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# MEET THE CONTRIBUTORS

THE BOLLER REVIEW, 2019

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**LAENA BATCHELDER**  
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Laena Batchelder graduated summa cum laude in 2019 from Texas Christian University in her hometown of Fort Worth, Texas with a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance. Laena has performed with the TCU Symphony and the Brazos Chamber Orchestra. She loves performing chamber music and programmed a chamber recital featuring American female composers for her honors thesis. In addition to music, Laena enjoys reading, knitting, swing dancing, following politics, and hanging out with her friends. Following graduation, Laena will attend the University of Colorado Boulder to pursue a Master of Music.

## CLARE BENES

HARRIS COLLEGE OF NURSING

Clare Benes is a senior speech-language pathology major. She began her research experience her sophomore year in the CHLLD lab directed by Dr. Lund. Clare was one of eleven in the nation to receive the American Speech-Language Hearing Association (ASHA) Students Preparing for Academic Careers Award (SPARC) Award. She presented her research at the 2018 ASHA National Convention, 2019 Texas Speech-Hearing Language Association Convention and the TCU Student Research Symposium. She will be pursuing her masters of speech-language pathology in the fall at TCU and will continue to be involved with research as she develops a masters thesis.



## LAUREL BUCK

NEELEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Laurel graduated summa cum laude from TCU in 2019 with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply and Value Chain Management and a minor in Global Business. While at TCU she served on the leadership boards of TCU Ambassadors and Golden Key International Honor Society and was an active member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority and the John V. Roach Honors College. Laurel is passionate about increasing overall accountability for parent corporations and their supply chains and plans to continue her research as she starts her career. Laurel is currently working for American Airlines in DFW as a Commodity Manager.



**AMBER DECKARD**  
COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Amber Deckard received a Bachelors of Science in Nutrition in May of 2019 from Texas Christian University where she graduated Magna Cum Laude with departmental honors. During her time at TCU she completed multiple internships with organizations such as Moncrief Cancer Institute, Ben E Keith, Cook Children's Hospital, and Family Focused Care. Amber Deckard currently attends the University of North Texas Health Science Center in Fort Worth, Texas where she is studying Public Health with an emphasis on Maternal and Child Health. In the future she hopes to attend medical school and work with international agencies to improve global health efforts.



## EMILY DICKSON

HARRIS COLLEGE OF NURSING

Emily Dickson is a Texas Christian University alumna with a B.S. in Speech-Language Pathology and a minor in Spanish. The highlights of her academic career include the research experience in Dr. Christopher Watts' voice laboratory, her year of providing speech-language therapy services in the Miller Speech & Hearing Clinic, and volunteering for the summer literacy camp for children at Miller. She is particularly passionate about voice science, but is excited to learn about more aspects of the professional field. Emily will return to Texas Christian University to pursue her M.S. in Speech-Language Pathology.

## PHAT DO

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Phat Do graduated from Texas Christian University in 2019 with a major in Biology and minor in Chemistry. Phat Do has always enjoyed research and science. In fact, by the time he graduated, his fondest memories of college involved mostly his lab mates and Dr. Akkaraju. Soon after graduation, he began a full-time job as a Community Outreach Assistant at Moncrief Cancer Institute, Fort Worth. Now he assists with Moncrief's community outreach endeavors for the breast, cervical, colorectal, lung, and hepatitis c screening programs to underinsured and uninsured patient population in Texas.





**MICHAEL GONZALEZ**  
BOB SCHIEFFER COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION

Since transferring from TCC in 2017, Michael Gonzalez has been integrated in various research projects inspired by some of the Communication Studies faculty. His involvement led to a co-authorship in the Health Communication Journal and, along with Nick Noguez, a placement as the top Communication Studies Undergraduate Submission in the 2019 College of Communication Research and Creative Festival. Michael was also involved and placed 4th in the 94th annual Battle of Flowers Oratorical Contest in San Antonio. He will be graduating in December 2019 as a Communication Studies major, Psychology minor and plans on attending grad school in 2020.

**LAUREN KEANEY**  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Lauren Keaney graduated from Texas Christian University in May 2019. She is currently working on graduating with her master's degree in Special Education at TCU in May 2020. Upon graduation with her master's degree, she plans to obtain a job as a special education teacher in a self-contained classroom in the DFW area. Lauren learned a lot throughout the process of conducting this research and feels grateful for the opportunity to have increased her knowledge on a topic that is very relevant to the current state of her field. She looks forward to implementing what she has learned in her career with students.



**SOFIA LOPEZ**  
JOHN V. ROACH HONORS COLLEGE

Sofia is an international student from Guatemala who recently earned her bachelor's degree in biology from TCU. During her high school and college education, she volunteered extensively from projects on sustainability in her home country to counseling disadvantaged middle school students interested in the healthcare field. For the past three years, she has been involved in Alzheimer's research in a TCU laboratory and has completed a thesis on the subject of Alzheimer's and inflammation. Sofia is currently training to become a volunteer EMT while applying to medical schools in the US.



**KIRSTIN MULLINS**  
COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

Once a nursing major with an Italian minor, Kirstin has always been known to wear many hats. Graduating with a dual degree—a BFA in Graphic Design and a BS in Strategic Communication—in May 2019, Kirstin managed to find the perfect marriage of strategy, creativity, and aesthetic. Previously working as a content creator, social media director, and creative intern, Kirstin feels most successful and fulfilled when she is surrounded by high-energy, creative people working to find the best solutions to meet any client's needs.



**MICHELLE NGUYEN**  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Michelle Nguyen graduated from Texas Christian University in May of 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Youth Advocacy and Educational Studies. Upon graduation, Michelle will be traveling to Indonesia to teach English through the Fulbright Scholar program. While at TCU, Michelle spent a majority of her time devoted to her co-curricular involvements, including but not limited to, being a resident assistant and working with TCU Orientation. Michelle's research interests include social justice and educational equity. She plans on continuing her education when she comes back to the states.



**ALEX NOETZEL**  
ADDRAN COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Alex Noetzel recently graduated from TCU in May of 2019 with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science. While at TCU, Alex was actively involved in Greek life serving as the Vice President of Membership for the Gamma Phi Beta sorority and the Vice President of Member Development for the Panhellenic Council and also served as the Vice President of the Sociology Honors Society. Alex is passionate about women's representation in politics and law and will be attending Brooklyn Law School in the fall of 2019 and looks forward to being a role model for women looking towards the field of law.



**ALEXIS VANBAARLE**  
ADDRAN COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Alexis was born in Houston, Texas and is a junior double majoring in biology and anthropology, with an emphasis on forensic anthropology. She currently works at the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences as an intern forensic anthropologist. Alexis is the winner of the 2019 Add Ran Festival and received an award from the TCU anthropology department for her paper on Investigative Processes of Mass Graves. She is a member of the Lambda Alpha National Anthropology Society and looks to continue her studies up to a PhD in forensic anthropology. She wishes to assist in mass grave investigations in her future.



**KENDALL WULBRUN**  
JOHN V. ROACH HONORS COLLEGE

Kendall Wulbrun graduated Summa Cum Laude from TCU in 2019 with a double major in sociology and communication studies and a minor in Spanish. Her departmental honors thesis about the effects of stereotype threat on students of color at TCU was inspired by her passion for education and equal access to educational opportunities for all. She hopes that her work will help create a more inclusive campus community at TCU. Kendall now resides in Northern California working in undergraduate college admissions and plans to pursue a Master's in Higher Education in the coming years.



**NICK STEPHENS**  
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION

Nicholas P. Stephens graduated magna cum laude from Texas Christian University in spring 2019 as an honors laureate with a degree in journalism. During his time at TCU, Stephens worked as an editor and reporter for TCU360, as social media coordinator for the TCU Justice Coalition and the TCU NAACP, and as a resident assistant in Moncrief Hall. He was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio before moving to Seguin, Texas at the age of 12. Stephens is currently a graduate student in communication at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he hopes to continue researching the intersection of sports and other societal issues.



**KELLI PEDERSON**  
NEELEY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Kelli graduated from TCU in 2019 with majors in Finance and Mathematics and a minor in Economics. During her time at TCU, she was involved in the Neeley Fellows Program, Educational Investment Fund, Student Government Association, and Chancellor's Leadership Program. Kelli is moving to Salt Lake City, Utah to work in the Investment Banking Division at Goldman Sachs.



**NICHOLAUS NOGUEZ**  
COLLEGE OF COMMUNICATION

Nicholaus Noguez is a junior majoring in communication studies and minoring in Spanish. He takes many roles as an active leader in club on campus. He is the President of TCU RoundNet Club, Vice President of Public Relations for Talking Frogs, and a mentor for Connections. Nicholaus Noguez, along with his colleague, Michael Gonzalez, earned a placement as the top Communication Studies Undergraduate Submission in the 2019 College of Communication Research and Creative Festival. Nicholaus is currently working on a research project analyzing the connection between language and intimacy in relationships. He plans on pursuing a Master's degree after graduation.

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