

The Wall Fellows Journal

Special Interest Articles:

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Opening Remarks

Students are back and the campus is buzzing with excitement. In typical Myrtle Beach fashion, a beautiful “first-day-of-school” morning quickly became a stormy afternoon, fooling us all and sending even the Wall Fellows running for cover. Yes, summer is officially over, and nothing says welcome back like squeaky shoes and a damp blazer! Mad dashes aside, we are very excited to be back for what will undoubtedly be an exceptional semester at CCU.

In this issue, we will update you on class activities, spotlight Meghan Laffin’s internship with CBS News and profile recent alumna Shana Ernst, who spent the summer interning with Ernst & Young.

We hope you’ll take the time to catch up with us.

With warm regards,

Meghan Laffin ’14 and Jordan Lauver ’15



Wall Fellows Class of 2014
(From top left): Meghan Laffin, Zachary Burns, Naomi Dantzer, Britany Higdon, Cora Panos and Dominique de Wit



Wall Fellows Class of 2015
(From left): Jordan Lauver, Scarlett Trainor, Steven Vanden Heuvel, Ashley Barteck, Chase Vickery and Casey Burnett

2014 Class Update

The first day of class was a heartfelt one for the Wall Fellows Class of 2014. It was the first time since Europe that the six were together again, and although Einstein coffee doesn't quite compare to cappuccinos in Paris, it was an exciting reunion nonetheless. The chatter could've continued for hours, and would have, but Ms. Cummings reminded us (subtly of course) of the work that needs to be done.

It will be a busy semester for the senior class. Formal presentations from the trip to Europe will be given this week, and will continue through October when the class will present to the Wall Fellows Board of Directors. The class will also be presenting to freshman "First-Year Experience" classes this fall, as part of an ongoing recruitment initiative. The presentations will be an excellent opportunity to welcome new students to Coastal and teach them about the Wall Fellows program.

Another initiative that the senior class will continue this semester is the Alumni-Engagement project. We hope that you can make arrangements to attend this year's Induction Ceremony for the Class of 2015, on **Friday, Nov. 1**. It will be Homecoming Weekend for the Chanticleers, and we would love to plan a few activities for the Wall Fellow family to enjoy.

If you have any ideas, please share them by contacting Meghan Laffin at mvlaffin@g.coastal.edu.



Wall Fellows Class of 2014 in Europe

2015 Class Update



While the Wall Fellows Class of 2015 will not be officially inducted until Nov. 1, members are already immersed in a variety of projects. Jordan Lauver began interning with the Murrells Inlet-based Waccamaw Community Foundation in July. He will be completing his six-month internship requirement with the nonprofit philanthropic organization in January. Scarlett Trainor has begun working on planning the recruitment process, a process she just completed a few months ago herself.

Preparations have started to take shape for the educational international trip thanks to Ashley Barteck and Steven Vanden Heuvel. This project includes the selection of countries to be visited, a proposed budget to be submitted to the Wall Fellows Board of Directors and the securing of all travel arrangements. Special activities for Wall Fellows alumni for Homecoming weekend are being arranged by fellows Chase Vickery and Casey Burnett. Chase is also working as a project co-leader with the Junior Achievement program, which is near and dear to the hearts of the Wall Fellows. He will help arrange the placement of Wall Fellows in classrooms to deliver Junior Achievement's proven content. All-in-all, the Class of 2015 has begun to understand just how important time management skills are to any Wall Fellow.

Meghan Laffin: CBS News Intern

It was a busy summer for senior Wall Fellow Meghan Laffin. The management major and journalism minor found the best of both worlds in New York City, where she interned for CBS News' senior business and economics correspondent, Anthony Mason. "I've really found my passion," said Meghan, "it's hard work and not for everyone, but I love it."

Meghan loved it so much, in fact, that she voluntarily worked almost double the required amount. "There were a lot of times when I'd get to work at 5 a.m. and not leave until after the Evening News ended at 7 p.m.," she said. "Anthony Mason frequently fills in for Charlie Rose on 'CBS This Morning' and getting to go along in the morning was an opportunity I couldn't refuse." Meghan spent the long days doing research, conducting preliminary interviews and assisting during live broadcasts and shoots. She attended daily rundown meetings and weekly intern workshops with producers, writers and on-air talent, culminating in what she says was the "summer of a lifetime."

For her final evaluation, Mason wrote, "Meghan's natural curiosity and enthusiasm means she will improve quickly at anything she attacks. She has a wide set of skills fired by innate curiosity, and she made herself a truly valuable part of our team this summer."



Meghan Laffin (right) with Anthony Mason

Alumni Update: Shana Ernst



Shana Ernst (left) during summer EY Boat Cruise

Recent alumna Shana Ernst had the pleasure this summer of interning with EY, formerly known as Ernst & Young. This past July, Mark Weinberger took over as CEO and global chairman of Ernst & Young, announcing the new corporate name EY. The company also took on a new slogan of "Building a Better Working World."

During her time at EY, Shana was introduced to FSO tax and worked on corporate tax returns for small equity firms and hedge funds. "I honestly did not know too much about hedge funds until I completed training at EY," said Shana. Her entire first week at EY was spent in training, with a focus on EY's different service lines, the company's procedures and on sharpening her Excel skills. In addition, Shana received training in the various computer programs she would be using in her service line while interning. While her time in the office was enjoyable, Shana said it was the feeling that she was an important part of a team that made the experience at EY so rewarding.

Shana is currently working on her MBA at CCU and is expected to graduate in December. She will also begin the CPA exam in November and expects to complete this process before starting work with EY next summer. Through the experiences that forced her to step out of her comfort zone while being a Wall Fellow, Shana has certainly paved her way toward personal and professional success.