



FELLOWS NEWS

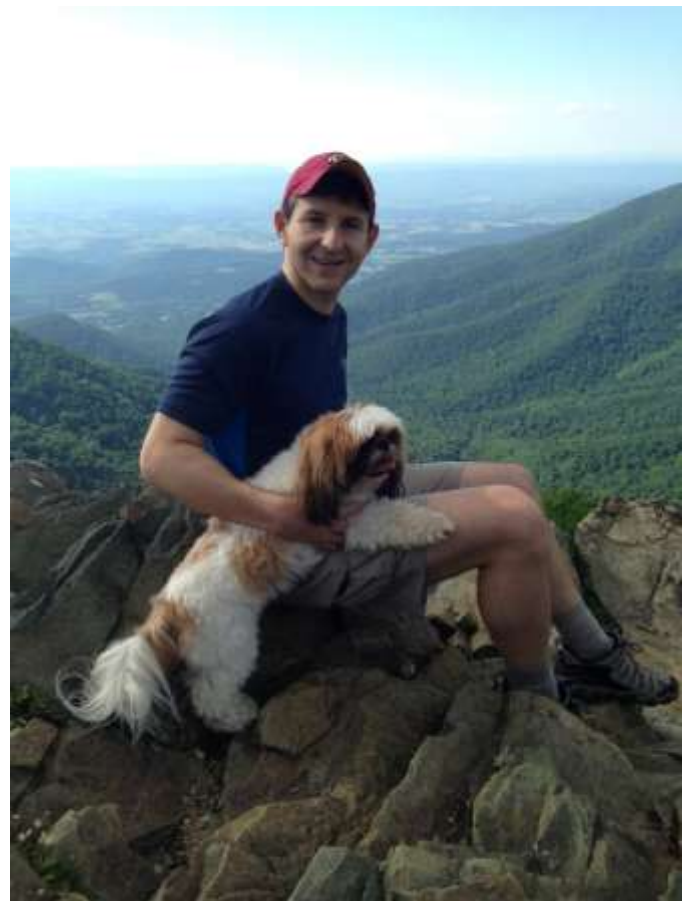
August 2014

New and Noteworthy

Planning for the 2014 McGowan Symposium in Business Leadership and Ethics is moving into the final stages. The Symposium takes place at the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business and will focus on opportunities arising out of global inequality. Bill Conway of the Carlyle Group will serve as the keynote speaker and two breakout sessions will center on gender inequality and behavioral economics. The intrepid **Frank Sasso** ('11) will be our master of ceremonies.

We are very excited to be adding two new components this year. For our opening Thursday evening event, we will partner with the Chicago Council on Global Affairs on a program comprising a speaker and private dinner. We hope to replicate this – collaborating with a local organization – in future symposia. Another new initiative will be alumni-specific programming on Saturday, running concurrently with the new Fellows project planning. Rebecca Darr and Nancy McGaw of the Aspen Institute will facilitate morning and afternoon sessions on personal development and its impact on leadership. Rebecca and Nancy lead the Institute's First Movers initiative which is similar to the Fellows program, but for slightly older professionals. These will be thought-provoking sessions, taking a holistic view of leadership through the lens of life goals and belief systems.

This year we will be staying at the Palmer House in downtown Chicago. **If you would like to book your room at the Symposium preferred rate, you must contact us no later than October 4.** See you in November!



Dave Adelman ('11) and friend on inaugural alumni retreat.

Kyle Estep ('12) reports a great time was had by all at the inaugural McGowan Alumni Retreat this past June. "We had just a blast during the visit to a beautiful stretch of the Appalachian mountains. In three days we packed in hiking, golfing, water sliding, wine-tasting, cooking, and having an all-around great time relaxing and enjoying each other's company."

“Going forward, we hope to see this alumni organized and funded retreat grow and become an annual event. It’s a great opportunity for Fellows and their families make new connections and strengthen relationships both within and across alumni classes.”

Tentative locations for next year are now being discussed by the Alumni Committee, comprising **Liana Humphrey** ('11), **Kaitlyn Caughlin** ('12), **Brendan Hickey** ('12), **Eva Liu** ('13), **Molly White** ('13), and **Tori Lord** ('14). Please reach out to a Committee member or **David Adelman** ('11) if you'd like to be part of the planning process this event.

Our alumni dinners this year enjoyed terrific attendance. They will continue this year plus we will add a fall happy hour where alums may meet new Fellows prior to the Symposium. Info to come!



Minnesotans!



New York, New York!



Pittsburghites!



Chi-town!



Pittsburgh, Round Two!

The Fund is instituting a new service award “Above and Beyond” for Fellows and alumni who have offered extraordinary service to their class or the program in a particular year. This will not be an annual award, but rather one that will be granted as deemed needed. Awards will be presented as part of the Symposium weekend festivities.

The alumni page of the McGowan Fund web site is now live. If you have not submitted your current bio there is still time to do so. The next set of changes will be made at the end of September.

Transitions

Best wishes to members of the Class of 2014 who now can be found in locales from New York to Germany, pursuing new jobs and other undertakings:

Kartik Bandhuvula, SuccessFactors, San Francisco; **Tyler Barrack**, Boston Consulting Group, Chicago; **Jackson Dunlap**, McKinsey and Co., Philadelphia; **Brigid Johnson**, Amazon, Seattle; **Victoria Lord**, McKinsey and Company, Miami; **Brian McKenzie**, Brookfield Renewal Energy Partners, Toronto; **Michael Pavey** will move to Germany where his wife has a Fellowship; **Tiana Veldwisch**, Daktari Diagnostics, Boston; **Adam Wenneker**, Booz and Company, NYC.

Congratulations to **Molly White** (‘13) and her husband Kevin on the birth of their new daughter, Vivian. Baby McGowans will also soon be joining **Rob Spies** (‘12) and his wife Cassandra, and **Mukund Kulashekaran** (‘12) and his wife Sheeba. The Kulashekarans moved back to India this past July to be nearer to family.

Dan Kruse (‘11) will be rolling off the Alumni Committee in November with our thanks for his three years of service.



From the Desk of the Executive Director



I was delighted to welcome **Tom Arnett** (‘13) to our recent board meeting to share his knowledge on blended learning in K-12 education. Tom is an education research fellow for the Clayton Christensen Institute for Disruptive Innovation, a non-partisan think tank founded by Harvard professor Clayton Christensen. The Institute strives to improve industries and society through disruptive innovation and specializes in the education and healthcare sectors.

Blended learning has achieved the status of a buzz word in philanthropy and is something with which funders must now be fluent. Tom’s presentation “Disrupting Class: How Disruptive Innovations will Change the Way the World Learns” was designed to help the Board better understand what blended learning is and what it is not.

Tom showed how disruption – changing the traditional models of education delivery – improves teacher effectiveness, enables personalized and self-guided learning, and addresses the continual budget cuts in education. Blended learning, or the integrated approach of online learning and brick and mortar locations away from the home, shows promise. It has improved outcomes for students, be they inner-city, rural, drop-outs, incarcerated youth, or any number of other constituents, and we are eager to dip our toe in,

learn, and then evaluate the viability of further support toward these efforts.

Following Tom's presentation, the board approved its first innovation grant to LEAP Innovations, joining other funders such as the Broad, Dell, and Gates Foundations in an effort to advance disruptive innovations in education. LEAP connects education technology (edtech) companies with schools, pilots their programs, evaluates and will then work toward scaling the ecosystem of blended learning.

The Fund has always supported non-profits working to improve high school graduation rates, college readiness and completion. In today's philanthropic climate, however, grants are viewed as investments, with an expected return on investment. We will continue to support charter, faith-based, and private schools, out-of-school programs, and wrap around services, most with demonstrated and sustainable results for participants. We have high hopes that blended learning will improve outcomes for all.

I encourage you to learn more about the Clayton Christensen Institute and watch the rapid development of emerging companies in the education technology sector.

We were also very pleased to have **Michael Pavey** ('14) join us at the board meeting. He gave a polished overview of the work completed by the Class of 2014 on the American Heart Association project, skillfully distilling down a complex and voluminous set of data. The Board was literally astounded at both the quality and volume of work that was accomplished. My sincere thanks to every member of the 2014 class for investing the time and effort which made this project such a success and one that will, ultimately, save lives.

My very best wishes for a wonderful fall season and I look forward to seeing you at the Symposium!

-- Diana

Out and About

2014

Tyler Barrack

I'm staying in Chicago where I'll be working with the Boston Consulting Group, beginning September 10. Can't wait to be downtown! Last March I climbed the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu in Peru then in June visited Nicaragua and am off to climb Mount Kilimanjaro in July (along with a safari and some beach time in Zanzibar.) I may also be going to Southeast Asia in August. [Ed. expert witness note: Tyler was also a huge hit last spring as a writer and actor in the Kellogg MBA show, Special K.]



The final act!

Adam Wenneker

During the month of July, my wife Erin and I explored the eastern half of the country, driving from New York City to Key West and back.



2013

Tom Arnett

The last few months have been quite eventful for the Arnetts. Joey (4) recently got glasses, Moses (3) is (almost) potty trained, and Naomi (20 months) is now talking all the time. This summer we've enjoyed swimming in the neighborhood pool, visiting Nana and Papa in Southern California, and taking inner-tube rides behind Grandma and Grandpa's ski boat.

Tom's work at the Clayton Christensen Institute is going well. He blogs regularly about innovations in the education sector and is looking to publish his first paper for the Institute in October.



Karen Olson

In January I got engaged to Casey Diehl and we are planning a wedding in November in Portland, ME. We also got a puppy in May – a fox red Labrador retriever named Clover – who has been a great addition to our family. We're certainly glad that the weather finally thawed in Minneapolis!



Here we are, just engaged!



Clover and her lobster in dreamland.

Kilkil Shah

These past few months have been a whirlwind. I graduated (finally) in the middle of May after three years of grad school and two degrees. It has taken awhile to hit me that I will no longer have to register for classes, write papers, or take exams. I have taken

the opportunity to enjoy the summer in DC and have caught World Cup fever. I have also celebrated a couple of my friends' weddings and have a few more in the next couple of months. Besides that I am working at an infrastructure economics advisory firm until the end of July and hope to finalize a full-time position in the near future.

Molly White

It has been a busy and exciting summer in Pittsburgh. I was recently promoted to the Brand Manager role at Heinz, running the Heinz Heritage businesses. My favorite part of the new role is getting to manage an MBA intern for the summer. (Such fun to be on the other side of that process.) Along with career changes, I look forward to a large personal life change as I am expecting Baby Girl White to join us in early August. I look forward to bringing her on her first plane ride this fall to visit everyone in Chicago.

2012

Rob Spies

It's been a very busy few months! We finally finished a second floor renovation on our house that went on for six months and had us sleeping on a mattress on the floor of our dining room the whole time. Needless to say, we were very excited to finish the project up and move back upstairs! The other big news is that Cass and I are expecting our first baby, due October 2nd. We are being adventurous (sidebar - that's not our nature) and waiting to find out the sex of the baby on the big day. We're both very excited about this big change in our lives. We'll see how well-behaved the baby is, and whether he/she will let me go away for a weekend to see the McGowan Fellows family in Chicago in November!

2011

Frank Sasso

All is well in Columbus. Our son, Niko, is changing by the minute and is now seven months old. We are having a blast with this parenting thing and enjoying a hot Ohio summer. Kaufman Development is growing by leaps and bounds; we are starting our fifth project and just hired our 18th employee (we were four strong when I started). Uma, Niko, and I are looking forward to seeing all of you in Chicago.



Niko Sasso -- all ready for Chicago!

Alumni Retreat Gallery



Extra retreat activity: kitty crushing

2014 McGowan Alumni Retreat
Shenandoah, Virginia
June 5-8, 2014

