

Jones Advisory Committee Spotlight

An Interview with Dr. Bob Jones IV

“There isn’t a single student that has not been positively touched by the experience of being a Bobby Jones Scholar.” Dr. Robert Jones IV has been involved with the Bobby Jones Program since its inception, when Charlie Yates and Buster Bird approached the family with a goal to sponsor an exchange between Emory University and the University of St Andrews. At the time, he had no idea of how widespread or popular the Scholarship exchange would grow to become.



Jones considers Bobby Jones Program one of the highest honors tied to his grandfather. His involvement with the program became more active when he joined the Jones Advisory Committee officially in 2006. Prior, Jones served on the New York Trust that was tied to the funds associated with the Scholarship.

When reminiscing on this time on the Advisory Committee, Jones finds the opportunity to meet each year’s Scholars as one of the most meaningful aspects. He and his wife Mimi enjoy hosting each year’s group from St Andrews in their home every fall. He believes that the remarkable students exemplify the intellectual curiosity that his grandfather valued. Jones elaborates to say that the Scholars demonstrate broad academic pursuits that transcend beyond their majors and they often have interests in projects larger than themselves. He attests that the students’ curiosity would have resonated with Bobby Jones, given his own interest in the varying fields of mechanical engineering, English literature and law. Jones delights in not only getting to know each year’s Scholars, but connecting with them several years later to discover the remarkable things they are accomplishing in their careers and personal lives.

Jones identifies the Saturday meeting at the Masters Tournament in Augusta as one of the most meaningful and important annual events that the program hosts. He elaborates to say the event is magical from the sense that it takes place at the Club founded by his grandfather and he enjoys hearing the Scholars speak on what meant the most to them during their time.

When asked if he could identify one person that epitomizes the Jones legacy, Jones could not name just one person. Having met everyone that has had a meaningful connection with his grandfather, Jones cannot narrow down the list of incredible individuals that have played a part in capturing the essence of the program and making it the success it is today.

“I serve on the Jones Advisory Committee to perpetuate the legacy of my grandfather and to share the love I feel for him and all that he has accomplished,” Jones states when describing his involvement with the program. He also reflects on the selection process and compares each year’s cohort of Scholars to athletes saying that each generation builds on the success of the previous year. “It’s rare that things develop in a light year type of fashion—I think the Scholars are that way too,” he states. Although the review process may seem daunting, he leaves each year’s interview day with a refreshed perspective and new found energy for the program.

Jones has served as a representative from the Jones family on the Advisory committee for over 13 years. Although his love for the program continues to grow, he is excited to introduce more family members and younger generations to the Scholarship. He is elated for his cousin, Anne Laird, to rotate onto the committee and be able to experience the students that capture the spirit of Bobby Jones.

A pillar of the Atlanta and golf communities, Jones is a Clinical Sports Psychologist at the Behavioral Institute of Atlanta and President of Jonesheirs, Inc. He received his BA in English Literature from Borromeo College of Ohio, his MDiv from Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology and his MA and PsyD from the Georgia School of Professional Psychology. Jones currently resides in Cumming, GA with his wife Mimi and their two Moyen poodles, MJ and Bailey.