We have had two events to date in our year. On September 6 the scholars met with representatives Ernest Esparza and Kendra Welter from Williams Sonoma. The structure of Williams Sonoma supply chain – headquartered in Memphis (corporate HQ is in San Francisco) was discussed. Williams Sonoma operations a series of very large distribution centers spread strategically across the U.S. for large items such as furniture. At the same time, the bulk of their smaller items, particularly for omnichannel, are shipped out of Memphis. In addition, the group heard from two OSU students that interned with Williams Sonoma over the summer – Grace Schlaack (Fisher co/2020) and Pujita Vazrala (MBA 2020).

On September 13, 2019 the scholars took their first off-campus trip to Nationwide Insurance. As a first year sponsor, we were excited to visit Nationwide with the group for the first time. Nationwide has revenue of approximately $47 Billion with over 32,000 employees. Headquartered just a few miles south of Ohio State University, the two organizations have a shared history. The concept of the Ohio Farm Bureau originated at OSU with the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation founded in 1919 with the purpose of lobbying local, state and federal leaders to pass legislation to assist farmers. In 1926 the Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance Company was formed to insure farmers – who at the time were paying the same rates as city drivers even though the accident rate was substantially lower. IN 1955 Farm Bureau Mutual changes its name to Nationwide Insurance – and adopted Nate the Eagle as a mascot (please see picture below).

The scholars heard a presentation organized by Angela Klett (SVP IT CFO and Chief Procurement Officer), Charles White (V.P. of Procurement). The group heard from the heads of different units, including Procurement & Supply Chain, Shared Services, Risk & Control Services and Supplier Diversity. The visit concluded with a brief tour of Nationwide’s Archives. Thank you Nationwide for your generosity in sponsoring and hosting our students!
Pathways Group w/Nate the Eagle at Nationwide Insurance September 12, 2019

Evolution of Our Brand

Nationwide’s brand has changed significantly since we started selling insurance to Ohio farmers as Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance Company in 1936. Our brand evolution reflects our company growth, expanded markets, new marketing techniques, advancing technologies, and even changing social norms.

This poster on the wall tells the story of this evolution. Slide each panel out to learn about a significant event and any resulting changes in how our brand has changed.

Introducing... Nate the Eagle

In 1956, Nationwide graphic artist Don Coates and Manning Art Studio’s Chuck Ackermann collaborated to create a mascot for Nationwide. A cartoon eagle character was born. The character was placed in employee publications and bulletin board announcements. Corporate Communications used Nate to promote “a more friendly and relaxed work place.”
Schedule for Year:

October 4, 2019  Corporate visit Encova Insurance
October 25, 2019  Discussion on internships and resume building
November 8, 2019  Corporate visit Wendy's Quality Supply Chain Co-Operative
November 22, 2019  Corporate visit Sherwin Williams
January 17, 2020  Corporate visit JP Morgan Chase

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Olivia Blay, Suffield, OH

I am the oldest of three children and am from Suffield, Ohio, a small, rural town located twenty minutes east of Akron where I am the fifth generation to grow up on my family’s farm. This background enabled me to get involved in a national program called 4-H where I showed animals at my county and state fair. In high school, I played softball, volleyball, track and was involved as a peer mentor and student ambassador as well as a member of food club and ski club.

I chose Ohio State because I did not know what I wanted to study and knew the opportunities at such a large university were endless. Columbus is a growing city with lots to offer, but I also liked how the campus did not feel like I was in the middle of the city while walking to class. My parents are also both Ohio State alums which made it feel most comfortable during the college search process. At Ohio State, I am in the Advocates for Community and Education Scholars program. I also am a member of Delta Sigma Pi, one of the Professional Business Fraternities.

Emmie Cohn, Hewlett, NY

I am from Hewlett, New York, a small town on Long Island. I live with my older sister, twin brother (also attending OSU), younger brother, and my mom and dad. I come from a very big family who all live within one mile of me, so being alone is never really an option. Growing up with both of my parents in family businesses, I have been surrounded by business my entire life, so deciding to become a business major was inevitable. I have been dancing for 15 years at a local dance studio and I can’t wait to continue my dancing career at OSU. I have also been a cheerleader since I was 6 years old and continued to cheer throughout high school. I can’t wait to watch the incredible Ohio State cheerleaders during all of the football games as we root on the Buckeyes! I visited Ohio State for the first time during the beginning of my sophomore year and absolutely fell in love and knew it was the place for me. Not only do my two older cousins attend OSU, knowing that I wanted a big school with a lot of school spirit, there is no denying that Ohio State definitely embodies these important qualities. In addition, Ohio State’s highly renowned Fisher School of Business increased my interest in the school. I am confident that with the amazing opportunities Ohio State has to offer, I will have nothing less than success and tons of experience throughout my four years and I am so beyond excited to begin my journey as a Buckeye!

Isha Gupta, Solon, OH

I am from Solon, Ohio, about 20 minutes away from Cleveland. I grew up in a hardworking, adventurous family of four with my mom, dad, and younger brother. We enjoy going on hikes, vacationing together, and of course, cheering on the Cleveland Cavaliers.

I have a passion for all things fitness-related. For the past 3 years, I have greatly enjoyed teaching both adult and children’s yoga classes at Solon Community Center, Chagrin Yoga, and my local elementary and middle schools. I am beyond excited to hopefully start teaching classes at OSU this fall! Besides yoga, I love spending time with my friends, going to concerts, reading, and watching movies.

The college decision for me was not an easy one. Both of my parents immigrated to the United States after attending college overseas, so my family didn’t know much about the college admissions process. Although this was a completely
new experience for them, their unwavering support every step of the way led me to Ohio State, and for that I am extremely grateful. After attending “Visit Fisher Day”, my mind was made up. My visit to Ohio State opened my eyes to the infinite opportunities that this school offered. The presence of mentors that would always be there when I needed advice, amazing study abroad opportunities, and a big city full of thriving companies were all things that I wanted from my school. In addition to, of course, football Saturdays and infectious school spirit. I knew that Ohio State exemplified all of these qualities and more. I will be double-majoring in Finance and Spanish because I am very interested in how studying business can impact the global community for the better. I am extremely excited for what’s to come in my time here at OSU.

Grace Hessler, Westlake, OH

I am from Westlake, Ohio. I just graduated from Lutheran West High School. I played volleyball in high school and was also involved in the school website, Honors Academy, and National Honors Society. My favorite subjects in school are Spanish, English, and Mathematics. I enjoy watching crime documentaries, baking, and spending time with my family and friends. I also babysit and have worked at Regal Cinemas for the last two years. I have chosen to attend Ohio State because I want to have access to as many opportunities as possible and receive the best preparation possible for my future. I love that Ohio State is located in Columbus, a major city with a lot of activities, yet still feels like an enclosed college campus. I plan to major in Finance with a minor in Spanish. While my future plans may change as I move through college, I am interested in going to law school after completing my undergraduate degree. I am very excited to learn and explore at the Ohio State University these next four years and am very thankful to be included in the Fisher College of Business Pathways Program!

Jada Jackson, Fairfield, OH

I’m from Fairfield, Ohio, a smaller town near Cincinnati. I come from a close family and I have two younger sisters. I went to a pretty small all-girls Catholic school so I decided to attend OSU for a change of pace and an opportunity to experience new things. I’m majoring in global business operations and I have a passion for social justice and community service. In addition to networking and following the happenings in the business world, I’m very interested in fashion and music (my favorite artist is Frank Ocean). I hope for an amazing undergraduate experience at OSU and to eventually obtain my law degree later on in life.
Megan Kosinski, Naperville, IL

I am so excited to be a Pathways Scholar! I am from Naperville, Illinois which is a suburb just outside of Chicago. With that being said, I am a huge fan of the Chicago Cubs. My family tries to attend at least one game per season, and whenever they play it is always ensured that we watch their games on TV. In my free time, you can often find me at Crossfit because I am very passionate about my physical fitness. I chose to attend Ohio State because of their strong business program, and right as I took my first tour I knew it would be the perfect fit for me due to the possibility to explore every field offered. Opportunities such as the Pathways Program are a great way of being able to explore what you take an interest in and learn something new along the way. I am very excited for the journey that awaits me and all of the astounding people I am able to meet. Go Bucks!

Lauren Krisko, Manteno, IL

I am from Manteno, Illinois. It is a small town located about an hour south of Chicago. I live with my mom, dad, and two brothers. My younger brother will be going into the fourth grade this fall and my older brother will be a junior at Butler University. I went to Bishop McNamara Catholic High School in Kankakee, IL. I played travel basketball from fourth grade all the way to my senior year of high school. In high school, I was a four-year member of the varsity basketball team and a team captain for two years. I also played four years of varsity soccer and was a team captain for two years. I was inducted into the National Honor Society my junior year. I was a direct admit into the Fisher College of Business but my major within the business school is undecided. I have chosen to attend Ohio State because of its great reputation and all of the opportunities it will provide.

Shangyi Li, Tianjin, China

My name is Shangyi Li, which means respect to friendship in Chinese. You can call me Susie. I come from Tianjin, China. My hometown is about half an hour of train ride to Beijing, the capital of China. I am the only child in my family and also the first one who will attend the university abroad. I am very interested in linguistic studies and exotic culture, feeling excited to meet people around the world. I have learned French during middle school and then decided to continue my study in an international high school with relatively small classes of about 40 students in every grade. For me, language is the bridge which connects me and all my foreign friends. I am also enthusiastic about travelling and have started travelling alone since 13 years old.

Inspired by my foreign teachers in high school, I found out that the educational concept of the US college system perfectly fit my learning path and habits. I enjoy learning in diverse forms such as doing researches and projects. The reason why I choose OSU is that there are rich academic resources and plenty of opportunities, which could help everyone to find their best potential. As a freshman this year, I can’t wait to start my new journey in the big communities of OSU and Fisher Business College.
Amy Teitelbaum, New York, NY

I cannot wait to become a Buckeye! I am a middle child from New City, NY with a sister entering her junior year here at OSU and a sister two years younger. I love organization and efficiency. You can always find lists on my phone along with my to-do items for the day! I enjoy recognizing, taking note of, and learning from strategies that I see businesses using.

In high school, I was co-President of DECA, President of the Spanish club, and led my group in the science fair. Through the Spanish club, I organized and ran a fundraiser to support the victims of Puerto Rico post-Hurricane Maria. At the science fair, I taught kids how to make slime and sparked their interest in hands-on learning. I practiced teamwork and leadership while on my school’s Kickline and Hip Hop Dance Teams. I love taking yoga classes too. Over the past three summers, I worked as a counselor at a day camp. Here, my responsibilities included planning and orchestrating activities to entertain fifteen 3-5 year olds while also ensuring their safety and delegating responsibilities among my co-counselors and myself.  I chose The Ohio State University because it has great opportunities for me as an Operations Management major. OSU has strong academics and business clubs in which I will be involved. I also chose Ohio State because of its welcoming atmosphere and incredible school spirit. Go Bucks!

Abby Wandtke, Cincinnati, OH

I’m from Cincinnati, Ohio. I have three older sisters who have all attended The Ohio State University, and my mother and father both attended Miami University. I come from a fairly big, loving family where we greatly enjoy spending time together. My family has taught me how to be independent while also valuing my time with my loved ones. My love for hiking, ice cream, random acts of kindness, and of course Ohio State football all stems from them. I have also played volleyball my entire life, and I won two Division I State Championships my junior and senior year of high school at Ursuline Academy. I have learned how to be a team player and how to put forth my full effort through athletics.

I have grown up spending a lot of time in Columbus whether it be for a volleyball tournament or for a trip to visit my grandparents in Westerville. Columbus has always been a second home for me, so choosing to attend The Ohio State University was a fairly easy decision as I have been a buckeye for as long as I can remember. I cannot imagine going anywhere else.

Ohio State has all that I hoped for in a university from rigorous academics and athletics to a big city filled with opportunity. I am so excited to begin my pursuit for a business degree, and to participate in the Fisher College of Business Pathways Program. I cannot wait to officially become a buckeye - Go Bucks!
Clara Yau, Marlboro, NJ

I am from Marlboro, New Jersey. I have lived in New Jersey all my life and this is the first time I will be moving to a new state to live by myself. My family consists of my dad, my mom, and my older sister who studies at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign. My family is very supportive and have continuously encouraged me to take all the opportunities that come my way.

My interests include art, fashion, makeup, and music. I have played the piano for ten years and the clarinet for three years. I have done competitive swimming for eight years and enjoy physical activities such as hiking, badminton, pilates, yoga, and cardio.

I enjoy working with children. I have worked as a teacher’s assistant for my local Chinese school where I helped young children learn more about the Chinese language and culture. In a different perspective, I could also be seen as one of the students because I was able to learn about my own culture along the way. I also helped out at a local library where I entertained the children through dance parties and arts and crafts, and organized the books there. These experiences have helped me to enhance my leadership abilities and learn about the importance of teamwork.

I chose to attend Ohio State not only to grow myself as an individual, but also because of its highly regarded reputation and value of education. There are endless amounts of opportunities at Ohio State. I am looking forward to being a Media, Marketing, Communications Scholar, a member of the FCOB Pathways program, and a student at Fisher.

Rena Zhang, Dublin, OH

I have spent my entire life in Dublin, Ohio, which is about a half-hour drive from Columbus. I live with my mom and dad, and I have an older brother who lives in Seattle; he also attended the Ohio State University! One of my greatest experiences in high school was being a part of the color guard. I loved spinning flags and rifles and cheering on our football team at games. Now that school’s over, I spend much of my time at my two jobs: tutoring and serving at a pizza restaurant. Like many teenagers, I am also obsessed with Netflix and Hulu; my favorite shows are *The OA* and *The Handmaid’s Tale*. Recently, I started a Youtube channel to pursue my passion for creating videos.

In the beginning, I was hesitant about going to OSU. It was too close to home, and I would see so many people from my high school. However, my opinions changed after I visited Fisher. Not only did I tour a part of the campus that I had never seen before, but I also got to hear from several students about their great experiences. Essentially, I came to see OSU in a new light, and now I am genuinely excited to start the school year!