

ALETHEIA

SHACKOULS HONORS COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY'S FIRST
GATES CAMBRIDGE
SCHOLAR

LUCAS J. FERGUSON

SPRING 2017

Aletheia is a Greek word normally interpreted as "truth" or "reality." However, *aletheia's* original meaning suggests discovery or revelation, a notion that is more aligned with the traditions of education and enlightenment.



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

ALETHEIA

LUCAS J. FERGUSON

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LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Dear Students, Alumni, and Friends,

It is a pleasure to share with you some of the latest news and happenings at the Shackouls Honors College. This year our students continued to have great success in distinguished external scholarship application. Under the guidance of Dr. Tommy Anderson and Dr. David Hoffman, MSU students won Gates Cambridge, Goldwater, Fulbright, NOAA Hollings, and Princeton PPIA scholarships. [Two of our students were Rhodes Finalists this year](#) and we had a [Truman Finalist](#) as well. You can read their stories in this issue of *Aletheia*.

Undergraduate research also continues to thrive under the direction of Dr. Seth Oppenheimer. Dr. Oppenheimer took several of the Provost Scholars to the National Council for Undergraduate Research conference in Memphis, and many of our students won competitive REUs and other funded research and internship opportunities.

While it was sad to say goodbye to our graduating seniors this May, it was amazing to see the list of graduate and professional schools to which they received acceptances: Cambridge, Kings College London, Trinity College Dublin, Cornell, Johns Hopkins, UC Berkeley, Emory, Michigan, Vanderbilt, Georgia Tech, Georgetown, Virginia, UT Austin, and Baylor (just to name a few).

Shackouls Honors College students and alumni are doing great things in Mississippi, across the nation, and around the globe. Thank you for being part of their success and supporting their quest for academic excellence.

With all best wishes,

Christopher A. Snyder, Ph.D.

Professor of History and Dean

Judy and Bobby Shackouls Honors College



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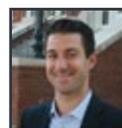
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LUCAS J. FERGUSON

MSU's first-ever recipient of the Gates Cambridge Scholarship

Mississippi State University has its very first Gates Cambridge Scholar: [Lucas J. Ferguson](#). The Gates Cambridge Scholarship is comparable to the Rhodes Scholarship at Oxford.

The scholarship is provided by the Gates Cambridge Trust, which is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council in England via the University of Cambridge. MSU President Mark E. Keenum called Ferguson's selection "another resounding endorsement of the fact that Mississippi State empowers our students to compete on an international scale."

Ferguson, a senior biochemistry major, is among 36 selected to receive one of the most generous international scholarships awarded by the University of Cambridge. In addition to the full cost of studying at one of the world's leading universities, the award provides additional discretionary funding.

"Lucas Ferguson is the latest MSU student to make their mark by claiming one of the world's leading higher education opportunities based on his intellect, hard work, and the educational foundation he earned at our university," said Keenum. "Whether the scholarship is Gates, Rhodes, Truman, Goldwater, or a host of other top drawer opportunities, MSU students are competing and winning."

Concentrating in bioinformatics, Ferguson was chosen based on academic excellence, leadership potential, commitment to improving the lives of others, and being a good academic fit with the University of Cambridge.

LUCAS J. FERGUSON

“Ferguson’s Gates Cambridge Scholar designation is an indication that his undergraduate research has the potential to have global impact and places him in a community of scholars who are motivated to solve some of the world’s most intractable problems.”

-Tommy Anderson

*Director, Office of Prestigious External Scholarships
Mentor, Presidential Scholars*

Also pursuing minors in computer science and microbiology, Ferguson is working to complete a computational biology certificate from MSU’s Institute for Genomics, Biocomputing and Biotechnology. Lucas is the recipient of the 2016 Judy and Bobby Shackouls Honors College Outstanding Research Award due to his exemplary scholarship in the classroom and laboratory settings, which have led to numerous academic publications in top-tier journals.

Tommy Anderson, Director of the Office of Prestigious External Scholarships at the Shackouls Honors College, said Ferguson’s Gates Cambridge Scholar designation is “an indication that his undergraduate research has the potential to have global impact” and “places him in a community of scholars who are motivated to solve some of the world’s most intractable problems.”

RIGHT:

**LUCAS FERGUSON CONDUCTING
RESEARCH IN THE COLLEGE OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE LABORATORY
PHOTO BY : MEGAN BEAN**

“Lucas plans to devote his professional life to combatting infectious disease, and the platform that Gates Cambridge offers him to pursue cutting-edge research is unparalleled,” said Anderson, also an MSU professor in the Department of English.

In addition to Anderson, Ferguson expressed gratitude for the guidance of faculty mentor Dr. Xiu-Feng (Henry) Wan, whom he met through the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science’s Research Shadowing program. A professor in MSU’s College of Veterinary Medicine, Wan is part of a team of researchers working to improve the development of life-saving flu vaccines.

“Under the mentorship of Dr. Wan and various collaborators from the College of Veterinary Medicine’s Department of Pathobiology and Population Medicine, I have been able to help answer pertinent questions related to bovine influenza D virus, which was discovered in 2011,” said Ferguson. His research agenda and training sessions have been supported by the National Institutes of Health.

Ferguson explained that the team primarily has concentrated on bovine influenza D virus epidemiology and pathology in cattle and other species, but the research focus has since developed into a study of antigenic and genomic diversity of bovine influenza D virus.

“This work is relevant to cattle considering bovine respiratory disease is the leading cause of economic loss in beef cattle production,” said Ferguson.

With guidance from Seth Oppenheimer, professor of Mathematics and the Director of Undergraduate Research at the Shackouls Honors College, and travel support from the



College, Ferguson also has presented his research findings at several professional conferences.

This past summer, through the Shackouls Honors Summer Research Fellowship, Ferguson participated in a six-week international research experience at the Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Nanjing, China, where he conducted research on the diversity of an avian immunologic gene in Chinese poultry.

“My experience in China impressed upon me the importance of international research and collaborations,” Ferguson said.

Aspiring to a career in academia, Ferguson will attend the University of California, Berkeley, where he has been awarded the Berkeley Fellowship for Graduate Studies - the university’s most prestigious pre-doctoral fellowship. Ferguson will study in UC Berkeley’s Molecular and Cellular Biology program. While there, he plans to focus his graduate studies and

professional research endeavours on RNA viruses, the innate immune system, and translational research. Forging collaborative relationships with other scientists conducting infectious disease research is a major goal, he said.

“Being able to begin my research career as a freshman at the Shackouls Honors College at Mississippi State has made me competitive on an international level,” Ferguson said. “I hope to continue establishing myself in the international research community as a productive, collaborative and passionate scientist eager to make a difference in my realm of research.”

While in high school, his commitment to improving the lives of others had social applications as well through his lobbying for the rights of LGBTQ persons throughout the state of Mississippi.

Ferguson proudly adds that his grandfather, William M. Bost, was the director of the Bost Extension Service for 19 years.



THE ROAD TO RHODES

This year, Natalie M. Jones of Flowood and Holly M. Travis of Starkville were both named [Rhodes Finalists](#). They were inspired by the success of the Honors College’s Donald “Field” Brown (Mississippi and Christ Church, 2014).

ABOVE:

**NATALIE M. JONES, LEFT,
AND HOLLY M. TRAVIS
PHOTO BY:
MEGAN BEAN**

English and sociology double-major Natalie M. Jones of Flowood and criminology and political science double-major Holly M. Travis of Starkville were both named Rhodes Finalists this year. It is very rare among public universities to have two finalists from the same school and region. Both Jones and Travis were among finalists chosen this year on the basis of demonstrated scholarly achievements, character, commitment to others and to the common good, as well as leadership potential. The scholarships are provided by the Rhodes Trust, a British charity established in the will of businessman and mining magnate Cecil J. Rhodes. The scholarship program’s goal is to promote international understanding and provide full financial support for students pursuing graduate degrees at

the University of Oxford, the first of its kind in the English-speaking world and at one of the world’s leading institutions of higher learning. For more, visit www.rhodesscholar.org.

Additionally, Jones was one of 54 students nationwide—and the only one from Mississippi—to earn a [2016 Harry S. Truman Scholarship](#), the nation’s most prestigious scholarship for students dedicated to public service. After completing her bachelor’s degrees, Jones will begin working toward a master’s in Public Policy and later a law degree. Travis plans to dedicate her career to helping dismantle institutional and systemic injustices in society. She plans a career as a public defender and policy advocate for criminal justice reform.



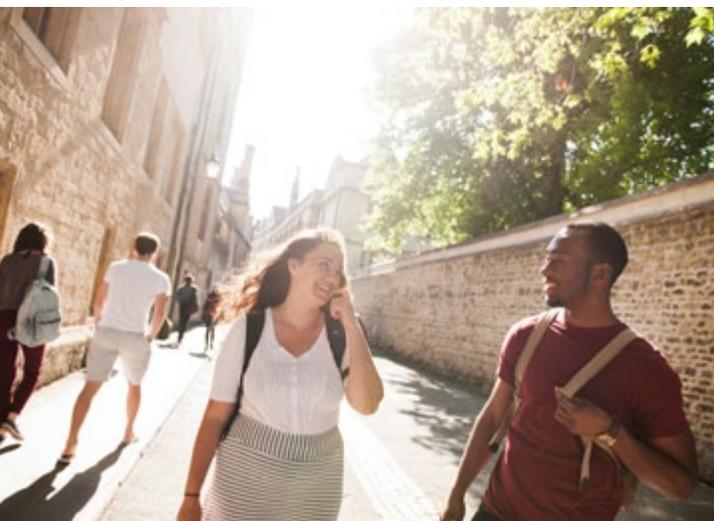
**AN UPDATE FROM MSU RHODES SCHOLAR
DONALD "FIELD" BROWN:**

"I successfully completed my master's degree at the University of Oxford in Modern British and European History in July of 2016. I focused on a group of African American writers who moved to Paris after World War II. I am now at Harvard, working towards a Ph.D. in Literature. I am studying the ways in which African American writers had to change their racial politics in their literature to fit into the literary mainstream after World War II, or suffer the consequences of becoming a marginalized writer. I am reassessing canon formation, and I have really enjoyed my time at Harvard – despite the brutal weather. I miss Starkville, and my conversations with Dr. Snyder in his office."

ON THIS PAGE:

UNIVERSITY
OF OXFORD
PHOTO BY:
MEGAN BEAN

FIELD BROWN
PHOTO BY:
MEGAN BEAN



OXFORD STUDY ABROAD

The Shackouls Summer Study at the University of Oxford is now in its sixth year and continues to be a highly coveted experience – one that is only offered to Shackouls Honors College students. This summer, 17 students will participate, which is the largest group the college has sent to Oxford. This six-week summer study abroad will be facilitated this year by Dr. Eric Vivier, who will teach a course called *The English Reformation: Religion, Politics, and Literature from Moore to Milton*. Vivier, a self-described anglophile and bibliophile, is an assistant professor in the Department of English and is a Faculty Fellow at the Shackouls Honors College, specializing in Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

While in Oxford this summer, these students will visit several important sites related to religious, political, and literary history and will engage with the Bodleian Library's extensive collection of rare books. They will also travel to other places in England, such as: London to see a performance of Twelfth Night; Stratford-upon-Avon to visit the place of Shakespeare's birth and burial; and the famous hot springs of the city of Bath, which date to the Roman Period. In addition

to taking Vivier's class, students also will receive a one-on-one tutorial with an Oxford professor on a subject of their choosing, which ultimately helps shape senior theses and post-baccalaureate studies. During their tutorials, students will become full-time members of the Christ Church College or New College and will be granted privileges to the dining halls, access to libraries, and various club memberships.

"This experience provides students with excellent preparation for their future research and graduate studies and can serve to reshape and refine goals and ambitions." Vivier adds, "Being able to study at – and have access to – one of the world's leading universities will be a life-changing experience for our students."

Trey Leonard, a senior in mechanical engineering, is looking forward to "working one-on-one with a professor from one of the most prestigious universities in the world" and "learning more about engineering from a European perspective, particularly since I am interested in pursuing a graduate degree in engineering."

PHOTOS OF OXFORD BY:
MEGAN BEAN



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Feifei Zeng

Feifei, a senior international business major, is MSU's first ambassador for the Intercollegiate Business Convention at Harvard University.

Feifei Zeng is a senior majoring in international business and she is taking the world by storm. This year, Feifei won a very competitive Public Policy and International Affairs Junior Fellowship to study at Princeton University this summer. The Honors College's most recent winner of this fellowship was Jamie Arron in 2015. Feifei participated in the Cornell-in-Turin, Italy study abroad program during the summer of 2015, then returned to Turin, Italy in the summer of 2016, where she taught English language courses for beginner and advanced students at the *Il Mondo di Joele* as the Multicultural Mediator/

Summer Intern. While there, Feifei was tasked with building relationships with immigrant populations from over 10 countries. She also was selected to be MSU's first ambassador for the Intercollegiate Business Convention at Harvard University, where she was able to raise \$5,000 in scholarships to award 13 students from MSU to attend. Feifei served as a delegate for the Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations where she participated in the Harvard Business School Case Competition. She currently serves as an appointed alumni advisory member for Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

THE STREETCAR

Now in its fifth year, *The Streetcar* serves as Mississippi State's student-run creative arts journal. Originally the brainchild of Honors Student, Hannah Humphrey, and Rhodes Scholar Donald "Field" Brown, *The Streetcar* is now under the direction of Honors students Morgan Hydrick and Robert Frey, along with faculty advisor Dr. Eric Vivier.

In the fall, the 15 students who make up the staff sorted through poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and art submissions from other MSU students, and in the spring they designed and produced the latest volume. The process, from start to finish, is the work of an eclectic bunch of students ranging from chemical engineers and biology majors to English and economics majors.

At first glance, there seems to be little rhyme or reason to the staff's bewildering array of backgrounds and interests, but the creative arts are the force that holds it all together. Co-Editor-in-Chief Morgan Hydrick, a senior majoring in English and communication, views *The Streetcar* not only as a haven for the arts on a STEM-oriented campus, but as a way to show that the sciences are not disciplines that are cut off from creativity and the arts.

"We receive submissions from all over campus, not just students focused on the humanities. There are a lot of creative STEM students who pour their creativity into the arts, too. The aerospace engineer can write sonnets, the architect can paint, and the mathematician can tell a story. *The Streetcar* allows MSU students to showcase their creativity regardless of their fields of study," said Hydrick.

In addition to producing a new volume each year, *The*



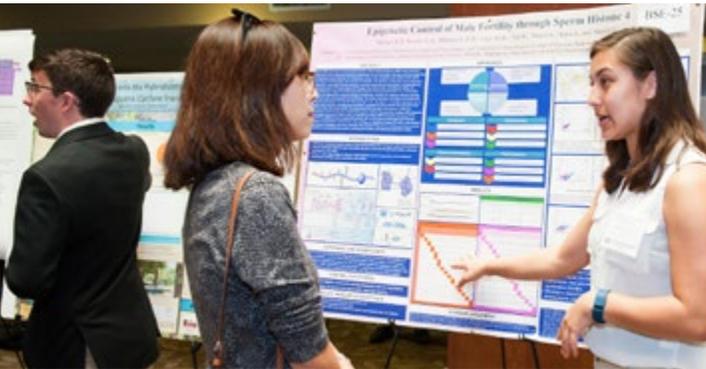
Streetcar also hosts events in the fall and spring in conjunction with The Writing Center at MSU. Each fall semester, students, faculty, and members of the community gather for an Open Mic Poetry Night at which people are encouraged to read their own work. This past spring saw the first edition of a *Stories from State* event in which students and faculty were invited to share their own nonfiction stories and experiences about life in Mississippi. In the spirit of Ernest Hemingway, *The Streetcar* also puts on an annual *Six Word Story* contest through its social media pages. These events highlight the creative energy and diversity of experience found within the student body as well as the Starkville community.

The Streetcar is supported through the generosity of Dean Chris Snyder and the Shackouls Honors College, as well as Dean Rick Travis and the College of Arts and Sciences. *The Streetcar* accepts creative submissions on a rolling basis from all MSU students and is committed to freedom of speech and expression on campus. All previous volumes of *The Streetcar* can be found [here](#).



UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Mississippi State University's Spring 2017 Undergraduate Research Symposium was held in April in Griffis Hall. A total of seven paper presentations were delivered and 172 posters were displayed, making this the largest symposium to date. This annual event is hosted by the Shackouls Honors College in collaboration with several other units, which include the Center for Community-Engaged Learning (CCEL), Office of the Provost & Executive Vice President, Office of Research and Economic Development, and the Graduate School. Each year, the symposium is open to all undergraduate students engaged in research and is an opportunity to showcase faculty-guided student research and creative activity from diverse departments, colleges and research centers across campus.



THE DRAMATIC ARTS



A B O V E : Honors students also performed William Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in the spring. The script was adapted by Dr. Eric Vivier, and was directed by Dr. Clevinger.

Our Senior Faculty Fellow, Dr. Donna L. Clevinger, directed two productions for the Honors College this academic year. In the fall, Dr. Clevinger directed an outdoor production of Seneca's *Phaedra*, a Roman tragedy, during Classical Week 2016. She partnered with Dr. Wilford Major, Associate Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures-Classics at LSU, who served as the production dramaturg. Dr. Major also brought over 20 LSU students to watch the play and interact with the production's cast and crew. Based on Dr. Clevinger's and Dr. Major's work together, they were selected to present their research at the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) annual meeting in Seattle last fall. Dr. Clevinger had earlier been selected to serve NCHC as the Drama Master Class Facilitator for all drama workshops. During Classical Week, the production was presented for two nights, followed by an afternoon of lectures which was partially funded by the Mississippi Humanities Council. Our lecture scholars, who spoke on various aspects of the Seneca play, were Dr. Major, Dr. Lauren Ginsberg, Assistant Professor in the Department of Classics at the University of Cincinnati, Dean Snyder and Dr. Salvador Bartera, Assistant Professor in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures at MSU. Over 95 faculty, staff, students and community individuals participated in this event. Dr. Clevinger teaches courses in Honors Seminar in Fine Arts, Honors Acting, Honors Introduction to Theatre and Honors Quest II.

ITINERANT SCHOLARS



PROVOST SCHOLARS IN MEMPHIS

Dr. Seth Oppenheimer accompanied Provost Scholars on a Spring Semester trip to Memphis, Tennessee. While there, the Provost Scholars attended and participated in the 2017 National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of Memphis. Provost Scholars Erin O'Quinn and Ciarra Smith presented their research.



PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS IN NYC

The Presidential Scholars visited New York City this spring, touring graduate programs at Columbia University, the United Nations, and the 9/11 Memorial Museum. They also were special guests of *Good Morning America's* Robin Roberts.

NO LOST GENERATION



PHOTOS COURTESY OF: TREY WALLACE

[No Lost Generation \(NLG\)](#) is a student group that is affiliated with the Department of State. Laura Herring, a junior Honors student majoring in international business, was compelled to found the [local chapter](#) of NLG because she has always been drawn to working on international issues. This provided her the opportunity to create

an awareness of the plight of the Syrian refugee crisis to the Mississippi State campus.

“I think our students here are very open minded and willing to learn about these things, but we haven’t had a space with which to discuss these issues. My main goal has been to dedicate a specific

time and place to educate students and make them more aware of the struggles of displaced and marginalized communities and the ways in which we can help,” Herring said.

She continued, “In my opinion, university students are the biggest agents of change – we comprise the

largest population of people who have the time and ability to dedicate ourselves to a cause.”

The local NLG chapter began a little over a year ago and now has 40 student members. The faculty advisors are Drs. Melanie Loehwing and Skye Cooley, assistant professors in the MSU Department of Communication.

Loehwing added, “As faculty advisors, we offer guidance where needed but these students are among the best and brightest on campus, and their dedication to this work shows at every meeting and event they plan. Their creativity in developing the mock refugee camp for the annual MSU International Fiesta was even more successful because it is backed up by a strong sense of obligation to help raise awareness of the suffering of children displaced by the Syrian civil war. It would be very easy for students in Mississippi to remain unaware and unmoved by the suffering of refugees halfway across the globe. These students consistently make time in their already overcrowded schedules to learn more about the crisis, to aid where they can, and to reach out to their community to help cultivate concern, awareness, and—maybe most importantly—compassion.”

The main goals of NLG are to raise awareness, provide educational materials, and raise funds to support Syrian refugee children. One challenge has been to dispel the increasingly common misconception that refugees are terrorists. Syrian refugees are

fleeing extremist organizations; being displaced from their homes and communities was not their choice – they have fled very dire circumstances.

Herring said, “I just want to educate people on the facts; beyond that, I welcome them to create their own, informed opinions. Once you know the facts and the history behind the crisis, any rational person will understand that we, as Americans, have a humanitarian responsibility to help.”

“Our biggest focus is on children and that’s because nearly one half of Syrian children are displaced from school. These children are the future leaders, diplomats and peacemakers of the region; failure to provide them with an education undermines peace and stability in the region for generations – and this is a problem regardless of one’s political perspective,” Herring added.

At this year’s annual International Fiesta on the MSU drill field, NLG set up a mock refugee camp. “All the work we put into setting up this mock camp was worth it when a student stopped and expressed that she had no idea that this was the circumstance of so many people,” reflects Herring.

Cooley said, “What is most inspiring to me is the selflessness with which the group operates. They are always wanting to make maximum impact toward helping others, and never seek recognition for themselves in the process. The mock refugee camp

the group built and hosted during the International Fiesta was a great example. The students coordinated among themselves to research what the camps looked like, raised funds and materials for building the camp, hand painted signs to mirror those in the refugee camps, worked out the logistics of setting up a refugee camp at what was otherwise a celebration event, and devoted a tremendous amount of their own time toward a successful execution of the event. They even brought in 3D headsets so people could experience life in a refugee camp in very real terms. Ultimately, bringing a consciousness and compassion for others to what was otherwise a celebration of culture...and it was a moving thing to see how many people came up to the camp, interacted with the students, and walked away understanding the plight of others and ways they could make a difference.”

Loehwing added, “It’s a privilege to work with students like those who have been active in NLG, and Laura’s commitment to this group stands out as an exemplar of what college students can achieve through their involvement on campus.”

Herring added, “I’d like to thank Dr. Shoup – he’s given so many lectures about the history of the conflict which helps give students a contextualized background and understanding. I’d also like to thank Trey Wallace, NLG’s vice president, for all of the talents that he brings to this organization. He is the creative force behind NLG because he is the one with the creative vision.”



THREE SHEPHERD BOYS WATCH OVER THEIR FLOCKS IN THE VALLEY BELOW (LESOTHO). CHILDREN LIKE THESE ARE OFTEN WITHHELD FROM PRIMARY EDUCATION AND FORCED TO SHEPHERD IN EXCHANGE FOR ACCOMMODATIONS. THANKS TO THE RECLAIMED PROJECT'S EFFORTS, MANY OF THESE CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO SUPPLEMENTARY EDUCATION, FOOD, AND HEALTHCARE.

PHOTO BY:
TREY WALLACE

HUMANITY IN ACTION

My name is Trey Wallace and I am an international intern at *The Reclaimed Project*, which is a Mississippi-based nonprofit organization. The project aids orphans in Sub Saharan Africa by establishing holistic, sustainable systems for economic growth in communities, which helps enable locals to provide better care for those in need. By connecting local artisans to an international market, *The Reclaimed Project* creates profitable jobs. This income allows communities to maintain local care centers that provide supplementary food, education, and healthcare to orphans.

As an international intern, I am using [my photography](#) to aid the organization in fundraising efforts. I have spent two summers working in Lesotho creating a series of photographs and short films that showcase what life is like as an orphan in Sub Saharan Africa and highlight *The Reclaimed Project's* efforts to provide aid to impoverished communities. In addition to my publicity work, I get hands-on experience

working in the orphan care centers, where I have spent time teaching mathematics and English. Spending one-on-one time with the children is especially important to me as it allows me to photograph their lives contextually, capturing the moments that most effectively summarize their lives. This summer, I will continue working with *The Reclaimed Project* as it begins establishing facilities in Zimbabwe.

To learn more about *The Reclaimed Project*, please visit: reclaimedproject.org

Trey Wallace is an Honors student majoring in industrial engineering and hopes to use his skillset to help solve humanitarian problems.

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Kristin Boyce is an Assistant Professor in the [Department of Philosophy and Religion](#) and a Faculty Fellow in the Shackouls Honors College at Mississippi State University. She has been an ACLS New Faculty Fellow at Johns Hopkins University, a post-doctoral fellow at Stanford University, and was the recipient of a Josephine de Karman Dissertation Fellowship. Her work is published in *The Journal of Philosophical Research*, *The Henry James Review*, *Wittgenstein and Literary Modernism* (U of C Press, 2016), *The Routledge Companion to Philosophy of Literature* (Routledge, 2015), and *Thinking Through Dance* (Dance Books, 2013). She has articles forthcoming in several venues, including *The Oxford Companion to Hedda Gabler*, *Ethics and the Limits of Sense: Essays on Wittgenstein and Value*, *The Palgrave Handbook for the Philosophy of Film and Motion Pictures*, and *The Routledge Companion to the Philosophy of Painting and Sculpture*.

“This has been a busy, but exciting year for me – in terms of teaching, research projects, and participating in professional organizations. I recently designed an upper level Honors seminar, “Philosophy of Film”, and, in the process, coordinated with a College of Arts and Sciences effort to develop a stronger film curriculum. This seminar also has provided me with an opportunity to coordinate with the student-led Honors Council; they advertised the Sunday evening film series to the student body at large and coordinated screening events.” When asked what she enjoyed most about teaching through the Shackouls Honors College, Boyce said, “I thoroughly enjoy the opportunity to teach students who are as strong as students anywhere within the structured curriculum of the *Cursus Honorum*, which is unique to the Shackouls Honors College at Mississippi State.”

“Last year, I continued to develop my interest in the performing arts through the publication of an article within an interdisciplinary collection about literary modernism and philosophy. Additionally, I was invited to be a keynote speaker at an international conference about philosophy and dance. Recently, I participated as one of the invited speakers at an interdisciplinary conference at the University of California at Berkeley on Literary Form and Logical Form. I have a forthcoming article in a volume about the playwright Henrik Ibsen. I have published work in all three areas of art that my research involves: theater, dance, and literature. An upcoming event that I am excited about: I am on the organizing committee for the 75th Annual American Society for Aesthetics National Meeting that will be held in New Orleans next fall.”

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Kristin Boyce

Faculty Fellow, Shackouls Honors College

"In the Condition of Modernism: Philosophy, Literature and *The Sacred Fount*." In *Wittgenstein and Literary Modernism*, eds. Karen Zumhagen-Yekplé and Michael LeMahieu (University of Chicago Press, 2016)

Review of Jonathan Lear's *A Case for Irony*, *The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism* 74.2 (2016), 208-10.

Sylvia Deskaj Galaty

Student Services & Outreach Coordinator, Shackouls Honors College

"Living Among the Dead: Establishing and Maintaining Community in Northern Albania." In: *Archaeological Papers of the American Anthropological Association* (Wiley-Blackwell, forthcoming 2017).

Lucie Henein

Honors Student

Cody JJ, Ittiprasert W, Miller AN, Henein L, Mentink-Kane MM, Hsieh MH (2016) The NIH-NIAID Schistosomiasis Resource Center at the Biomedical Research Institute: Molecular Redux. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis* 10(10): e0005022.

Sallie Lin

Honors Student

A senior majoring in biological engineering, has co-authored a book chapter "Ultrastructure and Biomechanics of Skeletal Muscle ECM: Implications in Tissue Regeneration" in the textbook *Bio-Instructive Scaffolds for Musculoskeletal Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine* (Elsevier Science & Technology Books, 2016)

Dr. Eric Vivier

Faculty Fellow, Shackouls Honors College

"Pleading for and Against the Devil: Satirical Ethics and Efficacy in *The Revenger's Tragedy: The State of Play*, ed. Gretchen Minton (Arden, forthcoming 2017)

"Judging Jonson: Ben Jonson's Satirical Self-Defense in *Poetaster*," in *The Ben Jonson Journal* 24:1 (May 2017), 1-21.

Review Essay: Heather Hirschfeld, *The End of Satisfaction: Drama and Repentance in the Age of Shakespeare*, in *The Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies* 16:3 (Summer 2016), 145-9.

Dr. Tommy Anderson

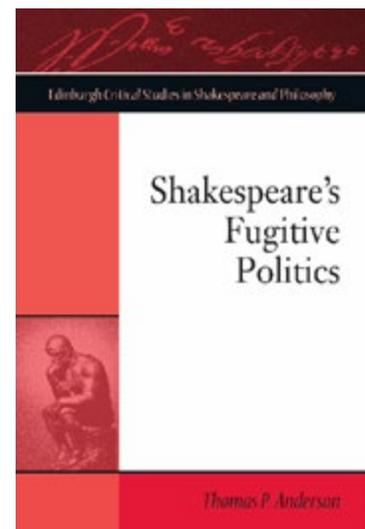
Department of English;

Director, Prestigious

External Scholarships

In [*Shakespeare's Fugitive Politics*](#) (Edinburgh University Press, 2016), Dr. Thomas P. Anderson explores how the parameters of contemporary radical politics take shape in *Coriolanus*, *King John*, *Henry V*, *Titus Andronicus*, *The Winter's Tale* and *Julius Caesar*.

Anderson also establishes the presence of a form of alternative politics in early modern drama, articulated through the contours of theories of sovereignty.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Holli H. Seitz

MPH, PhD

Assistant Professor

*Department of
Communication;*

Research Fellow at the

Social Science Research

Center; Director of the

Messaging Laboratory

What is your most memorable experience from your time as a SHC student?

It's tough to identify a single memorable experience because Honors was an incredibly significant part of my undergraduate experience. I have the wonderful Honors staff to thank for providing numerous opportunities and for supporting my goals. One of my favorite Honors memories is attending the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference in Chicago with other Honors students and former Honors Director, Dr. Jack White. The conference gave me a taste of academic conferences (and probably influenced my career decision), and Dr. White encouraged me to run for a student representative position on the national board, which was a wonderful, horizon-broadening experience for me. The Honors College also helped support my study abroad experience in London, which was one of the highlights of my college career.

What are some really neat things that are available to current students?

I am impressed and amazed by the research that undergraduate students at MSU are

currently pursuing and the opportunities available to current students. I was fortunate to be involved in research as an undergraduate, but I stumbled into it during my junior year. Students now have the opportunity to get involved with cutting edge research from the time they set foot on campus. I am also a bit envious of the students who get to participate in the Shackouls Summer Program at Oxford (UK not TSUN). I'm still trying to figure out how to be a stowaway on that trip!

Do you keep in touch with other former SHC students?

I forged lifelong friendships in the Shackouls Honors College (the University Honors Program, during my time), mostly from my time serving on the Honors Council. I even have an Honors love story: My husband and I actually met in Honors Forum during my freshman year and served on Honors Council together before we began dating. Our unofficial first date was an Honors outing to the observatory on South Farm. The rest is history.

GRADUATE SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

Graduate School

Kings College London
Trinity College Dublin
Cambridge
Lund University (Sweden)
Cornell
SAIS (Johns Hopkins)
UC Berkeley
Michigan
Vanderbilt
Georgia Tech
Texas A&M
Alabama
William & Mary
Georgetown

George Washington
Boston University
Virginia
Univ. of Denver
UT Austin
Johns Hopkins
Pittsburg
Memphis
Montana State
Baylor
Univ. of Tennessee-Knoxville

Law School

Harvard
Michigan

William & Mary
Emory
UT Austin
Vanderbilt
Virginia
Washington University
Alabama

Medical School

Univ. of Mississippi
Univ. of Alabama-Birmingham

Vet School

Mississippi State
Auburn

HONORS, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS



LEFT:

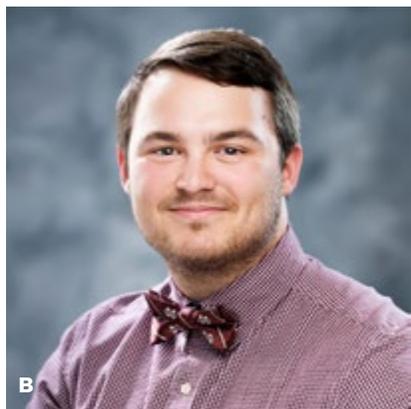
A: 2017 TRUMAN SCHOLAR FINALIST [BAILEY MCDANIEL](#)

B: 2017 GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT [JACKSON COOLE](#)

C: 2017 FULBRIGHT SUMMER INSTITUTE RECIPIENT [JACOB EASLEY](#)

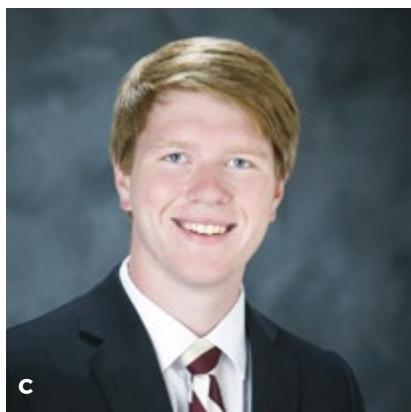
2017 Truman Scholar Finalist: **Bailey McDaniel**

2017 Diversity Award, hosted by the President's Commission on the Status of Minorities: **Bailey McDaniel**



2017 Goldwater Scholarship – Winner: The Office of Prestigious External Scholarships at the Shackouls Honors College is proud to announce that the winner of the 2017 Goldwater Scholarship is [Jackson Coole](#). Coole is a biological engineering major and is the third winner of the Goldwater Scholarship in six years. Jackson joins [Johnie Sublett \(2016 winner\)](#) and Matthew Berk (2012 winner) as Goldwater recipients from the Shackouls Honors College and from the College of Engineering.

2017 Goldwater Scholarship – Honorable Mention: [Sabrina Moore](#), also a Shackouls Honors College student, has received an honorable mention. Sabrina is a microbiology and chemistry double-major and is the eighth Goldwater honorable mention in the last six years.



2017 Fulbright finalists: The Office of Prestigious External Scholarships at the Shackouls Honors College is proud to announce that [Bailey Bullock and Andrew House](#) are MSU's newest Fulbright finalists! Bullock is a 2016 MSU sociology graduate; she will participate in the Student Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Program in Colombia. House is double-majoring in wildlife, fisheries and aquaculture and biochemistry. He will begin his graduate work this fall at Finland's University of Turku.

[Jacob Easley](#), a junior mechanical engineering major at Mississippi State University, will spend three weeks in the United Kingdom this summer after being selected to participate in the prestigious Fulbright Summer Institute.

2017 Recipient of nSPARQ Internship Grant: **Gentry Burkes**, a double-major in English and history, with a minor in classics, interned in Los Angeles, California, with an entertainment branding and marketing firm and attended a summer institute on the music industry at UCLA. She researched and studied the methods to market and promote new music in the age of electronic distribution. Burkes also is the recipient of an MSU E-Center Startup Grant to establish an independent record label, [StarkVegas Productions, LLC](#), to sign and record artists with ties to MSU; a prototype single and video have been produced, and the label is currently working with high school students from the Mississippi Delta to produce original hip hop music.

Honors student **Mary King** won an NSFG—the NSF’s top scholarship for graduate school. King won an honorable mention Goldwater last year.

Phong Ly has been awarded the American Council of Engineering Companies Scholarship at the state level. This scholarship is awarded each year to juniors and seniors from each respective state chapter. The recipients’ applications of the state scholarship can then be forwarded to the national level where they can compete for awards as large as \$10,000.

Elizabeth “Betty” Thomas received a Student Leadership Award from the [2017 President’s Commission on the Status of Women](#). Betty is a junior majoring in agricultural economics with a concentration in policy and law. Her most recent project has been organizing [She Should Run Mississippi](#), a women’s leadership event which will educate the student body on the importance of a gender-diverse government and inspire women to run for office.

This summer **Shelby Adair** will undertake biochar undergraduate research fellowship (REU) at South Dakota State this summer. For the fall, she has received the Burke Scholarship to participate in an Engineering Exchange Program at the Beijing Institute of Technology.

[Martin McCandless](#), a senior majoring in aerospace engineering, is a recipient of the 2017 Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Sydney Reed, a junior majoring in Biological Engineering, will attend Yale University School of Medicine this summer where she will study and research mechanisms and treatments for kidney and urological diseases, non-malignant hematological diseases, and hypertension.

Ciarra Smith, a junior studying biochemistry, will undertake neurobiology research (REU) in the Department of Molecular Biosciences at Colorado State University.

Nicholas Ezzell, a senior majoring in physics, has been selected to participate in the Department of Energy’s Science Undergraduate Laboratory Internships program at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory for the summer 2017 term.

Sarah Darrow, a junior majoring in computer science, will work at Google’s office in Boston, Massachusetts this summer as a software engineering intern. She will work on *Google Flights*, which is a feature that helps search and book airline flights. She will also write and test code that deals with obtaining information from airline companies about their flights.

Charles Boyd, a senior majoring in software engineering, will work as a software engineer intern at Google headquarters in Mountain View, California. As a Google Search AdWords team member, he will design and implement new interfaces and visualizations for Google’s online advertiser dashboard. This will allow Boyd to combine a passion for user-centered software development with an understanding of digital design, while building upon experience as a freelance developer and prior internships at Boeing and ADTRAN.

Trey Wallace will participate in Cornell University’s Summer Program in Turin, Italy, where he will study population dynamics and controversies. Wallace plans to pursue a career in international development, and his internship in Turin will help bridge the gap between his undergraduate studies and his career goals. He plans to use this program to build a background in policy and international affairs. Upon completion, he will fly to Zimbabwe where he will continue his internship with *The Reclaimed Project* (see more on this on page 18).



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