

# CORRELL *Scholars* PROGRAM



2017 - 2018

*Year in Review*  
Report



**H. Lee Cheek, Jr., Ph.D.**  
*Director, Correll Scholars Program*  
*Dean, School of Humanities & Social Sciences*

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Dear Mr. and Mrs. Correll:

As we begin our fourth year, the impressive record of our Correll Scholars only increases in every way! The Program began as the result of an exceedingly thoughtful idea and gift, and is now a vital and energetic fixture in the social and academic life of East Georgia State College.

Our Correll Scholars, who come to East Georgia State College from a diversity of backgrounds and educational environments, are becoming united in their pursuit of academic excellence and service to their fellow men and women. In the last year, the Correll Scholars collectively spent thousands of hours mentoring and tutoring underprivileged students from surrounding area schools. In the third year of the program, our Scholars will participate in career-related service internships during the Fall semester, and during the Spring term, each scholar will work directly with a professor in their chosen field of study so that each Correll Scholar can be exposed to even more service opportunities.

In our fast-paced world, filled with distractions unlike those ever witnessed before, the Correll Scholars are afforded the time to reflect more deeply on the challenges that are ahead of us. As we welcome with much excitement our fourth class of Correll Scholars in August 2018, our enthusiasm for the Correll Scholars Program is unbound!



Cordially,

**H. Lee Cheek, Jr., Ph.D.**  
*Director, Correll Scholars Program*  
*Dean, School of Humanities & Social Sciences*



# **CORRELL**

*Scholars*

## **PROGRAM**

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# Overview

The Correll Scholars Program was established in 2014 and began Fall semester 2015 to recognize and prepare exceptionally promising students as future community leaders in our region.

- Awards are \$5,000 per student, renewable annually, for a maximum of four years. Twenty scholarships will be awarded each year.
- Students must attend East Georgia State College's Swainsboro Campus.
- Correll Scholars who meet eligibility requirements and continue their studies as a junior or senior in a baccalaureate degree program at EGSC will be given first consideration for subsequent year awards.
- Students must attain qualifying enrollment status to receive subsequent year funding: "sophomore" for year two, "junior" for year three, and "senior" for year four.

## Application Process

The Application process is designed to identify students who demonstrate the talent, motivation, and potential to transform themselves and their community.

- Completion of EGSC Admissions Application (Automatic Non-Resident Waiver) and college acceptance
- Completion of the Correll Scholars Program Application
- Submission of an essay, "How will you use your education to transform your community?" (1000 word maximum) (included in online submission)
- Interview

## Selection of Scholars

Each spring, new applicants will participate in the "Correll Scholars Selection Day" for interviews with faculty, staff, community leaders, and donors. Scholars will be selected based upon committee approval.

# Criteria

## SCHOLARSHIP

- GPA, SAT, ACT scores
- Challenging course load
- General knowledge beyond field of study
- Ability to think critically

## LEADERSHIP

- Ability to make an impact and influence others
- Focus on the global society
- Excellence in communication
- Motivation to excel
- Strong character

## SERVICE

- Demonstrated strength in coaching, tutoring, and mentoring
- Nonprofit work experience
- Demonstrated commitment to others

# Rigorous Program Standards

- Maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher.
- Complete at least 26 credit hours in freshman year to maintain eligibility for sophomore year.
- Participate in a one-hour-credit course each semester that focuses on issues and challenges facing our region and work collaboratively to design solutions for those challenges.
- Actively participate in tutoring and mentoring of local high school students at the Fulford Center.
- Attain the Service Seal of Distinction.



# 2017 - 2018 Correll Scholars



## *Student Name*

**Shane Brantley**  
**Hunter Braswell**  
**Cameron Chalker**  
**Brianna Clay**  
**Makayla Conner**  
**Jazzmyn Cox**  
**Jillian Edenfield**  
**Rhett Gay**  
**Susanna Hall**  
**Shermya Hamilton**  
**Niaya Harris**  
**Katie Hill**  
**Anna Holland**  
**Kayla Lambert**  
**Kimberly McKinney**  
**Daniel Rodriguez-Teran**  
**Shawn Smith**  
**Carley Stapleton**  
**Chase Thompson**  
**Jordan Wells**  
**Ashlee White**  
**Cole Wilkes**  
**Zac Williams**  
**Kaleb Youmans**

## *Hometown*

**Wrightsville**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Waynesboro**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Sardis**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Kite**  
**Twin City**  
**Bartow**  
**Millen**  
**Metter**  
**Millen**  
**Wrightsville**  
**Waynesboro**  
**Carrollton**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Reidsville**  
**Wrightsville**  
**Sylvania**  
**Columbus**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Lyons**  
**Midville**  
**Swainsboro**

## *High School*

**Johnson County High School**  
**Swainsboro High School**  
**Burke County High School**  
**David Emanuel Academy**  
**Burke County High School**  
**Swainsboro High School**  
**Swainsboro High School**  
**Emanuel County Institute**  
**Thomas Jefferson Academy**  
**Jenkins County High School**  
**Metter High School**  
**Edmund Burke Academy**  
**Johnson County High School**  
**Burke County High School**  
**Carrollton High School**  
**Swainsboro High School**  
**Tattnall County High School**  
**Johnson County High School**  
**Screven County High School**  
**Northside High School**  
**Swainsboro High School**  
**Toombs County High School**  
**Emanuel County Institute**  
**Emanuel County Institute**

# 2016 - 2017 Correll Scholars



## *Student Name*

**Madison Beardon**  
**Macie Brassell**  
**Kaylee Coleman**  
**Lillian Deloach**  
**Carlie Dixon**  
**Garett Dixon**  
**Bethaney Fortner**  
**Tiffani Gordon**  
**Darryl Henderson**  
**Kara Henry**  
**Braxton Johns**  
**Abigail Johnson**  
**Monique Johnson**  
**Naomi Mason**  
**Adrianna Minton**  
**Tanner Peebles**  
**Grace Pittman**  
**Erick Vilches**  
**Braswell Walraven**

## *Hometown*

**Waynesboro**  
**Wadley**  
**Ailey**  
**Glennville**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Waynesboro**  
**Wrightsville**  
**Vidalia**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Statesboro**  
**Macon**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Swainsboro**  
**Waynesboro**  
**Vidalia**  
**Metter**  
**Soperton**

## *High School*

**Homeschooled**  
**Thomas Jefferson Academy**  
**Montgomery County High**  
**Tattnall County High**  
**David Emanuel Academy**  
**Edmund Burke Academy**  
**Johnson County High School**  
**Robert Toombs Christian Academy**  
**Swainsboro High School**  
**David Emanuel Academy**  
**Statesboro High School**  
**Rutland High School**  
**Swainsboro High School**  
**Swainsboro High School**  
**Emanuel County Institute**  
**Johnson County High School**  
**Vidalia High School**  
**Metter High School**  
**Treutlen County High School**

# Bobcat Buddies Mentoring Program

Correll Scholars mentored/tutored selected Swainsboro Elementary School 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students from September 12, 2017 through November 30, 2017 during fall semester and January 11, 2018 through April 10, 2018 during spring semester.

The twenty-four Swainsboro Elementary students who participated in the program were selected by teachers, administrators, and the school counselor.

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## Students Served

3rd grade	6 students
4th grade	10 students
5th grade	8 students

*"Thank you for making this program available this year! My child has really enjoyed it and his buddy."  
- Parent Survey Comment*

*"My child is happy and looks forward to this each week."  
- Parent Survey Comment*

## Total Mentoring & Tutoring Hours

# 953.5 hours

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Surveys were completed by teachers and parents at the end of each semester. Following are the highlights.

### From parents:

100% rated the overall program either good or excellent

100% rated the program content either good or excellent

### From teachers:

100% of the teachers involved in the program indicated students benefitted from the experience.

General parent comments centered on wanting more than two days a week for tutoring!

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*"Thank you for giving our students this opportunity."  
- Teacher Survey Comment*

# *Information About* **COSP1101**

**East Georgia State College  
Correll Scholars Program Seminar  
Tuesdays 8:30 am - 9:20 am • COSP 1101  
(CRN:80185)  
Fall 2017/One Credit Hour**

**I. Professor: H. Lee Cheek, Jr., Ph.D.**

**II. Office location: Academic Building, C-277**

**Office Phone: (478)289-2048**

**E-mail address: lcheek@ega.edu**

**Office Hours: 0800-1700 daily**

**- EGSC's official mode of communication is via email. Therefore, check your EGSC and D2L email daily.**

**III. Course Description:**

**"The introductory course in the Correll Scholars Program that is premised upon introducing first year scholars to the value and importance of service to the local community and the State of Georgia, as well as surveying the many facets of the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens region of the State of Georgia (Catalog of East Georgia State College, 2017-2018, p. 74)."**

**IV. Prerequisites: Selection by EGSC as a Correll Scholar.**

**V. Textbooks**

**TEXTS:**

**McGregory, Jerrilyn. Wiregrass Country, Folklife in the South (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1997).  
ISBN: 0878059261**

**Early, Lawrence. Looking for Longleaf: The Fall and Rise of an American Forest (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004).  
ISBN: 0807856991**

**Forni, P. M. Choosing Civility: The Twenty-Five Rules for Considerate Conduct. (New York: St. Martin's/Griffin, 2002).  
ISBN: 0312302509**

**VI. Course Learning Outcomes with Linkages to General Education Student Learning Outcomes**

**The Correll Scholars Program is a new initiative at East Georgia State College. This one-credit hour course (to be taken each year), along with required service-learning experiences, are intended to introduce Correll Scholars to the importance of service and civic and cultural awareness in our region, nation, and world, through an integrative curriculum that challenges them to think critically about all of these concerns. Each week, the Correll Scholars will interact with some of EGSC's senior faculty on a variety of topics.**

**By combining an introduction to service with an academic seminar, Correll Scholars have the unique opportunity to contextualize the knowledge acquired within the classroom with their individual service-learning experiences. Through class discussions, reading, and reflection, scholars will also be able to connect the relevance of service-learning work to the course objectives and their broader academic fields of study.**

**Working to enhance the quality and breadth of the undergraduate education for our Correll Scholars, this course strives to achieve the following goals:**

- Demonstrate knowledge of the history of the Wiregrass / Pine Barrens region of Georgia.**
- Demonstrate ability to compare and contrast the local region with other regions in the South, other areas in the country, and other parts of the world.**
- Demonstrate ability to critically evaluate information.**
- Demonstrate ability to communicate effectively in oral and written forms.**
- Demonstrate successful participation in active learning through service.**
- Demonstrate ability to create a comprehensive portfolio of learning experience in Correll Scholars Program.**

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Understand the value of service to the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens region of Georgia.**
- Recognize that service to others is a natural and necessary response to the world around us.**
- Have insight into appropriate forms of service-its source, its meaning, and its impact on both the performer and the recipient.**
- Understand how they can use their chosen vocation to serve others.**

#### **VII. and VIII.: Evaluation and Grading**

**Specific Course Assignments: Will vary from semester to semester.**

##### **Quizzes/Tests**

**Quizzes and tests will cover the text, lectures, and any additional material passed out or assigned. It is important to both read the material and listen attentively in class.**

##### **Missed Quiz or Test or Late Assignment**

**Making-up a missed quiz test or turning in an assignment late will be allowed only in special circumstances and if accompanied by official documentation. Let me know prior to the deadline or test date if there is a genuine conflict or crisis. Please discuss all concerns about completing course requirements or conflicting life situations with me. There will be no make-up quizzes.**

### **Cheating/Plagiarism**

**Academic Integrity is expected. Cheating and plagiarism will result in failure of the test or assignment and possible consequences from the College.**

### **What to Bring to Class**

**Your personage, a writing instrument, textbooks, and writing paper.**

### **Disruptive Behaviors in Class**

**Students who exhibit behaviors that are considered to obstruct or disrupt this class or its learning activities will be considered under the Board of Regents Policy on Disruptive Behavior. Behaviors which are considered to be inappropriate in this classroom include sleeping, eating, coming in late, interrupting others, talking out of turn, inappropriate behavior during group work, texting, verbal behavior that is disrespectful of other students or the faculty member, or other behaviors that may be disruptive. Students who exhibit such behavior may be temporarily dismissed from the class by the instructor and may be subject to disciplinary procedures outlined in the EGSC Student Handbook.**

### **GRADING SCALE**

**Grades for the semester will follow the USG scale:**

<b>1-Weekly quizzes and blog entries on readings and handouts:</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>2-Final Paper integrating learning and service(Due 30 Nov.):</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>3-Final Exam</b>	<b>10%</b>

#### **The grading scale:**

- A = 100 – 90**
- B = 89 – 80**
- C = 79 – 70**
- D = 69 – 60**
- F = 59 – 0**

### **ASSIGNMENTS AND DUE DATES**

#### **IX. Attendance Policy**

**If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the course notes from a classmate. I will not copy and hand out my lecture notes, except in extreme circumstances documented by a medical or other agreed upon official documentation. Classroom attendance is important as it supplements the text readings. Excessive absences will hurt your understanding of the material, comprehension of what is expected in assignments, and your grade.**

#### **XI. Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty**

(please see EGSC Student Handbook <http://www.ega.edu/policy/04-student-handbook.pdf>)

See also VII. and VIII. above.

## **XII. ADA Statement**

(can be found at <http://www.ega.edu/policy/04-student-handbook.pdf>)

## **XIII. Course Withdrawal Policy Statement:**

**Students are responsible for their own academic progress. Decisions regarding withdrawal from courses should only be made after consultation with an academic advisor. Before withdrawing from a course, students must meet with a Financial Aid representative to discuss their personal financial aid situation. More information regarding withdrawal from courses can be found in the EGSC catalog at <http://www.ega.edu/policy/egsc-catalog.pdf>**

## **XIV. Campus Emergency Policy**

**a. In the event the fire alarm is sounded, everyone must evacuate the building at once and in a calm and orderly fashion, using the nearest exit. In the event of a severe weather warning everyone must proceed immediately to the nearest designated shelter area which are marked by a small tornado symbol. All severe weather shelter locations are posted on the EGSC website. Each student should, on the first day of class, determine the location of the nearest exit and the nearest designated shelter area for each of his or her classrooms. If you have difficulties locating either ask your instructor to assist you.**

**b. The Connect-ED system is a communication service that enables East Georgia State College administrators and security personnel to quickly contact all East Georgia State College students, faculty and staff with personalized voice and text messages that contain emergency-related campus information (e.g., campus closing, campus threat, health scare, etc.) With Connect-ED, East Georgia State College students can be reached and provided with vital instructions anywhere, anytime, through their cell phones, home phones, e-mail, TTY/TDD receiving devices, or other text-receiving devices. (<http://www.ega.edu/connect-ed.pdf>)**

## **XV. Additional Course Requirements**

## **XVI. Outline of Topics and Course Calendar**

**1-Week One:8/15/17: "Culture of Respect;" Introduction to Course and Service Learning (Bobcat Buddies); and, Student Honor Code (Sherrie Helms)  
Readings: Course Syllabus and Handouts**

**2-Week Two:8/22/17: "Culture of Respect."  
Readings: CC  
Dr. Lee Cheek**

**3-Week Three:8/29/17: Historical Setting of the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens Region of Georgia/Service Opportunities  
Readings: WC/2  
Dr. John Derden**

**Labor Day Holiday – No Classes 9/04/17**

- 4-Week Four: 9/05/17: Historical Setting of the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens Region of Georgia/Service Opportunities.**  
Readings: WC/3,4  
Dr. John Derden
- 5-Week Five: 9/12/17: "Culture of Respect"**  
Dr. Lee Cheek
- 6-Week Six: 9/19/17: Politics and Government in the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens Region of Georgia/Service Opportunities.**  
Readings: Handouts  
Professor Randy Carter
- 09/21/17: College Convocation. Plan to attend.**
- 7-Week Seven: 09/26/17: Religion and Community Organizations in the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens region of Georgia/Service Opportunities.**  
Readings: WC/5  
Dr. Lee Cheek
- 8-Week Eight: 10/03/16: Literature of the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens Region of Georgia/Service Opportunities.**  
Readings: WC/6  
Dr. Carmine Palumbo
- 9-Week Nine: 10/10/17: Demographics of the Wiregrass Region**  
Professor Strickland and Dr. Harry Vogel
- 10-Week Ten: 10/17/17: Art and Cultural Enrichment in the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens Region of Georgia/Service Opportunities.**  
Readings: WC/8 and 9  
Professor Desmal Purcell
- 11-Week Eleven: 10/24/17: Physical Environment of the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens Region of Georgia/Service Opportunities.**  
Readings: LL/1 and 2 and 3  
Dr. Jimmy Wedincamp
- 12-Week Twelve: 10/31/2017: Session with President Boehmer**  
President Bob Boehmer
- 13-Week Thirteen: 11/07/17: Business and Industry in the Wiregrass Region**  
Readings: LL/6 and 7  
Professor Mike Lisenby
- 14-Week Fourteen: 11/14/17: Ecology of the Wiregrass/Pine Barrens Region of Georgia/Service Opportunities.**  
Readings: LL/4 and 5  
Dr. Breana Simmons
- Thanksgiving Holiday, NO Classes: 11/20/17-11/24/17**
- 15-Week Fifteen: 11/28/17: Exam; Group Social/Service to Community Discussion Gathering**
- Final Exams December 4-8**

# *Information About* **COSP1102**

**East Georgia State College  
Correll Scholars Program Seminar on State Regional Issues  
Tuesdays: 8:00 am - 8:50 am • COSP 1102  
(CRN:20010)  
Spring 2018/One Credit Hour**

**I. Professor: H. Lee Cheek, Jr., Ph.D.**

**II. Office location: School of Social Sciences, C-277**

**Office Phone: (478)289-2048**

**E-mail address: lcheek@ega.edu**

**Office Hours: 0800-1700 daily**

**-EGSC's official mode of communication is via email. Therefore, check your EGSC and D2L email daily.**

**III. Course Description:**

**"The second required seminar of the Correll Scholars Program, this course builds upon the content of the first course, an introduction to service and a variety of issues of local importance, expanding the focus to the impact of these issues statewide and regionally. Methods of evaluation of student success include short essays, quizzes, journal assignments, examinations, presentations, and portfolio development. (Catalog of East Georgia State College, 2017-2018, p. 74)."**

**IV. Prerequisite: Successful completion of COSP 1101.**

**V. Textbooks**

**- COSP 1102 Reader**

**- Early, Lawrence. Looking for Longleaf: The Fall and Rise of an American Forest (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004).**

**VI. Course Learning Outcomes with Linkages to General Education Student Learning Outcomes**

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**By combining an introduction to service with an academic seminar, Correll Schol-**

ars have the unique opportunity to contextualize the knowledge acquired within the classroom with their individual service-learning experiences. Through class discussions, reading, and reflection, scholars will also be able to connect the relevance of service-learning work to the course objectives and their broader academic fields of study.

Working to enhance the quality and breadth of the undergraduate education for our Correll Scholars, this course strives to achieve the following goals:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the history of the Georgia and the Southeast.
- Demonstrate ability to compare and contrast Georgia with other regions in the Southeast.
- Demonstrate ability to critically evaluate information.
- Demonstrate ability to communicate effectively in oral and written forms.
- Demonstrate successful participation in active learning through service.
- Demonstrate ability to create a comprehensive portfolio of learning experience in Correll Scholars Program.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Understand the value of service to Georgia.
- Recognize that service to others is a natural and necessary response to the world around us.
- Have insight into appropriate forms of service-its source, its meaning, and its impact on both the performer and the recipient.
- Understand how they can use their chosen vocation to serve others.

#### **VII. and VIII.: Evaluation and Grading**

##### **Tests/Quizzes**

Quizzes are based on assigned reading, lectures, and any additional material passed out or assigned. It is important to both read the material and listen attentively in class.

##### **Missed Test or Late Assignment**

Making-up a missed test or turning in an assignment late will be allowed only in special circumstances and if accompanied by official documentation. Let me know prior to the deadline or quiz date if there is a genuine conflict or crisis. Please discuss all concerns about completing course requirements or conflicting life situations with me. There will be no make-up quizzes.

##### **Cheating/Plagiarism**

Academic Integrity is expected. Cheating and plagiarism will result in failure of the test or assignment and possible consequences from the College.

##### **What to Bring to Class**

Your personage, a writing instrument, textbooks, and writing paper.

##### **Disruptive Behaviors in Class**

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class or its learning activities will be considered under the Board of Regents Policy on Disruptive Behavior. Behaviors which are considered to be inappropriate in this classroom include sleeping, eating, coming in late, interrupting others, talking out of turn, inappropriate behavior during group work, texting, verbal behavior that is disrespectful of other students or the faculty member, or other behaviors that may be disruptive. Students who exhibit such behavior may be temporarily dismissed from the class by the instructor and may be subject to disciplinary procedures outlined in the EGSC Student Handbook.

## **GRADING SCALE**

Grades for the semester will follow the USG scale:

The grading scale:

**A = 100 – 90**

**B = 89 – 80**

**C = 79 – 70**

**D = 69 – 60**

**F = 59 – 0**

<b>Participation</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Weekly Quizzes</b>	<b>50 points</b>
<b>Final Exam</b>	<b>40 points</b>

## **IX. Attendance Policy**

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the course notes from a classmate. Excessive absences will hurt your understanding of the material, comprehension of what is expected in assignments, and your grade.

## **XI. Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty**

(please see EGSC Student Handbook <http://www.ega.edu/policy/O4-student-handbook.pdf>)

See also VII. and VIII. above.

## **XII. ADA Statement**

(can be found at <http://www.ega.edu/policy/O4-student-handbook.pdf>)

## **XIII. Course Withdrawal Policy Statement:**

Students are responsible for their own academic progress. Decisions regarding withdrawal from courses should only be made after consultation with an academic advisor. Before withdrawing from a course, students must meet with a Financial Aid representative to discuss their personal financial aid situation. More information regarding withdrawal from courses can be found in the EGSC catalog at <http://www.ega.edu/images/uploads/egsc-catalog-2014-2015.pdf>

## **XIV. Campus Emergency Policy**

a. In the event the fire alarm is sounded, everyone must evacuate the building at once and in a calm and orderly fashion, using the nearest exit. In the event of a severe weather warning everyone must proceed immediately to the near-

est designated shelter area which are marked by a small tornado symbol. All severe weather shelter locations are posted on the EGSC website. Each student should, on the first day of class, determine the location of the nearest exit and the nearest designated shelter area for each of his or her classrooms. If you have difficulties locating either ask your instructor to assist you.

- b. The Connect-ED system is a communication service that enables East Georgia State College administrators and security personnel to quickly contact all East Georgia State College students, faculty and staff with personalized voice and text messages that contain emergency-related campus information (e.g., campus closing, campus threat, health scare, etc.) With Connect-ED, East Georgia State College students can be reached and provided with vital instructions anywhere, anytime, through their cell phones, home phones, e-mail, TTY/TDD receiving devices, or other text-receiving devices. (<http://www.ega.edu/connect-ed.pdf>)

## **XV. Additional Course Requirements**

### **XVI. Outline of Topics and Course Calendar**

**1-Week One: (01/9/2018) Introduction to Course and Service Learning**

**2-Week Two:(01/16/2018) Historical Setting of Georgia and the Southeast in the United States**

**Dr. John Derden**

**3-Week Three: (01/23/2018) Historical Setting of Georgia and Southeast/ Service Opportunities.**

**Dr. John Derden**

**4-Week Four: (01/30/2018) Politics and Government of Georgia and the Southeast/Service Opportunities.**

**Professor Randy Carter**

**5-Week Five: (02/06/2018) Meeting with President Bob Boehmer.**

**6-Week Six: (02/13/2018) Social Demographics of Georgia and the Southeast.**

**Professor David Strickland**

**7-Week Seven: (02/20/2018) The Business and Economic Environment in Georgia.**

**Professor Mike Lisenby**

**8-Week Eight: (02/27/2018) Literature of Georgia and the Southeast/ Service Opportunities.**

**Dr. Carmine Palumbo**

**9-Week Nine: (03/06/2018) Art and Cultural Enrichment in Georgia and the Southeast/Service Opportunities.**

**Professor Desmal Purcell**

**10-Week Ten: (03/13/2018) Spring Break**

**11-Week Eleven: (03/20/2018) Meeting with President Bob Boehmer.**

**12-Week Twelve: (03/27/2018) Physical Environment of Georgia and the Southeast/Service Opportunities.**

**Dr. Jimmy Wedincamp**

**13-Week Thirteen: (04/03/2018) Ecology of Georgia and the Southeast/ Service Opportunities.**

**Dr. Breana Simmons**

**14. Week Fourteen: (04/10/2018) Study Tour**

**15. Week Fifteen: (04/17/2018) Final Exam**

# *Information About* **COSP2102**

**East Georgia State College  
Correll Scholars Program Practicum  
Thursdays: 8:00 am - 8:50 am • COSP 2102  
(CRN:20011)  
Spring 2018/One Credit Hour**

**I. Professor: H. Lee Cheek, Jr., Ph.D.**

**II. Office location: School of Social Sciences, C-277**

**Office Phone: (478)289-2048**

**E-mail address: lcheek@ega.edu**

**Office Hours: 0800-1700 daily**

**-EGSC's official mode of communication is via email. Therefore, check your EGSC and D2L email daily.**

**III. Course Description:**

**"This final course in the Correll Scholars Programs provides the student with the opportunity to observe the practice of service learning, academic research, and professional development by providing a structured and extended on-campus experience related to a student's career interests. During the course, students are expected to integrate classroom knowledge with work experience, develop practical career related skills and training, explore a career before graduation, and obtain work experience and professional attributes for future employment. To complete this course, students must work a total of 50 hours with an EGSC faculty member and complete three learning modules on D2L and a final research summary paper. Practicum assignments are subject to the approval of the Director of the Correll Scholars Program." (Catalog of East Georgia State College, 2017-2018, p. 75).**

**IV. Prerequisite: Successful completion of COSP 1101, 1102, and 2101.**

**V. Textbooks**

**-COSP 2102 Reader.**

**-Cress, Christine. Learning Through Serving: A Student Guidebook for Service-Learning Across the Disciplines (Sterling, Virginia: Stylus Publishing, 2005).**

**VI. Course Learning Outcomes with Linkages to General Education Student Learning Outcomes**

**The Correll Scholars Program is a new initiative at East Georgia State College. This one-credit hour course (to be offered each year), along with required ser-**

vice-learning experiences, are intended to introduce Correll Scholars to the importance of service and civic and cultural awareness in our region, nation, and world, through an integrative curriculum that challenges them to think critically about all of these concerns. Each week, the Correll Scholars will interact with some of EGSC's senior faculty on a variety of topics.

By combining an introduction to service with an academic seminar, Correll Scholars have the unique opportunity to contextualize the knowledge acquired within the classroom with their individual service learning experiences. Through class discussions, reading, and reflection, scholars will also be able to connect the relevance of service-learning work to the course objectives and their broad academic fields of study.

Working to enhance the quality and breadth of the undergraduate education for our Correll Scholars, this course strives to achieve the following goals:

- Demonstrate knowledge of key developments in the modern world.
- Demonstrate ability to compare and contrast America with other countries in our global community.
- Demonstrate ability to critically evaluate information.
- Demonstrate ability to communicate effectively in oral and written forms.
- Demonstrate successful participation in active learning through service.
- Demonstrate ability to create a comprehensive portfolio of learning experience in Correll Scholars Program.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Gain an understanding of research by working with a faculty member on a specific project.
- Integrate classroom knowledge with real-life work experience through a combination of practical experience and scholarly research.
- Evaluate the successful or failure of your practicum experience through empirical and qualitative means.
- Learn career-related skills that will assist students in gaining future employment.

#### **VII. and VIII.: Evaluation and Grading Tests/Quizzes**

Quizzes are based on assigned reading, lectures, and any additional material passed out or assigned. It is important to both read the material and listen attentively in class.

#### **Missed Test or Late Assignment**

Making -up a missed test or turning in an assignment late will be allowed only in special circumstances and if accompanied by official documentation. Let me know prior to the deadline or quiz date if there is a genuine conflict or crisis. Please discuss all concerns about completing course requirements or conflicting life situations with me. There will be no make-up quizzes.

#### **Cheating/Plagiarism**

Academic Integrity is expected. Cheating and plagiarism will result in failure

of the test or assignment and possible consequences from the College.

### **What to Bring to Class**

Your personage, a writing instrument, textbooks, and writing paper.

### **Disruptive Behaviors in Class**

Students who exhibit behaviors that are considered to obstruct or disrupt this class or its learning activities will be considered under the Board of Regents Policy on Disruptive Behavior. Behaviors which are considered to be inappropriate in this classroom include sleeping, eating, coming in late, interrupting others, talking out of turn, inappropriate behavior during group work, texting, verbal behavior that is disrespectful of other students or the faculty member, or other behaviors that may be disruptive. Students who exhibit such behavior may be temporarily dismissed from the class by the instructor and may be subject to disciplinary procedures outlined in the EGSC Student Handbook.

### **GRADING SCALE**

Grades for the semester will follow the USG scale:

The grading scale:

A = 100 – 90

B = 89 – 80

C = 79 – 70

D = 69 – 60

F = 59 – 0

### **GRADING SCHEME**

1-Three learning modules on D2L.

Each learning module consists of two assignments      50 Points

2-Research Summary Paper      50 Points

### **IX. Attendance Policy**

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to get the course notes from a classmate. Excessive absences will hurt your understanding of the material, comprehension of what is expected in assignments, and your grade.

### **XI. Plagiarism & Academic Dishonesty**

(please see EGSC student Handbook <http://www.ega.edu/policy/04-student-handbook.pdf>)

See also VII. and VIII. above.

### **XII.ADA Statement**

(can be found at <http://www.ega.edu/policy/04-student-handbook.pdf>)

### **XIII. Course Withdrawal Policy Statement:**

Students are responsible for their own academic progress. Decisions regarding withdrawal from courses should only be made after consultation with an academic advisor. Before withdrawing from a course, students must meet with a

**Financial Aid representative to discuss their personal financial aid situation. More information regarding withdrawal from courses can be found in the EGSC catalog.**

#### **XIV. Campus Emergency Policy**

- a. In the event the fire alarm is sounded, everyone must evacuate the building at once and in a calm and orderly fashion, using the nearest exit. In the event of a severe weather warning everyone must proceed immediately to the nearest designated shelter area which are marked by a small tornado symbol. All severe weather shelter locations are posted on the EGSC website. Each student should, on the first day of class, determine the location of the nearest exit and the nearest designated shelter area for each of his or her classrooms. If you have difficulties ask your instructor to assist you.**
- b. The Connect-ED system is a communication service that enables East Georgia State College administrators and security personnel to quickly contact all East Georgia State College students, faculty and staff with personalized voice and text messages that contain emergency-related campus information (e.g., campus closing, campus threat, health scare, etc.) With Connect-ED, East Georgia State College students can be reached and provided with vital instructions anywhere, anytime, through their cell phones, home phones, e-mail, TTY/TDD receiving devices, or other text-receiving devices. (<http://www.ega.edu/connect-ed.pdf>)**

#### **XV. Additional Course Requirements**

#### **XVI. Outline of Topics and Course Calendar**

- 1-Week One: Introduction to Course I**
- 2-Week Two: Introduction to Course II**
- 3-Week Three: Practicum Plan Development**
- 4-Week Four: Learning Module I Due**
- 5-Week Five: Practicum**
- 6-Week Six: Practicum**
- 7-Week Seven: Practicum**
- 8-Week Eight: Learning Module II Due**
- 9-Week Nine: Practicum**
- 10-Week Ten: Practicum**
- 11-Week Eleven: Practicum**
- 12-Week Twelve: Practicum**
- 13-Week Thirteen: Learning Module III Due**
- 14-Week Fourteen: Practicum**
- 15-Week Fifteen: Practicum**
- 16-Week Sixteen: Research Summary Presentation**

# Student Comments



## Madison Bearden

The worst part about the Correll Program is leaving. You become accustomed to friendship and familiarity and truly are scared to leave this comfort zone. However, I would never trade this experience for anything because this scholarship was the best thing that ever happened to me. Through this scholarship, I have met some of the greatest people such as other Correll Scholars, professors, employees through East Georgia State College, and even the President of the college. This scholarship gave me the ability to finish two years of college paid for debt-free and gave me such a great education through it. I am so thankful to have had this opportunity that impels me to finish out my degree. This program and college has immersed me out into the world to

try new things, pursue bigger goals, and thrive at the next college I will be attending. The best way to repay the Corrells for the best thing that ever happened to me is to graduate with my bachelor's and use my education and service-oriented attitude to better the world around me, nationally and internationally.

Through my two years at East Georgia State College and being a part of the Correll Scholarship, I have learned so many things. This scholarship has helped me to blossom into the person I want to be. Through my education at East Georgia, I have been able to fully decide what degree I'd like to pursue through the classes I have taken. One of my courses this semester, Global Issues, has broadened my horizons in understanding the world and has taught me about cultural diversity, which will help me succeed in my degree of anthropology. This is not the only class I have taken that broadened my horizons. This scholarship has been the best thing for me because I have been able to pursue my degree through some of my core classes in the social science department. In this program, one of the requirements was an internship and mine was with sociology professor Dr. Harry Vogel. I have learned so much through this internship in today's social problems, how to edit dissertation papers, etc. This internship will help me later in my anthropology degree, in which I have had more experience in because of this program. The Correll Program has empowered me to finish my anthropology degree, so I can understand cultures and use my degree to do good in the world.

I have participated in so many opportunities through the Correll Scholarship that will benefit me later. For instance, I do not have as much of a fear of public speaking anymore. As a second year Correll, we had to do a bus tour around the state of Georgia and speak to schools to promote East Georgia State College and the Correll Scholarship. To prepare for this tour, Dr. Cheek and other employees of East Georgia helped the program to overcome our fears and properly speak publicly. After speaking in front of big crowds of high school students, public speaking has become effortless and unexpectedly enjoyable. Also through the Correll Program, we did a Correll Practicum to Macon, Georgia and that was a spectacular experience to see a part of Georgian history I never knew about. Not only this, but this semester I was able to embark on a study abroad through the college to Italy. It was such an amazing experience I will never forget and I learned so much about the Italian culture, art, and even food. I recommend all students to study abroad at least once in their college career. Thankfully, I was able because of this program.

One of the biggest things I will miss the most about the program and East Georgia State College is the friendships I have accumulated over the years. In my Correll Program, we have become very close in our group. We have dealt with so much together through our classes, the Program, and even through losses of members. One of my favorite experiences as a Correll Scholar is Boehmer Fest, where all the Corrells congregate at the President's home for tacos and hot chocolate. It's special time I will always cherish and hope maybe one day we will reunite again there. Not only in the program, but I have made friends throughout the campus in the library, in classes, and through my study abroad. I, also, am very close with my professors, who have helped me over the years, and hope to come back to see them once I leave. One of the greatest gifts is friendship and I hope to continue in mine, even when we are all gone pursuing different goals.

East Georgia State College is held dear in my heart through laughter in friendships, tears of sadness and joy, hard work through education, and hope for tomorrow. This college will be the place of good fortune because the Correll Program has helped me succeed in it. I hope to come back once I leave to the place where everyone knows my name. I will shed tears when I leave East Georgia State College and the Correll Program. This program is one of the best things that has ever happened to me and I will never take it for granted. I have enjoyed my life so much through the Correll Scholarship and through East Georgia State College. I am now going to pursue a bachelor's degree in medical anthropology at Augusta University. I may be moving on to pursue a dream, but I could have never done it without the Correll Program. I shall never forget the wonderful times I had nor the people who have influenced my life. I recommend this scholarship to anyone because it is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that I deeply cherish. The Correll Scholarship is the best thing to ever happen to me and I pray that it is also for others to come; may this scholarship be blessed and bless others.



# Carlie Dixon

Thank you again for giving me the opportunity of receiving the Correll Scholarship. This scholarship has brought me many new friends and many opportunities. Thank you for giving so many students this opportunity and helping their families financially. It has allowed me to experience many different things that I wouldn't have without the scholarship. I am proud to have represented this great and amazing scholarship and I hope upcoming students who will receive this scholarship will represent it well also. I have enjoyed tutoring, going to Dr. Boehmer's house, and going on practicum trips.

I hope the socials at Dr. Boehmer's house will continue. I hope it will continue because I know every time our group got together, we always left feeling closer to each other. We would always bond and talk about all of our problems. I also hope that the tutoring continues because I know how much it meant to the elementary school kids. They would always run off the bus because they were so excited to see us. I hope upcoming recipients will appreciate that opportunity and bond with the kids. I know we made a huge impact in their lives.

I also hope the practicums will continue because the two I went to were very fun and interesting. The first year, we went to UGA and my favorite part about that trip was visiting the Veterinarian Hospital and School. Without this scholarship, I would not have been able to experience that amazing place. This year we went to Macon to visit many incredible historic places. My favorite out of all the ones we visited was the Hay House. This house blew my mind and I am so glad I was a part of the tour. I also really enjoyed being a part of the East Georgia State College bus tour. I traveled with the college to Swainsboro High School, Metter High School, Thomas Jefferson Academy, and Jefferson County High School. I enjoyed talking to all these amazing students and telling them what an amazing college East Georgia is and what an amazing scholarship the Correll Scholarship is. I talked about how both the college and the scholarship have made a huge impact on my life and how they have prepared me for my future. I hope many of these students listened to me and took my advice on many things I talked to them about. They all seemed very interested about what we had to say.

This scholarship is not only very important to me, but it is super important to my family. This scholarship has helped me to stay debt-free and has taken tremendous stress off my parents. This scholarship has helped me to focus all my time and effort on school because I have not had to find a job to help support paying for my school. I can spend all of my time studying and making the best I can in all of my classes. It has been nice not having to worry about concentrating on a job and school. If I didn't have this scholarship I would have had to get a job and focus on school at the same time. I am the type to worry and stress about everything so I am glad I do not have to balance a job and school right now. I have been successful in all my college classes and have kept my grades where I want them to be. I plan on graduating this spring and I am super excited because I know how much I have accomplished and now I am being rewarded for that. All of my stress and frustration and hard work is paying off and I super excited about the next chapter of my life. After graduation, I will be moving to Augusta, Ga. in the end of July to attend Augusta University to finish up my Bachelor of Biology. I am a little sad about moving away from my hometown, but I know everyone will be proud of me. After I complete my Bachelor of Biology, I plan to apply to the Medical College of Georgia to hopefully one day become a Pediatrician.

East Georgia State College has been an amazing college and everyone here is wonderful and helpful. I know it will be hard to find another college as great as this one. The faculty and staff have helped me tremendously and have helped me prepare for my future and also challenged me. I know I will be prepared for the changes because this scholarship has taught me many useful skills. This scholarship has taught me leadership skills, social skills, and many more important skills. I know I will be prepared to take on this major change because of what this scholarship has given and offered to me. East Georgia State College has also helped prepare for my future classes I will have to take and daily life lessons. Dr. Cheek is also a big part in helping me prepare for my future and for all the rough spots to come. He has kept me on the right academic path and has guided me through obstacles that may have come my way. I would not have the future plans I have now without the help of Dr. Cheek.

Thank you so much again for giving me this opportunity because, without this scholarship, I do not know how my life would be without it. I have grown as a person and a student by all the opportunities that have been offered to me and I am blessed because I know many people do not have this opportunity. I try to tell as many people as I can about this wonderful scholarship and this amazing college so maybe more people can be blessed the way I was. I will never forget my experience here at East Georgia and how it has gotten me started for my future. I will definitely never forget the Correll Scholarship and how it has impacted my life.



# Bethaney Fortner

Throughout the course of my two years spent at East Georgia State College, I have truly been blessed—the Correll Scholarship being the icing on the cake. There is not a paper that could convey the words and boundless beauty the Correll Scholarship has given to me in such a short amount of time. Psalm 20:4 says, "May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed." This is a prayer that I am sure many fellow Christians are familiar with. Whenever I was in high school I was the one who applied and gained acceptance into all of the "BIG" schools throughout the state (i.e., Mercer and UGA). Whenever spring of 2016 rolled around, two months before graduation, I had yet to decide what

university I would attend in the fall. In truthful spite of my classmates who had applied, I decided to apply for the Correll Scholarship. All I knew at the moment was it was some new scholarship East Georgia was awarding. Who wanted to stay at home and go to Swainsboro? All of my friends were moving away from home, picking out their dorm room décor and here I was being awarded "the Correll Scholarship." Little did I know, this would prove to be an unanswered prayer! Being awarded this scholarship was placing me in route to make all of my plans succeed.

I have been given countless opportunities to demonstrate service to my school and community through the past four semesters here at EGSC. Spending my first year of college giving back to struggling, local elementary school students through the program "Bobcat Buddies" reassured me of just how blessed I have been. It opened mine, along with my fellow scholars', eyes to see the world of children who have no one to guide them with their homework or no one to make sure they have clean clothes to wear. Often conversations arose as to what we would have for supper. Their eyes would instantly light up. Some of our children did not even have meals provided outside the walls of the local school system. While I taught my buddy sight words and multiplication tables, she taught me a lot more valuable, practical, life lessons than anything I could be taught inside four walls of a classroom.

Another very interesting opportunity for service that I have been blessed with during my time of a Correll Scholar was touring on the College Readiness Tour. I feel confident in saying there is a very, very small amount of students within the University System of Georgia who are personally chosen by their school president to represent their college or university. Fortunately, I was one of those chosen to represent EGSC and what exactly it means to be a Correll Scholar. Having the opportunity to travel to high schools this past spring will be one of my fondest memories of the program. Coming from a small, rural high school, I had never been exposed to some of the cultures I would be speaking in front of at these schools. Although I am not aware of any particular person that I spoke to and influenced to apply, I feel certain in saying that the scholarship is much more publicized now due to the Readiness Tour. I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to President Boehmer and his recruitment staff in having as much faith in us scholars as they did. If it were not for them believing in our purpose on this campus, many high school students would not know the difference they could make and the shoes they would be filling when applying for the scholarship.

Leadership has always been a huge part of my lifestyle. Not only do I want to be a leader for my peers, but I also want to be a part of others who share the same beliefs as I do. Because of the Correll Scholarship, I have gained accountability partners. Each and every one of my classmates strives for success just as much as I do! It is so rewarding to be able to surround yourself with people of such distinction. In today's society, it feels like we are slowly inching further and further away from morality. While here at East Georgia State College, our goal as scholars is to bridge that gap. We want others to know that you should go to college with a will to learn—that is why you are there. Everyone has a purpose and it is not just to fill a seat. Instead, it is to change the world. Whether it is to change your own circumstances of where you came from or to help others pursue their goals, we as scholars try our best to provide on-campus leadership to our fellow classmates.

East Georgia State College has provided me with the rigor needed to prepare myself for a bachelor program. It has enhanced my critical thinking skills, which can attribute to my recent acceptance into Augusta University's nursing program. Furthermore, I could not imagine any other person directing our program than the wonderful Dr. Cheek. His witty personality (yet sternness whenever it comes to our future) has shaped, encouraged, and guided me in exactly the right direction. He has instilled in me the humbleness one needs and the grit that goes along with being an exceptional scholar.

Being a recipient of the Correll Scholarship for not only one, but two years of my collegiate career has far surpassed what I had in mind upon beginning the program in August of 2016—a free associate degree. It has given me one-on-one relationships with people that I would have probably never even known if I was just an average student. It is so nice to have President Boehmer and his wife, Mrs. Joyce, knowing me on a first name basis. The professors that I have had the privilege of learning from have given me knowledge that I will carry on throughout my lifelong profession. While all of these are great, the greatest blessing of all is the belief Mr. Pete and Mrs. Ada Lee Correll had in us scholars way back in April of 2016. Whenever calculations may fade from my memory, the fondest memories I will hold dear to EGSC are those I spent with the ones who became my very, best friends—"the Correll Scholars."



# Tiffani Gordon

As my time as a Correll Scholar is coming to an end, I am overwhelmed with thankfulness and moments I will cherish forever. The Correll scholarship has meant more to me than I will ever be able to explain. This scholarship has pushed me to be successful and strive for greatness. For the two years I have spent at East Georgia State College, being a Correll Scholar has made the most impact and has left the biggest imprint on my life. I will never be able to say thank you enough or explain just how much the scholarship has meant to me.

Throughout this program, I have learned all about our community and the importance of giving back to the place that has made us into who we are. During our Correll class each semester I also learned the many defining features that make our region of Georgia so special. East Georgia and South East Georgia are important and unique, but people often overlook this because they are uneducated in all its features. There were several challenging days during my academic career at East Georgia State College, but the challenges have pushed me and made me a better person in the end. I have always heard that it will not always be easy, but it will always be worth it. This perfectly describes my academic career, but I am thankful for the challenges that I have overcome. Those tough days and challenges have made me smarter and pushed me to realize I am capable of more than I imagined.

The Correll Scholarship Program has also allowed me to intern during my last semester at EGSC. I chose to do my internship at Vidalia Oral and Maxillofacial surgery because I am going to school to become a nurse. This opportunity has allowed me to interact one on one with patients, as well as learn so much about the medical field while being able to work hands-on in the that field. I have learned so much through this internship, and I feel as though this is going to better prepare me in becoming a nurse one day. I got accepted into Georgia Southern University, and I will start the nursing program in the fall. I could not think of a better way to prepare me for the journey ahead than exactly what this internship has given me. Thank you for making the internship a part of our final semester and preparing us to prosper.

Another huge impact this program has had on me has been providing me with life-long friends. I have met some of the most amazing people through this program. Over the semesters we have been together, we have not only become friends, but more than that--family. These people mean the world to me. I cannot wait to see just how successful they all continue to become. Our group has become so close and, although we have lost some along the way, we have stuck together through thick and thin. We lost one of our most amazing scholars, Taylor Hooks, last year. Although I only knew her for one short year, she made one of the biggest impacts on my life. She was a beautiful, kind-hearted, loving, hilarious, and amazing friend. She never failed to brighten my days and because you chose me as a Correll Scholar, I got to meet my forever angel. Thank you for allowing me to meet her and also stand strong with my fellow Correll family as we went through that loss. Dr. Cheek has also made a life-long impact on every Correll Scholar. He has invested in us and helped us every step of the way. Thank you for making him our leader and supervisor because we have all grown to love and appreciate his awesomeness.

We also just got to go on our annual practicum trip, and this year we went to Macon, Ga. Throughout the day, we toured many of the popular tourist attractions in Macon. Although Macon is not too far from home, I got to see things I had never seen before and learn information I never knew. This was another opportunity to learn of our state's history and further our knowledge as educated young adults. We visited the Indian mounds, Fort Hawkins, the Hay House, the Big House, and several other places. I loved being able to learn more while also hanging out with my friends. Not only did I just hang out with the sophomore Corrells, but I also got to meet the freshman Correll group and interact with them. This trip was one I am thankful for and blessed that the Correll Scholarship has brought me such great opportunities over the past two years.

As my time as a Correll Scholar is coming to an end and graduation is nearing, I am so thankful and blessed to have been chosen for such a great opportunity that has changed my college career and me as a person. Without your generous hearts, I would not be where I am today. I will forever be thankful for your generosity and the life-changing opportunities it has brought me. I will be graduating from East Georgia State College in May, along with many of my fellow Sophomore Corrells, and I can honestly say your help has gotten me to this point in my academic journey. I am overwhelmed with thankfulness, but also very sad as I write my final Correll letter. This journey has been one I will never forget. I am sad that the time has come for me to part ways with East Georgia and my Correll family. Although I am parting ways physically, East Georgia State College and my Correll family has made an impact so large on my life that they will be in my heart forever. I have learned so much and grown not just in my academics, but also as a person. Once again, thank you for this amazing opportunity. I will forever be proud to call myself a Correll Scholar and soon to be an East Georgia State College Alumna.



# Darryl Henderson

Mr. and Mrs. Correll have truly blessed me with the opportunity to attend East Georgia State College by offering the Correll Scholarship. The Correll Scholarship is a very lucrative and rewarding scholarship that I was very fortunate to receive. If it were not for the financial support of this scholarship, I do not think that I would have been able to cover all of my expenses to attend college. This scholarship has provided me an opportunity to learn new things and provide service to the community. The Correll Scholarship has helped me maximize my full potential. The

requirements and obligations have pushed me to not slack and keep myself focused on school. Being able to work along with other bright and smart minds is a reward itself.

Our Correll mentor, Dr. Cheek, always makes sure each student is headed toward the right direction with our classes but also speaks to us in a friendly manner with his joyful and energetic persona. He cares about each and every one of his students. He takes the time to get to know all of us on a personal level so we can feel like we are cared about instead of being just another student. Every week in class, we are presented with a professor from a different field of study who teaches us fascinating new materials. For example, a professor presented a slideshow of different cool attractions around Georgia and jobs associated in that field that people may not have had an idea of. Another presenter talked of her degree in ecology and the places she has visited and worked that looked cool and interesting. With every professor that presents to the class, it seems that new insights and potential areas of intrigue are brought up that help the class understand new things that we may have never thought of. It really makes you believe that, if you set your sights on a goal, you can achieve whatever you set your mind to, no matter what your background.

The Bobcat Buddies program provided me the opportunity to provide service to the community by tutoring Swainsboro Elementary School students. Every Tuesday and Thursday, the Correll Scholars help the elementary school students with their homework in a variety of subjects. My Bobcat Buddies were fifth graders Abraham and Irvin. When I first partnered with them, they were kind of shy and quiet. As the program progressed and they became comfortable, they became energetic and kept conversations funny and upbeat. Assisting those two taught me many things as well. When assisting people, you learn many skills such as responsibility, reliability, adaptability, and patience. Establishing a relationship with the students is an important aspect of tutoring. Simply being able to be there for your buddy and lifting them up could go a long way in lifting their spirits. On some days, the kids are a little riled up from school, but it's important not to scream at and berate the kids. It is very effective to just speak with them at their level to try and calm them down. Many of the kids just need someone to look up to, a positive role model in their lives, to take the next step in being all that they can be.

The Correll Scholarship has also helped me in figuring out my career. I am currently a general studies major. After I receive my associates from East Georgia I plan to transfer to Georgia Southern to receive my bachelor's in information technology. I was accepted to both the University of Georgia and Southern, but I decided to go with Southern because of its lower price. East Georgia State College provides classes that have transfer credit and the Correll Scholarship has allowed me to take those classes at this small institution instead of struggling to see the professor at a large institution.

Having the Correll Scholarship grants me the opportunity to go on exciting trips that teach me fantastic new things. Dr. Boehmer and his wife graciously opened their home and invited the first and second year Correll Scholars to a social. The social allowed the first year Correll Scholars to meet and make friends with the second year Correll Scholars. It was a wonderful experience to be around the fellow Corrells. Every person is unique and had a different story to tell. In the spring semester of 2018, the Correll Scholars engaged in the Correll Practicum. The Practicum was held in Macon. While in Macon, we toured different historical sites such as the Hay House and the Ocmulgee National Monument.

The Correll Scholarship has meant a great deal to me. As I said before, if it were not for the Correll Scholarship, I would not be able to attend college. Being part of the Correll Scholars Program is very rewarding. Not only is it rewarding financially, but having the feeling that you are able to make a difference in the community is a reward in itself. The Correll Scholars Program will help you establish your future in your career. Providing service to the community is an important aspect of showing leadership and responsibility that your future employers will look for. I highly recommend the Correll Scholarship to anyone with the drive to be all that they can be and has a passion to give back to the community.



# Kara Henry

First off, I want to thank you all for giving me such a wonderful, life-changing opportunity. The Correll Scholarship has been such a blessing, and I am so thankful that I was given the opportunity to experience the things I have over the past two years. I will never be able to thank you all enough for your generosity. This scholarship has been a huge financial help to my family and I hope to one day give back to my community as you all have done. Not only has this scholarship benefitted me financially, but it has also been beneficial in many other ways. Had I not been a recipient of this scholarship, I would have never met as many wonderful people, participated in as many awesome events, and made as many lifelong friends.

At the beginning of my first semester as a Correll Scholar, I did not know many of the people who also received this scholarship. After a little while, we all became closer. Between class and tutoring, we were together at least three times a week, and, before we knew it, we were all great friends. As you may know, we lost a very special member of our group, Taylor Hooks. She was one of the most energetic people I had the privilege of knowing. Although she may not be here in presence, her spirit is still lingering, and we all know that we will see her again one day.

I have experienced many new things through this scholarship. Prior to tutoring the students from Swainsboro Elementary School, I had no experience. I was nervous when we first started, but, now that it is over, I miss spending time with the children. I see them out and about from time to time, and they remember me. There is one student who, no matter where we are, gives me a hug each time we see each other. I am so glad that I had the opportunity to be a part of their lives, and I am glad that they were a part of mine.

During my second year as a Correll Scholar, I was given the opportunity to participate in an internship in the field of my study. I have been employed as a part time bank teller at Citizens Bank of Swainsboro since June of 2016, so, when I heard about the internship, my first thought was, "when am I going to have time?" Thankfully, I was able to do extra work in the loan department of the bank as my internship. I learned so much in the short time that I was interning, and it has furthered my career already, as I have taken on many new responsibilities.

Each year, we, as a group of Correll Scholars, go on a trip known to many as Spring Practicum. President Boehmer and his wife, Joyce, go with us, as well as a few professors from East Georgia State College. Last year, we toured the University of Georgia. This year, we spent the day in Macon, visiting the Indian Mounds, the Hay House, the Big House (which is the house that the Allman Brothers Band lived in) the Sydney Lanier Cottage, the Tubman Museum, and The Rookery. Out of all the fascinating things that we had the opportunity to see, I believe my favorite was the Hay House. It is beautiful, and it was built in the Italian Renaissance Revival style. I never would have thought that I would learn so much from spending one day touring Macon and many of its treasures.

Once again, I want to thank you all for all that you have done, not only for my family and I, but also for East Georgia State College and its students and staff. It has been an honor to have the opportunity to experience two years of college as a Correll Scholar. It has been an unforgettable experience, and I hope that, one day, I will be able to help students as you have helped me.



# Monique Johnson

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for this scholarship. This scholarship has truly changed my life. Being a Correll has opened many doors and opportunities for me that I didn't know I had. I was able to meet new people through this program that shared same interest as me. We were able to connect and help each other stay motivated and continue to do the best that we can. I got to know my fellow Correll members and saw how motivated

and driven they were, which kept me motivated. I was blessed to have these fellow Correll members in my life they are all very bright people with bright futures. We are like one big, happy, dysfunctional family which is bonded by an experience that no one else would understand. I actually miss doing Bobcat Buddies. It was a great requirement and I was able help someone's success by applying positivity to their life.

This has been a busy semester for me. I had to learn how to adapt and find effective ways to help me study. I faced many challenges this semester with school, work, and home but I was able to get through it. This semester has gone by so fast and my grades are good. Dr. Cheek is still pushing me to keep going and not give up, even though I feel like I don't belong in this program sometimes because the other Corrells are very smart. I just don't want to let anyone down because my family and friends expect so much of me. All I want to do is make them happy and proud of me. I have a little cousin that told me I was her role model and she was proud of me. Hearing that from my cousin really touched my heart and that gave me the extra encouragement I needed to get through this semester, which really caught me off guard. I didn't know that I was good enough to be someone's role model because I strive to be the best person I can be every day. Since I know that I have people looking up to me, I have to make the right choices and decisions in life that might help someone else along the way.

My biggest challenge is still biology, but it's getting better with time. It's far from easy and I knew coming into this major it would be a challenge. Now, I must put in the ground work to be successful. I decided to stick with getting my bachelor's degree in biology. I'm not going to quit or give up. I really liked my microbiology class this semester and learned so much about bacteria and infections. In a way, I feel like that class changed me and made me see things from a different perspective. I was not aware of how amazing the immune system is and how it protects us from getting sick. Statistics was a pretty good class and is very different from any of the other mathematics I have taken. Sociology was interesting, I learned about human behavior, social change, and social conflict. I am kind of sad that I might not see my Correll members anymore. Everyone is going their separate ways and off to being successful.

I have truly enjoyed this experience of being a Correll. I have grown and developed as an individual. I have started to open up and not be so shy. Looking back at the last two years and seeing how far I have come is amazing. Especially when people doubted me and said I would amount to nothing. That only motivated me to strive to be better and prove them wrong. I would not be the person I am today without this program that helped mold me into a better citizen. This program has taught me how important it is to give back to your community and help others along the way. I always wanted to make a difference in the world and I can one step at a time. I'm going to join more clubs and get more involved with my community. You all have made my first two years of college enjoyable and worth the experience. Hopefully, my last two years of college will be just as great as my first two. After I graduate with my bachelor's degree, I am planning on going to a PA Program in Georgia. I promise to do my best and give it everything I've got. Thank you for believing in me and taking a chance on me. Hopefully, I did not let you all down. Once again, I want to thank you for this opportunity and I am truly grateful.



# Abigail Johnson

**My time in the Correll Scholars Program has sincerely been the highlight of my educational and social career at East Georgia State College. It has introduced me to multiple people who I now hold near and dear to my heart. It has given me educational opportunities with hands-on experience. My time here at East Georgia State College has been one that I will cherish for a lifetime.**

**Throughout these last two years as a Correll Scholar, I have learned a great deal about the environment here, leadership and communication skills, and many other helpful life skills. I enjoyed every single one of our lectures, as it was something new and engaging that interested all of us. The fact that Dr. Cheek worked so hard to get new speakers for us each class to present their lecture always kept us on the edge of our seats. It was something new each class, which made it easier to stay engaged and attentive. Each speaker has brought a different topic, however they each tie into the Wiregrass Region. I have learned many unique facts about this region, from literature written here, to the demographics of the Wiregrass Region, and my personal favorite: the study of the plants and wildlife.**

**One of my favorite things about the Correll Scholar Program was working with the Swainsboro Elementary students twice a week my freshman year. Tutoring those kids was one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. Unfortunately, a lot of those kids come from less fortunate backgrounds. Being in a small town, rural area, I did expect that. However, these kids were far from incapable. I personally got to work one on one every day with a young 5th grade girl. She was always in a happy mood and willing to work on her weaknesses. By the end of the year, she was excelling in all of her classes. I was so proud of her and very sad when we had to part ways. These kids taught me that, throughout life, we will be faced with many obstacles, but you should never let that stop you from being successful. This year, I have been faced with some minor obstacles and, when I think things are tough, I simply think back to tutoring the elementary students and realize that anything is possible with hard work and dedication.**

**The Correll Scholars Program has given me many things. I am most grateful for the bonds I have gained through the Correll Scholars Program. Coming from another town, I did not know anyone here at East Georgia State College, but that did not last long. By the end of my first semester here, I had gained 19 other friends. My Correll Scholar colleagues have been such a blessing. We all stay in touch outside of the classroom and I truly believe that I could call any one of them if I ever needed a favor. Unfortunately, we lost a member of our group during the summer of 2017. It was hard seeing my friends mourn in the loss of a friend and classmate. However, with the help of friends and other professors, we were able to lean on each other and remember her wild spirit together.**

**Being the oldest of three children, the expense of college is just beginning for my parents. However, receiving this scholarship took a great deal of the financial burden off of my parents. This truly meant a lot to me. I wanted to be able to make it as easy as possible for my parents financially. I am lucky enough to have parents who will fully pay for my college education and many people do not get to have that opportunity and end up paying for their student loans for years. By being awarded the Correll Scholarship, an athletic scholarship for softball, as well as receiving HOPE, I was almost able to go to school at East Georgia State College for free. I will be forever grateful for the Corrells and the scholarship committee for choosing me to be a part of this program and allowing me to ease my parents' financial burden.**

**Another thing that I am grateful for about the Correll Scholarship is that it has given me the chance to learn from some of the greatest professors in the state, notably Dr. Cheek. Dr. Cheek has been such a kind spirit and always knows just what to say. His intelligence and way of thinking is astonishing. I am very thankful to have been able to learn about the Wiregrass Region through him. Not only is he an amazing professor, but he is also a kind person who I am thankful to call my friend. He goes out of his way in order to make sure that, as a Correll Scholar, we are set on track and working towards a plan set for our future. He has taught me many things, not only in an academic stand point, but also many life skills that I will be able to take with me wherever I go.**

**My time in the Correll Scholars Program has flown by. These past two years have been amazing and I cannot believe how much I have grown educationally and personally. I plan on taking the things I have learned back home with me, where I will attend college at Middle Georgia State University. I plan to become a Respiratory Therapist. I know that the attributes I have learned here at East Georgia State College as a Correll Scholar will help me to succeed and be the best I can possibly be. I will forever be grateful to the Corrells for allowing me to be a part of this program. I am looking forward to taking the next step in my future and I will always hold East Georgia State College in my heart.**



# Adrianna Minton

I absolutely cannot believe my time as a Correll Scholar at East Georgia State College is already coming to an end. Words really could not describe the full extent of what this scholarship has done for my life over the past two years. While reflecting on my various experiences, a huge grin immediately appears on my face. This prestigious program has shown me nothing but love, support and encouragement. I have realized, especially in the past two semesters, that, without the Correll Scholars program, my experience at East Georgia State College would be so much different. My

favorite commitment for this scholarship was the Bobcat Buddies tutoring sessions. Even though we were not required to tutor this year, I am still very grateful for that experience and the memories I made at the Sudie Fulford Center. I had tons of fun being silly and acting like a kid sometimes with my little buddies! Mrs. Jean is one of the most genuinely nice people I know and it was a pleasure to work with her. I really enjoyed learning about the Wiregrass Region and, since I have a passion for traveling internationally, I appreciated the time each speaker took to discuss international issues last semester. It was interesting to learn about the different aspects of our world. I truly believe the seminar is an essential component of this program. Finally, the EGSC Bus Tour was an interesting event that made me feel worthwhile. I loved having the opportunity to speak to future students about our college. I hope my words made an impact on students who needed some positive guidance! I would not be the student I am today without my involvement in these special happenings and I have thoroughly enjoyed every piece of the Correll Scholars puzzle.

The financial support from this scholarship is important to my current and future education. I have to pay for my own education; therefore, I am extremely thankful for the monetary aspect. Since I work almost full time and I receive financial aid, the Correll Scholarship has allowed me to save money for the next few years of college at Augusta University, which I know for sure will be costly. However, to me, this scholarship is more than just a monetary award. Personally, the Correll Scholars Program is not all about the financial support, but the uplifting spirits of every single person involved. One of the things I love most about this program is that we are a part of something truly special. I can glance around at any time and know the people surrounding me want to see me do well in life. I have come to know some of the most encouraging, motivated people through this program who have helped me through some very difficult times in my life. The past two semesters have been especially challenging for me and the friendships I created through this program have proved to be loving and loyal no matter what. We have so much fun when we are together, especially on our practicum trips. Those are some of my most cherished memories! I know that, as I go through life, I will meet more amazing people, but I am forever thankful for my Correll friends! We have all become so close over the past two years and not seeing them every day in the hall or in class will definitely take some getting used to!

I know for certain that I could never repay the countless people who have assisted me or will in the future, but I can offer an unpretentious "thank you" from the very bottom of my heart. I know from experience that believing in yourself is a vital key to succeeding, but it is often difficult to have self-confidence as a college student who is facing various struggles. Even if I do not have faith in my own ability, I know I can find inspiration in this program and the people who make it happen. It is who we surround ourselves with that determine the outcome of our actions, and I could not be more blessed to be a part of this amazing group. There are so many faculty and staff members at East Georgia State College that sincerely care about the students. Without them, my success would not have been possible. I am also extremely grateful for our one-of-a-kind, fearless leader, Dr. Lee Cheek. He has not only guided me academically, but also psychologically. He may not realize it, but his infectious personality and encouraging words of wisdom have given me the courage to keep pushing forward. I am quite positive my fellow Correll Scholars feel the same way about him! I have also met some of my very best life-long friends through this program and I could not be more thankful for them. Once again, I would like to offer an enormous thanks to the Correll family not only for giving me this opportunity to help me succeed in life, but for being there when we lost a member of the second year Correll Scholars. That love meant so much to me and confirmed my theory that becoming a Correll Scholar at East Georgia State College was one of the best decisions I have ever made. I will never forget my time spent in Swainsboro thanks to this amazing scholarship opportunity. It is an incomparable experience that has meant the world to me. When I count my blessings, I count the Correll Scholars Program more than once!



# Tanner Peebles

**I cannot begin to express how the Correll Scholarship has changed my life. Thank you both so much for implementing this truly life-changing scholarship. Through this scholarship, I have not only successfully completed my two years of college, but have made valuable friends in the process. Because the first two years of college have been so successful and rewarding, I am excited and look forward to staying with East Georgia State**

**College for another two years. The academia at East Georgia allows many opportunities for me to excel academically and grow personally, all while building vital resume and medical school application skills. I am eternally grateful to you both for organizing this scholarship, which has allowed me to build such a vast and diverse network of friends, teachers, and mentors.**

**Not only has your scholarship helped benefit my personal and academic life, I have also been able to become more involved in extracurricular activities through the connection of the Correll Scholars Program. I am able to participate with the Ambassadors Program, the Judicial Review Board, the Informational Technology Board, as well as host roles in honor societies such as Phi Theta Kappa and TriBeta. Through these extracurriculars, I have been able to further improve leadership skills, which will benefit me one day when I return to my hometown to practice medicine. Juggling all of the extracurricular activities, maintaining above a 3.8 GPA, working two jobs, and preparing for medical school sometimes seems a bit overwhelming. However, because of my role in the Correll Scholars Program and extracurriculars, I will be better equipped to experience the fast and busy pace of medical school.**

**I remember back to the first time I heard about the Correll Scholars Program just a little over two years ago. Although that seems like yesterday, I have made some of the best, lifelong friends and have gotten to know them all on a personal level. I speak with the utmost certainty that, although transferring to other colleges may pull us apart geographically, we will always be tied together through this special program. I remember it like it was just yesterday when Taylor always reminded us how we would always be "Corrells for Life." The both of you have certainly served this community well by choosing students who are so dedicated to this area. This has definitely made an impact on my life that will last forever. It is because of generous donors like you that enable people like myself to complete degrees in hopes of fulfilling the promise we took to help this community continue to thrive.**

**This program has helped me to progress not only as a college student, but as a future doctor. Additionally, I have gained valuable skills in this program, such as being persistent, resolute, and compassionate. Because of this program, I have learned not only how vital it is to come back to my hometown when I gain my education, but how to use the impact I have to expand rural areas. I am especially proud of the endeavors the college is taking to link community and college life such as the restoration of the Dixie Theatre. My main goal as I leave East Georgia following my bachelor's degree is to make you both proud one day when I return to my hometown to practice medicine. The Correll Scholars Program has made my desired future seem more attainable and I am forever indebted to the both of you. Both of you are the epitome of philanthropists and I can only hope one day to be as successful and caring as you both. Thank you so much for your continued love, support, and compassion.**



# Braswell Walraven

**My Correll experience has been fantastic for the short two years I have attended East Georgia State College. There are not words to describe how thankful I am to have received this scholarship and the countless memories I have made with my fellow Correll Scholars will surely last me a lifetime. I have made a numerous number of friends as a part of the Correll Scholarship and they will have special place in my heart for all time. The financial benefits have come as a blessing to not only me, but also my family, allowing me to not worry about**

**the financial burdens that many college students face throughout their college experience. Again, I cannot describe how much of a blessing this scholarship has been to me and my family, but I will try to express my gratitude and tell about my plans after East Georgia in the remainder of this letter.**

**When I was looking for colleges to apply to in my latter years of high school, I considered many options, but none stood out as much as East Georgia. I come from a large family and I have many first, second, and third cousins that have attended East Georgia State College in previous years. I asked all of them about attending East Georgia and they all said I should try to attend here. When I was beginning my application process, I noticed the Correll Scholarship, which was advertised on the East Georgia website. This immediately caught my attention, so I applied and was called in to interview. I was extremely honored to be chosen for the interview process and was ecstatic when I got word that I was going to be receiving the scholarship.**

**The first day of Correll class was very interesting. I was a little nervous because I didn't know anyone in the scholarship program, but I was also very excited to meet my new-found companions that I would be spending the next two years with. I immediately felt a strong connection with each one of them and I am privileged to call them all my friends.**

**After we all got acquainted with each other throughout the first few weeks of our first semester, we started tutoring local third, fourth, and fifth graders from Swainsboro Elementary School. We were unsure of the experience at first, but grew to love and enjoy every minute of it. We did this for our first two semesters and it allowed us to grow closer as friends. I remember multiple times after we finished tutoring for the day, a few of us Corrells would either go out and get supper or just sit around in the parking lot and talk. This was the only time I got to see some of my friends because we had different class schedules. This time after the tutoring allowed us to bond and become closer, but the tutoring was the best part.**

**The kids were amazing and, for the most part, respectful and kind towards us. We helped them with not only in their school work, but also tried our best to impact their lives. It was hard to see them go at the end of the spring semester, but knowing that we impacted their lives in a positive way, I felt joy in also in seeing them go and showing the world that Bobcat Buddies changed their lives.**

**Our last few semesters, we each were required to acquire an internship in a field that is related to the degree we are chasing. I am going to transfer to ABAC after finishing at East Georgia to become an Agriculture Education teacher, so I was allowed to shadow a local Ag teacher from Wheeler County. I will not go into much detail on my time there, but I truly enjoyed the experience.**

**I also grew even closer to my fellow Correll Scholars and it will be hard to say goodbye to them at the end of the semester. They will always have a great love for every single one of them and I will truly miss them when we go our separate ways.**

**I cannot express in words how thankful I am for this wonderful opportunity I have been given. All I can say is whatever my future holds, I know I will never forget and will never stop using what I have learned by going through the Correll Scholarship Program. I want to say thank you to the Correll family for allowing the college to provide us with this great opportunity. I have almost completed my second year of college and it couldn't have been any better. I just wish my degree was offered at East Georgia so I would not have to transfer to another college. I want to end this paper by saying thank you again and I have truly enjoyed every second of my two years as a Correll Scholar. I will truly miss East Georgia State College when I leave and, no matter what happens, I will never forget the Correll Scholarship Program.**



# Cameron Chalker

College is not easy, especially for someone who has nerves frayed by the modern public high school. The biggest reason any student has apprehensions about college is, hands down, the idea that they may not be able to afford the rising tuition costs. The Correll Scholarship is a privately-funded scholarship available only to incoming freshman at East Georgia State College's Swainsboro Campus. It basically offers a free ride, and that financial security is invaluable.

Without the threat of financial troubles looming over our heads, the Correll Scholars are free to learn. Of course, learning goes far beyond the classroom, and the opportunities offered by our position here at East Georgia State College provide glimpses into the "real world" we have heard about for almost two decades.

The Correll Scholarship is a prestigious scholarship opportunity that was implemented to recognize and prepare potential community leaders for opportunities to succeed academically and give back to their community. It stresses academic dedication, leadership, and community involvement. This program has done so much to ease my transition into college life. Proudly led by Dr. Cheek, one of the hardest-working and most charismatic professors at EGSC, he provides academic advice, guides classroom discussion, is always there for stimulating conversation, and lends a hand with the small issues that inevitably pop up in college life. The other scholars are some of my best friends on campus, and with Dr. Cheek proudly introducing us to all his coworkers, the Scholars have become mini-celebrities around campus. We receive invitations to service projects, special dinners, breakfast discussions with state government officials, and a whole menagerie of other special events.

As part of our scholarship, we are required to participate in a tutoring/mentoring program involving elementary school children. The Bobcat Buddies program was a roller coaster ride for most of the Corrells, but I'm glad to have been a part of it. The children needed us, and not just for homework help. We offered encouragement and some assurances for the future. Sure, there were times we may have wanted to pull our hair out, but we remembered what it was like to be that young. Of course, none of the Bobcat Buddies Program would have been possible without the help and guidance of the Fulford Center's Director, Mrs. Jean Schwabe. She was a delightful woman to work with, and her dedication to the Bobcat Buddies kept us focused on the children.

The other Scholars are some of my best friends here at East Georgia. Aside from attending class, Bobcat Buddies, and trips together, we hang out and help each other with classwork. The opportunity to have a close-knit group of good friends is invaluable when tests and papers weigh down your spirits. Besides, having someone that's willing to go with me to Waffle House at 11 o'clock at night really helps me to cope with all the pressure from school and work.

As Correll Scholars, we enjoyed opportunities for service and learning which went well above and beyond the norm. We helped with food drives, attended breakfast with top state officials, and took a practicum to Macon where we spent the day touring historic sites like the Hay House, the Allman Brothers' Big House, and ate at the famous restaurant The Rookery. These trips are wonderful opportunities to learn about the Georgia community, especially since this is the community which has had the greatest personal impact on the Scholars.

Overall, the Correll Scholarship has been a critical component of my success in college. Though I am only two semesters in, I already feel like I have formed lasting, influential relationships with my professors and fellow Scholars. The chance to step back from the tangle of traditional academic subjects in favor of more locally-centered topics like "Regional Differences of Barbecue in the South," "The Ecological Impact of the Longleaf Pine Forest," and "Southern Musical Tradition" was a much-needed and relieving change of focus. The information we covered in class was a critical aspect of the program, as it presented an avenue by which we could come to truly appreciate the South and its people.



# Brianna Clay

As my time here at East Georgia comes to a close, I cannot express to you how wonderful my experience here has been--and how much the people here have come to mean to me. The year has flown by so fast. I can hardly believe it has been almost a year since I graduated from high school and learned that I would be a Correll Scholar. Without this scholarship, I would have never known the amazing professors and staff that I have had the privilege of working with or have met the incredible friends that I have had the privilege of meeting. It saddens me to even think that I might never have encountered

all these remarkable people otherwise. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to meet all these incredible people.

As mentioned in my last letter, I will be finishing out my Associate's degree during the summer and have majored in Political Science. At the time that I wrote my first letter, I had not decided where I wanted to attend school next fall. In fact, I was completely clueless as to where I would end up. Now, I am proud to announce that I will be attending the University of North Georgia to pursue a degree in International Affairs. Under Dr. Cheek's excellent guidance, I discovered this beautiful school nestled in the mountains. After visiting this school several weeks ago, I fell in love with its admirable traditions and charming environment. Another reason I have to thank you for this scholarship--if had not met Dr. Cheek, who suggested the University of North Georgia to me, I would have never considered going there. Having found a place that seems to fit me perfectly comes as a relief during a time when so much of my future feels uncertain.

Also, I would like to express my gratitude to the staff and faculty that play a role in this program. Dr. Cheek possesses so much enthusiasm for this program that I cannot imagine anyone else fulfilling this role half as well. He has been so supportive and helpful in my pursuit of international affairs. I truly feel that he has gone above and beyond in helping me succeed in my career, such as his efforts to ensure that I started off on the right foot at the University of North Georgia and his recommendation to apply for the Washington Program on National Security in Washington, D.C. He has played such a major role in my transfer process, and I have greatly appreciated it and your decision to put him in charge of this program. Another person who I have loved getting to know is Mrs. Jean Schwabe. Mrs. Jean has been so kind and understanding. Everytime I see her, her bright smile and vibrant enthusiasm puts a smile on my face. I have loved working with her during Bobcat Buddies. Bobcat Buddies has been a wonderful experience, and I will miss it so much next year.

Having my own nephews close in age to these kids gives tutoring a whole new level of meaning. It gave me a greater understanding of what school is like for my nephews now, and it also allowed me to connect with the children I tutor better. Just as with my own nephews, I hope to see them prosper and overcome all the hardships they encounter in life. Even with the older students I come across in the CHOICE Program, I see how hard they struggle and how determined they are to succeed, and I am humbled by the sight. I had never had much experience tutoring before my experiences with Bobcat Buddies and the CHOICE Program, but it has been one of the most rewarding things I have ever done. I've learned to have so much patience and have come to realize that some things do not come as easily to others as they might to me. I realize now how admirable teachers are. They are some of the most underappreciated people in the world, and yet, they are also the most rewarded. I think so many people take teachers for granted--and many go underpaid-- but at the same time, they are gifted with one of the most priceless rewards--seeing their students succeed.

I have had the best experiences at East Georgia, and this semester has arguably been the best. Even as I am preparing to move on, I still find new friends around campus, and many of my relationships have grown so much since last year. This semester, I have also enjoyed my classes a lot. I think that I might have won the professor lottery. They are all so helpful and understanding. Even in my hardest classes, I still know that my professors are there to help me if I ever need it. I think that will be one thing that I will dearly miss about East Georgia. I feel like I have built such a great relationship with many of the professors, and I will miss being able to take their classes again. I also love being able to walk around campus and see so many friendly faces, whether it is staff, faculty, or students, and I pray that I will find something like this at the University of North Georgia.

It is hard to fit all that I would like to say or express to you in 1000 words, especially how much you inspire me. I just cannot put into words all the wonderful things that the Correll Scholarship has done for me. Treasured memories and relationships--that is what you have given me, because without this scholarship I would not be at East Georgia. This scholarship has given me not just a past I can celebrate, but a bright future, too--full of memories and friendships yet to be made. Also, you have made paying for college so much easier, especially with the added costs of housing and books. I cannot thank you enough for relieving my family and I of some of that burden. One day, I hope to be able to give back to others as much as you have given to me. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for all that you do. You inspire me. I hope that someday I will have the privilege of expressing my gratitude to you both in person.



# Makayla Conner

Receiving the Correll Scholarship has meant the world to me. I could never fully express how thankful I am to the Corrells and their willingness to provide this scholarship. If it was not for this program paying for college, there would have been a strain on my family. My oldest sister was starting back to college and my other sister was previously a Correll, but had outgrown her time here at EGSC, so my parents would also be paying for her tuition. So, you can imagine the amount of pressure I felt during the interview process. I knew I really needed this scholarship, but I seriously had little confidence in myself that I would get it. I lack interviewing skills, meaning that I stumble on my words and get to talking fast because I'm so nervous. I was in utter shock and disbelief when I received the phone call saying that I was a Correll Scholar. I would like to thank the committee that interviewed me and considered me a successful candidate for the scholarship - you all have opened so many doors for me which have all led to a successful freshman year of college. Having this scholarship in my possession has kept me accountable throughout the year. I am more aware of my grades and I make sure to stay on top of all my assignments, so I am able to continue in this great program. I am so excited that I have one more year at East Georgia so I can still be a Correll.

Freshman year had its ups and downs but being a Correll made it all worth it. I am so blessed to have met such wonderful people through this program, including my fellow Corrells, Dr. Cheek and Mrs. Jean. It was so convenient to have 23 "built-in-friends" coming into to college. It took us all a little while to warm up to each other, but after being with one another twice a week for tutoring, conversations began to come more easily between us. We began to joke with one another, complain about our endless flow of assignments and question how Dr. Cheek has so much energy in the mornings. I might mention this is a question that has yet to be answered.

Dr. Cheek is probably my favorite person at EGSC. He has more confidence in me than I do in myself. He is always ready to lend a word of encouragement or to crack a pun. Hence why Correll class became the thing I looked forward to most out of the week. This class made me grow as an individual in such a weird way. In high school I was always the girl who was too scared to talk in class discussions because I didn't want to say the wrong thing or mess up the wording of the sentence. However, all of those worries slipped away in this class due to the easy-going, non-judgmental atmosphere Dr. Cheek and my classmates created. I am now one of the most talkative people in our Correll class, which has helped me in some of my other classes as well. If it was not for Dr. Cheek, this year would have been so much more stressful than it was, and for that I am so thankful.

Mrs. Jean is another one of those people that always seems to be in a good mood, so they automatically put you in a good one. If it wasn't for Mrs. Jean, after-school tutoring would not go as smoothly as it does. Even though we were supposed to be helping the kids learn, they actually taught me a thing or two. For starters, I learned that I am not built to be a teacher and that teachers are superheroes in disguise. I only had two kids to keep focused for an hour and a half and that was a task within itself, so I honestly have no idea how teachers keep a whole class focused all day. Interacting with these kids twice a week allowed us to gain a personal relationship with them and that was probably the best part. It was so rewarding when they would come to you and want to share something that happened to them during the day or when it was time to go, they would run up and give you a goodbye hug. My two little boys, at the beginning, were hard to get along with. They were hyper and could not sit still and it did not help that they were best friends. It was tough for a little while because I had to split my attention between the both of them, but by the end of the year, we were able to successfully complete a homework sheet without too much friction. These boys definitely taught me the importance of patience and that, even though you might not feel as if you're making a difference, you really are. I can honestly say I am going to miss spending time at the Fulford Center every week.

I am truly blessed to be a part of the Correll Scholars Program. It has opened many doors for me this year and has helped me grow as an individual. I will be forever grateful for the people I have met and have made this year such a great one. I have learned so much this year, not only academically but also personally. Before this year, I was so timid about what the future has to hold for me, but now I'm a little more confident and, Mr. and Mrs. Correll, it's all because of you. Thank you so much. You are truly an inspiration.



# Jazzmyn Cox

As I look back on the past two semesters, I realized how far I have come, not only as a student, but as a person. I cannot help but think of a time when I was little. I told my mother that I would never go to college because we could not afford it. As I was reaching my senior year of high school, I again realized I would not have the privilege of obtaining a college degree. That was, until I was told I had received the Correll Scholarship, which has been my saving grace. The Correll scholarship has made furthering my education possible by allowing me to attend East Georgia State College to achieve a college degree and make friends that help me grow as a leader and student.

Currently, because of the Correll Scholarship, I have no debt and I was able to get my books without getting into financial situation I could not handle. This has also allowed me to think about furthering my education at other schools once I finish my degree here. The fact that I will be completing my associate's degree debt free has opened my options for attending future schools, which again would not have been possible without the Correll Scholarship.

My first semester of college was a wonderful learning experience. I have gained knowledge inside and outside of classes that will help me with future endeavors. I am grateful for the wonderful professors and glad that I have been able to build personal relationships with them while here. I have enjoyed having intelligent discussions with the scholars who, like me, understand the importance of being the best one has the possibility of becoming.

Since coming to East Georgia State College, I notice that my writing and speech has improved. Again, The Correll Scholarship has made an impact on my life for the better by allowing me the opportunity to receive a college education. With the opportunity of higher education, the scholarship has also allowed me to give back to the community that has given so much to me.

When I first moved Swainsboro in 6th grade, I was a below average student that had no chance of graduating from high school, much less going to college. However, the teachers of Swainsboro Middle School saw something in me and sent me to community tutoring sessions at the community library. Those tutoring sessions helped mold me into the person that was worth receiving the scholarship the Corrells had to offer. That is why I am so grateful that the Corrells made tutoring a part of the program. I know from experience that tutoring can really change a young person's way of thinking about school and life. As I go from the person being tutored to the one doing the tutoring, I understand why it is so important to give back. Every Tuesday and Thursday, I got to see those kids grow and learn. For some, it was learning to love learning. That was a wonderful experience. To be able to use my academic skills to teach others. The children we were tutoring all come from unpleasant households or just do not get the attention they need at home. I feel like we were more than just college kids tutoring little ones. To kids, we were like Corrells; we believed in them like the professors believe in us. Just having someone believe in you is a powerful thing all on its own.

One of the best things about the Correll Scholarship is friends I have made. This program helped me meet so many amazing people. The friends I have met will be with me forever. I am usually a quiet, "in the background" kind of person. Since becoming a scholar, I have broken out of my shell. It is an honor to have people know you on campus and have them think of you as the academic excellence students. If it was not for this scholarship, I would not be able to experience the college lifestyle and make the memories I know I will cherish for a lifetime.



# Rhett Gay

Being a Correll Scholar has meant so much and has positively impacted my time here at East Georgia State College in several different ways. As Dr. Cheek always says, "The Correll Scholars program is the best thing we have going on here at East Georgia," and I fully agree with him. As a Correll, leadership and academic excellence is expected every day and it has been challenging, but the rewards have been so beneficial for that extra bit of hard work. A few of the best attributes that have come from being a Correll is not only the scholarship money

but the friendships that I have gained and the accountability that I have been taught through the program.

Coming in as a freshman in college is hard enough already and, once you add in trying to make friends, it gets even harder. Adjusting to the college lifestyle is a big jump from high school and doing it alone can get overwhelming at times. Being a part of the Correll Scholars program was a huge help in those regards. I have made some great friendships during my first year of college that I would not have made otherwise. After the first few Correll meetings back in the fall, I already felt that I was going to have fun with the people in the program and I was right. All of the friends that I have made are not only great students but are great people, too. Hopefully, these friendships and connections will last a lifetime.

Bobcat Buddies has had its share of ups and downs, but it was a great experience. The kids may not show it, but they really do appreciate the time that we spend with them and I may not show it either, but I am going to miss seeing a few of the kids. The biggest lesson Bobcat Buddies and Mrs. Jean Schwabe taught me was patience. Mrs. Jean is the best person to have leading that program. She is genuinely very sweet and patient with the kids and us Correll Scholars at times. I learned that not every kid is going to pick up on multiplying or how to spell that word as quickly as I would like, but with time and some encouragement, they will eventually figure it out.

Leadership is a big part of what goes into being a Correll Scholar. Being a part of this program has taught me the importance of leadership in the school, with classmates, and in the community. A few examples of showing leadership are getting to class on time and being in attendance every day, being respectful to faculty and fellow students, and respecting the school's property, such as in the library with the computers or in the weight room by cleaning up the weights that were used. There is no better way to lead than by example and that is what Dr. Cheek has promoted since day one. I represent East Georgia State College and the Correll Scholars Program. Trying to lead by example is high on my task list.

The scholarship money has been a lifesaver and I cannot thank you all enough for being so generous. The money has helped me with the purchase of numerous text books, college expenses, and gas for the transportation to and from school every day. I have also been able to save some of the excess money to help with college expenses at my next university which is critical. The financial part of the Correll Scholars Program has been a blessing to me as a college student. I can use the extra money to help with expenses at my next institution. Knowing that I did not have to worry about financing my education here at East Georgia State College really has made it easier to concentrate on my school work and baseball activities. This Program was the drawing card for me to make the decision to come to school here. I knew that there was no other Program in the state as good as this one, especially when it came down to the financial support.

I have truly grown through the Correll Scholarship program. I have made lasting friendships, been blessed financially, and gained leadership qualities. I have encouraged many of current high school juniors and seniors to really consider coming to East Georgia to be a part of the Correll Program. It has been an unforgettable experience and I would not have wanted to spend my freshman year of college anywhere else. Unfortunately, I will not be returning for my second year at East Georgia because I have accepted a baseball scholarship from Georgia Southern University and will be enrolling there this coming fall. Again, thank you for this wonderful opportunity.



# Susanna Hall

Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Correll, the Correll Scholars Program has opened many doors for me throughout my past two semesters here at East Georgia State College. When faced with the decision of what institution I was going to choose to further my education, East Georgia honestly was not at the top of my list. After receiving acceptance to Mercer University and Augusta University, I just knew that I would end up at one of those two institutions. When discussing with someone I am really close to my thoughts on where I wanted to go to college, he asked if I had prayed about it. I replied, "Of course I have!" However, when I went home and reflected on that conversation, I came to the realization that I was not asking God what is best for me, which He knows, I was instead telling God what I thought was best for me. That's when He led me to the Ten Commandments in Exodus and to Ephesians 6:1. Ephesians 6:1 says, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." I did not include my parents at all in my decision-making process even though they had planned on helping me with a major part of attending college—the cost. When I read these Scriptures, I went to them and asked what they thought would be best for me, and that's when I decided that I was going to attend East Georgia. Not long after this discussion with my parents, I got a call from Mrs. Elizabeth Gilmer informing me that I had been chosen to receive the Correll Scholarship. Recently, I heard a man say that when God has placed you somewhere and given you a purpose there, He will provide. His provision comes in different forms, but in this area of my life, the provision came in the form of the Correll Scholarship.

Since being here at East Georgia, every preconceived idea that I had and that had been told to me about this college has been proven wrong. There is no other college that I would want to receive my undergraduate degree from. The class sizes are small enough where I have a true connection my professors and classmates. The staff here at East Georgia has shown me time and time again how much they desire to see me succeed in what I dream of doing. The campus exudes a family-like atmosphere set by the faculty and students. I am sure that there are other great colleges out there, but I know that I am exactly where I need to be.

Through the Correll Scholars Program, I have been able to attend and participate in many events that I most likely would not have had the chance to otherwise. One such event was the Eggs and Issues Breakfast held at the Emanuel County Medical Center. There, I had the opportunity to listen to State Representative Butch Parrish and State Senator Jack Hill speak about the things going on in both the local and state economies. At the end of the meeting, I was able to ask more about the Physicians for Rural Areas Assistance Program that was mentioned earlier in the discussion. That is one opportunity that I know I would not have had the chance to have if not for the Correll Scholars Program. Another special moment I have had as a Correll Scholar was the afternoon spent at the Boehmers' house. It was extremely kind for President Boehmer and his wife, Mrs. Joyce, to open their house to us for an afternoon of food and fellowship. Though I was not able to participate in Bobcat Buddies the past two semesters, I was able to help Dr. Cerpovicz with the 2018 Science Olympiad. I was encouraged the whole day watching high schoolers compete in different events that required critical thinking. At the end of the competition during the award ceremony, I got to get a glimpse of how enthusiastic teenagers can be about science and also education in general.

Another great thing this program has done for me is eliminating my worries of how I am going to pay for my college education. One of the top reasons people do not attend college is because it can be such a tremendous financial burden. Thanks to this scholarship and a few others, I am actually able to put money away in a savings account. With the plan of attending medical school in the near future, the money that I am able to put aside from the Correll Scholarship will also aid in alleviating the financial burden of medical school.

The Correll Scholars Program has opened up opportunities for me and has aided in relieving burdens, but one of the most important things this program has brought me has been relationships. It has been an amazing experience establishing friendships between myself and the people in the first-year and second-year classes. Together, we have been on trips, learned interesting things about both the state of Georgia and the local Wiregrass Region, and learned different ideas from each other. I have even had the honor of sharing other classes with some Correll Scholars outside of our Correll class. Dr. Lee Cheek... Some may not understand why I state just that name alone like that, but if anyone knows anything about the Correll Scholars Program, they know what a huge role Dr. Cheek plays in it. I can remember experiencing his enthusiasm and excitement during orientation in the summer, which is something that was also experienced in every class meeting. Dr. Cheek has encouraged, supported, and advised me. He has also been an amazing source of spiritual wisdom and a kind friend. He is the bomb! I feel sorry for anyone that does not know this man.

In closing, there is no doubt that this whole experience is more than I could ever deserve. From relationships to opportunities to financial help, Mr. and Mrs. Correll have opened a door for me that I will forever be thankful for. I aim to give my very best in all that I do at East Georgia. Thank you, Mr. Pete and Mrs. Ada Lee, for believing in me and for investing so much in my education.



# Shermya Hamilton

I have truly enjoyed being a Correll Scholar. Last semester, I enjoyed working with the children at Swainsboro Elementary School. I had grown attached to them. They were very sweet and anxious to learn. The children taught me many things. I enjoyed having the pleasure of being a mentor to them. This semester, I did not have the privilege to work with them because my classes conflicted with Bobcat Buddies time. I miss them giving me a laugh every Tuesday and Thursday. Every day they came to Bobcat Buddies, they had a story to tell us.

As a Correll Scholar, many students at East Georgia State College look to us for help. I really enjoy having the opportunity to share my knowledge with others. I have had the opportunity to be a leader in many of my classes. In many of my classes, I have been the lead person in charge of study groups and review sessions.

The Correll Scholarship means a lot to me and my family. When I was in high school, I didn't know exactly how I would be able to attend college. I had given up on attending college because I thought that I would not be able to afford it. This scholarship has blessed me with opportunity to be able to complete my freshman and sophomore year without worries. This scholarship has been nothing but a blessing to my family and I. With the Correll Scholarship, I now have an opportunity to make my parents proud without them worrying about funds for my college education.

This semester has been full of success and challenges. This semester, I will be completing with thirty-four credit hours. I am currently enrolled for seventeen credit hours for the fall semester. My plan was to transfer to Southeastern Technical College this spring. I decided that Augusta University would give me better opportunity. I think that I will be able to learn and gain knowledge to the fullest at Augusta University. After I complete the fall semester, I will be ready to transfer to Augusta University and apply for the nursing program. At Augusta University, I will obtain my Bachelor's in nursing. I am thankful for the opportunity to take so many classes and be debt free.

With taking so many classes, it has not been easy. I have overcome each challenge and will continue to finish strong. At first, I was afraid I was going to have to change my life completely for college and study day and night without being able to do the things I enjoy. In college, I have learned the most important strategy is learning to prioritize. I have learned to prioritize things and I can still enjoy life. With so many classes, I still have the opportunity to hang out and do many other things. I'm thankful for each challenge that I have experienced this semester.

I have learned so much from attending East Georgia State College as a Correll Scholar. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be successful and give back to my community. When I become successful in life, I would like to give back to my community in such a way that they will have the same opportunity that I have. The Correll family has been a blessing to the Correll Scholars and East Georgia State College.



# Niaya Harris

First off, I'd like to start by thanking Mr. And Mrs. Correll once again for their kind-hearted, understanding, and giving character, which allowed me to receive this scholarship. This scholarship has meant not only the world to me, but my peer recipients as well. I was honored to know that I had been chosen to represent my hometown here at East Georgia State College and serve as one of the leaders of the college as well. It is truly a blessing and I do not think I will ever be able to express my gratitude for this opportunity entirely in words.

Coming from a such small town like mine, Metter, GA, it is extremely hard to stand out or, should I say, be expected much out of if you attend only a community college like East Georgia. Almost everyone is so interested in the fad of going to division one schools, not necessarily for education or sports purposes, but just for the name and/or opinion of others. I have always been one to think aside from everyone else's norms or what "they" believe is the best choice. I stand firm on the notion that no matter what college you go to, you will receive the same diploma intended for whatever degree you wish to pursue. I have always been humble and taught that no matter where I go, I know I will succeed. Both of my parents attended Georgia Southern University; my dad was a part of the football team and was later inducted into the GSU Hall of Fame. I, to, plan to attend there after getting my associates degree in Nursing. There's a timing for everything and choosing East Georgia as my first college has been the best decision thus far.

The Bobcat Buddy program that I was involved in my first two semesters here at East Georgia taught me a lot. I grew to learn that not every child is on the same level, even if in the same grade, each child has a different background, and that even the shortest times spent with them made an impact on not only their life, but the Correll buddies as well. By the end of each semester, we grew close to one or more children and bonded like little/big brothers and sisters. Each child was special in their own way no matter what area they needed a little help and encouragement in. I have always slacked in the creativity area throughout school, and my buddy that I grew to form a bond with happened to excel in that area. What a coincidence. There may have been times when a buddy, older or younger, came in with their head down or a frown, but they never left out of the Fulford Center the same. Mrs. Jean did an awesome job of making sure the kids had everything they needed to exceed their milestones. Thank you for believing in me and trusting me with the younger children of the community as well.

My overall college experience has definitely been one to share. Although I attended college classes in high school, it is nothing compared to taking 12 plus hours of classes at a time alongside working and extracurricular activities as well. I think I've told all of my friends graduating from high school this year to brace themselves and get ready. I didn't expect college to be easy; if college was easy, that means I'm not learning anything new or furthering my education. I dealt with many health trials first semester, but luckily, by the grace of God, I have no recurring health issues as of second semester. The weight of having to maintain a certain GPA for not only the Correll Scholarship, but HOPE and other scholarships as well, was scary at first. I later came to the conclusion that those were only indicators for me to push harder and strive to achieve higher than the minimum required GPA for all of those I was rewarded. I would also like to be more involved with the campus next school term now that I have a sense of how to balance school work and my free time.

The Correll Scholarship meant--and still means--the world to me. It has helped me financially, socially, and emotionally. I know that I have many new acquaintances, faculty, and staff that I can always call upon anytime I need something. I want to re-thank Mr. And Mrs. Correll, and also give a big hand to Dr. Cheek, who was accompanied by his hardworking assistant, Ms. Kimberly Page. The two of them, throughout both of my semesters at East Georgia, were like the ultimate dynamic duo. They always put us as top priorities and treated us as if we were children of their own. We never wanted or needed for anything as long as the two of them were an email, office, or phone call away. My first year here as an East Georgia Bobcat has been one to remember, thanks to the special Correll Scholars Program. I will never forget it. I now see the world from a totally different perspective. I learned that although I may not always be able to change those around me, I can be the change in the situation or environment instead. If I didn't learn anything else this school term, I surely learned the true definition of civility and that will take me far in life.



# Katie Hill

Thank you for providing East Georgia students with the opportunity to receive the Correll scholarship. I am so blessed to be a part of the Correll Program and am very thankful for receiving this wonderful scholarship. This scholarship has been so important to my academic welfare. It has motivated me to be a better student and reach for higher academic goals. Although I have had a couple of challenges throughout this semester, it has blessed me in so many ways. I am very grateful to be a Correll Scholar and a part of the amazing Correll Program.

Since I began my first semester at East Georgia State College, I have met so many great people and made many life-long friends. As a matter of fact, the friends I have made here at college I have actually grown closer to than the friends I spent most of my life with in grade school. I have enjoyed spending time with them and getting to know them. I can't wait to make more friends as I continue my education at East Georgia State College. In addition, I have really liked the majority of my classes and my professors. When I first began the semester I didn't think I would like my classes or professors, but now I have really come to enjoy them. I have had a little bit of a challenge with my college algebra class, because I struggle with math and my professor doesn't teach the material as clear as I think he could, but I've given it my best and I think I've done pretty well. Also, I was worried about my American Government class at the beginning of the semester, because I love history, but I didn't really like the way my professor taught the class, but now American Government has turned out to be one of my favorite classes and my professor has become one of my favorites as well. This semester has also gone by a lot faster than I thought it would. It feels like just yesterday I was running around campus trying to find my classes and where I'm supposed to be at the right times. Also this semester, I have really enjoyed Bobcat Buddies in the afternoons. It has been really fun getting to know all the kids, helping them excel in their schoolwork, and watching them grow as young individuals. The Bobcat Buddy program has shown me that I really do enjoy working with children and I can't wait to pursue a career involving young children.

I am just so very thankful for everything that you have contributed to East Georgia State College and to all of the students. I just want to let you know that your family has been such a blessing to me and I can't thank you enough for this scholarship. It has provided me with so many opportunities to take advantage of and I can't wait to continue my education here at East Georgia State College. Thank you so much.



# Anna Holland

This is going to sound cheesy, but I believe everything happens for a reason. That includes the good, the bad, and the ugly. Life is not always pleasant, and, given that life is not always pleasant, the journey we take in any aspect of our lives is not always going to be perfect and peachy. School is no different, but life is truly what you make of it. If you expect school to treat you terribly, then it will, because you will become so focused on the negative. All of us are guilty of this shift in perspective, and even I am. But despite the good and the bad this past school year has brought, I do not want to change it one bit.

In the fall of the year, I brought on a new challenge—taking six classes. Prior to fall semester of 2017, I had been dual enrolled at East Georgia since spring of 2016, and I had never taken more than five classes. Being completely and brutally honest, I struggled quite a bit. I did not know how to handle the work that was piling up, and I did not know how to handle the stress accompanying it. All hope was not lost because I figured it out. Each and every day, I made a checklist of everything I needed to do, ranging from mundane tasks such as eating lunch to my schoolwork such as statistics homework. By making a checklist, I was able to refocus my energy on what mattered, and that was getting my education. Through this extremely trying time, I was able to really shape my learning techniques. I had to teach myself how to remain focused when I was drowning in schoolwork. Because of the challenges fall semester brought, I was able to carry those lessons to spring semester.

Perhaps my favorite thing of the Correll Scholarship was tutoring the elementary school kids. I had never tutored anyone before, so I was extremely hesitant because I was afraid I would not be good at it. Turned out, I loved it. Every Tuesday and Thursday, I looked forward to seeing my Bobcat Buddy and helping her with her homework. Bobcat Buddies brought me so much joy. Spring semester, though, I had to take a class that convened at the time of tutoring, and I was honestly sad about it. Even though I was unable to tutor spring semester, I am extremely glad I got the chance to participate in such a great program. Now, as I leave East Georgia, I will definitely look for a tutoring job in the future.

Another thing I enjoyed was the friendships the scholarship helped us build. In high school and during the time I was dual enrolled, I kept to myself. I focused heavily on completing my classes with flying colors. Due to the nature of this scholarship and because it focused so heavily on community, we became a community ourselves. I see so many of the Correll Scholars who have, over the school year, become great friends. I am very picky about the friendships I make, and, unfortunately, I did not get a chance to become close friends with another scholar. But the discussions and debates I have had with them bring me joy. Very rarely do you find such interesting and amazing people.

Each year, the Correll Scholars Program goes on a Practicum, and, to be honest, I was extremely hesitant to go on the trip to Macon. I went and had such a wonderful time talking with the second wave of Correll Scholars, seeing beautiful places such as the Hay House, and walking through history at the Sidney Lanier House and Ocmulgee National Monument. The day was filled with laughter, discussion, and community. Like I said before, we have made a community within ourselves.

Let me be honest; no one likes to talk about money or finances. Scholarships are money, though, and I must address it. I was chosen to receive this scholarship; the reviewing board had faith in me that I would make the world a better place by giving back. By putting that faith in me, they also had faith in me that I would do well academically. I am currently working on giving back to the community because to do that, I must finish school and become licensed in my profession. Their faith in my academic ability was not misplaced. If I did not receive this scholarship, I am not sure if I would still be getting my education due to the financial burden of higher education. I have a fire for learning, a never-ending, never-ceasing flame of curiosity. Not being able to attend school and learn as much as I possibly can is a real fear of mine. This scholarship erased that fear because it gave me an opportunity, and I was not about to waste it. I will forever be grateful of this opportunity and experience to be a Correll Scholar, and I cannot thank the Correll family and the reviewing board enough for giving me the chance to continue my education without the thought of the financial burden over my head.

This past school year was exhilarating and stressful, but, like any adventure in life, it was worth it. Not everything in life will be pleasant or easy, and not everything in life will be difficult and trying. This past school year has had both the good and the bad, but what would come of us if everything was always good? The trying times teach us lessons about ourselves, just like the trying times this past year taught me. The beautiful times teach us to reach for our dreams, to never stop growing. In the trying times, we are always humbled, and in the beautiful times, we are always grateful. One thing is for sure: it was truly a blessing and an honor to have received this scholarship.



# Jillian Edenfield

My Correll Scholarship experience over the past year has been new, trying, and wonderful all at the same time. There are no words that can explain my gratitude for having been chosen as a Correll Scholar. Being given this opportunity paved the way for my first year of formal education. Attending East Georgia State College as a Move On When Ready student while still in high school was amazing, but the Correll Scholarship afforded me the full experience. A family who understood the financial hardships of the small communities surrounding East Georgia State College's home institution made going to college significantly easier. I would like to say thank you to East Georgia State College and the Corrells for believing in my future. I was given one of the best college experiences possible for free. Being chosen for the Correll Scholarship felt as if all my hard work and efforts prior to graduation from high school had finally paid off. The

Correll Scholarship alleviated financial stress, helped me make new relationships, offered an opportunity to serve my community, and required me to learn new skills.

First, I would like to say thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Correll:

I am honored to have been chosen as one of the recipients of the Correll Scholarship you funded through East Georgia State College. Because of your generosity, I can attend college with peace of mind. I wish to express my sincere appreciation for the investment your family made to my future. The fact that you took the chance on me in hopes that I would use your money and time wisely means so much to me. It brings a smile to my face knowing you believed I would continue to do the right thing and make satisfactory grades. Living in a small town with few financial opportunities, I feel I know the value of a dollar. A quality education is expensive, and many of the children I went to school with simply cannot afford to obtain post-secondary education. Going to college without your Correll Scholarship would have been a financial feat for my family. My brother and I are both in college now, and with the help of your generous donation, my family does not have to figure out how to afford education for two children at the same time. There was no worry of having to take out a loan, and purchasing my books and materials was beyond easy. Your scholarship alleviated the financial burdens that once seemed to loom above me. Unlike other students attending college, I was not concerned with finances of any sort. With your help, I could focus solely on my scholastic endeavors. I feel as if I have managed to embody what it means to be a successful Correll Scholar. I am not a perfect student by any means, but I have worked hard and I have obtained new knowledge. I will continue to work diligently to ensure your hard-earned money does not go to waste over the course of my studies at East Georgia.

Continuing my educational journey at East Georgia State College made making new relationships and maintaining older ones easy. Many students I graduated with were also selected as Correll Scholars. Having friends that I already knew was icing on the cake. We knew where each of us was from, and we shared memories and experiences of years past. Being able to have a class with them was like being able to hold onto a glimpse of high school. Being that we graduated together, we knew how to better assist each other with problems on campus. We knew who could offer support in each subject area, and we knew who to go to if we had a question about something specific. Although keeping old friendships is considered ideal, making new companions is just as great. The Correll Scholarship opened the door to new relationships with children who grew up in other parts of Georgia. Without being selected as Correll Scholars, some of us may have never spoken to each other for the duration of our time at East Georgia. The college setting is much different than high school. Even though you may not be friends with everyone in high school, familiar faces are comforting. College classes consist of new people that, in most cases, never get the pleasure of meeting you. With the help of the Correll Scholarship, I was able to make new friends that are sure to last for years. College is also different in tutoring and studying aspects. In high school, teachers were usually available to help if new material we not grasped in class. In college, lectures are given to build upon the knowledge that is mostly built through what is done outside of the classroom. Soon into my first year, I realized new sources were needed to help with studying and homework. I was responsible for finding my own tutor, study group, and ultimately learning the material. In finding tutors and forming study groups, I gained a better understanding of how I learn as an individual. These new study relationships not only helped me, but they gave me the opportunity to share my strengths with other struggling students. Overall, the past year has taught me how to be a more efficient student. I learned how to use new and past relationships more effectively in order to better myself and my peers.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the Correll Scholarship was being able to give back to my community. Over the past year, the Correll Scholars engaged in a project known as Bobcat Buddies. Bobcat Buddies allowed us to work with children from a local elementary school that needed support in the form of tutoring. Although every child gained benefit from the extra study time, that was not the only form of support offered by the Correll Scholars. Many children just needed reassurance that they were, in fact, important and interesting. Some children may not have received extra support at home. The kids involved in Bobcat Buddies needed a bigger friend that could help them with their problems. We had a routine that was carried out every afternoon Bobcat Buddies was in session, but some days that routine was rearranged to better suit an individual child. Each scholar had a buddy that they would work with each afternoon. By working with the same children very often, relationships were formed and trust was built. I believe the children learned new knowledge, but, more importantly, I believe Bobcat Buddies helped to build self-esteem, better attitudes, and formed a connection between young children and what they can become. I remember what being a child was like, and I remember what and who made impressions on me. I believe with no doubt that it is our teachers and others who are closely involved with a child's everyday life that are responsible for the way they think and behave. It is my hope that I had a positive impact on the Bobcat Buddies, and that they may look back one day and remember a young college student and an afternoon that helped to shape the person they grew up to be.

Over the past year, I believe I have grown as a person and as a student. I have learned to be more accountable because, as a college student, I am the only person in charge of my success. It all depends on me. That idea is scary, but I am getting more comfortable with it. With the help of my fellow Correll Scholars and the Correll Family, I have had a great first year experience. There was no financial stress on my family, I made new relationships, I became a better student, and I helped my community. I am ready to begin the new school year and continue the hard work. My journey as a Correll Scholar at East Georgia State College is not over yet, and I can't wait to see what the next year holds in store for me!



# Kayla Lambert

The Correll Scholarship was one of the best things that happened in my life besides the fact I graduated from high school. It not only helped me financially, but it helped me with leadership skills. Being awarded this scholarship also allowed me to work with a group of wonderful kids. This scholarship opened such huge numbers of entryways for me. It encouraged development as an individual abroad and on campus, and its effect is continuous. In excess of a sole financial advantage, this scholarship speaks to the scholarly and inven-

tive life span of a group. It enables me to receive a great education at a school that prioritizes me as a student. This scholarship also engages me to approach my instruction with certainty.

As I approached my senior year, I would always hear Mom and Dad talking about how they did not want to take out student loans because it would be too much. They would always have talks with me, persuading me to apply for as many scholarships as I possibly can because they could not afford to be taking a lot of loans. So, one day, my mom walked into my room and told me I should apply for the Correll Scholarship and I did. After I applied, my mom informed me that I would have to do an interview. The interview was very nerve-wracking; I honestly did not know if I was ready. The day of the interview, I could tell that all of the people that were getting interviewed were very intelligent, so I knew the competition was stiff to become a Correll. Going home, I felt pretty confident, but I had a gut feeling that I was not going to get that scholarship. I ended up not getting the scholarship, but I prayed to God that, if he could somehow make it to where I could get that scholarship, I would be so blessed. This scholarship helped take a load off of my parents' shoulders. Maybe following the next week or so, I received a call from the school saying that I ended up being able to get the scholarship. This scholarship is amazing. I met so many intelligent individuals. This was an unbelievable experience that I am so glad I got to partake in.

Being a Correll is more than just 5,000 dollars that you receive and it is more than just a scholarship. It is an experience that allows you create friendships, allows you to become comfortable with your peers and be yourself, and it always allows you to learn more about yourself that you might have not known about. Being a Correll also gave me an opportunity to be a role model to little kids who might need that push. Bobcat Buddies was probably what I enjoyed most about being a Correll. Those kids were amazing, smart, loving, and energetic. Being able to have the chance to be a role model to kids is something I am used to because I have a little brother who I know follows my footsteps. Bobcat Buddies was more than just being a role model. It was my mission to get to know these sweet kids and to create a relationship with them. Creating a relationship with those kids not only impacts my life, but impacts theirs as well. Those kids look up to me and knowing that I have kids who are following in my footsteps pushed me to be the best person I could be. In this process, I learned more about myself than I ever did. Being a part of the Bobcat Buddies program helped me gain little sisters and brothers. These kids were not just some kids; I treated them as if they were my siblings. It was amazing watching them grow mentally over this past year and I am so thankful to have been blessed with this opportunity to mentor those amazing kids.

This year has probably been the best year of my life only because I was Correll. It is honestly an honor to be called a Correll. I am so ready to tackle next year with my fellow Corrells. Also, going to Macon this year for the field trip was beyond fun. I had the chance to eat with Dr. Boehmer and it was wonderful. These are the opportunities I am referring to when I say I would not experience them if I was not a Correll. If I was not a Correll, I would not have the chance to sit down and have a talk with the president. That was truly a great experience. I would like to thank the Corrells for making this all possible. Mr. and Mrs. Correll, you are the reason I have been able to get the chance to have these opportunities. I am so thankful for this scholarship because it was a true blessing.



# Kimberly McKinney

I just want to take this time to say thank you for the opportunity to be a Correll. I am very thankful for what you guys have contributed to my education. This opportunity has meant the world to me! What you guys do for the Correll Scholars does not go unnoticed, and we, as a whole, are very grateful. Your contribution to my education means more than you will ever know. Without your contribution, I don't think I would be able to attend college. It really helped me and my family financially. We are forever grateful for the opportunity. This scholarship has allowed me to learn a lot

about myself and this part of Georgia. I have learned a lot while working with the Bobcat Buddies. Bobcat Buddies is a service project where we help tutor 4th and 5th grade students from Swainsboro Middle School. I have really enjoyed the opportunity to interact with those students. My buddy still keeps in contact with me! She has taught me many new things!

The scholarship has meant the world to me. We have learned about the art, nature, and instrumental people in this region. Along with learning about this region, we have learned about Georgia's education system. Plus, we learned how some colleges are conjoining to make one university system. This scholarship helped me to leave a cramped apartment with several people and enhance my education in a town similar to the one I left. This scholarship has given me the chance to defy odds, learn more about myself and grow as an individual. Without this scholarship, I don't believe I would have been able to grow as I have. The different relationships I've built within this scholarship have been exceptional. I have really enjoyed my American Government class. That is one class that I've had much success in. We did party platforms in that class and I was named the leader of my group. As a college this semester, we took the approach of Choosing Civility. As Corrells, we had to read a book called Choosing Civility. This was basically a book about being civil and acknowledging others. Prior to reading this book, I didn't even think about how some of my actions might adversely affect someone else. One rule in the book is Pay Attention. Now that I've read this book, I pay more attention to how I react and go about everyday life. Another rule is Respect Even a Subtle "No," which opened my eyes to things I took for granted and thought of as no big deal. It has changed my perspective on many things. I took away several things from that book.

Through this scholarship, I have learned how to communicate and interact better with people. This scholarship helped me get out of my shell and learn more about human responses and different government officials in Swainsboro. While being here in Swainsboro, I have interacted with so many people who are uniquely different through the Correll Scholarship. This experience has meant so much to me! As Corrells, we took a trip to different museums and I learned so much about different cultures and time periods in history. I really enjoyed that and, without this scholarship, I wouldn't have been able to experience that.

Yet, we all know with success are some challenges. The first semester of college has had its hard times. Personally, I've had a lot of loss in my family in the first semester and some in the second semester. I'm also a student athlete. So juggling all my coursework with the tutoring and practice has been a task. However, I did what many said I wouldn't with your help and it means everything to me. I will be the first in my family to attend college. So being successful is big priority. Some of things I had to learn are how to take useful notes without writing everything and figuring out what works for me. Now that I've learned those key things, I'm doing much better. I can't express how grateful I am for you guys and what you're doing! This opportunity has meant the world to me and I'm forever grateful for the opportunity that was given to me.



# Daniel Rodriguez-Teran

This first year of college has been very rough on me, but, overall, it has been a great experience for me. Since the beginning of the first semester, I realized this is a new chapter in my life to start helping people like me. This scholarship made me get out of my comfort zone, which really helped me a lot my second semester because I got to meet other students from other colleges from being in the Chess Club. Before joining the Chess Club, I felt really stressed out due to family issues and from all the studying that I had to put in while at college. When I joined, the people in the Chess Club really helped me throughout my hard times. The students gave me good

laugh that made me feel like I never had any stress in the first place and the professor who manages the club helped me when I needed to talk to someone. This semester, the EGSC Chess Club went to its first chess tournament in Atlanta, where we faced Emory, Ga Tech, and Mercer. The competition was very hard, but, for our first year, we did not do too bad. Being part of that tournament brought back many memories from when I played chess in middle and high school. I hope that I will be able to play chess at EGSC, because the people in the Chess Club are like family to me. This is something that I really do appreciate because they were there for me when I needed them and I was there when they needed me.

This semester, I helped with the Bobcat Buddies program again and also helped within the community in Swainsboro. I graduated from Swainsboro High School and I was part of the soccer team there. I played with the team for two years when the Board of Education established soccer in the school my junior year. In those two years, my critical thinking skills have grown drastically. I decided that I would help the school's soccer team this semester because I missed the connection I had in being in a team and to also make others feel like they are part of something big. The first day I started to help them, my first goal was to make them feel what I felt when I was on the team, which was to have fun. The second goal was to help them with their skills in the game and to help them with homework before or after practice. I felt that I changed the mindsets of those students. There were some students who did not want to play anymore, so I counselled them. My encouragement paid off because those students ended up loving the sport afterwards.

After the high school soccer season was over, I realized that I have been helping many people this past year in college. That was when I decided I would change my major after graduating from East Georgia State College. At first, I wanted to become an accountant, but now I want to become a State Trooper. I feel like I will help more people within any community being a State Trooper than an accountant. This scholarship made my mindset revolve around helping others in and outside of the community that I live in today. I know that I am someone who helps people in need, but I also needed help. At the beginning of the semester, I felt like I would lose the scholarship due to having trouble my first semester. I knew I had to try harder this semester. At first, everything was going fairly well in all my classes. Halfway through the semester, I started to deal with family issues from my parents. I started to feel some stress coming into play due to being in college and seeing these issues coming up at the same time. I did not really think much about it, since it did not affect me with my studies. At the end of March, I noticed that I was struggling with my studies. I went to the ACE, our tutoring center, from time to time and that really did help me. I am very grateful for what those students and professors do on their free time to help students like me when they are having trouble in their classes. The ACE helped me a lot until I started to experience the stages of my depression that I went through for a while. The family issues were a big problem for me and I felt that stress took over very fast. I started to do poorly in my studies. It was hard for me to keep track of my work for most of my classes. I ended up getting the help I needed by talking to someone and it really helped me get back on track on my studies. I think that has to be the biggest challenge I will ever face in my college career. I thank you for giving me the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to further my education so I can help people like me in the future.

This scholarship gave me the chance to meet so many new people with different backgrounds. I am very happy to meet every professor I have ever had so far because they have been there when I needed help with my studies. I think that, if I did not get this scholarship, I would be at some other college studying who knows what. When I found out I got the scholarship, I knew I needed help to decide on a major. This scholarship pushed me to decide what I wanted to do, which was to become an accountant at first, until I changed my mind in becoming a State Trooper. I am very glad that I got to meet the students and faculty at East Georgia State College. I just want to keep thanking you both, Mr. Correll and Mrs. Correll, for the opportunity that you have given me to further my education in becoming someone who can help people who are just like me in the future to come.



# Shawn Smith

I will forever remember the day I learned I had been accepted as a Correll Scholar. Sneaking on my phone in Spanish class, I received an email resting my anxiety I had since the day of the interviews. At that point, my fruitless hope of a college career bloomed into an ecstatic fulfillment of a dream. My dominant aspiration of a college career has been filled, and, from there, it could lead me anywhere I want to go or anything I want to do. Worries of what I would do after graduation had vanished. From there, I envisioned a stairway to success, and this was my first step. I now had comfort in knowing

I had been given a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity through the altruistic generosity of someone else. Since then, my two semesters as a scholar have been filled with nothing but positive advancements towards my future endeavors. To be able to say that I am a Correll Scholar, to me, means that I want to return the generosity that Mr. and Mrs. Correll have bestowed upon me back to the community.

The Correll Scholarship itself is based off of pure selflessness that graciously gives in abundance. The title as a Correll Scholar is complimentary with a never-ending flood of opportunity, experience, and nourishment, ultimately, building us scholars into young leaders. We are given a chance to become leaders by being pleasantly exposed to an uncommon form of altruism. The scholarship puts emphasis on being active in the community around you while giving you the education you need to make it possible for you to spread the altruism on a vast level. My fellow scholars and I are able to take advantage of the chances that have been given to us in completing our journey towards success, and we can turn around to potentially give others the same experience we have had.

The scholarship has given me the amazing opportunity to take the next step in advancing my academic career. My dreams of being successful are slowly becoming fulfilled with the strong first step the scholarship has given me, and, hopefully, it can give the same in the upcoming generations. We have the opportunity to meet people who can guide us towards having another strong step. With the given college career, we scholars have been able to join extracurricular clubs and organizations that will also assist us in fulfilling our dreams of becoming successful. The scholarship is setting us on the right track towards a prosperous future by opening doors that would otherwise be unopenable. The Correll Scholarship gives a fresh opportunity to the fulfillment of one's overall dream.

A good example of the scholarship spreading altruism through the scholars would be in the Bobcat Buddies program. For the first year, as a scholar, we tutored third, fourth, and fifth grade elementary students at the Sudie A. Fulford Center. The elementary students are given a college student to assist them with their schoolwork to raise their grades. The program is delicately weaved into the Correll name, for the building where the program takes place is named after Mrs. Correll's mother, who was an elementary school teacher for forty years. I find it interesting that we are able to continue her legacy in the education of children.

As an upcoming sophomore, I am a Political Science major, and I would not have made my decision if it was not for the experience the scholarship had in store for me. In the Correll class, we get lectures on the importance of our Wiregrass Region, culture, and issues that surround us. On the annual Correll trip, we went to Macon, Georgia and visited historic cultural attractions like the Indian Mounds, The Allman Brothers museum, Sidney Lanier's house, The Hay House, Tubman Museum, and The Rookery. Everything the scholarship brings is an eye-opening escapade.

In closing, I want to address that the Correll Scholarship is much more than just a monetary advantage. It is a path that starts with success, and down it fills you with a unique experience that will aid you in achieving further success. The scholarship embeds a sense of altruistic generosity in the scholars in turn for them to become successful, and they may turn it upon their community. I love the life the Corrells have given me, and I feel the only way I can repay them is doing my best in everything I do from here on out. I truly feel no one is able to obtain this type of extraordinarily humble adventure any way else.



# Carley Stapleton

There are not enough words to express what the Correll Scholarship means to me, for this program has had a crucial impact on my life that I will forever cherish. If you were to ask me where I was going to go to school this time last year, I would have said ABAC without even the slightest hesitation, but my plans changed when I received this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to pursue my educational goals without paying a dime.

By being awarded this generous scholarship, it has lightened my financial burden that tags along with the title "full-time college student," which, in return, allows me to focus on the most vital aspect of college: learning. Throughout this past year, I learned many things, not only academically, but about myself. I have come to realize that obstacles will always come my way, but with hard work and dedication, I can overcome them.

The thoughts of starting college this past fall worried me because I would be attending school without the majority of my childhood friends by my side. I knew that it would be hard, but little did I know that I would not only have 23 new friends waiting for me but 23 new family members. Each and every one of my fellow Correll Scholars has grown deep and close to my heart and I would not have it any other way. Every one of us has such a positive outlook on life, and we are so very special in our own way that we cannot help but get along. Each one of us has a plan, being the smart, creative people that we are, our plan will nonetheless change the world for the better. I commend the Corrells and East Georgia State College for putting together the "cream of the crop" and most elite 2017 high school graduates that East Georgia has to offer.

For the past year, every Tuesday morning, I wake up, get ready, and start heading towards Swainsboro for an eight o'clock class. This class is the Correll Scholars class. Each time we meet, we have a designated guest speaker, most being Professors here at the college and some being community members, that talk about our community and the south as a whole. These classes have shown us how important our region is to the world and what our role is as citizens of such a wonderful area. These classes would not be able to give us that sense of the importance of our home if it were not for the Correll Class and Dr. Cheek.

I have always been active in my community, as I was an avid member of 4-H and FFA, and I was afraid that going to school would interfere with giving back to my community. This scholarship also provided aid to me by allowing me the chance to continue to be active with the youth of surrounding communities by mentoring and tutoring the local 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders through the Bobcat Buddies Program. At the beginning of this program, I knew I was supposed to help the kids grow academically, but I did not realize the kind of impact this program has on the children and the Correll Scholars. Going to the Fulford Learning Center to tutor the kids was something I looked forward to every Tuesday and Thursday. Being able to tutor and mentor these loveable kids has been a blessing in disguise. This experience has been truly humbling and has really opened my eyes, and it let me realize that not everyone has the amazing opportunities or family support that I had while growing up. The kids and the Correll Scholars would not be able to leave such a positive, lasting impression on each other if it were not for the Corrells and Mrs. Jean Schwabe.

The support and affection the Corrells have for East Georgia State College has made a huge impact on all staff, faculty, students, and the community and it is greatly appreciated. I have grown to love this "small town college," and I would not have had the opportunity to experience the high-quality education this college administrates if it were not for this generous scholarship. Their sincere donations and generosity have inspired me to help others in need and give back to various aspects of my community and those surrounding as well. I hope that one day I can help students in the community just as they have helped me and my fellow Correll Scholars. We are truly blessed to have the Corrells as the backbone of our college life.

Once again, I am extremely thankful for the Corrells' belief in and support to my educational success. I am so fortunate to have the Corrells, in addition to my family, supporting me during these important years of my life. It's a true honor to have the title of Correll Scholar associated with my name here at East Georgia State College, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart.



# Chase Thompson

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude for the wonderful opportunity of participating in the Correll Scholarship program this year. It has been an amazing experience and has made my first year of college a very special one. I feel honored to have been chosen to be a part of such a special program that has been beneficial to me in so many ways. I feel that I have grown a great deal these past few months and being a Correll scholar has definitely played a major role in the process.

Since I was an infant, my parents have always expected me to attend college and their expectation was that I attend their Alma Mater, Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia. I knew, however, that I wanted to start somewhere smaller and more personal because I have not always been fond of large crowds and I knew that attending a university with approximately twenty thousand people would not be my ideal situation. When I shared this with my parents, they were not exactly thrilled and I knew it would take some convincing. I remember when I first heard about the Correll Scholars Program from my high school counselor. I thought this could be exactly what I needed to help me convince my parents that East Georgia State College was the place for me. I knew I was not going to be able to sell my parents on the idea of simply attending East Georgia State College in Swainsboro, when it was twice as far away as Georgia Southern; however, if I was part of a program such as the Correll Scholars, my parents would be more supportive of the idea. I remember when I received notification that the group had been narrowed down to forty finalists, and I was to go for an interview, I was both nervous and excited. Once my mom and I visited the school the first time for my interview, I was pleased to see the campus and that all of the people were so friendly and helpful. Once I received the notification that I had indeed been accepted into the program, I was elated that everything had worked out for the best.

My first semester in college was a tough one due to illness. I am normally a very healthy person; however, early in the first semester, unfortunately I became really sick. I had severe abdominal pain and a very high fever. After an emergency room visit to the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, I was diagnosed with a tick-related illness. Apparently, I had been bitten by a tick while in the woods. I was homebound for almost two weeks and tried to keep up with my schoolwork as best as I could. I was fortunate that all of my professors worked with me and allowed me to make up work when I felt better. A couple of months later, unfortunately I caught the dreaded flu and had to miss more school as well as the Boehmerfest. Once again, I was able to make up the days missed. Had I been at a larger college, I am not sure that my professors would have been as understanding. I feel very fortunate to have a good rapport with each of my professors. I was blessed to end up the semester with a 3.65 GPA.

I feel that I have grown a great deal throughout these past several months. I have had to become a more responsible person. Our Correll class meets every week at 8:00AM. That means I have to get myself up around 6:00AM on Tuesdays in order to get dressed, eat breakfast, drive an hour, and be in class on time. I have also become much more patient as I have had the opportunity to take part of the Bobcat Buddies program. I have worked with young children the entire year, and it has been a very rewarding experience to see the little kids that I work with from week to week grow in so many ways. I feel that this experience has helped me not only develop patience, but also be more creative and take-charge as I have had to figure out ways to help the students remember things and ways to keep them on task. I have truly enjoyed working with these kids. I feel that it will help me in the future as I work with my own children one day. The Correll Program has also helped me stay focused on my grades. I feel so fortunate to have the financial opportunity afforded to me by this program. With the \$5000 scholarship and the Georgia HOPE scholarship, my parents are not making me work during the school year, only summers. My mom says that maintaining my grades is my job. As long as I am a Correll and HOPE scholar, I am able to devote my time to school. This is probably the most beneficial aspect of the program.

Becoming a Correll Scholar has truly been a blessing. I have been looked at differently and I have challenged myself to live up to the standard of being a recipient of this program. It is not only a scholarship; it also allows me to have the opportunity to impact others in ways that I would have not gotten to had I not been given this opportunity. I have enjoyed getting to know other students such as myself who are part of this program. Another very important aspect of the program is that I feel as if I have had an East Georgia faculty member in my corner the entire year. It has been an honor to have Dr. Cheek as the advisor of this program. He always looks out for my best interest and I appreciate his guidance a great deal. He has kept us at the high standard of being Correll Scholars all year. I have truly enjoyed participating in the Correll program this year and I cannot wait to see what next year has in store for me as I continue on this path.



# Jordan Wells

The Correll Scholarship has meant more to me than I would have ever imagined. I cannot even explain the gratitude I have for this program. I would not be where I am today without this scholarship, and I am forever grateful. It has provided me with a chance to grow academically and socially and broaden my horizons in general. I value the opportunity it has provided me with to receive a college education at East Georgia and look forward to furthering my education here for the next year. It was an honor receiving this Scholarship offered to students

who attend East Georgia State College. It is the greatest accomplishment I have ever done. I am so grateful to represent the Correll Scholarship and the benefits it has provided.

The Corrells have provided me with a great college experience for my first year, and I will never be able to thank them enough. I have had the opportunity to grow with my involvement in the community and realize the importance of being involved in the community. It has helped me become more of a leader than I could have ever wished for. It also has allowed me to place an amazing accomplishment on my resume. This program has shaped me in so many ways that I am very appreciative of. I am fully aware that it could easily be taken away from me which gives me motivation to keep my grades up. Being a Correll Scholar I have had to hold myself to high standards and do my very best in my classes. I have had to do this not only to meet expectations of the faculty and staff of EGSC, but my peers as well. They look up to us. If they need help with something, they turn to us first. They look to us for guidance and it really is a great feeling. I am the kind of person that likes to see everyone exceed. So, I hope that being a positive role model to my peers here at East Georgia State College will encourage them to do their best and work towards being a role model to others as well.

Being in this program has impacted my life in so many ways that I am so thankful for. We were required to mentor and tutor students from Swainsboro Elementary School every Tuesday and Thursday. This program, called Bobcat Buddies, has made me grow tremendously as a person. It is an honor to use my academic skills to teach and develop others. It has taught me many things that I will value throughout my life. It allowed me to gain more responsibility, and become more patient, caring, and determined. Not only has this impacted my life, but I've impacted other people's lives as well. It makes me feel good knowing that I have impacted these kids life in such a positive way.

If it were not for my Correll Scholarship, I would not have been able to have a debt-free first year of college. I would have had to get a job on top of being a student athlete and taking 15 hours of classes, and work to subsidize my living expenses. I would not have been financially able to attend college and pursue my dreams without having some type of income. This scholarship has awarded me the opportunity to further my education and concentrate on my studies, so I can obtain a degree. I plan to major in nursing and become a nurse. I have always had a passion for helping people and I would like to channel that into a job that I love. This Scholarship is the stepping stone for me to achieve that goal and become successful in life. It will allow me to not come out of college with as much debt. It also has given me the chance to start saving some money for when I do go to nursing school. Receiving this Scholarship has given me the opportunity to fulfill my dream. In today's world, a college diploma can help you succeed in finding a better job and therefore, have a better life. It helps you to be a productive and active citizen. I want to make a difference in the lives of others and I thank the Corrells for giving me the opportunity to do so. I would also like to thank Dr. Cheek for the invaluable support. He not only taught me the importance of being a Correll Scholar, but many life lessons as well. This Correll Program has increased my knowledge in a variety of subjects. Dr. Cheek did not only focus on one subject, but enlightened me in educational areas that I would not have received from the basic core classes I am taking right now. By taking this class, I was able to explore in many different academic areas. This course helped me with the other classes that I took this semester.

Being in this program has been an amazing and life changing experience. It has made my first year in college nonetheless successful. I am so blessed that I am a part of the Correll Scholar Program. The memorable experiences I have made with my fellow scholars, professors, and kids would not have been possible without being in this program. I would strongly advise any upcoming freshmen who are eligible to apply for the Correll Scholarship.



# Ashlee White

Receiving the Correll Scholarship has been a true blessing in my life. This has been one of the greatest accomplishments I have ever attained. I am truly grateful for this opportunity the Corrells have provided me with. There are not enough words in the English vocabulary to describe or explain how touching it is that you chose to invest in my life and career. This scholarship has not only kept me encouraged throughout my classes, but it has helped me to do my best and succeed in them as well. This scholarship has allowed me to continue my studies at East Georgia State College with no financial stress. Also, it has helped to be able to graduate sooner than expected. Thanks to the Correll Scholarship, I have no debt, I can focus solely on my studies, I have learned so much, and I have met amazing people.

Going to school has always been my main focus. I always told myself that I just wanted to go to school to become a nurse. However, I did not realize that going to school is actually expensive. I wondered how in the world my family and I would be able to afford this. This was when I received the phone call that I was being offered the Correll Scholarship. I can still remember the overwhelming excitement and emotions I felt that day. The Correll Scholarship has taken a huge load off of my family's and my shoulders. It has allowed me to continue my studies without worrying about how to avoid debt.

Being a Correll Scholar has had such a positive and powerful impact on my life throughout this academic year. One of the most important qualities I have learned and improved significantly is patience. It is important to have patience in nearly each aspect of life, especially when you want to work with people. The Bobcat Buddies Program has taught me to be more patient. I have a little brother whom I used to be a little impatient with. After working with the kids in Bobcat Buddies, I have learned to be patient because kids need you to show that you are interested and have time for them. I found that I was willing to give all of the time in the world if I had to. I have been able to apply this to other areas of my life as well. I know that when I become a nurse, I will have to display a lot of patience when I work with people whether it be kids or adults. It felt phenomenal to know that there was a kid looking up to me and looking forward to seeing me on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I have to admit that I was excited to see the school bus pulling up to the Sudie Fulford Center most days. Also, it just felt rewarding to know that by simple acts as this, I was giving back to my community which has graciously invested so much into me.

A big part of being a Correll Scholar is involvement in our community. Dr. Cheek always tells us to "Go out and conquer the world" or "Go out and be great." The Correll Scholarship Program is shaping us to be leaders so that we can do just that. I am normally really shy or skeptical when it comes to meeting new people. I prefer to stick to what and who I know. As a Correll, I have really come out of my shell. I have met amazing staff and students who have contributed to making this first-year experience a great transition for me. The energy is nothing but uplifting here. I have had such a memorable experience at East Georgia State College. I have learned so much that I will carry with me everywhere I go.



# William "Cole" Wilkes

I would first like to express what an honor it has been to receive the Correll Scholarship. This scholarship has been such an amazing and inspiring opportunity that has been given to me. It has taught me so much about myself and how I have the ability to do anything that I set my mind to do. The requirements for the scholarship appeared very intimidating initially, but when I eventually got into the program and began taking my classes, those same intimidating requirements are what pushed me and inspired me to go even farther than what I ever thought was possible for me to achieve. I was also inspired by the fact that you have given so much for me to attend East Georgia State College that it is only right that you receive my best work in return. For me, this means that I give everything I have to succeed and to always go the extra mile in everything that I do. Therefore, it brings me so much joy to inform you that throughout my first year as a full-time college student, I have achieved and maintained a grade point average of 4.0 which would not have been possible if it was not for the Correll Scholarship.

The second benefit of the Correll Scholarship that has meant so much to me is the guest speakers that we have been privileged to hear. Every week, we have had a different speaker that comes and shares their knowledge that they have acquired through years of research, life experiences, and learning, whether it was through mistakes they learned from or classes that they took. The guest speakers have opened my eyes to the vast world of opportunity that waits for me. The class has shown me people from different walks of life that are spectacular in their own way, for example "The Bucketman" who creates magnificent works of art with a torch and plastic five gallon buckets. They have shown me the many wonders of Georgia and how incredibly unique Georgia is, with its wide variety of ecosystems. They have shown me the mistakes that they have made and shown me how to do things right the first time around and possibly avoid mistakes. Dr. Cheek has taught us how being an Army chaplain can be a wild adventure that seems very intriguing when you begin to think about it. Just the very fact that these outstanding people have been willing to share all their many years of wisdom with us so that we can become more intelligent because of it has been so inspiring to me. It has also given me some clarity into what I would like to make of my life.

Finally, the Correll Scholarship Program has given me an opportunity to do something that I would have never had the opportunity to do at any other time. The chance to take a younger child "under my wing" and to help him grow and to possibly plant in him the desire to become more than just a child that struggles in school and to be someone that can change the world has been amazing. This opportunity really hit home with me because, when I was younger, I was that child that struggled in school. I was that child that couldn't pay attention and had poor grades. So when the opportunity came to mentor a child that I saw myself in and push them to be more and be a positive role model in their life, I was thrilled. Throughout this program, I have grown close to my "buddy" and have seen him open up to me. We also really share a connection, not just as a tutor, but as someone he can depend on and trust. I honestly believe that he will continue on and become a successful student and citizen. Not only have I helped him, but he has helped me find things about myself that I did not yet see. He helped me see that I am compassionate and care about the well-being of others. I now see in myself that I would rather help someone reach their goal than reach my goal and leave them behind.

If it was not for the Correll Scholarship Program, I would not have met some of the most amazing people. During my first year as a Correll Scholar, I have made some new and amazing friends that have helped push me to be more. The greatest factor of being a Correll Scholar is that you are placed into a group of people that have the same desires and drives as you do. The people that I have met during this experience will, without a doubt, become life-long friends that I can always depend on. The best feeling about that is that they can depend on you just the same. If I could go back in time and do my first year as a Correll Scholar all over again, I would do it and do everything the exact same way. The Correll Scholarship has meant so much to me. It has given me opportunities to do things that I would probably never do otherwise. It has opened my eyes to so many different worlds of possibilities that I can do and people that I can become. It has helped me realize things about myself that I would have never seen if it was not for this amazing opportunity that has been given to me. Even though I do my absolute best to achieve high grades to try and give back to the Corrells, I feel like I could never repay you for all that you have done for me by giving me the opportunity to be a Correll Scholar. I cannot imagine what my life would be like if it was not for the Correll Scholarship. Thank you for changing my life.



# Zachary Williams

Receiving the Correll Scholarship altered my college life and my future. It has molded me into a new person, made me challenge myself, and opened my eyes to the world around me. This opportunity has allowed an outstanding mentor to be a part of my life. Dr. Cheek has not only been a good friend, but a good role model as well. He taught me to really care about my classes, myself, and my peers. I am a Correll Scholar and I represent East Georgia State College, so I need to act and think the way I am supposed to. Continuously skipping class and

slacking on work would have been in my agenda both fall and spring semesters, but the simple fact that I did not want to let Dr. Cheek down made me step up and be a better student, not only for me but for him as well. Having Dr. Cheek in my life to guide me in the right direction is what has meant the most to me having this scholarship. Nobody knows the lasting impression somebody can have on someone's life.

The Correll group that I am in now is like my second family. Having this opportunity has allowed me to make numerous new friends that I feel I can trust and count on. In all my other classes here at East Georgia State College, I just go through the motions and tend to myself, do my work, and leave. I have only made one other friend outside of my Correll group. Having such a variety of new friends really humbles myself in how I act and present myself. Everybody is certainly different in their own way, but we all relate in our emotions and feelings. Everyone should be treated the same because we are all human. Because of this, I have really gone out of my way to speak to and acknowledge people I normally would not have. This makes me feel better as a person as I go through out my day. I have almost become a new person in my attitude and perspective on other people just because I have been put in the situation to change and adapt.

This scholarship has impacted me on a personal level as well. Going all the way back to when I wrote my first essay is when it started for me. I did not believe that was smart enough or qualified to receive this scholarship. After getting the phone call saying I was selected for the interview process, I was absolutely blown away. The Correll interview was my first interview and, by all means, was I nervous. By going through this interview, it really showed me what I was capable of. It helped me to grow and come out of my shell. Once I was informed that I was now a Correll Scholar, my whole mindset was changed. I knew there were people smarter than me that did not get the scholarship. I now looked at myself as an equal to everyone else not someone that is less intelligent. It gave me some sense of satisfaction knowing that "I did it." What got me that scholarship was myself and it was one of the proudest moments I have had as an individual.

This will forever be one of my best memories of college. I can still remember the day I received the call informing me that I was a Correll Scholar. I was at golf practice here in Swainsboro at the country club on hole number 6, stroke number 2 when I received the news. I was so excited to get home and share the good news and tell my parents what I had accomplished. Best of all things is that it was my father's birthday. There is nothing more a father wants in life than to hear the happiness and accomplishments his child has. After telling my father, we locked together hugging and almost broke into tears. My mother, of course, was already crying, because that is just what moms do. I will always cherish that moment for the rest of my life.

Not only has this scholarship somewhat molded me into the man I am today, it also is the only reason I am still in school. Right off the bat, I realized that I did not like college. I did not want to do any more school. I felt like I was only wasting time and money because it was not enjoyable to me. I was seriously considering dropping out of college and just start looking for a job, but because I started to hold myself accountable for my future, I realized I was making the wrong decision. I am very happy I decided to continue my education. I cherish all the new people that have come into my life and guided me in the right direction. I owe my education and partially my future to you, Mr. and Mrs. Correll. This scholarship has meant the world to me. I would choose the exact same path now if I had to do it all over again. Words cannot explain how appreciative I am for this opportunity you have given me. Thank you for everything you do for this community and the future of young adults like me.

# Promotional Flyers

**CORRELL Scholars PROGRAM**

With this scholarship and East Georgia State College's low tuition rate, you can earn a degree without the burden of student loans.

*Overview*

The Correll Scholars Program recognizes and prepares exceptionally promising students as future community leaders in our region.

- Scholarships are \$5,000 per student, renewable annually, for a maximum of four years. Twenty (20) scholarships are awarded each year.
- Students must attend East Georgia State College's Swainsboro campus.
- Correll Scholars who meet eligibility requirements and continue their studies as a junior or senior in a baccalaureate degree program at EGSC will be given first consideration for subsequent year awards.
- No minimum high school GPA or test scores. Primary focus is leadership and service.

**APPLY NOW!**

[www.ega.edu/scholarships](http://www.ega.edu/scholarships)

The Correll Scholars Program helps today's students become tomorrow's leaders.

*Application Process*

The application process is designed to identify students who demonstrate the talent, motivation and potential to transform themselves and their community.

- Completion of EGSC Admissions Application (Automatic Non-Resident Waiver) and acceptance
- Completion of the online Correll Scholars Program Application
- Submission of an essay addressing the topic "How will you use your education to transform your community?" (1,000 word essay)
- Interview

*Where do you see yourself in four years?*

Participating in the Correll Scholars Program will help you achieve your dream!

*Join the fun!*

**CORRELL Scholars PROGRAM**

*Rigorous Program Standards*

- Maintain a 3.0 GPA or higher.
- Complete at least 26 credit hours in freshman year to maintain eligibility for sophomore year.
- Participate in a one hour credit course each semester that focuses on issues and challenges facing our region and work collaboratively to design solutions for those challenges.
- First year students will actively participate in tutoring and mentoring of local school students at the Fulford Center, which qualifies them for the Service Seal of Distinction.
- Second year students will participate in service internships.

*Selection of Scholars*

Each spring, new applicants will participate in the "Correll Scholars Selection Day" for interviews with faculty, staff, community leaders and donors. Scholars will be selected based upon committee approval.

*Criteria:*

**SCHOLARSHIP**

- GPA, SAT, ACT scores
- Challenging course load
- General knowledge beyond field of study
- Ability to think critically

**LEADERSHIP**

- Ability to make an impact and influence others
- Focus on the global society
- Excellence in communication
- Motivation to excel
- Strong character

**SERVICE**

- Demonstrated strength in coaching, tutoring and/or mentoring
- Non-profit work experience
- Demonstrated commitment to others

**LET'S GET ASSOCIATED.**

SANFORD STADIUM

**East Georgia STATE COLLEGE**

For more information, contact Karen Jones • 478-289-2012 • [kjones@ega.edu](mailto:kjones@ega.edu)

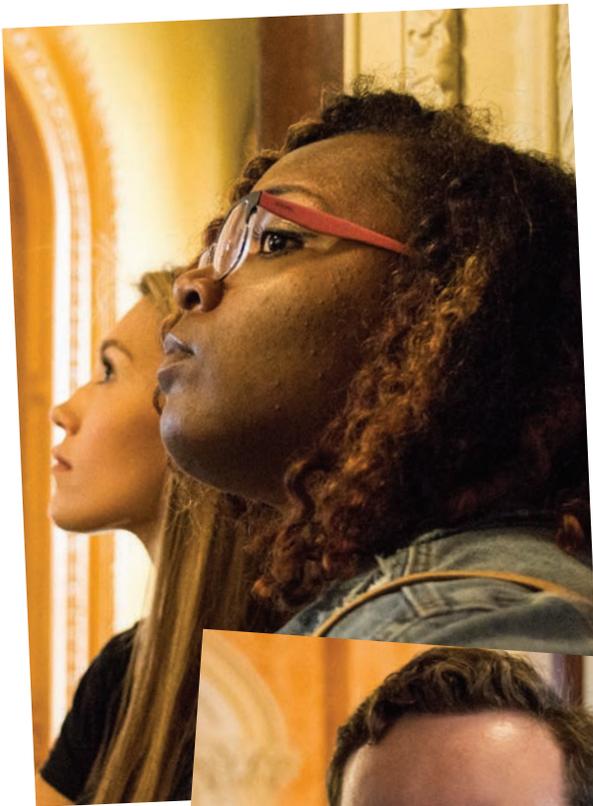
# Field Trip Overview

## CORRELL SCHOLARS TRIP TO MACON April 11, 2018

- 7:30 a.m.** Depart EGSC Swainsboro at Luck Flanders Gambrell Cener (Flagpole)
- 9:00 a.m.** Ocmulgee Indian Mounds  
1207 Emery Highway, Macon
- 10:00 a.m.** Fort Hawkins  
Corner of Maynard and Emery Highway, Macon
- 11:00 a.m.** Hay House  
943 Georgia Avenue, Macon  
Tour Guide: William
- 12:00 p.m.** Lunch – The Rookery  
543 Cherry St., Macon  
Contact: Katelin Yates
- 1:00 p.m.** Walk from The Rookery to the Tubman Museum  
310 Cherry St., Macon  
Contact: Trenda Byrd
- 2:10 p.m.** The Big House  
2321 Vineville Ave., Macon  
Contact: Maggie Johnson Reimer
- 3:30 p.m.** Sidney Lanier Cottage  
935 High St., Macon  
Contact: Bernard Turner
- 4:00 p.m.** Depart Sidney Lanier Cottage for EGSC
- 4 - 5:30 p.m.** Travel by bus to EGSC









# Financial Report

<b>\$192,500</b>	<b>Scholarships</b>
<b>\$4,210</b>	<b>Spring Practicum/Summer Reading</b>
<b>\$53</b>	<b>Investment Fees</b>
<b>\$196,763</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>
<b>\$200,000</b>	<b>Scholarship Pledge Payment</b>
<b>\$141</b>	<b>Miscellaneous Income</b>
<b>\$7,500</b>	<b>Correll Initiatives (Received FY16)</b>
<b>\$4,703</b>	<b>Investment Income - Scholarships</b>
<b>\$51</b>	<b>Investment Income Initiatives</b>
<b>\$211,765</b>	<b>Total Income</b>
<b>\$15,002</b>	<b>NET</b>

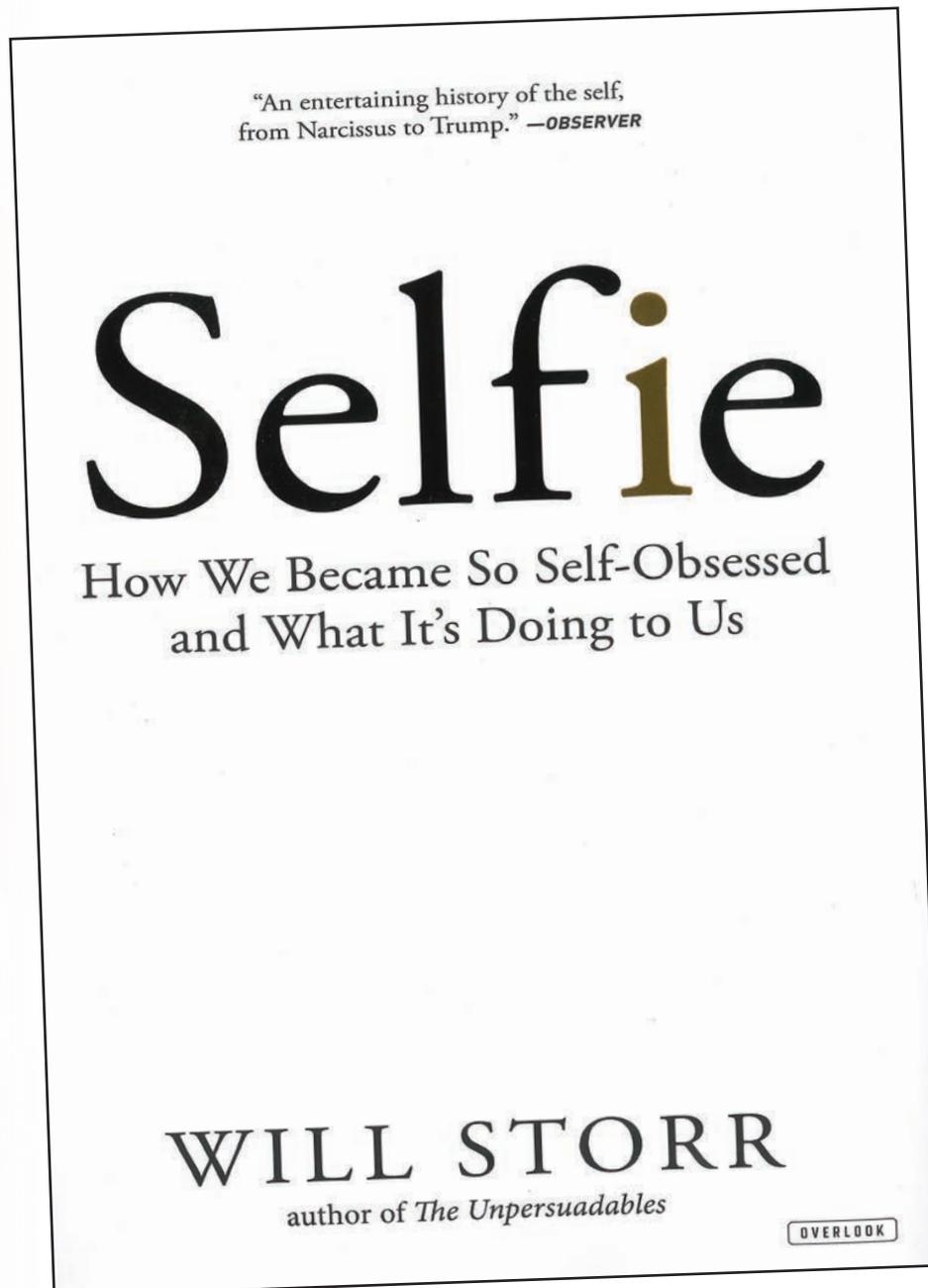
**NOTES:**

- \$3290 IN CORRELL OPERATING INITIATIVES REMAINING
- \$10,000 TO BE USED FOR FY 18-19 SCHOLARSHIPS
- BALANCE TO REMAIN IN ACCOUNT



# Summer Reading Program

Each Summer, we select a primary text for our Correll Scholars that is purchased and given to all Scholars. The text is integrated into our Correll courses. Our text for the upcoming Summer is Selfie: How We Became So Self-Obsessed and What It's Doing to Us by Will Storr.



# *Correll Scholars Standing Committee*

**Chair, Vice President for Institutional Advancement**  
Elizabeth Gilmer

**Director, Correll Scholars Program**  
Dr. H. Lee Cheek

**Vice President for Academic & Student Affairs**  
Dr. Deborah Vess

**Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management**  
Karen Jones

**Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement**  
Norma Kennedy

**Director of Admissions**  
Georgia Mathews

**Director of the Sudie A. Fulford Community Learning Center**  
Jean Schwabe

**Event Planner**  
Angie Williams

**Information Technology Data Base Administrator**  
Wilder Coleman, Jr.



East Georgia  
STATE COLLEGE®

*Information Compiled By:*

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Dr. H. Lee Cheek, Dean of the School of Social Sciences**

*Designed By:*

**M. Katelyn Moore, Communications Coordinator**

*July 2018*