

MISONGI SUMMER NEWSLETTER



TEAMWORK

INTEGRITY

EXCELLENCE

SERVICE



**TEAMWORK MAKES
THE DREAM WORK**



Rose Tchenkam officially qualifies as a Phd candidate



Rose Tchenkam, Phd candidate at Georgetown University

Rose Tchenkam has officially qualified as a PhD Candidate in **Physics** at **Georgetown University** under the academic supervision of **Professor Emanuela Del Gado**. Rose specializes in the intricate mechanics of physical gels and dense particulate systems. Her academic trajectory was recognized at the highest level when she was appointed as an **American Association of University Women (AAUW) Fellow** and selected as a prestigious **Soft Matter Graduate Fellow**.

Additionally, Rose's presentation on "Hysteretic behavior in double networks" at the **American Physical Society (APS) Global Physics Summit** earned her the highly competitive **DSOFT Spark Award** from the Division of Soft Matter Physics, celebrating her as a rising pioneer in materials science on the global stage!

Glory Divine: Using her opportunities to give back to Cameroonian girls



Glory Divine, Computer Science and Psychology, Smith College

As someone who moved from Bafoussam to Smith College, Glory Divine has turned her own educational journey into a mission to help other girls in Cameroon. Inspired by the opportunities education gave her, Glory founded **Educate Young Girls (EYG)**, a nonprofit supporting girls through reproductive health education, vocational training, and opportunities for financial independence.

What started with raising \$300 to send notebooks and reproductive-health books to girls in her hometown has grown into an organization working across three regions of Cameroon. Through EYG, Glory continues to create opportunities for girls to learn, grow, and build brighter futures for themselves and their communities. EYG has now impacted **3000+** young girls across Cameroon and Misongi is incredibly proud!

Palmer in Finance and Macroeconomic Research



Palmer Yerima, Economics and Mathematics, Hamilton College

Ambitious Misongi alumnus Palmer is managing a dual-role this summer across finance and economic policy. He is currently working as a **Wealth Management Intern** at **Morgan Stanley**, collaborating with financial advisors on an elite five-person team overseeing approximately **\$2 billion in client assets** to provide specialized investment strategies for high-net-worth families and institutions.

Simultaneously, Palmer serves as a **Macroeconomics Researcher** at the **Hamilton College Arthur Levitt Center**. Utilizing advanced quantitative econometric modeling, his summer research investigates how political coup events directly impact Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and sovereign bond pricing patterns across emerging African economies.

Mindmatta: Revolutionising youth mental health in Cameroon



Misongi Scholars, Misongi Innovation Challenge

As part of the Misongi Innovation Challenge, a team of 10 Misongi scholars are developing **Mindmatta**, a digital platform designed to make mental-health information and support more accessible to young people in Cameroon.

The team presented their project to the **Ministry of Public Health of Cameroon (MINSANTE)**, proposing the Mindmatta platform where users can discover mental-health information, reflect on their wellbeing, and connect with professional support. The scholars highlighted barriers including limited access to specialists, low awareness, stigma, cultural beliefs, and cost, and are seeking guidance and partnership to strengthen and expand Mindmatta. The presentation ended with an exciting picture of the scholars with the **Secretary General of Public Health Professor Njock**.

Growing through leadership and Service, Farihatou



Lemnyuy Farihatou Berinyuy, Data Science, Macalester College

This summer, Farihatou combined campus service with Pan-African leadership development. As part of the **Macalester Grounds team**, she worked on sustainable turf management, native planting, and maintaining campus green spaces.

Alongside this experience, she participated in **Girls for Global Impact (G4GI)**, a Pan-African leadership program focused on empowering young African women through leadership development, teamwork, reflection, and conversations about creating impact in their communities. It was a summer of growth in two different spaces—contributing to her campus while developing the leadership skills needed to make a difference beyond it.

Emmanuel Engineering solutions at Deriva Energy



Emmanuel Tume, Computer Science and Statistics, Carleton College

The brilliant Misongi alumnus Emmanuel spent his summer gaining professional experience as a **Systems Analyst Intern** at **Deriva Energy** in Charlotte, NC. Working with the IT department, Emmanuel worked on using internal databases to develop a **sentiment-analysis agent** for setting up new plants. His role also involved producing data-backed recommendations to support new project advancements.

This internship was a useful opportunity for Emmanuel where he applied technology, data analysis, and problem-solving skills to real-world challenges in the energy sector, while gaining valuable experience in a professional environment.

Celebrating Our IE University Scholars



Difo Saha and Ewimbi lean, IE University, Spain



A special send-off party was held to celebrate two Misongi alumni as they prepared to leave for their studies at **IE University in Spain**. Difo Saha will be starting her college journey, while Ewimbi lean will be continuing that journey after returning to assist Misongi scholars during the summer. The celebration brought together family and members of the Misongi community to wish them well as they embark on this exciting chapter. Their parents were also in attendance, making the occasion an especially meaningful celebration of their achievements and the journey ahead.

Philippe Essama Optimizes Computer Systems at PCAL.

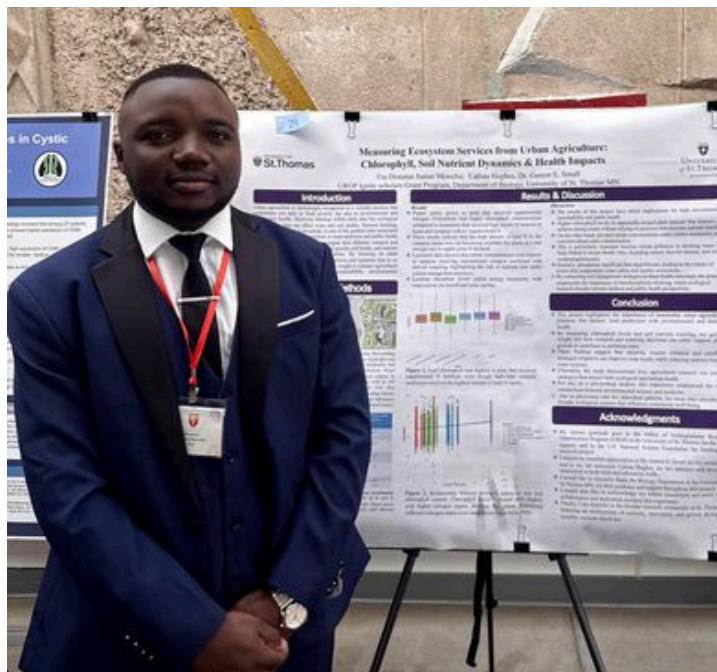
Donatus Selected for Cardiovascular and Mayo Clinic Programs



Philippe Essama, Computer Science, Pomona College

This summer, talented Misongi scholar Philippe is conducting advanced Computer Science research at the **Pomona Computer Architecture Lab (PCAL)**. His work focuses on developing secure caching mechanisms for next-generation computer systems to enhance processing speed and security.

In addition to his lab research, Philippe traveled to North Carolina in late June to participate in a premier national computer architecture conference, engaging with leading experts in hardware and system design. As Philippe continues to advance in his field, Misongi looks forward to his future wins with great anticipation!



Fru Donatus Junior, University of Saint Thomas, Minnesota

Demonstrating outstanding excellence, Fru Donatus was selected as one of just four Summer Research Scholars in the **American Heart Association Cardiovascular Research Program** at the **Medical College of Wisconsin**, working in the laboratory of Dr. Andreas Beyer.

"My project focuses on understanding how changes in the microcirculation and mitochondrial function contribute to cardiovascular disease and the cardiovascular side effects of cancer therapies," Donatus explained.

Donatus was also named a nationwide **Mayo Clinic UPS+ Scholar** for the 2026 academic year. As one of ten students chosen across the United States, he completed an intensive week-long clinical shadowing program at the **Mayo Clinic** in Rochester, receiving premier MCAT mentorship and resources for his path toward a medical career.

Precious Advances Cancer Therapeutics at MD Anderson

Precious Khan Wondzi - Biochemistry / Pre-Medicine, Salem College

Continuing her deep dedication to clinical oncology research, Misongi alumna Precious Khan is spending her summer at the world-renowned **MD Anderson Cancer Center**. Her lab work focuses on investigating the cellular mechanisms and therapeutic responses associated with **Inflammatory Breast Cancer**, contributing to pioneering discoveries in targeted oncology treatments.

Bennet Coordinates Media Production in Minnesota and Heads to Ohio University



Bennet Tefu - Computer Science & Media Studies, Carleton College

Multi-talented alumnus Bennet is applying his interdisciplinary creative skills as the Media Arts Coordinator for the **Faith Lutheran Church** in Coon Rapids, Minnesota, where he oversees digital storytelling and content production.

Following his summer coordinator role, Bennet will transition to graduate studies at **Ohio University** this August to pursue an elite **Master of Fine Arts (MFA)** in Film.

Postgraduate spotlight: Tameh Davis

Following a successful series of academic achievements and tech fellowships, Misongi alumnus Davis is taking a monumental career step this July. He is transitioning into the corporate tech sector full-time as an incoming **Software Engineer** at the global financial data leader, **Bloomberg**.

Tameh Davis, Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Vanderbilt University.

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Iris engages in Data Operations at The Bernard



Fokam Iris - Data Science and Economics/Mathematics, Macalester College

Leveraging her background in quantitative analysis, Iris is spending her summer in corporate analytics as the Data Operations Intern for The Bernard, a visual merchandising and commercial printing company headquartered in Chanhassen, Minnesota.

Postgraduate spotlight: Johan Azambou

Continuing his trajectory in applied math and computing, Johan is fully engaged in higher education research this summer, working as a dedicated **Graduate Research Assistant**.

Johan Azambou - Pursuing a Phd in Computer Science at Ohio University

Therese Gatsing, Cybastion Internship and National Mathematics Conference



Therese Gatsing - Washington and Lee University

Elvira is sharpening her defense tech expertise as a Cybersecurity Intern at **Cybastion**, helping architect advanced cloud security and network resilience frameworks.

Further highlighting her scholarly achievements, she will be travelling to Boston, Massachusetts later this summer to formally present the results of her previous summer's research to leading academics at the **MathFest Conference**.

Unlocking potentials.
building futures

Ewimbi Ilean: Community Service and Educational Access



Ewimbi Ilean, Computer Science, IE University, Madrid, Spain

Living out the Misongi value of service, Ewimbi is executing two vital community impact projects this summer. Within the Misongi network, he is actively volunteering as an academic tutor to guide and prepare the newest cohort of incoming Misongi scholars.

Expanding his reach, Ewimbi has also partnered with his high school alumni network to establish the **Grow You Grow Me Foundation**. Driven by the motto "Education in service of Humanity," the organization provides essential academic materials and critical tuition subsidies for vulnerable primary and secondary school pupils residing in the crisis-affected regions of Cameroon.



Ewimbi giving SAT lessons to the Misongi scholars



More of Ewimbi with Misongi Class of 2027

Aubin engineers Smart Cooling Solutions at Johns Hopkins University



Aubin Bontse - Physics and Data Analytics, Furman University

This summer, innovative alumnus Aubin is carrying out advanced engineering research at **Johns Hopkins University** under the expert supervision of Professors Jan Drgona and Yury Dvorkin. His project focuses on engineering an intelligent, automated control system designed to independently regulate industrial cooling plants, mitigating severe heat generation inside data centers while drastically optimizing energy efficiency.

Some weeks ago, Aubin received two distinctions for his involvement in the Furman Community: He was inducted into the **Quaternion Senior Order**, Furman's most prestigious academic and leadership honor society, and also pronounced the junior recipient of the **Winston Babb Memorial Award**, which is presented only to one student in each class.

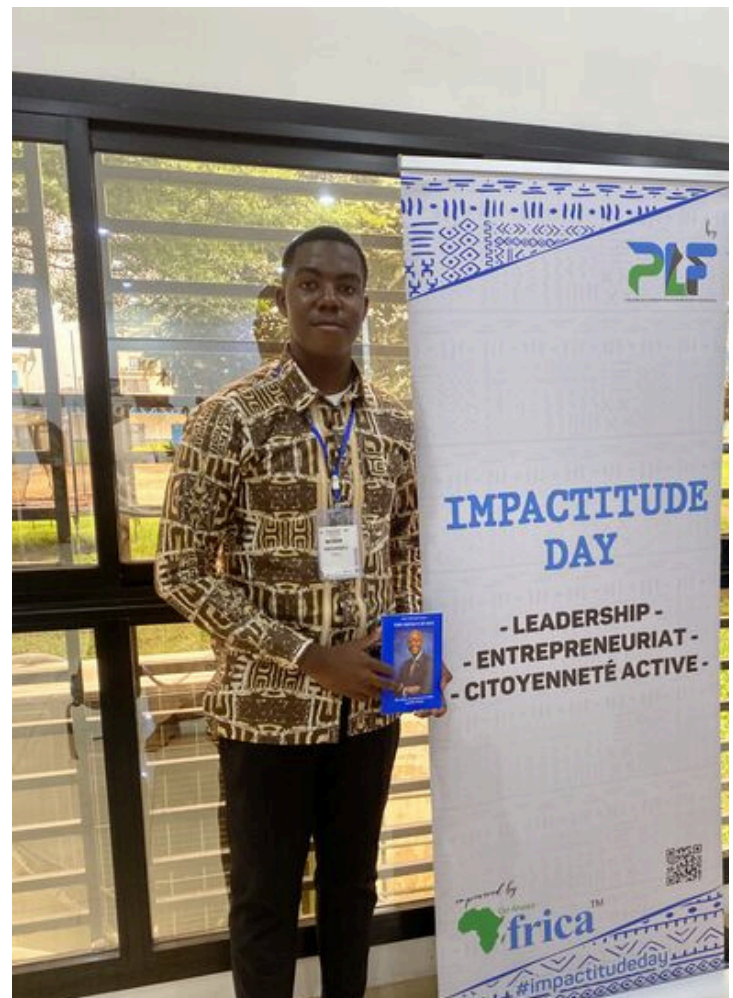
Misongi is proud and excited to see Aubin's next level of distinction!

Postgraduate spotlight: Michael Awah

Micheal is a founding engineer at **GRAM Corporation**, a robotics startup based in El Segundo, California, building machines for addressing labor bottlenecks in heavy industry. He is focusing on developing the **Insectoid**, a robotic platform aimed at offering a practical alternative to humanoid robots in heavy industry, especially around critical assets that support thriving human ecosystems.

Michael Awah - Mechanical Engineering, Harvard University

Yann Deploys Global Engineering Expertise with World Vision



Yann Djouguela, Hong Kong University

Yann is working this summer as an Assistant Engineer on a major humanitarian school infrastructure project led by **World Vision International in Vietnam**. His work directly supports the construction of modern, hygienic kitchen facilities designed to secure clean, nutritious meals for day-boarding secondary school students.

In Yann's own words: *"As an Assistant Engineer, I will conduct need's assessment, support technical assessments, construction monitoring, and quality assurance activities throughout the implementation process. I will also assist with project coordination and reporting to help ensure the facility is completed according to the required standards and timeline."*

Britney Akwan Conducts Biophysics Research at Smith College



Britney Akwan - Engineering, Smith College

The vibrant Misongi alumna Britney has returned to the lab as part of the prestigious **Smith Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)** program. She is working in **ETSON Lab at Smith College** under the supervision of Professor Candice Etson.

Britney and her lab partner worked on *"developing a micro fluidic device which will later be incorporated with magnetic Tweezers (MT): a medium designed to squash and stretch DNA, so that we can study how proteins move along the strand,"* Britney explains.

She adds: *"This was my first proper introduction to undergraduate research internship, and I won't lie, I walked in with a lot of anxiety. But as the weeks went on, I learned some priceless lessons that I'll carry with me far beyond the lab."*

Postgraduate spotlight: Bennet Tefu

Multi-talented alumnus Bennet is applying his interdisciplinary creative skills as the **Media Arts Coordinator** for the **Faith Lutheran Church** in Coon Rapids, Minnesota, where he oversees digital storytelling and content production.

Following his summer coordinator role, Bennet will transition to graduate studies at **Ohio University** this August to pursue an elite **Master of Fine Arts (MFA)** in Film.

Bennet Tefu, Bachelor's degree in Cinema and Media Studies, Carleton College,

2026 GRADUATION HIGHLIGHTS

Iris Fokam, Macalester College



Data Science, Macalester College, Minnesota

Misongi congratulates talented alumna Iris Fokam Signe, who has graduated from **Macalester College**, with a bachelor's degree in **Data Science**. Throughout her four years on campus, Iris maintained a rich and vibrant presence, balancing rigorous analytical studies with a deep passion for community and the arts, actively serving as the Co-Manager of the African Music Ensemble. Iris was also awarded a prestigious **\$10,000 Davis Projects for Peace** grant which she used to fund her project, "Music for Peace," in Cameroon, leading a three-day conflict resolution workshop for local high school students to create peace songs addressing regional tensions.



Beyond her campus leadership, Iris built substantial professional experience in tech and analytics. She polished her programming skills through the SheCodes Coding Workshop and completed a selective internship as a Data Operations Intern at **The Bernard Group, Inc.**, where she worked closely with engineering teams to master complex data systems.

Showcasing the bond between Misongi alumn, Farihatou, Misongi alumna of the class of 2025 was there to support Iris on her special day!

Misongi is immensely proud of Iris's brilliant achievements on the global stage, and we eagerly look forward to her future accomplishments!

Kelly Eta, Columbia University



Master of Science - MS, City/Urban, Community and Regional Planning

Following his Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography (with a concentration in Urban Studies and minors in Philosophy and English) from **Macalester College**, Misongi alumnus Kelly Eta has secured a **Master of Science** degree in **Urban Planning** from **Columbia University**. Originally from Ekok in Cameroon's Southwest region, Kelly channeled his passion for urban affairs into impactful professional roles across both the public and private sectors.



During his academic career, he interned as an Asset Management and Data Analysis Intern at **Metro Transit** in Minneapolis, where he designed a predictive system for train part failures and analyzed pandemic-driven changes in ridership patterns. Kelly has since brought his specialized skill set in spatial data analysis and community development to New York City, working as an Analyst at the urban planning consultancy **Karp Strategies**. Misongi celebrates Kelly's academic and professional milestone as he continues to shape urban futures!

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Glory Divine, Smith College



Computer Science & Psychology, Smith College

Congratulations to the exceptional Misongi alumna Glory Divine Yougang Tahon, who has graduated from **Smith College**, Massachusetts, with a Bachelor's degree in **Computer Science and Psychology**. Glory Divine boasts a powerful, interdisciplinary academic foundation that perfectly bridges technical problem-solving with data-informed, leadership. Over the past three years, she has excelled as a strategy-driven operations builder, leading cross-functional teams and lending her talents to pro bono initiatives centered on growth, efficiency, and operational sustainability.



Driven by a profound sense of gratitude for her own educational journey, Glory turned her personal milestones into a global mission. She founded **Educate Young Girls (EYG)**, a highly impactful, youth-led and women-led nonprofit organization specifically designed to combat structural barriers facing young girls in rural Cameroonian communities. Backed by a prestigious **Projects for Peace** grant, the **Conway Center for Entrepreneurship**, and fiscal sponsorship from the **Hack Foundation**, EYG actively increases school retention and reproductive health education for young girls. Under Glory's visionary leadership, the organization has expanded its footprint across three distinct regions in Cameroon.

Misongi is deeply moved by Glory Divine's extraordinary commitment to community impact and equity, and we celebrate her as she continues to engineer solutions that deliver lasting global change!

Samuel Nkengla, Amherst College.



Biology & Computer Science, Amherst College

Congratulations to the brilliant Misongi alumnus Samuel Nkengla, who has graduated from **Amherst College**, Massachusetts, with a Bachelor's degree in **Biology and Computer Science**. Samuel has had an exceptionally rich and interdisciplinary college experience, blending life sciences with computation. On campus, he demonstrated a strong commitment to leadership by serving as an undergraduate **Chemistry Tutor** and as a **Lead Teaching Assistant**, helping his peers navigate complex scientific concepts.

Samuel also applied his technical skills to cutting-edge medical research off campus, working as a Research Intern at the world-renowned **Dana-Farber Cancer Institute** in Boston. In this role, he engaged in deep data analysis to assist in identifying critical oncogenic drivers in human cancers.



Driven by a passion for social equity and global impact, Samuel was awarded a prestigious **Projects for Peace** grant for his project, "**Empowering Internally Displaced Women in Cameroon**." Facing the realities of the Anglophone Crisis, Samuel used the funding to build a self-sustaining cooperative in Yaoundé, providing displaced women with food processing infrastructure, agricultural training, and small business workshops to secure long-term financial independence.

Misongi is proud of Samuel's outstanding academic achievements and humanitarian impact. We wish him continued success in his future endeavors!

Sarah Dané, Williams College



Physics & Economics, Williams College

Misongi says congratulations to the multi-talented alumna Sarah Dané Taiwé, who has graduated from **Williams College**, Massachusetts, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in **Physics and Economics**. Sarah established an extraordinary legacy at Williams by bridging the academic rigor in scientific exploration with an active presence in campus cultural and leadership spheres. She stepped up as a student leader, serving as the **Co-President** of the **Williams African Students Organization (WASO)** and dedicating her time to the spiritual community as a board member for **Williams Catholic Student Leadership**.



As a researcher, Sarah immersed herself in deep experimental physics, co-authoring pioneering soft matter research titled "**Frozen Adhesive Dynamics in Soft Silicone Gels**" for the **American Physical Society (APS)**, which utilized confocal microscopy to decode dynamic deformation frameworks. Parallel to her scientific achievements, Sarah is an accomplished soprano. She is a celebrated **finalist** in the prestigious **Berkshire Symphony Concerto Competition** and enchanted audiences with her Senior Vocal Performance recital, delivering complex classical repertoires spanning French mélodies and late-Romantic German Lieder.

Sarah is continuing her academic journey by pursuing a **Phd in Physics** at the **Martin A. Fisher School of Physics at Brandeis University**.

Misongi is immensely proud of Sarah's great academic, artistic, and leadership triumphs, and we eagerly look forward to seeing her break new boundaries in the scientific community!

Tameh Davis, Vanderbilt University



Computer Science & Applied Mathematics, Vanderbilt University

Davis Tameh-Nfon, has graduated from **Vanderbilt University**, Tennessee, with a Bachelor of Science degree in **Computer Science and Applied Mathematics**. Davis built a stellar academic foundation during his time at Vanderbilt, combining complex mathematical theory with advanced computational systems. His technical brilliance was spotlighted on campus when he emerged **1st Place** at the **Vanderbilt Computer Science Immersion Showcase**, an honor that recognized his outstanding ability to engineer innovative software solutions to complex engineering challenges.



During his time as an undergraduate, Davis actively collaborated with **CodePath** and **ColorStack** to hone his cutting-edge technical skills. He successfully translated this rigorous training into high-impact industry experience, completing a prestigious summer internship as a **Software Engineering Intern** at **Duolingo**. During his time at Duolingo, Davis worked directly on scalable software infrastructure, contributing to real-world codebases used by millions worldwide.

Following his remarkable undergraduate journey, Davis has officially stepped into the global tech industry, launching his professional career as a **full-time Software Engineer** at **Bloomberg** in New York City. Misongi is incredibly proud of Davis's fantastic academic milestones and professional trajectory, and we look forward to watching him conquer new heights in the tech landscape!

Maxwell Kumbong, Swarthmore College



Computer Science & Economics, Swarthmore College.

Misongi congratulates the outstanding alumnus Maxwell Kumbong, who has graduated from **Swarthmore College**, Pennsylvania, with a Bachelor's degree in **Computer Science and Economics**. Maxwell's journey through Swarthmore was marked by a powerful combination of advanced quantitative theory, software engineering expertise, and dedicated peer leadership. Portraying Misongi's core value of service and empathy, Maxwell stood out on campus by joining the elite team of student mentors known as **CS Ninjas**, where he helped decipher complex computational concepts for his peers.



On the professional front, Maxwell built an enviable technical portfolio by securing recognition from premier national tech organizations, including being named a prestigious **Palantir Technologies Future Scholar**. He consistently honed his technical skills in collaboration with top engineering communities like **CodePath** and **ColorStack**.

Maxwell successfully translated this rigorous preparation into highly competitive industry experience, completing a selective summer internship as a **Software Engineering Thrive Intern at Duolingo**, where he contributed to scalable infrastructure making learning enjoyable and accessible worldwide.

Following his brilliant undergraduate milestone and election into the prestigious **Phi Beta Kappa Society** at Swarthmore, Maxwell is continuing his professional trajectory as a **Software Engineer at Duolingo**. Misongi is immensely proud of Maxwell's exceptional triumphs!

Bernard Wongibe, Williams College



Computer Science, Williams College

Congratulations to the brilliant Bernard V. Wongibe, who graduated from **Williams College**, Massachusetts, with a Bachelor's degree in **Computer Science**. While on campus, Bernard demonstrated a deep commitment to inspiring and uplifting the next generation of leaders by serving as an academic presenter for incoming U.S. scholars, delivering high-impact workshops on deep work, public speaking, and adapting smoothly to elite collegiate life.



Bernard also engaged in advanced technical research off campus through the prestigious **Alumni Sponsored Internship Program (ASIP)**. He served as a **Software Engineer Intern** at the world-renowned Institute for **Human and Machine Cognition (IHMC)** in Florida. Bernard also excelled as a **Cyber Security Intern**, masterfully deploying and triaging a comprehensive Security Onion Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) environment to proactively track infrastructure vulnerabilities.

Misongi is immensely proud of Bernard's profound academic excellence and technical innovations, and we look forward to seeing him engineer future breakthroughs on the global tech frontier.