Opening Remarks

As we reflect on the 2018-2019 academic year, we are excited to welcome warm weather and a break from classes.

In this edition of The Wall Fellows Journal, we will recap the 2019 spring leadership training weekend, give an update on the alumni calls project (also known as casual conversations with the Wall Fellows), share Erica Evans’ and Patrick Dempsey’s internship experiences, share a farewell from two of our co-editors, say “CCU later” to the newest class of Wall Fellows graduates and close with some information on upcoming events for the summer and fall semesters.

With warmest regards,

Morgan Howder ’19, Nathan Hord ’19 and Emily Towne ’20

Wall Fellows Class of 2020
(From top left): Charles Gray, Austin Johnson, Zak Gardiner, Morgan Goodall-Scott, Gina Cummings, Kristin Slovick, Kiley Decker, Emily Towne, Lucia Zats and Erica Evans.

Wall Fellows Class of 2019
(From left to right): Patrick Dempsey, Paul Zeuschner, Morgan Howder, Madison Wolf, Trevor Greene and Nathan Hord.
What does it mean to be a leader? This question fueled the current Wall Fellows classes as they met on April 26 and 27 for their annual spring leadership training at the Bunnelle Foundation office in Pawleys Island. This time together cultivated teamwork, networking and keen listening skills. On Friday, April 26, our agenda included presentations on CCU history and traditions with service excellence program coordinator Nick DeStefano; negotiation skills with Wall College Dean Barbara Ritter; presentation skills with Associate Dean Mark Mitchell; and leadership workshops led by Wall Fellows Director Gina Cummings. Activities also included additional workshops; etiquette training with Peggie Najim, owner and founder of The Carolina School of Etiquette-Image Concepts; and meals spent reflecting on the day’s activities as a group.

On day two, activities included senior presentations from the Class of 2019, sessions on networking by Patrick Dempsey ’19; Outlook365 and Sharepoint by chief of staff Madison Wolfe ’19; a LinkedIn presentation by Trevor Greene ’19; and leading self and leading others workshop led by Gina Cummings. The leadership weekend ended with a closing dinner at Wicked Tuna accompanied by President David DeCenzo, First Lady Terri DeCenzo and then-provost J. Ralph Byington. The meal was also attended by chairman Tom Loehr; former chairman and honorary Wall Fellow Harold Stowe; board member Jason Repak ’07; and alumni Scott and Krystin Dean ’06, Ross Kunmann ’18 and Mickayla Smith ’18. CoBE Institute director and faculty mentor for the Iceland projects, Peter Gasca, also joined the dinner. Their schedule provided educational seminars and introductory activities relating to a new year of projects, class time and traveling abroad, but also allowed time for building relationships with other Wall Fellows.

By the end of their weekend in Pawleys Island, the Wall Fellows could better define what leadership meant to them, what it means to be in the community of growing leaders and provided some skill development to support the endeavor. As summer approaches, these fellows prepare to take the skills they have learned and continue to refine them within their internships, work endeavors and our extended CCU community.

We are extremely grateful for the hard work and dedication from the spring leadership training team which included Madison Wolf ’19, Lucia Zats ’20, Morgan Goodall-Scott ’20 and Charles Grey ’20. They planned a successful, informational and fun weekend for all Wall Fellows and guests to enjoy.
In March, we launched our first Casual Conversations with the Wall Fellows Community event. The purpose of Casual Conversations is to provide an avenue for the Wall Fellows community to stay connected and continue to grow relationships. The conversations are video conference calls where Wall Fellow alumni share their experiences in the program with current Wall Fellows and other Wall Fellow alumni, providing interesting updates and lessons learned.

The first Casual Conversation featured alumnus Patrick Hall ’05. Hall shared his experiences and path that led him to work at Apple.

We plan to continue these casual conversations in June and hold a conference call on a bi-monthly basis. All previous alumni are encouraged to join the call. Our next casual conversation will be led by alumnus Joe Koster ’05, on June 27, 2019.

For more information, contact Austin Johnson at aajohns4@coastal.edu.

Internship Spotlight:
Erica Evans

The Wall Fellows Program accepts students from all majors. For Wall Fellows like Erica Evans, a biology major with minors in chemistry and mathematics and member of the Wall Fellows Class of 2020, internships are different from the traditional office setting many of our classmates’ experience.

Last summer, Evans conducted research under Paul Richardson, Ph.D., a professor in the chemistry department at Coastal Carolina University. His lab was centered around bacteriophages and their existence in the environment. Throughout the summer, Evans was responsible for maintaining lab materials, collecting samples, conducting lab procedures for analysis, analyzing the data with varied techniques, and reporting findings to Richardson. Her favorite parts of the program were her teams' visits to Brookgreen Gardens, a local wildlife preserve and sculpture gardens in Murrells Inlet. Evans and her fellow researchers collected water samples from the ponds in the aviary twice.
Last summer, Patrick Dempsey ’19 (pictured fourth from the right) had a dream internship with Citigroup Global Markets in New York City in sales and trading.

During the internship program, Dempsey helped in various capacities, such as collateralized loan obligation secondary trading, equity platform sales and FX options structuring. Each department handed him different tasks that included writing morning commentary, developing trade ideas and pricing esoteric structures for client presentations. Beyond the workplace, the internship had several volunteer opportunities. One of these events was volunteering at a track and field event for underprivileged youth in Harlem (pictured right).

Dempsey attributes the opportunity he had with CitiGroup to the networking connections he built through the Wall Fellows program. Through the help of Wall Fellows and CCU alumni, he was able to open the door to the opportunity for his initial internship with CitiGroup. Through his excellent work ethic and knowledge of the finance industry, Dempsey excelled during his internship. As a result, he will be returning to CitiGroup Global Markets in June as a sales and trading analyst in their institutional clients group (ICG) in New York City.

Dempsey’s advice to students who may be relocating for a job or internship is to “immerse yourself in the new place! Every city has its own unique things that may be hard to experience if you are not living there, so take the opportunity during the summer to really get involved in all that the city has to offer.”
It has been a pleasure working on the Wall Fellows Newsletter team, a team filled with collaborative efforts, working to share with Wall Fellow alumni and stakeholders the amazing learning experiences and fun events we enjoy.

Morgan and I are handing down our roles to new members of the Class of 2021. Emily Towne will be taking the lead, so the newsletter is in capable hands. I look forward to reading about the future success of the program and endeavors of new and upcoming Wall Fellows as a Wall Fellow alumnus. I wish the new team the best of luck!

Best,
Nathan Hord

As the year draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone who supports the Wall Fellows program. This program has completely changed my life. I came in as a campus leader but not a well-developed global leader. The Wall Fellows program gave me the opportunities to develop many different skills ranging from networking, organizing events and even public speaking. This program and Ms. Cummings have pushed me out of my comfort zone and made me expand my knowledge on things I never thought about prior to becoming a Wall Fellow.

I am forever grateful for the opportunities to explore the world, expand my knowledge and network with global leaders. I am leaving the Wall Fellows program confident in my work experiences and myself. I am forever indebted to the Wall Fellows program for allowing me to find my passion, my happiness, my best friends and myself. Thank you again to everyone who served as a mentor, friend or resource during my time in the program. I truly appreciate everyone who made the Wall Fellows program successful due to your financial donations, networks, time, and anything else you have generously given us.

I refuse to say goodbye to Coastal Carolina University and the Wall Fellows program; instead, I’ll leave you with my best wishes in your future endeavors. CCU later!

Loyaly,
Morgan Howder
The guidance and leadership provided by the Class of 2019 to our class has been nothing short of inspiring. We have big shoes to fill, and we look forward to leading the Class of 2021 in the same manner the Class of 2019 led us, with grace, patience and the occasional nudge when they knew we were capable of something far greater than we thought.

Patrick Dempsey’s knowledge of networking and finance has aided members of both the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021. He has held workshops outside of the classroom about both areas he has excelled in while at Coastal and in the program. We look forward to seeing his success as he joins CitiGroup this June.

Paul Zeuschner has brought excitement and encouragement to the Class of 2020. From his energy in the classroom to his words of wisdom in tough days, Zeuschner made everyone feel welcomed and important. We hope to bring his spirit to the Class of 2021.

Morgan Howder has been a crucial leader in developing a cohesive team between the classes of 2019 and 2020. She has developed a space for vulnerability within the classroom and outside of the classroom, allowing for members of both classes to come together. The classes of 2019 and 2020 will be long-lasting friends as a result of her efforts.

Madison Wolf led our classes as chief of staff. Her abilities to make a vision come to life and keep everyone accountable for their responsibilities was leadership that is unparalleled; she is passing her baton to Lucia Zats ’20.

Trevor Greene’s guidance in projects throughout the year has enabled the Class of 2020 to develop their skills to be better leaders to the upcoming juniors. Prior to the spring retreat, Greene took the time to review Wall Fellows’ LinkedIn profiles and presented us with areas of improvement. This kind of servant leadership is something the Class of 2020 looks to embody in the coming school year.

Nathan Hord’s calm voice in the classroom has encouraged other individuals to voice their opinions when they may have shied away before. As he embarks on his next steps as an accounting professional, his voice of reason and humor will be missed by the Class of 2020.

As we lead by example, the Class of 2020 hopes to make our newest Wall Fellow alumni proud as they embark on their next chapters! We will never forget the friendships, hard conversations and laughs we shared.

With love,
Emily Towne and the Wall Fellows Class of 2020
The 2018-2019 academic year is behind us. The Class of 2019 is preparing to graduate and the Class of 2020 is preparing and packing for their trip to Iceland, England, Scotland and Ireland! We look forward to seeing the Class of 2020 and the Class of 2021 in Fall 2019! Please find some upcoming dates below:

- Junior class international trip – May 16 to June 1, 2019
- Casual Conversations with the Wall Fellows community – June 27, 2019
- First day of classes for Fall 2019 – Aug. 21, 2019
- 25th annual Wall Fellows induction ceremony, Class of 2021 – Nov. 1, 2019
- Alumni Homecoming activities – Nov. 2, 2019

In the fall, the Wall Fellows will launch a Wall Fellow alumni fundraising campaign to assist with internships abroad, conference travel, internship expenses that may prevent a Wall Fellow from accepting an opportunity or other support for the student activities. Matching funds have been pledged from Wall Fellow alumni. Classes that reach 100 percent participation will be recognized at the 25th annual Wall Fellows Induction Ceremony in November 2019.

Wall Fellow Board of Advisers

A vital part of the success of the Wall Fellows Program is the participation and guidance of the Wall Fellows board of advisers. Below are current members of the board.

Current Board Members:

- Tom Loehr, chairman
- Harold Stowe, former chairman
- E. Craig Wall III
- Dan Adams
- Madeleine Condron, Wall Fellows Class of ’08
- Ryan Fisher, Wall Fellows Class of ’98
- Aaron Graham, Wall Fellows Class of ’07
- Eric Quimby, Wall Fellows Class of ’04
- Jason Repak, Wall Fellows Class of ’07
- Kevin VanDenBerg, Wall Fellows Class of ’08

We are seeking additional executive and alumni members. If you are interested or have a recommendation, contact Gina Cummings at 843-349-4186 or gcummings@coastal.edu.

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