

# “This is WIF Newsletter

WOMEN  
INITIATIVE  
FOUNDATION

June 2022

News • Interviews • Programs • Articles

## MARTINE'S LETTER



Dear Friends of the Foundation,

What a joy!

As this semester draws to a close, we're happy to have been able to relaunch our residential programs and our events in New York, Montreal, Singapore and Paris. These meetings are great occasions to share ideas and opportunities, vital for building a strategic virtuous cycle.

I can't resist looking back of our initiatives:

### Our programs:

A highly successful graduation trip to Montreal for the *Women in Business: BEcome a Leader* program. Inspiring encounters with Canadian women leaders! We're motivated to repeat the trip for the second intake.

In parallel, we ran the first WIF program with McGill University and CentraleSupélec for confirmed entrepreneurs and senior executives coming from around 10 countries, our *Women Entrepreneurs and Leadership* program.

### Our events:

- In New York we ran 2 events, a hybrid format event in March, and on June 14th 2022 another event to get our WIF community off to a flying start.

- In Montréal we held 2 emblematic evenings: on May 17th we reported on European, Canadian and American research, and on May 19th we hosted a magnificent Gala evening at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

- In Singapore we wrapped up our first inter-company mentoring program with a dinner for the first intake after they had shared their experience of the program.

- And finally, in Paris, we are all extremely proud to have launched the Alumni Club on the Printemps rooftop terrace. So much sharing and opportunities to come!

Lastly, I cannot forget the success of our online programs that are now part of the Fondation's DNA and permit discussion and debate between companies and continents, with on average more than 10 countries represented per program. We ran our first program with Berkeley on leadership and data, and we are already designing another equally disruptive program.

I should also mention our program on responsible and transformative leadership designed with CentraleSupélec for which we're still exploring the possibilities.

And then as always, another extraordinary program with Stanford, the *Sparkling Innovation* program, with the Stanford VMware Women's Leadership Innovation Lab.

I'll also take advantage of this editorial to share my joy and pride at being nominated, as of September 1st 2022, as a member of the GSB Alumni Association Board of Directors.

**Read about their mission below :**

### GSB Alumni Association Board of Directors

The abundance and success of our initiatives wouldn't have been possible without the engagement and talent of the WIF team and our partner universities in France and abroad. They really deserve our recognition, both for their contributions and for the sheer pleasure of working together.  
Let's keep it up! All these initiatives are for you.

Warmest regards,  
Martine Liautaud  
Founder and Chair of the Women Initiative Foundation

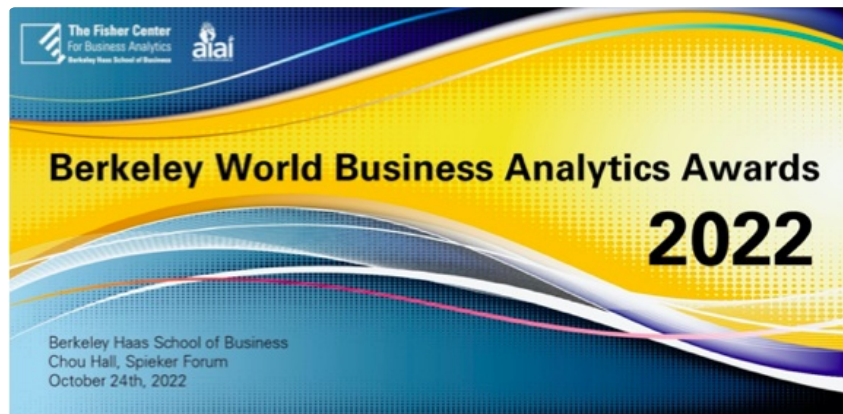
## WORLDWIDE NEWS

### NEW YORK CITY

After the first virtual event in March on the theme '*Workplace Redefined: Navigating the New Paradigm*', our New York ambassadors brought together the East Coast WIF community on June 14th to meet Layla Law-Gisiko and Penny Abeywardena. Discussions, debates and networking were at the heart of this event dedicated to community leadership.



### SAN FRANCISCO



After a first collaboration in January with Berkeley IBI that gave birth to the

*Equip your Leadership* for a new world program, WIF will contribute to the 2022 edition of the Berkeley World Business Analytics Awards.

The award will be presented to the winner of the Women of the Year Award by Martine Liautaud on October 24. In addition, the foundation, co-sponsor and member of the jury, will offer a place in the second edition of the program which will be renewed in January 2023.

Do not hesitate to share the information and/or to participate yourself by August 31!

## Woman of The Year Award Application Form

Echoing the topics at the heart of the second edition in June of our *Sparking Innovation* program created with Stanford VMware Women's Leadership Innovation Lab, Caroline Simard, Managing Director, testifies on the lessons learned from our research on stereotypes in the U.S. that you can find below by clicking on play (French version).



## MONTREAL

A week in Quebec for the 18 participants on the Women in Business : *BEcome a Leader* program designed with Paris-Saclay University and with support from the Government of Quebec. Their graduation trip to Montreal enabled them to network and attend the Master Class at Concordia University.



In parallel, the *Women Entrepreneurs and Leadership* program led with McGill University brought together 22 women executives and entrepreneurs on the campus of the renowned Canadian university.



The two classes were brought together on May 17 for the presentation of the results of the research on stereotypes by Julie Stal-Le Cardinal, University Professor at Centrale Supélec, Caroline Simard, Managing Director at Stanford University - VMware Women's Leadership Innovation Lab and Anne-Marie Croteau, Dean of the John Molson School of Business - Concordia University.





On May 19, an exceptional evening brought together participants, personalities, professors and speakers at the MBAM, Musée des Beaux Arts de Montreal.



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## SINGAPOUR

Our first inter-company mentoring program in Asia finished end April with a dinner at which mentees and mentors gave their testimonials and shared their takeaways from the program held over that special period.



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## PARIS

The Alumni Club in France was launched with a breakfast meeting gathering 40-odd participants from our programs since 2019. Women entrepreneurs and company executives compared their opinions and needs, and formed the basis for a community that will help us to enrich and add to our offering. The event was held on the beautiful 7th floor terrace of Printemps Haussmann, whose history is closely linked to women since its creation in 1865.



On June 22nd the orals to select the 2nd intake for the *Women in Business : BEcome a Leader* program allowed us to meet the 15 participants that we'll see again on September 5th for the kick-off on the Paris-Saclay University campus.

[Brochure](#)

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