

### Co-Curricular Events — Erik Halenkamp

Key	Color
Signature Event	Red
Honors Event	Black
Scholarly Event	Orange
Leadership Event/Role	Yellow
Community Engagement	Green
Co-Curricular Projects	Brown
Campus Organizations	Blue
Non-Campus Organizations	Purple
Other Events/Major Activities	Pink

- **Semester 1 (08/2018 - 12/2018)**

- Making the Most Out of Your Academics (9/6/2018)
- Resume Workshop (9/20/2018)
- Coffee With the Profs (10/11/2018)
- Study Abroad Workshop (11/1/2018)
- Internship: George Brauchler Campaign for Attorney General (05/2018-11/2018)
  - Election Night VIP Event - Denver Marriott South (11/6/2018)

- **Semester 2 (01/2019 - 05/2019)**

- Interview Workshop (2/27/2019)
- Research Day Observer (4/11/2019)
- Johns Hopkins CTY Summer RA/Counselor (05/2019-07/2019; Bristol, RI)

- **Semester 3 (08/2019 - 12/2019)**

- Honors Portfolio 101 (11/13/2019)
- eSports Club Competitive League of Legends Sub (full semester)
- **Semester 4 (01/2020 - 05/2020)**
  - Graduate/Law School Prep Workshop (2/19/2020)
  - eSports Club Competitive League of Legends Starter (full semester)
- **Semester 5 (08/2020- 12/2020)**
  - Computer Science Peer Tutor: UNC Tutorial Services (08/2020-Present)
  - Inducted: National Society of Leadership and Success (ΣΑπ) (10/2020)
  - eSports Club Competitive League of Legends Starter (full semester)
- **Semester 6 (01/2021 - 05/2021)**
  - Co-Founded RecordWall L.L.C.; developed the RecordWall iOS app (03/2021-Present)
  - eSports Club Competitive League of Legends Starter (full semester)
- **Semester 7 (08/2021 - 12/2021)**
  - Graduate/Law School Prep Workshop (9/28/2021)
  - Participant: Entrepreneurship Challenge (12/2021)
  - eSports Club Competitive League of Legends Sub (full semester)
- **Semester 8 (01/2022 - 05/2022)**
  - Lead Backend Developer: Senior Project (01/2022-Present)
  - Music in The Lord of the Rings (2/23/2022)
  - Founding Officer: UNC Software Engineering Club (full semester)
  - eSports Club Competitive League of Legends Starter (full semester)

## **Honors Connect Reflection**

Attending UNC has been an exercise in multitasking more than almost anything. This isn't because of any particular fault with the university; in fact, preoccupation with many different commitments was a burden I placed on myself to feel like I was doing something following the onset of COVID. However, this would inevitably alter the way I learned from the start of my college career to the end.

I actually began college with a pre-existing internship, one in which I was a jack of all trades for the George Brauchler Colorado Attorney General Campaign. My tasks varied from opposition analysis to speaking at campaign events, and even delivering campaign materials cross-state. It was a relatively low-commitment gig, one I thought useful for its spot on a resume or application in the future. The same sentiment applied for the summer job I worked in Rhode Island, in which I worked as a camp counselor and resident assistant for young boys at a Johns Hopkins sleepaway summer program for kids.

Neither opportunity proved particularly important in the long-run, as the skills I learned and practiced were very broad. Interspersed in my first year were the required inaugural Honors activities, including events which helped my understanding of university features like studying abroad, double majoring, minors, etc. The Coffee w/ the Profs event also gave me my first real experience collaborating and interacting with professors not as educators, but as peers intent on research. It would go on to reflect the relationships I would have with professors in my field later on.

Late in the first school year (March 2019), I applied and was hired as a delivery driver for Dominos. I didn't decide to include this experience in my Honors Connect tracker, as it hardly

counts as a co-curricular activity. Regardless, it was my first bit of lasting involvement in Greeley, as I would continue holding the job and its 30 hour per week commitment until March of 2021, when I joined on to co-found my company RecordWall.

I decided to try out for the university Club eSports team upon returning for my third semester, as I had been playing League of Legends casually up until that point. It was in the eSports Club I found some of my first real friends at the university—hardly the people I forced myself to hang out with during my first couple semesters. The virtual affinity of the eSports Club made it an easy transition once COVID hit in my fourth semester, and I continued playing on the team as a starter and a sub every semester since.

The relationship between my pizza job, my participation on the team, and my academic endeavors defined the way I learned during the first semesters of COVID. Class turned into something of a second priority, as late nights closing the store meant I was heavily reluctant to get up for Zoom lectures. Any time I wasn't working on class materials around an inflexible work schedule was time dedicated to practicing League of Legends, as performing well for the team meant an immense level of commitment. Strangely enough, I quickly found out I preferred this format of learning. Courses during COVID weren't always tailored to fit your free time, but the ones that were ended up being considerably more manageable than even their in-person counterparts. It was the first time I'd been in non-traditional schooling to such a high degree, and I felt like I truly came into my own as a self-directed student during this time. Courses soon became a rough outline of topics I could research on my own while using course materials as a supplement. Self-teaching was a necessity brought about by the co-curricular activities I was undertaking, but the Software Engineering program and its antiquated curriculum meant any

modern programming concepts would have to be self-taught from beyond the scope of any course at the university.

The biggest outcome from this method of learning was RecordWall, a full-scale, enterprise grade iOS application. Making a project like this using information imparted by the Software Engineering major is impossible, and a significant amount of self-teaching about best practice, syntax, and system architecture took place to complete the app in only a summer's time. Embarking on this undertaking would be impossible without the self-help skills I was able to pick up over quarantine, a direct result of my co-curricular situation.