

# UK Chellgren Center

NEWSLETTER | VOLUME VII | 2024-2025



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# FROM THE CHELLGREN ENDOWED CHAIR



Another academic year has drawn to a close—and what an extraordinary year it has been! In October, the 2024–25 class of Chellgren Fellows traveled to Washington, D.C., where this year we expanded our itinerary beyond Congress and the National Mall to include an exciting visit to the White House. In May, Lynn and I took fourteen Chellows on our biannual enrichment trip to England, visiting the University of Oxford— Mr. Paul Chellgren’s alma mater —and the University of Cambridge, where we engaged with Gates Cambridge Scholars. These visits sparked enthusiasm among our Chellows, inspiring several students to consider applying to these prestigious institutions for their graduate studies. As Endowed Chair and Director, my primary goal continues to be providing students with access to diverse resources and dedicated support services that empower them to achieve their academic and personal ambitions.

We are pleased to announce the Faculty Fellows cohort for the 2025–2026 academic year. Each selected fellow will receive a grant of \$4,000 to support activities focused on enhancing student excellence. This program provides resources and support for faculty members to develop academic courses, research projects, and other creative endeavors that foster student engagement. These activities cultivate meaningful partnerships, create innovative learning opportunities, and encourage faculty and students to participate in rigorous and ethically grounded experiences. Three Faculty Fellows have been competitively selected to conduct two exciting projects: Jason Hans, Department of Family Studies, Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment; and Francesca Dennstedt and Fabiola Fernandez-Doig, Department of Hispanic Studies, College of Arts and Sciences. We warmly congratulate them on their achievements!

Thanks to our Chellows, "Once a Chellow, always a Chellow," and our wonderful friends and supporters, we once again had a fantastic "One Day for UK" in 2025. With your generous contributions, we successfully raised funds to provide valuable support for undergraduate enrichment activities. We are excited to share that we won four challenges this year: 7 a.m. Power Hour, Facebook Likes, Small Programs and Units, and BBNfluencer Challenge. Special congratulations to Andres Phillips Calderon, who won the BBNfluencer Challenge by receiving 1.5 times more gifts than the first runner-up! We are also proud of our many other BBNfluencers who made it onto the leaderboard, including the second Chellow on the list, Anaya Ali. Thanks to their efforts, Andres and Anaya earned the opportunity of dyeing Lynn's and my hair blue once again!

We remain committed to Mr. Chellgren’s vision—that investing in students creates brighter futures not only for them, but also for our Commonwealth of Kentucky, our nation, and the world. In this newsletter, we proudly highlight the accomplishments, experiences, and achievements of our Fellows, illustrating the many ways they continue to realize and advance Mr. Chellgren’s vision for the Center.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Isabel C. Escobar". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Isabel C. Escobar, Professor of Chemical Engineering, Chellgren Endowed Chair and Director of the Chellgren Center for Undergraduate Excellence



# CHELLOWS ACROSS THE POND

In May, fourteen Chellows traveled to England for a week of adventure. The group explored London, Cambridge, Bath and Stonehenge. They also traveled to Oxford to tour Mr. Chellgren's alma mater University College.

"Visiting England has always been a dream of mine, and getting to actually go and see everything in person was so surreal," said **CHLOE OLEGARIO**, '24 Chellow. "The connections and access that came with being part of the Chellgren Center made this experience unique and truly inspiring. It gave me the opportunity to become closer to other Chellows and to explore the world with students who have similar interests and aspirations. It's something I never thought I would get to do, and it truly changed my life. Being there made me feel like my dreams are possible, and it gave me so much hope for the future."









## CHELLOWS & COMPETITIVE AWARDS



The Office of Nationally Competitive Awards assists all UK students and alumni in applying for external scholarships, fellowships, and other high impact opportunities.

Follow us on Instagram for more spotlights: [@competitiveawards](https://www.instagram.com/competitiveawards).



**MARTIN KELTEE**, '24 Chellow, will participate in the UK Medical Education Development Program.



**JOY RESIG**, '24 Chellow, will intern at Johnson & Johnson MedTech in Cincinnati.



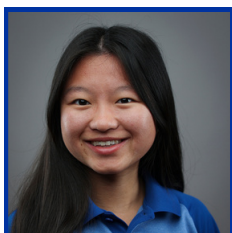
**LANCE WYSE**, '24 Chellow, will intern at Swire Coca Cola in Fruitland, Idaho.



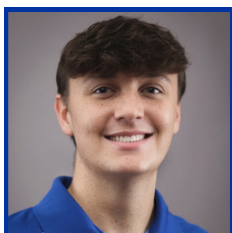
# *Summer Spotlights*



**SIENA PILATI**, '23 Chellow, will participate in the Henry Clay Student Congress, travel to Costa Rica on study abroad, and attend the Hoover Institution Summer Policy Bootcamp at Stanford University.



**BAILEY DARBRO**, '23 Chellow, will intern at Kentucky Refugee Ministries.



**BRAYDEN NICHOLS**, '23 Chellow, will conduct architecture research in London, Copenhagen, and Stockholm, and study abroad in Berlin.

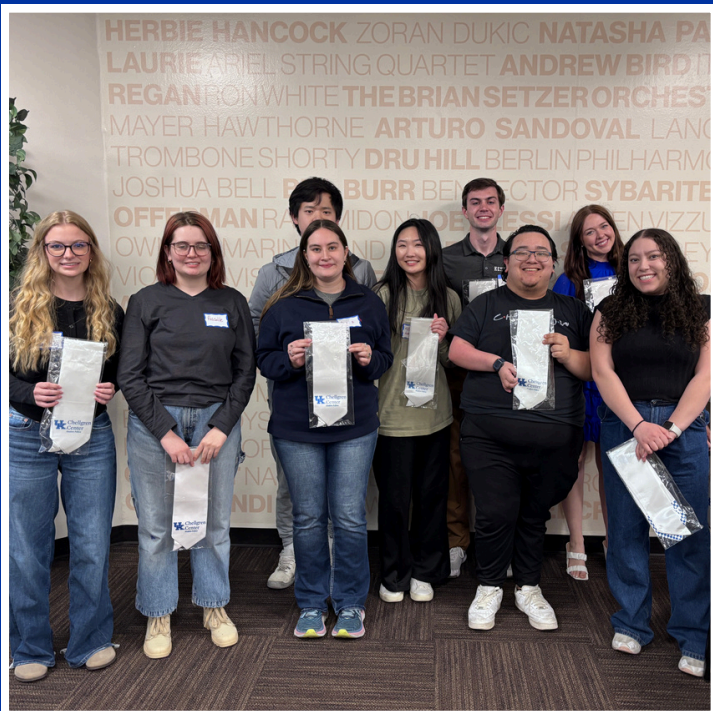
# YEAR IN REVIEW



All sophomore Chellows (and many juniors and seniors) participated in the annual Showcase of Undergraduate Scholars on April 30.



The Chellgren Student Learning Community, (comprised of students and alumni) read and discussed “The House in the Cerulean Sea.”



2025 graduates received Chellgren Center stoles to wear at commencement at our end of the year reception on April 16.



The sophomore Chellows toured the White House and met with Chellgren alumni during a day trip to Washington, D.C. in October.



**LIZZIE RICE**, '22 Chellow, will pursue a master's degree in bioethics and science policy at Duke University.

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**ROHAN DESAI**, '22 Chellow, will attend medical school at Vanderbilt University.

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**CATHERINE CORNWELL**, '21 Chellow, will work as an electro-mechanical engineer at Lockheed Martin in Orlando.

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**ANGIE BUSHROE**, '23 Chellow, will pursue a master's degree in interior design at Ball State University.

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**ELLA BROWN-TERRY**, '22 Chellow, will pursue an MPhil in English Studies at the University of Cambridge.

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**GAGE TUCKER**, '22 Chellow, will work as a high school agricultural educator.

# GRADUATE SPOTLIGHTS

# 2024-25 CHELLGREN STUDENT FELLOWS

Ivy Addo, Kylie Armstrong, Akua Asamoah, Gabrielle Beacham,  
Tara Bose, Mark Bowling, Alyssa Chiarello, Hunter Coady,  
Taylor Davis, Misa Devries, Sarah Freeland, Dorottya Gal, Tristan  
Herzog, Adah Hufana, Martin Keltee, Claire Martin, Lillian Melton,  
Chloe Olegario, Joy Resig, Laura Silva, Leah Russell,  
Elizabeth Scheetz, Jackson Schwamburger, Luis Silva Nunes,  
Regan Slis, Zoe Stefanic, Lance Wyse, Grace Yi

## SAVE THE DATE!

Chellgren Center  
20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Class Reunion  
Homecoming Weekend  
October 2026



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