

Heart, Mind, and Action: CFS student is awarded Robertson scholarship at Duke University

Fifty-three exemplary high school seniors have been chosen for the Robertson Scholars Class of 2012, President Richard H. Brodhead of Duke University and Chancellor James Moeser of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have announced.

The Robertson Scholars Program is an innovative merit scholarship program at UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke. About half of the scholars enroll at Duke and about half at UNC-Chapel Hill. All the students take courses at both schools and spend a semester in residence at the other campus. The Robertson Scholarship covers housing, board, and mandatory fees for all current and future scholars.

The program selects scholars who have demonstrated the program values of heart, mind and action and exhibit the potential and desire to develop these values further, said Tony Brown, president of the Robertson Scholars Program. Throughout and beyond their four years in college, scholars are offered the resources and opportunities necessary to have a positive impact on local and international communities.

Twenty-six students have been awarded the scholarship at Duke and 24 at UNC-Chapel Hill. In addition, three students were offered the scholarship at both schools and have the option to be a Robertson Scholar at either school.

The recipients, who hail from 25 states and three foreign countries, have until May 1 to accept the scholarship. The two universities expect to enroll a total of 38 Robertson Scholars next fall.

The recipients were chosen from more than 20,000 admission applicants at UNC-Chapel Hill and more than 20,000 at Duke. After a selection process that included application review and phone interviews, committees at both universities invited 100 finalists to Durham and Chapel Hill for interviews March 29 - April 1.

"The Robertson Scholars are selected from among the very best students who apply to Duke and UNC," Brodhead said. "They are chosen not just for their intelligence and creativity, but for their leadership strengths and will to use their gifts in service to the broader society. We look forward to welcoming the new Robertson Scholars and working with them as they develop as students, citizens and leaders."

Robertson Scholars come together for special seminars taught by faculty of both universities, research projects and service-learning programs. The program runs a free express bus between the two campuses and offers collaboration grants to faculty and students at each university to support joint programs. Julian and Josie Robertson of New York founded the Robertson program in June 2000 with a \$24 million endowment gift.

"I am thrilled to see the outstanding array of talented students selected to be Robertson Scholars," Moeser said. "This program brings great rewards for the students, who get the educational experience of two campuses, Carolina and Duke. We benefit as well from their energy and talent, which adds to our communities in countless ways. We look forward to welcoming all of them in the fall."

In 2005, the Robertson family established a separate scholarship opportunity for students from New Zealand, where the couple resides for part of each year. Two students were chosen this year. Amir Malek of Hamilton and Oliver Wilson of Dunedin will both attend Duke this fall.

"I was inspired by the young people I met through our selection process," said Brown, the president of the program. "They are bright, passionate and eager, and will make meaningful contributions to every community they touch."

Read more at:

<http://uncnews.unc.edu/news/students/unc-chapel-hill-duke-announce-winners-of-robertson-scholarship.html>