



# The Wall Fellows Journal

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## Opening Remarks

Leaves are changing as we begin the fall semester. We have said goodbye to our 2014 classmates during the spring and summer commencements, and now we say hello to the newest Wall Fellows, the class of 2016. During this season of reflection and transition, we look forward to the celebration of the program's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In this edition of *The Wall Fellows Journal*, we bid a fond farewell to co-editor Meghan Laffin as she enters an exciting new stage of her life and warmly welcome Jada Bynum to the team. We check in with the current classes about their summer time activities, and we also receive updates on the fundraising project, the upcoming Induction Ceremony, and the Alumni Brunch.

With warm regards,

Jordan Lauver '15 and Jada Bynum '16



**Wall Fellows Class of 2015**  
(From left): Jordan Lauver, Scarlett Trainor, Steven Vanden Heuvel, Ashley Barteck, Chase Vickery and Casey Burnett

**Wall Fellows Class of 2016**  
(From top left): Kevin Hoffman, Laura Thareau, Alina Tananova, Nicholas DiDuro, Kevin Connelly, Micaela Antzoulatos and Jada Bynum



# Meghan Laffin Says Goodbye

This issue marks the first full cycle of *The Wall Fellows Journal*. As co-editor, it has been an honor to get this project off the ground and sustain it for its first entire year. I have had the pleasure of meeting many wonderful people, hearing many wonderful stories and sharing them with our dedicated readers.

In May I accepted my diploma and I have since begun working as a News Associate for the CBS News network. It is the start to a dream career, one I never would have found were it not for this program.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our readers and ask for your continued support as I step down and pass the torch to the next generation. I have full confidence in the future of this journal and look forward to reading it from the other side.

All the Best,

Meghan Laffin '14



From left to right: Meghan Laffin, Dominique de Wit, Cora Panos and Britany Higdon

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# Jada Bynum Joins The Wall Fellows Journal Team



Hello, dedicated readers! My name is Jada Bynum. I am a member of the Wall Fellows Class of 2016 and new co-editor of *The Wall Fellows Journal*. It is truly an honor to be selected for this program and to be invited to share these pages with you all in the coming months. As we approach the celebration of the Wall Fellows twentieth anniversary, I hope this next chapter of the newsletter will reflect a heartfelt appreciation of our past, stirring conversations about our present, and great anticipation for our future.

Sincerely,

Jada Bynum '15

# Class of 2015's European Adventure

Though the trip started out with a bumpy start thanks to a missed connecting flight from Atlanta to Amsterdam, Netherlands, the European tour made by the Wall Fellows Class of 2015 was a huge success. The group of six students can honestly say the experience of traveling and living together abroad brought them closer together.

Despite some hiccups in the world of travel at the onset, all of the other travel arrangements worked out well and without major delays as the group, Director Gina Cummings, and chaperone Angie Urling made their ways across Europe in all types of planes, trains and automobiles.



Kemin corporate visit in Herentals, Belgium

The Class of 2015 visited the cities of Oslo; Paris; Aachen and Mainz, Germany; and Brussels. Oslo provided a look at a national celebration of epic proportions as the nation showed off during National Day on May 17, 2014. This year marked the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Norwegian Constitution. While travel issues hampered the group's ability to visit the oil and gas company, Statoil, the Class of 2015 still made a strong connection to the Norwegian Culture.

From Norway, the group traveled to Paris and enjoyed the view from the top of the Eiffel Tower one quiet Parisian evening in true high-fashion style. Two days were spent with the French university known as ESCE. This international business school allowed the Class of 2015 to see the operations of the French-based retailer Auchan and arranged a visit with UNESCO, an international organization that deals with economic and educational reforms. This was a one of a kind experience that blended well with the delightful French culture and exquisite cuisine.

A tour of the historic city of Aachen took place in, a nation now near and dear to the hearts of many members of the Class of 2015. The students also participated in a multiday student leadership conference in Mainz and toured the German publically funded television network ZDF's massive, sprawling facilities. For Scarlett Trainor, an avid lover of film, the tour of the studios was inspiring.

The group especially enjoyed their visit to Kemin Industries, the regional headquarters of which is located in Herentals on the outskirts of Brussels. Their tour included all aspects of the company's operations – from research and design to marketing and on to production. Kemin is notable in that it seeks to meld science and human ingenuity in order to produce components targeted to improve the nutritional value of items ingested by humans and animals.

Despite all the fun had while abroad, the Class of 2015 was ready to return to life stateside after their whirlwind tour of four beautiful and historic European cities.

## *More from the photo gallery:*



Class of 2016 with students in Aachen, Germany



Corporate visit to ZDF German Television in Mainz, Germany

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## **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wall Fellows Program: Looking Toward Induction**

The year 2014 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wall Fellows Program here at Coastal Carolina University. Since the program's inception in 1994, over 100 alumni have completed this vigorous program dedicated to preparing students "not for their first job, but for their last," as stated by Craig Wall Jr. Through dedication and specialized training they received through the Program, alumni have moved on to careers in some of the top firms in their respective fields. To celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program, we would like to extend our invitation to you to attend both Induction and a 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary brunch to commemorate all this program has done and all that it will do as it moves into the future.

As is the annual tradition, the Wall Fellows Class of 2016 will be formally inducted this fall. Induction is set to take place on Friday, October 24, and will mark the first event in our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. This year's induction ceremony will add seven exemplary students to our program. We look forward to formally welcoming these deserving, dedicated students into our family of over 100 alumni and our 6 current Fellows.

On the morning of Saturday October 25, 2014 there will be a brunch to celebrate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary prior to the highly anticipated homecoming game later that afternoon. The celebratory brunch will allow all Program alumni to catch up with their former classmates and beloved friends. We hope to see you there!

# The Summer of the Class of 2016

We kept busy over the summer break, and though our experiences varied, I think we would all agree with the statement from our classmate Kevin Connelly: "This summer was an eye opening experience to what is truly possible in life."

**Kevin Hoffman:**  
Interned for Merrill Lynch Wealth Management and passed the Series 7.

**Laura Thareau:**  
Volunteered for Freedom Readers and visited her hometown, Redondo Beach, CA. "I became really close with the kids I tutored, which made it difficult to say goodbye, but I hope to see them again next spring."

**Alina Tananova:**  
Completed her RTMA 180 and 280 internships with Marriott Vacation Club.

**Nicholas DiDuro:**  
Interned at Navesink Country Club in Middletown, N.J.



**Kevin Connelly:**  
Interned at Cold Spring Country Club in Cold Spring Harbor, NY. "While there, I learned much about the golf industry, and I also learned a great deal about myself."

**Micaela Antzoulatos:**  
Interned for Dr. Christopher C. Feathers, a specialist in Sports Medicine at Strand Orthopaedic Consultants.

**Jada Bynum:**  
Completed her RTMA 280 internship at Coccadotts Cake Shop, volunteered at a local children's festival, and traveled to Fla., Tenn. and N.Y.



# **Sustaining the Future:** ***Wall Fellows Fundraising Campaign***

As we celebrate our past 20 years and look forward to the next 20 plus years of our much beloved program, we must take a moment and ask that each and every single alumnus consider making a donation to help sustain the Wall Fellows Program into the future. Every donation counts regardless of the amount.

The Wall Fellows Program is completely self-funded by an endowment fund and donations from alumni and charitable individuals in the community. The program has been streamlined to reduce expenses but while providing services to achieve the mission; however, current expenses are approximately \$14,000 per student.

We are pleased to announce we have a donor who is willing to contribute up to \$20,000 to the program based on participation of alumni. If 100 percent of the alumni contribute something to the program this year, then this donor will donate the full \$20,000 to the program. If 50 percent of the alumni contribute something, then the contribution will be 50 percent of the amount and so on. Currently, 27 percent of the alumni have given to CCU at some level this past year, and we need like to increase this number. Any contribution counts as is the \$20,000.000 donation is based on the percentage of participation and not the amounts donated.

The success of the Wall Fellows Program is based not only on the strong leadership of the program director and the members of the Wall Fellows Board of Advisers, but also on the support of its dedicated alumni. This program has given more than 100 alumni and 13 current students the ability to become outstanding leaders. As one of the project leaders for this fundraising campaign, I am honored to help secure the future of this program, which has enabled me to see my own potential, as well as that of my peers in and out of the Wall Fellows Program. Please consider helping the Wall Fellows Program be financially secure for the next twenty years by donating today.

With warmest regards,

Jordan L. Lauver '15