

Snow College Honors Program Newsletter

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**SNOW
COLLEGE**

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Student work: Mutant Experiments

Mutant bacteria are growing in the science building! Every year the microbiology classes perform an experiment on a bacterium called *Serratia Marcescens*. They shoot it with beams of UV light and document its reaction. Usually the beams kill part of the DNA that regulates pigment, which causes it to turn white and die. But this time, the bacteria became a brighter pink differing from its typical deep red. It also is healthier and growing better than the original bacteria. Our fellow honors student, Adriann Petersen, and her partner, Bryce Barton, have taken the lead on this experiment. They, under

the direction of Dr. Papenfuss, are testing this new mutation by setting a growth curve.

“This bacterium has traces to anti-disease, especially anti-cancer,”

Adriann explains, “We always joke about saving the world!”

Indeed they are doing a great work but they are far from achieving their end result.

Adriann quoted Dr. Papenfuss saying “This is true science. We don’t have an answer.”



Helps and Hints: Quizlet

What do anatomy, Spanish, and psychology all have in common? Besides being classes here at Snow College, they all require obscene amounts of memorization. How do you accomplish this? Many students choose to make flash cards, but the work involved can be the bane of a student’s existence. Flash cards require hours to make and then a buddy to help you study. And don’t even think about having to buy them, store them, and keep them in order. We have all had the busy day that, while running to and from class, our 200 anatomy flash cards decide to explode all over the sidewalk. What if you could get the effective results of flashcard studying without the hassle?

What if you could do it for free and right from your own laptop or smart phone? Well, good news! You can! Ditch your grumpy roommate and go take a look at Quizlet.com, a virtual flashcard maker. All you have to do is type in the information and start studying. It will help you both learn definitions and spellings for each word. You can also play study games with your flash cards against the computer! It will measure your progress and tell you where you need more help. This is a great study help for any student bored to tears over their boring note cards. Head over to quizlet.com and get ready for those grades to skyrocket.

Chair Chat

I'm excited about this first edition of the Snow College Honors Program newsletter (of course, it will be getting a new and better name soon) because it will provide honors students and faculty a chance to learn more about the honors experience happening here at Snow.

I want to introduce this newsletter with a confession of one of my idiosyncrasies: I read a lot. This is probably no surprise, but my method of reading a lot is a little unusual. Instead of reading one complete book and moving on to another, I like to read many books at the same time. This means that if I'm in the mood to read about X, chances are I have a book right there that fits the bill. But another effect of my reading is that I can read books from different disciplines and find connections between them. For example, as I was reviewing ancient Judaism for my English 2150 class, I just happened to have recently read about the creation of the Israeli state in a Harry S Truman biography. My reading

about myth overlapped with my reading of a novel called Arabian Nights and Days. And it is simply fun to read books about Galileo, John Quincy Adams, and Chaucer and see how they all respond to and modify knowledge of the ancient Greeks and Romans.

My point here is not to give a book report—(or books report). Instead, it is to make the point that this newsletter, with its information about honors experiences in science, humanities, social sciences, and so on, can act in a similar way. It can give its readers (you and me) interesting information about a variety of disciplines, but it can also help us see connections between disciplines including the GE classes you are taking.

Thanks to honors student Haley Reed for putting together such a well-designed and interesting newsletter. And thanks to you for being part of such an exciting academic program here at Snow College.

Student Spotlight

Kailey Madsen, one of our fellow honors students, is accomplishing great things here at Snow! She is majoring in psychology and made use of the Honors Contract last semester to receive credit for her psychology class. She says "Honors Contracts are great if you do not have time to fit an actual honors class into your schedule or if you would like to get more involved with a class you are very interested in." She worked with Professor Allred, the honors director, and Professor Marsing, the psychology teacher, to come up with a project. Her project is researching and conducting a survey on the effects of digital media on marital satisfaction. She is in the process of narrowing down the

topics and planning a proposal in order to conduct the survey and complete the experiment by next semester. In addition to this project, she had the opportunity to go to the psychology conferences in Nevada. She was able to listen to psychologists and other students and to observe other peoples work. Going to these conferences helped her better understand the field she was entering and inspired her current project. She says, "Snow gives great opportunities for students to get experience in whatever field they maybe going into and the honors program is a great start to pushing someone in the right direction on how to get involved."

Well What's Been Happening??

As honors students we have unique opportunities. Here are a few examples from this semester:

On Saturday, October 6th, the students in the honors program took a long bus ride down to see the highly esteemed Shakespeare play, *Hamlet*. Was the long bus ride worth it you may ask? It most definitely was. The reason for the long trip was because *Hamlet* was playing at the Shakespeare Festival in Cedar City. Upon our arrival we ate some of Subway's finest sandwiches that Ephraim has to offer. Not only did we get a sandwich and some chips but also a delightful cookie.

After our lunch we were free to wander about the grounds of the theater. The grounds were beautiful, with Parisian style tables and chairs by the windows and under grand trees. It was fun to pretend we were somewhere exotic. Inside the theater house, there were paintings of all Shakespeare's plays hanging along the walls. There was also a cool gift shop with fun hats and memorabilia. If students chose, they could listen to a past director of plays tell about *Hamlet* beforehand. We were informed that the actor playing Hamlet had actually broke his fingers during the play when he hit his hand on the throne, which we noted later upon seeing his cast. It was fun to know some of the background to the play before we saw it.

When we entered the theater we saw the stage and the background was medieval, but when the actors came on the stage they had the clothes of the rich and wealthy of our modern time. It was a very interesting way to depict *Hamlet*. When watching we forgot about other things and became engrossed in the costumes and acting surprised by the combination and the modernity brought into Hamlet. At the

famous monologue Hamlet talked to his dagger instead of to a skull.

After the play we drove to the Pizza Factory and ate a pizza buffet. It was delicious, full of pepperoni, meat lovers, chicken, and pineapple pizza to just name a few. The trip was a success, and the long trip back was slept off by the students. It was a culturally enlightening trip and one that no one regretted.

The first weekend of October, seven people went to New Mexico to learn more about the atomic bomb. The drive was long, over 10 hours to get there, 12 hours back, but it was worth it. Professor Dan Black guided us in Los Alamos as we visited Bathtub Row (the special houses that had bathtubs for the top people at Los Alamos), the Boy's Ranch House, Ashley's Pond, and around two different museums based on the atomic bomb. One of the highlights for the group was seeing the Particle Accelerator in Los Alamos; even though we couldn't get a close look at the accelerator, it's amazing what science can do when splitting atoms and using atomic particles for discovery. After Los Alamos we went to Albuquerque where we saw another museum and Trinity (where they tested the Plutonium Bomb). Other highlights included seeing Old Town Albuquerque, Santa Fe Old Town, Albuquerque Balloon Launch, National Cemetery, eating out, and of course the car ride and the conversations that took place. It was an educational trip, one worth going on no matter what your major and Professor Black did an excellent job informing not only our group but many strangers about atomic bombs. It's a great class for all.

~Adriann Petersen on the Atomic Bomb trip

TALENT CORNER

Modern Sophocles by Samm Boldrin

Snowflakes softly covered the singing mouth of the lamplights. Ice tied his scarf around the stars. Night curled into sleepy December. In each other's timeless arms they froze.

A girl, made violently
Woman, treaded through the snow
whispering her name;
Josci, Josci, Josci...
She holds her package
Tight with contempt; a bundle of bundled child

An alleyway, abandoned, sick with graffiti, was the place the snow stopped its whisper. A baby held stays quiet. Still warm, eyes wide, Innocent, he trusted his mother.

They stared hard at each other.
Him seeing what babes
May see. Her seeing sour
breath pulling hands blistering virtue, rescued
only by a drunken faint.
Rotten Fruit, in short.

She didn't throw him.
Didn't bash in his head.
"But you are little Eddy"
She whispered. A father's son.
So she left him with the trash and ran before
She could change fate.

Eddy's cries rang like a frozen, wild bell, He
Erupted like a volcano.
Mother lost. Innocence lost.
His cold legs too weak
and the ground too far
to crawl to safety.

Snowflakes softly covered
The mouth of the lamplights.
Ice tied his scarf
around the stars.
Night curled into December

In each other's arms timeless arms they froze. This poem seems completely bleak, but if you read the last word of the longest line in each stanza it takes on a new meaning. ~Samm

After words: This poem was written in response Oedipus Rex, which the English 2150 honors class studied.

If you would like to submit a work to the newsletter, e-mail Snownews12@gmail.com. You could be published!!

UPCOMING EVENTS!!

- Nov. 6th Spring
honors class preview
- Nov. 14th Art contest
DEADLINE!!

Newsletter Editor: Haley Reed
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