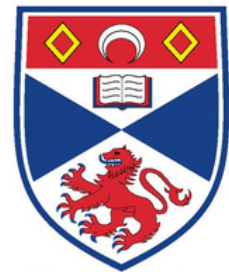




THE JONES NOTES



University
of
St Andrews

Robert T. Jones, Jr. Program Newsletter



WELCOME

Thank you for reading the latest edition of the Jones Notes Newsletter! This issue contains plentiful updates from our scholars at Emory and St Andrews as well as many alumni updates. Enjoy!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Emory Scholar Updates
- 6 St Andrews Scholar Updates
- 10 Upcoming Events
- 12 Alumni News
- 13 Jones Archive



SCHOLAR UPDATES

St Andrews to Emory

Abeer Asrani, 24BJS

At the end of semester one, there are a lot of fond experiences and memories to already look back on. I had a very beneficial first semester at Emory taking classes in Negotiations and Sports Finance with some of the best professors I have ever had the pleasure of meeting. Apart from my academic pursuits, I was very grateful to work for the Carter Center within their Rule of Law Program. I supported projects in Bangladesh and Sierra Leone, which aim to educate and increase women's access to information. I have also been very fortunate to receive a return offer from the Center to continue my work in that field so that I may have an even bigger impact during my short stay on the scholarship.

Other highlights from the semester passed include an once-in-a-lifetime trip to Arizona to golf and spend time with our beloved mentor Jeff McKenna. Ian and I played some of the most beautiful golf courses we have ever seen, got to listen to and meet a number of rock and roll legends, and explored a new state in the Western U.S. We even got to see PING's legendary gold putter vault at their headquarters in Phoenix, which houses gold replicas of all their championship winning putters - unbelievable! Over the winter break, I had the wonderful opportunity to spend more time as a golf services intern at the Atlanta Athletic Club - the home of Bobby Jones! It was a gift for me to interact with the members, learn more about the ins-and-outs of a championship golf course, as well as work on my game in my spare time.

There is a lot to look forward to next semester and I am sure the next update will feature a whole host of new experiences and opportunities!

Abeer with Ian and Jeff playing golf in Arizona



Ian McNaught, 24BJS

As we reach the end of our first semester, it is safe to say my year as a Jones Scholar is flying by! This semester I took sports finance, strategy, and marketing classes. I was able to immerse myself into the community of international exchange students within the business school. Prior to heading home for Christmas, I thoroughly enjoyed joining them on a mini road trip to Nashville, visiting Broadway and attending the Grand Ole Opry.

Throughout the scholarship programme, I have been extremely fortunate to enjoy a variety of American cultures and create memorable experiences with new friends. During the fall break, I headed to Philadelphia, New York, and New Jersey to catch up with my university peers from St Andrews. Closer to home, I attended numerous American football games, visited the World of Coca-Cola, and the Atlanta Botanical Garden light show.

I had the pleasure of an unforgettable first Thanksgiving at the Paterson's - many thanks to Gary and former Jones scholar Caroline for hosting me! It was also a privilege to attend former scholar Richard Harker's Thanksgiving party the following day, which was great fun. On St Andrews Day, I had the honour of playing the bagpipes at the Atlanta Athletic Club for the club's 'Muirfield' event. Throughout the semester, we have experienced the club's generosity first-hand, enjoying rounds of golf with Bruce Barfield and Bud Taylor. I am delighted to be starting my internship within the golf department at the Atlanta Athletic Club this spring semester.

My highlight of the fall semester came in December, spending five days in Arizona with Abeer, visiting Jeff McKenna. Jeff's kind hospitality made for an experience like no other, exploring four of Phoenix's finest golf courses, attending Alice Cooper's Christmas Pudding concert (including meeting Alice!), and playing the bagpipes and golf at his charity Christmas Putting event.

Left to Right: Piping at the Christmas Putting Golf Event; 24BJS at St Andrews Society Dinner, Dunwoody Country Club; Abeer and Ian with Alice Cooper at his Christmas Pudding Concert



AJ Ridley, 24BJS

This semester at Emory has been nothing short of incredible! Every class – from film to piano studies to microeconomics – has been eye-opening. I've spent a lot of time pondering questions such as 'to what extent is ballet an ethnic art-form?' and 'is painting equally an act of destruction as it is an act of creation?' Next semester, I hope to broaden my academic thinking further by taking classes in Russian literature, French, Art History, and Ecology (including a week long field trip to Peru!). I'm also incredibly excited to start an internship at Emory's Office of Sustainability Initiatives in January.

Aside from my studies, I've had the opportunity to explore more of Atlanta. I've visited the Aquarium, the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, and the High Museum of Art – all equally enjoyable and educational outings. Further afield, I've been very fortunate in visiting New York, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. to see friends and family, and I also spent a week in Costa Rica over the winter break! Costa Rica was especially wonderful due to all the amazing animals I got to see, including iguanas, sloths, monkeys, macaws, and butterflies – any biologist's dream!

Left to Right: Visiting my friend Suki in New York; Views over Chicago's skyline; Monkeys chilling by our table in Costa Rica!



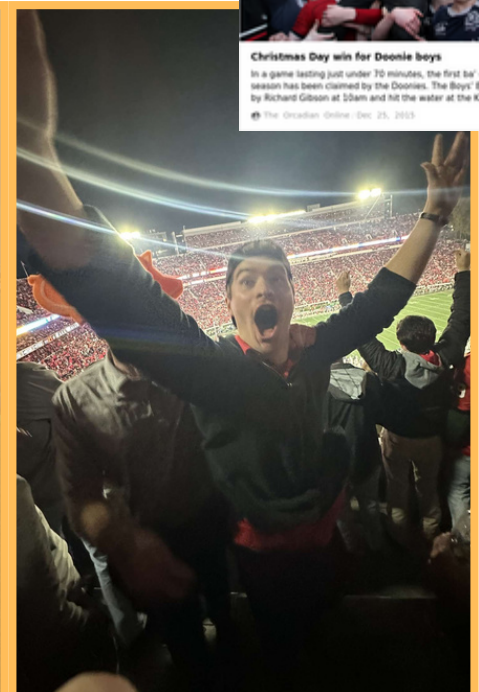
Harry Siderfin, 24BJS

I had a busy but extremely enjoyable first semester at Emory. I have had the opportunity to travel and meet new people from the Jones network. Spending time with alumni and hearing their stories has been truly special. I have also become a huge fan of college football and do not know what to do with myself now that there are no more Bulldogs games to go see! Suggestions for new American pastimes are welcome. Life at Emory has been great as I've engaged with classes and new sports, and, of course, the food at DCT could not get much better.

I had a great festive break before heading back to Orkney. I spent time in Mexico and learned to dive with my friend, who I flew with back to Scotland. I had a fantastic time learning a new skill and exploring a new place. In Orkney, I played in the traditional Orkney Ba game on Christmas and New Year, which involved spattering punches, exhaustion, and laughs. It is a fascinating tradition and very close to my heart. I had the immense honor of winning the game in 2015. Also while I was home, I played rugby with friends on Boxing Day. It was a very unrestful but fun holiday spent with family.

For the new year, I hope to continue traveling throughout the semester and meet as many people from the Jones Network as I can before the end of my Jones year. I have planned a few trips, including to New Orleans, Cape Canaveral, and Rhode Island. In terms of class, I am continuing with MDP classes this semester and hope to do some more independent research. I am looking forward to the year ahead; please feel free to reach out if you have any tips for travel or want to meet in 2024.

Left to Right: Waiting for the Orkney Ba Game to start; Winning our rugby game; Celebrating the Bulldogs at a UGA game; Video from Orkney Ba in 2015.



SCHOLAR UPDATES

Emory to St Andrews

Carly Colen, 23C 24BJS

I can't believe first semester is already over. This past semester was filled with making friends, trying lots of new things, and travels. I am still loving the Deans Court community and have gotten close with so many wonderful people. In December, I threw a secular Deans Court Chanukah party and made latkes for everyone and taught dreidel. One of my favorite Deans Court memories from this semester happened after our formal – for hours people taught line dances from their home countries! In addition to Deans Court, I've really enjoyed spending time with my academic family. Raisin and the foam fight were a blast, but since then we've gone to ceilidhs together, choir concerts, and played lots of card games. I had a great time in London – I did an eight hour walking tour, saw a play, and connected with old friends. Fort William and Glencoe were gorgeous, and I can't wait to explore more of Scotland. Over winter break, I took my first solo trip and went to Spain where I traveled to Barcelona, Madrid, and Seville. I found solo traveling to be a bit lonely, but I loved exploring Spain. I also went to Italy for two weeks and loved learning about the history, seeing the art, and of course eating the food! Next semester I hope to go to Paris and Dublin. Classes ended well, and I learned a whole new style of writing this semester. I am very excited for my classes next semester, particularly Global Climate Policy. Happy New Year, everyone!

Left to Right: Deans Court Halloween formal with friends; Glencoe, Scotland; The inside of La Sagrada Familia – my favorite place I visited in Barcelona.



Balwant Singh, 23C 24BJS

My first semester at St Andrews has been phenomenal. October was marked with getting more familiar with my research and understanding the software. Unfortunately, I had to change my original research question and pivoted towards single instead of double camera tracking to understand beetle larvae locomotion. Deans Court ended the month with our Halloween formal, a spooky yet enchanting night.

Despite November being a stressful month with essentially all of my module deadlines, my best friend from high school (who is also an Emory alum, Sherraina Song, 23B 23MSB) and I went to Paris and Versailles, marking my first Europe adventure. I had never imagined I would be able to go to France (let alone be in Scotland for a year) in my early twenties and am thus already grateful for the Bobby Jones Scholarship. I also went to the Christmas Ball and my first ceilidh on St Andrews day! Learning all of the dances on the spot, walking to West Sands, and spotting the aurora was absolutely fun and beautiful.

After my final examinations, I spent a lot of time with my friends and working on my art. It is so cool seeing the several art collectives at St Andrews. I'm excited for the next two semesters! Hopefully, I get to do more traveling and share my work with you all.

Left to Right: Sherraina and I in front of the Eiffel Tower; A few of us at Deans Court had a potluck with traditional Thanksgiving foods in the library; Deans Christmas formal.



Ben Thomas, 23C 24BJS

It's hard to believe that we're already about to begin our second semester in St Andrews! I've found my experience thus far to be very fruitful, beginning with my comparative literature course. Though the same discipline was one of my undergraduate majors, I've found that exploring critical approaches, literary theories, and national literatures more often studied in the U.K. than in the U.S. has greatly challenged me all the same. Further, the many differences in how education is conceived have pushed me to reconsider what U.S. institutions often assume to be foundational in how the humanities and social sciences are taught; suddenly, participation didn't factor into my grades, my instructors changed every week or two, and essay topics – even titles! – were strictly defined. In the upcoming semester, I'm looking forward to firming up the topic of my dissertation.

Outside of my course, I've continued my involvement with the St Andrews Film Society and attended the odd volleyball club training session as well. I also recently began working as the graduate assistant for the Center for Russian, Soviet, Central and Eastern European Studies (CRSCEES), a tutor for high school students who are preparing for college applications, and a research mentor. In between work, academics, and societies, traveling throughout the U.K. and Europe has been an incredible experience; my destinations have so far included London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dublin, Ireland's Wicklow Mountains, Prague, Malta, and Iceland. Next on the list for this semester are Barcelona and Andorra, northern Poland, the Orkney Islands, Dover, Belfast and the Giant's Causeway, Ben Nevis, Skye, Oban, and Fort William. I'm beyond excited to dive back into my studies, work, and travel this month, and I'm looking forward to finding out where they'll lead me!

Left to Right: Ben in the Wicklow Mountains, Ireland; Prague; and Malta



Alicia Yin, 23C 24BJS

It's hard to believe we've already completed our first semester here! Time always seems to fly when you don't want it to.

Since our last update, I've gotten to spend more time getting to know the people in Deans Court and the other students in my modules. I'm so grateful to be able to say that I've become close to many of the people here. They filled my semester with so many fun memories, and I definitely feel like I've made some lasting friendships. A favorite memory of mine was when some of us attended the annual Christmas Ball together. Another highlight of my semester was when one of my hometown friends came to visit in November – it was super fun showing her around St Andrews and introducing her to the new friends I've made here.

Over winter break, I was lucky enough to do some traveling. I headed down to London and Bath before heading back to the U.S. for the holidays. I loved both cities so much and definitely hope to go again at some point (there's still so much I want to explore). It was also really lovely getting to go home and see my friends and family.

For the second half of winter break, my dad and I traveled to Italy for the first time. We rang in the New Year in Rome and then headed to Florence, Pisa, and Venice. It was incredible seeing so many beautiful cathedrals and works of art. I also loved learning about the history of each place we visited and getting to eat so much delicious food.

I'm looking forward to our next semester, which will hopefully be filled with more fun times with friends and some more traveling as well.

Left to Right: Alicia and Balwant at Christmas Ball; A view of Bath Abbey from the Roman Baths; Colorful houses on Burano Island, Italy



UPCOMING EVENTS

BOBBY JONES ALUMNI EVENTS



London

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Hosted by
Steven Haag O8BJS

FEB
28



Edinburgh

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Hotel Indigo

MAR
1

We hope to see you there!
Please register by 15th February.

Click to register

The Robert T. Jones, Jr.

Annual Spring Reception

MAR | 17 | 2024
4 p.m.

Emory Convocation Hall, 210 Community Room

Enjoy heavy Hors d'Oeuvres and meet the newly selected Emory to St Andrews Scholars!

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

Bobby Jones Crazy Golf Alumni Event



Channel your inner Bobby Jones and join us at [Birdies](#), Battersea Power Station, to put your (crazy) golf skills to the test.

Meet the current Emory to St Andrews Scholars, the 2024-2025 St Andrews to Emory cohort, and of course mingle with fellow Bobby Jones Scholarship Alumni, at what promises to be a fun filled event.

Date: Tuesday 7 May 2024

Time: 6.30pm

Location: Birdies, 6 Arches Lane, Battersea, London, SW11 8AB

An email to register will be sent out in March, so pop the date in your diary and watch this space!

ALUMNI NEWS



Jonathan Lass, Emory to St Andrews, 94BJS 95C

Jonathan won the Adjunct Professor of the Year award at the University of Texas School of Law for the second academic year in a row. Congratulations!

Fergus Neville, St Andrews to Emory, 06BJS

Two Bobby Jones alumni, Dr. Fergus Neville (University of St Andrews) and Professor Alex Haslam (University of Queensland), presented a symposium together in June at the European Association of Work and Organizational Psychology in Katowice, Poland. The symposium was titled Toxic Behaviour and Toxic Leadership. While they are professional colleagues who collaborate on research projects, they only found out recently that they are both Bobby Jones Scholars!



Jessica Leech, St Andrews to Emory, 22BJS

Jessica recently moved to Geneva, Switzerland for a temporary role in injury prevention for the World Health Organization. If anyone in the Bobby Jones community lives nearby or is passing through, please let her know as she would love to meet up. You can email her at jessica.leech1@outlook.com

Camila Reed-Guevara, Emory to St Andrews, 19C 20BJS

Camila graduated from Yale Law School in May 2023 and passed the bar that summer. She is currently clerking for a judge in the Federal District of New Mexico. Upon moving to Albuquerque, she adopted a puppy, a sweet blue heeler mix named Maxima. In the fall, she plans to move to Seattle to begin her career as a criminal public defender.





Bennett Hilley, Emory to St Andrews, 06C 07BJS

Bennett, her husband Mike Christensen, and her son Fremont (age 4) welcomed a new baby girl, Emmeline Nola Christensen on February 15, 2023. Congratulations!

Rebecca Monroe, St Andrews to Emory, 22BJS

Rebecca received her MLitt Management degree at the University of St Andrews in December of 2023 and is currently working as an Education Liaison Officer for the Access and Widening Participation team within the Office of Admissions at St Andrews. Congratulations!



JONES ARCHIVE

Jones Alumni at the 40th Anniversary
Celebration in St Andrews - July 2017

