

2018/2019 Bobby Jones Scholars & Fellows



The Jones Notes
The bi-annual newsletter for the Robert T. Jones Jr Scholarship Program



Wei Wei Chen



Carli Kovel



Leah Neiman



Jason Sell



Ben Goldfein



Rachel Dinsdale



Caitlin Macdonald



Ruairidh MacIver



Erin Phillips



Fiona Cooper

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Wei Wei Chen - Scholar, Emory to St Andrews



Wei Wei is a film studies major, and is described as “a promising young scholar who has a strong will to do good in the world”. She intends to pursue an MLitt in Contemporary Studies. The program draws together 12 disciplinary approaches in analyzing and solving contemporary challenges. Chen said that the program would extend her undergraduate “exploration of film and media’s impacts on social reform and identity formation.”

During her time on campus, Wei Wei, a Dean’s Achievement Scholar, served as both a sophomore and resident advisor in Residence Life where she developed a theater and social justice program in collaboration with the Alliance Theater. She is a writer and actor with the Issues Troupe, and president of Emory’s Arts Underground organization.

Wei Wei, a resident of Lake Mary, Florida, has a keen interest in the arts, and plans to take full advantage of the Scottish arts scene including, most notably, the world’s largest arts festival, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Carli Kovel - Scholar, Emory to St Andrews



Carli, an undergraduate chemistry researcher plans to continue her academic work in St Andrews by pursuing an MSc in Catalysis. Catalysis is the study of catalysts and catalytic reactions. Carli is particularly interested in “green chemical transformations” or catalytic transformations that do not produce toxic or hazardous by-products.

A mentor to other students, Carli has worked as a STEM and EPASS peer mentor during her time in the College. She has volunteered with the Emory Clinic and is currently the co-president of “Hybrid Vigor” magazine, an interdisciplinary science publication designed to integrate research from science and the arts. In addition, Kovel co-founded “The Survivor Anthology,” a publication of artistic works from the survivors of relationship abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence.

Passionate about the arts, Carli plans to use her time in St Andrews to further understand its impact on individuals and participate in St Andrews own annual arts festival, On The Rocks.

Leah Neiman - Scholar, Emory to St Andrews



Leah is an Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Classics double major. She was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in Fall 2016 and intends to pursue an MLitt in the Museum and Gallery Studies program at St Andrews to further her study of ancient cultures, building upon the experience she has gained in museum education at Emory.

A Dean’s Achievement Scholar, Leah has spent much of her time at Emory devoted to furthering her academic endeavors. Through an independent research grant, she supported on-site archaeological research in the Sanctuary of the Great Gods, Samothrace, Greece with Emory Professor Bonna Wescoat. She has served as co-president of the Michael C. Carlos Museum Student Guides, organized the Emory University Archaeology Festival and mentored a small group of international first-year students as an Academic Fellow. Neiman also teaches pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students through Jewish Kids Groups.

Leah is excited to become a part of the St Andrews community and plans to volunteer with the Museum of St Andrews (MUSA) and their many children’s programs. Currently president of the Tap Dance Group at Emory, she plans to continue dancing as part of the Swing Dance Society at the St Andrews.

Jason Sell - Scholar, Emory to St Andrews



Jason is a QuestBridge Scholar and sees the Bobby Jones Program as a means of acquiring the skills to become a change agent in his community, and the world. Through his psychology degree, and his time in the Community Building and Social Change (CBSC) program at Emory, Jason says that he has gained a stark perspective on the lives of struggling families and has a desire to help people “particularly on issues of drug abuse and drug policy.” He intends to enroll in the Master’s in Management program to “expand my knowledgeability of business processes before I embark on a career in public policy.”

One of Jason’s references said that among his greatest personal strengths are his “motivation and his persistence. He rolls up his sleeves and gets to work.” This approach is obvious in the activities he has participated in on campus. Elected to Phi Beta Kappa, he has research experience in psychology, served as president of the Emory QuestBridge Scholars, and is currently a Fellow at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress where he lobbies lawmakers to devote more attention to public health approaches to drug abuse treatment. He was invited to return to the CBSC program for a second year as a project manager.

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Ben Goldfein – Fellow, Emory to St Andrews

Ben Goldfein is a Philosophy major and Ethics minor. Ben was elected to Phi Beta Kappa in spring 2018 and intends to pursue an MLitt in Moral, Political, and Legal Philosophy at St Andrews to extend his research on the ethical implications of artificial intelligence.

As a former University of Oxford Visiting Student, Emory's first Mount Vernon Fellow, and a current Undergraduate Honors Fellow at the Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry, Ben is dedicated to bridging the gap between the hard sciences and humanities. Outside of academics, he is eager to immerse himself into the St Andrews community and be surrounded by others who constantly question the world around them.



Rachel Dinsdale – Scholar, St Andrews to Emory

Rachel is in her final year studying French. She spent the third year of her degree working abroad as a language assistant in France, and is excited to travel more during her year as a Bobby Jones Scholar. A former competitive triple jumper, she is currently President of the University of St Andrews Athletics Club as well as a member of the University of St Andrews Boxing Club, and looks forward to joining the track and field team at Emory. Away from sport, Rachel is the French Convener, helps organise a weekly event for international students and was recently awarded the Principal's Scholarship for Academic Excellence.

Rachel is excited to continue her studies at Emory, hoping to apply her academic skills to a wide range of classes in subjects such as Media Studies and Linguistics.



Caitlin Macdonald – Scholar, St Andrews to Emory

Caitlin is in her final year of a Master of Arts (Honours) French and Spanish. Extra-curricular activities include School of Modern Languages President where she coordinated staff/student relations, member of the Alleycats and a member of the Chamber Orchestra.

At Emory, Caitlin is hoping to take classes in the Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies department and begin learning a new language, along with continuing to be involved in music.



Ruairaidh MacIver – Scholar, St Andrews to Emory

Ruairaidh is in his final year of a Master of Arts (Honours) Ancient History and Mediaeval History. Extra-curricular activities include Association Chair of St Andrews Students Association, Trustee for the St Andrews Students Union, School President of Classics, Publicity Officer for Nightline and Co-Editor in Chief of the St Andrews Economist.

Ruairaidh is hoping to study foundation Latin and Greek, along with other Roman history classes. He wants to pursue an academic career in Ancient History at the conclusion of the scholarship, and these classes offered at Emory will be a great help in making that a reality! As well as this, he wants to take Political Science classes, and learn about the American Civil war.

Outside academics, he is excited to get involved in the Emory rugby club, as this is something that he enjoyed greatly at St Andrews, but had to give up somewhat prematurely due to my other commitments.



Erin Phillips – Scholar, St Andrews to Emory

Erin is in her final year of a Bachelor of Science (Honours) Zoology. Extra-curricular activities include School of Biology President, First Chances Mentor, Student Ambassador and spent time as a research assistant at Dinokeng Game Reserve in South Africa.

At Emory, Erin hopes to take classes in animal behaviour, quantitative science and statistics. She is also an avid country music fan and is looking forward to visiting Nashville and attending as many concerts as possible.



Fiona Cooper – Fellow, St Andrews to Emory

Fiona is in her final year of a Master of Arts (Honours) International Relations. Extra-curricular activities include Rugby Captain/Outreach/2s development, Captain Scotland under 20's, Ponssonby Rugby Club Auckland while studying at the University of Auckland for a semester, hall sports coordinator, Vice President St Andrews for Europe Campaign and Host Young-Scot environment awards.

At Emory, Fiona will be in the Masters in Development Practice program in the Laney Graduate School, where she hopes to specialize in Gender and Development. She has been in contact with the Atlanta Harlequins Rugby team and will be playing with them, and hopes to play on the Emory Women's Rugby team as well.