

# THE HONORS REPORT



*Fall 2018*

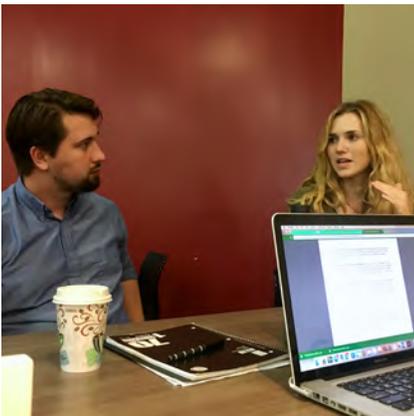
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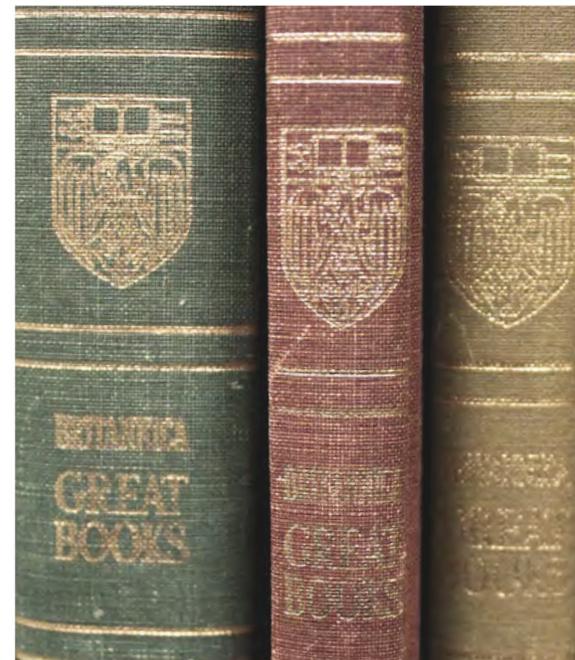
**@apu\_honors\_college**

The Honors College *telos*  
—its aim, purpose, end—  
is to liberally educate  
the next generation  
of intellectually-gifted  
Christian leaders.

## about the HONORS COLLEGE

### Not your Typical Honors Program

- Full great works curriculum
- Replaces General Education classes
- Maximum class size of 15 students
- Vibrant freshman living-learning housing
- Opportunity to publish senior capstone project



### The Honors College seeks to Cultivate & Create

**Disciples** steeped in the rich moral and intellectual Christian tradition and dedicated to loving God and neighbor.

Liberally educated **scholars** primed for admittance to the very best professional and graduate schools and prepared to embark on a lifelong quest for truth, beauty, and goodness.

**Citizens** devoted to civic virtue, civic engagement, and civic leadership.

**Leaders** both worthy and equipped, having acquired the wisdom, virtue, and eloquence essential for credibility and integrity.



## A Letter from the Interns

By Daniel Friend

Welcome to *The Honors Report!* Whether you are a current student, graduate, parent, friend, or someone who just happened to stumble across this fantastic publication, we are excited to share with you what has been happening in the Honors College this semester.

We hope you will find the pages that follow to be a captivating reflection on this past autumn. In it, we will remember some of our favorite moments, commemorate some legacies that we are left with, and celebrate the accomplishments of some of our current students, alumni, and faculty.

Freshmen, congratulations on completing your first semester! By now, you have joined the other cohorts of Honors in the shared experiences of giving speeches in front of Dr. Berry, crafting a portfolio with all of the strength and skill you can muster, and making inside jokes about “MachiStotle”. We hope you enjoy the voyage homeward with Homer during your Christmas break!

Sophomores, good job! You made it all the way from hell (a.k.a *Inferno*) to *Paradise* with Dante, compared the ideas of several Christian medieval and reformation thinkers, and got a small dose of Shakespeare to top it off. We hope that the works you have now read and the ideas you have discussed have served to strengthen your faith in Christ. Get some good rest over the break, because modernity is just around the corner, and it will demand your full attention.

Juniors, we know that many of the postmodern works that you read were not the easiest, but we hope that it has helped you understand how much of our world thinks and how that thinking compares and contrasts with a “God First” perspective. But you are far from finished comparing these perspectives; be prepared to continue this conversation as you enter into the brave new world of HON 340: Nature.

Seniors, we are near the finish line. We toiled with a bit of sweat and tears to write some excellent papers, and now we are ready to begin piecing them together in marvelous books. Let’s make this last semester one for the ages, working the best we can while taking time to enjoy the last few precious moments of our college life together. Before we know it, we’ll be riding off into the world as graduates of APU and the Honors College to be difference makers for Christ.

Faculty, thank you for all of your care for us and for all of your hard work. We students know that this semester was especially challenging, and greatly appreciate all you have done to help us grow as scholars and disciples.

Alumni, whether you are one of the first graduates of the new Honors College or an alum from the former Honors Program, we hope that you are thriving in the joy of Christ wherever you find yourself in life. You are part of the Honors family, so always feel welcome to stop by our office on campus and grab some coffee, visit professors, or drop in on a lecture or film night.

Parents and friends, we thank you for your support of our students as they seek an understanding of the Good through their study of Great Books. We cherish your support, whether it be through financial, emotional, or spiritual.

Wherever you find yourself right now, we thank you for taking the time to see what the Honors College has been up to this fall. We hope the pages that follow will fill you with encouragement and demonstrate our dedication to the pursuit of Truth.

Sincerely,  
The Interns

# From the Dean's Office *Dr. David Weeks*

What a delight to welcome graduates from the inaugural Class of 2018 to campus for Homecoming Weekend. Our first ever *Coffee & Colloquy* provided alumni with an opportunity to see one another again, to catch up on life's events, and to engage in conversation about Dorothy Sayer's essay, "Why Work?"

On every graduate's mind was the simple, but terrifying question of, "What now?" For some, the next step is already decided. But for others, the path forward is unclear. For them, applying for many things seems prudent—God will open doors. I sought to encourage them (and now you) that many recent graduates find themselves doing the unexpected. And for those worried about their professional trajectory, it should be a comfort to know that for most workers, the initial career path is seldom the final one.

As we discussed work at Homecoming Weekend, the conversation quickly turned to finding one's identity in a career. Graduates from our first class hold jobs in teaching,

social services, and corporate America, while others are pursuing graduate school, law school, medical school. What might such worthy endeavors mean in terms of their identity?

There is no getting around the fact that modernity is obsessed with the self, a trend that began with Descartes and has only intensified since. One result is that instead of finding identity in something larger than ourselves, we seek it in careers, relationships, family lineage, race, class, gender.

Our day-to-day experiences, important in the moment, tempt us to define ourselves according to accidental, temporal, even fleeting, characteristics that fail to satisfy the heart's deepest desire. I encourage everyone in the APU Honors community to remember that our central identity is found in that which is eternal, never-changing.

We are made in God's image. Jesus lived, died, and was resurrected so that we might

enjoy eternal life with Him. The truth is that our identity in Christ is the one that matters most both now and forever after.

After Homecoming Weekend, the Honors College hosted a new student event, the Shoestring Soirée. This formal gathering included a talent show; among the many wonderful performers was Professor Ethan Schrum's four-year old son, Bart. I leave you with the words he sang:

*My hope is built on nothing less  
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.  
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

Mote, Edward. 1834. *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

## Of Meditation and Faith

By Erin Gaffney

**Amid buzz and bustle that seems eternal,  
I remember an old reminder to breathe.  
I search high and low for relative silence,  
against all odds I usually find it,  
silence to meditate and to hear God's voice.**

**Amid silence and space that seems frightening,  
I remember to focus on my breathing.  
A minute, in through the nose, out through the mouth,  
close my eyes when I am ready to begin  
the scan to center myself in my body.**

**During my centering, I build an image  
of what my body is telling me today.  
My hands and my knees and my head to my toes,  
I acknowledge all comfort and discomfort  
and let my created image drift away.**

**During visualizations that follow,  
I allow sensations to become different.  
My breath becomes color, my thoughts become clouds  
as I see myself reclining near a trail,  
the place of so many happy Saturdays.**

**As my practice gradually has advanced,  
I have gained ideas for what to do next.  
Sometimes I see God's kindness grow in the world,  
sometimes I keep watching the thought-clouds drift by,  
sometimes I smile and find rest in the silence.**

**As I go from meditation to real-world,  
I begin conversation with the Divine.  
Adore, Confess, Thank, request Supplication,  
when I end my prayer with an, "I love you,"  
I open my eyes in darkness and listen.**

**God tells me of the reign He has over earth,  
His power to send mountains into the sea.  
He tells me of deliverance for His own,  
that He is my Savior and my dear Shepherd,  
that He will give me songs to tell of His grace.**

**God offers a chance to go into the world,  
with Him, to make disciples of all nations.  
He tells me of the armor He has made me,  
that Christian education readies my heart,  
that I can rest in Him for the road ahead.**

# Honors College Arts Experiences *Let Art Affect You*

By Jordyn Fouts



Art immersion experiences fundamentally change the nature of our understanding of things. Whether they come in the form of movie nights, theater productions, or visits to monasteries or art museums, the Honors College Arts Experiences have an impact on the students.

“As Aristotle makes clear in his *Poetics*, art is part of the life of a healthy polis,” Dr. Adam Green explains. “It allows us to shape our emotions and both affirm and critique our values corporately through seeing them made palpable.”

Sophomore biochemistry major Tonhi Gailey attended the play “A Man For All Seasons” during her freshman year, and said that she treasured this arts experience. “Being able to watch this art is a gift from God,” she said. “It’s really an act of worship because it makes you understand God as a Creator more fully. He’s the one who gave us creativity, so through observing the creative

achievements of other people, we can see how much greater God is.”

In addition to the spiritual nature of the arts experiences, they are also helpful in cultivating an academic understanding of course material. Senior English major Madison Feyrer-Melk attended a monastery field trip to Saint Andrew’s Abbey during her sophomore year while she was reading Teresa of Avila’s *The Interior Castle*.

As a Catholic, Madison loved that she was able to attend a mass with monks and observe this beautiful component of Catholicism. She appreciated this inclusion of her own faith among the predominantly Protestant perspectives that the Honors College offers. She also expressed that seeing the monastery and observing the monks made her realize the value of the work she was reading, saying, “Teresa’s wasn’t an old or decaying perspective, and the things she talks about aren’t gone. They’re still applicable.”

## Honors Students Present at STEM Research Symposium

By Hannah Valencia

On September 29, 2018, students from the Biology and Chemistry, Engineering and Computer Science, and Math, Physics, and Statistics departments gathered for the 2018 STEM Research Symposium. The event was hosted by APU’s Center for Research in Science (CRIS) and gave the students an opportunity to present their research to an audience of family members, faculty, and peers.

With this wide variety of audience members, I was challenged to be conscious of what was necessary to explain my work to a person who perhaps had less knowledge of cell culture than a typical genetics professor. In addition to sharing findings, I was able to describe my experience doing the research as well as take questions and comments from audience members. I also got to engage and learn about research projects my peers had conducted.

The research I presented at the symposium came from my work on Dr. Sarah Richart’s team over the summer. My research project focused on studying how the fungus *Aspergillus sclerotiorum* interacts with a *Drosophila melanogaster* (fruit fly) cell line. This fungal species has shown to be lethal to certain species of termites which makes it a possible candidate as a biological control of insects which could be an alternative to hazardous chemical pesticides.

Working alongside others over the summer allowed us to become invested in each other’s work as we shared our struggles and successes throughout the process. Being able to genuinely enjoy presenting my research along with my peers felt like an affirmation that I am part of a community that shares a similar passion in seeking to better understand God’s creation.



***Our very own Jeannette Byer & David Walker were both awarded “Best Oral Presentation”.***

# The Shoestring Soirée *A Night of Frugal Elegance*

By Frances Jimenez

On Saturday, November 3, the Honors College hosted its first ever *Shoestring Soirée*. It was a night for the books, filled with lively jokes, an open mic, and an art show. Not to mention, professors and students engaged in fellowship in between bites of brownie and sips of apple cider.

In the beginning, the *Soirée* was envisioned to be a formal night of dining and fellowship. With a comfortable budget and an extravagant vision, the Honors College interns set out to plan a wonderful event. Then came financial challenges. No longer did the Honors Office have the resources to produce an expensive dining experience—the budget had shrunk to the size of a shoestring.

The night was held in the Upper Turner Campus Center and began with a live band playing jazz music while students displayed their personal art on tables along the back for others to see. After the band played, the two emcees, Momi Delostrico and Caleb Harbin introduced the performances with expert wit. Fifteen acts were performed, including poems, comical speeches, musical offerings, and a special appearance by Bart Schrum, son of colloquy tutor Dr. Ethan Schrum.

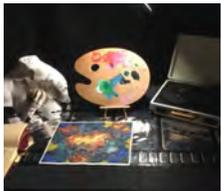
After submitting papers earlier that evening, it was the perfect opportunity for students to get away from their desks and into their best formal attire for a fabulous night filled with refreshments, lively conversation, and entertainment.

Freshman Hailey Wada remarked, “We’re in fancy clothes, there’s jazzy music playing—can life get any better?”

“It’s very exciting to see the professors outside of our regular classroom environment,” freshman Emi Ichimura said. “The performances were incredible as well. It’s crazy to see how unique some people are here in the Honors College.”

Senior Maya Maley says she was amazed by “how well it was put on for the amount of money that was spent.” She, like many others, is excited that the event has decidedly become a new tradition for “students to gather, especially across cohorts, for a beautiful night of talent.”

Overall, the *Shoestring Soirée* was a huge success, proving that anything is possible, even with a shoestring budget!



# Honors Students Shine in Fall Theater Productions

## A Review of Azusa Pacific University's Production of *Romeo and Juliet*

By Whitney Zeimis

In Azusa Pacific University's production of *Romeo and Juliet* this semester, the audience was transported back in time with Shakespeare's undying and timeless language while remaining in the sunny California we all know and love. It featured an amazing cast of actors, including the Honors College's very own Kayla Backer as Juliet, Dylan Ruder as Mercutio, and Mallery Kinnun as a citizen.

The amount of love and dedication given to the production of this show was obvious. The actors were transfigured into the classic Shakespeare characters, and the audience got to feel their emotions right alongside them. The seats were filled with students and family members eager to support the actors and proud to see them pursuing their dreams. The electricity was palpable as we watched the classic tale be given new life before our eyes.

The sets were artistic, split apart to represent the two families. The Capulet's house was plastic and beautiful, resplendent with glowing pool and clean-cut living room while the Montague's side screamed grungy, filthy California paradise. It was fun to watch the sets change from the church to the Montague's music shop (arguably the best part of the staging) and back to the street.

The costumes also perfectly encapsulated the storyline: Juliet's pure and naive short white dress splattered with red roses next to Romeo's tight jeans and "don't know, don't care" swagger. Together, it is all too lovely and destined for disaster.

### *The Women:*

## Looking at the Production from the Eyes of its Participants

By Kelsey Lien

APU's Theater Arts department recently wrapped up a two-weekend run of Clare Boothe Luce's *The Women*, following the lives and affairs of various women in 1930s New York. Several Honors students were involved in the production: actors included senior Amanda Godoy, juniors Kelsey Lien, Jenae Schneider, and Jessica Simons, and sophomore Jessica Kurihara; senior Olivia Loewen was the crew head, and junior Logan Brubaker was the stage manager.

Characters in *The Women* learned to stand up for themselves and fight for the things they wanted in a society where women constantly tore one another down. Looking back on the show, Logan says, "I really enjoyed the empowerment it gave women. Regardless of whether they used it for good or bad in their friends' lives, they were empowered. I think it's important that everyone takes a step back from the show and thinks, 'how do I react in situations when society demands silence?'"

*The Women* was extremely well-received. Olivia Loewen, the stage manager for the



production, remarks, "APU's production of *The Women* elegantly leaped out of the 1930's in costume, set, and speech, while shedding light on the multi-faceted struggles of being a woman that are, in many ways, still relatable. The actresses naturally blended the comedy and drama together to create

a masterpiece that captivated each audience member through its honesty."

Keep a look out for the Honors students performing in *The Addams Family: The Musical* next semester!

# A Reflection on the Sabbath By Jasmine Kolano

*A few words on a spiritual discipline that the Honors College holds dearly, from one of its very own alumnae*

As a freshman Honors College student, I avoided practicing Sabbath because I thought it was antiquated and impractical for a highly-involved, very extroverted person like me. I prided myself on how busy and active I was, and I thought my hyper-productive lifestyle glorified God more than being restful. Sabbath seemed like a waste of precious time.

The truth is, I needed Sabbath. But I did not realize this until I began burning out physically, spiritually, and emotionally. I was getting sick more often, and my optimistic outlook on life became enshrouded with anxious, negative thoughts.

I realized that my full schedule came at the expense of my health, my mental acuity, and my relationships. I thought my problems would lessen as I got more work done, but as time went on, it seemed as though I only accumulated more problems and more deadlines.

So, it was not until my senior year—my BUSIEST year—that I took a leap of faith and started practicing the Sabbath. I began to take 24 hours “off” each week and on those days, I would be intentional about asking God to show me how He wanted me to spend my time.

My Sabbaths tended to look a little different each time since my spiritual, emotional, and physical needs changed on a weekly basis. On some Sabbaths, I might sleep more because my body needed the rest. On others, I might catch up on reading a book that I love! Still others, I might spend time with old friends over a meal. One thing that I would not do is work: no homework and no job-related work.

Most importantly, I made it the one day I spent uninterrupted time with God in the Word and in worship. Most other days, I lived by a scheduled routine which left little time for my devotions. Having one day free and open meant that I could immerse myself into learning more about who God is and how He desires to speak to me.

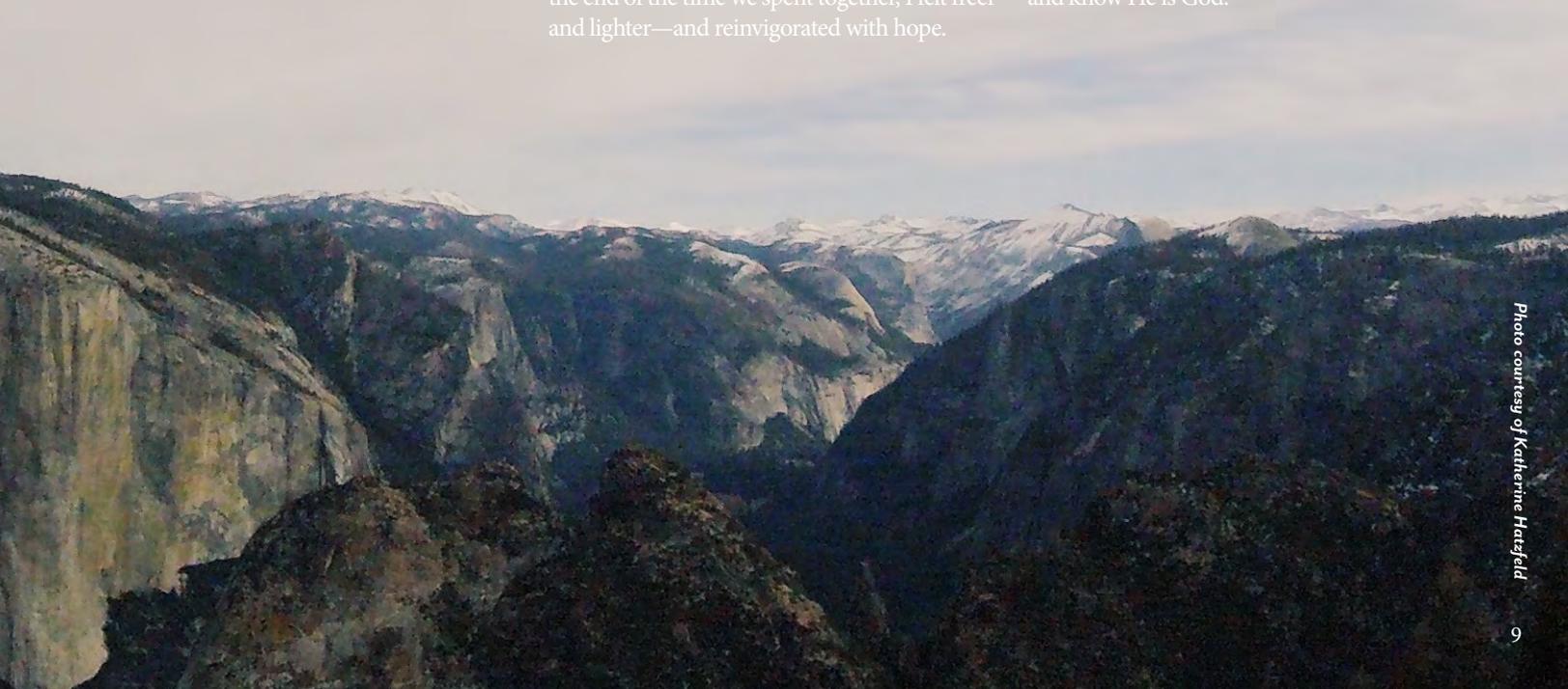
Sabbath meant finding a nice cozy spot in my home and communicating with my Maker. How COOL is that? Those moments were precious to me because God’s voice became clear. He showed me what areas in my life required His healing touch. It’s a vulnerable and intimate time with the Lord, but He used this time to set me free from so many wrong thoughts and clear out all of the emotional clutter that had accumulated over the week. At the end of the time we spent together, I felt freer and lighter—and reinvigorated with hope.

After practicing a year of Sabbaths as a senior, my life changed so much for the better. I was healthier than I had ever been, and I had more energy, more joy, and more peace. My faith grew because I saw how God multiplied my time and how when I “rested,” God worked actively on my behalf. I would enter Sabbath burdened by anxiety about this or that, but by the end of the 24 hours I would find myself rejuvenated with the clarity I needed to solve the problem. In fact, sometimes the problem would already be solved!

I am a graduate student now, and God has continued to use Sabbath to enrich my life. Am I tempted to break Sabbath? Yes, especially when I have more deadlines than I care to count! But when I do, I ask God for His grace, and He reminds me of this verse:

“...The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.” (Mark 2:24)

This verse reminds me that Sabbath isn’t a chore; it is one of God’s greatest gifts to humanity. It’s a gift because no matter what season of life a person is in, he or she can experience one day of rest every single week. God uses this rest to help us enjoy life fully, trust Him more, and to be still and know He is God.



## Where are our Alumni Now?

Elena Padilla

Since graduating I have been working as a research associate at City of Hope in a leukemia research lab. I have also been interviewing at medical schools for the next school year. I feel like God has been showing me how present He is in every transition. I remember being afraid to lose my APU community, but he has provided me with another (very different) community at City of Hope. I was scared of no longer being a student, which is what I have known for eighteen-ish years. And I am currently scared/excited to see where I end up for medical school next year. I feel as though God has walked alongside me during these transitions and has helped me grow and showed me that He has taken care of everything already. God has shown me that there are so many good things to come. Contrary to what I thought in the midst of graduation, blessings and the growth that God enables do not cease when college ends.



Noah Jackson

I am participating in the Falls Church Fellowship run by an Anglican Church in Falls Church, Virginia. It is a nine month program designed to help college graduates integrate their faith into their vocation in a seamless manner. A typical week includes seminary classes on Monday, a work placement Tuesday through Thursday (I am working for Senator Inhofe of Oklahoma as a legislative fellow), an industry education day on Friday, and service in the youth group on Sunday. I have found Washington, DC to be an amazing place for a young professional to live as it is full of others who are driven, motivated, and intelligent—I highly recommend this program to any seniors looking at what to do next!



Caleb Agron

After receiving my B.A. with a double major in Honors Humanities and Spanish with a minor in History, I took the only logical step for a person with such a degree and became a farmer. I've been the retail manager and program lead at Rockside Ranch since June. Rockside is a special place—part organic farm, part recovery program for youth, which I love. However, for the past four and a half months our team has been working on a major housing project for our students, leaving our youth program on a long pause and leaving me anxious. Instead of waking up and leading teams of young men through great books and the great outdoors, most of my days involve waking up, feeding the pigs, feeding the chickens, waiting a while, feeding the pigs again. In the midst of this, God has been teaching me about endurance. I often think about something Dr. Black said to me: "God's leadership academy is out in the wilderness taking care of a bunch of dumb sheep." I'm thankful for this season. There is time to pray, time to think, and time to finally read my friends' Oxbridge books.



Got an alumni update to share? Email us at [apuhonors@apu.edu](mailto:apuhonors@apu.edu). We would love to feature you in the next Honors Report.

## Learning from the Medical Inklings

### *An Honors Student's Perspective*

By Robert O'Dell

This last summer, I had the opportunity to travel with my sister (Sarah O'Dell, BS '15, MA '17) to the United Kingdom and across the United States with one mission: to uncover and preserve the story of Dr. Robert E. Havard. A member of the Inklings, Dr. Havard was unique in that he was the only member with a scientific background, having trained at Oxford and Cambridge for his biomedical pursuits, while also nurturing a deep interest in writing and poetry.

Unlike Inklings such as C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien, relatively little is known about Robert Havard. For this reason, he is regarded by many as a minor contributor among the Inklings despite his regular attendance at meetings and his personal involvement in the lives of the group's most prolific writers. In order to resolve some of the mystery surrounding Dr. Havard and determine his true involvement in the Inklings, my sister and I first traveled to Edinburgh to interview one of Havard's surviving sons. Later that summer, we then met up with the Honors College's own Dr. Diana Glycer in St. Louis, Missouri, to interview another surviving son.

During these trips, I helped by recording the interviews, taking pictures of documents, recalling the topics of conversation, and offering my own interpretation of the stories we heard. Throughout these experiences, one thing stood out to me: the power and importance of story.

As I sat there listening to the stories that Dr. Havard's sons shared about their childhood, their parents, and the other Inklings—the afternoon the monks pulled the children around on rugs, the day their father unsuccessfully learned to sail, how Tolkien critiqued the message after mass one Sunday—I realized that despite being about everyday life, these stories matter.

In witnessing the memories of Dr. Havard's family, I better understood what it was like to live in England during World War II, caught a glimpse of the difficulties and joys of raising a family, and saw the pain of losing a loved one. Importantly, I also saw how these experiences affect someone throughout the course of their life. The many stories I heard not only taught me the importance of loving others, persevering through hard times, and having faith in God, but they also inspired me to live a similar life—one that glorifies God.

At the end of these visits, I saw our mission in a new light. The goal wasn't just to answer scholarly question or change our understanding of the dynamic among the Inklings, but to preserve the stories and memories of ordinary people who, breathed, laughed, cried, and pursued God. It is our hope that the story of Dr. Havard's life will teach, encourage, and inspire others to live in a way that their own stories will someday be worth telling.



## Students Abroad

*Fall 2018*

### **Ecuador**

Rebecca Lee  
*Junior*

### **High Sierra**

Ashley Choate  
*Sophomore*

Gina Cronkhite  
*Junior*

### **LA Term**

Kassandra Galang  
*Sophomore*

Baylee Reed  
*Sophomore*

Summer Reed  
*Sophomore*

Hannah Vase  
*Sophomore*

### **King's College**

*New York*

Nate Foster  
*Junior*

### **Oxford**

Reilly Fitzpatrick  
*Junior*

Kyle Cohen  
*Junior*

Erin Moriwkawa  
*Junior*

Emma Suiter  
*Junior*

Angela Pham  
*Senior*

Evangeline Prior  
*Senior*



## Student Spotlight *Elise Larson*

By Julia Seaton & Alexis Cox

On October 23rd, senior Elise Larson glimpsed her future as a nurse for the first time: she helped deliver five babies during her first clinical of the semester. This small taste of her future was an affirmation of the past four years. “When you get to do what your heart was meant for, you feel so overjoyed and at peace at the same time,” Elise said. “You just want to jump up and down and cry, because you’ve finally reached what you’ve been waiting for.”

*“When you get to do what your heart was meant for, you feel so overjoyed and at peace at the same time...because you’ve finally reached what you’ve been waiting for.”*

Over the course of the last four years, in addition to studying nursing, Elise has tackled the Honors College, Dean’s Cabinet, track, and cross-country (where she has been serving as captain for three years). Being part of the Honors College has provided her an outlet for a different kind of thought. Elise remarked, “Honors has given me the framework to think about philosophical

ideas on life and truth and pursuing the good, and nursing has provided the setting to actually practice those.” For Elise, nursing and Honors go hand in hand, but how has Honors influenced running? Elise says that her professors in the Honors College have helped her see “how some of the ideas have refined the way that I approach running, the discipline that running takes, and also how athletic endeavors could be considered an act of worship.” By letting all three fields — Honors, nursing, and running — influence each other, she has been able to experience each to a fuller extent.

Elise believes that it is essential to make space for reflection. She calls students to ask themselves, “How seriously am I going to take these lessons, and how badly do I want my life to change?” If Honors students do not take time for reflection, then all the reading and writing is just work. But how has Elise created the time for reflection among the other demands of college experience? Cross Country. Elise takes advantage of the time she has on her runs and on her flights to competition to mull over the concepts in the text and allow the implications to create their fullest impact. Elise considers *The Interior Castle* and *The Consolation of Philosophy* to be the most impactful books in the Honors curriculum for a related reason.

These works have helped her realize the importance of self-reflection. “*The Interior Castle* helped me understand how I interact with myself, God, and the world and to grow in my relationship with Him. I had to learn how to recognize the ways to navigate my soul, like Theresa talks about, in order to bring to light what I needed to surrender to God.”

*“I had to learn how to recognize the ways to navigate my soul, like Theresa talks about, in order to bring to light what I needed to surrender to God.”*

As Elise’s time as an Honors student comes to a close in May, she intends to take these valuable ideas into her future. Her goals as a nurse are twofold: to provide excellent labor and delivery care internationally and to influence the culture around birth. Her heart’s desire is “to create greater awareness and acceptance of [birth] as a beautiful process” and to care for mothers who might otherwise go unsupported and unnoticed. Elise says that the skills she learned in the Honors College will help her use nursing as a ministry.

“Azusa Pacific’s Scholarly Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Award funds competitive research grant proposals written by undergraduates to work under the guidance of full-time faculty-mentors. For the purposes of this award, the Council on Undergraduate Research defines undergraduate research as “an inquiry or investigation conducted by an undergraduate student that makes an original intellectual or creative contribution to the discipline.” The goal of SURE is to foster a culture of undergraduate research.”

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## Student Spotlight

“My research is focused on the discovery of novel compounds that have the potential to be used in cancer treatment. The initial vision for this project is to build a library of molecules called spirocyclic oxime motifs which have been shown to inhibit molecules that contribute to the development of cancer. Our goal is to determine the specifications needed to increase the activity of these compounds as they interact with the body. This would contribute to what is known about the effectiveness of similar drugs in the field of cancer therapy. Once the activity of these compounds is determined, it can provide insights to drug design within pharmaceutical research.”

**Jordan Mar, Junior**

# Honors Students in Research

Please join us in congratulating the impressive undergraduate researchers who, along with their faculty mentors, received a 2018 SURE (Scholarly Undergraduate Research Experience) Award from the Office of Undergraduate Research. We have listed the recipients in the Honors community.

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School of Theology *Department of Philosophy*

## **Saving the Secular Mystic: Charles Taylor on the Romantics**

Researcher: Jensen A. Kirkendall (English Literature/Honors Humanities/Philosophy Minor)

Faculty Advisor: Adam Green, Ph.D. (Associate Professor of Philosophy)

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences *Department of Communication Studies*

## **Emotional Suppression Between College Roommates**

Researchers: Sierra Bridge and Anna Dickinson (Communication Studies / Honors Humanities Minors)

Faculty Advisor: Courtney Davis, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor, Department of Communication Studies)

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences *Department of Biology and Chemistry*

## **Spirocyclic Heterocycles as Potential**

## **Drug Candidates for the Treatment of Cancer Cells**

Researcher: Jordan Mar (Biology/Honors Humanities)

Faculty Advisor: Kevin S. Huang, Ph.D. (Associate Professor of Chemistry)

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences *Interdisciplinary Studies*

## **All Hail King Killmonger:**

## **A Study of the Construction of Black Identity in Popular Culture**

Researcher: Lee Vaughn (Interdisciplinary Studies/Honors Humanities)

Faculty Advisor: Christopher Noble, Ph.D. (Professor, Department of English/High Sierra Semester)

School of Behavioral and Applied Sciences *Department of Psychology*

## **Cultural Competence in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Children, and Infants (WIC) in Azusa, California**

Researcher: Juliana D'Aoust (Psychology/Humanities Honors)

Faculty Advisors: Priscila Díaz Castañeda, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor of Psychology), Kathryn Ecklund, Ph.D. (Chair and Professor, Department of Psychology)

School of Behavioral and Applied Sciences *Department of Psychology*

## **Exploring Complex Religious Responses to Trauma: Associations between Religious Coping, Post-traumatic Stress, and Post-traumatic Growth**

Researcher: Emma Steele (Psychology)

Faculty Advisor: Curtis Lehmann, Ph.D. (Assistant Professor of Psychology)

# The Impact of High Sierra

By Deborah Revenaugh

High Sierra semester is a liberal arts, outdoor-education study away program. Located just outside Yosemite, students are immersed in the glories of nature and given the opportunity to escape city life. Students live in a small community where they study together, go on outdoor adventures, and eat meals together. The challenging great works curriculum of authors like Dostoevsky, Descartes, and Milton is paired with rigorous outdoor experiences like backpacking, mountain biking, and rock climbing.

Started by Dr. David Weeks with curricular input from Drs. Chris Flannery and Diana Glycer, the High Sierra program was APU's first attempt to offer students an academic experience completely rooted in great books. The popularity and impact of High Sierra set it apart as the model that would later be used to craft the Honors College some ten years later.

The following student reflections paint a picture of how powerful the High Sierra program has been in the lives of its participants. As part of broader university cost-savings measures, High Sierra will be closed as of January 1, 2019. Azusa Pacific University will not be the same without this dynamic program.

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## What was the best part of High Sierra?

"The best part of High Sierra was learning how to be intentional while playing and diligent when working."

**Tim Gee, Junior**

"One of the best things about High Sierra was the connectedness between our academics, community, and physical activities. I felt like everything around me was united in a way that is not typical outside of that setting."

**Bethany Cart, Sophomore**

"There are so many amazing parts of my semester, but overall, each moment brought me to realize that the best thing I grasped out of the semester was how much High Sierra influenced me to genuinely love learning and to seek to deepen faith and community through the challenging academics."

**Casey Kim, Junior**

## Was there a part of High Sierra that became sacred to you?

"Part of High Sierra that became sacred to me may not make sense to most people, but it was every journey we got to take in those APU vans. I look at any APU van that drives around campus and automatically have flashbacks of the semester, whether it was a quick trip to Cool Bean, shouting at the top of our lungs to each song playing on our way to trek three, a class day in the valley, or the meaningful conversations I had on our way back to campus. High Sierra will forever be in my heart and I know because of that semester, I will never be afraid to ask questions and continue to seek God through all His Creation."

**Casey Kim, Junior**

"The Doxology and Yosemite are sacred to me. Anytime I hear the Doxology or see a photo of Yosemite I am always taken back to those precious moments on trek when my team got quiet before our Maker and sang alongside the trees and rocks."

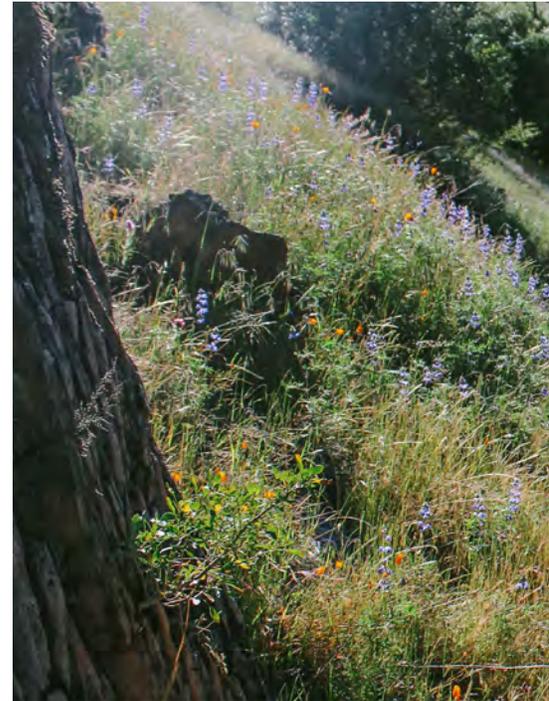
**Bethany Cart, Sophomore**

"Stargazing on star rock became sacred to me while at High Sierra because so few can be seen in the city."

**Tim Gee, Junior**

"The dinners at High Sierra were a time when, after we had exerted ourselves physically or mentally all day, all of us—students, staff, and faculty alike—came together and created this thing we called High Sierra, and those times became sacred to me. Whether we were continuing our discussion of the role of nostalgia in the post-modern mind or David Williams was just telling us jokes, those dinners were to me a revelation of divine community and its goodness for the human soul."

**Madi Kwalwasser, Senior**





***Katie Hatzfeld, Sophomore***

***What was the most meaningful thing you learned?***

“That I am capable to overcome challenge. I can run a half marathon. I can write a twenty page paper. I can survive winter in the wilderness.”

***How were you poured into?***

“When I think of being poured into, and who poured into me at High Sierra, I immediately think of Katie Burns. Either by going on a run, or chatting in a study room, or taking a drive, Katie so willingly gave me the attention and quality time that I needed. She is so full of wisdom and always validated the struggles I faced. People just don’t love as easily or as well as she does.”

***What did the High Sierra environment teach you?***

“Studying in a natural environment taught me mainly to slow down. Pacing my life to my surroundings, and living in a less-distracting setting, enabled me to be fully present in my classes and conversations, as well as face any challenges head on. And to have a community of college students share all the aspects of life together—that’s a whole different kind of unity.”

***What changes do you see in yourself because of High Sierra?***

“The biggest change I see in myself is an ease of vulnerability. I am no longer afraid to step into depth of conversation or intimacy with others, because I have seen and felt the benefits of transparency. And my view towards learning has changed—lectures just don’t satisfy my curiosity. High Sierra taught me that learning is discussion. It is a classroom conversation that follows you to a dining room, then a bedroom—that hikes Yosemite trails with you and sits on a dock drinking milkshakes with you and runs ten miles with you. Where else can I learn like that?”



## Faculty Spotlight *Dr. Villeneuve*

By Julia Seaton

This semester, we welcomed Assistant Professor André Villeneuve to the Honors College faculty. Originally from Canada, Dr. Villeneuve lived in Austria, Italy, and Israel before coming to the United States. He studied in Israel to earn his Ph.D. in Bible and Religious Studies from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem (2013), writing his dissertation on the topic of nuptial symbolism in Scripture.

Dr. Villeneuve speaks five languages (French, English, German, Italian, and Hebrew) and worked at the Christian Media Center in Jerusalem to translate and voice over news reports about the Holy Land. Before joining us in the Honors College, he taught Scripture at Saint John Vianney Seminary in Denver, Colorado. In his hypothetical free time, he could be found reading, writing, or playing the saxophone.

Although Dr. Villeneuve has taught for many years with the more traditional lecture format, this is his first experience teaching seminar-style. During his first

semester, he has found colloquy to be a place “where bright and motivated students [are free] to have animated, vigorous, and often unpredictable discussions in the classroom. I love how the students challenge me with stimulating questions that constantly keep me on my toes . . . it’s often challenging to find the right level of conversation that speaks to everyone.”

As a member of one of Dr. Villeneuve’s colloquies, I can attest that he puts thoughtful attention into guiding discussions in an engaging and thought-provoking manner, both encouraging us to offer our own ideas and hold fast to the framework of Scripture.

Dr. Villeneuve originally felt drawn to ministry, but discovered while earning his PhD that his true calling is “dealing with truth and the intellectual questions to the faith to serve the pastoral aspect.”

He feels a strong spiritual and moral responsibility to equip young people with truth to respond to the changing world. He



says that “we can flourish when we live in the truth and according to the truth that God has revealed.”

Dr. Villeneuve appreciates the opportunity to teach humanities in the APU Honors College, explaining that, “the study of the great books becomes a gateway to the true, the good, and the beautiful—and therefore to God.” By engaging in classical education at the APU Honors College, he looks forward to living out this calling of equipping future generations with truth.

## All About LA Term

By Hana Leuze



APU easily forgets that it is only twenty-five miles from Los Angeles—a sprawling city, globally renowned, home to 4 million people speaking 224 languages. It includes the heights of opulence in Beverly Hills and the depths of poverty on Skid Row. LA Term seizes the opportunity to learn from this beautiful diversity and manifold brokenness through four key components: a host stay with a person or family in the city, an internship with a community organization, daily use of public transportation, and experiential-based classes.

Before I left in the spring, I ended fall semester of sophomore year in Honors with a portfolio entitled “we not only should, but in fact we can.” Throughout the semester I had grown in the conviction that only knowing about the theories of the Good, the life of virtue, or union with God was not enough. We must pursue these ideals with the belief that we can, by the grace of God, actually fulfill them. I knew that the city would provide me opportunities to experience the philosophy, theology, questions, and ideas we had been discussing.

I did not discover these ideals in their wholeness during my time in LA, but God revealed hope in His city over and over and over again. He revealed to me that His Kingdom is all around me (whether I choose to see and participate or not), put in place by ordinary people and non-believers just as much as by ministers and Christians.

One such experience took place in the fashion district in LA, which is rife with sweatshops—companies that violate health codes and employ workers for illegally low wages in unfair conditions. There, during a class assignment, I met a family who was running an honest sewing company amidst a building of sweatshops. They shone light into the substantial darkness of their industry by simply existing with integrity. LA left me looking for Philosophy of Progress—how do we apply what we’ve learned in Honors? How do we integrate the Good into everyday life? Is virtue a matter of having all or none, as Aristotle described? Or can we celebrate growth toward virtue? And if so, how?

# The Retirement of Dr. Christopher Flannery

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*After more than 3 decades of dedication to the faculty and students at Azusa Pacific University, Dr. Christopher Flannery commences a new chapter at Ashland University as the Executive Director of the Ashbrook Center.*

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## A Few Words from Dr. Weeks

*Professor Flannery is a master teacher. He has shaped the lives of so many students during his thirty-two year career at APU, helping them grapple with important, challenging ideas and walking them through great texts in his own inimitable style. Students have loved his thoughtful treatment of every text, praising his patience, insight, and wisdom.*

*In addition to stellar teaching, Professor Flannery has been instrumental in the formation of curricula. Not only did he develop and teach courses in the Department of History & Political Science, he was also a founding faculty member in the High Sierra program, playing a central role in constructing its wonderful curriculum. As a department chair, he launched and nurtured the Humanities minor. He also helped formulate and guide the "Faculty Seminar in the Liberal Arts," a faculty summer great books program. Finally, he was an invaluable contributor to the creation of the Honors College curriculum.*

*Professor Flannery's approach to teaching and curriculum draws upon the wisdom of the ages. He insists our free minds can liberate us from our time and place, allowing us to understand human thought from other times and places. By escaping our myopic tendency, we can reason together across centuries about life's most important questions. The resulting insights, revelations, and glimmers of truth equip us in our quest both to know and to do what is good.*

*It is impossible to overstate Professor Flannery's legacy at APU. His approach to education and his intellectual gravitas has profoundly shaped the character and the content of the Honors College. All of us are deeply indebted to Professor Flannery and will miss him sorely.*



*Dear Students of Leisure,*

*That is how the great Dr. Flannery would begin every letter he sent to us, his students of leisure. It is his mindset that we cannot have the greatest experience of learning if we are not in a state of peace. The mind will work best when it is calm, inviting knowledge into it.*

*When I think of Dr. Flannery, I think of a man who is the epitome of leisure. He is a man who loves wisdom and knowledge to the point where he has mastered the state of leisure in order to constantly be in the state of being able to learn. Every colloquy, he is not just a vessel of wisdom; no, he is a fellow scholar with us. We embark on the quest for the truth together, and I love that. Sometimes he just sits back in his chair, observing, before coming back in with an insight that I would have never formulated.*

*Dr. Flannery has an understanding of history that amazes me, from Shakespeare to Aristotle, from American history to Machiavelli. He is a hard grader, but is always pushing us to become better. He has a way of giving me criticism out of love and out of a desire for me to accomplish more. Dr. Flannery has created the best Honors College experience—I cannot imagine my time here being any better. He helped me adjust to college life and has stirred up within me an excitement for years to come.*

*Ryan Negrette, Freshman*

*"Dr. Flannery has done something for me that most teachers fail to do and that is to awaken a hunger and a curiosity for truth. He has helped me wrestle with the concepts of living a virtuous life and whether it is worthwhile to do so. What I've learned will influence me, and other students, for the rest of our lives. It has been an honor having been his pupil, and I wish him all the best in his next season of life."*

*Bradley Den Dulk, Freshman*

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*"Dr. Flannery is one of the most interesting people I know. He is wise, kind, funny, and thoughtful. It is impossible for me to write about his impact without falling into horrible clichés and Hallmark sentiments, so I will keep this very brief. Knowing him has made my life better in more ways than I can count. Having him as a colleague in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, at the High Sierra campus, and in the Honors College has been a benediction."*

*Prof. Diana Glycer, Ph.D.*

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*"This is no understatement: Dr. Flannery's intellectual mentorship simply awakened my mind to the beauty of the divine mind."*

*I recall once when, after deep engagement with one of the greats of the Great Conversation, he told us that the Apostle Paul summed up the questions we debated that term in Philippians 4:8, which says, "Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things."*

*That reference established in my mind forever that the true, the good, and the beautiful all begin with the loving, Unmoved Mover. It is our joy to pursue him.*

*These truths have shaped my life as a husband and father, lawyer and business professional, lay minister and citizen. Most importantly, the truths that Dr. Flannery encouraged us to pursue shape my life as a disciple of Jesus Christ. For that, and with tears welling in my eyes, I am eternally grateful."*

*Jeffrey Salladin, Esq., Alumnus, 1996*

# Faculty Accomplishments

Our faculty are dedicated, life-long learners. The following list is just a sample of their recent achievements, representing their drive and determination to make contributions to their respective fields of study.

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## Marcia Berry

Overseeing the pilot program for the Speaking Center, which is housed in APU's Writing Center.

## Gary Black

Published a chapter entitled "The Soul of the Leader" in *Whatever You Do: Six Foundations for an Integrated Life*, edited by Luke Bobo, (Made To Flourish Publishing, Overland Park, KS) November, 2018.

## Christopher Flannery

Edited *Education in a Democratic Republic: Essays in Honor of Peter W. Schramm*, which included the publication of his own chapter, "American Moses."

## Gavin Fort

Had an article published in an edited collection: *'Make a Pilgrimage for Me': The Role of Place in Late Medieval Proxy Pilgrimage*. In *Travel, Time, and Space in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Time*. Volume 22 of *Fundamentals of Medieval and Early Modern Culture*, ed. Albrecht Classen and Marilyn Sandidge, 424-445. Boston/Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 2018.

## Diana Glycer

Presented a guest lecture entitled "Practical Bandersnatch: Real Life Lessons from Lewis, Tolkien, and the Inklings," hosted by the Southern California C. S. Lewis Society and held at Vanguard University.

## Adam Green

Published "Extended Mind and the Authority of Consciousness" in a Routledge Press book entitled *Consciousness and the Ontology of Properties*.

Published an article titled "Power, Otherworldliness, and the Extended Mind" in the journal *Religious Studies*, available online at <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0034412518000549>.

Published a review of the book *Renewing Philosophy of Religion*, available online at <https://ndpr.nd.edu/news/renewing-philosophy-of-religion-exploratory-essays/>.

## Emily Griesinger

Presented a paper at the beginning of the summer entitled *Re-framing Alzheimer's: Diane Glancy's No Word for the Sea* at the Western Regional Meeting of the Conference on Christianity in Literature "Mixing Water with Wine: Innkeepers at the Borders of Secular and Sacred" (April 2018).

## Bradley McCoy

Co-authored "Good Problems Within and Across Disciplines" (With D. Reinholz, T. Slominski, T. French, S. Pazicni, C. Rasmussen) in the *Journal of Research in STEM Education* 4 (1), 37-53 (2018).

Presented "Connecting Writing in Physics to General Education Writing Courses" at the American Association of Physics Teachers, summer National Meeting (2018).

Won the Faculty Uncommon Citizen Award.

## Theresa Tisdale

Presented paper entitled "Freud's Free Clinics and the Redemptive Urge" at the Oskar Pfister Forum in Lausanne, Switzerland. (June 2018)

Presented paper entitled "Psychoanalysis at the Crossroad Between Hope and Dread: The Way Through is the Way on" in the panel "Losing and Finding our Mind During Times of War and Social Unrest" at the International Association for Relational Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy (IARPP) in New York, NY (June 2018).

Poster presentation at the American Psychological Association Convention in San Francisco, CA: "Did the Psychoanalytic Free Clinic Movement Die While Crossing the Atlantic?" (August 2018).

Co-published an article entitled "Deep Calls to Deep: Healing and Renewal at the Crossroads of Psychoanalysis and Spiritual Formation" in the *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 36, 276-287.

## Ethan Schrum

Review of LaDale C. Winling, *Building the Ivory Tower: Universities and Metropolitan Development in the Twentieth Century*, in *History of Education Quarterly* 58.4 (November 2018): 627-630.

Conference presentation, "Confronting the Secular in an Era of Religious Revival: The Paradox of the 1950s," Tenth Annual U.S. Intellectual History Conference, Chicago IL, Nov. 8-11.

## Matthew Smith

Published a book entitled *Performance and Religion in Early Modern England: Stage, Cathedral, Wagon, Street* (December 2018) Artwork and description of his book available at: <https://undpress.nd.edu/9780268104665/performance-and-religion-in-early-modern-england/>

## André Villeneuve

Degree: Obtained Baccalaureate in Sacred Scripture (S.S.B.) from the Pontifical Biblical Commission, Vatican City (June 2018).

Publication: *Ignatius Study Bible: Sirach*. San Francisco: Ignatius Press, forthcoming (end of 2018).

# Meet the Faculty & Staff



**David Weeks, Ph.D.**  
*Dean of the Honors College*



**Christopher Flannery, Ph.D.**  
*Professor*



**Diana Pavlac Glycer, Ph.D.**  
*Professor*



**André Villeneuve Ph.D.**  
*Assistant Professor*



**Gary Black Jr., Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor*



**Barbara Harrington, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor*



**Marcia S. Berry, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor, Honors College &  
Department of Communication Studies*



**Rhonda Roberts**  
*Executive Assistant to the Dean*



**Frank Clement**  
*Director of Strategic Initiatives*

## Faculty Fellows

**Joseph Bentz, Ph.D.**  
*Professor, Department of English*

**Gavin Fort, Ph.D.**  
*Adjunct Faculty, Honors College*

**Adam Green, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy*

**Emily Griesinger, Ph.D.**  
*Professor, Department of English*

**Bradley Hale, Ph.D.**  
*Director, Humanities Program; Assistant Professor,  
Department of History & Political Science*

**Paul Kaak, Ph.D.**  
*Adjunct Professor, Department of Leadership &  
Organizational Psychology;  
Executive Director, Office of Faith Integration*

**Christine Kern, Ph.D.**  
*Professor, Department  
of English*

**Bradley McCoy, Ph.D.**  
*Professor, Department  
of Mathematics & Physics*

**Joshua Morris, Ph.D.**  
*Professor, Department  
of Biology & Chemistry*

**Daniel Palm, Ph.D.**  
*Professor and Chair, Department of  
History & Political Science*

**Ethan Schrum, Ph.D.**  
*Assistant Professor, Department  
of History & Political Science*

**Matthew J. Smith, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor, Department of English*

**Caleb D. Spencer, Ph.D.**  
*Associate Professor, Department of English*

**Theresa Tisdale, Ph.D., Psy.D.**  
*Professor, Department of Clinical  
Psychology*

**Leslie Wickman, Ph.D.**  
*Adjunct Faculty, Honors College*



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