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Gardner-Webb History Major Gains National Recognition

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Office of University
Communications

September 5, 2016

Chris Beguhl ('17) Among Select Group Honored for Scholarly Work

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—A Gardner-Webb history major recently gained national recognition for his scholarly work. Chris Beguhl ('17) of Rolesville, N.C., was awarded a prestigious History Scholar Award by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History in New York City.

Chris Beguhl ('17) receives the History Scholar Award at the Gilder Lehrman Institute from New York University professor Dr. Martha Hodes.

This highly competitive award is given to 16 rising seniors from across the United States. Some of the colleges represented by the recipients include Harvard, Yale, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Columbia. The students spend five days in New York attending historical presentations, meeting eminent scholars, and participating in detailed tours of historic archives and sites.

“I learned about topics from the energy crisis in late 20th Century America to the perceptions and legacy of Abraham Lincoln’s death,” Beguhl shared. “I learned about New York City and Gilder Lehrman Institute’s history, not to mention sampling the parks, culture, food, and life in the city. I made connections with astounding people, including peers and professors.”

Selections are based on academic achievement, community involvement, public service, and most importantly, promise in historical scholarship which is demonstrated by academic transcripts, faculty recommendations and a sample of their scholarly writing. Beguhl’s submission topic was his research on Cherokee women’s views of interracial relationships, which he presented at Gardner-Webb’s Life of the Scholar Multidisciplinary Conference. His GWU mentor, Dr. Joseph Moore, Department of Social Sciences Chair, stated, “Through this work, Chris has demonstrated an ability to conduct original historical research on an exceptionally high level and has confirmed his potential and recognition as one of the outstanding young historians in the United States.”

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University’s purpose is to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian higher education by preparing graduates for professional and personal success, instilling in them a deep commitment to service and leadership, and equipping them for well-rounded lives of lasting impact, Pro Deo et

Humanitate (For God and Humanity).