

JEFFERSON FELLOWS SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS 2008–09

Jill Patricia Baskin

Founder, Adolescent Leadership Mentoring Alliance

Leslie Francis Cozzi

Co-Chair, Jefferson Fellows Forum for Interdisciplinary Dialogue

Adam Wesley Dean

Published, "Who Controls the Past Controls the Future":
The Virginia History Textbook Controversy," *Virginia Magazine of
History and Biography*

Philip Jameson Graber

Virginia Space Grant Consortium Graduate Research
Fellowship, 2009

Jenifer Martin Guimond

Darden representative, Honor Committee
Vice-President, Corporate Relations, General Management
and Operations Club
Omicron Delta Kappa
Raven Society

Aurie Yi-lynn Hsu

College Music Society Seed Grant
Performer, Virginia Center for Computer Music, 20th
Anniversary Tour

Ramon Iglesias Lamas

Vice-President, Communications for Darden Military Association
President, General Management and Operations Club
Omicron Delta Kappa

Matthew Daniel Lerner

Founder, U.Va.'s Autism Intervention & Etiology Research Group
Commonwealth Autism Service Transition Outcomes
Research Award
Published (in press), Chapter Nine: "Attention-Deficit/
Hyperactivity Disorder." In J. Matson (Ed.), *Practitioner's Guide to
Social Behavior and Skills in Children*.
Co-Chair, Jefferson Fellows Forum for Interdisciplinary Dialogue
Appointed Research Director, Spotlight Program, North Shore Arc,
Danvers, MA

Seton Gray Marshall

Faculty Award for Academic
Excellence
Vice President of Honor,
Darden Student Association
Darden representative,
Honor Committee

Jamala Kianga Massenburg

Faculty Award for Academic
Excellence
Raven Society

Christopher Aaron Richins

Faculty Award for Academic
Excellence
Omicron Delta Kappa
Darden representative,
Danaher Motion Kaizen
Event, Brno, Czech Republic

Lanier Lee Sammons

Co-Chair, Jefferson Fellows Forum for Interdisciplinary Dialogue
Co-Composer, installation entitled "Panta Rhei," performed,
Spark Festival
Performer, Virginia Center for Computer Music, 20th
Anniversary Tour

Daniel Benjamin Sloan

Excellence in Scholarship in Science & Engineering,
University of Virginia, 2009
Huskey Travel Award (2009)
Published Co-Author, "Maximized virulence in a sterilizing
pathogen: the anther-smut fungus and its co-evolved hosts,"
Journal of Evolutionary Biology
Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution

Todné Yvette Thomas

Robert J. Huskey Graduate Research Exhibition, second prize

*"Aside from the stipend
(which did not hurt) the
Jefferson Fellowship
represented to me a
chance to be not just a
graduate student in my
department, but a real
U.Va. scholar, deeply
connected to the
intellectual life of the
University as a whole. I
just don't see academics
as an inherently
specialized endeavor—
knowledge is knowledge,
wherever it can be found,
and people who seek
knowledge benefit from
being surrounded by
others who find
knowledge in a range
of different places."*

—Jameson Graber,
Trey Beck Fellow,
Department of Mathematics



GRADUATE FELLOWS 2004

Aurie Yi-lynn Hsu

D. N. Batten Foundation Fellow

Department of Music
Oberlin College Conservatory of Music (B.A.)

Mills College (M.F.A.)

San Juan Capistrano, California

Aurie has completed her comprehensive exams on Modes, Rhythms, and Technology in Arab Secular Music, Composition for Music and Dance, and Theories on Rhythm and Temporality in select Twentieth Century Piano Works. Her dissertation prospectus will focus on human-mediated sound production in electronic music. Aurie is acting director of the World and Experimental Arts Group (WeArts) and Chair of Media Management at the McGuffey Arts Center. WeArts promotes a community of artists working in the scope of cultural and experimental arts through interdisciplinary, multi-media, and cross-cultural collaboration. Aurie received a 2008 College Music Society (CMS) Seed Grant to enhance the WeArts concert series. She continues to enjoy performing with Fire in the Belly, a tribal-fusion belly dance company based in Charlottesville.



Melissa Sue Ragain

Edgar Shannon Fellow

Department of Art History
Rhodes College (B.S.)

University of Virginia (M.A.)

Shreveport, Louisiana

In 2009, Melissa completed the term of her Fellowship with the Jefferson Scholars Foundation. She continues to pursue her dissertation, and enjoys volunteering for The Bridge Progressive Arts Initiative.



THE JEFFERSON FELLOWS SYMPOSIUM

The Jefferson Fellows Symposium, now a hallmark of the February selection weekend, gives Jefferson Fellow candidates and members of the University community an opportunity to hear from and engage with second and third-year Jefferson Fellows who have been asked to present on an aspect of their research. The presentations, held in



Justin McCrae Rose, Birdsell Fellow for the Miller Center of Public Affairs, in Pavilion IV during the 2009 Symposium.

various Pavilions and in the Rotunda, are intimate discussions aimed at giving second and third-year Jefferson Fellows the unique opportunity to present research early in their Ph.D. pursuit. Emily Charnock, the Gregory L. and Nancy H. Curl Fellow in the Department of Politics, whose presentation “Mirror to a Nation: Foreign Observers on the American Scene” was filled to capacity, said afterward: “To have the opportunity at an early stage in your research to present to an audience with a wide range of academic and professional experiences was very useful. And, let’s face it, it forces us to be on top of our game in terms of keeping our research organized and on track. The professional socialization aspect of the symposium was also rewarding and valuable. It makes us — as Jefferson Fellows — aware of the importance of presenting our work beyond the academy.”

GRADUATE FELLOWS 2005

Leslie Francis Cozzi***Penny S. and James G. Coulter Fellow***

Department of Art History
Yale University (B.A.)

University of Virginia (M.A.)

Brooklyn, New York

Leslie co-chaired the Jefferson Scholars Foundation's inaugural Forum for Interdisciplinary Dialogue held in September 2008. Leslie will be spending the fall of 2009 in Milan and Bologna conducting dissertation research. "Siamo Femministe" ("We are Feminists") was the title of a 1976 article in *Flash Art*, an international art magazine based in Italy, heralding the rise of organized feminism in the European art world. It is also the title of Leslie's dissertation.

**Adam Wesley Dean*****John L. Nau III Fellow***

Department of History
University of California-
Los Angeles (B.A.)

University of Virginia (M.A.)

Salt Lake City, Utah

In February 2009, Adam organized a panel at the American Society for Environmental History conference entitled "The Civil War and the Environment." In this panel, he presented a paper entitled "The Destiny of the New World and the Duty of a Republican Government: The Foundation of Yosemite State Park." Adam is a research assistant for the *Papers of Frederick Law Olmsted, Volume VIII* at the University of Virginia, and is a member of the Jefferson Literary and Debating Society, the Southern Historical Association, the American Historical Association, and the American Society of Environmental History. Adam is the co-founder of the Environmental History Caucus at the University of Virginia. Adam's master's thesis will be published in the fall of 2009 in the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*. Next year, Adam will be teaching a history seminar for fourth-year undergraduates entitled "The Reconstruction of America after the Civil War." In addition, he will continue working to complete his dissertation on the origins of Reconstruction policy.

**Leah Angell Sievers*****Marc and Nancy Shrier Fellow***

Jewish Studies Program,
Department of Religious Studies
Yale University (B.A.)

Harvard University (M.T.S.)

Baltimore, Maryland

Leah spent the year finishing coursework, having her second child, and studying for comprehensive exams. Her role continues as Editor-in-Chief for the *International Student Journal of Scriptural Reasoning* as she prepares to edit and publish the summer 2009 issue. Leah's dissertation draws on her professional and academic interests, and will be both a philosophical study of repentance in Judaism and Christianity and a study of the applied ethics of repentance, specifically in the context of memorial museums. Leah also serves as a board member of the Virginia Holocaust Museum in Richmond, Virginia.



"Any school can provide funding, but the Jefferson Scholars Foundation creates a unique, warm, scholarly environment for the Fellows. Everyone at the Foundation bent over backwards to help my family and me find a place to live in Charlottesville and get to know the area."

**—Leah Angell Sievers,
Marc and Nancy Shrier Fellow,
Department of Religious Studies**



GRADUATE FELLOWS 2005

Daniel Benjamin Sloan

Melville Foundation Fellow

Department of Biology
Wesleyan University (B.A.)

Kennebunk, Maine

In 2009, Dan was the recipient of the Award for Excellence in Scholarship in Science & Engineering. He continues to research the hypothesis that differences in mutation rates across species have played a central role in shaping genome size, organization and expression. Notably, this work has identified what appears to be the largest known mitochondrial genome of any organism. Dan's ongoing research aims to disentangle multiple mechanisms that may explain the apparent relationship between mutation rate and genome evolution and to investigate how these mechanisms may apply more broadly in nature. Dan co-authored the following publication: Sloan DB, Giraud T, Hood ME. 2008. Maximized virulence in a sterilizing pathogen: the anther-smut fungus and its co-evolved hosts, *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*.



Katherine Lynn Tully

Kenneth L. Bazzle Fellow

Department of
Environmental Sciences
Kenyon College (B.A.)

University of Virginia (M.S.)

Monrovia, Maryland

Later this year, Katie will work with researchers outside of the University of Virginia to investigate the interface between ecological sustainability and public policy. She will also travel to Costa Rica and visit her field site once in June and again in September. Katie's sample collections as a result of this research will end in September 2009, at which point she will spend most of her time in the lab finishing her analysis and writing her dissertation. Katie's dissertation research will focus on the fate of fertilizers in tropical agricultural lands. She has worked in coffee, pineapple, and banana farms in Costa Rica in order to determine how these cultivated lands impact water quality. She continues to work closely with farmers to understand their management techniques and investigate the social, environmental, and economic consequences of intensively managed agriculture. Katie is the recipient of the Exploratory Research Award in the Department of Environmental Sciences for 2008-09, and a Bankard Fellowship for Political Economy. The Bankard Fellowship is given to Ph.D. candidates at U.Va. whose work focuses on the development and continuation of the public policy necessary for a healthy private business system and a healthy national economy. This fellowship will fund her work for the summer and fall semester of 2009. Katie is a distinguished yoga teacher in the Charlottesville community and maintains a daily personal yoga practice in addition to Vipassana and Tai Chi.



FORUM FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY DIALOGUE

The Jefferson Fellows Program added a new series, the Forum for Interdisciplinary Dialogue, to its yearly round of activities. The Forum was the idea of former Jefferson Fellow Peter Swendsen, now a tenure-track faculty member at Oberlin College. Peter envisioned an annual cross-disciplinary conference that would make it possible for Jefferson Fellows to engage with the larger University community. His plan was for the Fellows to convene a gathering of diverse scholars and citizens to address a topic of

broad social or cultural significance. The interplay of their perspectives would illuminate the subject in novel ways, while highlighting both the differences and commonalities of their ways of looking at the world. The inaugural conference, entitled "The Art of Science: The Science of Art," incorporated contributions from more than a dozen faculty members, including a keynote address from Professor Bernie Frischer, the executive director of the Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities.

GRADUATE FELLOWS 2006

Vilde Aaslid**Edgar Shannon Fellow**

Department of Music
University of Washington
(B.A., M.A.)

Seattle, Washington

In March 2009, Vilde finished her two year term as co-chair of the Society for American Music's Student Forum. As co-chair she moderated a panel on resources and strategies for funding research in American music. In the fall of 2009 she will organize the annual conference for the South Central Graduate Music Consortium. In May 2009, Vilde received the student paper prize for her paper "The Rise of the Jazz Lament," presented at the 2008 U.S. meeting of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music. She is currently working on a Ph.D. in Critical and Comparative Studies in the McIntire Department of Music and in the fall will begin her dissertation work on jazz and poetry collaborations of the 1950s and 1960s.

**Jill Patricia Baskin****Edgar Shannon Fellow**

Department of Art History
Dartmouth College (B.A.)
University of Virginia (M.A.)

Redmond, Washington

Jill is currently researching the built environment of early American cities. In 2009-10 she will be finishing coursework, working as a teaching assistant, writing her dissertation proposal, and taking her comprehensive exams. This past year Jill created the Adolescent Leadership Mentoring Alliance (ALMA). Twelve U.Va. undergraduate mentors, each with their own chronic illness, led by Jill and another graduate student in the Medical School, work with a group of local teenagers who suffer from similar diseases. Jill enjoys painting, photography, fiction-writing, and salsa-dancing, and also works part-time editing Chinese academic manuscripts for English fluency.



FELLOWS INITIATIVES: BASKIN

This year **Jill Baskin**, the Edgar Shannon Fellow in Department of Art History, created the Adolescent Leadership Mentoring Alliance to bring together chronically ill and physically disabled U.Va. students for mutual support as well as to mentor local teens with similar conditions. Jill and a graduate student in the School of Medicine assembled a group of 12 U.Va. undergraduate mentors with

chronic illnesses who met with local teens and their parents to answer questions about attending college with a disability and to share their experiences. ALMA is currently developing a writing/photography project that includes the teens and their mentors, and one of the mentors is putting together a video about young people and chronic illness.



GRADUATE FELLOWS 2006

Emily Jane Charnock**Gregory L. and Nancy H. Curl Fellow**Department of Politics
Oxford University (B.A.)

American University (M.A.)

Middlesbrough, United Kingdom

Emily has completed her coursework and comprehensive exams, and begun work on a dissertation proposal. Her project considers the role of international influences in the development of the American polity and embraces a number of different research strands — exploring historical case studies such as the international abolitionist and women's movements; examining the role of particular agents for the transmission of international ideas, such as foreign travelers to the United States; and tracing the roots and development of anti-Americanism abroad, along with its implications for the contemporary domestic polity. She will spend next year conducting research for this project, and hopes to spend some time in France and Australia as part of this endeavor. Emily had two items published this year in the *Political Science Quarterly*, including a book review and a co-authored article on the strategic nature of presidential travel. Emily was appointed to the managing board of the *Journal of Law and Politics* at the University of Virginia Law School. She will serve as Submissions Editor for *Politics* for the 2009-10 academic year. Emily is learning French, and has also taken up photography.

**Rishiraj Das****Paul Tudor Jones II Fellow**Department of
Environmental Sciences
University of California-Berkeley
(B.S.)

Yale University (M.S.)

Mumbai, India

Rishi continues to pursue his Ph.D. in environmental sciences. He is doing extensive research focusing on nutrient cycling in tropical dry forests of the Southern Yucatan Peninsula of Mexico, and the impacts of climate change and shifting cultivation. He is particularly interested in the role of the forest canopy in capturing atmospheric nutrient inputs that come from Saharan dust or regional fires.

**Justin Lindsay Neill****Harrison Family Fellow**Department of Chemistry
Davidson College (B.S.)

Hillsborough, North Carolina

Justin continues to work as a research assistant in the laboratory of Professor Brooks H. Pate. His research is primarily focused on production and spectroscopic detection of unusual organic species, such as unstable structures, ions, clusters, and molecules with internal motion. Using high-resolution rotational spectroscopy, the structural and dynamical properties of these species can be determined. In addition, he has begun work with the Center for the Chemistry of the Universe, a National Science Foundation-funded group focused on understanding the extraterrestrial origins of biologically relevant molecules. This project will be continued over the next year, and will involve a variety of research topics in instrument design, molecule production, and spectral analysis.

**Hillary Sunshine Schaefer****Douglas S. Holladay Sr. and Cary N. Moon Jr. Fellow**Department of Psychology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
(B.S.)

University of Virginia (M.A.)

Wausau, Wisconsin

For the 2008-2009 academic year, Hillary completed an external practicum position at Western State Psychiatric Hospital in Staunton, Virginia. She performed neuropsychological assessments to assist in diagnosis and treatment of an inpatient psychiatric and forensic population. This coming year, she will participate in two community rotations as part of the clinical psychology training schedule — one at an alternative school providing individual and group therapy for at-risk adolescents, and a second concentrating on forensic assessments. Her research interests remain, as always, using functional neuroimaging studies of social communication and expression of emotion. With her master's work completed in 2008, she is planning her dissertation work, which will attempt to bridge the gap between functional brain studies and clinical practice. She plans to develop an assessment battery for empathy and emotional skill that is both useful for a neuroimaging paradigm and also applicable to an inpatient population. Currently, there are few validated tests of emotional functioning suitable for clinical use, and she hopes her work will provide such a tool.



GRADUATE FELLOWS 2007

Adam Michael Winck

Elizabeth Arendall Tilney and Schuyler Merritt Tilney Fellow

Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures
Wake Forest University (B.A.)
Yale University (M.A.)
University of Virginia (M.A.)
Knoxville, Tennessee



This year Adam received his degree of Master of German Literature and is pursuing his Ph.D. In August of 2009, he will take his qualifying exams on tragedy and tragicomedy, the late Enlightenment, and Nietzsche. In the fall of 2009 and spring of 2010, Adam will teach at the University of Mannheim as a part of the teaching exchange program between the University of Virginia and Mannheim. Adam's passion is cycling. He is a collegiate cyclist and member of the Nature's Path/3 Sports elite cycling team.

Rachael Lynn Beaton

C. Mark Pirrung Fellow

Department of Astronomy
University of Virginia (B.A.) (M.S.)
Lynchburg, Virginia



Rachael's current research is focused on understanding the detailed structure of the nearby Andromeda Galaxy. In total, she has observed over 20 nights to create a large scale survey of its outer regions and has proposed additional observations in the fall. One of the early results of this survey was the discovery of a new dwarf galaxy orbiting Andromeda. The University's first observations with the Large Binocular Telescope were taken of this galaxy. In addition, she has proposed to do the first detailed velocity survey of the galaxy's innermost regions with an instrument built by the U.Va. Instrumentation Lab. This will extend work on the features that she discovered in these inner regions as an undergraduate.

Rachael Beaton, C. Mark Pirrung Fellow in the Department of Astronomy, has discovered a new dwarf galaxy orbiting Andromeda.





GRADUATE FELLOWS 2007

Matthew Daniel Lerner

James H. and Elizabeth W. Wright Fellow

Department of Psychology
Wesleyan University (B.A.)

Nahant, Massachusetts

Matthew was the recipient of the Commonwealth Autism Service Transition Outcomes Research Award to assist in a study examining the characteristics predictive of successful post-high school transition among adolescents with autism in Virginia. Matt founded the Autism Intervention and Etiology Research Group (<http://autismuva.com/>) aimed at providing a venue for interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers across U.Va. as well as a streamlined portal for families and support staff of children with autism spectrum disorders to access the growing array of autism-focused research and services at the University. He also served on the Autism Higher Education Foundation Board of Directors as a founding member. September 2008 marked the Jefferson Scholars Foundation's first Forum for Interdisciplinary Dialogue, for which Matt served as a co-chair.



FELLOWS INITIATIVES: LERNER

Matt Lerner, the James H. and Elizabeth W. Wright Fellow in the Department of Psychology, founded the Autism Intervention and Etiology Research Group (<http://autismuva.com/>) to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers across U.Va. and to enable families of children with autism spectrum disorders and their support staff to access the growing array of autism-focused research and services at the University. He also helped found the Autism Higher Education Foundation and serves on its Board of Directors.

Seton Gray Marshall

McFadden Fellow

Darden Graduate School
of Business
Princeton University (B.S.E.)
University of Virginia (M.B.A.)

Southampton, New York

Seton received a Masters in Business Administration in May 2009, as well as the Faculty Award for Academic Excellence for consistently demonstrating outstanding academic performance during his two years at Darden. During the 2008-2009 school year, Seton was the Vice President of Honor for the Darden Student Association and one of two Darden representatives on U.Va.'s Honor Committee. He was also a member of the Student Admissions Committee, served on the executive committee of the Alumni Showcase Board, and was a member of the Darden Private Equity Club, Finance Club and Consulting Club. This summer Seton will join New Capital Partners, a private equity firm in Birmingham, Alabama, as an associate.



Jamala Kianga Massenburg

Macfarlane Family Fellow

Darden Graduate School
of Business
University of Virginia
(B.S.) (M.B.A.)
University of Michigan (M.S.E.)
Houston, Texas

Jamala graduated in May 2009 and received a Masters in Business Administration from the Darden School. At the same time she completed her Fellowship term with the Jefferson Scholars Foundation. Jamala was a recipient of the Faculty Award for Academic Excellence and was made a member of the Raven Society. This fall, Jamala will join ZS Associates in Boston, Massachusetts. ZS Associates is a global management consulting firm specializing in sales and marketing consulting, capability building, and outsourcing.



Kristin M. Milone

Jefferson Scholars Foundation Fellow

Darden Graduate School
of Business
Wesleyan University (B.A.)
University of Virginia (M.B.A.)
Newton, Massachusetts

Kristin graduated in May 2009 and received a Masters in Business Administration from the Darden School. At the same time she completed her Fellowship term with the Jefferson Scholars Foundation. Throughout the summer, Kristin will pursue private equity job options in the Mid-Atlantic region.



Kelly Marie Peterman

Brian Layton Blades Fellow

Department of History
Vassar College (B.A.)
University of Virginia (M.A.)
Columbia, Maryland

During the summer of 2009, Kelly will be studying Arabic in Cairo, Egypt. In the fall she will begin her second year as a teaching assistant with the Department of History at the University of Virginia.



Christopher Aaron Richins

John L. Colley Jr. Fellow

Darden Graduate School
of Business
Brigham Young University (B.A.)
University of Southern California
(M.S.)
University of Virginia (M.B.A.)
Auburn, California

Christopher graduated in May with a Masters in Business Administration from the Darden School. He was selected to represent the Darden School of Business at a Kaizen Event held at a Danaher facility in Brno, Czech Republic over spring break 2009. Christopher is a member of the Raven Society and Omicron Delta Kappa. He was a Shermet Scholar at Darden and his academic performance was recognized with the Faculty Award for Academic Excellence at his graduation. This summer following graduation, Christopher will follow his passion by joining Space Exploration Technologies in Washington, D.C.



Justin McCrae Rose

Birdsall Fellow for the Miller Center of Public Affairs

Department of Politics
Rutgers University (B.A.)
Baylor University (M.A.)
Miami, Florida

Justin continued his term as president of the Black Graduate and Professional School Organization for the 2008-09 school year. In March 2009, his involvement working with the Office of Graduate Student Diversity Programs at the University of Virginia included participating in the Graduate Visitation Weekend. The mission of the weekend was to serve as a resource for administration and academic units by attracting a mass of accepted graduate students from diverse populations to the University of Virginia.





GRADUATE FELLOWS 2007

Lanier Lee Sammons

Edgar Shannon Fellow

Department of Music
Columbia University (B.A.)

Macon, Georgia

For the upcoming year, Lanier will continue his compositional studies and pursue related research under the direction of Matthew Burtner. He will complete the qualifying exams portion of the Composition and Computer Technologies program in the spring of 2010. His performances both in Charlottesville and abroad over the course of the 2008-2009 academic year included: "Panta Rhei," an installation created with Jefferson Fellow alumnus Peter Traub, presented at the 2009 Spark Festival; the premiere of "Three Winters" by the Youth Orchestra of Charlottesville-Albemarle Senior Flute Choir; performances of "Better Play the Note you Know" as part of the Virginia Center for Computer Music 20th Anniversary Tour; and a performance of "Each" by the U.Va. New Music Ensemble at Digitalis in Old Cabell Hall. He also will continue performing on both electric and classical guitar as part of various ensembles. Lanier is captain of the Music Department softball team, "Virginia is for Glovers" and participated as a co-chair of the Jefferson Scholars Foundation's inaugural Forum for Interdisciplinary Dialogue in September 2008.



Stacie Lynne Thyrior

Jefferson Scholars Foundation Fellow

Department of Philosophy
University of Minnesota-Twin
Cities (B.A.)

Green Bay, Wisconsin

During the 2008-2009 academic year Stacie taught Greek 101-102, a most rewarding labor, and served as a Classics Tribune, one of two graduate student representatives acting as liaisons between the Classics Department graduate students and faculty. In the spring of 2009 Stacie completed her MA thesis, "An Organic Composition: The Pedagogical Value of Plato's *Phaedrus*", under the supervision of Professor John Mikalson of the Classics Department and Professor Dominic Scott of the Philosophy Department. She also enjoyed attending a weekly Greek reading group led by Professor Dan Devereux of the Philosophy Department, and teaching Greek to youth in the community. She plans to complete her MA in Classics in the summer of 2009, and in the fall of 2009 she will join the UVA Philosophy Department. There she will broaden her education in modern and contemporary philosophy and continue her studies in ancient Greek philosophy. She plans to continue her work with the Platonic dialogues in her dissertation research, most notably the *Phaedrus* and the *Symposium*. Her work focuses most intently on Plato's attitudes towards his own written philosophy, in relation to his attitudes towards the writings and speeches of other Greek poets and intellectuals, and in relation to his attitudes towards the spoken, dialectical philosophy of his teacher Socrates.



The Jefferson Fellows Class of 2009 (left-right) Chris Richens, Jamala Massenburg, Kristin Milone, Aurie Hsu, Seton Marshall.
Not pictured: Melissa Ragain.

DONOR PROFILE: ERIC P. JOHNSON

A 1980 graduate of the College of Arts & Sciences and an Emeritus Trustee of the College Foundation, Eric is a Managing Director of Neuberger Berman in New York. Eric and his wife Betsy created the Eric P. and Elizabeth R. Johnson Family Graduate Fellowship. Betsy and Eric have three sons, two of whom have graduated from the University and one who will graduate from U.Va. in 2012. Recently, Eric answered questions posed to him by the Foundation:

Where did you grow up, and why did you attend the University?

I grew up in Simsbury, Connecticut. My mother was a native Virginian who attended the University of Richmond. My father was a graduate of the University after having served in the Pacific during World War II, and he was extremely proud of his affiliation with U.Va. I inherited their reverence for Virginia and for the University.

How did you first become involved with the Jefferson Scholars Foundation and why did you decide to fund a Jefferson Fellowship in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, even though you do not have a Ph.D.?

In 2001, Jimmy Wright, Ed Ayers and Tom Jennings first acquainted me with the challenges that the University faced in competing for the best graduate students. I remembered that my experience at Virginia was greatly enhanced by several terrific graduate students who went the extra mile to help me navigate the complexities of Mr. Elzinga's economics class and the history lectures of Messrs Harbaugh, Graebner and McCurdy. Without the efforts of those graduate students, I would not have a diploma.

What do you hope to accomplish through your philanthropy to the Jefferson Scholars Foundation?

Betsy and I hope that, through our small gifts, we can help narrow the economic differential that would lead a graduate student to choose Duke or Stanford out of economic necessity, when they would otherwise love to come to study and teach in Charlottesville.

“Graduate school is usually the phase in academia during which the scope of one’s knowledge narrows, while the depth of one’s knowledge simultaneously increases. I decided to become a Jefferson Fellow because I felt that it permitted me to remain engaged in other fields and actively indulge interests that lie beyond the boundaries of my thesis and my field. I personally feel that in interacting with fields different from our own, we can gain priceless insight into our own work and find perspectives that would have otherwise remained out of touch.”

—Rachael Beaton, C. Mark Pirrung Fellow, Department of Astronomy



GRADUATE FELLOWS 2008

William Joseph Dirienzo

Edward P. Owens Fellow

Department of Astronomy
University of Wisconsin-Madison
(B.S.)

Franklin, Wisconsin

Bill is pursuing his doctorate in Astronomy, and to that end passed his first qualifying exam and began research for his master's thesis with Professor Remy Indebetouw. His research interests include the interstellar medium and star formation. Bill's first project is to find and classify young stellar objects using data from the 2MASS survey and the Spitzer Space Telescope, in hopes that this research will yield a paper to be published later this year. He was recently awarded observation time on the Very Large Array in Socorro, New Mexico under the guidance of Professor Kelsey Johnson, in order to study the distribution of gas in compact groups of galaxies. Bill also plans to be a teaching assistant for the Department of Astronomy, beginning in the fall of 2009.



Laura Emily Goldblatt

John S. Lillard Fellow

Department of English
Wesleyan University (B.A.)

Princeton, New Jersey

In November 2009, Laura will be attending the Midwest Modern Language Association Conference and presenting a paper titled "The wound that cries out: Performance and Trauma in Kara Walker's Black Silhouettes." She will begin teaching a section of ENGL 830: History of 20th Century English Literature in the fall and a section of ENWR 3800: Academic Writing in the spring. Laura is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the National Honors Society. She also participated in the 2009 Dartmouth American Studies Institute. Laura is a writing tutor, the American Area Representative for the Graduate English Students Association, and coordinates for the First Year Series, an organization which provides valuable resources to members at every phase of the University's program in English.



Philip Jameson Graber

Trey Beck Fellow

Department of Mathematics
Washington & Lee University (B.S.)

Arlington, Texas

In 2009 Jameson was the recipient of a Virginia Space Grant from the Virginia Space Grant Consortium. This is a competitive fellowship funded by NASA and the Commonwealth of Virginia which provides support to graduate students to supplement and enhance basic research. Jameson will be working on a specific faculty-mentored research project relevant to NASA or the aerospace field.



Jenifer Martin Guimond

Macfarlane Family Fellow

Darden Graduate School
of Business
Duke University (B.A.)

Naval Post-Graduate School (M.A.) Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Over the past year, Jenifer was elected Vice President of Corporate Relations for the General Management and Operations Club, served as a Darden representative on the U.Va. Honor Committee, was House Captain for Building Goodness in April, became a member of Omicron Delta Kappa and the Raven Society, joined the Darden Consulting Club and the Darden Outdoors Club, and served on the Darden Student Admissions Committee. Jenifer will be spending the summer with Booz & Co., a global management consulting firm, working as a consultant in their commercial Aerospace and Defense practice. She will return to Darden in the fall to complete her M.B.A.



Mary Ellen Hicks

The Newman Family Fellow

Department of History
University of Iowa (B.A.)

Chicago, Illinois

Mary is planning to attend the Latin American Studies Association Conference in June 2009. She will continue her research for her master's of arts thesis, visiting historical archives in Salvador da Bahia, Belo Horizonte and Ouro Preto, Brazil. In the fall she will complete her thesis on free and enslaved women of color in urban markets in 18th century Brazil. This work will attempt to explore the means by which enslaved women were able to augment their status in cities experiencing increasing urbanization and commercialization during the Gold Rush of the early to mid 18th century. Mary plans to survey court, birth and death records to accomplish this task, as well as manumission documents and wills.



Ramon Iglesias Lamas

Melville Foundation Fellow

Darden Graduate School
of Business
United States Naval Academy (B.S.)
Naval War Academy (M.A.)

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

This year, Ray became a member of Omicron Delta Kappa. He was elected Vice President for Communications for the Darden Military Association, and President of the General Management and Operations Club, and enjoyed being a member of both the Consulting Club and the Energy Club. In addition, he is a second-year career coach for the Career Development Center. Ray was awarded a summer associate internship with Bain and Company, a program designed to simulate the experience of a new consultant. He will be performing field interviews, engaging in data analysis and solution brainstorming, and practicing presentation crafting and delivery on case assignments, and will work directly with case teams and clients to solve business problems and create change. He plans to complete his M.B.A. and conduct research under the tutelage of Professor John Colley of the Darden School.



Lindsay Parsons O'Connor

Irby Cauthen Fellow

Department of English
Tulane University (B.A.)

Peachtree City, Georgia

While seeking her doctorate in English, Lindsay took on the role of Theory Area Representative for the Graduate English Students Association. This summer, she will be participating in an internship program in New Orleans, Louisiana as an investigator for Orleans Public Defenders, the indigent defense group for Orleans Parish. Her work there will include investigating and assisting with case preparation on current criminal cases before the Orleans Parish Criminal District Court. Lindsay is also a member of the Modern Language Association.



Harold Smith Reeves

Eric M. Heiner Fellow

Department of Classics
Princeton University (A.B.)

University of Chicago (J.D.)

Catholic University of America
(Ph.L.)

Brooksville, Florida

Harold is currently focusing on preparing for his masters' examination in the fall. He anticipates receiving a Masters in Classics in the spring of 2010. Harold intends to write his Master's thesis on the Roman historian Gaius Sallustius Crispus, generally known as Sallust. Harold is fluent in Latin and Greek and will be teaching Latin 101 this fall.





GRADUATE FELLOWS 2009

Carolyn Marie Beans

*Terrence D. Daniels
Family Fellow*
Department of Biology
Penn State University (B.A.)
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Benjamin Kagan Brady

*Eric P. and Elizabeth R.
Johnson Family Fellow*
Department of History
Princeton University (B.A.)
Little Rock, Arkansas



Caroline Bashaw Davis

*Darden Foundation
Jefferson Fellow*
Darden School of Business
Northwestern University (B.A.)
American University (M.A.)
Chicago, Illinois



Alex Douglas Forrest

*Darden Foundation
Jefferson Fellow*
Darden School of Business
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology (B.S.)
Stanardsville, Virginia



Jefferson Fellowship Selection Committee members (left-right) Doug Holladay, Norwood Davis and Gary Jones.

Jack Clark Herndon III

John L. Colley Jr. Fellow
Darden School of Business
University of Virginia (B.S.)
Nashville, Tennessee



Gabrielle Kathryn Lee Miller

D. N. Batten Fellow
Department of Spanish
University of Notre Dame (B.A.)
Vienna, Virginia



Sarah Anne O'Halloran

Edgar Shannon Fellow
Department of Music
University College Cork (B.A.)
(M.Phil.)
Queens University (M.A.)
Tralee, Ireland



Jason Anthony Pan

Taylor-Tyree Family Fellow
School of Law
University of Virginia (B.A.) (B.S.)
Fairfax, Virginia



Mary Elizabeth Peckham

Hilliard Family Fellow
Department of History
Kenyon College (B.A.)
Washington, D.C.



Corlett Wolfe Wood

H. Eugene Lockhart Fellow
Department of Biology
Swarthmore College (B.A.)
St. Louis Park, Minnesota



"I was very impressed by the faculty and graduate students in my department, and the Jefferson committee drove home the idea that the Jefferson is fundamentally about intellectual exchange. It is entirely merit based, ranges across many fields, and the only obligation of the Fellows is to continue to do well. The Jefferson message of making our work accessible to a public audience sets it apart from more insular academic communities and the Jefferson Fellows are an impressive group of passionate and intelligent individuals."

—Elizabeth Peckham, Hilliard Family Fellow