

Haddix Dean's Fellows Year In Review 2019–2020

A Year to Remember

The 2019–2020 academic year was a year like no other, but the Haddix Dean's Fellows Program made the most of every moment together, whether in-person or virtually. We welcomed another large freshman class in the fall, with 43 students from 15 states. With our growing size, we nearly filled the Creighton University Retreat Center for our annual retreat with just our freshman and sophomore cohorts and a few select upperclassman leaders.

We are grateful for the in-person experiences we had throughout the fall and early spring semesters, including cohort meetings, the senior trip, and the holiday party. In mid-March, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Creighton University moved all undergraduate classes online and closed campus. Our executive team and campus partners worked tirelessly to adapt to these challenges, moving our cohort meetings online, conducting elections and awards virtually, and finding creative ways to celebrate our graduating seniors.



“I love the Dean's Fellows program because it gives me the opportunity to grow as an individual and inspires me to be a better leader. When this program brings so many intelligent, driven, and morally bound people together, I can see why I love this program so much. It is full of students and faculty rooting for you to succeed in the future, and they help you get the tools to do so.”

—Jacob Benes '23

CLASS OF 2019

Outcomes



20 seniors*

graduated from the
Haddix Dean's Fellows Program

**19 students completed the outcomes survey*



As students of Creighton

84% participated in research

Fields of research included: American studies, psychology, biology, environmental science, chemistry, medicine, biomedical science, exercise science and physics

32% completed an internship

Internships included: Senator Amy Klobuchar's office, Think Whole Person Healthcare, Assel Grant Services, the Creighton EDGE, and the Creighton College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office



As alumni of Creighton

(within 6 months of graduation):

5 employed full time

Companies include: Amak Towing, Elemental Scientific, ECOLAB, Creighton University

10 attending graduate or professional school

Schools include: Creighton University, University of Iowa, Ohio State University, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill, and University of Wisconsin–Madison

4 seeking next opportunities

CLASS OF 2020 Senior Trip



What Students Said:

“My experiences in North Omaha and Washington, D.C., have inspired me to be active in the community, advocating for those who find themselves in disadvantaged positions.”

“The Senior Trip allowed me to engage with issues of race and agency in the United States in addition to reach out to public officials who were trying to address these issues.”

In the fall of 2019, 23 senior Dean’s Fellows traveled to Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, Maryland, to explore racial justice in America. Prior to departure, students participated in pre-trip seminars with community leaders—including Brenda Council, Creighton University School of Law alumna and former member of Omaha City Council; Preston Love Jr., North Omaha community activist; and Eric Ewing, PhD, executive director for the Great Plains Black History Museum—to learn more about the history of race and racism in Omaha. Additionally, Christopher Whitt, PhD, Creighton University’s vice provost for Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, helped with the planning and provided guidance as the group explored these difficult topics.

In D.C. and Baltimore, the students visited the National Museum of African American History and Culture and the Frederick Douglass Museum, spoke with Jesuits at the Baltimore Cristo Rey High School, heard from a representative of the Congressional Black Caucus, and met with staff at Georgetown University to learn about their efforts toward reconciliation.

Students also had the opportunity to meet with and hear from Creighton University College of Arts and Sciences alumni Joshua Marshall, Kevin O’Brien, Steven Mahon, Katie Waldo and Jill Marmol.

90%

“Somewhat Agree” or “Strongly Agree”
that they put others’ best interest
ahead of their own

97%

“Somewhat Agree” or “Strongly Agree”
that they believe an organization needs
to play a moral role in society
(A 10% increase from the pre-immersion survey)



Dean's Fellows at Georgetown University



Dean's Fellows hearing from Christopher Whitt, PhD, outside of Baltimore City Hall



Dean's Fellows looking through historical documents pertaining to Georgetown's history with slavery

Civic and Community Engagement

Despite challenges faced in the spring semester, Haddix Dean's Fellows still found time to engage in service and advocacy during the 2019–2020 academic year. Four Dean's Fellows took on leadership roles as team leaders in the Schlegel Center for Service and Justice (SCSJ), including Mary Kate Garriott '21, Maggie Knox '20, Sadie Lage '21, and Julie Turner '23.

Overall, 53 Dean's Fellows participated in weekly service, service and justice trips, advocacy events or virtual service last year through the SCSJ. Locations and activities included:

EXCEL
Morton, MS

Hubbard House
East St. Louis, IL

Habitat for Humanity
Stroud, OK

House of Charity
New Orleans, LA

Sustainability Trip
Lincoln, NE

Resurrection Catholic Church
Montgomery, AL

Columban
El Paso, TX

Casa Romero
Milwaukee, WI

Mosaic
Axtell, NE

Catholic Worker
Cleveland, OH

Annunciation House
El Paso, TX

Intercultural Senior Center
Omaha, NE

Women's Intercultural Center
Anthony, NM

Excel Community
Okolona, MS

Siena/Francis House
Omaha, NE

Completely KIDS
Omaha, NE

Habitat Restore
Omaha, NE

North Omaha Boys and Girls Club
Omaha, NE

YATES Community Center
Omaha, NE

402 Service
Omaha, NE

Living Undocumented
Virtual Program

Serve from Anywhere:
Senior Pen Pal Letters
Virtual Program

Social Analysis: Completely Kids
Virtual Program

Social Analysis:
North Omaha Boys and Girls Club
Virtual Program

Social Analysis: Siena/Francis House
Virtual Program

Jesuit Refugee Services
Advocacy Day
Virtual Program



Haddix Dean's Fellows Around the World

Learning about and experiencing other cultures is an important part of a well-rounded, liberal arts education. We are proud of our nine students who were able to travel abroad last year as part of their educational experience and leadership development. Unfortunately, students who studied abroad in spring 2020 were called home early and all summer Faculty-Led Summer Programs Abroad were cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

FALL SEMESTER 2019

Bailey Mitchell '21, *The Galápagos, Ecuador*

SPRING SEMESTER 2020

Melia Bayliff '22, *Santiago, Dominican Republic*

Jillian Brauningner '21, *Caen, France*

Kathleen Magee '21, *Dublin, Ireland*

Emma Slattery '22, *Bologna, Italy*

Sarah Sommers '22, *Bologna, Italy*

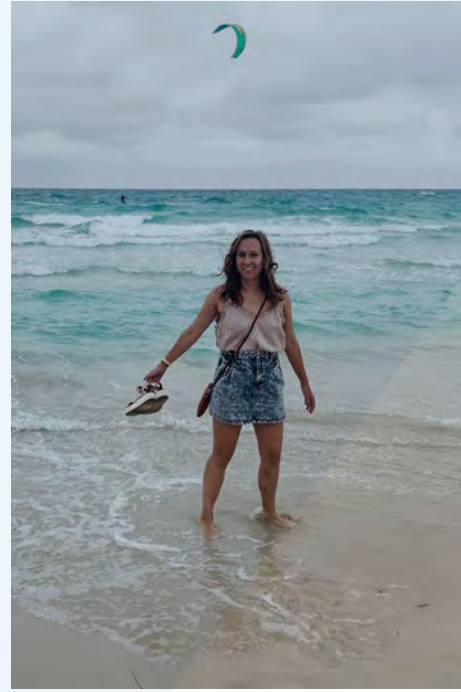
SPRING BREAK 2020

Nicole Haen '21, *MEDLIFE (Peru)*

Gracie Rae Hunkler '22, *MEDLIFE (Peru)*

Conor O'Carroll '21, *FLPA (Las Vegas, NV)*

Ava Smesik '21, *MEDLIFE (Peru)*



Additional Awards and Honors

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellows, 2020

Rebecca Black '22

"Examining the role of Kmt5b in lung development and function"

Kendal Kellerman '21

"Pyridine-substituted triazole compounds with pKa-driven antimicrobial properties"

Sydney Westphal '23

"Soil health and arthropod communities in urban green spaces"

CURAS Travel Grant Recipients, 2019–2020

Chris Banister '21

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

Krista Chang '21

Behavior Conference

Max Markuson DiPrince '22

APS Meeting

Audrey Greder '21

American Psychology-Law Conference

Rachel Kain '21

Richard Macksey National Undergraduate Humanities Research Symposium

Siddharth Venkatraman '20

Keystone Symposium

Clare Boothe Luce Scholarship Recipient, 2019–2020

Kendall Kellerman '21

2019–2020 Phi Beta Kappa Initiates

Eilidh Chowanec '20

Mackenzie McCuddin '20

Siddharth Venkatraman '20



**Inaugural Recipient of
the Joan Yambing
Memorial Scholarship
Sydney Westphal**

The Joan Yambing Memorial Scholarship was established by the Yambing family, in memory of their daughter and Dean's Fellow, Joan Yambing, who passed away during her sophomore year at Creighton University. The scholarship is awarded to an outstanding freshman Dean's Fellow with a demonstrated commitment to and passion for academics. In addition to the scholarship, recipients also receive a copy of Joan's book of poetry, *Roots of a Wildflower*.

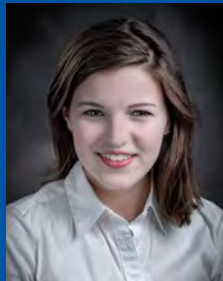
2020–2021

Haddix Dean's Fellows Executive Team

Elected and appointed virtually in May 2020, the new executive team is ready to take on the challenge of building community while social distancing, wearing face coverings and navigating in-person event restrictions. The team met throughout summer 2020 to brainstorm ways to welcome our freshman class and engage all cohorts virtually, while remaining true to the program goals and outcomes.



Conor O'Carroll '21
Executive Chair



Claire Shinnars '22
PR and Outreach



Rasika Mukkamala '22
Mission and Mentoring



Sadie Lage '21
Service and Advocacy



Spencer Evoy '22
*Arts and Cultural
Engagement*



Alaina McBride '22
Administrative Chair

Admissions

This year, the Haddix Dean's Fellows welcome a record-shattering freshman cohort of 64. These high-achieving students come from across the U.S. and other countries to join us both in person and virtually.



260
Applications



64
New Freshmen



13 States Represented
2 Countries Represented



4.03
Average GPA



30
Average ACT



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