Greetings from the Yale Undergraduate Admissions Office! With flights booked, passports stamped, and information sessions scheduled across the globe, admissions officers have been traveling far and wide this fall to spread the word about Yale. Soon we will welcome the full team back to New Haven. After meeting so many talented prospective students throughout our travels, there is now a tangible sense of anticipation surrounding the arrival of Early Action applications.

This means that the ASC interview season is right around the corner. This month’s ASC Newsletter explores several major developments to the ASC program. Over the last few months we have endeavored to expand and cultivate the ASC membership, which is already one of the most robust Yale alumni volunteer organizations. Our targeted recruiting has introduced the ASC and our new virtual program to the youngest generation of Yale alumni, and we have encouraged them to share their Yale experience with prospective students around the world. The Bulldogs of the Last Decade (BOLD) have responded with great enthusiasm, increasing the overall membership of the ASC by over 15%. Most exciting is the fact that the virtual ASC program will allow these new volunteers to have unprecedented reach. This passionate and eager group is poised to make a big impact this admissions cycle, and we are pleased to welcome them to the team. You will find more details on ASC recruitment at the end of this month’s newsletter.

We have also launched the new ASC portal and orientation materials – two key resources that will enhance your ASC experience this year. The portal replaces our previous online system through which you learned of interview assignments and submitted interview reports. It will serve as the hub for ASC business, and it is our hope that you find it to be simple and intuitive. Within the portal you will find a tool kit of resources. Primary among these is the new ASC Orientation. As you will read, this is a modular tool that you can customize to answer your questions, whether you are new to the ASC program or a veteran volunteer who has met with hundreds of applicants. We are confident that these developments will heighten your experience as Yale ambassadors, providing you with the support you need to connect meaningfully with Yale applicants in the weeks ahead.

With the first round of interviews on the horizon, I want to thank you in advance for your commitment to the ASC program. From the warm receptions you provide to our admissions colleagues during their travels to your poignant reflections about our applicants, you should know that your dedication as Yale ambassadors is critical to our work in admissions and is greatly appreciated by all of us back here in New Haven. As always, I welcome your feedback as the season unfolds. We very much look forward to reading your interview reports!

The ASC Portal

The ASC team is pleased to introduce a re-designed ASC portal. Over the years we have received useful feedback on how to improve ASC technology, and we incorporated many of these suggestions to create a more efficient and user-friendly interface for our volunteers.

The new portal is conveniently accessed through a simple log-in process that replaces the previous ACAS Account ID and pin system. Your new username is simply your primary email address in the AYA Directory; your initial pin was provided in this month’s newsletter announcement. Upon your first visit to the portal, you will be prompted to set a new password. If you change your AYA-listed email address, your portal username will change accordingly. Once logged in to the portal, you will find a personalized home page that provides immediate access to the links and resources you will need in your work as an interviewer:

A personalized welcome message connects you to an instructional video, as well as to the ASC Orientation, which we encourage all ASC members to review at the start of each cycle.

The names of assigned interviewees are visible on the home page, as are details regarding the status of their interview reports and, when released, their admissions decisions.

You can easily edit your ASC profile to change your ASC region or indicate level of desired time commitment and availability for virtual interviews.

The “My Resources” menu provides quick access to the new ASC Orientation, a Yale College Fact Sheet, and also the ASC team’s email address.

Yale University Alumni Schools Committee Program
When you receive an interview assignment from your local ASC director, an automated email will be sent to you that encourages you to visit the portal to learn of the applicant’s contact details. Once in the portal, you will see this interview assignment. Double-clicking on an assigned applicant’s name will display a window that includes the student’s contact information, as well as a link to file an interview report once the interview is complete.

Your ASC director will have access to several new capabilities that will support your work as an interviewer, one of which is an interview assignment proximity function. This feature allows directors to locate those volunteers who are closest in proximity to applicant, thereby aiding directors in assigning interviews that are more geographically convenient for applicants and interviewers alike.

We encourage you to watch this brief video as an instructional tutorial. We hope you find the new portal to be a welcome enhancement to your work as an ASC member.

The orientation also utilizes an “a la carte” design that allows you to conveniently access the content that is most pertinent to your specific needs. Our new ASC members can enjoy a module specifically designed to introduce them to the program, while our returning members and directors have respective guides to refresh them as we enter another interviewing season. Furthermore, an “Additional Resources” module contains helpful links for all of our interviewers, including sample interview reports, information about admissions/financial aid, and other ASC-related content.

In anticipation of this coming interviewing season, we encourage all of our volunteers to explore the ASC Orientation and to return to it as needed throughout the coming months. We thank Moira Poe (Senior Assistant Director) and Keith Light (Associate Director) for their leadership in compiling this resource for our ASC members.

ASC Orientation

Within the “My Resources” menu on the portal homepage, you’ll find a link to ASC Orientation, an interactive online resource to guide new and veteran ASC members alike through the interviewing process. While the ASC website previously had a series of text-heavy web pages, the new orientation site re-formats this useful material in a presentation-style setting with easy navigation, featuring forward, backward, “Return to Home,” and “Frequently-Asked-Questions” buttons on each slide.

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ASC Recruitment: By The #’s

2071 new ASC members since last application cycle

1246 virtual ASC members across all ASCs

1901 new members from the classes of 2004 - 2014

37% of new ASC members are virtual

503 new members from the Yale College Class of 2014

47% of the Class of 2014 opted into the virtual ASC

220 ASCs have new virtual members for the coming cycle

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