

Trustee Alumnus Extends Kansas City Career Abroad

By: Carolyn Pjecha

Andrew Garten graduated summa cum laude in the Trustees' class of 2006 with a dual degree in Business and Spanish. Andrew also received the Delta Sigma Pi Scholarship Key—awarded to a senior graduating from the Bloch School of Management with the highest cumulative grade point average. After graduation, Andrew was hired by his sponsor organization, Newmark Grubb Zimmer (formerly Zimmer Real Estate Services). From 2006 to 2010, Andrew worked in Kansas City as Research Director. Since then, he's relocated to Recife, Brazil, and works as an independent contractor for Newmark Grubb Zimmer.

When asked about the impact the Trustees' scholarship made on his career, Andrew responded, "The UMKC Trustees' scholarship is unmatched in its ability to transform students into professionals who can make a positive impact in Kansas City and beyond. When I received the 'congratulations' call 15 years ago, I'm not sure who was jumping up and down higher, my parents or myself! To conclude a four-year degree without student loans while receiving job experience through the internship program opens many additional career paths. The impact of the Trustees' scholarship program continues to shape my career and life."

"The Trustees' Scholars Program permitted Zimmer to get to know Andrew much better than any one or several job interviews. Andrew interned with Zimmer each year of his UMKC experience so he got to know us well," said Hugh Zimmer, Chairman of Zimmer Companies Inc. "Upon graduation, Andrew joined Zimmer as a seasoned and competent addition to our staff. He has continued in that role in the eleven years since his graduation, even though he has physically moved to South America. Andrew Garten is a splendid example of the future employees of Kansas City companies which are being turned out through the Trustees' Scholars program at UMKC."



Andrew Garten
Class of 2006 Scholar
Director, Research Consulting
Newmark Grubb Zimmer

No Place Like Home: Scholars Return to Give Back

By: Bridget McSorley



Kevin Barb



Andrew Best

Community is a central theme of the Trustees' Scholars Program. Not only in the selection process and the enrichment sessions, but also in the late-night study groups and advice passed down from year-to-year. The goal is to send graduates into the community with a desire to give back. So it's no surprise that alumni want to return and help out their fellow scholars.

Kevin Barb graduated in 2007 with a degree in Business and is CFO of Whetstone Capital Advisors. Andrew Best graduated in 2017 and works for Rubin Brown LLP as an accountant. Their experiences as Trustees' Scholars inspired them to give back to the program through the creation of an alumni group.

"As alumni of the program, I think we're in a unique position to enhance the program and support the current scholars. I'm excited to work with Andrew to bring together a cohesive group of alumni who are passionate about giving back to the program that gave so much to us," says Kevin.

This fall, Kevin and Andrew presented their ideas for a Trustees' alumni group to a mix of current and alumni scholars. Through networking, events and social media, Andrew and Kevin aim to create stronger a relationship between the scholars, trustees and alumni.

The alumni network would increase alumni involvement in existing events and

programming, but also give way to new opportunities such as an alumni panel. The alumni network would benefit current and future scholars by providing access to a strong network of young professionals.

Another benefit of the alumni network would be to support scholars through mentorship—including small groups and one-on-one. Groups or pairs could be selected by majors or interests, with the goal of allowing scholars to ask questions and advice in order to be better prepared to enter the workforce.

Although Andrew and Kevin have a strong plan for what they hope the alumni group can accomplish, Andrew notes that, "the most important element would be enthusiasm. The vision is great, but even the best plans will fall short if no one is willing to participate in the execution."

"We need to secure a group of alumni who are committed and willing to roll up their sleeves and give back to the program," Kevin adds.

Kevin, Andrew, and all the participating alumni are at the beginning of a big undertaking. There are many exciting parts, and a great deal of hard work to put in. Moving forward, the scholars will continue to do what we began when we were selected: build and support a community.

Summer Internships

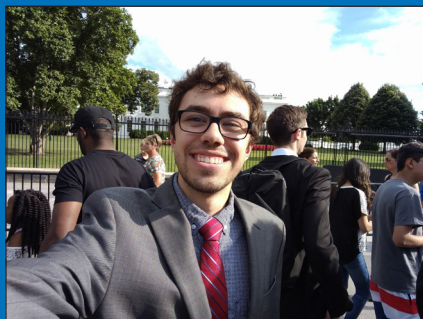
By: Ben Rankin

For students of political science, Washington, D.C., is a prized destination for summer internships. As such, I jumped at the chance when the Fund for American Studies offered to host me for a summer of classes and internships in the nation's capital.

I spent most of my time interning with the North American Association for Environmental Education, a professional networking organization for educators around the country. The experiences I had there were transformative. I had the opportunity to coordinate a joint research project with interns at the Environmental Protection Agency. Through that project, I learned how vital it is for nonprofits to cooperate with government counterparts and saw how non-governmental organizations adapt to political changes.

I also took a position as Research and Advocacy Associate at the Center for Civilians in Conflict. I wrote weekly updates on topics like Congressional authorization for the use of military force, arms sales and key defense bills. This position helped me realize a passion for issues that involve human rights and national security. I have since extended my tenure at the center, where I continue to work today.

My time in Washington, D.C., was full of learning opportunities, relationships and discoveries about myself. Moving forward, I will remember 2017 as a crucial launchpad for my career journey.



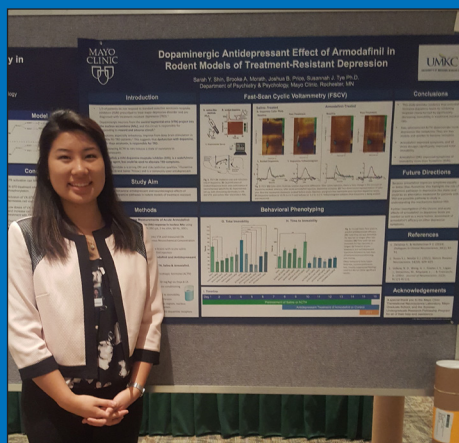
Ben Rankin, 2nd year scholar
Sponsor: Barbara Hall Marshall

Medical research has been a career aspiration for Sarah Shin—a 3rd year scholar studying biology, chemistry and math—so she was ecstatic to be part of the Mayo Clinic's Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF), working in the molecular pharmacology and experimental therapeutics department.

In Rochester, Minnesota, Sarah conducted research trials on the efficacy of antidepressant treatments. This included administering drugs to rats, conducting behavior tests, shadowing physicians and performing brain dissections.

"The director of the MD/PhD program is legendary...He gave good advice, it was a lot of constructive criticism," Sarah reflected. She also appreciated his honest feedback, "He told me, 'You need to change your voicemail.' Who else is going to say that?"

Before her internship, Sarah wasn't sure what her future schooling looked like, "I was thinking of doing an MD, a PdD, or a PharmD, or a combination of those three." After practicing research herself, Sarah changed her



Sarah Shin, 3rd year scholar
Sponsor: The UMKC Trustees

outlook. She saw that the MD/PhD researchers were very like-minded and has decided to pursue an MD/PhD program. "I enjoyed the research, but as I learned more I couldn't shake the feeling that the MD part was also a critical part of medical research."

Stateside Adventures

By: Jennifer Nguyen

Kameron Fisher, 3rd year scholar, spent her summer interning at Duke University Hospital. She worked on projects that exposed her to multiple branches of the hospital and allowed her to shadow leaders from the administrative and clinical departments. One of Kameron's main projects was to decrease the number of suboptimal treatments given to women during their pregnancies.



“Overall, the experience was invaluable and far exceeded my expectations. It has begun to shape my future career in healthcare and has shown me the value of effective leadership, communication, and most importantly, what it means to have a passion to serve others.”

Kameron's favorite memories of the internship include opportunities she had to interact with leadership at the institute, create lifelong friendships and explore North Carolina.

Sponsor: J.B. Reynolds Foundation

Douglas Croy, 3rd year scholar, spent the month of June in Challenge, California, at Woodleaf, a Young Life youth ministry camp. He served as the camp landscaper, working to create a welcoming environment as well as coordinating campground events.

One of Douglas' favorite memories occurred on his second night when he was able to help a



disabled camper through an obstacle course trail. According to Douglas, the reward of the moment was witnessing the smile on the camper's face and the joy she expressed getting to navigate the course like every other student.

“I came together with 40 students of all ages and different backgrounds to work and live in unison on a day-to-day basis. Working through the challenges of that, I was able to further my appreciation for diversity and what each individual brings to the table in pursuits of a common goal,” Douglas said of his time at the camp. *Sponsor: UMB*

Abigail Brown, 4th year scholar, traveled for eight weeks of the summer with the Crossmen Drum and Bugle Corp, a marching ensemble composed of brass instruments, percussion instruments and color guard. Prior to the summer, Abigail auditioned for color guard. Once accepted into the



program, she faced three weeks of spring training in San Antonio, Texas, before embarking on a national summer tour.

The drum corp traveled across the country performing at schools and campuses. Although physically and mentally exhausting, Abigail cherishes the time she spent learning from the other members of the ensemble.

The color guard—made up of 40 members—formed a tight-knit group over the summer and learned to truly rely on and support each other. A monumental

lesson Abigail learned in the presence of her teammates was the importance of self-advocacy, saying, “You’re not going to get better at what you’re doing if you don’t ask for the help you need.”

Sponsor: The UMKC Trustees

Leaders Around Campus

By: Jennifer Nguyen and Ben Rankin



Bayley Brooks, 1st year scholar, has found her niche on campus as President of the School of Computing and Engineering's Freshmen Student Council. Bayley is responsible for overseeing events and activities designed to increase student engagement and make students feel welcome at UMKC. *Sponsor: The UMKC Trustees*



Adam Holthus, 4th year scholar, is a member of the student American Choral Directors Association chapter, as well as the UMKC Choir. Choir has impacted Adam's college experience by creating an avenue for friendship, philanthropy and community involvement. Participation in choir has allowed Adam to hone his craft and grow in skill with his ensemble. *Sponsor: Copaken Family Foundation*



Ayesha Mahomed, 4th year scholar, serves as the Global Education intern for the International Relations Council. Ayesha works to strengthen the organization's new school membership initiative by establishing contact with local schools. She is currently planning Academic WorldQuest, an internationally focused quiz bowl competition for local area high schools. *Sponsor: The UMKC Trustees*



Katelyn McAlister, 2nd year scholar, is developing her leadership skills as President of the Residential Housing Council at Oak Street Hall. By coordinating events and programming for residents living on campus, Katelyn is serving her fellow students while gaining valuable event planning experience. *Sponsor: Kansas City Southern*



Jennifer Nguyen, 2nd year scholar, has taken on a role of volunteerism in Kansas City. When she's not serving as the Secretary of the Biological Sciences Student Government or the Treasurer of the Pre-Physician Assistant's Society, Jennifer volunteers her time with St. Paul's Outreach, Science Pioneers and Children's Mercy Hospital. *Sponsor: The UMKC Trustees*



Allison Spunaugle, 3rd year scholar, is an active member of Alpha Delta Pi, a social sorority at UMKC. Service Chair in previous years, she now serves as Executive Vice President of the organization. Allison's involvement in Alpha Delta Pi has helped her develop the skills of a strong and outspoken student leader. *Sponsor: Anonymous*

2017 Incoming Freshmen

By: Ciera Ayala



Camila Aponte

Sponsor: The UMKC Trustees

Camila, a graduate of Blue Valley West in Overland Park, Kansas, chose UMKC because of its strong academic programs and its location in the heart of Kansas City, Missouri. "I love science and languages and that's why I decided to double major in Chemistry and Spanish," Camila said. She plans to apply to UMKC's medical school to become a surgeon. Camila is very involved on campus; she's a member of the Honors College, the Pre-Medical Society and GlobeMed (Global Medical Relief Program). Within GlobeMed, Camila is on a committee working with partners in Uganda.



Ciera Ayala

Sponsor: Tom & Mary Bloch

Ciera, a graduate of Turner High School in Kansas City, Kansas, came to UMKC to stay close to her hometown community. "I love my hometown so much, I couldn't bring myself to relocate," Ciera said. She is pursuing a nursing degree and plans to be a Pediatric Nurse at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri. Her passion for nursing emerged while caring for her niece who has Down Syndrome and recently underwent heart surgery. Ciera is involved in numerous intramural sports and tries to strike a balance between classwork and activities.



Caroline Moriarty

Sponsor: G. Kenneth & Ann Baum

Caroline, a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, relocated to UMKC for many reasons—a vibrant city with countless opportunities, the ability to explore new neighborhoods and the inclusive campus feel with caring UMKC staff members. A Political Science major, Caroline plans to double major in Communication Studies. "I've always loved politics because I think it's fascinating to study how people perceive policies and how they vote to elect people who will effect their lives through policy," Caroline said. She is also a member of the Honors College, College Democrats, Philosophy Club and plays violin in the Conservatory Orchestra.



Orlando Quintana

Sponsor: Zimmer Family Foundation

Orlando, a graduate of Oak Park High School in Kansas City, Missouri, chose UMKC because it's a nationally ranked hub for engineering and his involvement in the Trustees' Scholars offers valuable professional connections. Orlando's interest in creativity and problem solving drives his passion to be a Mechanical Engineer. He said, "understanding machines and moving parts, and building and designing a solution to a problem is what constitutes an engineer and that is exactly what I want to do in my day-to-day life." Orlando is active in Christians on Campus and is treasurer for the School of Computing and Engineering Freshmen Council .



Bayley Brooks

Sponsor: The UMKC Trustees

Bayley, a graduate of Park Hill High School in Kansas City, Missouri, chose UMKC because of her fondness for the city. “The diversity and vibrant culture of Kansas City excites me, and there are so many opportunities for jobs and internships,” Bayley said. As a civil engineering major with a minor in environmental sustainability, Bayley plans to work at an engineering firm in the future. She’s already involved in Engineers Without Borders, Society of Women Engineers and the Honors College. She’s also President of the Engineering Student Council.



Emily Wesley

Sponsor: The UMKC Trustees

Emily, a graduate of Elkhart High School in Elkhart, Kansas, chose UMKC because it’s an environment that encourages diversity and inclusion. UMKC is the perfect home for Emily’s personal maturation and intellectual growth. “The beauty and intricacies of the processes of life have truly captured my attention,” Emily said. This led her to pursue a B.S. in Biology. Emily is involved with many campus organizations including the Biological Sciences Student Government, Phi Sigma Tau Philosophical Honors Society and serves as Campaigns Coordinator for GlobeMed. Emily plans to minor in Philosophy and become a physician.



Jacob Furry

Sponsor: Women’s Committee of the Conservatory of Music and Dance

Jacob, a graduate of Monett High School in Monett, Missouri, came to UMKC because of the world-class Conservatory program. He loves that there are countless musical and professional opportunities throughout this city, making it the perfect place to be. In high school, Jacob experienced the impact a teacher can have on a student and hopes to inspire students of his own someday. Jacob is a member of the National Association for Music Education as well as the Conservatory Student Association. He plans to teach instrumental music in Missouri public schools after graduation.

ABOUT UMKC TRUSTEES’ SCHOLARS

Scholars receive a full-ride (tuition, housing, book allowance) scholarship provided by the UMKC Board of Trustees and its community partners. Since the program’s inception in 2002, 95 scholars have completed their undergraduate degrees at UMKC and more than half of the program’s alumni have made their home in the Kansas City area.

Special thanks
UMKC Strategic Marketing and
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For information about the Trustees’
Scholars program, contact Amy
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Fall 2017
Media
Committee

Ciera Ayala
(‘21)

Bridget McSorley
(‘18)

Jennifer Nguyen
(‘20)

Carolyn Pjecha
(‘19)

Ben Rankin
(‘20)

Fall activities



In August, scholars gathered for the annual Trustees' Scholar Kickoff. During this meeting, new scholars were introduced and yearly committee assignments were announced.



In October, scholars volunteered at the annual Ronald McDonald House Trunk-or-Treat event.



In November, scholars attended UMKC Conservatory's Crescendo event.



In December, scholars volunteered at Harvesters Community Food Network.