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7-26-2021

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Recommended Citation

Steube, Christina, "Two UM Law Students Land Steiger Fellowship" (2021). *University of Mississippi News*. 5347.

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Two UM Law Students Land Steiger Fellowship

Natalie Lowry and Madison Reightler are spending their summer in state attorney general offices

JULY 26, 2021 BY CHRISTINA STEJBE



Natalie Lowry

OXFORD, Miss. – Two **University of Mississippi** law students are spending their summer in state attorney general offices as part of the prestigious Janet D. Steiger Fellowship Program.

Second-year law students Natalie Lowry and Madison Reightler are among some 30-40 students nationally selected for the program, which is in its 17th year. Lowry is completing her fellowship at the attorney general's office in Georgia, while Reightler is working in the Pennsylvania attorney general's office.

According to the American Bar Association, the program began in 2004 to allow law students opportunities to work in the field of consumer protection and introduce them to public service careers. The fellowship, which lasts 8-10 weeks, is named in memory of Steiger, who served as Federal Trade Commission chair.

Since the program began, eight students from the UM **School of Law** have been named Steiger Fellows.

Lowry is originally from Alton, Illinois, but grew up in Macon. She previously worked in the Mississippi attorney general's office, which led her to pursue this opportunity.

"When I got the call about the interview, I asked the receptionist if she was sure about interviewing me, not because I was not qualified; I honestly was just shocked," Lowry said. "When I was offered the fellowship, I remembered thinking that I am in the middle of everything I used to pray for.

"I am breaking generational curses and leaving behind a legacy that I hope people will be inspired by enough to forge their own path."

In her two years at the School of Law, she has served as vice president of the Constance Slaughter-Harvey Chapter of the **Black Law Students Association**, vice dean of **Delta Theta Phi** law fraternity and as a mentor for current and future law students as a member of the Dean's Leadership Council.

For the upcoming academic year, Lowry will serve in leadership roles on two of the school's advocacy boards. She has been named vice chair of internal competition for Negotiation Board and vice chair of the Trial Advocacy Board.

"I like to say I did not choose this school; this school chose me," Lowry said. "During my Admitted Students Day visit, I had the opportunity to talk with a lot of the professors, and they just wanted to get to know me.

"That day, I felt like there was a place for me here. I felt a sense of belonging – a feeling that I was often a stranger to – and that is how I knew this was the school for me. Two years later, I am confident I made the right choice."

Upon completion of law school, Lowry hopes to earn a judicial clerkship for a few years before beginning a career in criminal law.

"Whichever side I am on, I will continuously advocate and fight to rectify the flaws of the criminal justice system," she said.

Reightler, from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, said she's always been interested in consumer protection. During lockdown over the last year, she watched a movie about a case brought against a chemical

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Civil Engineering Professor Receives Most-Cited Paper Award

OXFORD, Miss. – Peer recognition is a rewarding experience for anyone, but University of Mississippi researcher Amir Mehrara Molan was elated when an article he co-authored recently received the Most Cited Paper Award at the 102nd Transportation Research Board meeting in the nation's capital. The International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology presented the civil engineering

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Young Alumna Gives Back to School of Accountancy

OXFORD, Miss. – Stephanie Jennings Teague, of Chicago, sees her commitment of \$100,000 to the Patterson School of Accountancy's new building at the University of Mississippi as a means of saying "thank you." "It is a way to show a small token of my appreciation to Ole Miss, the faculty and staff, and the accounting

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U.S. inflation roller coaster prompts fresh look at long-ignored money supply By Michael S. Derby NEW YORK – The amount of money sloshing around the U.S. economy shrank last year for the first time on record, a development that some economists believe bolsters the case for U.S. inflation pressures continuing to

manufacturing company after it knowingly contaminated a nearby town, which only solidified her interest in consumer protection.

“As a member of the **Mississippi Law Journal**, I began researching and writing an article which focused on the failure of pharmaceutical companies to disclose known safety risks of their drugs to consumers,” Reightler said.

She wasn’t quite sure how to pursue her interest in these types of issues ... until the Steiger Fellowship opportunity came along.

“I wanted to learn more about all the ways in which a state can help protect their consumers,” she said. “I felt that this fellowship would be the perfect starting point for me to dive in and learn more about consumer protection matters, as well as help me discover if I truly wanted to pursue a career in consumer protection.”



For the last two years, she has served as member of the Mississippi Law Journal as well as secretary and social chair of the LatinX Law Students Association. In her third year, she plans to serve as associate articles editor for the journal, marketing chair for LLSA and antitrust ambassador for the American Bar Association, and she will participate in the MacArthur Justice Clinic at the law school.

Madison Reightler

After graduation, Reightler hopes to start a career in the field of consumer protection, either by representing consumers at the state and federal levels or at a plaintiff’s firm.

Both Lowry and Reightler will begin their third year of law school next month.

For more information about the law school, visit <https://law.olemiss.edu/>. To learn more about the Steiger Fellowship, click [here](#).

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