Educational Highlights: The College of Charleston has afforded me so many opportunities during my undergraduate career that it’s difficult to narrow down my educational highlights to just one paragraph. Being chosen to be in the inaugural class of Martin Scholars is one of my most significant educational highlights. The Martin Scholars program expanded my view of what a career in communication can offer, and gave me the unique opportunity to visit various communication firms in the Charleston area, and beyond. I was also able to make connections with industry professionals that I probably would not have been able to meet otherwise. Another one of my education highlights has been my interaction with the Communication Advisory Council at various events, such as the mentor-protégé breakfast. Every advisory council member that I’ve met has given me invaluable career advice and assisted me with connecting with other professionals. Simply majoring in communication has been an educational highlight because of the resources the department has provided me in the classroom and beyond.

Research Focus or Project: This school year I was in the Wired and Inspired capstone. I had the unique opportunity to work toward building what Dr. Ferrara calls “identity capital.” I completed continuous 30-day challenges that resulted in gaining skills that benefitted me both personally and professionally. Wired and Inspired helped me realize what I was truly passionate about within my career fields of interest, and Dr. Ferrara helped me develop an action plan to pursue those passions. Four months ago I started a social media consulting company called Social Savvy, and now I have three clients.

Future Plans: This fall, I will begin graduate school at the College of Charleston in pursuit of a master’s degree in communication. In addition to working as a social media consultant, I will also be working at the College as a teaching assistant.

This award presented by Jerold L. Hale, dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Department of Communication at the College of Charleston on the 12th day of May, 2017.