

Members' Biographies
2016 - 2017

#### Sara Davidow



Sara Davidow studies International Development and Social Change with a concentration in Education and a minor in Women's and Gender Studies. This is a comprehensive way of saying that she is passionate about how education systems locally, nationally and globally work with marginalized groups: specifically gender-based identity groups. She recently returned from a research project studying gender-based violence in the South African school system. She has also served as a Research and Development Intern for a literacy non-profit and as a UN Youth Delegate under the Sustainability Development Goals. In her free time she enjoys playing board games, deconstructing the patriarchy, and hanging out with friends.

#### Themal Ellawala



Themal Ellawala, a citizen of Sri Lanka and the United Kingdom, is a Psychology major and History minor. His academic interests center on queer theory and postcolonial theory as frameworks in interpreting gender and sexuality in South Asian and South Asian Diasporas. He serves as a Clark Ambassador at the Admissions Office, the Undergraduate Student Assistant at the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the Senior Representative in the Admissions and Financial Aid Committee. Themal plans to continue his education in a Doctoral program in Anthropology.

### **Camille Anne Ferreol**



Cami Ferreol, born and raised in the Philippines, is a Psychology and Cultural Studies and Communication double major. She is currently a member of the International Students Association, the Undergraduate Psychology Committee, Psi Chi (International Psychology Honors Society), and Lambda Pi Eta (National Communications Honor Society). A strong advocate for the integration of tech and art, she has collaborated with a number of clubs, organizations, and nonprofits, to conceptualize and design a wide range of digital promotional material, from logos and posters to Snapchat Geofilters. After completing the accelerated Master's degree focused on New Media Technologies and Marketing here at Clark, she aims to work

in the digital graphic design industry or go into the emerging field of Media Psychology.

#### Kara Fischer



Kara Fischer self-designed a major in physical anthropology. She is a member of the women's soccer team and has been a captain for the past two seasons. She is also the vice-president of the Student Athletes Advisory Committee, and she was one of the student leaders of the Clark Athletics Service Trip to the Dominican Republic last January. Outside of Clark, she enjoys volunteering at Jeremiah's Inn, one of the local food pantries in Worcester. In the next couple years, she plans on pursuing a Master's and/or Ph.D in physical anthropology or forensic anthropology.

# Alicja Gancarz



Alicja Gancarz is a political science major. Throughout her years at Clark, Alicja has been involved with Democrats of Clark, Clark Undergraduate Student Council, and Residential Hall Association. This is currently her third year as a Resident Advisor on campus. She is a recipient of the 2016 Phi Beta Kappa Boston Scholarship. As a Steinbrecher Fellow, she conducted a research project in Poland about life during World War II and Communism. After graduation, she plans to go to nursing school to become a pediatric nurse practitioner.

#### Will Heikes



Will Heikes is a senior from Castle Rock, Colorado. He majors in geography and economics, with a minor in art history. Academically, Will is researching the relationship between disaster reporting and twitter usage, as well as the economics of the music industry. Outside of the classroom, he enjoys listening to country music and watching an unhealthy amount of the Simpsons.

# Jacob Kahn



Jacob Kahn is a psychology major and education minor at Clark University. He is currently completing his honors thesis on male victims of female perpetrated intimate partner violence. Jacob is the Vice President of Clark's Psi Chi honor society chapter. Jacob is interested in child and adolescent mental health and plans to work in behavioral health counseling. His current positions include working as a residential counselor at a group home for adolescent boys with behavior disabilities, running a selfowned individualized respite care program, as well as teaching special education at a Hebrew School. Jacob plans to continue his education in the accelerated degree program with a Master's degree in elementary education.

### **Julianne Murphy**



Julianne Murphy is a biochemistry major with minors in sociology and public health. During her time at Clark, Julianne has been involved in diaries for Clark Admissions, the Undergraduate Student Council, and Speaker's Forum. She is currently conducting research on concerted copy number variation with Dr. John Gibbons. She plans to continue this research in the accelerated Master's degree program in biochemistry and molecular biology.

# **Courtney Pharr**



Courtney Pharr is majoring in biology with minors in computer science and mathematical biology and bioinformatics. She is a member of the varsity volleyball team and serves as the president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee. She has led several community service projects through the Athletics Department and is also a member of Fiat Lux. Outside of the classroom, Courtney enjoys hiking, swimming, and being outdoors.

### **Emma Sonberg**



Emma Sonberg is an English major with a concentration in creative writing. She started a novel last year for the class, Writing the Novel I, and discovered her passion for creative writing. She's currently working on her novel in both a directed study and an honor's thesis, and is hoping to have something publishable by the time she graduates. Emma has interned at a local rape crisis center in Worcester. She has also volunteered at Claremont Academy as an assistant in a remedial math class. Both of these experiences exposed her to social injustice and inequality, and that has very much influenced her writing. She is currently employed in the writing center as a peer writing consultant. After she graduates, Emma plans to pursue a Master's degree in English Literature at Clark University.

# **Michael Spanos**



Michael Spanos is pursuing a degree in Political Science, with a minor in Economics and a concentration in Law and Society. He is currently the captain of the Men's Varsity Soccer Team, as well a member of the Mock Trial Team and the Student Sustainability Fund here at Clark. He aims to pursue a law degree, and with that a career in helping those who can't help themselves. He has applied his interest and passion through internships with the Worcester County District Courthouse and U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT). Michael will be matriculating in the accelerated Masters of Public Administration program at Clark next year.

#### Matt Sullivan



Matt Sullivan grew up in Brunswick, Maine, the middle of 3 boys. He is majoring in economics with a double minor in mathematics and management and is currently writing his honors thesis in economics where he is examining the effects of presidential party election results on various stock market sectors. Outside of academia, he is the captain of the Varsity

Lacrosse team, president of the Club Hockey team, and Vice President of the Clark University Investments and Trading Society (CUIT). In his few free moments, he enjoys playing racket sports, reading, golfing, travelling, and skiing. His bucket list includes hiking to the bottom of the Grand Canyon and back in one day, doing an ironman, and going heli-skiing. Matt is pursuing Clark's Master of Science in Finance accelerated degree program and is looking to pursue management consulting upon graduation before returning to school for a business (MBA) and law (JD) joint degree.

