Woodruff Finalist Weekend

EMORY LAW
2020
Robert W. Woodruff

A man of enormous stature and personal magnetism, Woodruff’s influence over the affairs of Coca-Cola was absolute until his death in 1985.

Woodruff was born in Columbus, Georgia, in 1885 and soon moved to Atlanta, where his father, Ernest, became president of the Trust Co. of Georgia. An indifferent student, young Woodruff wasted no time in making his mark in business. Beginning as a salesman for the White Motor Co. in Cleveland, Ohio, Woodruff quickly became the company’s most successful salesman and was soon promoted to vice president and general sales manager.

Meanwhile, Ernest Woodruff had invested along with many other Atlantans in The Coca-Cola Co., which had been acquired and taken public by a syndicate led by the Trust Co. of Georgia. After the acquisition, the company fell on lean times, so Ernest persuaded Robert to return to Atlanta and become its president.

During the next six decades, Woodruff established a remarkable record as a businessman and philanthropist. He gave anonymously to many institutions, a number of which owe their very existence to his generosity. Much of his philanthropy was directed through the Trebor Foundation, established in 1937 (renamed the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation following his death). Woodruff and his brother also presided over the Emily and Ernest Woodruff Fund, a separate charitable foundation whose assets of approximately $105 million were distributed in 1979 to Emory University.

The gift was called the largest single benefaction in American history and increased Woodruff’s command of Coca-Cola. Approximately $105 million were distributed in 1979 to Emory University.

Stephanie Dingle
Director of Student Life

Stephanie Dingle has over ten years of experience in higher education with a focus in student development, diversity and inclusion, leadership development, and community development. In her current role, she provides support to more than 60 student organizations, advises the Student Bar Association, and coordinates orientation programming. She is passionate about diversity efforts and wrote her dissertation on integrating International Students within the campus community. Prior to joining the Emory community, Dingle received her doctorate degree from Clark Atlanta University in educational leadership, a master’s degree in college student affairs from Rutgers University, and a bachelor’s degree in Language and Cultural Studies from Trinity Washington University.

Andrew (Drew) Stevens 14L, Woodruff Fellow

University Historian, Emory University

Drew Stevens is an associate in the Arnall Golden Gregory LLP Litigation and Intellectual Property practice groups, where he focuses on complex commercial litigation involving intellectual property, health systems, and real property. Stevens has extensive experience prosecuting and defending claims of trademark infringement and unfair competition, and he regularly represents brand owners in cancellation and opposition proceedings before the United States Trademark Trial and Appeal Board. Drew also counsels and represents hospitals and health systems on compliance and in litigation under Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and in civil rights investigations brought by the Department of Justice and the Office for Civil Rights at the Department of Health and Human Services.

Mary Anne Bobinski
Dean and Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law

Before joining Emory Law, Mary Anne Bobinski was a professor at the Allard School of Law, where she served as dean from 2003 to 2015. Previously she was the John and Rebecca Moores Professor of Law and director of the Health Law and Policy Institute at the University of Houston Law Center. She is a past president and board member of the American Society of Law, Medicine and Ethics and a past member of the Canadian Public Health Officer’s Ethics Advisory Committee. She has served as a visiting scholar at the Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics at Harvard Law School; the University of Sydney Law School; the Melbourne Law School; and the Faculty of Law at Oxford University, where she also held a Plumer Visiting Research Fellowship at St. Anne’s College. Bobinski recently completed a new edition of Health Care Law & Ethics (Wolters Kluwer) with her co-authors and is working on a research project focused on the contested nature of the physician-patient relationship, with a particular focus on legal responses to conflicting values or norms.

Kay L. Levine
Associate Dean for Faculty, Professor of Law

Kay Levine joined the Emory faculty in 2003. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Duke University and received her JD from the University of California-Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, where she served as an editor on the Berkeley Women’s Law Journal. She later earned both a master’s degree and a PhD in jurisprudence and social policy from UC Berkeley. Before joining Emory, Levine served as a law clerk for the Honorable David Alan Ezra, US District Court, District of Hawaii; as a deputy district attorney in Riverside County, California; as a criminal defense consultant; and as an adjunct faculty member of Boalt Hall. Since joining Emory, she has earned both the Most Outstanding Professor Award and the Emory Williams Teaching Award.

Ethian Rosenzweig 02L, Woodruff Fellow

Associate Dean for Enrollment Management and Student Services

After serving as Emory Law’s director of alumni affairs, Ethian Rosenzweig now oversees Emory Law’s admission, financial aid, and career services. He has served as deputy director of the US Department of Education’s Office of Policy Briefing and Scheduling as a Presidential Management Fellow. After law school, he clerked for the Honorable G. Ernie Tidwell of the US District Court of Northern Georgia and then practiced law with Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough in Charleston, South Carolina. A Woodruff Fellow, Rosenzweig graduated Order of the Coif and served as the executive notes and comments editor for the Emory Law Journal. He received his undergraduate and master’s degrees in public policy from American University.
Selection Committee

James B. Hughes Jr.
Associate Professor of Law
James B. Hughes Jr. received his undergraduate degree from the University of Connecticut, where he graduated with honors, and earned his law degree from Yale University. Before joining the Emory faculty in 1992, he was a partner in the Atlanta firm of Trotter, Smith & Jacobs, and served in the University Senate, University Faculty Council, and numerous law school and university committees.

Rebekah LeMon 07L, Woodruff Fellow
Executive Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta
Rev. Rebekah Close LeMon is executive pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlanta, Georgia. She grew up in Spartanburg, South Carolina, and is a graduate of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (AB in English), Columbia Theological Seminary (MDiv), and Emory University School of Law (JD). She practiced law as a commercial litigator with a large Atlanta firm before joining the staff of First Presbyterian in 2011. She regularly represented juvenile defendants as well as immigrants seeking asylum in the United States. Her work at First Presbyterian ranges from advocacy for Atlanta’s homeless community to pursuing global mission partnerships to running a social entrepreneurship incubator to overseeing church operations and functioning as the church’s general counsel.

Jeffrey (Steve) Ferketic 13L.
Woodruff Fellow
Assistant United States Attorney, US Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey
Steve Ferketic is a federal prosecutor in Newark, New Jersey. Ferketic previously was an associate in the Securities Litigation Group at Weil, Gotshal & Manges, a fellow at NYU Law’s Center on the Administration of Criminal Law, and a law clerk for Judge Patty Shwartz of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and Judge Anne Thompson of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. While at Emory Law, Ferketic was a Woodruff Fellow, editor-in-chief of the Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal, and a member of the TIGER Program. Before attending law school, Ferketic taught high school science in Roma, Texas, as a member of Teach For America. Ferketic is a graduate of the University of Connecticut where he was a University Scholar and studied biological sciences and political science.

Joanna M. Shepherd
Assistant Professor of Practice
Before joining Emory, Joanna Shepherd was an assistant professor of Economics at Clemson University and worked at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. In addition to her position at the law school, she currently serves as an adjunct professor in the Emory Department of Economics.

2020 Robert W. Woodruff Scholarship Program
Selection Committee (continued)

Silas Allard 11L, 11T
Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of Law and Religion, Managing Editor of the Journal of Law and Religion
Silas W. Allard is managing director and Harold J. Berman Fellow in Law and Religion at the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University. He is managing editor of the Journal of Law and Religion, published as a joint venture between CSLR and Cambridge University Press. His work has appeared in Refuge and Political Theology. A scholar of law and religious ethics, Allard’s work focuses on issues of migration and human rights. In addition to his scholarly work, Allard serves in leadership roles for El Refugio, a ministry of hospitality for the families of detained immigrants, and the Georgia Immigration Working Group.

Joanna M. Shepherd
Thomas Simmons Professor of Law
Before joining Emory, Joanna Shepherd was an assistant professor of Economics at Clemson University and worked at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. In addition to her position at the law school, she currently serves as an adjunct professor in the Emory Department of Economics.

Much of Shepherd’s research focuses on topics in law and economics, especially on empirical analyses of legal changes and legal institutions. Her recent research has empirically examined issues related to the healthcare industry, tort reform, employment law, litigation practice, and judicial behavior. She has published broadly in law reviews, legal journals and economics journals. In addition to publishing dozens of academic articles, Shepherd is the author of two textbooks: The Economic Analysis of Law and The Economics of Industrial Organization.

Shepherd has been featured on several TV and radio programs and has been interviewed about her research in numerous newspapers. Shepherd’s research has been cited by numerous courts, and she has testified about her empirical work before several legislative committees. Shepherd has also been invited to present her scholarly work by faculties at leading universities around the country.

Shepherd has considerable experience as an economic and statistical expert. She has authored numerous expert reports, testified at deposition and at trial in both federal and administrative courts, and provided public policy research and white papers for many clients. Her expert work has examined issues related to market power and competition, economic impact analyses of proposed regulations, and enforcement actions by federal agencies, and damage computations.

Kamina A. Pinder
Assistant Professor of Practice
In 2016 Kamina Pinder joined the Emory faculty, where she teaches first-year legal writing and contracts. She has taught at several law schools in the areas of legal writing, contracts, professional responsibility, remedies, case settlement negotiation, bar prep, and election law. Pinder is also a bar review lecturer in the subject of professional responsibility. Her scholarship has been published in the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Amsterdam Law Forum, Journal of Law and Education, and the Georgetown Journal of Law and Education. Pinder was a clinical teaching fellow at Georgetown University Law Center. She previously practiced in the Office of the General Counsel for the United States Department of Education where she served as legal counsel to a number of federal grant programs. Pinder received an LLM from Georgetown University Law Center, a JD from the New York University School of Law, and a BA from Smith College.
**Current Fellows**

**CLASS OF 2020**

**Frederick (Eric) Johnson**
University of Georgia 2012, BA magna cum laude in political science; MPA in public affairs, services, and administration

Captain Frederick Johnson of the US Air Force (USAF) was commissioned in 2012 and completed USAF intelligence officer training, followed by assignment in the United Kingdom as flight commander and executive officer for the 488th Intelligence Squadron. As an instructor and evaluator, he executed missions supporting four named military operations and awarded the Air Medal, three Aerial Achievement Medals, and the Air Force Commendation Medal for his service. Additionally, he was named Squadron Commander Grade Officer of the Year in 2015 and Officer Instructor of the Year in 2016. Prior to his distinguished military service, Johnson graduated magna cum laude from the University of Georgia with a BA in political science and an MPA in public affairs, services, and administration. His goal is to complete his legal education at Emory Law and return to his military service as an attorney in the Air Force Judge Advocate General’s Corps.

**Samin Mossavi**
Farman University 2017, BA summa cum laude in politics and international affairs, minor in Middle East and Islamic studies

Samin Mossavi, an Iranian American, was young when her family immigrated to the United States from Sweden. Post-9/11, she found that her diverse background provided a foundation to help her dispel stereotypes, speak out against social injustices, and ultimately find her calling into the law. Her areas of interest include corporate and securities law, human rights, and global studies. Before law school, she completed internships at Jones Day in Atlanta, Georgia, and at McGuireWoods Consulting in Richmond, Virginia. She was vice president of the Panhellenic Executive Council, captain of Mock Trial, and treasurer of the Pre-Law Society. While at Emory, Mossavi externed for President Justice Nahmias of the Georgia Supreme Court, served as a caseworker for the International Refugee Assistance Project, and worked as a summer associate for Alston & Bird and King & Spalding in Atlanta. She is the vice president of the Middle Eastern Law Students Association and serves as the executive online editor of the Emory Law Journal. Upon graduation, Mossavi will serve as law clerk to Judge Traxler of the US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and in 2021 will join Weil, Gotshal & Manges’ (NYC) Securities Litigation practice.

**Cory Mull**
Vanderbilt University 2007, BE magna cum laude in mechanical engineering, minor in management of technology

In 2007, Cory Mull, a Marietta, Georgia, native, graduated summa cum laude with a BE in mechanical engineering from Vanderbilt University. As an undergraduate, he received the Mechanical Engineering Program Award, was inducted into the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, and was the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Scholarship chair. After graduation, he began an eight-year career with Chevron Corporation, starting as a subsea pipeline engineer and rising through the ranks to site lead, managing a team of over 20 people across four worksites on the Congo River Crossing Recovery Project. In search of more stability, Mull became a registered patent agent in 2015 and took a position with Taylor English Duma LLP in Atlanta, Georgia, in early 2016. Following graduation from Emory University School of Law, he intends to combine his technical expertise and law education to better serve clients as a patent attorney.

**Linden Wait**
University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill 2014, BA with highest distinction in political science and global studies, minor in Arabic language

Linden Wait is originally from the mountains of North Carolina and graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill in 2014 with a BA in political science and global studies. Before law school, she taught English at an Islamic Senior High School in Indonesia and worked with the International Association of Women Judges on equal justice initiatives in the Middle East and North Africa. She is passionate about advocating for refugee and immigrant communities. She currently serves as president of Emory’s chapter of the International Refugee Assistance Project and is a founding member of the Emory Immigrant Legal Assistance Clinic. While in law school, she has interned with the Tahirth Justice Center, Project South, Atlanta Legal Aid, and Access to Law Foundation. Wait is currently interning with the Atlanta City Public Defender’s new Immigration Defense Unit and plans to pursue a career in immigration and criminal defense. After graduating, she will work as a judicial law clerk at the New York Immigration Court through the Department of Justice Honors Program.

**Matthew Belitsos**
Western Michigan University 2016, BS magna cum laude in student integrated curriculum with concentrations in computer science, mathematics, and English

Matthew Belitsos is a passionate community advocate. He co-founded the Asheville Small Home Advocacy Committee, where he collaborates with business leaders, concerned citizens, and government agencies to increase the availability of affordable housing. Previously, Belitsos specialized in the technology industry, managing engineering solutions at Internet Security Systems and overseeing security infrastructure at IBM Corporation, where he directed a team of senior engineers supporting a division with more than $400 million in annual revenue. He is a lifelong musician who is proficient in percussion and guitar performance.

**Margaret (Maggie) Clark**
University of Georgia 2018, BA magna cum laude in international affairs and ecology

Maggie Clark is a model academic. During her time in the honors program at UGA, she conducted extensive ecological and international affairs research on topics such as climate change and its impact on coastal communities and endangered cultures as well as a comparative case study of the risk of Zika contraction based on societal gender norms with a focus on sexual violence. In addition, she served the UGA community as a student ambassador and representative on the Undergraduate Program Committee for the Oudem School of Ecology, secretary to the Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society, and a mini-grant participant in Leadership UGA. Clark also co-founded the Clark Peace and Service Program. After graduating, she will work as a judicial law clerk at the New York Immigration Court through the Department of Justice Honors Program.

**Laura Flint**
Emory University 2016, BA magna cum laude in political science with a minor in economics

After graduating from Emory University, Laura Flint returned home to the Washington, DC, area and worked for the Federalist Society for two years. As assistant director and then deputy director, she helped to coordinate the programming activities of the society’s fifteen practice groups. At Emory Law, Flint is the president of the Emory Federalist Society and a staff member on the Emory Law Journal. She plans to clerk for US Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Elizabeth Branch 94L (Eleventh Circuit) after graduation.

**Suman Malempati**
Duke University 1990, BA cum laude in history; Washington University School of Medicine 1996, MD

Suman Malempati came to Emory Law to pursue a career in civil rights. Prior to law school, he was an accomplished physician, medical researcher, and educator. Malempati was associate professor of pediatrics at Oregon Health & Science University in the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, where he served on several institutional, regional, and national committees and published more than thirty peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. At Emory, Malempati's interest in civil rights and social justice has flourished. He is active in many Emory Law student organizations, including the Emory Public Interest Committee and the Emory Law School Supreme Court Advocacy Program, and he is executive online editor of the Emory Law Journal. Malempati worked as a summer intern for the Honorable Amy Totenberg, US District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, after his first year and will intern with the Southern Environmental Law Center this summer.

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Current Fellows (continued)

Nick Barker
Georgia Institute of Technology 2015, BS in international affairs
Nick Barker graduated with highest honors from the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in International Affairs. Barker studied Arabic in Jordan until he returned to Atlanta, where he served for several years as a refugee resettlement case manager at Lutheran Services of Georgia. Currently in his first year at Emory Law, Barker enjoys his classes and works as Professor Morgan Cloud’s research assistant. He is the IL Representative for Emory’s chapter of the International Refugee Assistance Project, which will soon open a legal clinic to assist local refugees. Barker is exploring various practice areas, but he has a particular interest in impact litigation. In his free time, Barker enjoys listening to NPR podcasts, taking walks around Emory’s campus, and spending quality time with his friends and family in Atlanta.

Shannon Mitchell
University of Texas at Austin 2019, BA in international relations and global studies
Shannon Mitchell is passionate about the study of political and humanitarian issues in the Middle East, especially the refugee crisis. She has an advanced proficiency in Arabic. At the University of Texas at Austin, she participated in the Arabic Flagship Program sponsored by the Department of the Defense to achieve fluency in Arabic. She also attended an intensive Arabic language program at the Modern Arabic Language International Center in Jordan. Beyond the classroom, Mitchell participated in a refugee mentorship program, where she tutored refugee children from Arabic-speaking countries. She worked as a research intern at Clark Center for Australian and New Zealand Studies.

Daniel Zozaya Brown
The George Washington University 2013, BA in political science
University of Missouri 2017, MA in public affairs
Daniel Zozaya Brown is passionate about the importance of corporate social responsibility and public service. Upon graduating from the University of Texas at Austin, Zozaya Brown joined the Peace Corps and served in Ecuador assisting in the implementation of new educational policies. In addition, Zozaya Brown has also worked as a Peace Corps recruiter, government translator, and has taught high school literature and composition in Mexico, his birthplace. After obtaining a master’s degree in public affairs from the University of Missouri, he worked in economic development for two years developing sustainable business initiatives and providing resources to low-income immigrant families and aspiring entrepreneurs to help them achieve economic independence and prosperity. Zozaya Brown is also fluent in Spanish, served as a member of the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce’s business advisory committee, and is a constant volunteer with organizations such as the Boys and Girls Clubs, SCORE, Habitat for Humanity, and the Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation.

Hannah Finnie
Emory University 2015, BA in mathematics and an additional major in political science
Hannah Finnie has a passion for economic justice. She was a Scholarly Inquiry and Research Fellow and a Center for the Study of Law, Politics, and Economics Fellow. A recipient of the Bowers-Northrup Scholarship, she worked at the Center for American Progress, focusing on economic justice for American youth and LGBTQ equality. Finnie works at the National Women’s Law Center (NWLC), where she manages advocacy work concerning immigration and children’s healthcare campaigns regarding the administration’s regulatory actions, lawsuits filed by the NWLC, traditional media strategy, and social media content. At Emory, Finnie was invited to join Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society.

Fellowship Finalists (continued)

Jonathan Arnold
Southern Methodist University 2020 (anticipated), BS in philosophy with Spanish and cognitive science minors
Jonathan Arnold is an exceptional student and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa as a junior, though the honor is typically reserved for senior students. Arnold served as summer intern for US Congressman Cedric L. Richmond, chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus from 2017 to 2019. As an undergraduate he won the Elihu Hoskins Outstanding Philosophy Essay Award in 2019 and has been elected as the SMU Philosophy Society president for four consecutive terms. Passionate about physical health, Jonathan became a certified personal trainer and works at the SMU campus fitness facility training students and faculty.

2020 Robert W. Woodruff Scholarship Program

Daniel Zozaya Brown
Dartmouth College 2017, BA summa cum laude in history with a minor in Arabic
University of Missouri 2017, MA in public affairs
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Spencer Furey
Dartmouth College 2017, BA summa cum laude in history with a minor in English
University of Missouri 2017, MA in applied economics
Spencer Furey is a consummate scholar athlete. A member of the United States National Rowing Team, he is training for the 2020 Olympics and was a coach for the Atlanta Public School System, where she taught swimming and water polo skills. Additionally, Hodges is in the Honors Program at Georgia Tech.

Melissa Gerds
Duke University 2019, BA international comparative studies, Medieval and Renaissance studies with a French minor
University of Missouri 2017, MA in political science
Melissa Gerds is a student and teacher. She works as an English teaching assistant with the Fulbright US Student Program. She handles multiple English classes, focusing on US culture and integrating Speak Truth to Power, a human rights education program, to children between three and eighteen years old for a program at Fundación Secretariado Gitano, a nonprofit organization that works with the Roma community in Spain. During her time at Duke University, Gerds was a student assistant with the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, interned with the Small Arms Survey in Geneva, Switzerland, and volunteered with DukeEngage India. She received the Dean’s Summer Research Fellowship and the First Year of the Year Award.

Ethan Gordon
University of North Carolina Greensboro 2016, BS in economics
University of Missouri 2017, MA in applied economics
University of Missouri 2019, MA in philosophy (anticipated)
Ethan Gordon is a lifelong learner. While completing his master’s degree in philosophy, Gordon is a graduate teaching assistant for Virginia Tech’s Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Program. While earning previous degrees, he was a teaching assistant for introductory philosophy courses and research/graduate assistant in macroeconomics. He spent a semester abroad at National Taiwan University. He was inducted to Phi Beta Kappa and is proficient in Mandarin Chinese.

Sloan Hodges
Georgia Institute of Technology 2020 (anticipated), BS in business administration with a minor in international affairs
Sloan Hodges is a former Junior Olympic competing in water polo and an accomplished student. A recipient for the 2020 Robert Woodruff scholarship, she participated in the European Union Study Abroad Program at Georgia Tech, traveling to eight countries and places of impact, including the Hague. In college, Hodges works as a note taker for Disability Support Services, and was a coach for the Atlanta Public School System, where she taught swimming and water polo skills. Additionally, Hodges is in the Honors Program at Georgia Tech.

Chanel Holmes
Kennesaw State University 2019, BS summa cum laude in political science
Chanel Holmes is the recipient of Kennesaw State’s College of Humanities and Social Sciences Outstanding Alumni Award, and she was a nominee for the Outstanding Political Science Student award. As a student in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Holmes is pursuing a double major in political science and Spanish with a minor in international affairs. As a recipient of the American Rowing National Rowing Team, she was inducted to the United States National Rowing Team, where she trained in the European Union Study Abroad Program at Georgia Tech, traveling to eight countries and places of impact, including the Hague. In college, Hodges works as a note taker for Disability Support Services, and was a coach for the Atlanta Public School System, where she taught swimming and water polo skills. Additionally, Hodges is in the Honors Program at Georgia Tech.

Serena Hughley
Spelman College 2020 (anticipated), BS in Black and Diaspora studies and Spanish with a minor in creative writing
Serena Hughley is an industrious student and teacher. She is a Yale Arthur Lina Downtown Public Interest Law Fellow and a US Department of Education White House HBCU Competitiveness Scholar. During her undergraduate studies, she is auditing a class at Emory Law’s Candler School of Theology while working as a legal assistant at Lagrone Law LLC. As an undergraduate student, she served as a facilitator at Catalyst:BSW, where she co-developed and instructed drug policy education curriculum in Spanish. As an undergraduate student, she is a participant in the Georgia Tech’s Film and Media Program. In her free time, she is a volunteer with the Cobb County District Attorney’s Office, where she was responsible for assisting prosecutors in the preparation of criminal felony cases and trials through the collection of evidence, updating case files, aiding in the serving of subpoenas, and attending court.

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Fellowship Finalists (continued)

Peter Joseph
Polander Smith College 2019, BS in chemistry and mathematics
Peter Joseph is committed to inclusion. He served as a peer specialist for the Social Justice Institute, where he recruited and maintained a “peer pod” of male students of color for whom he developed and conducted programs on diversity, chemical abuse, personal development, relationships, security, and academic performance. In college, Joseph worked as a tutor for the Little Rock Rock School District and as an intern for Defense for Children’s Rights. His work focused on habeas corpus and juvenile rehabilitation centers. He is currently a program coordinator for his alma mater and an active volunteer in his community. He worked on projects in Peru, where he helped to develop a juvenile rehabilitation center, and a food distribution service for the elderly and children.

Lucy Lansing
Emory University 2018, magna cum laude BA in Economics and Religion
Lucy Lansing is a sixth-grade teacher for Teach for America in Bayside Elementary School where she has worked in the middle school grades. Lansing is the Founder of the Project Aims Academy. In college, Lansing was awarded the Athena award and the Emory Achievement Award. Lansing was an active volunteer with the Forgotten Soldiers. She is currently a program coordinator for her alma mater and an active volunteer in her community. In Peru, where she was a volunteer, she helped to develop a juvenile rehabilitation center, and a food distribution service for the elderly and children.

Faith Lewis
American University 2020 (anticipated), BA environmental studies and economics with a minor in international studies
Faith Lewis is an AU Presidential Scholar and AU Honors Scholar, and she received the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses Education Scholarship. Lewis studied abroad for an academic year at the London School of Economics and Political Science in the department of law where she conducted an environmental justice independent study project that studied soil and blood lead toxicity in urban US communities. While concluding her studies at American University, Lewis is a member of the American Chemistry Society and the Environmental Law Network. She is currently a program coordinator for her alma mater and an active volunteer in her community. In Peru, where she was a volunteer, she helped to develop a juvenile rehabilitation center, and a food distribution service for the elderly and children.

Rosemary Pritchett-Montavon
Georgetown University 2015, BS summa cum laude in foreign service and majored in science, technology, and international affairs
Rosemary Pritchett-Montavon, a Phi Beta Kappa inductee, was a member of the Bezos Scholars Program and the Society of American Law Students. She is an English teacher and teacher trainer with the Peace Corps in Myanmar. Prior to joining the Peace Corps, Pritchett-Montavon taught English as a foreign language teacher for the Ministry of Education of Chile and Cuba program initiatives. Domestically, she has volunteered her time with many organizations where her service ranged from an executive board member to a volunteer of Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA).

Emily Spears
Emory University 2017, BA political science
Emily Spears is a Trial Unit paralegal for the Federal Defender Program, Inc., in Atlanta, Georgia, where she collects and summarizes relevant information for trial preparation. She was previously an intern for the organization. Spears was inducted into the Alpha Epsilon Academic Honors Society at Emory, and she received the Emory Achievement Award Scholarship, the Paul B. Courtright Prize for Overall Excellence among Majors in the Religion Department.

2020 Robert W. Woodruff Scholarship Program

Fellowship Finalists (continued)

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Leonard Walker
Columbia University 2019, BA economics-political science with a special concentration in linguistics
Leonard Walker assisted in creating the partnership between Columbia University and PS-175’s Physical Education program through which Columbia University students volunteered time and equipment. Walker was also a teacher’s assistant at Columbia for the course Introduction to Linguistics. He was a member of Columbia University’s Sabre Fencing Team. Walker is fully proficient in five languages and moderately proficient in four additional languages. He previously served as a teacher’s assistant at his alma mater and is now a long-term substitute teacher. He earned a certificate in Peace Building in Post-Conflict Areas—Diplomacy, Leadership, and Negotiations during his time studying in Kosovo.

Eric Wang
Princeton University 2018, BA summa cum laude in policy studies; (anticipated) MA in international studies
Eric Wang received a full merit scholarship to Candler School of Theology and, while pursuing his master’s degree, works as the co-founder and education director for Princeton Global Youth Leaders (PGYL). Through their program, he has taught more than 300 Chinese high school students leadership skills. While in college, Wang worked with Princeton US-China Coalition and served as the co-president and director of operations. Wang has written for the American Foreign Policy Magazine and was the editor for the Princeton Journal of East Asian Studies. Wang was a student at the Princeton University in Beijing, Chinese Language Immersion Program and is proficient in Mandarin Chinese. Wang is active in his local church and enjoys Chinese landscape brush painting.

Nicole Yapp
University of Florida 2018, summa cum laude history, African American studies, and international studies
Nicole Yapp is a highly decorated scholar. She currently works for the Cleveland Foundation as a public interest fellow, where she coordinates and facilitates region-wide community engagement. In college, Yapp was an ambassador for Multicultural and Diversity Affairs and created programs to promote diversity, equality, and social justice. Yapp also volunteered with multiple organizations during her undergraduate years. Yapp participated in the University Scholars Program and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. Yapp has been admitted to the College of Arts and Sciences and Sciences Hall of Fame. Yapp was a Gates Millennium Scholar, a LSAC Prelaw Undergraduate Scholar, and a Sidney Prelaw Scholar, among many other honors and scholarships.

Mustapha Yoosuf-Akinlaja
Grambling State University 2019, BS criminal justice and minor in computer information science
Mustapha Yoosuf-Akinlaja is a first generation college graduate and started attending college at the age of seventeen when he immigrated from Nigeria. He is a recipient of the ETS HBCU Presidential Scholarship and is a Turner Eversheds Sutherland Scholar, a Howard Law Scholar, and the recipient of the GSU Radiotron Scholarship. Yoosuf-Akinlaja volunteered with the Grambling State University Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Counsel to help make Grambling State a diverse and inclusive campus. He was president of the Louisiana Era Chapter of Pi Gamma Mu International Honor Society and president of the GSU Pinkie C. Willkerson Pre-Law Society.
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