



Indiana University Bloomington
Wells Scholars Program

Summer 2018 Newsletter



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Cover: Baker Nasser, WS '17, at the Pergamon Museum, Berlin

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Left to right: Reichstag Dome, images from the Pergamon Museum, Berlin Cathedral

Message from the Director

Dear All,



It has been a real privilege to serve for another year as the director of this amazing program. So many things have happened that I won't even attempt to summarize them. Perhaps one of the greatest recent accomplishments is the new and improved alumni network that Kristin Varella, our wonderful development director, has inaugurated. We now know more about our alumni than ever before and we have seen a steady stream of former Scholars come for visits.

We were excited to welcome Noah Bendix-Balgley (WS'02), first concertmaster of the Berlin Philharmonic, back to Bloomington. Funded by a generous endowment of the class of 1941, Noah was the fourth alum to return to campus as Wells Scholars Program Professor. Noah's stint included the class "Art Music in the Contemporary World: An Exploration of Emerging Models," co-taught with Alain Barker, director of entrepreneurship and career development in the Jacobs School of Music. We were particularly excited to hear Noah perform his own klezmer concerto, "Fidel-Fantazye," with the IU Philharmonic Orchestra. Emily Webber (WS '96), now a professor at the IU Medical School in Indianapolis, visited us at Harlos to chat about her personal experiences applying for medical school, an afternoon that I know was enlightening for the many pre-med Scholars currently in our program. I am very excited to report that Emily has agreed to return next year as a Wells Scholars Program Professor. And several alumni—Sarah Freeman (WS '90), Cynthia Lasher (WS '96), Dylan Pittman (WS '07), Patrick Price (WS '96), and Raquel Ramirez Ray (WS '98)—shared their experiences in law school and in the legal profession during a session in the library of Harlos House. The evening was moderated by Austen Parrish, Dean of the Maurer School of Law.

Three of our alumni were in town for Connect '18, an alumni conference organized by the College of Arts and Sciences in February this year: Jennifer Burnett-Zieman (WS '98), Dan Oates (WS '06), and Lauren Wolven (WS '92). Jennifer also received a 2018 College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Young Alumni Award, and she generously made time to share a power point presentation with current Scholars at Harlos, in which she discussed her work in disease eradication and malaria prevention. There were many more visits from other alumni, and I do hope that you will continue to include us in your travel plans. The current Scholars want to meet you!

This issue includes updates not only from past Scholars but also from past directors of the program as well as the irreplaceable Charlene Brown, who retired at the beginning of the fall semester last year. Charlene has shaped this program like no one else, and since the alumni and many of our current students know her so well, I don't think anyone was surprised to hear that she steadfastly refused to let us celebrate her achievements more formally, arguing that the opportunity to serve the program for so many years was its own reward. What Charlene couldn't refuse, however, was the Ross E. Bartley award, Indiana University's highest honor for members of its staff, which was bestowed on her by President McRobbie. (Well, it is likely that she would have refused that one, too, but we kind of sprang it on her during our Welcome Reception in August last year).

Message from the Director

Also in this issue are two articles from members of last year's freshman class about our trip to the IU Gateway in Berlin, as well as a moving article by Lucy Battersby on her work in a prison in Buenos Aires. I am humbled every day by the many things our Scholars do to make the world a better place. And while it was hard to say good-bye to yet another class of Wells seniors, I am heartened by the thought of all the amazing things they are and will be doing, whether it is attending medical school in Indianapolis or The Julliard School in New York, studying biostatistics in North Carolina or conflict studies in Morocco, pursuing a law degree at Notre Dame or a Fulbright Scholarship in Norway, working as consultants in Chicago or playing the organ at Durham Cathedral in the United Kingdom or dancing on Broadway or running an interdisciplinary journal as managing director. Graduates, you have enriched and changed my life, and I look forward to hearing about how you will be changing the lives of others as you continue to follow your passions.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for your support and patience as we keep working to build a culture of philanthropy that matches that of other scholarship programs in the nation. We are off to a great start: for IU Day on April 18, the Wells Scholars Program mounted the most successful crowdfunding campaign in the history of Indiana University, with over 30% giving participation by our alumni and students. In just a few weeks, we'll be welcoming the 29th class of Wells Scholars to campus, twenty young women and men from all over the nation, with majors ranging from ballet to intelligent systems engineering. It is all our responsibility to increase the resources we need to take care of these amazing students in the decades to come. We need your support, in tangible and intangible ways. For the tangible ones, consult, as always, the last page of this newsletter.

With warmest regards,

Christoph

P. S. Be sure to follow us on our Twitter account @IU_Wells and consider joining the newly formed LinkedIn community "Wells Scholars Alumni."

Where Are They Now?

We caught up with former Directors Breon Mitchell, Scott Sanders, and Tim Londergan and Associate Director Charlene Brown to see how life is treating them after the Wells Scholars Program. Read on to see what they've been up to!

How have you been spending your time recently?



Breon Mitchell (WSP Director, 1988-1998): Lynda and I have both retired and are spending our time enjoying home life. We read constantly and have worked together on literary translations from both the French and the German. Our latest effort will be published (and also used as subtitles) at this summer's Salzburg Festival in Austria—a translation of the German libretto of Gottfried von Einem's opera based on Franz Kafka's *The Trial*. It will be presented in concert form in Salzburg this August and we hope to be there.

Scott Sanders (WSP Director, 1998-2003): In retirement, I'm writing, gardening, traveling for speaking engagements, and serving on several local and national advisory boards. The latest fruits of my writing are *Divine Animal*, a novel; *Dancing in Dreamtime*, a collection of eco-science fiction stories; and *Stone Country: Then & Now*, a new edition, with about 50% fresh material, of a book about the Indiana limestone landscape and culture, made in collaboration with photographer Jeffrey Wolin. To accommodate my wife's need for accessible lodging, she and I arranged to have a new house built just four blocks from our beloved old house. We moved into the new place a year ago, and since then the solar panels on the roof have generated more energy than the super-insulated house has used.



Tim Londergan (WSP Director, 2003-2013): I publish two blogs. The first, "Tim's Cover Story," consists of entries reviewing rock music songs from the 50s to the 70s. Next, in collaboration with physics colleague Steve Vigdor, we produce a blog called "Debunking Denial," which highlights the difference between skepticism and denial in science by producing posts discussing controversial issues in science. A little over a year ago, a number of scientists formed a group called "Concerned Scientists at Indiana University." The group (non-partisan, not formally affiliated with IU) aims to defend and promote evidence-based science and basic research, both for their contributions to society and as a basis for public policy. I am also co-chair of the program committee for Emeriti House, an organization for retired staff and faculty at IU. Finally, my wife Gail and I travel whenever we can, particularly to visit our three children and four grandchildren.

Charlene Brown (WSP Associate Director, 1998-2017): Every disgraced politician says he is leaving office "to spend more time with family," but that really was my reason. How lucky I was to spend so many years with all the students, staff, and directors of the Wells Scholars Program, and I hope those connections will continue. In addition to seeing friends and family, I am enjoying opportunities to catch up and keep up with alumni and current Scholars, pursuing writing and editing projects, reading most/more of *The New York Times* each day, doing some things for IU, and working on expanding my cooking skills. Scholars, you should be in touch (chajbrow@indiana.edu) if you would like to see how I am doing on that last one.



Charlene, pictured here with Wells alumnae Erin Chapman and CJ Lotz

Where Are They Now?

What is a favorite memory of yours from the Wells Scholars Program?

Breon: Spurred by the opera mentioned above, a particularly fond memory arose of the Wells Scholars Talent Night when Evan Rogister, inspired by Kafka's *Metamorphosis*, presented a short musical comedy he'd written based on the story. He sang the lead, while dressed as the bug! Evan had his debut last season at the Metropolitan Opera, where he conducted Mozart's *Magic Flute*. This summer he will appear at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, where he will lead a new production of Puccini's *La bohème*.

Scott: My most vivid memory is a somber one. When our first-year class met on the afternoon of September 11, 2001, we all went out to the lawn in front of Harlos House, sat under a tree, and spoke about our fears, hopes, and affections. There was a tenderness in our conversation that stirred me deeply.

Tim: Each summer, I would travel to award ceremonies at high schools in Indiana to personally honor incoming Wells Scholars and provide them with a framed certificate. As a result, I was able to visit public and private high schools all over Indiana. I met with Wells Scholar recipients and their families in their home towns, and was able to participate in very enjoyable awards programs. I also met with administrators, teachers and parents, and experienced their justifiable pride in their institutions and the students whom they trained.

Charlene: I have hundreds of favorite memories, including freshman spring retreat moments (e.g., Noah Bendix-Balgley demonstrating the product he designed for a freshman seminar on creativity—a shower curtain with pockets on the outside for breakfast cereal, a bowl, a spoon, and his class notes so he could multi-task while showering; Hannah Fidler speaking in the language she had created for her group's utopian community on the way to New Harmony); talent shows (e.g., Jonathan Hawkins making pancakes in his rice cooker; Luke Pacold presenting a spreadsheet detailing his cookie baking experiments); the conversations that led to the founding of WAVE and the WS Mentor Program; and the evident delight when Scholars saw each other at the fall cookouts after summers spent in far-flung places.



Evan dressed as a bug! January 1999



Noah's invention. March 2003

Did you have a favorite speaker or class topic during your time with the Program?

Breon: I had great fun teaching a Wells seminar on the role of puzzles and games in pedagogy, philosophy, mathematics, and anthropology. Our Wells Professor for the final two weeks of the course was Will Shortz, NPR's Puzzlemaster (and IU grad). Everyone in the class got to create his or her own crossword puzzle under Will's tutelage. Will has promised to donate his personal collection of books and periodicals about words puzzles (one of the best in the world) to the Lilly Library.

Scott: I think in particular of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Her intelligence, dignity, commitment to public service, love of justice, and regard for truth were richly evident. At age 85 today, she remains an inspiring model for anyone who cares about the state of our nation.

Tim: Although the exact topics changed from year to year, my Wells freshman seminar was invariably titled "Origin and History of the Universe." As part of that class, we would generally read books and see a movie that highlighted issues facing science and scientists. Every year one of those books was Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* and those class discussions included Emeritus English Department faculty member John Woodcock, who led fascinating class discussions of the issues raised in Huxley's book. We frequently also watched Stanley Kubrick's *Dr. Strangelove*, a black comedy dealing with nuclear disaster. Since the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* rates the current danger of nuclear war as high as it has ever been since World War II, Wells alumni may want to check out this movie one more time.

Charlene: It is impossible to answer with just one favorite. For special guests, here's the start of a very long list: U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg; dancer and choreographer Bill T. Jones; South African political leader Helen Suzman; New Journalist and writer Tom Wolfe; Nobel Laureate in physics Douglas Osheroff, who recited cowboy poetry and told us about his undergraduate grades in math; Lotus performer Tim Eriksen, who taught all the students at the lunch with him to sing a shape note song "in community"; Nobel Peace Laureate Oscar Arias; Jill Lepore, Harvard historian and *New Yorker* staff writer; Pulitzer Prize winner Katherine Boo... My list is very, very long.



Will Shortz at Harlos House. April 2000

Where Are They Now?

Is there a book you'd encourage alumni and current Scholars to read?

Breon: Lynda came up immediately with this one, which we both read with great pleasure—Tobias Wolf's *Old School*. I can't imagine our current or past scholars not enjoying it. The Lilly Library has recently acquired many of Wolf's most important manuscripts. If you don't have time for the novel (or even if you do), be sure and google "boyle bullet" to hear T. C. Boyle reading Wolf's short story "A Bullet in the Brain." It's a story you won't forget.

Scott: *Moral Ground: Ethical Action for a Planet in Peril*, edited by Kathleen Dean Moore & Michael P. Nelson. This anthology contains work by nearly a hundred authors, ranging from the Dalai Lama and Barack Obama to Ursula K. Le Guin and Wendell Berry, spanning many nations and cultures, offering guidance for compassionate, purposeful, ecologically responsible living.

Tim: I am currently working my way through *Enlightenment Now*, by Harvard University psychologist Steven Pinker. This is a comprehensive and vigorous defense of ideas first formulated in the Enlightenment—rational thought, scientific thinking, secular humanism, and the notion of progress.

Charlene: Last fall Breon Mitchell and his wife, Lynda, gave me a beautifully bound, signed copy of Alan Paton's *Cry, the Beloved Country*, a book I first read for a class my senior year in college. Coincidentally, I had just fallen in love with a South African graduate student. It is this sentence that I have thought of most often in the years since: "... I have one great fear in my heart, that one day when they are turned to loving, they will find we are turned to hating."

Studying Abroad in Argentina, Fall 2017

by Lucy Battersby, Class of 2015

With the support of the WSP, Lucy spent last fall studying social movements and human rights in Argentina with the School for International Training. For the last two months of the program, she pursued an independent creative project, described here.



There is a practice at Devoto Prison in Buenos Aires called *la paloma*. Depending on how romantic you are with your translation, "the dove" or "the pigeon" is a practice in which a prisoner ties his sheets together, attaches his shoe to one end with a written message inside, and then tosses the shoe into another cell. It's a way of exchanging information or making contact with people who would otherwise remain out of reach without drawing the attention of the guards. In this way, *la paloma* is not unlike the practice of writing and publishing from within prison, the unique circumstances of which I researched for two months as a guest student at Devoto.

Studying Abroad in Argentina, Fall 2017

With the help of the Department of Philosophy and Letters at the University of Buenos Aires, I began attending weekly writing and publications workshops at Devoto. These classes were as riveting and challenging as any that I have had at IU. I had never encountered so many students in one classroom so eager to engage, debate, and question everyone from Borges and Neruda. The atmosphere in the room was electrifying; for every argument one offered, one had to be ready to reply to the inevitable chorus of “Why?” and “But what about...?” I was constantly racing to keep up.

(This is to say nothing of the end of each class session, in which we were given ten minutes to respond to a prompt, then share our writing with the rest of the class. Learning to analyze literature in a non-native language is a challenge; sharing attempts at poetry in that language is an incredibly effective exercise in humility.)

The dynamic energy and commitment of my classmates could be seen just as easily around the editorial table during publications class. Each week, I watched as students—ranging in age from 18 to 65, many of whom had never completed high school, some of whom hadn’t even spoken Spanish before arriving at Devoto—pored over their peers’ submissions and expertly critiqued, edited, and organized them into a literary magazine. Thanks to their work (and funding from the University of Buenos Aires), *La Resistencia* is published inside and outside of Devoto’s walls every month.

Through my research, I wanted to share details about the writing and publications process in order to challenge assumptions about incarcerated people and their writing. One of the major problems with academic and social analyses of “prison writing” is that it is often perceived solely as rehabilitative or therapeutic. This framework discredits incarcerated authors by viewing their artwork as a social tool instead of what it is: fiction, non-fiction, poetry, rap, anything—writing from the inside that is just as important as that which is produced outside of prison walls, sometimes even more so.

For the incarcerated students of Devoto, creative writing is a mechanism for building solidarity between the inside and outside, creating spaces for personal and collective transformation, and reporting human rights abuses within prison walls. Picking up the pen and telling stories—both nonfiction and fiction—allows students to reclaim a fundamental right in a space which restricts even their freedom to be individuals.

My research culminated in a report consisting of an ethnography of Devoto, interviews with students and teachers, and analyses of several authors’ poetry and prose. I hoped to emphasize the importance of teaching writing in prisons, of supporting such programs, and most importantly, of reading incarcerated authors’ work. Reading and sharing writing produced in carceral contexts is not a passive act; it has the capacity to mobilize significant legal, political, and social action. Being a reader of these stories means becoming a part of an enormous network with the potential to fight for institutional change that can combat human rights violations in prisons, discrimination against previously incarcerated individuals, and state violence more broadly. I am deeply grateful for my time in Buenos Aires and Devoto, because it taught me this: if we are to create a truly effective movement to fight for universal human rights, art will be one of our most crucial tools for social change.

You can find the student publications from the Centro Universitario Devoto (La Resistencia) online at: <http://seube.filo.uba.ar/banner/revistas-de-extensión>.

Individuals seeking to contribute to similar creative arts programs in Bloomington may be interested in lending their support to Pages to Prisoners or Kite Line Radio, both of which depend on volunteers to provide support to incarcerated folks across the Midwest.

From Cafés to *U-Bahns*: Culture & Daily Life in Berlin

by Margaret Schnabel, Class of 2017

The Wells Scholars Program Class of '17 departed from the Indianapolis Airport a group of proud Hoosiers. We returned full-fledged Berliners. Or, more accurately, *Berliner*¹—after 10 days of enthusiastically engaging in Berlin's food scene, our group owed more than a fair chunk of our cumulative mass to the popular pastries.



Dean Austen Parrish at the IU Gateway

Baked goods aside, our time spent experiencing the ins and outs of life in Berlin proved to be an unforgettable lesson in thinking internationally. For many Scholars, it was our first trip out of the United States; while our freshman seminar on international law, taught by Dean Austen Parrish of the IU Maurer School of Law, had introduced us to transnationalism and cross-cultural thinking, this trip gave us the opportunity to jump past theoretical discussion and dive headfirst into a new culture.

Each of our days in Berlin included a morning lecture, a cultural or historical excursion, and free time to explore the city on our own. We kicked off the week with a comparative discussion of German and American cultures led by IU Europe Gateway director Andrea Moore. Andrea primed us for many of the cultural differences we would experience over the course of the trip, from public transport to restaurant etiquette to Berlin's rising Turkish population.

Our hotel was a short walk from the IU Gateway, situated in the up-and-coming neighborhood of Kreuzberg. We spent many of the afternoons perusing Kreuzberg's vast array of cafés, thrift stores, pop-up art shops, and markets, capping many of our evenings off with a stroll along the Landwehr Canal and a scoop of Eiscafé Isabel's famous gelato.

One of the standout cultural events of the trip was our visit to the Berlin Philharmonic. After a backstage question-and-answer session with Noah Bendix-Balgley, a WSP alum and the Philharmonic's concertmaster, we joined the audience for a stunning performance by the orchestra. We all felt immensely lucky to have seen one of the world's premiere orchestras up close—and to have a personal connection to one of its members!

We also got the chance to engage more substantially in Berlin's community by volunteering at the American Church in Berlin, a nondenominational church that welcomes newcomers and Berlin natives alike. We cleaned windows and pews, power-washed the church's exterior, built bookshelves, and rounded out the day with an unforgettable climb up into the church's 19th-century bell tower.



Noah and students

Berlin is a city known for its art, and the art lovers in our group were certainly not disappointed. On a guided tour of the Pergamon Museum, we saw breathtaking Islamic, Roman, and Babylonian monuments, including the 46-foot-tall Ishtar gate. Inspired, many of us chose to visit the Neues Museum to see Egyptian artifacts and the bust of Nefertiti.

Our free time gave us the chance to hop on the *U-Bahn*² and dig into Berlin's dizzying array of cultural experiences. We strolled through botanical gardens, visited history museums, and paid an obligatory visit to the Ritter Sport chocolate factory, where we sampled some of their 35 flavors—only a fraction of which successfully made it back to the US for our families!

Our final night was spent in the famous Clärchens Ballhaus, eating a traditional German dinner of Spaetzle and dancing the night away to swing music. Many Scholars vowed to return to Berlin someday. Regardless, the trip (and pastries!) will live on in our minds forever.



Nastya Yakovlyeva in the church tower



The full group, including Gateway Director Andrea Moore (second row far left)



Elsbeth Hayden and Margaret Schnabel

1 A traditional German pastry similar to a doughnut.

2 Berlin's subway system.

A 10-day History of Berlin, an Impossible City

by Caroline Anders, Class of 2017

This year's freshman class of Wells Scholars was only the second to leave the country on their capstone trip, and they were lucky enough to travel Berlin with the program's director, German native Christoph Irmischer. The trip featured ten days of soaking in German culture, art and pastries, but Berlin's tattered history was also on full display.

Berlin is an optical illusion. All around you stand buildings from the time of kings and queens, pock-marked by bullets from the Second World War. But look a little closer and you may find something entirely different. The city seems caught in a limbo between embracing and forgetting its past.



At the Berlin Wall Memorial

At one turn, you're looking at reconstructed 19th century monuments, built to appear as though they were never destroyed. Walk down the street, and you're standing on top of a parking lot — a parking lot that covers the secret bunker where Hitler spent the final 105 days of his life. The Wells Scholars stood across the street from that lot on a walking tour through Berlin and looked toward the bunker, the remains of which still technically exist today, marked only by a small information board constructed in 2006. On top of the bunker where Hitler bit down on the cyanide capsule that ended his life, Berliners park to get to work, go shopping, and enjoy Berlin's downtown.

Every tour and discussion in Berlin was, of course, underlined by the Berlin Wall. The wall stood, fully surrounding West Berlin, from 1961 to 1989 as a barrier to keep the citizens of the GDR in and western ideals out of East Germany and East Berlin. The freshmen learned about the wall's history on a guided tour of a small piece of the barrier that remains standing today. Another testament to Germany's interesting reckoning with its past, you can now purchase chunks of the wall that oppressed so many at any gift shop in the country.

As the Wells Scholars stood dwarfed by the famed Brandenburg Gates, their tour guide held up a page from his binder. In his laminated black and white photo stood those same gates, Nazi flags draped from each arch. It seems impossible to think that those symbols of hate could ever have hung from the monument, which is now around the corner from a Dunkin' Donuts and provides shade to the throngs of tourists who take photos at its feet.

Reminders of that hate, however, are everywhere. Käthe Kollwitz's sculpture *Mother with her Dead Son* sits inside the Neue Wache, a short walk from the gates. An opening in the ceiling above the artwork exposes it to Berlin's elements, symbolizing the suffering of civilians during World War II. Nearby, a window into the ground allows passerby to peer into a secret library full of empty bookshelves — shelves built to hold the 20,000 books burned by the Nazis on May 10, 1933. An inscription on bronze plates in the ground near the sunken room reads:

*That was but a prelude;
where they burn books,
they will ultimately burn people as well.*

The inscription is jarring without context, and dumbfounding when inserted into it. German poet Heinrich Heine, a Jew whose books were among those the Nazis incinerated, wrote that line in 1820, over 100 years before the Nazis rose to power.

People dedicate their entire lives attempting to understand Berlin's past, and the freshman Wells Scholars had ten days. This only gives a brief look into the mountains of history they experienced over course of their time in Berlin, and it's safe to say they all hope to return someday to sit on the banks of the Landwehr Canal one more time.



Kollwitz's sculpture



One of Berlin's many canals

Class Notes

Class of 1990



Donald Schilson continues to work as a physician anesthesiologist at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis, and has been Department Chair for the past two years. He also leads the government quality reporting efforts of his company of approximately 90 physicians. He has two boys with his wife Jodi, and they enjoy traveling together whenever they can. He enjoys woodworking when time permits. Donald adds, “It’s been a long time since joining the first class of Wells Scholars, and I enjoy hearing how everyone is doing.”

Class of 1992



Last July, **Mark Schneider** married Eleanor Pettus, a historian of early modern Europe with a particular interest in classical education. Since 2015 he has been a partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, where his practice focuses on representing businesses in government investigations, enforcement litigation, and compliance and international risk matters. He has also taught part-time at the University of Chicago Law School for about five years and, before joining Kirkland, worked for ten years as a federal prosecutor with the U.S. Department of Justice.



Khozema Shipchandler continues to reside in Lafayette, CA with his family. He still works at GE Digital, where he was recently promoted to Chief Commercial Officer.



Lauren (Barnett) Wolven is married to fellow IU grad Brad Wolven, and they live in Oak Park, Illinois with their two daughters, Dani and Hailey. Lauren is a trusts and estates attorney in Chicago and an active member of the legal community, both in Chicago and on a national level. She is active with the Arthritis Foundation and heads up Team Sleigh RA at the annual Jingle Bell Run in Chicago. Lauren enjoys attending soccer and field hockey games for Dani, who represents Oak Park River Forest High School in both sports, and attending musicals to watch Hailey in her comedic roles making everyone laugh.

Class of 1993



Seth Gillihan continues in full-time private practice as a psychologist outside of Philadelphia. He recently completed a self-help book called *Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Made Simple*, the follow-up to *Retrain Your Brain*, which was published in May 2018. Seth and his wife Marcia traveled with their three kids to South Carolina in August 2017 to witness the solar eclipse in the path of totality. It was a sublime experience. Seth thinks about his IU experience often these days, and the many ways that being a Wells Scholar enriched his time in Bloomington, from the trip to Hannibal to the summer experiences to junior year abroad.

Class Notes



Class of 1996

Jesse Sanders lives in Chevy Chase, MD with his wife Carrie and their three kids, Anna, Claire, and Benjamin. Jesse is CFO for a startup telecom company. In his free time he is learning to play the piano and cooking and trying to read as many great books as he can. He has Stage IV cancer and will be starting treatment soon, but is feeling optimistic.



Class of 1997

Laura Hartman is starting a position as Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies at Roanoke College in Virginia in fall of 2018. She recently celebrated the publication of her edited book, *That All May Flourish: Comparative Religious Environmental Ethics*.



Lisa (Yu) Russo and family (husband Brad and children Caleb, Quinn, and Kara) have moved to Lima, Peru for the next few years. Lisa is based at the embassy, working for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), the component of the Department of Homeland Security that handles immigration benefits. Lisa has worked for USCIS for the past 11 years, mostly with the refugee and asylum programs. They are enjoying Peru's delicious cuisine, temperate weather, and friendly people and would be happy to welcome any Wells visitors who find themselves in the neighborhood.



Class of 1998

Sarah Knapp completed the long process of becoming a Certified Educator with the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education this May. She has been supervising student groups at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis since January 2014 and currently supervises Chaplain Residents. She is grateful for Wells faculty like Scott Sanders and Jim Ackerman, both of whom modeled active, contemplative, and inclusive spirituality in the freshman seminar courses. She attended Harvard Divinity School, but credits her Wells experiences for drawing her out of her books and into the community, where she worked for the Poor People's Economic Human Rights Campaign at Harvard Divinity School and Interfaith Worker Justice in Indianapolis. After becoming a United Methodist and being ordained as an Elder in 2015, she has found even more community in Clinical Pastoral Education, where she lives her call to ministry and vocation as an educator every day. She has two daughters: Elaine and Amara. She is happy to reconnect with any Wells alums in Indianapolis.



Class of 2001

Alex Eble just finished data collection on a four-year study of a primary education intervention in rural Gambia.

Class Notes



Class of 2002

Emily (McFarlin) Nisbet recently completed her MSc in Disability Studies: Inclusive Theory and Research, graduating with Merit from the University of Bristol, School for Policy Studies. Undertaking this part-time degree has coincided with raising two children and moving home three times within England! She is happy to be settled now in Hampshire with her husband and two daughters.



Class of 2003

Dan Stanko, his wife Mandira, and their daughter Samara recently moved to San Francisco from Boston. Dan has taken a new role as a Principal with HGGC after spending nearly a decade with Bain Capital, and his wife is joining a healthcare IT startup after five years with athenahealth. He looks forward to connecting with other Wells alumni in the area!



Class of 2004

Megan Robb is the Julie and Martin Franklin Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. She lives in Philadelphia with her husband Terry, their dog Saska, and their cat Smokey. She recently was awarded an endowed assistant professorship at the University of Pennsylvania, and her co-edited a volume of essays called *Muslims Against the Muslim League* came out with Cambridge University Press, Delhi this past year. She is currently working on her book manuscript *Printing the Urdu Public: Newspapers, Muslims, and Urban Life 1900-1950*.



Class of 2005

Becky Edmonds works as a transportation planner, primarily on projects that improve people's ability to get to and through neighborhoods, which involves a combination of stakeholder engagement and data collection and analysis. She also gets to work on new and emerging transportation trends, and racial and social justice issues. She has lived in Seattle since graduating from IU and also has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Washington. In her spare time, she rides her bicycle, plays ultimate frisbee, hangs out with her cat, and enjoys the water and mountains that surround her beautiful city.

Class Notes



Class of 2006

Miles Taylor was recently appointed to serve as Deputy Chief of Staff of the US Department of Homeland Security, where he is responsible for advancing the Secretary's agenda to protect the nation against a wide range of threats—from terrorist attacks and cyber intrusions to transnational organized crime and rogue nation states. Previously, he was the Secretary's Counselor and senior advisor for counterterrorism, intelligence, and security policy. He is also happy to announce that in December he proposed to the love of his life at Mount Vernon, George Washington's home and the site of their first date nearly five years ago. She said yes!



Class of 2008

The year of 2018 has been filled with many amazing changes and milestones for **Hena Ahmed**, including starting a residency in diagnostic radiology at the University of Pennsylvania, getting married to Dr. Adnan Cheema, and graduating from medical school. Adnan is currently an orthopedic surgery resident at the University of Pennsylvania and is starting his third year. In addition to marrying into a big, wonderful Pakistani Punjabi family, Hena also became a cat momma to her husband's orange, American short-hair cat named Laddu (a name in tribute to the delicious orange-colored Pakistani dessert). With all of the amazing changes and dreams come true, it has truly been the best year of her life.



John Brown married Kelsey Nelson in October 2017. They have a new schnauzer/poodle mix puppy named Bitsy and started a plot at a community garden. He is transitioning careers from consulting to education and will start this fall as a resident teacher through Relay Graduate School of Education and Chicago Public Schools. He plans to teach high school mathematics.



After graduating from IU with a B.A. in history and economics in 2012, **Mikaela Shaw** moved to Chicago to attend law school at the University of Chicago. Now a labor and employment litigator at Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, Mikaela counsels employers and represents them in all stages of litigation. She also maintains a robust pro bono practice and recently won asylum for a Mexican woman and her children during a defensive immigration hearing that she first chaired. The National Immigration Justice Center recognized her work with its 2018 Rising Start award. Outside of the office, Mikaela serves on the Young Professionals Board of the Domestic Violence Legal Clinic and is an ambassador for the IU Chicago Women's Network. She is passionate about her yoga practice, Chicago's dining scene, and adding to her list of countries visited (25 and counting). Feel free to reach out to Mikaela if you're in Chicago or you find yourself passing through—shawmikaela@gmail.com.



Amy (Fuhs) Unwin is a first-year resident in physical medicine and rehabilitation at the University of Washington in Seattle with a strong interest in global rehabilitation. She studied neuroscience, chemistry, and Spanish as an undergraduate. Through her WSP



Class Notes

Summer Experience Grant, she did public health work in Costa Rica and Nicaragua, which piqued her interest in global health. During her medical education at IU, she took a year off to participate in the Fogarty Global Health Scholars Program in Lima, Peru, through the National Institutes of Health. Her work in Peru included conducting a novel assessment of rehabilitation infrastructure in the country, coordinating multiple interdisciplinary stroke rehabilitation workshops at national neurologic and rehabilitation centers in Lima, and studying trauma quality improvement programs. She now looks forward to serving as a US representative for the World Heart Federation Emerging Leaders Program Think Tank Seminar on stroke in Shanghai this June.

Class of 2009

Mackenzie Hammel recently graduated with a Master of Business Administration from Carnegie Mellon's Tepper School of Business.



Class of 2010

In the fall of 2017, **Steven Brisley** joined Vertiv, a recent spin-out of Emerson Electric, to develop a new business unit focused on battery storage solutions for the electric grid. Steven's interest in battery storage stems from his concern with the irreversible effects of climate change and experience consulting U.S. electric utilities while at Bain & Company. He's thrilled to be deploying a technology viewed as critical to the development of a 100% renewable electric grid. Steven lives in Chicago with his partner Will and remains connected to the Bloomington community through his role on the Board of Directors of the Hoosier Social Impact Fund, volunteering alongside Wells alumni Tim Lemper and Kristin Froehle.



Aaron Dy is currently working on his PhD in biological engineering at MIT. Since graduating IU, he has lived in the Boston area and worked on new synthetic biology approaches for diagnostics and microbiome engineering. More importantly, in 2017 he came back to Bloomington to marry fellow Hoosier Mary Troyer. They got married on New Year's Eve and started 2018 by celebrating with family and friends in Alumni Hall.



Class of 2011

Daniel Smedema recently traveled to six US National Parks, his favorite so far being Zion due to the breathtaking sunsets at Angels Landing. He has also been to seven foreign nations, including his favorite, Belize—a tropical paradise that you pretty much get to yourself. Daniel also got a tattoo, grew a beard, saw *Hamilton* in Chicago, left Facebook, finally switched to Linux, and got a dog (Astro, who's scared of heights). He also left his stable paycheck behind to found and serve as the CTO of Encamp Environmental. They're making software for environmental professionals, the people who work for companies making sure they comply with EPA regulations, among other things. He hopes to be able to report a successful first year by the next newsletter!



Class Notes



Sarah TeKolste will be transitioning to a new role as a Spanish teacher at Shortridge High School, the International Baccalaureate magnet for Indianapolis Public Schools. In the summers, she continues to work as a linguistics instructor and logistics coordinator for the Indiana University Honors Program in Foreign Languages in León, Spain. She continues her advocacy work for culturally responsive teaching, with an emphasis on teaching immigrant and refugee students. As a Teach Plus fellow, Sarah was published in the *Indianapolis Business Journal* and the *Huffington Post* this year. She runs half marathons very slowly.



Class of 2012

Deepti Bansal Gage married Cody Gage in Bloomington over Memorial Day Weekend. The couple met studying languages during their freshman year in the Honors community of Teter. They currently live in Washington, DC, where she attends law school to pursue a career in environmental and indigenous advocacy, and where Cody works for the Department of Defense. They hope to one day find their way back to Indiana, their true home.



This year, **Bridget Kelly** had a wonderful time teaching at the University of Bucharest on her Fulbright grant to Romania. For the next two years, she will be attending a funded Master's program at Central European University in Budapest, Hungary in the nationalism studies department. Her project uses anthropological field methods to study the effect of Romanian circular migration to Spain on community identity and involvement with nationalist parties. She hopes to visit with any Wells alumni who are passing through Budapest!



Jane Reagan lives in Washington, DC where she works as a management consultant for PwC Public Sector in the Department of Transportation. Her recent travels include a backpacking trip in Banff National Park, an adventure in Costa Rica, a road trip in Scotland, and a trip to Seattle to visit fellow Scholar alum Becky Ferber. She looks forward to being “best woman” at her brother’s wedding, and hopes to connect with other alumni in the DC area.

Class of 2013



Jenny Huang works as the Civic Engagement Program Coordinator at the University of Chicago Institute of Politics, where she advises the IOP’s student leadership, builds relationships with Chicago partners, and works on program development. Concurrently, Jenny serves as a policy associate and research/editorial assistant for South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg. This year, she has enjoyed traveling, spending time outdoors, reading more books, meeting new people in her professional and personal worlds, and eating her way around Chicago. She sends her love and regards to the Wells Scholars Program!

Class Notes



Since graduating in May 2017, **Jake Huff** has worked as the associate producer of the Speaker Series at the University of Chicago's Institute of Politics. In his free time, he volunteers with Young Chicago Authors, and he is currently writing and producing a sketch comedy show with his writing partner from college.



After graduating in May 2017, **Dana Khabbaz** interned for the Indiana University Office of the President, conducting historical research for the Bicentennial Campaign. In the fall of 2017, Dana began interning for the Syrian Community Network, a Chicago-headquartered nonprofit that aids Syrian refugees. She regularly assists with casework, organizes events, and manages the nonprofit's communication with donors and supporters. In the fall of 2018, she will begin studying law at Yale Law School.



Morgan Mohr has loved almost every second of her first year at Oxford and is looking forward to the next. This year she is obtaining an MSc in Comparative Social Policy, and this September will start the Master of Public Policy in the Blavatnik School of Government. In addition to her studies, she has spent the year rowing for her college (St. John's), playing volleyball at the University level (they beat Cambridge!), getting involved at the Oxford Union, and doing remote policy work for a gubernatorial campaign back in the States. This summer she will be writing her thesis on abortion laws in Ireland and the US and doing a brief internship for MP Angela Eagle in Parliament. She also plans to travel to Russia with Jenny Huang and to catch up on her summer reading list.



After a circuitous few years in Washington, DC, **Samantha Strong** is headed back to the classroom this fall. She is relocating to Denver, where she will begin a dual-degree program with the University of Denver and University of Colorado, completing graduate degrees in social work and public health. She has also been busy with the Lane 9 Project, a nonprofit she co-founded in 2016. Lane 9 Project is dedicated to educating active women and girls, and their support systems, on issues including women's health, eating disorder recovery, fertility, and sport. It aims to bring a loud, strong, evolving conversation to the prevalence of eating disorders and amenorrhea amongst female athletes of all skill levels. Samantha and her co-founders were recently featured in a *Washington Post* article on eating disorders in sport. Since graduating from IU, Samantha has started dabbling in ultramarathons and rock climbing. She's excited to head west and explore Colorado's mountains.



Luke Tang is currently a student at the Indiana University School of Medicine-West Lafayette campus. He enjoys the small class size, which has some of the same perks as the WSP: knowing the class, friends, professors, and doctors on a very intimate level. He plans to complete his first two years at IUSM-WL and then transfer to the main Indianapolis campus for clinical rotations in years three and four.



Since graduation, **Vinayak Vedantam** moved to San Francisco and started working at the gaming company Zynga. He also joined the American Red Cross and is training as both a disaster and a fire-preparedness volunteer. When he's not working or volunteering, you'll find him playing guitar, gaming, or longboarding through Golden Gate Park.

Class Notes

Class of 2014



Naomi Kellogg recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs from the School of Public and Environmental Affairs as a public and nonprofit management major with an education policy minor. She was selected by the Board of the Fulbright Foundation in Norway and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board to receive a grant to spend 10 months serving as an English Teaching Assistant in Trondheim, Norway to students at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology and the Byåsen Upper Secondary School. In this capacity, she will introduce Norwegian students to US culture, policy, and current events to foster the cultural bridge between the US and Norway. She also aims to engage with Norwegian students and the community in Trondheim to learn more about education theory, policy, and practices in Norway.



Nate Meyers graduated in May with degrees in finance and public policy analysis from the Kelley School of Business. This last summer, he interned in the finance department of General Mills in Minneapolis-St. Paul, where he will return as a financial analyst in August. He continued his involvement in Democratic politics, working as a campaign finance intern for Minnesota Senator Amy Klobuchar and as a finance intern for the Indiana Democratic Party. During his senior year, he continued to serve as the President of the Office of the Vice Provost of Undergraduate Education Student Advisory Board and as Vice-President of the Indiana Israel Public Affairs Committee. He'll certainly miss Bloomington, stopping by the Harlos House, extracurricular involvements, and IU basketball. He'd love to welcome any Scholars visiting the Twin Cities! Go Hoosiers!



Kushal Shah is graduating with majors in mathematics and biology, along with a certificate from the Liberal Arts and Management Program. Kushal spent the summer of 2015 studying advanced German language in Graz, Austria. He spent his other summers (2016 and 2017) completing internships with Eli Lilly and J.P. Morgan Chase. On campus, he was an undergraduate researcher in the IU School of Optometry, and the Editor-in-Chief of the *IU Journal of Undergraduate Research*, which is IU's official annual student research publication. Kushal is also a recipient of the Elvis J. Stahr Distinguished Senior Award. Next year, Kushal will be attending the University of North Carolina to pursue a PhD in biostatistics, supported by the Big Data to Knowledge Fellowship funded by the NIH.



Performing works by Strauss and Mozart, as well as an original composition for improvised oboe and piano, senior **Gabe Young** was awarded a Performer's Certificate for his senior recital. The unusual honor is a special recognition of musical understanding and technical proficiency as demonstrated in recital. Following graduation, Young will spend a portion of the summer as a fellow at the Pacific Music Festival in Japan, performing in Sapporo, Hiroshima, and Tokyo. He will then return to his home state of Oregon for an engagement with the Britt Festival Orchestra. In the fall, he will begin studies at The Juilliard School in New York, pursuing a Master of Music degree in Oboe Performance under the tutelage of Elaine Douvas, co-principal oboist of the Metropolitan Opera. He is a proud recipient of a Kovner Fellowship at The Juilliard School.

Class Notes



Class of 2015

Kate Adams is a junior majoring in international studies and French, with a certificate in the Liberal Arts and Management Program. In January 2018, Kate finished her term as Vice President of Member Development of her sorority and began an eighteen-month term as Co-Director of the College of Arts and Sciences Luminaries Program. She spent the spring semester in Aix-en-Provence, France, learning about French post-colonial policy in Africa, studying the astonishing variety of breads in local bakeries, and being continually encouraged by the French to “*profiter*,” or to draw as many benefits as possible from any and every activity she undertook. Later this year, Kate will “*profiter*” from a summer internship with a community development NGO in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and attend the twenty-third Conference of Parties under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Katowice, Poland.



Lucy Battersby is a junior studying creative writing and political science. Her academic interests include human rights, conflict, folklore and mythology, and the role of the arts in building social change in post-conflict settings. Her fiction explores questions of politics and identity through magical realism, fantasy, and satire; last year, she won the Ruth Halls Prize and the Guy Lemmon Award in Creative Writing. She has also received the Palmer-Brandon Prize in the Humanities and the Louis E. Lambert Scholarship in Political Science. While at IU, Lucy has worked for the Arts & Humanities Council, helped lead the Feminist Student Association, and has been highly involved in student government and arts programming at Collins LLC. Thanks to the Wells Program, she spent the summer and fall of 2017 researching and studying human rights in Rwanda, Uganda, and Argentina. This summer, Lucy will intern for the Post-Conflict Research Center in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, where she will write on human rights and transitional justice for the Balkan Diskurs. She is eagerly looking forward to her final year in Bloomington, which she plans to spend writing her theses in creative writing and political science and consuming previously unrecorded quantities of coffee. Read about her Argentinian experience in this issue.



Still studying English and comparative literature, **Maddy Klein** has spent her junior year narrowing down her literary interests to women’s poetry and feminist literary theory. She plans to write a senior thesis on this subject for the Comparative Literature department next year under the direction of Professor Sarah Van der Laan. This year, Maddy enjoyed interning for the *Indiana Review* literary magazine and the IU Arts & Humanities Council, as well as continuing to write opinion columns for the IDS. She is also proud to be a recent inductee into Phi Beta Kappa as well as a recipient of the College of Arts and Sciences’ Palmer-Brandon Scholarship in the humanities. This summer, Maddy will spend six weeks in Florence, Italy, where she will branch out from the literary focus of her normal studies through courses in Renaissance art history and Italian.

Class Notes



Kaitlynn Milvert, a junior majoring in Spanish and English, spent the fall semester studying abroad in Lima, Peru, where she volunteered with the Ann Sullivan Center of Peru, a center for special education and vocational training. Since returning to Bloomington, she has been busy interning with the College Arts & Humanities Institute, editing for the *IU Journal of Undergraduate Research*, and serving on the Board of Aeons, a student advisory board for the Office of the President. As she enters her senior year, Kaitlynn is preparing to embark on a pair of thesis projects—one examining disability memoirs and the other studying state-sponsored textbook programs in Latin America. She plans to spend the summer interning at Indiana Disability Rights and working on her thesis research.



Sophia Muston recently returned from a summer and a semester of study abroad, thanks to the Wells Scholars Program. In London last summer, she studied journalism with her fellow Ernie Pyle Scholars, visiting several media outlets and journalism startups, and interning at Catsnake Film, a production company then based at Ealing Studios. In Lima, she studied Quechua and Peruvian literature and volunteered her time at Guarango Cine y Video, the production house responsible for her favorite documentary, *La Hija de la Laguna*. This spring, she was one of the recipients of the Palmer-Brandon Scholarship, and she will spend this summer in DC as a Junior Fellow at the Library of Congress, contributing to the Indigenous Law Portal project.

Class of 2016



Lauren Ehrmann is a sophomore studying art history and near eastern languages and cultures. She is involved with several organizations on campus, including the Arabic Flagship program, HHart (Curator), and the Collins Arts Council (Vice Chair). Lauren intends to pursue a doctorate in art history with the goal of becoming a museum curator or working with cultural heritage preservation in the Middle East. This summer, she will be headed overseas to Meknes, Morocco, where she will spend two months living with a host family and taking intensive Arabic courses. After that she'll be traveling to Florence, Italy, where she plans to spend her fall semester soaking up sun in the piazza and getting way too excited about art in Florence's many museums.



Coleton Hast is a sophomore Wells Scholar majoring in linguistic anthropology, Chinese, and environmental and sustainability studies. Following his stint as a Sustainability Scholar 2020, Coleton has spent the last year interning for The Language Conservancy, a nonprofit organization that documents and produces educational materials for Native American languages. This year he has continued to participate in Full Frontal Comedy, IU's longest running improv troupe (pictured, Coleton center), in addition to playing with Third Wolf, a folk and bluegrass band he co-founded. His current plans are to spend the next six months abroad, first in Kyrgyzstan at an archeological field school excavating the Bronze Age site Aygergel 2, followed by a trip to Austria to participate in the European Forum Alpbach. Finally, he'll be spending a semester in Yunnan, China studying health, environment, and Chinese traditional medicine with the School of International Training.

Class Notes



Hannah Huth, a human biology and Spanish double-major, has been involved both on campus with IU Dance Marathon and overseas with her nonprofit Looking Ahead 4 Kids, providing educational and financial resources to indigenous Maya students at Tumul K'in school in Belize. Inspired by the international freshman trip hosted by WSP, Hannah fell in love with the students. Her outreach recognizes a need for further support in the community through pertinent STEM education in biology, as well as in business and entrepreneurship through starting a profitable project or business in the community.



Lauren Meadows is a sophomore majoring in political science, history, and Spanish, pursuing departmental honors in both political science and history. Along with volunteering weekly at Bloomington's Middle Way House, she serves on Indiana Model United Nations Executive Board and Secretariat as Member Educator and the USG of Policy respectively, and picked up Outstanding Delegate Awards at both the University of Virginia's VICSMUN and the University of Chicago's ChoMUN this semester. Lauren remains focused on improving IU through research and advocacy. She continues to serve on the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education's Student Advisory Board, and has recently been appointed to the 97th Board of Aeons. This winter, Lauren was featured as part of the History Department's Undergraduate Student Spotlight, and she recently received the Department's Dan H Eikenberry Scholarship. She has been named the winner of the Provost's Award for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity in the Humanities category, and is excited to pursue further independent research in her departmental honors programs. This summer, Lauren will be interning abroad in London, England at the Scottish National Party's Westminster Foundation for Democracy. She plans to attend law school after graduation.



Tiffany Xie has spent the past year learning about and engaging in public health. Since September 2017, she has been interning through the Virtual Student Federal Service program with the Indian Health Service, an agency responsible for providing health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives. During her internship, she worked closely with the Division of Epidemiology and Disease Prevention to survey dental health professionals and assess their role in HPV prevention. Because there is a link between HPV and certain forms of oral cancer, dental professionals may play an important role in HPV prevention. The results of this research project were presented at the National Cancer Institute Rural Cancer Control Meeting in May. This experience not only sparked her interest in minority health and health disparities, but also inspired her to further engage in public health research. This summer, she will investigate substance use by ethnically diverse youth in high-risk families as a research fellow at the Washington University in St. Louis Institute for Public Health.



In January, **Neil Shah** and his team represented IU in the semi-finals of KPMG's International Case Competition in Chicago. He was also recently admitted as one of 30 members in the Class of 2020 to Kelley's Undergraduate Consulting Workshop. He plans to major in finance, business analytics, and economic consulting and is looking towards a full-time career in consulting upon graduation. This summer, he will intern with Salesforce in San Francisco. After a summer in New York last year, he looks forward to working on the West Coast with an innovative technology company. Next year, he will take I-CORE classes in the fall and study abroad in the spring in Europe. He can't wait for the new experiences and adventures to come!

Class Notes

Class of 2017



Over the course of her first year, **Caroline Anders** spent a lot of time in the newsroom of the *Indiana Daily Student*. She is pursuing a degree in journalism with a concentration in reporting and editing, a minor in political science, and a liberal arts management certificate. She began as a reporter for the IDS's government desk first semester and moved on to be the cops, crime and courts beat reporter in the spring. She was recently awarded "Best on Beat" by the paper and hopes to continue to write on the cops beat in the fall. Caroline also worked as a research assistant in Dr. Andrew Weaver's media research lab, looking into ways emotions affect moral decisions in video games. This summer, she will intern for the news show "On Point" at WBUR 90.9, Boston's NPR affiliate. Read about her Berlin experience in this issue.



Rob Greene recently declared a major in informatics after taking and enjoying the class INFO I101. He also plans to minor in both Spanish and music and concentrate his informatics degree on either cognitive science or security. He remains active with his band, Secret Mezzanine, recently recording a live session for WIUX and recording new music in the Jacobs Music School. He intends to pursue an internship in informatics at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne, IN this summer, and is training for a 100 mile bike ride.



Sophia Ren is a freshman pursuing a BS in microbiology and neuroscience. She currently works in Professor Tuli Mukhopadhyay's virology lab, studying molecular mechanisms of viral fusion in two strains of the chikungunya virus. She has since received the L.S. McClung Scholarship in Microbiology. Apart from her research, she is the *IU Journal of Undergraduate Research's* Online Creative Content board chair, one of two directors of the Wells Activism and Volunteer Effort, and a member of the Hutton Honors Council Association's Executive Board. She particularly enjoys working with other students to create meaningful events and volunteering for the Boys and Girls Club's Cooking Club. This summer, Sophia will be interning at Athersys, a biopharmaceutical company in Cleveland developing stem cells for clinical use.



Margaret Schnabel is a freshman pursuing a BA in English and a BS in cognitive science. This summer, she will work at the Urban Outfitters headquarters in Philadelphia as a copywriting intern for Anthropologie. During her first year at IU, Margaret studied the effects of narrative on moral decision-making as a member of the Experimental Humanities Lab, contributed to IU's student blogs, and organized a variety of literary events as the Literary Arts Coordinator for Collins Living-Learning Center. She was recently elected to the Student Advisory Board for the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, where she researches solutions to issues affecting the undergraduate student body. Read about her Berlin experience in this issue.

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