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### University Honors Program Newsletter

Honors College, Georgia Southern University

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**Honors Abroad: Emily Krout Visits  
Saudi Arabia**



Saudi Arabia is a country filled with expansive, bone-dry deserts, broken-up by sprawling cities. The country exists in a section of the world that appears to U.S. news audiences to be in constant unrest and turmoil. However, Emily Krout (political science and Arabic '19) sees Saudi Arabia as a land of opportunity. Krout envisions a country ripe with diplomatic exploration. She wishes to travel and to give back to the country through professional service at the national embassies. Krout's dream became a reality this semester when Emily Bless, Secretary for the National Council on US-Arab Relations, offered to support Krout on an academic and cultural trip to Saudi Arabia.

Krout's participation in Model United Nations (UN) and Model Arab League, both mock world-diplomacy organizations, allowed her to meet and network with important people, such as Emily Bess and Sidney Jones. Both women attend Model

Arab League conferences around the United States. Krout worked closely with Bess and Jones with events on campus, including the forty-seventh annual High School Model United Nations Conference at Georgia Southern University.

Click [here](#) to read more!

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The Georgia Southern University Honors Program is designed to foster the development of a critical sense of inquiry, a spirit of creativity, a global perspective and an ethic of civic responsibility. With your investment, the University Honors Program will continue to enrich the lives of students at Georgia Southern University.

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Honors Alumni are encouraged to update their information [here](#)!

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**Honors Students to the Rescue**

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In February, the University Honors Program students on the Armstrong Campus partnered with Coastal Pet Rescue to raise awareness about homeless, abused, and abandoned dogs and cats. Emily Dietrich (English '20) arranged to have four dogs from the rescue center visit campus—two Chihuahuas, Sheldon and Tootie, and two Stratford Shire Terriers, Chevey and Bess. The dogs were all on their best behavior and stole the hearts of everyone who walked by. Throughout the day the students handed out volunteer forms and pamphlets, took donations, and sold bracelets and tennis balls to raise funds.

Coastal Pet Rescue is a nonprofit animal rescue organization. They rescue homeless, abused, or neglected dogs and cats and also take in animals who would otherwise be euthanized. Once the animals are in Coastal's care, they receive veterinary care, sterilization, and a temporary home before their forever home. One of their main goals is to provide resources to pet owners to encourage their responsibility and commitment to their pets and prevent them from contributing to the homeless pet population, including spaying/neutering pets and microchipping.

Click [here](#) to read more!

## The Big Payoff: Presenting Research in Las Vegas



Several Honors Program students traveled to Las Vegas for the Far West Popular Culture Association conference, and what happened in Vegas is something that will not stay in Vegas. They got experience presenting research and they met fellow students and faculty from colleges across the country. Dra. Leticia McGrath, a professor of Spanish who also teaches the Honors first-year seminar, Hispanic Culture through Film, took nine students to the interdisciplinary conference.

Two of the students had presented at conferences with Dra. McGrath before. Emily Pressler (Spanish and French '19) and Caleb Beatty (electrical engineering '20) had both attended the Popular Culture Association of the South/American Culture Association of the South Conference (PCAS/ACAS) in Savannah with Dra. McGrath in October of 2017, and they were excited to attend the conference in Las Vegas.

Click [here](#) to read more!

## **Catie Shipp Travels to Cincinnati**



Cincinnati native Catie Shipp (psychology '19) is returning home this summer to participate in a fellowship at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital. The fellowship is designed primarily for bio-medical undergraduate students, but Shipp is one of only three psychology students selected for this program.

"I will work with Dr. Anna Esbensen, a clinical psychologist, analyzing a population of children with Down syndrome. I'm going to be in her lab from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm every day over the summer. The hospital offers several seminars with graduate professors at the University of Cincinnati. I am excited to attend one about scientific writing, which will help me with my Honors Thesis. They have other subjects, such as ethics and research," Shipp said.

Shipp's dream job is to work at the Cincinnati Children's Hospital as a clinical psychologist, specifically with the pediatric and adolescent division. "I am beyond ecstatic for this experience and cannot wait for this unforgettable summer," she said.

## **Honors in Action: Meeting Local Business Leaders**



Students in Dr. Trey Denton's Honors Research Seminar for business majors find themselves leaving the classroom to meet local business leaders and entrepreneurs in their environment. On these trips, students have the opportunity see first-hand the inner-workings of a company and ask questions of the people who run those companies. During the fall semester, the class visited Crider Foods and its state-of-the-art meat canning facility.

"Not only did we tour the facility (after an extremely rigorous decontamination procedure!), but we had the chance to discuss business strategies with the Owner President and CEO Mr. Billy Crider and multiple members of his executive team. We discussed what it was like starting the business and stewarding its growth into the successful company it is today, what it is like operating a private family-owned business, the influence of automation, plans for international expansion and a host of other topics," Dr. Denton said.

Click [here](#) to read more!

To learn more about Honors at Georgia Southern, how to support honors activities, or become involved in honors alumni events, contact Honors Director Steven Engel at [sengel@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:sengel@georgiasouthern.edu)





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