The newsletter of Pierre Laclede Honors College at the University of Missouri-St. Louis

Provenance: from the French “provenant”: the place of origin, a verification of origin

Spring 2017
Provenance is a student produced publication of the Pierre Laclede Honors College. Its goal is to help keep alumni and friends connected with the college, current students, and each other.

Our Spring 2017 writers and designers:

Evan Garrad, Biology, class of 2017
Nicole Gevers, Civil Engineering, class of 2019
Bailee Warsing, Computer Science, class of 2019
Ashleah White, English, class of 2019
Alex Yentumi, Civil Engineering, class of 2019

Which version of Provenance do you prefer? Are you reading this online and prefer physical media? Contact Dan (gerthd@umsl.edu) for a hard copy! Are you reading a hard copy and can’t access the embedded webpages? Contact Nicole (nmgtzc@mail.umsl.edu) for an electronic version. We will do our best to provide you with the experience that best fits your needs.

Follow the Honors College, PLHCSA, and Brain Stew on Social Media:

Honors College: Facebook: Pierre Laclede Honors College at UMSL Twitter: @UMSLHonors Instagram: umslhonors

PLHCSA: Facebook: Pierre Laclede Honors College Student Association Twitter: @umslphcsa

Honors Alumni: Facebook: Pierre Laclede Honors College Alumni

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PIERRE LACLEDE HONORS COLLEGE

University of Missouri-St. Louis

Honors 4900-010: Independent Study in Honors: Provenance ARR

1-3 credit hours
Gerth, D.

Interested in developing your writing, communication, or design skills? Want to help nurture the relationship between alumni and the PLHC students, faculty, and staff? Provenance is looking for students for Fall 2017. You will be part of a team that develops ideas for future articles; interviews alumni, students, or faculty for articles; collaborates on editorial decisions; and gains valuable writing skills in genres that you may not always be exposed to in traditional writing classes. Credit hours and duties are negotiated so as to provide you with the best possible learning experience. Duties can begin immediately or in the summer or fall, depending on your availability. Non-credit volunteer positions are also available. Contact Dan for more information: gerthd@umsl.edu.
Dear alumni and friends,

Welcome to the Spring 2017 edition of Provenance. I hope this new issue finds you well, and I hope you enjoy reading about our student, faculty, and alumni activities and accomplishments. You will likely notice that this issue, as usual, concludes with ways that you can support the Honors College financially. Here, though, I’d like to ask you to also consider supporting us with what can sometimes be a more precious gift: your time.

In this issue’s profile of Quahana Hendree, she mentions being involved last year in something called the Freshmen Professional Development Reception. This reception brings freshmen together with alumni and advanced undergraduates from diverse fields. Freshmen gain networking and interviewing skills at this career-fair style event, and they learn valuable lessons about the road ahead, both academically and professionally, in their majors and possible careers. Last year we had over 100 freshmen in attendance, and our alumni volunteers came from publishing, education, financial management, copywriting, law, health care, marketing, and many other professions. Many alumni have appeared multiple times, and sometimes connections form that lead directly to internship and other opportunities for students. The event is one of the many highlights of our First Year Experience program for freshmen, and it would be great if we could grow our alumni involvement. If you are interested in learning more, you can directly contact our FYE program supervisor, Dr. Kimberly Baldus (balduski@umsl.edu). She would love to hear from you.

Thank you for reading Provenance and for being such an important part of the Honors College community. If we haven’t heard from you in a while, please consider contacting us and letting us know how you are and what you’re up to these days. You can also now keep in contact with alumni via a new alumni-managed Facebook page.

Sincerely,

Dan Gerth
Interim Dean
Pierre Laclede Honors College
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI - ST. LOUIS
7th ANNUAL PIERRE LACLEDE HONORS COLLEGE

TRIVIA NIGHT
SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 2017

One of St. Louis’ most challenging trivia competitions
Are YOU smarter than an UMSL Honors College Student?

Network across disciplines | Meet other UMSL Alumni
Attempt to outsmart your friends

Featuring:
- Silent Auction
- 50-50 Drawing
- 1st Place Cash Prize
- Mulligans For Sale
- Bring Your Own Food & Snacks
- Complimentary Beer & Soda Provided
- Prize for best decorated table. Theme: Favorite Travel Destinations

DETAILS
Time: 6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Doors open 6:15 p.m. First question called at 7:00 p.m.
Location: St. Ann of Normandy Catholic Church
7530 Natural Bridge Road
Normandy, MO 63121
Cost: $250 Per Table of 10 or $25 Per Person
Host: Dan Gerth, Interim Dean
UMSL Pierre Laclede Honors College

REGISTER NOW: www.umslalumni.org/honorstrivia2017
BECOME A SPONSER: www.umslalumni.org/triviasponsor2017
CONGRATULATIONS TO STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Fall 2016 was another semester of PLHC students and faculty being honored for their achievements on campus.

In November, Teaching Professor Kimberly Baldus and Associate Teaching Professor Geri Friedline were inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, which is the “nation’s oldest, largest, and most selective all-discipline honor society.” UMSL members include Chancellor Tom George, Interim Provost Chris Spilling, and Vice Provost for Student Affairs Curt Coonrod. To learn more about this prestigious society please visit their UMSL webpage or their national site. Along with Honors faculty, many students were also inducted this year: William Brawner, Stephen Cole, Courtney Dorris, Lauren Jenkins, Renee Kocsis, Katrina Lynn, Rachel Morgan, Erika Rose, Kristen Uradzienek, Jenna Rikard, and Kiarra Charles.

Honors faculty and students were also inducted into the Golden Key International Honour Society this November. Golden Key recognizes sophomores, juniors, and seniors in the top 15% of their class and then “exists to unlock the potential” of their members by offering opportunities in the society’s three pillars: academics, leadership, and service. Faculty members receiving honorary memberships this fall were Assistant Teaching Professor Ann Torrusio, who also spoke at the ceremony, and Instructor Jay Fish. Students becoming part of Golden Key this year: Stephen Cole, Jasmine Jones, Awa Konte, Katrina Lynn, Nathaniel Marlette, Kaitlyn May, Brian Mayfield, Salim Mistrih, Rachel Morgan, Sarah Myers, Robert Nickel, Thomas Poon, Casey Richards, Erika Rose, Alan Scheibel, Regan Slaughter, Steven Southerland, Jamie Vergano, and Heidi Wallner. To learn more about Golden Key and its many activities, please visit their UMSL webpage or national site.

November 13th was an exceptionally busy day for Geri Friedline, as she went straight from the Phi Kappa Phi ceremony to another ceremony where she received the Emerson Excellence in Teaching Award. This award “recognizes and honors exceptional efforts in the education field” and the “achievements of teachers who play a vital role in the shaping of students’ lives.” To learn more about Geri’s nomination and award, please visit the UMSL faculty awards webpage or Emerson’s official award site.

The National Society of Leadership and Success, presented Interim Dean Dan Gerth with their Excellence in Teaching Award this December. This makes two consecutive years in which an Honors College faculty member was so honored, after Geri Friedline won the award last December. The NSLS chapter at UMSL offers students a very strong program for building leadership skills and is highly recommended to all students. To learn about their programs and how to apply, please see the Office of Student Involvement’s leadership opportunities webpage.

Congratulations to everyone!

Geri at the Phi Kappa Phi ceremony
Geri at the Emerson ceremony
Ann addresses the audience at the Golden Key induction ceremony
Quahana Hendree, a 1997 UMSL and PLHC graduate, has devoted her career to connecting people with art. The creation of her own business Q. Hendree Art Consulting LLC is her latest venture in the business and art world.

Graduating at the top of her class, Quahana earned a bachelor’s degree in marketing, a minor in art history, and a certificate from the Pierre Laclede Honors College. At a young age, she knew that she wanted a career in the business of art and eventually landed on this academic combination in order to achieve that goal. Later she also earned a master’s degree in arts management with an emphasis in fine arts from Carnegie Mellon University. Currently working on her dissertation at Guarded Heart Bible College, she has a future eye on working as a theological art historian, combining her faith and her passion for art.

She founded Q. Hendree Art Consulting LLC in May 2012 and serves as president, CEO, and principal consultant. Her company serves clients by designing art programs for their spaces and advising on art purchases and collections management. Her clients run the gamut from established companies to individuals seeking to start their own private art collections. Her firm is all inclusive and even extends to educating the client and its’ employees through programs and tours. Finding this process very fulfilling, Quahana believes that people connecting with art is life-changing and that art has the ability to add enrichment and color to everyday experience.

“Every job I have had has been because I knew someone,” Quahana remarked in reference to her career trajectory. To students and alumni that are interested in the field of art management and consulting, she encourages them to live by networking – advice that applies to other fields as well. Her personal strategy was to meet with people in her field and ask them specific questions about their careers. She also asked what she can do for them, frequently helping connect them with others as well.

Quahana also stresses the importance of volunteer work. Prior to opening her own business, she was a frequent volunteer, something she still continues today with The St. Louis Black Repertory Theater and other organizations. She was an art committee member for Put a Child in a Seat, a program through The Black Rep that aims at connecting area youth to theater. To Quahana, volunteering, besides being personally fulfilling, is also a form of networking with others in the arts community. She also recommends that students join organizations, such as the collector groups through the St. Louis Art Museum.

During her time at UMSL and in the Honors College, Quahana learned valuable career skills. She particularly attributes her ability to balance pursuing her doctorate and opening her own business to the time management skills that she developed during college. Although the Honors College classes were very intense, the length and difficulty prepared her for the rigors of graduate school. It also broadened her perspective and introduced her to different classes she otherwise would not have been exposed to, including classes on the African diaspora and Hungarian literature.

Quahana hopes to remain active on campus, particularly with the Honors College. She recently participated in the Freshman Professional Development Reception, organized by Dr. Kimberly Baldus, coordinator for the PLHC First Year Experience Program. This event puts freshmen in contact with professionals from various fields in a career mixer format that encourages them to learn about possible career paths, develop networking skills, and make valuable contacts with alumni. From her involvement she has noticed the recent changes occurring on UMSL’s campus, including new buildings like the Recreation and Wellness Center. She likes the increasing visibility and how it communicates the truth that UMSL is “more than a commuter university.” As a marketing and communications specialist, she has also taken note of the increased UMSL branding effort and its positive impact.

Between balancing her business and working on her dissertation, Quahana makes time for drawing and painting, reading, traveling, and exploring local eateries. She reflects on her time spent at UMSL and the Honors College as strong preparation for her career in the business of art, as she continues to work to connect people with art. If you are a student interested in working at Q. Hendree Art Consulting LLC, there is currently an open web design position available. While unpaid, the position does come with the potential for college credit, including Honors 4910. Contact Quahana at info@qhendreeartconsulting.com for more information.
Adam Richardson

“There is always a new problem to solve, a new trend, and new data to look at,” says 2011 UMSL graduate Adam Richardson about the field of data science and analytics. Adam’s interest in data science has led him to employment at the Centene Corporation, a multiline healthcare enterprise that provides health coverage, including dental and pharmaceutical plans, to clients. Within Centene, Adam is the manager of data science and advanced analytics. His work involves analyzing and interpreting data and building predictive models to provide data. Adam then advises the business on making future decisions based on the insights that the data provide.

A participant in the BS/MA dual degree program that allows students to earn two degrees in just five years, Adam graduated from UMSL with a Bachelor of Science in Economics, a Master of Arts in economics, and a certificate from the Pierre Laclede Honors College. Adam highly recommends the economics department at UMSL and their dual degree program, which helped prepare him to begin his career immediately after graduation.

Adam attributes much of his success to the quality of classes at UMSL, particularly those in the Honors College. His quantitative coursework in economics taught him to skillfully problem solve, while the Honors College coursework helped him become a better writer and improved his ability to convey ideas, something which has been very useful in his career. “A lot of what I do is analyzing data and solving problems, but I have to tell the story of why it matters, so the writing and comprehension skills are very useful.” Adam liked the small classes, comradery, and friendly environment that encourages students to think outside of standard course guidelines. In his opinion, the open discussion is very similar to the business world, with seminar classes being more like miniature versions of a board room than a standard classroom. The professors made themselves very available to the student body and there was never a disjoint between students and teachers. Adam noticed that the Honors College felt “kind of big group of friends and family all learning together.”

Adam knows from experience that students seeking success in data science and analytics should keep an open mind regarding classes and jobs. The field of data science and analytics is widely spread across many disciplines and has a lot of varied career opportunities. While earning his degree, Adam specifically wanted a career in quantitative finance, but after working as an intern with the Centene Corporation, he realized that he enjoys working in healthcare. Adam also advises students not to discount the value of liberal arts, communication, and business classes because “in analytics you want to be able to help others understand the data and those courses will help prepare you.”

As also mentioned by Quahana Hendree (see page 6) the constant changes and expansion of UMSL’s campus have not gone unnoticed by Adam. Adam specifically noted the construction of the new Recreation and Wellness Center along with the development of other buildings on campus. He believes that the Great Streets Project has also improved Natural Bridge Road and created a more welcoming environment. Even with his busy career, Adam makes time to remain actively involved in alumni activities and has nothing but fond memories of his time in economics and the Honors College.
Where are the liberal arts? Provenance alumni profiles over the past three issues have been all graduates working in STEM fields and the business world. And if you take a look at our student contributor page, you’ll see that our writers are almost science majors. Well, first I’ll confess that I’m a science major as well – engineering, in fact, just like the student who does all of our layouts. But if you were a major in or fan of the liberal arts, fear not, as the PLHC still houses an amazing liberal arts education inside UMSL. I like to think that this magazine shows that the PLHC expands STEM into STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math).

My article spotlights a few representatives from a large population of alumni and current students: musicians. Music has always been a popular major in Honors, and I recently had the opportunity to speak with some alumni (and one soon to be alum) about their careers in music – including classical, folk and country, and jazz and hip hop. Confession #2: the “soon to be” alum is me. Keep reading for shameless plugs about my band’s concerts and albums. But first, let’s meet...

THE DICKSON STRING QUARTET

The Dickson String Quartet is a classical ensemble comprised of 4 siblings who share a love for community, an appreciation of life, and a passion for music. Instrumentation includes Benjamin (Viola), Brandon, (Violin), Ashley (Violin), and Daniel (Cello). From 2009-2013, the siblings were enrolled in UMSL’s music performance program, as well as the Honors College, and routinely performed at many campus events.

Intimate recitals included work with the Arianna String Quartet and private events; these were paired with Christmas concerts and orchestra performances at the Touhill Performing Arts Center and created a busy and active supplement to their formal education. According to Ashley, the Touhill was like a second home to the Dickson String Quartet at this time, noting that they could expect eight to ten performances each semester. In addition, the Dicksons worked in an outreach program, mentoring younger musicians in the St. Louis area.

Before applying to UMSL, the Dicksons were homeschooled in a family of 10 children, and music was always a major part of that education, with the quartet sometimes allotting six to ten hours to group and individual rehearsal each day. Their love of music and the small group style of learning made UMSL’s music program and Honors College an ideal pairing. Daniel spoke very highly of this time in their lives, noting that he and his siblings developed professionally in music, while also getting the chance to “develop academic presence and personalities in terms of how [they] related to people and each other.”

While their major opened doors for all of them to pursue music beyond the college level, the Honors College provided perspective on their place in the world beyond their major. In discussing the liberal arts experience provided by the PLHC, Daniel remarked “the more things that you can be exposed to outside of [the] discipline you are studying, the more you... understand where you fit into everything.” I was quite fond of the interview experience with these siblings because they put words to feelings I have always had as a student.

Faith is a major part of their lives, and they describe themselves as playing music to spread positivity and honor God.
Combining Irish folk, bluegrass, country, and rock, the Redheaded Strangers are fronted by Maureen Sullivan, lead vocalist, BA English, and PLHC alum. Other members in the group include her eldest brother Tim Sullivan (piano, guitar), middle brother Dan Sullivan (guitar), and her twin Brian Sullivan (Drums). Tom Coriell (mandolin, guitar) and Brian Wiegert (banjo, guitar) are also original members. Newest addition Mark “Sunny Boy” Mason (bass) joined a few years ago and rounds out the group, as Clare Guebert is currently on hiatus as she parents a family. Mark’s show Howzit Bay- out? airs Tuesdays on 88.1 KDHX. Nearly every member contributes to the vocal harmonies, and with 10 years together with the core group, Maureen aptly states that every member is “invaluable” to her. Their first album, Come on in, was released in 2009 and is comprised of entirely original compositions.

The Irish heritage of the group provides a context for the band’s style and origins. Explaining that her father’s side of the family is entirely Irish, Maureen quoted John Steinbeck: ‘Irish blood doesn’t water down very well.’ Traditional Irish songs are both covered by the band and influential in their own compositions – experiences Maureen refers to as invigorating. The group always plays a St. Patrick’s Day show, and other members took to the cause readily, with Tom Coriell learning fiddle to help the sound.

Between lively covers and original content, there are other ways that the band brings variety to their shows. Sets are characterized by genre blending and acoustic and electric crossovers. Their creative process is also varied, as the group pulls from individual members for concepts and content before bringing ideas to life in unison. Maureen writes many of the original compositions and lyrics and when I asked where the musicianship developed among her siblings, she remarked that “the piano is at the heart of our family’s history.”

As a writer, Maureen mentions a number of influential experiences at UMSL, including a personal essay course with David Carkeet, as well as a writing seminar with Nancy Gleason, the former Honors associate dean who still serves the college as director of writing, for helping her find a taste for the creative non-fiction style she uses to explore her life through lyrics. One memorable experience was a class fieldtrip where Nancy Gleason took students to a local cemetery where she assigned a free-write in a lesson on descriptive writing and how to capture setting. We both agreed that unorthodox supplements to the academic setting like this one are what make the Honors College great.

With work beginning on the Redheaded Strangers second album this year, fans can look forward to more new music from the band. And of course you can catch them live locally – including on St. Patrick’s Day. Find them on Facebook for concert dates and venues: The RedHeaded Strangers.

LOOPRAT

LOOPRAT is a jazz/hip-hop collective consisting of six instrumentalists and four emcees. Two members, myself and William Berkowitz, are current Honors students. William and I began working together musically in the summer of 2013, and I recruited him to apply to Honors after he completed his associate’s degree in 2016 and was considering UMSL.

The LOOPRAT dynamic is best described as genre fusing individuality. It allows us to bring together classically trained jazz musicians, mostly hailing from University City, with lyrics we would describe as rhythmic poetry. We blend hip-hop, jazz, blues and soul; we blend cultures, races, religions and experiences; and, most importantly, we blend ideas. The result is a living, learning and growing experience for artists and listeners alike.

Lately, the group has worked to professionalize our music as much as possible, releasing two full length projects which were made available digitally in the summer of 2016. With our foundation set, we look forward to expanding geographically and musically. Our efforts were recently noticed and became the subject of a River Front Times artist spotlight.
One of Will’s favorite parts of Honors is the diversity of viewpoints brought to the classroom and the intimate setting for discussing those views. Similarly, our group is made up of an assortment of unique characters, creating a healthy and dynamic discourse and a certain energetic frequency to our music – just like it does in an Honors classroom.

For me, it is the array of knowledge shared with me by the professors and the curriculum that has best nurtured my capabilities as an artist and thinker. My sensitivity to expressive language has increased, and I find myself drawn toward writing outside the classroom, just as Maureen Sullivan also mentioned. In addition, the courses have imparted perspective on my place in the larger world as Daniel Dickson so elegantly stated. These are just some of the reasons why it was important to me that my bandmate consider Honors. Find us on Facebook: LOOPRAT, and be sure to check out our blog to stay informed on performances: LOOPRAT.com. You can also browse our albums: LOOPRAT.bandcamp.com.

Watch a video

As showcased in these testimonials, The PLHC takes learning beyond the classroom. It brings open dialogue and covers formal, informal and new experiences with intellectualism as the end goal. Furthering these pursuits in the world of academia produces more independent minds ready to face our chaotic world where change is the only constant.

Logic has a place in every pursuit, including art. The beauty often lies in the technical aspects of authentic expression. This is exemplified by the musicianship of the Dickson String Quartet, the culturally grounded tone of The Redheaded Strangers, and the inventive sound of LOOPRAT. It is certainly true that these groups have learned to make art together, but we must also understand that learning is also an art. When the classroom becomes a human experience as opposed to a generic factory default, students begin to see the beauty of moving toward awareness and comprehension. Placing value on these characteristics inevitably leads to better community in and outside of classroom.
Celebrating the arts

This year is the 15th year of Celebrating the Arts, an annual art show sponsored by the Pierre Laclede Honors College. Each year, students, faculty, and staff from across the campus, and now alumni like yourselves submit art to be viewed and voted upon to win “Best in Show”—with prizes being distributed to the winner and runner up. Art submitted can be sculptures, paintings, photography, and more; anything you can create, we can display it!

Art can be submitted to the Pierre Laclede Honors College in the Provincial House Main Office, Room 109. Up to three original works can be submitted per artist, and if possible art should be matted or able to stand on an easel or table. Submissions will be accepted from March 20th until April 21st at 4 p.m.

Celebrating the Arts will be open for visitors April 24–27, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, in Provincial House (South Campus).

The final day of “Celebrating the Arts 2017” (April 27) will include a reception in Provincial House in the late afternoon.

Voting for Best in Show ends the final day before the reception.

Prizes will be distributed at the reception.
“Don’t kill that spider!” I shouted from the top of the stairs. Three other fellow white men were huddled together halfway down the staircase, peering in fascination at a spider the size of my palm. “Just leave the spider, it isn’t doing any harm.” These could have easily been my final words. The following morning that very spider decided to crawl its way into my clothes and give me quite the surprise as I stepped out of shower and started getting dressed. Seconds later I let out a scream, swatted the spider to the floor, and did not spare him any longer. I started to realize that I was living in the Peruvian jungle. My name is Evan Garrad. I am a senior studying biochemistry and biotechnology on a pre-med track here at UMSL. I am also a student athlete on the men’s soccer team, president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, co-leader for Triton Health Educators, and a proud member of the Pierre Laclede Honors College. I list each of these activities because I believe without them I would not have been able to meet that spider on that warm and pleasant Peruvian morning.

I came to UMSL as a naïve young adult hoping to channel my excitement for learning science and meeting people from other cultures into a career that supports both of these passions. As I progressed through my undergraduate career each of these activities influenced me in different ways. Most notably, I received support from the Honors College, including scholarship funding for research, which led to one of the most impactful experiences of my life—a month long medical volunteer trip to La Merced, Peru. I sought out this medical and public health opportunity with the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children (FIMRC). FIMRC is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing medical care to disadvantaged families worldwide. They do this by administering clinical care to underprivileged communities and by facilitating public health campaigns to foster disease prevention and health education. Under FIMRC, I was part of the Summer International Health Fellowship program, which allowed me to engage in clinical and public health experiences with medical professionals, medical students, and other pre-health student volunteers.

A typical week in La Merced, located at the edge of the Andes but still in the jungle region, entailed 2-3 days per week of rotations and 2-3 days per week working on independent projects. Rotations were in the emergency room or pediatric floor of the local hospital or at a special needs school just outside our city. I was paired with a team of fellows from other American colleges and universities to work on an independent project educating about public health topics such as water quality, hand hygiene, sexual health/STDs, and nutrition. Throughout the month, we gave several health talks (with broken Spanish) to many native villages but focused primarily on the small native community of Belen. Belen had about 50 members, with ages ranging from newborns to ‘the abuelita’ (little grandmother) who was in her early 80s. Each group was in charge of creating a sustainable community program. In addition to our health education, my group built a hand washing station and conducted a science fair for the children of Belen.

One of my biggest highlights from the trip occurred when I was able to travel alone with two nurses to the local all-boys high school to give Yellow Fever vaccinations. The nurses taught me how to administer the vaccines and then left me in charge. The last class we came to was an English class full of about 50 rambunctious teenage boys. Not only did I get to practice giving vaccines to 50 squeamish arms, but we also did a language exchange. I stood at the front of the room (speaking in Spanish) and asked them to translate my words into English. The professor and boys were so fascinated at this foreigner and native speaker in their classroom. It was a great moment of culture exchange accompanied with medical care—one of my main motivations for pursuing this trip.
What I learned most from Peru is to be thankful for what I have in the US and to appreciate the culture of others. Although that may sound clichéd, it remains true for me. Whether the home comforts come in the form of hot showers, seats on toilets (or toilets in general), clean water, or access to education, each time I faced uncustomed discomforts I gained an appreciation for things I take for granted – and also for Peru. Peruvians are, by their own admission, notorious for being late. At first this was very frustrating; however, over time I began to realize this outlook on life may have a greater meaning. Peruvians take each day as it comes. They work very hard to provide for their family and always consider the possibility of improving their situation. This may be best illustrated in the way they build their homes. By leaving exposed rebar on the highest level, it always allows them the opportunity to build onto their house when they have more resources. The people always dream of a better future while staying within their modest means.

Ultimately, I learned that I want to do this type of work in the future. My future goal is to utilize my clinical expertise to help underserved populations domestically and internationally. I believe I will focus on Spanish-speaking countries and seek to create a partnership with a community, so that I am able to return annually to offer my medical service. I have always had a great passion to travel, but an even larger passion to serve. This experience solidified those thoughts. I met people from many different countries that shared many different perspectives. And although there were language and cultural barriers, one thing stood out most to me: providing care, especially in medicine, will almost always be received well when you are respectful and compassionate.

I would like to thank the faculty and staff in the Honors College for supporting me in the pursuit of one of my biggest dreams. I am very thankful and fortunate to have enrolled at UMSL four years ago. I firmly believe this university is full of opportunity if you are willing to seek it. The Honors College has always been a focal point in helping me achieve my biggest goals. They have provided me with scholarships, research grants, professional development, and even volunteer experiences internationally and in our own St. Louis community. As I mentioned before, I truly am a proud member of the Pierre Laclede Honors College.
PIERRE LACLEDE HONORS COLLEGE

Bellerive’s Seventeenth Issue

One for $7
or
two for $12

Special Guest:
LIZZY PETERSEN
Program Director, River Styx
Educator, Editor, Published Poet

Feb. 24th, 2017
Noon to 2:00 p.m.
Provincial House Museum Room
Want to read more stories about Honors College students, including the stories behind these pictures? Be sure to read UMSL Daily. Better yet, subscribe and have it delivered directly to your email every morning. We have recollected many of these stories on our webpage.
PIERRE LACLEDE HONORS COLLEGE

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