



2022 SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

Nathan Silverstein

Lech Walesa Institute

Nathan Silverstein is a rising junior at UT. He is majoring in Government, minoring in Polish Language, and is a member of Liberal Arts Honors (LAH). He is a two-time recipient of the Foreign Language and Area Studies scholarship from the Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (CREEES) for Polish. He is the founder and president of the Polish Club at UT, which last semester, in conjunction with the Clements Center and six other cosponsors, hosted the first democratically elected President of Poland and Nobel Peace Prize winner Lech Wałęsa. President Hartzell and Nathan delivered introductory speeches at the event, while Clements Center Executive Director Will Inboden moderated the Q&A.

This summer, Nathan is interning for President Wałęsa at the Lech Wałęsa Institute (LWI). Nathan helps plan many of President Wałęsa's events around the world, is helping establish a U.S. headquarters for the LWI, and is assisting in redesigning the Institute's website.

"It is an incredible honor to intern for my personal hero, spread the President's message, and advance his mission," Nathan said. "Just as in the 1980s, President Wałęsa continues to fight for democracy, capitalism, and human rights and serve as an example to us all."

If it were not for the Clements Center's generosity and support, Nathan would not have been able to intern for President Wałęsa for two reasons. First, Nathan only established contact with President Wałęsa through hosting him at UT, an accomplishment that he could not have achieved without the Clements Center. Second, the Clements Center's Professional Development Fund made interning for the President financially feasible. Nathan credits Dr. Inboden and Clements for launching his career, in many ways.