

# ARETÉ

## MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY

### NEWSLETTER OF THE HONORS SCHOOL

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#### Celebrating the Life of Beckey Dermanjian

##### Alison Abate

*"It well may be that we may never meet again in this lifetime so let me say before we part: so much of me is made of what I learned from you. You'll be with me like a handprint on my heart." – "For Good" from Wicked*

It is always sad when someone so loved passes before his or her time, but what makes it better is the support and love that comes out of it. As a suitemate of Rebecca Dermanjian, I personally knew Beckey, and I know how her life touched so many people around her.

Beckey Dermanjian passed away at 19-years-old after a tragic car accident in her hometown of Budd Lake, NJ, on June 16, 2011.

On October 7, many caring members of the University community came out not to mourn but to celebrate Beckey's life. Many were in attendance including friends, family, and students, as well as members of the faculty. The service took place in Wilson Auditorium and started with an invocation by Father Ireneusz Ekiert, followed by a welcoming statement by Provost Thomas Pearson.

Then there were reflections from Beckey's suitemates Olivia Greco, Rachel Kenny, Kelsey Gallagher, and myself, and a closing statement from Dr. Kevin Dool-ey, Dean of the Honors school. Included in the service was also a slideshow made by her suitemates that was put to the song "For Good" from the musical *Wicked*. The song is about two best friends who may never see each other again, but want to make sure the other knows how she has changed the other's life. Andrew Bachmann, business and Spanish major, provided background music by playing the guitar, and refreshments for the guests were served in the Magill Commons Club Lounge.

The group also took a walk to where a butterfly bush was planted as a memorial right outside the Lois Blonder Memorial Gardens. It was a wonderful moment to reflect and one of her cousins shared song lyrics from the song "Girl America" by Mat Kearney.

As a personal friend, I found it heartwarming

that so many people were able to be in attendance and that many were so interested in celebrating her memory. As Rachel stated in her reflection, "Beckey was the kind of person that everyone instantly loved upon meeting her. She was friendly, caring, genuine, and always smiling. It was always clear that the people in her life had top priority over anything else."

She was warm, kind, and she cared about what others were saying. Many people went to Beckey for advice, and she always had some to give. She lived



PHOTO COURTESY of Alison Abate

Beckey Dermanjian (left) is survived by many loved ones, including suitemate and friend, Alison Abate (right).

off music and loved the beach. Family was extremely important to her, and she cherished each and every member of hers. Beckey was also incredibly fun loving. She would dance around the suite and could always brighten up your day. Not only was Beckey fun, she was intelligent. She earned numerous awards in academic career and was looked upon as a respected student.

Greco said, "Beckey was full of positive energy and was such a great person to be around. As a student, her work ethic was incredible, and I know she would have done amazing things academically at Monmouth. Her character sets the best example for the type of students we should want to be on this campus."

Thank you to Beckey's family who have made us feel like part of your family and for letting us help. Thank you to the Honors School that helped make this event happen. Thank you to all the staff that facilitated the service. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend. It means so much that you were there to show your support.

Beckey will forever be remembered. She taught us how to follow our hearts by following hers. We love and miss her very much.

## A Not So Random Sample Nicole Massabrook

Some people get bored over the summer and spend a lot of time on Facebook, but Ryan Murphy and Shannen Wilson, sophomores, were a bit more productive this summer. They created a website called "A Not So Random Sample" (ANSRS), dedicated to finding everyday people who are incredibly unique.

Murphy said, "Shannen and I believe that everyone is an individual piece of their overall community whether it's the University, their local community, or the global community. So we're trying to use these stories to inspire everyone to be the best piece of that community that they can be by fully developing their personalities and utilizing their talents."

Murphy said he created this website because he "was bored in the summer and wanted to come up with a good idea. I consider myself a creative dude, so I sat down and wrote ideas until I came up with a good enough idea. Even though starting a website may have had selfish intentions, it's grown to be something we're passionate about and has a strong community focus."

Murphy was inspired by a trip to Spain. "That trip really made me reflect on my understanding of being a part of a global community. I came to the conclusion that I wanted to be the best piece of any community that I could be. This site is our way of sharing that message," Murphy said.

Murphy and Wilson thought of the idea for ANSRS this past August and had the website up and running before the end of the month. Their first feature article was

posted in September.

Neither Wilson nor Murphy has ever run a website before, so every day is a learning experience. "We deal with glitches as they come. We've recently made changes to make things easier for our readers such as tabs, so there's not so much information thrown onto one page," Wilson said.

For a first attempt, the ANSRS website has been quite successful. Within three months there were over 30,000 hits. Wilson and Murphy have been promoting their website through Facebook and Twitter, as well as word of mouth.

Featured individuals have included a girl who spent her summer on a mission trip to Haiti, a cancer patient who started his own charity for cancer, a dancer on a cruise ship in Holland, a five-year-old with cerebral palsy and a 19-year-old who was elected to his local Board of Education.

Finding nominees is not always easy, though. "Because we're in the early stages, not many people know to send in nominations. A lot of the articles have been because of the outreach that Ryan and I have done," Wilson said. Nominations can be sent in by anyone and can be submitted to [anotsorandomsample@gmail.com](mailto:anotsorandomsample@gmail.com).

Murphy and Wilson even reached out to a fellow Honors student when they wanted to create a logo for their site. Olivia Greco, sophomore graphic design and marketing major, created a fitting logo for ANSRS. Murphy explains, "The logo features a puzzle piece with a globe pattern, symbolizing an individual of a greater network, whether it be the world or something more local. The puzzle piece is inside the view of a magnifying glass because we feel that ANSRS really focuses in on one individual per week."

Murphy and Wilson are not looking to make this website their full time job. "Right now it's just a fun project that we enjoy doing on the side. We're both committed to our education at Monmouth but this kind of gives us a creative outlet when we're feeling stressed," Murphy said.

You can visit [www.ANotSoRandomSample.com](http://www.ANotSoRandomSample.com) to read this week's feature about a unique individual as well its past features in its archives.



PHOTO COURTESY of [anotsorandomsample.com](http://anotsorandomsample.com)

Ryann Mickens spent her summer on a mission trip to Haiti, which was featured on [anotsorandomsample.com](http://anotsorandomsample.com).

## Honors Student Joins the Ranks of Einstein Jenna Intersimone

Dharm Patel, senior Biology major with a concentration in Molecular Cell Physiology, has officially joined with the ranks of Einstein and 200 other Nobel laureates after his invitation into Sigma Xi, a prestigious scientific research society.

Patel attended the 125th Sigma Xi International Research Conference and Annual Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina, from November 10 to November 13. At the conference, Patel presented his Honors thesis research, titled "Effects of Lipopoly Saccharide-Induced Inflammation on Hypoxia-Inducible Factor-1 in Rat Testis." His research investigates the molecular changes that occur in rat testis during inflammation and hypoxia that ultimately allow the cells to survive during such stresses.

Patel won Best Poster Presentation after competing against about 60 other students in his category, Cellular and Molecular Biology in the Undergraduate Level. Among those in his category were students from Stanford, Harvard, Duke, and University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. There were three judges who were experts in the research field: an immunologist, molecular biologist, and the chairman of Sigma Xi.

"I was totally surprised because these students come from places with so many resources including graduate assistants, research technicians, the latest equipment, and ample funding," he said.

Besides receiving a medal, Patel and the 20 other students who won awards out of the 300 competitors were invited to join as associate members of Sigma Xi, which is a membership by invitation-only organization whose mission is to "enhance the health of the research enterprise, foster integrity in science and engineering, and promote the public's understanding of science for the purpose of improving the human condition," according to their website.

There are five other Sigma Xi members at our University; President Paul G. Gaffney II, Dr. Michael Palladino, Dean of the School of Science, Dr. William P. Mitchell, Anthropology professor and former Honors Dean, Dr. William Tepfenhart, Chair of the School of Science, and Dr. Frank Lutz, Software Engineering professor and former Dean of the School of Science

The research was started in Palladino's lab during the summer of 2010 when Patel was a part of the University's School of Science's Summer Research Program. Patel conducted this research as part of his Honors thesis, for which he is doing the additional laboratory experiments in preparation for the actual writing in spring 2012.

"Sigma Xi wants you to know and understand what you're doing and what the big picture is. This is where I had the advantage. In my work, through my thesis proposal, I collected a lot of background research which gave me the broader scope of my work. The other students

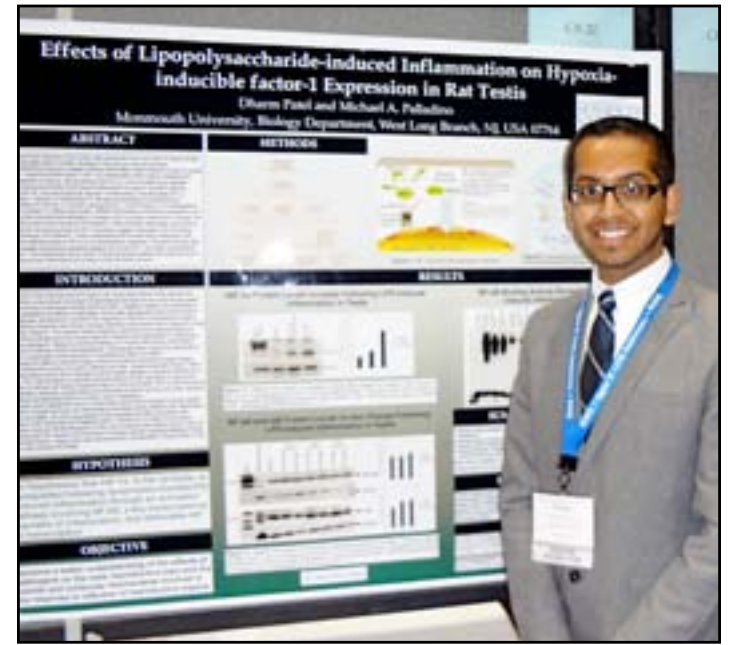


PHOTO COURTESY of Dharm Patel

Dharm Patel, senior Biology major, won Best Poster Presentation in the Cellular and Molecular Biology category in the Undergraduate Level.

only knew what their own work entailed. I was able to tell a story of my own work in a logical progression of, "This is how my project came about," he said.

This award can also be attributed to, according to Patel, his mentorship by Palladino throughout his research. Also, he said that his project is very relevant because inflammation is a growing problem in male infertility and sexually transmitted diseases in third-world countries.

As a first-year student, Patel was a Monmouth Medical Scholar, a highly competitive program which students progress directly from their University studies to Drexel University's College of Medicine.

Patel said, "Through this project, however, I realized I really enjoyed the process of research and asking my own questions and finally answering them." Patel is currently applying to graduate schools since he plans to pursue a Ph.D in Molecular Biology. "This recognition will show admission committees that I am a serious student who knows the significance of scientific writing and research," he said.

"I think Dharm Patel exemplifies the spirit of what it means to be an Honors student. He is not simply a terrific student/scientist, but someone whose interests span the University curriculum," said Dr. Dooley, Dean of the Honors school. "You are as likely to hear Dharm discussing politics or social problems as you are biology. I have no doubt that he will be successful in life because of his well-rounded approach to learning."

## Worlds Away at Princeton University

Michael Burke

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The Honors School sponsored a trip to Princeton University on November 2. The purpose of the trip, organized by Professor Susan Douglass, was to engage the students in a sampling of cultures. Students in Douglass' and Professor Noel Belinski's classes toured the Asian exhibit with a focus on Japanese aestheticism, while those in Professor Brian Merry's and Professor Elizabeth Gilmartin's classes explored the Islamic and Medieval galleries. Students attended the Princeton Art Museum, followed by traditional Japanese food at Zen Modern Asian Restaurant.

At the Princeton Art Museum, the students were shown several examples of varied art styles from Chinese and Japanese culture. On display in the Chinese exhibit was a collection of tomb figurines. According to one of the docents, the custom of burying symbolic figures of humans and animals was a widespread practice during the Six Dynasties period. This was practiced in order to keep the deceased company in the afterlife. It was believed that people had two souls, one of which would remain in the tomb.

The Japanese exhibit had a large example of *fusuma*, or sliding door art. Commonly a collaboration of several artists, these paper dividers had simple ink and color paintings, often expressing nature or animal life. Each artist would paint either a single animal or a group and add a seal as a signature. The example at the museum was titled *Carp and Sweetfish, 1790*. Painted under the guidance of master Maruyama Ōkyo, seven additional artists contributed their

### A Letter from Dr. Kevin Dooley, Dean of the Honors School

I hope you are having a great semester so far. Although I have had the opportunity to get to know all of the first-year students, 64 of the best and brightest, and most of the juniors preparing for their honors proposals, there are still many of you that I have not met. So if you are in the neighborhood, please stop in and say hello. We always have the refrigerator stocked, and Erin and Reenie have recently purchased a Keurig coffee maker which has allowed us to stay quite popular with the caffeine crowd.

This year we have also been quite busy planning activities to better represent you across campus and to provide you with the unique learning experience that you deserve. For example, under the direction of Terence Bodak and Jenna Intersimone, the Honors Student Council has had its constitution approved, has held an open-mic night in the lower lounge of Beechwood, has helped nurture a comprehensive honors mentoring program, and is beginning a campaign of community service. If you are interested in helping out or just want to propose some Honors-related activities, please let us know.

Reenie and I also had the pleasure of taking four Honors students (Jenna Intersimone, Emily Steeber, Dharm Patel, and Terence Bodak) to Phoenix, Arizona for the Annual

brush strokes to complete the piece. In addition to their aesthetic appeal, the doors were also used to divide and enlarge rooms to accommodate for others.

The museum also included several other exhibits that ranged from impressionist art to classical European stained glass. The center of the gallery featured "The Death of Socrates," a painting by the students of Jacques-Louis David. Students in the honors clusters have been studying this work and reading Plato's "The Trial and Death of Socrates." The painting represents a dramatic scene which Socrates is being handed a cup of poison as punishment for his conviction.

Douglass then hosted a walking tour of the campus. Students had the opportunity to view the historic buildings and architecture with Greek and Medieval influence while learning about campus history. They were also able to view the 9/11 memorial for the thirteen Princeton alumni who perished in the attacks. The memorial features a bronze Japanese peace bell titled "Remembrance."

At Zen, the students experienced a taste of authentic Japanese food and culture. With a friendly greeting, the staff began with green tea, soup, and salad. While enjoying their meal, a chef provided a live demonstration of how to make sushi, with Joseph DiPeri, first-year student, volunteering to make his own. Small wooden boats and bridges filled with various types of sushi were served, and students chose their own entrees.

National Collegiate Honors Conference where *Arete* won third prize. Congratulations to all of you who have made this newsletter such a success.

In terms of enhancing your learning experience, John Tiedemann, Assistant Dean to the School of Science, Professor Ken Mitchell, and Professor Neil Graves have revised the Honors Proposal and Thesis guidelines by tailoring them to your specific school. This will guarantee that when you are preparing for the honors proposal, you will be following a set of guidelines best suited to your area of study. These changes will be implemented in the fall of 2012.

In addition, I have been in consultation with Dr. Saliba Sarsar, Associate Vice President for Global Initiatives, about the possibility of an Honors Summer Study Abroad program. We hope to have something up and running for next summer. Perhaps a four-week Honors class to London in summer 2012 and an Honors class to China the following summer. I am always looking for input on the best ways to globalize the program and my door is always open. And if any of you were wondering, I am absolutely loving my new role as Dean of the Honors School. It has been a pleasure to get to know all of you, especially Erin and Reenie who are two of the best people at the University.

## Swinging from Trees with the Honors School

Emily Steeber

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PHOTO COURTESY of Reenie Menditto

The Honors School Overnight consisted of first-year students and their mentors at Pine Grove Day Camp.

As the Honors Mentoring Program has started growing and changing, it was evident that more events for first-year students going into the Honors School would be needed. This past summer before classes even started, first-year students accompanied by a group of Honors School mentors, Reenie Menditto, Director of Student Services, and Dr. Kevin Dooley, Dean of the Honors school, ventured out into the woods for an overnight of team-building activities.

Early in the morning on September 3, many of the first-year Honors School students and their families were welcomed to campus for an early move-in date.

Unlike most move-in situations, this typically all-day event was cut short and students were whisked away on buses to Pine Grove Day Camp in Wall Township.

First-year students were assigned to cabin groups with two mentors and a few of their peers. In order to allow students to interact with many different students they may not normally come in contact with, students were not placed in cabins with their roommates.

As the team-building activities began, students were mixed into even more varied groups. While some teams worked on getting all group mates over a high wall or through a giant tire, others were cooperating to get each student onto wooden platforms by swinging on a rope. Each of these activities forced students to put their trust in complete strangers, instantly enforcing a feeling of community not only between mentors and mentees, but among the members of the Honors School Class of 2015.

After about an hour of team-building activities, students came together to participate in ropes courses. Some students overcame their fear of heights on a giant swing; students had to use teamwork to aid their peers by pulling a rope to make their classmate on the swing go higher. Other adventurous students decided to partake in climbing

the rock wall from which they had to zipline down. Even Menditto enjoyed jumping from the rock wall and ziplining through the woods, leaving many students speechless.

In order to get to know more about the University and various buildings on campus, the first-year students were put back in their cabin groups as they played a version of Two Truths and a Lie; mentors hid around Pine Grove Day Camp with clues about various buildings on campus. Once students identified the building, they had to identify which statement was a lie.

As the day wound down, students had a campfire where they roasted marshmallows and ate s'mores.

The Honors Mentoring Program, under the direction of Terence Bodak, senior political science and history major, is still a very young program that is undergoing many different changes and developments in order to make first-year Honors School students feel welcome and comfortable with the program whether they live in Beechwood or not. After the overnight at Pine Grove Day Camp, it seemed that students enjoyed getting to meet their peers before classes started but wished they had more time to move into their dorms during the day.

Bodak said that while the overnight was a successful innovation to the program that many students enjoyed, there are many improvements that need to be made for future years. "We want it to be more accommodating to the needs of the incoming first-year students," Bodak stated. "Students would like to be able to spend more time in their dorm rooms setting up, which we understand. We don't want the overnight to be an inconvenience to the students, but rather a pleasant experience."

Although there are no definite changes to the overnight, Terence anticipates many changes for next year's program that will make the transition to college life even easier and gratifying for first-year Honors School students.

## Webster's DNA of the Innocence Project

Jennifer van Alstyne

One of the benefits of being part of the Honors School at the University is the opportunities with which we are provided. This fall, Professor Susan Douglass brought in speaker Elizabeth Webster, Publications Manager at the Innocence Project.

The Innocence Project works to exonerate from prison wrongly convicted people through DNA analysis. It focuses on public policy and media enlightenment, working to change not only how interrogations are handled in real life, but also on television and the big screen.

TV shows such as *CSI* greatly impede modern investigation, as many sciences recognized as absolute on the show are far from fool-proof. Media can, however, help push for change. The recent big screen movie *Conviction* starring Hillary Swank is featured on the up-to-date list of films and programs of wrongful conviction recommended by the Inno-

cence Project.

Webster says that "wrongful conviction is really a triple tragedy." The innocent person is imprisoned, the victim goes without true justice, and the real perpetrator goes free. Since the Innocence Project opened, there have been 273 exonerations based purely on DNA. Three to seven percent of all people incarcerated are wrongly convicted.

The Innocence Project receives 3,000 new requests for help annually and is currently evaluating over 6,000 cases. One of the real obstacles is just finding the evidence. Then, it could take years to get tested.

Help is always needed, and there are volunteer and internship opportunities in communications and other departments. If you are interested, please visit [www.innocenceproject.org](http://www.innocenceproject.org).

## Fathers, Feelings, and Featured Poets: Shara McCallum

Jennifer van Alstyne

Poetry, like any art, is hit or miss, a personal tug-o-war between understanding, aesthetics, and emotion. The Visiting Writers Series at Monmouth hosts several poets and authors throughout the year, including award-winning poet Shara McCallum.

McCallum brings into her writings deep-seated cultural and psychological roots of her early childhood, most expressed in her latest book *Song of Thieves*.

The collection's musicality spoke to me, as did its unique voice, but it meant that much more upon meeting McCallum during her round-table workshop. McCallum spoke about creation of form before bringing to us some of her favorite works, including one of my favorites, Hayden's "Those Win-



PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth University  
Shara McCallum is both a professor and a poet, whose work focuses on growing informational and emotional comprehension of her own past.

ter Sundays," a poem about an underappreciated father.

It led perfectly into McCallum's own poetry, which focuses on a growing informational and emotional comprehension of her own past, her father's mental instability and suicide, and the family dynamic.

A former student of our own distinguished poet and professor of Monmouth University Michael Waters, McCallum represents for me what I want to be in ten years: a professor and a poet, someone with the ability to express herself through creation, and who can captivate an audience through joy – or loss.

The Visiting Writer Series brings Natasha Trethewey on March 22 at 4:30 pm in Wilson Hall and Naomi Shihab Nye on April 10 at 4:30 pm in Pollak Theatre to speak this spring. The program is free and open to the public.

## Song, Stage, and Screen... and Physics

Cody Pitts

"We are made of art and science. We are such stuff as dreams are made on, but we are also just stuff." – Jonah Lehrer in Proust, Neuroscientist

I spent my entire undergraduate career running back and forth between Edison Hall and Woods Theatre. And just as the buildings are on opposite sides of the street, the fields of art and science are often viewed as existing on opposite ends of the academic spectrum. It is not uncommon for someone to take interest in both fields – a biologist may play the violin, a dancer may enjoy mathematics, a chemist may star in theatre productions – but how often do art and science overlap academically? How often do we use art to express science, or science to understand art?

As Jonah Lehrer suggests, we are made of both; the two fields are actually very much connected. Scientists and artists speak vastly different languages, but at their deepest roots they share the same fundamental goals: broaden human understanding, describe the world in which we live, and convey findings to others from which to grow and upon which to build. Thus, in academia, perhaps we should make more of a conscious effort to embrace and explore this interconnection.

Professor Sheri Anderson, professor of theatre, and I started collaborating on a rather interesting project that sought to mesh the worlds of physics and musical theatre in fall 2009. Finding a way to connect mathematical equations to stage productions seemed slightly less than intuitive, but we decided to give it a shot. Physics equations describe relationships between variables that represent tangible, and sometimes intangible, aspects of the real world. In essence, physics is just another language we can use to describe how certain things in this world are affected by each other, either directly or inversely.

We entertained this notion and began to look at ways physics can be used as an abstract language to analyze characters, themes, plot, etc. in musical theatre productions. In our first study, we used Newton's laws of motion and the physical relationships among power, work, force, and momentum to discuss themes of empowerment throughout the production *Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk*.

*Noise/Funk* presents an interpretation of the history of Diaspora Africans in America told almost entirely through a stylistic form of tap referred to as "hoofin'." An overlaying narrator and single gospel voice provide lyrics to help drive the plot, but the rest of the dancers share little-to-no dialogue and rely on their dancing to tell the story.

Given the corporeal nature of the production, the implementation of Newtonian mechanics was almost organic. For example, through a series of equations we show how momentum is directly proportional to power in

physics. If we envision this power variable as personal/collective empowerment and momentum as the physical/spiritual momentum of the characters, we see a lovely correlation in the scenes – from a slow drag on the slave ships to an explosion of tap in a more modern setting in which the cast members "trade hits."

Our paper was accepted for presentation at Song, Stage, and Screen V, the annual international conference of the academic journal *Studies in Musical Theatre*. It was held during September 2010 at the University of Winchester in the United Kingdom. Needless to say, I was the only scientist among musical theatre scholars, musicologists, and persons of several other arts disciplines from all over the world.

I will admit that I felt a bit nervous to stand up before a room of theatre scholars and reveal physics equations. However, my nerves were quickly soothed when I realized that even the most brilliant theatre scholar tends to scare easily at the sight of an equation. Considering no one had ever attempted to do quite what we did, we received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback. Better yet, we were invited to the Song, Stage, and Screen VI conference held in Kansas City, Missouri, last June to present another paper that used the theory of relativity to discuss time reference frames of different characters in *Rent*.

This presentation also received a considerable amount of praise, and we were encouraged to continue to develop our methodology in the years to come. Brilliant theatre scholars thanked us for "making physics understandable" – it was pretty cool. Professor Anderson and I intend to conduct several more studies in the near future and compile them in a book to help make science more accessible to artists and art more accessible to scientists in an academic setting.

I invite anyone who is interested in musical theatre scholarship (even if it is not your specialty) to contact Professor Anderson or myself, and to submit an abstract to try to attend one of these conferences. It is really an incredible opportunity for networking, sharing ideas, traveling, and presenting work that you are passionate about. Also note that the Honors School is an amazing resource to have at your fingertips. Both of my conference trips were funded by Jane Freed travel grants I applied for within the Honors School, and for her I am eternally grateful, as I would not have been able to present otherwise.

Monmouth University is what you make it. If you want to do great things and you work hard, you have all the help you need right there. Just ask.

*Cody Pitts is a 2010 honors graduate and is currently studying at Johns Hopkins University.*

## The Honors Student Council Takes the Reins

Genevieve Fasano

A new Honors School Constitution. Weekly open mic nights. A Relay for Life team. These are just a few of the many exciting ideas that will be brought to life by the new Monmouth University Honors School student council. This year, co-presidents Jenna Intersimone, junior, and Terence Bodak, senior, are leading the way for new initiatives with the help of Janine Averbach, sophomore vice president; Nick Rossi, sophomore secretary; and Jazmin Juarez, senior treasurer. The council is composed of a fresh, new executive board and plans to be more active than ever this year with the help of Dr. Kevin Dooley, Dean of the Honors School and Honors Student Council Advisor.

Although the Honors School has always been a tight-knit group within the University community, one of the main objectives for the council this year is to become more involved with campus events and service projects, such as Relay for Life. According to Intersimone, the three main goals that she, Bodak, Averbach, Rossi, and Juarez hope to accomplish are to finalize a constitution for the Honors School, organize the painting of a mural in the basement of Beechwood Hall, and

host several open mic nights open to all honors students. In addition, the council plans to capitalize on new ideas brought in by Dooley and to provide more alumni involvement for networking purposes. For example, a possible event to be held at the end of the spring semester may be an Honors School alumni dinner that hosts both students and alumni.

Although this is the first year for all of the council members serving their positions on the council, "Everyone is working well together and excited to be helping out with the new programs," according to Intersimone. Also, the council welcomes involvement from first-year students. According to Intersimone, the Honors School "would like to have more returning freshmen because a lot come to meetings at the beginning but then the numbers dwindle."

Looking ahead, a large year-end event is in the works. Whether it is an alumni dinner, a talent show, or the formation of an Honors School team for participation in Relay for Life, members of the council are working together to organize an event that everyone in the Honors School would be happy to take part in.

cure. Crowley co-founded the five-person start-up biotech company Novazyme Pharmaceuticals in 2000, which focused on developing a treatment for Pompe. In less than a year, Novazyme was able to secure \$27 million in venture capital financing and was later acquired for nearly \$200 million by Genzyme Corporation. In 2003, Patrick and Megan Crowley began an experimental enzyme therapy developed by Genzyme that saved their lives. Crowley's charitable work and success as an entrepreneur inspired the film *Extraordinary Measures*.

Crowley explained how leadership is a challenge and that there are several traits that all great leaders possess. First, he said that leaders need to have vision and see things when others do not quite understand them yet. Second, they need to build upon a preexisting mission, citing that "the more power you give away, the more you have." Third, Crowley urged the audience to invoke change with a sense of urgency and be brave risk takers. Fourth, he said that they should always maintain optimism. And fifth, he reminded everyone of the importance of sacrifice.

Crowley concluded his address by reminding everyone to have courage. At the end of his address, instead of inspiring students and faculty to go out and change the world, Crowley very realistically offered his advice to "pick your little piece of the world to change."

## You Don't Look a Day Over 77! Happy 78th Birthday, Monmouth University

Genevieve Fasano

Each year, the University celebrates how far it has come in education and leadership at its annual Founder's Day celebration. The convocation ceremony for Founder's Day 2011 occurred on Wednesday, October 12 and was held in Pollak Theatre. Surrounded by the entire faculty and many honored guests, several Honors School students that had been asked by President Gaffney to attend were presented as leaders and university scholars.

President Paul G. Gaffney II began the ceremony and restated the University's mission and commitment to a "personalized education and personal development" for all. It was also recognized that currently the student body is comprised of students from 29 states and 28 countries. This is one of the many statistics that proves how far Monmouth has come in only 78 years. Nicole Levy, Student Government Association President, explained in her greetings that our University truly has the world at its fingertips and is "looking forward to the future."

The highlight of the convocation ceremony was the address given by John F. Crowley, chairman and CEO of Amicus Therapeutics, a biopharmaceutical company focused on the treatment of genetic diseases. Upon learning in 1998 that his two youngest children have Pompe disease, a rare and often fatal neuromuscular disorder, Crowley set out to do everything in his power to find a

## Bowling Alone at the Local Lanes

Ryan Murphy

At the University, first-year students in the Honors School are required to take a course called Cultural Engagement. The design of the course makes it necessary for students to participate in at least four cultural events throughout their first year in college. These events are held either on or off campus and are generally related to some form of the arts. Throughout the semester, classes meet to discuss which events students participated in and how it pertained to central topics of the course.

This year, for the first time, all Cultural Engagement classes were assigned the same course reading to discuss which was *Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community*, written by Robert D. Putnam. Putnam is currently the Peter and Isabel Malkin Professor of Public Policy at Harvard University. Strongly supported by research, *Bowling Alone* shows the movement toward an individualistic society in our nation.

Naming the book after his main example, Putnam uses bowling to show the shift from a strong community-based society to a more individualistic lifestyle. Though the number of people who bowl as a regular activity has increased over the last 20 years, the number of bowling leagues and group bowling organizations has decreased. This led Putnam to the natural assumption that more people are "bowling alone."

Dr. Kevin Dooley, Dean of the Honors School, implemented this central text as a universal topic for all Cultural Engagement

courses for a few reasons.

Dooley said he chose the book "because it speaks to several issues that are essential to the functioning of our Republic, namely the erosion of civic engagement and a decline in social capital. More and more Americans are living isolated existences, preferring to 'go it alone' and it has seen a massive decline in membership in local, civic organizations. The consequences of these actions are monumental because it has been the local, civic organizations that have helped to shape the United States."

The Cultural Engagement courses will utilize the findings in this book to discuss the adjustment to college lie to become a part of a new community.

Monali Patel, first-year student, said, "I think *Bowling Alone* is a good way for society to step back from the fast-paced individualistic world that has become predominant...I truly think this book has helped me understand the value of going to these cultural events because I am able to learn something new about different cultures and essentially

get to know some of the people I go to school with, instead of just knowing of them through Facebook, which is never really a good representation of anyone."

Later in the academic year, the students will have the exciting opportunity to talk to Putnam himself. Putnam will be visiting the University to speak about his work on January 27 at 2:30 pm in Wilson Auditorium.



PHOTO COURTESY of Reenie Menditto  
Robert Putnam addresses the decay of community-based society in his book, *Bowling Alone*.

## Professor Spotlight: Brian Merry

Terence Bodak

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Although the Honors School technically does not have its own faculty, one of the most loved and talked about Honors professors is Brian Merry from the History and Anthropology department. Merry regularly teaches both sections of Western Civilization, along with Cultural Engagement.

Merry received his Bachelor's from Loyola University in Baltimore, Maryland and holds two graduate degrees. He has a Master's from Monmouth University in European History, and an M.Phil. in Modern History and Literature from Drew University. This May, Merry will become Dr. Merry, as he will complete his Ph. D from Drew.

Merry grew up in Wall Township. He described his time growing up in Wall as a "very happy childhood" where he "spent most of [his] free time playing sports and going to the beach in the summer." It was also in his childhood that Merry's love for history grew, but admitted that it took "a little longer before [he] learned to appreciate literature." His love for history followed him through college; while at Loyola, Merry majored in history and minored in political science, with "the idea that [he] would either go to grad school and pursue the academic life or go to law school." After college, he worked as a paralegal to test his interest in law, but found that his heart was in academia.

After attaining his Master's from Monmouth University, he seized the opportunity to join the faculty of the History and Anthropology Department that he worked with during his graduate career. On this opportunity, Merry stated, "I

had such a great experience with my professors at Monmouth and jumped at the opportunity to work with them as colleagues. Plus, I've always wanted to teach at a small school where I can really get to know the students and hopefully have a positive impact on them. In general, I felt that the atmosphere at Monmouth was really positive and it seemed to be a school on the rise. And I enjoy living



PHOTO COURTESY of Reenie Menditto  
Professor Brian Merry is a huge fan of the work of William Shakespeare.

at the Jersey Shore, such a misunderstood and under-rated place."

For Merry, his favorite part of being an Honors Professor is the fact that he gets to "teach students that are so willing to learn." He enjoys teaching in a cluster because he likes "to see the theme from the perspective of the different disciplines." Merry also finds it rewarding to work closely with other faculty members because of the "collaboration that is involved with the other professor(s) - the exchanging of syllabi, discussion of methods, having the same students and the ability to get the pulse of a class."

Although he is a member of the History and Anthropology Department, many students do not know of his love for the work of William Shakespeare, his favorite being Henry IV because "it is a historical play, but involves comedic aspects and a worthy adversary." If Merry could teach a free standing Honors course, it would be titled "Shakespeare in History and Drama"; the course would focus on contemporary Elizabethan history such as England's war with Spain and Ireland, and how it shaped the dramas Shakespeare wrote, as well as how history remembers these events based on the works of Shakespeare.

For the first-year Honors students, he offers simple, yet insightful advice: "Stay connected to the program and always feel like you have access to your professors." Merry also offers this advice to juniors getting ready to start their Honors thesis: "Choose a topic you are interested in and have a passion for; if you don't it will not be an enjoyable process" and to not "be hard on yourself - keep with it".

The one thing that Professor Merry can teach his students without lecturing them is that, for the most part, college professors are normal people too. College professors have a stigma about them. Many students seem to think that because they are highly educated, they do not enjoy things in life other than reading and researching. This is the farthest from the truth when it comes to Merry. He is a big fan of music, especially the Beatles, and considers Casablanca to be his favorite movie. Merry is also an enormous lover of sports, and his favorite teams are the Boston Red Sox and the Philadelphia Eagles.

I had the opportunity to have Professor Merry during my first semester at Monmouth. His passion for his subject matter helped me reinvigorate my interest in history, which led me to add history as my second major. This renewed interest in history impacted my academic career in a very positive way; as much interest that I have in my first major, political science, history has taken precedence, and I will be starting my graduate career this spring as an undergraduate, when I take my first graduate level course. Thank you, Professor Merry, for your passion for learning, teaching, the Honors School, and your students.

## Occupy Wall Street Moves Across the Globe

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The First Amendment of the United States Constitution protects the freedom of religion, speech, and press as well as the right to assemble and petition against the government. Throughout the years, people have had different opinions about morals, politics, and life. People express their feelings in many different ways about certain situations - from writing a poem to fighting war, their feelings are expressed.

Starting on September 17, people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds, religions, and genders have been expressing their own beliefs through protest. What started as a small group protest of 1,000 people on Wall Street has turned into an international protest against the greed, corruption and social inequality in today's society. The protestors - who come from all walks of life- are against the unbalanced spread of wealth.

As a result of its growth, more violent events took place. Protestors in Portland, Oregon were clearly trying to state their beliefs. The protestors rallied in front of many banks such as Bank of America and Chase. The rallying of the protestors soon became too much to handle when, as a result, at least 34 protestors were then arrested. Unfortunately, police officers had to use pepper spray on several protestors, but justice needed to be served.

On the other side of the country, in New York City, protesting was just as bad, if not worse. "All day, all week, shut down Wall Street" was the infamous chant that was being shouted by the protestors. Soon, these activists began to march over the Brooklyn Bridge. Others attempted to congest the streets around the stock exchange. Seven-hundred of the protestors who marched over the Brooklyn Bridge were arrested. About five advocates who decided to create havoc near the stock exchange were arrested and charged with felony assault, and about seven police officers and ten protestors were injured.

Some citizens are angry about the protestors' actions while others have favorable impressions of the



PHOTO COURTESY: Andrew Burton  
Protesters in Occupy Wall Street take to the street to speak out against economic inequalities.

protestors. A survey by *Time* stated that 54 percent of Americans favor the protesting, while 23 percent of Americans have a negative impression.

President Barack Obama said, "I think it expresses the frustrations the American people feel, that we had the biggest financial crisis since the Great Depression, huge collateral damage all throughout the country...and yet you're still seeing some of the same folks who acted irresponsibly trying to fight efforts to crack down on the abusive practices that got us into this in the first place."

Some students of the University oppose the Occupy Wall Street Movement. Many feel that there are many different ways to address issues than to do so in violent protests. Sarah Turner, business major, said, "The protestors are not changing anything doing what they are doing."

Michelle Costa, communications major, said, "I understand the movement and why the people of Occupy Wall Street are standing up to the wealthy. Unfortunately, no financial miracle will happen overnight. Enough is enough; it has gone on for too long. I am all for voicing your opinion and advocacy, but it is now looking desperate."

The protesting should come to a halt. It is unfortunate that people cannot work together in a peaceful manner to find a solution to their arguments. In life, there are good and bad people; not everyone who is wealthy is greedy or corrupt. The greedy and corrupt people will not change based on the protest; they will only change for themselves.

## Across the Pond with the Honors School Lea Callahan

My time in Oxford was, without a doubt, the most rewarding experience of my life. I stayed in St. Hugh's College in Oxford with 21 other students from Monmouth. As soon as we got to England, we were on the go. St. Hugh's is a short walk from the heart of Oxford, so there was plenty for us to see and do. While we were there, we visited the Sheldonian Theater, where Oxford students graduate, and climbed to the top where I had a bird's eye view of Oxford. We also went to the Bodleian Library, a copyright library that has original scrolls of Shakespeare and was a film location for the *Harry Potter* movies. On top of that, we took a short bus ride to Blenheim Palace, the last privately owned palace in the United Kingdom. It was full of priceless paintings, busts, and statues and has acres of rolling land that was the perfect background for pictures.

Oxford, however, was not all about historical buildings. When we had some free time, we decided to try our luck at punting. Similar to the gondolas you might see in Venice, punting involves a flat bottom boat and a long pole. We did not have the luxury of someone taking us down the river, but that may have been the best part; watching everyone trying to navigate their boats was hilarious.

While in London, we saw the House of Parliament, which was amazing. I could barely wrap my head around the idea that the gold-covered walls I was looking at were the same ones that King Henry VIII looked at when he lived there. The ornate rooms inside the building were amazing to see; the giant frescoes on the walls, the wood carvings, the ornate wall paper, and the



PHOTO COURTESY of Lea Callahan  
The Honors school sponsored a trip to Oxford, England with Dr. Neil Graves.

huge portraits of all the monarchs were really cool to look at, but they made me think that the British are a little crazy when it comes to their monarchs. I was also able to see Westminster Abbey, which is right across the street from the House of Parliament. As an English major, I thought it was amazing to be able to go to Poet's Corner in the abbey. I saw the graves of so many famous poets, such as those of Geoffrey Chaucer, Robert Browning, and Thomas Hardy.

London was the perfect atmosphere for exploring. One of the days that we were there, my friend and I went exploring and ended up in Coventry Square. There were a ton of shops there, but the best part was the street performers. There was a magician with a crowd of people around him who was probably the funniest person I have ever heard before, but my favorite performer was a man painted in all silver who looked like a Roman gladiator. We took a picture with him, and he pretended to cut our heads off with his sword. While in London, I was also able to fulfill one of my lifelong dreams: going to Platform 9 3/4. As an avid *Harry Potter* fan, I made sure that I took the trip on the Underground, which was surprisingly clean.

Although the food in England was not that great, a group of us went to a food festival one day right outside of Oxford. There were so many different ethnic food groups there that it was difficult to pick a place to begin. There was pallya, jerk chicken, Thai food, tons of cheese and olive vendors, yak's milk, and even a stand with exotic meats such as ostrich, antelope, and wildebeest. There were also stands promoting environmental sustainability and selling reusable kitchen products.

Going to England was definitely a life-changing experience. I was able to see buildings that were hundreds of years old, walk down the streets of some of the oldest cities in the world, and experience a new culture. Although it may not seem like it, England is a very different place from America. I never realized how much I appreciated things like ice, quick service, pedestrian laws, pasteurized milk, and good Chinese food until I went to England. Taking this trip taught me so much, not just about literature, as the course promised it would, but about people from a different background.

## Dr. Dooley Takes the Honors School Under His Wing Jenna Intersimone

When Dr. William Mitchell of the Anthropology department stepped down as Honors school Dean in the spring, Honors school staff and students alike were a little nervous about who would be able to step in and continue to change the program for the better.

After interviews with Honors students and faculty, Dr. Kevin Dooley of the Political Science department was selected to be Dean of the Honors school. However, Dooley had been a part of the University long before he started teaching in a University classroom 10 years ago.

Dooley attended Monmouth for his undergraduate degree after graduating from Manasquan High School in 1996. He grew up in Sea Girt, surrounded by political science since his father was a lawyer, and his dream was to follow in his footsteps.

"I found a lot of enjoyment in writing rather than practicing the law. I think that I write in a certain style that is much more relatable and better suited for academics," said Dooley. "I try to strike a balance between analysis and theory. I can weave in between both worlds."

After graduating from Monmouth University in 1999 and then graduating Rutgers University with his Masters in Political Theory in 2001 and Ph.D in International Relations in 2004, Dooley followed through with his newly found passion and came back to the University to be an Associate Professor of Political Science.

Dooley said that he likes teaching because he "thinks college students are the funniest people in the world." He said, "These students say things in a way most people could not get away with, and it's refreshing. People say they're naïve, and that's the wrong word. They see things for what they are. I hope that some of that rubs off and that sense of wonder will stay with them for their whole lives."

He said that students are bombarded with impersonal technology, such as Facebook and other online social networking, but when students are seeing one another and discussing material it makes them better human beings.

He said, "The more we isolate ourselves, the less we learn about one another. If we can create real communities, we

can create more opportunities."

It is this philosophy that inspired Dooley to want to be Dean of the Honors school. He wanted to be a part of a learning community and help to mold it. Some of his other plans for enriching the Honors program include creating more freestanding upper level credits, refining the Honors Proposal and Thesis process, and creating a Bachelor's degree in Honors, which would distinguish Honors school students from departmental honors.

Terence Bodak, a senior student majoring in Political Science and History, as well as an Honors student, said, "There is no doubt in my mind that Dr. Dooley will be able to accomplish the things that he wants for the Honors school. I think that Dr. Dooley received the position for many reasons, but first because he is passionate about his students and bringing them to the next level."

He stressed that he sees significant improvements in the Political Science department and the University as a whole throughout his years as a part of the University family. Dooley said, "I see more hands-on faculty willing to engage in student clubs. Also, standards have gone through the roof in terms of academic quality."

Dooley said that he is attracted to Political Science because he "wants to figure out how the world works." He enjoys combating questions such as why do we keep having genocides? Why do certain countries keep going to

war? How do different governments interact?

He said that the best lesson he learned at Monmouth was one from Dr. Saliba Sarsar's class as an undergraduate. "He told us his attendance policy was so severe because the only time he ever missed a class was because when he was growing up in Jerusalem and an un-exploded bomb blew up in his backyard during the Six-Day War. I realized that at the end of the day, people around the world have a much harder experience than we do. We have no room to complain."

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PHOTO COURTESY of Monmouth University  
Dr. Kevin Dooley also attended the University as an undergraduate.

## Finding a *Colliding World* in Phoenix, Arizona

Emily Steeber

This year's National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Conference, *Stewards of Our Colliding Worlds: Rights, Wrongs, and Responsibilities*, was held in Phoenix, Arizona from Wednesday, October 19 through Sunday, October 23. This year, I was lucky enough to be able to attend the NCHC Conference with fellow classmates Terence Bodak, senior history and political science major; Jenna Intersimone, junior Communications major; Dharm Patel, senior Biology major; Reenie Menditto, Director of Student Advising for the Honors School; and Dr. Kevin Dooley, Dean of the Honors School.

When we arrived in Phoenix it was somewhat of a shock to all six of us; we were all expecting the capital of Arizona to be a large, bustling city with skyscrapers and cars and tons of people sightseeing. Contrastingly, Phoenix seemed like a suburb in comparison to New York City: the speed limit on most streets was only 35 miles per hour, the tallest building in our area was our 33 story hotel, we rarely saw people outside after 6:00 pm, and traffic didn't seem like it was ever an issue. Regardless of the difference, it was incredible to step off the plane into 90 degree weather.

The conference started on the second day we were in Phoenix, but rather than attending the sessions, Terence, Jenna, Dharm and I decided to spend our first morning exploring the surrounding area. We wandered from our hotel to the Arizona Center across the street which consisted of an outdoor mall and a small park, St. Mary's Basilica, and various buildings of Arizona State University, which was only about a block from our hotel.

By the afternoon, we met up with Reenie and Dr. Dooley to go to the Phoenix Art Museum, which the concierge claimed was only about a mile and a half on foot. After walking for what seemed like hours in the dry Arizona heat, we arrived at the museum, which was filled with brilliant paintings from artists such as Claude Monet, widely known for his impressionist style; Gilbert Stuart, who painted the unfinished portrait of George Washington - The Athenaeum; and Pablo Picasso, undoubtedly one of the most influential and inspirational artists of the twentieth century. I do not consider myself to be knowledgeable in the field of visual art but even I was able to recognize some of the famous paintings in the museum.

Once we got back to the conference, Dr. Dooley, Reenie, Terence, Jenna, Dharm and I all headed to the Immigration Law Debate, which was included in the conference to continue the theme of the program: *Stewards in Our Colliding Worlds: Rights, Wrongs, and Responsibilities*.

In Arizona, it is obvious that there are many problems involved undocumented citizens moving into the state from Mexico, and it was thought-provoking to hear what people who lived in the area had to say about the topic. Each member of the panel seemed quite passionate about whichever side they were on; some panelists even resorted to screaming into their micro-

phones over others who were debating their points. One of the most intriguing subtopics brought up during the debate was from a doctor who was on the panel. The doctor brought up how much health care costs for undocumented immigrants and how much of that comes out of the taxpayers' money, which is something I had never really considered.

The next morning, all of us split up and went our separate ways to find information sessions. I ended up heading to multiple sessions concerning honors education and giftedness, which is a topic I am highly interested in as a Music Education major.

A majority of the sessions were presented by college professors who were experts in their field. Dharm and I attended one session that had topics ranging from autism intervention planning to adult neural stem cell research. One of my favorite parts of the entire conference was the fact that at the end of each session, the audience participated in a Q&A.

One of the activities NCHC had put together for the students and professors to attend was a gala at the Arizona Science Center. It was great seeing Reenie lay on a bed of nails, listening to my heartbeat on a bass drum, and watching Terence move a metal ball across a table with his brainwaves.

Jenna and I had the opportunity to actually be a part of one of the sessions, *What Makes a Winning Honors Newsletter?*, which was probably one of the highlights of going to Phoenix. The Honors School Newsletter, *Arête*, had come in third place for student-produced newsletters submitted to NCHC for the conference and the two of us had been asked to answer a few questions and give a brief description of how our newsletter is run. Reenie, Dr. Dooley, Terence, and Dharm all came to the session to support us, which definitely helped calm my nerves before speaking to the large group about what Jenna and I put tons of time and effort into. In addition to speaking at the session, the Honors School received a plaque at the Awards Dinner during the conference.

It was quite rewarding not only to know that all of our hard work had paid off and we had won an award, but that other students and professors from various universities may be using our newsletter and advice to begin their own student-produced newsletter. It was also very interesting to hear what other schools are doing and what kinds of articles these editors are including in their award-winning publications.

Even though I was nervous to fly out to Phoenix and worried about missing too much schoolwork, going to the NCHC Conference was definitely a rewarding experience. It was intriguing to talk to other honors students about their programs and any research they're doing, to explore a city quite unlike those I had previously been to, and connect with my fellow Honors School classmates.

## Alumni Spotlight: Lindsey Melody

Jenna Intersimone

Lindsey Melody, class of 2010, always has a new tangent, a new interest. An ambitious and self-assured woman, the self-proclaimed "book nerd" loves *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott and *Beloved* by Toni Morrison. She is also a big fan of authors Flannery O'Connor and Oscar Wilde, among other Irish writers. Lindsey is also currently trying to get into running, plus she loves to cook- she calls it her "productive type of relaxing."

However, there is one interest that has stayed with Lindsey from her upbringing in Long Beach Island, through her education at Monmouth University, and to her current days as a second-year student at Columbus School of Law at Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

"I have always been interested in Political Science," said Lindsey. "I find the balance of power extremely interesting and how it is pervasive and affects every part of our lives."

Specifically, Lindsey is interested in criminal law and prosecution. As many students, she has had moments in which she debated whether the path was for her, but she always finds herself coming back to it.

It is this infatuation with Political Science that brought Lindsey to Monmouth University in the first place. "Monmouth had a small but tight-knit Political Science Department which would get me more individualized attention from my professors," she said.

Lindsey said that she did not meet a professor in Political Science that she did not like. She did her Honors Thesis on the evolution and changing of constitutional rights in public education and the effects it has on education and discipline with Dr. Kathryn Kloby and Dr. Joseph Patten, two professors whom she names as her biggest influences while at Monmouth.

"Try your best to make personal connections to your professors because when you need recommendations, you are going to want them from people who know you really well," she said.

Lindsey also gives thanks to the Honors school for her success. She said, "I think I would have liked my Monmouth experience a lot less if I wasn't a part of

Honors. The students in my classes were always very engaged and I loved being in the smaller classes in the cluster program that allowed students to have more of a discussion than a lecture."

As an undergraduate, Lindsey was in Phi Eta Sigma, the freshman honors society, and Pi Sigma Alpha, the Political Science Honors fraternity. Her main activity, however, was being a tutor in the Writing Center for three years. She said, "It was always new and it was nice to be able to help people who were devoted to writing better."

Lindsey's next goal is to have a clerkship in any judge's chambers and eventually become a prosecutor in criminal law; however, she said that she is open to many different paths in the Political Science field.

"I really like litigation and debate. It's a big challenge and it's interesting to question people and figure out what to do with their information. It's never the same," she said.

Plus, Lindsey feels that as a prosecutor, even though she will be working a lot of hours and not making a lot of money (contrary to popular belief), she feels good that she will be doing a public service and helping to keep the community safe.

As for job prospects, Lindsey said that she is terrified just like everyone else. However, she is optimistic that since Political Science is what she loves, she will find a job that is well-suited for her and will make her happy.

To help her on her way while at law school, Lindsey is on the

staff for the Journal of Law, Philosophy, and Culture, the Secretary for The Federalist Society, and the Moot Court Associate for the Constitutional Law Moot Court Team. She is also working as a judicial intern for a judge in the civil division at D.C. Superior Court.

Lindsey left these words of wisdom for current undergraduates: "You must know what you are going to do with your major and realize that those four years come to an end. You can play hard, but you have to work hard too."



PHOTO COURTESY of Lindsey Melody  
Lindsey Melody is interested in criminal law and prosecution within the realm of political science.

The Honors School  
FALL Research Conference 2011

Wilson Auditorium  
Thursday, December 15, 2011  
9:00 a.m.

It is with great pleasure that the Honors School  
Presents its Annual Research Conference

*Student presenters include research in the fields of:*

Anthropology Biology Business Economics  
Communication Education History  
Mathematics Music Political Science

*9:00 a.m. Welcoming Remarks — Dr. Kevin Dooley*

*Dean of The Honors School*

PRESENTERS

Terence Bodak (HS/PS)

Tyler Breder (HP)

Maria Ferrara (MA/EDS)

Geoffrey Hipschman (MU/EDS)

Tamari Lagvilava (PS)

Alexandria Matz (PS)

Nicole Moreira (BUBE)

Nicole Pfeifer (CO)

Tara Quigley (HP/EDS)

Duncan Smith-Sebasto (BY)

Jennifer Tortorelli (AN/EDE)