

Report to the Members of the Yale Club of Charleston
The 2019 YAA Assembly and Convocation

The subject of this year's Assembly & Convocation was "Cultivating Leadership." (Last year's subject was "Science at Yale, Shaping the Future.")

The general theme throughout the meeting was that the University was putting emphasis on the development of leadership within the faculty and the students. All presenters were asked to describe leadership in 5 words, or less. The key words seemed to be inspired, collaborate, align, resilience, and listen. One of the specific goals is to cultivate leadership in scholars.

President Salovey presented the state of the University address. His talk was divided into four key themes:

- 1) Focus on data science and computer science
 - a. Renewed interest in neuroscience, inflammation research, planetary solutions, and quantum science. Yale intends to be the leader in these areas.
 - b. The first quantum computer may be developed at Yale.
- 2) Engage with the world through empirical policy and relevant research
 - a. Yale intends to share with the world. It expects to maintain a leadership role in many key areas of scholarship and research
 - b. The Yale Jackson School for Global Affairs will open in 2022. It is the first school to open since SOM opened in 1974.
 - c. The Tobin Center for Economic Policy will focus on cross-disciplinary sharing of such areas as economics, computer science and math.
- 3) Scholarship and art for humanity
 - a. There is a new emphasis on art, architecture, music, and drama
 - b. Added to that is cross-discipline exposure to STEM
- 4) Leaders for a better world
 - a. Yale continues to expand financial aid. The threshold for family income has been raised to \$75,000/year. Below that level, the student gets a free ride. This makes 1.8 million more families in the USA eligible.
 - b. 86% of the graduating class of 2019 was debt free upon graduation.

A few miscellaneous facts:

- 1) The class of 2024 had the largest percentage of first-generation students ever admitted
- 2) Yale does not offer minor degrees; it does offer certificates in certain areas. The subject is under review within Yale College.
- 3) Yale offers 83 majors and has 12 professional schools.
- 4) There are 14,000 staff and faculty. The largest increase in staff is at the Medical School. Significant revenue is realized from the large number of clinics.

- 5) Yale intends to be carbon-neutral at some point in the future. The study is underway to determine the method and the cost.

On your next visit to New Haven there are 2 facilities deserving a visit:

- a) The new Science Center opened on October 30, 2019. This is a spectacular facility designed primarily for research. There is some teaching and there is a focus on cross-discipline exposure, especially exposing humanity students to science. Yale tore down the old Gibbs facility and the accelerator to make room for this building which encompasses 260,000 square feet of labs, classrooms, and auditoriums. It was built at a cost of \$250 Million.
- b) The Yale West Campus in Orange, CT. This facility was acquired from Bayer Chemical in 2009. It encompasses 136 acres and 1.6 MM sq. ft of buildings. It was acquired for \$109 MM. Many of the science department heads are located here. Also included is an expanded furniture gallery that was relocated from a basement on York Street. <https://westcampus.yale.edu/>

I attended several breakout sessions, most of which were worthy and informative. Two that deserve special mention were:

Leadership in Conversation, Women Athletes. The moderator was Vicky Chun, Director of Athletics. The panelists were Lisa Brummel, '81 and Virginia Gilder, '79. Together with a third person, they are the owners of the Seattle Storm of the WNBA. The discussion centered around the role of women in sports, including professional sports, the wage disparity, and the lack of major media attention and coverage of women's pro sports. Lisa and Virginia are great examples of women taking leadership roles in a male dominated industry.

Sidebar: The day before the presentation the Yale women's soccer coach was fired. This was unfortunate as it was Vicky Chun's first hire. She explained that they did as much due diligence as possible. The tip came through the Yale Daily News. The coach is accused of molestation while at University of New Haven.

Reimagining Justice with the Leadership of Yale's Justice Collaboratory. The presenters were Caroline Nobo Sarnoff, Executive Director of the Justice Collaboratory and Tom Tyler, Founding Director of the Justice Collaboratory. The Collaboratory is 10 years old and is housed in the Yale law School. It is supported by several institutions, including Yale. The goal is to improve the criminal justice system in the USA through empirical research and the development of new theories. The immediate goal is to educate criminal prosecutors and police. Although the prison population is going down, it is not going down fast enough. Of note, only 5% of criminal cases in the USA go to trial; the rest are plea bargained. It is the opinion of the Collaboratory that prosecutors tend to be over-worked, under incentivized, and will generally take the easy route out.

All in all, this is not your father's Yale.

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