



## American Rhodes Scholars-Elect for 2006

(Subject to ratification by the Rhodes Trustees after acceptance by one of the colleges of Oxford University)

### *District I*

MS. ALISON CROCKER  
*New Hampshire—Dartmouth University*  
MR. NATHAN HERRING  
*Vermont—Yale University*

### *District II*

MS. SASHA-MAE ECCLESTON  
*New Jersey—Brown University*  
MS. JESSICA E. LEIGHT  
*Massachusetts—Yale University*

### *District III*

MR. DANIEL ALTSCHULER  
*New York—Amherst College*  
ENS. WILLIAM R. KELLY  
*New York—United States Naval Academy*

### *District IV*

MR. LUKE P. NORRIS  
*Pennsylvania—Gettysburg University*  
MR. BRETT A. SHAHEEN  
*Pennsylvania—University of Pennsylvania*

### *District V*

MR. WILLIAM L. HWANG  
*Maryland—Duke University*  
MR. NICHOLAS M. SCHMITZ  
*Maryland—United States Naval Academy*

### *District VI*

MR. ADAM D. CHANDLER  
*North Carolina—Duke University*  
MR. RAHUL SATIJA  
*North Carolina—Duke University*

### *District VII*

MR. GARRETT W. JOHNSON  
*Florida—Florida State University*  
MS. KATHARINE K. WILKINSON  
*Tennessee—University of the South*

### *District VIII*

MS. LAKSHMI KRISHNAN  
*Texas—Wake Forest University*  
MR. JEFFREY A. MILLER  
*Texas—Princeton University*

### *District IX*

MR. PAUL J. ANGELO  
*Ohio—United States Naval Academy*  
MS. MARIA S. CECIRE  
*Virginia—University of Chicago*

### *District X*

MR. NICHOLAS A. JURAVICH  
*Illinois—University of Chicago*  
MR. JEREMY N. ROBINSON  
*Indiana—Wabash College*

### *District XI*

MR. JUSTIN M. CHALKER  
*Kansas—University of Pittsburgh*  
MR. SCOTT R. ERWIN  
*Missouri—University of Richmond*

### *District XII*

MR. SAMSER S. GILL  
*Minnesota—University of Chicago*  
MS. NOORAIN F. KHAN  
*Michigan—Rice University*

### *District XIII*

MS. ELIZABETH W. MAYNE  
*Colorado—Stanford University*  
MR. JEFFREY N. STOUT  
*Colorado—University of Denver*

### *District XIV*

MS. JACQUELYN R. HANNA  
*North Dakota—United States Naval Academy*  
MS. XUAN-TRANG THI HO  
*Nebraska—Nebraska Wesleyan University*

### *District XV*

MR. ALEXANDER K. DEWAR  
*Oregon—Wheaton College*  
MS. ELIANA HECHTER  
*Washington—University of Washington*

### *District XVI*

MS. TANYA ALI HAJ-HASSAN  
*California—Stanford University*  
MS. CHELSEA E. PURVIS  
*California—Yale University*



*District III*

Daniel Altschuler

(New York)

**Amherst College:** B.A., Political Science, Black Studies, Spanish, 2004

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Development Studies

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*Career Aspirations*

Development practitioner

(with a special emphasis on

participatory forms of development)



Daniel Altschuler has spent the last year as a Thomas J. Watson Fellow, pursuing a project in Chile and South Africa entitled “Nascent Democracies Reexamined: Through the Eyes of the Homeless and Landless.” This project focuses on collecting oral histories in economically, geographically, and socially marginalized communities. As an Amherst College undergraduate, Daniel won various fellowships and prizes, including three internal Amherst awards for summer work in the non-profit and public service sectors. In 2004, Daniel was awarded an Alpha Delta Phi Fund Grant to organize a conference on socially responsible investing. He also won First Prize in the Frederick S. Lane Book Collecting Competition for a collection on Afro-Cuban religiosity (2004). Daniel is currently working as a project associate at the Urban Homesteading Assistance Board (UHAB), organizing low-income limited-equity housing cooperatives in Harlem and the South Bronx. He is particularly interested in development work that directly involves communities and their members in planning, design, and implementation. In addition to his work with UHAB, Daniel has been working with an Amherst professor to develop a research project on parental participation and empowerment in community-managed schools in Central America. “Hopefully, this will enable me to spend a significant amount of time working in Honduras and Guatemala at some point in the near future.”



District IX  
(Ohio)

Paul J. Angelo

United States Naval Academy: B.S., Political Science, 2006

Proposed Oxford Course: Latin American Studies



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*Career Aspirations*  
U.S. Navy Foreign Area Officer (Latin America)

Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Paul Angelo is a 2005 Truman Scholar and a midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis. In addition to his military training, he has developed an academic and professional interest in Latin American affairs. After traveling to Mexico in the summer of 2000 during the landmark election of President Vicente Fox, Paul became fascinated with Latin America—its people, its culture, and its politics. Since then, Paul has volunteered with children in Guatemala and Nicaragua. After a fieldwork experience interviewing government and civil society actors in Nicaragua, he is currently preparing his honors thesis paper on the impact of anti-gang, hard-hand repression on the rule of law in Central America. He has also participated in internships at the Defense Intelligence Agency Headquarters with the Mexico/Central America Division and at the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Counternarcotics with SOUTHCOM action officers. In addition, Paul enjoys volunteering as a Spanish interpreter at an Annapolis free clinic and as an ESOL tutor for Hispanic children. He has studied military ethics at Auschwitz, Poland, participated in an exchange program with the Britannia Royal Naval College in Dartmouth, England, and observed security cooperation talks among the militaries of the Middle East in Istanbul, Turkey. After serving on a U.S. Navy ship for several years, Paul hopes to enter the Navy's nascent Foreign Area Officer community, through which he aspires to implement and influence U.S. military policy towards Latin America. At Oxford, Paul hopes "to pursue a new sport and to travel extensively."



District IX

(Virginia)

## Maria S. Cecire

**University of Chicago:** A.B., English Language and Literature, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** English Studies (Medieval)

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### *Career Aspirations*

Research into the role of medievalisms in contemporary society, particularly children's literature; educational policy



Maria Cecire is the second of five children and the daughter of two educators. Maria shares her parents' passion for education and spent a year teaching English in Japan and living with her maternal grandparents. She continues her interest in education while serving as a docent, Educational Advisory Board member, and education research intern at the University of Chicago's Smart Museum of Art, where she teaches inner-city elementary schoolers how to think and speak critically about art. As president of the University of Chicago's student filmmaking organization, Maria received a major university arts grant to shoot a documentary in Zambia about the work of math and science teachers. The film will be screened at two major conferences for teachers and physicists in the winter of 2005-2006, and will ultimately be distributed to classrooms around the country. She is also working on a radio documentary for Chicago Public Radio based on the audio from her footage. In addition to her academic pursuits, Maria is a mentor for first-year students, a cuddler in the University of Chicago Hospitals Neo-Natal ICU, and a lector for the campus Catholic ministry. She is a Class of 2006 Student Marshal (the highest honor awarded in the college) and a member of the Maroon Key Society (the university's undergraduate honor society). Her receipt of the Jeff Metcalf Fellowship in 2005 funded her full-time summer internship at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago. Maria's interest in children, education, and the arts has inspired her undergraduate thesis on "medievalisms in children's fantasy literature," a topic she hopes to continue to pursue at Oxford.



District XI

(Kansas)

Justin M. Chalker

University of Pittsburgh: B.S., Chemistry; B.A., History and Philosophy of Science, 2006

Proposed Oxford Course: Chemistry



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*Career Aspirations*

Research professor of organic chemistry

Justin Chalker is a native of Southwest Kansas where he grew up farming wheat, corn, and sunflowers. Motivated by his interest in crop raising and health sciences, he entered the University of Pittsburgh biology program. He was soon drawn to the elegance of physics, but not wanting to abandon his interest in biology he turned to the interface between the two: chemistry. His research in organic chemistry involves designing and discovering new reactions for the synthesis of biologically relevant compounds. Currently, Justin is completing the synthesis of (-)-kainic acid, a compound urgently needed in Alzheimer's research. As the outreach coordinator for the American Chemical Society, Justin has founded multiple science education programs at local Pittsburgh schools and the YMCA, including the "Y-Sci Day," a science fair for more than 300 middle school students. Justin has won several honors, including the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship, the Eli Lilly Undergraduate Research Fellowship, and the Leonard Schwartz Memorial Prize for a strong commitment toward the enhancement of cultural diversity in Pittsburgh through academic outreach. In his free time, Justin enjoys skiing and hiking and competes in the yearly Rachel Carson Challenge—a thirty-four mile race through unforgiving mountain terrain. After Oxford, Justin plans to continue his career "in research, teaching, and service as a university professor."



District VI

Adam D. Chandler

(North Carolina)

**Duke University:** B.S., Mathematics, 2006**Proposed Oxford Course:** Mathematical Modeling and Scientific Computing*Present Address*

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*Career Aspirations*

University teaching and research;  
 university administration; science policy



Adam Chandler has a passion for interdisciplinary study and completed coursework in biology, chemistry, and physics in addition to majoring in mathematics. A Goldwater Scholar, Adam conducted classified mathematics research at the National Security Agency. His three-person team in the 2005 Math Contest in Modeling received “Outstanding” recognition and won the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) prize for “The Booth Tolls for Thee” (publication pending), a mathematical treatment of toll plaza design. Adam continues his traffic theory research as the subject of his senior distinction thesis. He has been a tutor of math and chemistry and a calculus lab instructor in addition to serving as managing editor for the *Journal of Young Investigators* and as associate editor for *Vertices*, Duke’s journal of science and technology. Adam has served on various university, local and state committees and advisory boards, played cello with the Duke Symphony Orchestra and serves as the Orchestra’s president. In Spring 2006, Adam will co-teach the first course in an undergraduate program in computational science (which he helped found). He has also served as a volunteer coordinator for teaching math and English at an orphanage and primary school in a Tanzanian village where he himself taught. A lifetime resident of North Carolina, Adam is “nervously eager to say goodbye to sweet tea and say hello to hot tea.”



District I

Alison Crocker

(New Hampshire)

**Dartmouth University:** B.A., Physics; B.A., Mathematics, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Astrophysics



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*Career Aspirations*

Astrophysics research and teaching

Alison Crocker has enjoyed academics and outdoor adventures during her undergraduate time at Dartmouth. She has received numerous academic prizes and internships for her work in physics and engineering, including the Francis L. Town Prize, awarded for outstanding work in physics, as well as the Dartmouth Class of 1948 Scholar-Athlete Award, awarded to one male and one female for outstanding performance in athletics and significant achievement in academics. Alison is a mentor for the first-year mentoring program run through the Women In Science Program at Dartmouth. Her noteworthy athletic achievements include *ESPN The Magazine* Academic All-America District I Women's At-Large First Team, Junior World Team Member for cross-country skiing 2003 and 2004, Under-23 World Team member 2006, and Bronze medalist at Junior Worlds for Rowing in 2002. An avid outdoorswoman, Alison devotes her free time to the Dartmouth Outing Club (the DOC), whitewater kayaking, and rock climbing. In addition, she is a member of the intercollegiate Forestry Team, which competes in traditional woodsperson skills such as sawing, chopping, splitting and fly-casting. Alison is also chair of the Cabin and Trail Club, a sub-club within the DOC which is in charge of hiking and backpacking and maintains 72 miles of the Appalachian Trail near Dartmouth.



*District XV*  
(Oregon)

## Alexander K. Dewar

**Wheaton College:** B.A., Political Science, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Environmental Change and Management

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### *Career Aspirations*

Environmental policy formulation and advocacy;  
non-profit leadership; government service



Alex Dewar, a native of Portland, Oregon, is a political science major at Wheaton College in Norton, Massachusetts. As a Truman Scholar and Udall Scholar, he has researched and promoted environmental sustainability in Oregon, Massachusetts, and Uganda. He has worked extensively with 1000 Friends of Oregon to preserve natural lands by studying the impacts of urban sprawl and advocating for better land use planning. During the 2004 election year, Alex worked with the Oregon Bus Project to engage young people in electoral politics and elect progressive political candidates in Oregon. In 2005, Alex traveled to a rural Ugandan village to teach soil conservation to rural communities, but after seeing a need for better early childhood education he raised the funds and developed the village's first nursery school program. Alex has used his presidency of the Student Government Association to engage students in campus and community activism. He led a successful effort to create student representatives on the Wheaton Board of Trustees and has promoted the affordability of a college education. Alex's honors thesis addresses ways public transit can better be used to promote environmental goals. Alex enjoys the outdoors, "particularly hiking, backpacking, skiing, and mountain climbing." While at Oxford he is "looking forward to hiking in the British Isles and around Europe." After studying at Oxford, Alex hopes to pursue a career developing and advocating policies for environmental sustainability in the United States and internationally.





District II

Sasha-Mae Eccleston

(New Jersey)

**Brown University:** A.B., Classics: Greek and Latin/Literary Arts, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Greek and Latin Languages and Literatures



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*Career Aspirations*

Professor of the classics; development and service to academic enrichment initiatives for students of color; publishing; writing

Sasha-Mae Eccleston was born in Kingston, Jamaica, before moving with her family to the United States. Her early interests were in music and literature, playing three instruments (flute, saxophone, and oboe) and “reading everything from Dickens to Egyptian mythology.” A New Jersey SEEDS Scholar, Sasha-Mae attended the The Lawrenceville School where she developed in an interest not only in Latin and the Classical tradition, but also in the issues of education that had motivated her parents to leave Jamaica. As a Mellon Fellow, she spent a summer researching Jamaica’s post-independence educational system. Through service projects in Trenton, internships for NJ SEEDS, and a Telluride Association Summer Program at the University of Michigan, Sasha-Mae gained a greater understanding of the value of education in the self-development of students of color. At Brown, she has done most of her extracurricular work on mobilizing communities of color as a campus co-chair, the founder of a new Inter-Ivy organization for black undergraduates, and a community organizer. She has also been a radio-dj intern, on-air personality and counselor, workshop leader, and poetry performer throughout her college career. A former editorial intern and intern ambassador for Random House, Inc., Sasha enjoys “arguing over new poetry collections or Greg Rucka’s latest book.” She is currently writing two honors theses, her third poetry manuscript, and a critique of Ovid’s *Tristia*. Besides traveling (Austria, Scotland, and Ireland are “must-sees”), Sasha hopes to “pick up a few languages at Oxford and meet as many people” as her time there permits.



District XI

(Missouri)

Scott R. Erwin

**University of Richmond:** B.A., Classical Civilization and Political Science, 2005

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Economic and Social History

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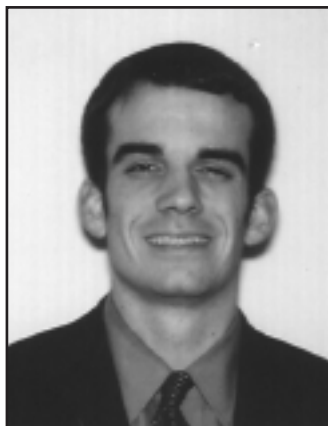
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*Career Aspirations*

Government



Scott Erwin, from Weatherby Lake, Missouri, graduated from the University of Richmond in 2005, where he majored in political science and classical civilization. He is now a research associate at the Council on Foreign Relations for the Henry A. Kissinger Senior Fellow in U.S. Foreign Policy. Prior to joining the Council, Scott worked as a special advisor to the Iraqi Ambassador to the United Nations. From September 2003 to June 2004, Scott worked for the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq, where he founded Ambassadors of Democracy, a civic education initiative at various universities in Baghdad. He received the Medal for the Defense of Freedom, the civilian equivalent of the Purple Heart, for injuries sustained in the line of duty as a civilian employee of the Department of Defense. Scott was selected to the 2005 *USA Today* All-Academic First Team and was awarded a 2005 William E. Simon Fellowship for Noble Purpose by the Intercollegiate Studies Institute. Additionally, Scott was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study democracy building in the Kyrgyz Republic. In his spare time, he enjoys “running, playing the piano, cooking Italian food and spending time with family and friends.” Scott plans to study economics and social history at Oxford and is looking forward to “wearing tweed and running the hash with fun-loving Brits.”



District XII

Samsheer S. Gill

(Minnesota)

University of Chicago: A.B., Political Science, 2005

Proposed Oxford Course: Politics



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*Career Aspirations*

Professor of political theory;  
possibly non-profit work as a theorist

Sam Gill was elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a junior and was named Student Marshal of the University of Chicago (the highest undergraduate honor). His numerous undergraduate honors include Student Employee of the Year (2004) and the Robert C. Byrd University Scholarship (2001). He is also the editor in chief of the University of Chicago Free Press (the University's independent monthly). Sam hopes to study the concept of citizenship in liberal egalitarian democracies. His academic work has examined how individuals with intellectual disabilities challenge prevailing notions of citizenship. "If we cannot assume that all citizens are fully rational—as we have for several hundred years—then how are we to accord all individuals the same rights and responsibilities that flow from the assumption of rationality? Although individuals with intellectual disabilities most saliently raise this issue, there are many individuals in different situations who are unable to fulfill their obligations and are consequently deprived of particular rights and opportunities." Sam wishes to study these issues to better include individuals with disabilities within justice, as well as to enrich the concepts of citizenship and justice. After graduation, Sam has worked as a researcher in media criticism at Media Matters, a watchdog group based in Washington, D.C. In his free time, Sam is president of the water polo club and "a rabid baseball fan."



District XVI

# Tanya Ali Haj-Hassan

(California)

**Stanford University:** B.A., Human Biology, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Medicine/Global Health Science

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*Career Aspirations*

International health and development,  
community service



Tanya Haj-Hassan was born and raised in Amman, Jordan. She is currently a senior at Stanford University majoring in Human Biology (with a focus on international health and development) and is completing a minor in Middle Eastern Studies. Upon arrival to Stanford, Tanya joined the AIDS Treatment Access Initiative to help provide a drug that prevents mother-to-child transmission of the HIV virus in developing countries. In her sophomore year, she co-founded the Coalition for Justice in the Middle East in the hopes of promoting awareness of current events and injustices in the region. Tanya also served as vice-president of the Muslim Student Awareness Network, promoting awareness of issues pertaining to Muslims and the Muslim world. Tanya is the recipient of the Goldman Sachs Global Leadership Award and the Helen Abbott Community Service Award. Passionate about working with her community, Tanya coordinated a summer camp for underprivileged youth in Jordan. She is currently undertaking a research project looking into the causes of neonatal mortality in Jordan. She hopes that the results of her project will shed light on possible interventions for better neonatal well-being in her country. Tanya's hobbies include "baking for family and friends, horse-riding, scuba-diving, and kickboxing," but her favorite pastime is spending time with her family at their farm. "In the future, *insha'Allah* (God-willing), I hope to return to Jordan to work towards improving the health and well-being of my country."



District XIV

Jacquelyn R. Hanna

(North Dakota)

United States Naval Academy: B.S., English, 2006

Proposed Oxford Course: Social Anthropology



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*Career Aspirations*

Naval Surface Warfare Officer;  
American military training policy; writer

Jaci Hanna is a senior at the United States Naval Academy, where she is an Honors English major. Her two honors research papers focus on the literary identity of Olaudah Equiano (an 18th-century former slave-turned-writer) and Mark Twain's *Pudd'nhead Wilson* (as it relates to the American slave experience). Her leadership positions at the Naval Academy include Second Regiment First Lieutenant and Administrative Officer and Twenty-Second Company Academics Officer. She is an active member of the Highland Dance Team (she studies ballet and belly dancing in addition to traditional Scottish dances) and is editor of poetry for the *Labyrinth*, a literary publication produced annually by midshipmen. Deeply interested in issues of gender and sexuality in the military, Jaci co-wrote and performed in "Under Covers: Midshipmen Perspectives on Gender," a performance piece built of individual monologues exploring the experiences of men and women in their day-to-day existence in uniform. Jaci has spent her last four summers training at sea on both coasts, introducing high school students and new midshipmen to military life, and expanding her academic experiences, including a three-week trip to Tver, Russia, where she lived with a Russian family and studied the culture, literature, language, history, and politics of the region. Awarded a Truman Scholarship in 2005, Jaci is committed to "using anthropology as a method of preventing conflict and increasing cultural understanding and tolerance worldwide." Jaci enjoys a variety of sports, including boxing, running, and cycling. She loves "foreign films, modernist and postmodernist poetry, Shakespeare, Virginia Woolf, the prairies of North Dakota, and New York City."



District XV

Eliana Hechter

(Washington)

**University of Washington:** B.S., Mathematics, 2006**Proposed Oxford Course:** Mathematical Studies*Present Address*

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*Career Aspirations*

Professor of mathematics



Eliana Hechter first traveled to Oxford in 1995 to visit her father, who was a don and lecturer in sociology at New College. What she remembers most vividly from that trip was sharing Thanksgiving dinner with the American Rhodes Scholars. “I am thrilled to return to Oxford, and to have a place at that table, no longer as my father’s guest. It is truly a dream come true.” At the age of fourteen, she entered the University of Washington through the Early Entrance Program. In her sophomore year, she studied computational developmental biology with Garrett Odell at the Center for Cell Dynamics at Friday Harbor Labs on San Juan Island. There she lived “in a log cabin in the woods”—revising a set of course notes intended for biologists interested in learning mathematics—and collaborated with Ed Munro on a mathematical computer model of cell polarization in *C. elegans*. She began to study math in earnest upon returning to Seattle, and participated in the Inverse Problems REU at the University of Washington in the summer of 2005. Eliana remains committed to making theoretical mathematics more accessible, both to younger students and to scholars in other fields. She has taught enrichment classes at elementary schools in Seattle and served as a teaching assistant for Honors calculus. Her studies have been supported by a NASA Space Grant scholarship, a National Merit award, an Undergraduate Scholarship, and through the Mary Gates Endowment for Students. She was awarded a Goldwater Scholarship in 2003. In addition to her mathematical interests, Eliana is a short story writer.



*District I*

Nathan Herring

(Vermont)

**Yale University:** B.A., Psychology, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Evidence-Based Social Work



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Raised on a farm in Vermont, Nate Herring owns a small logging company that he founded at age 16. In high school, Nate brokered an arrangement which allowed him to take all of his senior year courses at nearby Marlboro College. Nate played football at the University of Miami and again after transferring to Yale, though a series of injuries cut short his career as a defensive end and linebacker. At the University of Miami, Nate was picked to represent the University of Miami as a member of the President's 100. Nate is the president of his Yale fraternity, Zeta Psi, and spearheaded a series of reforms of the ailing fraternity to restore it to good health. In his junior year at Yale, Nate researched, designed, and secured funds to build an outdoor adventure challenge course and adventure therapy program for adolescents suffering from mental illness, poverty and neglect. Nate is interested in film and starred in the graduate film "The Evolution of Audrey Warwick" at the University of Miami. He has written and illustrated a picture book entitled "How the Mouse Got His House" which addresses the "struggle of living through change."



District XIV

(Nebraska)

## Xuan-Trang Thi Ho

**Nebraska Wesleyan University:** B.A., Political Science, Spanish, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Latin American Studies

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### *Career Aspirations*

Working for the U.S. government in the areas of foreign policy and Latin American affairs; college professor of politics



A 2005 Truman Scholar, Trang Ho is the youngest of 8 children and emigrated to Nebraska in 1994 with her parents and 4 older siblings as political refugees from Vietnam. Trang went from having no command of English to graduating as the valedictorian of her high school of 680 students. She is an active member of the President's Council on Cultural Diversity and Global Service Learning and has planned and participated in service trips to Nicaragua, El Salvador, Vietnam, North Carolina, Louisiana and Washington, D.C. Trang works as a certified Vietnamese medical and legal interpreter and volunteers as a Spanish legal interpreter for a pro bono immigration law clinic. Trang also honed her Spanish skills and interests in Latin American politics by studying abroad in Argentina and interning at the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, a Latin American think-tank, in Washington, D.C. She aspires to work in the field of U.S. foreign policy and Latin American politics after earning her Ph.D. in political science. In the fall of 2005, she served as a co-instructor in a liberal arts seminar entitled "Middle East and Islam." In her "spare" time, Trang loves to "cook authentic Vietnamese dishes and learn more about the world's exotic places." At Oxford, she looks forward to "meeting people from all walks of life" and those who "possess a passion for learning and traveling to as many places on earth as possible."





District V

William L. Hwang

(Maryland)

**Duke University:** B.S.E., Biomedical Engineering; B.S.E., Electrical & Computer Engineering; B.S., Physics, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Condensed Matter Physics



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*Career Aspirations*

Biomedical researcher; university professor;  
mentor for future generations of inquisitive leaders

An Angier B. Duke Scholar, Goldwater Scholar and President's Research Fellow, Billy Hwang's passion for research includes digital microfluidic biochips, stem-cell communication, swarm intelligence, buoyant flow fluid dynamics, and articular cartilage injuries. He designed a biomimetic arm to help children with TAR syndrome gain independence. An alumnus of the Lucent Global Science Scholars Program, the Research Science Institute, and the Science and Engineering Apprenticeship Program, he has published 9 papers since 2001 and has received several honors for his work, including the Washington Academy of Science Outstanding Achievement in Research Award and Department of Navy Environmental Research awards. Billy is the co-editor-in-chief of *Eruditio*, the Duke Undergraduate Humanities Journal, and associate editor of *Vertices*, the Duke Undergraduate Journal of Science and Technology. Appointed 2005 Chief Student Marshal of the School of Engineering, he serves as vice-president of the Tau Beta Pi NC Gamma Chapter, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Pi Sigma, and Phi Eta Sigma. Billy has a passion for volunteer work and co-founded United InnoWorks Academy, an educational non-profit organization with over 80 volunteer college students dedicated to developing innovative science and engineering programs free for middle-school students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Billy is a setter/outside hitter for the Duke Men's Volleyball Team (which won the 2004 Division IAA National Championship) and received numerous athletic accolades during his high school years. In addition, Billy held the position of first violinist in the Duke Symphony Orchestra as a freshman.



District VII

(Florida)

## Garrett W. Johnson

Florida State University: B.S., Political Science, English, 2005

Proposed Oxford Course: Migration Studies

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*Career Aspirations*

International development



Garrett Johnson has focused much of his academic energy on United States-Haitian relations. Garrett has worked for Florida Governor Jeb Bush's office in numerous positions helping to analyze and implement changing government policies towards Haiti. Most recently Garrett has worked as Special Assistant to the Governor and Chief of Staff to help implement the recommendations he helped formulate during his time in the Governor's Haiti Advisory Group. He also authored a comprehensive analysis of two pending U.S.-Haiti preferential trade agreements. An *ESPN The Magazine* Academic and NCAA All-American in Track and Field, Garrett ranked among top twenty-five shot put throwers in the world in 2005, and established the ACC Indoor Shot Put Record and FSU Indoor and Outdoor Shot Put Records before winning the NCAA Indoor Shot Put Track and field National Championships in 2006. He is the vice-chair of the Atlantic Coast Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Council and is responsible for representing the interests of 7,600 student-athletes within the institutional, conference and national administrative levels of governance. As president of the FSU Student-Athlete Advisory Council, Garrett led a year long campaign that resulted in over 4,500 student-athlete community service hours and he himself traveled to Haiti with the Haiti Hope Foundation to distribute food and medical supplies to areas destroyed by floods and mudslides. This campaign also donated musical instruments to Compassion Orphanage and to a music school for children. Garrett was recently awarded a grant to conduct field research and critical analysis of the economic and social ramifications of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Rwanda.



District X

Nicholas A. Juravich

(Illinois)

University of Chicago: A.B., History, 2006

Proposed Oxford Course: Economic and Social History



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*Career Aspirations*

Social justice and human rights, both as an  
activist/advocate and academic

Nick Juravich is a native of Amherst, Massachusetts; his education in social justice and human rights began at Amherst Regional High School. A Student Marshal (the University's highest academic honor) at the University of Chicago, Nick has focused on 20th century American social history, specifically the social history of Chicago's south side. Nick is interested in "the ways in which people respond to inequality and injustice as perpetuated by both state and non-state actors." His senior thesis examines the ways in which Chicago's African-American community challenged the de facto social segregation of the city during the early 1960s. Nick was awarded a Human Rights Internship through the University of Chicago's Human Rights Program in 2004, which took him to South Africa for ten weeks as an intern with the Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions on their Global Forced Evictions Programme in Johannesburg. Nick has also been a Summer Links Intern, working at a community garden and art center in the South Chicago neighborhood, and has worked as a student teacher in a first grade classroom on the south side through the Neighborhood Schools Program. Captain of both the cross country and track teams at the University of Chicago and the president of the varsity letterman's organization, Nick looks forward to continuing to run competitively at Oxford.



*District III*

(New York)

## William R. Kelly

**United States Naval Academy:** B.S., International Relations, 2005

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Global Governance and Diplomacy

*Present Address*

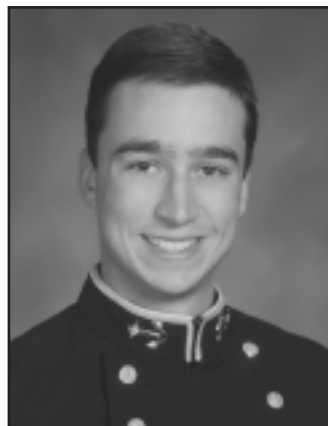
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*Career Aspirations*

Naval aviation; military leadership;  
foreign policy formulation and implementation



Will Kelly was born and raised in New York City. Inspired by the example of his grandparents, both aeronautical engineers, his passion for aviation emerged early. Will began flying at age 15 and was an FAA licensed pilot before his 18th birthday. As a Midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy, Will served in numerous positions of leadership responsibility, culminating in his selection as Regiment Commander for Plebe Summer, where he led the 400 Midshipmen Cadre charged with training the 1,250 recruits of the class of 2008. Will also served as a project leader for Habitat for Humanity and as the Air Operations Officer for the USNA Flying Team, competing in three national events. Will was the Vice Admiral James Stockdale Presidential Fellow at the Center for the Study of the Presidency and was a member of the team that ran the Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference, the nation's largest undergraduate conference of its kind. After graduating with distinction and receiving his commission as an Ensign in the Navy in 2005, Will served in the Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Asia Pacific Affairs. A Truman Scholar, Will is currently studying public policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. His hobbies include "reading, flying, traveling, cooking, scuba diving, and swimming." He plans to pursue a career in military aviation and aspires to command at sea.



District XII

Noorain F. Kahn

(Michigan)

**Rice University:** B.A., Political Science, Religious Studies, Women,  
Gender, and Sexuality Studies, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Migration Studies



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*Career Aspirations*

Law and public policy advocacy

A Barbara Jordan Scholar at Rice University, Noorain Khan is interested in gender and Islam and is writing her senior thesis on veiling Muslim women in Houston, Texas. As a Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow, Noorain conducted original research on the veiling of Muslim women, comparing attitudes of people living in Karachi, Pakistan, with Pakistani-American immigrants living in the U.S. Noorain also translates and studies classical Islamic hadith literature. She was named a “Young Women of Distinction” by Girl Scouts U.S.A, a honor awarded to one of the top ten Girl Scouts in the country, for her work in community organizing. Noorain has interned at Amnesty International U.S.A., the Office of Senator Carl Levin (D-MI), the Baker Institute Energy Forum, the Middle East Institute, and Shirkat Gah, a women’s rights NGO in Karachi, Pakistan. She also spent a semester in Cairo, pursuing coursework in Arabic language and gender studies. During her years at Rice, Noorain has written for several on-line publications and has a regular op-ed column in the Rice *Thresher* student newspaper. On campus, she served as chair of the Baker Institute Student Forum and she continues to work with Girl Scouts, proposing and implementing a teen mentorship program. She speaks (at varying levels) six languages, including Urdu/Hindi, Arabic, Spanish, Pashto, and Farsi. At Oxford, Noorain plans to continue her research on public policy and its relationship to veiling within communities of Muslim immigrants.



District VIII  
(Texas)

## Lakshmi Krishnan

**Wake Forest University:** B.A., English and German, Pre-medical Studies, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** English

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### *Career Aspirations*

Physician, professor of literature and medicine;  
international health and human rights activism



A Guy T. Carswell Scholar at Wake Forest University, Lakshmi Krishnan focuses her research on the intersection of literature and medicine. Her honors thesis relates “literary vampires” to modern medical anxieties about HIV/AIDS and blood contagion. A serious Brontë enthusiast, she has had work archived at the Brontë Research Library, lectured about Emily Brontë’s German Gothic influences, and authored a paper offering a novel reading of mental illness in *Wuthering Heights* and *The Bride of Lammermoor*. She has also piloted a study on Hepatitis-C virus core protein and hepatocellular tissue. Elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a junior, Lakshmi’s awards for academics and service include the H. Broadus Jones Memorial Scholarship, the Bradford Premedical Scholarship, and the D.A. Brown Prize for Excellence in Writing. President of Wake Forest’s Amnesty International, she also received grants to intern at Physicians for Human Rights, co-authoring an HIV/AIDS treatment and advocacy workshop that was used to train Ugandan health professionals. An avid pianist and “pseudo-linguist,” Lakshmi volunteered at the Forsyth County Public Health Department, taught high school creative writing, and served as a chemistry peer tutor and editor of the *Philomathesian* Liberal Arts Journal. With her abiding interest in promoting dialogue between medicine and the humanities, Lakshmi hopes to “offer a re-evaluation of how to approach today’s global crises.” At Oxford, Lakshmi looks forward to pursuing her diverse passions, taking up ballroom dancing, and enjoying “lovely Balti cuisine, which is so hard to find here in the States.”



District II

Jessica E. Leight

(Massachusetts)

**Yale University:** B.A., Ethics, Politics and Economics, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Economics



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*Career Aspirations*

Economist; policy-maker in the area  
of international trade

Elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a junior, Jessica Leight won Yale's Hart Lyman Prize, the Rhea Plunkett Wagster Memorial Fellowship, the Georg Leitner Grant in International and Comparative Political Economy, the Ralph Waldo Emerson Prize, and the Gilder Lehrmann Essay Prize. From 2003 to 2005 Jessica was a research fellow at the Council on Hemispheric Affairs in Washington, D.C., a think-tank focusing on Latin America. She has also served as a commentator on U.S. policy towards Haiti (with appearances on radio in the U.S. and Caribbean) and co-authored the afterword to Dr. Paul Farmer's most recent book, *The Uses of Haiti*. She is active in the New Haven community, working as founder and coordinator in the first year of operation of Inside at Night, a community coalition that has raised more than \$200,000 for homeless services in New Haven. She has worked for numerous other non-profit organizations in New Haven, including the Urban Fellows Program, the CenterEdge Project and Connecticut Voices for Children. She is the former coordinator of the only national grassroots organization for international child health advocacy, and founder-coordinator of Respect Line, a homeless advocacy organization whose work led to the implementation of the first no-freeze policy in the New Haven homeless shelters. An accomplished pianist, Jessica won the 2005 Friends of Music at Yale competition.



*District XIII*  
(Colorado)

## Elizabeth W. Mayne

**Stanford University:** B.S., Biological Sciences, 2005

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Medical Oncology

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*Career Aspirations*

Health and science policy



Elizabeth Mayne, a U.S. Presidential Scholar, received her degree from Stanford University in biological sciences in 2005. She is a Stanford President's Scholar, as well as a Micron Science and Technology Scholar. Elizabeth also has great interest in theatre, and was a company member of the Stanford Shakespeare Society. As assistant director of Transform Shakespeare Outreach Program, she coordinated the project entitled "Teaching and Representing A New Shakespeare Form." Elizabeth is an accomplished freestyle skier and raced in the Junior Olympics while in high school. She previously served as co-chair of the Denver Mayor's Commission on Youth.





District VIII  
(Texas)

Jeffrey A. Miller

Princeton University: A.B., English and Creative Writing, 2006

Proposed Oxford Course: English



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*Career Aspirations*  
Novelist; English professor; book critic

Born in Arkansas and raised in Dallas, Texas, Jeff Miller is majoring in English and pursuing a certificate in creative writing at Princeton University. He has studied fiction writing under Chang-rae Lee, Joyce Carol Oates, and Edmund White and, in the spring of his junior year, he was one of a select number of students chosen by a faculty committee to write a creative senior thesis—in his case, a novel. Jeff interned at the publishing house Farrar, Straus, and Giroux during the summer of 2004. At Princeton, Jeff is an officer of the Ivy Club and a member of the Human Values Forum. He has also served as the co-editor-in-chief of a campus literary magazine that he helped found, and has received university awards for his essays and literary criticism. As a high school senior he was honored as the Davey O'Brien High School Scholar-Athlete of the Year and continues to enjoy basketball on the junior varsity team at Princeton. At Oxford, Jeff plans to study Milton and Restoration Literature, in particular “exploring Milton’s profound influence on the American novel.” An aspiring American novelist himself, Jeff views Oxford as one of literature’s holy cities, and he looks forward to spending “excessive amounts of time in Blackwell’s bookshop and to wandering the streets where so very many of my literary heroes have wandered before me.”



*District IV*

Luke P. Norris

(Pennsylvania)

**Gettysburg University:** B.A., Political Science, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Global Governance and Diplomacy

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*Career Aspirations*

Government, politics



Luke Norris came to Gettysburg College as a Presidential Scholar and will complete his undergraduate work in three years. He has earned the Senior Scholarship, election to Phi Beta Kappa, the Glatfelter Grant for undergraduate research, and the Weaver Prize for the best essay in the field of constitutional law. In addition to serving as a teaching associate and student representative to the college's Global Studies Committee and Strategic Planning Committee, Luke founded the international college lobbying organization "Operation Nuclear Disappear" dedicated to halting the spread of nuclear weapons (for which he was awarded the Grandmothers for International Peace prize for peace and justice). In 2004, Luke presented a paper entitled "Cooperative Threat Reduction: Solving the Nuclear Policy Paradox Peacefully" at the annual University of Notre Dame International Peace Conference. Luke presented his senior honors thesis on judicial oversight and the efficacy of public school desegregation at the national meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association. While a fellow at the Center for the Study of the Presidency, Luke authored a paper on the presidency and foreign policy making, which was published in the Center's annual publication. Luke traveled to Argentina on a service-learning project where he worked in schools and orphanages—and also completed a tango dance course. He has also worked with the YWCA and the AIDS Momentum Project in New York City.



## Chelsea E. Purvis

**Yale University:** B.A., History, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Economic and Social History



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(California)

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*Career Aspirations*  
Lawyer; advocate for impoverished people  
living in developing countries

Chelsea Purvis, from Saratoga, California, is a senior History major at Yale College, where she maintains a 4.0 grade point average. At Yale she has been a student leader of the Yale Sustainable Food Project, the nationally acclaimed program that brings local, seasonal, and fair trade food to the university. She is a leader of Presbyterian Undergraduates at Yale, a student group that explores the religious person's role in advancing social justice. Chelsea has engaged in extensive volunteer work in developing countries, traveling on service and learning trips to the Dominican Republic, India, and Cuba. In the spring of 2006 she will help lead a trip to Sierra Leone with CARE International, a ground-breaking journey that will mark the first time any college group has toured and volunteered for one of CARE's African project sites. Chelsea is also involved with the New Haven Animal Shelter, the Yale Women's Center, Yale's Tutoring In Elementary Schools Program, and Coin Street Community Builders in London. Above all, Chelsea loves "to spend time with my parents and my sister, Taylor, and my dog and cats." At Oxford, Chelsea plans to focus on "the history of the British Empire in what is now the developing world."



District X

(Indiana)

## Jeremy N. Robinson

**Wabash College:** B.A., English and Spanish, 2004

**Proposed Oxford Course:** English Language and Literature

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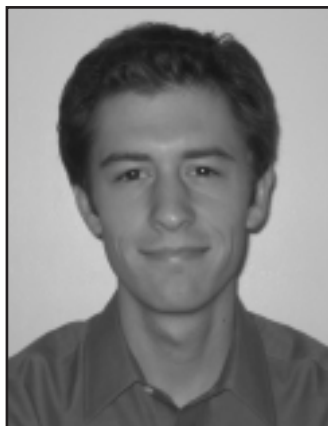
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### *Career Aspirations*

Teaching; educational leadership;  
non-profit work; social justice



A native of Indianapolis, Jeremy Robinson currently teaches 9th grade English at Harper High School on Chicago's south side as a member of Teach For America. Having experienced firsthand the inequities in public education as a teacher, Jeremy has worked strategically to close the achievement gap between his students and their peers in higher-income communities. Alongside taking graduate courses in education at Dominican University, Jeremy authored a new Chicago Public Schools freshman English curriculum and has served as an instructional specialist and mentor for seven first-year high school English teachers. A Lilly Scholar and Datatel Scholar at Wabash College, he studied English and Spanish and served as editor of the college's undergraduate humanities journal, *Callimachus*. Jeremy played center-midfield on Wabash's soccer team and was an 800-meter runner on its track and field team. He was an active member of Alpha Phi Omega, Delta Tau Delta, and the Malcolm X Institute of Black Studies. Jeremy spent his junior year abroad at the University of Salamanca where he studied Spanish literature. While living on the Iberian Peninsula, he walked the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage and was awarded the *Credencial* from the government of Spain. Jeremy plans to study English at Oxford and one day "serve as a leader in the struggle to provide all children with excellent educational opportunities."



*District VI*

Rahul Satija

(North Carolina)

**Duke University:** B.Sc., Biology; B.A., Music, 2006

**Proposed Oxford Course:** Statistics



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*Career Aspirations*

Professor of Computational Biology

Raised in Potomac, Maryland, Rahul Satija entered Duke University with “a deep interest in genetics, a fascination with computer science, and no intention of combining the two.” He soon discovered computational biology, a subject he will continue to pursue at Oxford. His undergraduate research, focused on the sea urchin and smallpox genomes, won him scholarships from the Barry Goldwater Foundation and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. As a double major in biology and music at Duke, he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa as a junior and was selected as a Faculty Scholar, the highest honor awarded by the Duke faculty to an undergraduate. A violinist from the age of two, he was concertmaster of the Duke Symphony Orchestra for three years and directed a violin tutoring program for elementary school children in inner-city Durham. He also won the Duke Symphony and Durham Symphony concerto competitions and has recently expanded his solo classical repertoire “to include blues compositions, Spanish tangos, and American fiddle music.” In his spare time he enjoys “playing tennis, watching Duke basketball, and playing guitar.”



District V

Nicholas M. Schmitz

(Maryland)

**United States Naval Academy:** B.S., Political Science; B.S., Economics, 2006**Proposed Oxford Course:** Economic and Social History*Present Address*

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*Career Aspirations*

Military officer



Nicholas Schmitz, ranked first in his class at the U.S. Naval Academy, was born in Germany and moved to the United States at the age of one. At the age of 17, Nicholas dropped out of high school to enlist in the Marine Corps and has since been stationed in 4 different states and traveled to over a dozen foreign countries on 3 continents. As 1st Regimental Commander at the Naval Academy, he is entrusted with the oversight of over 2,000 Midshipmen. He is the 2005 recipient of the Kauffman award, a peer nominated award presented to one Midshipman at the Academy who embodies the ideals of leadership and service. Nicholas traveled to Nicaragua with the group “Bridges to Community,” where he built three houses with a group of 20 Midshipmen and international students in one of the poorest suburbs of Managua. As a student athlete, he trains approximately three and a half hours a day, six days a week; he also coaches as a rings and parallel bars specialist. Nicholas is a member of the Socratic Society, a philosophy club that engages in debates with students at St. John’s College. Nicholas aspires to a career as a military officer “or wherever my talents can best be used.”



District IV

Brett A. Shaheen

(Pennsylvania)

University of Pennsylvania: B.S., Economics; B.A., International Relations, 2006

Proposed Oxford Course: International Relations



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*Career Aspirations*

Public service; law

A dual degree candidate at the University of Pennsylvania, Brett Shaheen is studying Economics at the Wharton School and International Relations at the College of Arts and Sciences. As a University Scholar, Wharton Research Scholar, and Presidential Fellow with the Center for the Study of the Presidency, Brett has written two divergent senior theses: “The Science and Politics of Anthropogenic Climate Change” and “Dyadic Risk and Foreign Direct Investment.” He is passionate about international development and has conducted extensive research on the microcredit industry. Brett served as a delegate to the 2004 Microcredit Summit in Amman, Jordan, and worked during the summer of 2005 as a management consultant to the Association for Rural Community Development in Royakottai, India. An accomplished musician, Brett recently won the National Beethoven Society Piano Competition, was harpsichordist for Penn’s Baroque Ensemble, and plays classical guitar. Brett was a member of Penn’s varsity squash team (ranked #6 in the country). At Penn he was editor-in-chief of *Economica*, a journal that reviews and publishes top undergraduate economics theses from across the country. In Philadelphia Brett volunteered as a Big Brother, an assistant music teacher at two elementary schools, and a consultant for several microfinance institutions. Brett is also a Fellow with the Public Service Program at Penn Law School and an active member of the Penn Democrats. In his spare time, Brett enjoys “mountain biking and relaxing with friends.”



District XIII

(Colorado)

## Jeffrey N. Stout

**University of Denver:** B.A., Physics, 2005

**Proposed Oxford Course:** History of Science

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### *Career Aspirations*

Professor at a liberal arts college



Elected to Phi Beta Kappa as a junior, Jeff Stout was an Honors Student, Boettcher Scholar and Chancellor Scholar who majored in physics and minored in philosophy. He developed a love of conversation at an early age: “my mother listened to the dialogue between cello and violin in Borodin’s 2nd Quartet when I was still in the womb.” While pursuing his undergraduate studies, Jeff shared this passion for conversation with others, starting a public policy forum and a reading group to bring humanities and science students into dialogue with one another. Consistently willing to “dive into adventures,” he was the lone physicist on a biology research trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos and also researched medieval history and theology on an Honors Program summer seminar in Cambridge, England. Jeff also spent a summer conducting astronomical observations at the University of Denver’s Mt. Evans Observatory (14,480 feet) and continues to serve the Orthodox Church as a subdeacon. “Recently married to a tremendously thoughtful classical guitarist,” Jeff looks forward to pursuing research in the history and philosophy of science, focusing on developing conversations between modern science and the theology of the Eastern Orthodox Church. An “avid skier, cellist, potter, and car enthusiast,” he is currently reading for the M.St. in Ecclesiastical History at Oxford.





District VII

Katharine K. Wilkinson

(Tennessee)

University of the South: B.A., Religion, 2005

Proposed Oxford Course: Environmental Change and Management



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*Career Aspirations*

Non-profit environmental work;  
academia; sustainable business

A Benedict Scholar at the University of the South, Katharine Wilkinson graduated in 2005, *summa cum laude* and valedictorian of her class. A religion major, she was twice awarded a Morris K. Udall Scholarship and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and Omicron Delta Kappa her junior year. Katharine was captain of Sewanee's varsity Equestrian Team, had three top ten finishes at the intercollegiate national championships, and received the outstanding female athlete award at graduation. During college, Katharine studied sustainable development in Costa Rica and international social justice in Geneva, Switzerland, where she interned at the International Institute for Sustainable Development. She was passionately involved with campus environmental work, particularly as co-chair of the Environmental Residents program and as leader of Sewanee's clean energy campaign. An avid writer, Katharine frequently contributed to Sewanee's newspaper, twice received the University's Anita S. Goodstein prize, and was an honorable mention for the 2005 Elie Wiesel Prize in Ethics. She currently works for the Natural Resources Defense Council on the Cumberland Plateau Biogem initiative and looks forward to continuing her non-profit work after studying at Oxford. Katharine hopes eventually "to pursue a Ph.D. in social ethics and teach, all the while remaining a life-long competitor in equestrian sports."