

Niswonger Foundation Board Update
Thursday, February 24, 2022
Scholarship and Leadership

Scholar Updates

Recent News

- Scholars Winter Leadership Institute was held on December 20-21, 2021. The Institute was held in person. The theme was “What got you here won’t get you there.” Scholars assessed themselves based on the 21 habits that are detrimental to achieving their full potential. Scholar Alumni Dr. Katie Baker-White, Dr. Cole Seaton, Tanner Shivley, and Alex Smyth assisted Nancy with one of the sessions.

Academic Achievement

The following Scholars maintained a 4.0 gpa for the Fall Semester 2021:

- Derek Driskill (Carson-Newman University, sophomore, education)
- Mabel Olson (Tennessee Tech, sophomore, electrical engineering)
- Sarah Douthat (University of Tennessee-Martin, senior, public health)
- Aubrie Strange (Samford University, senior, public relations) All Scholars maintained above a 3.0 gpa. The average gpa was 3.72.

Service Achievement

While all Scholars are required to complete 40 hours of service each semester, Alexis Harvey (Tennessee Tech, senior, engineering) completed 61 hours of service.

Summer Training

The tentative agenda for Summer Training is as follows:

Outdoor Challenge (Sophomores)	May 21-24
Challenge Picnic	Tuesday, May 24
Bahamas (Juniors)	May 26-29
Training Week	May 30-June 3
*Senior Dinner	Tuesday, May 31
*Board Luncheon	Wednesday, June 1
Annual Day of Service	Thursday, June 2
New York City (Juniors)	July 21-24
Normandy Trip (Seniors/2022 Graduates)	August 6-15

**Board Members and Spouses especially encouraged to attend.*

Additional details regarding training week will be provided at the May Board Meeting.

NISWONGER SCHOLAR NEWS

Trent Dickerson (University of Tennessee, Sophomore) completed his 2-year Coop with FedEx and was offered a part-time position with them while he completes his undergraduate studies.

Sarah Douthat (University of Tennessee at Martin) graduated in December with a degree in Health and Human Performance Public Health. She accepted a position with Niswonger Foundation's NiswongerCare program as an Advisor.

Derek Driskill (Carson-Newman University, Junior) will be presenting an interdisciplinary research essay and compete at the Alpha Chi National Convention, in Austin, Texas, March 24-26. He was hired as Lead Resident Assistant for Appalachia Commons. He announced his candidacy for Student Body President at Carson-Newman.

Alexis Harvey (Tennessee Technological University) graduated cum laude in December with a BS in Electrical Engineering with a minor in Mathematics. She is pursuing her MS in Power and Energy Systems at Purdue University while working full time as an Electrical Engineer at Eastman Chemical Company. She is a member of the Collegiate Leadership Institute for the Society of Women Engineers and Women in Engineering for IEEE.

Sam Hensley (East Tennessee State University, Sophomore) began serving as Parliamentarian of the ETSU Student Government Association. He has joined the University's Marketing and Innovation Committee.

Mabel Olson (Tennessee Technological University) accepted an invitation to the engineering honor society, Tau Beta Pi. She received two Tennessee Tech Scholarships for the spring semester; the Captain William Lafayette Anderson Endowed Scholarship for Electrical and Computer Engineering, \$3000, and the Excellence in Electric Power Endowed Scholarship, \$1000. She accepted a summer internship opportunity with Bright Ridge, in Johnson City.

Aubrie Strange (Samford University) graduated from Samford in December with a degree in Journalism and Mass Communication. She has accepted a position with Prosper of Birmingham Alabama as Fundraising Manager.

NISWONGER ALUMNI UPDATES

Hope Adkins (Class of 2018) is pursuing a PhD in Higher Education Administration at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Katie Shields Arnold (Class of 2017) and her husband, Justin, welcomed their second son, Stetson, on September 28th.

Patrick Brown (Class of 2010) and his wife, Jessica, welcomed their daughter, Ava Mae, on January 21st. He is now the Owner/President of his firm, Ross/Fowler, of Knoxville. They design a wide variety of landscape architectural projects, including master planning, parks, green infrastructure, streetscape, and campus design throughout the Southeast.

Brittany Church (Class of 2021) accepted a position as Enrollment Coach with Louisiana State University's Online and Continuing Education program, specializing in the graduate programs at their Shreveport campus.

Emily Hollingsworth (Class of 2011) passed her PMP exam, and she is now a Project Management Professional, certified by the Project Management Institute.

Brittany Jorgenson (Class of 2008) was promoted to Director of Operations for Uscap Apparel, in January.

Law Loving (Class of 2012) and his wife Megan welcomed a daughter, Evora Camille, into their family on December 26.

Kayla Williams Mehr (Class of 2013) and her husband, Chris, welcomed their son, Williams "Will" on February 2nd (02-02-2022). Kayla stated, "with a birthdate like that, I expect he will be great in Math!"

McKenzie Reynolds Potter (Class of 2018) was promoted to a Senior Audit Associate position at Blackburn Childers and Stegall, in January.

Moziano "Trey" Reliford (Class of 2010) was elected partner at Neal & Harwell, PLC. He was elected Vice President of Conexion Americas Board of Directors.

Dillan Shults (Class of 2018) was promoted to Maintenance Engineer II at Artazn, in Greeneville.

Alex Smyth (Class of 2015) has accepted a position with Walters State Community College as a Data Analyst.

Elizabeth Batson Tetrick (Class of 2006) and her husband Tyler welcomed their son Tristan on January 5th.

Katie Williams (Class of 2008) has accepted a position in sales and marketing for JadeTrack, a sustainability and energy management software startup. She works remotely from her home in Elizabethton. Personally, she is working on a ceramics and painting exhibition for spring 2023, in Joshua Tree, California.