

THE STATE OF HONORS

*The official newsletter of the William O. Douglas Honors College
at Central Washington University*



FOREWARD

WHO WE ARE

The William O. Douglas Honors College (DHC) is a interdisciplinary course of study for undergraduate students at Central Washington University. The honors program complements all majors and is accessible for students at all levels of education. Our students bring a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to our community.

The DHC curriculum offers passionate learners an opportunity to be surrounded by engaged peers and faculty members. Through interdisciplinary discussion, faculty mentoring, peer support, and events for mindset growth, the DHC pushes students to dare to be wise. Graduates are empowered to achieve their goals and are well-equipped to thrive in today's evolving culture and economy.

"The State of Honors" newsletter is a tradition in infancy. This publication serves to keep stakeholders informed on the achievements of our students, faculty, and alumni, and how we learn together—even when physically apart.

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OUR LAST YEAR

SEPTEMBER 2019 - AUGUST 2020

When the William O. Douglas Honors College was first founded in 1975, four faculty members and six intrepid students participated. Nearly 45 years later, we welcomed our largest freshman class ever and served almost 300 undergraduates. Having evolved from a study of 'Great Books' into an interdisciplinary school, this past year we took the next step in highlighting scholarly research by introducing a new preparatory curriculum. This renovation includes a series of four courses—particular to a student's academic standing—which function to progressively expose undergrads to the elements of research early in their careers. This integrated cohort model equips students to design an Upper-Division capstone project or complete any equivalent research opportunity.



Comfortably settled after our 2018 move from the Language and Literature building to historic Hebel Hall, honors students have upheld standards of excellence and community. Through the 2019-2020 academic year, 97% of previous students were retained and the average GPA hovered at 3.6. Students designed and participated in novel DHC events such as critical film analysis with honors faculty, a roundtable on the 1619 Project and the consequences of slavery in America, as well as strategy sessions for students seeking graduate education. Scholarships, new and old, were provided to outstanding students in need.



In March, the ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic reached our university. Spring break was extended so all CWU instruction, including honors classes, could make the necessary adjustments to operate online. Almost overnight, the buzz of Central's campus life fell to near silence. Over Zoom calls, Outlook instant messaging, and Minecraft servers, our students and faculty found new ways to communicate, collaborate, and kill time. Honors resources remained steadfast with virtual events and mentoring.



Following the heinous killings of Breonna Taylor and George Floyd, Central students took to the streets of Ellensburg protesting police violence and racial inequity. Marches continued through the quarter's end, through finals, and through the summer. Community members of the DHC recognize that systemic and interpersonal acts of racism can and do occur in our city and on our campus. We are committed to accountability and teaching people-first ideals. Anti-racism and anti-colonialism are necessary tools to combat the reality of white supremacy and how it violently shapes the world around us. One of the steps we are taking is the utilization of math and statistics for social justice in a DHC required course taught by our very own Dr. Dominic Klyve.

Despite the adversity and grief presented by the academic year, our students remain resilient. With new standards for participation and assessment, honors continues to adapt to the needs of its learners. We cannot say for certain what the future will hold, but we anticipate the change to come and the wisdom which will follow.



EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING

BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY

The staff members of the Douglas Honors College work hard to ensure there is a wide variety of events for student connection and development. Over three quarters, we independently hosted over 30 events such as book club meetings, critical analyses of cinema, current issue roundtables, group cooking and meals, local hiking, museum visits, and graduate school and career preparation. Here are just a few.

FALL CULTURAL EVENT: THE LEGACY OF JUSTICE WILLIAM O. DOUGLAS

September 2019 introduced our primary cultural event. Buses carried DHC students to the Yakima Valley Museum to explore their exhibit on local notable William O. Douglas. The longest-serving member of the US Supreme Court, Douglas was a staunch supporter of environmental preservation and human rights. For his work in preservation and because of his passion for walking in nature, a short acreage along the Selah Ridge was dubbed the Douglas Heritage Trail. Many of our students elected to complete our excursion by hiking this humble path. We at the DHC are proud to derive our name from Justice Douglas; his legacy lives on in our students and their efforts made to improve the communities they live in.



WINTER MEDIA: BATTLE OF THE ALGIERS

Our space in Hebel Hall hosted several nights of critical cinema analysis. In late January, Dr. Bernadette Jungblut and Dr. Shawn Reichert hosted the viewing of the 1966 Italian-Algerian masterpiece *Battle of The Algiers*. Depicting response to the French occupation of Algeria, the film takes a documentary-style approach—sans romance but high-drama—to condemn the use of guerilla tactics in the urban environment of the capital city Algiers. Following the two-hour runtime, students readily discussed the structures of racism, patriarchy, and colonialism inherent to the Algerians' struggle for liberty, and where parallels can be found in our communities today.

WINTER HIKING: SNOWSHOEING THE BLEWETT PASS

With the fall of winter snow, many students elected to hike the beautiful valleys and hills around Ellensburg. One group even attempted snowshoeing through Blewett Pass. Several cars consisting of nearly 20 students collected recreational gear from CWU's Outdoor Pursuits and Rentals, then headed north into the frosted peaks. Honors Assistant Director Chris Denison and professor Matthew Martinson also joined for the journey and even participated when hours of lumbered walking devolved into sledding.



SPRING BOOK CLUB: THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ERNEST

Amidst the throes of online education, the honors book club continued to meet. True to the DHC's roots in classic literature, April centered on the print copy, live performance, and movie adaptation of Oscar Wilde's *The Importance of Being Earnest: A Trivial Comedy for Serious People*. This romp through the lives of befuddled Victorian aristocrats questions the social institutions which bound 19th-century England—particularly marriage. After digesting all three media forms, honors students engaged in a Zoom discussion on the effectiveness of themes and relevance to the current state of art and life.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

ANTHONY KRUEGER

*English Language & Literature BA,
Interdisciplinary Honors Minor*



Anthony Krueger is a driven underclassman from Yakima, WA. At 2020 SOURCE, he presented his poster on the Madagascan fossas or Night Crawlers. Legend has it that those who consume the creatures take on curses of greed and aggression. Despite that fierce reputation, the fossa has become vulnerable to extinction due to the deforestation in—and natural disasters of—Madagascar. Krueger expounded on the necessity of biodiversity in maintaining ecosystems.

At the University of Washington, Krueger plans to continue his graduate education, earning a JS degree for a career as an attorney. Until then, he can often be found chilling with his lizard, Money. During COVID quarantine, Krueger participated in local protests, camped with a few close friends, and worked part-time at Panda Express. On campus, he enjoys losing foosball tournaments and working on creative writing projects.

MADELINE KOVAL

*Molecular and Cellular Biology BS,
Interdisciplinary Honors and Chemistry
Minors, Upper-Division Honors*



In late spring quarter, our very own Madeline Koval was elected ASCWU Senate Speaker! This makes her a voting member of the board and the officer serving as chair and primary organizer of the Student Senate. The Senate Speaker also serves as a voting member on the ASCWU-BOD and brings issues, concerns, and legislation created by the Student Senate to the attention of the ASCWU-BOD. She hopes her hard work and bio-chem studies will lead her to medical school and a career as a dermatologist. However, Koval is also studying for the LSAT and is entertaining the notion of law school.

During COVID lockdown, Koval spent time with her mom, dad, sister, and two dogs at their home in Everett, WA; they stayed active by hiking. Beyond quarantine and the grind, Koval loves to stay involved on campus, listen to audiobooks, workout, support local businesses, and bake. She also cherishes time with her boyfriend Will Stryker, who is currently on active duty with the armed forces.

GERALD LEMMON

Sociology BA, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BA, Interdisciplinary Honors Minor, Upper-Division Honors



A senior resident assistant and new gardening enthusiast, Gerald Lemmon has spent much of his last year working on his thesis and capstone research project. He is working to address the gap in PrEP (Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis) uptake and perception between LGBTQ+ persons of color and the general population. His work specifically tackles the experience of Latinx G/MSM from the Yakima area. Lemmon aims to create a meta-analysis, identifying effective methods for connection with hard-to-reach populations, and establishing a groundwork useful for graduate education.

In the future, Lemmon would like to work with a non-profit serving BIPOC students who identify as LGBTQIA+, promoting safe sex and mental health. When he's not on the grind toward that goal, you can find him playing MMORPGs, doing yoga, or journaling in his bedroom.

MADELINE WILSON

Social Service BS, Interdisciplinary Honors and Non-Profit Organization Management Minors



Spring 2020 was Madeline Wilson's fourth quarter as Editor-in-Chief of PULSE, CWU's student-run lifestyle magazine. PULSE has produced over 50 issues, with eight published under the direction of Wilson. Fall 2020 will be her last term at the helm; although it is bittersweet, Wilson is excited to see new leadership carry the legacy of PULSE producing lifestyle and diversity-focused content. Wilson also works for Kittitas County Habitat for Humanity; in March 2020, she was advanced to Promotions Coordinator!

During COVID quarantining, Wilson has focused on self-care through reading, listening to podcasts, and by writing for Explore Washington State. During school weeks, she serves on university committees and as president of the Sociology Club. Wilson is currently applying to grad school to pursue a career in student affairs.

SPENCER BOLDT

Economics BS, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies BA, Interdisciplinary Honors Minor, Upper-Division Honors



MAX RISEHAM

Economics BS, Business Analytics and Math Minors, Upper-Division Honors

Congratulations to our international honors students in rugby! Riseham and Boldt have two of the highest GPAs among all CWU athletes, earning them the FAR Scholar-Athlete Award in June 2020.

HONORS IN CONFERENCE

UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIA

Curiosity, research, and the pursuit of wisdom are main themes of the Douglas Honors College. By attending and presenting at conferences and symposiums, students can share their learning, grow soft skills such as defending their decision making, and make connections with other academics in their fields of interest.

MASINA IEREMIA AND MOHAMED NAWWAR AT PEACE SUMMIT OF EMERGING LEADERS

In February 2020, two DHC students went to Bangkok, Thailand for a UN Peace Summit of Emerging Leaders. Over three days, Nawwar and Ieremia networked with and learned from pioneers of diplomacy and activism. Discussions focused on servant leadership and the advancement of peace, inclusivity, and sustainability in global and microenvironments.



NAWWAR (LEFT) AND IEREMIA (RIGHT)



IEREMIA (FAR LEFT), NAWWAR (FAR RIGHT)

ALETHA KLEIS AT CONFERENCE FOR DATA SCIENCE AND IMAGE ANALYSIS

The Washington State University Department of Mathematics and Statistics, in conjunction with the Association for Women in Mathematics, hosted the Conference for Data Science and Image Analysis in Pullman, WA through the winter of 2020. DHC student Aletha Kleis presented her research regarding meatless diet effects on C-Reactive Protein levels. CRP can be used as a reflection of inflammation in the body, or the risk for heart disease.



SOURCE AT CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

The Symposium of University Research and Creative Expression (SOURCE) is a landmark event for Central Washington University students and the scholarly community of the Northwest. Hosted by the Office of Undergraduate Research, the conference offers students the opportunity to present their scholarship and receive a juried review. Highlighted through this process is the importance of teaching and mentorship, and this broad base brings in students and works from a wide range of academic fields and career levels.

Among the hundreds of poster, verbal, and mixed media presentations (published online this year) were the outstanding achievements of 26 honors students. Areas ranged from Biological Sciences to Film Studies to Business, with topics like “Derry as a Whole: Bloody Sunday and the Broader Context of the Troubles in Northern Ireland” (Katya Volcheck) and “Kanji Acquisition Techniques for L1 and L2 Japanese Speakers” (Amber Richardson). As members of an interdisciplinary college with a focus in research, the staff of the Douglas Honor College proudly recognizes these learners for their dedication to expanding human knowledge.

HONORS STUDENT

Adara Andonie
Amber Richardson
Anthony Krueger
Emily Gunderson
Emma Houghton
Haley Tillet
Hayley Gower
Jaida-Keleni Kafovalu
Katherine Shogren
Katya Volcheck
Kiana Rose
Kollin Trujillo
Kourtney Adkisson
Lennon Sullivan
Lindsey Brown
Meredith Scruggs
Molly Thomas
Morgan Bedard
Olivia McDougall
Quincy Harthun
Rachel Walker
Rebecca Martin
Savannah Fields
Shelby Wise
Skyler Smith
Spencer Boldt

FIELD OF PRESENTATION

Mathematics
Education
English
Health Sciences
Biological Sciences
Family & Consumer Sciences
Chemistry
Sociology
History
History
Biological Sciences
Chemistry
Physics
Film and Video Studies
Sociology
Psychology
Health Sciences
Film and Video Studies
Psychology
Film and Video Studies
Computer Science
Mathematics
Environmental Studies
Film and Video Studies
Communications
Business

HONORS SCHOLARSHIPS

AWARDING EXCELLENCE AND SERVICE

Thanks to the generosity of DHC alumni and supporters, honors students are eligible for unique scholarships. Tuition assistance enables learners to focus on their long-term goals by investing their time in their own development now. Join us in congratulating our recent scholarship recipients and expressing our gratitude to the individuals who made these funds possible.

THE GOLDEN OWL SCHOLARSHIP

We are proud to announce this new scholarship which provides assistance to full-time honors students who are rising juniors or seniors. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above, and should demonstrate leadership and campus or community engagement. Preference is given to students with a focus in the humanities.

"The Douglas Honors College and its faculty have been an integral part of my university experience, and it's wonderful to have my efforts acknowledged by them."

~ Masina Ieremia



MASINA IEREMIA
PHILOSOPHY BA, POLITICAL SCIENCE BA, PUBLIC POLICY BS, INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS MINOR, UPPER-DIVISION HONORS

This award was endowed through the generosity of John and Gretchen Harder. Their daughter Erika, class of 2009, chose the title 'Golden Owl' in recognition of the DHC's unofficial mascot. The support she found in our program, and the education she received here, has made a significant impact on her life. This scholarship seeks to encourage the perpetuity of our community.

Join us in congratulating our very first awardee, Masina Ieremia, who has been a model of DHC citizenship. Ieremia is active in leadership, service, and research. She hopes to make a lasting difference in her local and global community through her studies of political science and peace.



DONORS GRETCHEN AND JOHN HARDER, AND ALUMNA ERIKA HARDER (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT)

THE LILLIAN BLOOMER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, the DHC offers awards of up to \$1000. Allocations are decided based on a brief personal statement, a sample of polished academic writing from a DHC course, and a recommendation from honors faculty. Upper-Division students in their junior year are encouraged to apply so these funds might enable further development of their capstone projects.

Ms. Lillian M. Bloomer began at the Washington State Normal School in 1924 as a student of education and psychology. After several years of teaching fourth grade, she joined the College of Education faculty in 1934. Despite her passing in 1986, Ms. Bloomer's legacy lives on through the excellence of the students she continues to support.



SKYLER SMITH
ANTHROPOLOGY BA, ITAM
MINOR, UPPER-DIVISION
HONORS

DENA HOOGENBOOM
ACCOUNTING BS, BUSINESS
ADMIN BS, INTERDISCIPLINARY
HONORS MINOR



SHELBY DAVIS
ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE
BA, CREATIVE WRITING AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS
MINORS

THE LILLIAN BLOOMER RESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A defining characteristic of the DHC's Living Learning Community is its staff of peer mentors. These students facilitate relationship development, co-curricular programming, and academic resources to newer honors students.

LENNY SULLIVAN
FILM BA, CINEMA AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS
MINORS, UPPER-DIVISION



NOAH CHRISTY
CRAFT BREWING BS, SPANISH AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS
MINORS, UPPER-DIVISION

MAGGIE HIGGINS
SECONDARY ENGLISH
EDUCATION BA, HISTORY AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS
MINORS



KIMBERLY BARNETT
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION BA,
CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND
INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS MINORS

DAVID WACKER
INTEGRATED ENERGY
MANAGEMENT BS,
INTERDISCIPLINARY HONORS
MINOR



ELIJAH BERGEVIN
ACTUARIAL SCIENCE BS, MUSIC BA,
APPLIED CS AND INTERDISCIPLINARY
HONORS MINORS

FACULTY SPOTLIGHTS

GERALDINE O'MAHONY

Dr. Geraldine O'Mahony has been teaching in the DHC since 2015. She joined the DHC to "teach classes that were timely and would help students think critically about the world around them, as well as develop the skills necessary to challenge their own preconceptions." She notes that her first DHC class, *Religion, Violence, and Peace*, holds a special place in her heart, as this class is closely related to her research.



O'MAHONY (FAR RIGHT) AND FAMILY

While Dr. O'Mahony enjoys teaching all her classes, her love for teaching in the DHC does not end there. One of her favorite classes to teach is *People Power in Global Politics*, which explores the politics at the level of everyday people and how people recognize their power and choose to deploy it. Beyond the DHC, she is a CWU Assistant Professor of Political Science, and teaches in the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program. She has also served as an international election observer for three elections in the last year and a half.

Fun fact: Dr. O'Mahony is part of a dual academic couple! Her wife Lacy Ferrell teaches in the history department.

BRUCE PALMQUIST

Dr. Bruce Palmquist has taught at CWU since 1993 (which some historians say is just before the previous Mayan Long Count calendar started). Dr. Palmquist claims that after messing up the futures of some secondary school students, he went to the University of Minnesota for his Ph.D. in Science Education.

During his years at CWU, he has taught several DHC courses such as Introductory Astronomy; General Physics; Issues in Science and *Religion and Teaching Elementary Science Inquiry*; *Why People Believe Dumb Things*, and many others in science, mathematics, and STEM education. He has also helped design the Perspectives course for the new STEM Teaching Program with Distinguished DHC Dude (D3) Professor Dominic Klyve.



PALMQUIST (LEFT CENTER) AND FAMILY

Fun fact: Dr. Palmquist is an only child and his parents are only children, so he has no siblings, aunts, uncles, or first cousins.

HONORS THROUGH COVID

BALANCING SAFETY AND EFFECTIVE LEARNING

Spring of 2020 introduced a sudden twist: teaching entirely online. Our staff and faculty put in hundreds of hours so students would have the necessary resources to keep learning. Our students also put in the work, staying up late, getting up early, and holding themselves accountable to asynchronous learning. This fall, most DHC courses began as hybrids with both in-person and online modes available. Although we continue to strive for "live" communication, synchronous learning is not sustainable for some of our students like Dena Hoogenboom, who returned home to the Netherlands (a nine hours time difference). Every class looks a little different.

All persons are required to complete the university prescribed daily health check before reaching campus. Further, masks must be worn while on university grounds.

We encourage self-sanitation, but all classroom appliances are cleaned by staff before and after each class hour. Desks are physically distanced by a minimum of six feet. Students are asked to schedule meetings for advising and academic assistance online per university guidelines. Although the DHC Living Learning Community in Barto Hall cannot currently function, honors LLC resources like peer mentoring and community events have been made available online and to small groups of students.

The Douglas Honors College takes the pandemic and the risks it poses to our students and faculty seriously. Although life may be "returning to normal" in some ways, we acknowledge that carelessness or ignorance towards the reality of COVID can and do cost people their livelihoods and families.



HONORS COURSES

UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIA

The professors of the honors college are some of the best CWU has to offer. Each year our faculty propose unique courses that they want to teach. These courses are interdisciplinary -- combining topics from several schools of thought -- and feature discussion as the core mode of learning. Here are just a few of our classes from 2019-2020 academic year.

HUMANISTIC UNDERSTANDING: THE MOUNTAINS' CALL

Artists, adventurers, pilgrims, and everyday folk have always been fascinated by mountains. This course examines that fascination, tracing it, and its resultant myths and ideas across continents and generations. Students compare peoples' understandings of and ideas about mountains, attempting to draw larger conclusions about the historic captivation.

Honors professor and curriculum coordinator Matt Martinson proposed this course in the fall of 2015. It has been a student favorite for several years, both for its academic and extra-curricular content. In the 2019 winter quarter vintage, this class included a smattering of hiking excursions, but the culmination of the course was ice-hiking in Ahtunum Falls! Students keep mountaineering journals to memorialize these experiences.

"Nothing feels better than creating something fantastically artistic and understanding how you did it."

~ Elijah Bergevin

"Hiking was a refreshing opportunity to examine the knowledge I gained in an environment hyper-relevant to my learning."

~ Maggie Higgins

PHYSICAL & BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS: CHEMISTRY OF MATERIALS FOR ARTS

Much of chemistry can seem very abstract. Some of the most powerful theories, such as atoms, molecules, and chemical bonds, cannot be seen by the naked eye. Until recently, they could not be seen at all. Art, however, can be seen and has often been used to convey difficult ideas in powerful ways. By focusing on materials and creating in a laboratory setting, this course provides tangible interaction with chemistry.

Spring 2019 was Dr. JoAnn Peters' last quarter teaching this course before retirement. Switching to an online mode with less than a month's notice was an incredible undertaking. After much labor in mailing small chemistry materials to all students, honors learners were enabled to experience art and science from the safety of their own kitchens. Thank you, Dr. Peters!

HISTORY OF SCIENCE: SITES FOR SCIENCE, A HISTORY OF THE LABORATORY

From alchemy workshops to proton accelerators, from “table-top” science to “big science,” laboratories and scientific equipment have influenced what scientists study and how. This course examines the history of science through a survey of laboratory spaces and through critical inquiry into what exactly a lab is and how a lab functions. Students visit campus laboratories and consider the history and development of instruments.

Dr. Tamara Caulkins introduced this course in the 2019-2020 academic year. Honors learners were able to experience Central’s scientific resources such as mass spectrometers and our premier anechoic chamber for experimental acoustics.

"Learning about the historical, cultural, and technological components that contributed to scientific discovery was fascinating. I appreciated getting to tour so many different laboratory spaces around campus and see how the diverse array of CWU's scientific research is done."

~ Noah Christy




GRADUATE SPOTLIGHTS

OLIVIA McDOUGALL

2020 Douglas Honors Scholar, Psychology BA, Interdisciplinary Honors and Human Resources Management Minors

Research has found that coloring mandalas can reduce stress and significantly improve mood. For her capstone project, McDougall looked further into this phenomenon to understand if the impact is tied to the physical act of coloring. She replicated previous work using the CWU Sona System but additionally asked participants to watch videos of coloring and track their changes in emotion.

McDougall is currently taking a gap year before she goes to graduate school for Clinical Mental Health Counseling. She spends her time tutoring, co-writing a blog with her friend, and hiking as much as she can. She is also working towards a certificate in Teaching English as a Foreign Language so someday she may teach abroad.




"Hang in there. What you're going through will be useful to you one day. You will grow from your struggles and find that they lead you to exactly where you need to be."

MORGAN BEDARD

2020 Douglas Honors Scholar, Film Production BA, Screenwriting and Interdisciplinary Honors Minors

Morgan Bedard's project studied "film auteur theory" focusing on Wes Anderson and Tim Burton. She also directed, filmed, and produced a short film that combines their two unique styles. The film was shot in a "Wes Anderson" world design of symmetry and color, and features "Tim Burton" characters that are strange and out of place.



"Give yourself time—not time to work but time to breathe. Take moments to pause and treasure the little pieces of life."

Bedard is currently working with a group of colleagues to develop an effective feedback model for film by examining scripts from other film students including her own script written for her DHC capstone. She is also working with this group of colleagues on completing a 10 episode television series that they hope to film next year or whenever COVID-19 restrictions are lifted and it is safe to gather actors and crew. Further, Bedard has been doing freelance photography and interviewing at local television stations in Spokane.

ALAZONE SMITH

2019 Douglas Honors College Scholar,
Mechanical Engineering Technologies BS,
Interdisciplinary Honors Minor



"The most successful people don't walk around with a suit of armor; they are the suit of armor."

Smith's capstone project consisted of designing, manufacturing, and testing a dual-axis solar tracker system. In addition to his major's requirements, he will construct an analytical report about the current technological, political, and social trends in the solar industry. The report will be used to connect the current application methods of Smith's project to the potential application methods of future solar tracking systems.

Smith currently works as a Field Engineer for Ballard Marine Construction. He still has his eyes open to the future with entrepreneurial and design aspirations. Smith plans to continue educating himself, learning as much as he can in his industry, and exploring the world with people he loves.

KENYA BYRNES

2019 Douglas Honors College Scholar,
Ecology and Evolutionary Biology BS,
Interdisciplinary Honors Minor

For her capstone project, Byrnes spent two months in Mexico observing an endemic woodpecker species better known as the Golden-cheeked woodpecker. For her analysis, she considered the difference in the territory size in the tropical dry forest and the palm tree plantations to see if anthropogenic factors humans create are affecting those territory sizes.

Byrnes is working as a Washington Conservation Corps Crew Member in the Department of Ecology. She recently married her high school sweetheart and plans to get her master's while working over the next few years. One of her goals is to work as a biologist for a short while.



"Enjoy your time learning, and do it while making friends. Ask lots of questions"

CONTACT US

FOR INFO OR TO BE FEATURED

We want to hear from YOU! Our community is only as strong as the individuals who get engaged through social media, on Central Washington University's campus, and through honors events. Please check out our new website as well, where you can find all this information and where alumni and students can update us on what they've been up to. Keep an eye out for our upcoming project, The Douglas Honors Journal, which will feature student and faculty scholarship.



OUR WEBSITE

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