

**Scholarship and Leadership Training Program
Niswonger Foundation Board Update
Thursday, August 17, 2017**

2017 Summer Training

- We enjoyed another successful summer of training and travels. A special note of thanks to several of our Board members for participating in a number of training activities. All of our staff members, particularly Barbara Bates, were instrumental in the success of the Scholars' summer activities.

New Scholars

- Funding for technology and/or specific personal needs has been provided to each new Scholar.
- Mentors have been in touch with their protégées to offer guidance and support.

Scholar Academics and Service

- The following Scholars obtained a 4.0 gpa for the Spring Semester: Bo Pless (freshman - Milligan College); Matthew Widener (sophomore – ETSU); Trenton Yount (sophomore – UT-K); Madeline Standbridge (junior – UT-K); Dustin Howser (senior – Vanderbilt); Raini Rowenhorst (senior – ETSU); Katie Shields (senior – UT-K).
- One Scholar, Savannah Agan (freshman – Milligan College), was suspended from the program based on a failure to maintain the required semester and cumulative gpa of 3.0. Savannah was previously on probation for Fall Semester 2016. Nancy will continue personal mentoring with Savannah. It is hoped that she will be able to petition for reinstatement in the program at a later date.
- A total of 766.5 hours of community service was reported for Spring Semester. Four Scholars completed more than 50 hours of service: Tanner Shivley (freshman – Carson Newman – 59 hours); Zachary Ward (sophomore – UT-K – 70 hours); Raini Rowenhorst (senior – ETSU – 80 hours) and Katie Shields (senior – UT-K – 60 hours).

Recent Scholar Updates

- Please see attached update.

Other Scholar News

- May 15-18, eight Scholars, accompanied by the Niswonger's and Nancy, traveled to Van Wert, Ohio for the week of service and discovering the community. Highlights of the trip included the wonderful hospitality of the Niswonger's friends, and a first class tour provided by the Niswonger's. The Scholars served the community through work at the Children's Garden, the Crisis Care Center, the Salvation Army and the Family Health Center.

- The Freshmen Scholars joined Mr. Niswonger for a trip to the Bahamas in July. Aboard the *Never Enough*, the Scholars visited Nassau's Paradise Island and sailed to Highbourne Cay and several islands in the Exumas.
- The Sophomore Scholars completed an Outdoor Leadership Challenge experience May 20-23. The focus of this experience is team building, and building personal strength and excellent decision-making skills in challenging situations.
- The Junior Scholar trip to New York City was August 1-4. The Scholars attended a Broadway play, went to the Top of the Rock, participated in a guided tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, participated in a cooking class at the Institute for Culinary Education (ICE), visited the most significant sites of the City on a full-day walking tour, and enjoyed a dinner cruise around the tip of Manhattan.
- The Senior Scholars participated in the trip to Europe from June 3-12. Travels included time in London, Paris, with the greatest portion of the time focused on visiting the significant sites of the D Day invasion. The Scholars also enjoyed a day at Mont St. Michel, and touring their home bases of Honfleur and Bayeux.

Recent Scholar Alumni News

- Please see attached update.

Program Implementation

- The nomination materials for the 2017 Niswonger Scholars selection process were placed in the mail on August 14. Deadline for nominations is September 25. Nominees will be interviewed throughout the month of October. Final selection will be held on November 9.
- Our 2017-18 Scholars' Directory is in process.

Niswonger Scholars Update



Hope Adkins (Carson-Newman University, senior) has been inducted into Mortar Board, a national honor society that recognizes college seniors for their achievements in scholarship, leadership and service.



Christian Dalton (University of Tennessee, sophomore) completed a summer internship at the Hawkins County Department of Agriculture.



Courtney Johnson (Maryville College, junior) completed a summer internship with Pro-Therapy Physical Therapy, in Sevierville.



Elijah "Bo" Pless (Milligan College, sophomore) completed a summer engineering internship at Eastman Chemical Company.



McKenzie Reynolds (University of Tennessee, senior) completed an internship at Eastman Chemical Company in the accounting department. She has been named campus representative for PINK brand.



Kristen "Alora" Ricker (Milligan College, senior) was named on the Dean's List for the fall and spring semesters at Milligan. She received the Dick Lura Honorary Pre-Med Award in scientific learning.



Tanner Shivley (Carson-Newman University, sophomore) was employed during the summer with the Boys and Girls Club of Knoxville.



Kori Smith (University of Tennessee, sophomore) returned to Haiti for her seventh missionary experience.



Dillan Shults (Tennessee Technological University, senior) helped organize a Remote Area Medical (RAM) Clinic in June for residents of Cocke County and the surrounding areas.



Morgan Thomas (Clemson University, junior) is serving as vice president of Intellectual Development for her chapter of Alpha Chi Omega. She completed a summer internship in Prescription Drug Abuse at ETSU's Gatton College of Pharmacy.



Trenton Yount (University of Tennessee, junior) completed a summer internship at Arconic, in Alcoa.

Alumni Scholar Updates



Dr. Mary Kate Baker (Class of 2007) was married to William White on May 20th at Farmhouse Gallery and Gardens in Unicoi, Tennessee.



Sam Brashears (Class of 2017) was accepted into the Quillen College of Medicine class of 2017.



Chris Brown (Class of 2010) and his wife Joli welcomed their baby daughter, Adelyn Rose, in July.



Nick Darnell (Class of 2006) and wife Emily welcomed their baby daughter, Madeline Claire, on June 2.



Matthew Grimm (Class of 2017) has been accepted to the nurse practitioner program at Tusculum College.



Dustin Howser (Class of 2017) has begun an engineering position with Lockheed Martin.



Adriana Penalba (Class of 2010) graduated from University of Texas at Austin with an MBA degree. She has accepted a position as financial analyst at American Airlines in Dallas, Texas.



Trey Reliford (Class of 2010) has accepted a position with Paul, Weiss as a litigation associate. He was appointed to Mayor Megan Barry's community advisory board on body cameras which released official recommendations on Nashville's prospective body camera policy. He has been named as a member of the Board of the Urban League of Southern Connecticut.



Raini Rowenhorst (Class of 2017) has accepted a position with Kingsport Child Development Center (KCDC).



Ian Sams (Class of 2011) accepted the position of communications director for Senator Tim Kaine's campaign for U.S. Senate.



Matthew Sheppard (Class of 2017) received a full scholarship and a \$10,000 stipend for the graduate program in Engineering at Clemson University. Matthew completed a second summer internship at Eastman Chemical Company.



Kaitlyn Shields (Class of 2017) has accepted a position as teaching assistant at Pigeon Forge High School.