



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY



*Presidential
Scholars
Program*

DEVELOPING LEADERS FOR THE WORLD'S FUTURE

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS' KEY TENENTS



Florida State University Undergraduate Studies
 Presidential Scholars
 Honors, Scholars and Fellows House
 Tallahassee, Florida

PresidentialScholars.fsu.edu



DIRECTOR'S LETTER

What an unprecedented couple of years we have had. Even as we adjusted to a year in COVID-19 protocols and restrictions during the fall of 2020, the Presidential Scholars adapted and continued to thrive, emerging into the following year at full throttle and with a renewed sense of purpose and dedication. We are excited to share this biannual report with you to showcase some of the amazing accomplishments and experiences of the Presidential Scholars over the past two years.

In addition to showcasing some of the individual achievements of the scholars, the program itself continues to grow in innovative and impactful ways. Our original monthly programming has transformed into a robust four-year curriculum, providing an engaging structure for research and service. The Presidential Scholars studied voting rights during the 2020 election season, and they explored every facet of food insecurity on campus during the 2021 - 2022 academic year, as we partnered with the Food for Thought Pantry on canvas and the Second Harvest Food Bank in the Tallahassee community.

The Presidential Scholars student leadership team continues to expand, as the scholars formed a diversity and inclusion board in 2020 and a student service board in 2021. Both of these entities have joined our student executive board in crafting programs as well as working with me on impactful approaches to how we engage with one another and with our campus community.

The Presidential Scholars are involved across campus and in the community in meaningful ways that produce insightful scholarship, direct service, and impactful leadership. We have welcomed scholars from 27 states and the United Kingdom. Presidential Scholars have been recognized with national awards, being named Truman Scholars, Fulbright Scholars, Goldwater Scholars, and Hollings Scholars, among others. Never a group to rest on their success, our alumni continue to impress with their trajectories after FSU. We now have a new Presidential Scholars Alumni Council who will provide valuable organization to our ever-growing alumni group, offering professional and personal opportunities for our young alumni – and connecting them with our current scholars.

Each Presidential Scholar plays an integral role in the success of the program and represents the phenomenal work done by Florida State University students as a Top 20 public university. The Presidential Scholars came to FSU where they were each challenged to “outgrow their dreams.” My hope is that over the next few pages, you can see how they rise to and surpass this challenge in new and amazing ways. Go Noles.

D. Craig Filar, PhD
 Associate Dean, Undergraduate Studies
 Director, Presidential Scholars



THE PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS MISSION STATEMENT

The Presidential Scholars champions undergraduate students with extraordinary potential to be transformational leaders of their generation by cultivating a community of scholarship and service that promotes critical thinking and personal growth.

INTRODUCTION

The late Dean Karen Laughlin had a vision for a prestigious scholarship program that would attract high-achieving students to Florida State University, which was infused with the collaborative spirit of our institution.

Through a generous gift from Linda and Philip Lewis, the Presidential Scholars was launched in 2014 with enthusiastic backing from the university. Dr. Laughlin's vision was realized.

We invest in undergraduate students who show the potential to be the transformational leaders of their generation and who will take on the big questions and issues facing our world. The program provides four years of support and access to the best Florida State University has to offer, as we provide students with support and education toward this goal. The program is open to high school seniors of great promise, who are selected through a rigorous application and interview process. Presidential Scholars are admitted to the Honors Program and are expected to engage in numerous high-impact educational experiences such as: study abroad, Global Scholars, research and creative endeavors, service-learning projects, public service internships, and entrepreneurial development throughout their time at FSU.

Intellectual and cultural curiosity is fostered through the development of a strong community of scholars. The scholars participate in a robust, specially designed curriculum of experiences and activities that they undertake as individual cohorts and as an entire group over their four years. Scholars serve as mentors to younger scholars when they arrive on campus, enriching the program's strong community.

Join us for a glimpse into the Presidential Scholars' activities and research throughout this report. We hope that it will inspire you and show you the promise of the better future that these students envision.

PUBLIC SERVICE



GABRIELLA HINKS WINTER GARDEN, FL
MAJOR: BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE

- Second Harvest of the Big Bend- November 2020- April 2022
- FSU Food for Thought Pantry- October 2020- April 2022
- Hang Tough Foundation- September 2019- April 2022
 - » Assisted with creating volunteer engagement opportunities for FSU's members such as a Trunk or Treat and Valentine's Day card and goodie bag creation

Gabriella's most impactful service has been her time spent with Second Harvest Food Bank and the FSU Food for Thought Pantry. Recognizing the impact COVID-19 had on food security, Gabriella planned a successful educational social media campaign during her time as PR Chair of Progress FSU. She collaborated with FSU's Food for Thought Pantry in order to learn more about how the issue specifically impacts FSU's campus and to plan a donation drive that brought in more than \$500 worth of food and monetary donations in time for the Thanksgiving holidays. She also worked with Second Harvest food bank both at home and in Tallahassee volunteering to sort donations, pack backpacks with food for kids to take for the weekends, and writing encouraging notes for them to go inside the bags. As someone interested in public health, food security and nutritional access is important to creating overall health quality impacts. Ensuring kids are receiving the proper amounts of food as well as balanced nutritional content ensures they can continue to stay active, focus in school, and spend less time battling acute and chronic illnesses where poor nutrition is a causal factor.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: ABOUT 170



NADIA RASSECH SANTA CRUZ, CA
MAJOR: INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES

- Darasa: January 2022-April 2022
 - » Tutored refugee students every Tuesday at Griffin Middle School
- Kearney Center: January 2022-April 2022
 - » Prepared and served dinner at the homeless shelter
- Service Board: March 25, 2022
 - » Helped prepare for the Presidential Scholar-led event---Don't Let Hunger Grow: A Free Food Access Fair
- FSU Food For Thought Pantry: September 2022-March 2022
 - » Helped stock supplies and distribute posters/lawn signs in efforts to raise awareness among the student body about the existence of the pantry
- Second Harvest of the Big Bend
 - » Sorted cans

When tutoring refugee students with Darasa, Nadia has seen the change her work is bringing to the children she tutors. It is hands on and engaging work with the community. Being a tutor offers stability for these children through a commitment to showing up to work with them.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: ABOUT 100



Gabe Herschelman



Dhenu Patel

GABE HERSCHELMAN RALEIGH, NC
MAJOR: BIOLOGY

Gabe has an interest in ecology and animal behavior, an interest that has been solidified through volunteer work at the Humane Society. He loves meeting different animals and learning about their unique personalities each time he volunteers. Gabe has a mix of positive and negative feelings when a cat or dog that has been in their care for several months is adopted: overjoyed that they've found a home but saddened that we will not see them anymore. Additionally, Gabe has met phenomenal colleagues and volunteers through this experience. People who love animals are the best.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: ABOUT 200

DHENU PATEL TALLAHASSEE, FL
MAJOR: EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY & PUBLIC HEALTH

- FSU College of Medicine Book It 5K Fundraiser: August 2021-April 2022
 - » Host fundraiser to raise money to buy children books.
- Primary Care Clinic: April 2021 - Present
 - » Provide primary patient care and preventative care to rural and underserved patients of Tallahassee
- Kearney Center: April 2022
 - » Organize food pantry and supplies.

Dhenu raised approximately \$800 to buy books for underserved children in rural Nicaragua and the rural FSU Primary Care clinic at the FSU College of Medicine Book It 5K fundraiser. This will help improve child literacy rates in rural and underserved communities locally and globally.

VOLUNTEER HOURS: >200

74th Student Senate

Academic Recruitment Organization

AFROTC

Alliance for Black Women

Alpha Mu Alpha

Amnesty International

Arab Student Union

ASCE

Asian American Student Association

Asian American Student Union

Assistantship with the Department of History

Autism Speaks U

Beta Theta Pi

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Big Bend

Black Student Union

Boxed Birthdays

Camp Kesem

Campus Band

Caribbean Student Association

Chi Omega

Club Men's Ultimate Frisbee

CSU

Cuban American Student Association

Dance Marathon at FSU

Darasa

Department of the Interior Internship

Diversity and Inclusion Board

Environmental Service Program

Equestrian Club

FAMU-FSU Engineering Mentors

Filipino Student Association

First Baptist Church of Tallahassee

Youth Group and Praise Band

RESEARCH



ERIN MURPHY ST PETERSBURG, FL
MAJOR: COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Erin completed an IDEA Grant in Summer 2020 under the direction of her supervising faculty member Dr. Jonathan Adams in the College of Communication and Information. She fashioned a method to create computer generated images and use them to train a machine learning algorithm that detects sea turtles. In 2021, Erin looked further at the use of Generative Adversarial Networks in generating "synthetic data" (refers to fake images) used to train machine learning algorithms. In Summer 2021, she completed a second IDEA grant exploring the uses of object detection and pose estimation models to analyze beach volleyball footage with her supervising faculty member, Dr. Oscar Chuy in the College of Engineering and Dr. Rodney Roberts. And finally in 2022, Erin worked with Florida Light and Power on a year-long project developing a computer vision solution to locate faulted pad-mounted transformers.

Oral Presentations: (1) "Using Generative Adversarial Networks within a Synthetic Data Production Pipeline" at Harvard National Collegiate Research Conference - Remote 2021. (2) "Evaluating the Performance of Synthetic Visual Data for Real-Time Object Detection" at CCISP Conference (see publication below) - Remote 2021 (3) "Applica-

tions of Pose Estimation in NCAA Beach Volleyball Training & Analysis" at FSU President's Showcase of Undergraduate Research Excellence - Remote 2021 (4) "AI and Undergraduate Research: A Dialog in Project Based Learning." at SITE AACE Conference Remote 2020 Poster Presentations: (1) "Assessing the Quality and Production of Synthetic Visual Data" at ICIET IEEE Conference - Remote 2021 (2) "Machine Transfer Learning's Applications in Marine Object Detection." at Florida Undergraduate Research Conference - Remote 2021 Publications (All Proceedings): (1) Adams, J. L., Sutor, J., Murphy, E., & Dodd, A. (2021). Evaluating the Performance of Synthetic Visual Data for Real-Time Object Detection. In 6th International Conference on Communication, Image and Signal Processing (CCISP 2021), Chengdu, China during Nov. 19-21, 2021. (2) Adams, J. L., Erin Murphy, John Sutor, & Ava Dodd. (2021). Assessing the Quality and Production of Synthetic Visual Data. In 9th International Conference on Information and Education Technology (ICIET 2021), Okayama, Japan, March 27-29, 2021 (5 pages). co-sponsored by IEEE, Okayama University (Japan), South China Normal University (China), and International Academy of Computing Technology (Hong Kong). (3) Adams, J. L., Ava Dodd, John Sutor, & Erin Murphy. (2020). AI and Undergraduate Research: A Dialog in Project-Based Learning. In Gary H. Marks, & Denise Schmidt-Crawford (Eds.), Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference, Apr 07, 2020, in Online ISBN 978-1-939797-48-3. Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE), Chesapeake, VA.



CHRISTELLE BUCAG TALLAHASSEE, FL
MAJOR: INTERDISCIPLINARY MEDICAL SCIENCES

"Using Chelating Azides in SNAP-tagging Live Cells via Copper-Catalyzed Azide-Alkyne Cycloaddition" ('21-'22) - Investigate substrates that increase the efficiency of two-step protein labelling processes through using mass spectroscopy, cell culture, and organic synthesis techniques, "Exemplifying the Panopticon: A case study on hospital architecture" ('20-'21) - Organized an academic writing workshop and authored an article on how hospital spaces affect patient-provider interactions, "High Pressure Raman Spectroscopic Study of 3.65 Å Hydrus Phase" ('20) - Analyze spectroscopic data from dense hydrus magnesium silicates (DHMS) and model them as graphical functions.

Christelle Bucag published a journal article under the Owl (Exemplifying the Panopticon: A case study on hospital architecture) in a collaborative, special issue with the Honors Experience Program (HEP). Christelle is currently assisting with a manuscript (Using Chelating Azides in SNAP-tagging Live Cells via Copper-Catalyzed Azide-Alkyne Cycloaddition), and has been a co-author in a journal article that is currently being communicated (High Pressure Raman Spectroscopic Study of 3.65 Å Hydrus Phase)



JONATHAN MARCUS
HUNTSVILLE, AL
MAJOR: METEOROLOGY

Jonathan Marcus conducted research externally at the National Weather Service Indianapolis with their Science and Operations Officer Mr. David Beachler. Here is the abstract: "Part of the NWS's Tornado Warning Improvement Project (TWIP), this project investigated the presence of three radar features in non-linear, tornadic thunderstorms. While QLCS-tornado warning lead time has increased recently, discrete modes of convection have had stagnant lead times for the past decade. This project aims to remedy this. Set across the states of Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky, the project evaluated each documented report of a tornado from

2009-2019 for the presence of the following three features: a non-interrupted ZDR arc, a non-acute ZDR-arc/KDP-foot to storm motion separation vector angle, and a Storm Relative Velocity Enhancement (SVRE) signature. Utilizing GR2Analyst and COBRAS-archived Dual-Pol radar data, the project observed each storm from 30 minutes before touchdown through lifting for these three features. Then, with Iowa State University's IEM Cow bot, the project compared the time of warning to the time of the tornado report and presence of these features. For classic, discrete tornadic supercells, the implementation of this method has proven useful, and warning times could be increased by as much as 10 minutes in some cases. For other forms of convection such as low-topped cells and clusters, implementation is successful on a case-by-case basis. It is important to note that this method is designed as a supplementary method to pre-existing warning methods. However, before becoming operational, another case study of false-alarm tornado-warned thunderstorms using an inverse of this method needs to be conducted"

Poster Presentation at the American Meteorological Society Conference, held virtually in January of 2022.



SOPHIE WINER
SARASOTA, FL
MAJOR: INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Sophie Winer's project was called "Evolving Christian Womanhood and Social Change in Mount Meru, Tanzania," and her supervising professor was Dr. Beth Ann Williams from the Department of Religion. The project was about how colonizers came in and disrupted the economic system in Tanzania (before colonization, Tanzania only had a barter system, which women organized and managed). Women also led the traditional African religion in their society, so when the colonizers and missionaries arrived, they devalued women's role in society. Her research reviewed approximately 120

interviews of women in 2016 and 2017 and how the church simultaneously helps and hurts women. Women in this society are helped by having social groups (a lot of women do not experience a lot of socialization outside of the church) and some women obtain small business loans. However, colonization culture hurts women with its misogyny because they cannot hold church leadership and cannot own property.

Sophie attended FURC in February of 2022 at UCF where she presented a poster on this project.

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

Florida Caribbean Student Association

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Internship

Food for Thought Pantry (Social Media Team)

Food Recovery Network

Friday Night Live

FSU Center for Demography and Population Health

FSU Club Rowing Team

FSU College of Medicine Book It 5K Fundraiser

FSU Debate

FSU Global Scholars Program

FSU Homecoming

FSU Honors Legal Scholars Program

FSU Honors Program

FSU Medical Response Unit

FSU One for the World

FSU Opera

FSU Rock Climbing Club

FSU Weather

FSView student paper

Garnet & Gold Key Leadership Honorary

Garnet and Gold Goes Green

Garnet and Gold Scholars

GenCLEO FSU

Greek Life

Habitat for Humanity

Hang Tough Foundation

Health Educated Asian Leaders

Her Campus

Hiking Club

Hillel (Challah for Hunger)

HMS

Homecoming Council

FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS



ABRIL HUNTER BELLEVILLE, IL
MAJOR: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND POLICY

Abril's passion for environmental justice was sparked by the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, and has grown since she arrived at FSU. Her works has been recognized with three national awards:

Ernest. F Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship – awarded from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The award provides the scholars with hands-on, practical experience in NOAA-related science, research, technology, policy, management, and education activities.

The Harry S. Truman Scholarship - among the most coveted undergraduate awards in the country, was established by Congress in 1975 in honor of 33rd President Harry S. Truman, carries the legacy of Truman's dedication to public service. Abril is committed to seeking solutions to issues around environmental justice and environmental racism as a Truman Scholar.

Udall Undergraduate Scholarship – awarded to students devoted to Native American self-governance, health care and the stewardship of public lands and natural resources. Abril is one of 55 students from 49 colleges and universities to earn a Udall Scholarship this year.



JESSICA DIXON MELBOURNE, FL
MAJOR: CELL AND MOLECULAR NEUROSCIENCE;
STATISTICS

National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship - a prestigious grant awarded annually by the National Science Foundation to students pursuing research-based graduate degrees in the natural, social, and engineering sciences at US institutions. Fellowship funding supports Jessica Dixon's doctoral work in the Harvard Program in Neuroscience Outstanding Senior Scholars Award. Jessica completed the University Honors Program, and earned Honors in the Major by completing a research project. Jessica received the College of Arts & Sciences Humanitarian Award Selected for her work supporting the disability community as a professional presenter advocating for students with disabilities.

MADELYN JOHNSON
LAWRENCE, KS
MAJOR: INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS, MIDDLE EASTERN
STUDIES

Maddy was awarded the Boren Scholarship to study Arabic in Jordan. She also received the FSU Global Citizen Award- Awarded for my commitment to global stewardship and intercultural exchanges FSU Social Sciences Humanitarian of the Year Award- nominated by the College of Social Sciences for the FSU Humanitarian of the Year Award to recognize her service to the community.



SEAN FALETTI
ORLANDO, FL
MAJOR: CREATIVE WRITING
AND MUSIC

2020 National AP Scholar, 2020 National Young Arts Foundation Merit Award Winner in Voice (Singer/Songwriter), 2021 Torch Night Award (recognizes freshman students with notable high school achievements), 2022 Mr. AASU (Asian American Student Union Pageant Winner)



CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

- Honors Colloquium Leader
- Honors Legal Scholars
- Honors Medical Scholars
- Honors Program
- Honors Signature Zine
- Honors Student Association
- HOSA Future Health Professionals
- IDEA Grant Program
- Institute of Politics
- Inter-Residents Hall Council
- Interfraternity Council
- InterVarsity Christian Fellowship
- Ist Tour Services
- Kappa Alpha Theta
- Kappa Kappa Gamma
- La Table Française at FSU
- LIFT Task Force Member
- Light the Night (2021)
- Light the Night (2021)
- March Lab
- Med Life
- Medallion Chair for HSA
- Minority Association of Pre-Med Students
- MLAB Research Center
- Mock Interview Mentor (Career Center)
- MRU
- Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society
- Munchies Pizza
- National Association of Business Economics (NABE)
- National Honor Society
- NCAA Beach Volleyball
- Neuroscience Undergraduate Student Association

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

North Florida Chapter of the American Meteorological Organization/National Weather Association

Nu Rho Psi

NUSA

Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life Ambassador

OFTW FSU

Omicron Delta Kappa

Participant in the Big Idea project, funded by NASA and the Mechanical Engineering Department

Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society

Phi Delta Epsilon (PhiDE)

Phi Delta Epsilon Pre-medical Fraternity

Phi Eta Sigma

Phi Eta Sigma National Honors Society

Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) Fraternity

Phi Kappa Phi

Pi Lambda Phi

Power of WE

Presidential Ambassadors

Presidential Scholars

Presidential Scholars Board for Diversity and Inclusion

Presidential Scholars Executive Board

Presidential Scholars Service Board

Progress FSU

Psi Chi

Reading Pals Program

Renegade Leadership Honor Society

Research at the COM

Residential Conduct Board

Reverb A Capella

RIBC

SCURC

INTERNSHIPS



ELIZABETH PRUITT ORMOND BEACH, FL
MAJOR: ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY; INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS; POLITICAL SCIENCE

Intern - Department of the Interior - Office of International Affairs (virtual); Learned there are offices dedicated to International Affairs within the conservation community. Realized this was the nexus of her two interests and the specialty she would like to focus on. Intern - Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission - Imperiled Species Management (Tallahassee); She interned with the FWC to learn more about how conservation exists in practice. This experience was valuable for her to gain insight into how species are managed, which she will take into her career with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Intern - Summer 2022 United States Fish and Wildlife Service (virtual): As an intern with the USFWS, she will learn about the inner workings of this conservation agency that she intends to work for after graduating.



JAMIE GUTERMAN FORT MYERS, FL
MAJOR: INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY

The Edgelands Institute at Harvard's Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society (Remote, Summer 2021) - Wrote a report on how police use surveillance technology and the debate surrounding algorithmic policing - Field of study: social implications of surveillance technology - Significance: Jamie hopes to work in a space understanding the social consequences of technology and how we can mitigate its risk and maximize its benefits. This internship helped educate her on some of the biggest issues surrounding technology. The Edgelands Institute (Remote, Summer 2022) - Will be researching how cities store and secure collected data.

GRACIE THAXTON ST. AUGUSTINE, FL
MAJOR: PSYCHOLOGY

PCA employment: St. Augustine, FL, St. Augustine Health and Rehabilitation, Gracie was able to earn patient care experience for her PA school application Cardiothoracic surgery PA shadowing: Charleston, WV, CAMC Memorial, cardiothoracic surgery, she was able to earn shadowing hours for her PA school application.



JOSEPH COFER ORMOND BEACH, FL
MAJOR: MARKETING

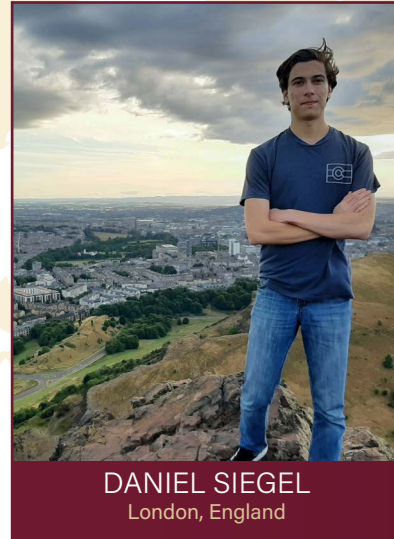
U.S. Department of Homeland Security (Private Sector Office - Homeland Security Advisory Council) -Washington, D.C. -International Business/Government & Politics/Disaster Relief -This internship will allow Joseph to build relationships with various individuals in these fields field while educating him on his individual interests - whether they gravitate more towards the private or public sectors. Joseph has already begun to forge a relationship with Mike Miron, the Deputy Executive Director of the Homeland Security Advisory Council and Director of the Committee Management Office at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, who will be my mentor throughout this internship experience.



INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE



MALLORY MALMAN
Cambridge University



DANIEL SIEGEL
London, England



ALEX CHANG
Valencia, Spain



TINGYI "TINA" LU
Prague, Czech Republic

MALLORY MALMAN

BOCA RATON, FL
MAJOR: HISTORY AND ENGLISH - EWM

Mallory will be studying abroad this summer at Cambridge University through the Pembroke College Summer Program. She will be taking three courses, one of which is an Independent Supervision. The other two courses are English courses, taught by Cambridge University faculty. One is a creative writing course, and one is a literature course. Mallory's Independent Supervision will be a six-week-long research project.

DANIEL SIEGEL

BETHESDA, MD
MAJOR: ENGLISH LITERATURE, MEDIA, AND CULTURE

I had the opportunity to engage in an internship in London this summer with Night Zookeeper, a company which produces an educational online program aimed at promoting literacy skills and creativity. I learned a lot about content creation, especially in the educational sphere, and about what it's like to work with a small company. Getting to spend the summer abroad was an incredible experience as a whole—I made amazing friends and got to travel around the UK and London itself. My only regret is that there are too many museums in London and not enough weekends to get to see all of them!

ALEX CHANG

GLEN RIDGE, NJ
MAJOR: CYBER CRIMINOLOGY

Valencia, Spain Summer 2021
In Valencia, Summer C Session, Alex was immersed in Spanish culture in his studies, lifestyle, and travel. Alex took two courses specifically about the cuisine of Spain and the extensive history of the country. They would try new local places to eat with traditional empanadas and other types of food. Alex would also travel within Spain and learn about the landmarks and differences in culture in places like Barcelona and Alicante. Alex learned how their lifestyle in the U.S. comes with such inherent privilege. Though there are language barriers and borders dividing people, there are universal love languages that are recognized no matter your location. For example, Alex's passion for soccer was shared with locals who did not speak English yet their teamwork in a pick-up game did all the talking. Alex will apply the newfound appreciation for acceptance of all cultures they learned in Spain to the Tallahassee community.

TINGYI "TINA" LU

ORLANDO, FL
MAJOR: GENERAL MUSIC

Summer 2022 Prague, Czech Republic
With the support of the Benjamin A.Gilman International Scholarship, I attended my piano professor's annual Prague Piano Festival this past summer as a participant-researcher to fulfill my last undergraduate research credit in Piano Pedagogy Specialized Studies Certification. This opportunity drastically shifted my perspectives on models of teaching, teachers' motivation styles, and students' agency in shaping their own learning process. I will be presenting my research entitled "What's in a Question? Exploring Student-Teacher Interaction Behaviors in an International Piano Festival" at the FSU Music Teacher National Association (MTNA) chapter in a teacher-student panel discussion and interactive workshop.

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT AND LEADERSHIP

- SGA Senate President
- SHPE
- Sigma Phi Epsilon
- Social Change Peer Connector
- Society of Physics Students
- South Asian Student Association
- Student Government Association
- Student Senate
- Surge FSU
- SWE
- Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity
- TEDxFSU
- The Big Event Tallahassee
- The College of Arts and Sciences Student Leadership Council
- The Eggplant student paper
- The Kudzu Review
- The Owl
- Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity
- U.S. Intelligence Program
- Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program
- Undergraduate Researcher at the Center for Advanced Power Systems
- University Ambassadors
- University of Choice
- University Singers
- UROP Leader
- Venture Crew of America (a branch of the Boy Scouts of America)
- Veteran Student Union
- W.E.B. DuBois Leadership Honor Society
- White Mouse Productions
- Women in Leadership Development
- Working the President's Box at the Spring Game
- World Affairs Program/Model UN

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS ALUMNI



ROBERT COTTER CLASS OF 2020

The Presidential Scholars program was the cornerstone of Robert's education at FSU. It gave him unparalleled access to the FSU administration and faculty. This was valuable academically, professionally, and interpersonally. In addition to individualized advising, research connections, and funding, he was surrounded by a cadre of dedicated mentors to which he credits much of the intellectual and emotional growth he experienced during his four years at FSU. Presidential Scholars also nurtures a uniquely invigorating cohort of young scholars, around and through which discussions of service learning, professional development, and innovative ideas abound. The program gave Robert the ingredients to build a successful tutoring company and associated volunteer initiative, a successful Honors in the Major Thesis, several nonprofit service programs, and most importantly, a collective four years that enabled him to learn, think, be challenged, try, fail, and grow. Robert is now a medical student at Yale School of Medicine, something that was always a remote dream of his. Thanks to the faculty, students, administration, and programming of Presidential Scholars, his dreams have since only grown larger. With the foundation of a Presidential Scholars and FSU education, no dream of his will ever feel remote again.



LEAH RUMANCIK CLASS OF 2018

Leah has been thoroughly enjoying her work at Google. She works on the Linux kernel, which has always been a dream of hers. She even had a couple patches accepted by the public Linux community, which means that her code is running on millions of devices! The Presidential Scholars program really gave Leah the inspiration to go for her dreams and the confidence needed to be able to achieve them.



EMILY DAILEY CLASS OF 2019

As a freshman, Emily had never even considered pursuing research. She could not picture herself as someone who wore a lab coat and wrote scientific papers. However, Presidential Scholars required students to participate in the UROP program starting our first semester of freshman year, and by the end of the first semester, Emily had totally reframed what it meant to be a researcher, and she could see herself in that role. From there, Presidential Scholars supported her financially so she could study trash disposal issues through the FSU Global Scholars Program and ocean acidification with Sea Education Association (SEA), through which she sailed on her first ever research cruise. Emily turned her work with SEA into an undergraduate thesis — something she never thought she would pursue. Since graduation, Emily has worked full-time as a shipboard scientist at SEA and has sailed all over the world, teaching undergraduates how to conduct oceanographic research while working her way up through the ranks. She is now the First Assistant Scientist and is responsible for everything from instrument troubleshooting to data integrity. Had it not been for Presidential Scholars, Emily would never have envisioned working in a lab, never mind teaching others how to conduct scientific research in a shipboard lab 1,000 miles offshore.



JAMIE LOPEZ CLASS OF 2020

The Presidential Scholars Program was a transformative experience for Jaime, both academically and personally. President Scholars was a springboard that enabled unique opportunities for Jaime, including studying abroad in Eastern Europe and an internship program in Washington, D.C. Experiences like these paved the way for them to attend Georgetown Law, where they have just finished an internship on a Guantanamo Bay trial team for the Dept. of Defense. Jamie is preparing to work for the Dept. of State in the fall, and serve on the editorial board for the Georgetown Journal of International Law. Beyond the academic, though, the Program was a defining part of their undergraduate experience. It is where Jaime began to learn the meaning of professionalism; where they met their best friend; and where they were able to engage with FSU and the surrounding community on a special level that very few get to experience.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS ALUMNI



ANNA WUEST CLASS OF 2020

Presidential Scholars has had a pivotal effect on Anna's career, academic pursuits, and worldview. Of course, Presidential Scholars provided students with ample opportunities within Florida State University and generous scholarship programs, the true jewels are the students and mentors themselves. The students she spent 4 years with all dedicated themselves to unique academic pursuits and musings. In any given Presidential Scholars meeting she would hear about a variety of topics like new mathematical proofs, recommendations for the best classical literature, and thought-provoking political discussions. She was raised by a single mom who did not have a college education, and she attended a small, underfunded high school. So it was often the case that Anna's exposure to many concepts occurred first at FSU and in Presidential Scholars.

But beyond the sweeping topics of conversation, what really stuck with her was the dedication to academic and worldly pursuits, encouraged by advisor, Dr. Craig

Filar. Endlessly supportive but also willing to ask critical questions about the meaning of students' work and their next steps, he has instilled a drive in all of us to find our passions and pursue them relentlessly. A skill Anna (and her cohort) continue to apply to every facet of their lives.

She now has a newly acquired master's degree from Harvard University, and she works as a data scientist at Dana Farber Cancer Institute, where she helps deploy important oncology related AI models to her hospital and beyond. She is so lucky to have been lead to this path, largely through Presidential Scholars, and to continue to ask herself what's next?

"Next," for Anna, includes many things. It includes spending some time on her personal hobbies, it includes continuing to take academic coursework, and it includes continuing to aid in patient care and oncology at Dana Farber. But it also includes facilitating others to have a seat at the table that she has been so fortunate to have gained. Now that her time at FSU is done, she hopes to continue to have these diverse and critical conversations with her peers, and to consider alternative opinions and beliefs. She hopes to uplift others to have a seat at the table that she now has, largely because Dr. Filar and FSU saw promise in her. Anna truly could not have accomplished what she has without Presidential Scholars.



ALLISON LANG CLASS OF 2019

The academic and social support Allison benefited from while a Presidential Scholar at FSU helped her qualify for a Fulbright ETA grant teaching elementary school students in South Korea from 2019-2020. Despite her ETA contract prematurely ending due to COVID in Spring 2020, the skills and values that she cultivated in the FSU Presidential Scholars Program allowed her to establish a fulfilling life beyond Fulbright. In Fall 2020, she was accepted into the English Program in Korea (EPIK), run by the Korean Ministry of Education, and has remained at her original elementary school since then. The skills that she developed in the Scholars program such as perseverance, adaptability, and cultural competency gave her the confidence to pursue her long-term professional goals abroad, even during a global pandemic. Her willingness to be a life-long learner keeps her motivated as she takes Korean language classes and coordinates a local language exchange club in addition to her full-time teaching job. As her placement city, Sejong, is the recently established administrative capital, there are many opportunities for volunteering and contributing to the development of the city's English education programs. While living abroad can be difficult at times, Allison feels that she has found her passion and hopes to further her career there. She is deeply thankful for this exciting, on-going experience that arose in part due to her participation in such a meaningful undergraduate program.



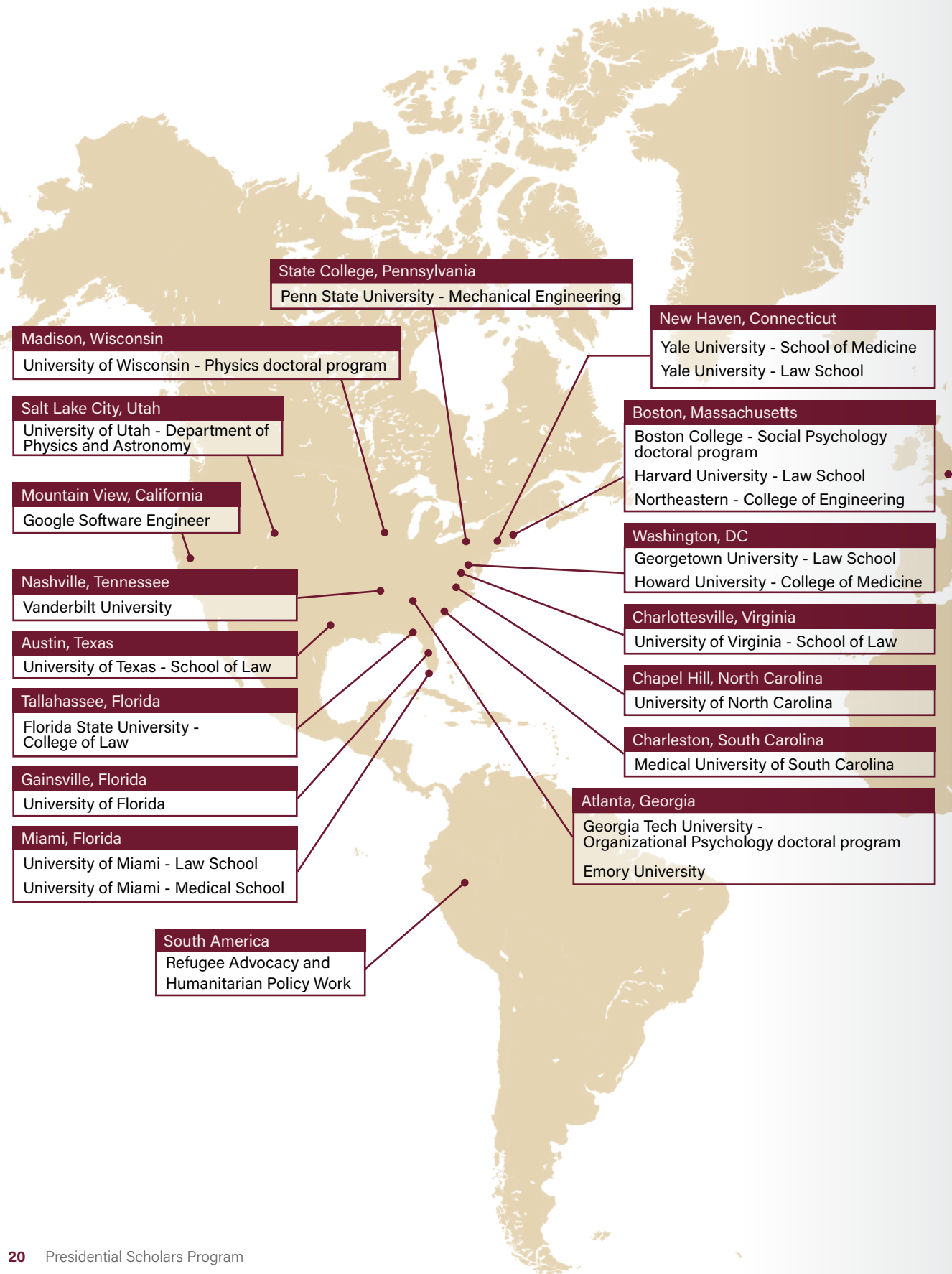
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

OLIVIA ROSE BOCKLER CLASS OF 2018

FSU alumna Olivia Rose, credits her FSU education and involvement in the Presidential Scholars Program for igniting her love of neuroscience and preparing her to compete in the field at the most elite levels. That includes recently being chosen by Mark Zuckerberg and Priscilla Chan to demonstrate her research during a private showcase at a Harvard University event. Rose, who graduated FSU in 2018, is now a fifth-year doctoral candidate at Washington University, a visiting doctoral student at Harvard Medical School and a visiting research fellow in Harvard's Graduate School of Arts & Sciences. Rose showed the big-name benefactors of the new Kempner Institute for the Study of Natural and Artificial Intelligence how her research uses cutting-edge machine learning to better understand the way non-human primates process vision. Her work demonstrates that the prefrontal cortex may play a larger role in basic sensory functions than previously believed. Her research — as complex and groundbreaking as it is — draws on her first experiences in electrophysiology at FSU. "Presidential Scholars opened up so many doors and so many opportunities," said Rose, who grew up in Sarasota with two non-scientist parents. "Having that exposure changed everything for me." She said FSU guided her to travel now in elite academic circles — from Washington University to Harvard University — and prepared her to hold her own with Zuckerberg, Chan and other renowned innovators exploring the nexus of artificial intelligence and medicine.

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