

HMM

Honorable Mentions

spring.2014

Commencement.

According to Webster, it is “a beginning or start,” or “ceremony in which degrees are conferred on graduating students.”

Take your pick. Later this month, hundreds of DePaul Honors Program students will be awarded their degrees, and they will begin the next chapter in their lives. We hope that all of our graduates look back on these last four years with fondness, and good memories. While we are sad to see so many leave us, we are also very optimistic for them to go out and make the world a better place. Please remember your Honors Program experience, and all those papers, projects, language classes, and Jolly Ranchers in the Honors Loop lounge! And, in the future, don't forget to always wear comfortable shoes.



A collaboration by DePaul University's Honors Program

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Thanks to everyone who contributed!

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Cover photo provided by Alex Jewell.

Campus Resources

Visit the Career Center

You may think the Career Center is only a place to go to find an internship. Sure, they do that, but they also offer so much more! The Career Center can help you decide on a major, a career choice, help you polish your résumé, conduct mock interviews to hone your skills, and much more. The Career Center offers workshops ranging from job search strategies to interviewing skills to graduate school information sessions.

To find out more about what the Career Center can do for you, visit their website: www.careercenter.depaul.edu. You can also visit one of their offices at these convenient campus locations: in the Loop, they are located in Suite 9500 of the DePaul Center (1 East Jackson); on the Lincoln Park campus, they are in Room 192 of the Schmitt Academic Center (SAC) at 2320 N. Kenmore.

Have a Big Paper Due Soon? The Writing Center Can Help You Make it the Best it Can Be!

The Writing Center provides help free of charge to all members of the DePaul University community—including students, faculty, and staff. The Writing Center tutors offer assistance in developing successful writing strategies, and their goal is to help visitors become more comfortable with writing tasks and more aware of composing processes that will allow them to complete these tasks well.

They work with writers on many kinds of projects from research papers and lab reports to Master's theses and personal projects. They offer techniques to help writers focus and develop ideas, evaluate and summarize sources, and edit and revise their drafts.

Visit the Writing Center's website to find out locations, hours, services, and much more!

<http://condor.depaul.edu/writing/>

Genius Squad

The Genius Squad is DePaul's premiere support service for all current students. The Genius

Squad offers FREE technical service and support for desktops, laptops, phones, tablets, and other personal electronic devices. The desk is staffed by some of DePaul's most technically adept students, many of whom are currently enrolled in our College of Computing and Digital Media, so you can trust that they'll have the answers you need.

The Genius Squad can assist with:

- Wireless setup
- Virus and malware removal
- Hardware repair
- RAM upgrades
- Phone configuration for access to e-mail
- a variety of other technical services

The Genius Squad has locations at both the Lincoln Park and Loop campuses. Locations and hours are:

Lincoln Park Campus
Richardson Library First Floor
2350 N. Kenmore Ave.
Chicago, IL 60614

Academic Year
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 10:00 pm
Friday: 9:00am - 9:00 pm
Saturday: noon - 6:00 pm
Sunday: noon - 6:00 pm

Loop Campus
Lewis 1310
25 E. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Academic Year
Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Honorable Announcements

Meet Your 2014-2015 Honors Student Government Leaders!

Congratulations to the 2014-2015 Honors Student Government Executive Board and Committee Chairs. These students were elected to serve and represent the Honors Program students and be their voice to the Honors administration and faculty.

PRESIDENT Ashley Valentin
Junior
 Political Science
 (History & Spanish minors)

VICE PRESIDENT Kristina Pouliot
Junior
 Sociology & French

TREASURER George Sobolevskiy
Junior
 Accounting

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING Lukasz Budolak
Junior
 Accounting & Finance

DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL MEDIA Kyle Rezwin
Sophomore
 Business Management
 (Political Science minor)

SGA LIAISON Sidney Beaumaster
Sophomore
 International Studies

ACADEMIC COMMITTEE Taylor Gillen
Sophomore
 Digital Cinema & Sociology

Zoe Krey
Sophomore
 Political Science

AMBASSADOR COMMITTEE Taylor Marcel
Junior
 Interactive Media

SERVICE COMMITTEE Hanna Selekman
Sophomore
 Psychology

MK Verdun
Sophomore
 Marketing

SOCIAL COMMITTEE Erin Donovan
Sophomore
 Public Relations/
 Advertising

Frank Schmitt
Sophomore
 International Studies

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Nicole Beuerlein
Senior
 Graphic Design

h.s.g.

To keep up on the latest Honors Student
 Government activities, go to:
<http://dphsg.wordpress.com/>

Honorable Announcements

Caelin Niehoff Wins Awards; Travels to U.K.



Caelin Niehoff

American Studies major and graduating senior Caelin has been selected to be the student commencement speaker at the Liberal Arts and Social Sciences graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 15th. Additionally, Caelin has recently won the following awards, which are listed below. Congratulations to Caelin!

Gilder Lehrman History Award:

Before graduation, Caelin will travel to NYC to receive the Gilder Lehrman History Scholar Award. Caelin is one of fifteen graduating seniors from across the country receiving the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History's award. The award "recognizes outstanding graduating college seniors who have demonstrated academic and extracurricular excellence in American history or American studies as well as a commitment to public service and community involvement." Caelin will spend an extended weekend in NYC on Barnard College and Columbia University's campuses. During her time in NYC Caelin and the GLI scholars will receive behind the scenes tours of historic archives, while also participating in special presentations and meetings with eminent history scholars. Caelin was simultaneously accepted to the University of Illinois' Institute of Government and Public Affairs' NEW Leadership Program, bringing together twenty collegiate women for a week long residential program designed to increase women's representation in public life, but had to respectfully decline the acceptance in order to attend GLI's ceremonies.

Women's History Network National Conference:

After graduation, Caelin will travel to the Britain's University of Worcester to present her Honors Thesis entitled "For County and Country: United States Homemakers and Rural Home Fronts during WWII." Her thesis draws on original primary source research conducted at the University of Wisconsin, Madison and the Wisconsin Historical Society's archives. Her work investigates the lives of rural women, specifically organized homemakers, during the Second World War

and contributes rural narratives to the predominately urban WWII historiography. She began her research in the fall of 2013 and submitted an abstract and proposal to the Women's History Network in the spring of 2014. Her proposal was accepted, and she will present on a panel with researchers from the University of Sussex and the University of Exeter in the UK this September.

Fulbright Winners

The Honors Program would like to congratulate two graduating seniors who have recently been named winners of prestigious Fulbright assistantships.

Miriam Keep is an International Studies major. Her proposed research project centers on the "Cities Without Slums" program in Morocco, a government program that relocates residents of informal housing to social housing. By conducting interviews with program planners and participants, she will work to understand how "participatory planning" has affected the program's success.

Veronica Lalov is an Honors student who is double majoring in French and Industrial/Organizational Psychology. Her Fulbright project entails working as an English Teaching Assistant in Bulgaria for the 2014-2015 school year.

For more information about the Fulbright program, go to: <http://us.fulbrightonline.org/>.

Class of 2014 Legacy Gift

Last year, the Class of 2013 left an impressive legacy by making more than 1,600 gifts totaling more than \$21,000 for student scholarships. Can the Class of 2014 raise even more?

Throughout the year, you will have the opportunity to make your gift online or in person at events, especially near commencement. You will receive a legacy cord in June when you pick up your cap and gown that you can wear to commencement to show your support for the Class of 2014 Legacy Gift.

By making a gift of any size, you demonstrate your commitment to DePaul University and its mission of service.

For more information about the Class Legacy Gift or to be one of the graduating students to serve on the Class of 2014 Legacy Gift Committee, please contact OARstudents@depaul.edu. To give, please visit: <http://alumni.depaul.edu/legacygift>.

Honors Events

First Annual Honors Student Conference

by Zoey Krey

As I began my first year at DePaul, I didn't expect to get involved in the Honors Program as much as I have throughout the year. I have made so many great memories and gained a great deal of valuable experience through my participation in various events and activities.

On May 16th, I was lucky enough to be able to present at the First Annual Honors Program Student Conference: Spotlight on Research and Creativity.

Thanks to my HON 100 (Rhetoric and Critical Inquiry) instructor Natalie Tomlin and Honors Advisor Jennifer Kosco, I was able to condense my research paper from my class into a poster that aided me in presenting my topic. My project was titled "Your New Miss America Is...: The Politics of Beauty and Empowerment." I explained the relevancy of the Miss America Pageant in terms of how women and beauty are viewed in contemporary society. The horrific public comments surrounding the recent win of the 2014 Miss America prompted me to research

more about the social ramifications that a more culturally diverse Miss America could have on our society.

For those unfamiliar with the controversy surrounding the current Miss America, winner Nina Davuluri of New York was the first Indian American Miss America.

After she won the pageant, she faced countless racist criticisms and judgments posted on

social media sites. I felt shocked and sickened at the public's reaction and was surprised that a beauty pageant could stir up this much discussion and debate. Hence, my HON 100 research topic was born.

Rather than submitting a paper or project for a class and then forgetting about it within minutes, the Honors Student Research Conference gave many students the chance to revisit their work and share it with others.

After putting ten weeks into a paper for HON 100, it was rewarding to be able to share my research findings with others in an academic setting.

On the day of the conference, before I started to present my work, I had the opportunity to hear a few senior thesis presentations.

The amount of work they put into their projects is staggering and admirable. All the seniors had such a wide range of interesting topics and presentations.

It was easy to see how passionate they were about their research findings and their opportunity to share those findings with others. Hearing about other students' work, collaborating with the Honors Program advisors, gaining valuable conference presentation experience, and of course, the array of free food at the event, made me definitely want to participate in the conference again.

For being the first ever Honors Research Conference, the event seemed to run very smoothly. There is no way that this conference could have happened without the numerous student volunteers, the student participants who were willing to share their work with others, and last but not least, the Honors Program faculty and staff. The success of the first Honors Research Conference should ensure an even larger event in the years to come.



Zoey Krey presents her research at the Student Conference.

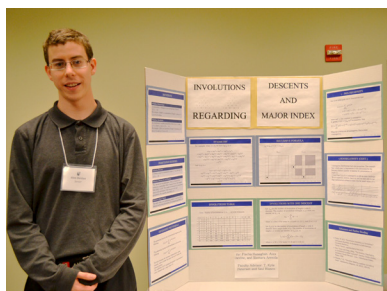
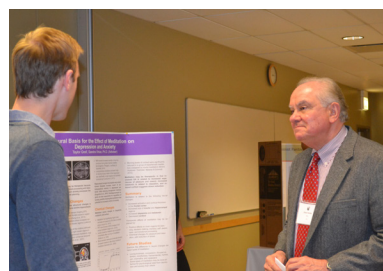
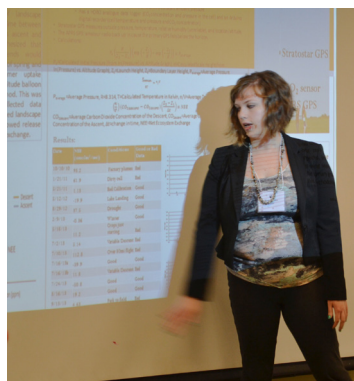


Rosemary O'Malley



Honors Events

Honors Student Conference: Spotlight on Research & Creativity – May 16, 2014



Honors Events

DemonTHON!

by Anna Ackermann

After a year of planning and fundraising, DemonTHON took place May 16 and May 17 in the McGrath-Phillips Arena. Any participant/dancer will tell you that it was an unforgettable and rewarding experience, as all proceeds benefited Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. The DemonTHON requirements state that each participant must stay on their feet for 24 hours. The whole event felt like a rollercoaster, with undeniable ups and definite downs.

Designed to keep our spirits and energy up, we performed the 10 minute long, choreographed 'morale dance' every hour on the hour. I forgot how bad I was at dancing until I saw the morale dance for the first time, and then tried to do it myself. Almost an hour was spent trying to learn the first half of the morale dance, and probably another hour was spent trying to learn the second half. At this point I was convinced that there was no hope for me to learn this dance before the end of DemonTHON, but after a few hours I had a good handle on majority of the routine. Although I learned most of the dance, it was probably still not very pretty to watch.

After the morale dance every hour, we would hear from a family who had a child being treated at Lurie. Each family told us not only how important Lurie was in their lives, but also how important DemonTHON was to them. Hearing these stories made me realize the importance of Lurie Children's Hospital. It also brought a sense of purpose to what we were doing. Another aspect that emphasized the impact of DemonTHON was the Inspiration Room, which was a new addition this year. In this room, there were brief descriptions of the patients at Lurie, and questions that dancers could reflect upon and answer. To allow for reflection, the Inspiration Room was very quiet and peaceful, which was a nice contrast to the rest of the event. I thought the Inspiration room was a wonderful way to make DemonTHON more personal to all the participants.

After a few hours, as the adrenaline wore off and the fatigue set in, I realized that we were only a small fraction of the way done. As time went on, things just got worse. The soreness in my feet and legs became more noticeable, and it was obvious that many dancers were losing their



**Seton's
DemonTHON Team:**
L to R: Molly Murray,
Anna Ackermann,
Francesca Martino,
Abby Creek, Morgan
Nathan, Emily O'Reilly,
Sarah Mitchell.

drive. I always felt the worst the hour before a meal or snack, but I would get a lot of energy back after I ate. We were all excited when 5 a.m. came around because it meant we were halfway to our goal, but the last 12 hours seemed to drag on.

Despite everyone's fatigue, we gained a lot of energy when the kids arrived. A highlight of the event was meeting some current or past Lurie patients. They came in with their families to tell us about their experiences at the hospital. They told us about their conditions, their recovery, and how they're doing now. The ages ranged from very young to college age.

The energy level spiked dramatically for Power Hour, the very last hour of the event. During this hour, everyone forgot how much their feet hurt and how long they had gone without sleep. With everyone dancing, glow sticks being thrown into the crowd, and a DJ playing, it was easily the best hour of the event. At the end of Power Hour, we performed the morale dance for one last time.

As we were dancing, we watched the screen tally the total amount of money raised. We watched it pass last year's total of \$150,313.37, and then \$200,000, and then the final total of \$214,050.46. Every milestone was met with a round of celebratory screams and applause. Our team, made up of Seton Hall residents, raised a total of \$3,380, and I personally raised \$1,072, all for Lurie Children's Hospital. It felt great to be part of an event that raised so much money for such a good cause. Knowing that we could give so much money to a place that is so important to so many families made all of the pain and fatigue worth it. So, thank you to everyone who organized, volunteered at, and participated in DemonTHON for giving me such a rewarding and unforgettable experience.

Honors Events

Honors Senior Gala – May 18, 2014



Over 400 people, including 96 graduating seniors attended the annual Senior Gala on Sunday, May 18th. Students were presented with their honors cords to wear at graduation, a certificate, and a gift from the Honors Program. Dean Charles Suchar toasted the graduates, and all the guests enjoyed a reception after the ceremony.



Honors Events

We're Off to See the Wizard: Another Fun-Filled Evening for the Honors Floor Community

by Emily Becker

Living on the Honors floor in Seton Hall definitely has its perks. We owe big thanks to our RD, RA's, RHC, and Honors floor representatives, who have worked together all year long to create a fun environment and foster a greater sense of community for both the Honors floor and all of Seton. Throughout this year, I have been able to see a production of the musical Chicago, attend a Bulls game, go to an apple orchard, and participate in many other Honors floor events. I was absolutely ecstatic to learn that our next outing was to see the Broadway in Chicago production of my favorite movie of all time *The Wizard of Oz* – and that I was able to snag a ticket for the Friday, May 2nd performance.

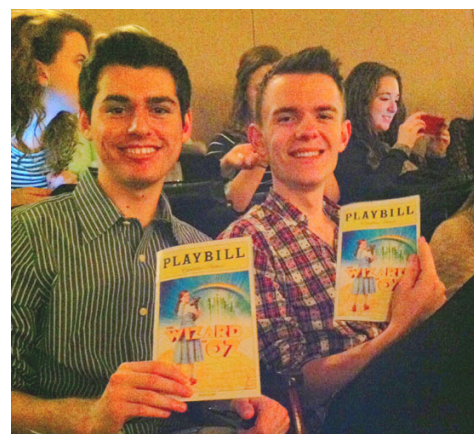
First, let me preface my love for the timeless classic. I've told my friends time and again how this movie was a staple in my childhood; so much that I vividly remember the sad day that my VHS copy of the movie unraveled in the VHS player due to overuse. My passion for the movie and interest in history led to my eventual decision to write about it for HON 100 and eventually present my research at this year's inaugural Honors Student Conference. I was inspired to explore the potential political allegory hidden within the story by L. Frank Baum and I have had so much fun exploring the topic. As you can imagine, I was so overwhelmed with happiness that Seton read my mind and decided to take a group of us to see the live stage production.

Upon arrival at the Cadillac Palace Theatre that evening, I was thrilled to see the sparkly marquee and the ornate lobby. One of my favorite things about going to see a show is taking in all the beautiful theatre architecture and Cadillac Palace did not disappoint. As the lights went down, I was more than eager to see how they would bring the story to life on stage. The set was an innovative blend of partial structures and a thin screen used to portray the tornado and other aspects of the movie that would have otherwise been difficult to bring to life. As some parts when they used the screen, I felt like it was a little too much like a cartoon.

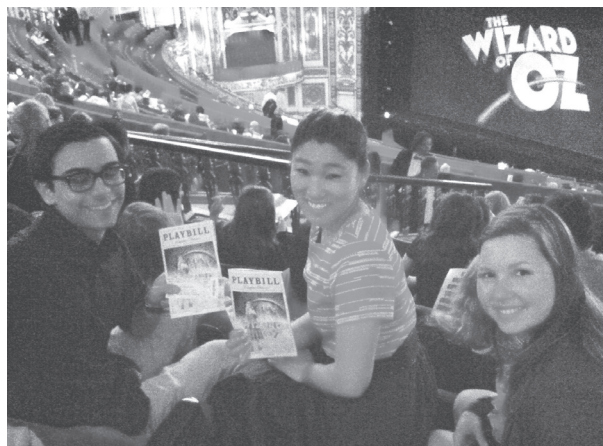
Besides that, the show was performed perfectly! Danielle Wade, who played Dorothy, was incredibly

charming and had a lovely voice, just like Judy Garland herself. I have to say that Toto, played by Nigel the dog, stole the show. The furry actor is actually a rescue dog who was trained by award-winning animal trainer William Berloni, who has trained dogs for more than 20 Broadway shows. Nigel is no theatre rookie either, with a resume including performing in New York aside Ashanti and appearing on the Today Show. Toto and the rest of the cast were absolutely joyful and made for a great show.

While the event was not exclusively for the Honors floor, I saw that there were a good number of us there. I am so glad to be a part of the Honors floor community and share all of these memorable experiences with my peers. Thanks, Seton!



Kyle Rezwin & Garret Hoie show off their "Wizard of Oz" playbills.



Honors Floor residents Marcus Cirone, Zoe Krey & Emily Becker before the start of the show.

Honors Events

A Fairytale Evening

This year's highly anticipated Honors Ball, a Fairytale Cotillion, took place in the elegant Cortelyou Commons on Saturday, April 26th. Many students and their guests dressed in their best Brothers Grimm-inspired costumes, and danced the night away.

The festivities also included a book drive, coordinated by the Gamma Psi chapter of Sigma Tau Delta (the International English Honors Society). Honors students pitched in and brought 72 books, which were donated to Better World Books, which donates books and a percentage of its profits to literacy programs around the world.

Other highlights of the evening included a dinner buffet, a raffle prize of a Nook tablet, and a musical performance by Honors Program freshman Matt Garvin. Garvin played his guitar and sang his original songs for the crowd, and they showed their appreciation by many rounds of applause.

The evening was a great success, and many thanks go to the planning committee and those who attended.



Honors Events

Student Faculty Dinner – April 28, 2014



On Monday, April 28th, approximately 50 members of the Honors Program community enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner at Lina's (formerly Leona's).

Profile: Sister Helen

Sister Helen Tells it Like it Is!

by Anneliese Girson

Dressed in a simple outfit, and sporting a headful of greying hair, Sister Helen Prejean may have appeared to be just another boring speaker as students from a DePaul University class shuffled into a classroom to listen to her speak. Author and subject of *Dead Man Walking*, Sister Helen has traveled to numerous states and countries to spread word against the death penalty. After the talk, however, students left blown away by the message this simple woman had to share.

During introductions by HON 102 (History in Global Contexts) professor Benton Williams, Sister Helen made her presence known by interjecting her own commentary. Referring to Williams as 'B-Willie,' Sister Helen interrupted numerous times to make fun of Williams's opening remarks. "She was certainly a spitfire, that's for sure," said Bria Smith, a freshman in Williams's class. However, Sister Helen's rough Cajun accent and jokes stopped when she told students the story of how she started out.

Born and raised in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Prejean remembers attending a whites-only communion at her church. In fact, it wasn't until she moved into a housing project in New Orleans that she understood the affects of the Jim Crow laws in the south. "I had never heard the words 'white privilege,' but I know what it is now," said Prejean.

Though Prejean has affection for her southern heritage, she added "Well, we all know that the Bible belt and the 'death penalty belt' are the same bloomin' belt." In fact, race is one of the issues that has pushed her campaign to end the death penalty so far. In 2014, 41% of inmates on Death Row in the United States are African American. Of the men who are on Death Row for a murder of a white victim, 93% of prisoners are African American. Sister Helen discussed these sobering statistics and said "the race of the victim and the murder is the determining factor."

During her work as an activist, Sister Helen became the spiritual advisor for those on Death Row. A nun of the Congregation of Saint Joseph, Sister Helen worked with Patrick Sonnier until he was executed. In fact, Sister Helen



Sister Helen Prejean

watched him be put to death. When asked by a member of the audience what the experience of watching someone be put to death, Sister Helen said "What I saw set my soul on fire." Her work with Sonnier would later go on to become the subject of her novel and subsequent movie, *Dead Man Walking*.

However, not every aspect of Sister Helen's life has been so sobering. Through her work, she has been able to meet friends such as Taru Furukawa, who was a prominent death penalty advocate and Buddhist priest in Japan, and actress and activist Susan Sarandon, who played Prejean in the movie *Dead Man Walking*. "Never underestimate the power of two women eatin' crawfish and hatchin' plans," said Prejean when asked about her relationship with Susan Sarandon.

At the end of her talk, Sister Helen was asked by a student "How would you suggest we get involved in this movement?" Sister Helen said "The path is made by walkin', so you start walkin'."

Honorably Involved

To Thesis or Not to Thesis: That is the Question

by Theresa Bailey

For an Honors Program student, the senior capstone requirement offers an intriguing choice. Do you go with a conventional capstone class, or do you explore Honors 395, the Honors Thesis project? Meant to encourage cross-discipline thinking, the Senior Thesis offers great topic flexibility, allowing students the possibility to explore things they passionately enjoy in an academic setting. However, this flexibility comes with the pressures of intense discipline. While each student has a faculty advisor for their thesis, the project takes place entirely out of a classroom setting.

As an Honors sophomore, starting to think about my final two years in the Honors Program, I'm both intrigued and nervous about attempting a thesis project. I wanted more information, so I went to the best source: students who just completed their thesis projects this month, and recently presented at the Student Conference. Molly Baron, Rachel Dimit, and Lidia Letkiewicz all shared the topics of their thesis projects, how they decided on said topics, when they started their thesis, the challenges they faced, and their own opinion of choosing to complete the Honors Thesis.

Lidia Letkiewicz, Anthropology

My thesis project was called "Why do Poles Dance the Polka?" and it came up quite by accident. Originally I wanted to write a thesis on code-switching amongst Polish-American children; however, the IRB process would've taken too long. So, I went to see my advisor and he just started asking me about what I like to do. I told him I am a Polish folk dancer and he asked in response why I like to do that – I said that it keeps me closer to the Polish tradition and culture; the dances tell a story. And from there he simply asked "Why not write about the Polka?", and I was literally speechless for a moment.

I started researching the topic fall quarter in the 2 credit workshop class provided by the Honors Program for students who were interested in potentially writing a thesis. I continued some archival research over winter quarter. Originally, I didn't know exactly what I was going to be writing about the Polka – whether it was about the origins, its social significance in the 19th century or

what it means to dancers now. I landed on the last theme and I focused on what the Polka meant to dancers in folk ensembles now. I also included bit of a historical background of how and why these dance groups formed in the Polish Diaspora in Chicago, England (London and Manchester) and Brazil (Parana).

The biggest challenge was time, as I was also taking 3-4 additional classes at the same time, while working and participating in other activities. I was so afraid that I would not have time to write this thesis because I couldn't focus completely on it without risking my grades. Somehow I managed, thanks to my ethnomusicology class in which we had to write a research paper on some form of music or dance – luckily my thesis is about dance! I was able to turn in the first part of my thesis (20 pages) by Spring Break. I was also scared that I lost a lot of motivation as I was feeling so overwhelmed. But, thanks to the moral support I received from my advisor and faculty (and a host of other people!), I managed. I would not have been able to do it without them.

In the end, I am happy that I chose this topic. At first I was like "Yea, I'll do something that's more relatable to my field of study (anthropology)." Then I was like "I hate life, this was a stupid idea, I regret doing this, I should've taken the Honors Senior Capstone." Now, after presenting my work for a few conferences, and having received great feedback from students, professors and other scholars alike, I'm glad I did it and have something to show off. It's not a culturally changing, mind-blowing thesis; but the thesis is about something I am so passionate about and I really do hope it shows throughout my writing. Maybe it can lead me in a better direction, one that involves folk dance, folklore, cultural studies and the like.

Rachael Dimit, International Studies

My thesis project is titled "A Taça do Mundo é Nossa: The Carioca's Tenuous 'Right to the City' in the Wake of the World Cup and the Olympics." The project looks at the clearance of Brazilian slums, or favelas, in Rio de Janeiro in the years leading up to two mega-events: the 2014 FIFA World Cup and the 2016 Summer Olympics. The accelerated development processes that require urban space necessitate slum clearance. Accordingly, the inhabitants of the favelas are not granted the right to due democratic processes as they are removed from their homes in the name of mega-event development. With this,

Honorably Involved

I explore the socio-spatial disciplinary processes employed in order to prepare Rio de Janeiro for the upcoming mega-events. I chose this project after visiting São Paulo, Brazil in 2012 when a São Paulo team won the national cup; I experienced something between rioting and partying in the streets. Accordingly, I wondered how this passion for futebol would play out on an international level when Brazil would host two consecutive mega-events in only two years.

I started this project at the beginning of winter quarter. I chose to use foreign language sources in Portuguese in order to maintain a level of validity and closeness to the origin of the topic, which greatly helped my thesis and increased the number of available sources. However, reading academic journal articles in a foreign language was an obvious difficulty for me.

I'm very happy that I chose this topic for my senior thesis project due to the topic's relevancy in both academia and pop culture. Most of us will likely turn on our television this summer, and again in two years, to cheer on our nation. We will likely be awed by the beaches of Copacabana and the incredible view of Sugarloaf in the background. However, we must ask ourselves exactly what went into the realization of these mega-events in the name of sports competition.

Molly Baron, English

My thesis project was titled "The Methods and the Madness: The Persistence of Sherlock Holmes in Digital and Interactive Media." I began with an intent to explore the contradictory character of Sherlock Holmes. I wanted to explore the literary development of the antihero and prove Holmes's origins in Milton's Satan. This interest originated in a curiosity about why we as a society have remained so faithful to the detective, despite his antagonistic personality. I then extended the project to investigate modern adaptations of Holmes to compare the frequently explored facets of his personality as a means of evaluating the foundation of our attraction to the character. My thesis project currently consists of a forty page paper, eight minute video, and data from a big data project in which I analyzed Twitter archives and used frequency analysis to create a comprehensive comparison of character representation in Doyle's (author of Sherlock Holmes) stories as opposed to social media.

I started my project in December of 2012. The greatest challenge was limiting myself in my research. There are dozens of books on Sherlock Holmes, including, but not limited to discussions of drug use, ethics, psychology, game theory, and adaptations in general. Even beginning my project so early, I was unable to read every source I selected as potentially valuable. Additionally, finding the physical space in which to store so many library books was not an easy feat!

I am absolutely satisfied in my choice of the Senior Thesis project. I have grown a great deal as a researcher and a writer, and I believe that this project will continue after I turn in the "final draft" in June.



Professor Robert Rotenberg listens intently to Molly Baron's senior thesis project at the Conference.

Honorable Thoughts



Giuseppe Salerno reflects on his first year at DePaul University

Time Flies!

by Giuseppe Salerno

With my freshman year coming to an end at DePaul University, I'm struck with disbelief as I begin to pack my bags and leave the place I have called home for the past nine months. I will never forget my first year of college. The freshman year of college is actually a year of firsts. Whether it's your first time living with a roommate, first time figuring out how to live on your own,

or first time living without a full fridge, freshman year is the time to learn and try new things. Over this past year, I learned many important things both inside and outside of the classroom. As cliché as it is, it felt as if just yesterday I said goodbye to my parents, sat down on my bed, and asked myself: "Now what?"

But, my newfound fears did not hinder me from having a great time my first year of college. In all honesty, nothing would have been able to bring my joy to a halt. Since I have always lived forty-five minutes from Chicago, it has always been my home away from home. As a business student, I knew I had to get my foot in the door and DePaul University was the best option for me.

DePaul impressed me when I was invited to join both the Strobel Accountancy Program and the University Honors Program. When I first received the invitations to apply for both programs, I was not sure if I should accept both offers. But, I quickly realized that the goal of college is to further benefit yourself and admission to both honors programs solidified my decision to come here. Consequently, I decided to pursue both honors programs, as they would push me mentally and physically.

So, you're probably asking: "How did participating in both honors programs work for you?" It went great! Although the workload is more demanding, the amount of work you do compared to your classmates is relatively the same. The main difference is honors students spend majority of their time reading, writing papers, or working on projects, compared to the monotonous daily work that non-honors students partake in. At first, I was scared of being in both honors programs and thought that they may cause a possible speed bump in my college career. I soon

realized that this opportunity to participate in both honors programs would better prepare me for the future and separate me from my peers.

Through the university Honors Program, I was put into smaller classes, which gave me the opportunity to interact with and really get to know other students individually. Not only has the honors community propelled me academically, but it has helped me discover life-long friends.

If there is one thing I would recommend to incoming freshman, it is to take Grassroots Writing in Chicago. After taking Grassroots, I met many new friends and was exposed to many aspects of the beautiful city of Chicago. Through this class, I visited diverse areas such as Uptown, the south side, and the Puerto Rican community of Humboldt Park. After visiting these locations, I truly realized my love for all of Chicago.

Now that my freshman year of college is one for the books, I can say that it was a great time and I have no regrets! And for any incoming freshmen in the fall: welcome to DePaul University! Enjoy it and remember: party hard, but study harder.

Graduation: It's All Uphill From Here

by Alex Jewell

I noticed more hair on my shoulders today. It was the "I'm getting older" kind-of-hair, as if parts of my body are already trying to escape before I die. My follicles don't want to go down with the ship; I'm coming apart at the seams a couple of months before my college graduation.

"It's all downhill from here," they warn, those seeping with wisdom, already hairless and elderly and alone. I can't help but wonder if there's more to it; if I'm not destined to sleeping on opposite ends of the bed briefly remembering a time of passion from yesteryear, before succumbing to sleep-apnea-ridden slumber, or if one day soon I'll wake up with an inevitable and indifferent distaste for everyone around me. I feel as though I'm just slowly inching toward a paralyzing apathy that will eventually bury me and force feigned eulogies out of mouths I once kissed or brought to smiles; mouths that I'll only let down once I've reached the depths of true, undiluted adulthood. Mouths that know the ugly path of life all too well (themselves) and mouths that'll lie for the sake of consideration and tradition. "Alex

Honorable Thoughts

was smart and funny. He was a joy to be around and will surely be missed.”

If we're honest, it's the little things wringing my hands. I'm scared of antacids and having to increase the fiber in my diet; I'm scared of listening to jazz by myself, or not recognizing 36 out of the top 40; I'm scared of drinking whiskey on the rocks or sipping it with no rocks at all. I'm scared of seeing more people from high school accidentally get married or give birth to terrible little replicas of themselves, and I'm more scared of the growing number of people doing these things on purpose. I'm scared of reunions; I'm scared of both the word and the event itself; seeing wrinkles, rings, missing limbs, missing lives, shattered memories broken by the rugged passing of so much time. And I'm scared of just sitting there, watching, horrified, holding a glass of water because water has the least calories out of any drink. I'm not scared of death, I'm just scared of the checkpoints along the way; the merciless reminders that it's a slow and steady process riddled with yet more lessons, yet more Champion shirts and Dockers khakis, and yet more hair peeking out of places it was not occupying the day before. Growing up is seemingly endless; a repetition of puberty and its various grotesque stages.

I wonder if there's any way I'm as different as I think I am or if, at the end of the day, I'll just be another middle-aged man wincing as my doctor sticks a finger up my ass to confirm that, yes, I am not dying quite yet. Will he turn to me and, with an arguably evil grin while stripping his experienced fingers of their latex guardians, say, “The coast is clear. Now go grab some lunch, you look half-starved”? Will I be white as a ghost, rocked with another benchmark for age, another smack in the face of youth? At my funeral, will they conclude with, “Well, it wasn't colon cancer, it was just old age. Just a reminder: there will be sandwich and veggies trays at the Jewells’.”

I don't want this to sound pessimistic, or over the top; I don't want to take a dump on your mood and invite you along for an unnecessarily melancholy and hypothetical step forward, because my final point may surprise you with inspiration. Despite these fears — and their desperate attempt to rob me of my drive and charisma — I believe our destiny is that which we perceive it as and let it be. We are the crafters of our middle-aged and older selves; we are the only ones that can live or die, jump off cliffs or merely

crawl to our eventual demise along endless plateaus. They say it's all downhill after walking across that stage and accepting a certificate that seals our acceptance into everyone else's similar fate, but I argue it's actually a launching pad for chasing the next dream. I may one day have a doctor digging around in my ass for any cancerous party crashers, but that doesn't mean the party stops and our only option is to walk back shamelessly to a suffocating existence post-success.

Don't ever view life as an endless path leading us to a casket, rotting away behind mourning naysayers and black-clothed defeat. We're greater than that, new shoulder hair or not.



Honorable Admin

Rose Spalding's Latest Book

by Taylor Gillen



Professor Rose Spalding

Dr. Rose Spalding, the director of the Honors Program and a political science professor at DePaul, has written a new book that demonstrates her enthusiasm for critical inquiry of interrelated global processes. Called *Contesting Trade in Central America: Market Reform and Resistance*, this book thoroughly outlines and analyzes the emergence of a neoliberal model for the economies of multiple Central American countries, particularly facilitated by the

trade agreement CAFTA (Central America Free Trade Agreement).

"CAFTA was interesting to me because it was contested," Dr. Spalding states. She says that life is complex and most things should not be taken at face value. There are usually multiple viewpoints, perspectives, and alternative arguments to process and think about.

Spalding says that she spent as much time researching as writing. Because she has written books discussing economic and globalization trends in Latin American in the past, she has pre-established connections that allow her to gather information quickly. One difficulty she encountered, however, was deciding where to end. As the trade agreements were controversial and involved multiple countries, the process of passing legislation took a number of years. Of course, the debate does not end there: once ratified, the treaties and laws go into effect. What happens when they are applied to every-day life is another entire story. In the end, she decided to include some of the effects of treaties like CAFTA, a "turning-of-the-tides" as she calls it. This leaves the topic open for further developments.

Deciding where to end is one creative decision an author needs to make. There are many more, such as what information to include, what information to exclude, and how to synthesize the information. In the process of research, Dr. Spalding asked herself many questions about how to gather, interpret, and incorporate various pieces of information.

That, however, is a key component of scholastic research, writing, and the creation of art. As a digital cinema student, I too must constantly ask questions when

creating a film. Does this scene work and develop the story? Why or why not? The Honors Program helps me make better decisions when faced with these choices. Rose Spalding also believes in the importance of thinking this way.

"What I like about Honors students is that they ask probing questions," Dr. Spalding remarks. "They do not simply learn the material to pass the test. They are genuinely interested in understanding how things operate, how certain trends develop, and so on."

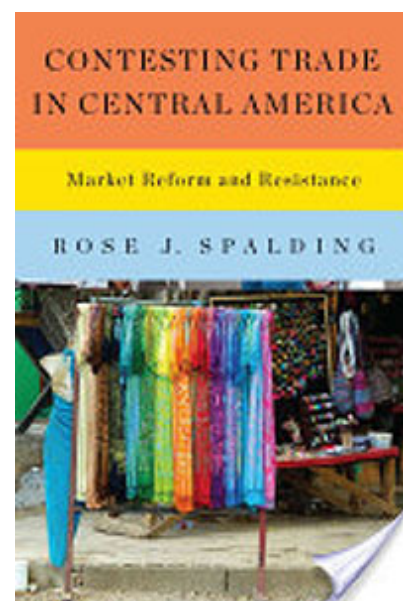
This mode of thought is also reflective in her classes.

Students find Spalding's teaching style to be interesting and engaging. Ashley Valentin, a junior, took Dr. Spalding's HON 201 course. "She takes a realistic and diverse approach to analyzing capitalism and its effects on different nation states," she says.

At the 2014 Honors Reception, Reverend Dennis Holtschneider, the president of DePaul, phrased it this way:

"to change the world, you first have to understand it."

This is what professors like Rose Spalding believe, and so do I. If we wish to make a difference in something, we first have to know how it works and what needs to be changed. Dr. Spalding's book may provide critical insight into understanding emerging economic trends in Central America, along with the implications for the globe that result from new processes that parallel the passing of CAFTA. Through her new book, Dr. Spalding shows us how to effectively inquire, research, understand, and create.



Darndest Things

While we don't advise listening to other peoples' private conversations, sometimes you can't help but overhear the very strange things they say around campus.

"DePaul's WiFi is a joke!"

"Just to know I'm annoying you makes it all worth it."

"Will the spring quarter EVER be over?"

"I want to eat chocolate and peanut butter together every single day of my life"

"I want something named after me."

"Riding the CTA can be soul-sucking"

"Red Bull is the gateway drug to Lucky Charms doughnuts."

"I can't get anything done with coffee anymore."

"She was going to a 'darty' at 10 am."

"I like a good laugh."

"After graduation, I'm just going to sit on my couch and catch up on TV."

"I'd rather be immature than mature."

"I'm not built to work six days a week."

"Taking the CTA after 1 a.m. is a reallllly bad idea."

“Some persons look and never see, others see and never look.”

St. Vincent DePaul