

# MAY NEWSLETTER

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## Scholars' College Graduation

Scholars' College Graduation is Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 6pm in A.A. Fredrick's Auditorium.

NSU Graduation is Friday, May 12, 2017 at 10am in Prather Coliseum.

## Demon Scholars' Shoutout

Each month we will give a Shout Out to students and supporters of the Louisiana Scholars' College.

This month's Shout Out goes to our Seniors for being a part of our Scholars' family. We wish everyone success as you will be missed. Please visit us.

## Photograph Request

Demon Scholars, we need your photographs! We are looking for photos of LSC students to feature on our website, our social media accounts, this newsletter, and other materials.

Please email any pictures to [scholars@nsula.edu](mailto:scholars@nsula.edu).

We may even have a gift for those whose photos are used...

## Finals

Good luck Scholars' students during Finals Week!



## Senior Thesis BBQ

The Senior Thesis BBQ is a biannual ceremony celebrating the success of our graduating seniors. Each senior stated the name of their thesis title with their hand on the bust of Molière. Afterwards, professors delivered parting remarks. It is continually a special ceremony full of food, laughs, and even tears as the semester comes to a close.

Dr. Stave concluded each of the student speeches by placing her magic wand upon their heads and saying, "Swish. Flick. Welcome to the society of learned persons, and you are a part of us forever." This was truly a magical moment for each student as they were officially declared a member of the Louisiana Scholars' College Legacy. Each of these seniors put their all into their work that fully manifested into their thesis





## Historian Search Schedule

Three candidates for the historian position will be on campus next week. The schedules for their classes and meeting with students are:

Dr. David Fisher

May 1 (Monday)

1pm- sample class

2pm- meet with students

2:30pm- research talk

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Dr. Dean Kostantaras

May 3 (Wednesday)

4pm- sample class

5pm- meet with students

May 4 (Thursday)

9am-research talk

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Dr. David Wright

May 8 (Monday)

2:30pm- sample class

3:30pm- meet with students

May 9 (Tuesday)

10am- research talk

research projects. Now they are off into the great wide world, forever sharing the knowledge and wisdom that was cultivated here at the Louisiana Scholars' College.

### *Congratulations to Chris Das Neves, 2017 Keller Award Winner*

Graduating senior Chris Das Neves is our Nadya Keller Award winner for this year. The Keller Award is given to the student whose Science Seminar III term paper is deemed exceptional. Chris wrote his paper on the progression of the philosophy of science. Congratulations Chris! We are so proud of you!

### *Congratulations to Meg Denny and Abdul Hakim, 2017 Dr. James "Jay" Means Scholarship Winners*

Juniors Meg Denny and Hakim Abdul are this year's recipients of the Dr. Means Scholarship for their excellent Democratic Vistas papers. They each conducted archival research utilizing the Cammie G. Henry Research Center at our NSU library. Typically only one winner is picked, but their exceptional essays made it difficult to choose. We are so proud of the two of you!



## Dr. Rick Jensen's Fond Farewells



Chris Das Neves - To the man who brought me into the Scholars' family - Thank you. I'll never forget your Roosevelt course either!

Jordan Reich - Dr. Jensen, thank you for sharing your passion of history with the rest of Scholars', especially in your classes. I have loved every second of the past three years and I wish I had more time with you. Thank you for everything!

Melissa Polizzi - Thank you for always inspiring me with your knowledge. We are going to miss you!

Stacie Maddox - Dr. Jensen is sweet and precious. One time I saw him planning a garden party in Walmart and had to suppress an AWW.

Kirsten Fontenot - I would like to thank Dr. Jensen for inspiring us and teaching us and for all the years he has spent doing that for all the students that have come through Scholars'! I hope his retirement is filled with laziness and fun!

Danyelle Coco - Thank you to Dr. Rick Jensen for being my professor for Texts and Traditions. I enjoyed our seminar classes and discussions. You will be greatly missed by all.

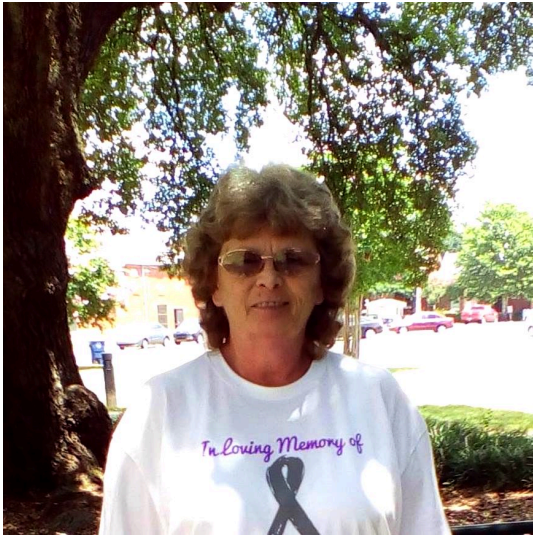


Michael Thrower - Dr. Jensen, you are such an important part of the Scholars' family, and you were always a great part of my time here. Thanks for being my advisor!

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## Rhonda Wood's Fond Farewells

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Danyelle Coco - Thank you to Mrs. Rhonda Wood for always answering emails and calls about anything we needed these past four years. You will be greatly missed by all.

Kirsten Fontenot - I want to thank Mrs. Rhonda for always being willing to help us however she is able, even when she has five thousand other things to do! Thanks for always being willing to go out of your way to help make our lives a little bit easier! I hope that you have a fantabulous and easygoing retirement!

Stacie Maddox - Mrs. Rhonda is caring, kind, fun to talk to, can be silly when she wants to be.

Payton Miller - I think she's sweet, and she is very open with people. She is also goofy and kind.

Dakota Brogdon - Mrs. Rhonda is amazing. She feeds everyone's sweet tooth. She will surely be missed.

Ekaterina Bordelon - She remembers my name which makes me feel loved. She always has everything I need when I ask. Love=efficiency.

Jordan Reich - Mrs. Rhonda called me Peyton for forever, but not to worry, she knows my name now! On a serious note, I will really miss her.

Christina Arrechavala - She gives me candy every day and I normally end up having a long conversation with her about my day and all my medical problems. She has started giving me the good candy from behind her desk so now I feel like I have reached elite status.



# SENIORS' NEXT STAGE

## Nick Bailey

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Scientific Inquiry and a Minor in Biology and Chemistry

Thesis Title: Investigation of 2,10-Dithia[3.3]heterophanes as Potential Molecular Switches

Plans After Graduation: "I plan to go to the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine."



## Carly Bourgeois

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Scientific Inquiry with a Minor in Biology and Chemistry

Thesis Title: Investigation of [2.2](2,5)Furanophanes as Potential Molecular Switches Using Computational Chemistry

Plans After Graduation: "I plan to work as a Phlebotomist and apply to Physician's assistant school in the fall."

Seniors' Next Stage

**Megan Boyanton**

Major: Joint Major in Liberal Arts and Mass Communication with a Double Minor in Global Studies and Philosophy

Thesis Title: The Hindu 'Woman Question': An Analysis of Hinduism's Relationship to Women's Rights in India

Plans After Graduation: "I am immediately moving from Natchitoches, La., to Seattle, Wa. After taking a gap year to travel and prep for the GRE, I will be applying to six different journalism master's programs around the country and will hopefully attend one in the fall of 2018 (fingers crossed)."



**Tristan Bridges**

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Scientific Inquiry with a Minor in Chemistry and a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a Concentration in Forensic Science

Thesis Title: Revolutionizing Forensic Technology: Identification of Humans Through Hair Shaft Proteins

Plans After Graduation: "I'm attending Sam Houston State University in the fall to pursue a Masters in Forensic Science program. I am eventually going to obtain my Ph.D."

Seniors' Next Stage

**Kasia Cielatka-Omohundro**

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Scientific Inquiry and a Minor in Biology

Thesis Title: Louisiana College Towns and the Factors Contributing to High STI Rates

Plans After Graduation: "I plan on earning a Master's Degree in Cell and Molecular Biology. I will also go to medical school and become a licensed OBGYN."



**Danyelle Coco**

Major: Liberal Arts with Concentration in Scientific Inquiry and Minor in Biology

Thesis Title: Dietary and Health Habits of International College Students in Louisiana

Plans After Graduation: "I will go to medical school to pursue my path of being a family medicine doctor."

## Seniors' Next Stage

### **Chris Das Neves**

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Humanities and Social Thought, a focus in History and a Minor in Classics

Thesis Title: Protecting the Protectors: the Image and Life of Roman Veterans after their Term of Service

Plans After Graduation: "The plans for post graduation are to head to the University of Toronto for grad school in Ancient History."



### **Kirsten Fontenot**

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Scientific Inquiry (Pre-med)

Thesis Title: Investigation of Ebola Infection and Potential Inhibitors by Computational Chemistry

Plans After Graduation: "I intend to go to medical school after graduation. Specifically, I want to attend LSU in Shreveport."



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Seniors' Next Stage

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**Natalie Jaeger**

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Mass Communications

Thesis Title: The Impact of Social Media Websites on the Mental Wellness of Division I Female Collegiate Athletes

Plans After Graduation: "I plan on moving to Milwaukee and breaking into the digital marketing sector."



**Hammond Lake**

Major: English with a Concentration in Film Studies and Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Fine and Performing Arts

Thesis Title: The Universal Language: Music as a Narrative Influence in Cinema

Plans After Graduation: "After graduation I am attending Southern Methodist University's Temerlin Advertising Institute for a MA in Advertising."

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## Seniors' Next Stage

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### **Conn McCandish**

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Philosophy, Politics, and Law and a Minor in Piano Performance

Thesis Title: Da'esh's Validity as an Islamic Caliphate

Plans After Graduation: "I'm trying to get a legal assistant or paralegal job for a year before attending law school in the fall of next year."



### **Emily Paxton**

Major: Joint Major of Liberal Arts and English

Thesis Title: Be Still and Know that I Am God: Exploring Spirituality's Influence on Louise Erdrich's Silent Characters

Plans After Graduation: "I'm moving to Texas, and I plan to discover how I want to spend the rest of my life."

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Seniors' Next Stage

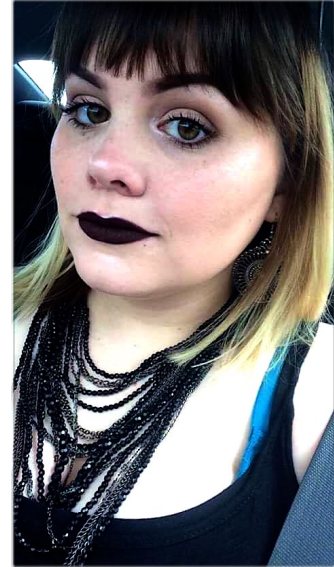
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**Catherine Roberts**

Major: Computer Information Systems with a Concentration in Web Development and a Minor in Business Administration

Thesis Title: The Effectiveness of Electronic Health Record Systems for Patient Care in Two Small, Rural Hospitals

Plans After Graduation: "I will be working as a paralegal at a law firm in Natchitoches."



**Toria Smith**

Major: English Joint Major with a Concentration in Literature and a Minor in Foreign Language (Spanish and Russian)

Thesis Title: In Her Own Words: A Feminist Retelling of Vladimir Nabokov's Lolita

Plans After Graduation: "I will be going on to obtain my masters in English at UNO."

## Seniors' Next Stage

### **Randy Sullivan**

Major: Joint Major of Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Scientific Inquiry and Mathematics

Thesis Title: Recursive Functions as a Model for Computability

Plans After Graduation: "I plan to move to Colorado and take a gap year before I attend graduate school."



### **Chelsea Thibodeaux**

Major: Double Major in Communications with a concentration in Mass Communication and Liberal Arts with a concentration in Humanities and Social Thought, and a Double Minor in Classics and Math

Thesis Title: A Comparative Analysis of Selected Presidential Nomination Acceptance Addresses

Plans After Graduation: "I'm still waiting on an answer from U of Wisconsin Law School. If I'm in, I'm going to law school, and if not I'm taking a gap year to build my resume and retake the LSAT."

## Seniors' Next Stage

### **Michael Thrower**

Major: Psychology with a minor in Liberal Arts

Thesis Title: Self-Stigma and Its Effects on Help-Seeking Intentions

Plans After Graduation: "After graduation, I plan to take a year off to study for both the GRE and the LSAT, and to decide between going to law school or graduate school for psychology."



### **Ryan Ware**

Major: Liberal Arts with a Concentration in Philosophy, Politics, and Law

Thesis Title: Bringing Gnosticism into United Methodist Adult Christian Education

Plans After Graduation: "I will be attending Duke Divinity School in the fall to pursue my Masters of Divinity. After divinity school, I will return to Louisiana to serve as a pastor in the United Methodist Church."

## Seniors' Next Stage

### **Leighann Westfall**

Major: Hospitality, Management, and Tourism

Thesis Title: Rebranding After Crisis: A Comparative Analysis of Tourism Marketing in The United States, Egypt and Israel

Plans After Graduation: "I am going to graduate school at Northwestern State University for student affairs and higher education!"



### **Savanna Whitten**

Major: Elementary Education with a Minor in Liberal Arts

Thesis Title: All Work and No Fun: The Impact of Standardized Testing on Elementary Teachers' Morale and Job Satisfaction

Plans After Graduation: "I'm going on a six week mission opportunity through the Louisiana Baptist Convention over the summer called GOLA VBS. In the fall, I plan to start my career as an elementary teacher. Within the next few years, I will be heading back to school to pursue a masters degree in gifted education!"