EMPOWERED TO LEAD

2017-18 ROAN ANNUAL REPORT







THE ROAN MISSION

Inspiring and developing leaders of excellence.

THE ROAN VISION

Transformative leaders actively serving ETSU, their communities and the world.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

We believe leaders of character are needed now as much as ever. We believe truly excellent leaders constantly strive to learn and grow, identify and tackle problems, and serve and impact those around them. We believe that intentionally challenging and supporting those leaders furthers and accelerates their development. At the Roan, we empower Scholars through a financial award and experiences that challenge, inspire and encourage them to do great things.

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LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Excellence. Impact.

What has always distinguished the Roan Program is our unwavering commitment to inspiring and developing leaders of excellence and impact. This Annual Report is filled with countless examples of how Roan Scholars and Alumni are pursuing leadership excellence and impact around the globe and throughout our region.

With this year's six graduates of the program, the Roan now has 61 Alumni. These Alumni live and work in places as distant as Austin, Texas; Okinawa, Japan; Portland, Oregon; and New York City. At the same time, the Roan continues to have a significant regional impact, with 61 percent of Roan Alumni living within 100 miles of East Tennessee State University. They are changing lives as doctors, teachers, coaches, business owners and public servants. Consistent with the vision of our founder, Mr. Louie Gump, Roan Alumni are meeting a critical need for leadership — at many levels, in many forums, and across many professions.

Empowerment.

So how — during four short years of college — do we equip Scholars to live out the Roan values of leadership excellence and impact? This report highlights the critical role empowerment plays in the Roan development model.

With substantial input from high school, community, and regional leaders, we select outstanding students who have demonstrated leadership and show the capacity, desire and drive for more. The Roan offers resources, experiences, and connections that challenge, inspire and support these students; they, in turn, contribute their own substantial energy, talents and initiative. Ultimately, Roan Scholars graduate empowered — with more robust leadership skills, greater confidence in their abilities, and an understanding that a commitment to lifelong learning and growth is necessary for great leadership.

The Road to 2020

As we prepare a yearlong celebration in 2020 that marks the 20th anniversary of the first Roan class entering ETSU, we look forward to celebrating that milestone and sharing our vision of continued Roan empowerment, excellence and impact - for many years to come.

Daily, I am reminded the Roan Program is only possible because of the generosity of many individuals and organizations who believe in our mission. To each of you who has impacted our Scholars by supporting the Roan - through service, partnership, financial gifts, or in other ways - we offer our sincerest thanks. Your gifts make a lasting impression, supporting and empowering the next generation of exceptional leaders.

In gratitude,

Scott Jeffress Director

THE ROAN **EXPERIENCE**

The Roan empowers Scholars through unique, out-of-the-classroom experiences that challenge, inspire, and encourage.

WHAT ARE THE MAIN PARTS OF THE PROGRAM?





The Roan provides funding for four years of tuition and fees, room and board, and books and supplies. This allows Scholars to focus on leadership. campus/community engagement, and academic achievement.



"Roan Scholars are selected for their incredible potential for leadership and making a profound positive impact wherever they live or work. I am proud of, and pleased with, Scholar and Alumni accomplishments over the last almost 20 years and am even more excited about what they will do over the next 20."

- Mr. Louie Gump Founder of the Roan Scholars Leadership Program



The Roan Experience

Scholars learn, grow, and develop their leadership potential through a fouryear framework of shared class and all-Scholar experiences, as well as individual activities and opportunities.

Financial Award

Scholar Initiative

With the support of the Roan, Scholars are empowered to take it from there - to explore their interests, identify issues and opportunities, and ultimately make an impact.

INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCES • •



Coaching and Mentoring

Scholars regularly meet with Roan staff to discuss challenges, areas for growth, and opportunities to serve and lead.



Summer of Service

Rising sophomores participate in a six-week, individually designed summer internship to develop professionally and learn to lead through service.



Leadership Conferences

Scholars represent the Roan at regional and national leadership conferences, where they connect with other student leaders and learn from accomplished professionals.

ROAN CLASS EXPERIENCES

ALL-SCHOLAR EXPERIENCES



Leadership Explorations:

Learning-focused trips to connect with leaders and explore relevant issues. In 2017-18. Scholars traveled to Washington, D.C., where they were introduced to institutions, leaders and ideas, and to Central Appalachia to learn more about its history, the challenges and people who are working for its future.



Class Legacy Projects: Each class develops a legacy project to impact ETSU and the community. In 2017-18, the Class of 2018 involved hundreds of students in an interactive art display that asked: HOW do you want to be when you grow up? And the Class of 2019 launched the first-ever Bucky's Yard Sale, selling donated clothes, shoes and accessories on campus to benefit ETSU's Little Buccaneers Early Childhood Program.



Read more about the latest Class Legacy Projects on roanscholars.org



Outdoor Leadership Challenge:

A mainstay in the program since the Roan's first class in 2000, this week-long adventure in the Appalachian Mountains makes friends out of strangers and helps each class of Scholars learn to work together and thrive outside their comfort zones.



Class Seminars: Scholars meet in small group seminars, particularly during their first and second years, to tackle big issues like leadership development, character, and citizenship.



Leadership in Action: Events throughout the year connect Roan Scholars with community leaders and organizations making a difference in our region. In 2017-18, LIA events included visits to Eastman Chemical Company, the Birthplace of Country Music Museum in Bristol, Va., and the Johnson City Symphony Orchestra, among others.



All-Roan Meetings: Scholars meet regularly as a group to reconnect, share, and learn from each other. During 2017-18, topics included living the Roan mission, healthy lifestyle choices, research opportunities, and overcoming procrastination.



Physical Vigor Weekend: Scholars join together for one weekend each fall to hike, canoe, climb, camp, and enjoy the outdoors as part of their ongoing commitment to living active, healthy lives. In fall 2017, Scholars whitewater rafted on the Nolichucky River and completed service projects at USA Raft's campground site in Erwin, Tenn.

EMPOWERED

TO SERVE



CIERRA LINKA: Greeneville, Tenn. (Holston United Methodist Home for Children) Adventure-Based Counseling •



TIFFANY COOK: Blountville, Tenn. (Sullivan County Health Department) Community outreach, evidence-based research



RUBI ESTRADA: Linville, N.C. (Grandfather Mountain Stewardship Foundation) Community liaison, fundraising support

Leadership begins with service. During 2017-18, Roan Scholars and Alumni lived out that idea, impacting and inspiring others by filling key student leadership roles on campus, volunteering and interning with nonprofits, and driving positive change in their communities.



AUSTIN RAMSEY: Haryana, India (Christ Mission India) Infrastructure development



ADAM ROSENBALM: San Mateo, Belize (Love Share) After-school literacy, nonprofit finance



MCCLELLAND: **U.S. Virgin Islands** (All Hands and Hearts) Disaster recovery

CONNOR



LARISSA COPLEY: U.S. Virgin Islands (All Hands and Hearts) Disaster recovery



Learning support,

nonprofit development

Read more about their work on roanscholars.org

Summer of Service

Each Roan Scholar spends at least six weeks during the summer after his or her first year at ETSU serving with a nonprofit or service-oriented organization, making an impact while building leadership skills. During summer 2018, Roan '21s served around the globe (see map above) in ways that took them outside their comfort zones, expanded their horizons, and taught them many new things about the world and themselves.

Nourishing Local School Children

Annie Malcolm '19 interned eight hours per week at Fairmont Elementary in Johnson City, Tenn. during the school year. A Nutrition major, she provided nutrition services and meal planning to help give kids a balanced meal. Annie will continue this internship in 2018-19. In the summer of 2018, she also worked as a dining associate at Johnson City Medical Center.





Providing Free Health Care

Tiffani Carrasco '18 was a core volunteer and a designated optical-lab leader with Remote Area Medical (RAM), a nonprofit provider of mobile medical clinics, delivering free, quality health care to underserved and uninsured individuals. Supporting clinics in Tennessee, Virginia, and New Mexico, she advocated for rural medicine and oversaw the production of more than 900 pairs of eyeglasses for patients. Tiffani is pursuing a Master of Public Health degree at The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice.

Honoring a Son, **Feeding Firefighters**

Feed the Fire is a community initiative started by Julie Keeton '04 and her husband in memory of their son, Weston. Held annually on March 23, the event involves volunteers who say thanks and deliver food to local fire stations. The 2018 event included more than 100 stations - some in the Tri-Cities, others as far away as Israel and Hawaii. Roan Scholars joined Julie and her family at Fire Station #2 in Johnson City for this special event.





Called to Teach

Millie Robinson '17 began teaching at Towne Acres Elementary in Johnson City, Tenn. in 2016. "I knew I was called to teach, and I can teach anywhere," Millie said. "I grew up in this area, went to Science Hill High School, and I believe while it is good for some people to leave, it is also important for committed people to stay and invest in their community. I chose to stay and do what I can to invest in my hometown and the next generation."



Serving the Region

Scholars volunteered during the Niswonger Children's Hospital Radiothon, helping raise money for the hospital, which serves 29 counties in four states.



Serving Kids in Need

Brianna McCoy '20 and Katie Barlowe '21 started volunteering in spring 2018 with Coalition For Kids, a nonprofit helping kids in need through afterschool programming, professional tutors and a network of volunteers.



Serving the Nation

Braden Trent '20 took an oath in fall 2017 to pursue a commission as a U.S. Army officer through the ETSU Army ROTC Program.



Serving to End Alzheimer's

Seth Jewett '20 has a personal interest in finding a cure: his grandmother has Alzheimer's. In fall 2017, Seth volunteered at two "Walk to End Alzheimer's" events with Alzheimer's Association - Northeast Tennessee. He is helping coordinate upcoming walks for fall 2018.

EMPOWERED TO DISCOVER

Roan Scholars are curious. They seek to understand why and how things work, explore new places and fields of study, and learn new skills and interests—all parts of discovery. In 2017-18, some of the ways they were empowered to discover came in the form of on-campus, faculty-sponsored research that led them to presenting around the region about their findings, gaining first-hand experience through internships around the globe, and helping others to discover through the power of music.

"I am very grateful for the long hours I spent in the lab. I learned the necessity of asking questions, finding answers when no one else has them, perfecting processes, and fixing my mistakes."

- Zach Warren '20

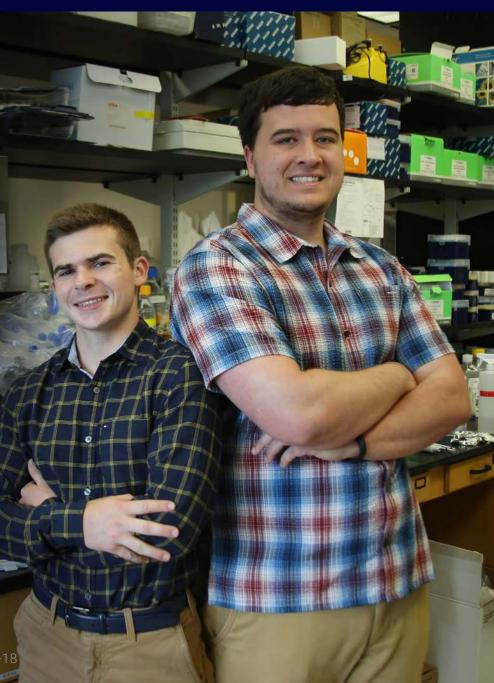
RESEARCH DISCOVERY

Joe Oliver '19 (right) conducts research in the Quillen College of Medicine's Department of Biomedical Science, testing a method of repairing nerve damage in the nasal cavity. Through a series of tests, Joe and the research team have found that - in mice - nerve repair is more successful when treated with a particular protein inhibitor. After starting in the lab as a first-year student, this past year he presented at the 2018 Boland Undergraduate Research Forum and the 2018 Appalachian Student Research Forum, where his poster was awarded second place.

"It is very rewarding when you spend three months on something and, for a brief moment, are the only one in the world who understands what you've discovered," Joe said.

Zach Warren '20 (left) joined Dr. Jonathan Peterson's lab in the College of Public Health in spring 2017, working with a team focused on understanding why a metabolic protein, CTRP3, reduces the prevalence of alcoholic fatty liver disease in mice. The team's findings were published in the American Journal of Physiology-Endocrinology and Metabolism in May. Zach also presented at the 2018 Appalachian Student Research Forum.

"I view research as the practical working out of everything you learn in class," Zach said. "You learn about immunology in a book, but through research, you see it in practice. Research is also a great way for scientific learning to come to a solution to a problem."





DISCOVERING THROUGH INTERNSHIPS

Internships help Roan Scholars discover career paths, learn more about themselves. and experience what it's like to work for an organization. This past year, Scholars landed 20 internships and shadowing experiences.

For example, Morgan Munsey '19 (right) was chosen for a Walt Disney Attractions Technology, Inc. Supply Chain Technology internship in Orlando in summer 2018: she also interned at Eastman Chemical Company in Kingsport, Tenn. during the academic year as a systems analyst in the Information Technology department. Kate Phillips '19 interned at Tri-Cities law firm Hunter, Smith & Davis during her junior year and with Eastman's Corporate Strategy team during summer 2018.

"I've valued my internships because they provided experiences that you cannot receive in the classroom," Kate said. "They helped me discover what I am passionate about. It is extremely valuable to surround vourself with people in the community who are leaders in the field you will want to join in the future."



DISCOVERING THEIR SOUND

Through music, Logan Carmody '20 (right) and Seth Jewett '20 (left) have discovered community, work ethic, and a reprieve from the parts of their brains they exercise as math and health sciences majors, respectively. Logan has sung with Chorale, ETSU's premier mixed ensemble, since her first semester. Seth, who is part of the Old Timers Band and in ETSU's Bluegrass, Old Time and Country Music Studies program, first took up the banjo at 14 after seeing one played on the streets of Jonesborough, Tenn. "The nature of bluegrass is that everyone is part of it," Seth said. "There's a sense of community at shows."

Scholars are Making Discoveries Through Formal Research

Kate Phillips '19 and Sydney Ross '20 both received Society Fellowships for summer 2018 through ETSU's Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities. Kate researched barriers to legal representation in Tennessee, while Sydney studied the presence of "soft power" in Cuban media.

Olivia Ellis '18 presented her senior Fine Arts thesis on the "Exploitation of Micro-Aggressions" at the **Boland Undergraduate** Research Forum.

Annie Malcolm '19, through an Undergraduate Student-Faculty Collaborative Grant, studied the difference in volatile fatty acid levels in stool samples of college students with various body mass index levels. She presented her nutrition research at the Southern Conference Undergraduate Research Forum and at the Boland Undergraduate Research Forum.

Braden Trent '20 is researching cultural awareness and competency in the U.S. Army as part of his Communication Studies Honors-in-Discipline program.

Margot Ledford '18

researched addiction in the lab of Dr. Andrea Clements in the Department of Psychology.

Brianna McCoy '20

conducted curriculum readiness research with Dr. Beatrice Owens in the Department of Physical Therapy.

Seth Jewett '20 conducted research under a Student-Faculty Collaborative Grant with Dr. Sean Fox in the College of Public Health.



CIVIL DISCOURSE

Connor McClelland '21, Austin Ramsey '21 and Adam Rosenbalm '21 attended the Virginia Military Institute Leadership and Ethics Conference in fall 2017 and heard a talk on the importance of civil discourse from a speaker with Better Angels, a bipartisan organization focused on reducing political polarization. They saw an opportunity to help ETSU students and faculty have conversations about difficult subjects across the political spectrum, so they partnered with Better Angels and ETSU's Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement to host a series of campus events in spring 2018. Connor, Austin and Adam attended training in Nashville to learn how to facilitate conversations and helped Better Angels hold the first debate of its kind on a college campus.

"Conversations about politics are usually so divisive," Connor said. "People think there are only two choices, but that's not how issues work. I think people were surprised that you could have a debate, but the point wasn't to attack the other side or to 'win' – the point was to understand."

The Scholars plan to have more debates in fall 2018 and spring 2019.

"We want to teach other students and college campuses how to hold similar dialogues and make civil dialogue a part of ETSU's culture," Adam said.



Engaging at Conferences

Roan Scholars have special opportunities to attend regional and national leadership conferences and connect with other students and leaders. In 2017-18, Scholars attended conferences in Washington D.C.; Arlington, Va.; Annapolis, Md.; Dallas, Texas; Columbus, Ohio; and West Point, N.Y.

"The Roan gave me a special development opportunity at West Point's National Conference on Ethics. Our group heard from a diverse array of speakers that all displayed moral courage in their lives and inspired us to do the same in ours."

- Annie Malcolm '19

Voter Participation on College Campuses

Student turnout for elections has been historically low. But leaders across the country, including Nathan Farnor '18, are doing something about it. Nathan was part of an award-winning team at ETSU that improved student voter participation more than any other school in the Southern Conference, earning the Most Improved Student Participation award in the NCAA Division 1 conference championship for democratic involvement, "SoCon Votes." A March 2018 New York Times article highlighted their work on ETSU's campus.



Read the article and other Roan News on roanscholars.org





Student Government Association

Five of the eight first-year Roan Scholars in the Class of 2021 were elected to ETSU's Student Government Association (SGA) Senate.

"I got involved in SGA because I wanted to represent and be a voice for all students, even the ones who are guiet," said Rubi Estrada '21 (pictured front row, second from left). "My goal is to help improve ETSU and help improve its diversity."







ROAN STEP CHALLENGE

One of the pillars of the Roan is physical vigor. Why? We believe physical vigor is part of caring for yourself, which effective leaders do to better guide their teams. To encourage physical vigor, Scholars and Roan staff tracked their steps in spring 2018 for the first-ever Physical Vigor Challenge. From Feb. 13 to April 4, Scholars and staff walked a combined 12 million plus steps. Seth Jewett '20 won the award for most steps with more than 725,000.



SPEECH AND DEBATE

In spring 2018, Braden Trent '20 earned fourth place in the Radio Broadcasting category at the Tennessee Intercollegiate Forensics Association's State Competition, helping the ETSU team bring home the most awards it has ever received.



PUBLIC SPEAKING

Morgan Munsey '19, a computing major, participated in Toastmasters International, a nonprofit that helps professionals improve public speaking, communication, and leadership. She earned "Best Speaker" honors for her first speech.

ATHLETICS AND ACADEMICS

Hunter Wike '18 (on facing page) was one of only 10 student-athletes in the entire Southern Conference to be awarded a \$2,000 scholarship to pursue postgraduate education. Wike was honored at the Southern Conference Honors Dinner in Hilton Head, S.C., in May 2018.



EMPOWERED TO INSPIRE AND BE INSPIRED

Inspired in Our Nation's Capital

The seven members of the Class of 2020 participated in a Roan Leadership Experience to Washington, D.C., over Spring Break 2018. Scholars experienced a wide variety of activities—from a concert at the Kennedy Center to meeting with Tennessee's U.S. Senators and touring the U.S. Capitol—with the goal of learning about institutions, history and other cultural issues important for leadership.

These trips broaden Scholars' perspectives and connect them with a diverse group of leaders all while inspiring them in whatever paths they choose. During the trip, Scholars met with Austin Wike '16. Austin, now a secondyear student at Howard University's College of Medicine, said his trip to Washington, D.C., as a Roan Scholar influenced his decision to attend Howard. When Austin was admitted, he said, he could actually imagine himself living and studying in D.C. thanks to the Roan trip.

"From running into the Israeli Prime Minister to walking through the halls of the Pentagon, we were constantly learning from everything and everyone around us, and I was able to take what I learned during Spring Break and apply it in the classroom. Each experience has helped to develop me as a speaker, a leader, and a student."

Sydney Ross '20

Inspiring Learning

IDEAcademy, a joint ETSU and Eastman Chemical Company initiative, inspires learning through short talks from thought leaders in the world of innovation and leadership. In its second year, the event featured Heather Cook '04 (left) and Sydney Ross '20 (right) among its 10 speakers. Heather discussed the relatable topic of time (or lack thereof) and how to be more present, to think, and to be creative again. Sydney's speech, titled "Attitude vs. Altitude," explored the life lessons she learned during a trek to Mount Everest's base camp during the summer of 2017 that did not go as anticipated.



During Leadership in Action events in two local cities, Roan Scholars experienced art from an internationally known artist and photographer and learned from a best-selling author and columnist in the *New York Times*. Both addressed issues of inspiration, including diversity, knowledge, and honesty.

In fall 2017, Scholars visited Kingsport's Humanae exhibit, a portrait project from artist and photographer Angélica Dass, who has challenged millions to rethink skin color and ethnicity in her popular TED Talk.

"Her Humanae Project gave me so much inspiration for my own work because both deal with similar topics," said **Olivia Ellis '18**, who researched Dass as part of her own senior thesis titled, "Exploitation of Micro-Aggressions." In February 2018, Scholars attended a Leadership Tennessee-sponsored event (see picture below) in Knoxville, where Pulitzer Prize-winning reporter and New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman spoke about his new book Thank You for Being Late and a series of rapid "accelerations"— in areas such as technology, the market, and climate change — that are significantly impacting society.

"Friedman, like me, is a self-proclaimed optimist who understands he can choose to shed light on a topic, can choose to raise the heat around that topic, or can do both," said Scott Robertson, a Roan Regional Selection Committee member, in his *Johnson City News & Neighbor* column about his and the Scholars' experience learning from Friedman.





LAYING A FOUNDATION FOR GROWTH

While many elements of the Roan Experience have evolved over time, one constant from the very beginning has been the Outdoor Leadership Challenge (OLC). In August 2017, the latest iteration of this week-long adventure began on a river in western North Carolina and ended on Roan Mountain. Just as it did to the Scholars before them, the OLC pushed the Roan '21s out of their comfort zones as they canoed, hiked, camped, and faced other new challenges. They grew more resilient and confident as they did things they did not know they could, learned about themselves, worked together to overcome obstacles, and established relationships that will last a lifetime.

"This challenge caused all of our group members to grow in a safe environment and allowed lifelong friendships to form," said **Katie Barlowe '21**. "I learned how to interact with other leaders and strong minds, which will allow me to perform better with the Roan and accomplish anything I set my mind to."

Many Roan Alumni routinely identify the Outdoor Leadership Challenge as their most memorable Roan experience.

"Being out in the woods with four other people for eight days was exhausting," said **Zach McCamey '15**. "I remember the last couple of days was a constant laugh, and spending time with those people – who were going to be some of my best friends – was special. One of them is the best man in my wedding. There was no better way to get to know someone."

"I had to overcome my fears, but I came back (to campus) feeling confident in myself and my team of other Roan Scholars and all we could accomplish," said **Taylor Martin** '17.



Learn more about how to support Roan experiences like the OLC and others on roanscholars.org





A CATALYST FOR COLLABORATION

When **Erika Herrera '14** (left) received her degree from the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine (VCOM) - Carolinas Campus in May 2018, she also left a legacy of innovation, collaboration, and excellence. Erika played an important role in the development of a sustainable interprofessional curriculum. The Interprofessional Education (IPE) Certificate Program leverages collaboration among health professions – in this case, VCOM, Presbyterian College's School of Pharmacy, and Lander University's School of Nursing – to improve patient outcomes and reduce medical errors in the clinical setting.

Erika spoke at the 2016 American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Conference and the 2017 Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Emswiller Interprofessional Symposium, and was recognized by VCU with the 2017 Emerging Leader in Interprofessionalism award.

"I believe interprofessional health care is the most successful way to treat patients and look forward to implementing this approach in my practice," said Erika, who began a family medicine residency in July 2018 at the University of Tennessee–Knoxville. "I am thankful for the opportunity to lead the IPE program and see it grow at VCOM, and I'm excited to treat patients in the East Tennessee area."



Roan '18s and '19s traveled through Central Appalachia in May 2018, visiting locations in West Virginia, Kentucky, and Virginia as part of a Roan "Appalachian Trek" to see an area of the United States that is not only close to home, but also offers significant insights into many issues facing our country.

Roan Scholars visited Rainelle, W.Va., where they learned from community leaders rebuilding after devastating floods hit the area in 2016; learned about the history of coal at the Beckley Exhibition Coal Mind in Beckley, W.Va., and about efforts to stop mountaintop removal mining in Naoma, W.Va.; talked with students and administrators at Mountain Mission School in Grundy, Va.; reflected on various viewpoints regarding the

"[T]o be a leader you have to learn. I think we all learned something about an area very close to us that we may not have known before."

Morgan Munsey '19

economic history of Appalachia; screened documentaries at Appalshop in Whitesburg, Ky.; and met with nonprofit leaders in Norton, Va., who are focused on regional economic development efforts.

Throughout the trip, Scholars had opportunities to seek and learn from differing viewpoints on various issues, to appreciate the region's history, and to meet leaders who are committed to making a difference for Central Appalachia.

EMPOWERED

O LEAD

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE **ROAN 2018 GRADUATES!**



TIFFANI CARRASCO Health Sciences Hometown: West

Jefferson, N.C.

Highlights: Tiffani interned in the Azores Islands of Portugal

and with Remote Area Medical (RAM). A cum laude graduate, she also served as president of ETSU's Panhellenic Association and was named a Diversity Scholar and inducted into the Order of Omega National Greek Leadership Honor Society.

Immediate Plans: Attending The Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice to pursue a Master of Public Health degree; named a Dartmouth Institute Merit Scholar



OLIVIA ELLIS

Graphic Design Hometown: Bristol, Tenn.

Highlights: A Fine and Performing Arts Scholar who graduated magna

cum laude, Olivia is an award-winning illustrator; studied abroad at the Studio Arts College International in Florence, Italy; worked as a junior designer at Ntara, a digital agency in Johnson City; and was a Preview and Orientation leader on campus.

Immediate Plans: Junior graphic designer at Likeable Media in New York City.



NATHAN FARNOR

Erwin, Tenn.

Political Science and Communications Studies Hometown:

Highlights: Nathan was the inaugural student member on the ETSU Board of Trustees. was both a senator and the vice president of ETSU's Student Government Association, and was recognized with the ETSU Peacebuilder Award, Excellence in Diversity Award, Ronald E. and Edith Carrier Award for Leadership and Service, and the statewide Harold Love Outstanding Community Service Award. He graduated magna cum laude.

Immediate Plans: Candidate for Tennessee's District 7 State Representative.



SOPHIA TAYLOR

Anthropology Hometown: Kingsport, Tenn.

Highlights: Graduating summa cum laude, Sophia participated in a summer faculty-led

study abroad course to Cuba, was a part of Golden Key International Honour Society and the National Society of Leadership and Success. She was also involved in Young Life and Timmy Global Health, a program that focuses on getting students involved in improving health throughout the world.

Immediate Plans: Moving to Detroit to serve with Africa Inland Missions.



MARGOT LEDFORD

Psychology Hometown: Waynesville, N.C.

Highlights: Margot graduated magna cum laude, having

worked in the lab of Dr. Matthew Palmatier in the Department of Psychology on research related to addiction. She studied abroad at Leiden University in the Netherlands and interned at the Kory Wawanaca Children's Home in Bolivia.

Immediate Plans: Relocating to Austin, Texas, and planning to apply to graduate school for clinical neuroscience.



HUNTER WIKE

Chemistry Hometown: Canton, N.C.

Highlights: Graduating summa cum laude. Hunter was a wide receiver on ETSU's

football team, where he was named the team's Academic MVP three years in a row and named to the Academic All-Southern Conference Team. He was one of only 10 Southern Conference postgraduate scholarship recipients, participated in ETSU and Ballad Health's Medical Horizons program, and interned at the Brovhill Children's Home.

Immediate Plans: Volunteering as a coach for his high school and working with a student organization he started in high school; applying to medical school.



Learn more about the selection process for Roan Scholars on roanscholars.org

RETURNING ROAN SCHOLARS

CLASS OF 2019

Annie Malcolm Morgan Munsey Mandy Nutter Joe Oliver Kate Phillips **Taylor Wilson**

CLASS OF 2020

Logan Carmody Seth Jewett Brianna McCov **Taylor Osborne** Sydney Ross **Braden Trent** Zach Warren

CLASS OF 2021

Katie Barlowe **Tiffany Cook** Larissa Copley Rubi Estrada Cierra Linka Connor McClelland **Austin Ramsey** Adam Rosenbalm

WELCOME TO THE ROAN CLASS OF 2022



CASEY BONNELL

Grainger High School Hometown: Rutledge, Tenn.

What she's done: Casey has invested time and effort in her high school and community as captain of the school's softball team, president of Beta Club, class officer for the last three years, and harvester at a local tomato farm. She

is also a National Merit Commended Scholar, can solve a Rubik's cube, and credits her parents' service in the U.S. Air Force with her values of integrity, dependability, and responsibility.

What do others say about her? She's described as a "constant encourager" and "not afraid of a challenge."



LILY EDWARDS

Daniel Boone High School Hometown: Fall Branch, Tenn.

What she's done: Lily was on the school volleyball team for four years, was president of the Beta Club, and is a committed member of Young Life. She has also received several honorable mentions for her ability to lift twice

her body weight in the weight room.

What do others say about her? "Lily has more grit in her young body than I have seen in countless adults."



ADDIE FAIRCHILD

Ashe County High School Hometown: Deep Gap, N.C.

What she's done: Recognizing a need for students to meet during the day for clubs and other academic activities, Addie helped create SMART Lunch at her high school. Student body president during her senior year, Addie is also

accomplished at rodeo and is a former vice president of the North Carolina High School Rodeo Association.

What do others say about her? "She was instrumental in changing the culture of the school, faculty, and staff."



CAROLINE PARRIS

Pisgah High School Hometown: Canton, N.C.

What she's done: Caroline started a chapter of Interact, a Rotary-affiliated service organization, at her high school, and founded her own organization, Brownies for Boobs, to raise money for breast cancer research. After

wildfires hit Gatlinburg and surrounding areas in 2016, she helped start a supply drive for area firefighters and was invited by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to help raise awareness of natural disasters in the community.

What do others say about her? "Focused on community" and "a servant leader who steps up whenever she sees a need."



SHIVAM PATEL

Morristown-Hamblen High School East Hometown: Morristown, Tenn.

What he's done: A musician, composer, and actor, Shivam cares deeply about music. He also was a leader in Boy Scouts, student body secretary for his high school, and an Upward Bound scholar.

What do others say about him? "Shivam is not a person who is satisfied with the status quo, but is consistently challenging himself and others to keep striving, keep pushing, and always aim higher. I am confident Shivam will positively impact the university he attends and that one day, the world will know his name."



CLARA REYNOLDS

Providence Academy
Hometown: Kingsport, Tenn.

What she's done: When Clara is not singing or practicing Brazilian Jiu Jitsu or tennis, she is a talented illustrator. Using her skills and love for drawing, the National Merit Commended Scholar started the Superkids Project to encourage

pediatric patients with serious medical conditions by drawing them as superheroes. She involved Niswonger Children's Hospital and has dreams of expanding the project.

What do others say about her? "Her enthusiasm is catching" and "not the type of student to give up."



JORDAN TEAGUE

Elizabethton High School Hometown: Elizabethton, Tenn.

What she's done: Jordan is a classical pianist and a tennis player. She graduated near the top of her class and has played the French horn since sixth grade. With future plans in bioengineering, Jordan volunteered with the

Johnson City Environmental Field Office to sample local streams and seeks to maintain a meaningful connection with nature.

What do others say about her? "Jordan's academic aptitude for mathematics and the sciences are only outweighed by her desire to serve other people."



MCKENZIE TEMPLETON

Gate City High School Hometown: Gate City, Va.

What she's done: McKenzie founded Stand Up for Down Syndrome in honor of her younger brother to advocate for and celebrate individuals with Down syndrome and other special needs, and to educate others about

those conditions. She is the youngest-ever ambassador for the Commonwealth of Virginia National Down Syndrome Society, a passionate filmmaker, a published poet, and a recipient of the Tennessee Governor's Volunteer Star Award.

What do others say about her? "She has the character and perseverance of someone who would become a CEO of a company, president of a nonprofit organization, or a legislator."

EMPOWERED BY COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The Roan empowers Scholars thanks to a community of accomplished leaders who support the program in a number of ways - from providing strategic direction and oversight to helping with the selection process and engaging with Scholars and Roan Alumni.

"Without your support... (I) would never have been able to develop the courage I needed to say 'yes' to something as crazy and exciting as (research in) Brazil."

Joe Oliver '19



Reflections from the Steering Committee Chair

The investment of time, talents, and energy by the Roan Steering Committee and Regional Selection Committee are directly related to results shown throughout this Annual Report. By example, committee members show Scholars that leaders - who are guided by character. intellectual curiosity, and a healthy lifestyle - influence positive changes in obvious ways and, equally important, in quiet unseen acts of courage.

Steering Committee Transitions

Summer 2018 brought the departure of one Steering Committee member, as Art Powers rotated off the Committee after several years of dedicated service. We are indebted to Art for all he has done to support the Roan; he will be missed.

We welcomed two new Steering Committee members: Anne Darden, an instructor in English at Northeast State Community College, and Mark Kinser, executive vice president of General Shale. Both Anne and Mark have served on our Regional Selection Committee and bring records of community leadership excellence as well as a passion for the program. We are grateful for the opportunity to work with them in this new capacity. Additionally, Melissa Steagall-Jones assumed the role of committee vice chair in July 2018.

To each of our Steering Committee members—and to all those community leaders who so generously share their time, talents, and resources with the Roan-I offer a heartfelt "Thank You."

Sharon Boles Roan Steering Committee Chair

STEERING COMMITTEE 2017-18

Sharon Boles, Chair Dr. Heather Cook '04 Josh Culbert '10 Betty DeVinney Louie Gump, Founder Alan Levine Dr. Brian Noland **Art Powers** Dr. Joe Sherlin Dr. Paul Stanton Melissa Steagall-Jones John D. "Spike" Tickle, II

REGIONAL SELECTION COMMITTEE 2017-18

P.B. Bachman Dr. Philip Benfield '06 Ben Berry Jim Bolton Tara Burns Claudia Byrd Dr. McKenzie Calhoun **Bob Cantler** Jose Castillo Grace Collins '12 Anne Darden Dr. Susan Epps Dr. Kristin Farr '04 Scott Galpin Heath Guinn Kathy Hall

Leighton Hart **Doris Hensley** Brittany Hollingsworth '05 Dr. Amy Johnson Katie Jones '11 Julie Keeton '04 Rev. Lester Lattany Tammy Latture Laura Levine Allison Lowe '08 **Deborah Lowery** Dr. Henry McCarthy Tina McDaniel

Abraham McIntyre

Matt Overby

Landon Owen

Kevin Peters Jim Pope Kelly Price Dr. Josh Reid Lynn Richardson Scott Robertson Erin Shores '07 Josh Smith Dr. Ralph Van Brocklin Harrison Wexler Aundrea Wilcox Lea Anne Wiles Matt Wilhjelm Jeff Williams Patrick Wilson **Ginny Wright**

EMPOWERED BY YOU

One thing that sets the Roan apart is that Scholars are primarily supported by individual and corporate donors who have chosen to invest in leadership.



85%

of each individual donor dollar in 2017-18 directly supported a Roan Scholar



approximate annual value of one Roan scholarship

2017-18 TOTALS

\$216.3K GIFTS RECEIVED. a 42.6% INCREASE from 2016-17

\$209.4K INTEREST INCOME

from a total endowment value of \$5.4 MILLION (as of June 30, 2018)

"This program has fundamentally changed my life and given me to access to things I never imagined would be possible, and I am sincerely grateful for that every day."

- Connor McClelland '21

increase in total Alumni donations from 2016-17

increase in total



ETSU maximizes the impact of individual donations by supporting Roan administrative costs



Make a gift at roanscholars.org



THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS **SUPPORTERS**

Roan Honor Roll – all time (as of June 30, 2018)

PEAK SOCIETY \$100,000 OR MORE

Anonymous Janet Avers

Sharon and J. Rolland Boles

C. L. Butler - In Memory of Wanda R. Butler Capital Bank

Citizens Bank Tri-Cities

Foundation / Citizens Bank Tri-Cities

Dell Computer Corporation

Richard* and Janey Diehl and Family - In Memory of Mabel Haire Campbell

Dr. Nancy and Harold Dishner Eastman Chemical Company ETSU Alumni Association

Louis H. and Lucy Gump

Estate of Jane Dulaney Hilbert Ted R. Hughes

William L. and Kathrvn M. Jenkins Family

Carl A. and Kathryn P. Jones* John A. Jones

Travis* and Linda Keller

Estate of William J. Kohler Tom and Becky Krieger

- In Memory of Haskell Tate and Ruth Stout Hodges
- In Memory of June B. and Helen F. Shields

The LaPorte Family: Joe and Hope LaPorte **Ouinta and Chris LaPorte** Sam J. and Marlo LaPorte Stephen and Elizabeth LaPorte

The Mooneyhan Family **Foundation**

Terry and Patricia D. Muse Scott M. Niswonger

James and Anne Reel

- In Memory of W. E. Reel

Rab and Nita Summers Ann and John Tickle

Dr. Gwendolyn Wallace - The F. L. Wallace Family Scholarship

Frederick B. Warren

CLOUDLAND SOCIETY \$50,000 - \$99,999

Frederick "Pal" and Sharon Barger

Pauline M. DeFriece

- Belvedere Fund / Pauline M. DeFriece
- Hogoheegee Fund / Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. DeFriece, Jr.*

Bobby and Jean Hurt

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Jim and Sandy Powell Newt and Carmen Raff

James E. Rhein

Bedford and Carol Transou

Estate of Dr. Martha Washington Bradley

RHODODENDRON SOCIETY \$25,000 - \$49,999

James H. Epps, IV Warren M. Gump

Johnson City Kiwanis Club / Col. Lee B. Harr Scholarship Edna S. Lewis

Dennis and Mary Powell

SunTrust Bank

LAUREL SOCIETY \$10,000 - \$24,999

Jeff and Beth Anderson Bristol Tennessee Essential Services - Dr. R. Michael Browder

Dr. Bonnie Burchett

Jeff* and Claudia Byrd Eastman Credit Union

Carol G. Ferguson

First Tennessee Bank

Free Service Tire Company. Inc. - Lewis P. Wexler, Sr. and

Lvnda Wexler Carleton Jones, III

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Jack and Judy Smith Foundation Dr. Paul E. Stanton, Jr. and Nancy

Mr. and Mrs. Roy A. Stone, Jr.*

DOGWOOD SOCIETY \$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous

Charles W. "Bill" and Dot Ballew* Dr. Wilsie and Paul Bishop Dr. R. Michael and Linda Browder Stephen and Sherry Bryant

+ * Dr. Heather Jones Cook '04 Harriet and Dr. William* Cone Elisabeth and Reneau Dubberlev

Robert L. Hendry Patricia G. Holland

Hunter, Smith & Davis, LLP

In memory of George DeVinney Frances Jackson

Chancellor and Mrs. G. Richard Johnson

Dr. Hal and Terri Knight

Dr. William and Kathy Linebarger Dr. Richard and Vicki McGowan **Roy and Ann Nicks**

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WJHL-TV Channel 11

ROAN TRAIL SOCIETY \$1,000 - \$4,999

Anonymous

Aviation Strategies Group - John and Julia Seward

+ + Lt. Cmdr. Allen '05 and Julie **Barnett**

William and Nancy Boyender Bill F. Breeding, Jr.

2017-18 Contributions in bold

- + Roan Alumni and Current Scholars
- Roan Partner
- Deceased

William and Sandy Brown

Dr. Cynthia Burnley and Bob Riser

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Clyce Distributing

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+ Mikki Glover Hale '05

Bill and Ann Hawkins + Brittany S. Hollingsworth '05 and Ryan Hollingsworth

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+ * Caroline '07 and Jason Williams

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Andrews Florist, Inc.

In Memory of Ida Pauline Axsom Heather Bagnell

James B. Baker

Thomas H. Bayless, II

+ • Dr. Philip J. Benfield '06 Jason N. Berry

Blackburn, Childers, and Steagall, **PLC**

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Dr. Ed Brenegar BrightRidge

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Maxton W. Fly

Reid D. Fly

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+ • Erika L. Herrera '14

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Johnson City Press

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+ Dr. Benjamin J. Whitt '07

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+ William A. Wike '16

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+ Alicyn R. York '15 Robin M. York

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LIFELONG IMPACT.

"I have always been struck by the commitment of the program to keep pushing forward. You all make sure I am never complacent or comfortable with where I am, and you hold me accountable to this commitment to constant growth."

Adam Rosenbalm '21
 Letter to the Steering Committee, May 2018





