

SAWIP Makes Significant Progress in 2009

A Letter from the Chairmen

We are pleased to share with you news of the substantial leap forward SAWIP made this year. We have developed into an active and fully-developed, six-month leadership program that bridges two continents – Africa, Europe and North America. It has expanded its reach from one university partner in 2007 to three: Stellenbosch University, the University of the Western Cape and the University of Cape Town. We have tripled the number of student interns and are proud that SAWIP students represent almost all of South Africa's nine provinces.

We are also pleased to welcome 18 new Board members in both South Africa and the US, whose broad expertise will be critically important to sustaining and developing SAWIP.

We hope that you find inspiration in the pages that follow. SAWIP's important work would not be possible without the help of many generous supporters. We are very grateful to the many friends who have donated their time and resources to help move SAWIP forward. A special thanks is owed to Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP, Gateways Business Consultants, Penguin Books, BCC & Associates, Steenberg Hotels, and The Wines Of Jordan Stellenbosch.

To sustain SAWIP and to ensure its future success, we need your help. Please consider sponsoring a student - the cost is a modest \$6,500 or R48,300 for the entire six month program. We trust that the SAWIP interns of today will be South Africa's leaders tomorrow. Help develop a new generation of leaders in South Africa to build a sustainable democratic society.

Thank you.

Kevin Sullivan (Chairman DC)

Lawrence Ntimane (Chairman SA)

White House Welcomes SAWIP



President Barack Obama viewing the Mapula cloth, brought over by the SAWIP Class of 2009

On 21st of July Michelle Gavin, Senior Director for African Affairs, and Mark Lippert, Chief-of-Staff for the National Security Council welcomed SAWIP interns into the West Wing of the White House to discuss the Obama administration's African foreign policy. The timing was pertinent; President Obama had just delivered a keynote address to Ghana's parliament in which he emphasized "people taking control of their destiny, and making change from the bottom up."

Ms. Gavin and Mr. Lippert began the hour session by taking questions from the students that ranged from evaluating the affects of US foreign aid, PEPFAR and HIV/AIDS, and the importance of addressing issues of youth on a continent whose population is soaring and facing many challenges

including lack of education, unemployment and unavailable to health care.

The topic that resonated the most with the SAWIP class was Gavin and Lippert's opinion that the South Africa- United States relationship would flourish as both countries become even stronger partners. They emphasized the important leadership South Africa has on the continent and reminded the students that they will someday be responsible for ensuring that South Africa continues to be the guiding light on a continent that has immense and untapped potential. They encouraged SAWIP's young leaders, to live up to the responsibility to build upon the freedoms and rights that have been fought for and given to them.

Mamphela and Payne join as SAWIP Patrons

SAWIP is honoured to have two prominent leaders joining it as Patrons. Dr. Mamphela Ramphele has a long history of serving South Africa in many spheres, though education is her particular passion. Most notably Dr. Ramphele served as Vice Chancellor of the University of Cape Town and was one of the four Directors of the World Bank.

Congressman Donald Payne, commonly known as 'Mr Africa' has been an ardent advocate of African issues in the halls of the US Congress. Payne currently serves on the US House Committee on Foreign Affairs and is the Chairperson of the sub-committee on Africa and Global Health.

Engaging South Africans in America

The SAWIP Class of 2009 had the privilege of engaging with South Africa's representation at the Embassy in Washington, DC as well as with the South African envoy to the United Nations in New York City.



SAWIP class of 2009 with Ambassador Welile Nhlapo at DC Embassy

Ambassador Welile Nhlapo, revered for his work as a human rights activist, welcomed the SAWIP class during their first week at the South African Embassy in Washington, DC on June 16 2009 - South Africa's National Youth Day. He spoke to the students about South Africa's bilateral relationship with the United States. He also highlighted South Africa's role as a model and mediator for conflicts in Africa and around the world.

As part of SAWIP's yearly sojourn in New York, the South African Envoy to the United Nations, hosted a question and answer session about the UN, South Africa's decision making process in the Security Council and the role of multilateral relationships in South African foreign policy. SAWIP is very grateful to Ambassador Nhlapo and the UN Envoy. A special thanks to Cecile Heppes from the DC Embassy for making these meetings possible. These important offices are ones that that SAWIP looks forward to working closely with in the future.

Third Annual Congressional Forum

Rep. Donald Payne, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa & Global Health, hosted the 3rd Annual Congressional Forum.

SAWIP's third annual Congressional Forum took place on July 15, 2009 in the US Capitol. The Forum provides an opportunity for students to meet and exchange views with Members of Congress and their staff. Attendees discuss the perspectives of today's youths in South Africa and dispel many of the myths that date from the country's apartheid period. Inspired by the vigor, passion and enthusiasm of the students, many attendees have offered their services to both the students and the Program.

Rep. Donald Payne and Ambassador Robert C. Perry, addressed the gathering. Each of them reiterated the importance of South Africa's relationship with America and its prevailing role in Africa. Five SAWIP interns made

presentations to the group: Petrus van Niekerk, Lebusa Meso, Emma Margetts, Fazlin Fransman and Sabelo Mcinziba. Their personal stories of inspiration shared a general theme for the night: South African youths acknowledge the injustices of the past but must look forward and develop strong leadership if they are to move towards a stable peaceful, democracy.



Rep. Donald Payne, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health and SAWIP Patron, hosted the 3rd Annual Congressional Forum.

South African Embassy Hosts SAWIP Reception

The Embassy of South Africa hosted a reception for the South Africa-Washington Internship Program. The guest of honor was SAWIP Patron Congressman Donald Payne.

"Each year I sponsor a Congressional Forum for the SAWIP students. As a result, I have seen first-hand what SAWIP means to the development of these young emerging South African leaders," said Congressman Payne, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health and SAWIP Patron to an overflowing reception at the South African Ambassador's residence in May.



Tyrone Gunnie (Embassy Staff) Ambassador Robert Perry (Corporate Council on Africa) & Misha Charles (SAWIP Board)

Styled as the inaugural "SAWIP Wine Sip" because it featured excellent wines from South Africa, the event honored Payne for his perseverance and

commitment to the people of South Africa. SAWIP's first alumni, Reitumetse Phiri, attested to the power of the SAWIP program. His employer is Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP, an international law firm with an office in Johannesburg. Reitumetse insisted that: "South Africa's remarkable transition and transformation into a society with its foundations firmly rooted in equality and human rights will depend on the upcoming generations of youths; many of whom lack access to basic necessities and education. South Africans and Americans alike must act on our responsibility to inspire and develop the next generation of global leaders – in government, education, health, business or activists in local communities – if we are to motivate future generations to take up the call of service." His impassioned plea was received with enthusiastic support by those in attendance.

Leadership Curriculum

SAWIP now boasts a comprehensive leadership Curriculum commencing 3 months prior to the DC Internship.

The class met with **John Carlin**, author of the book, *'Playing the Enemy'*, which is also being turned into a motion picture starring Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon. Carlin spoke of his experiences with prominent South African leaders, including Mandela, during his time as a journalist during South Africa's transition period. He shared some very thought-provoking lessons on leadership, compassion and integrity.

The SAWIPers participated in a three week leadership seminar series presented by Nigel Bailey from **Gateways Business Consultants**. They were taught the Gateways' method of Resonant Leadership through the three values of Confidence, Composure and Care. Following from questions raised during the speeches at the selection weekend, Lynn Campbell from the **DG Murray Trust** spoke to the students about the successes and failures of the South African Education system, focussing on the development of the recognition of prior learning which has now entered the system.



John Carlin with Sableo Mcinziba

Africa played in Northern Ireland's reconciliation process. He explained that many Irish people look to South Africa as an example of a country which, against all odds, managed a peaceful transition to democracy.

The last event prior to departure for Washington, DC was a meet and greet with the **FW de Klerk Foundation**, arranged by SAWIP committee member Aubrey Ncungama. Executive Director Allan Stewart met



The Class of 2009 with former president FW de Klerk and Allan Stewart at the FW de Klerk Foundation

with the class and explained the philosophy behind the Foundation, their work as constitutional watchdogs. The class then has the opportunity to meet Nobel Peace Laureate and former Prime Minister F.W. de Klerk who lauded the programme for the work that it was doing in developing leadership within South Africa.



Thami Ledwaba (class of '08, Management Team '09) and Amb. Colin Wrafter, Irish Ambassador to South Africa

In preparation for meeting with the students from the Washington Ireland Program (WIP), the SAWIP students were treated to an evening with the Irish Ambassador to South Africa, **Ambassador Colin Wrafter**. Of the most important topics covered during their time with the Ambassador was the role South

Changing my life by helping others.

Emma Margetts

A couple of months ago I started conceptualising a non-profit venture called The Business Learning Network (BLN). It was to be aimed at educating previously disadvantaged adults in the informal settlement of Imizamo Yethu, Hout Bay.

The course is aimed at working adults in my community who seek basic business skills and have a yearning to learn, in order to expand their career opportunities. It provides practical hands-on experience in: Literacy, Entrepreneurship, Basic Book Keeping, Finances and Marketing.

I have enrolled a group of 17-20 adult learners who attend BLN every Wednesday for 2 hours. Things are slightly different to what I had anticipated! Often I have to adjust and make my lesson plan flexible according to the different levels of understanding within the group. One week, for example, my intention was to teach banking, savings and interest rates, however, the majority of learners had never opened a bank account and extra detailed information was required in this area. Needless to say, their homework for last week was to open a transaction account.

Another of the learning spheres is first aid, as health and safety are one of the major concerns in Imizamo Yethu. I contacted St. John's Ambulance who have generously agreed to sponsor a First Aid Course conducted by one of their top trainers. I am now in the process of finding a food sponsor as many students arrive not having had breakfast and some not even supper.

I foresee great scope with this project in the near future. Although I currently have a small group of learners, I can already see a far greater demand for the course within the community. My aim this year is to expand the project by increasing the number of teachers and the number of learners. It's an incredibly exciting project for me. I am currently working on having the course endorsed, so that my students can take home an "accredited" certificate at the end of their learning programme.



Emma Margetts and some of her team in Imizamo Yethu

“CATCHING EACH OTHER DOING IT RIGHT!”

Kate Hardie Buckley, '07 WIP Alum assisted with the selection and orientation of the Class of 2009 while volunteering at a hospice in South Africa.



The day of my arrival in South Africa, March 10th, coincided with the

due date for this year's SAWIP applications. I was privileged to read them providing me with an insightful look into the character of each student as well as South Africa as a nation. Their stories of loss and hope, hardship and opportunity, challenge and triumph reaffirmed South Africa's diversity, whose history is raw but whose youth is active and inspired.



Team Building

We looked for sincerity, a commitment to community service and leadership potential, and selected a collection of high calibre applicants

representative of the political, religious and cultural make-up of South Africa.

Twenty applicants were invited to attend a Selection Weekend which was held on March 27-29th. The students gave individual presentations on issues such as education, Black Economic Empowerment, South Africa's role in Zimbabwe, amongst others. Formal debates were held on Saturday evening after which the students burst into song and dance and continued into the early hours of the morning.

Petrus, an Afrikaans speaking student, shared a story with the students which personifies what SAWIP and WIP attempt to achieve - peace and reconciliation through understanding. Musa Nxele, a student from the Eastern Cape, had told Petrus that where he comes from, when a white man walks through the village, black children

still run to him and seek his approval. “Now that I know you, I love you”

Twelve students were selected after an exhaustive process, and these

were invited to attend the Orientation Weekend.

Over the weekend, the new team drew up a list of values to use as their moral compass in DC as Ambassadors of South Africa. Integrity was the core leadership quality identified to guide the team. At this point, John cautioned the student leaders never to undermine others but rather, “Catch people doing it right”.

What has struck me throughout my involvement with this year's team is their passion for their country and their sincere commitment to being the change they want to see in the world.

“Now that I know you, I love you”



Bonding on the last night

Board of Directors

Dates to Diarise

SAWIP has a number of exciting events coming up which will stimulate the Class of 2009, alumni and friends of the program alike.

September Group Community Service Project

Graduation: 26 September 2009

Meeting Desmond Tutu: November 2009

How to get Involved...

To donate to SAWIP, learn more about the program and follow up with the class of 2009, visit our website

www.sawip.org

USA

Frank Cantrel, Jr.
Misha Charles (*Vice-Chair*)
Holly Hassett
Declan Heery
Hugh O' Hara
Florence W. Prioleau
Bryan M. Sims
Kevin Sullivan (*Chair*)
Carol Wheeler
Percy Wilson
Tom Woods

South Africa

Brian Currin (*Executive Board Member*)
Michael Currin
Aubrey Ngcungama
Lawrence Ntimane (*Chair*)
Gregory Nott
Reitumetse Benedict Phiri
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