

Robertson Scholars Leadership Program

Exploration Summer 2016

Updated 9/26/16 Vicki Stocking

The following are the projects Scholars *proposed* for 2016. Many of these projects evolved over the summer.

* Robertson alum

Scholar and Mentor	Abstract
Maire Amlicke David Boyd	Centro de Salud Monimbo and the Health Situation of the Community in Southern Masaya Centro de Salud Monimbo seeks to draw a big picture of the health situation of the community in southern Masaya through research that would be used to understand the reasons for incidence and occurrence, and to plan and schedule for additional health promotion activities within the community. As part of this research, I will work with the staff at CS Monimbo in order to obtain informed consent from each of the patients participating in the research, develop a grant proposal, and then conduct the research for the final month in Nicaragua.
Ben Ayto Zandie Brockett	Exploring urban development and community capacity building in Hanoi and Beijing No abstract submitted.
Persis Bhadha Tony Brown	Exploring Entrepreneurial Thought in Unexpected Places I plan to explore entrepreneurial thought in unexpected environments. At Oliver Wyman, consulting will require me to bring innovative ideas and processes to current systems to fit changing markets. I hope to witness how entrepreneurial thought is necessary in bureaucratic settings. Next, I will embark on a NOLS course in Ireland, which will require me to use adaptive problem solving. In Palestine, I will improve the garden land and learn about sociopolitical issues facing Palestinians. Following thoughts sparked by a conference in Medellin, I am curious to see how entrepreneurship can enhance the way people live in the Gaza Strip.
Mark Botterill Andrew Byers	Comedy, Politics, and their Intersection The goal of my summer is to pursue two passions of mine and to observe when and how they intersect. This will mean living and working in New York, volunteering for Richard Reichard (a congressional candidate running against a Republican incumbent in Staten Island and tough odds). This will build on my prior experience campaigning in politics in the UK. At night, I will be embarking on open mics around New York, refining my comedy material which is largely political and observational in nature. In addition to this, my comedy excursions will have tangible outcomes in the form of interviews with other comedians and podcasts chronicling my own journey. Finally, I'll be working in an academic light to marry the two topics of comedy and politics through a thesis paper examining the influence of satirical news on public perception.
Ben Boyd Charles Merritt	Social Enterprise Development Institute I will travel to Kenya in order to help run and scale 4 different businesses under the umbrella organization Freedom Global. My specific tasks will include selling produce to customers, accompany the Social Enterprise Director to meetings/cold calls for potential customers, work at the lettuce farm and chicken house alongside Kenyan employees, and learn how to conduct a Multi-Poverty Index survey of social business employees. Additionally, I will be responsible for researching 10 grants related to business expansion and write one grant for expansion. Afterwards I will use the tools I have learned and put them into practice with my own venture, GreenBus. The CUBE will oversee the final portion of my summer during their 2 week accelerator program. 3. Grow my own entrepreneurial experiences as I travel the country and the world looking to find a "secret sauce" or sauces to entrepreneurial success.

<p>Claire Boyd Caroline Whistler*</p>	<p>Religion and International Politics For the first 5 weeks of the summer, I will be hiking el Camino de Santiago in the North of Spain with three other students. My aim is to push myself both physically and emotionally as I have time to ask myself deep questions about my spirituality and faith. I will then be in Spain for the next three weeks (Sevilla, Madrid, and Barcelona) looking at the role of religion in politics by looking at the roles of the Church in these provinces and examining how faith dictates local culture and thus local politics. Lastly, I will be attending at conference in Greece from July 11-16 that focuses on the Religion and International Politics. It is a small group of political scientists form</p>
<p>Henrik Cox Sheryl Welte</p>	<p>NYC and Interbrand – exploring the professionally creative world Having never lived in a city in my life, I want to tackle the ‘greatest’ of them all first. Immersing myself in NYC is half the project’s goal, and will better adapt me to life if/when I will eventually life in a city permanently after college. The second half of the project is to throw myself into a completely creative field and understand whether this type of work is better suited to my skills and interests, since up until this point, I have only pursued technological and engineering-based work experiences.</p>
<p>Andre Dominguez Jacob Robinson*</p>	<p>No title No abstract submitted.</p>
<p>Maya Durvasula Joseph Tucker</p>	<p>HIV Testing and Sexual Health Preferences among MSM in China: Development of Two Discrete Choice Experiments The purpose of this study is to assess preferences over alternative options for HIV testing and awareness campaigns among men who have sex with men (MSM) in China, through focus groups and individual de-briefing interviews among MSM in Guangzhou. The results of these interviews will be used to develop and refine two discrete choice experiments (DCEs) that will provide quantitative models of preferences over HIV testing alternatives and awareness campaigns.</p>
<p>Diandra Dwyer Katsuhiko Sawamura</p>	<p>Animation, Language and Community: UNC Summer in Japan, Blackfeet Reservation and Digital Media Academy My three-part project this summer encompasses an intensive Japanese language study in Tokyo, Japan, volunteering and teaching computer literacy in the Blackfeet Reservation in Great Falls, Montana and participating in a week-long CG animation workshop at Stanford University. My intent while in Japan is to become an advanced speaker, reader and writer of Japanese and to interview Tokyo-based animators about their careers, to inform my professional endeavors. I intend to volunteer in the Blackfeet Reservation to support the community’s needs and further my awareness about global cultures. The workshop at Stanford University’s purpose is to augment my skillset in animation.</p>
<p>Brady Gilliam Erin Krauss</p>	<p>A Walk on the German Side: Family, Language, and Transnational Queerness This summer, I’ll be living in Berlin, Germany, completing two summer semesters of intensive German language study at the Freie Universität, one of Germany’s top universities. While in Germany, I plan to seek out queer communities in Berlin and visit my relatives at their homes throughout the country. These experiences, among others, will serve as the inspiration for a collection of short nonfiction stories and essays which will together comprise a complete travel memoir. This memoir will make use of my own experiences to explore historical and cultural themes pertaining to Germany, the United States, and “queer” or nonconforming genders and sexualities.</p>
<p>Emily Goldstein Danielle Spurlock</p>	<p>Gentrification and Anti-Gentrification Housing Policy in a European Context Over the course of this summer I hope to explore the dynamics of gentrification in four European cities: Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris and Vienna. Although gentrification has sweeping impacts felt throughout a neighborhood, my focus for this summer will be to examine gentrification’s impacts on physical infrastructure and housing stock. As gentrification commonly occurs in urban areas where prior disinvestment in infrastructure has created opportunities for profitable redevelopment, focusing on the</p>

	<p>physical structures of a neighborhood experiencing gentrification could provide insight into the physical signs of active gentrification. Through the creation of a protocol, which I affectionately call “The Starbucks Index”, I hope to develop a numerical scale; applicable to any neighborhood that would provide an indication of the extent to which gentrification is occurring. The goal is to create a surrogate measure of gentrification, based on an inventory of the physical structures that make up the neighborhood. This measure relies on the assumption that there are common features of gentrification and that physical markers can be used to highlight signs of gentrification. This summer I will put my index to the test by applying it to neighborhoods identified as experiencing gentrification or prone to gentrification in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris and Vienna.</p> <p>While the question of housing, neighborhood affordability and the push out of historic residents is a global concern, Europe currently finds itself in a particularly interesting position responding to the influx of new refugees and migrants fleeing various conflicts and crises in the Middle East. The scope and scale of gentrification in European cities will directly impact the housing availability and affordability for incoming immigrants.</p>
<p>Alexandra Hehlen Victoria Rovine</p>	<p>Fashion, from New York City to Cape Town This summer I will be delving into the fashion industry and honing my journalistic and business skills – all with a specific focus on ethical and sustainable fashion. I will spend a month in New York City interning for Kenny Flowers, where I will be helping founder Kenny Haisfield style/conduct photo shoots and develop a digital product lookbook. From mid-June to beginning or mid-August, I will be working in Cape Town through a program called Connect-123, which is in the process of connecting me with an internship at an organization that focuses on ethical and sustainable fashion.</p>
<p>Philip Howard Erika Keil*</p>	<p>Business around the world: from consulting to entrepreneurship This summer I will be interning at Oliver Wyman in the Partner Development Department in their London office for six weeks. During this time, I am hoping to gain a better understanding of what consulting is and if I want to further pursue it next summer. Then, I will be interning at a startup company, Biltong Board, in Cape Town, South Africa. Here, I will be assisting with business development and developing strategy for the company.</p>
<p>Sam Kelly Norm Christensen and David Johnson</p>	<p>Exploration Summer: Engineering for Conservation (abstract changed online) I have begun to find my niche at Duke - the intersection of conservation and technological innovation. I am in the Human Autonomy Lab at Duke, studying the sound profile of drones and how that pertains to African Elephants. I have also started Duke Conservation Tech - a student organization dedicated to applying innovating technical solutions to environmental and conservation problems.</p> <p>As an engineer, my academic endeavors are only interesting and valuable if I can apply them to situations in the real world. This summer is about, first, building on my theoretical understanding into a practical understanding at the Marine Lab. I will then take my practical understanding and apply it to very real situations with The Nature Conservancy.</p> <p>Alongside this technical skill development, I want to develop comfort in a wide array of outdoor activities - it's how I grew up, and it's how I intend to continue to live my life. The locations I find myself in this summer are unique in the outdoor opportunities they possess, and it only makes sense to develop my entire being, rather than just the student engineer.</p>
<p>Matthew King Stephen Smith</p>	<p>Exceptional Nation, Indispensable Nation: America in the World The United States has two principle identities: the exceptional nation and the indispensable nation. America is exceptional for its domestic political system of “ordered liberty” and indispensable for its superpower status. By interning with Walter Russell Mead of <i>The American Interest</i>, presenting a paper about American efforts to “denazify” Germany, witnessing how Rwandans memorialize a genocide the United States did little to prevent, taking a course on American constitutional law, and reflecting on the</p>

	summer while reading on anti-Americanism in France, I aim to better understand the essence of America and its place in world order.
Amy Kramer Keira Langkamp	Women's Empowerment in Conflict Resolution and Post-Conflict State Building This summer I will intern with different organizations operating within different stages of conflict (in-conflict, conflict-ridden civil society, and post-conflict) in order to understand how women's empowerment can facilitate successful conflict resolution and post-conflict state-building initiatives. I will also gather oral histories to understand what progress is currently being made and what challenges these women face, drawing qualitative conclusions across regions. These experiences will become the foundation for future study. The next decade will be pivotal for foreign policy, as many conflicts will likely capitulate during this time; I want to understand how women can be part of the solution.
Liv Linn John Biewen	Power of Story: Lifting women's voices from Spain to Cincinnati Part I: 5 weeks hiking el Camino de Santiago in Spain. Along the way, I will keep a reflection journal and carry an audio recorder to conduct interviews on women's experiences traveling independently. Part II: 3 weeks researching Berlin's zine culture via archives and libraries, zines being another storytelling medium for women. I will also edit the audio I collected along el Camino into a multi-part documentary with the goal of releasing 1-2 parts per week. Part III: Return to Cincinnati to lead a week-long class for high school girls on radio storytelling through Women Writing for (a) Change.
Sydney McAuliffe Elana Friedman	Sydney's Personal Odyssey This summer I will focus inward; I aim to enrich myself spiritually, challenge myself physically and cultivate my leadership skills. I will embark on a personal odyssey. For five weeks, I will walk The Camino de Santiago, a path extending 500 miles across Spain. I will integrate various teachings of Kabbalah Judaism into my everyday experience. Specifically, I will meditate daily while chanting Torah verses, reflect on certain Kabbalah readings through writing journal entries and engage in meaningful and thoughtful conversations.
McNair Mitchener Valerie Horn	Art and Enterprise in Asheville, North Carolina and Berlin, Germany My passion for startups and entrepreneurship, paired with my love for the study and creation of art will lead to explore the entrepreneurial side of the art world through working with artist, Matt Tommey in Asheville, in his studio and gallery while having the opportunity to pursue my own artistic interests. In Berlin, I will delve into the study of more classical art creation and history through courses in oil painting and architectural history of Germany. Lastly, I will return to Chapel Hill in August for the CUBE summer program to help jumpstart GreenBus, a venture fighting food inaccessibility in the Triangle, and hopefully will be full of ideas and inspiration from a creatively charged summer.
Michelle Moffa Hunter Douglas*	Exploring the world's water resources This summer, I will explore beyond my classwork and lab work to more fully understand the ways water impacts people and the environment around the world. I will begin by volunteering with Connect Africa Ministries in Uganda, where I will travel with a team of locals to implement and monitor biosand filters for drinking water purification. The second half of my summer will take place in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in northern Alaska. I will be assisting with the Refuge's water quality monitoring efforts through data analysis and field work collecting samples in the remote areas of the Refuge.
Philip Moss Jennifer Ahern-Dodson	A research evaluation of the Sustainable COmprehensive REsponses for vulnerable children and their families (SCORE) in the Buikwe District

	<p>This summer I hope to conduct research under the aegis of the Foundation for Sustainable Development in partnership with St. Francis Health Care Services, a non-governmental organization that addresses the challenges that come with the AIDS pandemic. In 2012, St. Francis Health Care Services implemented a SCORE (Sustainable Comprehensive Responses for Vulnerable Children and Their Families) project with the goal of empowering poor households with a knowledge/skills based approach. The overall purpose of this project is to evaluate the progress of the SCORE project in relation to its implementation targets. This research will allow St. Francis to improve the Project's implementation in the future.</p>
<p>Ian Muriuki Ayado Ewinyu</p>	<p>Nailab: Startup Incubator I will be working as a business development analyst for Nailab helping entrepreneurs develop business plans and prepare them for their pitches to Investors. Next I'll also travel to south Africa and hike up Table mountain</p>
<p>Rimel Mwamba Dolly Adelekun*</p>	<p>Clinical Internship in Moroccan Midwifery and Orphanage Work in Senegal The exploration summer will consist of two, 6-week internship and volunteer projects. The first will be located in Rabat, Morocco beginning May 23, 2016 and ending June 25, 2016. There, I will complete a midwifery internship with the LoveVolunteers program in which I will shadow midwives, medical doctors, and healthcare professionals to gain experience in maternity wards. Utilizing the same program, I will spend June 27, 2016 - August 1, 2016 in an orphanage in Dakar, Senegal aiding the workers develop nutritional and recreational programs for children of all ages. There, I will aim to implement dance development programs for children.</p>
<p>Joshua Neuhaus Marika Gillis</p>	<p>Southeast Asia Exploration + Intensive Chinese immersion (Beijing) I hope to learn about Chinese language, culture, traditions and other intricacies of the far east- an area of the world where I have never been before. Before the two months with Duke in China in Beijing, I plan on travelling to Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand where I hope to see as much of these countries as possible, meet locals and further my understanding of the diversity and beauty of Asia.</p>
<p>Ogechi Onyeka Emma Rasiel</p>	<p>Exploration Summer I will begin the summer by volunteering at my high school where I will provide college prep training to current students. After this, I will intern at McKinsey in New York. In August, I will spend a week in Ghana with the Build in a Box program, sponsored by ALA. I am hoping to spend some time in France after my internship, even though those plans are pending for now.</p>
<p>Chinmay Pandit Thomas Nechyba</p>	<p>Business and Service: From the Heart to the Jewel of the United Kingdom This summer will be composed of two parts: 1) A taste of pre-professional work in a high profile, exciting work environment and 2) Service work, teaching students in the region of India that my family is from. This summer I will learn about business and management while exploring some of the Western world's most historic cities and getting a feel for the "real world". I will also learn about India's most severe issues in education inequality, building off of my experience last summer in Sunflower. Both places will be very different than anything I have done before.</p>
<p>Chandler Phillips Amy Anderson</p>	<p>Uncovering the Reality of Atlanta's education I will be researching the relationship between race and education systems, particularly when looking at school resegregation in Atlanta. In order to receive a wide range of voices, I will conduct interviews and meetings with varying stakeholders of this issue. Topics to be explored include how school segregation relates to school funding, housing, poverty, and race. Finally, I will produce a documentary from my findings. Hopefully, it can be used to spread the reality of education in Atlanta to a broader audience and pressure people to push for more equitable school systems not only in this city, but everywhere.</p>
<p>Eric Qian Karl Petersen</p>	<p>Research Assistant</p>

	<p>I plan to work as a research assistant for Professor Francesco Billari, a demographer at University of Oxford's Nuffield College. Currently, he is studying how technological change impacts families and fertility. Applying techniques in statistics and computer science, I will help collect "big data" from social media sites such as Facebook and Yelp. I also hope to receive feedback for independent projects.</p>
<p>Cait Rosica Debra Ruh</p>	<p>Disability in Local and Global Contexts My summer will be split up into two parts, one exploring disability in a global context, and the other in a local context. I will spend 4 weeks volunteering with Mencap in a vocational training program for adults with disabilities in the City of Chelmsford, Essex, UK. I will also be exploring the history of European architecture and its influence on disability accessibility. I will then go on to gain business experience in the disability field by interning with the Management and Marketing departments of Special Olympics Pennsylvania Headquarters.</p>
<p>Miriam Singer Sheryl Welte</p>	<p>Clinical Research: Adolescent Pregnancy in Masaya, Nicaragua This summer will consist of fieldwork and I will be gathering information and statistics about public health in Tola, Nicaragua in order to increase the efficacy of health interventions. I will be immersed in a new culture and will experience an aspect of the medical field of which I have little knowledge.</p>
<p>Jackson Skeen Chris Edelman*</p>	<p>A Comparative Exploration of Criminal Justice Systems in New Zealand and the US I will spend the first part of the summer researching restorative justice and the criminal justice system abroad in Wellington, New Zealand, alongside Douglas Campbell, Professor of the New Testament and Director of the Prison Studies Certificate in the Duke Divinity School. I will spend the second part at my home in Virginia Beach, VA, where I will process and write about the research I have conducted in New Zealand. The final part will take place in Durham, NC, where I will work as an investigative intern for Professor Jim Coleman at the Wrongful Convictions Clinic at Duke Law.</p>
<p>Kya Sorli Nadine Horner</p>	<p>Astrobiology Researcher at Hawaii's Institute for Astronomy During my project, which will span a 10 week period and occur on the island of Oahu, Hawaii, I will be working with Dr. Karen Meech of the Institute for Astronomy. Dr. Meech is one of NASA's lead consultants and Investigators for Astrobiology. During my time with her, I will be participating in research on Astrobiology, focusing primarily on comet data to look for clues to the origins of Earth's water. All of this culminated in my own personal research, enhanced programming and computing skills, and contribution to a project that will be formally published in the fall of 2016. Additionally, while in Hawaii, I hope to discover the island and explore my own capabilities and goals regarding photography. Following my return, I then built upon my experiences from NOLS and photography project in Hawaii by hiking through the Beartooth-Absaroka Wilderness in Montana and taking photos.</p>
<p>Matthew Waller Paula Munoz*</p>	<p>Research at the Center for iPS Cell Application and Research (CiRA) and Japanese Cultural Immersion I will be conducting basic science research at Kyoto University's Center for iPS Cell Research and Application (CiRA), investigating methods for the efficient delivery of genome editing systems to mutated cells. Such research could lay the foundation for corrections of mutations responsible for genetic diseases such as Muscular Dystrophy, Cystic Fibrosis and Alzheimer's Disease.</p>
<p>Lizzy Zhao Alexander Chamessian</p>	<p>Health Tech Internship at Broad Institute This project will be furthering my interest in the intersection of Computer Science and Medicine. Because of the unique location, I will be exploring not only a new place, but understanding how I operate completely independently. The project will help me gain technical experience in those fields and also help me realize whether or not this is something I wish to pursue more vigorously: whether I would want to work in that environment for a few years after graduation or whether I should just focus on medical school right after.</p>

