The Promise of Global Women’s Leadership

Talented young women are increasingly recognized around the globe as the hope of their nations, organizations and families. Smith College is embarking on a defining initiative: to educate women who will transform their communities and change our world. From her first days on campus, every student will engage with international and intercultural issues. In collaboration with faculty advisers, she will design a program of in-class and out-of-class global leadership experiences through access to:

- the Global Studies Center, a locus for international news, issues, languages, scholars, events, and opportunities and conversations;
- classmates who come from all over the world;
- global leaders in residence, distinguished individuals from government, diplomacy, business, journalism, science, medicine, and the arts;
- concentrations combining academic and practical experience in relevant, contemporary fields, including comparative cultures, leadership and international finance;
- new courses and resources in East Asian languages and cultures, South Asian studies, “New Europe” studies, border studies;
- increased opportunities for study abroad in Asia, Africa and Latin America; intensive summer language programs abroad in Chinese, Arabic and African languages;
- new global engagement seminars (faculty-led study away opportunities that blend intensive seminars with on-site internships or community service);
- significant engineering-, science- and math-focused study away opportunities;
- increased funding for international Praxis internships, including travel support;
- resources for participation in leadership conferences around the world;
- a remarkable network of 47,000 alumnae working and living around the world, committed to launching and sustaining students in global careers.

Central to Smith’s global initiative is suiting the student’s education to who she is uniquely and who she is becoming as a leader. Our promise is that she will leave Smith with the personal and intellectual capacities to lead in the world.