



20

19 & 20

NSP YEAR IN REVIEW



20

# CELEBRATING

# 20

# YEARS OF NSP

## NATIONAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM REUNION WEEKEND

Current students, alumni, and parents gathered January 17 – 18, 2020 to connect, reconnect, and celebrate the 20th anniversary of the National Scholars Program.

The weekend kicked off with an opening reception at Sole on the Green where alumni, current parents, and senior scholars enjoyed the opportunity to connect and relax against the backdrop of beautiful Lake Hartwell.

Saturday morning's Brunch and Learn session featured dynamic presentations by several alumni on topics ranging from engineering and community development to starting a small business to finding meaning in our work. Current scholars also presented on two signature projects deeply tied to the NSP: CUhackit and the Youth Scholars Program.

Saturday afternoon offered time for open networking when students and alumni shared their experiences at Clemson and in the NSP.

On Saturday evening, the Almeda Jacks Ballroom was transformed into a beautiful, luxurious lounge where students, alumni, parents, and program staff enjoyed delicious food and wonderful music. Bill Lasser and Sarah Winslow hosted a "Conversation with the Directors," responding to questions about the program's genesis, its current priorities, and the vision for the future of the NSP.





# BY THE NUMBERS

**10**

National  
Scholars joined  
our program in  
August 2019

**> \$540,000**

donated to the  
NSP Excellence  
fund since its  
inception

## VISION

*The National Scholars Program strives to create a transformative community offering life-changing experiences and developing thoughtful scholar-leaders who listen, critically examine their place in the world, and use their talents to serve.*

# OUTREACH

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## Youth Scholars Program

The Youth Scholars Program, a partnership between the NSP and Pendleton Elementary School, welcomed an additional cohort of students this year, bringing the total number of students in the program to 12. National Scholars conduct monthly tutoring and mentoring sessions at Pendleton Elementary Schools. Additionally, the Youth Scholars visited Clemson twice during the 2019 – 2020 academic year. Their visits included learning from top faculty, meeting President Clements, visiting Clemson landmarks, and experiencing a day in the life of a Clemson undergraduate.



# ACADEMIC INITIATIVES

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## South African History

History professor Stephanie Hassell, Ph.D., taught a course on African history to prepare first-year scholars for future travels to Johannesburg, Durban, and Cape Town, South Africa and coursework at Stellenbosch University.

## Leadership & Social Justice

Leslie Lewis, Ph.D., taught a Spring course on leadership and social justice, to be followed by future travel to Washington, DC, and New York and West Point, NY. Dr. Lewis, a West Point graduate, has partnered with NSP alum Dr. Colleen Gleeson Eils (2004 Scholar Cohort), Assistant Professor and Associate Director of the West Point Writing Program, for the group's planned visit to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

## Issues of Inequality

NSP Director Sarah Winslow, Ph.D., taught the NSP First-Year and Senior Seminars, both of which focus on issues of inequality and allow students to critically examine their experiences and opportunities.

# STUDENT SUCCESS



Rami Major (2015 Scholar Cohort) was the recipient of the Norris Medal, given to the best all-around graduating senior at Clemson University and considered the most prestigious award given to an undergraduate student.



Killian McDonald (2014 Scholar Cohort) was selected to join the Knight-Hennessy Scholars program at Stanford University, where she will pursue a JD at Stanford Law School.



Jonathan Vogel (2015 Scholar Cohort) is a recipient of the Fulbright-Aston Martin Coventry University Automotive Award.



Roann Abdeladl (2018 Scholar Cohort) was selected to participate in the Public Policy Leadership Conference at the Harvard Kennedy School.

## 2019 GRADUATES

2019 graduates attend graduate school at UNC-Chapel Hill and the Medical University of South Carolina, and they are employed at Eastman Chemical and Exxon Mobile.

THE

2016

SCHOLAR COHORT



# THE 2016 COHORT

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6  
SCHOLARS



7  
MAJORS



5  
STATES



# NATALIE DELLAMARIA

Crystal Lake, IL  
Computer Science



## SELECT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Software Engineering Internship with Insitu Inc. in Hood River, OR
- Software Engineering Internship with Samsara Inc. in San Francisco, CA
- Future Computing Technologies Lab research using machine learning to evaluate large datasets
- Hackathon Participant in 10 hackathons in 7 different states including California, Maryland and Massachusetts - PayPal API award winner (CalHacks); best use of API (Technica)
- Student developer for SYNEX Corp. implementing a Chatbot service for Senior Capstone project
- Mechanical Engineering research through EUREKA! Summer Research Program

## KEY LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- CUhackit – Clemson’s student led hackathon organizing team (Co-Director)
- BothoHacks – Botswana’s first university-level hackathon (Clemson Student Lead Organizer)
- Seniors Advising Sophomores in Honors (mentor)
- Girls Who Code Club (Facilitator and Organizer)
- Grace Hopper Celebration AnitaB.org Student Scholar
- Clemson Outdoor Recreation and Education (Trip Leader and Equipment Specialist)

“The National Scholars Program enhanced my college experience in ways I could never have imagined. Not only did it introduce me to my current best friends and biggest support system, it also opened my mind to many new perspectives and possibilities. The seminars were hard but pushed me to develop my skills as a reader, writer, and leader. In regard to the travel experiences, from the Arctic Circle to the Indian Ocean, the National Scholars Program has taken me to incredible places that showed me how complex and beautiful the world is. **Being surrounded by the NSP community has encouraged me to try new things and explore opportunities that I would not have otherwise.** The scholars are diverse in their interests and personalities. On the daily, a scholar makes me laugh and also think about a topic in a new way. The students and the advisors in the program have been an incredible support system for me. From deciding if I should drop a class to determining what I want to do after graduation, I found that I always had someone to talk to who would listen. Being part of NSP has been a humbling and enlightening experience. I couldn’t be more grateful for everything it has done for me these past four years.”



# DYLAN ERIKSON

Greensboro, NC

Psychology &  
Political Science

When I accepted my offer to attend Clemson as a National Scholar, I was already well aware of the many unique opportunities the program had to offer. It wasn't until I got to campus that I fully began to understand the impact the program would have. Early on in my Clemson experience, the sense of community I felt in NSP made it clear that I was a part of something truly special. With my Clemson career behind me, it has become clear that the true gift of NSP is far more than the scholarship and programmatic elements like study abroad. The aspects of NSP I most cherish are the tight bonds I have formed within the Program. One of my greatest experiences at Clemson has been the opportunity to grow alongside the five amazing individuals who make up my cohort. They have inspired me, challenged me, and motivated me to become the best version of myself, not to mention becoming some of my closest friends along the way. My relationships with other scholars—in addition to the deep connections NSP has helped me form with numerous Clemson faculty, staff, and alumni—**have given me a sense of purpose and confidence that I hope to continue** beyond my time as an undergraduate. I am forever grateful for my past four years at Clemson and the home I found in the National Scholars Program.

## SELECT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Internship at the United States Supreme Court in the Office of the Counselor to the Chief Justice
- UNICEF USA Advocacy Day State Leader for South Carolina
- Sleep and Sleep Loss Creative Inquiry with Dr. June Pilcher, examining interaction effects of sleep and physical activity on BMI in college populations
- Departmental Honors in Political Science, completing Honors Thesis researching unique voting patterns of the median justice on the U.S. Supreme Court
- Suicide Prevention Creative Inquiry with Dr. Heidi Zinzow and Dr. Martie Thompson, assessing the efficacy of on-campus suicide prevention advocacy trainings

## KEY LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- Clemson UNICEF (Co-President)
- Honors Student Advisory Board (Student Outreach Committee Chair)
- Seniors Advising Sophomores in Honors (Senior Mentor)
- Clemson Honors College Committee (Student Representative)
- NSP UPIC Intern
- NSP Retreat Team
- Dixon Global Policy Scholar
- 1st Place, April 2017 Tiger SpeakOut public speaking competition
- Davenport Scholar, Clemson Department of Psychology
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

# CHARLIE GALLENTINE

Lincoln, NE

Computer Engineering



## SELECT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Software engineering internships with Honeybee Robotics Flight Systems Group designing high-speed FPGA based rotary encoder interpolation systems
- Computer Science research under Dr. Jacob Sorber, aiding in the design and development of battery-less building occupancy monitoring systems
- Computer Engineering and Robotics research under Dr. Ian Walker, developing biomimetic tendril-like actuators for continuum robots using shape-memory alloys.

## KEY LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- Clemson National Scholars Webmaster Intern
- CUhackit Webmaster and web-development lead



It's amazing how four years can fly by. I look back on photos from freshman year and I cannot help but be surprised at how my cohort has grown, both as a team and as friends. We have crossed oceans and climbed mountains together. **The individuals in the National Scholars Program have challenged me to become the best version of myself while providing an invaluable net of support.** National Scholars have been my study partners, intramural teammates, neighbors and so much more. They have been an integral part of my Clemson experience that I would not trade for anything.





# CARLY MALCOLM

High Point, NC  
Spanish Language &  
International Health

## SELECT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Interpersonal violence prevention internship with the Clemson University Office of Access and Equity
- Political Science research thesis on the importance of the federal public family planning program for women's education and income opportunities
- Study abroad program and health internship in Córdoba, Argentina
- Creative Inquiry research focusing on stories of immigration and detention
- Summer internship with the American Public Health Association in Washington, D.C.
- Dixon Global Policy Scholars program with Maymester and honors seminar courses

## KEY LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- Truman Scholarship Finalist
- Phi Kappa Phi study abroad grant recipient
- Mentor for Seniors Advising Sophomores in Honors (SASH)
- Communications Director of Clemson College Democrats
- Advocacy Chair for Clemson UNICEF
- Leader of 2018 NSP Retreat Team
- Clemson Honors College Ambassador

“It was hard for me to imagine as a high school senior how important it would be to have advisors and mentors who support me and encourage me to follow my passions. **Being part of this program has challenged me to broaden my perspective of the world and to dream big when I think about the future.** The NSP helps students to be the best versions of themselves and I am so grateful for all of the support I have received over these last four years. I have had opportunities to travel, engage with important issues, and build relationships that I never could have imagined before coming to Clemson. Most importantly, I found a sense of community within the NSP that has inspired me throughout my college career and will stay with me long after graduation.”

# CALLAHAN MOORE

El Paso, TX  
Political Science, History

## SELECT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Summer internship with Regional Security Office at U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2019
- Summer internship with U.S. Mission to International Organizations in Vienna, Austria, 2018
- Dixon Global Policy Scholars trip to France and Germany to study European history and public policy, 2017
- Debated at International Model United Nations conferences in Rome (2017), Barcelona (2018), and Lisbon (2019)
- Debated at the National Model United Nations Conference in Washington, D.C., November 2017, 2018, and 2019

## KEY LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- Clemson University Model United Nations Conference (Secretary-General)
- Reformed University Fellowship (Worship Team Leader, Small Group Leader)
- College of Behavioral, Social, and Health Sciences Student Advisory Board (Professional Development Subcommittee Co-Chair)
- Clemson Honors College (Ambassador)
- Clemson University German Department (Tutor)
- National Scholars Program Retreat Team (Member)



- President's Featured Student at October 2019 Board of Trustees Meeting
- Legacy Day 2018 Donor Dinner Student Speaker
- William Shannon Morrison Prize, 2019
- Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society
- Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society

I am so grateful to have been a member of the National Scholars Program throughout my four years at Clemson. **I've learned more from this community of scholars in diverse fields than I have in any single other class or program here.** My fellow Scholars have challenged me to consider new perspectives, to pursue my passion for international relations with energy and enthusiasm, and to think more critically about myself and the world around me. Without a doubt, NSP has been the defining element of my college experience.



# PETER STERCKX

Mt. Pleasant, SC  
Mechanical Engineering

## SELECT LEARNING EXPERIENCES

- Study abroad program at Georgia Tech Lorraine in Metz, France
- Research on modeling continuum robots with Dr. Ian Walker in the Mechanical Engineering Department
- Summer co-ops with Robert Bosch in Charleston, SC
- Semester intern at the Clemson Makerspace

## KEY LEADERSHIP & RECOGNITION

- CUhackit (Co-Founder and Co-Director)
- Carl Donner Nelson, Jr. Award (Outstanding Junior in Mechanical Engineering)
- Michelin Scholarship for International Programs (2018)
- Clemson Undergraduate Student Government (Senator)
- IT Student Advisory Board (Member)
- Seniors Advising Sophomores advisor

“The National Scholars Program has been the core of my Clemson experience. The program creates a close community among scholars through the shared office space, thought-provoking classes outside of our majors, and enriching travel experiences. Some of my fondest Clemson memories at Clemson involve the NSP. I will never forget our trip to Alaska centered around the National Parks and natural resources, or peacefully walking around the Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden on a warm Cape Town afternoon. But most of all, I will always keep with me the relationships I’ve built with other scholars in the NSP, especially with those in my cohort.

The NSP is also an exciting group to be a part of. Whether it’s a new event for alumni of the program or a well-decorated stress reliever, I’m always pleased to spend some time with other scholars and talk to them about what they’ve been up to recently. **The diversity of interests in NSP is one of the program’s greatest strengths, especially since each student is so excited and energized by their interests.**”

*To make a gift in support of the National Scholars Program, please visit:*  
**[bit.ly/nsp-give](http://bit.ly/nsp-give)**

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## MISSION STATEMENT

In collaboration with other University offices and programs, the mission of Clemson's National Scholars Program is as follows:

- Recruit and select the top high school students from throughout the United States
- Provide a competitive scholarship that covers all tuition, fees and other required expenses
- Coordinate a rewarding summer of study and travel after freshman year
- Create and program intellectually challenging and rewarding enrichment opportunities
- Provide individual and group advising that addresses and enhances the National Scholars' interests and skills
- Prepare the National Scholars to excel in graduate school and on fellowship applications



The NSP is thankful to the Clemson Office of Development for its support and deeply grateful for the considerable generosity of several Clemson alumni and friends, including the following:

The estate of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Ballenger, Class of 1923

J. Anderson Berly III, Class of 1978

Mr. and Mrs. Frank M. Bishop Jr., Class of 1965

The E. Smyth McKissick III Class of 1979 Clemson National Scholars Endowment

Dr. and Mrs. Paul W. McAlister, Class of 1941

Dr. and Mrs. Richard A. McMahan, Class of 1954

Dr. and Mrs. Roy Pearce, Class of 1941

The Smith-Westmoreland Scholars Endowment for Clemson National Scholars

The von Rosenberg Family Endowment for Clemson National Scholars

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew A. Lykken

The estate of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest H. Carroll

Matt (2002 Scholar Cohort) and Clarice (2001 Scholar Cohort) Clemmens