey may need to be modified over time.

Unsure of what your future holds? It takes an abundance of experiences (work and personal) to help define your goals, passions and direction, and to distinguish yourself in and outside of the workplace. This process is a lifelong journey. Take on your passions and success will follow. Now, take a step back from the present and think about the future.

It's Wol's 10th Birthday. Make a wish.
What are you wishing for in your
professional future?

WOMEN OF ISENBERG'S PROFESSIONAL WISH:
For Wol's 10th Annual Conference, we wish to have a sold-out
conference of over 400 attendees.

#### **Events To Look Forward To...**

#### WiB x Wol Meditation Night

On Thursday, December 1st, the Women of Isenberg Planning Committee will be hosting a meditation night in collaboration with Women in Business. The purpose of the meditation night is in hopes of getting people ready for finals--so everyone can take some time for themselves and relax. In the chaos of the end of the semester, we hope to encourage students to take some deep breaths and slow down a little bit. It's easy to get caught up in the stress of exams, so this event will allow for calmness in all of our busy schedules. Join us on 12/1 Isenberg room 106 at 6:30 pm for a relaxing and empowering night.

#### **Wol Tips and Treats**

Make sure to visit us on December 6th, 2022 in the Isenberg Hub from 11am-1pm for our annual "Tips and Treats" event! The Wol Committee will be handing out free cookies with mental health and study tips for finals. Stop by to learn more about Women of Isenberg opportunities and our conference content.

#### Conference Schedule

The Wol Conference is a full-day event that takes place from 7:30am-3:00pm. See below for details!

**Arrival & Check-In** 

**Keynote** 

**Panel Session A** 

**Panel Session B** 

Networking Luncheon & DEI
Panel

**Career Reception** 

**Workshop Session** 

Closing Remarks

Don't forget about our SWAG bags!

Who's excited for an in-person conference



#### **PANEL PREVIEW**

### Cultivating a Diverse and Inclusive Mindset: Being an Empathetic Leader

Our identity is our most valuable possession. Our differences make us uniquely powerful. Everyone has one thing in common - we are all born different. But, while some people feel confident in who they are, others can feel silenced, especially when their identity is not predominantly represented. Therefore, it is crucial to understand how to respectfully converse with people of diverse backgrounds and persistently engage with individuals with different talents.

A good leader exemplifies the values of their employees and their company, and as more and more companies begin to adopt DEI standards, it's important we apply those basics to our own lives. Being an empathetic leader means authentically understanding the differences between people and actively striving to provide support where support is needed. The power of empathetic leadership is to create a dynamic community that is ever-flourishing.

As a community, our actions make an impact, but it begins with us individually. In this panel, we will discuss diversity, equity, and inclusion by revealing our similarities and strengths that lie beneath the surface. Panelists will explore how to be an empathetic individual towards others who are different from them, and encourage their peers to nurture sensitivity in dialogue. In the ever-changing atmosphere of the world, it's beyond important for people to feel comfortable in themselves and sharing their experiences. Panelists will also share their skills in ongoing advocating, active listening, meaningful networking, perspective taking, and feedback seeking - the qualities of empathetic leadership. We hope you all gain valuable insight on the significance of diversity, equity, and inclusion, and how representation and support is a key part of the puzzle when creating a dynamic workplace.

# 2023 PANEL TOPICS

- Being Comfortable with the Uncomfortable: Stepping Out of Your Comfort Zone and Fostering Self-Growth Panel
- Owning Your Voice and Setting Boundaries
- Collaboration over Competitiveness
- Exploring the Career Lattice
- Passion to Purpose
- · Creating Leaders for a World of Change
- Designing Success
- Staying Ahead of Technology in the Ever-Changing Business World
- What to do When Your Briefcase is too Full
- Navigating Workplace Politics
- Cultivating a Diverse and Inclusive Mindset: Being an Empathetic Leader\*

\*luncheon panel

## DSP EVENT RECAP







Megha Parikh

On November 9th, the Women of Isenberg and Delta Sigma Pi Fraternity teamed up to hold a DEI discussion panel! Wol DEI leads, Ann Liang and Megha Parikh, and DSP's Jacqueline Liu, demonstrated inclusive leadership and led an inspiring conversation on diversity, equity, inclusion and allyship - sharing their personal experiences in relation to DEI.

In a room of nearly a hundred students, we knew it would take courage to speak up about our experiences and emotions. We urged the audience to keep an open mind and understand that these stories come from a place of vulnerability.

Megha shared a story about not having a place using a metaphor of never being able to find her name on a keychain. Since she was young, she collected keychains from places she visited and would, without a doubt, go to the stand of personalized keychains and look for her name. Without fail, she'd never find it. It's easy to get caught up in everyone's differences, because Megha felt treated differently for the longest time. Her purpose for speaking up is to encourage everyone to stay true to themselves regardless of all the reasons in the world to change.

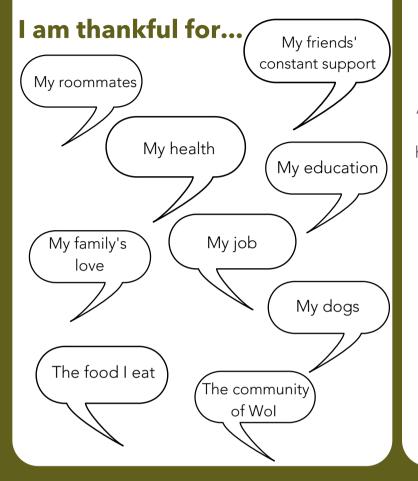
Ann talked about her journey of overcoming the struggles of being an international student. Coming from a foreign country, she intended to hide her identity to prevent her from getting labeled as an outsider, and therefore, she lacked confidence in her own skin and voice. Feeling alone and alienated, Ann lost her authentic self and her smile to fit into the new environment.

However, she then decided to transform her perspective and start branching out from her bubble by taking on opportunities and fostering relationships. While Ann found her smile again, she wanted to share her story in hopes of inspiring people to be confident in themselves and to be supportive of others.

We must continue to be the best versions of ourselves in order to be the best support for other people. Creating an inclusive environment does not take one person. It takes a community. We are not meant to go through this alone, so let's take action together.

#### **WOI IS THANKFUL FOR...**

We hope you and your families enjoyed Thanksgiving this year. We asked our Wol Committee what they are thankful for this year. Here are the results!



# 7 WAYS TO GIVE BACK TO THE AMHERST COMMUNITY

As the holiday season approaches, the Wol Planning Committee has defined their top 7 suggestions for how you might give back to the Amherst community.

We encourage you to try one of these recommendations and make a difference in your community this year and next.

- 1. Volunteer at the Amherst Survival Center
- 2. Volunteer at a local soup kitchen
- 3. Donate materials to an Amherst school
- 4. Volunteer for Not Bread Alone
- 5. Participate in a food drive
- 6. Attend a farmers market
- 7. Support an Amherst small business



#### WOMEN OF ISENBERG

CONFERENCE

We hope you enjoyed the November issue of the Women of Isenberg newsletter! Our newsletter can be found on our website. Don't forget to purchase your ticket for the 2023 in-person conference!



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