

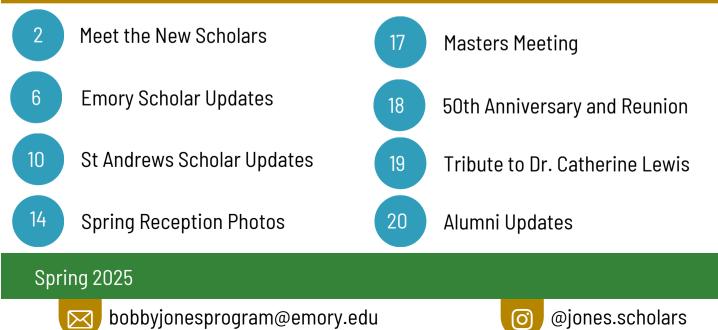
### WELCOME

Thank you for reading the latest edition of the Jones Notes Newsletter! This issue features biographies for our newly selected scholars, updates from our scholars at Emory and St Andrews, highlights from the spring reception and annual meeting at the Masters, a tribute to Dr. Catherine Lewis, and alumni updates. Enjoy!



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### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**



## **ST ANDREWS TO EMORY**



### Pablo Carreras Avila, 26BJS Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Pablo studied Economics and International Relations at St Andrews. During his time at St Andrews, he was involved with the Student Ambassadors as the viceprincipal for widening access, Junior Saints, Active School Fife, Dundee Madsons, Basketball Scotland, and volunteered at local high schools like Madras and St. Leonards. Pablo is a sports coach, mainly coaching basketball, something he would love to do in Atlanta, while watching lots of NBA games! Pablo managed to achieve his saltire and platinum volunteering award with over 800 hours during his degree, seeing an average of 300 students a week. When he has free time, he enjoys sports, traveling, and reading. At Emory, Pablo is excited to dive into the student community, trying different clubs, volunteering roles, and opportunities like internships at the Carter Center. He will be pursuing a one-year Master's in Management degree in Goizueta, and he is excited to learn about leadership and marketing within his course. It will be the first time Pablo has been to the United States, and he is excited to travel across the country and meet other Bobby Alumni!



#### Christie Paul, 26BJS Belfast, Northern Ireland

Christie pursued a Master of Arts in Management at St Andrews Business School. He is a keen golfer, playing off a 2 handicap, for the University Men's social team and in mixed fixtures across the UK. When not playing on the course, Christie is a golf caddie on the St Andrews Links courses and has caddied in the Dunhill Links Championship. Christie enjoys going to the gym and taking long beach walks in his spare time. At Emory, Christie is looking forward to taking classes at the Goizueta Business School, furthering his knowledge on topics such as Marketing and Brand Management, making new friendships, travelling to different US states, and playing lots of golf. Christie visited Emory this spring to explore the campus and get a feel for the year ahead before he travelled to watch the Masters Tournament in Augusta. Having made some great memories, Christie looks forward to living in a warmer climate and getting to chat with Alumni and Trustees at Jones On the Road events.

## **ST ANDREWS TO EMORY**



### Rosie McNaught, 26BJS Glasgow, Scotland

Rosie received a Master of Arts (Honours) in International Relations with French at St Andrews and considers the role of everyday media in shaping global politics as her primary academic interest. She has especially enjoyed the community of the Modern Languages department and loved teaching languages to a class of young children at a local school during her final year. Outside of the classroom, Rosie is passionate about music, having played the flute from a young age and for ensembles such as the NYWES (National Youth Wind Ensemble Scotland) and WOSIS (West of Scotland Independent Schools). In St Andrews, she has played with the University Wind Band and channelled her love of music through hosting a weekly radio show.

At Emory, Rosie plans to build upon her degree studies through taking classes in Linguistics and US History, and is equally excited at the prospect of taking golf and music lessons. Rosie is eager to connect with the broader Emory community, building upon her active participation in extracurricular activities at St Andrews. She also looks forward to exploring the state of Georgia and visiting cities such as Nashville, Washington D.C., and San Francisco.



### Robyn Scott, 26BJS Barnet, England

Robyn Scott studied Chemistry at St Andrews, where she developed a strong foundation in the natural sciences. Originally born in London but raised in the scenic North West of Ireland, Robyn brings a unique cultural perspective to her academic pursuits. As Head of Events for the Irish Society, she has been instrumental in organizing cultural celebrations and fostering community connections on campus. A music lover, Robyn plays the cello and enjoys the rich culture of ceilidhs and musical gatherings in St. Andrews. When not in the laboratory, she can often be found on the tennis court pursuing her passion for the sport. At Emory, Robyn plans to complement her scientific background by exploring English and History courses to gain a broader contextual understanding of the world. She is particularly interested in classes that connect chemistry to global issues such as environmental studies and science communication. Robyn is eager to immerse herself in the Emory student community through volunteering initiatives in Atlanta. An avid reader with a special fondness for Southern Gothic literature, she looks forward to exploring the American South, hiking, developing her golf skills, and experiencing the vibrant culture of Atlanta.

## **EMORY TO ST ANDREWS**



### David Lee, 25C 26BJS Duluth, Georgia

Born and raised in Duluth, Georgia, David Lee considers himself a lifelong quasi-Atlantean. He majored in political science and a minored in economics. On campus, he was heavily involved in the mock trial team, captaining Emory to a fourth-place finish at the national championships in Chicago. He also engaged in various research opportunities, contributing to two political science PhD students' dissertations, the Election Integrity Project, and the Politics of Policing Lab's upcoming book. He recently completed his honors thesis on the politics and efficacy of Atlanta's Policing Alternatives and Diversion Initiative (PAD), which received the distinction of highest honors. Outside of Emory, David worked as a Constituent Services Intern for both U.S. Senator Jon Ossoff and U.S. Congresswoman Carolyn Bourdeaux. In his free time, David practices Taekwondo. He is a member of the USA National Team, and he won a gold medal at the 2024 Taekwondo Poomsae World Championships. At St Andrews, David is pursuing an MLitt in Global Social and Political Thought, and he hopes to conduct research at the Institute of Legal and Constitutional Studies. He is excited to cold plunge, hike, and run across Scotland with his cohort!



#### Lucas San Miguel, 25C 26BJS Atlanta, Georgia

Lucas San Miguel was a Robert W. Woodruff Scholar at Emory University double majoring in Economics and Chinese Studies and was actively involved in campus life through leadership roles in the Woodruff Scholars Program, Emory, Consult Your Community, and ALPFA. He also served as Emory's Coca-Cola Ambassador for four years.

Lucas took a gap-year prior to Emory where he studied in Taiwan through the US State Department's NSLI-Y program, and he later received two Critical Language Scholarships for Chinese and Portuguese. His professional experiences beyond Coca-Cola include two consulting internships at KPMG and sustainable economic development work in rural Nicaragua.

At St Andrews, Lucas will pursue an MSc in Global Sustainable Development, hoping to focus on investment-led economic development in Latin America. Lucas looks forward to joining the Surfing and Sub Aqua Society as an avid surfer and SCUBA diver. He also hopes to join the Salsa and Bachata Society to learn how to dance. He is a huge nature-enthusiast, and some must visits include the Norwegian fjords, Iceland, and Switzerland. Lucas hopes to also explore cities like Edinburgh, Dublin, Paris, Nice, Milan, San Sebastian, and London.

## **EMORY TO ST ANDREWS**



### Elizabeth Martin, 25C 26BJS Boston, Massachusetts

Elizabeth completed her undergraduate degree with a major in interdisciplinary studies, with self-selected concentrations in psychology, sociology, and religion, and a minor in anthropology.

On campus, Martin volunteered as a Matriculate Advising Fellow, played soccer and ice hockey where she anchored her teams as a goaltender, and served as a student representative on the Emory College committee on admissions and scholarships. Keep an eye out for her on the Typhoons Ice Hockey team next year! Passionate about education, Elizabeth also co-designed and co-taught five one-credit courses and served as a teaching assistant for two other upper-level courses.

With a desire to build bridges rather than live in a bubble drove Elizabeth to learn more about the historical and present-day complexities of the Middle East through the extraordinary, and nuanced, Geller International Fellowship. Her interest in cross-cultural exploration, religion, and philosophy further motivated her study through Emory's Tibetan Mind-Body Sciences program in India. With a deep love of travel, food, and culture, her travel aspirations for next year include the Scottish Highlands, Copenhagen, Dublin, Lisbon, Barcelona, and Amsterdam.



### Lydia King, 230x 25C 26BJS Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Lydia majored in Anthropology and Human Biology and Linguistics. A Dean's Scholar and Oxford graduate, she grew up in Rwanda and Kenya. At Oxford, she worked at the Organic Farm, which inspired her to found Oxford's campus garden and Emory's gardening club.

She also served with Volunteer Oxford and Volunteer Emory, tutored at the Writing Center, and was president of Emory Gender Expansive and Women's Ultimate Frisbee. Off campus, she volunteered with Open Hand Atlanta and interned twice at the CDC Museum. She recently returned to Rwanda and worked at the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund.

At St Andrews, she will pursue an MRes in Social Anthropology, combining ethnographic and linguistic methods to study zoonotic disease. When there, she hopes to play frisbee and explore Scotland, especially the Isle of Skye! Lydia plans to work in global health, advocating for improved health communication between East Africa and the U.S.

## **ST ANDREWS TO EMORY**

#### Alex Hargreaves, 25BJS

Spring semester has been unbelievable, I have made so many memories that will last a lifetime! I managed to fit a good amount of travel into the past few months, some highlights being a skiing trip to Killington, Vermont and getting to spend spring break on the beach in Crescent Beach, Florida. I was also very lucky to have my parents come to visit. It was so fun to show them around my life here in Atlanta and take a road trip to Nashville.

My classes have continued to push me out of my comfort zone and have allowed me to be more creative in my academics. A highlight has been my electronic music class, where I have learned a multitude of recording techniques, both in performance and in the digital space.

The Masters Tournament was also I highlight and was simply one of the best weeks of my life. I've never experienced an atmosphere like it, and for someone who wouldn't have been able to tell you the basic rules of the game about a year ago, I felt so invested in the tournament and the game of golf as a whole. A huge thank you to Jeff Mckenna and his wonderful friends for welcoming us into their lives at Augusta and making an already incredible experience so special. I also played my first round of 18 holes this semester at Atlanta Athletic Club, and can see golf staying a big part of my life for the foreseeable future.

Looking ahead, I am so excited to embark on our road trip from Atlanta to Seattle in June. There are so many places that are on my bucket list, so I'm looking forward to ticking those off. I am still somewhat unsure of my plans after I finish up my time in the US, but I am currently very keen on staying, so am doing what I can to begin my career here, hopefully in the sporting or events world.

Finally, I want to extend one last thank you to everyone we have met from the Bobby Jones community this year- it truly has been an unforgettable experience, and a year that I'm sure has changed the trajectory of my life as a whole.



Spring 2025

Left to right: With my Parents on Broadway in Nashville; Waffle break at Killington; Sunset on Crescent Beach; First round of 18 with Bruce and Bud

## **ST ANDREWS TO EMORY**

#### Victor Mendoza-Galvis, 25BJS

In February, we embarked on a Jones on the Road event to D.C. where we met with alums and had a chance to explore this country's wonderful capital. I was blown away by the sheer size of the city and the how beautiful all the monuments were. During one of our site-seeing outings, we were lucky enough to see Marine One fly into the White House lawn. I was particularly impacted by my visit to the Museum of African American History and Culture - I cannot understate how powerful the displays were and how well the curators have organised the museum to tell the narrative of the role of African American people in the construction of American society.

At the beginning of April, we made our way to Chicago, which was another fantastic place to visit. Having watched my first ice-hockey game in the United Center, I am happy to report that I am now a Chicago Blackhawks fan. The game was exciting to watch, and I was surprised by how fast-paced it was and how little stoppage occurred. The crowd was electric, I couldn't have asked for a better experience thanks to Robert Oh.

Before coming to the U.S. my experience with golf was extremely limited. But once we got the chance to attend and work as Gallery Guards at Augusta National, I instantly became a fan. I spent most of my time following the only Colombian golfer in the tournament this year, Nicolas Echavarria, rooting him on and watching as he made the cut from Friday on to the Weekend rounds. It was an incredible opportunity to see someone with a similar background to myself playing at such a prestigious event. Another highlight was sitting 10 rows back on the 18<sup>th</sup> green on Sunday, to witness Rory McIlroy's career Grand Slam.

I am excited for our road trip in June where we will travel through the south and the west coast. I am particularly looking forward to all the culinary experiences that await from New Orleans Cajun food, to Texas BBQ, and the Maxican food scope in California.

Mexican food scene in California.

After the summer road trip, I will be returning to London and applying to a number of internships and graduate programs for Software Engineering and Data Analytics.



## **ST ANDREWS TO EMORY**

#### Magnus Burnet, 25BJS

As I'm sure many of these final scholar reports have said, the last four months have absolutely flown by. Back in January, I began my internship at The Carter Center, and it's been an incredibly rewarding experience. I've had the chance to work on a range of meaningful projects and have learned a great deal along the way.

These past few months have also brought some amazing travel opportunities. In February, our group visited Washington, D.C., where we met some incredible alumni, explored museums, and got a tour of the Capitol building —huge thanks to Gordon Taylor for organizing that! I also managed to join Alex for a trip to Boston, which brought a nostalgic taste of British weather and plenty of time for wandering the city. Most recently, Josh, Victor, and I made our way to Chicago, where we attended our very first hockey game—and are now proudly Blackhawks fans. Many thanks to Robert Oh for generously hosting us!

One absolute highlight of the semester was attending The Masters. We were lucky enough not only to be there for the full week, but to serve as gallery guards on hole No. 2—experiencing it all from the other side of the ropes. Jeff McKenna truly made the week unforgettable by hosting us, showing us the (literal and metaphorical) ropes, and making us feel completely at home. To have been at Augusta during such a historic and electric year is something I'll never forget—the atmosphere on the 18th green on Sunday was truly magical.

Looking ahead, I'm really excited for our upcoming road trip out west. It'll be a great chance to reconnect with so many of the incredible people we've met throughout the year, and to make a few new friends along the way. Later in the summer, I'll be heading back to Scotland—but I'm currently on the lookout for opportunities that might keep me in the U.S. a little longer!





Spring 2025

Left to Right: With Robert Oh at the Chicago Blackhawks Game; Trip to Oakland Cemetery with Gene McClure to visit Bobby Jones' gravesite

### **ST ANDREWS TO EMORY**

#### Josh Rankin, 25BJS

Since my last update, I have had truly life-changing experiences as a part of the Bobby Jones Scholarship. Beginning in my classes this semester, I truly dove into my love for history and anthropology. I have been developing my analytical skills in my master's class on postcolonial thought in South Asia. On top of this, my classes on the anthropology of personhood and black and indigenous histories have widened my perspectives on what is means to be a member of society and have helped me see connections between different histories that I had previously thought of as separate.

Outside of my classes, this semester has been an absolute whirlwind, marked by an amazing amount of travel. In my last update, I talked about my excitement about going to DC. I am glad to report that the capital blew away all of my expectations, meeting the fantastic Gordon Taylor, exploring the museums of DC and the Capitol building itself. My next exploration took me to the sunny skies of California. During my spring break, I visited San Francisco for a week with my friend from Atlanta. San Francisco was spectacular, walking over the Golden Gate Bridge, visiting Alcatraz and learning about the Red Power movement, and taking the trams at every opportunity, not to mention a short rise to fame (or infamy) in the San Francisco karaoke scene. I fell in love with the city and can't wait to go back during our road trip.

Of course, saving the best for last, was the transformational week at the Masters. We made our way from Atlanta Hartsfield through the pouring rain, fearing that Augusta would be washed away by the time we arrived. The Masters itself assuaged our fears of rain by presenting us with a sun-soaked week of nail-biting golf. At the masters, I made friends that I hope to keep for a lifetime!



## **EMORY TO ST ANDREWS**

### Amelia Andujar, 24C 25BJS

I can't believe our year by the North Sea is coming to an end! As we prepare to wrap up the academic year, my heart is so full from the places I've seen, the people I've met and all the wonderful things I've learned. For my degree, I have now completed all of our assessments with a mark of distinction, and am beginning to work on my dissertation focused on analyzing digital education related international development interventions in Latin America, a project that I've wanted to take on for years now!

This term, I started a radio show with Amelia T. (tune in every Thursday at 10 am), became a weekly regular at Tuesday Trivia nights with my friends, visited the Canary Islands, met up with my best friend from home in Madrid and will soon visit my friends from study abroad in London. I've also had the pleasure of hosting family and friends over here at St Andrews, showing them around the town and sweeping as much of the breathtaking Highlands as possible (I finally saw my first highland cows in the process). I finished up my dance career with an undefeated competition season, won the Best Newbie award for our team (yay!) and met some of my favorite people in the process.

Looking towards the rest our time here, I'm really excited to teach some dance workshops, to take part in May Dip (I've stepped on the cursed PH one too many times and must be cleansed before our dissertations are due), and to travel to Portugal with my friends in June. For the rest of the summer, the plan is to take Europe by storm – and write my dissertation, of course. I'm traveling solo for a few weeks to check off as many destinations off of my bucket list as possible before real life kicks in next year! As for what that next step looks like, I'm currently weighing a few research-related opportunities in both the UK in the US, to spend a year working prior to applying for Social Policy PhD programs in the fall. It's sad to think that the most special year is nearly over, but I'm really excited for what's next, and overflowing with gratitude for how perfect of a year it's been.



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Left to Right: My dad and I at Loch Ness as part of our Highlands road trip; The full Blue Angels dance team at our last competition of the year; Picture of me at the radio station

### **EMORY TO ST ANDREWS**

#### Grace Johnson, 210x 23C 25BJS

The past few months have been a whirlwind. I've been to 4 different countries in the last month alone (Ireland, Switzerland, Belgium, and The Netherlands). I learned how to build wooden stools in The Meadows, saw a baby seal on East Sands, went skiing with my Dad, and got very competitive learning German birthday traditions. Thanks to the community of Deans Court, I have formed very deep friendships and have had so many new experiences.

I cannot believe next week is our last week of classes. I have really enjoyed the last two guest lectures: gender in climate change and gender in prisons. The queer research workshop and film screenings/discussion have also been a highlight. I am currently finalizing my dissertation topic and attempting to narrow down too many ideas! Alongside dissertation research, I have a part-time job doing research on postgraduate well-being. It has been a busy semester, but I am trying to make the most of the longer days and shorter amount of time here! After the summer, I plan to stay at least a year in the UK on a graduate visa and study for the medical school exam while working part-time. I am not quite ready for my time in Scotland to be up, so I look forward to extending this experience!



## **EMORY TO ST ANDREWS**

### Shreyas Rajagopal, 24C 25BJS

It has been simply magical to be surrounded by such an unreal experience and environment. I will never forget giving my speech at the R&A and sharing with Dean Brzinski how great of a time I have had here, and it is so sad to think that my time at St Andrews is coming to an end!

This quarter, I continued with my modules for my Global Social and Political Thought course while also beginning preliminary dissertation work, which will deal with election data science and the 2024 presidential election. I am excited to shift over to some quantitative methods as I explore this in-depth and propose a policy report.

I also kept up with travels this semester, visiting Cologne, Lanzarote, the Lake District, and Madeira. I particularly loved my time in Lanzarote, where I was joined by a group of close friends from Deans Court as we had some relaxation and beach time during Spring Break. I have upcoming travels to Albania and Italy in the summer, which I am looking forward to, as well as visits from some friends and family, who I am excited to host and show around Scotland! What I most look forward to, however, is spending a lot of time here in St Andrews with the close friends I have made. Many parts of our schedule have become routine to me—Friday formal nights, Tuesday pub quizzes at Brew Dog, and watching TV shows together—that I will miss as I wrap up my time here. I will be heading out in late July for medical school orientation at Columbia University, which begins in early August.



## **EMORY TO ST ANDREWS**

#### Amelia Tamez, 24C 25BJS

During my first semester at University of St Andrews as a Bobby Jones Scholar, I made the most amazing friends and have had the most unforgettable experiences. This semester, I continue to enjoy my time here at St Andrews with the same friends. I spend my days attending research meetings, eating meals with my fellow Deans Court mates, walking along the beach, reading, and enjoying the company of all my amazing friends from all around the world.

I am continuing my research this semester, completing my dissertation for the MSc(Res) under the Earth and Environmental Sciences department. I work closely with the archaeological team at McMaster University on the Stelida Naxos Archaeological Project (SNAP) to further the study of the peak sanctuary at Stelida, Naxos, specifically in the reconstruction of its socio-religious catchment area. I recently completed my field season in Naxos, Greece where I traveled to Naxos for three weeks to collect data. I brought back hundreds of rock samples and am currently conducting analyses on the samples and am now halfway finished writing my dissertation! Besides research, I spend most of my time with my friends, whether it's going to the beach in Lanzarote over reading week, winning pub quizzes at Brew Dog, going to the driving range, or hanging out in the common room of Deans Court. Over the year, I have traveled to many countries including Denmark, Sweden, Spain, Holland, Greece, and France. All my adventures have included my Bobby Jones peers, Amelia and Shreyas, whom I can call some of my closest friends here at St Andrews.

I plan to continue researching and writing for my dissertation during the summer while also trying to squeeze in more time for exciting travels. While we cannot decide between a trip to Egypt or one to Sicily, I am confident our friend group will find fun wherever we end up. I am looking forward to warmer weather and longer daylight hours and hopefully some fun (but cold) dips in Castle Sands!



Spring 2025

Amelia's photos of friends and fun.

# SPRING RECEPTION

## **SUNDAY MARCH 23, 2025**

The Annual Jones Program Spring Reception was held at Convocation Hall at Emory University. This was a lovely event that featured remarks from Jones Advisory Committee Chair, Catherine Lewis, 90C and Senior Associate Dean, Joanne Brzinski. Over 50 attendees welcomed the newest Emory to St Andrews scholars (left) and wished the current St Andrews to Emory scholars (right) well as they embark on the end of their Jones year.





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Bottom L-R: David Lee, Elizabeth Martin, Lucas San Miguel, Lydia King, Alex Hargreaves, Magnus Burnet, Josh Rankin, and Victor Mendoza-Galvis





















## MASTERS MEETING

### SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025



This year, we were back in the Press Building at Augusta National Golf Club, for the Robert T. Jones, Jr. Program Annual Meeting. Both Emory University and the University of St Andrews leadership delivered remarks before turning it over to the 2024-2025 St Andrews to Emory Scholars for their annual Scholar Speeches. This year's speeches were heartfelt and are available for <u>listening here</u>. Also in attendance, were the newly selected 2025-2026 Emory to St Andrews scholars. We want to provide a warm thank you to Augusta National Golf Club for their hospitality!

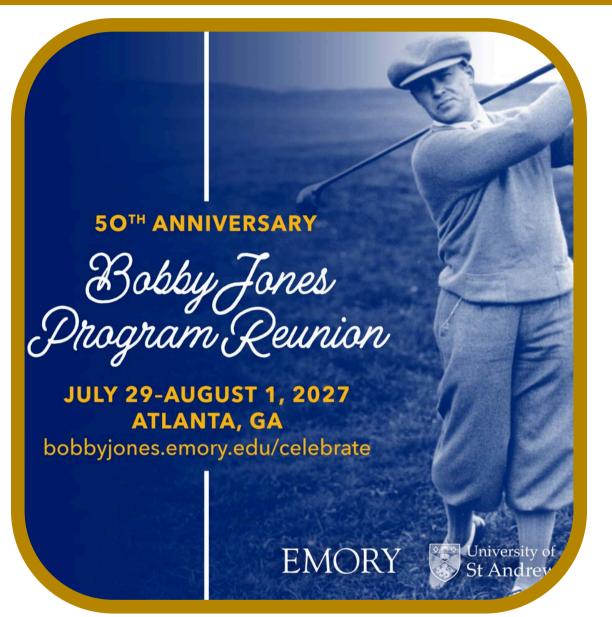
Left: St Andrews to Emory Scholars - Josh Rankin, Alex Hargreaves, Victor Mendoza-Galvis, and Magnus Burnet Bottom Left: St Andrews Delegation - Robert Fleming, Heather Edie, Professor Dame Sally Mapstone, Matt Hutnell Bottom Right: Emory to St Andrews Scholars - Lucas San Miguel, Elizabeth Martin, Lydia King, and David Lee





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SAVE THE DATE: 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND PROGRAM REUNION



### **VOLUNTEER FOR PLANNING COMMITTEES**

**Communications and Marketing** 

**Golf Committee** 

**Social Programming** 

**Knowledge and Impact** 



Spring 2025

# TRIBUTE TO CATHERINE

#### Written by: Dean Joanne Brzinski

As Dr. Catherine Lewis prepares to step down as chair of the Robert T. Jones, Jr. Advisory Committee at Emory University in August 2025, we are deeply grateful for her extraordinary leadership and unwavering commitment to the Bobby Jones Program. Since joining the committee in 2007 and becoming chair in 2018, Dr. Lewis has led with vision, care, and a deep personal connection to Bobby Jones's legacy.

A historian, curator, and author with profound knowledge of Bobby Jones, Dr. Lewis brought his story to life in her remarks at meetings and receptions, helping our community understand Jones' multifaceted life and contributions to both golf and his community. Her storytelling transformed meetings into moments of inspiration and connection.

Under her leadership, the program navigated unprecedented challenges, including the suspension of the Scholarship during the pandemic. Dr. Lewis championed the creation of a mentoring program in 2020 that allowed alumni and committee members to stay connected with the newly selected scholars as they awaited resumption of the program in 2021. Her thoughtful and steady guidance ensured the program's resilience and deepened the sense of community in ways that continue now and into the future.

Dr. Lewis's impact goes beyond strategy—she's been a gracious host and welcoming presence. Her annual August dinners, complete with homemade lasagna, trifle, and happy corgis, are cherished memories for many Scholars and alumni alike as a part of their introduction to Atlanta.

Succeeding Charlie Yates Jr as Chair was no small task, but Dr. Lewis led with distinction, leaving incoming chair David Roemer a strong foundation to build upon. We're thrilled she will remain on the committee and will lend her expertise to the 2027 Reunion exhibit celebrating Bobby Jones.

Dr. Lewis has been more than a leader—she has been a true friend to the Bobby Jones Program. We thank her for her remarkable service and lasting contributions.







Left to Right: Dr. Catherine Lewis at the 2007 Bobby Jones Program Reunion in Atlanta; Catherine's corgi, Summer, photo bombing the 2024 Welcome Dinner

## **ALUMNI NEWS**



A SHORT FILM BY ADESOLA THOMAS

#### Adesola Thomas, Emory to St Andrews, 20C 22BJS

Adesola's magical realist family drama, *Sister Salad Days* had its Southern premiere at the <u>Atlanta Film Festival on April 25th, 2025 at the Tara Theatre at 7pm.</u> Thomas wrote, directed, and composed original music for her film while being a 2024 Resisting Narrative of Erasure Directing Fellow at the Visionary Justice Lab in Atlanta. Adesola's upcoming film *Marigold Leaves Her Body* won Best Short at the Atlanta Film Festival Screenplay Competition and was one of four scripts selected for the CASCADIA Film Festival's Script Studio Lab in Washington state, where her film was performed in front of a live audience at the festival's close on April 27th, 2025.



#### Alex Thompson, Emory to St Andrews, 13BJF 14T 22PhD

Alex was recently promoted to Assistant Professor of Religion at Tennessee Wesleyan University and Director of the TWU Honors Program. Congratulations Alex!



### Andrew McCrary, Emory to St Andrews, 06C 08BJS 12M

During our family's recent spring break, we took our children for their first visit to St Andrews. In addition to enjoying St Andrews, we also visited with co-scholars, Caitlin Riddick and her family in Callander and Steve Haag and his family in London.

Pictures: Andrew, Lauren, Luke (13 yo), Ty (9 yo), and Hayes (5 yo)

## ALUMNI NEWS



#### Michaela Bruzzese, Emory to St Andrews, 89BJS 90C

Michaela started a new position as the Science Teacher at Gordon Bernell Charter School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Gordon Bernell believes in the transformative power of individualized education, compassion, and community engagement for students of all ages in an outside of incarceration. We have two campuses to serve non-traditional high school and adult education students, and Michaela works at the campus at the Metropolitan Detention Center (county jail) where they serve approximately 60 incarcerated students.



#### Jeffrey Smith, Emory to St Andrews, 88BJS 89C

This past fall, our son Caleb decided to submit an entry to the Voice of Democracy national audio essay competition. The VFW's national prompt this year was "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?," in response to which all 26,000+ contestants wrote and recorded a three-to-five minute speech. The speeches submitted to the competition were judged at various levels, first within each district and state, ultimately at the national level where all 50 state winners' speeches were evaluated.

We learned in January that Caleb's speech won the Maryland state championship, so he was invited to attend the national awards weekend in early March. Then at the finals ceremony he was announced as the second place national winner!