

THE JONES NOTES



University of
St Andrews

Robert T. Jones, Jr. Program Newsletter



WELCOME

Thank you for reading the latest edition of the Jones Notes Newsletter! In this issue, we welcome the newly selected 23-24 scholars. In addition, enjoy updates from our current scholars and alumni.

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MEET THE 23-24 SCHOLARS

St Andrews to Emory

Abeer Asrani - Mumbai, India

Abeer will graduate this summer in International Relations and Management. Throughout his years at St Andrews, he had a keen interest in the politics of the global south with a specialised interest in postcolonialism. To balance this out, he also studied extensively in the field of Organisational Management and focused on topics such as the management of change within organisations. Vastly involved in extra-curriculars, Abeer occupied committee positions on several student societies such as the South Asian Society, The BAME Student Network, The Rector's Committee, as well as being a founding member of the St Andrews Hip Hop Society. Staying true to the spirit of St Andrews, he also began playing golf a few years ago and now plays off a 14-Handicap.

During his time at Emory Abeer intends to pursue classes in the Goizueta Business School, as well as the School of Law. Abeer has a keen interest in Law having worked a summer job at a law firm in Mumbai and desires to use his time at Emory to learn more about this possible career path. He also intends to immerse himself in the Emory student life, and of course, play lots of golf!



Ian McNaught - Glasgow, Scotland

Ian received a Master of Arts (Honours) in Management at St Andrews. During his third year, he was Rugby Club Captain, and the club was awarded Scottish Student Club of the Year through on-field success and raising record funds for November. Ian represented the University of St Andrews winning the 2021 and 2022 Scottish Varsity Matches against Edinburgh University. In his final year at St Andrews, he was the Chancellor's Piper and piped at university graduations amongst other prestigious events.

At Emory, Ian looks forward to building on his Management degree by taking classes at the Goizueta Business School. Having golfed from a young age, he is keen to advance his game across the pond and thrilled at the prospect of attending the Masters at Augusta National Golf Club. Beyond the classroom, Ian looks forward to the opportunity to play his bagpipes. He is keen to immerse himself into the vast range of extracurricular activities and clubs that Emory has, and excited about the prospect of traveling around the United States of America.

Alexandra Ridley - London, England

Alexandra studied Biology throughout her four years at St Andrews, with a special interest in biodiversity. Outside of academia, Alexandra is very passionate about music, having not only sung with the University of St Andrews Chamber Choir, but also having been elected as the group's Manager. Alexandra's other extracurricular activities have included studying Chinese, German, and French as evening language courses, and taking up Olympic Weightlifting!

Whilst at Emory, Alexandra hopes to expand her knowledge of the world by taking classes in Politics, History, and Economics. She is also keen to keep practising languages, not only by furthering her studies in Chinese, but also by studying poetry in Russian, her native language. Alexandra is also excited to balance out her studies by joining Emory's Concert Choir, Emory's Olympic Weightlifting club, and trying her hand at rock-climbing. Finally, Alexandra is hoping to visit some of America's famous cities and national parks.



Harris Siderfin - Orkney, Scotland

Harris is currently studying International Relations and Psychology at St Andrews. His primary research focus is on peace, including how it is developed and the interplay between institutions, individuals, and emotions during the peace process. In his final year joint project, he examined the effects of Brexit on political identities and attitudes towards violence in Northern Ireland. Additionally, he is a member of the Visualising Peace Project at St Andrews, where he leads a project that develops peace education materials for schools, a pursuit he plans to continue at Emory.

Beyond academics, Harris is also involved in the University Air Squadron, participating in the Royal Air Forces (RAF) officer cadet programme and flying a Tutor T-1 from Leuchers Air Base. He writes papers on the future of space militarization and space command as part of his RAF programme. He has also participated in diplomatic exercises, including attending an international conference in Sicily with representatives from various NATO militaries. During term time, Harris enjoys acting on stage and hosting a student radio show, as he has a deep love for the arts and music.

Harris is excited to explore new opportunities at Emory, including joining a student consultancy society after recently taking part in a management consultancy challenge at McKinsey and Company in London. As he has never been to the US before, he hopes to visit areas such as New York, New Orleans, and Colorado (due to his passion for skiing), in addition to exploring Atlanta and its surroundings as much as possible.



MEET THE 23-24 SCHOLARS

Emory to St Andrews

Balwant Singh - Acton, Massachusetts

Balwant majored in Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology (NBB) at Emory and plans to continue his academic work by pursuing a master's of research in Neuroscience at the University of St Andrews. The program will support Singh's career plans to become both a research scientist and a medical doctor. Being a first-generation Latinx college student has made him personally aware of the significance of representation in both patient care and lab work.

During his time at Emory, Balwant received the James E. Varner Scholarship and was named to the 100 Senior Honorary, worked as a mentor with the QuestBridge Scholars Network and the Pre-Health Advising Office, and worked as a learning assistant for the Department of Quantitative Theory and Methods and as a teaching assistant for an NBB neurochemistry course. He served as a medical scribe and ambassador in the Emergency Department at Emory University Hospital, where he documented for providers and trained new scribes.

Balwant wishes to advance his interest in studying neurological disorders at St Andrews with a project to assess an under-researched area of the hippocampus involved in the formation of memories. The program will also allow him to work as a student volunteer, teaching health to school children through the Teddy Bear Hospital Society.



Carly Colen - Arlington Heights, Illinois



Carly Colen is a Political Science major and Ethics minor from Arlington Heights, IL. At Emory, she has been involved in advocacy and civic engagement, as President of Fair Fight U and a Senior Executive Board member of Young Democrats of Emory. She also served as a Center for Law and Social Science Undergraduate Research Fellow, studying why the United States has not ratified many major international human rights treaties. Carly has been a player on the club ultimate frisbee team for four years and serves as their spirit captain. She is also involved in theater, helping with the Lenaia student playwriting festival and performing in several shows. Off campus, Carly is an intern for the ACLU of Georgia on their Voter Access Project.

Carly will pursue an MLitt in Peacebuilding and Mediation from St Andrews. She is eager to join On the Rocks, a student-run arts festival and Breakaway – St Andrews Hillwalking Club.

Carly is looking forward to exploring Scotland and Europe and would love any recommendations you have for good hikes or cool cities.

Ben Thomas - Dayton, Ohio

Ben Thomas majored in Comparative Literature and Political Science at Emory University. During his time at Emory, he served as managing editor at both Emory's student newspaper and its undergraduate research journal, a teaching assistant in six courses, and Chief Justice of the Emory Student Government Association's Constitutional Council. He was also a Robert W. Woodruff Scholar, a Center for Law and Social Sciences Research Fellow, an Interdisciplinary Exploration and Scholarship Fellow, and a member of the Ethics and Servant Leadership Forum. Ben has interned with Emory's English department, the Carter Center, a congressional campaign, and California's Environmental Protection Agency. He has published translations of German poetry as well as research articles on ethics, U.S. education policy, and Soviet, German, and British literature. Ben speaks Russian, German, and a little Hindi, and his comparative literature honors thesis explored the influence of folklore and Stalinism on Soviet children's literature.

At St Andrews, Ben will expand his horizons into new areas of literary criticism and Russian and German cultural history as he pursues an MLitt in Comparative Literature. He is also very excited to explore the Scottish Highlands and to join St Andrews's hillwalking, JazzWorks, Russian, and German societies.



Alicia Yin - Vestal, New York



Alicia Yin majored in Biology at Emory University and plans to pursue a master of research in Anthropology, Art and Perception at St Andrews. During her time at Emory, she guided first-year students in their transition to college by serving as a Sophomore Advisor and Resident Advisor. She also worked as an editor for the Emory Undergraduate Medical Review, interned as a clinical research assistant in the Department of Pediatrics in Emory's School of Medicine, and volunteered as a mentor with Hearts Over Hands. For her biology Honors Thesis, she conducted research in the Yu Lab at Winship Cancer Institute, where she studied a protein involved in the repair of damaged DNA.

At St Andrews, Alicia hopes that her course in anthropology will complement her undergraduate focus on science and medicine by allowing her to explore how cultural perceptions of illness and medicine influence manifestations and treatments of those very illnesses. Outside of the classroom, she hopes to join community service-based student organizations and visit as many countries as she can!

SCHOLAR UPDATES

St Andrews to Emory

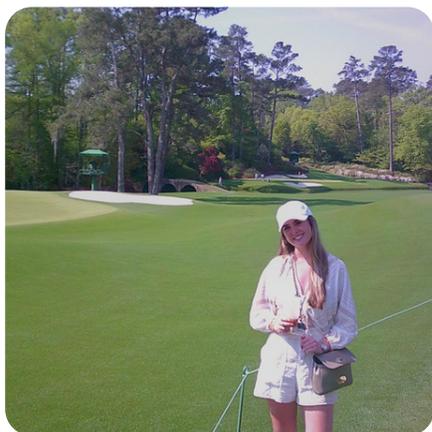
Sarah Millar, 23BJS

Since the last newsletter, I have had such an amazing semester! I have been to Charleston, Washington DC, New York, Miami, and Augusta, and am currently in Savannah spending time with my parents who have come to visit from Scotland. I absolutely love traveling and think I may struggle to go home and not have the ability to travel to a new US city every weekend!

On top of the traveling, we had the most amazing time at the Masters. We were lucky enough to be there from Tuesday - Sunday, thanks to Jeff McKenna. On the final day of the Masters we were able to sit on the 3rd hole green, and watch the score between Rahm and Koepka equalise after Rahm got a birdie. It was hard to believe we were there to see that all in real time.

We are now finalizing plans for our summer road trip. We will be leaving from Atlanta in early May and traveling out west and then up through California to finish in Washington or Vancouver. However, in the middle of our road trip we will be flying back to Atlanta in order to golf during Augusta National's Appreciation Day on the 22 May, which I am so excited about. Although my golf might not be the best, it will be another chance to see the gorgeous Augusta National.

I am trying to make the most of the time we have left in the US. It is hard to believe our year in Atlanta is soon going to come to an end. I have had once in a lifetime opportunities and the chance to travel and make friends in places I never thought I would. Atlanta will be sorely missed!



Left: Sarah at Amen Corner on Wednesday during the Masters

Middle: 23BJS at the Masters

Right: 23BJS with Lucy, 3rd year St Andrews exchange student, in Washington, DC

Sam Goldsmith, 23BJS

Since the last newsletter, I have really been taking advantage of the golf opportunities within the scholarship. I have started taking golf lessons at East Lake, and have so far had assistance on my putting, chipping and full swing. I can't say I have improved a lot yet - but I need to put all of this into practice! I also have complemented these lessons by playing more golf and have managed to play many sunset rounds at East Lake. I also recently had the opportunity to play the Riverside golf course at Atlanta Athletic Golf Club, where I was paired with an ex PGA and European tour pro! I definitely felt like my golf game is lagging!

Of course, I also recently returned from the Masters which was an incredible week. Not only did I get to see Augusta golf course, but I found some great spots to set up chairs to watch play - including the 2nd tee and green, the 3rd green, the 8th green and Amen corner, where I saw the best players in the world hit their shots into number 12.

Post Masters, I am now anticipating the road trip with Ross and Sarah. Our plans are slowly coming together, as we aim to head to New Orleans first, before moving through Texas, New Mexico and Arizona and then heading up California. Dates will be posted on the Facebook group page, and we would love to connect with people along the way!

Ross Barclay, 23BJS

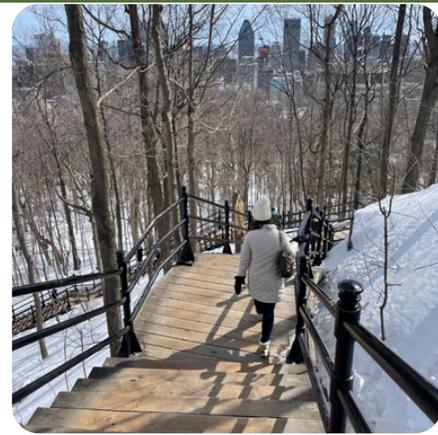
The past few months have been incredible, but I'm shocked at how quickly they've flown by!

We have done a lot of traveling this semester. In our last update we had just returned from Charleston. Since then, Sarah, Sam and I visited Washington DC, I ventured to Boston and Denver to see friends, and flew to Montreal for my first solo trip! It was definitely a learning experience - for one, March in Canada is very much still winter.

The most memorable experience this semester has definitely been the Masters' Tournament. It was such an incredible week filled with new friendships, experiences, and egg salad sandwiches (if you know, you know). I'm really looking forward to Appreciation Day in May, and taking as many golf lessons as I can beforehand!

One of my academic highlights this year has been taking classes in the German Studies department alongside being a member of Emory's German Culture Club. I recently was awarded membership of Delta Phi Alpha, the German honour society in the US, which was a really lovely surprise! I hope to continue my studies this summer before hopefully landing a job in financial regulation.

We plan to begin our road trip in early May. We'd love to meet as many people as possible - please keep an eye on the Facebook page and we will post updates as soon as we have them!



Top: a snowy Montreal during "spring" break. Bottom: Golden in Colorado

ANNUAL MASTERS MEETING

Saturday April 8, 2023 - Scholar Reports

Unfortunately, the annual Robert T. Jones, Jr. Program Meeting at Augusta National Golf Club was cancelled due to delay of play caused by severe weather. The scholars worked tirelessly on their speeches and did not have the opportunity to give them live in the Press Building on Saturday.

The scholars will be delivering their speeches via zoom in July.

We will send out notification to the listserv and Facebook page so you may join us! It will be a great opportunity for members of the Jones Community to get a glimpse of what is shared during the meeting and to hear about the St Andrews to Emory scholars' year.



The newly selected 2023-2024 Emory to St Andrews scholars, the 2019-2020 Emory to St Andrews scholars, and 2022 St Andrews to Emory Bobby Jones Fellow made the journey to Augusta to enjoy what they could during the poor weather. Thank you to St Andrews for hosting several of the scholars at the rental house for an evening of food and fun. *Pictured left: 23BJS with St Andrews staff, guests from Augusta, 22BJS (David Kulp, Kendall Chan, and Sarah Hunter), and fellow alumni Steve Savage 08BJS, Naomi Boon 18BJS, Rikke Nedergaard 22BJF.*

We want to thank Augusta National Golf Club for their continued support and communication during the days leading up to the event and making the tough decision to ultimately cancel.

SCHOLAR UPDATES

Emory to St Andrews

Sojourner Hunt, 22C 23BJS

As a module in my Museums and Heritage course, I had the opportunity to pursue a work placement this term. One day every week I commuted into Edinburgh to catalog the papers of the Lorimer family, an archive now held by the National Trust for Scotland. The Lorimers are a well known Scottish family that includes a law professor, the architect of the Scottish War Memorial, and a famous painter, among other notable relatives. Reading and cataloging their family papers has been a highlight of my second semester and great archival experience for my future career.

I have been a member of the dance club and the competitive jazz dance team this year. We had a successful competition season and ended our year with a fun show performing all our dances back in St Andrews. I've also managed to do some traveling this term. I went to Paris and visited as many museums as I could fit into three days and met up with my mom in Portugal as well!

I am now transitioning into the summer months where my focus will be writing my dissertation. For this project I am working with the McManus Museum in Dundee and researching three objects in their African collection. The objects come from three geographically and culturally distinct parts of the continent; however they were all donated to the Museum by the same man, Peter Rattray. While writing my dissertation I will be working part time in the Admissions Office at St Andrews. I worked in the Admissions Office at Emory so this will be a happy return to the field. It's been an amazing seven months and I know the upcoming months will bring a blissful summer in St Andrews!

I recently met up with fellow alum Julianna Joss 18BJS in St Andrews. We had a great time talking about mutual friends and professors as former Emory dancers.

Top: Sojourner in front of Monet's water lilies in Paris
Middle: Sojourner and her mother at the Jerónimos Monastery in Lisbon, Portugal
Bottom: 23 BJS with Julianna in St Andrews

Chanelle Russell, 22C 23BJS

This semester has been life-changing! I've spent time in Edinburgh, where I explored the National Museum of Scotland, the Royal Botanic Garden, and several hip food and drink spots in the city. I also visited several museums in Dundee such as the V&A, while also exploring St Andrews' Aquarium. I recently finished writing a few short stories for my program, and I am feeling more inspired than ever!

While deepening my studies in the Creative Writing program, I have also received great news for my life after Scotland. I was admitted into five of the top English PhD programs in the world, including four Ivies, and have decided that I will be embarking into Columbia University's English and Comparative Literature PhD program come this fall. I will also be interning at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture this summer! I am excited to use all I have learned and gained from my time in Scotland in my future studies and experiences.

Top: Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh

Bottom: The Six Nations match between Scotland and Italy at Murrayfield



Sean Woo, 22C 23BJS

The Spring semester has flown by, abundant with even more adventures and joys than the previous! From the classroom and laboratory to the vast outdoors, I have amassed priceless experiences. Being part of St Andrews' School of Chemistry has further ignited my passion for discovering ways that chemistry can be targeted toward medical sciences to alleviate suffering. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to be part of a unique international project where I get to collaborate with students from Croatia and Cyprus. Getting to work with chemists from across the globe has helped me to become a more creative, innovative, and brave scientist.

My learning continued beyond the walls of my classroom and lab: this Georgia peach went skiing on proper, powdery snow for the first time in the Cairngorm National Park; attended (and thoroughly enjoyed) my first rugby match with some Jones alumni (Scotland won!); and discovered that it's quite easy to accidentally wander onto the grounds of Balmoral castle. I also took a trip up north to visit some friends in Elgin, during which I got to watch the aurora borealis from the beaches of Lossiemouth. Perhaps more importantly, during that trip, I got to pay a visit to the Loch Ness Monster and to a Scottish Costco! This summer, I am looking forward to finally exploring Scotland's West Coast and catching some flights out to explore continental Europe.

Another special moment of the semester was the R&A dinner. It was wonderful to be able to connect with the Scottish Jones community who have helped to make this year possible. While the end of my Jones year is fast approaching, I am looking forward to staying involved with the Bobby Jones program. The Jones community has shown me so much love and support, and I hope to be able to do the same for the future scholars. I am so proud to be a part of this wonderful family, and can confidently call St Andrews and Scotland my second home!

Top: Found Nessie!

Middle: The Northern Lights in Lossiemouth

Bottom: The peak of Cairngorm Mountain



Bryn Walker, 200x 22C 23BJS

As a student at Emory, I worked on two public history projects. One about reparative history at Emory and one about the Kerner Commission and Atlanta history. I have also continued my study of painting under the tutelage of my former art professor.

Over my spring break, I had the opportunity to return to Scotland to visit my boyfriend. He is still a student at St Andrews and currently resides in Deans Court where we met this fall! He took me to Glasgow, Edinburgh, Geneva, and Paris!

Our journey to Paris was particularly eventful because of the pension strikes currently going on.

Our flight was cancelled the day before we were supposed to travel. We rebooked a flight to Geneva and planned to take the train to Paris. We had a lovely Swiss day after flying to Geneva and got to eat fondue, tour Geneva's Old Town, drink hot chocolate, and window-shopped Swiss watches. This lovely day came to a stressful end 30 minutes before our train was supposed to board. We learned that our train to Paris had also been cancelled due to the strikes. After buying a Swiss adapter to charge our dead phones, trying to rebook our train, learning that a car rental would be exorbitantly expensive, we ended up taking a European ride-sharing service called BlaBla Car. We spent 5 hours in the car of a kind French stranger, Maxime, our driver, and another French rider. We finally made it to Paris at 2am! In Paris, I enjoyed people watching and absorbing the Parisian fashion world. We saw art at the Louvre, Pompidou, Musée d'Orsay, the Rodin museum, and really everywhere we walked! It was quite the adventure!

SPRING RECEPTION - MARCH 18, 2023

Convocation Hall, Emory University



Above: Bobby Jones Alumni alongside 23BJS and 24BJS

Below: Attendees listening intently to Catherine Lewis, Dean Brzinski, and President Fenves







ADVANCEMENT & ALUMNI

[CONTACT US](#)

St Andrews Updates

The St Andrews Jones Advisory Committee would like to welcome their newest member, Amanda Spafford, St Andrews to Emory 85BJS alum. The Committee strives to help with (i) visiting U.S. scholar experience, (ii) with U.K. program marketing and scholar application/selection, and (iii) U.K.-based alumni connectivity.

Please update your [contact details](#) with the University of St Andrews to ensure you do not miss out on any events!



Join WhatsApp Groups!

Scan the QR Code to get connected.



Register Here



THURSDAY 11TH MAY
6 PM - 8 PM
THE HOUSE OF ST BARNABAS, 1 GREEK STREET,
SOHO SQUARE, LONDON W1D 4NQ

LONDON

Bobby Jones Alumni Gathering

Connect with fellow alumni
Meet current and newly selected scholars
Meet members of the UK JAC and St Andrews staff

ALUMNI NEWS



Bernadette May, Emory to St Andrews, 94C 95BJS 98T

After 23 years teaching and serving as Upper School History Department Head at The Lovett School, Bernadette will be transitioning next year to The Weber School in Sandy Springs. Her new role will be as Director of Israel and Global Education. Congratulations on this exciting next chapter!

Laila Atalla, Emory to St Andrews, 16C 17BJS

Laila Atalla married fellow Emory alum Morika Vorenberg Hensley (16C, 17G) in January 2023. Laila and Mori live in Santa Fe, NM. Congratulations on your nuptials!



Fiona Pollock, St Andrews to Emory, 18BJS

After working in the film industry and then completing her Masters of Science at Oxford University, Fiona is delighted to share that she has accepted a Training Contract to train as a lawyer with Kirkland and Ellis LLP in their London office. She feels very fortunate to have this opportunity with one of the best law firms in the business and is excited to start this challenging and rewarding journey ahead! Also, earlier this year, Andrew and Fiona celebrated their five year wedding anniversary and are now enjoying life based in London.



Oscar Mullins, St Andrews to Emory, 15BJS

Oscar married fellow St Andrews alum, Victoria Fleming, on Friday 7th April in St Andrews at St Salvators Chapel, followed by a reception at the Rufflets hotel. Claire, Michael, and Zoe (fellow 15BJS) were all in attendance. Congratulations!



Sarah Hunter, Emory to St Andrews, 20C 22BJS

As you may have heard I've made the decision to stay in Fife following my Bobby Jones year at St Andrews in 2021-2022.

I am now looking to find careers in biotechnology, science sales, communication, project management or similar fields. My previous experience includes communication, sales, customer service, research, events and project management.

If you know of any opportunities or have any connections for positions locally or remote from elsewhere in the UK I would greatly appreciate the help!



Kendall Chan, Emory to St Andrews, 20C 22BJS

Kendall has relocated to Washington, DC to begin a new job at an NGO monitoring international finance institutions. As a Child Rights Associate, she works to protect youth affected by global development projects, and recently attended the World Bank 2023 Spring Meetings as a civil society representative. She looks forward to connecting with the BJS community in DC as well as hosting any traveling Scholars on her couch!



22BJS, St Andrews to Emory

Bobby Jones scholars Rebecca, Robin, and Jessica met up in Wales, for a Masters weekend reunion. They played two rounds of mini-golf, caught up about life post-Emory, and watched the Masters with the occasional "when I played that hole...". It was such a lovely weekend to celebrate a fantastic Jones year! We hope Ryan can join us next year as we hope to make this an annual occasion.



William Eye, Emory to St Andrews, 12C 13BJS 16L

After two years of postponing due to COVID, Will Eye and Emilia Stromberg (16L) were married in her native Sweden at Sodertuna Castle on June 25, 2022. In addition, on April 4, 2023, they welcomed their son, Ellis Macallan Eye, to the world. Double congratulations are in order to you both!



TINA - The Tina Turner Musical

Garrett Turner, Emory to St Andrews, 11C 12BJS

In February, the Bobby Jones and Emory Scholars Programs collaborated to host an alumni event with Garrett Turner, 11C 12BJS, who was in Atlanta on the national tour of TINA: The Tina Turner Musical. Garrett's accomplishments include being both a Woodruff and Bobby Jones Scholar as well as a Marshall Scholar after his time with Emory. He is currently playing Ike Turner (no relation) on the 30-city tour.

Bobby Jones and Emory Scholars students attended a meet and greet reception with Garrett at the Georgian Terrace before enjoying the show at the Fox Theater. The show was phenomenal and everyone enjoyed getting so much time with Garrett. We wish him and his wife congratulations and best wishes for the birth of his first child, due this summer.

