By Administrator

Tuesday, 17 July 2018 10:32 - Last Updated Tuesday, 17 July 2018 10:35

UNC System President Margaret Spellings named four recent UNC System graduates to serve as Presidential Scholars for the 2018-19 academic year. The Presidential Scholars serve a one-year appointment and provide a wide range of professional functions for the UNC System Office. The scholars will regularly interact with senior leadership and members of the UNC System Board of Governors, helping to research, write, and implement policy. "The program is a win-win situation," said President Spellings. "The scholars help the UNC System do its work while they earn valuable experience in preparation for promising careers in public leadership."

Scholars were selected from among 2018's UNC System graduates. Each of these successful applicants demonstrated leadership skills, strong motivation, intellectual curiosity, and independence:

Dajer Fernandez

UNC Pembroke

Bachelor of Science, Political Science

Ashley George

UNC Wilmington

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science; Minor, Pre-Law

Colin Russell

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Political Science

William Zahran

East Carolina University

Bachelor of Science in Biology; Minor, Business Administration

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As the System Office welcomes this new cluster of Presidential Scholars, it simultaneously bids farewell to last year's contingent. All four members of the 2017-18 class have firm plans in place to begin the next stage of their professional or academic careers. Their aspirations reflect the program's success in nurturing the next generation of education leadership:

Elizabeth Boney will be an associate with Whiteboard Advisors, an educational consulting firm in Washington, DC.

Carson Rich will serve as the special assistant to the chancellor at Elizabeth City State University.

Farris Smith will pursue her master's degree in history at North Carolina State University. Her area of research will focus on the history of education in the South.

Katie Stanley will be a legislative assistant to Rep. Dean Arp in the North Carolina General Assembly.