**TopScholarStories**: Issue – May 2018

*News of our Top Scholars and Alumni: Carolina, 1801, Horseshoe, McNair and Stamps Scholars*

University of South Carolina
Office of Fellowships and Scholar Programs
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**Current Scholars:**

**Two Top Scholars recognized by Goldwater Foundation**

. . . . . Juniors **Casey Brayton** and **Noemi Glaeser** have been recognized by the Goldwater Scholarship: Brayton was named a scholar and Glaeser was named an honorable mention. [https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/fellowships_and_scholar_programs/news/national_fellowships_news/2018/26th%20Consecutive%20Year%20USC%20Students%20Earn%20Goldwater%20Scholars.php](https://www.sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/fellowships_and_scholar_programs/news/national_fellowships_news/2018/26th%20Consecutive%20Year%20USC%20Students%20Earn%20Goldwater%20Scholars.php)

**Carolina Scholar Casey Brayton named Truman Scholar and Goldwater Scholar**

. . . . . Junior **Casey Brayton**'s passion for oceanography was ignited when she decided to join her high school’s National Ocean Sciences quiz bowl team. It was a good complement to her other interest — math, the subject her father taught her early on was “the language of life.” [http://www.sc.edu/uofsc/posts/2018/04/2018_truman_scholar.php#.WuIwM5cpC70](http://www.sc.edu/uofsc/posts/2018/04/2018_truman_scholar.php#.WuIwM5cpC70) and on the Truman Scholarship website, [https://www.truman.gov/whats-new/2018-truman-scholars](https://www.truman.gov/whats-new/2018-truman-scholars)

Related:

**Five Top Scholars and Scholar alumni win National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships**

. . . . . While an official release is forthcoming, we can announce that three current senior scholars have won NSF GRF awards, and two alumni have also won fellowships. Current seniors are: **Carolina Scholar Mara Cowen** and McNair Scholars **Kayla Gardner** and **Erica Maissy**. Alumni are Carolina Scholar Luke Havens and McNair Scholar Rachel Smoak. An official list is located here: [https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/AwardeeList.do?method=loadAwardeeList](https://www.fastlane.nsf.gov/grfp/AwardeeList.do?method=loadAwardeeList)

**Three Freshman Top Scholars Win UK Summer Fulbrights**

. . . . . While not officially released, we can share that **Stamps Scholars Ellie Lord and Robert Magee**, and **Carolina Scholar Jeremy Ward**, have all been awarded scholarships to attend UK Summer Fulbright Institutes. More information will be forthcoming, but to read about these exceptional summer experiences, visit [http://www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-uk/uk-summer-institutes](http://www.fulbright.org.uk/going-to-the-uk/uk-summer-institutes)

**McNair Scholar Jane Marryat wins DAAD Rise Summer Research Internship**

. . . . . Jane **Marryat**, a sophomore biology major, will be working in a lab this summer in Bayreuth, Germany at the University of Bayreuth, studying pathways involved in motor neuron diseases in yeast cells. To learn more about her award, visit [https://www.daad.de/rise/en/](https://www.daad.de/rise/en/)

**Alumni:**
Carolina Scholar Alumna Blakeley Hoffman Payne reflects on the “Grad Life” at MIT

“My undergraduate degrees were in mathematics and computer science from the University of South Carolina. I remember explaining to people that I was learning to write instructions for computers or reassuring them that higher mathematics is more interesting and less traumatizing than their middle school algebra experience. I always expected graduate school to be more (well, a lot more) of the same.”
https://alum.mit.edu/slice/grad-life-unexpected-journey