

THE DIPLOMAT

FALL 2018 || ISSUE 1 || DELTA PHI EPSILON, EPSILON CHAPTER



Letter from the *President*

As a wide-eyed, underqualified, and probably over-confident freshman, I began my first year at Cal fully intending on rushing the most prestigious pre-law fraternity on campus and not over-committing myself in order to focus on academics. Two years later, it's clear that not everything went according to plan, and yet, I cannot imagine what my college career would've been like had I not stumbled upon the Delta Phi Epsilon table on Sproul.

There is no other organization in which I could have a heated debate about who will end up on iron throne that transitions seamlessly into an equally lively discussion about the rise of European populism. And of course, it was through DPhiE I realized how awful my resume was as a freshman. I consequently contribute much of my internship and academic success to the cheerleading and connections of this chapter's members. In fact, of all the organizations I have joined at Cal, none have been as intellectually stimulating, rewarding, or humbling as this one.

The start to my presidency has been an untraditional one, to say the least. This past June, Delta Phi Epsilon hosted its biennial national convention in DC. While I found myself consumed by election bylaws and constitutions, I never expected to receive a call informing me that members of our National Board had threatened to dis-charter every single co-ed chapter of DPhiE for having foreigners and women as members. Since June, it has been a blur of negotiating with national and frantic late night messages with other DPhiE Presidents to decide our next steps. Today, it is unclear what the future of Epsilon chapter will be. Still, I feel a surprising sense of calm. Conversations with powerful, previous female presidents like Spandi, Shruthi, and Sybil and incredible support from our new ExComm and alum alike have taught me that Epsilon chapter has always been a pioneer and a pillar of success, community, and strength hundreds of miles away from DC. This community is a powerful one, with or without its letters.

It is from these lessons ExComm and I have drawn our goals for the fall semester: expanding Delta Phi Epsilon's presence on campus, while also kindling cohesivity and community within our chapter. Our extraordinary EVP Avdeep hopes to continue our tradition of incredible speakers and partner with the Career center for more exposure. Our poised PDVP Maya hopes to introduce new career opportunities and hone the professional skills of each of our members, while our fantastic FVP Tooba hopes to expand the number of scholarship recipients to make our chapter more financially accessible. Above all, every ExComm member hopes to serve our chapter with the integrity and devotion of all those who came before us and all those who will follow.

Whether you are a graduating senior who pledged seemingly centuries ago or a potential rushee just beginning on this journey, I can only hope this fraternity will become a home for you as much as it has for me. Should you choose to embrace this extraordinary group of people, I can promise you that while they may drive you crazy at times, they will never disappoint.

Your dutiful president,
Mahshad Badii



Contents

- 3 *Summer*
- 5 *Korea & Korea*
- 7 *Internships*
- 10 *Study Abroad:
Buenos Aires*
- 11 *Previously on DPhiE:
Pledge Reflections*
- 12 *ExComm: Fall 2018*

>>> DOMESTIC



SAN FRANCISCO, CA
Lili Spira, Jean Li, Nicholette Tolmie



NIAGARA FALLS, NY
Cassidy Childs



NEW YORK, NY
Abi Magat



LOS ANGELES, CA
Tooba Wasi



WASHINGTON DC
Henry Tolchard



SAN DIEGO, CA
Mahshad Badii



ORLANDO, FL
Gavin Greene



SAN FRANCISCO, CA
Sasha John



HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA
Chelsea Vanicek



CHARLESTON, SC
Maya Rao

INTERNATIONAL <<<



WESTFJORDS,
ICELAND
Farah Nanji



COUNTY KERRY,
IRELAND
Sarah Sheets



CADIZ, SPAIN
Margaret Garry



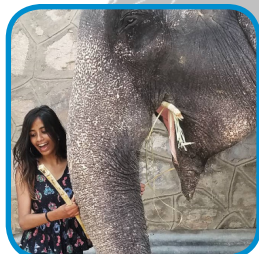
SEGOVIA, SPAIN
Rohan Narendra



VIENNA, AUSTRIA
Tyler Swartout



SANTIAGO, CHILE
Johnny Menhennet



JAIPUR, INDIA
Pooja Eega



SUZHOU, CHINA
Lucas Tung

KOREA & KOREA

By Jean Li

Looking at North and South Korea today, it may be difficult to remember that they were once the same nation. South Korea, one of the most prosperous nations in the world, enjoys its status as the 11th largest economy by nominal GDP and as a global leader in technology and industry. Meanwhile, North Korea is a heavily armed society containing the 4th largest military in the world while its nominal GDP ranks at 125th in the world. A multitude of human rights abuses allegedly occur within North Korea's borders, but the secretive state allows few foreigners or NGOs in to inspect the specific conditions.

Having been separated by the United States and Soviet Union since 1948, the two countries, though sharing the same language and heritage, seem to be worlds apart. How did we end up at this stage? Is there any hope for reunification as we enter the 70-year mark? The Korean story is a complex one, but an incredibly important one to understand in the coming era.

historical context

The history of the two Koreas, North and South, is incredibly recent. Korea was annexed by Imperial Japan in 1910, and at the end of World War II, was split along the 38th parallel between the USSR and US, with North Korea falling under Soviet control. Two American officers created the division without consultation of Korean experts and primarily chose the 38th parallel to ensure that Seoul would be under US jurisdiction. In May 1948, South Korea declared statehood as the Republic of Korea, and just four months later, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) was established with Kim Il-sung as its head.

The Korean war followed in 1950 when North Korean forces invaded the South in hopes of unifying the Korean peninsula under socialism. A United Nations team, led by the US, intervened on behalf of South

From the 1970s until the Bush Administration, North Korea was treated according to South Korea's "Sunshine Policy." In 2001, the Bush Administration rejected this idea and implemented an aggressive foreign policy approach to the DPRK. North Korea, witnessing the fall of Iraq, began to acquire nuclear weaponry to avoid the same fate.

Modern day North Korea has subsequently pursued nuclear weapons with increased urgency, and there are even reports about the development of a hydrogen bomb. Nuclear tests have become more frequent as North Korea, ever anxious, hopes to ward off any attacks from the West. These are particularly noticeable when South Korea and the US conduct cooperative military drills.

Human rights in the DPRK are an increasing concern amongst humanitarians and NGOs globally. Stories from defectors describe labor camps and inhumane conditions forced upon the North Korean population. Economic development remains abysmal and lack of nutrition is a crucial issue, especially considering that South Korea has historically always been the agricultural center of the Korean peninsula.

Tensions between the US and North Korea heightened in 2017 following the election of Donald Trump. By 2018, however, a détente had developed, and the leaders of both countries met in a summit in Singapore. Many questions might be raised over North Korea's sudden willingness to

Korea. Just as it appeared that the US would successfully take control of the entire Korean peninsula, China intervened on behalf of North Korea, fearing the possibility of having a democracy on its borders. By July 27th, 1953, fighting had concluded and the 38th parallel was reestablished as the boundary. Officially however, the war never ended.

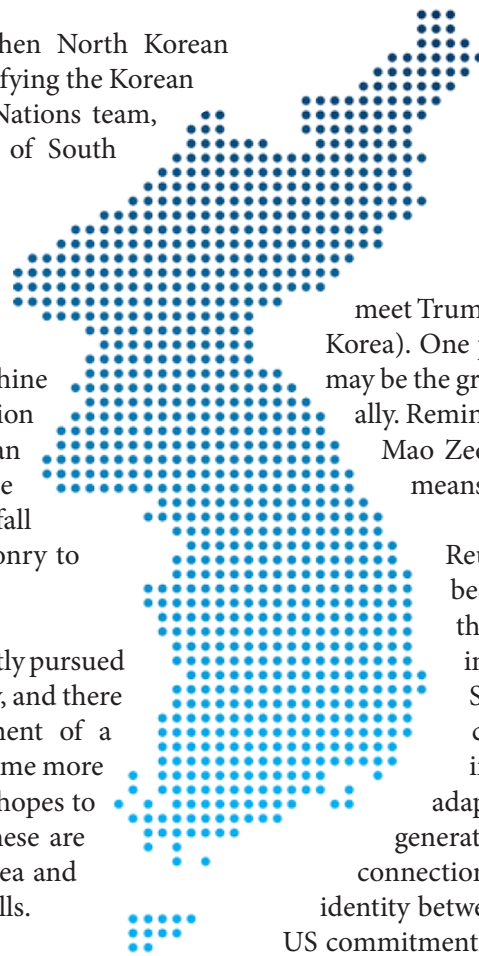
After the ceasefire, North Korea, which had long been the primary hub of economic production on the Korean peninsula, recovered fairly quickly and had higher economic growth than the South as late as 1976. All would not last though; by 1987, the economy stagnated, and with the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, North Korea was left without its primary source of aid.

modern day

meet Trump (and Moon Jae-in, the president of South Korea). One potential reason for North Korea's actions may be the growing power of China, its most prominent ally. Reminiscent of talks between Richard Nixon and Mao Zedong, North Korea may be seeking other means of support.

Reunification is the ultimate question. Having been separated almost 30 years longer than their often referenced counterpart in East and West Germany, North and South Korea have developed different cultures and even noticeable differences in language. Defectors often struggle to adapt to South Korean culture. An entire generation has grown up in South Korea without connections to the northern state, and the sense of identity between the two has changed significantly. The US commitment to mediate these tensions, along with the growing confidence of China on the global stage has left many variables uncertain.

Although the two Koreas may seem a world away, the US cannot turn a blind eye to the happenings on this Asian peninsula. South Korea is one of the US's closest allies in East Asia, and it would not be an inaccurate claim to say the US is responsible for a great deal of the issues present today. Only time may tell if Korea's "two-state solution" will hold, but it is clear that whatever the outcome, the US will play a crucial role.



INTERNSHIPS

SUMMER 2018



FARAH NANJI

Researcher at UCLA-DCR Health Research & Training Program

While I was back home in the DR Congo, I worked with a UCLA research team that focuses on diseases in the country. As Ebola broke out in the remote areas, I was able to work during a crucial period. I first worked with a UCLA professor and then a GIS analyst who works for the World Health Organization. They introduced me to Geographical Information System (GIS), an important tool during an outbreak as many NGOs were sending volunteers out to the poorly mapped remote areas in the DRC to distribute preventative vaccinations. I had the opportunity to collaborate with people who worked for the Ministry of Health, WHO, UNICEF, MONUSCO (the UN mission in the DRC), Doctors without borders, and other local NGOs. As I am passionate about development particularly in Africa, this experience gave me firsthand insight as to how NGOs operate and the role foreign countries play at a crucial time.

GAVIN GREENE

Global Mobility Tax Services Intern at PricewaterhouseCoopers

Over the summer, I interned for PricewaterhouseCoopers in their Global Mobility Tax Services Department. My job consisted of calculating how much it would cost if a company wanted to move an employee and all their stuff to a different country and advising that employee about the tax implications of doing business abroad in both their home and host countries. I enjoyed it because I got to combine international relations knowledge with business acumen. Through the internship, I also got to learn more about the business culture and ease of doing business in other countries. I would definitely recommend considering this path if you're curious about the intersection between international relations and business.



JULIA RUSSO

Intern at U.S. Department of State

This summer I interned for the U.S. Department of State's Bureau for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor. I worked within their Office of International Labor Affairs, utilizing key multilateral agreements including the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, to develop multi-stakeholder partnerships and remediation strategies for vulnerable workers abroad. I was given the opportunity to collaborate with public, corporate, and non-profit representatives to hold a forum on blockchain technology's use in the social impact space. Finally, I coordinated a week-long training course for 22 United States diplomats, highlighting necessary skills to assess, report, and remediate labor rights violations from U.S. embassies. Overall, my internship taught me the value of building relationships within international governments and across sectors to protect workers' rights and increase global supply chain transparency.



INTERNSHIPS

SUMMER 2018



CHANCE BORECZKY

Intern at U.S. Department of State

Over the summer, I was in Washington interning at the Department of State, with the Bureau of Arms Control, Verification, and Compliance. The AVC bureau coordinates American foreign policy on a diverse range of international issues, including arms trafficking, weapons of mass destruction, military transparency and confidence-building, and arms control treaty negotiations and implementation. I was given a wide variety of taskings throughout my three months there, including preparing promotional materials, archive management, and historical research. In my spare time, I attended local conferences and seminars and became familiar with the freeloaders who frequent the DC buffet table circuit. On that note, I also did two months of light Russian classes. I saw Jean-Claude Juncker speak after his press conference with the President, and I managed to get out to a fairly respectable number of embassy parties.

TOOBA WASI

Intern at Human Rights Watch

I interned for Human Rights Watch in their Children's Rights Division and their Development and Outreach Department. I was able to gain experience with a multitude of the various aspects of non-profit work, from administration, to fundraising, to advocacy, to research. I worked in the Children's Rights Division to further California Juvenile Justice issues, preparing for multiple rounds of State Congress lobbying to pass a bill that prevents children accused of crimes from being tried as adults. In the Development and Outreach Department, I researched a variety of human rights issues, hosted an LA committee meeting, and prepared for our annual fundraising gala and international summit. I hope to use my incredible experiences at Human Rights Watch to propel me into a career working in international relations and advancing human rights justice.



HENRY TOLCHARD

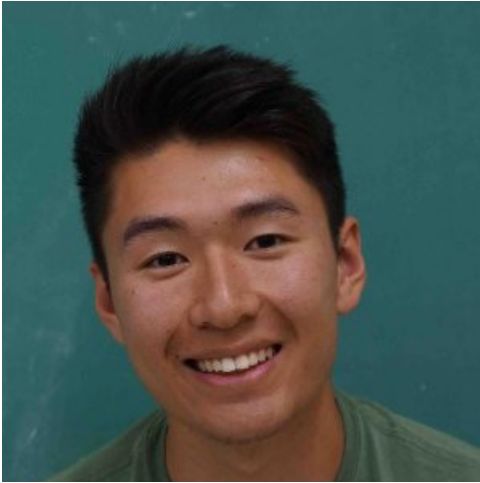
Intern at U.S. Department of Energy

This summer, I interned for the U.S. Energy Information Administration's Macroeconomic Analysis Team in Washington, D.C., supporting the July release of the the International Energy Outlook 2018, a report focusing on how different drivers of macroeconomic growth may affect international energy markets in China, India, and Africa and presented to the Center for Strategic and International Studies for release. I wrote one article on how three different potential economic growth patterns for India would result in different levels of energy consumption, and another on how the speed of China's transition to a more service-based economy would similarly impact its energy demands. I also wrote summaries on various energy-intensive industries such as food or iron and steel. The internship introduced me to careers within the federal government and economic analysis. It was an amazing opportunity to see the inner working

of an office working on producing original and timely analysis. I hope to use this experience as inspiration for future government service and to motivate my personal development in policy analysis.

INTERNSHIPS

SUMMER 2018



OLIVER MA

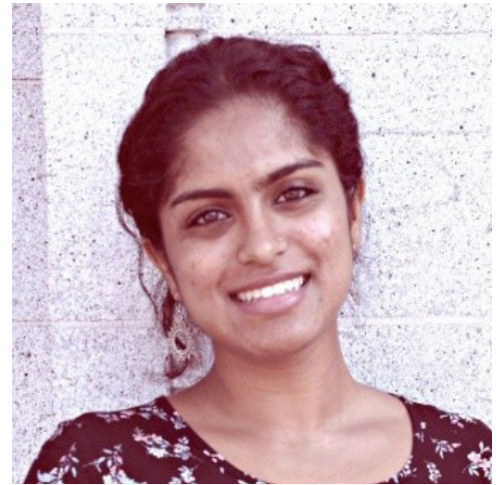
Legislative Intern for Senator Dianne Feinstein

This summer, I worked as a legislative intern for Senator Dianne Feinstein. I spent most of the summer conducting research on gun control and transportation legislation. Every week or two, however, I got to staff constituent meetings, where I witnessed how closely the Senator worked with local governments and non-profit organizations. I had two favorite experiences. The first was touring the facilities of PATH, a NGO that combats LA's homelessness with an innovative housing-first approach. It was incredible to see the kind of results PATH is achieving. If you are interested, feel free to chat with me about their housing-first approach. My second favorite memory has got to be the woman who called the office to complain about the FBI. When we asked her what was wrong, she said "the FBI broke into my house and stole my uh...my product". She could not have made herself sound guiltier.

SASHA JOHN

Public Affairs Intern at Levi Strauss & Co.

I interned with Levi Strauss & Co.'s Public Affairs department this summer, focusing on community affairs and employee engagement. The work I did involved getting employees more connected and engaged with their communities through volunteer opportunities, community development and campaigns like "getting out the vote" and ensuring grants to charities and non-profits are getting paid out. I was working in a team that fit into a much larger team that communicates externally - to the public - and internally - to employees - what stance and action the company is going to take in time of a political, social and/or economic crisis. If Trump's banning immigrants and Muslims, I got to sit in on meetings on what we, as a company, were going to do about it and say about it. My biggest projects were working on an intern team to try and figure out what our strategy as a company should be with regard to chatbots in retail and creating an online database of organizations that employees could directly donate to and find volunteer opportunities with. I've learnt so much more about how an apparel company works, so much so that I'm now really interested in how environmental and social sustainability factor into how the things we wear are produced!



NICOLE TIMOFEEVSKI

Student Diplomat at Olive Tree Initiative

This summer I was chosen to join the 2018 Olive Tree Initiative delegation to Jordan, Israel, and Palestine as an ambassador from UC Berkeley to participate in an intensive 3 week long critical experiential learning experience. I attended educational sessions in the spring and a short bootcamp in preparation for the 80+ site visits and meetings I had with individuals across the region that represented all parts of the conflict, including but not limited to top government officials, NGOs, peace activists, civil society leaders, refugees, and local youth.

This was a life changing experience that allowed me to attempt to understand the underlying life and complexities of peace in conflict zones first hand-- beyond the classrooms, news articles, and Facebook posts. The purpose of the trip was to actively listen critically to various narratives from the region to further develop, challenge, or change our understanding of the region and gain valuable skills

in conflict analysis and resolution. I had the opportunity to question everything from potential peace plans to the role of normalization to international involvement and came away with far more hope than I expected and a firm conclusion that dialogue transforms people and regardless of background or belief, deep down all people want peace.

buenos aires, april 20th, 2018

It was so hot the mosquitos returned.

Buenos Aires is a windswept city with funneled flows through the high rises that bring them straight through the windows and to me now as I write. It's a city of storms—literal tempests—that sizzle and pop and though the purple flowers of the Javarandas are now underfoot with the collapse of fall, life is still hot and humid. It's magical and ethereal and not altogether real.

At night, imported Parisian lamps transform my barrios, Palermo and Belgrano, into chiaroscuro paintings; black and white that vivifies splashes of color and renders Nightwalks into impressionist blurs. Fernet, the Argentine national drink, helps with that blurring of sight and reason. But those parts are wealthier. The poorer San Telmo is also transformed by the setting sun and becomes accentuated by shadows that grow longer and sharper with every glass. I was mugged from one of those shadows and it was exhilarating.

No amount of bravado can express how absolutely delightful of an experience that was, but more than simple hedonism, it was an important lesson too. Beneath the glamour and charm, Buenos Aires is a seething city. The scars of yesterday, instead of healing, are only festering underneath. Here's a bloody history. Sixty years of civil war kept it fractured. Roca, the man celebrated as a great unifier, brought the nation together through a genocide of the Amerindians, affectionately remembered as the Conquest of the Desert. (Side note, the pastries here are simply divine, so mine is the Conquest of the Dessert). That lesson is relevant today with the recent strikes on Syria: beware anyone who stifles internal dissent through external war, and always look at who waves the flag before you rally around it.

The dictatorship of 1977-1983 replicated that method in the Falklands to disastrous results, but the real evil was uncovered only after it all coming crashing down. 30,000 people tortured and disappeared. We went to a concentration camp where



many of them spent their final days. Most were thrown to the river from airplanes in 'flights of death'; mothers, fathers, children. Family is so important here, which made it all more horrifying in light of the fact that the torture room was next to the infirmary, and the same doctors who delivered babies to life helped deliver their mothers to death. Students dragged out of classes, journalists hunted down, pregnant girls killed after birth because their killers "didn't want to be monsters"; thousands were dropped from airplanes but the only drop that mattered was in the stock market. 30,000 people dead, and the dictatorship was only brought down by bad economics.

"Argentines care more about results than about process" is the truest answer I've heard when asking why so many tolerated such blatant disregard for human dignity. But the most important question to ask is 'who knew what, and when.' My antifitritrona knew. I live amongst the filthy rich in a Belgrano highrise: 'fachos' who profited from la Guerra Sucia, a name that implies false moral equivalency to the dictatorship and its enemies. What's worse is that we knew. The concentration camps, vuelos de muerte, the dictatorship itself: all of it was part of Operation Condor, financed and overseen by the U.S. government. It will take a long time for me to reconcile state department dreams

with the nightmares I witnessed here. All these old scars bleed today and that is the reason why there are two Buenos Aires'. In their porcelain highrises, the rich are disconnected from the very evils in which they are complicit; cycles of social stigmatization, victimization, worsening poverty, and extreme racism that relegate those of low income or indigenous ancestry to villas not unlike what you find in American ghettos or reservations, but altogether worse and with even fewer paths out. It's a city without a ceiling and without a floor, and the same opportunity that promises the stars can throw dreamers to the gutters. This is why I bare no ill will to the man that attached me and I wish him all the best in his recovery.

I didn't expect this to turn so dark so let me end on a bright note. I love this city with its culture and history and dance. I love its people who are gorgeous and friendly and more richly layered than anywhere else I have been. I love the memories that I have made here, and the friends, and oh my god the women here that all have fire in their souls. I head to Colombia after this and despite everything I have seen, bear real sadness in my heart that I have to leave.

-- Lhiam Howard

previously on

Delta Phi Epsilon...

Spring 2018 Pledge Reflections



Lucas Tung, Political Economy

Rushing as a second semester Junior transfer, I was a little hesitant about how worthwhile the whole process could be. I had initially thought that since the majority of my pledge class were underclassmen women, that I wouldn't fit in or feel isolated during the pledge process. Thankfully, one of my "pledge parents" was also a junior transfer and he understood my experiences and needs. Even if neither of the pledge parents were transfers, I'm certain that they would have still been just as warm and accommodating. I feel that events and assignments throughout the pledge process, while superfluous at times, do well to establish a strong bond between the pledges either through shared suffering or group achievement.

Cliché as it may sound, the pledge process had so many great moments that it's difficult to pin down a singular event. From the constant messaging in our group chat, to randomly Snapchatting each other to have a good day, the little moments from day to day are by and large my favorite things about the pledge process. I would never have imagined myself forming such a bond with an extraordinary, wholesome group of individuals. During the winter retreat when the pledge parents brought my class and I out into the woods to chat, I was floored by how genuine and kind everyone was. Knowing that I had such a phenomenal pledge class to lean on made enduring all the tasks much more bearable.

For any new pledge going through the same process, the best thing that they can do for themselves is to keep an open mind and be a positive team player. Some of the tasks may seem burdensome at times when compiled with life's many other stressors, but clearly communicating with your pledge parents and being supportive of your other pledges will see those efforts reciprocated in full. Irrespective of whether you're a second semester senior or a first semester freshman, letting those barriers melt away and embracing the mentality of service above self will lead to a much more fulfilling and rewarding pledge process. Pledging for this amazing fraternity can be whatever you allow it to be if you stay open minded and engaged.

Cassidy Childs, Political Science

Thursday night. I had gotten dressed up business casual. Shaking my head, I undressed into my PJs. Sighing, I changed my mind again and put my blazer back on. I was trying to decide whether I should go to DPhiE's rush event. I didn't know a single person, and I didn't want to be disappointed with another cliquey student organisation. I was a freshman caught in the limbo of an overwhelmingly large school. That night DPhiE gave me a glimpse of the humanities haven I sought. That night was the start of an incredible, semester-long journey as a pledge.

Friday night. A car full of bashful college kids arrived at a warm house in the snow. The house's maximum capacity was met three times over and yet the house never felt too crowded. I've never shouted DPhiE's toast louder and we kept the neighbors awake all night. The people I had met only a few weeks earlier felt like a family and a home. I had feared rejection before joining DPhiE and every single person in that house had been welcoming and kind. The world felt a little more cozy that night.

Saturday night. It was time to cross over into the family I had found not too long ago. I was quietly observing the room. The room was filled with people who had seen my worst and my best and still accepted me. A smile lingered while I overheard stories, debates and laughter. DPhiE had an energy, a diversity, a passion that I had searched all of campus to find. I reflected on that Thursday night where the adventure hesitantly started. Since then, I had laughed, cried, yelled and ultimately grown. DPhiE encouraged me to grow upwards and outwards, and the journey was everything.



FALL 2018 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



MAHSHAD BADI
President



AVDEEP DHILLON
External Vice President



TYLER SWARTOUT
Internal Vice President



NICOLE TIMOFEEVSKI
Membership Vice President



LHIAM HOWARD
Membership Vice President



TOOBA WASIL
Financial Vice President



MAYA RAO
*Professional Development
Vice President*



JEAN LI
Administrative Vice President