

Scholar Updates - St Andrews to Emory

Rachel Dinsdale — Academically, I'm relishing the opportunities that being an Emory student affords me. I've started learning Arabic this year, and am also studying film photography and an interdisciplinary class on visual culture – and I love them all! In the few months I've been here I've learned so much, and I'm excited to carry on studying all three of my subjects next semester, as well as picking up a couple of P.E. classes for fun. Outside the classroom, I've started volunteering with 'Pajama Program', a charity that gives vulnerable children in the Atlanta area access to books and someone to read them with, and I'm involved with an after-school tutoring program in Clarkston too. I've become part of a couple of Christian communities on Emory's Campus and have made some great friends through those, and I'm also greatly enjoying learning to play golf at East Lake.

I've loved exploring both Atlanta and further afield – so far I've been to Nashville, Raleigh, Savannah and, most recently, Chattanooga, where Erin and I spent Thanksgiving with our friend – and I can't wait to travel more as the year goes on! Specifically, I'm looking forward to visiting New York City and Washington, D.C. over the Christmas period, and San Francisco during Spring Break. The generosity of the Bobby Jones Scholarship Program continues to amaze me, and I feel incredibly grateful for the amazing opportunities that this year provides. A huge thank you to everyone involved in making this experience possible!

Erin Phillips – I can't believe it's been three whole months since arriving in the States! In some ways it's flown by, but in others Atlanta now feels so much like home that I feel like I've always been here. I've been absolutely loving my classes here at Emory and really enjoying the discursive and interactive teaching style I came to appreciate in my final year at St Andrews. My Herpetology class has been a particular favourite, taking me on field trips all over (we've been to Stone Mountain to see lizards, the Southern Appalachians looking for hellbenders, the Tennessee Aquarium to meet turtles and many more) and my Environment and the Media and Women and Gender Studies classes have been challenging me and broadening my research interests in the way I hoped they would. I am looking forward to travelling to the Amazon rainforest for spring break next semester as part of my Ecology of the Tropics course and challenging myself with some Quantitative Science classes! I've also enjoyed getting involved with the Emory community, undertaking a few volunteer opportunities at Lifeline Animal Rescue, the Chattahoochee Nature Reserve and hopefully next semester regularly at the DaVita Dialysis Centre as part of Donate Life Emory, for which I have joined the committee, as I did at St Andrews.

As a country music fan, Nashville was at the very top of my list of places to visit in the US, a goal I managed to achieve only a week after arriving here, spending my birthday weekend immersing myself in what has to be my favourite city I have ever visited! Kudos to Rachel for putting up with more country music facts than any one person should ever have to hear in one weekend – I'll definitely be back! I also had an amazing time listening to world class jazz in New Orleans, meeting past Bobby Jonesers in North Carolina and having a big ole Southern Thanksgiving in Chattanooga with wonderful new friends! I'm looking forward to exploring Ontario over winter break, making my way to D.C. in January, exploring some national parks (I'm taking recommendations!) and of course planning our summer road trip! I have of course also been making the most of living in the South with plenty of country music concerts, and have been taking sorely needed golf lessons at East Lake (shout out to Nick, our exceedingly patient instructor). It's been a crazy but wonderful few months here in Atlanta that I am so incredibly grateful for. I can't wait to see what next semester holds!

Caitlin Macdonald – I'm having the most incredible time in Atlanta and love everything about it, even the driving! I'm thoroughly enjoying all of classes, especially my English seminar on Contemporary Female Novelists. I'm taking bassoon lessons with the Associate Principal Bassoonist of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra which has been so much fun and I've been lucky enough to see some of their concerts. I'm playing in Emory's Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble, and have joined Dooley Noted, one of Emory's a cappella groups.

I've loved travelling and especially loved New Orleans for its incredible music. I've also loved having friends, and most recently my Dad, visit Atlanta and showing them around. Next semester, I'll be interning at The Carter Center on their Human Rights Programme. I'm excited to travel to the Northeast and Colorado over winter break and can't wait for all the adventures still to come! It has been so fantastic to meet different people involved in the Bobby Jones programme and I feel so grateful to a part of the family!



L-R, Scholars Rachel Dinsdale, Erin Phillips and Caitlin Macdonald.

Fellow Updates - St Andrews to Emory

Rebecca Spens (Master's in Development Practice) – Now in my second year of my Master's program, this semester has been one of my busiest so far at Emory! I have been taking classes in urban ecology, human rights and statistics in addition to my core classes. One of my favourite classes has been a graduate seminar called Local Communities of Practice, where we have heard from activists who work across Atlanta. As ever, I greatly appreciate the opportunity which my program offers to think about global development from the diverse perspectives offered by different departments across the university. I have also been busy with my internship at Save the Children. Working remotely with staff in the Manila and Toronto, I have been involved in an endline assessment of a school health and nutrition project which has been running in the Philippines. On campus, I also run my program's French discussion table for a few hours a week.

This semester has brought plenty of opportunities for fun and travel. I finally made it to DC over Fall break and was thrilled by all the free museums and the walkability of the city! I went to Minneapolis for Thanksgiving and I've also been enjoying new sights and experiences in Atlanta and Georgia, more broadly. I won tickets to the Taste of Atlanta festival, which was a fantastic showcase of all the great food which this city has to offer! I also did a lot of hiking in North Georgia when the weather was a little warmer than it is now!

Fiona Cooper (Master's in Development Practice) – My time at Emory, thus far, has been truly amazing. Classes are really interesting, and wonderfully varied. In one of my favourite classes we are working with a local non-profit organisation, to focus their strategic goals and work on an impact sales pitch. Each class offers something different and exciting and I can't wait to begin all my new classes next semester. I have also really enjoyed being in a new part of the world, and the opportunities it has given me to explore. My trips to Puerto Rico and the Great Smokey Mountains were incredible and absolutely beautiful. I also went on a trip to Nashville for Thanksgiving, which was full of country music, turkey and sweet potatoes. My next travel plans will hopefully take me to North California and Las Vegas to visit family, then Vancouver and New Orleans.

Outside of university my time here has been filled by an internship opportunity with CARE International. This experience is unique and has truly enriched my learning and expanded my experience. The internship has given me insight into the large-scale non-profit sector and improved my skills in knowledge management. Continuing my rugby passion in Atlanta, I have had the opportunity to play with the Atlanta Harlequins. This has meant an entire team of new friends, and trips around to the cities of the South East. Through this, I have also been able to start coaching with Atlanta Youth Rugby. I love coaching and you will soon see me at inter-school rugby festivals, around Atlanta, cheering on my team.



Fellows Rebecca Spens (left) and Fiona Cooper (right).

Fellow Updates - Emory to St Andrews



Ben Goldfein (MLitt in Moral, Political, and Legal Philosophy) - My time in St Andrews has been extremely fun and growth-promoting, both inside and outside of the classroom. Academically, I have had the opportunity to immerse myself into all the philosophy department has to offer. I am taking courses in Epistemology, Ethics, and Value Theory, and I have been captivated by the scope of discussions I have with my cohort each week. Over the next few months, I will be narrowing down topics for my dissertation. I am currently keen on exploring the intersection of artificial intelligence and bioethics. That said, there are so many exciting avenues I can go down, and I am excited to see which path I end up gravitating towards.

Outside of class, I have started to play golf. I go to practice every Thursday, and I can proudly say that it is always a highlight of my week. In the spring, I am hoping to play my first round on the Old Course! I am also one of the Social Secretaries for Deans Court, so I have been busy planning formal dinners and events for our residential community. I have not had the opportunity to travel much, but I did spend a few days in Edinburgh with my dad. I am also hoping to visit my friends in London, Oxford, and Dublin. Overall, these past few months have been so positively invigorating, and I am proud to call St Andrews my new home.

Scholar Updates - Emory to St Andrews

Wei Wei Chen (Contemporary Studies) - I am grateful everyday for the opportunity to study at and live in St. Andrews. I enjoy the interdisciplinary and immersive aspects of my MLitt in Contemporary Studies program. Through it, I have been able to take seminars with faculty across 7 subject areas and also complete a placement at the Preservation Trust Museum. Beyond academics, I enjoy the community at Deans Court and in my campus involvements in the On The Rocks Festival, Breakaway Hillwalking Society, and VegSoc. I love having the ocean as my backyard and enjoy reading or walking by the beaches and golf courses when I needs to recharge. In my free time, I have hiked the Fife Coastal path and the Highlands, ventured out to Glasgow, Edinburgh, and London, and visited friends in Paris and Amsterdam. I hope to continue traveling, meeting new friends, learning about Scottish culture, and eating black pudding for breakfast.



Carli Kovel, Wei Wei Chen, Leah Neiman, Jason Sell and Ben Goldfein at the first Dean's Court BBQ of the year .

Jason Sell (Management) - Our time in St Andrews has flown by so fast! It's hard to believe that the fall semester is nearly over, but it has been a great one nonetheless! Although I've stayed in St Andrews most of time, I have taken full advantage of everything the town has to offer. Most of my time is spent on the golf course, and I was lucky enough to make my way around the Old Course... truly a lifelong memory. Beyond that, I've only scratched the surface on my explorations of Scotland, but the raw beauty of this country never ceases to amaze me. As far as classes go, my courses in the Management School have treated me well, and I'm finding the information very useful. I've been able to link my psychology background to business principles, which have made for some very interesting explorations. Overall, St Andrews has been great! It's felt like home since the day I arrived.

Carli Kovel (Catalysis) – Since arriving in St Andrews, I have been greeted by a strong sense of community and tradition. I have enjoyed getting to know my peers from all around the world and have found a loyal and supportive group of friends in Deans Court. During my time in Scotland, I have had the opportunity to explore the town, as well as Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Pitlochry. Outside of Scotland, I have traveled to Paris and Oslo. I have cherished the opportunity to travel and am eager continue to explore.

I have enjoyed getting involved in the chemistry department. My knowledge of catalysis has become more interdisciplinary, with lessons in economics and business. I have gained a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and goals in the field of catalysis, further inspiring me to develop catalytic processes to change the world for the better. I have also enjoyed learning about biocatalysis and organocatalysis - fields I had not had the opportunity to focus on prior to St Andrews. Additionally, I have continued to follow my interest in green chemistry, taking courses which have expanded my knowledge of sustainable catalysis. I have truly enjoyed the curriculum, which has allowed me to become immersed in the field of chemical catalysis. Since the beginning of the year, I have had the opportunity to conduct research in Professor Matt Clarke's laboratory. My work has focused on the development and synthesis of multifunctional metal-organic frameworks for tandem catalysis. Essentially, I am working to make structures that contain multiple types of catalysts. These novel catalysts will provide a more sustainable means to synthesize important molecules. This project has also allowed me to expand my knowledge of materials science. My involvement in the chemistry department includes my position as the Taught Postgraduate Representative. I was elected to plan events and address any issues encountered by postgraduate students in the department.

Outside of chemistry, I have discovered a new passion of mine: computer science. Through the organization Code First: Girls, I have had the opportunity to take a semester-long course in CSS and HTML. The organization has introduced me to many applications of computer science and I have enjoyed learning about the versatility of the field. Following my work promoting women in STEM at Emory, I have had the opportunity to become involved in Women in Computer Science and Robogals. Through Robogals, I have had the opportunity to volunteer at local schools and introduce young girls to STEM through interactive experiments. I have pursued my passion for environmental sustainability by joining Enactus, which utilizes social enterprise to improve environmental health in Scotland. I have also started the St Andrews chapter of The Survivor Anthology. In regards to athletics, I am taking golf lessons and training to run a half-marathon in the spring. Learning to golf in the birthplace of golf has been fantastic. During my first three months at St Andrews, I have had the opportunity to learn new skills, travel to new places, and become a member of the amazing St Andrews community. I am so grateful for all of the opportunities I have had thus far and am excited for the adventures to come.

Scholar Updates - Emory to St Andrews

Leah Neiman (Museum and Gallery Studies) – My first three months in Scotland can be described as nothing short of surreal. Almost immediately upon arriving in St Andrews it felt like home, and a day still rarely goes by when I am not struck by the beauty of this place. The community I have found here, especially amongst the other students living in Deans Court, is warm, supportive, and lots of fun. My experience in the Museum and Gallery Studies program has been very rewarding. Instead of a traditional course, primarily based in course work, most of our credits are earned through working on two projects; one is an exhibition curated with a small group of other students in the program, and the other is an individual placement with a local museum. For the first, I am working on an exhibition on fans from the late 19th and early 20th centuries at the St Andrews Museum which will be on in the Spring of 2019. I am working with one other student on the team to create and run all of the educational programming associated with the exhibition. For my individual placement, I am working on the Through a Glass Darkly research project, which is run jointly out of the Museum of the University of St Andrews and the Classics Department. I have gotten to do some really exciting work thus far, including the production high quality 3-D models of artifacts, developing a social media strategy for the project, and attending DigiDoc, a conference on digital innovation in cultural heritage management. I am very much looking forward to seeing where the rest of the year takes me!

Outside of the classroom, Carli and I have been enjoying some beginner golf lessons, I have set up a Deans Court Book Club, and have discovered a love of Ceilidh-ing. I have gotten to do some travelling, both locally and abroad. In fact, as I write this reflection on the semester, I am sitting in the Edinburgh airport, on my way to a weekend in Paris to meet up with friend from high school. Locally, I have gotten to explore Edinburgh on my own and on a course field trip to the National Portrait Gallery and National Museum of Scotland. Mark McCleod, a former scholar was kind enough to give Wei Wei and me and tour of Dunfermline, which was quite fascinating and exciting to see the ways in which the community there is directly engaged with their history. We kicked off the holiday season with a day trip to Pitlochry to see the light show in the Enchanted Forest. Travelling a bit farther afield, I spent a few days in London over independent learning week, spending far too many hours in museums, and eating way too much food. This semester has been full of adventure, and I am looking forward to eight more months of exploration!

Photos from the Scholars and Fellows

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