Opening Remarks

Welcome! Summer has surely come and gone, much quicker than it arrived. As we dust the sand off our feet and put on our jackets, we are excited to hit the ground running into all this semester has in store.

In this edition of The Wall Fellows Journal, we begin with the Class of 2017’s International Trip reflections. We will reflect on summer internships from a member of the Class of 2017 and the 2018 class. We will highlight some of the incredible projects taking shape and a few of the upcoming events.

With warmest regards,

Lainey Lewis ’17 and Kaylea Gassaway-Rea ’18
Hello everyone! It is truly a great honor to have been named the new co-editor of *The Wall Fellows Journal*. My name is Kaylea Gassaway-Rea, and I look forward to acquainting myself with all of you throughout the duration of my time here at Coastal Carolina University. I am thrilled to share all of the things our Wall Fellows are involved in and keep a connection between the program and the community.

Before attending Coastal Carolina University, I attended a small high school. I knew when I graduated I wanted to come to college and be involved in something that would help me be a more efficient, effective and impactful person. College started, Club Recruitment Day came and went and classes began to gain momentum. During one of my core classes required for the Wall College of Business, a student came in to give a presentation about the prestigious Wall Fellows program. I knew that very moment I had found the program for me. So, I applied to the program and here we are today.

From the moment I was accepted into the program, things have been wonderful. There have been so many relationships built and networking opportunities in such a short amount of time. I am looking forward to what I can gain from the program in addition to what I can offer. As you read through the pages of this journal, I hope you are inspired to push yourself to be a better person, student and professional.

With warmest regards,

Kaylea Gassaway-Rea ‘18

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**Upcoming Events**

We are off to a bustling start for the semester. As a friendly reminder, here are some upcoming events for the Wall Fellows Program. We look forward to having our alumni join us at many of these events!

- Oct, 20, 2016: **Wall Fellows Board Meeting** *(Wall Boardroom, 2-4 p.m.)*
- Oct, 21, 2016: **Wall Fellows Class of 2018 Induction** *(Alford Ballroom, Atheneum Hall Alumni Center, 5:30-9:30 p.m.)*
- Oct, 22, 2016: **Alumni Brunch** *(Wall Boardroom, 10 a.m.-noon)*
International Trip Reflection
by Lainey Lewis

After many meetings and countless group discussions during the semester about what to pack, how to travel and what to do, my Wall Fellows classmates and I were ready to set sail on our international trip this past summer. With nine days in Reykjavik, Iceland, four days in Dublin, Ireland, and five days in London, England, we had an amazing whirlwind of an adventure.

When we finally landed in Keflavik, we were amazed to see that the landscape appeared to be that of a different planet. With jagged rock structures covered with green moss, the terrain was unlike anything we had ever seen. We took the Flybus to Reykjavik where we checked into Eyja Gulsmeden Hotel, which is owned and operated by Coastal alumni Linda Johannsdottir and Ellert Finnbogason. After being mesmerized by the sustainable hotel, we met up with Kjartan Sigurdsson, Drofin and Berghora Guðnadóttir, also alumni of Coastal Carolina University. We were pleased and excited to be touring the city with native Icelanders.

While in Iceland, we were able to spend time onsite with our companies. When it came time for our final presentations, I knew how important it was that we do well, not just for ourselves, but as representatives of the University and the Wall Fellows program. I could not have been more excited about how well we all did. We finally knew what it was like to plan, produce and deliver a completed product for a company confidently.

Not everything in Iceland was all business. During our stay, my class went on some pretty amazing outdoor tours, the first of which was an ice-caving tour called “Volcanic Veins.” We also toured the Golden Circle, where we saw glaciers, waterfalls, lakes, mountains, and the rift where the North American and Eurasian plate meet.

On the second leg of our trip, we traveled to Dublin, Ireland. One highlight of the trip was that we had the opportunity to tour Google Docks by Coastal alumnus Johannes Frederking. We all were excited to learn about Google and see firsthand the business culture within the company. On our roaming days, we were able to tour Kilmainham Gaol, the infamous jail where leaders of the Easter Rising were imprisoned. We were also able tour the towns of Kilkenny, Wicklow and Glendalough.

Highlights of the London trip were touring St. Paul’s Cathedral and the London Eye. During our time in London, we also met with many business representatives, including Henry Dannemann from Marsh & McLennan, Tom Pountney from Lloyds of London and Ben Elder from Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). We had a wonderful time learning about the different businesses and feel that we have a better understanding of these disciplines.

I felt that this trip helped me understand the international business community, as well as the cultural differences that exist between a select European countries and the United States. My newfound perspective on international relationships and practices have broadened my career outlook. My classmates and I are grateful for the opportunity to expand our global perspectives.
Internship Spotlight:  
Beatris Petelkova

**Company: Turner Construction Co.**  
**Location:** Nashville, Tenn.  
**Duration:** June-August 2016

This past summer, Beatris ’17 had the opportunity to intern at Turner Construction in Nashville, Tenn. Turner Construction is one of the largest construction companies in the United States and averages 1,500 projects every year. During her internship, Beatris worked as an accounting intern focusing on billing proofs, invoices and cost reporting. “I had a great time working as an accounting intern for Turner Construction in their Nashville office. I was pleasantly surprised by the great environment in the company and one thing that stuck in my mind was the great chemistry and connection between the teams I was able to work with.” Beatris reports that she “felt confident enough to do the work on my own” toward the end of her internship period. Beatris’ mentor, Claire Aucoin, helped her throughout the internship. “I was lucky enough to work with Claire Aucoin. She was an amazing mentor and a person to look up to. I can definitely see being part of Turner one day.” Thank you to Wall Fellows Board member Kenneth Leach for making the connection to Turner Construction.

Internship Spotlight:  
Emilie-Kate Tavernier

**Company: University of California-Riverside**  
**Location:** Riverside, Cali.  
**Duration:** June-August, 2016

During the summer of 2016, Wall Fellows Class of 2018 member Emilie-Kate Tavernier had the opportunity to learn more about her passion and take part in things that helped her make a decision about future plans through a program offered at the University of California. As an undergraduate research assistant, Tavernier studied in the Center for Plant Cell Biology. She was a part of the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) program. Eugene Nothnagel was the professor Tavernier studied with while in Southern California. During the 10 months Tavernier studied at the university, she learned about gas chromatograph-mass spectrometry. A typical work day, was anywhere from eight to 12 hours. Experiments were performed to prepare plant cell wall samples for the mass spectrometer. “After the experience, I feel much more confident working in a lab and I truly enjoy scientific research,” Tavernier says. After graduation, Tavernier is confident she will attend graduate school and earn her Ph.D. in plant molecular biology.
Coastal Carolina University’s Food Recovery Network is up and running this semester. To kick off the semester, they donated 61 pounds of food to the men’s shelter in Myrtle Beach. To date, the Food Recovery Network at CCU has donated 204 pounds of food. They recover/collect food after football games and occasionally on Fridays from places on campus. CCU’s Food Recovery Network has set a goal of 1,000 pounds of food they would like to donate.

To learn more about the Food Recovery Network or to get involved, contact Beatris Petelkova at bspetelko@g.coastal.edu.

This semester, Mickayla Smith ’18 has introduced a new project for the Wall Fellows Program called Clothing for the Homeless. In this effort, we are working toward building a closet of professional attire for homeless people to use for job interviews and other life events to help them get back on their feet. Mickayla recalls an event that made her want to do this project. “I remembered reading a gut-wrenching story about a homeless man who wandered into a retail store for men, trying to buy some clothing. He said that the employees would not help him and practically told him to leave. The manager insisted the man be helped; he wanted clothes for an interview so he could get a job. The manager let him take the clothes for free and said that if he didn’t get the job, to return to his sore and he would have a position there. The homeless man ended up working at the store with the nice manager, and a few years later, was manager himself.” She says that after being accepted into the Wall Fellows program, she felt compelled to bring this project to life. “I remembered that homeless man and how all he needed was an outfit to attend an interview. Given the large amounts of homeless in this area, it made sense to try and help them. I want to help them start again, give them the ability to start making strides toward a better future.”