Where Do I Go From Yale?

Career exploration with Yale alums for GSAS students and recent grads



GENERAL INFORMATION

Where Do I Go from Yale? offers career exploration career exploration with Yale alums for students and recent graduates. Through engaging panels and networking opportunities throughout the academic year — both virtual and in person—you'll gain insights, advice, and inspiration for your next steps. Don't miss the signature inperson conference in the spring, and explore our growing archive of past panels.

New in 2025, the Yale Grad Journeys video series expands on these conversations, offering candid interviews with alumni who share how their Yale experiences shaped their careers.

What to expect?

- Explore careers while on campus
- Learn about public service opportunities
- Gain insights on top employers
- Network with experienced alums in informal settings
- Develop practical networking strategies
- Prepare for corporate success

Sponsors

Brought to you by the Graduate School Alumni Association (GSAA) and the Yale Alumni Association (YAA) in partnership with the Office of Career Strategy (OCS) and GSAS Professional Development



Where Do I Go From Yale? Agenda

Day kick-off
Main session!!
Networking!

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Time	Session	Location
8:30 - 9:00 am	Check-in	HQ 134
9:00 - 9:10 am	Welcome and Introduction Dean Lynn Cooley	HQ 136
9:10 - 10:10 am	Plenary Session: Pursuing Unconventional Career Paths and Exploring New Career Horizons After Your Graduate Degree *(see pg. 3-4)	HQ 136
	Panelists: Shah Karim '81 BA, '07 MPhil (Economics), Sandy Kuzmich, '89 PhD (Pharmacology), Shayna Liberman '14 MA (Biological Anthropology), Max Walden '11 BA, '18 PhD (History) Moderator: Kitty Koo-Tse '01 MS (Psychology)	
10:15 - 10:45 am	Networking Coffee Break	HQ 131
10:45 - 11:45 am	Breakout panel: Entering the Corporate World *(see pg. 5-6)	HQ 136
	Panelists: Vishal Agrawal '96 BS, '96 MS (MB&B), '02 MD, Erin Burke '17 PhD (Anthropology), Nitin Gambhir '93 MS (Chemical Engineering), Zlatko Minev '18 PhD (Applied Physics)	
	Moderator: Marisa Dolled-Filhart '05 PhD (Genetics)	
10:45 - 11:45 am	Breakout panel: Entering the Public Service World *(see pg. 7-8)	HQ 132
	Panelists: Susan Fisher '01 PhD (Art History), Patricia Hswe '03 PhD (Slavic Languages and Literatures),Richard Kayne '76 MD, Rahul Prasad '87 PhD (Engineering and Applied Science)	
	Moderator: Carol Chiodo '14 PhD (Italian Language and Literature)	
12:00 - 1:00 pm	Plenary Session: Al and the Future of Work *(see pg. 9-10)	HQ 136
	Panelists: Vishal Agrawal '96 BS, '96 MS (MB&B), '02 MD, Şeyma Aslan '12 PhD (Chemical Engineering), Shah Karim '81 BA, '07 MPhil (Economics), Vinod Lala '90 BA	
	Moderator: Paul Tumer PhD (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology)	
1:00 - 2:00 pm	Light Lunch and Networking	HQ 131



Plenary Session: Pursuing Unconventional Career Paths and Exploring New Career Horizons After Your Graduate Degree

9:10 - 10:10 am ~ March 29, 2025

Curious about career options beyond the traditional path of your degree? Join this session to hear from alumni leaders who have successfully forged diverse career paths outside of their academic fields. They will share their insights and experiences on exploring new fields, navigating career transitions, and finding success outside conventional trajectories.



Shah Karim '81 BA, '07 MPhil (Economics) **SafeRock**

Founder & CEO

Mr. Karim serves on industry boards at American Chemical Society, CME, and the 72-country International Energy Forum; as well as at Yale University, University of Chicago, and Columbia University. His purpose is to increase human potential through service, value creation, and thought leadership. He is a keynote speaker on leadership, energy markets, and artificial intelligence in North America, Europe, and Asia. He is a judge for the MacArthur Foundation's \$100 million prize for global social innovation.



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Sandy Kuzmich, '89 PhD (Pharmacology) **Haug Partners LLP**

Managing Partner

Sandy has over 25 years of experience in patent litigation/intellectual property counseling for pharmaceuticals, chemicals, and biotechnology. As Managing Partner, she is responsible for the sponsorship/mentorship of the next generation of attorneys at her firm. Upon completing her PhD, Sandy became a post-doctoral research associate and then joined the private pharmaceutical sector in drug metabolism/pharmacokinetics. She has a BA from Douglass College and a law degree from Fordham University.



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Shayna Liberman '14 MA (Biological Anthropology) Nike

Director of Global Women's Strategy

Shayna Liberman is Director of Global Women's Strategy at Nike. Prior to Nike, Shayna held marketing leadership roles at mission-driven startups, and worked as an independent consultant in strategy and design for nonprofits and small businesses. Shayna received her dual BS from University of Michigan in Biopsychology and Biological Anthropology in 2010, and her MA from Yale in 2014. In her free time, Shayna enjoys cooking, traveling, and making memories with her husband and daughter.



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Max Walden '11 BA, '18 PhD (History) **Goldman Sachs**

Asset and Wealth Management

Max Walden works at Goldman Sachs, where he advises families and foundations on the management of their financial assets. He has worked in investor relations at DE Shaw & Co, the Investments Office of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and as a corporate historian at a bulge bracket investment bank. He holds an MBA from the NYU Stern School of Business and serves on the board of the New York City AIDS Memorial.



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Kitty Koo-Tse '01 MS (Psychology) **Bank of America Merrill Lynch**

Director of Global Wealth and Investment Management

Kitty Koo-Tse is the Director of Global Wealth and Investment Management at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, where she leads business strategy and key initiatives for Capital Markets in New York. Her extensive experience includes serving as COO for Electronic Trading Risk Management at Citigroup, COO for Firm Risk Management Stress Testing at Morgan Stanley, and Global Head of Product Management for Electronic Trading Business at Morgan Stanley. She is a dedicated member of the Yale GSAA Board.





Breakout Panel: Entering the Corporate World

10:45 - 11:45 am ~ March 29, 2025

Join a discussion with industry professionals and alumni in the corporate world who have successfully leveraged their graduate school training to enter corporate life. Learn about effective networking and job search strategies, mastering interviews, and adapting to corporate culture. Also learn how to understand and present the value of the knowledge and skills you have acquired in your specific field of study to market yourself most effectively to corporate employers.



Vishal Agrawal '96 BS, '96 MS (MB&B), '02 MD Humana

Chief Strategy and Corporate Development Officer

After 3 Yale degrees, Vishal broadened his perspectives through work at McKinsey, the Carlyle Group, and leadership roles in national healthcare organizations like Humana. He is passionate about connecting alumni in industry back with Yale. He is co-founder of Friends of Yale From Industry (FYI), a group that strives to create bridges between Yale and its alumni in the public, private and social sectors to help scale ideas to meaningful impact.



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Erin Burke '17 PhD (Anthropology)

Character Biosciences

Strategic Partnership Lead

After my PhD, I went directly to industry, applying my doctoral work as Head of Research at a femtech start-up. I have since worked at two drug discovery start-ups where I leverage my experience in the genomics and health tech industries to broker research relationships that contribute to the mission of delivering personalized medicine. I am passionate about creating ethical and sustainable collaborations that benefit the scientific community and the patient populations we serve.



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Nitin Gambhir '93 MS (Chemical Engineering) **Tethys Technology**

Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Nitin Gambhir is the founder of the Tethys Group, encompassing Tethys Technology, Oceanus Securities, and Alvantes Capital. An expert in global quantitative trading, he began his career at JP Morgan, later serving as Managing Director at Bear Stearns and as a portfolio manager at SAC before founding Altus Asset Management. A Yale graduate, he also founded Tethys Art to support contemporary art. He serves on multiple charitable boards, focusing on art, education, and governance.



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Marisa Dolled-Filhart '05 PhD (Genetics) **Daiichi Sankyo**

Global Team Leader

Marisa Dolled-Filhart, Ph.D. is a drug development and precision medicine leader, currently Global Team Leader at Daiichi Sankyo, leading oncology drug development teams. Previously, she was VP of Translational Research at BMS and has held prior biomarker and diagnostic roles at Merck, IQVIA and HistoRx. She has 95+ publications, received the 2024 HBA Luminary Award, and is on the Yale GSAS Alumni Association Board. Marisa holds a B.A. from Cornell and a Ph.D. in Genetics from Yale.





Breakout Panel: Entering the Public Service World

10:45 - 11:45 am ~ March 29, 2025

This session is designed to provide you with practical advice and strategies from alumni in academic (including administration), non-academic research institutions, government and non-profits. Learn how to map the path early on from your chosen field of graduate study to the job you would like to have through internships, choice of subject matter to focus on for your dissertation, early networking and more.



Susan Fisher '01 PhD (Art History) Kaish Family Art Project

Director

Susan Fisher is Executive Director of the Kaish Family Art Project, an artistendowed organization that furthers the legacy of artists Luise Kaish (1925-2013) and Morton Kaish (b. 1927). Susan has also served as the Director of Collections and Curatorial Affairs at the Brooklyn Museum, Executive Director of the Chaim Gross Foundation in New York City, and the inaugural Horace W. Goldsmith Associate Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Yale University Art Gallery.



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Patricia Hswe '03 PhD (Slavic Languages and Literatures) The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation

Program Director for Public Knowledge

Patricia Hswe is the program director for Public Knowledge at The Mellon Foundation. As the Foundation's program area that supports libraries and archives, Public Knowledge makes grants that strive to increase equitable access to-and activation of-recorded knowledge that helps to build an informed, heterogeneous, and civically engaged society. She is currently a member of the board of trustees for the Metropolitan New York Library Council and sits in the advisory team for LibraryPAC.



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Richard Kayne '76 MD **Private Practice**

Endocrinologist

Richard earned his MD degree at the Yale School of Medicine in 1976 and focused his career on caring for endocrine and internal medicine in solo practice. President of Yale Alumni in Medicine (2015-17), Board of Governors YAA, Chair G&P Committee (2017-20). Co-Founder of Friends of Yale from Industry (2020-now). Volunteer Counselor, Paul Newman's Hole in the Wall Gang (2017-19), Board of Directors (2002-now), Advocate for CASA Marta, Hospice for Children, in Florence, Italy.



Rahul Prasad '87 PhD (Engineering and Applied Science) **Butterflies USA, Inc.**

President

Rahul Prasad is a scientific consultant in the San Francisco Bay Area. After earning his PhD in engineering and applied science at Yale, he served on Yale's research faculty before working as a research scientist at Physics International and Science Research Lab. He co-founded Alameda Applied Sciences Corporation in 1994 and later worked as a senior physicist at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. A Yale Medal recipient, he is a former chair of both the GSAA and YAA.



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Carol Chiodo '14 PhD (Italian Language and Literature) The Claremont Colleges Services

Director of Distinctive Collections and Digital Scholarship

Carol Chiodo is the Director of Distinctive Collections and Digital Scholarship at The Claremont Colleges Library. Previously, she was Librarian for Collections and Digital Scholarship at Harvard. She has taught at institutions including Yale, Princeton, and NYU Abu Dhabi. A Yale Ph.D. graduate, she serves on advisory boards for Yale, Aston University, and Cambridge University Press. She contributes to digital humanities and ethical stewardship initiatives and enjoys mentoring students.





Plenary Session: Al and the Future of Work

12:00 - 1:00 pm ~ March 29, 2025

Interested in artificial intelligence (AI) and its impact on the future of work? Join alumni leaders from L'Oréal, and Vonage as they share their career journeys and advice for aspiring professionals. Explore diverse AI career paths—from research and strategy to corporate venture capital. Gain valuable insights on navigating the dynamic Al landscape and network with alumni leaders driving innovation in this rapidly evolving field.



Vishal Agrawal '96 BS, '96 MS (MB&B), '02 MD Humana

Chief Strategy and Corporate Development Officer

After 3 Yale degrees, Vishal broadened his perspectives through work at McKinsey, the Carlyle Group, and leadership roles in national healthcare organizations like Humana. He is passionate about connecting alumni in industry back with Yale. He is co-founder of Friends of Yale From Industry (FYI), a group that strives to create bridges between Yale and its alumni in the public, private and social sectors to help scale ideas to meaningful impact.



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Seyma Aslan '12 PhD (Chemical Engineering) L'Oreal

Director, Research and Innovation

Dr. Şeyma Aslan leads a team of scientists for innovation in product formulation at L'Oréal Research & Innovation Laboratories and is responsible for a Global Innovation Platform which focuses on North America, South America & Africa Zone. She received her PhD, Masters of Science, Master of Philosophy, and Postdoctoral Training from Yale University.



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Shah Karim '81 BA, '07 MPhil (Economics) SafeRock

Founder & CEO

Mr. Karim serves on industry boards at American Chemical Society, CME, and the 72-country International Energy Forum; as well as at Yale University, University of Chicago, and Columbia University. His purpose is to increase human potential through service, value creation, and thought leadership. He is a keynote speaker on leadership, energy markets, and artificial intelligence in North America, Europe, and Asia. He is a judge for the MacArthur Foundation's \$100 million prize for global social innovation.



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Vinod Lala '90 BS (Mechanical Engineering and Economics) Vonage

Chief Strategy Officer

Vinod Lala is the Chief Strategy Officer of Vonage, where he led the M&A strategy that transformed Vonage from a residential VoIP provider into a global cloud communications platform leader, culminating in its sale to Ericsson for \$6.2 billion. At Ericsson, Vinod is facilitating its network platform buildout. Previously, Vinod was a Managing Director at Deutsche Bank. Vinod earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School and B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and Economics from Yale University.



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Paul Turner, PhD Yale School of Medicine

Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Paul Turner is the Rachel Carson Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Yale University. Dr. Turner studies evolutionary genetics of viruses and researches the use of phages—the viruses of microbes—to treat antibiotic-resistant bacterial diseases. He is also involved in sciencecommunication outreach to the general public and helps faculty collaborate with K-12 teachers to improve STEM education in public schools.



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Graduate School Alumni Association (GSAA) Board Members

March 29, 2025

The Graduate School Alumni Association (GSAA) is the alumni leadership board for the Graduate School. GSAA deepens connections among alumni, fosters stronger ties between current graduate students and alumni worldwide, supports the strategic goals of the Graduate School, and provides review and counsel to the Dean regarding the direction of alumni relations.



Laura Brown '20 Phd (Music History)

Monzo

Lead User Researcher

Laura Brown is currently the Lead User Researcher for the United States at Monzo, a British consumer banking startup. Prior to Monzo, Laura held senior user research roles at Spotify and Wayfair. She graduated from Yale in 2020 with her PhD in Music History, focusing on the role of software tools in changing practices of music creation. At Yale, Laura was a McDougal Fellow in the Office of Career Strategy and served several terms in the Graduate Student Assembly, including as Vice Chair.



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Françoise Hamlin '04 PhD (African American Studies & **American Studies)**

Brown University

Associate Professor of Africana Studies and History, Director of Graduate Studies

Hamlin is the award-winning author/co-author/editor of Crossroads at Clarksdale: The Black Freedom Struggle in the Mississippi Delta after World War II, These Truly Are The Brave: An Anthology of African American Writings on Citizenship and War, The Struggle of Struggles, & From Rights To Lives: The Evolution of the Black Freedom Struggle. As the beneficiary of excellent mentoring and advising at Yale, she vowed to pay it forward, and as a result she has won major mentoring and teaching awards.



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Miho Kaneko '15 PhD (Chemistry) **Goodwin Procter**

Patent Attornev

Dr. Miho Kaneko obtained her PhD in Chemistry from Yale in 2015. She is a patent attorney at Goodwin Procter in Boston and specializes in global IP strategy, patent prosecution, patent counseling, management. She also has extensive experience in IP diligence related to various business transactions. Dr. Kaneko is an Advisory Trustee of Yale Graduate School Alumni Association Board and a Mentor for student ventures at Tsai CITY.



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Nathan Nhat Nguyen '20 PhD (Cell Biology) **University of Washington**

Graduate Program Advisor

Nathan Nguyen is a Graduate Program Advisor and a United States Navy veteran at the University of Washington. He recently completed his military service in which he led service members and civilians to study national security issues. At Yale, he completed his PhD in the field of Autophagy, and he was deeply involved with the Graduate Student Assembly, the Graduate Affiliate Program, and OCS McDougal Fellowship Program.



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Carlos Riobo '98 PhD (Spanish & Portuguese) **City University of New York**

Professor and Chair

Carlos Riobó, Professor of Spanish & Comparative Literature at CCNY and in the Ph.D. program in Latin American, Iberian, & Latino Cultures at the CUNY Graduate Center, is: Chair of the Department of Classical & Modern Languages & Literatures at CCNY; the former Executive Officer of LAILaC; the Chair of the Humanities and Arts Divisional Council of College of Faculty Council-CCNY; the Director, Cátedra Vargas Llosa, CCNY; and a Distinguished Scholar, Advanced Research Collaborative, CUNY (2021).



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Brooke Rosenzweig '10 PhD (Chemistry) Foundation Advisors

Founder & CEO

Brooke has over 20 years of experience supporting mission-driven organizations in science and medicine. She established her firm, Foundation Advisors, LLC, in 2016, to provide a variety of clients with strategic advising, executive search, and recruiting services. Brooke specializes in supporting family offices, and other private and public funding entities. Previously, she was a Program Officer and Health & Science Advisor to the CEO at the Helmsley Charitable Trust, a private foundation.



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David R. Sanchez '84 MPhil (Political Science) Sanchez Global LLC

CEO

Sanchez headed the LatAm and Asia M&A Department at JP Morgan & Bankers Trust. In 1989, after meeting George Soros, he introduced the first hedge fund to Merrill Lynch and Bear Stearns. In 1994, he created his own hedge fund platform. Sanchez served on the Yale Board of Governors twice, co-founded the Yale Day of Service, was president of the YC of South Florida and the inaugural chair of YLAN. In 2023, he received the Yale Medal.



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Stephanie Scarmo '06 MPH, '09 PhD, (Epidemiology & Public Health)

American Heart Association

National Senior Policy Analyst

Stephanie Scarmo, Ph.D., MPH is a National Senior Policy Analyst at the American Heart Association (AHA), the nation's oldest and largest voluntary organization dedicated to fighting heart disease and stroke. In this role, Stephanie translates science in the areas of nutrition, obesity, and heart and stroke research for local, state, and federal advocacy.







Gale Tenen Spak '76 PhD (Political Science) **Bridging Their Future, LLC**

Emeritas NJIT AVP and Principal

Gale TenenSpak founded Build Their Future, LLC in 2019 to provide STEM and soft skill training for "cradle to gray" generations. During 26 years at NJIT, where she served as Associate Vice President of Continuing and Distance Education, she designed collaborative programs involving academia, industry, and government. Recognized for her digital technology leadership, she's also an alumni board member at Yale University Graduate School and a member of the Global Yale Club Task Force.



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Jim Staros '74 PhD (Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry) **UMass Amherst**

Professor Emeritus & Past Provost

Staros was a NSF Graduate Fellow at Yale, where he earned a Ph.D. in MB&B in 1974. After a Helen Hay Whitney Postdoctoral Fellowship at Harvard, he began his faculty career at Vanderbilt in 1978, was tenured in 1983, promoted to professor in 1986, and served as a department chair 1988-2002. In 2002, he became Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences at Stony Brook Univ. In 2009, he became Provost of UMass Amherst and Professor in its Dept of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology. Retired in 2019.



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Lisa Villeneuve MA (French Literature) The World Bank (IFC)

Risk Strategy

In Risk Strategy within the World Bank in Washington, D.C. Completed an MA (Yale), PhD (Oxford). Started in investment banking (UK). Enjoy continuous learning, innovation: engaged with diverse stakeholders across Risk, policy, sanctions, data ethics, and climate teams (MS, Barclays, RBC, Citi). Highlights: working with government (Fed, OFAC) and regulators (Netherlands, UK, Singapore); working with developers on Al use cases in banking; learning from Health leaders in disaster risk & resiliency. LinkedIn



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Access the QR Code Feature

- Open the LinkedIn app on your mobile device.
- Tap the QR code icon in the search bar at the top of your LinkedIn homepage.





- Tap the "Scan" tab.
- Hold your mobile device directly above the LinkedIn member's QR code that you want to connect with.
- You can also tap "Scan from photos" to select a QR code you've previously saved.





Connect with the Member

- Once the LinkedIn member's QR code has been scanned, you will be redirected to their profile.
- From there, you can invite or connect with them.





scan to learn more!



Networking tips!!



Map your networks

Consider contacts past, present and future in different areas of your life: within your lab, your program, or your field of expertise. Don't forget to include Yale alumni orgs!



Identify areas for developing your network

Consider the size of your network, its range, the strength of your connections, the frequency of contact, and the strength of those ties. What areas do you need to develop?



Nurture your network by giving

Strengthen the relationships in your network before you need to draw from them. Find opportunities to giving and providing opportunities to people in your networks.



Understand the relationships in your network

These should encompass different levels of strength, diversity in backgrounds and experiences, and extend beyond your professional role or affiliation.



Leave the safety of your circle

Strong, diverse networks help you stay on top of the latest trends in your industry, meet new collaborators, and gain access to opportunities or resources that can help you be more effective in your work.



Master the art of conversation

Sharing a story can help open a memorable conversation. Shared experiences create connection. Find common ground quickly, like your time at Yale!



Introverts can bring strong listening and observation skills to the conversation. You can also leverage online communities and social media to complement in person conversations.



Cultivate connections

Keep your online presences active and updated. Build and maintain an active profile on LinkedIn or in other professional communities online. Join CrossCampus and sign up for the mentoring program!



Explore new areas of interest

Explore new areas of interest outside of school (community organizations, alumni groups, etc.) and let others know your interests. Ask for contacts, introductions, or suggestions. Volunteer! Join a club!



Be purposeful when strengthening your network

Identify who has the experience, advice or connections you need access to help you achieve your career goals. Dedicate time and purpose in crafting opportunities for connection. Attend *Where Do I Go From Yale*. Follow up via email with a panelist.

Remember, staying purposeful and proactive about expanding your network while strengthening relationships by giving can help you forge new connections, explore diverse opportunities, and enable you to flourish in your career.

