Welcome to the first ever Emory Scholars Alumni Newsletter!

We are starting this semi-annual tradition to create a regular avenue of communication with you, our community of over 2000 Emory Scholar alumni!

**Why Now?**
About two years ago, a committee chaired by the current Dean of Emory College, Dr. Robin Forman, met to decide how to apply the famous Haygood quote “Let us stand by what is good and try to make it better,” to the Emory Scholars Program. The committee of stakeholders set the framework for what we are affectionately calling “Scholars 2.0.” One goal of Scholars 2.0 is to enhance engagement with you, our Scholar Alumni!

**To What End?**
This new newsletter is one concrete step towards the goal of enhancing alumni engagement. Through this newsletter you can look forward to learning what current and alumni Scholars are up to as well as learning about opportunities for you to get involved with the Emory Scholars Program by engaging with potential Scholars, current Scholars, and other alumni Scholars!

**What's New?**
Please visit the new Emory Scholars Program website which describes the new framework for the Program. In a nutshell, we are working to align the various aspects of the Emory Scholars Program, from recruitment to events, with articulated Scholar Qualities through a framework we describe as “Grounded. Growing. Giving.” You can also learn about the new and expanded Scholars Program staff, which includes 4 full-time staff members, a graduate assistant, and student staff called Scholars Fellows.

**Take Action!**
We would love to hear from you! Please drop us a line at ec.scholars@emory.edu and share any suggestions you have regarding ideas for:

- the yet to be built “alumni” section of the new website.
- future editions of this newsletter.
- ways to engage with potential Scholars, current Scholars, and each other.

Happy Reading,

The Emory Scholars Program
Scholar Alumni Giving Back

We had a busy year full of events for Scholars, including opportunities to grow through engagement with alumni. Below are a few examples of how our alumni gave back to the Scholars program this year by engaging with both current and potential Scholars!

Senior DC Trip
Last fall, twelve Emory Scholars travelled to Washington, DC in September 2014 for a packed two-day trip. They learned more about careers in politics and public service and discovered the roles that citizens in various careers (such as medicine, science, social science, non-profits, etc.) can play in policy development. Scholars also served as ambassadors who helped educate policymakers in Washington about Emory University and the Scholars Program. Scholars had the opportunity to sit in on Congressional hearings, meet with Georgia legislators and their staff, and network with Emory alumni and Scholar alumni who live and work in the Washington, DC area, including Monique Dorsainvil 9C, a Dean’s Achievement Scholar, and Awenate Cobbina 02C at the White House (see photo). Read more about the trip here. A special thank you to all our DC Scholar alumni who engaged with our current Scholars! The trip was such a success we are doing it again this fall!

If you currently live in the DC area, please make sure your contact information is up to date with the Emory Alumni Association so that you will get an invitation for this year’s DC Emory Scholars Alumni Networking event, which will take place on Tuesday, October 27, 2015.

Dr. Tiffany Hodges’ Visit to Campus
Scholar alumna Dr. Tiffany Hodges 05C visited campus in November to give a lecture to the Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology department on her research on surgical treatments for brain cancer and to have an informal networking lunch with a group of Emory Scholars. Tiffany, who just completed her last year of residency for neurosurgery at Duke University, shared some great career and networking advice with our current Scholars and spent some quality time with current students in the Scholars’ Lounge. Thank you Tiffany!

Scholar Finalists’ Week 2015
Emory Scholar Alumni were fundamental in helping us pull off yet another successful Emory Scholars Program Finalists’ Week for the group of 86 high school seniors invited to campus. Scholar alumni participated as interviewers and panelists, joined us for the closing dinner and alumni reception at the Carter Center, and made congratulatory calls to Finalists invited to be members of the Emory Scholars Program. Through all of their interactions, alumni played a unique role in explaining the value of Emory and the Emory Scholars Program to Finalists. Thank you to all of you who played a role in bringing 38 new students into our Emory Scholars community!

There are many opportunities for our alumni to get involved in the Scholars Program, whether you live near Emory or elsewhere. We would love to have even more engagement from Scholar alumni! We invite you to indicate your interest in various opportunities by completing our Emory Scholars Alumni Interest Survey and we will reach out when opportunities arise. If you are interested in being a workshop facilitator at the Fall Scholars’ Retreat November 6th - 8th at Lake Lanier Islands Resort in Buford, GA, please respond to the survey by Monday, August 24, 2015.
Emory Scholars and others familiar with the program describe an Emory Scholar using a limited set of concepts but many different words! One of the foundational elements of Scholars 2.0 is a common vocabulary to articulate the qualities of an Emory Scholar. The five Scholar qualities are: intellectual curiosity, creative thinking, servant leadership, communication skills, and commitment to community. This year, Emory Scholars, grounded in the qualities of servant leadership and commitment to community, have been giving of their talents by working hard to positively impact their surroundings at Emory, in Atlanta, and beyond. Here are just a few examples of Emory Scholars who acted as agents of change!

Juliana Joss: Freedom at Emory
While political activists in Georgia fought for bill SB 44, which would potentially allow undocumented students to attend Georgia’s public universities, Woodruff Scholar Juliana Joss 17C, along with another Emory student, spearheaded the founding of Freedom at Emory (supporters pictured above), an undocumented student advocacy group. After nearly a year full of activism, she and her organization succeeded and Emory’s policies now allow undocumented students who are protected by the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program to receive the same consideration as United States citizens for financial aid. Juliana Joss first got interested in the issue of undocumented students through a field trip to the Stewart Detention Center as part of the Emory Scholars’ unique Scholarship in Service (SAS) Summer Program. Learn more about SAS.

Ami Fields-Meyer & Adam Goldstein: Table Talk
Taking the idea of “bringing people to the table” literally, Dean’s Achievement Scholars Ami Fields-Meyer 16C and Adam Goldstein 16BBA started a new campus program to promote cross-cultural dialogue between students who would not normally meet. The program has three distinct initiatives each with their own goals and frameworks for conversation. TableTalk is a set of pre-set and pre-planned conversations between members of disconnected groups. LookUp is an initiative in the dining halls that encourages students to place their cell phones down for a meal and engage in a dynamic meal conversation by providing a box to store the phones and some guiding questions to start the discussion. Finally, Campus Couches is a program that sets up furniture around campus and allows students to start an impromptu conversation with anyone seated there. The program has proved to be a huge success at Emory, and similar initiatives have sprung up across the country at other university campuses. Read more about Ami and Adam’s work here.

MLK “Day On” at Oakland Cemetery
On Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, many Emory Scholars participated in an inaugural Scholars Program’s Emory “Day On,” a day honoring Dr. King’s legacy by giving back to the Atlanta community. This year, the Scholars partnered with Volunteer Emory to beautify the grounds of the historic Oakland Cemetery, a valuable park area and green space less than a mile from downtown Atlanta. The cemetery is well known by current Scholars as anthropology professor Dr. Liv Nilsson Stutz, who studies burial archaeology, has taken Scholars on a cultural excursion to the cemetery the past few Halloweens! Thirty-nine Emory Scholars spent the day doing a variety of gardening activities and were joined by Woodruff Scholar Alumnus Ernest Brown 13C.
Victoria Umutoni: Society for Family Health
This summer, Woodruff Scholar Victoria Umutoni 18C is an agent of change in her internship with the Society for Family Health (SFH) in Rwanda. SFH works to improve the health and lives of families in Victoria’s home country of Rwanda. She is excited to be working in the Human Resources department, and is ready for the challenge of learning what has been achieved in Rwanda’s public health sector and what still needs to be developed.

New Alumni Spotlight

In May, we congratulated 74 Senior Scholars on their graduation from Emory and while we are sad to see them go, we know they are off to promising futures as the newest Emory Scholar Alumni. Here we highlight four of our newest Scholar Alumni from the Class of 2015.

Kaylee Tuggle
Woodruff Scholar Kaylee Tuggle graduated in May with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Creative Writing and received highest honors for her thesis in Sociology. While at Emory, Kaylee founded and was President of the Emory Dream Project which mentors Atlanta high school students on post high school planning. Kaylee was also an active member of the Scholars Program and worked as a Lounge staff member and then part of the newly created Scholar Fellow Program. Starting in the fall of 2015, Kaylee will be working full-time in Griffin-Spalding County School District as an English teacher in her hometown of Griffin, GA.

Elizabeth “Jordie” Davies
Dean’s Achievement Scholar Elizabeth “Jordie” Davies graduated with High Honors in May with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Jordie was an active member of the Emory community, participating in the Mellon Mays Research program, completing a senior honors thesis, and working as a Senior Resident Advisor in an on-campus dormitory. Starting in the fall, Jordie will start a Ph.D. program in Political Science at the University of Chicago.

Camden MacDowell
Woodruff Scholar Camden MacDowell graduated in May with a Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience and Behavioral Biology. Camden devoted much of his college career to working with staff and faculty to conduct research and volunteering as an EMT for Emory EMS. In the fall, Camden will start a MD/Ph.D. program in Neuroscience at Rutgers, Princeton, and Robert Wood Johnson Medical School.

Chelsea Carnes
Oxford Scholar Chelsea Carnes graduated in May with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a minor in Visual Arts. Chelsea was an active member of both the Oxford Scholars Program and the Emory Scholars Program, where she gave back to the program by working as a Scholar Fellow this past year. In the fall, Chelsea will be working as an Associate with Triage Consulting Group in Atlanta where she will join Woodruff Scholar Alumnus, Ernest Brown 13C.

We encourage older alumni in Atlanta, Chicago, and New Jersey to reach out and welcome these new alumni to your community!

We hope you enjoyed your first Emory Scholars Alumni Newsletter and keep an eye out for our next one in January 2016.

Reminder: Please take a moment to complete our Emory Scholars Alumni Interest Survey.