

February 1st marked the beginning of the Chinese New Year, and the Year of the Tiger. Tigers symbolize bravery, independence, and pride. These are some of the same strengths attributed to women and what makes us such an extraordinary organization. WISF was founded by 3 brave and independent women looking to create opportunity for other women. Over the past 5 years, our community has grown to include over 800 proud members across 5 chapters. We are also celebrating the one-year anniversary of our newsletter and we hope you find the updates and resources valuable. Please read on to learn more about WISF's accomplishments, upcoming events, International Women's Day, and so much more.

Upcoming Industry Events

April 6 - 7

RMA Securities Finance
Operations Technology Virtual
Summit

[More Info](#)

April 21

Euroclear Conference

[More info](#)

May 5 - 6

IMN Beneficial Owners' International
Securities Finance & Collateral Management
Conference

[More info](#)

May 10 - 11

Finadium Investors in Securities
Lending (FISL 2022)

[More info](#)

June 6 - 8

ISLA 29th Annual Securities Finance &
Collateral Management Conference

[More info](#)

June 23

12th Annual CASLA Conference

Upcoming WISF Events

Women in Securities Finance Podcast LIVE from 27th Annual Beneficial Owners' International Securities Finance & Collateral Management Conference - Scottsdale, AZ

Thursday, May 5th 8.30 am MT

S&P Global Market Intelligence and Women in Securities Finance host the opening keynote event following the networking breakfast, Women in Securities Finance will podcast LIVE from IMN Scottsdale 2022 for their Perspectives podcast series with a gender equality in the workplace guest speaker offering data driven statistics and research on programs that have positively changed gender diversity across many industries and companies.

Toronto Chapter Community Outreach Event – Yellow Brick House

Saturday May 7th - 11:00 am EST

Since 1978 Yellow Brick House has been one of the largest providers in Ontario of services to women and children escaping domestic violence and abuse. They are committed to providing support services to women and children, to empower them to live safer and healthier lives. Join Women in Securities Finance for casual networking, spring clean-up, and build-out of a new vegetable garden in support of a local women's shelter!

Our hearts and thoughts are with the people of Ukraine as they fight to protect their families, their homes, and their sovereignty.



Can't make it? Consider a donation!

Q1 Podcast Updates



The Future Looks Bright



Our Stories London Chapter Leads



Our Stories Toronto Chapter Leads



Our Stories Chicago Chapter Leads

On International Women’s Day 2022, we released the [first episode](#) of a special 5-part mini-series of [Perspectives](#) by Women in Securities Finance. Throughout the series we will hear from the leaders of Women in Securities Finance as they share their origin stories of how they got started in the industry and what advice they have for women just embarking on their professional careers. [Perspectives](#) focuses on topics related to professional development, career strategy and industry education. As always, we welcome feedback from members on topics you would like to hear about or speakers that you would like to suggest – yourself included! Please stay tuned for future episodes and don’t forget you can subscribe wherever you get your podcasts.

We are always interested in suggestions for potential topics or speakers for future podcast episodes. Please reach out to any Chapter Lead or [Tri-Chair](#) with suggestions.

To listen to all episodes, please visit: www.womeninsecuritiesfinance.com/media

Celebrating Women’s History Month and International Women’s Day

March 8th marked the 111th anniversary of International Women’s Day (even though technically the United Nations did not make it official until 1975). This year’s theme is dedicated to [“Break the Bias”](#).

*Imagine a gender equal world.
A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination.
A world that is diverse, equitable, and inclusive.
A world where difference is valued and celebrated.
Together we can forge women's equality.
Collectively we can all #BreakTheBias.
Individually, we're all responsible for our own thoughts and actions - all day, every day.
We can break the bias in our communities.
We can break the bias in our workplaces.
We can break the bias in our schools, colleges and universities.
Together, we can all **break the bias** - on International Women's Day (IWD) and beyond.*

“Another woman doing what your’re doing is not your competition. She is your sister. Support her. Encourage her. Believe in her.”

- Unknown

WISF in the News

Grow Your Network pairing – The London Chapter of WISF launched a new networking initiative called *Grow Your Network* which enables women to establish connections with other people across the securities finance industry, helping to advance them professionally, as well as giving them the opportunity to support others to grow. *Grow Your Network* creates a series of 1-1 connections by pairing WISF members, with individuals where opportunities to cross paths may not have existed, for short icebreaker introductions. Pairings take into consideration backgrounds, experience, and different grades, to ensure diverse matching. If you are part of the London Chapter and wish to join this initiative, please reach out to Women in Securities Finance London Chapter leads.

Securities Lending Times DE&I 2022 Award submission – Much thanks and praise to WISF founders, Arianne, Jill, and Elaina for initiating and submitting an application for consideration of WISF for the annual Securities Lending Times D&I award. WISF was previously shortlisted by Asset Servicing times for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion award for 2021. Although we did not win, and in consideration of our grass roots organization, being only 5 years young, this was an enormous accomplishment for which we are all proud. Stayed tuned to learn more about our 2022 award submission.

WISF Survey

We are looking for feedback from all members to help build and reflect upon our goals and accomplishments. Please be sure to take a few minutes to **complete the survey**.



A big thank you to **REGIS-TR** and its amazing team- Laura Gibson, Bárbara Ruiz Alonso, Laura Rodríguez Molina and Andrew Walker for giving us the opportunity to share the story of how Women in Securities Finance started, what the group has achieved and what it hopes to accomplish in the future.

[Listen to this episode by REGIS-TR here](#)

Vanguard Event – Also on International Women's Day 2022, Women in Securities Finance and Vanguard participated in a fireside chat with high school students local to Vanguard's headquarters to discuss careers in the mutual fund and securities finance industry. The discussion, moderated by Agnes Irwin high school students, focused on excellence and how to define excellence on both a personal and professional level and the importance of distinguishing between excellence vs. perfection. Thank you, Joe Brennan, CFA, Jodi Miller, Aurelie Denis, CFA and Elaine Kim Benfield!



Highlighting Women in Securities Finance:

In each quarterly update, Women in Securities Finance seeks to feature local chapter members that are shining in their careers. The Boston Chapter is excited to highlight the following individuals. We would love to hear about other members rocking their careers, so please reach out to any Chapter Lead or Tri-Chair with future suggestions.



Jessica Dunner In May 2018, I left what was a known and comfortable position in Boston with State Street Securities Finance, and packed up my family for a move to India. I had been asked to start up an offshore, operational team supporting some of our Global Markets products. I had no idea what was in store for us, aside from an adventure. I spent 2.5 years in India managing a new team, raising my daughter, navigating an unfamiliar culture and finding ways for my husband and I to maintain our sanity. During this time, I was able to grow myself as a financial professional as well as a global citizen.

Fast forward to 2020... I had always known that my time away was limited, simply due to its contractual nature; however, as I prepared for my departure from India, the pandemic seemed to make finding another international assignment near impossible. I was not prepared to repatriate back home, into an unknown role, in the middle of a pandemic.

I found myself in a role far different than any I had held before. I returned to Global Markets in Boston working in Technology Project Management, and to be honest, I felt a bit lost. While I gained some very useful tools during my 12 months with project management, it became apparent that, the role just wasn't "me". I found myself missing the one-on-one client and employee engagement that was so satisfying in my previous roles.

Fortunately, while abroad and during my return, I worked hard to maintain my network of colleagues and friends. My job search ultimately led me to an old friend in Securities Finance, who (by chance or fate) had an immediate need for a Client Relationship Manager. This team and role were a natural alliance, that could easily and quickly be re-established. By taking some risks, maintaining a good network and being open to new ideas, I found myself back in Securities Finance in August 2021 as a Client Manager for the State Street Agency Lending program.

While being away from Securities Finance for 3 years (and Client Management for closer to 8 years) has created some challenges, I am happy to say that I am thrilled to be back in the mix of all the organized chaos that is Securities Finance. From the client calls to the analytics, and the bespoke requests, I am elated to be back at it once again!

Kelsey Payne Although it may seem like a lifetime ago, take a moment to think back to the Winter of 2015. A full-fledged blizzard was raging across Massachusetts with Boston receiving over 110 inches of snow. As timing would have it, it was also the very first day of my professional career. After a turbulent 3am train ride from Cape Cod and a snowy trek across a desolate city, I found myself to my desk at Brown Brothers Harriman. At just 22 years old and accustomed to a quaint collegiate experience and an even smaller hometown, it was a journey I'll never forget.

From that moment on, I spent 5 pivotal years at that same desk as part of the BBH ETF Custody and AP Services Team. Not quite sure who I was or what my personal brand might become, I seamlessly found my niche in client management. I thrived at making relationships with my clients and the APs, and I had a distinctive ability to problem solve and assist them with ease. I learned many valuable lessons, not only in terms of my career, but about my own personal interests and relationships too. After having the chance to wear many hats in the ETF space, I found myself looking for a change and decided to take the leap into the world of Securities Lending.

I felt a strong connection to BBH and with the help from a solid network of colleagues around me, I was able to find a job that married both my experience with a desire to learn something new. My initial role in securities lending was a sales support position which acknowledged both my desire to enhance relationships with colleagues and clients as well as my longing to expand my knowledge beyond ETFs.

As luck would have it, a second natural catastrophe would plague the start to my new endeavors. Except this time, it was more than just inclement weather. Four months into my new role, the Covid-19 pandemic sent me back to my tiny Boston apartment "prepared to work from home for two weeks." Not feeling completely grounded in my new position, I found myself questioning if I had made a massive

mistake. Would I be feeling these same anxieties had I stayed in my ETF circle? I certainly would have felt more confident being in isolation doing a job I knew like the back of my hand. But like many others, I had to adapt to the situation and kept plugging along. I took that time being stuck at home to research and learn more about Securities Lending and the business I was now enthralled in. Although difficult to truly understand the ins and outs of our product without being on the floor with all my peers, it slowly started to stick. Each day was exciting, and I found myself more curious about our clients and their programs. Fast forward through what seemed like a very long year, I started to recognize how much I missed those client interactions. Blessed with managers who saw my potential and advocated for my career growth, they helped to redefine my role. Taken under the wing of well-established relationship managers on the team, I was more actively involved in client program management and oversight. My spark started to come back I immediately knew a client facing position was where I belonged.

As of recently, I happily sit as one of those relationship managers on the Securities Lending team. A journey I did not always see coming but one that was perhaps always meant to be. I have been able to reconnect with many of the same ETF clients I worked closely with before and continue to make new meaningful relationships with other clients as well. While I am eager for what the future holds and the opportunities coming my way, I am certain that my admiration for client service and Securities Lending will continue to grow and define this next phase of my career.

