

Scholar and Coach (*Robertson alum)	Title	Abstract
<p>Sydney Adams Kristina Campbell</p>	<p>Exploration: At a Crossroads: Education As It Affects Girls and Women in W. Africa</p>	<p>This project seeks to identify some of the ways in which system of education – or a lack thereof – affects girls and women in Nigeria and Ghana – mainly in the latter – in their everyday lives. Since education is taught and experienced differently in different spaces, this project will reach its conclusions through the observation of girls of all ages in various educational settings - including the observation of differences that might exist in the ways that they are taught versus their male counterparts – and through interviews with girls and women with all different educational experiences, including some who may not have access to traditional forms of education past the primary level. Additionally, these observations and interviews will either be supported or disproved by research that is conducted at the conclusion of the project.</p>
<p>Peter Andringa Jed Simmons</p>	<p>NBC News Internship; Reporting Trip</p>	<p>I will spend 10 weeks of my summer interning with NBC News in New York, living in Brooklyn and commuting to Rockefeller Center each day. Towards the end of the summer, I hope to travel for a week or two (internationally or domestic) to report some story. Ideally I'd like to spend time reporting on something for NBC, but if my editors don't have any stories they want me to pursue, I'd figure out a story and pitch it to various publications as freelance story.</p>
<p>Esosa Asemota Suzanne McMillian</p>	<p>Intersection of Food Systems, Nutrition and Culture in Ciudad Sandino</p>	<p>During this summer, I will be studying food systems and nutrition through my work in a local community health center. Additionally, I am looking forward to learning how the idea of sustainable development actually plays out practically.</p>
<p>Cameron Beach Deborah Hicks-Rogoff</p>	<p>Female Storytellers Across the World</p>	<p>This summer, I'm using two distinct, female-driven and female-focused storytelling opportunities to engage with narratives of empowerment, education, conflict resolution and political activism. The first opportunity is based in Madison County, NC PAGE, the Partnership for Appalachian Girls' Education, is an NGO that runs a summer camp for young Appalachian girls. During the six weeks of camp, I'm going to work with these girls to create self-documentary projects reflecting their stories and personal histories, as well as running my own literature circles and special classes on filmmaking. Afterwards, I'll be travelling to Kigali, Rwanda for three weeks, working with women in three NGOs and interviewing them about their experiences with female empowerment post-genocide, women's new role in the government and their experiences with education. By the end of the summer, I hope to tease out the threads that connect these women and their experiences across the ocean and create a documentary project showcasing both Appalachian and Rwandan voices.</p>

<p>Christina Boghosian Chen Ju (Angel) Lai</p>	<p>From Product Design to Marketing: A Vertically Integrated Summer</p>	<p>This summer, I will be product sourcing and working in a factory making yoga mats for Manduka in Taiwan and then interning at Manduka in it's Los Angeles office in a supply chain management/planning and sourcing-oriented position later in the summer. Through this experience, I plan on learning more about international production/distribution and the role foreign trade, specifically with Taiwan and China, has on the U.S. economy. In a similar manner, I plan on learning about the entire production and distribution channel, so as to better understand how products are developed, marketed, and sold to consumers.</p>
<p>Trenton Bricken Robert Thompson</p>	<p>Asia: Culture, Innovation, and Education</p>	<p>The fundamental purpose of this trip is to learn more about what is unquestionably becoming the most important region in the world. The changes that are moving the locus of global influence eastwards include the size of Asia's population, its rapid economic growth, rising foreign investment, and burgeoning new technology & innovation sector. Having the opportunity to see this culturally very different part of the world for the first time will provide many learning opportunities. Beyond absorbing a general appreciation for the culture by simply being present, I am very interested in new innovation coming out of Asia particularly concerning artificial intelligence, education, nutrition and genetic engineering.</p>
<p>Stephen Buys Bryan Head</p>	<p>Travels with Barlow</p>	<p>I will be spending my Exploration Summer traveling the contiguous United States by car and stopping at interesting and pivotal electoral cities along the way. I hope to discover what motivates political behavior in a way that goes beyond polling data or academic studies. I also want to reconnect with everyday America, a place that I feel like I understand less and less about.</p>
<p>Samia Daghestani Dalshad Al-Gaaf</p>	<p>Volunteer Work with Syrian Refugees</p>	<p>This summer, I will volunteer with Syrian refugees in Amman, Jordan. Because I have always enjoyed tutoring children here in Chapel Hill, I will be working with children in the camps. I also hope to shadow in the medical and dental fields while I am there.</p>
<p>Annie Dempsey Lori Byargeon</p>	<p>A Look at Dress for Success: Media and Culture</p>	<p>While visiting seven different domestic and international Dress for Success affiliates, I will be helping affiliates build strategic social media accounts, creating content for local and Worldwide social media, and surveying the surrounding culture for influences on the Dress for Success model.</p>
<p>Nonnie Egbuna Nate Thompson</p>	<p>See You Tomorrow: An Exploration of Family Ties Across Time</p>	<p>'See You Tomorrow' is an exploration of family ties and the ways in which they persist across distance and time. I am seeking to delve into the question, how do families maintain/uphold their values, traditions, and connections while being physically separated (by space, but also by culture, etc.). To do so, I will interview individuals of three different tribes in Nigeria (Igbo, Hausa, and Yoruba), as well as interview some of my own family members to apply my acquired knowledge to our specific situation. My project will culminate in a 30-45 minute documentary, which will be an invaluable addition to my artistic portfolio as well as a worthy intellectual and creative pursuit.</p>

<p>Rose Farah William Wright-Swadel</p>	<p>Exploring Sustainable Economic Development in Latin America</p>	<p>This summer I will be working in Bogotá, Colombia as an intern at Polymath Ventures, a company builder for emerging markets. Polymath Ventures creates companies using a unique model of human-centered design, management consulting, and entrepreneurship. A Polymath Ventures internship allows me to explore my interest in sustainable economic development. I hope to understand the structural impact of company building on emerging markets, as well as its ethical implications. Not only will I explore my intellectual and professional interests, but I will immerse myself in an unfamiliar region and a team that is ambitious, passionate, and diverse.</p>
<p>Gentry Fitch Jesse White</p>	<p>Prepping for the 22nd Century: Lessons from Arctic & Utility to Mars</p>	<p>This summer will act as an exploratory inquiry into how harsh Arctic environments influence design and what lessons can be scaled to Earth and contribute to Mars colonization. For three months I will work on my literature review and research development and while working on series of sustainability projects in Norway, Denmark, and the U.K. In August, I will then travel to Reykjavik, Iceland, Nuuk, Greenland, and Longyearbyen, Svalbard to act as initial case studies by shadowing leaders and performing site expeditions. Final products will include a literature review, submitted journal article, public exhibition plan, among others.</p>
<p>Beza Gebremariam William Darity</p>	<p>Closer Look into the Italian Refugee Crisis</p>	<p>I will be spending the summer in southern Italy volunteering at a refugee center that works with mostly Afghan and Syrian refugees that have recently been resettled to the area.</p>
<p>Andrea Gonzales Maegan Clawges</p>	<p>Exploration Summer</p>	<p>For the fall semester, I'll be in Berlin studying abroad at Freie Universitaet. After campus switch, then my Microsoft internship, I expect that I'll be mentally, physically, and emotionally exhausted for the three-ish weeks that I'll have before I fly to Berlin. While a few days of rest will be much needed, I can imagine that I won't find it fulfilling for very long. I'd been looking for ways to unplug and recharge in ways that are still active and hopefully include travel. As a result, I hope to WWOOF somewhere for around 10-14 days immediately before I fly to Berlin. WWOOFing will give me time to be physically active but be removed from my typical academic/professional environments. I'm not sure where I'll be WWOOFing yet, but I hope to find a place that is pretty unplugged, safe, and has towns nearby that I can travel to. With those two parts of my internship, I will still have a bit over a week at home. I hope to take some workshops and classes while I'm in the city (perhaps more language classes in either German or Tagalog to prepare for study abroad/further enrichment) to explore other areas of knowledge, arts, and crafts that I have not had time to invest in while I'm in school. When I was younger, I grew up in a very arts-intensive environment through elementary school and high school. But because I'm so busy with school work and extracurriculars while also preparing for summers, I've felt pretty detached from the arts. Hopefully in the time that I have left, I'll be able to recharge in a different way: by getting back in touch with music, which has always been important to me.</p>

<p>Emily Kian Caroline Leland*</p>	<p>Entrepreneurial, Scientific, and Policy Aspects of Ocean Farming</p>	<p>I will be exploring sustainable ocean farming and growing our venture, Phyta. The two main components of my summer are my internship with Ocean Rainforest and the Hult Accelerator. At Ocean Rainforest, I will gain firsthand experience working on a sustainable ocean farm. I will learn about the scientific properties and uses of macroalgae while gaining an understanding of the cultivation, harvest, and production processes. At the Hult Accelerator, I will work with entrepreneurship/business professionals to develop Phyta. I will also travel to green cities in Europe to learn more about their policies/infrastructure and research target markets for carbon credits for Phyta.</p>
<p>Georgia Lala Jules Odendahl-James</p>	<p>Borders and Distress</p>	<p>I will be conducting a transnational study of the relationship between the nature of border anxiety in the European Union (EU) and the European refugee crisis. I will analyse how people think about borders in different areas, in which I will be visiting three countries represented by radically different ideological views, the UK, Hungary, and Spain. I will use this opportunity to collect primary data that I will later use for an Honours Thesis project for my International Comparative Studies Major.</p>
<p>Ralph Lawton Duncan Thomas</p>	<p>Long-Term Stress and Socioeconomic Factors of Health in Banda Aceh</p>	<p>This project will combine work both in Durham and in Indonesia to contribute to research regarding long-term health outcomes resulting from a major tsunami, and the factors that may extenuate or mitigate the resulting effects. I'll be out to Indonesia for less than 2 weeks in June working to setup a field biomarkers lab, and will spend the month of August in the field running a project focused on hair cortisol (biological stress), testosterone, and some other biomarkers. In between these periods, I'll be doing analysis work along the same lines in Durham through the Huang Fellows Program.</p>
<p>Rasheca Logendran Emelyn Erickson*</p>	<p>Exploring Health, Politics and Education in the Indian Subcontinent</p>	<p>This summer I will be exploring Sri Lanka through both a public health and political lens. I will be working with an on-site team in the Northern part of Sri Lanka to gather data and quantify the effects of a maternal nutrition project. Furthermore, I will be complimenting my trip to Sri Lanka by participating in the 38th session of the UN Human Rights Council as an NGO representative advocating for the rights of Sri Lankan Tamils. Finally, I will be teaching in Shanti Bhavan in Bangalore, India where I will learn about the effect of education.</p>
<p>Divya Mahesh Braveen Ragunathan*</p>	<p>Exploring Healthcare Challenges in Rural Peru and India</p>	<p>Rural towns, both in the US and internationally, face unique healthcare challenges (due to a lack of adequate resources, financial difficulties, lower proximity to health centers, etc.) that urban regions generally experience in much lower frequencies, if at all. After observing the barriers to healthcare in Tarboro, NC last summer, I am now interested in learning more about these challenges in an international context. Therefore, the goal of this exploration summer project is to observe rural, low-resource clinical settings in Cusco, Peru and Puttaparthi, India to learn about the challenges people face when accessing healthcare.</p>

<p>Dikenna Ogbo Julian Borrey*</p>	<p>Software Development for Local Indian Startups</p>	<p>I am working at an Indian tech startup this summer to achieve two objectives: I want to experience working as a programmer in a professional workplace to see if it is a career path I would like to pursue strongly after graduation. I would like to "live" in a country highly dissimilar to those I have lived in to absorb new culture and become comfortable with a way of life that may be drastically different from what I'm used to.</p>
<p>Brooke Porter Milton Blackmon</p>	<p>Exploration Summer: The Legacy of Apartheid and South African Education</p>	<p>I will spend two months interning for PASCAP Trust, an education non-profit in Cape Town, South Africa that offers social services and after school programs to marginalized youth. Through my work with PASCAP Trust, I will learn about how the legacy of apartheid continues to shape South African education and get to know the communities that are most oppressed by racism in the education system.</p>
<p>Cara Price Kris Jordan</p>	<p>Cape Town to Chisinau: Virtual Reality, Oral History, and Reflection</p>	<p>The first eight weeks of my summer will take me to Cape Town, where I will spend one month in an intensive course studying virtual reality and the next at a local start-up applying the skills I've developed. I also plan to use this opportunity to learn more about South African history and the legacy of Apartheid, especially as they compare to race relations in the US. Afterward, I hope to return to Chisinau, Moldova, where I will visit my host family, practice my Russian, and more formally record the stories of my former teachers and hosts. Throughout the summer, I'll challenge myself to journal at least once a week in order to process my experiences.</p>
<p>Evan Rodgers Jacob Robinson*</p>	<p>Exploration Summer: Robertson Summer</p>	<p>My summer is split into two pursuits: consulting with Oliver Wyman in London and travelling with an emphasis on conservation, anthropology, and experiential learning. For June and half of July, I'll be in London learning the ropes of a job I've never done or known much about before, and gaining the valuable experience of working professionally in an international setting. For two weeks before and three weeks after my internship, I'll be travelling to eastern Africa and Costa Rica to places rich with relevance to conservation and anthropology, building up a priceless experience base (and a great log of photos)!</p>
<p>Matthew Schaefer Tomas McMerty</p>	<p>The Race for Innovation</p>	<p>As startups turn from a few people with a good idea to multi billion dollar corporations, countries around the world are racing to create startup friendly ecosystems. This project will explore how four different countries foster innovation among its entrepreneurs - what works, what doesn't, and why.</p>
<p>Brock Schoenwald Aaron Lutkowitz* Black O'Connor*</p>	<p>Consulting with Cats</p>	<p>During my exploration summer, I will be exploring practical career aspirations and connecting this skill set with an abstract, out of the box, initiative. First I will learn more about the problems consulting aims to solve and how the industry approaches them by interning for 6 weeks at Oliver Wyman in London. After, I will be working on a Big Cat Sanctuary in South Africa for 2 weeks to learn about the Sanctuary's mission, industry, and operations in order to ultimately provide them with a educated recommendation for future decisions following my stay.</p>

<p>Kameron Sedigh Amir Ali Talasaz</p>	<p>Emulation: Human & Nature</p>	<p>For my exploration summer, I will be exploring emulation in two ways; first through an internship at AxoSim, a biotech startup in New Orleans which develops nerve-on-a-chips. The second phase of emulation exploration will be through learning about biomimicry, the approach of solving human problems by emulating patterns/strategies in nature. This will involve embarking on a biomimicry & design expedition through the Veracruz state in México.</p>
<p>Priya Sridhar Valerie Sloane</p>	<p>A Comparative Study of Prisons & Fieldwork in Restorative Justice</p>	<p>For the first half of my summer, I will be at Oxford's Psychiatry Department conducting research on the economic costs of prisons, with a focus on prison health services in the US and UK. Data permitting, my study may expand to other locations. For the second half of my summer, I will be working with Jon Powell, who is the founder of the Restorative Justice Clinic in Raleigh, North Carolina.</p>
<p>Rebecca Sullenger Joanne Kurtzberg</p>	<p>Disparities in the health care and education systems in Costa Rica</p>	<p>Both the health care and education systems in Costa Rica are under resourced, particularly for the poor living in rural areas. Therefore, it is likely that children living in poverty will not receive equitable educational opportunities and health care attention. As a volunteer in a rural primary school and rural public health clinic, I will help to alleviate some of these disparities in a small way by aiding both school teachers and nurses through the Cross-Cultural Solutions Program. Additionally, I hope to gain some shadowing experience in a clinical setting as well as practice my Spanish speaking skills.</p>
<p>Aakash Thumaty Tanya Amert</p>	<p>Product Management</p>	<p>My summer is focussed on my goal of understanding the role of a PM through performing the role, understanding the role through observation of it in best practice and developing the adjacent skills necessary.</p>
<p>Thomas Wanty Devin Solanki*</p>	<p>Real Estate Development in Vietnam</p>	<p>I will be spending 8 weeks in the city of Hanoi, Vietnam, working for Indochina Kajima development, which is a branch of Indochina Capital. Indochina Kajima development is a real estate development firm focused on investments, acquisitions, design and project development for various real estate projects at a given time. The internship will provide me with a platform to learn about what goes into valuing a property, factors affecting the supply and demand of real estate, and give me the tools needed for successful financial modelling.</p>
<p>Hanna Watson Paul Harris</p>	<p>By Faith: The Poetry of Racial Reconciliation</p>	<p>By visiting multicultural Christian ministries in Richmond, Virginia and Cape Town, South Africa, two cities with racially charged histories, I will explore the work that faith-filled artists are doing to bring about racial reconciliation in their communities. In Richmond, I will intern with Urban Doxology, a worship band, and in Cape Town, I will perform at and shadow under Good Hope Christian Centre. From this exploration, I will produce a series of poems displaying what I learn about two of God's charges for his people: to love one another and to worship Him</p>

<p>Michael Zhang</p> <p>Paige Muggeridge*</p>	<p>Consulting and Music</p>	<p>For Exploration Summer, I will be doing an Oliver Wyman consulting internship in London and a Keyboard Workshop at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. Oliver Wyman will give me a taste of professional consulting while training a skillset in problem-solving and critical thinking. The Keyboard Workshop will allow me to hone my skills at the piano and meet like-minded musicians who are deeply involved with the music industry.</p>
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