



# ASPIRATIONS



*Aspirations* is the newsletter of the Columbus State University Honors College, which provides updates, features, and information for alumni, faculty, students, the community. On behalf of the Honors College Staff, we hope enjoy *Aspirations* and welcome any ideas for future issues.



HONORS COLLEGE  
COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY

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# HONORS COLLEGE UPDATES

Welcome to the latest addition of *Aspirations!* We are very excited to restart our newsletter so we can share all of the wonderful things happening in the Honors College. This fall started with some fantastic news as we are proud to announce that the Honors College Fall 2019 enrollment has reached a milestone. Exactly 300 students enrolled this term! We couldn't have done it without the support of our faculty, students, and community.

At the beginning of the Fall 2019 semester, President Chris Markwood introduced CSU's new initiative, *Create You*, to cultivate creativity, inspire collaboration, reimagine education, and, expand our worlds. Our goal in the Honors College is to invite students to reimagine their education by going beyond the classroom, collaborating across campus in all disciplines and into our community with service learning, and through international education to expand their world.

creative to the core.

Over the summer, the Honors College staff had some updates as well. We are proud to congratulate Dr. Susan Tomkiewicz for her promotion to Associate Dean of the Honors College. We are also excited to welcome Kristi Rehrauer to our staff as the new Administrative Coordinator.



CREATE  
YOU



# Welcome to the Fall Semester!

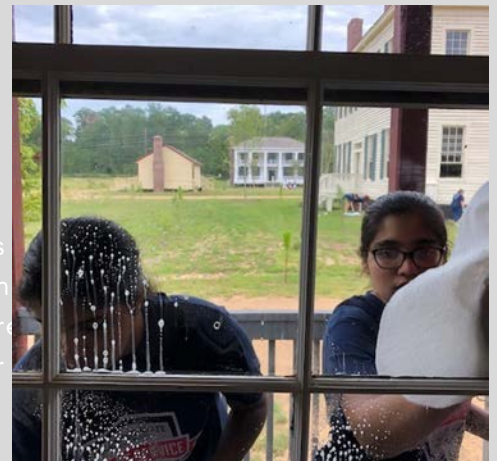
Our honors students started out this fall having fun and getting to know each other better. In August, new members of the Honors College attended Orientation. Then the same day, they were able to join the rest of the Honors College for a fun day at the lake at our annual back-to-school picnic.





# Day of Service

The 2019 Day of Service took place on August 24, 2019. We are proud to say that the Honors College had over 50 participants this year! Our students served at two locations, The Infantry Museum and Historic Westville. The students weeded flower beds, cleaned church pews, washed windows, painted, and much more, but the most important aspect of Day of Service is being able to reach out and help others in our community.





# Out & About

Each semester, various Honors Courses take field trips to unique locations. This fall semester HONS 3010 - Honors Global Perspective: Indian Music, traveled to The Hindu Temple of Atlanta to experience two South Indian classical violinists who were touring the United States. Some students from ENGL 2111H - World Literature, were able to attend a play at the Shakespeare Tavern in Atlanta. Additionally, HONS 3000 - Science of Beverages, students are experiencing how the beverage industry operates by visiting multiple locations around Columbus where different beverages are made and distributed.





# STUDY ABROAD IN CANADA



## COURSES OFFERED

HONS 3555 (3 HRS) - *Great Conversations - For Honors College Students*

ITDS 5555 (3 HRS) - *Promoting Prosperity - for Junior standing or above*

PERS 1506 & 1507 (3 HRS) - *Promoting Prosperity - for all students*

DEADLINE TO APPLY - February 12, 2020

PROGRAM FEES - \$1400

Contact - [honors@ColumbusState.edu](mailto:honors@ColumbusState.edu)

Explore one of the most beautiful cities in Canada, Quebec City which has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Treasure. The interdisciplinary courses are designed for all majors.

## PROMOTING PROSPERITY: CONNECTING THE CITIES OF QUEBEC & COLUMBUS

May 26 - June 2, 2020

This program explores and analyzes the connectivity of communities by comparing Columbus with Quebec City, Canada. Students will spend one week in each city interviewing leaders, exploring cultural sites and museums, and using the bike trail and public transportation systems to connect to community events such as open market days. Students will have time to immerse themselves in one of the most beautiful and safest cities in the French speaking province in Canada, and make recommendations to our local leaders to promote Columbus' prosperity.

The course will meet in early May to explore Columbus cultural centers and historic museums such as the Ma Rainey House of Blues and the National Infantry Museum. While in Canada, students will stay in the residence halls in Laval University with easy access to historic and cultural sites.

# Washington, D.C. Study Trip

## PERSPECTIVES ON LEADERSHIP: AMERICAN PRESIDENTS IN HISTORY AND MEMORY

How did we come to view Lincoln as the Great Emancipator? Why do we remember that George Washington never told a lie? This spring, Great Conversations (HONS 3555) will take a look at these questions and more as we explore how and why Americans tell stories about the nation's presidents. During our coursework in January Term, students will investigate the approaches various presidents have taken toward the responsibilities of the presidency and toward enacting their political agendas. We will also explore how contemporaries assessed presidential leadership, and how presidents have been memorialized in popular culture - on T.V., in film, and in museums and monuments.

During Spring Break, we will travel to Washington, D.C. to experience our Nation's most prominent monuments to some of our presidential leaders. Sites we plan to visit include Capital Hill, National Mall and Memorial Parks, Mount Vernon, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Smithsonian. This trip aligns with the start of the National Cherry Blossom Festival, and we are also pursuing opportunities to tour The White House and meet with Congressional representatives from Georgia.



## COURSE INFORMATION

HONS 3555 (3 HRS) : Pre-Requisite ITDS 1779H

Deadline to Apply: October 24, 2019

Contact Laura Pate

[pate\\_laura1@columbusstate.edu](mailto:pate_laura1@columbusstate.edu)

for more information or an application

TOTAL COST \$350

*Included:* Transportation by CSU bus, required course expenses, housing, and breakfasts

*Not Included:* Course tuition, additional meals, optional excursions, personal expenses, etc.

\$100 due with Application; Balance due by Dec 1

# Honoris Causa

Honoris Causa is the student organization sponsored by the Honors College. Honoris Causa translates into “for the sake of honor” in Latin and characterizes the dedication and leadership exhibited by its members through its many campus, community and cultural activities. Members in the organization work together on student-generated service projects, advising and shaping the CSU Honors College curriculum, and coordinating academic and social events. Honoris Causa has already been busy this semester by participating in the Day of Service, Welcome Back Picnic, Monthly Meetings, Study Abroad Fair, Induction, and Painting with a Twist. This year, we were honored to have President Markwood and Provost Bordelon as guests for Honoris Causa Induction and Top Scholar Reception. Attendees received a welcome letter from President Markwood and were congratulated by both President Markwood and Provost Bordelon on their academic achievements. Throughout the fall, they have many more activities planned involving volunteering and social fellowship.



## 2019-2020 Honoris Causa Officers

President: Abby Grace Moore

Main Campus Vice-President: Shannon Eshman

Main Campus Treasurer: Emily Davis

Main Campus Secretary: Chelsea Nguyen

Social Events Coordinator: Savanna Doster

Social Media Coordinator: Carlie Dollar

RiverPark Vice-President: Molli McGinnis

RiverPark Treasurer: Michelle Saiz

RiverPark Secretary: Macy Frazier

SGA Representative: Sneha Rejeev

Alternate SGA Representative: Charlene Ubah



# 2019 Senior Projects and Theses

**Gabriel Bello - B.S. Computer Science; Cyber Security Focus**

**Mentor: Dr. Alfredo Perez**

Thesis: *Adapting Financial Technology to Blockchain Platforms*

Notes: Gabriel is employed as Security Engineer in Alflac's Global Security Division.



**Leah Bonas - B.M. Violin Performance**

**Mentor: Dr. Andree Martin**

Thesis: *A Survey of the History of the Concertmaster through the Baroque, Classical, and Romantic Eras*

Notes: Leah plans to pursue an Artist Diploma Degree at Schwob School of Music, studying with Professor Boris Abramov.

**Caleb Cole - B.M. Music Education, Choral**

**Mentor: Dr. Michelle Debruyn**

Thesis: *The Link Between Meditation and Effective Practice: Increasing The Pace of The Acquisition Of Skill In Musical Practice*

Notes: Caleb completed his student teaching at Columbus High School and plans to become a secondary school choral director.

**Jacquelyn Dunton - B.A. English and Secondary Education**

**Mentor: Dr. Judith Livingston**

Thesis: *English Puritans: Their History, Theology, Practice, and Joy English Puritan Devotional*

Notes: Jacque plans to pursue a Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies while serving abroad with her husband as an overseas missionary. Until then, she's teaching English at a local Christian School.

**Amanda Ellenburg - B.F.A. Theatre Performance**

**Mentor: Lawrence McDonald**

Thesis: *A Mother*

Notes: Amanda is currently interning at Walt Disney World and plans to continue her acting career in the future.

**Hannah Eubanks - B.B.A. Accounting**

**Mentor: Dr. Jasmine Bordere**

Thesis: *Financial Reporting Quality Effects on Early Adoption of Accounting Standards Update 2016-02*

Notes: Hannah is currently working at an accounting firm in Cleveland, Ohio.

**Tracee Guthrie - B.S. Biology, B.A. Chemistry**

**Mentor: Dr. Kathleen Hughes**

Thesis: *The Involvement of Progesterone in Glial Cell Viability*

Notes: Tracee has been accepted to an NSF internship at Auburn University and plans to attend medical school in the future.

**Jesse Hunt - B.S. Biology, B.A. Chemistry**

**Mentor: Dr. Kathleen Hughes**

Thesis: *The Effects of Ethynodiol Diacetate on Epinehrine-Treated Glial-Derived Cells*

Notes: After completing an internship in Bioinformatics at Auburn, Jesse will be attending medical school at Edward Via College of Osteopathis Medicine.

**Thai Johnson - B.A. Music**

**Mentor: Dr. Joshua May**

Thesis: *A Comparative Analysis of Vocal Music Setting of Robert Frost Poetry by American Composers*

Notes: Thai will continue his education at Columbus State and enroll in the Artist Diploma program under the direction of Dr. Joshua May.

**Gavin Kerr - B.S. Computer Science**

**Mentor: Dr. Rodrigo Obando**

Thesis: *BSP Game Engine With Free Work Capability*

Notes: Gavin plans to enter the software development industry after interning at Synovus.

**Ellie Pippas - B.S. Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. Aisha Adams**

Thesis: *Gender Differences in Victim and Bystander Interview*

Notes: Ellie has been hired as a graduate research assistant for Emory University. She plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Psychology.



# Faculty Focus

## *Dr. Ryan Lynch*



Dr. Ryan Lynch is an Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Geography. Dr. Lynch is a specialist in early Islamic history and the Middle East, specifically the Islamic conquests and the establishment (and representation) of the first Islamic states.

Dr. Lynch arrived at CSU in Fall 2016, having previously taught for the University of Oxford, Stetson University, and Middlebury College. He completed his DPhil (PhD) at the University of Oxford, and much of his continued research and teaching interests center on the early Arabic historical tradition and the construction and interpretation of this early historical material.


Dr. Lynch teaches introductory classes on World History to 1500 CE, foundational classes on Historical Methods and the Digital Humanities, as well as seminar classes on early Islam, Late Antiquity, the Crusades, and the use of the Islamic past by modern terrorist groups like al-Qaeda and ISIS.

When asked about his favorite class to teach at CSU, Dr. Lynch singled out his Historical Methods class as a particular highlight. “The class is designed to introduce our students to the fundamentals of what it means to be a historian – how to develop

unique research questions while working with primary material on a topic of their own choosing. With a mix of students who hope to go into public-facing history jobs as well as their own classrooms one day, it’s a privilege to help them discover their historical passions and the important role that the study of history continues to have for our society.”


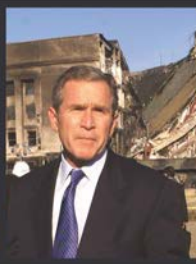
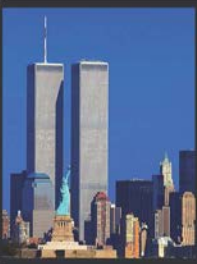
The Honors College is proud to call Dr. Lynch an Honors College Faculty Fellow. He was elected as one of the inaugural Honors College Faculty Fellows in 2018, and also teaches honors students within the College each semester.

In the Spring, Dr. Lynch is excited to be co-teaching a course with computer scientist Dr. Lydia Ray, another one of the Honors College Faculty Fellows. “We have designed a class to introduce the students to the concepts of the ‘digital humanities;’ to give them a taste of how digital tools can help historians and other humanists do amazing things when combined with the traditional skills of our disciplines. We have also designed the class entirely around the September 11th terrorist attacks, as many of our current students only know of 9/11 as a historical event rather than something they themselves remember or experienced.”



## 9/11: A DIGITAL ANALYSIS


HONS 3555 - "GREAT CONVERSATIONS"  
DR. LYDIA RAY AND DR. RYAN LYNCH



SPRING 2020 | MW 10:00-11:15

THE WORLD TRADE CENTER. HIJACKINGS.  
FLIGHT 93. THE PENTAGON. AL-QAEDA. MEMORY.  
THE PATRIOT ACT. THE WAR ON TERROR.

LEARN ABOUT IT ALL AND CREATE PROJECTS  
THROUGH THE USE OF NATURAL LANGUAGE  
PROCESSING.



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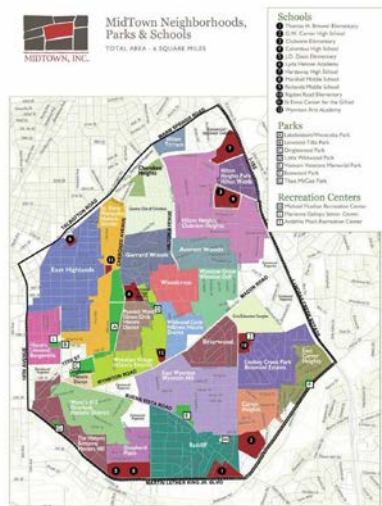
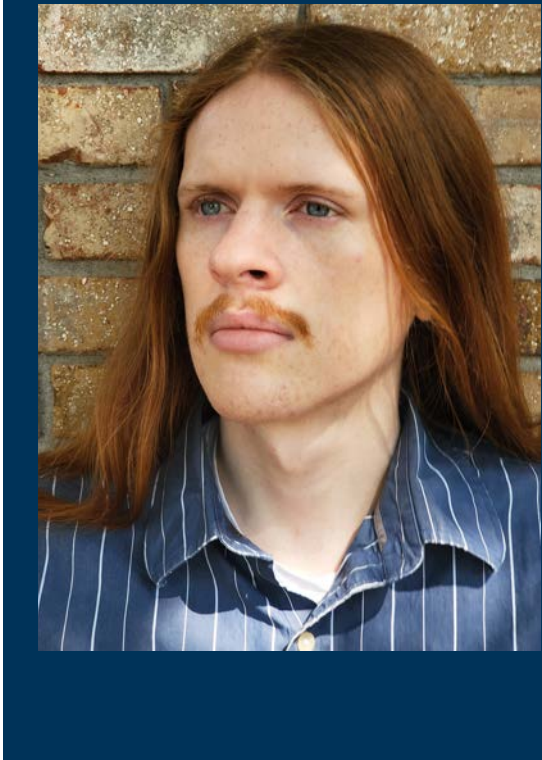


Micah Arnholt, is the Student Spotlight for our fall edition of *Aspirations!* A senior working towards his B.A. in History and Geography with both a GIS Certificate and an International Studies Certificate, Micah Arnholt is an outstanding member of Columbus State University's Honor College. Micah's primary research interest is in the use of GIS (Geographic Information Systems) mapping technology to solve issues of urban geography and morphology through space syntax theory. One of his passions is applying these technical skills and his love of community geography with the leadership qualities he learned as an Honors student to both academic and community projects.

In Fall 2018, as part of an internship with Dr. Amanda Rees' Urban Geography class, he created a map of Carver Height's construction dates that supported the nomination of the subdivision for the National Register of Historic Places. He also served as an interviewer for the class's Carver Heights History Harvest, which won an award from the University System of Georgia for "Outstanding Service Learning Program or Project: Oral History Harvest." That same fall, Micah took his experience beyond the university and volunteered for the Columbus Museum's "Making Conversation: Warren Williams Oral History Project," participating in multiple history harvests and interviewing residents of the Warren Williams Homes for the development of a community exhibition at the museum as well as the creation of a public art installation at Warren Williams. He has also worked at the Columbus Water Works since September 2018 where he serves as a GIS technician as part of a research internship, creating infrastructural maps of the company's underground facilities and assisting in survey fieldwork.

# Student Spotlight

## Micah Arnholt



At a Crossroads:  
MidTown, Inc. 2005-2015

Editor: Dr. Amanda Rees



Micah has had a lifelong love of traveling and maintains an active interest in other cultures, which he has parlayed into his academic career. He has partaken in three separate study abroad programs: traveling to Belize, China, and most recently, spending two terms studying at Oxford University in England as part of CSU's Oxford Visiting Student Program.

While studying at Oxford, he had the opportunity to travel extensively through the Balkans, and, after graduating, he plans to apply for a Fulbright scholarship to study in Romania before heading to Florida State University to study for his doctorate.


Micah wishes it to be known that, while the educational opportunities that the Honors College provided were key to his development as a student, it was the guidance and support of the Honors College staff and Dr. Ticknor in particular- especially as they helped reintroduce him to the academic community after an extended medical withdrawal from school- that fostered such a wonderful collegiate experience and aided in his growth as a person.



# Alumni Updates




December 2017 Graduate, Alex Jones, is the Digital Content Manager at WTVM News Leader 9 and attends Auburn University pursuing his M.S. in Communication



Katie Holbrook, a May 2018 graduate, is teaching elementary music in the Muscogee County School System and was recently a finalist for New Teacher of the Year

## Congratulations to Our Recent Higher Education Graduates

- Dr. Erin Perry - PhD, Colorado School of Mines
- Dr. Angelin Shajan - MD, VCOM Auburn - Working at Piedmont Columbus Regional
- Dr. Val Staples - MD, VCOM Auburn - Working at South Baldwin Regional Medical Center in Foley, Alabama
- Juliana Wells - Master of Arts, New York Academy of Art - Back in Columbus to showcase her work in her hometown



Spring 2016 Graduate, Micah Staples is in his 4th year of medical school at VCOM and is currently doing his surgical rotation in Columbus

We would love to hear from you!  
Please send us your life and career updates so we can show everyone how proud we are of our alumni.  
Email us at:  
[honors@columbusstate.edu](mailto:honors@columbusstate.edu)

## YOU ARE INVITED!



Come watch the Homecoming Parade with the Honors College!

Seniors\*, Alumni, & Friends

October 18th, 2019

6:00 pm

Up@ Smoke - 1047 Broadway

Your first drink is on us!



\*Venue is 21 & up only



## Save The Date

### Black & White Ceremony

Tuesday, December 3, 2019

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Upstairs @ The Loft  
1032 Broadway



## Honors College Vision

The Honors College will make Columbus State University a first choice institution for students who strive to succeed by championing innovative instruction, undergraduate research, and interdisciplinary studies.

## Honors College Mission

Our dual mission provides an innovatively delivered curriculum for high achieving students and advances the intellectual growth and recognition of the university. Our college challenges a diverse community of students to individualize their academic experiences, while serving as an institutional champion for undergraduate research, interdisciplinary studies, and creative instruction.



Do you have a student or faculty member you would like to spotlight? Or just have a suggestion for an upcoming edition of *Aspirations*?

Please send us an email at  
[honors@columbusstate.edu](mailto:honors@columbusstate.edu)  
We would love your suggestions!



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