



# Indiana University Bloomington Wells Scholars Program

Summer 2017 Newsletter



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<http://www.wellsscholars.indiana.edu>

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Photographs of Belize © Christoph Irmscher

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# Message from the Director

Dear All,



Photo credit: Lucy Battersby

It has been a privilege to serve for another year as the Director of the Wells Scholars Program. So many things have happened since we published our last newsletter. First and foremost, there was our first ever international trip for the freshman class. Yes, you heard right. Instead of spending a weekend in New Harmony, a venerable tradition for so many years, the freshmen went to Belize, where they taught and helped out in a Mayan high school. More about this in the photo-essay written for this newsletter by our editor, Elspeth Hayden. It was truly a memorable experience for all of us. I took so many photographs that I maxed out my storage on Dropbox!

In other news, our indefatigable senior Morgan Mohr won the Rhodes Scholarship, an extraordinary feat by anyone's standards, and found herself in the enviable position of having to turn down a Marshall Scholarship. It doesn't get much better than that. Across campus, our Wells Scholars continue to make a difference, in student government, as columnists for the *Indiana Daily Student*, or on the editorial board of the *Indiana University Journal of Undergraduate Research*. They spearhead mental health initiatives in our community or travel to Rwanda to work with a local teachers' cooperative. Read more about these and similar activities in this newsletter.

Be sure to follow us on our lively Twitter account @IU\_Wells. And please stay in touch! As we are fast approaching Indiana University's Bicentennial, consider supporting us. Check out our new website at <https://wellsscholars.indiana.edu>, scroll down, and click the "Make a gift today" button. Or use the form at the end of this newsletter. Our current and future Wells Scholars will thank you. And remember the new motto by Herman B that now graces our homepage, prophetic words uttered during his first inaugural address in 1938: "Never were the university's responsibilities for the development of character of greater significance than at the present hour."

With warmest regards,

Christoph



# Rhodes Scholarship Announcement

## Morgan Mohr, Class of 2013

Morgan Mohr, a senior Wells Scholar studying political science and history as well as pursuing an individualized major in feminist policy, has become the 17th Rhodes Scholar from Indiana University. She is one of 32 U.S. college students, and the only student from a Big Ten university, to receive the award.

Last summer, Morgan served as a White House intern in then-First Lady Michelle Obama's office. In August 2016, she joined the Clinton campaign as an intern to the Chief Operating Officer in the national headquarters in Brooklyn. One month later, Morgan was deployed to the battleground state of Florida, where she became a Deputy Operations Director and the Human Resources Director for the state's 750 campaign employees.

Just two days after Clinton's electoral college loss, Morgan flew to Chicago to interview for the Marshall Scholarship, which she won. After assisting with campaign shutdown operations, Morgan returned to Indiana to interview for the Rhodes Scholarship just one week later.

During the spring semester, Morgan worked in Washington D.C. while completing her final graduation requirements. Hired by the Markham Group, a Democratic political consulting firm, she served in a contractor role as the Special Projects Director to the President of Hiring Our Heroes, the veteran employment initiative of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Morgan's feminist policy thesis dealt with sterilization statutes, a direct result of her focus on gender and citizenship



## Wells Scholars Program: A Home Base for Global Action

by Stephen Browne, Class of 2014



I am a junior Wells Scholar from Brookfield, WI, studying economic consulting and international business with a minor in history. During my three years at Indiana University, the Wells Scholars Program has, time and again, inspired me locally and, subsequently, supported me in corresponding global opportunities.

The fall freshman seminar, taught by Program Director Christoph Irmischer, focused on environmental ethics in American literature. It sparked my emerging interest in environmental sustainability. Christoph noticed this interest and connected me with a month-long study abroad program that summer in Hanoi, Vietnam, with the School of Public and Environmental Affairs, which the Wells Scholars Program fully funded. There, I saw the challenges facing a nation trying to balance its burgeoning economic development with preservation on the narrow strip of land it calls home.

Our spring freshman seminar dove into activism and anthropology, courtesy of Dr. Anne Pyburn, a marvelous teacher. Through engaging discussion featuring my class's wide-ranging perspectives, we explored the key ethical and practical considerations of helping others. This conceptual understanding proved crucial when Nate Meyers, a fellow Scholar, and I traveled to northern Rwanda that May with Kelley's Trockman Microfinance Initiative to conduct a program of dialogue and strategic planning with a rural teachers' micro-savings co-operative.

Seeing the incredible impact created by the kind and accomplished people in the Wells Scholars community--other scholars, alumni, and advisors--has motivated me to learn how to use business skills to help people and improve communities. This ambition led me to my current exchange semester at Copenhagen Business School in Denmark, which the Wells Scholars Program enabled with its study abroad funding. I am studying responsible management and international relations in a country that prides itself on its strong commitment to social welfare. I hope to use my academic lessons and cultural concepts from this semester to guide my future career.

The Wells Scholars Program has not only provided me with moments of inspiration, but has also supported me as I explore the interests that my mentors have ignited. For that I am profoundly grateful.



# Marion Werkheiser, Wells Scholars Program Professor

by Christoph Irmscher, Wells Scholars Program Director

When I took over as director a few years ago and I found out about our generous endowment for the appointment of Wells Scholars Program professors, my first thought was that we should draw on our distinguished alumni for these positions. Our inaugural Wells Scholars Program professor in spring 2016 was Douglas Kysar, Wells Class of 1991, the Joseph M. Field '55 Professor of Law at Yale Law School. Doug's tremendously successful visit (read more about it in last year's newsletter, available online) convinced me that I was on the right track, I was delighted Marion Werkheiser, Wells Class of 1997, accepted my invitation to come to Indiana University in the spring of 2017 as the IU Class of 1943 Wells Scholars Program Professor. Her visit was arranged in close collaboration with the Department of Anthropology at Indiana University.



Marion is an award-winning lawyer and preservation advocate who has counseled foreign governments, advocacy organizations, and individuals on UNESCO conventions and U.S. law governing illicit antiquities. A co-founder and managing member of Cultural Heritage Partners, PLLC, the leading law and advocacy firm in the field of preservation, she helps clients devise strategies to protect archaeological sites and cultural institutions at risk from looting due to political instability, armed conflict, and exploitation by terrorist groups, including the Islamic State. She is an expert member of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Committee on Legal, Administrative, and Financial Affairs. In 2014, the Register of Professional Archaeologists honored her with the John F. Seiberling Award for her significant and sustained efforts in the conservation of archaeological resources. Marion, who graduated from Indiana University with majors in political science and classical civilization, was a winner of the 2014 College of Arts and Science Distinguished Alumni Award.

While at IU, Marion taught a joint class on "Problems in Heritage Preservation" with April Sievert, the Director of the Glenn A. Black Laboratory of Archaeology at Indiana University. She also gave a well-attended public lecture on "Preserving Cultural Heritage in the Age of Trump" at the Lilly Library, in which she talked about the many ways in which her work as a preservation lobbyist has

been affected by last year's presidential elections.

The Wells Scholars Program Professorship is supported by donations made by alumni during the endowment campaign for the Wells Scholars Program. Its purpose is to bring outstanding researchers and artists to campus. Previous Wells Scholars Program professors include South African civil rights activist Helen Suzman, playwright Athol Fugard, novelist and critic Sir Malcolm Bradbury, anthropologist Clifford Geertz, security expert Sir Timothy Garden, and geologist Walter Alvarez. I am proud to announce that our Wells Scholars Program Professor for spring 2018 will be alumna Noah Bendix-Balgley, Wells Class of 2002, the internationally renowned violinist, composer, and first concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic.



Wells Senior Seminar 2017 on "Natural Disasters," co-taught by Christoph Irmscher and Professor Michael Hamburger (Geological Sciences), with distinguished guests, printmaker Professor Ed Bernstein and photographer Professor James Nakagawa.

# Mental Health at Indiana University

by Maggie Hopkins, Class of 2015



Freshman year is hard enough on its own--a new living situation, new friends, and a new schedule. With a clinical depression diagnosis thrown into the mix, though, life goes from hard to out of control faster than you might imagine.

While I could make this piece about me, at its heart, it really isn't. Yes, my personal situation sparked my initial interest in mental health on our campus. It didn't stop there, though. As a freshman interning with IUSA's Student Body President, I immediately gravitated towards the student government's mental health platform. How does the counseling center adequately address the needs of all students? What are the costs? What student organizations are working to end the stigma surrounding these issues?

After researching counseling centers around the country and interviewing key stakeholders on our campus, an idea came to me right before my sophomore year: why does the university's counseling center not have an avenue to gather student input? How do we coordinate the vast number of efforts around campus, many of them working in tangent to one another, in order to make them more effective? As a result, a "Student Advisory Committee" to Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) was born.

Through conversations with Nancy Stockton, the Director of CAPS, and Pete Grogg, the Executive Director for the Health Center, I learned they were also on board with the idea. From their standpoint, a number of wonderful programs already exist within CAPS – and so many students don't know about them. By gathering student organizations with an interest in mental health, we could help promote these services. In turn, the students could gather administrator input and feedback on their ideas.

While I quickly learned that a project this large was hard to tackle all at once, many great ideas sparked because of it. Today, a collaborative effort between the Panhellenic Association (the governing body overseeing many sororities on campus) and CAPS is in the works. By next year, we hope to expand this idea into all the other Greek councils on campus.

While this was going on, other stakeholders on campus were also thinking extensively about mental health at Indiana University. At the beginning of this semester, Provost Lauren Robel announced her Mental Health Task Force, to be chaired by Vice Provost Lori Reesor. The goal of this group, comprised of distinguished faculty, administrators, graduate students, and undergraduate students (including the Student Body President, Director of Culture of Care, and me), is to propose a detailed, comprehensive model to the Provost by the end of the semester, addressing prevention techniques and necessary services.

To call this task force a formative experience on my college career is an understatement. It's allowed me to see and understand many perspectives on the issue. For example, the Director of the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center addressed priorities that were different from the ones that immediately came to my mind. This diversity of viewpoints is necessary. If Indiana University is going to develop a mental health model that works for all of us, each and every one of us, it will going to take all of us to make a difference.

While we still haven't found the answer, we're working on it. Even on my worst of days, it's heartening to know that this issue is not going to be silenced. My mental health, and your mental health, matters – and it's high time for Indiana University to validate that.

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To make an appointment at CAPS, please call (812) 855-5711.

# How I Came to Love the Romanian Language

by Bridget Kelly, Class of 2012



Bună Ziua! Hello! This was the first little bit of Romanian I learned. The words look striking enough, with letters we don't even have in English, but it was the sounds that made me want to learn more. If you are an English speaker, you can try pronouncing it like this: Boo-nuh Zee-wah. I love the roll of the consonants into open vowels. However, as an anthropologist, my favorite thing about languages is that the differences between them do not end with letters or sounds. When we speak other languages, we pick up new ways to express ourselves and new concepts to go with those words. For instance, the Romanian word *dor* essentially means longing, but it could also be described as nostalgia or yearning. No one English word captures quite the same thought. For me, experiencing these kinds of little differences in words can unlock new ways of seeing and understanding the world.

For this reason, I am very excited to have been awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship Grant to Romania for the 2017-2018 academic year. I will spend the year teaching university students the nuances of American English while learning more about the Romanian perspective in return.

The Wells Scholars Program connected me with many of the opportunities at IU that led me to pursue a Fulbright grant. In fact, I first chose to study Romanian simply because I could. By the end of my freshman year, I knew I wanted to begin a second foreign language, and I knew the Wells Scholars Program would help me pay for summer courses! Eastern Europe, with its dense cultural history, had become fascinating for me as an anthropology student, so I stumbled upon the SWSEEL program. I started looking up clips of each offered language on the Internet and immediately knew Romanian was the one for me. It is a Romance language, with which my background in Spanish would help me. But it is also full of leftover cases from Latin and has been influenced for centuries by Slavic and Turkic languages. The sounds of Romanian are unlike the more familiar romance languages. I gave you a little taste in the words *Bună Ziua* (Hello/Good Day). Here are a few more: *Mulțumesc* (I thank you, mull-tsu-mesk); *Fata frumoasă* (Beautiful girl, Fah-tah frew-mwa-suh). Can you just feel those great sounds rolling around in your mouth? And so, at first, Romanian was a challenge that called to my curious linguist mind.



2014 SWSEEL Romanian Class  
Bridget Kelley (second from left)

With my Summer Experience Grant and study abroad funding, I was able to travel to Romania for the first time in the summer of 2014. I lived in Cluj-Napoca, the capital of Transylvania, and Brașov, a German-founded town in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains. Romania is much more than the legend of Dracula. It has an immense history of multicultural and multilingual occupation. The Romanians trace their heritage to the time of Roman conquest, when the outskirts of Rome's empire moved into Dacian territory all the way to the mouth of the Danube in the Black Sea. The most important towns of Transylvania (the northwest part of Romania) were founded by Saxon settlers to protect the borders of the Holy Roman Empire in the 12th Century. The Hungarian kingdom (later the Austro-Hungarian Empire) as well as the Ottoman Empire claimed the entire region for many centuries. Today, there are still large communities of Hungarians in Romania, as well as many Romani people.

My experience living in Romania expanded my interest in the language to include a love of the people who speak it as well. Romania has the most agriculturally oriented economy in all of Europe; nearly 40% of the population still works on small farms. Driving around the winding highways of Romania, you will see countless hand-stacked mounds of straw and old men and women driving horse and buggies. However, when you arrive in the cities, the goods sold there and the infrastructure you walk through look like any other contemporary post-socialist city. There is still Nutella and Eurovision in Romania, but there are also monolithic grey apartment buildings. The people in these cities are just as vibrant as their village counterparts, and the country is full of unique music, art, literature, science, and traditions.

English is a vital tool for Romanians, as members of the greater European and global community, to take advantage of the international academic and business opportunities available to them at home and abroad. My hope is that one day my students will find their own new family of English speakers, a career, or simply increased self-confidence, as I have with languages. Because languages, with untranslatable words like *dor*, unlock the intricacies of other cultures, they are an important path to understanding. Languages help us get to know new people and let us share our thoughts across boundaries. In this time of massive migration and information diffusion, we could all use a little more understanding of other cultures, societies, religions, governments, and values.

After my Fulbright grant, I hope to pursue a Ph.D. in sociocultural and linguistic anthropologist, studying the effect speaking multiple languages has on cultural identity in Transylvania. This grant will be a great first step! And so, I would like to say *Mulțumesc!* to IU and to Herman B Wells for helping me discover and achieve this dream.

# Sun, Sand, and Jipijapa - Freshman Trip to Belize

by Elspeth Hayden, Wells Scholars Program Assistant



Gleeful whispers filled the Frangipani Room last August when Wells Scholars Program Director Christoph Irmscher announced to the ecstatic new freshman class that the traditional spring retreat to New Harmony, IN, would be replaced by the Program's first-ever international freshman trip to Belize. Professor Irmscher developed the idea with full support from the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, Dennis Groth, to ensure that all Scholars have an international experience during their IU tenure. Although study abroad support for up to a full academic year is part of the scholarship package, Wells Scholars often find it difficult to take that much time away from their academic commitments. A shorter trip, sponsored fully by the Program and scheduled between semesters, allows more Scholars to (literally and figuratively) dip their toes into international waters, and graduate as well-rounded citizens of the world with greater global understanding and intercultural skills.



Corina Greiner and Jay Chopra demonstrate self defense moves

The trip was a direct outgrowth of the year-long seminar required for all freshman Scholars. The fall semester, taught by Professor Irmscher, addressed environmental awareness and sustainability, immersing students in the complex history of environmental problems. The spring semester, taught by Professor Anne Pyburn of the IU Department of Anthropology, addressed social engagement and political activism, with a special emphasis on the Maya people. Professor Pyburn also assisted students with designing specific projects and materials to share with the students at teachers at The Tumul K'in Center of Learning, a Maya high school in the Toledo district of southern Belize and the focus of the trip.

Founded in 2001, Tumul K'in focuses on preserving Maya culture and promoting the sustainable development of the region through intercultural education. Tumul K'in, though initially extremely successful, is currently struggling with a lack of personnel and funding, exacerbated by the rapidly changing political and geographical climate. In tandem with Dr. Filiberto Penados and Cristina Coc of the Center for Engaged Learning Abroad Belize (CELA), our students

worked to develop materials and teaching strategies to share with the school, in the hope that our brief time together would leave a lasting impression for everyone involved. Projects included CPR and basic first aid training and materials, self-defense classes, the introduction of a Rachel-Pi (a mini-server with educational content available to students who can't regularly connect to the Internet) to the school's technology curriculum, and even a school song composed by one of our Scholars! Tumul K'in students reciprocated by hosting our



Cecilia Brisuda on air

students on their radio station, teaching them to plant corn, and demonstrating traditional dance and marimba music.

CELA organized a mind-boggling diverse array of activities to coincide with our work at Tumul K'in. To orient our students to their home-away-from-home, Dr. Penados and Cristina treated the freshman Scholars to several lectures on the history and culture of Belize, with emphasis on their area of expertise - Maya land rights. They also invited Ted McKoy, the chairman of the coastal village of Hopkins, to discuss the self-determination of the Garifuna people, and Cristina's husband, Pablo Mis, spoke about indigenous governance and development.



Coleton Hast helps Tumul K'in students with computer skills

Top: Tumul K'in sign, group photo with Laguna host families, Tumul K'in classroom



# Sun, Sand, and Jipijapa - Freshman Trip to Belize

Though the majority of this service-learning trip took place at Tumul K'in, our students still had plenty of time to experience Belizean life first-hand. They participated in an eco-tourism initiative in the village of Laguna by staying in the Toledo Ecotourism Association (TEA) guesthouse and rotating meals with different village families. Scholars were delighted by all the different delicious food offerings - there is no better breakfast than refried beans, fresh fry jacks, and coffee that you harvested yourself! For the most part, the climate graced us with near-perfect weather--surreally blue and sunny skies with a slight, cooling breeze. Our Scholars even enjoyed a deluge of rain one morning. Any water feels good when you spend your days clambering up 107 stairs to the radio tower and your nights in a tropical thatched hut with no air conditioning!



Kaleb Mount grinds cacao

Other memorable highlights included a night tour of the Belize Zoo, making chocolate with Juan and Abelina Cho (the self-proclaimed chocolate King and Queen) at Ixcacao Maya Belizean Chocolate Factory, touring the archaeological site at Nim Li Punit with Professor Pyburn, participating in a traditional Maya fire ceremony in our home village, and soaking in the cool waters of Blue Creek after a hard day's work. Professor Pyburn graciously opened her home to us for the final days of our trip, and our students enjoyed a much-deserved rest; swimming, snorkeling, and soaking up sun on the beach in Placencia.

Our inaugural international freshman trip would not have been possible without a slew of people working behind the scenes. Professors Irmischer and Pyburn worked tirelessly to have the trip approved, prepared our students both in and out of class, and led the group. Wells Scholars Program Administrative Assistant Chris Shipman played an essential role in organizing details pre-departure. CELA Belize did a magnificent job arranging the trip itinerary and providing on-site support throughout our stay. We are also greatly indebted to Program Assistant Elspeth Hayden, IU grad student and CELA study abroad officer Mark Chatarpal, the IU Office of Overseas Study, and the IU School of Informatics and Computing SERVE IT director Matt Hottell for providing advice and guidance through the whole process.

By all accounts, the trip was a rip-roaring success. Next stop: Berlin 2018!



Students cool off in Blue Creek



Thalia Taylor and Victoria Kvitek learn how to plant corn



Clockwise from top left: Athena Nagel and Hannah Huth play marimba, Professor Pyburn lectures at Nim Li Punit archaeological site, students splash in Blue Creek, Elspeth Hayden and Anne Pyburn at dinner with students, Tumul K'in students demonstrate a dance, Christoph Irmischer wears a snake at the Belize Zoo

# Class Notes

## Class of 1993



**Seth Gillihan and his wife Marcia (IUB '97) celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary last year with their son and two daughters. In October 2016, they traveled to Cape May, NJ, to witness the annual monarch butterfly migration. Seth has been a psychologist in solo private practice for the past 5 years, and holds a clinical appointment at the University of Pennsylvania where he supervises psychiatry residents. His book *Retrain Your Brain: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in 7 Weeks* was published in the fall of 2016. Seth writes the Think Act Be blog on PsychologyToday.com, where he discusses the application of mindfulness-based cognitive behavioral therapy.**



**Ward Myers and his family relocated to China this August. Ward is based in Shanghai and is the new program director for the Emergency Medicine Training Program for United Family Healthcare. He is enjoying learning Mandarin, eating dumplings, and participating in the developing field of emergency medicine in China.**



## Class of 1995

**Rachel Chrastil continues to teach and research at Xavier University in Cincinnati. In 2017, she was appointed Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. In this role, she collaborates closely with faculty on curriculum, assessment, and honors and interdisciplinary programs, and she works to support and defend the liberal arts in general. In addition, Chrastil was promoted to Professor of History. She is writing a book on the history of childlessness.**



## Class of 1997

**Robert Tayon and his wife, Vanvimon Saksmerprome (IUB Ph.D. '05), had their second child, Viracha Molly Tayon, in March 2017. Robert switched careers from investment banking to tech in 2015, and now leads paid search marketing globally for Agoda, a Priceline subsidiary. They currently live in Bangkok near the Mahidol University campus, where Vanvimon is in charge of a biochemistry research lab.**

# Class Notes

## Class of 1998



**Donald Buck is the Associate Program Director for the Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Residency Program at the Washington University--St. Louis School of Medicine, where he directs the training and education of 18 plastic surgery residents. He was recently featured on local and national news segments regarding a specialized procedure he performs on patients across the country for a rare fat disorder (Lipedema). His first textbook, Core Procedures in Plastic Surgery, was recently translated into Portuguese, and his second textbook, Review of Plastic Surgery, was one of only five books within the entire surgical textbook arena to receive a commendation from the British Medical Association in 2016.**



**Andrew Dilts spent the 2016-2017 academic year as a Member of the School of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, NJ. While in the woods of New Jersey, he has been working on a new book project that focuses on prison abolition, radical LGBTQI activism, and the history of the “Chicago School” of economics. He will return to teaching in the Political Science Department at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles in the fall, where his long-time partner, Sina Kramer, teaches in the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies.**



## Class of 1999

**Last summer, Brianne (Williams) Kirkpatrick spent a week visiting southern Indiana. Together with her husband Michael (IUB '02), she introduced her children to Bloomington, where they enjoyed Mother Bear’s pizza, a visit to Showalter Fountain, and a stop-over at the Wonderlab Science Museum. Bloomington is a great place to inspire a new generation of future Wells Scholars! The Kirkpatrick family currently resides in Crozet, VA.**



## Class of 2000

**In her capacity as Executive Director for the Alliance for Safe Online Pharmacies (ASOP Global [www.BuySafeRx.Pharmacy](http://www.BuySafeRx.Pharmacy)) Libby (Lewis) Baney, J.D., spoke at a conference hosted by ASOP Global in partnership with the Government of India, the World Health Organization, the International Alliance for Patient Organizations, the Partnership for Safe Medicines, and the U.S. Pharmacopeia Convention. The event, “Patient Safety and Access to Safe Online Pharmacies,” involved senior officials and thought-leaders from ten countries to share best practices on combating illegal Internet drug sales and develop an action plan promote patient safety in India and globally. Libby, husband Nate, and son Luke (3.5yrs) recently moved to the Annapolis, MD, area. She commutes to D.C., where she works as Principal at Faegre Baker Daniels Consulting.**



**Katherine J. Mercer-Lawson practices law at Wheeler Trigg O’Donnell (WTO) LLP in Denver, CO. With fellow attorney and DRI member Erik “Rick” Nadolink, Mercer-Lawson won reversal and remand for Foster Wheeler in an asbestos lawsuit before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, which held that government contractor**



# Class Notes

immunity is a valid defense in failure-to-warn cases.



## Class of 2001

**Rebecca Homkes, a recipient of the IU College of Arts and Sciences 2017 Young Alumni award, is the director of 21st Century Strategy, a boutique consultancy firm, where she works with CEOs and executive teams of top global companies and fast-growing enterprises on developing and executing strategies for growth, especially when facing extreme uncertainty. Homkes is also a teaching fellow at the London Business School's Department of Strategy and Entrepreneurship. A fellow at the London School of Economics' Centre for Economic Performance and a director at the Ashridge Strategic Management Centre, Homkes is also a co-founder of corporate innovation consultancy Next Wave Innovation and a board member and mentor at GrowthX and the Silicon Valley Growth Syndicate.**



## Class of 2004

**Michael Drazer is a fellow in Hematology/Oncology at the University of Chicago, where he is researching leukemogenic mechanisms in hereditary hematologic malignancies. He was recently awarded a Physician-Scientist Training Award from the Damon Runyon Cancer Research Foundation to support this project through 2020. Michael also sees patients with blood cancers at the University's Medical Center. He and his wife Megan live near the Indiana Dunes and are always willing to host any Wellsies traveling through Chicago, especially those who enjoy trail running and/or cat hair.**



**In 2016, Kate FitzGerald served as one of three Regional Policy Directors for Hillary for America. She is now an Associate at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP in New York. She and her fiancé, David Hamstra, will marry in August 2017.**



## Class of 2005

**Carolyn Homer ('05) and Bradley Jones ('04) got engaged in San Francisco in December. The two alums reconnected in early 2015 when Carolyn was on a business trip to Washington D.C. Bradley is currently a bankruptcy attorney for the United States Department of Justice. Carolyn is an intellectual property and First Amendment litigation attorney at Quinn Emanuel, recently transferring from the Silicon Valley office to Washington D.C. Carolyn and Bradley regularly host nerdy board game nights, showing off their collection of more than 75 games. All Wellsies living in or visiting the D.C. are invited to come play!**



## Class of 2007

# Class Notes



Luke Pacold is completing an M.B.A. at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business this June. After school he'll join Abbott, a large public healthcare conglomerate, working for their molecular diagnostics division in Des Plaines, a northwest suburb of Chicago. He is taking as many classes as he can fit in before student life ends for good, trying to attend as many talks and intellectual events as possible, and taking advantage of \$1 milkshake Wednesdays at one of the campus cafeterias. Luke thinks that IU could definitely stand to copy that custom, though he believes that Bloomington still wins hands down on pizza options.

## Class of 2008



In January, John Brown proposed to Kelsey Nelson at the Art Institute of Chicago, the site of their first date. They will marry on October 14, 2017 in Rockford, IL. After IU, John attended Cambridge University, completing a MAST in Pure Mathematics in 2014. Last summer, he visited Cambridge for a Gates Cambridge Biennial event and Bloomington for the Wells reunion. He currently lives in Chicago, IL, and works as a data scientist for Deloitte Consulting. Outside work, he teaches for Math Circles of Chicago, sings in the choir of Our Lady of Mount Carmel parish, and competes in masters rowing as part of the Lincoln Park Boat Club.



Nicole Budzinsky currently works at a FFL Partners, a private equity fund in San Francisco, and will start an M.B.A. at the Stanford Graduate School of Business this fall. She was recently engaged to fiancé James, a former Cox Research Scholar, who is finishing a Ph.D. at Stanford. They are looking forward to staying in the Bay Area, where they have enjoyed getting to know other Wells and IU alumni, and hope to plan some more get-togethers soon!



## Class of 2010

Elizabeth Davis currently studies geology at the University of Washington and maps landslides for the City of Seattle. Since graduating from IU in 2014, she has traveled to eight new countries, spent a season on an organic vegetable farm, and worked for a National Forest.



This fall, Rachel Greene completed her M.A. with Distinction in Conflict Transformation & Social Justice under the George J. Mitchell Scholarship at Queen's University Belfast. Her dissertation was on "The Impact of Conflict on Gendered Violence in Belfast." She had a wonderful year in Northern Ireland and made time to travel a great deal, visiting a total of 19 countries over her 12 months abroad. In September, she began her first year of law school at Stanford Law in California. Thus far, she has thoroughly enjoyed her time there. She has become involved in the Immigration Pro Bono, has launched a new student group "Stanford Law Against Gender-Based Violence," and has been politically engaged during and post-election. She is hoping to intern in Atlanta this summer.

## Class of 2011



# Class Notes



**Tim Zakian is currently pursuing a DPhil in computer science at Oxford. When he's not busy working, he enjoys long games of croquet. Tim is looking forward to the weather improving so he can play once again. He has tried to learn how to punt, but sadly almost all attempts have met with a watery end. He will be in the Bay Area over this summer and would love to hang out with any Wellsies who might be there.**

## Class of 2012



**Andy Braden is completing his M.P.A. at Indiana University with concentrations in public finance and policy analysis. He continues to perform weekly with his improv comedy team Awkward Silence Comedy and works as the graduate assistant to the Board of Aeons on campus. He spent last summer interning at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, D.C., along with a few other Wellsies! Unfortunately, this update comes in the middle of the job hunt so future plans are still in the works. You will likely find him in D.C. or employed in a city government next year.**



## Class of 2014

**Nate Meyers, a finance and public policy analysis major within the Kelley School, traveled in the summer of 2016 to Beijing, Shanghai, and Seoul with the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education's IU2U program, an international student orientation service offered abroad prior to international students' arrival in Bloomington. Meyers also studied abroad that summer at the London School of Economics, taking courses in international trade policy and business management. On campus, Meyers continues to serve as president for both the Trockman Microfinance Initiative and Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education's Student Advisory Board. Meyers also acts as the electoral coordinator for the Indiana Israel Public Affairs Committee. He looks forward to spending the summer in Minneapolis, MN, interning in the finance department of a large CPG firm. Go Hoosiers!**

**Richard Solomon spent the last summer in Bloomington working as a research assistant for international studies professor Sarah Baurele Danzman on foreign investment law, and with political scientist Dina Spechler on nuclear weapons proliferation. He assisted the Office of International Development in hosting the Mandela Washington Fellowship Program and continues aiding programs this semester. With support from the Wells Summer Experience Grant in August, he made a 150-kilometer pilgrimage journey on foot to the Black Madonna monastery in Czętechowa, Poland, guided by a desire to explore the spiritual intersections of the refugee and pilgrim experience. He used the opportunity to collect interviews on**

# Class Notes



Poles' perceptions of refugees. Richard spent the fall semester at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, where he deepened his knowledge of Arabic, Hebrew, and Palestinian society. With a fellow from the Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace, Richard collaborated on a forthcoming book about the history of transnational war volunteers in jihadi circles. He organized an effort to bring clothes and blankets to Eritrean asylum seekers at the Israeli detention center Holot and reunited with family friends and university faculty in Bethlehem, West Bank. Back at IU, Richard is on track to graduate in 2018 with B.S. and B.A. degrees in international studies, near eastern languages and cultures, and political science. He actively participates in Model UN, Model Arab League, and the WIUX student radio. As treasurer of Students for Peace in the Middle East, Richard is excited to organize a conference simulation for the Oslo Accords, drawing students from across the political spectrum to negotiate joint Israeli-Palestinian issues in a dialogue-centered forum. Richard is also delighted to host a philosophy radio program on 99.1FM with support from the philosophy department. Stay tuned for an interview with Noam Chomsky in the near future!



Kyra Triebold is majoring in English and Arabic. She spent the fall semester studying Arabic in Amman, Jordan, where the presence of a humanities student greatly confused the international studies majors from Georgetown and George Washington University. Since returning to Indiana University, she is continuing to combine Arabic and literature with a research project at the Lilly Library about the translator Peter Theroux, under the guidance of the esteemed Christoph Irmischer. This semester she is also serving as an intern in President McRobbie's office. She is involved with the equestrian team and the Hutton Honors College's literary journal, *The Labyrinth*.

In December, Gabriel Young returned to his hometown of Ashland, Oregon where he gave a recital as part of the Chamber Music Concerts series at Southern Oregon University's Music Recital Hall. He is spending the spring semester abroad in London, England, where he is studying privately with acclaimed soloist and chamber musician, Emily Pailthorpe. Young will be spending the summer as a fellow at Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, CA.



## Class of 2015

Jonah Andreatta, a sophomore majoring in instrumental music education and bassoon performance, has spent the past year engaging with music in as many ways as he can. Recently, he was elected to serve a two-year term on the Indiana Music Educators' Association Board of Directors, where he will help to oversee projects that positively impact current and future music educators throughout the state. This past year, he has been doing just that while serving as Vice President of the IU chapter of the National Association for Music Education. In this capacity, Jonah helped to program and run a variety of classes and activities that showed current music education students how our teaching methods, and the populations to which we must teach, are evolving in the 21st century. This included classes on hip-hop/rap, multicultural music in both the elementary and secondary classroom, and a symposium on the role of technology in

# Class Notes



music education. This summer, Jonah will go home to Kentucky to serve as a part of the summer staff for the Kentucky Center Governor's School for the Arts, a three-week residential program for some of the state's top high school artists. After that, he will serve as a music/visual staff member for the Lafayette High School "Pride of the Bluegrass," an 18-time Kentucky state champion marching band.

Maddy Klein is a sophomore majoring in comparative literature and English with a concentration in creative writing. During her first two years at IU, Maddy has served on the humanities editorial board for the IU Journal of Undergraduate Research, written opinion columns for the Indiana Daily Student, and interned for the office of the Victorian Studies journal. This past summer, she studied abroad in London, where she worked as an editorial intern for Unbound Publishing to explore a potential career in the publishing field. This fall, Maddy will work for the office of the Indiana Review literary magazine as well as conduct research on the female voice in epic poetry as an assistant for Professor Sarah Van der Laan in comparative literature.



Céline Oberholzer attended Oklahoma City Ballet's Summer Intensive for six weeks in the summer of 2016. She trained under the company's Artistic Director, Robert Mills, as well as the Ballet Masters Ronnie Underwood and Miki Kawamura. At the end of the program, she performed in an original work by Walker Martin, a soloist with the company. Afterwards, she attended Ballet Austin's Summer Intensive for three weeks where she trained under the personal instruction of the company's Artistic Director, Stephen Mills, and the Associate Artistic Director, Michelle Martin. She also performed in the company repertoire at the end of the program. In October 2016, Céline performed original choreography at IU's "First Thursdays" event. In December of 2016, she performed choreography by the junior class of dance majors in the IU Contemporary Dance Department. In January of 2017, she danced excerpts from José Limón's "Psalm" in the IU Contemporary Dance Department's annual Faculty Showcase. In February, she participated in the National Society of Arts and Letters Contemporary Dance Competition and also presented excerpts from José Limón's "Psalm" at the Buskirk-Chumley Theatre as a part of the "China Remixed" showcase.



## Class of 2016

Coleton Hast was named one of this year's Sustainability Scholars 2020 by the IU Office of Sustainability and through this program has participated in one-on-one research in sustainability with Professor David Stringer. Coleton was also accepted as a member of Full Frontal Comedy, IU's longest running Improv Troupe, which just recently won the College Improv Tournament Midwest Open Regional and will be competing in Nationals later this month with the best teams in the nation.

As a freshman in the Wells Scholars Program, Hannah Huth has become very involved on campus. An undergraduate bioinformatics researcher in the Hahn lab, Hannah has dedicated her time outside of classes to research multi-nucleotide-mutations (MNMs) in mammalian mitochondrial DNA. In addition to academic work, Hannah participated in the top bracket of Indiana University Dance Marathon in November 2016, dancing for 36 hours to raise a total of \$4.2 million as a university. Since then, Hannah was accepted into the IUDM committee "Riley Development," one of 40 new students out of 250 applicants to join this community which dedicates their time to provide resources for patients and families at Riley Hospital. During summer 2017, Hannah plans to study Spanish in Salamanca, Spain.





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