

**Niswonger Foundation Board Update**  
**Thursday, February 9, 2017**  
**Scholarship and Leadership**

## **Scholar Updates**

### Recent News

- Winter Training was held on December 19-20. The text was “*Anyway – The Paradoxical Commandments*,” by Kent Keith. We extend sincere appreciation to Board Member, David Golden, for hosting the Scholars for a special session with him at Eastman. Our thanks to Scott Niswonger, Nikki Niswonger and John Tweed for joining the Scholars during parts of the training. The Scholars were particularly delighted by the appearance of “*Santa Clause*” (Scott Niswonger) and “*Elf*” (David Sneed).

### Academic Achievement

The following Scholars maintained a 4.0 gpa for the Fall Semester 2016:

- Matthew Widener (East Tennessee State University, sophomore, education)
- Katie Shields (University of Tennessee-Knoxville, senior, agriculture)
- Dillan Shults (Tennessee Technological University, junior, engineering)
- Trenton Yount (University of Tennessee-Knoxville, sophomore, engineering)

One Scholar is on probation for spring semester, due to fall semester gpa. All other Scholars are fully in compliance with the semester and cumulative grade point average requirements.

### Service Achievement

- Our “shining stars” with community service for fall semester were Tanner Shivley (85.5 hours), Kori Smith (72.4 hours) and Katie Shields (60 hours). A total of 886.92 hours of community service was completed by our Scholars during fall semester 2016.

### Study Abroad

- *Madeline Standbridge* (University of Tennessee-Knoxville, junior, public health major) is spending Spring Semester in a four-part study abroad program in Washington D.C.; New Delhi, India; Capetown, South Africa; and Sao Paulo, Brazil. This research based program is focused on public health in a global context, and the role of community health and well-being.
- *Matthew Grimm* (University of Tennessee-Knoxville, senior, nursing major) will participate in a service abroad program in Ignacio, Belize, through the UT-K College of Nursing. The experience will be clinically based and focused on serving those who are physically vulnerable.

### Senior Update

- *Sam Brashears* (Wake Forest University) is an applicant for medical school.

- *Matthew Grimm* (University of Tennessee-Knoxville) is an applicant for master's in nursing program at UT-K.
- *Dustin Howser* (Vanderbilt University) has accepted a position with Lockheed Martin, in Houston, Texas as an Aeronautical engineer.
- *Raini Rowenhorst* (East Tennessee State University) is seeking employment and planning for graduate study in the field of public health.
- *Matthew Sheppard* (Clemson University) has been accepted into the master's degree program in mechanical engineering at Clemson University.
- *Katie Shields* (University of Tennessee) is an applicant for teaching positions in the field of agriculture.

#### New Scholars

- **Our New Scholars' Dinner is planned for Thursday, April 27, 7:00 p.m. at the General Morgan Inn. All Board members and spouses are encouraged to attend.**
- A press release for our New Scholars was issued in January.
- Contacts have been made with our new Scholars and their families to offer assistance with college selection, scholarship applications, etc.
- Home visits are currently being scheduled.

#### Other Scholar News

Please see attached Scholar News.

#### Summer Training

The tentative agenda for Summer Training is as follows:

Van Wert, Ohio Service Trip	May 15-18
Outdoor Challenge	May 20-23
Challenge "Survival Picnic"	Tuesday, May 23
Freshmen to Bahamas	May 25-28
Freshmen Orientation	Sunday, May 28
Training Week	May 29 – June 2
Senior Dinner	Tuesday, May 30
Board and Staff Luncheon	Wednesday, May 31
Annual Day of Service	Thursday, June 1
Normandy Trip	June 3-12
New York City	August 1-4

*\*Additional details regarding training week will be provided as finalized.*

#### **Scholar Alumni Updates**

- The 2016 Scholar Alumni Reunion was held on Saturday, December 17 at the General Morgan Inn.
- Please see attached Alumni Scholar News

## Niswonger Scholars Shine!



**Savannah Agan (Milligan College, freshman)** has transferred to Milligan College from the University of Tennessee.

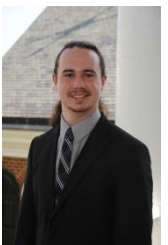


**Sam Brashears** (Wake Forest University, senior) is listed as co-author on two scholarly articles pending publication: *“Transfusion of aged red blood cells enhances Klebsiella pneumoniae extrapulmonary dissemination and suppresses host immunity”* and *“Parenteral Irons Vs. Transfused Red Cells for Treatment of Anemia in a Canine Model of Pneumonia.”*

The latter of which is being considered by the American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine (AJRCCM). On a different “note,” he is playing the Carillon (Bells) at Wake Forest.



**Matthew Grimm** (University of Tennessee, senior) was honored by being named 2<sup>nd</sup> Author on the soon to be published research he worked on with Dr. Schoborg at East Tennessee State University’s Quillen College of Medicine. He won 2<sup>nd</sup> place for a poster he presented at the College of Nursing Research Day in November. He will be participating in a service abroad program, in Spring, to Ignacio, Belize, through the University of Tennessee College of Nursing.



**Dustin Howser** (Vanderbilt University, senior) has accepted a position with Lockheed Martin in Fort Worth, Texas as an Aeronautical engineer. He is a member of the F-16/F-22 Integrated Fighter Group (IFG).



**Courtney Johnson** (Maryville College, sophomore) has been elected vice president of the Kinesiology Club at Maryville College.



**McKenzie Reynolds** (University of Tennessee, junior) has been inducted into Order of Omega, an all Greek Honor Society, at University of Tennessee. She has accepted an internship at Eastman in the accounting department.



**Matthew Sheppard** (Clemson University, senior) has been accepted to the Clemson University Graduate School for the MS program in Mechanical Engineering.



**Katie Shields** (University of Tennessee, senior) is a student Agriculture Education teacher at Northview Academy and serves as a student-teacher advisor. She became engaged to Justin Arnold in December.



**Dillan Shults** (Tennessee Technological University, junior) assumed a committee position with Mortar Board at Tennessee Technological University and is working with faculty advisors and officers to create a fundraising committee.



**Kori Smith** (University of Tennessee, freshman) interned at a hospital in Haiti in December.



**Madeline Standbridge** (University of Tennessee, junior) is spending Spring Semester in a four-part study abroad program, traveling to Washington, DC; New Delhi, India; Capetown, South Africa; and Sao Paulo, Brazil.



**Morgan Thomas** (Clemson University, sophomore) has been elected vice president of Intellectual Development in her sorority, Alpha Chi Omega.



**Zachary Ward** (University of Tennessee, sophomore) is now a member of Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship at University of Tennessee.



**Trenton Yount** (University of Tennessee, sophomore) received a summer internship with Arconic and will be working with their Engineering Department.

## ALUMNI SCHOLAR NEWS



**Dr. Katie Baker** (Class of 2007) became engaged to William White.



**Will Brummett** (Class of 2013) received the Dr. O'Brien's coveted, "*C-N Rebar All-Star Award for Excellence and Friendly Service*" at the Spring staff and faculty meeting at Carson-Newman University. Will is the youngest recipient in the history of the award.



**Dr. Jessica Burchette** (Class of 2006) and her husband Darrin announced the birth of their daughter Sadie in December.



**Brittany Vogt Jorgenson's** (Class of 2008) business, Storybrook Farm, was awarded a 2016 KOSBE award for Woman-Owned business excellence. Storybrook also won a 2017 Wedding Wire Couple's Choice award for the second year.



**Rian Rainey** (Class of 2010) and his wife Maryann announced the birth of their son, Augustine Terry Rainey, on January 20<sup>th</sup>.



**Todd Skelton** (Class of 2010) was selected to be a member of the *Nashville Emerging Leaders 2017 Class*.



**Yaying Wang** (Class of 2014) has been accepted to Duke Universities Physician Assistant Program. She will begin classes in Fall 2017.



**Katie Williams** (Class of 2008) is now working as a freelance marketing consultant in San Francisco, California. She is a member of Convent Arts Collective.