

Clarkson University's

HONORS NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2015

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Admissions season has come again, and we are busy reviewing 375 applications. This year, we decided to hold interviews on three designated Fridays during the semester. We offer phone and Skype interviews, for those who cannot make it to campus, but we invite everyone to stay overnight with one of our students so they can have a complete Honors experience and we can get a sense of how well they will fit in the community. We held one "interview Friday" on January 30 and it went very well. Parents joined us for an informational session in the afternoon and returned for breakfast the next morning. We anticipate such overnight stays will help to sustain an increased yield of the most talented and accomplished applicants while also improving diversity among our majors. Competition to attract Honors caliber students is increasingly intense and we have found our best sales people are our current students!

We have two international initiatives underway. The first is a spring semester course followed in May by a two-week, service-learning trip to the Dominican Republic. The project focuses on mitigation of indoor air pollution caused by wood-burning cook stoves, which is a serious problem in many developing countries. It is led by Al Rossner from the Institute for a Sustainable Environment and Jeanna Matthews from Computer Science. The second is summer research at Tsinghua University in Beijing for some of our students in material sciences. The trip is supported by a generous gift from Corning Inc. The students will stay for 10 weeks, and I will be traveling with them to help them settle in. Like our students, I am excited about my first trip to mainland China.

New staff member Kathleen O'Leary has been hired as director of Student Life and Alumni Relations, a joint appointment in Honors and The Clarkson School. She started in July and has made an excellent transition, though we are still working to convert her from college football to hockey! And there is another new addition to our "family." Jenny Townsend, Associate Director of Advising, gave birth to a baby girl, Maya, on August 26.

In November, we plan to take students to the National Collegiate Honors Council in Chicago. Students will present their research and share innovative aspects of our program. It is a good chance for us to learn best practices in Honors education, to raise Clarkson's profile and to meet up with Clarkson alumni in the area.

Once again, we take this opportunity to showcase the achievements of our current students and let you know the latest about your fellow alumni. Please keep sending us regular updates of your whereabouts and activities. For all our alumni, families and friends, please also consider making a gift to the Honors Program to fund educational opportunities for our students. We are extremely grateful for your generosity, which helps us offer international opportunities and trips like the one to the NCHC meeting in Chicago. Thank you for everything you do for the Honors Program and Clarkson University.



Jon Goss

Class of 2018



Honors student Ruisheng “Rick” Wang ‘15,

a mechanical engineering major from Potsdam, N.Y., was awarded a Goldwater Scholarship and **Mason Sutorius ‘15**, a mechanical engineering major from Utica, N.Y.,

won an honorable mention. This is now the 15th consecutive year in a row that an Honors student has won a Goldwater, the most prestigious scholarship given to undergraduates studying in mathematics, science and engineering in the United States.

Rick began undergraduate research under the mentorship of Professor Ratneshwar Jha in his freshman year, performing structural health monitoring for aerospace applications. He then switched to biomedical research under the mentorship of Professor Charles Robinson where he examined the effects of diabetes and peripheral neuropathy on whole-body reaction



Rick Wang ‘15 and Mason Sutorius ‘15

times with the goal to further understanding of the physical and neurological mechanisms underlying balance and the risk of falls

among the elderly population. Last summer, Rick worked at Massachusetts General Hospital through a fellowship granted by the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences in the field of photomedicine, specifically, investigating the feasibility of using UV fluorescence spectroscopy to

“Clarkson’s **CONSISTENT** track record of Goldwater recipients is testament to the fact that students who take full advantage of the **RESOURCES** offered by Clarkson are able to **COMPETE** on a national level.”

— Ruisheng Wang ‘15

noninvasively assess the biomechanical properties of collagenous tissues. He is now completing his Honors thesis on the potential use of accelerometers to measure pulse wave velocity and infer cardiac

health and so predict risk of cardiovascular disease. Rick is intending to continue his research in the Ph.D. program in biomedical engineering at MIT next year.

Mason has minors in biomedical engineering, electrical engineering and mathematics, and he is a teaching assistant for various classes in both mathematics and mechanical engineering. After his freshman year, he began an internship at NiCoForm Inc. and last summer he completed a Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) in

electrical engineering at Penn State. Mason is currently working with Professor Kevin Fite on the design of a wireless instrumentation architecture for real-time gait assessment of lower limb amputees for clinical field use. He plans to obtain a Ph.D. in biomedical engineering and conduct research in bionics and biomedical wearable devices for rehabilitative purposes.

“Being a small, **RESEARCH-INTENSIVE** school, Clarkson provided great **OPPORTUNITIES** for research with faculty and my **HONORS THESIS PROJECT** on prosthetic limb performance formed the basis of my Goldwater essay.”

— Mason Sutorius ‘15

by Jenny Townsend

In 2013-2014, 15% of all Honors students participated in a varsity athletic sport while over 20% of first-year students played a varsity sport, including four who were on the men’s soccer team. A remarkable number of Honors students also participated in club teams, such as crew, rugby, racquetball, ice hockey, Frisbee and football.

Erika Chin ‘14 had her fourth consecutive appearance in the NCAA Division III Volleyball Tournament and she helped Clarkson women make it to the Elite Eight for the second year in a row.



Erika Chin ‘14

She raked in the honors, including: AVCA

All-America Honorable Mention and AVCA NY All-Region 1st Team; Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-American 2nd Team (National) and Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-District (District 3); Liberty League

Second-Team All Star and NCAA DIII Regional All-Tournament Team.

School records fell in men’s varsity swimming as Kyle Hancock ‘14 set a new Clarkson standard in the 100m Breaststroke. Kyle and Nick Short ‘16 also contributed to new school records in the 200 and 400 Medley Relays.



John Coleman ‘15

John Coleman ‘15 continues to excel on the basketball court and on the baseball diamond, as well as in school. He reached 1,000 career points for Clarkson basketball and earned ESPN

The Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-America 1st Team (National); Capital One/CoSIDA Academic All-America District 3; NABC Division III All-District (East) - 2nd Team; D3Hoops.com All-East Region - 2nd Team and Liberty League First-Team All-Star honors. In basketball he earned Capital One/CoSIDA All-District honors.

Several Honors students were on the Nordic Ski Team, which competed in the USCSA Nationals in Lake Placid last March.

The men’s team finished third overall, led by Eric Mallery ‘17 who had a third-place finish in the sprint race. Katie Dunn ‘17 and Kaitlin Tallman



First-year Honors students Brian Kroetz and Andrew Akiki (of the Men’s Varsity Soccer Team) earned service hours in December by ringing bells for the Salvation Army.

‘16 both helped the women to a fifth-place finish overall.

First-year Men’s Lacrosse player Nick Strandholm earned Liberty League Defensive Performer of the week in April.

OTHER SCHOLARSHIPS

Eleanor Vane ‘14 (Biomolec Sci)

The NSF GRFP has been beneficial to my graduate school experience. As a rotation student, I learned that there is competition to join more popular laboratories and my fellowship gives me a competitive edge. I was also able to rotate in labs that have interesting projects, but less funding.

My research at Clarkson and involvement in the Honors Program were very important to my successful application. I was almost certain I wanted to be a researcher and joined Artem Melman’s lab during the spring semester of my sophomore year. During my summers, I did research at Carnegie Mellon and UC Berkeley which gave me a broader background and strengthened my NSF application. Before college, I had no idea what an “REU” was, but

the Honors Program talked about REUs and encouraged its members to apply.

The Honors thesis was important too as my NSF proposal was a continuance of the research I began in the fall of my junior year in the Melman lab. Writing the literature review and thinking about the big picture of my project early on gave me the skills to succeed in the NSF application.

Kyle Pollak ‘16 (ME)

I am proud of receiving the SMART Scholarship, but I was fortunate to have the support of Clarkson University and the Honors Program. One of the biggest factors was the weekly scholarship preparation meetings held by Dr. Jon Goss and Jennifer Townsend, members of the Honors staff. Each Monday

they would stay late at night in order to help me make my application the best it could be. Marcy Wilcox also helped anytime I needed a professional question answered or a last minute print or fax sent. The Honors Program also helped me create lasting connections. Professor Gary Kelly taught my first Honors Program course and he has been a great friend ever since. He was kind enough to write a letter of recommendation to go with my scholarship. I am very thankful for his help and guidance and I am sure his letter of recommendation was a vital part of my final application. I couldn’t have received this scholarship without the help of the Clarkson Honors Program faculty and staff.

by Dana Chapman '17

For the 2015 academic year, the Honors sophomore class is collaborating with start-ups at the Shipley Center for Innovation to explore transfer of cutting-edge technologies to North Country farms. The four companies involve robotic farming, aeroponics, steam powered production of ethanol, and an online food co-op. Students gain real-world knowledge in a practical application and fine tune their soft skills. As Samer Akiki '17 (EE) says, "It is exciting to get to work with real companies, presenting them with ideas that they could potentially implement."

Professor Marshall Issen (E&M) is the project manager and there are five consulting faculty in diverse fields. The student teams within are guided by Honors upperclassmen who have worked on similar projects in previous years. "For me, seeing how the project changes year to year has been very interesting," says peer mentor Skyler Canute '16 (ME). He continues, "After working on the Massena Weir project, it is fun to shift to improve upcoming technology for farmers.

Sophomores are doing something that is really special — they are working with new technology that could change an entire industry. One of this year's projects could be the new face of agriculture. Honors students have an opportunity that many people don't see even after working in a field for years, and sophomores get to do this right now. I look forward to seeing what comes out of this HP200 class and how it impacts the agricultural industry."

At the same time, one of the most important goals is to improve practical reasoning and problem-solving abilities. "Working on the Honors project has helped to improve my analytical and critical-thinking skills," notes Aiden Coutin '17 (MAE), "and it has helped me to develop my leadership skills." Ultimately, sophomores hope that the hands-on experiences over the next two semesters will better prepare them for working and collaborating in and between their respective fields.

Jacob Misch '16 (ME), another peer mentor, sums up the opportunities presented by the 2015 project: "I love this year's project because it generates interest in technology that would be overlooked by the majority of students. Agriculture is so far removed from the modern campus life that we don't ever get to fully understand the obstacles the industry faces. As the population grows, the demand for food production soars, and very few advances have been made to adequately address this issue in recent years. Distribution of the harvest can also be difficult for smaller North Country farms, which is something that is overshadowed by the ease and availability of buying produce at supermarkets. The HP200 class gets to work with this 'hidden' industry. They get to see the future of food production take form, and may even get a chance to give their own input on the outcome. It's opportunities like this, presented to the Honors Program exclusively, that makes me hopeful for the future of engineering."

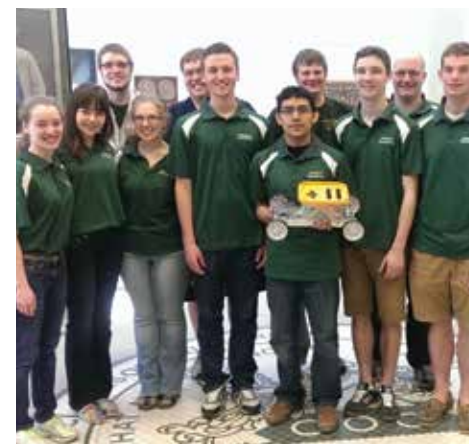


Kathleen O'Leary joined the staff of the Honors Program and The Clarkson School as associate director of Student and Alumni Relations in July. For the past nine years, Kathleen has been working in higher education student affairs, including stints in housing,

student conduct and academic advising. Most recently, she worked at Arizona State University. She was excited to leave the desert and begin to explore the North Country. Kathleen's

undergraduate and law degrees are from the University of Notre Dame, and she is an avid college football fan, but is learning to love hockey. She is enjoying getting to know our students and has been impressed from the start by their intellectual curiosity, their drive to succeed and their social consciousness. Kathleen says, "Our students also have wonderful opportunities for leadership and input within the structure of the Honors Program. The student-initiated service requirement definitely caught my eye as a unique component to the Honors experience." Kathleen is looking forward to connecting with alumni, hearing about their experiences in the Honors Program and working together to continue to provide transformative experiences for our students. She welcomes any and all feedback and can be reached at koleary@clarkson.edu.

by Gabrielle Pawlowski '15



The Clarkson Chem-E-Car team was one of 13 teams that travelled to the University of Connecticut to compete at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Northeast Student Regional

Conference in 2014. Chem-E-Cars are shoebox-sized cars that are powered and stopped using chemical reactions. Clarkson's car was powered using aluminum-air fuel cells and stopped using an iodine clock reaction. An hour before competition, the teams were challenged to travel 25 meters while carrying a load of 250 grams. Each team was allowed two 2-minute runs to calibrate their car and attempt to stop at the designated line. Clarkson landed 2.15 meters from the designated line on their second run, placing them fourth and earning them a spot at the national competition in November 2014 in Atlanta, Georgia. In addition to qualifying for the National Chem-E-Car competition, Clarkson placed third in Chem-E Jeopardy. Honors Program members Peter Faulkner



and Maureen Hoen were part of the team as well as Gabrielle Pawlowski, who was also the captain.

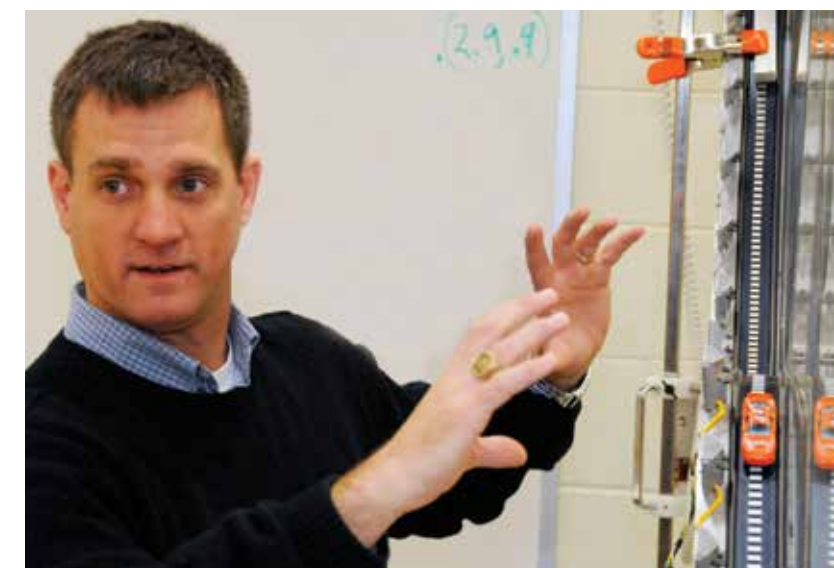
by Spencer Griswold '17

For my Summer Research project,

I worked with Dr. Michael Ramsdell to improve the Team Design lab taken by first-year physics majors and Honors students. This alternative to the introductory physics lab challenges students to model the motion of a toy car down an arbitrarily shaped track and a toy train with a programmed electric profile.

I programmed both challenges in Python, Matlab and Microsoft Excel, and I learned how to program data acquisition systems using Labview. I identified potential sources of error such as insulating dust on the track, the quality of the toy train or car used, and the operating efficiency of the motors.

Through this project, I connected both personally and professionally with a group of similarly driven students and Department of Physics faculty. Team Design was without a doubt one of the major highlights of my freshman year, and one of the most enriching experiences I've had so far at Clarkson. I look forward to returning to the Team Design lab as a mentor, to aid the next class of physics students.



Team Design instructor Michael Ramsdell

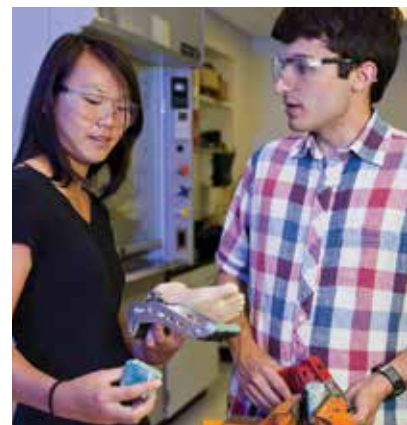
Brian Nardone '17 (ME)

In the 2014 Summer Research program, I worked on the design of a low-cost prosthetic foot with my faculty mentor, Dr. Kevin Fite, and my "pre-frosh" mentee, Amy Yang. I taught her the software program and methods used in our lab.

Mentoring helped me to be more aware of what I am doing and improved my communication skills.

Having another student working together on a project brings a fresh perspective. Amy has a different background and major, and she caught some potential errors and helped improve the design. Mentoring also increased my motivation to work diligently and produce results of which I could be proud.

I also gained a friend and a connection to the Class of 2018 as a whole. Amy and I presented a poster at the Summer SURE Conference, and talking shop with her over the summer was a great benefit.



Amy Yang '18, and Brian Nardone '17

Matt McGuffey '18 (Eng Studies)

I had a grand time doing summer research. It began after I graduated high school, driving three and a half hours up to Clarkson with a car full of things I thought I might need. Most of it went home unused since the apartments are well-furnished, clean and quite homey. I settled in and immediately began making friends with everyone. The upper-class students were helpful and friendly, and each evening



Matt McGuffey '18

we had activities such as swimming, soccer or Frisbee that created a sense of community. My peer mentor Taylor Lenney took me into the lab and we went to work right away. She made sure I was a part of the research team. My background in the sciences was helpful, though I was also given some reading to do. Everyone helped me prepare a sharp-looking poster that I presented at the SURE conference. Most other students have to wait four years to have a chance to do graduate-level research, but I did it as a "pre-frosh" just four days after graduating high school. Still, I think the greatest benefit of summer research is being prepared, well-connected and comfortable at Clarkson even before the opening day of the semester.

Rebecca Baumel '18 (Pol Sci)

I did political science research during my pre-frosh summer. I collected demographic information on all past and present members of European Parliament in order to create a profile of the average party-switching politician. Designing and executing my own research was a privilege that none of my friends from home got to experience. Here I was, not even a real college student yet, and suddenly I was working hands-on with data and running analytical tests to draw real-world conclusions. It was amazing!

Such a task might have been disorienting and overwhelming but the Honors Program did an amazing job making sure that we were given guidance so that the transition was smooth. The support system they provided me was incredible! My mentor Karleene was knowledgeable, supportive and caring. She eased me along the path of my research, helping me overcome stumbling blocks that I encountered. Her guidance extended far beyond her prescribed duties — she really cared about me and wanted to see me succeed.

Summer research was more than just a fantastic academic opportunity: It was the perfect transition to college life. From becoming familiar with campus and making friends, to learning time-management skills, summer research provided me with an incomparable experience that I wouldn't trade for the world!

Xulan Deng '18 (Biomol Sci, Chem)

I was so excited to know that I could begin doing research before I would start college! During my pre-frosh summer research, I worked with my peer mentor Jessica Burl on a project "Enhancing adsorption properties of metal-organic frameworks through post-synthetic modification" under the guidance of Prof. Mario Wriedt. It was so nice to have the taste of working in the lab, knowing what the routine was like and what skills and effort were expected. I built up my network by getting to know a lot of people, including freshmen who would spend the next four years with me in the Honors Program, upperclassmen in the Honors Program who would be able to give me advice, and even graduate students who worked with me in the lab. My peer mentor



Xulan Deng '18

played an important role in introducing lab procedures that were totally new for me and provided personal guidance regarding my class schedule and outside opportunities to get connected with faculty members. I was asked to work in the same lab again in the fall semester. While living on campus during summer research, I also

became familiar with the school settings and its surroundings, which definitely made me feel less lost when school officially started.

Colin Lennon '15 (ME)

I worked as a design engineer intern at GE Transportation in Erie, Pa., during fall 2013 semester. I was responsible for review and redesign of several drivetrain components for Off-Highway Vehicles. My typical day consisted of updating drawings for the manufacturing floor, testing alternators and whatever new item I found in my inbox throughout the day. In the summer 2014, I worked for GE Power & Water in Schenectady, N.Y., as a manufacturing engineer intern. My biggest project was designing and implementing new 3-D printed tooling to improve quality control for several operations on the manufacturing floor. I was the bridge between the engineer making design changes and the union employees implementing them in the tools. While I gained engineering experience, the biggest takeaways were skills in office small talk (critical to getting any favors from colleagues!) and learning to navigate the rules of a union shop. While design work and engineering skills can easily be taught in a classroom, it takes a real-world experience such as an internship or co-op (or both!) to learn how to be a good employee. The eight months I interned are worth several years of school. I feel I am now a better candidate for a full-time position and has a better understanding of what type of job I would like to pursue after I graduate.

Khrystyna Dilai '15 (ChemE)

I spent the summer at the University of Washington in the Amgen Scholars Program. My project was with Dr. Bloom at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center where I worked to determine a method for modeling protein secondary structure using mutational scan data for the flu virus using computational tools. In July, I had the opportunity to tour the Amgen facility in Los Angeles, as well as network and share my research with other Amgen Scholars from around the country. At the end of the summer, the program members presented their work in poster and oral form at the UW Undergraduate Research Symposium. In between lab work, I spent time exploring Seattle and Victoria, BC, as well as hiking the Cascades.



Khrystyna Dilai '15

Katelynn Hackett '15 (ME)

The Honors Program has been my "go-to" for support since freshman year. Each time I wanted to pursue a new adventure, I brainstormed with advisors to make it happen. My path has been unique, but then no-one has the same Honors experience! It's all tailored to your goals: summer research, co-ops and internships;



Katelynn Hackett '15

study abroad and on to graduate school or a job. Thanks to my two co-op experiences with Moog Inc., I will begin as a full-time employee in spring of 2015 while finishing my Honors thesis. In my last semester, I studied abroad at the Technical University of Denmark and had a blast!

Megan Borland '16 (Biomol Sci)

My semester abroad in Australia was by far the most rewarding and memorable experience I have had in my college career. I always wanted to travel, but this opportunity gave me so much more than a vacation. I went half way around the world, and was tossed onto a new continent and into a culture I had only ever read about.

I quickly learned the true meaning of independence and responsibility, with no family to fall back on, or friends to help me out. I had to learn on the spot and, as my Australian friends would always say, "just go with the flow."

I assumed Australian culture was similar to the USA, but it was in fact different in many key ways. It opened my eyes to how easily my perceptions of the world are molded by movies and media. I had to throw out all of my stereotypes.

Of course I visited all of the tourist attractions like the Sydney Opera House and the "Outback," and petted kangaroos and koalas, but these things aren't what I will remember most about my visit. What will stay with me are the lessons that the people taught me and the problem-solving skills I developed. I am lucky to have had the opportunity to visit such a beautiful place and get to know such amazing people.



Megan Borland '16



Pinguang (Dawson) Yang '14

Pinguang (Dawson) Yang '14 (Biomol Sci) began medical school training at Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine and it has been an incredible experience. He is about to become a certified New York EMT and is working shifts on North Shore-LIJ Health System ambulances, evaluating and treating patients under the supervision of paramedics. Dawson realizes now how much medicine and health care is team-based and he is grateful to the Honors Program for providing invaluable teamwork skills. The group projects in Honors taught him how to collaborate and communicate in a team. Those skills are transferable and have prepared him for his next adventure in medicine.

Karen Dawson '14 (ChemE, Env Eng, Pol Sci)

I'm currently in my first year of graduate school at MIT in the Nuclear Science and Engineering Department. I'm working with Dr. Golay on uncertainty propagation in thermal hydraulic behavior of nuclear power plants following an accident, such as a loss of coolant water. We are considering the effect of this uncertainty on human operator actions if automatic safety systems fail. Our research will be used by EDF Energy. This



Karen Dawson '14

work will culminate in my master's thesis and could potentially turn into my Ph.D. thesis.

I live in Cambridge, Mass., with other Clarkson alumni from my sorority Phi Sigma Sigma. Clarkson's network really is everywhere! I work for a private tutoring company Cambridge Coaching, and have had the chance to tutor high school to college-level students.

Through this organization, I dedicated some of my time to helping at-risk high school students graduate through an organization called BUILD.

When I'm not doing research, tutoring or schoolwork, I'm either running along the Charles River or hiking and enjoying the beautiful New England environment. I recently ran the Mt. Washington Road Race and in November completed my first marathon with my sister.

Laura Zielewicz '13 (Biomol Sci)

When I graduated from Clarkson, I took a full-time job at Procter & Gamble in Cincinnati, Ohio. I am working in Research & Development on product design for Febreze. I love my job!

I first met P&G recruiters at the annual Clarkson Career Fair where I got a co-op and internship with the company. In September, I returned to campus as a recruiter representing the company at the Career Fair!

I am very grateful to the Honors Program for providing me with the tools and resources to obtain these opportunities through one-on-one advising on resume building, workshops on interview skills and just always being there to help in every way.

What I love most about the Honors Program is the close-knit community. Faculty, staff and students are always there for inspiration and guidance along your journey through college to career.



Laura Zielewicz '13

Brad Beechler '00

Last October, I took a position as a research scientist at Vaisala in Boulder. I do all kinds of work in data science involving things like data assimilation, road weather, airport decision support, numerical weather prediction and defense. I also launched a weather balloon to gather data for radiosonde research.



Lindsay (Wood) Smith '01

My daughter, Lucinda Talley, was born on April 4 in Burlington, Vermont. My husband, Sam, and I are over the moon with love for her.



Trent Lalonde '01

I recently celebrated my first wedding anniversary with my wife, Mandi. During spring 2014, I was promoted to associate professor of Applied Statistics at the University of Northern Colorado.

Amarda Shehu '02

I just became an associate professor in the Department of Computer Science at George Mason University in Virginia. I am married to Erion Plaku '02 who also received an M.Sc. in Computer Science. We have a three-year-old daughter, Olivia, and are expecting a second baby. We miss Clarkson.

My husband, **Todd Deshane '03, '04 (SE, MS CS)** and I, **Patricia DeShane '02, '03, '04, '10 (Ma, MBA, MS IT, PhD ES)** would like to announce the birth of our son, Toby Jay Deshane, on October 23, 2014. He was born at 6 pounds, 15 ounces and 20 1/2 inches long.



Samuel St. John '03

I am doing a post-doc at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. I'm working on investigating membranes for anion-exchange membrane fuel cells, as well as hydrogen oxidation catalysts in alkaline environments. Hopefully, I'll soon have a faculty position.

Luke Dosiek '04

My wife, Stephanie, and I moved from Wyoming back to New York where I took a job with a government contractor in Rome. In September 2013, we welcomed a baby girl, Evelyn Rose, into the world. Since Steph is a St. Lawrence alum, it has been difficult trying to decide if SLU or Clarkson PJs are the correct choice ;-). It's probably no coincidence then that she often wears her UWyo outfits; compromise is an important ingredient in a healthy marriage!

Melinda Au '06

I am pursuing my Ph.D. in Mathematics at the University of Texas at Arlington. I am happy to report I have passed all my qualifying exams and I am beginning research in numerical linear algebra with applications to nonnegative matrix factorization and compressive sensing. I expect to graduate in 2016. On Nov. 8, I competed in the 2014-2015 TEXAS Regional Yoga Asana Championship in Dallas, Texas.

Timothy Deschenes '06

My wife, Emily, and I welcomed our first child, Michaela Katharine Deschenes, on July 5, 2012. We were able to watch the Boston fireworks display from our delivery room! I keep busy between chasing a toddler and work. I was awarded Spectral Sciences, Inc. Scientist of the Year award for 2012 and elected the same year to serve on SSI's board of directors. I work on the development of rarefied gas flow and radiation models for various government and commercial customers. The Deschenes Family spent the past Father's Day taking in a Red Sox game and running the bases at Fenway Park. Dad and Michaela were equally excited to bang on the Green Monster.

Danielle (Petko) Frisch '06

I just moved to Easton, Pa., with my husband, Greg, who started a new job as an industrial engineering manager at Mars Chocolate, but I was able to stay with my company VWR International as a production chemical specialist. We bought our first home after we moved and celebrated our first wedding anniversary. It has been a very busy but good year!

Lindsay (Hoffman) Reichlein '07

I married John Reichlein, an electrical engineer and Lehigh alumnus, on September 13, 2014.



There were four Honors alumni at the wedding: Kate Bellor '07, Nelson Greening '07, Justin Ricci '06 and Bethann Parmelee '12 — and 20 Clarkson alumni in all!

Mathew Wolcott '07

In May 2014, I completed my M.S. in Mechanical Engineering concentrating in design optimization from University at Buffalo. I am currently working as an application engineering supervisor for Unifrax in Tonawanda, N.Y. I oversee the engineering group responsible for design and testing of support mat in emission control devices in North America. I live on the Erie Canal with my wife, Jessica; cat Scrambles; 13 laying hens all named Pikachu; and a hive of bees too numerous to name here. Rest assured that one is named Dr. Craig and one is named Dr. Shen.

Bradley Buchheit '08

I received my MD from the University at Buffalo in May 2014 and I am currently in the Family Medicine residency program at Boston Medical Center in Boston, Mass.

Matthew Lanahan '08

Last August after my sixth anniversary with IBM, I resigned from my position to take a new job at a startup company. The local branch of my new employer, Global Silicon Studios, Inc. (GSSI), comprises previous coworkers from IBM. My role is basically the same (developing embedded memories for use in ASIC and foundry chip designs), but the atmosphere is one of growth and optimism.

In February, I was awarded my first U.S. patent. This was a group invention, filed jointly with three other members of my team, pertaining to embedded dynamic random access memory (eDRAM) architecture. <http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/patog/week06/OG/html/1399-2/US08649239-20140211.html>

Last year my girlfriend Brittany and I adopted two Siberian Husky pups, Ragnar (black male) and Zarya (grey female). As one would expect, they love the snow and their favorite word is "mush."

Jessica (Rocheleau) Fadden '08

It's been a busy year for me! This past December, I started a new job as a structural engineer with C&S Engineers in Syracuse, N.Y., working in the Industrial and Airport Facilities group. In the same month, I earned my P.E. license in New York state!



On August 22, 2014, I married my best friend and fellow Clarkson alum Andrew Fadden '07 in my home church in Saint Albans, Vermont. We spent 10 days in Riviera Maya, Mexico, for our honeymoon.

Kristina Dupre '08 (Dec.)

After graduating, I worked for IBM for a year and a half, Electric Boat for three and a half and now I work for a small IT firm CapTech Consulting in Charlotte, N.C. I married my college sweetheart in 2012 and have two large dogs. I'm still trying to figure out what I want to do when I grow up, but in the meantime IT consulting is interesting!

Melissa (Van Kleeck) Rose '09

I married Craig Rose '07 on August 16, 2014, in Concord, N.H., at a planetarium and it was awesome! I successfully defended my thesis



on Oct. 31 and graduated with my Ph.D. in December! I am continuing at Argonne National Laboratory as a post-doctoral researcher. I also went to Idaho Falls last fall to present at the 2014 International Pyroprocessing Research Conference. Craig became the Chicago Clarkson Alumni Chapter President and that makes me "first lady" so that is keeping us busy too.

Ryan Watkins '09

After graduating from Clarkson, I moved to Ann Arbor to attend graduate school at the University of Michigan. I am in the Ph.D. program in Aerospace Engineering and will be graduating within the year and moving to wherever the job market takes me (hopefully somewhere warm). I've continued to travel over the past couple of years going to Munich, Prague and Aruba to name a few. While in Ann Arbor, my girlfriend, Corinne, and I take in all that the greater Detroit area has to offer.

James Callahan '10

In March 2014, I moved in with my girlfriend, Kerry, in Pittsburgh, Pa. Since 2011, I've been working as a mechanical engineer for Bechtel Marine Propulsion Corporation (originally in Schenectady, N.Y., and now outside Pittsburgh.) BMPC is a government-owned, contractor-operated organization dedicated to the support of the United States Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. In my position, I perform mechanical and structural analyses of core components and reactor heavy equipment for SEAWOLF class submarines and NIMITZ class aircraft carriers.

Angela (Dapolite) Lyons '10

I am still residing in New Hampshire with my husband Stephen Lyons '10. We were married in December 2013. My husband accepted a position as a Physical Therapist in Nashua and we moved to Concord last summer. I continue teaching chemistry and math at Winnisquam Regional High School in Tilton. Also, we are very excited about the birth of our first child in mid-April.

Brendan Leach '10 (Dec.)

Every year I try to go on one big adventure. On my last trip to Peru, some friends and I met people who had gone on an Everest Base Camp trip. My buddies and I decided after hearing about their experience we would do the same. We picked the dates, bought our tickets and then it became real. After 30 hours of traveling, we spent our first full day sitting in the airport waiting to fly to Lukla, the most dangerous airport in the world. After weather delays, we chartered a private helicopter which was incredible and we began our trek. The first few days the weather was miserable, cloudy and rainy but it worked out because as we got closer to the Base Camp everything started clearing up and we had spectacular views. The people we



met were absolutely amazing and from all over the world (Utah, Florida, Germany, Switzerland, Australia, UK, Dubai). I definitely made some lifelong friends that I hope to visit in the future.

Dr. Kathryn Johnson '00 was our speaker at Honors graduation last May and she told the Class of 2014 about climate change and the importance of standing up for what you believe in. At Clarkson, Katie was a standout cross-country skier and runner and she was inducted into Clarkson's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2010 for her accomplishments on the Women's Nordic Ski Team, which includes three consecutive USCSA national titles. Katie cites her own experience as evidence that athletics is invaluable to the personal growth of students.



Katie was in the first Honors class at Clarkson and also excelled in the classroom, receiving the prestigious Levinus Clarkson Award. She "fondly" recalls the challenges of her sophomore project, which involved designing a computer game related to the environment in the Adirondacks. She

particularly values her Honors thesis experience — to create a robotic arm to assist in rehabilitation of spinal cord injuries — as it helped her decide her area of specialization in graduate school.

Katie lives in Boulder, Colo., with her husband, Curt Stevens '01. She earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering at the University of Colorado – Boulder and she is now associate professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at Colorado School of Mines with a joint appointment at the National Wind Technology Center of the National Renewable Energy Lab.

**Jennifer Sidletsky '11**

Ben Ritz '13 and I became engaged at midnight on November 7, 2014, our five-year anniversary. We celebrated by playing with LEGOs.

**Pietro Giovenco '12**

Last August, I graduated from Clemson University with my master's in Automotive Engineering. I am now working as a powertrain planning manager for Chrysler in Detroit, Mich.

Anthony Sinopoli '12

I married Anne Hawn '08 in New York. I graduated from the OMLP program at GE and have started a full-time job as the quality lead for locomotive Panel, Device and Unit Exchange area.

Valerie Deane '13

In May 2014, I moved to Latham, N.Y., and started a job as a transportation analyst at the New York State Department of Transportation. I've been managing the traffic count program, filling out

smart growth forms, and designed trackers in Excel to keep track of the work we do in Region 1 Planning. I've also been working on the region's portion of the local highway inventory.

Devon Jedamski '13

The biggest update for me is getting married on August 9 to Christiana Farrell in Richmond, Virginia!

Christopher McKinney '13

I am working with Burn Manufacturing in Nairobi, Kenya. We research, design and manufacture clean-burning cookstoves for East Africa. Cooking is currently one of the most deadly and environmentally harmful activities in the developing world, due to inefficient and unsustainable use of firewood and charcoal as cooking fuel.

**Yarong Lin '14**

I have started the Materials Science and Engineering M.S./Ph.D. program at Columbia University. This program is interdisciplinary with a strong emphasis on solid state physics and crystallography. I have been taking five courses and working as a teaching assistant for Linear Algebra. Meanwhile, I am considering my Ph.D. research field and advisor. The Honors Program at Clarkson has definitely trained me to take challenges and become confident to prepare a research project.

Nicole Traphagen '14

I am living in Pensacola, Fla. Since there is not much biochemistry going on around here, I got a part-time job teaching toddlers how to swim. It's not what I thought I would be doing, but working with the little kids is a lot of fun.

I'm also tutoring high school and college students in chemistry, biology and math. Living in Florida is great. Pensacola has some of the best beaches in the country, and bringing a book and a picnic lunch to the gorgeous beach is one of my favorite ways to spend a weekend!

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