

Launch Summer 2017

Proposed projects

6/5/17

Scholar and Coach (*Robertson alum)	Title and Location(s)	Abstract	Deliverables
Maire Amlicke Aimee McHale	Literature Review for the International Centre for Migration Health and Development Geneva	I have been chosen to conduct an independent literature review on a project related to migrant health at the International Centre for Migration Health and Development. The specific project has not yet been assigned, but an ICMHD executive director or ICMHD staff will supervise the research. I will present my findings to the executive board at the end of the summer.	At the end of the summer, I will have completed a supervised literature review on a specific migrant health topic.
Persis Bhadha Caitlin Williams*	Fundación HOPE Salta, Argentina	Fundación HOPE is similar to the Ronald McDonald House and is a place where families of cancer patients stay. I will be living in Salta, Argentina and working with Fundación HOPE to develop and execute community campaigns in schools on cancer prevention. I will also develop workshops for children and their parents. These workshops may include activities like learning English and helping their parents generate income through small microfinance projects.	I will produce an evaluation report of the community campaigns and workshops I undertake. The report will present the activities and decisions that were made and developed, the way these activities impacted the surrounding community, and any findings, conclusions, and recommendations for the future.
Ben Boyd Ben Armstrong	For Profit Social Innovation Atlanta	I have accepted and started an internship with GroundFloor, a fintech company based in ATL. GroundFloor is very similar to Fundrise in its social mission and product offering (though there are certainly some differences). I am conducting financial analyses and developing predictive models for their finance department. After a few weeks of work with them, I have grown to really love what I'm doing and who I'm doing it with. After choosing between a few offers on the table at the end of the semester, I am thrilled with the decision that I have made.	I will present the program with a list of analytical tools learned (software tools), point to a specific project accomplished (a data driven decision making model or marketing campaign), and a list of individuals with whom connections were made over the course of the summer.
Claire Boyd Jenna Russo	Research on the intersection of Philanthropy and the Public Sector Washington DC	I will be helping Professor Catherine Herrold with her research on philanthropy in Egypt. I will be doing background research for her book called "The Next Arab Spring," that looks at the role of NGOs in democracy promotion in a post-Arab Spring context. I will be working remotely for Dr. Herrold and using the rest of my time in DC to meet with Robertson Alums, attend a variety of events/conferences in the capital, and shadow people of different professions in order to get a better grasp on what I want to do post-graduation.	The main deliverable of this summer will be the progress on Dr. Herrold's book "The Next Arab Spring".
Henrik Cox Eric Stackpole	OpenROV – Underwater Exploration Robots Berkeley, CA	During my experience working in NYC for a design firm to see how I enjoyed the professionally creative world, it struck me how much I had missed working as an engineer on physical projects. This summer I will be working in a rapidly advancing field that interests me greatly which offers great opportunities to improve in skills I have been learning in the classroom for the previous three years, and to make a connection to a world I may be a greater part of professionally in the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will be helping the team at OpenROV to design the user interface experience for their new product. • I will improve my electrical engineering skills in coding, circuitry, and other practical skills. • I will develop my mechanical engineering portfolio further and potentially have a project that I wish to start or continue work on during my Senior capstone engineering class.

<p>Maya Durvasula Erin Engelbrecht</p>	<p>Catalyzing Prosperity: Development, Implementation, and Evaluation of a Mobile Payment Infrastructure for India</p> <p>New Delhi and other cities in India</p>	<p>As an associate with Catalyst, a New Delhi-based start-up and UC Berkeley research partner, I will spend this summer aiding in the design, implementation, and evaluation of an end-to-end digital payment in India. I will be responsible for engaging with a range of stakeholders – national and local governments, corporate partners, financial institution, and technology start-ups – to design program strategy, field test mobile programs, and trouble-shoot implementation problems. My work will focus, in line with my career objectives, on the research side of the project, in collaboration with economists who are currently conducting evaluations of mobile payment platforms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biweekly “blog-style” entries on financial inclusion, start-up/researcher collaboration, demonetization, political economy, approaches to poverty and technology in India • Research work-product from work with the UC Berkeley Center for Effective Global Action team; field work-product from mobile payment infrastructure rollout with Catalyst • Complete manuscript, completing Exploration Summer research • 3-4 term paper proposals, 2-4 pages in length each – for discussion with thesis advisors and development throughout 2-semester thesis process. • Personal statement drafts, and application drafts for fellowships and research assistant applications • Completion of online modules in STATA, R, Python
<p>Diandra Dwyer Laura Ruel</p>	<p>Professional Development in User Experience Design</p> <p>Chapel Hill</p>	<p>My main project this summer will be to address user experience design issues with ConnectCarolina, the website designed for students to add, drop and enroll in classes, order transcripts, and pay bills, among other actions. The project will include: a detailed poll of UNC students about their satisfaction with the website, a short video (2 to 4 minutes) addressing and demonstrating the main issues with ConnectCarolina (as observed by myself and as mentioned by other students), a portfolio which includes a full redesign of the website, by means of wireframes, a comprehensive sitemap and color comps. I plan on getting feedback from the Durham-based organization Ladies that UX on my work and contacting the staff at Coursicle, a popular student-made website to help students find available courses, and get input from them as well.</p>	<p>My main deliverable for this project will be the UX design portfolio surrounding the redesign of ConnectCarolina. This portfolio will include: findings from the student polls, wireframes, a comprehensive sitemap, and a visual redesign.</p>
<p>Emily Goldstein Travis Crayton*</p>	<p>The Economics of Planning: Economic Development Practices in City Planning</p> <p>Durham, NC and Tel Aviv and Jerusalem</p>	<p>This summer I hope to gain practical experience in the city planning field that will directly inform my post-graduation plans. I will intern for a city planning firm directly focusing on policy issues in the planning field. Specifically, I will be working with a firm that addresses economic development policies and practices. Additionally, I will travel to Israel to establish relationships with academics and researchers in the city planning field, as I plan to pursue post-baccalaureate opportunities in Israel.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will have a solid understanding of who are leaders in the field of economic development, and a better understanding of how to be a leader in the city planning field, especially in the areas of economic development. • I will have established relationships with leaders in the economic development and city planning field. • I will have a better understanding of what I will do following graduation and have the connections to make that transition. • I will have an established network of Israeli city planning leaders and researchers to aid my application for the Fulbright and other prestigious opportunities in the Israeli planning field.
<p>Alexandra Hehler Dana McMahan</p>	<p>Fully Immersed in Fashion: Interning for a Fashion Company</p> <p>New York City</p>	<p>Because Launch Summer is a springboard into my career, this summer I plan to intern for a fashion company (I am currently in the final stages of determining which company). As a student coming from a non-fashion school, it is imperative that my last summer internship is with a prominent fashion company in a fashion capital. This will allow me to delve into the industry, help me make essential connections with the best in the industry, and</p>	<p>Through my work for Spring Studios, my deliverable will be multiple photoshoots and online communication campaigns that I helped build and write for major fashion brands.</p>

		give me legitimacy as a fashion professional. I specifically would like to work in e-commerce or marketing, learning how to weave brand storytelling in a consistent way across multiple, online platforms.	
Sam Kelly Jason Heckathorn Doug Nowacek	Engineering the Future of our Oceans Kona, HI and Beaufort, NC	I want to use my expertise at the intersection of marine science and engineering. This will occur in two sections: The majority of my summer will be spent interning at Forever Oceans, an open-ocean aquaculture company in Kona, Hawaii. They use Lockheed Martin technology to farm high-value fish sustainably and autonomously. I will be responsible for end-to-end development a specialized underwater robotic system. I will spend the rest of the summer the Duke Marine Lab helping develop a low-cost modular animal motion tag, which is a business venture for Duke Conservation Tech (a student group I founded)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will be able to provide the program with a report of my accomplishments and skills gained over the summer period. I also hope that I will be able to generate a publishable research document or patent with respect to the development of the motion tag.
Matthew King Stephen Smith	Politics as a Vocation: Launching a Career in Public Service Washington DC	Building on Exploration Summer in which I investigated America's dual identity as a liberal democracy and a superpower, Launch Summer will give me a preview of what it's like to be a foreign policy advisor with a regional focus in Africa and a thematic focus on democracy and human rights. By taking part in the Hertog War Studies Program and working at the National Endowment for Democracy as a research assistant to Professor Donald Horowitz, I aim at gaining critical experience, knowledge, and connections that will launch my career.	Per NED rules, research interns are required complete an independent study course over the summer concurrently with the internship to receive internship credit. Under the supervision of Professor Mike Munger, I will complete a 20 to 25 page research paper on a theme related to my internship and this will also serve as my main deliverable.
Amy Kramer Kyle Beardsley	Operationalizing Women's Empowerment in Conflict Resolution: Diversity Research and Women in the Military Fort Knox, KY	After interviewing women in the military and government during my Exploration Summer, I plan to intern for an organization that integrates gender perspectives into military and national security decision making. This will provide hands-on, operationalized experience within the broader women's empowerment in conflict resolution field and will inform my senior thesis on the impact of leadership's gender in Army ROTC programs. To achieve these goals, I will be interning for the Director of Research and Diversity and the Senior Operations and Systems Analyst with U.S. Army Cadet Command at Fort Knox, KY. In addition to working on my thesis, I will also be working on a longitudinal project (potentially with RAND) that tracks branching preferences among African American cadets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will be writing weekly progress reports about my work and sending them to Dr. Beardsley, my independent study supervisor. I will copy Vicki on this correspondence so the Robertson staff can also be regularly updated. Additionally, few scholars ever have sought internships in this specific field, so I hope that my work will serve as a resource for any future scholars looking into national security, foreign policy, or military related fields. A final deliverable will be my senior thesis, which will be completed in December. I will be working on the data analysis extensively throughout the summer.
Olivia Linn Ivanna Gonzalez*	Domestic Violence Court Advocacy and Documentary Studies Capstone Chapel Hill; Arizon; Nicaragua	I will spend the majority of my summer working as the Court Advocacy Intern for the Compass Center for Women and Families. I will return to Cincinnati to facilitate a weeklong writing class for young women on the theme of courage in self-expression. I will also take two goal-oriented trips: a road trip to the Grand Canyon, during which I will gather material for my Documentary Studies capstone project; and two weeks in Nicaragua, where I will stay with my host family from last semester and build upon my Spanish language skills. To supplement my time in Chapel Hill, I will complete my audio project from last summer and begin editing for my capstone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will finish a complete draft of my Camino audio project from last summer. I will publish one piece on PRX or a comparable site and investigate ways to share my work on a wider platform. I will collect raw audio and conduct interviews for my Documentary Studies capstone project. I will develop a deliverable regarding my goal of identifying what kind of work within an NGO I'd like to do. I will continue working towards Spanish language fluency.

Sydney McAuliffe Michael Darden	Learning from Women Agents of Change Washington DC & Israel, Palestine	This summer I plan on working at the Feminist Majority Foundation in Washington DC. The FMF internship is sponsored by the Kenan Institute of Ethics. While at the FMF, I will work on a number of different campaigns and issues pertaining to women's empowerment both domestically and globally. I will also have the incredible opportunity to learn from women leaders working at the FMF. In addition, I plan on spending 3 weeks in Israel and Palestine this summer conducting research for my senior thesis. The research will focus on the role of women in peace organizations dedicated to resolving the Israeli Palestinian conflict.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will provide the program with the blog posts I will be posting for Kenan throughout the summer reflecting on my summer internship at the FMF. I will provide a summary of my fieldwork conducted over the summer. I will provide multi-media deliverables I produce at the end of the summer.
McNair Mitchener Warren Underwood	Launch Summer 2017: Entrepreneurial Finance Chapel Hill and Chicago, IL	This summer will consist of an internship in Chapel Hill, NC, a travel experience to San Francisco as I explore the world of start-up finance, and Chicago, Illinois working for a small hedge fund and venture capital firm. During that experience, I expect to have the chance to research and test new venture ideas and work alongside the investments team to test the feasibility of different potential investments or new ideas.	I will generate a weekly or bi-weekly report of the things I learned and did that week at my job.
Michelle Moffa Hunter Douglas*	Water/wastewater engineering internship with Barr Engineering Minneapolis	This summer, I will be working as a water/wastewater engineering intern at Barr's headquarters in Minneapolis, Minnesota for twelve weeks. Barr is a firm that provides engineering and environmental consulting services across the Midwest. Through their established internship program, I will be working directly under a professional engineer to contribute to large-scale water and wastewater infrastructure projects in order to apply the knowledge and skills I am gaining in my engineering curriculum in the professional world.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I will be required to create a final presentation at the end of the summer that covers all of the projects I worked on. I will also provide the Program with the first draft of my thesis, which I will be working on in my spare time.
Philip Moss Stanley Yuan	Technological Leadership and African-American History Atlanta & Washington DC	My project will focus on strengthening my proficiency in computer science, further developing my leadership style in a workplace environment, and learning more about the cultural history of African-Americans through an internship and an exploration of Washington D.C. . From approximately May 15th to July 21st I will intern with General Electric through their Digital Technology Leadership Early Identification Program in Atlanta. After this internship, I hope to travel to Washington D.C for a week and explore the local sites of African-American history. I am especially excited to visit the newly opened National Museum of African American History and Culture.	I will provide six reflections on my experience as a Data Lake Engineer intern, my identity as a Black man intern, and on the culture/history of African-Americans. Each reflection will consist of between to 1-2 pages of written content in 12pt font, double spaced (250-500 words).
Rimel Mwanda Michal Osterweil	Researching South African Policy and Policy Implementation for Refugee Healthcare Rights & Completing Ethnographic Research on WISER GIRLS Kenya & Cape Town	During Launch Summer of 2017, I plan on completing research for my Global Studies Honors Thesis which will be based in South Africa. I aim to travel to Cape Town in order to attain the necessary information regarding healthcare rights for Congolese refugees and asylum seekers. I then plan on working at WISER GIRLS in Kenya in order to complete ethnographic work on the girls who attend the school. I also plan on completing a short still-motion documentary on the ways in which dance aids in health.	Two thesis chapters. 2. One visual/media project.
Ogechi Onyeka Deondra Rose	How to build a Democracy: Senior Thesis & Internship	This summer I will be returning to McKinsey and Company, a management consulting firm, where I will focus on their public and social sector practices. I interned there last summer and I enjoyed the experience, so I will be going back. After the internship is over,	A literature review of at least three sources that I consult during the research phase.

	New York City; Nigeria; South Africa	I will begin research for my Senior Thesis in Nigeria and South Africa. By the end of the summer, I hope to complete my literature review and carry out some interviews that would be beneficial to my thesis.	
Chinmay Pandit Emma Rasiel	Military Influence on Thai Education Thailand (Bangkok and Chiang Mai)	I am going to visit various schools and communities in Thailand to speak with principals and (hopefully) students about the values of education, honing in on specific practices of discipline and praise in the classroom. I want to capture my findings in photographs throughout the country, as well as transcribe all of my interviews for later analysis.	A set of photographs depicting Thai school systems and the students, hopefully elucidating certain practices and influences from the military presence in the country.
Chandler Phillips Jed Simmons	Launch Summer Durham, NC; Los Angeles; New York City	This summer I plan to work full time on The Bridge, the site I co-founded that celebrates Black and Latina women by sharing their talents with world. It has grown tremendously, with an audience of about 13,000 per month. This summer will be focused on turning it into a national product. We will be working from American Underground in Durham and will travel to NY and LA to make all of this possible. Further, this means building a strong core team, producing incredible quality content, securing investors, and connecting with as many people as possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I will deliver 10 “full time” artists, producing large, in depth pieces twice a month, so around 40 original pieces by the launch date. • By launch we hope to have around 40-50 pieces that are curated as well. • We hope to raise around \$7,000 over the summer to be put towards updating tech and manufacturing prints and merchandise of the art that is produced. • We will have at least one supporter who has a large following to endorse the Bridge when it is time to launch the new site. • A consistent audience size of 25,000 in the first two months, and move up from there.
Eric Qian Charles Becker	Launching into academic research New York City; Toronto	My summer will consist of an internship and general professional preparation. I will begin by traveling to Toronto to present an academic paper. Next, I will work as an undergraduate research analyst at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Through technical assistance, I will play a small role in informing policymakers about the current economic conditions, particularly in macroeconomic forecasting. Finally, I plan to spend time preparing for graduate school. In particular, I plan to study for the GRE and to prepare my senior thesis. In sum, these activities will help prepare me for graduate work in economics.	I plan to have an extended abstract ready for my senior thesis project. Before having this ready, I anticipate spending most of my time on data collection and analysis
Caitlin Rosica Amy Lambeck	Occupational Therapy & Business in the Health Care Field New York City; Washington DC	This project will prepare me for the path that I have finally decided on: attending graduate school for occupational therapy. Thus, the overall objectives for my summer are two-fold: first, to prepare me to be ready to submit a quality application for graduate schools, and secondly, to give me more hands-on experience in the field. As a business major, it is crucial that I distinguish myself as a serious candidate with a passion for therapy and disability work, and this summer will allow me to further show my commitment to the field. Thus, I will complete shadowing hours, rotational hours, and volunteer hours to improve my application.	Personal statement for graduate school.
Miriam Singer Sheryl Welte	Research Intern at Stanford University School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, Division of Neonatology	My main project will be conducting research on maternal mortality in the United States. I will be using the technique of content analysis to explore how the media has framed this issue and the types of solutions that this framing encourages. I will also be doing research on maternal morbidity and will be analyzing the stories of	I will provide a research paper at the end of the summer. I will also provide an essay reflecting on my experiences

	Palo Alto, CA	women who suffered severe maternal events as well as interviewing physicians on this topic.	
Jackson Skeen James Coleman	Launching into Law and Policy: Preparing for Law School and Engaging in Legal Work to Reform the Criminal Justice System Nags Head, NC; New Orleans; Virginia Beach, VA	My launch project comprises three distinct features: I will begin the summer by completing my preparation for the LSAT, which I will take on June 12. I will then intern at the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), working on a class action lawsuit filed against the Governor of Louisiana; the current members of the Louisiana Public Defender Board; and the chief public defender. The suit alleges that Louisiana's indigent defense system violates both the federal and state constitution, which affirm the right to legal counsel for poor defendants. Finally, I will finalize my applications to post-graduate scholarships, law schools, and full-time jobs.	Completed post-graduate scholarship applications, including essays and recommendations (due August 1)
Kya Sorli Nadine Horner	Planetary Defense: Synthesizing Astrophysics and Government Research Livermore, CA	During my summer, which will span 11 weeks, I will be working at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, a Department of Energy National Laboratory, on the Federal Planetary Defense team. This will allow me to explore my interests in government, security and astrophysics. Kinetic impact is widely considered our greatest tool for deflecting hazardous Earth--impacting objects like comets and asteroids. Code simulations offer opportunities to take existing information and generate extraordinary knowledge about our capabilities and expectations regarding similar events, and our ability to protect Earth. I will be working with data from the only space---based impact test to date, NASA's Tempel 1 Deep Impact Mission, and using it to run and adapt a hyper---specialized code," Spheral. Ideally, my results will allow Spheral to truly match and predict full space impacts.	Along with the feedback and report at the end of Launch Summer, I will also be preparing a poster or paper to present to the High Energy Density Physics Department at LLNL. As mentioned above, there is also a substantial possibility that one of my goals for this summer will be to write (as the lead author) and publish a professional paper on my work. All of these offer examples of how I can demonstrate my work and progress to the Program.
Savannah Wooten MacKenzie Hamilton Wesley Hogan	Paths: Connecting the Empathy Spectrum to Identity-Based Hate and Violence	This summer I will expand an ongoing multimedia project on the nexus between empathy and identity-based hate and violence in May and June. I will work at a traditional conflict prevention internship in July and August in Washington DC. I will also prepare applications for jobs, graduate schools, and fellowships and study for the GRE and LSAT throughout the entire summer.	<u>Independent</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •I will score 170-180 on the September LSAT. •I will create a virtual resume. •I will connect with the Office of Distinguished Scholarship to identify appropriate fellowships. •I will complete post-grad applications. •I will complete a rough draft of my personal statements for graduate school and law school. •I will meet with professors working on the reduction of identity-based hate and violence at Stanford, UC Berkeley, Georgetown, Tufts, and Harvard. <u>Podcast</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •I will create five first episodes of the podcast I am producing on empathy. •I will create a Medium blog article or submit an article to a larger publication with each podcast. <u>STAND Development</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •I will create pitch documents for the International Youth Network and individual and organizational contracts for new members. •I will draft a 5-year plan for STAND and STAND UK.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •I will disseminate an internal transition guide for next year's Managing Committee. •I will coordinate STAND's first international campaign and document youth participation in over 5 countries.
Lizzy Zhao Anthony Philippakis	Medical Research and Cultural Exchange in Japan Japan	I will be doing medical research at the RIKEN Brain Institute, on the BRAIN/Minds project helping to map the marmoset brain. This project entails utilizing image processing algorithms to synthesize information from over 1000 MRI and other brain images to create a generalized map of the marmoset brain. I will be attending JASC to better understand Japanese culture and help represent America in those conversations. In particular, I am participating in the Health Roundtable, so I will be conversing with other Americans and Japanese students about Health issues in our respective countries, learn about the others' issues, and brainstorm how each country can help each other solve those issues.	The research paper I hope to help write with the Yamaguchi Lab.