

HONORS NEWS AND NOTES

VOL. 14 SPRING 2019

HAVE CONFERENCE, WILL TRAVEL

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Evan Banks M
 Julia Beier GS, M
 Hunter Berten GSH
 Jeremy Brown GS
 Autumn Estrada GS
 Indigo Gaydusek M
 Dallace Hamel GS, M
 Laney Hayward GS, M
 Riqueza Hendrix GS
 Mackenzie Herrman GS
 Britane Hubbard GS, M
 Lance Lawton GS
 Savannah Lewis GS
 Helaine Mills GS
 Demetria Owens GS
 Lydia Reynolds GS
 Liam Roach GS
 Kaylee Sharp GS
 Bingxin Song M
 Jordan Souther GS, M
 Haley Stock GS
 Chris Watson, GS
 Suzanna Wilson GS
 Brendin Wood GS

GS = General Studies Honors
 M = Majors Honors

From April 4, 2019 to April 7, 2019, eight members of the Alpha Chi Honors Society traveled to Cleveland, Ohio to present research in their respective disciplines. The presenters were Evan Banks, Rachel Bertram, Indigo Gaydusek, Jillian Grantham, Breanna Hancock, Devin Mattoon, Alex Morehead, and Rebecca Prest. Dr. Deka and Dr. Stasko both attended as the sponsors. Students attended presentations from Dr. U. Shivraj Sohur and Dr. Ray Onders. Both presenters discussed interesting topics in the medical field and suggested ways to encourage innovation. Alex Morehead was awarded a \$500 Region IV Scholarship and was selected as an alternate for the prestigious Gaston Scholarship. He also won a first place award for his presentation entitled, "Variant sampling in vitro with a scheduling twist." Jillian Grantham also won a first place award for her presentation, entitled, "Nontherapeutic infant male circumcision in the United States: Cultural norm as medical practice."



During the same weekend, five members of the MWSU Honors Program traveled to Tyler, Texas to present research. Dr. Kovacs accompanied students Shae Delancy, Seth Frye, Katie Yeacker, Paige Donnohue, and Kaitlyn Lux. Shae Delancy won a first place award in the Professional Studies Division for students over 60 credit hours with her Majors Honors research, "Pre-Service teacher communication with cooperating teachers." Seth Frye won in the Humanities Division for students under 60 credit hours with his colloquium research, "How traditional values foster sexual trauma through cultural Ostracism."



Overall, both conferences were successful and students look forward to presenting again next year!

SHO FUNDRAISER GOES TO THE PUPS

On April 10-11, officers and members of the Student Honors Organization held their 'Puppies & Pastries' fundraiser. The organization worked with Dr. Kovács and volunteers from the St. Joseph Animal Shelter, who brought therapy dogs to Blum Student Union for students to pet and play with. Students could purchase baked goods for themselves, or purchase homemade dog treats to feed the visiting dogs. Part of the proceeds raised were donated to the animal shelter. SHO President Kelly Oliphant said, "The dogs captured the attention of a lot of students and faculty, which is what made the fundraiser successful." We are "SHO" proud of the work that this organization has done to help out their members, as well as the greater community!



HONORS FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:

Dr. Melinda Kovács was selected as Honors Faculty of the Year. In recent years, Dr. Kovács has not only continued to serve on the Honors Committee and to teach the occasional Honors Colloquium, but she also increased her involvement in our Honors Program. She has begun teaching the Honors section of PSC 101 – American National Government, and she has traveled with some of our students. She also worked with SHO in the Spring 2019 semester to merge community service with her passion for visiting with therapy animals: she organized therapy animal teams to participate in the Puppies and Pastries fundraiser. Outside of her involvement with Honors and her regular teaching responsibilities, Dr. Kovács also continues to research how political meanings are created and changed. After publishing her second book in 2018, she is currently working with Dr. Oakleaf in HPER on a new book project.



NEW FACES OF THE HONORS STAFF



Julie Woods is the new Administrative Assistant in the Honors Office. Julie is an alumna of MWSU and has served on the Foundation Board. She has extensive office experience and will definitely contribute to the growth of our program. She is active in the St. Joseph community and enjoys spending free time with her grandchildren!



Raechel Tittor is our new Honors Office student assistant. She is a sophomore from Kansas City, Missouri, and is majoring in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Raechel is involved in the Student Honors Organization (SHO), Sigma Sigma Sigma, and the National Society of Leadership and Success. We are excited to have you on our staff, Raechel!

COLLOQUIUM SPOTLIGHT

The Spring 2019 colloquium, “Madness to reason: The history of psychology in Europe,” traveled far by visiting Vienna and London to walk in Freud’s footsteps, visit Darwin’s house, and St. Mary’s of Bethlehem. Seventeen students participated in the class, learning about psychiatry, asylums, treatments and stigmas associated with mental illness during the semester, capping off the experience with the overseas visit. Dr. Deka and Dr. England offered the class which was a great experience! Dr. Deka says that she hopes to offer the class again, as it was such a positive experience integrating context with the class materials. The students, majoring in psychology, nursing, education, graphic design, and history had many opportunities to apply their class experiences to their fields.



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