

## Bentley Alumnus Invests in Co-Curricular Sustainability Education

In 2015, Julie Delongchamp, a visionary undergraduate student, decided that she would like to increase professional development opportunities for Bentley undergraduate students. During her time at Bentley, Julie discovered a passion for sustainability through course work, participation in various co-curricular activities and as an intern with the university's Office of Sustainability. At the culmination of her four years at the university, Julie felt that this experience was so influential to her career choices that she wanted to create opportunities for future students to pursue co-curricular activities that benefited their future careers in sustainability.

Upon her graduation Julie harnessed her parents' desire to give to Bentley by working with the Office of Sustainability and University Advancement to establish the Delongchamp Family Endowed Fund, the goal of which is to provide Bentley's undergraduate students with a means to pursue co-curricular sustainability education.

Since it was established in 2016, the Delongchamp Fund Committee has awarded 21 grants from the fund to Bentley University undergraduates. Awardees have attended sustainability conferences across the United States and around the world. Students are using these experiences to enhance their education and prepare them for future careers in the sustainability. Several students have given back on campus by educating their peers through presentations about the conferences they attended, recruiting sustainability professionals to speak at Bentley and translating knowledge from an intensive summer learning experience into permanent educational signage on campus.

It is the Office of Sustainability's hope that that this fund results in more students pursuing sustainability careers and eventually giving back to Bentley as alumna.

### Delongchamp Fund Awardee Highlights:

- *My experience at the 28th SRI Conference at San Diego, California SRI Investing Conference has been an incredible experience for me. I had the chance to listen, meet and share ideas with more than 800 experts in the ESG Investing field. I understood how every single dollar invested in the right way could have a positive impact on the environment or on the community. Attending this event made me aware of the power of money. Investors are fighting problems such as climate change or deforestation by financing the right and ethical companies, without giving up on profits. Overall, attending this event encouraged me even more to work in a field, where I can make a difference for the future of the society and of the planet. - Maria Sole Cappellini, Fall 2017*
- *My time at the 2017 Menu of Change summit was incredible. I sat shoulder to shoulder with some of the brightest minds in the culinary world who, together, are tackling food issues like sustainability, consumer health, and climate challenges around growing food. I have never been so engaged in content that was both fulfilling and empowering. One of my favorite memories was talking with Kimbal Musk (brother of Elon Musk). Kimbal is on a mission to build restaurant brands that support local and real food efforts at scale in America's heartland. He's also known for his talk on why "Food is the New Internet". Kimbal sits on two of his brother's boards, Tesla and SpaceX, as well as the board of Chipotle. - Erika Rouleau, Spring 2017*
- *My time today at the 16th Annual Wall Street Green Summit gave me an exceptional opportunity to gain insight on my undergraduate research and network with leading professionals in the field of Sustainable Investing. With a number of keynote presenters on the agenda from different business backgrounds, the coverage of stakeholder issues at this conference was extremely informative. From investment bank activity in renewable energy projects to international environmental regulation, I was able to see firsthand the different pathways for future research and career endeavors. I cannot thank the Delongchamp Fund enough, this experience has been a key highlight of my academic career as I culminate my undergraduate studies. - Cyrus Woodman, Spring 2017*

For more information visit: <https://www.bentley.edu/offices/sustainability/delongchamp-family-fund>