

# ALC NEWS



## Welcome to the Associate Leadership Council Newsletter!

In 2020, the Carson Scholars Fund (CSF) was thrilled to announce the inauguration of our Associate Leadership Council (ALC). This group is comprised of alumni Carson Scholars, business, educational and community leaders who support the missions of the CSF. Under the ALC's leadership, the hope is to engage alumni through opportunities to share opinions, professional networking resources and mentor opportunities as future Carson Scholars move beyond the classroom into the professional world. The ALC will be contributing a quarterly newsletter (separate from the CSF newsletter) which will only be made available to alumni with information about/for alumni. CSF alumni are the leaders of today and the leaders of the future. We are excited to provide you with a resource to get to know each other.



### About the Associate Leadership Council

Get to know the names and faces of the members of the ALC. Learn about our amazing members' careers, accomplishments and goals. Every member has a different story to tell and a unique perspective on how to help CSF grow... [Read More](#)



### ALC News and Updates

The ALC is diligently working to provide our esteemed alumni with more engagement opportunities and will continue to bring their successes to the spotlight. Our alumni bring the Carson Scholars Fund full circle, and we must continue to honor, celebrate and share... [Read More](#)



### Alumni Success Story

On behalf of the ALC, we hope everyone had a safe and healthy start to the new year. It is hard to believe it is already May! This year has brought some promise that we are finally putting this pandemic behind us and moving forward with a renewed spirit and hope for a brighter new year ahead... [Read More](#)



### Welcome New ALC Member

Emily Wood is excited to become a member and be involved in the Associate Leadership Council. As a professional working in her 10th year in the Higher Education industry, she is passionate about finding... [Read More](#)



### CSF News and Updates

We are pleased to announce that the 2022 new and recognized Carson Scholars have been chosen, notified and are being celebrated at events across the country! Our judges were amazed by the level of talent, scholarship and commitment... [Read More](#)



### Upcoming Events

Love to golf? Join the CSF this fall for the First Annual CSF Golf Tournament at Cattail Creek... [Read More](#)



**Grace Fogel** is a three-time Carson Scholar alumna. She recently graduated from University of Southern California with a degree in accounting. She has since begun working for Deloitte in the Los Angeles Audit and Assurance practice. In her free time, she enjoys reading, visiting museums, and attending plays, shows, and concerts.



**Dr. Jason L. James Jr.**, a two-time Carson Scholar is an Associate Professor and Program Director at Neumann University. Preceding this post, Dr. James was an Associate Professor in the College of Business at Wilmington University. Dr. James instructs and develops programs in the areas of Advanced Organizational Behavior, Global Management Models, Personal Mastery and Communities of Practice, Organizational Behavior and Ethical Leadership, Research Methods, and Academic Research Writing. Previously, he held various roles in Customer Satisfaction, Technology, and Financial Operations at MBNA. Dr. James is a member of the Academy of Management and the International Personnel Assessment Council. He is a Leadership Delaware Institute Fellow (Cohort II / Class of 2019) and a Young Professional Member of the Pete du Pont Freedom Foundation. Dr. James has been involved with supporting and advocating for various nonprofit organizations in Delaware, and he enjoys traveling and learning about other cultures, watching baseball, and watching and playing tennis.



**Tony Kelly (contributing member)** is a data scientist with Northrop Grumman Corporation, where he is responsible for leading sector level analytics projects, leveraging machine learning and artificial intelligence to augment business processes.

Tony is a lifelong servant and has had the opportunity to take part in and lead both domestic and international service programs to places including Philadelphia, PA, Harlan, KY, and Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic. He is also a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity (H4H), typically spending time in H4H Restores. He also serves as a mentor to Calvert Hall College's cybersecurity team.

Tony holds an M.S. in Computer Science with Honors from Johns Hopkins University. He also holds an Honors B.S. in Information Technology from La Salle University with minors in Computer Science and History. He is CompTIA Security+ certified. In his free time, Tony enjoys playing sports, fishing, cooking, and supporting the Baltimore Ravens!



**Sharon Pindell (Chairperson)** is honored to be the Chairperson of the Associate Leadership Council. She was an Education Major at Slippery Rock University and has been an Early Childhood Educator and Director for 25 years. She is currently the Education Training Project Manager for a national childcare company in Maryland.

Teaching children and supporting their education and welfare is Sharon's passion. In addition to her time as an educator, she is also a mother of three children. Her son is a United States Marine; her oldest daughter attends Salisbury University to be a Registered Nurse; and her youngest daughter is in 8th grade and an avid softball player. In her spare time, Sharon enjoys watching baseball and football, loves to be at the beach or on the water, and enjoys spending time with her husband and four dogs!



**Mr. Harish Rangacharyamr (Engagement Chair)** is a serial entrepreneur who sought entrepreneurship as a profession immediately after passing out from IIT, Madras, an internationally-renowned technology institute. He is the founder and director of Apex Advanced Technology, LLC, an IT company that employs over 500 engineers worldwide. Under his leadership the company has witnessed significant growth through innovations and strategic acquisitions.

He was the recipient of "Entrepreneur of the Year" award in 2004 which is instituted by the Entrepreneurship Development Institute, Government of India, recognizing and appreciating his exceptional entrepreneurial capabilities. He is also a recipient of a number of other awards including, Best SME award from Dun and Bradstreet and Best Indian IT Company award from National Productivity Council. He is a member of the Board of Governors of TREC-STEP, one of India's leading Incubation Centers set up by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

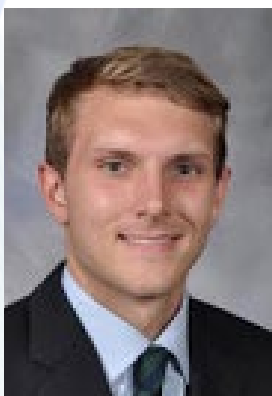
His wife is a physician specializing in neurology, and they have one daughter who is a medical intern.



**Christene Starin (Event Chair)** is the Founder of Starin Strategies, an integrated marketing organization that develops strong, differentiated brands by crafting compelling stories that achieve bottomline goals.

Throughout her career, Christene has focused on advocating for those who do not have a voice. Her ambition to make a meaningful impact has included providing public relations for recovery programs surrounding substance use, leading campaigns seeking justice for survivors of sexual abuse, leading training for USAID's Farmer to Farmer program in Honduras, and coordinating human trafficking fundraising events.

Christene now serves as the Event Chair of the Associate Leadership Council where she continues her pursuit of building strategic campaigns and communicating meaningful stories that drive impact.

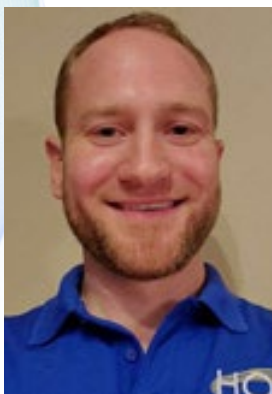


**Tom Stephan** is currently an equity research associate at Stifel Financial in New York City. Prior to joining Stifel in 2016, he graduated from the University of Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business with a BBA in Finance. Tom also was a letter winner for the university's varsity men's lacrosse team. The lacrosse program is actively involved in the local South Bend community, and during Tom's time at Notre Dame, the team won the Atlantic Coast Conference.

In his free time, Tom enjoys exercising, hanging with friends and family, and rooting for the New York Yankees.



**Emily Wood** graduated from Chesapeake College (Wye Mills, MD) with her Associate of Applied Science degree in Business Management Technology in May 2010 and Wesley College (Dover, DE) with her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration/Economics in May 2012. Emily has worked in the higher education industry for ten years. She currently serves the University of Delaware through her career role as a Grants Analyst.



**Joe Wyrwas** is a strategy and technology consultant with Anthem Engineering supporting the Department of Defense (DoD). A Carson Scholar Hall of Fame member, Joe graduated from the University of Maryland with a degree in Computer Engineering, a minor in Engineering Leadership, and a certificate in Entrepreneurship. In his past leadership role at Booz Allen Hamilton, he led a team of 15 software and system engineers, solving mission critical challenges for the DoD. Joe is passionate about leadership and personal development education and loves empowering others to be their best selves. He is an avid volunteer with Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership at both the state and national levels, serving in a variety of roles including Leadership Seminar Chair, corporate board member, and keynote speaker. He enjoys rock climbing and supports the Maryland Terps in his free time.



## Alumni Opportunities

We know how talented and extraordinary you are!

Have you been wondering how you can give back to the CSF? There are many volunteer and support opportunities available.

For more information, please email [info@carsonscholars.org](mailto:info@carsonscholars.org).



# ALC News and Events

On behalf of the ALC, we hope everyone had a safe and healthy start to the new year. It is hard to believe it is already May! This year has brought some promise that we are finally putting this pandemic behind us and moving forward with a renewed spirit and hope for a brighter new year ahead.

The Associate Leadership Council is extremely excited to welcome a new member, Ms. Emily Wood. Emily is a former patient of Dr. Carson's, and you can read her bio in this edition of our newsletter. We look forward to working with Emily; her excitement is contagious.

The ALC is diligently working to provide our esteemed alumni with more engagement opportunities and will continue to bring their successes to the spotlight. Our alumni bring the Carson Scholars Fund full circle, and we must continue to honor, celebrate and share everyone's amazing story. Please share your stories with us through [info@carsonscholars.org](mailto:info@carsonscholars.org). We would love to spotlight you in an Alumni Success Story in the future.

We will continue to create content such as this newsletter to keep you informed and connected to other former scholars and keep you informed on how you can continue to support the Carson Scholars Fund. The ALC's resume hub was just the beginning of how we support both current and past scholars. This hub remains active, and we encourage you to take advantage of and share this beneficial opportunity with others. [See Here](#)

As we continue to reflect on the highs and lows of the past year, we must not lose sight of our hopes and dreams. We must stay connected to our friends, family, and most importantly, ourselves. Community and connection are what drive humans to work and enjoy life together. Keep enjoying life, take that deep cleansing breath and take it one day at a time. The ALC looks forward to connecting with each one of you. Stay safe and healthy in this new year.

## Welcome New ALC Member



Emily Wood is excited to become a member and be involved in the Associate Leadership Council. As a professional working in her 10th year in the Higher Education industry, she is passionate about finding and facilitating innovative ways to help students achieve their goals and ultimate dreams. Emily currently serves the University of Delaware through her career role as a Grants Analyst.

Emily graduated from Chesapeake College (Wye Mills, MD) with her Associate of Applied Science degree in Business Management Technology in May 2010 and Wesley College (Dover, DE) with her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration/Economics in May 2012.

Emily has been blessed with genuinely kind and caring mentors throughout her academic and career journey so far and strives to give back as an empathetic leader through active involvement in her community. She does this by engaging with her alumni networks and volunteering in her church ministry as a lector. The example of Dr. Carson himself provides a pivotal source of inspiration for Emily as her life-time role model and personal physician of 22 years. In her free time, Emily enjoys reading, baking, exercising, traveling, practicing calligraphy, making gifts for others, and spending quality time with her family and closest friends.

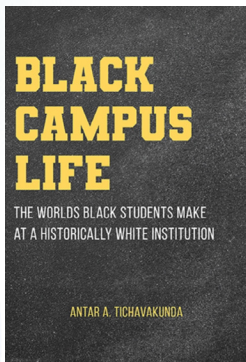


# Alumni Success Story

Read the transformative story of 4-time Carson Scholar and author of *Black Campus Life: The Worlds Black Students Make at a Historically White Institution!*

"My name is Antar Tichavakunda and I was a four-time Carson Scholar. The funding from this scholarship made my higher education journey much more manageable and I am very grateful for the generous support from the foundation.

I was born and raised in Washington, DC and am a product of DC Public Schools. I attended Brown University where I majored in Education Studies/Policy. There, I joined the first Black Greek Letter Organization, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. After graduating, I worked as a teacher in DC Public Schools for two years. During that time, I also earned a Master's in Education from George Mason University. While working in DC as a teacher, I became passionate about research and the power of narratives on impacting educational policy. I then decided to try my chances at a PhD.



I earned a PhD in Urban Education Policy from the University of Southern California where I earned the School of Education's Dissertation of the Year award. I now work as a tenure-track assistant professor of education at the University of Cincinnati. Broadly, I research the sociology of race and higher education and study Black student life at predominantly white institutions of higher education. I have published in journals such as the Review of Higher Education, Urban Education, Race, Ethnicity and Education, and Educational Policy. My first book, [\*Black Campus Life: The Worlds Black Students Make at a Historically White Institution\*](#), will be published in the coming months with SUNY Press."

## Save the Date for the First Annual Carson Scholars Fund Charity Golf Outing at Cattail Creek!



We are pleased to announce the first annual Carson Scholars Fund Charity Golf Outing at Cattail Creek. Join us on Monday, October 24, 2022, for a 10 a.m. shotgun start at Cattail Creek Country Club in Glenwood, Maryland. The tournament will feature a four-person scramble with 18 holes. The event will conclude with contests, raffle prizes, lunch and more.

[Click here](#) for sponsorship opportunities!

Interested in sponsoring the outing?

Contact Jo Weisgal at [jweisgal@carsonscholars.org](mailto:jweisgal@carsonscholars.org) or Ryan Miller at [rmmiller@savills.us](mailto:rmmiller@savills.us)

# CSF News and Updates

## 2022 New and Recognized Scholars Awarded

This May, the CSF is hosting seven movie premieres across the country to celebrate its 2022 new and recognized scholars.

CSF judges were amazed by the level of talent, scholarship and commitment to service this group of applicants brought to the table. In a time of great adversity, these scholars are transforming education and finding new ways to help others.

Across the nation, 547 new students were named 2022 Carson Scholars. Each scholar receives a \$1,000 college scholarship, a personalized medal, certificate of accomplishment and an invitation to an exclusive movie premiere of "Carson Scholars: Heroes Among Us." This CSF original movie features our very own 2022 scholars! This brings our total of scholarships awarded to over 10,500 representing scholars in all 50 states and Washington, DC.

In addition to this outstanding group, 803 students earned the prestigious status of being named a 2022 Recognized Scholar. This recognition affirms each scholar's commitment to reaching high academic standards and continuing their community service initiatives. Over 4,000 scholars have been recognized by the CSF multiple times.

After graduating from high school, our scholars become esteemed alumni. There are currently over 6,500 alumni, over 6,000 alumni who have used at least part of their scholarship and over \$8 million paid out on scholars' behalf to over 800 colleges and universities. Our alumni are represented as this country's leaders in their fields. These leaders continue to develop future generations, lead in their fields and impact local, national and global communities.

