

**Scholarship and Leadership
Niswonger Foundation Board Update
Thursday, May 27, 2021**

Niswonger Scholar Summer Leadership Institute

The theme for this year's Summer Leadership Institute is *"Moving Up Without Losing Your Way."* The book's theme is discussion of the ethical costs of upward mobility. The author is Jennifer M. Morton. The Summer Leadership Institute has been moved to July 26-30, 2021. While both the New York City and Normandy trips have been cancelled for 2021, we have been able to schedule the Outdoor Challenge experience. We are making every effort to accommodate social distancing and provide an opportunity for each Scholar to spend time with Foundation staff and other Scholars.

Outdoor Challenge

Session I – Sophomores July 8-11

Session II – Juniors July 15-18

Summer Leadership Institute July 26-30, Niswonger Learning Center

Freshmen Orientation Monday, July 26

***Senior Dinner Tuesday, July 27, 7:00 p.m., General Morgan Inn**

***Board Luncheon Wednesday, July 28, 11:45 a.m. General Morgan Inn**

Annual Day of Service Thursday, July 29

**Scholar Outing Thursday, July 29, 6:15 p.m., Niswonger Home, 1508
Crestwood Drive, Greeneville**

**Board members are invited to join us for Summer Training activities. We particularly encourage Board members and spouses to attend events highlighted in bold.*

Scholars and Alumni News - (See Attached)

Niswonger Scholar Updates

Derek Driskill (Carson-Newman University, Freshman) was elected Vice President of Student Government Association at Carson-Newman. He will be completing a summer internship with the Niswonger Foundation serving as a CareerConnect Camp Counselor.

Aisling Hagan (University of Tennessee, Sophomore) has been awarded an internship at Knoxville Utilities Board for the summer.

Alexis Harvey (Tennessee Technological University, Junior) was initiated into and elected president of Tau Beta Pi, the most prestigious nationally recognized engineering honors society. Alexis presented to the Tennessee Tech Board of Trustees about diversity in engineering and visited school districts in the area encouraging students to major in engineering. Alexis has an internship with Nuclear Fuel Services this summer.

Sam Hensley (East Tennessee State University, Freshman) was reappointed to his seat in the East Tennessee State University Student Government Association Senate for Fall 2021 and Spring 2022. He accepted membership into the East Tennessee State University 125 Task Force for Student Success and Experience. Sam will be completing a summer internship through the Niswonger Foundation and Project Let's Chat.

Macy Noe (Vanderbilt University) will be completing a summer internship at ArtaZan.

Mabel Olson (Tennessee Technological University, Freshman) was named vice president of Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and was selected as treasurer of Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) at Tennessee Tech. Mabel will be completing a summer internship at Nuclear Fuel Services.

Aubrie Strange (Samford University, Junior) was presented with the Joe McDade Scholarship Award for leadership and character. She is one of only two students receiving the honor at the university this year. She was recognized as the Outstanding Journalism and Mass Communication Student, which is an award

given to a member of the graduating class who excels in all areas of the major. She was nominated for a \$5,000 Samford Service and Leadership Scholarship.

John Turner (University of Tennessee, Sophomore) was accepted into the Leadership Knoxville Scholars program. He is completing a summer internship with the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce.

Rithvik Vutukuri (Tulane University, Junior) received the Neuroscience Faculty Award, given to top neuroscience major graduate at Tulane.

Alumni Scholar News

Will Brummett (Class of 2013) was accepted into the e-Co Leadership Coaching Program in the Center for Excellence in Public Leadership at George Washington University. He is in the process of becoming a certified leadership and change coach through the International Coaching Federation.

Jessica Epley Burchette (Class of 2006) and her husband, Darrin, welcomed their son, Perry “Tate” on January 12.

Abigail Ricica Daniels (Class of 2010) and her husband, Brett, welcomed their son, Maxwell Mark in late January.

Courtney Johnson Hill (Class of 2019) earned her degree as a licensed Physical Therapist Assistant. She accepted a position at Pro Therapy Services of East Tennessee in Sevier County. She was married to Austin Hill earlier this year.

Virginia Hines Pfeifer (Class of 2007) was promoted to Managing Director, Strategic Solutions Advisors at Optum.

Lillie Seal (Class of 2015) was inducted in Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education.

Matthew Sheppard (Class of 2016) entered the PhD program in Engineering and Science Education at Clemson University.

Dillan Shults (Class of 2018) and Maci Goddard became engaged on May 15.

Todd Skelton (Class of 2010) joined HF Capital, the Haslam family investment office, as general counsel. He was recognized for the University of Tennessee’s inaugural Volunteer 40 Under 40 class.

Matthew Widener (Class of 2019) received two ACE certifications in ACT Basics and ACT Reading. He was selected for Advanced Placement training in AP Literature, which he will be teaching at David Crockett High School in the coming year.

