

Issue #5: Fall 2017

Fall Retreat Brings First-Year Fellows Together

The annual Honors First-Year Retreat was held on Saturday, Sep. 9. The retreat serves as a way to strengthen relationships among our newest members, while incorporating values of the Honors community such as community service and intellectual engagement. The day began with collaboration and team-building through participation in the Elon Challenge Course. The Fellows then had the choice of volunteering at either Loy Farm or Salvation Army—both of which provided opportunities for students to give back to the Elon and Burlington communities. Over dinner, new students met and socialized with some of the Honors faculty and program directors. The evening continued with another community-building exercise that highlighted the different backgrounds and experiences of the new Honors class. This was followed by a debrief discussion led by older Honors Fellows that emphasized the importance of learning about identities different from one's own. The



evening came to a close with s'mores by the campfire. "The Honors Retreat was a day of fun, challenges, and volunteer work that brought the first year fellows closer together," First-year Honors Fellow Angela Meyers said. We hope that our new Honors class will continue to develop these relationships and values throughout the coming years.

Welcoming Lynn Huber as our new Honors Director



After four years of service, Professor Tom Mould retired his post as Honors Director in spring 2017. Following his "retirement,"

Dr. Barbara Miller stepped up as Interim Director, with Dr. Michael Carignan returning to the program as Interim Associate Director. This January, Professor Lynn R. Huber will begin her term as Director of the Honors Program and Dr. Miller will return as Associate Director. Many of you will remember Dr. Huber as co-teacher, along with Dr. Carignan, of the first-year Honors seminar, which has gone to both Turkey and Italy. She has also mentored a number of

Honors students, including Allison Pariani, Kiva Nice-Webb, Erin Palmer, and currently, Victoria Oakley. Dr. Huber came to Elon in 2004, after completing her Ph.D. at Emory University. She has taught a variety of courses in Religious Studies and has expertise in gender and sexuality in the ancient and early Christian world. Her research is on the Book of Revelation, an apocalyptic book in the Christian Bible, and is the author of two previous books. This fall Dr. Huber is on sabbatical co-writing a feminist commentary on Revelation. As those of you who have worked with Dr. Huber know, she is passionate about the ancient world and working with students to think about the ways the past and the present interact. She's also passionate about dogs, especially the three rescues with whom she and her spouse, Mel Ah Mu, share a home.

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Bethany Lake

My Honors and Lumen research is focused on provider and patient perspectives of innovation in community-based healthcare for migrants and other underrepresented populations in Alamance County. At the end of August, I traveled to San Diego to present my research at the National Association of Community Health Centers at the Community Health Institute. This conference hosted community health center directors and experts in community health to share best practices and advocate for their patient populations. As the only undergraduate student presenting at the conference, it was an incredible opportunity to have experts engaged in and validating the importance of my research, as well as offering suggestions to expand the study.

This summer I interned with the Department of State at the U.S. Mission to the European Union (USEU) in Brussels, Belgium with Public Affairs (PA), working with both sides of the PA team: press and programs. One of my responsibilities was to prepare the Newswire Highlights, an internal document compiling the previous day's news with a focus on EU-related outlets, an average of two mornings a week. Highlights of my summer experience included planning a breakfast briefing for EU interns to foster transatlantic cooperation and creating original social media content for the USEU Instagram account. For two weeks, I had the opportunity to run the USEU Facebook and Twitter pages under my boss's supervision.



Emma Flaherty (pictured center)



Sarah Holdren

This summer I traveled to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia with the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health through the Multidisciplinary International Research Training Program (MIRT), which provides global health research opportunities to promising young scholars by partnering with local public health agencies in developing nations. Funded by the NIH, I conducted global health epidemiology research on the transient impact of caffeine on ischemic stroke. This research complemented my qualitative honors and Lumen research on infant feeding narratives in the NICU, as it allowed me to utilize quantitative methods to solve a public health issue. I am now looking forward to continue growing as a scholar and moving toward my goal of becoming a medical anthropologist and physician.



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HOME COMING: 5th Annual Honors Homecoming Nov. 4