More than 80 percent of students in the Honors College have a job — a reality that can make it financially and logistically difficult for them to study or travel abroad.

Four years ago, not a single member of the Honors work study staff could afford to embark on a May Term Study Experience. That’s when Richard Badenhausen, dean of the Honors College, approached Honors benefactor Kim T. Adamson about helping create and fund a program that could financially assist those interested in studying abroad.

“Kim has a particular interest in supporting students who may not have the means to study abroad,” Badenhausen said.

The grant they formed is named for Adamson — a member of Westminster College’s Board of Trustees, an alumnus of the college, a world traveler, and a humanitarian. She made an initial $20,000 donation in 2013 to kick start the program and donated an additional $5,000 in 2014. A parent of a former honors student, Sharon Donnelly, was excited enough about Adamson’s idea that she has added $5,000 to support the effort over the past three years.

The grant provides a $2,500 stipend for students to use toward the Honors-specific study abroad partnership with the University of Glasgow in Scotland or any Westminster May Term international class.

Kim T. Adamson Grant for May Term Study Abroad

By Samantha Hernandez

Kim’s Tips:
1. Don’t be that “ugly American” because you may be the first and only American a foreigner may have met. Be polite and courteous.
2. Research the area you will be visiting in detail.
3. Keep a written log of your photos taken. Include date, time, location and any impressions you have.
4. Learn and memorize key local phrases, especially greetings.

EXPEDITION
Q&A with the returned Honors students and faculty from the Westminster Expedition

ALUMNI ABROAD
Honors alumni share how their time at Westminster impacted their time abroad

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Honors college promotes courteous conversation at civility event

Bipartisan experts model a conversation about how to promote productive politics

BY ELAINE SHEEHAN

Members of Westminster College’s campus community crossed the political aisle to shake hands and take part in a discussion about political conversation on Nov. 2, 2017 in the Vieve Gore Concert Hall.

The Honors College hosted the Civility and Politics in Public Life event as a way to foster ideological respect and model for students how to converse about challenging topics civilly. Natalie Gochnour, a Utah educator, moderated the discussion between Salt Lake County Mayor Ben McAdams and Josh Romney, who helped his father, Mitt Romney, run his 2012 presidential campaign.

With Gochnour’s help, the prominent Democrat and Republican discussed topics ranging from the United States’ Founding Fathers to the use of social media in political discussion and the importance of women’s contributions in politics.

The event had its roots in the Honors Presidential Elections seminar, which is offered every four years. The class has always been co-taught by a Republican and a Democrat in an effort to facilitate bipartisan conversation in the classroom.

Roger Livingston, one of the co-founders of the class, also helped plan the civility event.

“We were terribly disappointed not just with the tenor of the election of 2016 but also with the lack of civility in politics in general lately,” said Livingston, a former Utah lawmaker and Third District Court judge. “Our students deserve more than that,” he said.

Livingston said his disappointment with what appeared to be a systemic problem reiterated the need for thoughtful conversation — a key motivator behind the civility event.

At the event, presenters announced the winners of a statewide civility essay contest for high school students, underwritten by WCF, as well as the two recipients of the Horiuchi Political Internship: Honors students Jaedri Wood ('20) and Sabi Lowder ('19).

Honors alumna Kate Bradshaw ('03) served as an essay judge and said the contest’s responses gave her hope.

“It’s refreshing to know that there will always be this generation of young people who have new ideas and approaches to problems,” said Bradshaw, who works as a lobbyist in Utah and is the current chair of Westminster’s alumni board.

Wood, an international business major, said learning to converse with her peers in Honors seminars also helps her work with young Republicans in Utah.

“My goal is to get more people knowledgeable rather than just opinionated,” she said.

Lowder, a custom communication and global studies major, echoed Wood’s sentiments. She added that the civility event was a positive precursor to her internship with the Utah Democratic Party because it showed her that, at least locally, people can set aside their ideological differences and work together.

“Even with different political affiliations, we were able to go up on stage together, receive this internship together, and congratulate each other,” Lowder said.

Both Bradshaw and Livingston also noted the importance of higher education in promoting civility, making the Honors College a fitting host for the event.

“Higher ed should be the most open and welcoming of any place in our country,” Livingston said.

Bradshaw said that the Honors College is a good example of how classrooms can foster the cultivation of civility because students practice civil conversation and their instructors encourage them to challenge and shape their opinions in a constructive way.

“A lot of people have stopped listening,” Bradshaw noted. “Honors teaches students how to listen.”
Honors students and faculty reflect on Westminster Expedition

BY SABI LOWDER

Four Honors College students and two Honors professors joined ten other students while hitting the road last fall as part of the first-ever Westminster College Expedition. They were ably assisted by Honors alum Brett Carroll (’15), who served as a graduate assistant.

They traveled through nine states — Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Wyoming, and Utah — in two vans. Wherever they went, they asked questions about environmental cooperation and conflict, landscape and meaning, the history of public lands, and the native West.

The group spent plenty of days in the sun and nights under the stars getting to know the American West first hand. During the three-month-long trip, they met local residents and experts, Native leaders, writers, scholars, activists, elected officials, and government land managers.

Some of the trip participants sat down with Honorable Mention to share their experiences and reflect on their journey. Their responses have been edited for clarity and conciseness.

How did your Honors experience complement the expedition experience?

“I think [Honors conversations] — where a lot of folks are coming at the same topic from different angles — prepared me pretty well to go out on the expedition and hear diverse perspectives. Honors conversations also prepared me to synthesize those perspectives and figure out, ‘What do all these guest speakers have to say to me collectively?’”

- Bridger Layton, fourth-year environmental civics major

What inspired you the most while on the expedition?

“A lot of our invited speakers are doing these really complicated projects, grappling with problems from hell, … working with local folks, working with tribal folks, and not being paid very much. They are fighting politically, financially, and every other way, and they’re just committed to it and they have been doing it for decades. Students were inspired by these speakers. They said, ‘I want to do that kind of stuff.’”

- Jeff Nichols, history professor

If you could go back in time and give yourself advice before you went on the expedition, what would it be?

“One of our assignments was to keep a journal that we’d turn in to Brent and Jeff sporadically throughout the trip. In the beginning, I was really stressed out about it. I thought of it as a homework assignment and would write what I thought they wanted to hear. But by the end, it became my most treasured possession on the trip. The advice would be to take more time each day to journal and remember the expedition.”

- Naomi Shapiro, third-year public health major

How did the expedition experience complement your Honors experience?

“I feel like multidisciplinary learning is so much more ingrained in me now. A lot of things that I think I have formulated opinions about, I actually don’t. The more that I discuss topics with people, I lose my sense of strong opinion and find myself in some sort of middle ground, which I’ve felt in a lot of Honors classes previously.”

- Kara Kornhauser, third-year environmental science major

What makes a better roadtrip playlist—Brent or Jeff?

“Brent. He can tolerate music that Jeff can’t, like Ke$ha, Die Antwoord, and the 10th play of “DAMN.” by Kendrick Lamar. He’s a big fan of Grimes and Green Day. He knows all the words to “Bad Girls” by MIA, so his chain can hit his chest while he’s banging on the dashboard. He also showed us a song about a combination Pizza Hut/Taco Bell that was popular with everyone.”

- Josee Stetich, third-year environmental science major

Who makes a better roadtrip playlist—Brent or Jeff?

“Brent. He can tolerate music that Jeff can’t, like Ke$ha, Die Antwoord, and the 10th play of “DAMN.” by Kendrick Lamar. He’s a big fan of Grimes and Green Day. He knows all the words to “Bad Girls” by MIA, so his chain can hit his chest while he’s banging on the dashboard. He also showed us a song about a combination Pizza Hut/Taco Bell that was popular with everyone.”

- Josee Stetich, third-year environmental science major

What is your favorite memory from the expedition?

“The people in Malheur [National] Wildlife Refuge asked students to talk about their life goals or what they were here for or what they hoped to learn. Students got this question from a lot of people. But this time, everyone was sharp and clear and visionary and imaginative and authentic in a way that they hadn’t been before. And it struck me — it was about halfway through the trip — that things were working. I could see change in students.”

- Brent Olson, environmental studies professor
Honors community inspired one of its first international students to become a successful CEO

BY ERIC MELLMER

Mai Ho (‘12), now the international CEO for a global digital marketplace, says Westminster College’s Honors College helped her develop key skills that have contributed to her success — including tolerance of all viewpoints, critical thinking, and network building.

One of the first international students in the Honors College, Ho was raised in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam and enrolled at Westminster in 2009 to study accounting and finance. After graduation, she managed technology companies’ investments at Goldman Sachs.

In March 2017, Ho founded BigBalo, an online shopping community based in San Francisco, California and Ho Chi Minh. Her business lets consumers purchase products from abroad and offers travelers the opportunity to make money delivering those items across borders.

Ho attributes much of her business success to her academic experiences in the Honors College, where she was a peer mentor for three years, wrote for Honorable Mention, and attended numerous research conferences.

During first-year orientation, Ho said she realized the importance of tolerance when Dave Goldsmith, an Honors and geology professor, asked the new students if they believed in global warming. To her surprise, only half of the students in the class said they did.

“Experiences like that really make me more patient and [able to] learn to build up my tolerance for understanding different perspectives,” Ho said. “Nowadays, I get advice from my [colleagues and investors] and sometimes I don’t necessarily agree with them to begin with, but… I’ll let the data and the conclusion speak for itself and not just dismiss [their viewpoint].”

Bob Haworth, a former management professor at Westminster who assisted Ho with BigBalo’s business plan, said he was impressed with her careful thinking and dedication in his management course.

“She would ask tough questions that clearly indicated that not only did she understand the topic but was drilling down deeper to understand it on a different level than we were discussing in class,” Haworth said.

The networking skills Ho learned in the Honors College and beyond have also been instrumental in her success, she said. Honors College Dean Richard Badenhausen helped her connect with helpful and personable alumni, she said, and her caring peer mentors Cassidy Jones (‘11) and Brody Leven (‘10) inspired her, in part, to create her own business.

“They opened [themselves up] to new experiences, took risks, and followed their dreams,” Ho said. “Being exposed to those people, it made me feel like I should do the same thing.”

Mai Ho

Continued from Page 1

Recipients must show financial need, and the best candidates are those who can connect their chosen experience with their lives and future goals.

Rosanise Odell, a 2016 Adamson Grant recipient, said she focused her application essay on two things: her desire for an immersive experience to develop her Spanish language skills and her longing to travel out of the country for the first time in her life.

“You can only take so many language classes until you want to see if you can do more than conjugate verbs,” said Odell, who went on the Camino de Santiago May Term trip to Spain. “I’d never left the country before,” she remarked, “and most of [the programs] aren’t affordable unless they allow you to use your Westminster scholarships.”

Nicole McKenna, a senior psychology major, embarked on a 2016 May Term trip called Europe on the Edge and said the Adamson grant was responsible, in part, for making that experience possible.

“I’ve always wanted to [study abroad] and finally I had the opportunity to do that,” she said. “I wasn’t really sure if I would ever get the chance to.”

McKenna also said her scholarship allowed her to apply concepts and ideas from the classroom in a real-world setting.

“I really liked the content of the May Term trip because it was cross-listed with justice studies, psychology, and Honors,” she said. McKenna also enjoyed “looking at the context of culture, religion, and place and how that tied into different studies of prison systems.”

The Honors College prides itself on developing well-rounded students, Badenhausen said — and part of that comes from engaging with the world.

“Global experiences and global orientation are a focus of Honors,” he said. “And part of the way that plays out is Honors students are overrepresented in study abroad experiences relative to their population on campus.”

Badenhausen concluded, “one of the things I most like about our students is how adventurous and curious they are about our global community.”
Honors alumni say their time at Westminster impacted their experiences abroad

Though they’re thousands of miles from Westminster College, five Honors alumni who have lived, studied, and worked abroad said their time in the Honors College impacted their experiences overseas.

Several alumni said the Honor College’s emphasis on written and verbal communication has made them more successful abroad and provided them with the tools to critically reflect on their experiences in other countries.

Marya Smith (’12) credits the skills she learned in the Honors College with her acceptance into the University of Edinburgh’s linguistics program. She said the strength of her application was rooted in the writing skills she learned in her Honors seminars.

Tyler Sherry (’09) said the seminar format of Honors classes taught him how to listen first and then respond — a skill that has been essential during his time working in Tokyo, Japan.

“The language is not something that I can say I have 100 percent understanding of in every situation,” Sherry said. “It becomes that much more important to really be comfortable to sit and listen, to stop people and ask them to re-explain, [and] make sure you’re understanding things as they go along. And building up that comfort, that ability to communicate in another language definitely is something the seminar style classes made, I think, a big impact on.”

Sherry works for Rockwell Collins, a multinational avionics and information technology systems and services provider and is currently conducting research on electron microscopy.

For Fehmi Yasin (’13), a Global Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW) fellow with the National Science Foundation, Honors taught him to “always be aware of the context that is at play when contributing to the conversation and [to] help move the conversation forward towards a goal.”

Yasin, who is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in physics at the University of Oregon, said he learned in his undergraduate studies that communication impacts how others perceive his work and can help the perception of his final product.

For Dallin Van Leuven (’10), a visiting fellow at Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, one Honors seminar in particular stands out. The interdisciplinary nature of Science, Power, and Diversity has influenced his work in Lebanon with Search for Common Ground, an international non-profit that promotes peaceful conflict resolution.
The Honors College teaches its students to think critically not only about problems and ideas presented in readings but also about their own ideas, beliefs, and experiences.

The five alumni said many Americans have misconceptions about what it’s like to live in another country, but noted that their experiences abroad differ from those expectations.

“You really get to look at a whole different perspective back on the US and back on the country I grew up in,” said Sherry of his experience living in Tokyo.

Sierra Kane (’16) said her friends in the United States repeatedly asked her if she would be safe living in the Netherlands by herself as she prepared to pursue her master’s degree in gender studies at Utrecht University. The idea that the rest of the world is unsafe contributes to many people’s unwillingness to live abroad, she said.

Van Lueven agreed that Americans generally view the world through a “security-focused lens.”

He was working in Egypt during the country’s 2011 revolution and visited Iran in 2012. Van Lueven said he never felt afraid in either country. However, he acknowledged that some periods of time were scary for his family — especially while internet and cell service were disconnected in Egypt during the revolution, in a government attempt to prevent communication among protesters.

The alumni said there are endless things to love about living and working abroad and spoke highly of the new experiences and encounters they’ve been exposed to.

“Every single thing is a little bit more interesting because everything has the potential to be different,” said Smith who is currently preparing for a two-year contract with a management consulting company in Stockholm.

Kane, who received her master’s in gender studies at Utrecht University in the Netherlands, agreed and said she “likes being exposed to diversity,” new cultures, and new adventures in the Netherlands. Yasin said he enjoys working in Tokyo because it’s one of the few places in the world where experts in his field gather together to conduct research.

All five alumni encouraged other Honors students to study or work abroad.

Smith said moving to another country is hard but not impossible. She said the phrase she hates hearing the most when she tells others about her experiences is: “You’re so lucky; I wish I could do that.”

“Just do it,” she said. “It is absolutely scary, and there are always reasons not to.”

The alumni urged students to study abroad for longer than they think they should and to set attainable goals to make sure they get the most out of their trips.

Sherry suggested students look at multinational companies with headquarters in the US who “are looking for highly mobile and low-baggage people.” When they find one, they should express their interest in moving abroad early in their career, he said.

Overall, the alumni said the time they spent and the skills they learned in the Honors College have proven useful well beyond the world of academia and serve as a testament to the lasting impact of the Honors experience. HM.
Tyler Sherry ('09) has been working in Tokyo, Japan for six years with Rockwell Collins, a multinational avionics and information technology systems and services provider.

Sierra Kane ('16) received her master's degree in gender studies at Utrecht University in the Netherlands in spring 2017. She now works for the American Quarter Horse Association and travels regularly for her job.

Fehmi Yasin ('13) is a Global Research Opportunities Worldwide (GROW) fellow with the National Science Foundation and is pursuing his PhD in physics at the University of Oregon. For his GROW Fellowship, Yasin conducted electron microscopy research in Tokyo, Japan.
Student Profile: Zoey Gray

BY HAYDEN KJELLEREN

Zoey Gray, a senior public health major at Westminster College, has spent the last four years involved in research, outdoor activities, and leadership roles both on campus and around the world.

She’s volunteered as an Honors College peer mentor and has served as both the historian and president of the Student Honors Council. But perhaps her most meaningful college experience was her fall 2017 semester studying abroad at the University of Glasgow in Scotland.

“It was awesome,” Gray said. “But there is a lot of challenge and struggle involved with study abroad because you are dropped off in a new country where you don’t know anyone.”

The University of Glasgow, founded in 1451, has almost 25,000 students, 7,000 of which are international students from all across the world. It is located in the middle of the historic city of Glasgow, an area increasingly known for its thriving art, food, and music scenes, as well as for its easy access to other European countries.

Westminster’s Honors College has a partnership with the University of Glasgow through its membership in the Principia Consortium, a select group of honors programs and colleges in the US that collaborated to create the program in Scotland. Students pay their Westminster tuition as usual, plus housing expenses — making the experience more attainable, as the cost is roughly equivalent to that of a typical semester at home. Most importantly, Westminster’s merit-based scholarships still apply and students can also use federal financial aid to assist with fees and to offset other study-abroad-related expenses.

At least 16 other Honors students have taken advantage of the program so far, with two more planning to attend next fall.

“It’s not a vacation like it may seem before going,” Gray said. “It’s a really powerful experience filled with ups and downs, and you have to get comfortable with living alone. Overall, it can be both really challenging but also really rewarding.”

Reflecting on her semester in Scotland, Gray encouraged her peers to take risks and prioritize new experiences.

“Don’t be afraid to try new and scary things,” she said. “And don’t let something too far out of your comfort zone get in the way of doing something.” HM.

Professor Profile: Han Kim

BY ANDREW FRANKS

An avid outdoorsman, mechanics enthusiast, and expert epidemiologist, Honors professor Han Kim could never be accused of having too much time on his hands. On campus, Kim directs the school’s undergraduate public health program, advises the Students for Choice and Asian-American clubs, and takes students every year on a May Term Study Experience trip to Thailand, a class that is always cross-listed with Honors.

Born in Seoul, South Korea, Kim and his family immigrated to Boston, Massachusetts in 1974. He went on to earn a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, an M.S. in public health from the University of Utah, and a Ph.D. in epidemiology from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Kim managed the University of Utah’s Thailand trip before coming to Westminster. When he transferred schools, he decided to bring the program with him in hopes of engaging his new students in community service and providing them immersive interaction with Thai natives.

Traveling to Thailand challenges students’ preconceived notions of the country, Kim said — and he hopes that afterward they will give more credence to the ideas of people across the world.

“It sounds cliché when I say it changes lives,” Kim said. “But it has.”

Kim began teaching Honors seminars in fall 2010. He currently teaches Science, Power, and Diversity and Data/Society/Decision-Making and hopes to help students understand the connections between public health and social justice issues.

The Honors College “epitomizes the mission of Westminster College,” Kim said. “Not to teach students but for students to learn — not necessarily to have them memorize random facts but to [have them] really understand critical thinking, creativity, [and] communication.”

During his first few years in Salt Lake City, Kim served in AmeriCorps, a national network of service programs. Now, Kim works to pass on his dedication to service to his students not only through his trip to Thailand but also by emphasizing its importance and encouraging students to get involved with their local communities.

“We all think about our rights as a citizen,” he said. “We don’t really think about the obligations — how we give back.” HM.
I had the privilege of living in Iceland for two and a half months while working on an artist residency in downtown Reykjavik. During the middle of a north Atlantic winter, I worked on my research, rediscovered the importance of articulate and effective communication, and relearned the necessity and difficulty of active and empathetic listening.

I became something of a student again. I experienced that glimmer of excitedly exploring the unknown, doubting myself and my work entirely, and redefining my understanding of my work, process, words, and the very nature of visual communication as I defined it. Like many busy college students, I spent days at a time in pajamas and bathed only when absolutely necessary.

I realized how easy it is to become scripted and lack innovation. As I worked with my peers, I discovered that my usual feedback and analogies fell flat as I delivered them. I realized the artwork and ideas I had curated did not speak to this international group in the way it had to artists at home. I had to broaden my ideas and reframe the content of my work.

I was reminded how difficult active and engaged listening truly is and the energy it requires. I would have been at a complete loss were it not for the ability of every artist in residence to speak English — while I struggled in my privilege to learn even the most basic words in any of the nine languages spoken there. My classmates’ patience and effort in reaching out to me was a reminder and inspiration to speak less and listen more. 

“I experienced that glimmer of excitedly exploring the unknown, doubting myself and my work entirely, and redefining my understanding of my work, process, words, and the very nature of visual communication as I defined it.”

Matt Kruback

Growing up in small-town Cajamarca in northern Peru made traveling to the capital city, Lima, the trip of a lifetime. I never understood the impact my time in that town had on my identity until I transferred to the big city. Four years, three continents, and many lessons later, it turns out I had yet more discovering to do, and I am very grateful for the chance to study abroad.

Being in Westminster College’s Honors College meant attending Tuesday Conversations, which occasionally meant information sessions about studying abroad. At first, I thought it was funny — I was already abroad! — but my capacity as an international student has taught me the importance of taking new risks when it comes to learning.

There are two major benefits of spending time abroad. First, you don’t really know yourself until you’ve been away from home. And trust me, this introspection will come in the most unexpected ways. I discovered, for example, that education styles vary across the world and that conquering your comfort zone translates from travel to work in surprising ways.

Second, once you start knowing other cultures, you will never want to stop — which is probably the reason why I’m writing this piece. Traveling abroad is hard work and sometimes even scary. There’s a lot of planning that goes into ensuring you’re getting the most out of your experience. But, in my opinion, it’s one of the most valuable learning opportunities you can have.

More than just seeing new places and meeting different people, spending time abroad means opening your mind to new perspectives and feeding that little part of your brain that keeps asking, “What’s beyond my reality?”

“I don't really know yourself until you've been away from home.”

Nicole Rodriguez Cavero

“‘You don't really know yourself until you've been away from home.'"
**NEWS & NOTES**

Mike Goble ('04) and his wife live with their five children in Dallas, where he makes use of his biology degree from Westminster College through his work as a cytotechnologist.

Stan Sarkisov ('07) co-authored an essay called “Pronoun Power: The Standard for Gender Neutrality.” The piece was published in the winter 2017 issue of the San Francisco Attorney, the journal of the city’s bar association.

Sharayah Cook ('08) is building a product management team for an international advertising technology (adtech) startup called AppThis and is partnering with the startup's president to scale operations.

John Cook ('10) is now in-house counsel at the international telecom company Zayo Group.

Dallin Van Lueven ('10) is a visiting fellow at Tufts University’s Feinstein International Center, where he works on issues related to gender and conflict.

Six years after meeting in the Honors seminar Political Economy of Conflict, David Luhr ('12) and Sara McCaskey ('14) made things official by getting married.

Lexie Banks ('12), Alex Martin ('18), and Abby Scott ('18) are co-authors with a number of Westminster professors on the essay “Employee voice: Foundation to the scaffolding of CHRG Healthcare’s culture journey.” The piece was recently published in the academic journal Organizational Dynamics.

Abby Speicher ('13), CEO/Founder of DARTdrones, a training/consulting company with a presence in over 40 locations, including a newly-opened office in Salt Lake City, returned to campus in March to give a keynote lecture in the Power of Entrepreneurship series in the Gore School of Business.

Elizabeth Nelson ('13) graduated from the University of Utah’s medical school and married Trevor Kade Andersen on Dec. 30, 2017 in Logan, Utah. She will soon start her residency in family medicine in Fayetteville, NC, while Trevor is stationed at Ft. Bragg.

Michael Ballantyne ('13) recently completed his M.Sc. in computer science at the University of Utah and is now working on his Ph.D. at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

Nicole Holbrook ('14), a third-year law student at Boston University, was honored by the Massachusetts chapter of the National Lawyers Guild at its 2018 Testimonial Dinner for her work reviving BU’s NLG chapter and organizing a “Resistance Series” with other schools.

Sabina Schill ('15) is working on her Ph.D. in environmental engineering at the University of Colorado, Boulder and has been working for TeachEngineering, a company that designs STEM curriculum for K-12 students.

Willy Palomo ('15) has had three poems published recently in The Adroit Journal.

James Steur ('16) has been recognized as an “Excellent Instructor” during his very first semester of teaching while in the Ph.D. program at the University of Illinois. This honor goes to only the top 30% of all faculty across campus.

Debbie Samaniego ('17), a 2017 Marshall Scholar, will be attending the University of Sussex next year to earn a Ph.D. in migration studies.

Carissa Christensen ('18) will present as a panelist for the Pop Culture Association’s conference in Indianapolis, Indiana at the end of March. She will present her research on the importance of comprehensive LGBTQIA+ sex education.

Holden Rasmussen ('18) was a semifinalist for the Fulbright United Kingdom Partnership Award to the University of Warwick and was selected above many qualified applicants, including doctoral students, through the competitive and extensive process.

Jodie Adams ('18) presented her math research in tiling theory at the Joint Mathematics Meeting in San Diego. Her painting “Blizzard” is also being published in the national honors literary magazine, Scribendi.

Rachel Darata's ('18) geologic research with Dr. Tiffany Rivera, a Westminster professor, has been cited by the United States Geological Survey in its updated field trip guide to Yellowstone National Park.

Taylor Stevens ('18) will sit on a panel at the Broadcast Education Association’s conference in Las Vegas, Nevada this April that is based around her reporting at The Salt Lake Tribune, where she covers government and politics.

Palmer Larsen ('18) represented Westminster at the Collegiate Regional Rock Climbing championships last month and placed first in both bouldering and sport climbing.

Jared Rich ('18) has become an AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) and is offering a year of service to clients of The Road Home Salt Lake City and Midvale shelters with a goal of improving disaster preparedness and response for those locations.

Zoe Gray ('18) has been hired as a co-lead youth coach for First Star, a summer academic and life-skills program working with foster youth at the University of Utah.

Ambur Saab ('19) is an author of “A Method to Define the Effects of Environmental Enrichment on Colon Microbiome Biodiversity in a Mouse Colon Tumor Model,” which was published in the JoVE Video Journal.

Jessica Taghvai ('19) will present her research at the Alpha Chi National Convention this spring. She competed in the 2018 National Ethics Bowl competition, attended UNICEF’s student leader summit and advocacy day, and represented Westminster at the 2018 Utah Intercollogeiate Legislature. Recently, she was named the winner of Westminster’s Ellipsis prose contest.

Sahbi Lowder ('19) served as ASW president this spring and was recognized at this year’s Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Unity Luncheon as the one undergraduate student to receive Westminster’s Unsung Hero Award.

Sarah Turner ('19) presented on integrating Great Salt Lake science into elementary instruction at the Utah Science Teachers Association’s annual conference with Dr. Kalani Eggington and Great Salt Lake Institute’s Jasmir Butler.

Scout Invie ('19) is working with Utah’s online art magazine 15 Bytes to document public art and create community art walk pathways.

Stephanie Held ('19) is a student fellow in Westminster’s Office of Spiritual Life and competed with Westminster’s Ethics Bowl team at the national competition in Chicago, Illinois in March.

Kenzie Campbell ('20) runs the Civic Connections program through the Center for Civic Engagement at Westminster College and began an internship with the Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

Mary Grace Lewis ('20) won a U.S. State Department Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship in support of her May Term studies in Thailand.

Jon Carrillo ('21) will have his sculptural art photographed and reproduced in Scribendi.

Did you do something notable? We want to know! Email your news and notes to Richard at rbadenhausen@westminstercolllege.edu.
Honors College Campaign Update

And we are off and running! We launched the Honors College campaign just a few months ago and have raised $1.7 million to date with the support of the donors listed in this newsletter. Thank you!

This effort began in earnest with a $1 million gift from Kim T. Adamson, whose support for Honors goes back two decades. Adamson endowed the chair that brought Richard Badenhausen, now dean of the Honors College, to Westminster in 2001, and she has been instrumental in positioning our program to make the move to a college.

The Honors faculty have also stepped up in a big way, with 100 percent of the 32 faculty who regularly teach in Honors raising over $18,000 for the student scholarship endowment. Even our graduating seniors lent their support when they met Badenhausen’s challenge to raise $500 toward the effort.

Over 130 alums and friends of Honors have contributed to this effort so far, which is both gratifying and humbling.

Visit Westminster.edu/giving to join this exciting opportunity!

HONORS WRITING AWARDS

WINNING ENTRIES

REBEKAH FORD
The Personal Cost of Caring
CATEGORY 1

JONNY SHAPIRO
Life of John
CATEGORY 1

JESSICA TAGHVAIEE
Bacon’s Missing Idol
CATEGORY 2

SCOUT INVIE
“My DNA Not for Imitation”
CATEGORY 3

BEST OVERALL
JESSICA TAGHVAIEE
Bacon’s Missing Idol
From the Editors...

What travel location has been most impactful on your education?

GLASGOW, SCOTLAND
- Calen Smith

COPENHAGEN, DENMARK
- Taylor Stevens

ORANIENBURG, GERMANY
- Annette Donald

SUZHOU, CHINA
- Stephanie Held

BISCAY, SPAIN
- Scout Invie

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SPAIN
- Elaine Sheehan