



# Gummere Fellows

## 2022-2023 Annual Impact Report



**As a generous donor to the Spike Initiative and the Gummere Fellows program—now in its eighth year at the College—we are honored to share the impact report below with you.**

### **ADMISSIONS IMPACT**

The Gummere Fellows program played an essential role in supporting another successful enrollment cycle for Lake Forest College. In an increasingly competitive market, it is imperative that the College finds unique ways to differentiate itself as we look to attract future Foresters to campus. Over the course of the past year, prospective students and families consistently shared with the Admissions staff how well Gummere Fellows represented themselves, giving nuanced and thoughtful perspectives on their experiences as students. Below is a summary of Admissions activities that the program supported:

- 3 Fall Open House Programs
- 6 Admitted Student Programs
- Individual email and phone call outreach to select admitted students
- Virtual meetings through Admissions digital platform partner ZeeMee

At in-person events, the Gummere Fellows are asked to support a number of high-impact activities, including:

- Participating in student panels
- Providing campus tours
- Hosting admitted students in their residence hall rooms
- Serving as content experts in many facets of the student experience (leadership opportunities, internships, off-campus study, athletics, etc.)

The College is thrilled to have just completed another successful enrollment campaign, with an incoming first-year class of 435 students from 35 states and 40 countries. Without question, the Gummere Fellows played an outsized role in achieving these results.

## ADVANCEMENT IMPACT

In addition to supporting our Admissions strategy, the Gummere Fellows also are critical to supporting the Office of Advancement by engaging with donors and alumni. An overview of their efforts is outlined below.

### 2022 Homecoming and Reunion Weekend

- Participated in a student panel during the in-person Alumni Council meeting
- Attended events with the Class of 1972 for its 50th Reunion
- Provided campus tours to alumni and guests
- Presidential Inauguration for Dr. Jill M. Baren
- Served as ushers during the inauguration
- Provided tours via golf cart to President Baren's family and guests

### 2023 Forester Day

- Co-hosted Cash Cab with President Jill M. Baren
- Answered calls during the Telethon with Spike Gummere
- Hosted tables throughout the week in the Mohr Student Center
- Created "ask" videos and posting on social media

### Spring 2023 Thank-a-Thon

A two-night stewardship event to thank and celebrate the College's donors

- Called donors and personally thanked them for their generosity
- Recorded and sent video thank you messages to donors
- Wrote and sent messages of gratitude to donors

The 2023 Forester Day was the most successful giving day in the College's history with **2,114 donors raising \$687,546, which includes 90 donors giving more than \$37,000 to the Spike Initiative**. The Fellows enjoyed being part of this day and encouraging Forester friends and families to support the areas that have a direct impact on **our students, our campus, and our world**.

We want to especially recognize Gummere Fellow Desiree Brady '23, who graciously joined the Advancement staff at the start of the academic year to provide a tour of campus to President Baren and who also recorded a meaningful video message with the President to complete the spring semester. We hope you will take a few minutes to enjoy Desiree's and President Baren's video: [Support Foresters like Desiree Brady '23](#)

*"Given my position as a Gummere Fellow, I am hoping to share with others my passion for Lake Forest College and its continued forward growth. I hope that by advocating for the school, we can foster a greater community of individuals that are invested in the College and its progress. Overall, I see my role as a Gummere Fellow as an opportunity to make the school stronger by connecting with others over the reasons why Lake Forest College is a vibrant and unique community."*

-Kate Kiameh '25

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A central component of the Gummere Fellows program has always been to offer meaningful professional development support as Fellows prepare to transition to life beyond the College as emerging professionals. Below are a few examples of opportunities offered over the last year:

- Purchased one year of LinkedIn Premium for each Fellow
- Provided copies of *What Color Is Your Parachute?: Your Guide to a Lifetime of Meaningful Work and Career Success* by Richard N. Bolles and leading thoughtful conversation around the balance of career and calling.
- Welcomed Northwestern Mutual representative Tanya Romin to a Gummere Fellows meeting to give a workshop on personal finance and financial planning.
- Opportunity to attend the All Access Mixer in the Loop, a networking event that welcomed more than 150 members of our Forester community for meaningful career connections and conversations.

In addition to the professional development opportunities extended to all Fellows, seniors in the program also receive a \$500 professional development grant to be used at their discretion to support launching their careers. Below are a few examples of how these dollars were deployed:

- Sara Martinez '23 attended an Experience Design Conference in Denver, CO. She created this [video to document her experience](#).
- Alec Macartney '23 attended the American Public Health Association's Policy Action Summit in Washington, DC.
- Desiree Brady '23, Nafissa Bounia '23, and Gabe Anzeze '23 invested in professional wardrobes as they enter the working world.

*"To me, being a Gummere Fellow means serving as a welcoming face, a committed leader, and an honest advocate that our Lake Forest College community can depend on. For many of us, the College is our second home, and being a Gummere Fellow means representing that home with the utmost enthusiasm, passion, and Forester Pride that there is."*

–Chelsea Davis '24

## RECENT GRADUATES

In May, seven Gummere Fellows, highlighted below, graduated from the College. We are immensely grateful for their service to the College, and we send them our biggest and best Forester wishes as they begin the next chapter of their lives.

- Gabriel Anzeze (Nairobi, Kenya): employed at Monroe Capital in Chicago, IL
- Nafissa Bounia Yahaya (Niamey, Niger): Financial Analyst at Goldman Sachs in Chicago, IL

- Desiree Brady (Harvard, IL): Admissions Counselor at Regis University in Denver, CO
- Katelyn Holstein (Moore, OK): applying to graduate school
- Alec Macartney (Bentonville, AR): Data Analyst at Retail Insight in Chicago, IL
- Sara Martinez (San Jose, Costa Rica): Digital Marketing Specialist at Bluestone Staffing Solutions in Chicago, IL
- Hannah Steffey (Sewickley, PA): continuing at the College in the Master of Arts in Teaching Program

## SELECTION PROCESS AND NEW ADDITIONS

The Gummere Fellows program continues to be highly visible on campus, evidenced by the annual selection process, which saw nearly double the applications of last year's count: the program received 61 applications for just a handful of openings, and we are pleased to welcome the following new Fellows for the upcoming year:

- Margaret Bugnacki '25 (Shorewood, WI)
- Emilia de Paula Fonseca '26 (Minas Gerais, Brazil)
- Finn Kraker '25 (Stillwater, MN)
- Rumbi Marufu '25 (Harare, Zimbabwe)
- Chris Meza '26 (Chicago, IL)
- Anna Palianichka '26 (Vernon Hills, IL)
- Jake Sharifi '25 (Rancho Cucamonga, CA)
- Chelsea Sinclair '26 (Salisbury, CT)

## STAFF ADVISORS

- Office of Admissions
- Office of Advancement

# Our Thanks

We are most grateful to you for your continued support of and investment in the Spike Initiative and the Gummere Fellows program. Because of you, we are able to provide a transformational experience for our Fellows, which has a direct impact on the highest priorities of the College and on their Forester experience.



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COLLEGE**