#NEXTGEN LEADERS
READY TO SOLVE THE WORLD’S INTRACTABLE PROBLEMS
The Laidlaw Undergraduate Research and Leadership Scholarship programme aims to develop a new generation of leaders who are skilled researchers, embrace data-based decision making, and believe it is a moral imperative to lead with integrity.

It invests in talented and motivated undergraduate students, giving them the knowledge, skills and experience to become active global citizens and future leaders in their chosen field.

**PROGRAMME ELEMENTS**

1. A research project of your choice – 6 weeks duration over the summer
2. Leadership development training – a multi-day retreat supplemented by group work, exercises, dinners and other inspiring programme activities between your first and second Scholarship summers
3. Leadership-in-action experience (typically overseas) – 6 weeks over your second summer in a new and challenging environment, putting into practise the leadership expertise you have learnt in theory
4. Global networking through an online Scholars community: www.laidlawscholars.network

**PASSIONATE ABOUT RESEARCH?**

A Laidlaw Scholarship gives you the chance to pursue, in-depth, an area of interest with the support of an academic supervisor or as part of an experienced research team.

Propose a topic about which you are passionate in any area of the Arts & Humanities, Medicine & Health, Social Sciences or STEM or choose from a list of topics provided by the university.

You will receive one-to-one mentoring from a specialist supervisor who will help you create a piece of work that is meaningful and academically robust. It will be your responsibility to manage and deliver the project. In the process, you will develop your research expertise, intellectual rigour, project management skills, critical thinking and ability to communicate conclusions clearly.

The research project will take place over one summer and last approximately six weeks. You will receive a generous living stipend over that time.
Do you want to be one of a new generation of leaders that delivers positive change?

The purpose of the scholarships is to encourage and develop future leaders in any field of activity. Looking around the world’s business and political leaders I can’t recall a time when better leaders were more urgently needed.

— Lord Laidlaw

The Laidlaw Scholars Programme is a vibrant community of exceptional undergraduates that want to make a difference. Successful scholarship applicants will develop their individual, team and situational leadership skills.

Your Scholarship begins with a multi-day retreat with your fellow scholars. Here you will improve your self-knowledge and awareness, gain a clear understanding of your values, strengths and areas for growth, learn about leadership styles, improve your social and cultural intelligence, discover how to manage a research project and much more.

Between your first and second Scholarship summers you will benefit from a bespoke programme of leadership development activities that include: experiential learning activities, leadership dinners and forums, group work, community out-reach, building cultural capital, coaching and mentoring.

CALLING ALL #NEXTGEN LEADERS

Do you want to be one of a new generation of leaders that delivers positive change?

The purpose of the scholarships is to encourage and develop future leaders in any field of activity. Looking around the world’s business and political leaders I can’t recall a time when better leaders were more urgently needed.

— Lord Laidlaw

The Laidlaw Scholars Programme is a vibrant community of exceptional undergraduates that want to make a difference. Successful scholarship applicants will develop their individual, team and situational leadership skills.

Your Scholarship begins with a multi-day retreat with your fellow scholars. Here you will improve your self-knowledge and awareness, gain a clear understanding of your values, strengths and areas for growth, learn about leadership styles, improve your social and cultural intelligence, discover how to manage a research project and much more.

Between your first and second Scholarship summers you will benefit from a bespoke programme of leadership development activities that include: experiential learning activities, leadership dinners and forums, group work, community out-reach, building cultural capital, coaching and mentoring.

ON COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAMME YOU WILL HAVE DEVELOPED YOUR:

- Leadership abilities
- Self-knowledge and awareness
- Communication expertise
- Critical and creative thinking
- Collaboration and team working
- Research and project management skills
- Social and cultural intelligence and awareness
- Resilience and determination to achieve
- Global citizenship
- Moral leadership
The Laidlaw Scholars programme gives you the opportunity to develop your leadership ability and to put that into practice in a hands-on experience.

The Leadership-in-Action component of the Scholarship takes place over a second immersive period of approximately six weeks. It gives you the opportunity to put into practice what you have learnt in theory about purpose, strategy, planning, execution, communication and influencing skills, team work, resilience and being a global citizen.

You can choose your perfect leadership experience from a number of different options:

- Leadership expeditions that combine voluntary work designed to create systemic and sustainable change, with bespoke leadership training. You will be joined in your team by Scholars from other universities and countries.

- Social enterprise and NGO internships in challenging environments with clearly defined goals and deliverables. You will be responsible for completing a specific project which will develop your leadership expertise, demonstrate each of the Laidlaw leadership attributes and prove to yourself and others your leadership strengths.

- Continuing your research by recruiting and supervising a support team.

- Expanding and applying your research in the field in order to create demonstrable, positive change and be a force for good.

Whatever option you choose, you will have the opportunity to live and work with local communities, driving change where it really matters; whether it is improving access to water and sanitation facilities, helping break the cycle of poverty through better education, or developing real solutions to some of today’s most intractable problems by applying your research findings; you can be confident that you are giving back to others at the same time as you are developing as a leader.

It’s a volunteer experience that you will never forget. You’ll build memories and develop leadership and teamwork skills to apply to your future career and personal life.
Welcome to the Laidlaw Network

Georgina Sánchez
Jul 27, 2019

Welcome to the Laidlaw Network
The Sonic Body - Laidlaw Video Essay
Laidlaw Leadership Video - Lot Koopmans
Emile Hirsch Sunscreen: A Meditation on Life and Death

JOIN THE GLOBAL SCHOLARS NETWORK

Be part of a global community of Scholars all from the top universities in the world.

You will have the opportunity to develop a network of other scholars from prestigious international universities and leading academics who mentor research projects.

The online expert community provides a platform for you to connect, collaborate and flourish.

Here you will publish your initial research outline, as well as your final research posters, papers and reports; showcasing your thought leadership to other scholars and leading academics.

In a trusted environment, you can ask research and leadership questions, seek advice and find helpful resources and support.

Leadership-in-action opportunities, materials, team work and success stories will be posted and shared here.

After graduating, alumni continue to play an active role in the Scholars community, building their network, advancing their careers and paying it forward by mentoring new Laidlaw Scholars.

Columbia College
Durham University
NUS
University of Toronto
University of York
University of Oxford
University of St Andrews
WHO SHOULD APPLY; WHEN AND HOW

We aim to create an international network of diverse, passionate and ethical leaders who will reinvest their skills, knowledge and experience to make the world a better place.

25 Laidlaw Scholars are selected based on their leadership potential, academic excellence and ambition to succeed in their chosen field.

To apply for the scholarship you must:

— Identify a research project in which you are interested. Visit https://urf.columbia.edu/urf/research/laidlaw to see a list which academics at the University have identified as suitable for them to supervise. You are not limited to these areas of research, we actively encourage you to approach a supervisor and develop a research proposal if there is a specific subject in which you are interested.

— Design your research project, following discussions with your chosen supervisor; your project can be original or related to research that is on-going in the University. If part of a larger research programme your project must be designed to make a specific contribution.

— Write a research proposal. Your proposal will be assessed by an internal reviewer for the quality of the candidate, project content, and proposed environment hosting the study.

— The research proposal should cover:
  • The research question
  • A summary of the project in clear terms which can be understood by a non-expert in the field
  • The objectives of the research
  • The outputs, outcomes and the impact you think the research could have
  • Interdisciplinary aspects of the research project
  • International dimension of the research if any

— Complete a personal statement explaining why you are applying, why you think you will make a great scholar, your leadership ambitions and career aspirations post university and how you would like to spend your leadership-in-action summer.

Outstanding students are shortlisted and interviewed by a panel who will assess both your proposed research and your leadership potential and ambition.

KEY DATES

We will be holding information sessions on November 11th and December 4th.

Please visit https://urf.columbia.edu/urf/about/events for more information about upcoming events.

Application deadline: January 14th 2020.

ELIGIBILITY

All undergraduate students in year 1 in Columbia College are eligible to apply. There are no restrictions on discipline/department, nationality or fee status.
Being a part of the Laidlaw Scholarship programme has been such an incredible and humbling experience. Not only do I get to learn from my peers’ research and insights, but I get to develop my own, all while working on an issue I care deeply about.

— Sanjna Ullal, University of Toronto

The Laidlaw Scholarship programme has been an enormous privilege: I have been able to study and contribute to work on issues that I am passionate about and I have improved a variety of professional skills in the process!

— Edgar Roberts, University of Durham

The scholarship [...] helps me put myself in a global setting and think of how as a scientist I can create impact to make lives better. Moreover, it offers the unique chance to meet and connect with brilliant scholars around the world.

— Tran Ngoc Chau, University of Hong Kong

Beyond giving me the capability to pursue a research project that I am really passionate about, the Laidlaw Programme also introduced me to a multidisciplinary community of scholars, not only at my school, but also around the world.

— Sam Weidner, University of Tufts

Thanks to the Laidlaw Scholarship, I have been able to work on a research project that I was passionate about while developing my leadership skills. Conducting independent research overseas helped me develop both my self-confidence and self-awareness. I cannot wait to apply these skills to my professional life!

— Clara Défachel, University of St Andrews

Any problems I’m faced with become adventures; any lack of energy or sleep disappears; personal benchmark rises back where it should be. I am really grateful for an opportunity to be a part of this wonderful society.

— Kostas Pildish, University College London