

The Krulak Institute for Leadership,  
Experiential Learning, and Civic Engagement

# Annual Report 2016



**BSC** Birmingham-Southern College

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# The Krulak Institute For Leadership, Experiential Learning, And Civic Engagement

Established in fall 2015, the Krulak Institute for Leadership, Experiential Learning, and Civic Engagement honors Birmingham-Southern's 13th president, Gen. Charles C. Krulak, and serves as the focal point for experiential learning at the College.

The initial idea of honoring President Krulak came from Ronne and Donald Hess, longtime supporters of the College who endowed the leadership studies program in 1999; they suggested renaming the Hess Center, but after an outpouring of donor and community support, the Board of Trustees voted instead to create a broad-based Institute to encompass all the College's experiential learning programs.

The Krulak Institute emphasizes leadership development, community engagement, internships, collaborative research and study away. It is comprised of:

- The Hess Center for Leadership and Service
- The Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action
- The Sklenar Center for International Programs
- The rise<sup>3</sup> Experiential Learning Initiative
- The Office of Exploration Term and Contract Learning
- The Norton Board of Advisors

By bringing together these centers and programs, the Krulak Institute provides Birmingham-Southern College a focal point for experiential learning opportunities, leadership development programming, and resources for connecting with the city of Birmingham and the larger world. The Institute also supports faculty research and professional development in the area of experiential learning.

Highlighted here are the major achievements for academic year 2015-2016.



# Program Overview

## Rise<sup>3</sup>

Rise<sup>3</sup> is the College's new experiential learning initiative that enhances and further integrates experiential learning as part of students' educational experience. Experiential learning includes research with faculty, internships, and service-learning. While Birmingham-Southern students have always engaged in these activities, the rise<sup>3</sup> initiative seeks to increase the participation and quality of experiential learning at the College, including programs offered through other centers in the Krulak Institute. Rise<sup>3</sup> experiences include all of the following:

- A rich, intense, and deep experience in a community or professional setting
- Critical reflection before, during, and after the experience
- Support of faculty, staff, or community members who facilitate learning and provide ongoing feedback
- Fulfillment of the rise<sup>3</sup> learning outcomes, which emphasize connecting the learning experience to academic knowledge, exploring one's values and professional aspirations in light of the experience, and analyzing relevant public interests and concerns in relation to the experience.





**Shibani Chakrabarty ('18),  
President Elect of PanHellenic,  
Hess Fellow, studied abroad  
in spring 2016 in London,  
England through the  
American Institute for Foreign  
Study (AIFS)**

*"I thought I would have to choose between studying abroad and embracing leadership opportunities at the College. However, with hard work and determination, I was able to do both. Choosing to study abroad was the best decision I have made. My advice is this: if you have the slightest inclination to study abroad, the tiniest amount of wanderlust in you, then do not let anything hold you back."*

## **Exploration Term**

The Exploration term emphasizes innovation and experimentation for both students and faculty. Exploration term refers to the College's January term. Projects offered during this term facilitate exploration not possible during the regular term, including group study-travel projects focused on a specific region or issue, on-campus projects that examine a topic from multiple angles, or projects that provide sustained focus and practice over extended meetings. Students also participate in internships or contract their own projects during January.

## **Norton Board of Advisors**

The Norton Board is a group of over 200 community leaders who advise the College's programs and facilitate internships and mentorships for students. The Norton Board's charge is to connect the College to the community, its people and its needs, as well as to connect the community to the College's students. Established in 1974 to honor the memory of Edward Lee Norton, the Norton Board provides a forum for mixing the academic and theoretical wisdom of the College with the practical advice of Birmingham's business and professional communities. The Norton Board also supports Panther Partnerships, a nine-month professional mentoring experience for Birmingham-Southern students.

## **Hess Center for Leadership and Service**

Established in 1999, the Hess Center promotes effective leadership practice and advocacy through the Distinction in Leadership Studies Academic Program, the First-Year Leadership Challenge, and Hess Fellows Advocacy Internships.

## **Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action**

The Bunting Center, named in 2007, coordinates and supports the College's curricular and co-curricular service-learning program, including regional, national, and international partnerships. In coordination with rise<sup>3</sup> and the Hess Center, the Bunting Center supports faculty professional development for community-based learning and research.

## **The Sklenar Center for International Programs**

The Sklenar Center coordinates all national and international study-travel projects, assisting students and faculty in the selection and design of study-travel experiences suited to individual interests and needs. Partnerships with international institutions and educational programs allow students to study away during the regular term, contract a travel experience during January, or complete a summer internship at an national or international location.



# FRED DAVID GRAY

## Civil Rights Attorney and Legislator

*[Illegible gold text on the plaque]*

# Speakers

## Stephen Black

In his “Welcome to College” lecture, attorney and founder of Impact Alabama Stephen Black implored students to take full advantage of their time at Birmingham-Southern by getting involved on campus and in the community. For many years, Birmingham-Southern students have volunteered with Impact Alabama’s programs SaveFirst, FocusFirst, and SpeakFirst. Impact Alabama has expanded its programming to several states and is also known as Impact America.

## Fred Gray

On November 5 during common hour, Civil rights attorney Fred Gray inspired his audience with his own behind-the-scenes story of the Civil Rights Movement, urging students to get involved and work to address problems they see. A former Alabama State Bar President and one of the first African Americans to serve in the Alabama Legislature since Reconstruction, Mr. Gray achieved national distinction for his representation of Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King, Jr. during the Montgomery Bus Boycott and later his representation of the victims of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study. Fred Gray is a person of great courage and commitment whose legal career in civil rights in Alabama spans six decades.

## Joan Witherspoon-Norris

On February 16th, Joan Witherspoon-Norris of the YWCA Central Alabama explained payday lending and title loans in Alabama. As she stated, Alabama laws allow payday lenders to legally charge 456% APR and title pawn lenders to charge 300% for loans. These exorbitant rates leave many in our state in a vicious cycle of debt from which they cannot escape. Ms. Witherspoon-Norris encouraged students to get involved with payday lending reform and speak to their representatives about this issue. After the talk, students were encouraged to take pictures with the “pit of despair” and post them to social media to raise awareness.



# Events

## **EXPERIENCE: Service in the City**

As part of new student orientation, 457 first year and transfer students and 77 orientation leaders worked with 24 community service agency partners in Birmingham during EXPERIENCE: Service in the City. The event introduces students to service-learning and highlights the agencies making a difference in Birmingham. By gardening at Jones Valley Teaching Farm, sorting cans at the Community Food Bank of Central Alabama, and other activities, students learn more about each other, the city, and the tradition of community engagement at the College.



## **Fall Leadership Conference**

In October, more than 20 students participated in a one-day leadership conference where they considered the relevance of a liberal arts education, how to identify professional development opportunities as a student, how to build a professional social media presence that demonstrates one's value to employers, and tips about how to interview for internships. Guest speakers for the event represented professionals and experts in higher education, small businesses, and non-profit management.

## **International Education Week**

The College celebrated International Education Week, November 16-20. This year's theme was Global Refugee Awareness. The annual map project, which invites students, faculty, and staff to pinpoint where they have travelled worldwide, expanded to include the routes refugees travel to find safety, shelter, and community. Students, faculty, and staff traced their footprints to show their solidarity with those people who have been forced to leave their homes because of war, persecution, and natural disaster. The week concluded with the vibrant International Bazaar sponsored by the College's Cross-Cultural Committee featuring activities, performances, and foods representing different international student groups at the College.

## **First-Year Leadership Challenge**

The first-year leadership challenge provides first-year students with an opportunity to build their leadership skills and identify how they can meaningfully contribute to Birmingham-Southern. The program is a partnership with the Office of Student Development, and consists of six, two-hour sessions during January. Over 60 students participated in all six sessions this year.

## What was the most significant or important thing you gained from your experience in the first-year leadership challenge?

*"Seeing how much the College wants us to succeed on campus and in life."*  
—FYLC participant, 2016

*"The thought that everything we do now affects whether we achieve our vision or not in the future."*  
—FYLC participant, 2016

*"The knowledge I gained from the student panel and speaking with different organizations about how to get involved."*  
—FYLC participant, 2016

## Norton Board Annual Meeting

The Norton Board Annual Meeting was held on March 2. Seventy-five members attended and learned about the Krulak Institute's plans for increasing experiential learning opportunities. The Panther Partnerships Program, on hold for this academic year, will begin again in the fall of 2016.



## Birmingham Reads

On April 21, twelve students and staff members participated in Birmingham Reads, an annual event sponsored by Better Basics. Each volunteer read a book to students in a classroom and then provided copies of the book to each child in the class. The College's readers were among hundreds of volunteers that read to classes in 28 Birmingham city schools, collectively reaching more than 14,000 children.

## Student Leaders in Service

For the week of June 12-17, the Bunting and Hess Centers partnered with the Office of Admission to host high school juniors and seniors from across the Southeast for Student Leaders in Service (SLS). Now over 22 years old, SLS is an annual weeklong residential summer camp. Campers participate in service projects, deepen their understanding of Birmingham, and experience college life on the Hilltop. The week concludes with each participant developing



a public narrative in which they call on their fellow campers to address a specific community challenge. Approximately two-thirds of the SLS participants go on to apply to Birmingham-Southern and one-third eventually matriculate. This year, campers completed service projects at Jones Valley Teaching Farm, Girls, Inc., Community Foodbank of Central Alabama, and Red Mountain Park. Participants also had the opportunity to experience a Baron's baseball game, tour the Alabama Theater, enjoy Steel City Pops at Railroad Park, and visit the Birmingham Civil Rights Museum.



TELEPHONE

**Dealie Pope ('17), English major, studied for fall 2015 at the University of Birmingham in Birmingham, England**

*"My semester in Birmingham, England forced me to depend on myself to navigate public transportation, which I had never had to do before. I also learned to depend on those who helped me along the way and actually pay attention to the advice of more knowledgeable people. Ultimately, I learned the importance of independence, interdependence, and gained a new appreciation for what I have at home in Alabama."*

# Professional Development

## Reading Group in the Liberal Arts

A group of faculty and staff met on August 17th at Vestavia Library in the Forest to discuss Michael Roth's *Beyond the University: Why Liberal Education Matters*. Funding was provided by the Hess Center. Fifteen faculty and staff members discussed the relationship of Roth's argument to leadership, general education, and community engagement, exploring the implications of his ideas for educational practices and curriculum at the College.

## Gulf South Summit

Birmingham-Southern once again provided representation at the Gulf South Summit on Service-Learning and Civic Engagement through Higher Education in Savannah, Georgia, this spring with Krulak Institute staff members Kent Andersen, Jessica Pincham-King, and Kristin Harper in attendance. This is the third year that Kristin has served on the Gulf South Executive Committee and she presented a pre-conference session for new service-learning directors.

## McDonough Leadership Conference

Two students presented their Leadership Studies senior capstone projects at a student-run academic conference sponsored by the McDonough School of Leadership at Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio. Mara Scarbrough ('17) examined how industrial and post-industrial leadership paradigms shape participation in leadership roles in the Kappa Delta sorority. She found varied, sometimes conflicting, orientations to leadership among Kappa Delta members. Connor Wright ('17) examined the Birmingham-Southern College track team's capacity to recognize and address adaptive challenges. Adaptive challenges, unlike technical challenges, do not have clear solutions and may not be clearly defined. He concluded that the team prefers work avoidance over identifying and addressing adaptive challenges. Both presenters also provided recommendations to their campus organization colleagues for sustaining and improving leadership practice, thus emphasizing the conference theme of social responsibility.

# Curricular Development

## Rise<sup>3</sup> Designated Projects

The rise<sup>3</sup> initiative is an emerging program. For this academic year, the rise<sup>3</sup> faculty advisory committee clarified the process for designating and evaluating rise<sup>3</sup> projects. Going forward, proposals will be accepted four times during the academic year and renewed annually to ensure quality and rigor. Further, all rise<sup>3</sup> projects, both credit bearing and non-credit bearing, will be noted on each students' academic transcript..

For summer 2015 and summer 2016, rise<sup>3</sup> awarded faculty development grants in support of the following projects:

- BI 316 Experimental Research Design and Methods in Animal Behavior – Megan Gibbons, Professor of Biology
- BI 405 Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology – Pamela Hanson, Professor of Biology
- CH 397 Internships in Chemistry – Kate Hayden, Assistant Professor of Chemistry
- EH 396, Contemporary Poetry, Sandra Sprayberry, Robert E. Luckie, Jr. Professorship in English
- MFS 490 Media and Film Internship – David Resha, Associate Professor of Media and Film Studies
- PS299 66 Pre-law Internships – Mary Kate Lizotte, Associate Professor of Political Science
- PS 434 Introduction to International Human Rights Law – Vincent Gawronski, Professor of Political Science
- SO E 299 70 Sociology of Therapy and Service Animals – Meghan Mills, Assistant Professor of Sociology
- UES 450 Urban Environmental Studies Internship – Bill Holt, Assistant Professor of Urban Environmental Studies
- Summer Research in Mathematics – Maria Stadnik, Assistant Professor of Mathematics
- Summer Research in Mathematics – Anne Yust, Assistant Professor of Mathematics

## New Leadership Studies Designated Courses

- ARB 170 Culture of the Arab Speaking World – Lamia Benyoussef, Assistant Professor of Arabic
- ARH 312 Medieval Art – Tim Smith, Associate Professor of Art History
- CH 418 Medicinal Chemistry – Kate Hayden, Assistant Professor of Chemistry
- EH/HI 232 Story of Freedom – Tynes Cowan, Associate Professor of English and Will Hustwit, Assistant Professor of History
- PY 308 Judgment and Decision Making – Greta Valenti, Assistant Professor of Psychology
- SO 335 Race and Ethnic Relations – Meghan Mills, Assistant Professor of Sociology
- THA 104 Theatre's Call to Action – Alan Litsey, Professor of Theatre

## New Service-Learning Integrated Courses

- EH 208 Intermediate Writing – Kent Andersen, Director, Hess Center for Leadership and Service  
*Working with Blueprints College Access Initiative*
- GEN 50 Education in Uganda – Amelia Spencer, Associate Professor of Education  
*Working with Buiga Sunrise School*
- GEN 51 Service-Learning in Ghana – Michelle Behr, Provost and Dean of the College, Professor of Geography  
*Working with Cross Cultural Solutions*
- THA 104 Theatre's Call to Action – Alan Litsey, Professor of Theatre  
*Working with Bush Hills Academy*
- UES 380 Urban Planning and Design – Bill Holt, Assistant Professor of Urban Environmental Studies  
*Working with North Birmingham Community Coalition*

### THA 104 Theatre's Call to Action

As part of the rise<sup>3</sup> initiative, Professor of Theatre Alan Litsey debuted his first service-learning integrated course, Theatre's Call to Action in fall 2015. Students explored theatre as a collaborative art form that engages community critically, emotionally, and behaviorally. Selected teachers at our neighborhood school, Bush Hills Academy, were interviewed by Dr. Litsey's students who then created a performance project about the life of a teacher. Students spent time tutoring at Bush Hills Academy to familiarize themselves with the school's culture. The final project was performed at Bush Hills Academy for the teachers and on campus for the student body.



# Achievements

## Exploration Term Participation, January 2016

- 1015 total students enrolled during the Exploration Term
- 993 students enrolled in 70 faculty-led projects
- 22 students developed independent contracts
- 7 faculty-led study-travel projects traveled with 120 students to Italy, England, Greece, Czech Republic, Spain, France, Ecuador, Iceland, Uganda, and Ghana
- Students completed internships in a variety of fields, including accounting, business, education, pre-health, history, and pre-law

## Independently Designed Contracts of Note

Sponsored by Dr. Scot Duncan, Associate Professor of Biology, Hattie O'Hara ('17) and Gann Wright ('16) traveled throughout the southern half of the United States visiting eight urban farms to learn about sustainable agriculture's cultural impact.

Sponsored by Dr. Rick Lester, Associate Professor of Management, Cole Dunn ('16) researched how the Birmingham Barons profit during the offseason and how this impacts the city of Birmingham.

## New Faculty-Led Exploration Term Projects of Note

Led by Pam Venz (Art) and Duane Pontius (Physics), students in *Focus on Iceland: A Photographic and Writing Challenge on the Cusp of the Arctic Circle* researched the history and culture of Iceland at the same time they studied camera mechanics and chronicled their experiences in photographs and prose during a two-week stay in Reykjavik. Excursions consisted of journeys into the countryside, art, cultural, and historical museums, and Iceland's famous Blue Lagoon.

Students enrolled in *The Walking Dead: A Question of Leadership*, led by Tynes Cowan (English) read essays in leadership theory, applied those questions of leadership raised by the AMC's *The Walking Dead* television show, and developed interpretations based upon close readings of very specific moments in individual episodes. *The Walking Dead* follows a cast of characters struggling to survive a zombie apocalypse. Besides having to decide which weapon might provide the best defense against "walkers," the characters struggle with how best to work collectively to achieve the ultimate goal: survival.

The *Sociology of Therapy and Service Animals*, led by Meghan Mills (Sociology), introduced students to the social treatment of health, particularly with regards to disability. In partnership with "Hand in Paw," a local non-profit organization focused on improving the health and wellbeing of children and adults through animal-assisted therapy teams, the project emphasized a strong social science research component.



## Rise<sup>3</sup> Designated Projects Participation

- 11 students received 2016 summer housing funding in support of rise<sup>3</sup> projects. Project titles include: Units in Multiquadratic Fields; Invisible Disabilities, Stigma, and Service Dogs; and Internship at New York Life
- 9 faculty members were awarded stipends to sponsor non-credit bearing rise<sup>3</sup> projects for a total of 17 students. Project titles include: The Development of a Civil Rights Tour App; Investigating Chemical Properties of KP1019; and Equality Emerging
- From summer 2015 through summer 2016, 201 students completed a rise<sup>3</sup> project

	Summer 2015	Fall 2015	January 2016	Spring 2016	Summer 2016	TOTAL
<b>Research</b>	13	---	---	15	18	29
<b>Internships</b>	27	5	19	17	15	83
<b>Service Learning</b>	---	24	37	28	---	89
<b>TOTAL</b>	40	29	56	60	33	<b>201</b>

## Examples of Ongoing rise<sup>3</sup> Projects

- BA 397 Business Internships — Mary Harrison, Assistant Professor of Marketing
- BI 316 Experimental Research Design and Methods in Animal Behavior — Megan Gibbons, Professor of Biology
- CH 397 Internships in Chemistry — Kate Hayden, Assistant Professor of Chemistry
- EH 396 Contemporary Poetry — Sandra Sprayberry, Robert E. Luckie, Jr. Professorship in English
- HI 299 Internships for Historians — Randy Law, Associate Professor of History
- LS 300 Leadership Practicum — Kent Andersen, Director, Hess Center for Leadership and Service
- MFS 490 Media and Film Studies Internships — David Resha, Associate Professor of Media and Film Studies
- PS 299 Pre-Law Internships — Mary Kate Lizotte, Associate Professor of Political Science
- SO 376 Environmental Sociology — Bill Holt, Assistant Professor of Sociology
- UES 397 UES Internship — Bill Holt, Assistant Professor of Urban Environmental Studies



## **Service-Learning Travel Projects**

### **MLK Jr. Weekend Trip — Montgomery**

Over Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend 2016, the Bunting Center sponsored an overnight civil rights themed project to Montgomery, Alabama. Students visited the Equal Justice Initiative, a non-profit specializing in work on race and poverty and prison reform. Students also toured the Dexter Avenue King Memorial Church where much of Montgomery's early civil rights activity was directed and where Martin Luther King, Jr. served from 1954-1960. The last stop was the Southern Poverty Law Center's Civil Rights Memorial, which honors 41 people who died in the struggle for the equal and integrated treatment of all people during the Civil Rights Movement. The success of the project prompted a second group of students, Human Rights and Conflict Studies minors, to visit these sites in April.

### **Exploration Term Project — Uganda**

In January of 2016, twelve students participated in a service-learning project in Mukono, Uganda. Birmingham-Southern students, many education majors among them, worked with teachers at the Buiga Sunrise School. For the education majors, the ten days at the Sunrise School begins their student teaching experience. In addition to classroom work, students toured the local health clinic, visited selected homes of their students, and enjoyed drumming and dancing lessons. With great appreciation for the willingness of the Sunrise teachers to serve as mentors for our students, Dr. Spencer offered two professional development workshops for teachers and staff. The Birmingham-Southern and Sunrise School partnership will continue with a project planned for January 2017.

### **Alternative Spring Break — Birmingham**

For Alternative Spring Break, student Kayla Smith ('18) suggested an exploration of the local community. The alternative spring break project in Birmingham focused on serving non-profits across Birmingham, learning the history of the city, and investigating Birmingham's recent growth. Service projects included serving meals at Highlands United Methodist Church's Hospitality Hour, sorting food at The Community Food Bank of Central Alabama, clearing privet at Red Mountain Park, and planting vegetables and preparing beds at Jones Valley Teaching Farm. Participants visited Birmingham landmarks such as Sloss Furnace, Railroad Park, the Alabama and Lyric theatres, and Vulcan. Birmingham-Southern Student Akeem Lee ('19) provided a guided tour through the Civil Rights Institute and the 16th Street Baptist Church. Students met with leaders of the community and saw Birmingham's growth and change firsthand.

## Study Abroad Participation

- 16 students studied abroad during fall 2015 and spring 2016
- 3 students completed internships or research abroad during summer 2015
- 4 students studied abroad during summer 2016
- 11 countries served as study-travel sites for the regular and summer terms
- All financial need was met toward the cost of study abroad
- All students who participated in study-travel during the summer, fall, or spring terms completed IS 101 Pre-Departure Topics in Study Abroad

### Summer 2015 Study Abroad

- Ansleigh Davies ('18), mathematics major  
*School for International Training, Cape Town, South Africa*
- Meredith Brown ('17), psychology major  
*The Education Abroad Network Internship Program, Sydney, Australia*
- Evan Piedrahita ('17), business administration major  
*Cultural Vistas Internship Program, Santiago, Chile*

### Academic Year 2015-16 Study Abroad

- Molly Isen ('17), political science major  
*University of Birmingham, England*
- Adam Reynolds ('16), English and Asian studies major  
*Kansai Gaidai University, Japan (Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship)*

### Fall 2015 Study Abroad

- Clayton Crawford ('17), English major  
*University of Limerick, Ireland*
- Mary Evelyn Carroll ('18), Spanish major  
*School for International Training, Buenos Aires, Argentina*
- Marisa Sitz ('17), English major  
*Kansai Gaidai University, Osaka, Japan*
- Dealie Pope ('17), English major  
*University of Birmingham, England*
- Annamaria Moore ('17), Asian studies major  
*Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong*

### Spring 2016 Study Abroad

- Shibani Chakrabarty ('18), political science major  
*American Institute for Foreign Study, London, England*
- Jaekyung Chung ('17), business administration major  
*The Education Abroad Network, Singapore*
- Patrick Erickson ('17), global and comparative studies major  
*Council for International Educational Exchange, Barcelona, Spain*
- Jack Kennedy ('17), media and film studies major  
*Kansai Gaidai University, Osaka, Japan*
- Anna Martin ('17), psychology major  
*Council for International Educational Exchange, Cape Town, South Africa*
- Caitlin McCurdy ('17), mathematics major  
*University of Birmingham, England*
- Jenna McEachern ('18), psychology major  
*HvA International Business School, Amsterdam, Netherlands*
- Charles Schubert ('17), business administration and Spanish major  
*Council for International Educational Exchange, Alicante, Spain*
- Morgan Wyatt ('19), media and film studies and Spanish major  
*Council for International Educational Exchange, Seville, Spain*

## Summer 2016 Study Abroad

- Katie Kassis ('18), Asian studies major  
*Council for International Educational Exchange, Rabat, Morocco*
- Aaron Laster ('17), business administration major  
*Council for International Educational Exchange, Shanghai, China*
- Elizabeth Pittman ('17), biology major  
*Council for International Educational Exchange, Seville, Spain*
- Katie Jones ('18), studio art and business administration major  
*LEAD Abroad, GO Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain*

## Study Abroad Peer Advisors

Study Abroad Peer Advisors and 2016 Birmingham-Southern graduates Lucy Smart, Dunya Habash, Amy Heldt, and Karley Chamblee spent the year helping to break down barriers to study abroad. Through events and outreach to student groups and residence life, these experienced students promoted study abroad to the campus community. As one peer advisor explained in her evaluation, "I felt I was most effective by simply being available for students, to help soothe some of the concerns they have and to foster their excitement in studying abroad. Students need to have access to fellow students who have experienced some of the same things they are about to experience themselves." The four peer advisors this year were deeply engaged in College activities and all held leadership positions across campus. Their engagement across campus helped prospective study abroad students see that with early planning, study abroad can be an enhancement of their college experience.



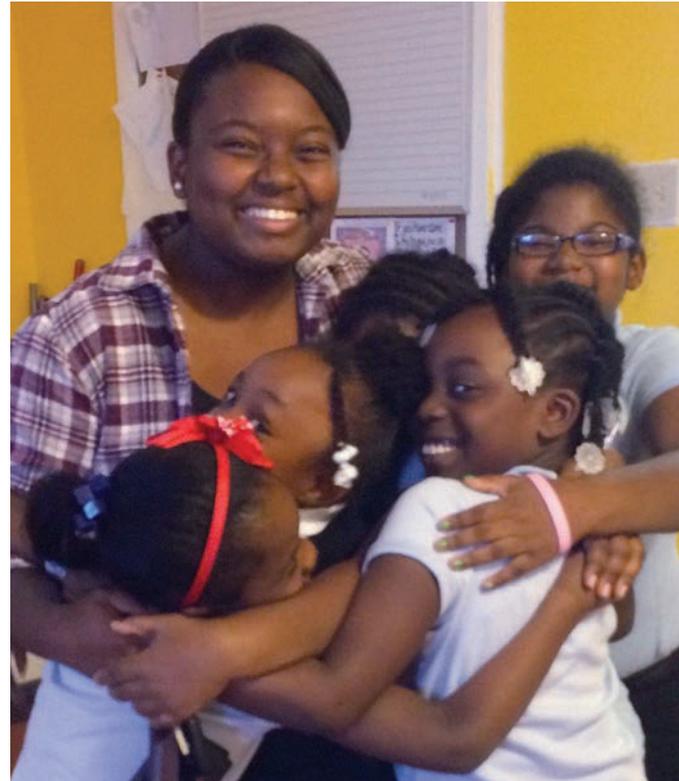
### Jack Kennedy ('17), media and film studies major, studied abroad for spring 2016 in Osaka, Japan at Kansai Gaidai University

*"All in all, Japan was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I wouldn't trade for anything. I never figured I would experience all of the things I did, such as seeing the city where the first atomic bomb was dropped in Hiroshima. I especially loved playing basketball with new friends. The friendships I made will last forever, beyond borders."*

## Distinction in Leadership Studies

The Distinction in Leadership Studies Programs requires students to complete five courses: LS 200 Leadership Theory and Practice, LS 300 Leadership Practicum, LS 400 Leadership Capstone and two LS-Designated courses from across the curriculum. During the 2015-2016 academic year, 50 students completed LS 200, 21 students completed LS 300, and 11 students completed LS 400. The thirteen 2016 DLS graduates are listed here with their LS 400 Capstone project titles:

- Jeb Blackwood, history major, Birmingham, AL  
*The United States Marshal Service and the Culture of Leadership*
- Madison Bryant, history major, Hattiesburg, MS  
*The 'Southern Ambassadors: Learning to Be the "Face of Campus"*
- Anne Cetto, biology major, chemistry minor, Olive Branch, MS  
*Interpreting Leadership and Culture at Maples Memorial UMC*
- Casey Craig, business administration major, Birmingham, AL  
*Birmingham-Southern Softball Team: Analysis of the Leadership Landscape*
- Wallis Fairvalley, business administration major, Atlanta, GA  
*Leadership and Culture within the Birmingham-Southern Golf Team*
- Dunya Habash, history and music majors, Birmingham, AL  
*Building Culture at Winning Our Wages*
- Patrick Hire, business administration major, Johns Creek, GA  
*Building a Better Tennis Department through the Constructionist Lens*
- Tayla Hyatt, psychology major, art-art history minor, Bell Buckle, TN  
*SOS is SOL: Searching for Leadership in Students Offering Support*
- Collin McKay, business administration major, Atlanta, GA  
*Leadership on the Birmingham-Southern Men's Basketball Team*
- Thomas Shane, economics major, Spanish for the Workplace minor, Fairhope, AL  
*New Boys, New Culture: Observations of the Socialization Process of Sigma Nu*
- Kristin Stempak, business administration major, studio art minor, Dallas, TX  
*To What Extent does a Local Advertising Agency Exemplify a Learning Organization?*
- Scout Turner, business administration major, Murfreesboro, TN  
*Defining Organizational Culture in Quest II*
- Derek Wass, political science major, economics minor, Muscle Shoals, AL  
*Building Spirit among the Southern Ambassadors*



*"I think this program is the most "real-world" applicable way to develop critical thinking skills while a student. I know that critical thinking is something that our liberal arts college emphasizes anyway, but because of the DLS program, I am very confident in my abilities carrying over into professional post-grad work. The emphasis on reflection is hammered home in this program. Sometimes, I was very sick of it. But I think in the long run it was for the best because each new experience built off of a previous reflection. Reflection is where you grasp the concepts but also think of new big ideas. Another strength is the hands-on aspect of the DLS program. Whether it's engaged discussion in the classroom, a leadership retreat on a weekend, a practicum experience, or conducting your own interviews for your final project—it's a guaranteed hands-on experience."*

**—DLS Program Graduate**

**Clayton Crawford ('17), English major, studied abroad for fall 2015 at the University of Ireland in Limerick**

*"If there is anything we need to learn in this rapid paced life, it might be how to adapt—and studying abroad is a master class. The experience challenged me not only to lead and think but also to follow, empathize and realize how little I actually knew about the world."*

**Caitlin McCurdy ('17), mathematics major, studied abroad for spring 2016 at the University of Birmingham in England**

*"I wouldn't trade [my experience overseas] for the world. I was nervous to go, but that feeling quickly disappeared. I remember when I rode my first train in England, and then when I conquered the metro in Paris; the small things brought me confidence to tackle bigger things. Before studying abroad, I was hesitant to leave my comfort zone, but now I feel ready to take on anything. I have a new perspective of the world, and I'm glad I had this opportunity, because I am a better version of myself because of it."*





## Hess Fellows Advocacy Internships 2016

Hess Fellows Advocacy Interns work with non-profit advocacy agencies for eight weeks during the summer. Hess Fellows Internships are rise<sup>3</sup>-designated projects.

- Blaire Alexander ('17), media and film studies major  
*Global Campaign for Education – US, Washington, DC*
- Sarah Bowman ('18), chemistry major  
*Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama, Birmingham*
- Shibani Chakrabarty ('18), political science major  
*Bill, Hillary, and Chelsea Clinton Foundation, New York City*
- Turner Collins ('17), political science major  
*Alabama Appleseed, Montgomery*
- Ansleigh Davies ('18) mathematics major  
*National Alliance to End Homelessness, Washington, DC*
- Allen Doyle ('18) urban environmental studies major  
*Alabama Coastal Foundation, Mobile*
- Anna Eggers ('17), art major  
*Greater Birmingham Ministries, Birmingham*
- Mercedes Engle ('18), psychology major  
*Birmingham Education Foundation, Birmingham*
- Caroline Grove ('18), biology major  
*Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network, Birmingham*
- Molly Isen ('17), music major  
*Alabama Civil Justice Foundation, Montgomery*
- Hattie O'Hara ('17), human rights and conflict studies major  
*One Roof, Birmingham*
- Caralyn Patton ('18), psychology major  
*YWCA of Central Alabama, Birmingham*
- Jordan Porter ('17), business major  
*Alabama Possible, Birmingham*
- Morgan Schneider ('17), business administration and urban environmental studies majors  
*Alabama Coastal Foundation, Mobile*
- Shannon Walsh ('17), psychology major  
*Collat Jewish Family Services, Birmingham*
- Toby White ('18), history major  
*Bread for the World, Washington, DC*



## Bonner Leader Program

In the spring of 2015, the Bunting Center recruited the initial cohort for the fall launch of the Bonner Leader Program. Bonner Leaders receive a scholarship and a community-based federal work-study position and commit to a program of community engagement for the duration of their studies at the College. At least five students will be selected each year so that by the fall of 2018, Birmingham-Southern will have a cohort of at least 20 students committed to 8-10 hours of community engagement work per week. Six students were chosen for the first cohort; six more were recruited to participate the second cohort beginning fall 2016.

### Bonner Leaders – Class of 2019

- Elly Arnold – Auburn, AL
- Kendal Harris – Montgomery, AL
- Julianna Schock – Birmingham, AL
- Tatiana Neuman – Louisville, KY
- Anthony Waller – Birmingham, AL
- Patrick Kilcoyne – Acton, CA

The Bonner Leader Program includes an orientation retreat and attendance at the Bonner Congress, an annual gathering of Bonner students from across the nation. This year, the Congress was held in Houston. Bonner Leaders participate in weekly reflections and discussions with Bunting Center staff, where they draft community-learning agreements with their non-profit community partners. Bonner Leaders also earn the Distinction in Leadership Studies.





# Student Awards

## Nationally Competitive Scholarships and Fellowships

Each year, the College selects students to apply for postbaccalaureate scholarships. These are highly competitive, national awards. To be nominated is an honor, and thus we celebrate these nominees and winners here.

### Barry Goldwater Scholarship

The Goldwater Scholarship encourages outstanding sophomores and juniors to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering.

Adam Alden Pratt ('17), mathematics major (Nominee)

### Fulbright Grants

This program advances cross-cultural interaction and mutual understanding by placing students in research and teaching positions across the globe.

Victoria Renee Boone ('16), music education major, English Teaching Assistant Grant, South Korea (Semi-Finalist)

McKenzie Nora Davies ('16), biology major, Study-Research Grant, Finland (Semi-Finalist)

### Harry S. Truman Scholarship

This Truman supports graduates study for students with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education, or public services.

Mara Cathleen Scarbrough ('17), collaborative education major (Nominee)

### Rhodes Scholarship

The Rhodes provides two years of graduate study at Oxford, with the possibility for a third year.

Dunya Habash ('16), history and music major (Finalist)

### Udall Scholarship

The Udall provides support to sophomores and juniors committed to careers related to the environment.

Marilyn Marie Rowell ('17), urban environmental studies major (Nominee)



### Hess Center for Leadership & Service Distinction in Leadership Studies Award – Dunya Habash ('16)

This award honors a Distinction in Leadership Studies graduate who exemplifies leadership engagement while at the College and potential for leadership following graduation. This year's recipient was Dunya Habash ('16), a Harrison Honors Program Scholar, a Sklenar Center peer advisor, Rhodes scholarship finalist, and a double major in history and music. Dunya served as student staff member for Student Leaders in Service in 2015, and has been invited to complete a TED talk in summer 2016 in which she will discuss the documentary on Syrian refugees that she completed as part of her Honors Program project.

## Campus Scholarships and Awards

### **Koinonia Scholarship – Hannah Hudson ('17)**

The Koinonia Scholarship, created in honor of the College's 11th president, Dr. Neal R. Berte, is designed to provide financial support to a student or group of students who independently contract an Exploration Term project concentrating on service issues in the global community. Working with contract sponsor Dr. Susan Buckingham (Pre-Health Advisor), Hannah undertook an internship with Centro de Salud, a public health clinic in Bolivia, lived with a host family, and used Spanish to communicate on a daily basis.

### **Dickerson Award – Kathleen Kassis ('18)**

The Dickerson Award honors the memory of Mr. Shanon Dickerson ('96), a member of the first class of Leadership Studies graduates who inspired others with his passion for international experiences and commitment to service. The Dickerson Award supports study-travel for Distinction in Leadership Studies students. Katie Kassis ('18) is an Asian studies major with a special interest in Southwest Asia and the Middle East and an economics minor. She is pursuing fluency in Arabic language and this is her motivation for studying in Morocco this summer through the College's partner program, the Council for International Educational Exchange (CIEE). She is also a committed athlete on the Birmingham-Southern swim team and an academically strong student.

### **Nancy & Billy McDonald Servant Leader Award – Raven Knowlton ('16)**

Raven Knowlton, a senior from Decatur, Alabama spent this year leading the Blueprints Mentoring Program. Blueprints matches college and high school students as the high school students move through the college search process. For the last two years, using technology in the blended learning classrooms at Birmingham-Southern and Locust Fork High School, Birmingham-Southern student mentors have worked with Locust Fork juniors and seniors on the Blueprints curriculum. The classroom technology was made possible by a Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham grant. On May 17 at Locust Fork High School, a program was held to celebrate the accomplishments of the junior class and to recognize Raven for her hard work coordinating the program. (PICTURE – Locust Fork)



*"When I return home, I will have spent six weeks living in Cochabamba, Bolivia where I volunteered at Harry William's Salvation Army Hospital observing the practice of international medicine. Embarking on this journey was harder than I could have ever imagined. All of a sudden, I found myself dropped into an entirely unfamiliar world surrounded by new cultures and unknown people. Throughout this internship, I was pushed out of my comfort zone and forced to adjust to the unfamiliarity. I found that the deeper I dug into my new world, the easier it was to keep my head up. Not only did I develop a deeper understanding of the world around me, but I discovered within myself that I am stronger than I thought, braver than I once believed, and more determined than ever to take on the world."*

**– Hannah Hudson, recipient of the Koinonia Scholarship**

# Community Partnerships and Agencies

## LOCAL SERVICE-LEARNING PARTNERS

Alabama Possible: Blueprints College Access Program  
Birmingham Education Foundation  
Bush Hills Academy  
Cahaba Valley Health Care  
Collat Jewish Family Services  
Community Food Bank of Central Alabama  
First Light Women's Shelter  
Greater Birmingham Ministries  
Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama  
Impact Alabama  
Jones Valley Teaching Farm  
Mother's Milk Bank of Alabama  
NorthStar Youth Ministries  
One Roof  
Red Mountain Park  
REV Birmingham  
Tuggle Elementary School  
Urban Ministry, Inc. – Urban Kids, West End  
Community Garden, WE Café  
YWCA of Central Alabama

## REGIONAL AND NATIONAL PARTNERS

Alabama Appleseed – Montgomery, Alabama  
Alabama Civil Justice Foundation – Montgomery, Alabama  
Alabama Coastal Foundation – Mobile, Alabama  
Alabama Sustainable Agriculture Network – Montgomery, Alabama  
Bread for the World – Washington, DC  
Clinton Foundation – New York, New York  
Global Campaign for Education – Washington, DC  
National Alliance to End Homelessness – Washington, DC

## INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Cross Cultural Solutions  
Buiga Sunrise School – Banda, Uganda

## STUDY ABROAD PARTNERS

### Exchange Programs

*Exchange programs support study abroad at universities around the world for nearly the same cost as Birmingham-Southern tuition*

China – Hong Kong Baptist University  
England – University of Birmingham  
France – University Francois-Rabelais Tours  
Germany – Erfurt University  
Netherlands – HvA International Business School  
Japan – Kansai Gaidai University

## Direct Programs

*Direct Programs allow students to enroll directly with top-ranked international universities*  
Belgium – Vesalius College  
Egypt – American University in Cairo  
Ireland – University of Limerick  
South Africa – University of Cape Town  
Switzerland – University of Fribourg

## Provider Programs

*Provider programs offer a range of study locations, providing logistic and curricular support*  
American Institute of Foreign Study (AIFS)  
Spanish Studies Abroad (SSA)  
Council on International Education Exchange (CIEE)  
Institute for Study Abroad at Butler University (IFSA-Butler)  
International Partnership for Service-Learning (IPSL)  
Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS)  
School for International Training (SIT)  
Semester at Sea (SAS)  
The Education Abroad Network (TEAN)

## INTERNSHIP PARTNERS

Payroll and Benefit Solutions  
D1 Sports  
Birmingham Barons-Group Sales  
Swell Fundraising  
LifePoint Health-Strategic Resource Group  
Emily's Heirloom Pound Cakes  
Payroll and Benefit Solutions  
Birmingham Civil Rights Institute  
Vulcan Park and Museum  
Birmingham Public Library -- Archive  
Hon. Teresa Pulliam  
Zarzaur, Mjumdar & Debrosse  
Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C.  
Lightfoot, Franklin & White, L.L.C.  
Coosa Riverkeeper  
Turkey Creek Nature Preserve  
Greater Birmingham Ministries  
Impact Alabama-SaveFirst  
Bush Hills Elementary School  
Alabama Possible  
City of Birmingham-Mayor's Office  
Alabama Sports Hall of Fame  
Cayenne Creative  
Innovation Depot  
The Exceptional Foundation  
Mitchell's Place  
New York Life  
Fearless Fire Drills  
Global Peace Exchange



## Krulak Institute Staff 2015–2016

Kent Andersen  
Chair, Engaged Learning Programs  
Director, Hess Center for Leadership and Service

Kristin Harper  
Director, Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action

Anne Ledvina  
Associate Director, Sklenar Center for International programs

Katy Leonard  
Director, Exploration Term and Contract Learning

Jessica Pincham King  
Director, rise<sup>3</sup> Experiential Learning Initiative

Katy Smith  
Assistant Director, Internships

Emily Thornton  
Program Assistant, Bunting Center for Engaged Study and Community Action

The logo for Birmingham-Southern College, consisting of the letters 'BSC' in a large, white, serif font.

Birmingham-Southern College