



Shideh Theunissen, class of 1994

German

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Current country of residence: United States

I have spent the last 30 years in asset management, capital markets, and venture capital with a focus on building teams and businesses using a player-coach mindset and a focus on mentoring, building partnerships and generating sustainable results. I've worked in large companies (JPM, CS) as well small ones including start-ups, where I have been integral in the foundation building and setting the strategic course for growth. I know all about rolling up my sleeves, motivating and optimizing skeletal resources, and getting the job done. On the personal side, I was born in Austria, lived in Iran, Germany, UK, Spain, and Switzerland before moving to the US to attend high school. I'm married to a Dutchman and a fellow Lauderite and have two college-age children, one of whom is at Penn. International penetrates my life and family in many ways.

Over the years, I've been involved with Wharton, and now I'd like to also give back to Lauder, which has significantly contributed to my career. As a Lauder fellow, I owe the Institute my gratitude and I'm committed to doing that at this juncture where I'm finally juggling considerably less. The Institute remains one of a kind and I'm excited to help in every which way as a member of the board. As for committee interests, I'm most interested and probably most impactful to the Long-Term Funding committee, and secondarily, Alumni Engagement which may actually have some interwoven strategies and outcomes. With my networking and relationship development skills, as well as hands-on operational experience, I am confident that I can make a difference. Having built and run businesses in international wealth management where growth comes from asset aggregation and deepening relationships, I feel confident I can employ those skillsets for the benefit of the Institute's longer-term funding and sustainability focus. I am driven by my Lauder love, as well as my perseverant, systematic, and roll up the sleeve and leave no-stone unturned approach.

I hope to be able to join the team and further the interests of our beloved Lauder Institute!