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Hagenbaugh said.

Ridwana Fairuz ’15, a biological sciences and economics major from Bangladesh, said the pro-
gram, which she completed last August, caters to the interests of students with a range of experiences. “No background knowledge in business is required,” she said. “The program is actually geared toward science and math majors and liberal arts students, which was very attractive.”

For her, the biggest ben-
efit of the program is the access she now has to the network of fellow Tuck graduates. “One thing I re-
alyzed was how important building a network is in the business world,” she said. “You really have to make intentional efforts to make connections to do well in this field.”

Hagenbaugh said the Smith-Tuck program ad-
resses a common concern she hears among liberal arts students that they lag behind their peers from

marketing, nonprofit manage-
ment, entrepreneur-

business schools who enter
the job market equipped with polished cover letters and a vast network of contacts. “This program says you’re not behind the eight ball anymore,” Hagenbaugh noted. “You’ll graduate with a great liberal arts educa-
tion and the skills you need to compete with business school graduates. You’ll even be ahead of the curve.”

Louise (Penny) Paquette ’70 remembers her trepida-
tion at starting her business career. A history major at Smith, she knew that her liberal arts background gave her a broader perspec-
tive that business courses alone would not have pro-
vided. But she lacked some foundational knowledge about business, which af-
fected her confidence. She went on to complete the Tuck M.B.A. program in 1976 and now works from the inside, as assistant dean for strategic initiatives at Tuck, helping other women gain the confidence to succeed in business. She believes the Smith-Tuck partnership will play an important role in closing the gender gap in the business world. “Exposing more women to business early in their careers will expand the number of women who pursue careers in business as well as the pipeline of women who consider going on to get an M.B.A.,” she said.

That’s already happening. Both Moscoso and Fairuz are considering enrolling in M.B.A. programs after graduating from Smith, and Moscoso has already had five interviews for jobs in the banking industry. “It’s very exciting,” Moscoso said. “I couldn’t have asked for anything more.”—JM

In a November 7 letter to the Smith community, President Kathleen McCartney and Board of Trustees Chair Elizabeth Mugar Eveillard ’69 announced the formation of an Admission Policy Study Group to review the college’s current admission policy and make a recommendation regarding welcoming applications from students with a range of gender identities.

“We take up this important work steadfast in Smith’s mis-
sion and history as a women’s college and resolve in the college’s core values of equity and empowerment for women,” McCartney and Eveillard said in their letter.

Currently, the college requires that all applications and supporting admission documents reflect a prospective student’s identity as a woman.

In recent months, Mills, Mount Holyoke and Simmons col-
leges have announced new admission policies as concepts of gender continue to evolve.

The study group, to be co-chaired by Daphne Lamoth, associate professor of Afro-American studies, and Audrey Smith, vice president for enrollment, will spend the academic year consulting experts and research in relevant fields and seeking input from the Smith community. The group, which comprises faculty, students, staff and alumnae, will make a recommendation to the Board of Admission and to the fac-
ulty.

Eveillard said the board of trustees is studying the topic carefully, given the centrality of this issue to Smith’s mis-
ion and the questions it raises about what it means to be a women’s college today. Ultimately, the board will decide any change in admission policy.

“We are committed to a thoughtful, inclusive study pro-
cess that weighs the voices and views of all members of the Smith community,” Eveillard and McCartney said. Noting that Smith was founded to provide women an education equal in quality and rigor to that available to men, they affirmed that this mission “remains as vital as when Sophia Smith endowed the college that bears her name.”

To share your perspective with the study group, visit smith.edu/docs/feedback/.

HEARD ON CAMPUS

“WHEN I STARTED college, I had no idea what it would feel like to really do science. Thanks to Professor Decowski, I got to be involved in new research, asking questions nobody had ever asked before.”—DARCY LAMBERT ’05, an engineer, before a symposium to honor physics professor Piotr Decowski, who died in May

“THIS WAS not a riot; it was a rebellion…. This fear of blacks rising up when these ‘riots’ happen is irrational. There has never been a his-
tory of black communities lynching white people in this country.”—CHRISTINA GREER, assistant professor of political science, Fordham University, in a panel, “Putting Ferguson [Mo.] in Context(s)”; Sept. 8, Weinstein Auditorium

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