

# THE OCCASIONAL WORD

Fall 2019

## *Letter from the Director*

### Special points of interest:

- Learn more about our study abroad opportunities
- Keep up with important dates for next semester
- See our Student Spotlight
- Become more engaged with the GHP

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Dear Honors Community:

Finals week is upon us, which means we are preparing to wrap up another semester. I hope your experiences within and beyond the classroom have challenged and inspired you. Our Global Honors Program has accomplished a great deal in the past 15 weeks, and I consider it a privilege to work with all of you. I am grateful to the Student Associate Directors for their leadership, dedication, and positivity—traits that move us toward the aspirational goals of our program. And I am proud of the work being done by the Honors Council, a group that epitomizes the participatory spirit of our program.

As you know, this semester we launched our Global Theme initiative, centering on the issues of War and Peace. We hosted several important events, and I am looking forward to the Global Theme programming that will be offered in Spring 2019. War has touched or will affect virtually everyone. With this in mind, I encourage you to seek opportunities to connect academic inquiry to lived experience.

To this end, one of our panels in the spring will emphasize psychological or therapeutic treatments for combat veterans. At this session you will learn more about the effects of war on our soldiers. And you will gain a greater understanding of how the insights and methodologies specific to particular disciplines address the questions and problems posed by war.

Recently, my own research interests have focused on debates over the various meanings of the human. Are we simply the products of neuronal activity, as writers such as Sam Harris suggest? Or are we endowed with moral agency? On a trip to the Museum of Natural History, in Manhattan, I was struck by two exhibits, physically proximate but worlds apart in worldview. The first analyzed humanness as a consequence of carnivorousness, of our position as “apex predators.” The second, by contrast, defined humans as symbol-users and storytellers. Does one of these accounts hold more meaning for you? And: why do such definitions matter? I

hope you find occasion to engage with such questions, within and beyond your specialized academic work. As we conclude this semester and head in to the next, let's continue to work together in support of our collective mission, which aims to do the following: Expand Knowledge; Establish Leaders; Enhance Community; and Enrich Global Understanding.

Wish best wishes for a successful end to the semester and a joy-filled break,

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## Student Spotlight: Allison Reed

My name is Allison Reed and I am a senior Health Science major with a concentration in pre-physical therapy and a psychology minor. I am currently in the process of interviewing at various graduate programs and determining which program I will attend in June. While I am excited to attend a physical therapy graduate program this summer and to take the next step to become a working professional, I know that I will greatly miss all of the friends and experiences that I have had within the Global Honors

Program. This program has undoubtedly helped me to prepare for life beyond Lock Haven University in so many ways, and I could not be more grateful for my involvement with the program.

Planning for the next step in my education, I have applied to five physical therapy graduate programs surrounding the New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware area. My hope is to not only find a school that will provide me with the education that will get me my physical therapy license, but

to choose a program that can provide exciting opportunities that will push me outside of my comfort zone – similarly to the experiences I've had within the Global Honors Program.

As I look forward to joining a physical therapy graduate program, I am grateful for the experiences that I've had within the GHP – experiences that have helped me to cultivate the leadership and communication skills necessary to be successful in this next stage of my life. This leadership opportunity I have had within the Honors Program has proved to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life and has facilitated my confidence, and public speaking, leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills that will undoubtedly carry over into my professional career. My leadership experience within the Global Honors Program has completely facilitated my growth as a person. Of where my future in physical therapy takes me, I know that I will always be grateful for the skills, experiences, memories, and friends found within the Global Honors Program. It has become a home for me over the past few years – one that I know I will deeply miss.

## Paris and London: 10 Days of Art and Culture

By Grace Monroe and Kara Wendling

*Every year, a three credit art seminar course is offered as a study abroad class that takes place immediately after graduation. Students have an opportunity to go to Paris and London for a total of 10 days, exploring art and engaging in open discussions. In the Summer of 2018,*

Grace -

I found this experience to be one of the best of my life. As an art lover, I had dreamed of going to museums like the Louvre and the National Gallery in London, and this trip allowed me to see those and many more. While I can write for pages about my experience, I will settle for this: Our trip took us on the streets of Paris and London, allowing us to see museums

and famous works of art as well as to explore the cities and experience the rich cultures of the two cities. This trip is truly one that I will never forget with memories that I'm confident that I will take with me for the rest of

*“This trip is truly one that I will never forget, with memories that I'm confident I will take with me for the rest of my life”*

my life. If you are hesitant about studying abroad, then do it, because you will never regret it.

Kara -

Participating in this class was one of the best decisions I have made at Lock Haven. It hardly felt like a class since every day we were there we got to explore beautiful the cities and their culture. First, we spent five days in Paris. Our class each day consisted of going to art museums where each of us presented and facilitated discussion on a piece we had researched prior to the trip.

After class we had time to ourselves where we could explore Paris. The people in Paris, contrary to common belief, were not rude to us at all. Everyone seemed to appreciate our sad attempts at French and tried to help us the best they could. The highlights of Paris were exploring the beautiful gardens of Versailles and going up the Eiffel Tower at sunset.

After the five days in Paris we took a train to London, where we spent another five days. Classes were the same structure as they were in Paris. The atmosphere in London was very up-beat and excited as we were there during the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. London was the most beautiful city, with a lot of history. I loved seeing all the royal palaces and the big beautiful gardens. My favorite part of London was just exploring the city and finding hidden gems, such as a huge outdoor market with lots of hand-crafted gifts. This trip was such an amazing experience, I hope to travel back to France and England in the future.



## *Jason Berlin: A Study Abroad Experience*

*By Shawn O'Dell*

Jason Berlin, a Health Science Pre/PA Major and a participant in the Global Honors Program, spent the spring 2018 semester studying in Italy. He studied at Lock Haven University's partner institution, the University of Cagliari, in Cagliari, Italy. Cagliari is located on the island of Sardinia, one of the largest islands in the Mediterranean Sea. Sardinia is well known for its beautiful beaches, rugged landscape, historical architecture, parks, and gardens.

This adventure was not Jason's first time in Italy. He lived in the town of Catania on the island of Sicily with his parents while his father



served at a naval air base. He attended an American high school there and was intrigued by the Italian language and culture. He decided to return to Italy through LHU's study abroad program to experience more of the culture and to improve his Italian language skills.

Jason said that his favorite part of his time in Italy was

meeting people from all over the world. He met students from all over Europe including Spain, Germany, Poland, Austria, Greece, and Portugal. He also had the opportunity to travel to Sicily, Pisa, Poland, Lithuania, and Germany. He was particularly impressed with how inexpensive good food was in Poland. He had a steak dinner for about \$5.00!

The food in Italy is also amazing! In Sardinia the food is seafood based. A lot of lobster, fish, scallops, and crabs. There is also pasta with shrimp, calamari, and squid. For €10, you could get 500 grams of pasta that you would share with others. The coffee is stronger with less sugar. The coffee beans are better quality. Jason said, "Everything is better in Italy!"

For more information on how to study abroad, contact the Center for Global Engagement at 200 Ulmer Hall or send an email to: [studyabroad@lockhaven.edu](mailto:studyabroad@lockhaven.edu)

## London and Beyond

### Part I: The Muggle World of Harry Potter

By Maggie Campbell

Hermione Granger said in *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, “Honestly, am I the only person who’s ever bothered to read *Hogwarts: A History*?” While Hermione Granger is a special personality in the world of *Hogwarts*, thousands of tourists pour into Edinburgh, Scotland every year to learn the backstory of J.K. Rowling’s famous *Harry Potter* series.

My friends and I, fans of *Harry Potter*, decided to take a *Harry Potter* tour of Edinburgh, The *Potter Trail*. This specific tour is the original *Potter* tour in Edinburgh and is completely

FREE! Our tour guide, Charles, is a Gryffindor and professional actor who has performed in front of Alan Rickman (Professor Snape). Charles handed out wands to all the children and taught us a spell to change traffic lights for when crossing the streets. He first took us to Greyfriars Kirkyard, a cemetery that holds the real-life Tom Riddle’s grave. Charles explained to us that J.K. Rowling had used the heritage and monuments of Edinburgh for her inspiration. Greyfriars Kirkyard is right next door to the George Heriot’s School, the inspiration for *Hogwarts*.

Harry Potter. There she would seek warmth and write while trying to make ends meet. Later, Rowling wrote in a café that no longer exists, Nicolson’s Café. This café turned into a Chinese buffet and then into what it is known as now, The Spoon.

The tour concluded with the warmest wishes from our tour guide to continue finding the magic in our lives. If you are a big *Harry Potter* fan and ever travel to Edinburgh, Scotland, take the *Potter Trail* tour. It is something that you will never forget. Being able to walk through the inspiration for such a famous book series and where an amazing author lived is not common. Take the opportunity and become a witch or wizard for a day.

Because the school is a working school, you cannot tour the castle, but you can see the resemblance from the outside. There are four towers at each corner of the school that represent the four houses of George Heriot. So as to not give it away, I will not tell you what each real-life house is at *Hogwarts*, but Rowling did mix up the names to trick dedicated fans.

Charles then took us through the rest of the tour showing us other places she used as inspiration. A walkway under a bridge, called *Potterow Port* is the inspiration for the tunnel in *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* when Harry and Dudley are attacked by dementors. *Victoria Street*, built between 1829 and 1834, is the most photographed street in Scotland and is believed to be the real life *Diagon Alley*. The architecture and curve to *Victoria Street* is strikingly similar to how Rowling described *Diagon Alley*. It now houses many novelty and souvenir shops, but it also holds a joke shop (*Aha Ha Ha Jokes*) and second-hand book shop (*The Old Town Bookshop*). It used to have a broom shop as well.



Figure 1: One of the *Potter* themed shops on *Victoria*



Figure 2: Tom Riddle's (aka *Volde-mort*'s) grave in *Greyfriars Kirkyard*.

If you walk a little way from *Victoria Street*, you can see the building that inspired *Gringott's*.

Charles concluded the tour by taking us to see the cafés where Rowling wrote the beloved series. Rowling took her young baby with her to *The Elephant House*, a café known as the birthplace of

### Part II: Just a Redhead in Scotland



Figure 1: The view of the city from *Edinburgh*

I was so excited to explore *Edinburgh*, *Scotland* and experience some of my heritage. As an American tourist, I knew that I was going to hear comments and questions by the

natives. However, I did not expect to hear so many comments about my very Scottish name or red hair. It felt like every time I gave my name to a cab driver, talked to a waiter/waitress, or spoke with a cashier I was asked if I was originally from *Scotland*. When on a *Harry Potter* tour, we visited *Greyfriars Kirkyard*, a cemetery that was filled with *Campbells*. Back in *America*, it’s rare if I meet someone else with the last name *Campbell* but I was surrounded by the name in *Scotland*.

The main attraction in Edinburgh is the Edinburgh Castle, home to Scotland's crown jewels, Stone of Destiny, the Royal



Figure 2: A field of yellow flowers that spans

Edinburgh Military Tattoo, and more. The castle sits on top of a mountain and overlooks the city and its rolling hills. It was the home to many famous kings and queens including Mary Queen of Scots, Queen Margaret, and King Alexander III. The castle is filled with giant rooms dedicated to past rulers and events. Even the military prison is huge and contains stories of how well prisoners were treated.

The castle also has a balcony simply for a cemetery of the dogs of past royals. Edinburgh Castle is not the

only thing Scotland has to offer. The landscape is covered in giant fields of yellow flowers or pastures filled with sheep. When the Scottish winds blow, the flowers wave and it looks like a moving sea of yellow.

Wilkieston, Scotland is home to the art park, Jupiter Artland, where the hills are carved into designs. A man-made spiral lake glistens in the light and giant sculptures reach high into the sky.

I definitely will be going back to Scotland in the future. Hopefully, I'll be able to take the rest of my family and show them all that Scotland has to offer. It's rolling hills, yellow fields, and strong winds feel



like home. Being able to visit the place of your ancestors is an experience that I feel everyone should have.

Figure 3: The namesake sculpture

### Part III: The Shakespearean Hub of the World

William Shakespeare is a name known around the world. The home of brilliant plays by the famous playwright was the original Globe Theatre. The current Shakespeare's



Figure 1: Shakespeare's Globe's stage.

to its roots and has seats and space to stand in front of the stage. The stage is beautifully decorated and open to view from the entire building (Figure 1). At night, the Globe is lit up

Globe opened in 1997, a few hundred yards from the site of the original Globe Theatre. Just like in the 1600s, the theatre is very popular. People from all over the world come to London to see Shakespeare's plays.

Shakespeare's Globe is true

and filled with people as they leave the play for the night (Figure 2).

The night I went, they were putting on A Midsummer's Night's Dream with a twist. The main female and male leads switched roles and played characters of their opposite gender.

They also had an actress that was hearing impaired and used sign language to add to the comedic aspect of the play. The experience of watching one of Shakespeare's plays at the Globe is something that cannot be forgotten. The atmosphere is like no other as hundreds of people crowded into the building to watch the legacy of Shakespeare.

There are famous institutions throughout the world dedicated to performing Shakespeare's works. However, London and Stratford-upon-Avon are the top places to experience Shakespeare. England is the home of Shakespeare's legacy and cannot be outdone when it comes to honoring his legacy.



Figure 2: Shakespeare's Globe at night.

## See What You May Have Missed this Semester with the GHP



*Have any suggestions for the newsletter? Are you a creative writer who wants to share your pieces with your fellow Honors members? Do you want any editing experience? If you answered yes to any of these questions or would like to learn more, please email the editor:*

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