



# The Wall Fellows Journal

## Opening Remarks

Welcome! The leaves are starting to fall as we welcome winter weather. This semester has been packed full of exciting events, and as the semester comes to a close, the Wall Fellows are starting to prepare for the upcoming semester.

In this edition of *The Wall Fellows Journal*, we are reflecting on the Wall Fellows Class of 2019 induction ceremony and the 2017 Alumni Lunch. We will then introduce the 2017 Alumni of the Year. As the semester beings to close, recruitment for the Wall Fellows Class of 2020 begins, and we will give a brief overview of our recruitment plans and efforts. Seniors Ross Kunmann '18 and Sean Edwards '18 will share their internship experience, which has now turned into a career with Lysi U.S.; junior Patrick Dempsey will share his internship experience with Turner Construction; and Ole Wegeleben, a visiting student from the University of Bonn Rhein-Sieg, shares his internship experience with Porsche. Finally, we will provide updates on two of our community giveback projects.

With warmest regards,

Kaylea Gassaway '18  
Morgan Howder '19  
Madison Wolf '19  
Nathan Hord '19

### Wall Fellows Class of 2019

(From top left): Jacob Sarver, Nathan Hord, Trevor Greene, Michael Ford, Paul Zeuschner, Morgan Howder, Madison Wolf, Patrick Dempsey, Mary Rufo and Shadda Corwin



**Wall Fellows Class of 2018**  
(From top left): Mickayla Smith, Ross Kunmann, Myles Anderson, Sora Lebowitz, Kaylea Gassaway and Sean Edwards



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# Wall Fellows Class of 2019 Induction Ceremony Reflection by Madison Wolf



On Friday, Oct. 27, the Wall Fellows inducted the 23rd class, consisting of nine new members, spanning seven different majors. This year, we had the most applications in the history of the program.

My class was selected in spring of 2017, and I was immensely proud when I got the call from Gina Cummings. When induction week finally arrived, I was filled with anticipation. The weekend held a dual meaning for me since I don't get to see my family much during the school year, and my mom, stepdad and oldest sister made the trip from Colorado.

I had absolutely no idea what to expect when I arrived at the Singleton Building on

Friday night. I was pleasantly surprised by how nice the ballroom looked; however, the nine chairs on the stage made me somewhat nervous. Were we going to be sitting up there for the whole ceremony? The answer was yes, but it wasn't as daunting in reality as I perceived it to be.

Before dinner, I mingled with professors, board members and my classmates' families in an environment somewhat removed from the day-to-day university routine. At 6:30 p.m., we were ushered inside to take our seats for dinner. From the moment I sat down, I began to understand how momentous this event truly was. The hosts for the evening were Kayla Brazier '12 and Matt Montero '98.

When it was finally time for the ceremony, I watched as the other members of my class stood and signed their names and patiently waited for my turn.

When my turn came, I felt a rush of adrenaline as I signed the paper and shook the hand of President David DeCenzo and Dean Barbara Ritter. I did not take this vow lightly and realized this night could alter the course of my life drastically. From that moment on, I would act with the four Cs of leadership that Ritter outlined in her speech: character, courage, compassion and compromise.

After the ceremony, Ross Kunmann '18, Kaylea Gassaway '18 and Cummings provided words of encouragement and advice to the incoming Class of 2019.

Note: This year's induction ceremony was planned by Gassaway '18, Myles Anderson '18, Kunmann '18, Mark Lehment '18 and a member of our sister program in Germany. We would like to thank everyone who helped make this event such an enormous success.

# Alumni Lunch Reflection by Madison Wolf

On Saturday, Oct. 28, the current Wall Fellows and a group of alumni gathered in the Wall boardroom for the annual alumni brunch. The purpose of the annual alumni brunch is to allow Wall Fellows to meet and make connections with Wall Fellows alumni in an informal setting.

This year, representatives from two Wall Fellows community giveback projects, Carolina Kids Fish and H.E.A.L., shared information about the programs and what the plans are for this year. In addition to the project updates, guests were shown a slideshow of the Class of 2018's international trip. To conclude the event, the Wall Fellows played an icebreaker game which opened the door to better connect with one another.

The alumni brunch was planned and coordinated by Kaylea Gassaway '18, Mickayla Smith '18, Morgan Howder '19, Trevor Greene '19 and Ole Wegeleben '18, a Wall Fellow visiting from Germany. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Debra Lauria, administrative assistant for the program, for ensuring the success of Wall Fellows events through her dedication and hard work.

## Alumni of the Year Award by Morgan Howder



The Wall Fellows Program could not be possible without the amazing support from faculty, staff, community members, and alumni who helped create the history of our program.

Each year, the Wall Fellows recognize an alumnus who continues to contribute to our program, allowing our continued involvement in such an engaging and enriching environment. To acknowledge their involvement in helping our program continue to evolve, we created an Alumni of the Year Award. The Alumni of the Year Award is presented at the alumni lunch during Homecoming weekend.

This year, we recognized an individual who has been very active with the Wall Fellows Program and has served on the board of advisers for the past three years. When this person joined the board, he immediately began contributing to the program's growth by opening doors for possible internships, providing coaching for Wall Fellows and assisting with career opportunities for graduates.

This year, we recognized Kevin VanDenBerg '08.

VanDenBerg worked for Rolls-Royce after graduating from CCU until March 2016. Upon leaving Rolls-Royce, he joined Delta Material Services, where he is currently employed. VanDenBerg donates both his time and money to help foster the growth of the Wall Fellows Program, and we owe our success to dedicated supporters like him. Thank you, Kevin, for everything you have done to ensure the continued success of the Wall Fellows Program.

# Recruitment Plans and Efforts

The recruitment process for the Wall Fellows Class of 2020 is underway. Potential Wall Fellows are continuing to learn more about the program through various recruitment activities. This semester, Kaylea Gassaway '18, Sean Edwards '18, Michael Ford '19, Jacob Sarver '19 and Patrick Dempsey '19 are spearheading the recruitment efforts. Everyone is working together to successfully market the program and find students who are a perfect fit.

This semester, the Wall Fellows participated in Organization Kick-off Day, an event that consisted of a freshman picnic and various presentations on campus that targeted eligible students. Students interested in the program are encouraged to visit the Wall Fellows office in Wall 313 or visit [www.coastal.edu/wallfellows](http://www.coastal.edu/wallfellows).

As we conclude some recruitment events and continue to host information sessions, send letters to qualified students and collect recommendations from faculty, we are hoping for a successful application and interview process for the Class of 2020.

## Internship Spotlight: Ross Kunmann and Sean Edwards



*From left: Sean Edwards and Ross Kunmann*

**Company:** *Lysi U.S.*  
**Location:** *Conway, S.C.*  
**Duration:** *June – Present*

Ross Kunmann '18 and Sean Edwards '18 had a unique internship experience. Over the summer, Kunmann and Edwards started the U.S. division of Lysi, the worlds' leading producer of fish oil. What started as a project within the Wall Fellows Program as a simple branding strategy has turned into a full business venture. They officially started their business on June 5, and had their launch with the global marketing manager in September in Conway.

"We have been getting everything ready for the first shipment of products, and plan to begin rapid growth through the United States in 2018," said Edwards.



## Internship Spotlight: Patrick Dempsey



**Company:** *Turner Construction*

**Location:** *Nashville, Tenn.*

**Duration:** *May – July 2017*

This summer, Patrick Dempsey worked in the finance and accounting department at Turner Construction in Nashville. While there, he worked alongside project accountants, cost engineers and financial within the special projects division analysts in support of the teams in the field. “The best part of the internship was being able to talk to the wide range of people that worked for the company,” said Dempsey. “Also, being able to see the building process from start to finish was awesome.”

If he had any advice to give, Dempsey would say to take every opportunity seriously, talk to as many people as possible at the company you intern for and always keep a positive attitude, no matter what comes your way.

## Internship Spotlight: Ole Wegeleben



**Company:** *Porsche AG*

**Location:** *Stuttgart, Germany*

**Duration:** *March – August 2017*

Ole Wegeleben, a student in the Program for Excellence at the University of Bonn Rhein-Sieg who visited the Wall Fellows Class of 2018 for the fall semester, interned in the international market research department at Porsche in Germany. He conducted research in order to support different departments, which helped them make better decisions by providing valid information and research outcomes. Wegeleben also worked on two independent projects: studying emerging markets to gain customer insights and the organization of an international market research conference. Wegeleben recounts his time with Porsche, saying, “While working at Porsche, I found my passion for the automobile industry and learned from extraordinary colleagues.”

# Project Update: H.E.A.L. by Madison Wolf

The Hope, Empower, Accomplish, Love (H.E.A.L.) project is one of the newest community giveback projects created by the Wall Fellows. H.E.A.L. is now an official organization on campus, and it aims to recruit students not in the Wall Fellows program. The H.E.A.L. club officers are Mickayla Smith '18, president; Sora Lebowitz '18, vice president; Michael Ford '19, treasurer; Madison Wolf '19, fundraising coordinator; and Shadda Corwin '19, community outreach coordinator.

The goal of this project is to create a community closet in collaboration with the Greater Love Home in Horry County, an organization geared toward helping women transition from homelessness. Our hope is to be able to provide toiletries such as toothbrushes, deodorant, hair products and cosmetics to help the women regain confidence as they rebuild their lives. We are currently accepting donations for the project, and there will be a drawing for gift cards in the spring.

We would also like to provide resources to help the women gain employment. This is where Corwin's position as community coordinator will be instrumental, for she will be reaching out to local stores and restaurants to see if they are willing to help these women transition into stable careers.

The team visited the Greater Love Home on Nov. 5, and it was an incredible experience to see the home and meet some of the women we will be helping. Those in charge of the Greater Love Home and its inhabitants were overwhelmed with gratitude and appreciation, and we are all very excited to see how this project will develop.

If you would like to donate to the project or would like more information, please email [healproject54@gmail.com](mailto:healproject54@gmail.com).



# Project Update: Teal Goes Pink



Morgan Howder

Teal Goes Pink is a community giveback project that encourages women empowering women. The team consists of Kaylea Gassaway '18, Morgan Howder '19 and Madison Wolf '19. This semester, the team hosted Cooking in College with Molly Ford, Coastal Carolina University's dietician. Ford spoke to students about healthy eating in college and how to make healthy food choices on campus. In addition to this event, the team has been working on social media posts and securing a panel for an event in the spring.

stress. Regardless of the topic, the posts' main goal is to encourage women to be themselves.

To learn more about Teal Goes Pink, follow on Facebook at [facebook.com/TealGoesPink](https://facebook.com/TealGoesPink).



Teal Goes Pink volunteer

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