

Vol. 9 Fall 2016

HONORS RETREAT

On October 7th through 9th, two colloquia, HON 195- The Philosophy of Science with Dr. Lane DesAutels and HON 395- Global Amphibian Decline with Dr. Mark Mills traveled to REIS Biological Station in Steelville, MO for a fall retreat. Professors Dr. Carissa Ganong and Dr. Dan Stasko, Honors Director Dr. Teddi Dekka, and student assistant Shelby Hicks also accompanied the colloquia. Student Chris Walton stated, "We got to see a plethora of wildlife and at night we were far enough away from any towns or cities that we could see plenty of stars every night, perfect for stargazing." He mentions that the setting in the Mark Twain National Forest and the proximity to the Huzzah River provided the perfect setting for the trip. Watson says the key component in bonding with the other Honors students was "being able to just all sit around the fire and talk about a bunch of different topics," along with the different activities the students were able to participate in. The relaxed schedule provided fun and engaging science-based activities such as exploring the Onondaga Cave, hiking up the Hughes Mountain, floating down the Huzzah River, sampling local vernal pools for amphibians, and searching for invertebrates on the banks of the river. Overall, the Fall 2016 Honors Retreat was a huge success.



COLLOQUIUM SPOTLIGHT

Offered in the midst of election season, "Election Law and Voting Practices: Protecting the Right to Vote" was a popular colloquium this semester. This class was offered as a two credit hour cross-listed class and co-taught by Dr. Dave Tushaus and Dr. Joanne Katz. The class focused on current and past election laws and the historic struggle minorities have had to experience in order to receive voting privileges. Additionally, students were required to complete many service learning projects which included working voter registration booths and working at polls on election day. Student Britane Hubbard said, "[the course] pushed us beyond our comfort zones to get involved on campus and in the community." Dr. Katz commented on the longevity of the course as it was offered first in 2006, and hopes that it becomes a fixture colloquium at MWSU.

your **VOTE**
is your **VOICE**

DECEMBER GRADUATES

- Brooke Bernhardt—Nursing
- Nicole Bradley—English/
Philosophy
- Taylor Fluharty—
Mathematics/Business
- Caleb Hazelwood—Biology-
Health Science/Philosophy
- Faith Hoover—Nursing-Biology
- Maggie Lee—Health & Exercise Science-Biology
- Sarah Lyle—Biology-Health Science
- Sara Mathews—Music-Jazz Studies
- Cooper Roberts—Health & Exercise Science

You did it!
Congratulations



NEW FACES IN THE HONORS PROGRAM

The Honors Program welcomed two new faculty members to the Honors Committee this semester!

Dr. Angela Haas (left) earned a B.A. in History with a minor in French from Ithaca College and an M.A. and Ph.D. in European History from Binghamton University (SUNY). She is originally from a small town in upstate N.Y., which is on the Canadian border near Montreal, Quebec. Her favorite pastimes are jogging, biking, camping, swimming, and traveling. She has been to 5 continents and looks forward to completing the list soon with trips to Asia and Antarctica.

Dr. Melinda Kovács (right), a native of Hungary, holds graduate degrees in American Studies and in French in addition to Political Science. Her main research interest is the connection of language and politics. In addition to articles in various international publications, she wrote her first book about political discourse in Hungary. She is currently writing a book on the US foreign policy discourses of the Obama years. At Missouri Western, Kovács teaches political philosophy, comparative politics, and a feminist analysis of politics. She has volunteered with therapy animals for a decade and started the Finals Week Stress Relief with Therapy Animals program.



SO LONG MAGGIE LEE!

Maggie Lee (pictured top left) graduated in December with a Bachelor of Science in Health & Exercise Science with a minor in Biology. Maggie faithfully worked on campus for three years in the honors office and Center for Academic Support (CAS). Maggie plans on attending the University of Kansas Medical Center in order to pursue a masters in occupational therapy. Maggie says, "I thoroughly enjoyed myself while working at the honors office, I have made personal and professional relationships that will last a lifetime!" The honors office would like to wish Maggie luck on all of her future endeavors.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: RILEY WILSON

Riley Wilson (pictured right), a junior pre-medicine major from Columbia, Missouri, continues to shine at Missouri Western. Riley is an important member of the varsity softball team and excels in her role at second base. In 2015 she was named to the MIAA Academic Honor Roll. In addition to her outstanding athletic performance she also puts a strong emphasis on her academics. Earlier this fall she was accepted into the Still Scholars Program at Andrew Taylor Still University (ATSU) in Kirksville, Missouri. Riley is guaranteed a spot in ATSU's medical program because of her acceptance into the Still Scholars program. She plans on attending ATSU after graduation to pursue her dream of becoming a Doctor of Osteopathic medicine. Riley says that she has enjoyed being involved in the honors program so far. She stated, "I love that the honors colloquia are more discussion based because they encourage me to create my own opinions on different subjects." Riley is also involved in Alpha Chi, Student Athlete Advisory Committee, and the National Society for Leadership and Success.

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