

Yvonne Smith Charitable Trust
C/- Fortune Manning
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Auckland 1140

Florence Van Dyke
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Re: Interim Report

Dear the Trustees of the Yvonne Smith Charitable Trust,

I am studying a Master of Laws at the University of California, Berkeley. I am grateful to have received a Yvonne Smith Scholarship to contribute to the costs of my degree. I have learnt more in the last four months than at any other time in my life. It is impossible to speak to all the opportunities and doors that have been opened through this experience. Here is a short summary:

Berkeley Professors and Students

He Tangata, He Tangata, He Tangata. As with all of life's experiences it is the people that are shaping my time at Berkeley the most. The Professors are leading scholars. Almost all have real-life experiences that add depth to their lectures. In addition, they are closely connected to the community. This means that leaders from across Berkeley are invited to speak in classes frequently. I have been lucky enough to have Jerry Brown, the former Governor of California lecture a class on a climate change and global policy, and Alice Waters, a world-winning chef, lecture a plant symposium class on sustainable food sources. I am also learning from my fellow students, who represent over forty countries. One example is a Pathways to Carbon Neutrality class where five of the thirty in my class attended COP26 in Glasgow on behalf of various governments and organizations. The lecture where those students reported back on their greatest learnings was one of my favourite to date. Needless to say, I have made life-long friends.

Centre for Responsible Business

In September, I was elected to sit on the University of California, Berkeley, Centre for Responsible Business Advisory Board. The goal of the Advisory Board is to shape the Universities policies, teachings and opportunities regarding environmental, social and governance in business. The Advisory Board consists of leading global scholars in this sector. I have had the opportunity to discuss these issues alongside some of the greatest minds in this field like Anne Simpson, named on Times List of 10 Women to Watch in Climate and Viviana Alvarez, widely regarded as the leading corporate expert on sustainable business globally. They

have opened my eyes to real life examples of best-practice corporate sustainability. This is the perfect supplement to my academic learnings.

Arizona Global Sustainability Institute



At Arizona State University with Amanda Ellis (far right) the Chief Executive of the Global Sustainability Institute and students from her class. October 2021.

In October, a Professor at Berkeley connected me with the Global Futures Laboratory at Arizona State University (**ASU**). The University invited me to travel to their faculty to speak to and connect with leading professors on innovative sustainability for the future. ASU is ranked as the world's leading university in innovation. At ASU I had the opportunity to present to staff; discuss sustainable entrepreneurship; and connect with women leaders. One of my favourite parts of the trip was speaking with and hearing from Rangina Hamidi; the former Minister for Education of Afghanistan. She fled Afghanistan and entered the USA on refugee status just three weeks before this event. Her tragic story gave me a deeply personal insight into the political tension in Afghanistan and the impacts of the Afghanistan-US relationship on Afghani civilians.



At the ASU Global Institute of Sustainability in Phoenix, Arizona, with Rangina Hamidi, former Minister for Education of Afghanistan. and Pamela deLargy Professor at the Institute of Sustainability.

Corporate Governance Symposium

In November, Amelia Miazad, the Professor of my Business in Society class spoke at the [Corporate Governance Symposium](#) in San Francisco and invited a number of students to attend. The two-day Symposium was fascinating. We heard from legal academics on corporate governance, but also experts from other industries like Eliot Brown from the Wall Street Journal who uncovered corporate governance scandals such as WeWork. I found the insights into climate competent boards and the impact of climate change on directors duties particularly fascinating. I wrote a paper on my learnings that will be published on the Berkeley School of Law website. In summary, the paper considers the financial risks associated with climate change that are quickly increasing for businesses. These financial risks must be considered and acted on by directors when fulfilling fiduciary duties. However, many directors, both in the US and New Zealand, lack the expertise to understand and respond to these risks.

Global Women SF

Last week I spoke at a [Global Women SF](#) event alongside female leaders in California, including the State Treasurer, Fiona Ma. The event, which focussed on values-led women entrepreneurs

was hugely inspiring. I left feeling connected to the other attendees. I now have support and comradeship from this community. This is special given I have only lived here four months. Several of my Berkeley classmates attended and made connections through speakers and attendees. I have connected Global Women SF with a values-aligned group in New Zealand that I sit on the Steering Committee for: [Future Food Aotearoa](#). We will be holding an online event for women entrepreneurs in March focussed on supporting women led export companies in the food and beverage sector.

Speaking at the Global SF Womens' Entrepreneurship Event in San Francisco. 17 December, 2021.



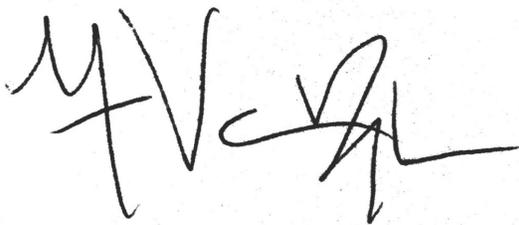
The poster for the GlobalSF Women Launch Event 2021 features the GlobalSF logo at the top with the tagline 'We are So Future'. The main title is 'GlobalSF Women LAUNCH EVENT 2021'. Below the title, it says 'Save the date for GlobalSF Women inaugural "Ask Me Anything" event which will bring together female founders, funders, and allies for an evening of insight, connections, partnership building, and delicious food and drinks.' The poster lists six speakers with their photos and titles: Fiona Ma (Treasurer - State of California), Chef Tanya Holland (Owner & Chef - Brown Sugar Kitchen), Julie Castro Abrams (CEO & Founder - How Women Lead, Managing Partner - How Women Invest), Florence Van Dyke (Co-founder - Chia sisters), Ilaria Chan (Group Advisor on Tech & Social Impact, Grab and Chairperson, Tech For Good Institute), and Miyoko Schinner (Founder & CEO - Miyoko's Creamery). At the bottom, it states 'Thursday, December 16, 2021 - 5 pm - 7:30 pm PST - Hybrid (Virtual + In-Person)' and includes logos for MOSSADAMS, FINANCE CENTER SBDC, SBA, and AFFILIATE PROGRAM SBDC.



Many thanks to Yvonne Smith, her whānau and the Trustees of the Yvonne Smith Trust for the opportunity to be here.

Best regards,

Florence Van Dyke



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'FV Dyke'.

LLM Candidate; University of California, Berkeley.