

1stGenYale Summer Bulldogs 2020

In May 2020, 1stGenYale developed a pilot program which helped place six first-gen low-income Yale College students with Yale Law School Professor Daniel Markovits for a summer research project funded 100% by the Office of Career Strategy (OCS) [Summer Experience Award \(SEA\)](#).

The Summer Interns worked directly with Professor Markovits on two interlocking sets of tasks. Professor Markovits initially planned to hire one intern, but he was so impressed with the interviewees that he hired all six students eligible for the SEA. First, they did academic research in connection with Markovits's ongoing scholarly projects. These included articles on education, work, and pay inequalities in post-pandemic America and a book, tentatively entitled *Enough!*, on growth as an economic and personal ideal. Interns discussed ideas, read and reported on work by other people, collected and analyzed data, and read and edited new writing.

Second, interns engaged with the 1stGenYale alumni network, including possibly through structured interviews, to study the distinctive challenges that first-generations students face at Yale and in their subsequent professional lives and also the ambitions and aspirations that first-generation students and graduates distinctively pursue. This work interconnected with the scholarly research, in particular with the study of personal and economic growth.



Not pictured: Allie Salazar '21

"It was a great pleasure to work with this outstanding group of Yale College students. They made important contributions to my research; and, separately, their perspectives added to my thinking." –Daniel Markovits, Guido Calabresi Professor of Law at the Yale Law School, and the Founding Director of the Yale Centre for the Study of Private Law

The internship program was co-developed by Lise Chapman '81 MBA, Michael Watson '81, and Barbara Protacio '81 in response to students losing internships during the first summer of the COVID 19 pandemic. Barb named the program, 1stGenYale Summer Bulldogs.