

2013-2014 Luce Scholars



Benjamin A. Bissell



William F. Broderick



Samantha G. Chadwick



Martin A. Chorzempa



Matthew P. Cortland



Claire Duvallet



Eryn R. Eby



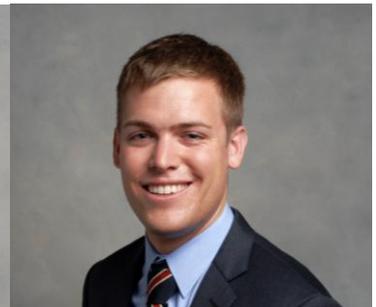
Genevieve E. Gebhart



William D. Leimenstoll



Adam B. Lerner



Gene B. Merewether



Megan Mills-Novoa



Jeremy I. Pivor



Henry L. Ross



Aya Saed



Tamara T. Shogaolu



Nicholas J. Thompson



Tarlise N. Townsend



2013-2014 LUCE SCHOLARS

Name	Nominating Institution	Field of Professional Interest
Benjamin A. Bissell	University of Virginia	Political Demography
William F. Broderick	Oberlin College	Computational Neuroscience
Samantha G. Chadwick	University of Illinois	Railway Engineering
Martin A. Chorzempa	University of Minnesota	Financial Sector Development, Microfinance and SME Finance
Matthew P. Cortland	Rutgers University	Business and Education
Claire Duvallet	Columbia University	Biomedical Engineering
Eryn R. Eby	University of Puget Sound	Global Public Health
Genevieve E. Gebhart	University of Washington	Information Sciences
William D. Leimenstoll	University of North Carolina	Urban Planning
Adam B. Lerner	Cornell University	Literature, Creative Writing, Journalism
Gene B. Merewether	Princeton University	Engineering Solutions to Disaster Response
Megan Mills-Novoa	Lewis & Clark College	Agriculture, Food Security and Environmental Change
Jeremy I. Pivor	Washington University in St. Louis	International Ocean Policy and Conservation
Henry L. Ross	University of North Carolina	Criminal Law
Aya Saed	University of Pennsylvania	Politics and Social Innovation
Tamara T. Shogaolu	University of Southern California	Film, Television and Interactive Media Production
Nicholas J. Thompson	Emory University	Medicine, Public Health
Tarlise N. Townsend	Indiana University	Environmental Health Science

2013-2014 Luce Scholars Placements in Asia

Benjamin (Ben) Bissell

Population Research Institute
East China Normal University
Shanghai, China

William (Billy) Broderick

Department of Psychology
South China Normal University
Guangzhou, China

Samantha (Sam) Chadwick

Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation
Taipei, Taiwan

Martin Chorzempa

China Center for Economic Research
National School of Development
Peking University
Beijing, China

Matthew (Matt) Cortland

ASUS Corporation
Taipei, Taiwan

Claire Duvallet

Engineering World Health Cambodia
Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Eryn Eby

World Education Laos
Vientiane, Lao PDR

Genevieve (Gennie) Gebhart

Chiang Mai University Library
Chiang Mai, Thailand

William (Will) Leimenstoll

Urban Design and Development Center
Bangkok, Thailand

Adam Lerner

The Caravan Magazine
New Delhi, India

Gene Merewether

BioRobotics Laboratory
School of Mechanical and
Aerospace Engineering
Seoul National University
Seoul, Korea

Megan Mills-Novoa

Center for Sustainable Rural Development
Hanoi, Vietnam

Jeremy Pivor

Coral Triangle Center
Sanur, Bali, Indonesia

Henry Ross

Law Reform Commission of Thailand
Bangkok, Thailand

Aya Saed

Asian Women's Leadership University
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Tamara Shogaolu

Salto Films
Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Nicholas (Nick) Thompson

Buddhism for Social Development Action
Kampong Cham, Cambodia

Tarlise (Tarlise) Townsend

National Institute for Science and
Technology Policy and Strategic Studies
Ministry of Science and Technology
Hanoi, Vietnam

2013-2014 LUCE SCHOLARS

Bios

Benjamin A. Bissell (Ben)

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: University of Virginia
Degree: B.A., Politics and Russian Language (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Political Demography

Ben Bissell grew up as one of four in a boisterous Jewish household in the small town of Fairfax Station, Virginia. His close-knit family taught him an important childhood lesson he has never forgotten: every individual is a product of his/her human relationships. With a keen passion for the role of social structures in constructing individual identities, Ben entered the University of Virginia to research political demography, and pursued a double major in Politics Honors and Russian Language. His academic interests are varied, but largely focused on the interaction between demographic events, such as aging or urbanization, and the stability of political regimes. Ben concentrated on the international implications of demography, especially in emerging economies in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. At UVa, he created and taught his own credited undergraduate class, entitled “An Introduction to Political Demography.” He also wrote a thesis on ethnic re-identification and strategic depth in the Former Soviet Union using age cohort regression between the 1989 Soviet Census and later republic censuses. Research for his thesis has led him abroad to Russia, where he translated Soviet Censuses using the Critical Language Scholarship. Proficient in Russian, Arabic, and Hebrew before his Luce year, Ben is an avid language learner, and sought to increase language learning at UVa and abroad. Ben led two international service trips from UVa to Israel and Ukraine. Ben acted as the Teaching Assistant for two ESL classes, one geared towards international graduate students, and one to a visiting delegation of Chinese Ph.D.s. He also travels the country as a Language Ambassador for the State Department to encourage Americans to learn critical languages.

For his Luce year, he was placed at the Population Research Institute at **East China Normal University in Shanghai, China**. His tasks include working with professors to write and edit new reports on topics including the spatial patterns of educational attainment disparities in Shanghai and the housing patterns of the elderly in coastal Chinese metropolises. He has also been giving weekly lectures on basic demography in Mandarin and English to undergraduate students at the university as well as translating academic reports from Mandarin into English. In addition, he has been volunteering at a series of YMCA nursing homes in Shanghai near Wulian Road and has been conducting qualitative interviews with the staff and patients there. His work at the nursing homes has inspired him to pursue a Masters of Public Health in the United States in order to develop his understanding of the epidemiology of aging. In his free time, he loves to read, travel all across Asia, and eat sushi.

William F. Broderick (Billy)

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: Oberlin College
Degree: B.A., Neuroscience and Mathematics (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Computational Neuroscience

Billy Broderick was born in the Philadelphia area, where he grew up and attended local Quaker schools before attending Oberlin College in Ohio, from which he graduated in May 2013 with a B.A. in Mathematics and Neuroscience. He has a lifelong interest in scientific research, working in wet labs in high school and college before deciding to pursue computational research, focusing on mathematical and computational models and simulations. While in college, Billy was also a member of the varsity tennis and club ping pong teams, competing against fellow Oberlin students and those at other schools.

Although math and science are his primary interests, Billy is also passionate about learning languages and experiencing other cultures. He took the opportunity to study abroad in Budapest, Hungary and Beijing, China while in college. While in Budapest on the Budapest Semesters in Mathematics program, his studies concentrated on math (including combinatorics, for which Hungary is renowned), but he also took advantage of the opportunity to learn a small amount of Hungarian and explore Eastern Europe. In Beijing on the Princeton in Beijing summer program, Billy continued his studies of Mandarin Chinese and tasted as many different varieties of food as he could find.

This year as a Luce Scholar, Billy worked in Prof. Suiping Wang's lab at **South China Normal University, Guangzhou, China**. He worked on two separate research projects: one comparing functional magnetic resonance imaging data of the brain during reading of identical Chinese and English texts using graph theory, and the other examining the ability of numerosity, or "number sense," using deep learning in an artificial neural network. Outside the lab, Billy started studying Cantonese and learning Chinese traditional painting, and he broke up this generally academic schedule with a fair amount of dimsum, exploration, tennis, and badminton. This past year has also greatly increased Billy's interest in linguistics, living as he does in the home of Cantonese and across the border from Hong Kong, where Mandarin, Cantonese, and English are constantly interacting and influencing each other. To date, he has studied Cantonese, Mandarin, French, and Hungarian and hopes to continue learning new languages as he continues his studies. After the Luce year, Billy plans to work as a research assistant in Chapel Hill to experience different research environments and topics before pursuing a Ph.D. in applied mathematics or computational neuroscience, with a goal of pursuing research in the intersection of mathematics, neuroscience, and linguistics.

Samantha G. Chadwick (Sam)

Age: 25
Nominating Institution: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Degrees: M.S., Civil Engineering (Railway Engineering) (2012);
B.S., Civil Engineering (Transportation and Structures) (2010)
Field of Professional Interest: Railway Engineering

Samantha Chadwick completed her M.S. in Transportation Engineering with the Rail Transportation and Engineering Center at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). Her research focused on improving safety at highway-rail grade crossings by minimizing the risk of train derailments. She earned her B.S. in Civil Engineering from UIUC in 2010, concentrating in transportation and structures. As a recipient of an International Engineering Fellowship, Sam spent a year at L'Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Géologie in Nancy, France where she studied geotechnical engineering and completed a minor in French. The freedom of visiting dozens of French cities without once setting foot in a car fueled Sam's love of passenger rail travel, and prompted her to pursue a career in passenger rail in the U.S. She worked as an engineering intern for HNTB Corporation in Chelmsford, MA during the summer of 2010, designing light rail, commuter rail and high-speed rail systems for implementation throughout North America. Sam also served as President of the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA) Student Chapter at UIUC in 2011, sharing her knowledge and passion for rail with other students and the Illinois community. She believes that addressing the growing need for transportation capacity with rail rather than roads can make cities around the world cleaner, safer and more sustainable, ultimately improving quality of life for everyone.

Sam's Luce placement is with **Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation (THSRC)** headquartered in Taipei. A principal provider of passenger transportation services in Taiwan, THSRC currently operates eight stations along a high speed rail line that runs approximately 354 km along the west coast of Taiwan, from the national capital Taipei to the southern city of Kaohsiung, with a top speed of 300 kph. This placement has provided new insight into the challenges of implementing profitable high-speed rail systems. In her free time, Sam's primary occupation is studying Chinese, though she also enjoys a variety of activities including hiking and cooking. She is a lifelong musician, with more than ten years of training as a flautist, soprano vocalist and handbell ringer.

Martin A. Chorzempa

Age: 25
Nominating Institution: University of Minnesota
Degree: B.S.B. in Business (2011)
Field of Professional Interest: Financial Sector Development, Microfinance & SME Finance

Martin Chorzempa, from Bloomington, Minnesota, graduated summa cum laude in finance and international business from the Carlson School of Management at the University of Minnesota in 2011. As an undergraduate, he took on leadership roles in community organizations, student government, and as the head of the fraternity system. He also gained work experience in the private sector, interning as a financial consultant to evaluate the effects of financial regulation on banks and value subprime mortgage securities.

He spent the spring of 2010 doing masters coursework in business and international affairs at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales in Paris, France, where he wrote his thesis on

a 14th-century financial crisis in Florence. After graduation, Chorzempa went to Germany on a Fulbright Scholarship to study the role of public banks in the financial crisis. He then worked for Association of German Banks in Berlin, where he focused on European banking regulation and small business finance. Martin currently works in Beijing in a dual role as a visiting scholar at the [Peking University China Center for Economic Research](#) and a visiting research fellow at the [China Finance 40 Forum](#), a leading non-governmental think tank with a focus on China's financial policy. He leads a team to translate books and articles on shadow banking and internet finance from Chinese into English, has written on the role of the market in Beijing's urban organization, and is currently co-authoring a book on fiscal federalism in China. Long-term, he hopes to work in financial sector development, helping developing countries formulate policy to better govern their rapidly expanding banking sectors.

Matthew P. Cortland (Matt)

Age: 25
Nominating Institution: Rutgers University
Degrees: M.Ed., *Education and Social Change* (2013),
University of Miami;
B.A., *Art History* (2011), Rutgers University
Field of Professional Interest: Business and Education

Matthew Cortland is an educator who is passionate about using emerging technology to develop solutions and products for an interconnected, changing, and humane world. He applies design thinking to social innovation and uses entrepreneurship to explore his interests in technology, service, and culture. Matt is currently a Luce Scholar in [Taipei, Taiwan](#) where he is placed at [ASUSTeK Computer Inc.](#) Matt is a Teach for America alumnus (Miami-Dade '11) and a Professionally Certified Secondary English teacher in the state of Florida where he worked with struggling readers to understand the foundations of literacy. Matt also served as a Governor Appointee on the New Jersey Governor's Council for the Medical Research and Treatment of Autism. He has co-founded the BrosUnited mentorship program for teenage boys with autism, Autism Speaks' national student club program, and Teach for America's national SAFE Classroom initiative for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender students and teachers.

Matthew graduated with a MSc in Education and Social Change from the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. He completed a BA from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ, graduating summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and with honors while studying Interdisciplinary Studies, Art History, Italian Studies, and Cultural Heritage Preservation. Next year Matthew will be pursuing a MSc in Creative Digital Media at the Dublin Institute of Technology as a George J. Mitchell Scholar.

Claire Duvallet

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: Columbia University
Degree: B.S., Biomedical Engineering (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Biomedical Engineering

Claire Duvallet is currently spending her year as a Luce Scholar in **Phnom Penh, Cambodia** working for **Engineering World Health** (EWH). EWH is setting up Cambodia's first university degree program for biomedical equipment technicians (BMETs), the hospital technicians who manage, maintain, and repair hospital equipment. Most of Claire's time at EWH is spent teaching—and in spite of the challenges that come with teaching a roomful of Cambodian middle-aged male technicians, she finds sharing the small moments of clarity, genius, and fun with her students ultimately quite rewarding.

Claire graduated in May 2013 with a B.S. in biomedical engineering from Columbia University. While at Columbia, she joined Dr. Samuel Sia's Molecular and Microscale Bioengineering Lab and worked on a project to develop a microfluidic device capable of diagnosing tuberculosis in resource-limited settings. When finished, the robust and low-maintenance chip will quickly process a raw sample into a simple diagnosis without requiring extensively trained personnel. Her work on this project sparked her interest in the challenge of addressing complex health problems with unique solutions appropriate for the specific constraints posed by remote settings, and has inspired her goal to pursue a career at the intersection of global health and bioengineering.

Next year, Claire is headed to Boston to pursue her Ph.D. in biological engineering at MIT. She hopes to be involved with developing and implementing novel technologies addressing critical global health problems, possibly in the fields of point-of-care diagnostics or imaging. Her experience in Cambodia has complicated what used to be a clear, albeit naïve, goal of creating technologies to improve health in developing countries, but she still maintains her motivation to ensure that her future work can have applications in resource-limited settings. Claire has found the Phnom Penh ultimate Frisbee community to be one of the highlights of her year—she has been thrilled to participate in various tournaments as a player and in clinics for Phnom Penh and Kampong Cham youth as a volunteer. As a French-American who moved to the U.S. at the age of 6 and who identifies strongly with both her French roots and her Texan childhood, Claire has always been interested in learning about and meshing together new and different cultures. She hopes to continue international exchanges throughout her Ph.D. and beyond, always on the lookout for new excuses to travel and see more of the world, one small piece at a time.

Eryn R. Eby

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: University of Puget Sound
Degree: B.A., Politics and Government (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Global Public Health

Eryn Eby grew up in Anchorage, Alaska and the surrounding mountains. She graduated from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington in May 2013, with a degree and departmental honors in Politics and Government/International Relations and an interdisciplinary emphasis in Global Development Studies. This year as a Luce Scholar she is working with **World Education** in **Vientiane, Laos**. She is helping organize the National First Aid Working Group to create a standardized curriculum to train village health volunteers and is involved in establishing an innovative case management and psychosocial support team and systems for providing relevant care for survivors of UXO (unexploded ordnance) accidents. Eryn has also been involved in World Education's sanitation project in Laos and worked briefly with the World Education team in Myanmar.

In summer 2012 Eryn founded and ran the annual Camp ARCTIC (Arthritis Can't Tame my Independence and Courage), the first summer camp and community for children with arthritis in her home state of Alaska. She worked with physicians and nurses at the Alaska Native Medical Center to find facilities and staff, secure grant funding from prestigious sources, and manage volunteers to create the best possible experience for the children and families that came from remote and urban communities around the state. During college, Eryn interned with the Refugee Assistance and Immigration Services program in Alaska where she negotiated differences in beliefs about gender roles, viable work opportunities, and financial assistance in order to devise culturally acceptable and financially feasible solutions to help refugees adapt to their new lives. Eryn also worked with Etta Projects, a small non-profit that does development work in Bolivia and prioritizes partnership with local community members, and taught first and second grade in a small community in Ecuador. Eryn has conducted research on iritis associated with juvenile rheumatoid arthritis which was published in the Binocular Vision and Strabology Quarterly in fall 2012 and presented as a poster at the 2010 American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus National Annual meeting.

All these experiences have taught her the importance of sustainability in organizations and community-led solutions. They have inspired her to work on the development, education, and implementation side of public health projects in her future career. Whenever possible Eryn loves to be in the outdoors backpacking, kayaking, and skiing. She balanced her academic college experience with involvement in the outdoor program at her school and her role as an orientation leader for incoming new students.

Genevieve E. Gebhart (Gennie)

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: University of Washington
Degree: B.A., International Studies & Economics (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Information Sciences

Gennie Gebhart, a Sacramento native and later a proud Seattleite, grew up exploring libraries. Gennie graduated from the University of Washington in June 2013 with a degree in International Studies and Economics. While her academic studies at the UW focused on

environmental economics and international affairs, she aims to extend these fields of study into a career in information justice and international librarianship. She is especially interested in the economics of common shared resources, and the theoretical connections between the natural biological resources and digital information resources.

As a 2013-2014 Luce Scholar, Gennie has spent her year in **Vientiane, Laos** and **Chiang Mai, Thailand**. In Laos, she conducted months of on-the-ground research on Internet accessibility in Vientiane. Her study attempted to compare Internet accessibility at cybercafes and public libraries. In Thailand, Gennie has worked on Open Access initiatives and education at the **Chiang Mai University Library**, acted as research assistant for Thai professors of Library and Information Sciences, and worked with Burmese refugee NGOs on grant writing and research. She has also fumbled her way through two tonal languages, gotten caught in more than a few monsoons, and been the recipient of disproportionate amounts of compassion and patience.

After her Luce year, Gennie plans to stay in Chiang Mai to continue her engagement with Chiang Mai University and local NGOs. At the same time, she will begin remote study for a Masters in Library and Information Sciences with the University of Washington Information School. Her Luce Scholarship year has provided the inspiration and set the tone for her graduate research, which will focus on information literacy initiatives and education in Southeast Asia.

William D. Leimenstoll (Will)

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill
Degree: B.A., Environmental Studies (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Urban Planning

Will Leimenstoll grew up in the heart of Greensboro, North Carolina as the son of historic preservation architects. His unique childhood in a downtown, storefront building helped him discover a passion for city planning at a young age. Beginning in middle school, he served on a community advisory team charged with redeveloping a brownfield adjacent to his childhood home. As downtown Greensboro revitalized, he was the sole voice for the under-thirty age group at countless vision meetings. Will graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2013 with a major in Environmental Studies and minor in Urban Studies & Planning. Through his academic pursuits at UNC-CH, he has conducted original research on recycling rates and taken graduate-level city planning courses. In the fall of 2011, Will participated in an Honors semester in Cape Town, South Africa where he interned with the city's Social Development Office and conducted research on informal recycling practices. While at UNC he also served as Student Body President, a role in which he worked with the university and town administrations and served as a member of UNC-CH's Board of Trustees. In this role, he successfully advocated to sustain robust financial aid policies, reduce tuition increases on out-of-state students, and legalize gender non-specific housing on campus. Will is currently completing his Luce year at the **Urban Design and Development**

Center in Bangkok, Thailand. While there he has helped research informal transportation and helped develop a walkability index and map of Bangkok to be used to make the city more pedestrian friendly. He hopes to eventually get a Masters in City Planning with a concentration in Urban Design. In his free time, Will enjoys running, swimming, hiking, road trips, and relaxing with family and friends.

Adam B. Lerner

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: Cornell University
Degree: B.A., English (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Literature, Creative Writing & Journalism

Adam Lerner grew up in suburban Washington, DC before spending his senior year of high school studying at a Spanish-language school in Zaragoza, Spain. He then attended Cornell University, where he graduated in May of 2013, Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, with a BA in English and a minor in International Relations. His honors thesis focused on the paradoxes inherent in the process of traumatic memory for Vietnam War memoirists.

Adam wrote for The Cornell Daily Sun throughout his time at Cornell and was awarded an honorary position on the Editorial Writing Board his senior year. He went on Taglit Birthright that spring and spent two weeks that summer volunteering with the Jewish community in Eastern Ukraine, helping to refurbish a community center with a group of Cornell students. As a junior, he refounded The Cornell Book Review after a yearlong hiatus, recruiting an entirely new staff of writers, editors, and illustrators, and he has served as its Editor-in-Chief ever since. He also began working as a Teaching Assistant for the Knight Institute at Cornell University's course "Writing and Research in the Disciplines." During the spring of 2012 he spent a semester studying in Paris, France where he interned at the Columbus Association, a non-profit at UNESCO that facilitates cooperation between universities in Europe and Latin America.

For three summers he worked for the Columbia University Summer Program for High School Students as a teaching assistant for courses in philosophy, international relations, and English and as a resident advisor in the dorms. Because of his role in founding the program's blog, he was promoted this past summer to Senior Media Coordinator, a member of the twelve person Senior Staff that oversees the entire 2,000-student program. In 2013, he served as a contributor to USA Today College. He has been performing stand-up comedy for the past two years. While in India he was featured on Indian television station NDTV Prime's program "Rising Stars of Comedy" and had his own hour-long special at The Piano Man. As a Luce Scholar in **New Delhi**, working for **The Caravan**, India's only narrative journalism magazine, he authored numerous pieces for the magazine and additionally wrote freelance articles for multiple publications.

Gene B. Merewether

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: Princeton University
Degree: A.B., Chemistry (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Engineering Solutions to Disaster Response

Gene Merewether grew up in La Jolla, California, racing sailboats, hiking and camping, and building robots with his dad. His experiences on the water and in the mountains sparked a love of fast-paced, stressful situations. Coming from a family of scientists and engineers, he planned to study science and engineering from an early age. At Princeton University, he majored in chemistry and minored in computer science.

He spent the summer before his junior year at EaStCHEM, an interdisciplinary chemistry institute at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. While there, he expanded the usable range of a tool for measuring chemical potential in living cells, which will provide insights into cancer regulation and programmed cell death processes. During his undergraduate research in the inorganic chemistry lab of Professor Jeffrey Schwartz, he developed high-strength, rapid-prototyped polymer implants, the applications of which include spinal fusions and prosthetic hips. The surface treatment he applied to the devices is intended to increase the lifetime of the devices in the body. During college, Gene volunteered with Princeton First Aid & Rescue Squad as an EMT and rescue technician, following his passion for helping people in vulnerable situations. He plans to find humanitarian uses for drone technology by building autonomous vehicles for search and rescue. Throughout his graduate work and career, he hopes to maintain his links to the fields of emergency medicine and urban technical rescue, helping him to design products to improve the safety and efficiency of disaster relief.

During his Luce Scholar year at [Seoul National University's Biorobotics Laboratory](#), he has worked to build robots that adapt to their environment using flexible, compliant materials. In the fall, he had the privilege of working with a team to design a rehabilitation device for a professional Korean singer. This device functions via a motor-driven belt that provides the force once provided by the patient's abdominal muscles, which he can no longer control due to an injury. The end of the year finds Gene working on a simulated human abdomen that will aid further development of the respiratory rehabilitation device. After the conclusion of the Luce Scholar program in July, he will begin a Masters course in robotics and business practices at Carnegie Mellon University.

Megan Mills-Novoa

Age: 27
Nominating Institution: Lewis & Clark College
Degree: B.A., Environmental Studies (2009)
Field of Professional Interest: Agriculture, Food Security & Environmental Change

A native Minnesotan, Megan graduated with honors and Phi Beta Kappa from Lewis & Clark College in 2009 with a degree in environmental studies and conservation biology. During

college Megan created a youth garden education program at a public housing development, worked as a Global Engagement Coordinator, and co-lead new student trips focused on sustainable food systems. She also conducted research in Cuba, Turkey, Greece, and New Zealand, and completed an honors thesis on the role of dams in agricultural adaptation to climate change. Following graduation, Megan was an Emerson National Hunger Fellow working within Albuquerque middle schools as a youth organizer and with the National Family Farm Coalition (NFFC) in Washington, D.C. conducting research regarding the role of policy in supporting beginning farmers as well as farm credit programs. In 2011 Megan left Washington, D.C. and travelled to Santiago, Chile where she worked as a Fulbright research fellow at the Centro de Cambio Global researching the impact of climate change on vineyards in Central Chile. Upon returning to the U.S., Megan became the Hunger Education Coordinator at the Food Bank of the Southern Tier in upstate New York. In this role Megan was responsible for directing an educational program that raised awareness around food insecurity, offered leadership development opportunities for low-income youth and supported student activism. During Megan's time as a Luce Scholar, she worked as part of the sustainable agriculture team at the Center of Sustainable Rural Development in Hanoi, Vietnam. In this role, Megan provided support for SRD projects relating to medicinal plant cultivation, participatory plant breeding, pesticide use reduction, and livelihood group formation through baseline research and documentation of best practices.

The **Center for Sustainable Rural Development (SRD)** in **Hanoi** is a leading Vietnamese non-governmental organization that supports poor rural communities in adapting to the changing environment and in sustainably managing their own livelihoods. Their success is underpinned by a holistic approach to development, spanning from grass-roots capacity building to international advocacy.

Jeremy I. Pivor

Age:	23
Nominating Institution:	Washington University in St. Louis
Degree:	B.A., Environmental Biology (2013)
Field of Professional Interest:	International Ocean Policy and Conservation

Jeremy Pivor is a Luce Scholar living in Indonesia, passionate about understanding how the international community can address global environmental change issues, particularly those impacting the ocean. A graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, Jeremy is interested in the interconnection between science and policy, having conducted research ranging from disease ecology near Missouri caves, oyster reefs in North Carolina, coral reefs in Madagascar, and lobster diversity in the Sargasso Sea.

As a Luce Scholar, Jeremy works with the **Coral Triangle Center (CTC)** in **Bali, Indonesia**, an NGO working to build capacity for marine conservation throughout the Coral Triangle, the world's most diverse and economically important marine system. With CTC, Jeremy focuses on understanding conservation challenges in the Coral Triangle and strategies to address these issues through trainings, on-the-ground management, and building partnerships

amongst various stakeholder groups. He supports CTC's communications and outreach as well as conservation policy development.

His interest in international environmental policy has been developing ever since he co-founded Washington University Students for International Collaboration on the Environment (WUSICE). With WUSICE he organized a climate change conference between American and Chinese students. A memorandum featuring joint solutions to climate policy issues was presented to the lead U.S. and Chinese negotiators at the 2010 climate change negotiations in Cancun, Mexico. The following year he organized the first Washington University delegation to the climate change negotiations in Durban, South Africa. Concurrently, he was selected to be an international youth delegate for the Sierra Student Coalition (SSC) where he focused on building U.S.-China relations and co-initiated the first youth water policy working group.

Sailing with his grandparents every summer, Pivor fell in love with the sea at an early age. Studying abroad affirmed his passion for the ocean. For three months he lived with the Vezo in a remote coastal fishing community in Madagascar working on marine conservation. He assisted biodiversity research of the coral reefs and in education initiatives for local youth in the community. He left Madagascar with a sense of responsibility to dedicate his life towards solving ocean issues to support communities, like the Vezo, who depend on the ocean for their survival.

Following his experience in Madagascar, Pivor studied marine biodiversity and conservation of the Sargasso Sea. Aboard a brigantine tall ship, he sailed from St. Croix to Massachusetts via Bermuda. En route, he trained in sailing the ship and conducted both ocean science and policy research. In order to better inform management strategies he continued his research for a thesis project, investigating the genetic diversity of Caribbean Spiny Lobster larval cohorts in the Central Atlantic, resulting in Summa Cum Laude honors upon graduation.

Jeremy is also an EMT, having served as president of his university's emergency medical service, plays saxophone, and is an avid scuba diver. His goal is to represent the United States government at the international level to lead the way in shaping innovative foreign policy and building partnerships to address global environmental change issues impacting the ocean.

Henry L. Ross

<i>Age:</i>	23
<i>Nominating Institution:</i>	University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
<i>Degree:</i>	B.A., Classics (2013)
<i>Field of Professional Interest:</i>	Criminal Law

Henry Ross is a 2013-2014 Luce Scholar placed at the [Law Reform Commission of Thailand](#) (LRCT). Hailing from an old dairy farm in New Hartford, Connecticut, he graduated Phi Beta

Kappa from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2013 with Highest Honors in Classics. Henry's international, academic, and extracurricular background has fueled his commitment to the improvement of criminal justice systems through comparative legal theory.

Raised in Italy and Switzerland, Henry has taught third grade in rural Zimbabwe, conducted legal research as a summer analyst for an international investment firm, and traveled to Cape Town on a research grant to study South African criminal procedure under the apartheid regime. Across continents and countries, he has witnessed directly both the tyranny of the law—to impoverish, enrich, and immure—and the opportunity for great leaders to direct it toward justice. As a Morehead-Cain Scholar at Carolina, Henry pursued independent and graduate-level studies in ancient Greek and Latin beginning his sophomore year, culminating in his receipt of the department's top undergraduate award for Greek studies and an Honors Thesis on narrative perspective in Vergil's *Georgics*. He supplemented Classics with significant work in constitutional law, criminal law, chemistry, and biology. While at Carolina, Henry was active in UNC's student-run honor system, handling some of the University's most serious sexual assault cases as a counsel and leading a wide range of system reforms as the deputy student attorney general. In 2012, he worked as an investigator for the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia gathering oral and written evidence for indigent defendants accused of Felony 1 crimes.

While at the LRCT, Henry has performed research and field work related to criminal justice reform, ranging from presentations on juvenile and narcotics laws to preparations for a legal aid pilot project in a remote province. In the August, Henry will continue to pursue his interest in criminal law as a J.D. candidate at Columbia Law School. He relies on music, friends, and family for guidance and inspiration.

Aya Saed

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: University of Pennsylvania
Degree: B.A., International Relations (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Politics and Social Innovation

Born in Saudi Arabia, Aya Saed is a Sudanese-American activist and aspiring social entrepreneur. She graduated from the University of Pennsylvania summa cum laude with a B.A. in International Relations. At Penn, Aya travelled to Israel/Palestine for a leadership exchange fellowship, partook in the international institute of development in Ghana, conducted research on Islamic finance in Spain and the relationship between Islam and Socialism in Sudan.

Understanding that access to education and technology were critical in furthering her professional and intellectual aspirations, Aya spent two summers curating technologies for activists during the Arab-Spring protests as a Google intern. She is currently completing her Luce year at the **Asian Women's Leadership University (AWLU) Project in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**, working to establish a top-level liberal arts women's university for promising

women in Asia. As a member of the AWLU team, Aya drafted and presented fundraising proposals to major Malaysian corporations and organizations.

After the Luce, Aya will pursue a joint JD at Harvard Law School and Masters in Public Affairs at Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School. She hopes to become an effective voice for marginalized communities of color through education reform and access to online content.

Tamara T. Shogaolu

Age: 28
Nominating Institution: University of Southern California
Degrees: M.F.A., Film and Television Production (2013),
University of Southern California;
B.A., Economics (2008), Occidental College
Field of Professional Interest: Film, Television & Interactive Media Production

Tamara Shogaolu is driven by her goal to tell stories that need to be told and to make films and multi-media projects that inspire cross-cultural dialogue and understanding. She has worked in film, research and media in the Middle East, United States, Asia, Africa and Latin America on both narrative and documentary projects. Most recently she worked on the biopic film CHAVEZ directed by Diego Luna about the life of civil rights activist Cesar Chavez. Her research has ranged from tracking economic trends, interviewing migrant workers in the Middle East, to exploring the Afro-Ecuadorian Civil Rights Movement. In addition to doing research as a Fulbright Scholar in Egypt, she worked with project ObjecDEFY, whose mission is to encourage people to defy the sexual harassment of women in order to effect societal and legal reform in the Middle East.

In addition to producing and directing various projects, she has worked as a Film and Media for Social Change consultant for various nonprofit organizations, a development intern with Participant Media, Canana and Warner Brothers Films, and as a production assistant for WE TV. She also co-organized the first annual Cairo Refugee Film Festival, where she designed and organized workshops that built community between refugee and Egyptian youth through the art of storytelling. Tamara's work has played at festivals such as SXSW, The American Documentary Film Festival in Palm Springs, The Don Thompson LGBT Film Festival, and on My Damn Channel.

Tamara holds an MFA from the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts where she was Burton Lewis Endowed Scholar for Directing. She is currently a Luce Scholar based in **Yogyakarta, Indonesia** where she works as a Development Executive for **Salto Films**, where she has been responsible for developing various feature film and TV projects, taught film to local high school students in the eastern island of Flores as part of the INEFEST (International Environmental Film Festival), and traveled to and represented Indonesian films at the Asian TV forum and market in Singapore, in addition to writing, directing and producing her own content.

Nicholas Thompson (Nick)

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: Emory University
Degree: B.S., Biology and Music (2013)
Field of Professional Interest: Medicine & Public Health

Nick Thompson is a recent graduate from Emory University, receiving his Bachelor of Science in Biology with a double major in Music in May 2013. Nick pursued his professional interests, medicine and science, for much of his time in college. He was a clinical research volunteer in the Neurology Department at the University of Chicago, where he facilitated a drug trial with Multiple Sclerosis patients and helped standardize a new imaging technique, Optical Coherence Tomography, as a method of marking the progress of the disease. At Emory, Nick investigated the mechanisms of exercise and electrical stimulation to enhance axon regeneration after peripheral nerve injury for an independent research project, which he continued through his senior year, resulting in a thesis in biology for which he received highest honors.

Nick is also deeply interested in the overlap between culture, religion, and medicine/science. During the summer of 2012, he participated in Emory's Tibetan Mind/Body Sciences program, a 5-week program in Dharamsala, India. The program largely explored the role that religion and culture play in influencing healing practices in Tibetan populations, as well as the convergence of those subjects with Western neuroscience. An accomplished cellist, he was principal of the cello section in the Emory University Symphony Orchestra, played in several musical ensembles, and engaged in intensive solo performance. Nick also has a passion for the game of chess, which led him to become a chess instructor at local Atlanta elementary schools and president of the Emory Chess Club. As president, he led efforts to partner with the Georgia Chess Association to create intercollegiate collegiate tournaments for students in Georgia. Nick places a high value on community service and Jewish culture, both of which he pursued with Challah for Hunger, a group that, nationally, has raised more than \$750,000 for social justice causes. President of the Emory chapter of Challah for Hunger, Nick directed and organized fundraising and advocacy for the American Jewish World Service in Sudan and the Refugee Resettlement and Immigration Services of Atlanta via the weekly baking and sale of challah bread. He continues to work with Challah for Hunger as a mentor and advisor to local chapters around the United States.

As a 2013-2014 Luce Scholar, Nick further pursued his interests in health, religion and public service by working in the public health sector with the local NGO **Buddhism for Social Development Action (BSDA) in Kampong Cham, Cambodia**. There, he helped administer programs serving people living with HIV (PLHIV). In particular, he provided loans and training to PLHIV as part of a livelihood promotion program, which assists PLHIV in creating small chicken-raising businesses. In addition, Nick completed a community needs assessment for PLHIV in Oureang Ov District of Tbong Khmum Province, to clearly identify the issues that PLHIV in that area face on a daily basis and to develop strategies for BSDA's programs to better meet those needs. This July, Nick will return to Atlanta to pursue clinical research and hopes to matriculate medical school in the fall of 2015.

Tarlise Townsend (Tarlise)

Age: 23
Nominating Institution: Indiana University
Degree: B.S., Neuroscience; B.A., Germanic Studies (2012)
Field of Professional Interest: Environmental Health Science

Tarlise Townsend is interested in decision-making under uncertainty in the context of global change. During her Luce year, she worked with the National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategy Studies (NISTPASS) at **Vietnam's Ministry of Science and Technology**. There, Tarlise co-designed and co-implemented studies of how Vietnamese farmers perceive and use climate uncertainty information. This field research was informed by her prior year as a DAAD Graduate Study Scholar at Berlin's Max Planck Institute for Human Development. In Berlin, Tarlise collaborated on investigations of health and climate statistics communication and of the use of heuristics in complex and uncertain decision environments. She and colleague Astrid Kause developed a serious game teaching climate mitigation strategies, which has been used at events in Berlin and, in collaboration with NOAA, in Vietnam.

In 2012, Tarlise graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Indiana University (B.S. neuroscience, B.A. Germanic Studies). Her first insight into science communication was as an undergraduate intern with the U.S. EPA, developing communications for the Agency's hydraulic fracturing study. While on the IU campus, she served on a research and advisory committee that worked closely with the University President, co-designed and co-taught an undergraduate course on models of empathy, and completed an honors thesis on educational disparities that was awarded the University's Provost's Award for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity.

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