
PERICLEAN NEWSLETTER



Class of 2018: Global Partnership Through Service

As the finale of their project, ten members of the Class of 2018 traveled to Chipulukusu, Zambia to give workshops on goal planning, decision making, and financial literacy to children and adults. The group of Scholars lived and worked in Chipulukusu, which is a village outside of Ndola. The first week the group taught sessions for 15-22 year olds in order to train these youth and adults to carry on the sessions further down the road. These sessions went really well, as the group of attendees understood the lessons and the material. From that group of thirty, six students were chosen to help lead the next week's sessions of 12-14 year olds. Each day the sessions began at 9:00am with a break for lunch at 12:00pm. Lunch was served to all participants. The sessions resumed until 2:30pm or 3:00pm each day. The second week the adults who co-led with the Elon students did an exceptional job. They understood the material and were able to teach the new students the information. They served as translators, which turned

Elliot Eisen, Lindsey
Clemmer, Abbie
Williams, Tate
Replogle, Meghan
Murray, William Wetter,
Becca Surprenaut,
Bethany Lake, & Kate
Pearce

out to be a vital resource. On the last day that the Class of 2018 was in Chipulukusu, Periclean group held a graduation ceremony for all the students that completed their sessions. They gave the students certificates, along with a polaroid photo of themselves taken earlier in the week. The graduation ceremony was a wonderful time for their parents to recognize the work their student had done in the sessions and what they had learned. It was filled with dancing, speeches, and time to recognize how far the students had come.

Due to the work that a prior group traveling to Chipulukusu completed, the Class of 2018 was able to enter the community this January with a plan of action and partners to carry out that plan. The Periclean Class was able to form long-term partnerships in Ndola and Chipulukusu, with both Habitat for Humanity and Samaritan Strategy Foundation of Zambia, and both of these organizations would like to continue this project and these sessions. The class is hopeful that they will be carried out and that the individuals taught will continue to tell their friends and family about what they learned.



Final Semester at Elon

The Class of 2018 hosted Core Forums for first-year students to discuss service and volunteering. The presented the Core Forum to over 300 first-year students who were charged with analyzing and reflecting on the service that they had previously completed. The first-year students were broken up into groups with a Scholar leading each group. These small groups discussed what types of service the first-years had performed, their views on the differences between service and volunteering, and how to use the different videos and discussions from the forum to move forward as better individuals participating in ethical service and volunteering.

Class of 2019: Sri Lanka

Class Update

The Class of 2019 is planning a sixteen-day trip to Sri Lanka. Seven Scholars are traveling with Dr. Mat Gendle, the Class Mentor, to several of the communities that the Class visited last summer. The Class planned this trip with the assistance of individuals from Sarvodaya, its international partner in Sri Lanka. This time abroad will be used to form and enhance relationships with individuals at local, regional, and national levels of Sarvodaya; gather information for the community tourism arm of the class project; and perform field research about opportunities for the economic empowerment of women at the community level. While abroad, the Scholars plan to form relationships with local trade artisans, facilitate community connections between local female artisans and resources, and begin establishing trade good channels between local artisans and US nonprofits such as Ten Thousand Villages.

Fund for Excellence Events

As one portion of their Fund for Excellence grant, the Periclean Class of 2019 held a free screening of the documentary *No Fire Zone: The Killing Fields of Sri Lanka*. The Class hosted this screening on the night of Thursday, February 22nd in Elon University's Turner Theater. The Class Mentor and Periclean Director, Dr. Mat Gendle, introduced the documentary and spoke briefly about the geopolitical context of the film. *No Fire Zone* is a documentary compiled from first-person accounts and cell-phone footage of the last period of Sri Lanka's decades-long bloody and tumultuous civil war. Approximately thirty individuals, including members of the Periclean Class of 2019, other Elon students, and Sri Lankan faculty members from other universities attended the showing.

Through the Fund for Excellence grant, the Periclean Class of 2019 hosted a panel called *Civil Conflict in Sri Lanka: Personal Stories*. This panel was held on the night of Wednesday, March 7 in McBride Gathering Space of Numen Lumen Pavilion. Dr. Mat Gendle introduced the panelists and spoke briefly about the history and geopolitical context of the Sri Lankan conflict. The two speakers, Dr. Sivayogan of Elon University and Dr. Jeyarajah of the United States Tamil Political Action Council, are both native Sri Lankans, and they shared incredibly powerful stories and personal experiences from the period of civil conflict, violence, and chaos. A large group of approximately 50-60 students, professors, and other faculty members attended the panel.

The Class of 2019 also allocated some of the Fund for Excellence grant for another panel called *Cultural "Othering" and Ethnic Conflict in South Asia*. This panel was held on the night of Thursday, March 29 in the Global Media Room of Global Commons. Dr. Mat Gendle introduced the panelists and provided a brief geopolitical context of Sri Lanka to the audience. Dr. Brian Pennington of Elon University spoke first about the region of South Asia (which includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka), focusing more specifically on India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. Dr. Pennington explored the primary religious groups and conflicts of the region in historical and contemporary contexts. Dr. Neil DeVotta of Wake Forest University spoke next about religious, ethnic, and linguistic conflict in Sri Lanka. Dr. Amy Alloco, also of Elon University, shared three individual cases from her extensive fieldwork with Tamil populations in India and Sri Lanka. A group of approximately 30-40 Periclean Scholars, other Elon students, and other Elon faculty members attended the panel.

The Class of 2019 also funded a campus visit for Erin Lawless, an Elon University alumna and Maternal and Child Health Specialist in the Peace Corps. Erin spoke to the Class about project design, assessment, and implementation. She gave the Class several tools to assist in these processes, such as road-mapping and interview devices, and walked the Scholars through the three phases of project management: dream, design, and deliver. The Class will incorporate these tools and methodologies into their preparation for their summer trip to Sri Lanka.

Class of 2020: Cuba

The Class of 2020's country of focus is Cuba. This is their second semester in the program. The Periclean Scholars in the Class of 2020 have dedicated their semester to researching and narrowing down areas of focus for local and international projects. After a collective redefinition of the Class vision, the Scholars have been further researching their country of focus and exploring topics of interest through white papers. They also had a community mapping workshop with Erin Lawless, an Elon alumna and Maternal and Child Health Specialist in the Peace Corps. The Class of 2020 also submitted their application for the Fund for Excellence grant (which many past Periclean Classes have utilized in their journeys as well). The Class also successfully planned and hosted the induction for the new Periclean Class of 2021. The Periclean Class of 2020 is looking forward to returning revitalized in the fall with goals of deepening their search for local and international partners, fundraising, and selecting their project of interest.



Class of 2021



On April 10, 2018, the new Periclean Scholars Class of 2021 was inducted at Elon University. Dr. Mat Gendle, Director of Project Pericles, introduced the program and started the induction ceremony. Dr. Bud Warner welcomed the new class and encouraged them in their journey as Periclean Scholars. Class Representatives, Kate Pearce '18, Amy Belfer '19 and Jill Watkins '19, and Chandler Posey '20 shared updates from their Classes and gave advice to the incoming Class. Dr. Mat Gendle presented the whole Class of 2019 with the Periclean of the Year award. The Class of 2021's Mentor is Dr. Bud Warner, who will lead the Class as they focus on the Sioux Nation. Below is a list of all new inductees for the Class of 2021.

Welcome Class of 2021

Lily Apple

Brooklyn, NY

Bess Bassett

Virginia Beach, VA

Dorothy Boudette

Lexington, MA

Sienna Burris

Atlanta, GA

Thomas Cadman

Medfield, MA

Rebecca Collins

Milton, GA

Kathryn Connolly
Glenview, IL
Grace Crowley
Oak Park, IL
Jubitza Figueroa
Charlotte, NC
Nell Geer
Madison, WI
Kitty Helm
Louisville, Ky
Melanie Hills
Glastonbury, Connecticut
Kelly Hunter
Fairfield, CT
Amanda Jackson
Baltimore, MD
Sara Kitslaar
Glen Ellyn, IL
Zoe Lett
Princeton, NJ
Mackenzie Martinez
Seattle, WA

Ellie Moskowitz
Detroit, MI
Abigail Noyes
Orange, CT
Alex Rasmussen
Medway, MA
Emily Roberts
Menlo Park, CA
Mary Beth Rowell
Virginia Beach, VA
Eleanor Scimone
Salem, MA
Caitlyn Stansfield
Fort Collins, CO
Sadie Traylor
San Diego, CA
Zac Warhust
Garden City, NY
Katherine Zinke
Carlisle, MA

