LIKE previous years as Director of the Campus Honors Program, my first thought while writing the Director’s Message this year is to wonder how many of our students, faculty, friends, and alumni have been seriously impacted by COVID-19. Although all of us have experienced the need to socially distance, and many of us continue to work remotely, I hope very few have experienced the physical or financial wrath of the virus. For me, it has been a lesson in appreciation. I am reminded daily how much it means to visit family without worrying about infecting them, to hear the students climn the stairs to their classes in the Honors House, to interact with students and faculty about their daily activities, to plan events with our dedicated staff, to celebrate with our students their successes through events like graduation, and to welcome alumni back to campus whenever they are kind enough to visit. Our lives have been impacted, but we will overcome this challenge and be stronger because of the many valuable lessons we have learned.

This fall, many of our courses will meet in a synchronous format, in which faculty can engage with students in real time. Although it will be more challenging to develop community in the way that in-person instruction more easily enables, our faculty, staff, and Honors Student Council members have been working hard over the summer months to find unique and creative ways to engage students virtually. Ultimately, the outcome will be a stronger program because we have learned how in the future to successfully engage students even when they may be studying abroad or engaging in remote internship experiences. We have also acquired the skills and technology to invite our alumni to present guest lectures to students in a virtual format. Prior to moving online instruction after spring break, we had many achievements of which we are proud. We welcomed new students to campus during our annual Orientation breakfast at the Illini Union and evening picnic at the Honors House. Nadsha Thompson-Spiers, acclaimed author of Heads of the Colored People, presented the Keith Kelso Convocation Lecture and spoke with students during an elegant dinner. Our Honors Student Council hosted a series of lunch lectures presented by deans from across campus, and facilitated fun evening events that included pumpkin carving, painting sessions, card making for children in hospitals, a murder mystery dinner, and game and movie nights. Our Scholar Adventurers Series events included a trip to the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, campus tours of various facilities and exhibits, and sessions that sparked student interest like Vampire Tales from the Ancient World, the Fourth State of Matter, Social and Moral Cognition, Acts of Faith by author Eboo Patel, The American Heartland, Acts of Faith, and many more. We also hosted long-time faculty member Helena Silverman with the King-Broadrick Allen Award for Outstanding Teaching, and Spencer Bailey, Tienneddy Kleezwizki, James Tiao, and Justin Tiao, with the Calvin Ke Award for outstanding student leadership and contributions.

For me, the end of this year is particularly bittersweet because it is my last year as Director of the Campus Honors Program. I have accepted a position as Interim Department Head in my home academic unit of Kinesiology and Community Health. Given the challenging time in which we currently live, I felt the need to step up to the plate to help lead our faculty and students through the coming year. Directing the Campus Honors Program over the past seven years has been the greatest honor of my professional career, and I intend to remain in touch with the countless number of students who have impacted my life. They are the reason we work so hard and challenge ourselves to achieve at an even higher level. Until an Interim Director is appointed, which should happen in the coming weeks, I have agreed to continue in my role as Director.

Martin Luther King, Jr. eloquently stated, “The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character — that is the goal of true education.” As I leave the position of Director, my wish is that each of you will use the education you received at Illinois to help end the systemic racism that continues in our nation and throughout the world. We have incredible power to speak against racism and to lend our voices in demanding change, especially in the spaces we occupy. I extend my deepest thanks to our alumni for their generous support of the program, the faculty who commit themselves to educational excellence, the staff who have become lifelong and trusted friends, and our exceptional students who make this pandemic more difficult because we miss seeing them so much. I hope you and your family remain safe, healthy, and in good spirits in the coming year. Please stay in touch and remain connected.

Best wishes,

Kim C. Graber, Ed.D.
Director, Campus Honors Program
Professor and Interim Department Head, Kinesiology and Community Health
COVID-19 Reflection

By Neha Arun, Biology

As every email and news article says, in this “unprecedented time,” I have taken the chance as a break from the busy life I usually have at college to create my “new normal.” Of course, I’m thankful that I am safe enough to be able to do this, and I definitely miss my friends and college life. Life is definitely different without my frequent bubble tea trips, and I’m constantly reminded that the world around my home bubble is in a crisis. (For example, the grocery store restricts my six-person family to a single-banana per week due to shortages.) I’m glad that I was able to accept the situation relatively quickly, so I could tell myself to make the best of it since I can’t change what’s happening. I decided to take this time to focus on things I pushed to the back burner during the regular school year.

I’ve restructured my week so that I do most of my work from the first three to four days, so I can have an extended weekend for the rest of the week. I was always too busy to do much with my family in high school, so I’m glad I’ve been given some time back to spend with them. During these “relaxation” days, my activities range from watching nature documentaries to cooking and baking things I never thought I could make without burning.

Since I’ve been able to look at things with a positive attitude, I also wanted to make myself useful because I know most of the world isn’t having a fun “break.” On a personal level, I like to talk to my friends quite often with apps like Zoom or Houseparty, because not seeing my friends is the one aspect of my life that isn’t the same and I feel the worst about. On a global scale, since I can’t conduct HIV research anymore, I’ve signed up for opportunities like “Crowdfight Covid-19” and “RapidRona,” so I can at least try to make a difference by helping people.

Though I definitely miss things like relaxing in the Campus Honors House with a hot cup of tea, I’m glad that I was able to take advantage of my comfortable situation at home to give myself a break before my upcoming busy semester and hopefully make myself useful through volunteering activities in this unpredictable time.

I decided to take this time to focus on things I pushed to the back burner during the regular school year.

A CHP’s Alum’s Experience

Thanks to J.P. Gerdt (2008 alumna, LAS Chemistry), who passed along a 4/29/20 story entitled “A Day in the Life of an ER Doctor” from The Harvard Gazette about Anita Chary (2008 alumna, LAS Chemistry and Anthropology) about her work fighting COVID-19 as a 3rd year ER Resident at a Harvard Medical School hospital. The article, which is located at https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2020/04/third-year-resident-describes-a-day-in-the-life-of-an-er-doctor, details a “normal” day in the Harvard Affiliated Emergency Medicine Residency Program, from her early morning walk with her apartment to the Brigham and Women’s Hospital in the Longwood Medical Area, where she works with many patients who “arrive with complications related to the novel coronavirus, requiring more involved, sometimes intensive treatment,” and “who she must divide into three categories: those who are well enough to leave and recover at home; those who must be admitted because they need oxygen to help them breathe; and those who need intensive care and a ventilator.” Anita notes that “I think there is a weight that you feel when you sense that you are going to be the last person to talk to someone or pretend any time with that person when they are awake and alert,” with the context that “as the surge of the hospital’s palliative-care team, Chary and her colleagues are having patients requiring a ventilator record messages to loved ones on their phones before they are sedated.” There are notes of hope and optimism, with Anita, who is also a clinical fellow in Emergency Medicine at Harvard Medical School, confirming that “careful planning has been the key to the Brigham’s response to the pandemic” since “the has access to the growns, gloves, masks, face shields, and head coverings she needs, along with a reduced work schedule — an effort by administrators to keep the workforce as safe and healthy as possible.”

I actually feel very privileged and lucky that I can be among the physicians who are serving patients in this time.

COVID-19 Response

By Gail Schneiderman, FAA Graphic Design

In response to COVID-19, I created positivity posters. These posters aim to spread some motivation, inspiration, validation, and happiness during these tough times. The color scheme was chosen due to its calming, simple, and welcoming atmosphere. The quotes were selected based on their relevance and ability to spark motivation, inspiration, or validation.

In this project, I explored using type as an image and creating balance and movement within a piece. I also experimented with creating a cohesive set of designs that are strong on their own and work well together as a group. I really enjoyed creating these posters since they combined two of my favorite activities: art and collecting inspirational quotes.

Sophia Ebel (LAS Comparative Literature): “I had been planning to study abroad this fall semester in Vienna, Austria. Since fall study abroad was canceled, I’ve been in touch with the program director in Vienna about other ways to connect with programs and opportunities there, and I am about to start volunteering virtually with Station Wien, an organization in Vienna aimed at fostering intercultural communication and exchange, building connections between refugees/migrants to Austria and the general population, and providing academic and language support to recently arrived migrants. I’m really excited to still be able to get involved with their projects from Illinois since I had been hoping to connect with them while in Vienna, and will especially now that these middle school-aged siblings whose family recently arrived in Austria from Syria in English, German and math using virtual platforms. That this is even a possibility has really emphasized for me how interconnected we are able to be today globally thanks to technology, and made me realize that while I still hope to study abroad in a future semester there are a multitude of ways that I can connect with others around the world in its absence and regardless of where I live. My perspective on what an ‘international experience’ can look like has thus been broadened immeasurably by this.”

Sam Walder (2017 alumnus, ENG Computer Engineering) in March 2020: “It’d be wonderful to walk through Urbana these days. Peaceful. You miss the most you can’t have.”
The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and is designed to build international relations to solve global challenges, and the Office of National and International Scholarships administers the Fulbright Program at Illinois.

**Fulbright Scholarship**

The June 1946 signing of the Fulbright Program was a result of a U.S. Congress decision to invest in human capital and international education by directing funds to the State Department to create a fund to provide grants to students for study in the United States. The Fulbright Program is the flagship program sponsored by the U.S. government for the exchange of education and cultural information. Through the International Educational Exchange Act of 1946, Congress authorized the President to establish a program to provide financial assistance to U.S. citizens who wish to study abroad in U.S. sponsored universities as well as to provide financial assistance to citizens of other countries who wish to study at American universities. The Fulbright Program is the largest program of international educational exchange in the world. The program is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries through the effective exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills. The Fulbright Program provides funding for U.S. citizens to study abroad and for citizens from other countries to study in the United States. The program is administered by the U.S. Department of State, the Institute of International Education (IIE), and a network of U.S. government agencies.

The Fulbright Program is funded by the U.S. Congress and is administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE) and a network of U.S. government agencies. The program is open to citizens of the United States and citizens of other countries who have been recommended for the program by their home countries. The program is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries through the effective exchange of persons, knowledge, and skills. The Fulbright Program is the largest program of international educational exchange in the world. The program is funded by the U.S. Congress and is administered by the Institute of International Education (IIE) and a network of U.S. government agencies. The program is open to citizens of the United States and citizens of other countries who have been recommended for the program by their home countries. 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POST GRADUATION PLANS
OF RECENT GRADUATES

Alp Aktunma  
ENG Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering  
“Working as a Project Engineer at ASML in San Diego”

Jacob E. Anderson  
ENG Engineering Physics  
Software Developer at Epic near Madison, WI

Fernando Adrian Arias  
LAS Political Science and Economics  
“I will be attending law school in the fall at the University of Chicago School of Law.”

Rajeev Arunachalam  
ENG Computer Science  
“Working at Facebook as a Software Engineer”

Connor Aubry  
ENG Computer Engineering  
“Working at Sandia National Laboratories”

Moral Aycock  
LAS Global Studies  
“I will take a gap year before applying to graduate programs in public policy and law. In my gap year, I will explore service opportunities and new hobbies.”

Spenser Bailey  
LAS History  
“I’ll be attending the School at Illinois as a master’s student in Library and Information Science.”

Jenna Rae Baker  
ACES Agricultural Leadership & Science Education  
“Agriculture Teacher & FFA Advisor at Tri-Point High School in Calumet, IL.”

Elizabeth Rose Barbeau  
ENG Mechanical Engineering  
“Analyst at Credit Suisse”

Audrey Lynn Ashburn  
LAS Psychology  
“I have decided to attend Florida State University for their Higher Education administration and policy program!”

Christopher Robert Bauer  
ENG Mechanical Engineering  
“My plan after graduation is to get my master’s degree in structural engineering, here at UIUC.”

Melissa Anne Bayer  
ENG Civil Engineering  
“I’ll be attending the iSchool at Illinois, as a master’s student in Library and Information Science.”

Anna Caroline Benoit  
FAA Lyric Theatre  
“I will be performing as Miss Honey in Matilda the Musical at Ozark Actors Theatre. I will then move to Denver, Colorado, this summer to begin my job.”

Olivia Marie Blevenue  
LAS English and Psychology  
“I have accepted a job with Visa, Inc., as a Technical Writer. I will move to Denver, Colorado, this summer to begin my job.”

John Michael Born  
ENG Computer Engineering  
“I started working as a software developer on the Data Engineering team at the Groupon HQs in Chicago. The Data Engineering team creates and maintains data pipelines taking data from all over the business and transforming it into curated data sets for analysts. I’m excited to be starting my career despite the troubling times.”

Benjamin Misael David  
ENG Bioengineering  
“I will be pursuing a PhD in Bioengineering here at UIUC.”

Julia Elizabeth Brodecki  
ENG Materials Science and Engineering  
“I have accepted a full-time position at 3M as a Product Development Engineer in their Automotive Aftermarket Division.”

Katherine (Kate) Hacker  
ENG Mechanical Engineering  
“I will be working as a financial specialist at McDonald’s Corporate.”

Kellie Halloran  
ENG Mechanical Engineering  
“I will be pursuing a PhD in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Illinois.”

Anvita Harihar  
AHS Community Health  
“I am going to be a consultant at Claro Healthcare!”

John W. Diffior  
ENG Computer Science  
“Thru-hike the Appalachian Trail, then start working as a software developer for Epic Systems in Madison, WI”

Katherine Douglas  
ACES Food Science and Human Nutrition and LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology  
“I will be doing a 3 year research program with Abbott Labs working in regulatory affairs for medical devices. My first rotation is in Plano, TX (not sure when I’ll be moving).”

Thomas Franklin Driscoll  
ENG Computer Engineering  
Software Engineer at Arity

Claudia Anna Dudzik  
LAS Mathematics and Statistics  
“Find a job dealing with statistics and data management”

Kurt Marie Elson  
BUS Accounting  
“I will continue at UIUC to complete a Master of Accounting Science degree with a concentration in data analytics.”

Lauren Excell  
ENG Civil Engineering  
“I have decided to enter a PhD program in Civil Engineering at Stanford University.”

Kotter Cheung  
ENG Electrical Engineering  
“I am currently applying to work as a research associate for two years before pursuing admission to MD/PhD programs.”

Alp Aktunma  
ENG Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering  
“Working as a Project Engineer at ASML in San Diego”

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Dohun Jeong  
ENG Electrical Engineering  
“I will be pursuing an M.S. degree in ECE here at Illinois.”

Alayna Marie Johnson  
LAS Chemistry  
“I’ll be attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) department of chemistry, program in polymers and soft matter.”

Andrew Scott Johnson  
ACES Agricultural and Consumer Economics  
“I have accepted a full-time job as an Associate at Verdant Partners LLC, an M&A Advisory Firm located in Champaign, IL.”

Kundan Ashok Joshi  
LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology  
“I will be working as a data analyst for clinical trials at Lurie Cancer Center in Chicago while taking a gap year before medical school.”

Kieran Nicholas Charles Kaempf  
LAS Mathematics and Computer Science  
“Coming back to UIUC for a master’s degree in computer science”

Ziv Benjamin Kaputa  
ENG Computer Science  
“In August I will be moving to Seattle and starting as a software engineer at Amazon on the Amazon Business team.”

Nicholas Aron Kasner  
ENG Systems Engineering and Design  
“Full-time work as a management consultant in supply chain and procurement at KPMG in Chicago, IL.”

Madison Loraine Kaufman  
AHS Interdisciplinary Health Science  
“I will be attending Rosalind Franklin Chicago School of Medicine this fall.”

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Aidan Michael Kelly  
LAS Biochemistry  
“I am currently applying to work as a research associate for two years before pursuing admission to MD/PhD programs.”
Trenndey Kieczewski
BUS Marketing and Business Process Management
"I will be starting a full-time marketing position at Discover Financial Services."

Lukas R. Kubils
ENG Computer Science
"I am working on a start-up through UIUC’s iVenture accelerator to create a smart alarm clock that does not work in your way, inspiring an energized morning."

Jennifer Jingyu Kuo
BUS Finance and LAS Philosophy
Accenture Management Consulting Analyst, Chicago

Sarah Lee
LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and Psychology
Applying to medical school

Emily Ann Martin
ACES Agricultural and Consumer Economics
"I am attending graduate school at Illinois in the Master’s in Science in Accountancy Program. I will also be working this summer as an Audit & Assurance Intern for Deloitte in St. Louis."

Robert William Mitchell
BUS Finance
Private Equity Analyst at GTCH in Chicago, IL

Nikhil D. Modak
ENG Computer Science
"I’ll be moving to San Francisco to work at Lyft as a Software Engineer."

Mukhit Murugasamy
ENG Computer Engineering
JP Morgan

Pranjul Nandi
BUS Finance
"I will be working as an investment banking analyst at Livingstone Partners in Chicago, where I will cover mergers & acquisitions, restructuring, and debt advisory."

Allison Lewis
LAS Psychology
TRB

Jacklyn Elina Ovassapian
FAA Theatre and LAS Psychology
"I am hoping to work in arts administration/theatre management. I have also been applying to graduate business programs."

Yibha Venkatesh Pandurangi
ENG Computer Science
Software Engineer at NVIDIA

Dario Giovanni Panici
ENG Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering
"I will be going to Princeton University to pursue a PhD in the Mechanical and Aerospace department."

Victor Manuel Pastrana-Gomez
ENG Bioengineering
"Starting a job, but got pushed back due to Coronavirus."

Paikal Patel
LAS Psychology
"Plan on attending the University of Indianapolis to pursue my doctorate in Psychology (Psy.D)."

Haley Nicole Penkala
LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology
"I plan on returning to the University of Wisconsin-Madison for a PhD in biochemistry science."

Emily V. Pueschel
LAS Psychology
"I am attending graduate school at the University of Maryland where I will be conducting research in the area of social and political psychology."

Brock Breinlinger
ENG Computer Engineering
"I will be working at the Northrop Grumman Corporation in Dulles, Virginia as a Spaceships Guidance, Navigation, and Control Associate Engineer."

Brendlerick Tre Portell
LAS Economics
"I am working for a financial advisor in Chicago."

Mingkang David Qi
LAS Chemistry and Integrative Biology
"I will be working at the Northrop Grumman Corporation in Dulles, Virginia as a Spaceships Guidance, Navigation, and Control Associate Engineer."

Paul Robert Reckamp
ENG Computer Science
"I will be pursuing a Master’s in computer engineering at the University of Illinois."

Lyle Regenwetter
ENG Computer Engineering and Electrical Engineering
"I will be working as a semiconductor packager engineer at Texas Instruments."

Jensen Ashleigh Rehn
LAS History
"Most likely, I will attend Notre Dame Law School this fall."

Jake Ribich
ENG Engineering Physics
"I will be attending Yale University to pursue a PhD in Biophysics."

Jose Rafael Ridoa
ENG Mechanical Engineering
"I am attending graduate school at the University of Illinois as a Mechanical and Aerospace Engineer."

Melanie Ann Rohla
LAS Earth, Society, and Environmental Sustainability
"I plan to return to Tanzania through either the Boren Scholarship program or the Princeton in Africa Fellowship Program. (Please check back in with me later for more concrete plans!)"

Zachary James Mably
ENG Computer Science
Software Engineering at USIP in St. Louis

Lucas Connor McDonald
ENG Computer Engineering
Moving to St. Louis to work as a Software Development Engineer for Amazon.

Samarth Makhija
ENG Computer Engineering
"I decided to attend California Institute of Technology (Caltech) to study Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics."
IN THE NEWS

Emily Martin (ACES Agricultural and Consumer Economics) and Cathie Seebaeuer (ENG Civil Engineering), who were named to the 2019 Homecoming Court, are profiled at https://blogs.illinois.edu/view/643/803265.

On 11/15/19, LAS News reported that Elena Wilson (LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and Germanic Studies) received the Lincoln Academy Student Laureate Award at https://las.illinois.edu/news/2019-11-15/student-receives-lincoln-academy-student-laureate-award. The article notes: “The Lincoln Academy Student Laureate Awards are presented each year to one student from each four-year degree-granting institution of higher learning in Illinois. This year’s ceremony is Saturday, November 16, 2019.

“While earning dual degrees, Elena Wilson is involved in a number of different service organizations, including Young Life and Illini Screening Society. She has also been a student volunteer at Carle Hospital, Champaign County Christian Health Center, and the HeRMES Multicultural Clinic. Despite her busy schedule, Wilson spends almost as much time volunteering as she does in class. “...Everything she’s done, Wilson added, has motivated her to continue helping people — in whatever path she chooses after graduation.”

The UI YouTube admissions channel features Zoe Replinger (FAA Theatre and MED Advertising) in several videos (including Day in My Life) at www.youtube.com/user/IllinoisAdmissions, www.youtube.com/watch?v=vF5SmjbH89U, and www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ZKc9bdXlE.

Jacques Anderson (2011 alumna, LAS Political Science) was featured in a 10/10/19 WTTW TV story “Local Nut Leads Chicago Marathon Team,” which details her running career at Illinois as well as her continuing to run to raise funds for the Mission of Our Lady of the Angels. More info on her interview is at https://news.illinois.edu/2019/10/10/local-nut-leads-chicago-marathon-team.

Jon Horak (2002 alumna, ENG Mechanical Engineering) was named an Emerging Leader of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. Each year, the Council selects a cohort of approximately 20 high potential mid-career Chicago professionals, who train together for one year on key leadership skills needed to tackle today’s global challenges.

Sophie Luljet (LAS Global Studies and Spanish) will have a paper published in the PRHI Environmental Humanities Undergraduate Research Journal.

Zoe Replinger (FAA Theatre and MED Advertising) was in the February 2020 KCFA production of The Wolves.

Ethan Simmons (MED Journalism) has interned with the Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette and Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and continues to serve as News Editor and write for the Daily Illini. Jada Fulcher (MED Journalism) serves as Editorial Staff for the Daily Illini.

Many Chancellors’ Scholars have participated in Illini 4000 in the past. This year, Evan Armstrong (ENG Computer Engineering), Maria Marting (LAS Astronomy), and Jacob Moth (ENG Bioengineering), were training for the 4000 mile ride when COVID-19 derailed their journey. Christina Su (LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology), who did the ride in 2017, was President of Illini 4000, and Mike Rorker (ENG Special Education), who rode in 2018 and 2019, served as Vice President.

Illini 4000’s mission is: “The Illini 4000 is a non-profit organization dedicated to documenting the American cancer experience through The Portraits Project, raising funds for cancer research and patient support services, as well as spreading awareness for the fight against cancer through annual cross-country bike rides.”

Sr. Stephanie Baliga (2010 alumna, LAS Economics and Geography) was featured on a 10/19/19 WTTW TV story “Local Nut Leads Chicago Marathon Team,” which details her running career at Illinois as well as her continuing to run to raise funds for the Mission of Our Lady of the Angels. More info on her interview is at https://news.illinois.edu/2019/10/10/local-nut-leads-chicago-marathon-team.

Students served in the following Illinois Student Government (ISG) roles:

Fernando Arias (LAS Political Science and Economics) served as Chief Justice of the ISG Judiciary; Rhea Bridgeoland (ACES Natural Resources and Environmental Science) was State House Legislative Aide; and Roland Kim (LAS Political Science) was City of Urbana Liaison.

Matt Macomber (2014 alumna, LAS Atmosphere Sciences) continues to write for Smile Politely (www.smilepolitely.com). This past year, his posts included “A trip to Top Food Restaurant;” “Satisfy your thirst at Bearology;” “Expect grand portions at El Rancho Grande II;” “Enjoy a hearty brunch at Maize;” “Finding chicken burritos in Champaign-Urban;” and “Find a sweet treat at Tasty Tart.”

Neena Tripathy (1994 alumna, LAS Biology) was profiled in the Champaign Women Outdoors series as a marathon runner with a goal of running the race on all seven continents. At the time of the 2019 interview, Neena, who is currently a Pediatrician in the Calif Physic Group, had completed marathons in the U.S., Australia, China, South Africa, and Antarctica. For more info, go to: www.champaignoutdoors.com/post/neena-tripathy.

Rob Chappell (ACES) hosted a Walking Tour of Historic Campus Plots on 10/25/20 which included the CHP’s Honors House, which served as an early locale for the James Scholars Honors Program. Ryan Ross (2008 alumna, LAS English) provided a talk on the tour at the Richmond Family Gallery in the Alice Campbell Alumni Center.

LINCOLN SCHOLARS

LAS News profiled graduating seniors Lotanna Ezenekwe (LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology) on 5/27/20 at https://las.illinois.edu/news/2020-05-27/meet-scholar-lotanna-ezenekwe. Each Lincoln Scholar is profiled in the College of LAS launched the Lincoln Scholars Initiative seven years ago to support promising LAS students with financial need. We caught up with a few of the earliest Lincoln Scholars to see how your gifts have paved the way for successful careers after college. Max Colon (2016 alumna, LAS Psychology and Spanish) is one of the inaugural Lincoln Scholars. Since arriving at Illinois as a freshman seven years ago, he’s earned bachelor’s degrees in psychology and Spanish, a master’s degree in human resources and industrial relations, and a new job in human resources at Granger.
The 13th Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS) and Illinois Scholars Undergraduate Research Symposium (ISUR) took place on Undergraduate Research Week from April 27–May 2, 2020. Below are the Chancellor’s Scholars who presented or co-presented their research at these events. For more information on student presentations, go to http://undergradresearch.illinois.edu/researchweek.html.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM (URS) OR URS WEEK PRESENTERS:

Rhea Bridgeland
ACES Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

Amber Dorn
AHS Speech and Hearing Science

Akshay Dugar
ENG Industrial Engineering

Karina Herrera
ENG Mechanical Engineering

Carolyn Janick
LAS Mathematics

Philip Kocheril
LAS Chemistry

Michael Kockines
ENG Computer Science

Sarah Lee
LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and Psychology

Yan Luo
ENG Biomedical Engineering

Aditya Mancharamani
ENG Computer Science

Nicole Park
ACES Food Science and Human Nutrition

Haley Pentala
LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology

Maxwell Polanek
LAS Chemical Engineering

Chahna Saraiya
LAS Statistics

Elisa Wilson
LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and Germanic Studies

Helaine Silverman (CHP faculty, Anthropology) and her efforts to promote heritage tourism, as well as the socioeconomic development, of downstate Illinois were featured in the 6/13/19 LAS News story “The Mythic Mississippi.” The article is located at https://las.illinois.edu/news/2019-06-13/mythic-mississippi, and details the project “The Mythic Mississippi: I-Heritage as Public Engagement and Economic and Social Development,” which was awarded $180,000 in funding as part of a UI initiative earlier this year to increase funding in the arts and humanities. “The project seeks to develop themed tourism trails such as coal heritage, African American heritage, French Colonial heritage, and Mormon heritage. The project organizers hope that these themed trails will motivate tourists to explore downstate Illinois and thus contribute to town economies.”

Warren Lavey (Earth, Society, and the Environment; Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences; and LAS) welcomed four experts in policy advocacy to his Fall 2019 CHP class: State Senator Scott Bennett; State Representative Carol Ammons; Andrew Armstrong (CHP alum and Chief, Environmental Bureau – Springfield, Illinois Attorney General’s Office); and Cindy Shepard (Director of Central Illinois Outreach Programs).

David Ruzic (CHP faculty, NPRE) joined local talent Larry Kanfer in Champaign West Rotary’s CU’s Got Talent, on 2/1/20 in “Dueling Reality: Energy Prof vs. The Artist by David Ruzic and Larry Kanfer.” According to the promotional information, “Larry and David decided to participate in this event with a magic act to raise money for area charities. CU’s Got Talent is a fundraiser presented by Champaign West Rotary in East Central Illinois, which features a talent show including a reception and silent auction.”

The National Association of Manufacturers announced the 2020 Step Ahead Awards on 3/2/20, and PHOENIX Director of Quality and Food Safety, Meena (Babu) Banasiak (2006 alumna, ENG Materials Science and Engineering) was selected as a national honoree. The press release notes that “the 8th Annual Step Ahead Awards recognize women in science, technology, engineering and production careers who exemplify leadership within their companies.” There is more info about Meena at the Manufacturing Institute’s 2020 Step Ahead Website (https://tinyurl.com/sw6hy9y), detailing her professional leadership, mentoring of other women, and her service engagement in Naperville and beyond.
HONORS STUDENT COUNCIL

Honors Student Council Year in Review
By Maya Chattoraj, LAS Physics

Honors Student Council, or HSC, had a fantastic year filled with many events and new memories. HSC was composed of five individual committees this year: Academic Engagement, Social Engagement, Community Engagement, Art, and Publications. The Academic Engagement Committee organizes events that introduce students to novel topics in academia, often through lunches with professors and deans from colleges across campus. The Social Engagement Committee arranges fun events where students can socialize and bond while engaged in cool activities. The Community Engagement Committee works to help those in need in the Champaign-Urbana area, providing students with the opportunity to give back to the community around them. This was the inaugural year of the Community Engagement Committee, and we’re looking forward to the great work that the committee will continue to do in the future. The Art Committee does several creative projects throughout the year, giving students a creative outlet. Finally, the Publications Committee writes pieces for CHP’s various newsletters and arranges literature-based events for students. These five committees bring Chancellor’s Scholars together, creating strong bonds between students.

Despite an early end to on-campus activities due to the coronavirus pandemic, HSC worked hard to remain active throughout the stay-at-home order. The committees met via Zoom to plan virtual events, such as a virtual surprise party to say goodbye to Director Kim Graber. Members also met just to stay in touch during such a difficult time!

Participating in HSC is a great way to meet other Chancellor’s Scholars and engage with the Honors community. I’d like to thank the Executive Board and all of HSC for a fantastic year, and I look forward to seeing you at the first HSC meeting in September!

Despite an early end to on-campus activities due to the coronavirus pandemic, HSC worked hard to remain active throughout the stay-at-home order.

CHP Murder Mystery
By Kayla Vittore, ACES Crop Sciences

What’s more terrifyingly unpalatable than a high school reunion? A high school reunion involving murder! For Halloween, the Publications Committee once again designed a dastardly Murder Mystery dinner of devious deception. This year’s theme was high school reunion stereotypes, boasting characters such as the jock that never made pro, the BFF’s turned mortal enemies, and the ridiculously redeemed former bully. The star of the night was, of course, the universally-beloved class clown, Schmitty. Or at least everyone thought Schmitty was beloved, up until he dropped dead in the middle of the room!

What followed Schmitty’s dramatic demise was a series of surprising reveals, emotional accusations, and the sudden realization that Schmitty’s haphazard pranking had landed him more atomism than admiration. When everyone has a motive for murder, how do you determine which little grudge was the one to grow into vengeance? Through the wit and grit characteristic of Chancellor’s Scholars, the group narrowed their suspicions down to three individuals. On the chopping block was the school mascot turned sleazy politician, the religious fanatic with suspicious knowledge of poisons, and the only kid Schmitty never thought important enough to be pranked. The last of the three was a red herring specially developed by the Publications Committee to confound and divide the Murder Mystery participants, and two-thirds of the group fell for the trap. To the clever ones who uncovered that the politician was the night’senary murderer were the prizes — though the real prize was the night of laughter everyone shared on that spookiest of holidays.

HSC Academic Engagement Committee: Dean Lunch & Learns
By Maya Chattoraj, LAS Physics

The Academic Engagement Committee hosted two Lunch & Learns with college deans this year, where a dean comes to the Honors House to engage with Chancellor’s Scholars and share their career experiences over delicious catered lunches.

Our first guest was Cheryl Hanley–Maxwell, dean of the College of Applied Health Sciences. Dean Hanley–Maxwell discussed her experiences as a special education teacher and how she found her way to her current position. She discussed the current state of special education in the state of Illinois, impressing upon attendees the importance of strong programs of this type. Dean Hanley–Maxwell also gave students the reassuring message that it’s okay to not have every step of your career planned out. She encouraged students to study a subject that they are passionate about, saying that the next career step would always present itself.

Our second Lunch & Learn (pictured on page 18) featured James Anderson, dean of the College of Education, was the guest of honor. He shared influential experiences from his undergraduate and graduate school years that helped shape his career and his interest in researching the history of African American education. Dean Anderson also discussed modern education techniques with students who are in the College of Education, offering his personal opinions and inviting students to share theirs. Dean Anderson advised students to never be afraid of asking questions or debating experts in any field, and shared the story of how he questioned a prestigious guest speaker who then offered him a research position because of how inquisitive he was.

The committee also scheduled a Lunch & Learn with Dean Kevin Hamilton from the College of Fine and Applied Arts. Unfortunately, this event was canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. We look forward to next year, when we will continue introducing Chancellor’s Scholars to prominent Illinois faculty!
**Equinox: Finding Our Balance**

By Ethan Frobish, LAS English and Creative Writing

With a magazine centered on and celebrating the balance of academics and the arts in the lives of Chancellor’s Scholars, it would be no small calamity that could knock Equinox out of its equilibrium. Unfortunately, the COVID epidemic is no small calamity, and as a result, our magazine staff has been thoroughly disoriented. Were we post-structuralists, this would be revelatory, but our editorial machine worked just fine before a wrench was hurled in our gears.

I seem to recall thinking with confidence at our final in-person meeting that it would only take one more meeting to wrap up this year’s issue and get it out the door — “more on time than ever before” as I wrote in a draft of my letter from the Editor. “With hindsight, it is easy to see my confidence as the arrogance of someone who thought his structures invincible and his plans impermeable. Oh, how young we were.”

Things with Equinox are not so dour, however. After collectively working through our shelter-in-place slump, the team has begun to work again on the book. Though not as regular as our weekly meeting schedule, we’ve switched to digital meetings and are once again progressing, albeit with the lag inherent to Zoom.

I am thankful, even more so than in previous years, for the staff for taking time out of their busy schedules to work on our magazine. It is one thing to dedicate time to an extra-curricular while school is in session, but something else entirely to sacrifice time that could be spent at summer jobs, researching graduate school, or something else entirely to sacrifice time that could be spent at summer jobs, researching graduate school, or something else entirely. This sort of devotion is inherent to Chancellor’s Scholars — balancing work, school, and hobbies and applying passion to all.

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**SAS/KDR Updates**

**Titus Andronicus KDR Reflections**

By Lauren Gherma, LAS English

After reading *Titus Andronicus* by William Shakespeare in my English seminar, I was excited to see that this early Shakespeare play was being offered as a Krannert Dress Rehearsal (KDR). I hadn’t heard of this play until a few months before the performance, but reading it in class taught me that the play is gruesome and has a lot to unpack in terms of character motives. The talk before the KDR was presented by Andrea Stevens, a CHP professor who adapted the play, and Robert G. Anderson, who directed the play. Professor Stevens noted that she cut Andrea Stevens, a CHP professor who adapted the play, and Robert G. Anderson, who directed the play. Professor Stevens noted that she cut some of the play for clarity and conciseness as some scenes from this play can confuse the viewer. They wanted the attendees that this performance of *Titus Andronicus* was going to be different than others because *Titus Andronicus* was double-cast. This means that two actors were on stage at all times playing the main character, so they had to be absolutely in sync with one another. Even more uniquely, *Titus Andronicus* was not double-cast as the typical actor many would expect to see playing a war hero; one of the *Titus Andronicus* actors playing this role was a hearing-impaired male and the other was a hearing female. I can’t imagine the shock of going into the theatre without this piece of information.

After the KDR presentation, we moved over to the Studio Theatre in Krannert where the set up puts the audience members into the action. For *Titus Andronicus*, there was scarring on three of the sides of the performance area and one side led to the backstage area and featured a balcony. This mimics Shakespearean “original practices.” Throughout the play, I found myself in awe of the synchronization of the two *Titus Andronicus* actors and in shock of the gruesome portrayals of key scenes in the play, such as the rape and mutilation of Lavinia. I never knew what to expect next, even though I had read and studied the play, because each scene was more captivating than the one just before.

Overall, I enjoyed the performance and felt that it helped me understand the strange and complicated plot just a little bit better.
ALUMNI RESPONSES TO WHY I GIVE

Caroline E. Cvetkovski (2017 alumnus)
“Both Bioengineering and CHP were instrumental in shaping who I became as a student and alumna. I will forever be indebted to these programs for setting me on the path forward. I want to pay it forward to support current and future students!”

Allison C. Dahnke (2010 alumna)
“The Campus Honors Program provided me with many wonderful opportunities and my college experience would not have been as good without it!”

Richard O. Essel (1990 alumus)
“I believe the Campus Honors Program is an important part of the UIUC community.”

David G. Geese (2007 alumna)
“I believe the Campus Honors Program is the best!”

Sosma P. Kini (2005 alumna)
“I benefitted from the CHP tremendously. I hope to support other students with this gift!”

Rosanna A. Moore (2007 alumna)
“Honors gave me great education and lifelong friends, colleagues, and mentors.”

Seth W. Orr (2002 alumus)
“I want to help CHP students have the same great experience I did!”

Deborah Plager (1995 alumna)
“I’m a strong believer in giving back. I was honored to be part of the CHP!”

Erica M. (Kleavas) Songer (2005 alumna)
“I am grateful for my experience in the Campus Honors Program.”

DONORS TO THE CHP

July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020

$1000–$2,499 HIGHEST HONORS LEVEL

- Jeffery S. Lala (2018 alumnus, matched by Bennett Community Impact Fund and Apple, Inc.)
- Dennis J. Lee (1990 alumus)
- John S. Lapidus (2020 alumus)
- Michaela B. Liebenthal (2011 alumna) and Mrs. Glori Lee
- Erika C. Lough (2022 alumna)
- Professor Michael Luis (CHP faculty member) and Mrs. Cynthia Luis
- Mr. David J. Lautz (2009 alumus)
- Matthew K. Mccomb (2014 alumnus)
- Michael J. McNeil (2009 alumus)
- Miss Gena S. Meister (2004 alumna)
- Roxanna A. More (2007 alumna)
- Mrs. David F. Parent (1993 alumus) and Mrs. Shawn M. Pelak
- Mrs. Jeanne L. Pearlman (1997 alumna)
- Mr. Carl M. Press (2007 alumus) and Mrs. Erin Press
- Matthew R. Quaill (2005 alumus)
- Mrs. Andrew A. Rose (2005 alumus) and Mr. Brian A. Zimmerman
- Dr. Gregory D. Buckberg and Mrs. Julie C. Buckberg
- Mr. John K. Brennan (2012 alumnus, matched by ProcessaาหฺGoxCo,Cपे)
- Mrs. Michael W. Robinson (1993 alumna) and Mrs. Irene Robertson
- Dr. David L. Simon (1993 alumus) and Mrs. Rebecca Rubin
- Mr. Chad B. Sears (1999 alumus)
- Mr. Jeffrey S. Shambaugh (1990 alumus) and Mrs. Hope W. Shambaugh
- Mrs. Erica M. (Kleavas) Songer (2002 alumus)
- Mrs. Michelle L. Stevenson (2015 alumus)
- Mrs. Kaye M. Tupper (1989 alumus)
- Mrs. Julie M. Tucker and Mr. Andrew B. Tucker
- Professor Thomas S. Utley (CHP faculty member) and Mrs. Julia B. Ullrich
- Mrs. James C. Vary (1993 alumnus)
- Dr. Eric B. Weeds (1992 alumus)
- Dr. Morton W. Weir (CHP Emeritus) and Mrs. Cecelia A. Weir
- Mr. Steven D. Wijesuriya (2001 alumnus)
- Mrs. Ashley A. Wulk (2002 alumus)
- Dr. Peter R. and Mrs. Bittich-A. Yao
- Dr. Michael Zielinski (1994 alumnus)

$500–$999 HIGHER HONORS LEVEL

- Elia Chudov

- Special thanks are extended to

- Appreciation of Continuing Endowment/ Scholarship

- Thanks to these generous donors for their support to the CHP With these gifts we can continue to offer quality programming to Chancellor’s Scholars. All donors marked with an asterisk have given previously.

- If there are any errors, please inform Elizabeth Rockman (rockman@illinois.edu)
2019-2020 CAMPUS HONORS PROGRAM AWARD WINNERS

STATE, NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL AWARDS AND HONORS

Audubon Scholarship
The Audubon Scholarship Foundation, created in 1904 by the Audubon 7 Audubon Society
Philip Kocheril, LAS Chemistry
Fallbright Grant
National, awarded for one year of graduate study or research abroad
Alexander Bryk, LAS Teaching of Spanish
Henry Li, 2017 alumnus, BUS Accountancy
Ferth Fellowship, 2019 alumnus, LAS Economics and LAS Finance
Alexandra A. Menendez, 2018 alumnus, LAS Economics and LAS Finance
National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship
Three years of support toward advanced research-based degrees
Sarah Achermann, 2019 alumnus, LAS Chemistry
Kellie Hallinan, ENG Mechanical Engineering
Alyssa Johnsen, LAS Chemistry
National Security Education Program (NSEP)/ David L. Boren Graduate Scholarship
National, study in nonwestern regions, including language component
Melanie Robit, LAS Earth, Society, and Environmental Sustainability; and Global Studies
Pi-Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship
National, for graduate study, one nominee per campus
Erica Hackett, BUS Marketing and Marketing Automation
Potts & Quigley Class of 2020 “Best and Brightest” 150 top U.S. business students in top-50 programs
Robert Mitchell, BUS Finance
U of I Community Credit Union Honors Scholarship
Santosh Sudhakar, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology
Christina Jean Su, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and LAS Psychology

REGIONAL, STATE, AND ALL-CAMPUS AWARDS

Bronze Tablet
University winners, earned by the top 3% of each college’s graduating class
Francois Ajani, LAS Political Science and Economics
Kevin Aoun, ENG Computer Science
Alexandra Ann, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology
Deborah Chang, BUS Accountancy and Information Systems and Information Technology
Tanner Corre, LAS Actuarial Science
Evan DePauw, ENG Biomedical Engineering
Kerrin Elson, BUS Accountancy
Zvi Katzav, ENG Computer Science
Madison Kaufman, AHS Interdisciplinary Health Science
Chi Linh, ENG Computer Science
Emily Martin, AGES Agricultural and Consumer Economics
Allison Maggs, LAS Psychology
Jacky Ovassapian, FAA Theater and LAS Psychology
Palal Panchal Patel, LAS Psychology
Jennifer Siegel, LAS History
Maihkan Anh Robie, LAS Earth, Society, and Environmental Sustainability; and Global Studies
Christel Vaya, MED Journalism
Francois Ajani, ENG Computer Science
Fred S. Bailey Scholarship for Carse-Driven Leaders University YMFCA
Sophie Luijten, LAS Global Studies and Spanish
FLAS Fellowship
Foreign Language and Area Studies, all-campus
Sophie Eisel, LAS Comparative Literature
Hoff Technology and Management Program Graduate student, agriculture for engineering and business students
Lauren Exell, ENG Civil Engineering
Allison Elkins, LAS Psychology
Erica Hackett, BUS Marketing and Marketing Automation
Premach Nandy, BUS Finance
Robert Staroko, ENG Mechanical Engineering
Francois Ajani, ENG Computer Science
Homecoming Court All-campus, comprised of 10 top male and female students
Emily Ann Martin, AGES Agricultural and Consumer Economics
Catherine Seabera, ENG Civil Engineering
Illinois Broadcasters Association Award
Chantal Vay, MED Journalism
Lurline Academic Student Leadership Award State-level award for a single outstanding senior from each four-year college and university in Illinois
Drumwulf, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and Germanic Studies
CHP Honors Student Council Executive Board Award
Alexander Bryk, LAS Global Studies and Spanish
James Newton Matthews Scholarship A four-year renewable campus-level award, awarding seniors
Lilly Holmes, FAA Architectural Sciences
Kendar Joo, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology
Sukhleen Khaira, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and Psychology
Nicholas Shapiro, LAS Geophysics and GIS, Political Science, History
Blindon Su, LAS Economics and Quantitative Economics
John L. Bailey Prize
UISC Undergraduate literary Competition
Emily Pascale, ENG Engineering Physics
Senior 100 Honors Campus, top seniors based on academic standing, involvement, initiative, and leadership
Audrey Ashburn, LAS Psychology
Kerrin Elson, BUS Accountancy
Lauren Exell, ENG Civil Engineering
Lauren Exell, ENG Civil Engineering and Finance
Kendria Jones, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology
Sanjita Sudhalter, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and Chemistry
Chantal Vaya, MED Journalism
Franky Xuan, ENG Computer Science
Jennifer Siegel, LAS History
Graduating seniors, Stamps Family Charitable Foundation, Inc.
Kayla Guo, BUS Accountancy and Finance
Robert Mitchell, BUS Finance
Graduating seniors, Stamp Family Scholarship Fund, Inc.
Moral Apalak, LAS Global Studies
Kayla Guo, BUS Accountancy and Finance
Robert Mitchell, BUS Finance
Graduating seniors, Stamp Family Scholarship Fund, Inc.
Christian Williams, ENG Mechanical Engineering
Undergraduate Research Certificate Office of Undergraduate Research
Rachel Aranciachela, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology and Germanic Studies
2020 Undergraduate Research Symposium Award Office of Undergraduate Research
Caylee Novick, LAS Mathematics
U of I Community Credit Union Award Kayla Guo, FAA Accountancy
Bridge Rubins, FAA Accountancy
University Library Outstanding Student Employee
Jennica Reitz, LAS History
CHP Honors Student Council Executive Board Award
Alexander Bryk, LAS Global Studies and Spanish
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A four-year renewable campus-level award, awarding seniors
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Lauren Exell, ENG Civil Engineering
Moral Apalak, LAS Global Studies
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Robert Mitchell, BUS Finance
Graduating seniors, Stamps Family Scholarship Fund, Inc.
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Allison Elkins, LAS Psychology
Erica Hackett, BUS Marketing and Marketing Automation
Premach Nandy, BUS Finance
Robert Staroko, ENG Mechanical Engineering
Francois Ajani, ENG Computer Science
Hom...
CHP graduate Jennifer Kuo

Trennedy Kleczewski, BUS Marketing and Business

Elizabeth Heffernan, Gies College of Business Scholarship

Gies College of Business Loyalty Scholarship

Wenjie Song, BUS Unassigned

BUS Finance and LAS Philosophy

Graduating seniors, 40 students per year in the

Anita Gugulski, Scholarship

Scholarship

Jasmine Robinson, BUS Marketing and Finance

Izenman Business Scholarship

BUS Finance

Gies College of Business

Edward L. Whitaker Scholarship

BUS Unassigned

Gies College of Business

Gies College of Business

Elisabeth Jaszka, Gies College of Business

Katherine Krupicka, Gies College of Business

Devki Kasture, Gies College of Business

BUS Finance

Randall and Elizabeth

BUS Accountancy

Gies College of Business

Edward L. Whitaker Scholarship

BUS Unassigned

Gies College of Business

Edward L. Whitaker Scholarship

BUS Unassigned

Gies College of Business

Katherine Krupicka, Gies College of Business

Elizabeth Heffernan, Gies College of Business Scholarship

Gies College of Business Loyalty Scholarship

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BUS Unassigned

Gies College of Business
Kaushik Andra (2014 alumnus, BUS Finance) in January 2020: “I’m currently the Founder and CEO of Memento — a mobile app that allows families to curate their best audio memories. Think Apple or Google but for audio.”

Andrew Armstrong (1999 alumnus, LAS English) was a guest speaker in Warren Lawry’s CHP class “Climate Change, Law and Health” on October 3, 2019. Andrew is Chief, Environmental Bureau at the Illinois Attorney General’s Office.

Sr. Stephanie Baliga (2010 alumnus, LAS Economics and Geography) in June 2020: “So, I’ve been a religious sister for 10 years at this point. I work at a place called Mission of Our Lady of the Angels that serves the materially poor on the west side of Chicago. Our food pantry has been three times the size as normal during COVID-19; we’ve been serving up to 729 families per week with a lot of food. So, I’m super ripped from moving 100,000 lbs. of food a month in and out of our building. I also teach religion to 1st-8th graders at a local elementary school, run large construction projects, raise money and spend money, run marathons, and most importantly pray that our broken and divided world can be brought together by the love of God. I aspire to get my forklift driver certification this year so we don’t have to lift as much food. In the meantime, I like my pallet jack, as shown in the picture. I continue to give thanks to God for the amazing time I had in CHP during my amazing time at U of I.”

Jordan Barry (2019 alumnus, LAS Molecular and Cellular Biology) in June 2020: “I’ve chosen to attend Midwestern University for medical school this fall. I learned a great deal from my time in CHP, and I am so thankful for your mentorship and confidence in me. I hope the students starting this fall take full advantage of the wonderful resources CHP has to offer.”

Jordan Blake Banks (2019 alumnus, ACES Agricultural and Biological Education) from May 2020: “I want to send a note to say that I am now on the Gies College of Business faculty as of this Fall.”

Katie Castree (2010 alumnus, AHS Community Health) in August 2019: “I live in St. Louis and am an Operations Excellence Manager at Accumen, a healthcare transformation company, doing process improvement for hospital laboratories. In April 2019 I was humbled to be honored among the 2019 Women of Distinction as the Rising Star (under 35). This award honors women who have been revolutionary in business, civic engagement, philanthropic programs, and mentorship.”

Tyler R. Edmonds (2003 alumnus, LAS Political Science) in August 2019: “I am a 2003 CHP graduate and wanted to let you know that I have been appointed as an Associate Judge in the First Judicial Circuit in Southern Illinois. [Information at www.annanews.com/news/edmonds-appointed-assocate-judge-and https://courts. illinois.gov/Media/PressRel/2019/072219.pdf] I will always be grateful for the opportunities as a part of CHP!”

Christina Ernst (2019 alumnus, ENG Computer Engineering) in June 2020: “All you folks at CHP have been on my mind a lot as I listen to news about universities reopening. I hope you can do so safely when the time comes. I am coming up on my one year anniversary of working at the Google Chicago office. The picture below is from my orientation in Mountain View back when it was normal to fly places! I was grateful to be able to hunker down in my apartment and work from home for the past few months.”

Richard Excell (1996 alumnus, BUS Finance) in August 2019: “It’s been a few years since I was at the CHP 50th Anniversary event. It is hard to believe my daughter is also a senior at UIUC as well. I wanted to send a note to say that I am now on the Gies College of Business Finance faculty as of this Fall.”
Dana Fager (2012 alumna, LAS International Studies) in June 2020: “I started a new job last fall as an international trade specialist at the International Trade Administration in the Department of Commerce, and I’m really enjoying it. I cover medical devices and pharmaceuticals biotech (which I’ve never worked on before) and I focus on the Middle East and Africa (which, as I’m sure you can surmise from my Japanese related experience are new regions for me!), so I have a lot to learn. But I’m enjoying the work and learning so much!”


Brittany Koteles (2011 alumna, LAS Individual Plans of Study) in December 2019: “This year, I have stepped into a new chapter as the Co-Director of Nuns & Nones, an organization of Catholic sisters and spiritually diverse millennials, to build community and work for peace and justice together. This April, I quit my day job of 5 years, to focus full-time on Nuns & Nones.

“Nuns & Nones started as simple dialogues and gatherings between sisters and seekers, usually on a topic or theme. Slowly, things began to grow and evolve. Now, there are ongoing Nuns & Nones communities for activists in a convent, participating in shared actions, and creating a toolkit for new groups to start.

“Along the way, I have learned things. I have been burnt out, built up, encouraged, driven bonkers. Stepping into this position of leadership has been beautiful, challenging, and humbling. I am learning to create boundaries and set my own policy. I am learning how to advocate for myself and my team. I’ve learned that keeping people happy can actually be more selfish, than saying the difficult but right thing that might upset someone. I’ve learned just how important it is to work with people who you like but don’t know you. But I’m really enjoying it. I cover medical devices and pharmaceuticals biotech (which I’ve never worked on before) and I focus on the Middle East and Africa (which, as I’m sure you can surmise from my Japanese related experience are new regions for me!), so I have a lot to learn. But I’m enjoying the work and learning so much!”


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With the onset of the pandemic, my clinics were quickly converted to virtual visits. I am happy to engage with them and support them through this difficult time. My research has also been impacted. I am currently recruiting research subjects for a project that will transition back to in-person clinic visits and research visits but I also hope that what we have learned about the benefits of virtual medicine continues. There are many patients who deserve full access to care and telemedicine has made that possible. We must think about the silver lining of the pandemic and continue to make positive changes in medicine.

As past-President of Honors Student Council, you were very active in the Campus Honors Program. How did the CHP enhance your undergraduate experience, and what advice would you give to current and future Chancellor’s Scholars?

I still think back upon my time as a Chancellor’s Scholar with immense fondness and gratitude. CHP taught me to explore and engage my curiosity. While I was a science major, I was not restricted to taking science courses. I still recall the course I took in architecture, building models of treehouses. I remember my trip to Japan with CHP, the first time I went abroad, we were dressed in kimonos, made Japanese sweets, and visited Hiroshima. Even small events, like the apple tasting lab or our inaugural coffee crawl, made me realize how diverse interests and experiences can enrich your life. My advice would be to have those experiences. Be open to new things. Engage yourself and others. Surround yourself with bright, energetic peers and mentors, like those found in the Campus Honors Program. Say yes to new opportunities now and as you continue in your career and lives.

How did the University of Illinois expose you to a wide variety of students and professors that challenged me, encouraged me, and pushed me to be a better student and a better person. I had the opportunity to try a lot of different things and was actively encouraged to fail. This may seem counterintuitive, but being able to fail built my confidence as a leader and allowed me to become a person with the determination and conviction to launch a nonprofit in the middle of a pandemic. Attending the University of Illinois puts you in an environment where you are surrounded by high achieving, intelligent, thoughtful peers who are committed to building a better world with you.

Although I was in Malaysia to share American culture with my students and community members, I learned so much about Malaysian culture, Islam, and what it means to be an American. I am a firm believer that having an international experience like the Fullbright does not change you, it reveals you. Some bright moments of my time in Malaysia include making Deep Dish pizza with my students, celebrating Hari Raya (Ramadan) at a student’s house, teaching students on my female soccer team how to dribble, and befriending the food vendors at the night market. Since returning to the United States, I have done my best to honestly and accurately convey my experience of living overseas in Malaysia as well as sharing portions of Malaysian culture with my American friends and family.

How did the Campus Honors Program impact your experience at UI, and what advice would you give to current and future Chancellor’s Scholars?

The Campus Honors Program gave me an opportunity to take classes in a variety of subjects. This breadth of classes challenged me intellectually, forcing me to think and learn in different ways. The experience of taking classes in disciplines ranging from Gender Studies to Labor and Employment Relations to World Literature improved my critical thinking skills and pushed me out of my comfort zone. I would recommend taking advantage of all the resources available through CHP, particularly the classes that are not at all related to your major.

As a Functional Endocrinologist, I engage in the clinical practice of endocrinology as well as research. After graduation, you spent a year in Malaysia on an English teaching fellowship. How did this opportunity expand your understanding of intercultural issues, and how has it impacted you since you have returned to the U.S.?

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Spending a year teaching English in a rural fishing village in Northern Malaysia was a challenging and rewarding experience. Part of my role as a cultural ambassador was to embrace learning as a two-way street. I hope that what we have learned about the benefits of virtual medicine continues. There are many patients who deserve full access to care and telemedicine has made that possible. We must think about the silver lining of the pandemic and continue to make positive changes in medicine.

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How has COVID-19 changed your day-to-day work-life, and how do you think this pandemic will impact the future of medicine?

The University of Illinois exposed me to a wide variety of students and professors that challenged me, encouraged me, and pushed me to be a better student and a better person. I had the opportunity to try a lot of different things and was actively encouraged to fail. This may seem counterintuitive, but being able to fail built my confidence as a leader and allowed me to become a person with the determination and conviction to launch a nonprofit in the middle of a pandemic. Attending the University of Illinois puts you in an environment where you are surrounded by high achieving, intelligent, thoughtful peers who are committed to building a better world with you.

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After graduation, you spent a year in Malaysia on an English teaching fellowship. How did this opportunity expand your understanding of intercultural issues, and how has it impacted you since you have returned to the U.S.?
UNFORTUNATELY, I THINK IT HAS BECOME HARDER FOR TEACHERS TO DO THEIR WORK.

I was very fulfilled giving back to the community through Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity and as a leader with Habitat for Humanity. I knew I wanted to continue having a positive impact with my career, so I decided to fight educational inequity as a teacher. I have taught high school English in low-income schools of color for most of my career since college and have truly loved it! I hope to continue serving this demographic for the entirety of my career.

As an undergraduate, you were heavily engaged with service through Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity and as a leader with Habitat for Humanity. How did your UI experiences inform your professional goals?

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After graduation, you taught in Miami for two years through Teach for America, and recently earned a Master’s in Education and a PhD in Educational Psychology. How did UI help prepare you for your career in human-centered design in mobility?

I chose to attend the University of Illinois due to the unique educational opportunity it offered for what I wanted to do. As an undergraduate, I double-majored in Civil and Environmental Engineering and Urban and Regional Planning, both focused on transportation. My interests and my career have always existed at this nexus between planning and engineering. There were literally no other schools in the country that could match the top-ranked engineering experience with a matching undergraduate planning program. This unique combination provided an incredible foundation for the pursuit of a career focused on building the future of transportation. The engineering rigor alongside the planning creativity allow me to take an innovative perspective towards the design of mobility.

Now at Ford, I’ve been able to apply this towards a plethora of design challenges as a ‘plumber’. I’ve loved transportation since I was in junior high and count it a privilege to work in this field. Imparting that passion, which was cultivated at the U of I, and helping build an understanding of the importance of transportation design in cities across the country through my role is a joy. I’m extremely appreciative of the experience I had and for the preparation I was given that set me up for this role.

What do you see as the future direction/s of education, and what do you hope to contribute to that?

It’s actually pretty stunning to sit back and observe the moment our industry is in. In this time, it’s helpful to remember past moments of industry inflection. It appears that we’re currently still in the third great Industrial Revolution (some separate the arrival of computers as the fourth). The transformations that have already come are tremendous, and more are on the way. Our careers in mobility will broadly be spent working out these impacts as every such Revolution has transportation outcomes. Past Industrial Revolutions were the same: In the early 19th century, steam and steel combined to allow the possibility of railroads. This allowed human communication to move faster than ever before in history. In the early 20th century, electrification and the ability to mass produce changed access to mobility — democratizing it to the masses — and transformed the way we move again. This Revolution will be just as transformational and I find the possibility of shaping these new outcomes for good to be thrilling.

Everyone is eager to keep to autonomy, and when it occurs, it will be incredible. But just as monumental, I believe, will be the advent of connectivity (and this is likely necessary to fully realize the promises of autonomy). The ability for all users to communicate with each other as well as their surrounding setting offers incredible opportunity. Congestion mitigation, environmental benefits, and most importantly improved safety are all likely and this is an area Ford is leading in. There are risks too, however. We need a clear federal regulatory picture for technologies in this realm and digital privacy must be codified. Further, deploying this technology at scale will require significant resources. But I’m excited at the incredible potential. My aim at Ford is to help create this future in a human-centered fashion, putting people first with an interest towards using mobility to increase access to opportunity.

How did the Campus Honors Program impact your experience at UI, and what advice would you give to current and future Chancellor’s Scholars?

The opportunity to be a Chancellor’s Scholar solidified my decision to come to the University of Illinois. And it turned out to be a critical part of my time there. I loved various aspects of it. I met fellow students with similar interests and passion for their academic pursuits. I partook in fascinating classes, many of which still stand out in my memories. And I was able to find a home in the CHP house. The leadership and staff (in those days CHP was led by Professor Bruce Michelson with the able assistance of Sonia Carrington) quickly grew to recognize me and were friendly, supportive faces from Day 1. Truly, the CHP experience elevates your entire undergraduate career. And it keeps giving even after that, as Elizabeth Rockman was integral to helping me prepare to transition to graduate school. My advice to current and future Scholars would be to take advantage of all the amenities offered by the program. Use the resources offered. Don’t consider the program one more thing to be checked off; but make it something you invest in. And be assured, the CHP will give back as much as you give.
Mohamed Boubekri (Architecture) is P.1. for two grants received for his health and well-being studies of daylighting. He has articles in print or accepted in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, Sustainability, and Innovation in Aging, with several other papers currently under review.

Glen Davies (Art and Design) had his second work (a painting titled Nostame) accepted to the Illinois State Museum for their permanent collection. It was shown in the exhibition "Sing Muse" at the Illinois State Museum Galleries in Lockport, Illinois from November 14, 2019—February 16, 2020.


Kevin Hundrys (Architecture) had two exhibits included in the Chicago Architectural Biennial 2019, and brought these exhibits back to the Chicago Studio and then to Temple Bulle Hall in Spring 2020. (A monograph called Nola’s Map of Chicago was created to go along with one of these exhibits of the same title. The other exhibit was Affordable Housing Guidelines for the City of Chicago.) He has a book chapter to be published with Otto Publications and is completing his book, Design of the Built Environment with UI Press. He became a member of the Discerning Critics. His biggest service accomplishment for the School of Architecture has been the procurement of a new space for the Discovery Partners Institute. His biggest service accomplishment for the School of Architecture has been the procurement of a new space for the Discovery Partners Institute.

W. R. Lavezzi (Anthropology) notes that Chancellor’s Scholars in his CHP class “are a highlight in my teaching as our conversations are so interesting students.” As co-recipient of a major campaign award for the University of Illinois (Anthropology), he is one of the more popular classes that CHP offers, and its reputation is well deserved. Every former student of his that I had the chance to speak to highly praises of Professor Helle, and perhaps even more highly about the way his course challenged their way of thinking.

CHANCELLOR’S SCHOLARS

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Erik Hemingway (Architecture) notes that Chancellor’s Scholars in his CHP class “are a highlight in my teaching as our conversations are so far-reaching due to their work in their home units. Always a joy for me!”

Lauren Gheria, LAS English

As a rising senior English major, there are subtly just a few things left on my University of Illinois bucket list. With this class, we would often watch clips from various performances and read sections aloud from the plays on top of basic play analysis. This is very unique for a Shakespeare class as most courses just stick to the plays on paper rather than in the classroom and film performances of the plays we were reading and even let us stage a scene of our choice on video. Through the ups and downs of the semester, the students enrolled in the course became a tight-knit group, much like many CHP groups do, but something about this class was extra special. I don’t know if it was Shakespeare, the students, or some of President Stevens’ magic, but ENGL 199 makes crossing this item off my bucket list even more worth than it planned.

CHANCELLOR’S SCHOLARS

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By Ethan Froehlich, LAS English and Creative Writing

I just met Professor Helle during a meeting regarding the editorial policy of Equinox, the University’s literary arts magazine and art gallery. As the program’s first student editor, I was able to help craft a balanced policy that brought the best out in the magazine as both a publication of the university and as a vessel for the students’ various expressions. Thanks to his contribution, I believe that Equinox is a much better magazine and will be in the future thanks to the standards he inspired us to set.

I am resistant to say “he set” or “he helped set,” because really, Professor Helle never knew how much he was helping from the sidelines. We provided him with history and legal precedents relevant to the issue we were facing and left us to make up our own minds. Thus, I think, is one of his greatest strengths as an educator.

After such an impactful meeting, I decided that I absolutely needed to take his class. To my knowledge, “You Can’t Say That. Or Can You?” is one of the more popular classes that CHP offers, and its reputation is well deserved. Every former student of his that I had the chance to speak to highly praises of Professor Helle, and perhaps even more highly about the way his course challenged their way of thinking.

That’s what I liked best about the course, and I think that’s why it’s so special. Every session tackled a facet of the issues surrounding the First Amendment and its accompanying case law, and Professor Helle guided us through its nuances with a relative lack of bias. I say “relatively” because he was quick to point out flawed or circular arguments in the briefs we studied — as well he should — but once again, he never told us what to think about any given issue. We were encouraged to form our own opinions, but his challenges and probing questions informed our in-class debates and search for evidence and precedents with which to strengthen our arguments.

I may not have radically changed my political opinions after experiencing this class, but I learned that it takes time and effort to have a well-rounded position on an issue. I have found myself no longer willing to just side, to understand their arguments and how to exploit their weaknesses. I was reminded of the importance of the Supreme Court, but most of all, I have sought the value of our freedom of Speech and how to spot and challenge dangers that threaten it.

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Sandra Broadrick-Allen, who was a stalwart supporter of the Campus Honors Program for many years through her and her family’s support of the King-Broadrick Award for Excellence in Honors Teaching, passed away March 1, 2020. We will always be grateful for her contributions to the CHP, and her unending support at many CHP graduation ceremonies. She inspired everyone who met her, and cared deeply about the CHP.

As excerpted from the 3/3/20 New-Gazette obituary, “Sandra Broadrick-Allen died March 1, 2020. After [graduating] from Lindwood College in 1962, she [earned] a Master of Arts degree in 1965 from the University of Denver, and a Ph.D. in 1975 from the University of Illinois in higher education administration. While pursuing her graduate work at the UI, Sandra studied the lives of honor students. She met King Broadrick, associate director of the honors program, and they were married July 4, 1975 in Boston, where Sandra [was] dean of students at Garland College and was later promoted to president of the college. Sandra returned to Champaign in 1976, and [after King's death in 1981] Sandra took a position at the UI Office of Arms Control and Disarmament and International Security. She also became campaign manager for state Rep. Helen Sudworth in 1982 and 1984. She continued her hobbies of gardening and preserving garden produce, making wine, crocheting, studying archaeology and traveling. From 1985 to 1991, Sandra served as the first city manager for the village of Savoy.

“Among her many civic activities, she helped found the Rotary Club of Savoy and became its first president, serving in 1989-91. She later served as the first woman district governor for District 6490 in 2001-02. Rotary became a very important part of Sandra’s life, giving her contacts in virtually every country as she circled the globe on numerous cruises. She was also very active in Champaign County Cooperative Extension Services, the University YWCA and McKinley Memorial Presbyterian Church. A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date at McKinley Memorial Presbyterian Church.”

IN MEMORIAM

REFLECTIONS FROM BROADRICK-ALLEN EXCELLENT IN TEACHING AWARD WINNERS:

Robin Douglas (CHP emeritus faculty, Art and Design): “I remember Sandra as elegant and well spoken, responsive and generous. I could tell that she was very proud of her husband and his contribution to the [James Scholar] Honors Program. It was certainly an honor for me to have several photographs of their work and our field trips to Chicago! Bruce Michelson (CHP emeritus faculty and Director): “Sandra was ‘Old School’ in the best ways. Growing from a different and more modest unit headed by her late husband many years ago, her dedication to the CHP was vigorous and steady. She cared about basics: imaginative and conscientious teaching, faculty with decency and generosity as well as brains and scholarly expertise; students with real curiosity and a spirit of adventure. Sandra’s visits to us were always welcome. She always brought her best self—never put on airs, but to represent herself for what the CHP is and tries to do. With a mess of challenges facing higher education now, we can count on seasons of experiment, reorganization, and lively debate about what undergraduate colleges and honors programs are really about. To find a good way forward, any successful program would do well to remember the best of what it has been—and Sandra is very much a part of that legacy.”

Jennifer Gunji-Ballistrri (CHP faculty, Art and Design): “I am so saddened to hear of this. I didn’t know Sandra Broadrick-Allen well. However, she was a friend and a fellow Rotarian of my father and mother (Ken Gunji and Kimiko Gunji, CHP emeritus faculty). With her mother being honored with this award prior to me, it was so overwhelming to also be a recipient years later. Having my mother and many of my former students in attendance at the awards ceremony and having had the great opportunity to meet Mrs. Broadrick-Allen that day was a heartwarming memory. To be recognized by the program under her name was and will always be an incredible honor for me.”

Bruce Michelson (CHP emeritus faculty and Director): “Sandra was ‘Old School’ in the best ways. Growing from a different and more modest unit headed by her late husband many years ago, her dedication to the CHP was vigorous and steady. She cared about basics: imaginative and conscientious teaching, faculty with decency and generosity as well as brains and scholarly expertise; students with real curiosity and a spirit of adventure. Sandra’s visits to us were always welcome. She always brought her best self—never put on airs, but to represent herself for what the CHP is and tries to do. With a mess of challenges facing higher education now, we can count on seasons of experiment, reorganization, and lively debate about what undergraduate colleges and honors programs are really about. To find a good way forward, any successful program would do well to remember the best of what it has been—and Sandra is very much a part of that legacy.”

B. Joseph White (CHP faculty and former UI President): “Sandra and I sat together last year when I received the award. She was a fascinating person — accomplished, opinionated, and passionate about education and CHP. It was an honor — now even more than I realized then.”

Chancellor’s Scholar reflections on Sandra Goss Lucas’s PSYC 199 class

By Gail Schneiderman, FAA Graphic Design

For my Spring 2020 CHP class, I took PSYC 199: Is Humanity Doomed or Thriving? with Professor Sandra Goss Lucas. This was my favorite CHP class and I would highly recommend it for all CHP students. This course revolved around the central question: Is Humanity Doomed or Thriving? ( Spoiler alert: it’s thriving). For the first part of the course, we focused on how humanity is thriving by studying positive psychology and happiness by reading, “The Happiness Hypothesis” by Jonathan Haidt. We learned about the 24 character strengths and analyzed our own. We learned the impact of kindness and gratitude on both the self and others. We explored how happiness is affected by our health, workload, relationships, and adversities we face. This course had extreme relevance to our daily lives. Many of the concepts we discuss are skills that we can practice and I learned many practical ways to improve my happiness.

One, we learned about three different paths of life: the pleasant life, the engagement life, and the meaningful life. The pleasant life is the path of “in between” happiness as possible. It is the life where you are constantly working out, engaging, and prioritizing your favorite things. Although these activities give you a spark of happiness and euphoria, these fleeting experiences are often fleeting and leave feelings of dissatisfaction and emptiness in its wake. The path of engagement is when you discover your highest strengths and engage in activities that use that strength and help you to improve your strength. A meaningful life is when you use your strengths to contribute to something greater than yourself. The path of significant meaning leads to belonging and purpose. However, you can’t just follow one path to achieve the highest level of happiness; instead, you must strike a balance between the three.

Another concept that we learned is how happiness is related to work. There are three work orientations that are categorized based on your mindset towards work: job, career, and a calling. A job is where you are doing work for an employer, a calling is where you are doing work for the sake of the work. You are motivated because you enjoy it and you feel that you are contributing to something greater.

At the end of the course, we had to sum up everything that we learned and write our own calling. A job is where your motivation for working is money. A calling outlook is where you orientations that are categorized based on your mindset towards work: job, career, and a calling. A job is where you are doing work for an employer, a calling is where you are doing work for the sake of the work. You are motivated because you enjoy it and you feel that you are contributing to something greater.

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CONVOCATION FALL 2019

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This annual Keith Kelroy Convocation Lecture and Dinner is in

honor of Keith Kelroy, a Chancellor’s Scholar who passed away

shortly after graduating from the university. It is made possible

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whom are former honors students or faculty. Without their

contributions, this event would not be possible.

HONORS LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITY

Designed exclusively for James Scholars and Chancellor’s Scholars, the HONORS LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITY is housed in Nugent Residence Hall and offers special interdisciplinary courses, allowing HONORS LLC residents greater interaction with HONORS faculty. Curricular and co-curricular aspects of the LLC are designed around the LLC’s three pillars: Inquiry, Civic Engagement, and Leadership. For more information about this community, please visit: housing.illinois.edu/honors.

The HONORS LLC has established solid partnerships on campus to create a well-rounded experience for residents, including collaborations with the Campus Honors Program, the Office of Inclusion and InterCultural Relations, the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, and the UI Study abroad Office. UI HONORS Deans have been engaged with HONORS LLC residents through a series of “A Night with the Deans” programs.

We welcomed Amy Fitzjarrell as the new Program Director for the HONORS LLC in January 2020, and extended our best wishes to former Program Director Brian Moffitt as he accepted a new position in July 2019 (for more information, see Transitions on page 35). Thanks to Dan Hale, who served as interim Program Director in Fall 2019.

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CONVOCATION FALL 2019

By Lauren Gheena, LAS English

On October 3, 2019, I had the pleasure of attending the Campus Honors Program Convocation ceremony. This year’s book was a collection of all of the stories by Nafissa Thompson-Spires. Prior to the publishing of this short story collection, Thompson-Spires was a professor of creative writing in our English department (she has since moved to Cornell University) and holds an MFA in creative writing from our university. As an English major, I was very excited to hear from someone who works in my department on campus as these opportunities do not arise often. Convocation took place in the Student Dining and Residential Programs Building, and attendees were served a three-course plated dinner during the event. It was a full house.

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While we were not able to host the usual CHP Graduation Reception and Ceremony due to COVID-19, we are so proud of our graduates! Thanks to Tami Fazio and Anne Price for putting together a lovely tribute to our graduating seniors (watch the Spring 2020 CHP graduation slideshow at honors.illinois.edu), and to Tami for her work on the graduation publication and certificates.

Although we were not able to celebrate in-person, awards were still announced, and we look forward to honoring individuals publicly when possible. Helaine Silverman (Anthropology) received the King Brown-Allen Award for Excellence in Honors Teaching. Spencer Bailey (LAS History), Trennedy Kleczewski (BUs Marketg and Business Prac Manager), James Tiao (BUS, Acountancy and Finance), and Justin Tiao (ENG Bioengineering) received the Calvin Ke Award, and awards were announced during a 5/7/20 Zoom session.

Spencer Bailey worked as an Intern for Special Collections at the Chicago Public Library and the National Archives at Chicago. Also he served as an Undergraduate Assistant for the UI Archives Research Center. He participated in several History organizations and is a member of Phi Alpha Theta, Epsilon Chapter. Spencer received the Robert H. Berma Scholarship for Superior Academic Merit in History and a Friends of History Undergraduate Research Grant from Department of History in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Spencer was an active and engaged resident of the Honors Living Learning Community, and was always tremendously helpful in the Honors House Community, including serving as a CHP Student Mentor.

Trennedy Kleczewski was a Consultant for Illinois Business Consulting and Education Chair for Global Business Brigades. Trennedy conducted research in organizational behavior with Professor Denise Loyd. She studied abroad in Panama with Global Business Brigades, in Italy and in South Africa with the Gies Study Abroad Program, and in New Zealand with the Business Ethics Academy. Trennedy was awarded the LHS Hall Scholarship, the President’s Award, and an OMSA Scholastic Award. With the Campus Honors Program, she was the Vice President of the Art Committee. After graduation, Trennedy will be working in marketing at Discover Financial Services.

James Tiao graduated as a James Scholar and a member of Beta Alpha Psi Honor Society. He was a Senior Manager of Illinois Business Consulting, Coordinator of the Business Peer Tutoring Center, and an Analyst for the Investment Management Academy. James studied abroad in Costa Rica with the Honors Living Learning Community in 2017. He was a Diversity Consultant for Financial Due Diligence and Accounting Advisory Services at KPMG, an Accounting and Finance Intern at Jump Trading LLC, and an Accounting Analyst Intern at

Fulcrum Global Technologies. James was President of the Honors Student Council for two years. He is joining Accenture as a Consulting Development Program Analyst.

Justin Tiao is a member of Tau Beta Pi and Phi Beta Kappa Honor Societies. He served as the President of the Bioengineering Undergraduate Advisory Board, Fundraising Director of the American Medical Students Association, Mentor Program Lead for the Biomedical Engineering Society, and was a member of the Provost’s Undergraduate Advisory Board. Justin did research in the Laboratory of Integrated Bio Medical Micro/Nanotechnology Laboratory, and he studied abroad in Costa Rica with the Honors Living Learning Community. Justin was President of the Honors Student Council, after serving in multiple roles on the HSC Executive Board. Justin will be pursuing an MD at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York.

Dr. Helaine Silverman is Professor in the Department of Anthropology and Director of CHAMP/Collaborative for Cultural Heritage Management and Policy at the University of Illinois. For almost thirty years her research focused on the archaeology of the south coast of Peru, and her current research is related to cultural heritage studies and intersections with the global tourism industry. She is an Expert Member of ICOMOS´ International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) and ICOMOS´ International Scientific Committee on Cultural Tourism (ICTC), and she consults for UNESCO on World Heritage nominations and has been involved with the nomination of several U.S. archaeological sites to World Heritage List. In addition to her own publications she is the co-editor of two book series, and she currently serves on the editorial boards of International Journal of Heritage Studies, Heritage & Society, World Arts, Theme, and Built Heritage. Helaine Silverman has led three CHP International Study Tours to Peru (in 2005, 2015, and 2018), and has taught for the CHP for 15 years.

CHP GRADUATION 2020

CHP graduates: Helaine Silverman

CHP graduates: James Tiao and Justin Tiao

CHP graduates: Trennedy Kleczewski

CHP graduate: Justin Tiao

CHP graduate: James Tiao
Visit www.honors.illinois.edu often to see what our amazing students are doing!

Please send all student and alumni updates to Annual Editor Elizabeth Rockman at rockman@illinois.edu.

Top Right: Painting by Richard “Chip” Burkhardt, 2011