

2016

Jane M. Klausman

Women in Business Scholarship Recipients



Expanding Opportunities for Women in Business

Though women have made great strides in the pursuit of education, careers and leadership roles they were once denied, they still comprise a minority of leaders in the business world. Women who occupy board seats make up 19.9 percent of S&P 500 companies, and only 4.6 percent of CEOs.

To encourage more women to pursue education and careers in business, Zonta International established the Jane M. Klausman Women in Business Scholarship. Twelve (12) international scholarships of US\$7,000 each and up to 32 district/region scholarships of US\$1,000 each are awarded each year.



Camelia Dubic

District 2

Citizenship:
Canada

- Pursuing Master of Business Administration, University of Ottawa, Canada
- Bachelor's degrees in French and biomedical science, University of Waterloo, Canada

With great passion and determination, Camelia Dubic is pursuing her master's degree while working full time for a dynamic and busy federal regulatory agency in Canada's capital city. In addition to her two degrees, which she received with honors, she also has a certificate and diploma in business from the Paris Chamber of Commerce. In the past 10 years, Camelia has contributed and played a leading role in several high-profile projects where her analytical, diplomatic and teamwork skills played a key role in her success.

Camelia enjoys giving back to her community and has actively volunteered for several causes. She has coordinated afterschool programs and is currently involved in different activities in the Ottawa Romanian community, such as managing the marketing of the city's weekly Romanian radio show. Additionally, she is a team leader teaching French lessons to her coworkers and has been representing her employer in several youth professional networks.

Fluent in English and French, Camelia would like to build on her work experience and further her educational knowledge in business, subsequently applying her skills in the federal government in an executive career. She is grateful for the JMK Women in Business Scholarship for enabling her to forge ahead as a woman in a traditionally male-dominated executive environment, where she wants to spearhead new initiatives, make a difference and empower women in Canada.



Cynthia Ahmed

District 3

Citizenship: USA

- Pursuing Bachelor of Science in business from the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), USA, and Masters of International Business Administration (MIBA) from the Catholic University of Lyon, France

Cynthia Ahmed believes that financial literacy, independence and freedom are the key to that saving people from financial failure. Therefore, one of the most effective methods to create any societal change is through business. Majoring in finance and accounting with a minor in legal studies at the NJIT, Cynthia is simultaneously pursuing an MIBA through a study abroad program.

Throughout her undergraduate career, Cynthia has interned at Novartis Pharmaceuticals, Prudential Financial, Goldman Sachs and the Superior Court of New Jersey. She has served in leadership positions in the NJIT Student Senate, Business Society, Pre-Law Society and Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society, and has worked as a teaching assistant, office assistant and peer mentor. She also belongs to Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity and is a founding member of NJIT's chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma professional fraternity.

Cynthia is grateful to the JMK Women in Business Scholarship for allowing her to study abroad in France for her master's program, which gives her the opportunities to not only obtain a graduate degree, but also help her grow in her career, experience a new nation and grow a network with women in the global business community.



Helen J. Shen

District 4

Citizenship:
Canada

- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in commerce, University of Toronto, Canada

With a diverse set of skills and interests including finance, film and justice, Helen Shen is pursuing a bachelor's degree in commerce with a focus on finance, majoring in economics and a minoring in writing and rhetoric. She first became interested in finance in third grade when her father introduced her to finance and economics publications and various finance markets.

Helen shares her experiences with others through Passages Canada speaker program, talking about citizenship and immigration. She is also a senior and international student mentor at St. Michael's College. Additionally, Helen worked part-time and job shadowed in marketing at an investment fund with legal representatives at the Ontario Human Rights Tribunal and Small Claims Court, as well as at BlackRock in New York City. She has also independently produced, directed and written more than 30 short films for local and international film competitions, collaborative film teams and companies. She enjoys exploring the theme of doing the impossible through her work and in her life.

Helen's commerce program at the University of Toronto is one major step toward honing her skills in trading and investing. Helen is grateful to the JMK Women in Business Scholarship for allowing her to pursue and develop her academic and professional journey to the fullest potential. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, learning and volunteering.



Taylor Hanzlik

District 5

Citizenship: USA

- Pursuing Bachelor of Business Administration, Ohio University, USA

Taylor Hanzlik is a senior in the College of Business at Ohio University, majoring in business management and strategic leadership and management information systems. Upon arriving to campus, Taylor knew she wanted to get involved and make a difference. Through OHIO Women in Business (OWIB), she found a passion in empowering and developing women.

With her desire to get involved and help and encourage young women, Taylor applied for OWIB's executive board. She was first the vice president of events and was asked to be president in her second year in the organization. In addition to her leadership role in OWIB, Taylor is a member of professional business fraternity Delta Sigma Pi, where she serves as director of special events. Taylor's time at Ohio University has allowed her to become a student leader and help empower other women to work hard in their field of interest.

After graduation, Taylor will begin her career at PricewaterhouseCoopers in risk assurance. She looks forward to continuing her passion of empowering women with the Zonta Club of Hudson. In her free time, she volunteers for her local Habitat for Humanity, spends time with family and friends, and enjoys tennis and golf.



Kaitlin Raineri

District 6

Citizenship: USA

- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in international business, Loyola University, USA

Kaitlin Raineri has been interested in business since an introductory accounting class in high school. Her goal to study international business was put into motion two years when she served as a Rotary Youth Exchange Student and studied abroad for a year in the Netherlands, where she realized her love to learn about other cultures and to travel.

In her time at Illinois Valley Community College (IVCC), Kaitlin was a leader through her involvement in the IVCC Student Government Association, IVCC Red Cross Club, honors program, IVCC Student Ambassadors, IVCC Student Shadow Host and Phi Theta Kappa, an international honors society. She interned for a nonprofit, Another Child Foundation, and spent a summer as a volunteer for the organization, teaching English in Romania. She also serves on the Disaster Action Team for Red Cross, helping respond to local fires and emergencies to provide relief to victims.

Kaitlin's experiences have taught her some of the skills required for managing an international nonprofit and the challenges that arise from day-to-day functions and operations. Her goal is to work for an international nonprofit organization after she earns her bachelor's and master's degrees. She wants to spend her life making a difference in other's lives on a global level.



Stefanie N. Feltwell

District 11

Citizenship: USA

- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in international business and economics, University of South Carolina, USA

Stefanie Feltwell set her sights on a career in economic development because she values working for more than just financial gains, and desires to help improve people's economic and social situations. She spent a semester studying abroad in Casablanca, Morocco, was a consulting intern for a nongovernmental organization in the Dominican Republic, and worked in the South Carolina Europe office in Munich to secure foreign investment for the state. She has also studied business in Japan and has visited South Korea several times since her family moved to Seoul in 2014. As a result of her time abroad, Stefanie is fluent in German, has professional proficiency in French, and limited working proficiency in Spanish.

Stefanie's studies in international business and economics with minors in French and German have provided her with a head start in becoming a leader in economic development. She has learned not only functional skills such as accounting and finance, but also how to apply them on an international scale. This includes learning accounting standards around the world and gaining a deep understanding of geopolitics, as well as the importance of governmental affairs in private sector success. Such knowledge of how public and private sectors interact is crucial in economic development consulting.

Upon finishing her degree, Stefanie plans to complete a top Master of Business Administration (MBA) program to build upon the management and leadership skills she has gained thus far. She feels an MBA will give her a deeper understanding of the environment needed to strengthen companies and create sustainable economic development.



Karin Humar

District 12

Citizenship:
Slovenia

- Pursuing Bachelor of Business Administration with a focus on marketing, Black Hills State University (BHSU), USA

As part of her bachelor's degree, Karin Humar is doing research on identifying students' perspectives of factors that affect service learning success. She is also developing a capstone project for her honors program and works as public relations assistant at her school's Department of Marketing & Communications. Karin has served as an elected student senator representing the BHSU College of Business and Natural Sciences in the BHSU Student Senate and is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma, an academic honor society for business students.

Karin grew up in Slovenia in a town of less than 100 people. Her background and curiosity led to her passion to enquire about cross-cultural communication and reasoning behind perceived superiority and intolerance among nations, cultures, genders and individuals. Her goal is to gain the knowledge and credibility to become a business leader within the world of communications.

After completing her bachelor's, Karin would like to earn her Master of Business Administration with a concentration in marketing, where she can engage and learn from future leaders, while learning about marketing in organizations, development of sound marketing plans and how to integrate ethical and international concerns. She then plans to devote herself to the cause of empowering women around the world by joining UN Women.



Annika Kreil

District 14

Citizenship:
Germany

- Pursuing Master of Science in management and technology, Technical University Munich (TUM) School of Management, Germany
- Bachelor's degree in business administration, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany

Annika Kreil, who grew up in a time of rapid technological progress, believes the current generation is at the beginning of a digital revolution. With the mindset that entrepreneurial thinking is the key to finding efficient and sustainable solutions for future challenges, she completed a bachelor's degree in business administration and participated in an add-on program at the Center for Digital Technology and Management (CDTM) that focuses on entrepreneurship and digital innovation.

At CDTM, Annika learned that the success of technology startups is not only strongly dependent on engineering, but also management skills. In an interdisciplinary team with students from different countries, she helped startups to develop their first prototypes and consulted with them on their growth strategies. Her master's program allows her to deepen her knowledge at this interface. During stays abroad in Maastricht, Netherlands, London and New York, Annika gained international insights into the interdependencies of technological innovation and regulatory policies.

Female entrepreneurs are still rare, especially in tech-related fields. In her future profession, Annika strives to be a role model for women who consider launching their own startup by leading her own business in the field of digital technologies.



Taylor A. Kidd

District 15

Citizenship: USA

- Pursuing a master's degree in integrated marketing communications, Eastern Michigan University, USA
- Bachelor of Arts in public relations and economy, Pennsylvania State University, USA

Taylor Kidd graduated from Penn State University with dual bachelor's degrees in public relations and economics and a minor in business. While there, she won several awards for her communications and business work on her university's team of the North American collegiate engineering competition EcoCAR 2.

After graduation, Taylor began her career as a writer in the communications office for the Pennsylvania Senate and then moved to Michigan to transition into a marketing role at a powertrain engineering company called AVL. She is currently earning her master's degree and aims to manage a team of marketing professionals so she can help others develop their skills and gain confidence in the business world.

Taylor is confident that the JMK Women in Business Scholarship will help her prove to be a self-assured, skilled professional who is not afraid to take risks. She is grateful for the support and encouragement she has received from Zontians, and believes a network of professional women willing to offer advice is invaluable.



Sarah- Michelle Washer

District 16

Citizenship:
New Zealand

- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in business management and law, University of Waikato, New Zealand

As a law student, Sarah-Michelle Washer is actively involved in her campus's mooting competitions, and has represented the University of Waikato at two national competitions. She has applied her business management education as a volunteer on the executive board of AIESEC Waikato Inc., a not-for-profit that seeks to develop youth leadership. She has also completed a portion of her studies in China, Denmark and South Korea.

Outside of university, Sarah-Michelle completed an internship at Russell McVeagh, a top-tier commercial law firm where she further developed her commercial and competition law skills. For two years, she volunteered as a member of the Ngaruawahia High School Board of Trustees. As a trustee, she has been able to share her knowledge and experience with students, as well as assist with positive changes to the school's personnel, policy and infrastructure.

Upon graduation, Sarah-Michelle will start her career as a solicitor at Russell McVeagh. She also plans to further develop the IT.U Learning Charitable Trust that she co-founded in 2015. The trust seeks to aid the transition from high school to further study or employment through school-business partnerships—a pursuit many of her peers at a low-income high school found difficult. Sarah-Michelle's long-term goals are to pursue an MBA in North America and to start her own company within the education sector to further support youth engagement.



Ilmi J. Salminen

District 20

Citizenship:
Finland

- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in law, University of Helsinki, and Master of Science in information networks, Aalto University, Finland

Ilmi Salminen is in her final year of her master's program. She is majoring in knowledge intensive business. She is complementing her business studies with a law degree. Ilmi has found the combination to be successful already, as she works as a concept designer at Reaktor, one of Finland's most distinguished IT companies, as is an intern at management consulting company McKinsey & Company.

Ilmi believes business can play a decisive role in improving people's lives globally, and that the field needs young, confident women with new innovative ideas. She has developed her leadership skills in The Guides and Scouts of Finland and in a value-based leadership course. She feels that business is the best places to actualize her ambition to problem solve, a passion that began when she took a year off from her academic studies to act as a full-time member of the Aalto University Student Union Board. Ilmi spent the year working directly with the highest academic decision-making bodies of Aalto, developing teaching of the leading Finnish university of business, science and design. This experience led her to solve IT-related business problems at Reaktor and strategic business problems at McKinsey & Company.

Ilmi strives to continue her development in problem-solving by finalizing her degrees in 2017 and proceeding with her ambitious career in business. She plans to execute her master thesis partly in India in cooperation with Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Mumbai, one of India's leading universities. She will combine academic research with business problems while widening her business perspective in a country with one of the world's biggest expected growth rates, which she believes will provide her with useful new skills and perspectives for her future career.



Jessica R. Cant

District 24

Citizenship:
Australia

- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in commerce, University of Sydney, Australia

Jessica Cant is a fourth-year commerce student at the University of Australia, merging her diverse interests in international business, finance and mathematics. She is confident that her broad academic perspective will filter into her professional experiences and add value to today's increasingly interconnected business world. To harness her academic skills in a professional context, Jessica is a volunteer student consultant for 180 Degrees Consulting, where she has advised on not-for-profit marketing campaigns and recommended a new business model to improve the sustainability of a social enterprise's operations.

In addition to her academic and career interests, Jessica is passionate about supporting women to achieve their career goals and promoting an enriching educational experience for all. Over the last year, she served as co-president of the University of Sydney Network of Women, a 500-member, student-led society that aims to connect, compel and inspire female students as they prepare to enter the workplace. In this capacity, Jessica led her team to execute numerous panel events, workshops and a mentor program with some of Australia's leading female advocates, male champions of change and successful entrepreneurs.

Upon completing her degree in 2017, Jessica will begin as an associate at the Boston Consulting Group Sydney office, where she will combine her skills in analytics and client-facing work.