

2022

Jane M. Klausman
**WOMEN IN BUSINESS
SCHOLARSHIP**



Expanding opportunities
for women in business



To encourage more women to pursue education and careers in business, Zonta International established the Jane M. Klausman (JMK) Women in Business Scholarship.

The JMK Women in Business Scholarship was established in 1998 from a generous bequest by Jane M. Klausman, a member of the Zonta Club of Syracuse, New York, USA, and the 1990-1995 Zonta International Parliamentarian.

In 2022, Zonta International awarded 37 international scholarships of US\$5,000 each.
Read to learn about this year's scholars.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Natasha Breward



District 1

Citizenship: Canada

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), Dalhousie University, Canada

Holds master's degree in pharmacy, University of Saskatchewan, Canada, and bachelor's degree in pharmacology, McGill University, Canada

Natasha Breward is in her first year of the MBA (finance) program at Dalhousie University's Centre for Executive and Graduate Education. While studying for her previous degrees, she developed a passion for health innovation and improving the public good.

As Dalhousie University's Health Innovation Sandbox manager, Natasha facilitated innovation and entrepreneurship programming and events for health and life science students. A constant advocate for gender equality, she always ensured her programming had equal representation for women.

Natasha has always been passionate about innovation and is excited to apply the knowledge gained from her MBA to her current role as business development coordinator with the Nova Scotia Health Innovation Hub. In this role, she fosters and supports innovation in healthcare and works with many facilitators in the health sector to improve the health system for patients, clinicians, caregivers and staff. Additionally, she works with and helps local health start-ups, and supports health innovation in Nova Scotia.

After completing her MBA, Natasha plans to continue her work at Nova Scotia Health and enter the leadership stream. This will allow her to continue to make positive changes in Canadian health innovation and improve health outcomes for Canadians.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Elise Mochizuki



District 2

Citizenship: USA

Pursuing bachelor's degree in hotel administration, Cornell University, USA

Elise Mochizuki is a third-year Cornell University student at the SC Johnson College of Business in the School of Hotel Administration. She is pursuing the certified public accountant (CPA) designation and hoping to become a chief financial officer (CFO) of a public company listed on the NASDAQ or the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). Through the women-owned accounting firm she founded, Elise has already begun obtaining experience as a female executive by serving as the interim or outsourced CFO for client companies.

This summer as an investment banking summer analyst at a Wall Street firm, Elise will learn about mergers and acquisitions (M&A) and other sell-side analytical skills while assisting public companies to buy or sell other companies. Previously, Elise founded a women-owned investment bank to help increase the representation of women in business.

On the Cornell University campus, Elise is helping to nurture future women in business as a Forté Foundation campus ambassador, Girls Who Invest scholar, Smart Woman Securities investment board member, and Society for Women in Business junior member.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Mia Arnold



District 3

Citizenship: USA

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Holds bachelor's in international studies, University of Florida, USA

Before pursuing her MBA, Mia Arnold worked as a fundraiser at the United Nations Foundation, where a large part of her portfolio included promoting climate initiatives. In each of her roles, from overseeing risk management and donor compliance efforts to working on revenue tracking and partnership development, she has seen the need for corporate involvement to achieve our climate goals and is driven to take action. In her most recent role, she worked with high-net-worth individuals and corporations to strategize public-private partnerships with the United Nations.

Completing an MBA at Oxford's Saïd Business School will put Mia in a strong position to work with a corporation to address climate issues from a business perspective, as the school challenges students to explore what it means to be a responsible business. She will sharpen and expand her understanding of business principles and gain the tools to become a skilled strategist in a business setting.

Mia is eager to use her MBA to pursue a career in corporate sustainability and wants to work with a company to limit its environmental impact by improving the supply chain, which could include maintaining a water stewardship action plan or implementing renewable energy to minimize greenhouse gases. She plans to earn a managerial role that will empower her to define an organization's social impact mission and craft enduring policy.

In her free time, Mia enjoys traveling, baking, playing piano and knitting.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Anne Ogaba



District 4

Citizenship: Nigeria

Pursuing Master of Accounting, Brock University, Canada

Holds bachelor's degree in accounting, Brock University

Anne Ogaba is an experienced auditor who completed four co-op work terms at BDO Canada LLP and is working toward her chartered professional accountant (CPA) certification.

During her undergraduate degree at Brock University, Anne learned how to form a professional judgment and apply it to real-world accounting situations from experts in the field. She developed professional skepticism, problem-solving, and analytical and organizational skills through her courses, work and volunteer experiences. She continues to expand on this through her master's degree.

Anne is a proud volunteer for various organizations and has served as board of ambassador 2021-2022 for CPA Canada, director of internal audit for Brock's Business Student Association and more. She is currently on the Youth Advisory Committee for Future Black Female and Youth Symposium Committee for the Black Female Accountants Network.

Anne hopes to deepen her knowledge of the accounting industry and complex accounting issues while improving the skills necessary to become an expert in her field. She enjoys spending her free time playing badminton, painting by numbers, at-home Pilates and listening to podcasts.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Madison Miller

District 5

Citizenship: USA



Pursuing bachelor's degree in management, Case Western Reserve University, USA

Madison Miller, a junior studying finance and public policy, is passionate about supporting fellow women in finance by educating and empowering her peers through professional development opportunities and mentorship. In her second semester on campus, Madison founded the Women in Finance club to support undergraduate women interested in careers in financial services. She is also president of the Weatherhead Fund, where she oversees a US\$750,000 student-run investment fund with more than 75 members managing a portion of the university's endowment. A member of the Alpha Phi fraternity, Madison has served as director of events and a member of the committee during her time on campus. She also works in the university admissions office guiding prospective students.

Outside of college, Madison enjoys volunteering, especially tutoring middle school and high school students through the REACH program in Cleveland and the Plains Community League in Northern Virginia. She previously interned in the private equity field and will intern at Perella Weinberg Partners in investment banking during her summer break.

Madison looks forward to applying her passion for finance and investing throughout her career. She intends to work in investment banking and hopes to make a significant impact in the business community as a role model for women, encouraging underrepresented groups to enter finance and paving a path for women who come after her to achieve their professional goals.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Heather Jost



District 6

Citizenship: USA

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Holds bachelor's degrees in anthropology and music performance, Lawrence University, USA

Heather Jost's career thus far has been teaching English in the Saharawi refugee camps in Southwestern Algeria. This intercultural, nonprofit experience has given her a keen interest in how to make humanitarian and development work more effective and more culturally informed. This question led Heather to the topic of social business and how to use the sustainability and innovation of the business model as a tool for empowering communities to diagnose and address social issues. During the COVID-19 lockdown, she worked with refugees in Clarkston, Georgia, where she saw opportunity for the humanitarian sector to be more collaborative and evidence-driven in its approach.

In her first term at the University of Oxford's Saïd Business School, Heather enjoyed the importance that social impact has there through its influence on her classes, the Impact Lab, friendships with impact-focused peers and other experiences. She hopes to return to the Saharawi refugee camps to use her skills from the MBA to enhance collaboration and effectiveness of the work that is being done there. She is especially interested in passing on skills and insight from this program to the local change-makers to help bring their ideas to life and cannot wait to have more to offer as a partner in helping a community to thrive.

Outside of her studies, Heather enjoys rowing, hiking, crafting and re-purposing things, and cooking.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Sangya Yogi



District 7

Citizenship: Nepal

Pursuing bachelor's degree in data analysis and finance, Washburn University, United States

Since moving to the U.S. from Nepal in 2020, Sangya Yogi has focused on gaining good educational and professional experience. She is interested in drawing insights from financial data and has taken her first step into the corporate world as a business systems analyst intern at Security Benefit. Working with the Six Sigma team in the robotic process automation project, she has gained hands-on experience in areas such as process optimization, automation and quality assurance testing.

Sangya is equally involved on campus, thanks to her engagement in several student organizations and campus bodies. She currently serves as president of the Delta Sigma Pi professional business fraternity startup and works as a student coordinator at the Multicultural Intersectional Learning Space. She has also been involved in the Institute of Management Accountants, New Student Orientation, The Brenneman Series, International Club and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance.

Alongside several academic and departmental scholarships, Sangya was inducted into the Beta Gamma Sigma honor society, Phi Kappa Phi honor society and NONOSO, a women's honorary society at Washburn University.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Madelyn Moore



District 8

Citizenship: USA

Pursuing bachelor's degree in management with a specialization in human resources,
Oregon State University, USA

Madelyn Moore is a third-year double major in management with a specialization in human resources management with an option in international business. She is president of the Women Mean Business club, where members teach and talk about how they can be successful women in male-dominated classrooms or workspaces. They also host community fundraisers, professional development workshops and club bonding experiences, and frequently invite guest speakers to join them. As a student ambassador for the College of Business, Madelyn's main role is to coordinate events between approximately 700 students and 55 student workers.

Madelyn is pursuing a career in human resources. She is still exploring all the branches of human resources, but has thoroughly enjoyed her experiences in recruiting and is looking forward to her internship focusing in culture, learning and development this summer.

Though Madelyn does not yet have a specific path in human resources in mind, she loves leading and strongly believes that leadership drives the ability of a company to succeed. She aims to have a positive impact on the people around her as a strong, positive leader who drives the success of a company.

Outside of work, school and extracurriculars, Madelyn enjoys activities such as hiking, painting, skiing and floating on the river in the summer.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Lisa Gonzalez



District 9

Citizenship: USA and Venezuela

Pursuing Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA), The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, USA

Holds bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering, Virginia Tech, USA

Lisa Gonzalez is the director of operations at a medical technology startup that is focused on improving in vitro fertilization care for patients, clinicians and clinics. In this role, she enjoys making a positive impact on women's health, working on interesting products and contributing to building an early-stage company.

After earning her bachelor's degree, Lisa spent the majority of her career at Johnson & Johnson contributing to roles within engineering and supply chain across many product lines (sedation, orthopedics, contact lenses, surgery, robotic surgery) and locations (Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Jacksonville, San Francisco). Most recently, she worked in Johnson & Johnson's research and development department on a surgical robotics platform.

With a Wharton EMBA and experience at an early-stage start-up, Lisa aspires to work in venture capital and is particularly interested in investing in companies working to accelerate innovations and equity in health care.

Outside of work, Lisa enjoys exploring new places while traveling and spending as much time as possible outdoors. While she has a long list of outdoor hobbies—trail running, hiking, biking, backpacking, Ultimate Frisbee—these days, she spends most of her time rock climbing.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Nivedhitha Balaji



District 10

Citizenship: India

Pursuing master's degree in finance, University of Texas at Dallas, USA

Holds bachelor's degree in commerce/finance, University of Madras, India

Nivedhitha Balaji is in her final year of graduate studies at the University of Texas at Dallas, where she has held multiple leadership roles, including secretary of the Graduate Finance Management Council and teaching assistant for the undergraduate finance department. Her humble background helped her realize the importance of education and the driving attitude needed to be an academically strong student.

After receiving her bachelor's degree, Nivedhitha worked at Goldman Sachs as a financial associate for five years. Her success there made her want to explore the different avenues in finance, which inspired her to pursue a master's in the field.

Nivedhitha recently completed a six-month internship in core valuation and is looking forward to her next internship in the mergers and acquisitions space. She hopes to one day become a chief financial officer, leading and driving teams that deliver exceptional insights and outcomes in a global organization. She could also see herself as responsible for the development of future finance citizens, having a long-term impact on women graduates and helping them secure opportunities that are accessible with a solid education.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Saeeda Ruffin-Daniels



District 11

Citizenship: USA

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), Lander University, USA

Holds bachelor's degree in psychology, Seton Hall University, USA

Saeeda Ruffin-Daniels is pursuing her MBA at Lander University, where she works as a career services graduate assistant. She also volunteers with the TRIO Student Support Services Program and is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success.

A former corporate recruiter and founding publisher of a statewide magazine, Saeeda currently works as a quality assurance specialist with RippleMatch, a recruitment automation platform. In her spare time, she volunteers on the Lexington One School District Parent Advisory Council and the Lexington One Book Review Committee, supports the Lexington High School Cat Band, and performs missionary duties at her church. She is a self-proclaimed “word stylist,” has authored two children’s books, and writes for companies and organizations.

Known for offering her assistance with academic, collegiate and career planning, Saeeda plans to utilize her MBA degree to create programs and opportunities for young people as they strive to reach their potential.

Saeeda is married and has 12 children—three are college graduates and four are college students. She lives by the mantra, “Serving Others Is My Purpose,” which she strives to exemplify every day.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Colleen Kennedy



District 12

Citizenship: USA

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), Colorado State University, USA

Holds bachelor's degree in international studies, University of Washington, USA

Colleen Kennedy has 10 years of experience in nonprofit management and strategy building across industries. She is currently pursuing her MBA in corporate sustainability and a certificate in carbon management so that she can channel her passion for climate change injustices and learn the tools necessary to face some of the world's biggest challenges. She was elected to the Impact Advisory Board of her program and presider of the local chapter of Net Impact, a global student organization focused on sustainability in business. This summer, she will work as a sustainability in business. Last summer, she worked as a Sustainability Fellow with East West Tea Company, makers of Yogi Tea brand.

Colleen's studies have focused on foundational business acumen, climate change and leadership development, and her degree will allow her to create positive change in the business world while also contributing to a reduction in carbon emissions. After graduation, she hopes to work in a consulting role to build effective climate strategies for as many businesses as possible.

In her free time, Colleen enjoys being in the yoga studio or in nature.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Camilla Poulsen



District 13

Citizenship: Denmark

Pursuing master's degree in advanced economics and finance, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark

Holds bachelor's degree in economics and business administration, Copenhagen Business School

Throughout her studies, Camilla Poulsen developed a great interest in climate change and sustainable investing. After finishing her bachelor's degree among the top 10 candidates, she started working as an analyst with Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP), where she is engaged in various aspects and phases of the investment process—from deal sourcing and strategic analyses to financial modeling and valuation of potential renewable energy infrastructure investments, primarily in fast-growing economies. After her studies, Camilla will start a full-time position with CIP as an associate.

Camilla spent her third semester of her master's program at Columbia University in New York City, where she focused on deepening her knowledge within the broader field of economics and finance and gained exposure to the field of sustainable investing and impact finance, an area that Columbia is renowned for worldwide.

Camilla's career path allows her an outstanding opportunity to exploit her strong academic competencies to contribute to meaningful investments for both investors and local communities, but also the climate and the world.

In her spare time, Camilla enjoys the occasional run and trip to the gym, but first and foremost, she prioritizes spending time with her family and friends.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Rosanna Pottmann



District 14

Citizenship: Austria

Pursuing master's degree in organisational behavior, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), United Kingdom

Holds bachelor's degree in business, economics and social sciences, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria

Having grown up and worked in her family business, Rosanna Pottmann experienced from a young age the decisive role that leadership plays in creating a work environment in which employees are highly motivated and identify with the values of the organization. Her passion for organizational behavior was further strengthened by investigating how telework influences employees' extra-role behavior as part of her award-winning bachelor thesis.

After graduating, Rosanna worked as a teaching assistant at the Institute for Marketing Management at the Vienna University of Economics and Business and at the Department of Economics at the Norwegian School of Economics. In these positions, she followed her passion for empowering others by passing on her knowledge and sharing her curiosity for conducting research.

Rosanna is currently pursuing a master's degree in human resources and organizations with a specialization in organizational behavior. During her time at LSE, she is eager to draw upon her master's interdisciplinary approach to make a positive impact in the business field by gaining profound insights into the multidimensional dynamics of gender barriers in management. She is also an Economic & Business faculty representative at Goodenough College, where she organizes talks with inspiring women and contributes to conferences at the college.

Rosanna wants to empower others by passing on her knowledge and sharing research findings as well as follow her entrepreneurial drive to found her own business.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Anna Recknagel



District 15

Citizenship: USA

Pursuing master's degree in management, University of Michigan, USA

Holds bachelor's degree in political science, University of Michigan

After graduating with a degree in political science, Anna Recknagel returned to school to pursue her dream of working in a strategy role in sports and entertainment. She is currently the partnerships intern for Michigan Athletics and the Martha Cook house board adviser. Additionally, she has a lot of experience in the performing arts, taking on a variety of roles both on and off stage.

Anna hopes to join a team that promotes and creates stories that showcase diversity in a marketing, strategy or production role. In the long term, she wants to lead teams that put these stories out into the world and help those who face barriers to entry get into the industry. She believes the arts and entertainment business have the potential to make an impact on the lives of those in marginalized communities and wants to use her skills to get those messages across and cultivate a positive industry culture.

Outside of school, Anna enjoys spending time with friends and family, reading, watching movies, listening to music, singing in her band and watching sporting events.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Lauren Thomas



District 16

Citizenship: New Zealand

Pursuing bachelor's degree in valuation and property management and marketing, Lincoln University, New Zealand

Lauren Thomas grew up on a farm and has always held a strong interest in property. She has thoroughly enjoyed her studies at Lincoln University, learning extensive amounts of knowledge that can be applied to the workforce. Her work experience during her studies with a property company confirmed her passion for the industry and she looks forward to entering the business world.

Lauren enjoys giving back to her community, which she has done during secondary school and university, and plans to continue to give back when she is working. She aims to always work hard and do her best, which earned her the top student in her program.

After graduating, Lauren plans to work for three years in New Zealand and then obtain registration as a valuer in the commercial industry, where she will work with banks, business owners, insurance firms and a variety of other businesses. She would then like to spend time overseas using her qualifications internationally to gain valuable experience.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Thammaporn Phokhakul



District 17

Citizenship: Thailand

Pursuing dual master's degree in engineering business management, Warwick University, USA, and Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

Holds bachelor's degree in automotive engineering, Chulalongkorn University

Thammaporn Phokhakul grew up in Bangkok, which has the worst rush-hour traffic in the world. With an inadequate public transportation system, she believes the city needs a system that can move many people at one time. Her bachelor's studies were focused on transportation technology and shortly after graduation, Thammaporn was recruited by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries to work in the transportation department as a testing and commissioning engineer, focusing on the automated people mover (APM) system in Japan. She worked on several APM projects in Singapore, Doha, Macau and Thailand, where she was often the only or one of a few female team members.

Thammaporn returned to Bangkok to build a career in the mass transit system business and is now a lead testing and commissioning engineer at an international engineering company that specializes in train work on the Bangkok Mass Rapid Transit Project (Pink and Yellow Lines), which is critical to the success of Bangkok as Thailand's center of government administration and a business hub as well as to improve people's well-being. The mass transit system is also an important infrastructure piece to fighting global warming by reducing the number of vehicles on roads and meeting Thailand's net-zero CO2 goal.

Pursuing her master's degree part-time allows Thammaporn to continue working and to apply what she learns immediately. She believes the degree will be a positive asset toward her long-term career goal and it will equip her with tools to tackle problems in business as well as give her equal opportunities to grow in the engineering and technology fields.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Zhaoyang Xu



District 17

Citizenship: People's Republic of China

Pursuing bachelor's degree in quantitative finance, University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

Zhaoyang Xu is in her final year of pursuing her bachelor's degree in quantitative finance. She is a Laidlaw Scholar, a Hong Kong Jockey Club Scholar and a member of Beta Gamma Sigma. Zhaoyang participated in the yearlong Harvard Visiting Undergraduate Students Program.

Passionate about economics, finance and technology, Zhaoyang has conducted research in auction theory and time series analysis. She hopes to provide insight into understanding the financial market with her research on economic models.

Having witnessed how the lack of quality education related to the field of business can drastically limit opportunities for underprivileged girls living in rural areas, Zhaoyang is dedicated to providing more learning and mentorship opportunities for these girls. Determined to improve gender equity in the field of business, she initiated the Empowerment Project in her freshman year, organizing workshops on finance and coding for primary school children in her hometown in mainland China.

Zhaoyang looks forward to developing a start-up with a focus on financial technology by making use of her research findings. She hopes to help underprivileged women who are interested in business to enter the field, and to improve gender equality in the business world.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Cathia Itoua-Bienayme



District 18

Citizenship: Republic of the Congo

Pursuing master's degree in accounting and finance, African Center for Higher Studies in Management (CESAG), Senegal

Holds bachelor's degree in accounting and finance, CESAG

Cathia Itoua-Bienayme, originally from the Republic of the Congo, is studying accounting and financial management in Senegal. Her program focuses on knowledge of public procurement procedures, management and regulation of public procurement, knowledge of public finances and the main administrative contacts.

Cathia loves leadership and management fields and enjoys working in a human-centered culture that focuses on people and solutions that engage, inform and inspire people. She wants to be a role model for other African girls and aspires to be a senior executive in a great institution such as the World Bank, the Central Bank of Central African States, the United Nations or the African Development Bank.

Cathia is an impassioned person who loves to learn new things, discover new cultures and challenge herself. She is passionate about humanitarianism, taking photos of animals, flowers and singing. She is also a swimmer who enjoys spending time in the water and an avid reader. Cathia loves to escape into the pages of books and discover new stories and characters.

Despite life's challenges and her fears and anxieties, Cathia is never discouraged. She has learned to differentiate between her wants, needs and duties. She always fights to achieve her goals and to face the obstacles that stand in her way. She is strong and determined and enjoys inspiring others to be the best they can be.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Maricarmen Sanchez Rubin



Region South America
Citizenship: Chile

Pursuing bachelor's degree in business administration, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, Chile

Since she was young, Maricarmen Sanchez Rubin has been passionate about gender equity and how inequity directly affects her community. As the head girl of her school, she discovered what it was like to be in charge of 75 young women and be the voice for their ideas, problems and concerns. She has a passion for innovation, economics, aviation, social work, time management, leadership and teamwork, and is currently the business school president of the 2022 student council and one of five female members of her local aviation club.

Maricarmen strives to become a determined businesswoman who helps other women speak up and sets an example for other girls to be kind, pursue their dreams, support their peers and stand tall in front of any obstacles that could come their way.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Jennifer Holmberg



District 20

Citizenship: Finland

Pursuing master's degree in finance, Hanken School of Economics, Finland

Holds bachelor's degree in finance, Hanken School of Economics

Her whole life, Jennifer Holmberg has enjoyed studying, learning new skills and understanding new concepts. She has been active in the Student Union of Hanken School of Economics since the beginning of her studies and is a member of the executive board responsible for academic affairs and sustainability. She is also one of two student representatives on the school's board of directors.

As a woman in the finance industry, she has seen the differences in gender representation within the sector at her university and in her work life. Jennifer currently works at a private equity firm and is dedicated to increasing in the number of women in the finance industry by encouraging young women to study the subject.

In her free time, Jennifer devotes herself to music. She has been passionate about singing since she was a child and since the age of 15, has sung more than 150 solo gigs at both small and large events. She is treasurer of the Female Voice Choir Lyran, where she has been singing since starting at university.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Sandra Gasser



District 21

Citizenship: Italy

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), Jönköping International Business School, Sweden

Holds bachelor's degree in business administration, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy

Sandra Gasser is earning her master's degree from Jönköping International Business School, which is anchored in the Scandinavian management tradition and welcomes students from all over the world. Her program focuses on teaching students how to manage responsibly for corporate sustainability in established organizations and developing suggestions for overcoming these challenges. To broaden her horizons, Sandra spent an exchange semester at the Singapore Management University, which gave her insights into the fascinating melting pot of cultures.

Committed to gaining experience outside of school, Sandra has had various internships at a chamber of commerce, law firm, labor union and two banks, which helped her understand attributes crucial to her career development. She received the Global Talent Award in 2020 and was the Best Applicant in South Tyrol in the Top Companies Award Challenge in 2019.

After finishing her degree, Sandra plans to start gaining experience—especially in global firms—so she can eventually work in the consulting sector. She hopes to make a substantial impact on business by empowering female leaders through their success stories.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Olivia Jacobsson



District 21

Citizenship: Sweden

Pursuing master's degree in industrial engineering and management, Linköping University, Sweden

Olivia Jacobsson is in her penultimate year of university studies. The five-year degree she is pursuing teaches the fundamentals of engineering, including a technical specialization (computer sciences, in her case), and mixes it with general business knowledge such as management, economics and marketing. Alongside her studies, Olivia has two part-time jobs—one in which she teaches foundational business knowledge to first-year university students.

As a strong believer in the importance of giving students a voice in shaping their education, Olivia has since a young age been highly involved in various initiatives aimed at improving student life. At university she spent her second year as president of one of the biggest independent student organizations in parallel to being part of the strategic student board within her field of study.

In her spare time Olivia enjoys baking sourdough bread, but she has yet to succeed in making sourdough buns. She loves traveling and believes cultural exchanges to be crucial in enabling global togetherness and preventing conflicts; she spent a year in Austin, Texas, six months in Berlin and five months in Dublin. Her long-term professional goal is to make a positive impact on society through an international business career. As a first step she plans to start her own business within sustainable fashion.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Clare Isaac



District 22

Citizenship: Australia

Pursuing master's degree in business, Queensland University of Technology, Australia

Holds bachelor's degree in law, Queensland University of Technology

Clare Isaac has had a variety of careers—from retailer to lawyer to CEO to property developer. When her property business stalled during the COVID-19 pandemic, she decided she needed a fresh approach to business and enrolled in a master's program. Law provided her the tools to be an excellent analytical thinker and problem-solver; business experience gave her “real life” exposure to what it means to put everything on the line for your dream; now, her master's program is giving her the tools to take her real-life experiences and synergize them with academically researched solutions—thus reducing risk and increasing probability of success.

Clare's personal experience of divorce, separation and custody disputes led her to believe that divorce is an epidemic crushing our society, and she wants to be the one to create a new way of navigating the broken system. Her goal is to create a space for those going through a divorce and provide a holistic solution to current offerings, incorporating legal, psychological and financial advice from day one.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Amy Zahra



District 23

Citizenship: Australia

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), Edith Cowan University (ECU), Australia

Holds bachelor's degree in teaching, University of Western Sydney, Australia

Amy Zahra, previously a teacher, has experience in education, pharmaceutical and health care sales, and running her own business. She is currently the state sales manager for Miele, leading the commercial and the two experience centers teams. Amy goes to school part-time to earn an MBA at Edith Cowan University, where she earned a position on the dean's list for her graduate certificate in project management. She also engages in academic, professional and local community clubs such as ECU Women in Business, Women in Project Management and the Wembley Downs Soccer Club.

Amy enjoys running and is regular at the Mount Claremont Park Run on a Saturday morning. When her study is over, she will pursue renovating her house with her two teenage sons. She is raising her two boys as a single parent with no local family and she strives to be a role model for other young women who face challenges. Her new position at Miele offers the opportunity to professionally work with more women in business and represent women as the only woman on the management team.

The friendships and networks Amy has developed through her MBA have supported her and added a positive influence on her life. Therefore, her goal is to mentor and teach the next generation of women to achieve their academic, personal and professional goals and become future leaders.



2022 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholar

Lucy Fang



District 24

Citizenship: Australia

Pursuing bachelor's degree in philosophy, politics and economics, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Lucy Fang enjoys the dynamism of entrepreneurial problem-solving and its real-world application. In high school she founded two student-led clubs—Young Entrepreneurs Society and Pymble Model United Nations (MUN), to share entrepreneurial and MUN knowledge with more girls. Both clubs grew to be among the largest of their kind in Australia. In 2017, Lucy started the Kids Learning Assistance Program (KLAP), Australia's first online platform helping bridge the literacy gap by directly connecting urban high schools with primary schools that have underserved kids struggling in learning, especially in rural and remote areas. KLAP has won government community grants, the University of Sydney's Student Innovation Award for Social Impact, and was presented at TEDxSydney Ideas Search 2022.

Interested in evaluating business models, identifying growth opportunities and assisting businesses to achieve strategic objectives, Lucy attended the Business Bridge Program at the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College last year to study introductions to financial modeling, strategy and microeconomics. She then participated in a venture capital internship in the infrastructure, proptech and fintech space, where her work includes market research, competitor analysis, slide decks, strategy meetings with portfolio companies and more.

Lucy has a passion for lifelong learning and hopes to pursue a career in a diverse and dynamic industry such as finance.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Swikritee Neupane



District 25

Citizenship: Nepal

Pursuing bachelor's degree in business administration, Ace Institute of Management, Nepal

Swikritee Neupane, who was raised in a society where highly capable people face limitations unless they are wealthy, realized that if she wanted to succeed and pave her path, she would have to accept the challenge herself. From a young age, she has had a goal of being financially independent; she started her first business when she was just 18 years old. Three years later, she owns two businesses.

Swikritee has witnessed firsthand many educated, highly capable women—including her mother, who has a master's degree—lose opportunities because of her society's gender roles. With a desire to create change and uplift women, she led her company, Lumiere Nepal, to initiate a women's empowerment project.

Swikritee plans to pursue a Master of Business Administration in entrepreneurship at a top-tier business school.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Aki Higuchi



District 26

Citizenship: Japan

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Holds master's degree in public administration, Harvard University, USA, and bachelor's degree in law, Peking University, China

Aki Higuchi founded Selan Inc., an education startup, to redefine children's learning and women's careers by providing bilingual nannies who serve as kids' role models and offer global awareness education. As an entrepreneur, she has experienced the challenges of owning a business and recognizes the promise entrepreneurship holds for women to flexibly manage their time and balance obligations. In 2022, Selan was acquired by Monex Group, Inc., a retail online brokerage offering investment and trading services.

Working as an intern at UNICEF broadened her perspectives significantly, changing her trajectory towards development. After completing her degree, Aki intends to improve education for children and women by engaging in policy and advocacy in international humanitarian sector. In the mid-to long-term, she aspires to contribute to a policymaking committee in Japan, driving cross-sector collaboration.

She enjoys playing piano, tennis, ice skating and stargazing.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Kerstin Arndt



District 27

Citizenship: Germany

Pursuing master's degree in business administration and engineering, HAWK University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Germany

Holds bachelor's degree in business administration and engineering, HAWK University of Applied Sciences and Arts

Kerstin Arndt worked as an optician before earning her bachelor's degree, which focused on production management. She is now studying for her master's degree, focusing on quality management and energy management. Through numerous projects, she is independently applying economic and technical knowledge, which enables her to sharpen her analytical and holistic thinking, teamwork and communication skills.

Outside of her studies, Kerstin participated in "Formula Student," a student engineering competition held annually around the world in which student teams design, build, test and race a small-scale formula-style racing car. In the 2017-2018 season, she took on activities in marketing and sponsoring. In the following season, she led project management for the approximately 40-member team.

In her free time, Kerstin is passionate about bouldering and travels through Europe on her motorcycle and with a tent during her vacations. For more than 10 years, she organized children's and youth camps on a voluntary basis, taking on the responsibility and care of the children entrusted to her.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Anneleen Huyghe



District 27

Citizenship: Belgium

Pursuing double master's degrees in economic policy, University of Antwerp, Belgium, and economics, Maastricht University, Netherlands

Holds bachelor's degree in applied economic sciences – economic policy, University of Antwerp

After completing her bachelor's degree in applied economic sciences at the University of Antwerp, Anneleen Huyghe decided to take on a new challenge. As one of the first students, she started a double-degree master's at the University of Antwerp and the University of Maastricht. This two-year degree will empower her with the necessary education, skills and network to further develop her career.

With a master's degree in economic policy and economics, Anneleen will be prepared for a business career with insight into the causes of economic and societal problems. This combination broadens her perspective on the world. With her interest in topics like gender equality and poverty, she hopes to make a difference one day.

Anneleen has a great sense of community engagement. She used to be an active member and group leader of a youth organization in her neighborhood. She also taught mathematics to learning-disadvantaged students. She has been working for the same employer as a student worker since she was 15. Gradually, the job involved more responsibilities such as guiding and advising other employees. She also volunteers with VZVB (Flemish Futsal Association), where she is responsible for the administration of the province of East Flanders and helped develop an online platform for the organization.

Anneleen believes that her activities will help her become a stronger version of herself who will be ready for a business career. In the coming years, she wants to gain more experience and dive deeper into a field in which she chooses to pursue a career.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Ariella Inglese



District 28

Citizenship: Italy

Pursuing master's degree in economics and management of innovation and technology, Bocconi University, Italy

Holds bachelor's degree in business and economics, University of Bologna, Italy

Throughout her bachelor's degree studies, Ariella Inglese was a top-performing student, part-time worker and volunteer. She spent an exchange semester at the University of Leuven in Brussels, where she started to cultivate a strong interest in sustainability and climate finance. Later, she interned at the International Foundation Big Data and Artificial Intelligence for Human Development, which expanded her knowledge about the potential role of artificial intelligence and big data in addressing global problems.

Ariella is currently studying for her master's degree in Milan and is part of the program Women on Board organized by ManagerItalia to reduce the gender gap in Italy. She plans to pursue a managerial career because she is convinced that she can give the best of herself in this field, leveraging both solid academic preparation and some of her characteristics. She would like to become a corporate environmental, social and governance manager because she considers sustainability to be one of the pillars on which the organizations of the present and the future must base their development.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Dr. Brittany Powell



District 29

Citizenship: USA

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Holds Masters in Public Policy, University of Oxford; Doctor of Medicine, Stanford University School of Medicine, USA; and bachelor's degree in neurobiology, Harvard University, USA

Dr. Brittany Powell is a general surgery resident physician at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, USA. She is a health services researcher in the field of global surgery, focused on National Surgical, Obstetric, and Anesthesia Plans (NSOAPs), translating these plans into strategic policy and workforce training programs to increase access to surgery in low- and middle-income countries. Her regional area of focus is Rwanda and East Africa. She is a board member for Pivot, a Madagascar-based health care nongovernmental organization that is leveraging science to save lives, strengthen health care delivery and build a model rural healthcare system.

Brittany completed her Masters in Public Policy last year at the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford and is currently pursuing an MBA at Oxford's Saïd Business School. She envisions using these skill sets to catalyze unique partnerships between governments, academic medical centers, nonprofit organizations and the private sector to advance the field of global surgery.

In her free time, Brittany enjoys cooking new foods, hosting dinner parties, competing in triathlons, and traveling around the world with family and friends.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Taiwo Shotunde



District 29

Citizenship: Nigeria

Pursuing Master of Business Administration (MBA), University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Holds bachelor's degree in accounting, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

Taiwo Shotunde has spent the last four years honing her skills in consulting and finance at different organizations, assisting firms in solving business difficulties and developing solutions in areas such as business expansion, financial due diligence, tax consulting and financial consulting. She helped build management credibility and corporate reputation within the financial community to optimize long-term valuations.

Committed to community development and social impact, Taiwo has provided pro-bono consulting services to small business owners in her community that cannot afford the services of professional firms. These businesses recorded a 40% increase in their revenue, thriving on business insights from her team. Passionate about women's development and participation, Taiwo is a career and academic mentor to more than 300 female students and young women in her community. She guides them on how to compete for equal opportunities with their male counterparts and not be limited by societal constructs, religious dogma and cultural ideologies.

Taiwo's short-term goal is to work in a strategy role, advise clients on growth transformation projects, and help executives develop strategies to make their businesses survive and expand in a global consulting firm. Long term, she wants to establish a network of consultants whose common goal is to create innovative solutions for businesses in Africa and help them compete with their global peers to foster economic growth.



2022 Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholar

Marie Fuchs



District 30

Citizenship: Germany

Pursuing master's degree in economics, London School of Economics, England

Holds bachelor's degree in banking and finance, Frankfurt School of Finance & Management, Germany

Growing up in a structurally weak region of Germany, Marie Fuchs struggled with traditional norms, which sparked her motivation to pave the way for equality of opportunity. She first expanded her mindset while packing Christmas presents for disadvantaged children with her mother. As a volunteer building houses on a Panamanian island, she discovered parallels with her perceived lack of opportunity, which inspired her to pursue seemingly impossible goals and support others in doing so. Since then, Marie identified the sustainable finance sector as the ideal vehicle for enacting her aspirations.

Marie has had several professional experiences that have confirmed her aspiration of seeking a position as a consultant in the financial sector. She collected valuable insights into society's financial needs as a trainer at KfW, one of the world's leading promotional banks, she consulted a bank on climate adaption as an intern for Boston Consulting Group, and she interned as a data scientist on climate stress tests at ISS ESG, the investment arm of Institutional Shareholder Services Inc., the world's leading provider of environmental, social and governance solutions for asset owners, asset managers, hedge funds and asset servicing providers. She also interned at McKinsey & Company, a global management consulting firm.

Marie desires to foster better opportunities through social commitment. To assist students in escaping the narrow career perspectives in her region, she founded an alumni organization at her former school that supports teens in planning their higher education. As a student representative, she encourages others to pursue their aspirations via emotional and administrative support.

Outside of her studies, Marie spent 10 years as a club swimmer and enjoys playing piano.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Emiliya Nikolova



District 30

Citizenship: Bulgaria

Pursuing master's degree in finance, investments and fintech, Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski, Bulgaria

Holds bachelor's degree in economics of tourism, University of National and World Economy (UNWE), Bulgaria

Emiliya Nikolova has multiple certificates related to project management and service management, including a Project Management Professional certification, a Certified ScrumMaster certification and an IT Infrastructure Library certification. Before working as a software engineering manager, she was a technical project manager and agile coach for several international information technology (IT) companies.

Emiliya is confident that her master's degree will help her excel in her career and that it will allow her to manage budgets related to projects for women's success in the workplace and support women planning maternity leaves. As a believer that empowering women lies in the foundation of a successful enterprise, she has participated in women's communities and networks in all her workplaces. She also supports different local charities that help mothers of children with disabilities and low-income families and provide a workplace for people with disabilities.

In her free time, Emiliya enjoys painting, making natural cosmetics and reading articles about medicine.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

Shih Ting Hung



District 31

Citizenship: Taiwan

Pursuing master's degree in business management, National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University (NYCU), Taiwan

Holds bachelor's degree in foreign languages, NYCU

In her third year of studying foreign languages, Shih Ting "Tiffany" Hung discovered an interest in the technology field. She took management science courses, learned how to program and was selected for Google's Crowdsourcing Seeds program. She also worked as a product sales intern at Microsoft and a data engineering intern at the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company.

After graduating from NYCU, Tiffany plans to pursue a dual degree at the TIAS School for Business and Society. The business analysis module offers students chances to learn from the insight of big data and practice the ways to conduct research in different markets. TIAS also provides welfare programs for women in business, including scholarships and student clubs.

Though there are many "women in tech" programs, Tiffany knows that women are still the minority in the field and she strives to build up an open platform for women, support women in tech jobs and create a fair working environment for females. At the same time, the platform will provide transparent information on job opportunities and strive for the best for women. Tiffany also aspires to be a product manager or business analyst.



2022 Jane M. Klausman
Women in Business Scholar

SeonYun Moon



District 32

Citizenship: South Korea

Pursuing bachelor's degree in management information systems, Catholic University of Pusan, South Korea

When she was young, SeonYun Moon took care of her sister on behalf of her busy parents. The girls participated in a free tutoring program, sponsored by their local government, which is when she realized that many of her peers were living in similarly difficult situations. SeonYun pledged to herself that when she became an adult, she would make sacrifices to support people's needs and improve their living conditions.

She aspires to play a role in supporting women's rights. As director of Human Rights Solidarity at the Student Council, SeonYun works for human rights and gender equity. To improve the welfare of female students, the organization planned a project to place sanitary pads in the school bathroom for students to use. As a result, menstruation is being recognized not as shameful, but as a natural phenomenon.

After completing her degree, SeonYun plans to establish a social enterprise that lays a foundation for supporting the vulnerable. This business will not only provide support for psychological pain but also financial aid for underprivileged people, including low-income women.