
PERICLEAN NEWSLETTER



Class of 2019 and Sarvodaya: Together Moving Forward

Dr. Mat Gendle, the Mentor of the Periclean Class of 2019, and three Scholars from the Class of 2019 traveled to Sri Lanka for twenty days during the summer of 2018. The goals of the trip were to deepen the Class's relationships with Sarvodaya (the community-based NGO that our Class is partnering with), to become more familiar with the communities that the Class has visited in the past, and to determine the mechanisms through which the Class will enact its project of facilitating economic empowerment for local craftswomen. The Scholars abroad spent most of their time in three communities in Sri Lanka: Trincomalee, Anuradhapura, and Wellawaya. During their time in these communities, the group was able to locate and make connections with local craftswomen, generate lists of potential community tourism opportunities to enact with Sarvodaya district centers, and collaboratively decide on several branches of the final project to be created in the fall.

Class of 2019: Fall 2018 Update

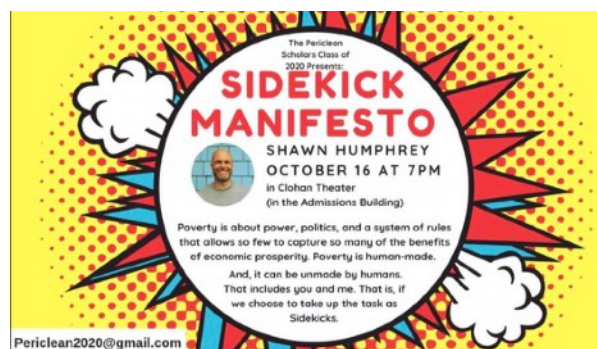
Throughout the semester, the Periclean Class of 2019 has been steadily working to complete various components of its project. The Class spent the first month creating and updating portions of the Sarvodaya (the Class's international partner) website, developing content related to ethical community tourism, cultural competency, and a newly established internship position with Sarvodaya. The Class has also been engaged in planning its winter-term trip to Sri Lanka, in which Scholars will participate in and perform a program assessment of a community tourism experience hosted by Sarvodaya. Currently, members of the Class are updating Sarvodaya marketing materials, developing the program assessment to be used during the trip, and finalizing updates to the Sarvodaya website.

Class of 2020: Cuba

The Periclean Class of 2020 successfully applied for a grant from the Fund for Excellence in the Arts and Sciences. These grants are awarded annually by a committee of Phi Beta Kappa members in consultation with the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences to promote the liberal arts.

The Class of 2020, mentored by Dr. April Post, will be using this grant to support two academic programs (during 2018-2019) hosted by the Class: campus visits and public events from changemaker and well-known humanitarian Dr. Shawn Humphrey and noted Cuban scholar Dr. Vicky Unruh. The Class chose to fund visits for these two individuals with the aim of further educating themselves and challenging their fellow students to think more critically about poverty.

Dr. Humphrey visited Elon in October and spent time both with the Class of 2020 and the larger campus community. During his time with the Periclean Class of 2020, Dr. Humphrey gave a presentation on effective methods of planning and implementing humanitarian projects. He also gave a formal campus-wide presentation titled "Sidekick Manifesto" about effective and ethical anti-poverty work. Dr. Unruh will visit Elon later in the academic year.



The Scholars in the Periclean Class of 2020 spent their semester refining their area of focus and finalizing their international partners. The Class narrowed its area of focus to sustainable agriculture and environmental conservation within its country of focus, Cuba. Now, the Class is in the process of deciding between two partners, Slow Food and Witness for Peace. If the Scholars were to partner with Slow Food, a grassroots organization dedicated to protect local food cultures, the Class would likely work with the Cuban chapters of Slow Food and local Cuban farms to address issues surrounding sustainable agriculture. If the Scholars were to partner with Witness for Peace, a grassroots organization dedicated to nonviolence and sustainable economies, the Class would work with Witness for Peace's existing Cuba delegation to target issues regarding sustainable food and farming. Also in the fall semester, the Scholars worked on fundraising efforts and planned for the second campus visit included in their successful Fund for Excellence grant.

Class of 2021: Fall 2018 Update

The Periclean Scholars Class of 2021's Tribe of focus is the Sioux Nation. The Scholars have begun educating themselves on the Sioux Nation itself and the history of oppression and marginalization of Native Americans. By reading books such as *The Most Good You Can Do* by Peter Singer, the Class has been able to define effective altruism for themselves. With Ted Talks, documentaries, and compelling conversations, the group is educating themselves on the historic and present struggles that the Sioux Nation has faced. The Class Mentor, Bud Warner, asked Steve Pevar to come in and speak to the students on Indian and Tribal Relations. Stephen Pevar is a Senior Staff Attorney in the ACLU's Racial Justice Program. He has thirty-seven years of experience and specializes in Indian and Tribal Relations. Additionally, committees have been created to tackle different projects as well, such as planning trips to Washington, D.C. and the Sioux Nation in South Dakota.

Class of 2022 Mentor: Dr. Amanda Tapler

Professor Tapler has been chosen to be Periclean Mentor for the Class of 2022. Professor Tapler is a senior lecturer in the Department of Public Health Studies. After working as a wellness coordinator at the University of North Carolina Greensboro, Professor Tapler focused on her love for teaching when she transitioned to Elon University. This will be Professor Tapler's fifteenth year at Elon and her first year with the program. She has been interested in the program ever since it was created and has always wanted to be a part of the Periclean Scholar mission. Now that Professor Tapler can invest the necessary time in mentoring a Periclean Class, she is eager to jump into the position.

The Periclean Scholar Class of 2022 will be focusing on the country of Ghana. Professor Tapler feels honored to be working on the country and hopes to continue the work that former colleague Heidi Frontani pursued there. Professor Frontani was a Professor of Geography and African studies, Chair of the Department of History and Geography, and a Leadership Scholar at Elon University since 1998. She mentored the 2010 Class of Periclean Scholars and did wonderful work with Ghanaian partners. Under her guidance, the Periclean Class was able to establish a health center in Kpoeta, Ghana. Unfortunately, Professor Frontani passed away on February 26, 2016. Professor Tapler hopes to make sure that Professor Frontani's legacy and her work in Ghana is honored.

Professor Tapler also works closely with the Comprehensive Rural Health Project in Jamkhed, India, which offers unique health education and public health learning experiences. Her work through the CRHP has fueled her passion and has been a motivator in deciding to join Periclean Scholars.

Professor Tapler is most excited to partake in global engagement with the new Periclean Class. She is a strong believer in community-based participation; an equal ground mutually benefitting all groups involved. As a professor teaching Global Health, she believes that having a background in community-based participatory research can be helpful in achieving realistic goals. She is particularly looking forward to "working with the students and fueling their passions within being global citizens." Professor Tapler believes that being a Class Mentor requires adhering to the Periclean Pledge and Core Humanitarian Standard. With her work with the new Periclean Class, Professor Tapler hopes to engage with the students to ensure their opportunities to become involved with social change, civic engagement, and cultural exchanges.

Snapshots from Sri Lanka

