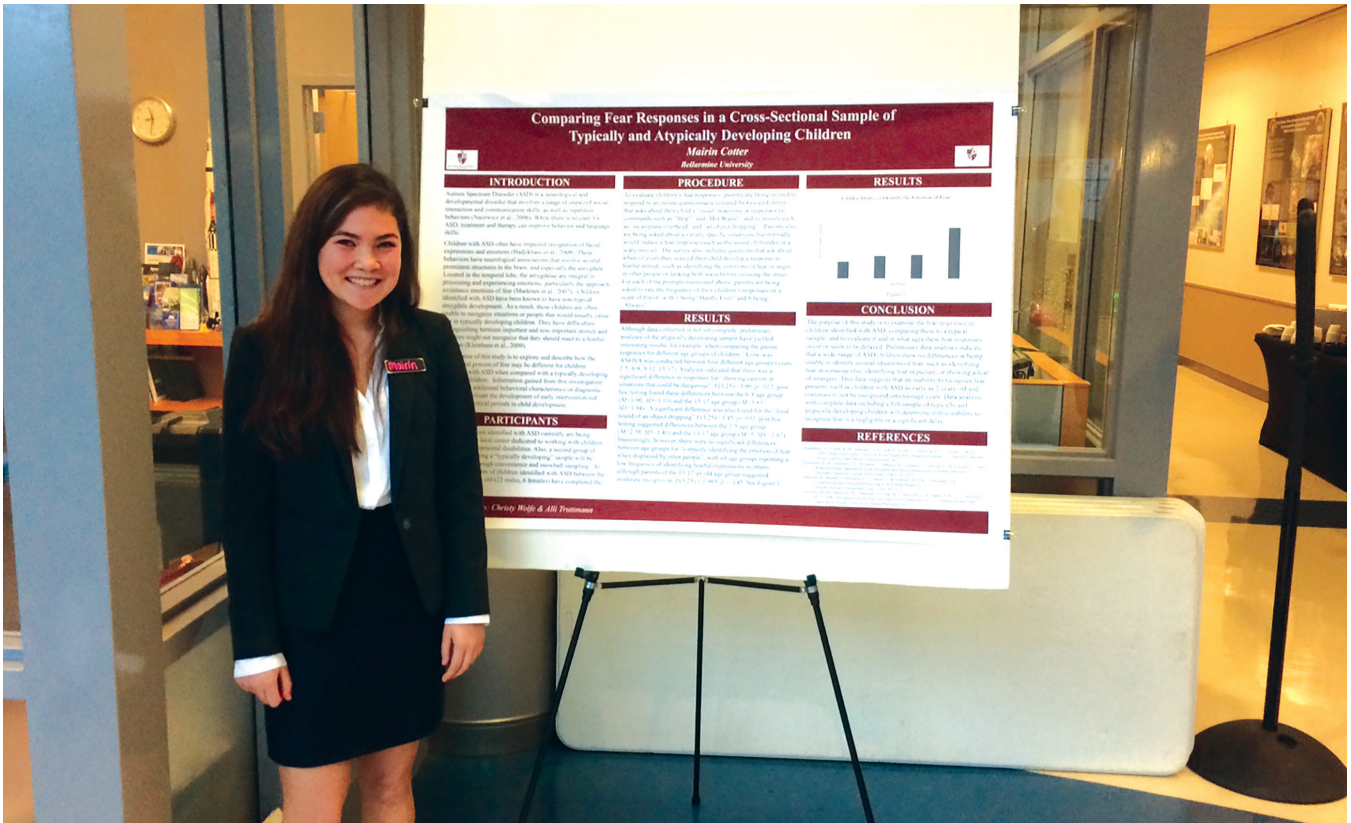


HONORS PROGRAM UPDATE 2017-2018





Clockwise from top left: Lauren Deines on an Honors excursion to Churchill Downs. Savannah Trussell looking at the fish during an Honors trip to the Newport Aquarium. Mairin Cotter poses next to her research while presenting at the Kentucky Honors Roundtable at Morehead State University.

Awards and Recognition

Fulbright Student Program Semifinalist

Senior Mairin Cotter was named a semifinalist in the Fulbright Student Program competition. The Fulbright U.S. Student Program provides grants or individually designed study/research projects or for English Teaching Assistant Programs. Mairin is a psychology major and is currently interviewing for research positions in several neuroscience labs.

Bellarmino Society

This spring, seniors Matthew Kondrat and Clare Hagan were selected as members of the inaugural Bellarmine Society. The Bellarmine Society is a diverse group of senior students who demonstrate committed service to Bellarmine University. This group serves as advisors to the president and university administration by identifying and communicating issues of significance in our community and inspiring a sense of community. Bellarmine Society members were selected through a competitive nomination process by university faculty and staff members.

Kentucky English Speaking Union Scholarship

Junior Honors English major Victoria Fischer was awarded a prestigious and highly competitive English Speaking Union scholarship to study literature at Oxford University in the summer of 2018. Victoria plans to use the research she does abroad to supplement her Honors thesis.

Dr. Rhodes Honor

In December, Drew Chandler was awarded a Dr. Rhodes Honor, an award given by the Student Government Association to students who have demonstrated the same servant leadership and dedication to student life that Dr. Fred Rhodes has exhibited in his service to the Bellarmine community. Recipients are nominated by their peers, and both faculty and students are eligible. Drew is a Political Science and Economics double major and serves as the SGA Chief of Staff. He is also the current president of the Bellarmine Mock Trial team.

Women's Golf Coaches Association All American Scholar

Sophomore Savannah Trussell was named an All American Scholar by the Women's Golf Coaches Association for the 2016-17 season. She was one of less than one thousand student athletes recognized nationwide across all three college athletic divisions. Savannah is a Biology major and plans to attend physical therapy school after graduating from Bellarmine.

Great Lakes Valley Conference Scholar-Athlete of the Year

Senior Erin Crone was recently named one of six Scholar-Athletes of the Year by the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Erin is a cross country runner and one of three honorees from Bellarmine for the fall of 2017. Erin is an Environmental Studies major currently completing her thesis research entitled, "Comparison of Habitat and Water Quality in the Blue River's South and Salem Forks in Southern Indiana to Support Watershed Management."

Mock Trial Outstanding Attorney

Freshman Lauren Deines received an Outstanding Attorney award at the University of Rochester invitational mock trial tournament. Lauren is a Psychology and History major and secretary of the Bellarmine Mock Trial team.

NRHH of the Month Award

The Honors Program recently won an Of The Month (OTM) award from the Bellarmine Chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH). OTMs are submitted nominating students, faculty members, or staff that has performed exceptionally in the past month, improving the lives of students and of the Bellarmine community. The Honors Program won OTM in January and was nominated by Jack Clines, a Secondary Education major and Freshman Representative on the Honors Student Advisory Board.



Clockwise from top left: Members of the Social Activities Committee pose during the annual Honors Holiday Party. Allie Richards and Cassandra Marlow volunteering at the Kentucky Refugee Ministries's Global Gourmet event. Honors freshmen during the Churchill Downs excursion.

Research

Kentucky Honors Roundtable

Six students attended the biannual Kentucky Honors Roundtable held at Morehead State University on February 23 and 24. Students presented their research in front of their peers and connected with other Honors students from across the state. The Kentucky Honors Roundtable is hosted on a rotating basis by Kentucky universities and will be hosted by Bellarmine University in spring 2019.

Southern Regional Honors Council Conference

From April 5-7, seven students attended the Southern Regional Honors Council Conference in Washington, D.C. SRHC is composed of over 100 colleges and universities from across the Southeastern United States. Students shared their thesis research in poster and presentation sessions over three days and had the opportunity to explore the city. Junior Eli Megibben also traveled to Washington to conduct research for her senior thesis at the United States Memorial Holocaust Museum.

Kentucky Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network

Last summer, junior Kandis Arlinghaus was accepted into the Kentucky Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network, a 10 week program for students interested in medical careers and biomedical research. Kandis presented her research on the effects of a zinc and fat controlled diet on autistic behaviors in mice at the Kentucky Academy of Science's conference in November, where she received 2nd place for her poster in the health sciences division.

Freshman Jordan Stacy was recently accepted to KBRIN's summer research internship program. The ten-week long summer program allows students to openly explore topics of their own interests in small teams while building important skills and scientific ways of thinking. Jordan will collaborate with his team to determine his research subject at the beginning of summer.

American Pain Society Scientific Summit

Last summer, Hailee Bray volunteered full time with the Kentucky Spinal Cord Injury Research Center. This year as a sophomore, Hailee has been working with faculty mentor Dr. Sonja Bareiss on a project entitled "New Mechanisms and Targeting of Maladaptive Sensory Growth in the Development of Neuropathic Pain Following Spinal Cord Injury." Hailee presented their research at the American Pain Society's Scientific Summit in Anaheim, CA this spring, and most notably, the abstract for this project was published in The Journal of Pain.

Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU)

Junior Cat Terrell was awarded a Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) award through the National Science Foundation. Cat will work with Dr. Agnes Luo at the University of Cincinnati researching methods of therapy for stroke and other brain injury patients in order to expand the treatment window for brain injuries. Cat is a Biology major with a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology minor.

Infant Cognition Lab, University of Louisville

Last summer, Katie Kaufling volunteered part time in the University of Louisville's Infant Cognition Lab. She was able to strengthen her research skills while learning more about a graduate program she may attend after Bellarmine. Katie is a Psychology major with a Business Administration minor, and is currently serving as the Junior Representative on the Honors Student Advisory Board.

Study Abroad

The Honors program is able to offer a rotating selection of courses with travel abroad experiences to locations such as Italy, Belize, and Peru. Students in good standing in the program are eligible to receive funding for these courses to make them more affordable.

HONR-320: Rome: Crossroad of Religions

15 Honors students travelled to Rome, Italy, in December 2017 as part of Dr. Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty's HONR-320 Rome: Crossroads of Religions course. After studying the Eternal City throughout the fall semester, students traveled to Rome for one week during winter break. The group visited a number of religious and cultural sites while enjoying delicious local food and developing deeper friendships. Perhaps most notably, they gave Pope Francis a Bellarmine Honors t-shirt. The group detailed their trip on their group blog at <http://bellarminehonorsrome.blogspot.com/>.

HONR-320: History of Belize course

12 Honors students and faculty will travel to Belize between May 5-May 14 as part of the HONR-320 History of Belize course. Students will spend the second half of the spring semester examining Mayan/Belizean history, Belizean music, Belizean culture, Belizean/Central American economics and politics, and coral reef ecology. While in Belize, students will snorkel the second largest barrier reef in the world, interact with local Belizeans, learn firsthand about coral reef ecology, visit Mayan temples, and have many more exciting experiences.



Members of the HONR-320 course pose in front of the Colosseum

Honors Students Abroad

A number of Bellarmine Honors students study abroad each year. Here are just a few examples of the places our students are visiting.

Sophomore Audrie Lamb studied abroad in Segovia for two weeks through the Kentucky Institute for International Studies (KIIS). Audrie lived with a Spanish host family while taking Intercultural Communication with Dr. Gail Henson. Audrie is a Communication and History double major and the Vice President of Communication on the Honors Student Advisory Board.

Sophomore Mary Wurtz will study abroad in Segovia, Spain for one month this summer through the KIIS Spain I program. She will study Spanish conversation and composition and live with a Spanish host family. Mary has studied Spanish for four semesters so far at Bellarmine and took her first Spanish class when she was in the 5th grade. She is the current president of the Honors Student Advisory Board.

Freshman Cassandra Marlow will study abroad in Murcia, Spain, for the spring 2019 semester. Cassandra is a Sociology and Philosophy double major on the pre-law track and Public Relations Officer for the Bellarmine Mock Trial team.



Members of the HONR-320 course enjoy gelato

Internships and Professional Achievement

Humana Actuarial Student Internship

Over the summer, junior Megan Alexander interned with Humana's actuarial student internship program, where she worked on a project analyzing the impact of excluding certain, more costly practitioners from insurance plans. Megan competed against over 1,000 applicants and was one of only 29 students selected for the program. She has also been invited back to work again next summer. Megan is an Actuarial Science and Economics double major.

Bellarmine Writing Center Interim Coordinator

Junior Eli Megibben has been named the Interim Writing Center Coordinator in the Student Success Center for the spring 2018 semester. Eli is an English major with History and Peace Studies minors, and she currently serves as the Vice President of Outreach on the Honors Student Advisory Board.

The Learning House Marketing Internship

Junior Katie Kaufling recently accepted an internship opportunity with Advancement Courses, a company within The Learning House. Katie is a Psychology major with a Business Administration minor, and is currently serving as the Junior Representative on the Honors Student Advisory Board.

Sophomore Accounting internship

Liz Oxley spent her summer working as an Accounting/Finance intern at Louisville Gas & Electric and Kentucky Utilities. Liz is a sophomore Accounting major on the accelerated MBA track.

World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana internships

Freshman Katie Lagerstrom interned with the World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana in the international visitors program during the fall 2017 semester. Katie is a Foreign Languages and International Studies major and is especially passionate about Middle Eastern studies.

Sophomore Mary Wurtz currently interns with the World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana in the international visitors program. She writes proposals and designs programs for international visitors to travel to the United States and learn more about government and business practices. Mary is a Foreign Languages and International Studies and Theology double major and the current president of the Honors Student Advisory Board.

Oldham County Master Commissioner Internship

Sophomore Jillian Sauer will intern over the summer with the Oldham County Master Commissioner, where she will assist in legal research and aid in putting together cases. Jillian is a Political Science and Theology double major and serves as Sophomore Representative on the Honors Student Advisory Board and Vice President of the Mock Trial Team.



NPR host Ari Shapiro visited campus this year to discuss the role of media in today's society. Here he is pictured speaking during a Q & A with Honors students and students from the School of Communication, moderated by Dr. Jon Blandford, the Director of the Honors Program.

Campus and Community Engagement

Knight of Honor Court

Senior Elizabeth Dugan was nominated by her peers to the 2018 Knight of Honor Court. Elizabeth is one of ten students recognized for her commitment to Bellarmine's values and her contributions to the Bellarmine community during her tenure as a student.

Guatemala Service Trip

Cheryl Houchin, Liz Yeske, Kennedy Erwin, and Audrey Sweetland participated in the annual Bellarmine Guatemala Service Trip, which is co-led by Honors professor Dr. Evanthia Speliotis. While in Guatemala, Bellarmine students assisted in dental and physical therapy clinics and built a house for a family in Zacapa.

Alternative Spring Break

Freshman Jacob Medley, sophomore Kasey Phelps, and junior Drew Chandler took part in the alternative spring break trip to Selma, Alabama, where they participated in restorative justice training and performed service for the Selma community.

Freshman Emma Haney participated in the Appalachia Environment and Native Culture spring break trip.

Student Government Association Participation

Six Honors students currently serve on the Student Government Association's 2017-2018 Assembly.

- Drew Chandler: Chief of Staff
- Cheryl Houchin: Junior Representative
- Jillian Sauer: Sophomore Representative
- Jack Clines: Freshman Representative
- Lizzie Hamilton: Freshman Representative
- John Klapheke: Freshman Representative

Phi Mu Fraternity Leadership

Several Honors students serve on Phi Mu Rho Zeta's 2018 Executive Board. Megan Alexander serves as the president of the chapter. Hannah McKenna is the Vice president of Chapter Development, Gabby Reinstatler is the Phi Director, and Lilly Caudill is the secretary.

Diversity Peer Educators

Freshman Emma Haney and sophomore Kasey Phelps are joining the Office of Identity and Inclusion next year as Diversity Peer Educators. Diversity Peer Educators are student leaders who promote the mission of the Office of Identity and Inclusion by creating and facilitating difficult dialogue around diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Campus YMCA

Freshmen Katie Lagerstrom and Lizzie Hamilton recently began a chapter of Campus YMCA at Bellarmine, a student-run national model government. Katie attended the spring 2018 conference as an attorney in the judicial branch and placed third in the presentation of arguments. Lizzie wrote a bill to create an opt-out national organ donor registry, which was passed unanimously by all members of the model senate and was named the conference's Outstanding Senate Bill.

Governor's Scholars Program Staff

Sophomores Audrie Lamb, Lycette Belisle, and Emmanuel Fasipe were selected to join the Governor Scholars Program 2018 staff. The Governor's Scholars Program strives to enhance Kentucky's next generation of civic and economic leaders. This is accomplished through their five-week summer school for high-achieving high school students, of which Audrie, Lycette, and Emmanuel are alumni. GSP student staff members spend their summer working as R.A.s or administrative workers and work closely with Kentucky's best and brightest students.

New Chapter of Active Minds

Freshman Willow King recently began a chapter of Active Minds on Bellarmine's campus, a nonprofit organization that raises awareness about mental health. Willow is a Psychology major with a minor in Anthropology and a member of the Eureka Learning Community.

Artistic Achievement

Music Department Trip to Spain

Senior Katie Neff participated in a trip to Spain through the Bellarmine music department. Students visited Madrid, Cuenca, Valencia, and Barcelona and sang at several different jazz clubs, churches, and cathedrals, including the Sagrada Familia. Katie is a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major.

Mango Street Live

Sophomore Emmanuel Fasipe hosted the first-ever Mango Street Live, an evening of jazz and poetry, last October. Students and faculty came together for a live poetry reading, accompanied by music from the Bellarmine Jazz Ensemble. Emmanuel is a Communication and English double major and currently serves as a resident assistant for the Brown learning community.

Louisville Cartoonists' Society

In October, Burke Tinsley participated in an art show sponsored by the Louisville Cartoonists' Society titled "Comics: Jay Leisten and Friends." He also collaborated on a cartoon that appeared in the society's 2017 comic anthology, "Legends, Myths, and Other Not So True Stories." The anthology is currently on sale at conventions across the city and in local bookstores. Burke is a sophomore Philosophy student.



Emmanuel Fasipe emcees Mango Street Live, an event which he organized

Brickfair Virginia LEGO Convention

Freshman John Klapheke serves as a Freshman Representative on the Student Government Association. John is involved in a wide variety of activities on campus. In August 2017, he attended Brickfair Virginia, a LEGO convention, where he won an award for Best Micro-scale spacecraft for his display. John is a Communication and Design, Art, and Technology double major.

Bellarmino Theatre

This spring, freshman Taryn Tramill starred as Mary in the Bellarmine Theatre program's production of Detroit, written by Lisa D'Amour and directed by Professor Meagan Burnett. De'Avion Reid and Patrick Valsted also worked on the show as members of the crew. The play ran February 16-24 in Bellarmine's Black Box Theatre.



Honors students pose after escaping a breakout room under the time limit

After Bellarmine

Dugan accepted to University of Louisville Medical School

Elizabeth Dugan was accepted to the University of Louisville medical school. Elizabeth is a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major.

Kuo accepted to Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine

Senior Mary Elaine Kuo was accepted to the University of Pikeville's Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine in Pikeville, Kentucky. Mary Elaine is a Biochemistry and Molecular Biology major currently completing her thesis, "A Cytotoxic Evaluation of a Chalcone Derivative Library on A549 Cells."

Coleman accepted to University of Louisville PhD program

Senior Ryan Coleman was accepted into the PhD in Experimental Psychology program at the University of Louisville. Ryan is a Psychology major at Bellarmine.

Alumni Achievements

Allison Welp ('17) is currently working on her PhD in Microbiology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Her paper focuses on how historical modes of growth impact the evolution of bacteria to become resistant to antibiotics.

Tyler Paulley ('17) recently began a position in software development for the U.S. Department of State. Tyler was a Computer Science major at Bellarmine with a Mathematics minor.

Heather Kissel ('17) is currently pursuing her Ph.D at Virginia Tech. A version of her Bellarmine Honors thesis research was published last fall in the National Conference on Undergraduate Research Proceedings for 2017. This spring, she will be presenting a poster she has collaborated on at VT's Mind-Body Lab entitled "Differential Mechanisms Associated with Caffeine-Induced Blood Pressure Increases for Men and Women" at the meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society. Mock Trial team.

Dani Bestfelt ('17) will begin pursuing her MEd in High Education Administration this fall at Vanderbilt University. Dani currently works in the Student Success Center as the Interim Tutoring Center Coordinator.

John Santucci ('17) recently accepted a job as a software developer with Revature, a company located outside of Washington, D.C. that supplies numerous Fortune 500 companies with software engineers. John received a degree in Physics with a Mathematics minor.

Leslie Rowen ('17) was recently accepted into the PhD in Literature program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, one of the top English programs in the country. She was also accepted into the program at North Carolina State University and received full funding and stipends at both institutions. Leslie will start her program at UNC Chapel Hill later this year.

Lindsey Horrell ('14) is currently pursuing a PhD in Nursing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Lindsay has had multiple articles published, including her research titled, "Strategies for recruiting populations to participate in the chronic disease self-management program (CDSMP)."

Special thanks to Mary Wurtz, Jillian Sauer, Eli Megibben, Katie Kaufling, Audrie Lamb, Molly Phelps, Jack Clines, Dr. Jon Blandford, and Dr. Roberta Challener for their assistance in creating this update.

