

WOFFORD COLLEGE

Department of Government and International Affairs Spring 2017 Newsletter

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Interim Internship Experiences

For interim this past January, Kaitlyn Britt ('18) and Joshua Adams ('20) both participated in internships that pertained to their varied interests in government. We interviewed them to learn more about their off-campus interims and what they gained from their unique experiences.

Great work, Kaitlyn and Joshua!

For Kaitlyn's interim, she interned with the Iowa Tribe in Oklahoma and specifically worked in the Natural Resources Division, which covered buffalo, aviary, soil and water conservation and the tribal horse training. The division she interned in emphasized the value of conservation and Kaitlyn had the chance to learn about grant writing and receiving federal aid for these types of programs. Kaitlyn partially credits her preparedness for the internship to her studies in the Government and International Affairs Department because she had learned the basis of American government and federal policy in the classroom. Kaitlyn believes her internship not only benefited her academically, but also readied her for the working-world saying, "My internship was a valuable learning experience. I saw firsthand that plans do not always go as expected. Problem-solving, conflict resolution, and working with other people are skills that must be cultivated outside of the classroom."



**Britt at an eagle aviary
located on the reservation**

During interim, Joshua completed an internship with the Ways and Means Committee in the South Carolina House of Representatives in Columbia, South Carolina. While working, he participated in meetings held by the Ways and Means Committee, the Joint Bond Review Committee, and the State Fiscal Accountability Authority, all while conducting research applicable to the urgent issues at hand with the state's budget. As a student hoping to pursue a career in public service, Joshua chose this internship because he wanted to explore both the roles of elected officials and civil servants within state government. One of the most valuable lessons Joshua took away during his time at the State Capital was gaining a respect for those who seek to find middle ground in a very partisan culture and he learned how to approach an issue with a non-partisan scope and to explore the pros and cons presented by each idea. Joshua believes his internship will benefit him at Wofford and beyond: "I now better understand the lengthy processes and necessary regulations that our government must follow. I will be able to apply the experiences I gained in practical ways as I see the fruits and efforts of our state legislators carried out as evidenced in our tax code, our public schools, our infrastructure, and more."



Adams standing with the Clerk of the House, Mr. Charles Reid (left) and Speaker of the House, Mr. Jay Lucas (right)

Faculty and Department News

This semester, Dr. David Alvis is teaching his popular Constitutional Law class with a special guest lecturer: Judge Henry Floyd from the Fourth Federal Circuit Court of the United States. Dr. Alvis is also helping teach a new sequence of courses entitled American Political Development, which have been popular with students.



Judge Henry Floyd lecturing to the Constitutional Law class

Dr. Alvis (along with Coach Eric Nash) led an interim this past January that focused on the history and varying preparation of different styles of barbeque. *Southern Living* magazine even picked up the story and Wofford graduate, Anna Aguillard ('16), wrote a terrific article on the unique class.

Dr. William DeMars presented two papers at the International Studies Association Annual Convention from February 22-25, 2017 in Baltimore, Maryland. The first paper was titled *After Human Rights? Examining Change in a Global Zeitgeist*, while the second was called *Glimpsing Structure and Agency in World Politics, Refracted through NGOs* (coauthored with Dennis Dijkzeul of Ruhr University in Bochum, Germany). Dr. DeMars also received the 2017 Wofford College Excellence in Teaching Award from South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (Dr. John Farrenkopf received this award in 2012). Congratulations to Dr. DeMars!

Dr. Rachel Vanderhill presented the paper, *The Internet & Democratization: Comparing the Arab Spring and Post-Soviet States*, at the American Political Science Association Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA in September 2016. Dr. Vanderhill is also currently working on a book project, *Democratization and Authoritarian Persistence in the Internet Age*, that examines how new technology can both aid pro-democracy activists and authoritarian governments.

Congratulations to the Class of 2017's Government and International Affairs Majors!

Jordan Bolds-Lockwood: Taking a year off before returning to graduate school to pursue a Master's degree in International Relations

Austin Bowers: Will attend the University of South Carolina School of Law

John Caskey: Plans to pursue a career in the healthcare field or attend law school

Margo Deyling: Hopes to work at Blue Cross Blue Shield in Columbia, South Carolina, and is also considering starting her own business in Seattle, Washington.

Ashley Duckworth: Will attend Washington and Lee's School of Law starting in the fall

Timothy Edge: Will be commissioned into the United States Army, trained as a Military Intelligence Officer, and later plans to pursue a graduate degree in history

Colby Evers: Plans to pursue a career in sales

Mo'Nesha Ferguson: Plans on attending the University of South Carolina School of Law in the Fall of 2018

Christian Goerner: Will attend the Georgia Institute of Technology for graduate school

Rob Hart: Continues to weigh various options

Katherine Howell: Will attend the University of Mississippi, where she will study to receive a Master of Arts in English Literature.

Connor Jasso: Plans on working in Charleston, South Carolina before attending the University of South Carolina School of Law

Jackson Kemp: Will pursue a PhD in Economics beginning in the Fall of 2018

Andrew Koontz: Will attend the Master of Arts program in Public Diplomacy and Strategic Influence at the Institute of World Politics

Hailey Loftis: Will work at the Hope Center for Children as a Family Teacher where she will be working with children who have suffered abuse and neglect

Tyler Long: Will work in administration for RoseCrest, a local Continuing Care Retirement Community in Spartanburg, South Carolina

Patrick Longest: Will take a gap year to determine whether to attend Seminary or Law School

Rhett Maybank: Continues to weigh various options

Rod McCants: Leading a community clean-up effort in his beloved hometown of Andrews, South Carolina

Mark McCray: Continues to weigh various options

Guthrie McQueen: Moving to Greenville, South Carolina to pursue a career in real estate

Jessica Meggs: Will be the Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries at John Knox Presbyterian Church in Greenville, South Carolina

Julia Morton: Will attend Louisiana State University to get her Master's degree in Mass Communication where she will concentrate in political communication

Cameron O'Connor: Continues to weigh various options

Tripp Osteen: Will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant into the United States Army Reserves and plans to eventually attend law school and pursue a career as an entertainment attorney in Nashville, Tennessee

Chris Paschal: Will attend the University of South Carolina School of Law

Ashlyn Roberts: Plans to attend law school and work in Washington, D.C.

Katherine Schwarzentraub: Plans to pursue a career in the international education field

Maggie Stewart: Will be working at the International Republican Institute in Washington, D.C.

Paxton Stewart: Will pursue a Master of Science degree in criminal justice at the University of South Carolina

Roderick Todd: Continues to weigh various options

Sarah Traynor: Plans to attend law school

Hunter Windham: Will attend the University of Alabama School of Law

Yumeng Zhang: Will pursue a Master's degree in International Affairs at George Washington University in the Fall of 2017