

The Freshman Perspective

The Freshman Orientation Newsletter for John Wesley Scholars

John Wesley Honors College

Indiana Wesleyan University



Free Food & Fellowship with the JWHC

Mark your calendars, and plan to join us for two New Student Orientation events hosted by the John Wesley Honors College and student

leaders from the Honors College Student Association. Free food and new friends! What more could you ask for during orientation?!

Undergraduate Research	2-3
HNR-170 Required Texts	3
Introducing JWHC Faculty	4-5
HNR-180 Required Texts	5
Getting to Know JWHC Student Staff	6-10
JWHC Students Abroad	11-12
Featured Freshmen & Mary C. Dodd Honors Student	13-20
Scholar Spotlight	21

JWHC Cook-out for Incoming Students & Families

Friday, August 31, 5:00-6:30 pm
College Wesleyan Church Great Room

JWHC Pancake Dinner

Sunday, September 2, 5:00-6:30 pm
University Courts Courtyard
Outside Epworth House, the gathering place for JWHC student events throughout the year
(rain site: Epworth House)

Undergraduate Research

Honors Research Tutorials

Because students experience greater intellectual growth and maturity when their learning experiences are rooted in inquiry and discovery, undergraduate research is a staple of the John Wesley Honors College curriculum from the freshman through the senior year. Honors College students work collaboratively with faculty researchers from a variety of academic areas to engage real-world problems in Honors Research Tutorials. John Wesley Scholars take at least one Research Tutorial of their choosing.

Past topics have included:

Grace in the Early Church
Singleness in Britain's Long-Eighteenth Century, 1688 – 1714
Narnians, Hobbits, Tesseractites, and Vampires: The Nature, Structure, and Function of Mythopoeic Literature
The Religious and Social History of the 1960s
Justice unto All Peoples
Wesley, Women, and Witness
The Northern Civil Rights Movement
Problems in Narnia and Middle-Earth: Friendships, Love, and God
From Bill Graham to Rob Bell: A History of Modern Evangelicalism in the United States
God Talk: The Complexities of Calling God "Father"
Paleography: The Study of Old Handwriting
The Sacramental Imagination: Glimpses of God in Fiction
Religion, Race, and Resistance: The White Church's Response to the Black Freedom Struggle, 1950-1975



Honors Scholarship Projects

Through Honors Scholarship Projects, JWHC juniors and seniors pursue their own research and creative projects under the mentorship of a professor in their discipline, presenting their work at IWU's annual Celebration of Scholarship. Such experiences develop a critical appreciation for the relevance of liberal learning and scholarly inquiry to daily life, and they strengthen intellectual skills that are essential to creative and thoughtful servant-leadership (e.g., analytical thinking, critical and reflective reading, well-expressed writing, and articulate oral communication).

Students have explored a wide variety of interests over the years. **Titles of recent projects** include:

Art and the Blind: Making the Visual Arts Accessible to the Visually Impaired
Darys: A Vampire's Trial (a novel)
M*A*S*H: Just Another Funny Show?
Developing Distinctively Christian Business Students Through Business Education
Alcoholics Anonymous Affiliation and Faith Development: A Pilot Study
The Role of Gender, Identity, and Honor in the Egyptian Revolution of 2011
Servant Leadership and the Australian Aboriginal Culture
Understanding Grace in Augustine's Sermons
An Ethnographic Study of Brooks Residential College at Baylor University

Undergraduate Research

Each spring, Indiana Wesleyan University sets aside time for a **Celebration of Scholarship**, in which we showcase the achievements of our undergraduate scholars, increase awareness of the research and scholarship opportunities available, and challenge faculty and students to think more deeply about what it means to be a Christ-centered community of academic excellence.

Celebration of Scholarship

Celebration of Scholarship is where most of you will present your undergraduate research and creative projects (the Honors Scholarship Project). The event culminates in the Faith and Learning Luncheon, in which a guest speaker shares about a topic related to the Christian academic vocation.



HNR-170 Required Texts for the Fall Semester

You will need to purchase the following books for HNR-170 with Dr. Riggs and Dr. Yadav:

Crouch, Andy. *Culture Making: Recovering Our Creative Calling*. InterVarsity Press, 2008.

Fairbairn, Donald. *Life in the Trinity: An Introduction to Theology with the Help of the Church Fathers*. InterVarsity Press, 2009.

Gross, Bobby. *Living the Christian Year: Time to Inhabit the Story of God*. InterVarsity Press, 2009.

Introducing JWHC Faculty



Prof. Sameer Yadav
Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, 2012-2014

Sameer Yadav graduated with his B.A. in philosophy from Boise State University and M.Div. from Master's Seminary in Southern California. After serving for two years as an assistant professor at Eternity Bible College, a ministry begun by Francis Chan, he went on to receive an S.T.M. from Yale Divinity School. He is currently finishing his Th.D. program in theology and ethics from Duke Divinity School. Prof. Yadav's scholarly interests are in systematic and philosophical theology. His dissertation, *Perceiving God: A Theological Account* investigates the structure of the Christian's encounter with God in ordinary experience. Drawing both upon the

retrieval of fourth-century Cappadocian church father Gregory of Nyssa's "doctrine of the spiritual senses" and contemporary work in the philosophy of mind, he shows how Christian contemplative and moral-practical reasoning can be empirically grounded in our growing sensitivity and responsiveness to God's dynamic presence and activity in the world.

Prof. Yadav has published in *Faith and Philosophy* and *Pro Ecclesia*. He was honored as a 2009-2010 North American Doctoral Fellow by the Fund for Theological Education, an award given to underrepresented minority scholars judged to hold particular promise as leaders in both church and academy. He has been selected to present his work at the Southeastern Commission for the Study of Religion, various colloquia in theology co-sponsored by Duke and the University of Virginia, and the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion. He has taught undergraduates in the theological interpretation of Scripture, graduate preceptorials in theology and ethics, and summer intensives in pastoral and social ethics for Duke's Leadership Education program.

Prof. Yadav joins the JWHC faculty this fall as a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow; he will serve as the instructor for one section of HNR 170: What is Truth? and one of HNR 180: Foundations of the Christian Tradition.

Prof. Yadav and his wife, Whitney, have a three-year-old son, Noah (and another on the way!). In addition to time spent with family, he enjoys reading philosophy and literature, listening to music, and good conversation – preferably when paired with good food (of which Indian cuisine is a favorite).



Introducing JWHC Faculty



Dr. Steve Lennox
Professor of Religion, School of Theology and Ministry

Dr. Lennox, a professor in the School of Theology and Ministry, is an honorary member of the JWHC community. This fall, he will be teaching two sections of HNR-180: Foundations of the Christian Tradition.

Dr. Lennox loves to teach the Bible, especially to thinking students, like those in the Honors College. Their insightful and honest questions clarify the truth about God as revealed in his Word. After serving as a pastor for 10 years and earning M.Div. and Ph.D. degrees, Dr. Lennox moved to IWU from Pennsylvania in 1993. He

loves to travel and read, but his greatest loves are his wife, Eileen, who is the nurse practitioner in the IWU Health Center, and his two children.

HNR-180 Required Texts for the Fall Semester

You will need to purchase the following books for HNR-180
with Dr. Lennox and Dr. Yadav:

Required Texts:

Bible (any translation)

Treier, Daniel J. , *Introducing Theological Interpretation of Scripture: Recovering a Christian Practice*, (Paperback), Baker, 2008.

Schenck, Kenneth, *Making Sense of God's Word*, (Paperback), Triangle, 2009.

Coleson, Joseph, ed., *Treasure the Word: A Layperson's Guide to Interpreting Scripture*, (Paperback), Wesley Press, 2009.

Recommended Texts:

Lennox, Stephen J. *God With Us: An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Marion, IN: Triangle Publishing, 2003.

Schenck, Kenneth. *Jesus is Lord: An Introduction to the New Testament*, Second Edition. Marion: Triangle Publishing, 2009.

Getting to Know JWHC Student Staff

About a dozen JWHC students work in the Honors College office in Goodman Hall, assisting with a variety of tasks and serving our community of students and faculty. Our Ambassadors staff the front desk and will welcome and help you when you visit the office. The Admissions Assistants assist in recruiting the next class of JWHC students. You may have met them at Honors Preview or talked with one of them on the phone last year. Finally, the Academic Program Assistants support the many academic events that take place in the JWHC. If you are interested in working in the JWHC, watch your e-mail for job announcements this fall. We usually hire several students every year.

Ambassadors



**Kelsey Davitt,
Team Leader**

Major: Pre-Med
Biology

Year: Senior

Hometown: Rockford,
Illinois

Favorite class in the

JWHC and why: World Civ—I loved the small class, and Dr. Hawkins made it fun!

Best place to relax on campus: McConn

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying:
Hang out in the game room or watch movies.

Best place to relax on campus: Honestly, I don't get to spend a ton of time relaxing, but when it does occur, I would probably say the dorms (after picking up some coffee at McConn). Getting to know the people you live with is a vital part of the college experience, and if you never spend time in your dorm, you are missing out on so much!

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying:
SLEEP! Lol. Not going to lie, I am a very sleep-deprived person, and it is a common ailment for college students. But I also have a very active social life. So I try to take sensible breaks from studying to hang out with friends, make coffee runs, play card games with my roomies, participate in campus events, go to Honors College events and parties, participate in Honors College Senate, and more than anything, spend quality time with God. I love that IWU has so many different opportunities for students to go deeper with God, and I would definitely encourage you to take advantage of those opportunities — it is very easy for your relationship with God to get lost in the pile of things to do if you aren't intentional about it.

Advice for freshmen: I am a very wordy person, so I could probably go on and on with things I have learned at IWU, but I'll try to sum it up. :)



Jaki Brueggen

Major: Nursing

Year: Senior

Hometown: Anderson,
Indiana

Favorite class in the

JWHC and why: I have honestly loved all of my honors classes, so that question is really hard for me. I think it would be a very close tie between UNV-180 (now HNR 170) with Dr. Riggs and Dr. Toland's Paleography research tutorial on wills in Early Modern England. I honestly loved this class so much because it is completely unlike my major, so it gave me something else to think about when I was tired of studying.

- Keep God as your ultimate focus. College is a new time in your life, and it is easy to get so busy that you put God on the back burner. But this is the time in your life when you need his direction more than anything else! So learn to be intentional about that.
- Make friends with upperclassmen! Being a part of the HC gives you such wonderful opportunities to connect with students who have been there, done that, and want to

Getting to Know JWHC Student Staff

encourage you! They have been wonderful role models and “big siblings” who honestly pulled me through a lot of rough times during my first two years of college. So take advantage.

- Participate! College only happens once, so when in doubt, get out of your comfort zone and just do it. You won't regret it, I promise.
- Always be a learner. It takes time to figure out your niche, so don't be frustrated if things don't happen quite like you were expecting. College is a time for having adventures and learning new things. Keep a good attitude, and you will learn to enjoy every part of the experience.



Stacey Fisher

Majors: Psychology and Addictions Counseling

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Dewitt, Michigan

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: UNV-180 (now HNR 170) with Dr.

Riggs — I learned so much in this class and it shaped the way I think and understand me faith. The class changed my life.

Best place to relax on campus: McConn

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Have fun with my friends!

Advice for freshmen: Don't worry too much about things. Everything will work out — enjoy this!



Heidi Loos

Major: Leadership

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Medina, Ohio

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: I really have loved all the classes in the HC, so it is hard to pick one. That

one. That being said, I was impressed with Honors Old Testament Survey with Dr. Lennox for his ability to have an engaging and enjoyable atmosphere everyday while being at 7:50 in the morning.

Best place to relax on campus: When it's cold out, it's definitely best to hang by a fire (the one in McConn works quite nicely). When it's warm out, it is great to be outside and anywhere in the sun. I would especially recommend chilling at the fountain or on any of the lawns.

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: It's always a privilege when you get to take a nap in college so when I'm not studying that is always an attractive option. Besides that, however, I love to listen to and play music, be in the sun, or just come up with random things to do with friends.



Anna Smith

Major: Nursing

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Carmel, Indiana

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: Dr. Peeler's New Testament class. I'm kinda a science

person, so I usually don't enjoy writing papers, but the papers we had to write for this class were so interesting. Throughout the semester, we wrote an exegesis on a passage of Scripture. I learned a lot through the process, not only about the historical context of the paper, but also personal application.

Best place to relax on campus: Anywhere outside. When I get stressed by school, I love to get out and take a walk with a friend.

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Have a good conversation. :)

Advice for freshmen: Stay on top of homework, but don't stress out about it. Somehow, the work always gets done. Be really intentional about meeting lots of people and forming relationships, especially at the beginning of the year. One of the best things about college is being able to learn from people who are very different from you.

Getting to Know JWHC Student Staff



Emily Smith

Emily is also serving as an Academic Program Assistant.

Major: Nursing

Year: Junior

Hometown: Carmel, Indiana

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: Probably a tie

between Dr. Hawkins' research tutorial (we read original letters written in the 1960s by citizens in South Carolina and looked for the arguments that were used by the writers to support or argue against segregation) and Dr. Toland's research tutorial (we read English wills from the 17th to early 19th centuries and really dove into understanding the time period). Both of these classes were enjoyable for the content, professors, and wonderful classmates, but they also helped me to grow as a student.

Best place to relax on campus: McConn

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Spend time with my friends.

Advice for freshmen: Do your best in all your classes, but make sure to find a balance between school, on-campus jobs, and friends. Sometimes the most important thing you should do is studying, but sometimes the "extra" things are more important.



Rachael Stephen

Major: Interior Design

Year: Junior

Favorite class so far in the JWHC and why: This is a tough one...

World Lit with Dr. Bressler was awesome because Dr. Bressler is awesome. (I highly recommend taking a class with him!)

but Paleography with Dr. Toland was awesome too! You never know what you'll find in those old wills! Since taking that class I've never looked at handwriting the same way!

Best place to relax on campus: Outside when the weather is nice. The warm sun and cloud watching always help me relax. By President Smith's pond is a nice spot. :)

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Probably sleeping... but other than that I love bike riding!

Advice for freshmen: Push yourself to do your best, but know your boundaries. Give yourself grace when you mess up, and keep messing up, and remember your worth is not defined by your grades.



Kat Swan

Major: Pre-Art Therapy

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Marion, Indiana

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: I took a Feminism and Christian Theology Research Tutorial, and I loved it! The class looked at feminism throughout the years especially

in relation to Christianity and theology. It challenged my faith (in a good way) by making me look at what is important and where do I stand when it comes to interpreting the Bible. It made me take a deeper look at who I am as a woman of God and what God has called me to be.

Best place to relax on campus: If the weather is nice, outside of the Williams Prayer Chapel is lovely. Not so nice weather? Upper Commons and the North Hall Lobby are some good places too.

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Depends on my mood... but I'm always up for a game of Euchre!

Advice for freshmen: Time management saves lives! You don't have to live by a strict schedule but if you have regular time slots that you dedicate to just studying, it can be a great help. And don't get lazy or think that you will have time to "do it later." Something might come up or you will feel rushed at the end and forced to turn in something you won't be proud of.

Getting to Know JWHC Student Staff

Academic Program Assistants

In addition to Emily Smith, Alicia Feuling is our second Academic Program Assistant.



Alicia Feuling

Major: TESOL-Education and Spanish minor

Year: Junior

Hometown: Lombard, IL (near Chicago)

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: I would have to say

New Testament because although it was my most challenging class, I learned so much, and it was really instrumental in refining my faith.

Best place to relax on campus: McConn for sure!

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Traveling!

Advice for freshmen: Don't get overwhelmed with all you have to do; prioritize and get organized but make sure to take a break every once and a while. :)

Financial Assistant



Colin O'Grady

Major: International Relations

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Columbus, Ohio

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: Dr. Toland's Paleography Research

Tutorial: paleography is the study of handwriting, so in this class students transcribe wills from early modern England. Tea and Transcription days are fun because of the relaxed atmosphere, and at the end of the semester, you write a research paper based on the wills you have transcribed.

Best place to relax on campus: McConn at night, with a group of friends, your favorite drink, and no homework for the next day.

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Campus golf

Advice for freshmen: When you receive all your syllabi, make a calendar for when the major assignments are due, especially later in the semester. These are easy to lose track of. Also, look at your homework assignments for the upcoming week and write down what you will do each day. That way, there are no surprises later in the week.

Admissions Assistants



Olivia Ortmann

Major: International and Community Development

Year: Junior

Hometown: Kokomo, Indiana

Favorite class so far in the JWHC and why: I really have enjoyed them all so it is hard to choose! To name a

few...World Literature, World Changers, and Dr. Peeler's Research Tutorial.

Best place to relax on campus: McConn!

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: I love to hang out with friends, play the piano, and eat at La Charreada's! :)

Advice for freshmen: Sleep! Learn when you need to say no and rest! Take time to talk with people and invest in relationships. And most of all, pursue Jesus with all that you are and make time to simply listen.



Questions about the JWHC? Contact

**honors.office@indwes.edu
or 765-677-1441, and we'll
be happy to assist you.**

Getting to Know JWHC Student Staff



Dave Priest

Major: English and Writing

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Wheaton, Illinois

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: Western Civ, because Dr. Toland is just fun to watch. Although all the professors are fun to watch.

Best place to relax on campus: McConn Coffee Co. is great. Anytime you want to find something to do, you can head there and people are always there.

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Hanging out with friends, usually in McConn.

Advice for freshmen: Don't study too hard. Expectations are high, and the HC is not always easy, but one of the most valuable things you can get out of college is social connectivity. And it is possible to do well academically without sacrificing your social life. Basically, enjoy your college experience — it's worth it.



Melia Sneden

Major: Applied Music—Piano

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Hudsonville, Michigan

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: UNV-180 (or whatever it's now called!). I loved it

because you got to know your other Honors College classmates and learn what the HC is about. It helped me to think deeply about my faith and the vital role it should play in my daily life.

Best place to relax on campus: My dorm room!

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Meet for coffee at McConn; watch movies with friends.

Advice for freshmen: Don't overthink it! As a freshman last year, I often worried if I was having the "college experience" that I was supposed to have. I learned that it's what you make it: your "college experience" will be uniquely your own, and that's what makes it great!



Natalie Wierenga

Major: Secondary Education English

Year: Senior

Hometown: Winfield, Illinois

Favorite class in the JWHC and why: My research project: *Lord of the Rings*,

two wonderful scholars, and one of my favorite professors... what is not to love? It challenges me to do my best with new research, it is truly thrilling!

Best place to relax on campus: I love the various lawns on campus or the sun room in the student center.

Favorite thing to do when you're not studying: Talking with friends, volunteering at the globe, and reading an adventure book.

Advice for freshmen: Be prioritized and organized. Classes are VERY important, but your time alone with God is necessary, and time with friends is required for your sanity. College truly is a grand adventure, and I am excited as you all begin this chapter of your lives. Remember what is important, and enjoy! Also, fit sleep in there somewhere. Take it from someone who has pulled one too many all nighters, sleep deprivation does not help anyone. God bless! I am excited to get to know you all as we explore how to be Christian scholars.

JWHC Student Abroad



Jaki Brueggen is a rising senior in the John Wesley Scholars Program and a nursing major. She traveled to Kenya in May to complete her Transcultural Nursing Practicum requirement.

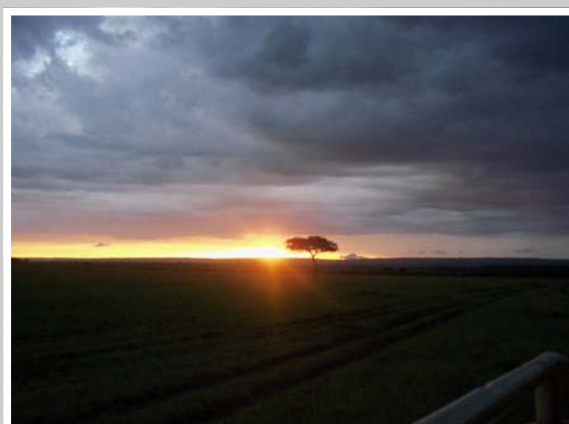
Any trip to a new culture will make you think. A trip to Africa has an especially strong capacity to do so. While everyone knows that much of this continent is subject to extreme poverty and high rates of illness, it isn't until you actually see it with your own two eyes that it starts to overturn your perspective on life.

This past May, I had the profound opportunity to spend two weeks with a team of nursing students (courtesy of the Transcultural Nursing Practicum requirement) in Kenya. The experience was colorful, exciting, horrifying, enlightening, relaxing, exhausting, heartbreaking, and hopeful; a flurry of many emotions, to say the least. We saw tragedy in the faces of hundreds of orphans, and yet hope in the laughter of infants

who have been rescued. We struggled with injustice every time we saw yet another baby with HIV, and still optimism in the faces of mothers of special needs children who are making jewelry to provide for their families. We felt proud of Robyn (the missionary nurse we met there) for spending her life caring for sick children, and at other times heart-sick for feeling unable to really make a dent in the insurmountable needs everywhere we looked.

But through all of these challenges, we found rest in Christ. I was reminded at different times of Honors class discussions about the existence of evil and numerous lectures about God's grace from Dr. Riggs. I remembered Dr. Bressler's words of encouragement to me during a particularly difficult semester: "You are resting between the paws of almighty Aslan." Time and again these truths and the Word of God sustained my heart. In particular, I was drawn to the hope of Psalm 68:5: "A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling."

From a nursing perspective, we gained many valuable learning experiences, finally coming to a better understanding of illnesses we had never seen and mindsets we were forced to take into account. From a life perspective, the trip was just as, if not more, precious. While I may never be able to physically make a change in the rampant injustice we saw around us, I can be sure that the God who put so much love into the beauty of Kenyan sunsets and the intricacy of the zebras' stripes will surely have his way in the end. My life is short, my abilities few, but if all I am to do is hold onto this experience and glorify him in persistent prayers for this nation and the world, then it will be a life spent well. I hope that many of you will have similar opportunities to learn and grow over the next four years, as you follow God on brand new adventures.



JWHC Student Abroad

Alicia Feuling, a rising junior in the Mary C. Dodd Honors Program and TESOL major, spent the spring semester in Lithuania.

Labas (“Hey” in Lithuanian) JWHC Freshies!!!

My assumption is that you are all probably on the border between crazed elation and a nervous breakdown about this whole “going off to college” thing right about now. To encourage you that university is not just massive tuition payments and overwhelming classwork, I thought I would tell you all a little bit about the novel idea of studying abroad. This past semester I was IWU’s guinea pig for the Lithuania Best Semester trip. I went to Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Russia and learned a ton about intercultural friendship, expanding cultural horizons and actually seeing the things we spend hours talking about in class. While over in Europe I also got to go to Copenhagen, Stockholm, Paris, Croatia, Bosnia, and Ireland. It was pretty awesome, but I will let you in on a little secret...those places are just places. I know, it’s a mind shattering concept. The truth is that those places would mean nothing if not for the relationships that were cultivated there, the ways I saw God differently, and for the memories that were formed in each destination. It’s cliché but the journey was way more satisfying than the destination itself. Lithuania will always be considered my best semester of college, and I encourage you to take advantage of such awesome opportunities that IWU has and to challenge yourself to see God in a new way.

Iki Pasimatymo (See you later/ soon)!

P.S. There’s a lot more to the story...and I know it’s summer and all but if you want to learn more, check out my blog at <http://feetfirstisaiah527.weebly.com/index.html>. There’s a great video on there too for those of you who don’t like reading [who am I kidding, you’re HC kids?!)]. To see pictures, check out my “places” at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/alifeuls>.



Featured Freshmen

Ariel Blocher-Smith

Ariel Elizabeth Blocher-Smith (It means “Lioness of the Covenant of God,” and it is said arr-eee-elle like a pirate, or pronounced like the letters R. E. L.)

Home: Fort Wayne, Indiana

Major: Illustration

Favorite quote or Bible verse: “I like to imagine that the world is one big machine. You know, machines never have any extra parts. They have the exact number and type of parts they need. So I figure if the entire world is a big machine, I have to be here for some reason. And that means that you have to be here for some reason, too.” –*The Invention of Hugo Cabret*

“And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom and ability, in understanding and intelligence, and in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship, to devise skillful works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in bronze, and in cutting of stones for setting, and in carving of wood, to work in all kinds of craftsmanship.” –Exodus 31: 3-5 AMP

Hobbies or interests: Biking, swimming, going to museums, the Bible, knitting, digital collage, photography, writing, writing poetry, cooking, baking, butterflies, reading, fashion (also clothing and accessory design), *Doctor Who*, cartoons, my dream list, notebooks, sketchbooks, bright colors, Jesus, discovering new things, books, the smell of books, gems and jewelry, Bezalel and Aholiab, music, playing violin, dancing, stargazing and space, the MasterWorks Festival, bottled water, nature, BBC period dramas, Eurovision, gig posters, planning parties, being creative, learning from everything in life...

Best high school experiences: I was homeschooled, so my literature class with other homeschooled kids was always a treat. We played the bunker game once. It's where the end of the world is coming, and you have to decide who makes it in the bunker. Kids are assigned



a character by drawing names, and then have to create reasons why they should be allowed inside. At the end, everyone votes for their favorite and the top 3 make it inside. And I, as the ninja, made it in the bunker!

In college, I am most looking forward to: Art classes and the swimming pool! Even more so, I'm excited to be in the Honors College, and I look forward to making lots of new friends and growing in my relationship with God.

If I could have any superpower: Flight! It would be a handy mode of transportation, and you could get a different perspective on things (for me, as an artist: different perspective = new ideas). Also, I would love being that much closer to the clouds and stars. I've wondered what the inside of a cloud was like since I was a little kid.

If I could travel anywhere: Right now, my dream is to go to Paris. The architecture, the pastry shops, the museums — it all sounds so lovely! Places in Paris I definitely want to see: the Eiffel Tower, the Palais Garnier ceiling painted by Chagall, the Louvre, the Pierre Hermez pastry shop, the Ralph Lauren shop on Blvd. St. Germain, etc... “Paris is always a good idea.” – Sabrina; Other places I would like to visit: London/ Lake Country, Australia, Italy, Israel, Egypt, Europe in general, Africa for safari, all 50 states, and many more locations!

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Mista Salad (from local restaurant 800 Degrees 3 Fires), bananas, ice cream, Gwyneth Paltrow's recipe for homemade mac & cheese, and cedar plank salmon.

Strange thing I did as a child: I always wore red shoes as a kid. Also, when my dad would make stir fry, I would take the big outer leaf of cabbage, and wear it like a hat.

Bethany Caraotta

Home: Belvidere, Illinois

Major: Biology or Mathematics

Favorite quote or Bible verse: “May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.” (2 Thessalonians 3:5)

Featured Freshmen

Hobbies or interests: Soccer, guitar, piano, friends, church, singing.

Best high school experiences: Going with my youth group to different camps and hanging out with friends. Attending the many mission trips as well.

In college, I am most looking forward to: Getting to know people and learning about God's calling in my life.



If I could have any superpower: I would choose the power to fly. It is so cool to be free.

If I could travel anywhere: Italy. It's my heritage and it's a beautiful place.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat

five foods, they would be: Sweet potatoes, raspberry ice tea, cookies, Chicken Alfredo, and watermelon.

Strange thing I did as a child: Chase my sisters around the house with bugs.

Jeremy Davis

Home: This is actually a fairly difficult question for me to answer. The short answer is that I was born in Gastonia, North Carolina, but being a missionary kid complicates things. After a mere four years in Gastonia and the town of Mount Airy, I moved to Suriname, South America, where I spent six of my most formative years. And, to make things a little more complicated, my family's three furloughs have been in Kings Mountain, which I now consider my American home, and my parents and older brothers were born in California. So, as with most missionary kids, the question "Where are you from?" can quite easily lead to a meandering explanation of my life story.

Major: Computer Software Engineering

Favorite quote or Bible verse: There isn't a single quote at the top of my head, which probably means I

don't have a favorite quote. I don't have a favorite Bible verse because there are so many useful ones. It's like trying to pick a favorite number: I have had several favorites in the past but have never been able to keep any particular number as my favorite in every situation.

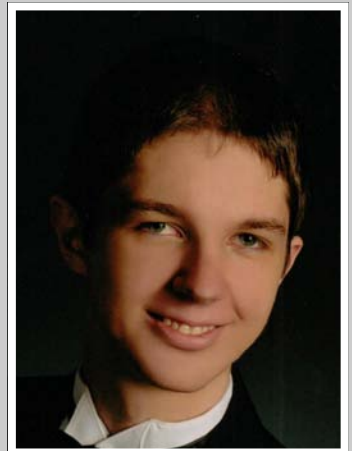
Hobbies or interests: My most common hobby is computer programming, and I'm also mildly interested in the workings of electronic hardware. I like to play sports, particularly soccer and badminton, and sing in choirs.

Best high school experiences: I really enjoyed my AP classes. They were challenging enough to keep my interest and contained the students who care most about academics, who quickly became some of my closest friends. In addition, we always had plenty of free time during those classes, even before the teaching slowed down following the AP exams.

In college, I am most looking forward to: I look forward to friendships that do not need to fade away in a few years. As every missionary kid knows, our friendships tend to be short. We make friends, leave them a few years later, and learn not to care that we will never see them again. After I arrive at college, however, I will stay on the same continent, if not in the same town, for the foreseeable future. Though the idea seems foreign to me, I would like to stop traveling and keep the same friends for decades.

If I could have any superpower: If I could have any superpower, I would choose telekinesis. It probably has something to do with growing up with Star Wars, but there seems to be an intrinsic "coolness" about being able to move things with one's mind. On top of that, I could get a remote that's eight feet away without getting up from the couch, shaving off seconds of wasted time and the effort of getting up from under my laptop.

If I could travel anywhere: I have had enough of traveling. Whenever I leave somewhere, I have to say goodbye to my friends, break all emotional ties with the place I am leaving, and undergo stress, boredom, and



Featured Freshmen

sometimes sleep deprivation at the airport and on the plane (or in the car). Of course, traveling just to visit another place would not require goodbyes, but living on three continents has dulled the sense of novelty produced by foreign lands, which all seem fairly similar to me now. If I had the choice to go anywhere in the world, I would most likely stay put.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: On a deserted island I would definitely want *roti* and *bami*, two Indian dishes I loved to eat in Suriname. To combat the spiciness of Indian food, I would want *bruine bonen*, a surprisingly delicious Surinamese dish composed only of brown beans and white rice — its name even translates directly to “brown beans.” I would also take pizza with as many different toppings as possible: it contains a member of every food group and (in America) lots of fat, which would be crucial to surviving without a guaranteed supply of food. Finally, I would want corn dogs: my excuse would be that I would need a large supply of fat, but honestly, they're just delicious.

Strange thing I did as a child: When I was little, I almost never spoke, but I got really excited whenever I played a video game. I often played our Super Nintendo in my free time, and every time I would be on my feet within seconds of starting, jumping up and down with my tongue unconsciously sticking out of my mouth, so great were my excitement and focus. My parents took to calling me “Jumping Jeremy” until I finally learned to remain seated.

Emily DuBois

Home: Hartford City, Indiana

Major: Exceptional Needs P-12, Elementary Education

Hobbies or interests: Running, children's ministry involvement, hunting and fishing, anything with horses, various outdoor activities.

Best high school experiences: My most treasured memory of high school is of the opportunity I received in the spring of my junior year to work with one of the special needs students at my school when she was mainstreamed into my choir class. I helped teach her to sing and with her prepared a solo for her to sing at a benefit concert at the end of the year.

In college, I am most looking forward to:

Meeting and building a new circle of friends and getting a chance to start fresh after a rough year from being very ill.

If I could have any superpower: I would probably choose to have the power of flying. From my first flight in a plane just two years ago, I have loved being in the air. There is something special observing the overwhelming beauty of God's creation from so high in the air and then just noticing all of the tiny details once you're on the ground again.



If I could travel anywhere: If I could travel

anywhere in the world, I would probably go on a missions trip to a third world country, possibly in Africa, to share God's love with those who might not otherwise know it.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Cookie dough, mangoes, rice, salmon, and avocado.

Strange thing I did as a child: After my first brother was born, my mom would come down to our end of the house in the middle of the night to check on us in our separate rooms. When she didn't find me in my bed, she'd move on to my brother's room and find me in his crib. We would both be asleep on an open book, like I'd fallen asleep trying to read to him, though I was only a year older.

Nick Fist

Home: I was born in Paoli, Indiana, but grew up in Sacramento, California. My sophomore year I moved back, and I now live in Gosport, Indiana.

Major: Youth Ministries

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us." (Psalm 103:12)

Featured Freshmen

Hobbies or interests: I love playing guitar, and I play in a worship band at my church. I love writing poetry and songs, and I am even currently working on a fictional narrative. I enjoy playing sports, like basketball and football. I read a lot of books on Christian apologetics, which is the defense of the Christian faith. But my first priority is seeking God and his kingdom.

Best high school experiences: My favorite high school experience may have been when I played football my freshman year. When I moved, I never tried to play for the teams anymore. But as a freshman, I had a lot of fun working as hard as I did with a team, learning that every member was valuable and necessary. I poured a lot of blood and sweat into it, and in the end our team came out as the Tri-County Freshman Champions. That memory will always remind me of the sense of satisfaction one gets when he/she works at something for so long and with so much effort.

In college, I am most looking forward to: There are a lot of things. At Indiana Wesleyan, I look forward to growing spiritually and intellectually. I want to prepare myself for the rest of my life in a way that I can serve the Lord and raise a family. I look forward to the unforgettable memories that I will have and the bonds that I will forge.

If I could have any superpower: I suppose I would choose to be able to fully understand God's love and be able to express it to others. It doesn't sound like a superpower in the conventional sense. Maybe I wouldn't be able to change the world. But I could change an individual's world, one life at a time. If I could see the world through God's eyes and know exactly how to comfort, how to cherish, and how to care for everybody, what more could I ask for? Power shouldn't be for the benefit of the wielder, it should better the world around them. And maybe I'm not perfect; nobody is. But we all have a potential superpower in us, and that's our God-given ability to love. Love is what will change the world.



If I could travel anywhere: I would probably go to Ireland! The landscape is absolutely beautiful. I would love to go there and just admire the beauty that God has given to us in nature. And I would like to know where my ancestors came from and learn more about them.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Steak, cheeseburgers, chicken Florentine pasta, ham and cheese omelets, and cherry pie.

Strange thing I did as a child: I used to have a Winnie the Pooh blanket as a very young child. One of the edges of the blanket was torn. Every day, I would rub the torn bit in between my fingers on my right hand for no apparent reason. My mother said I would be running around playing and, as soon as I saw it, I would drop everything I was doing to rub that torn fabric against my fingers. She said it must have brought me comfort, but I really don't remember why.

Luke Hayden

Home: Thorntown, Indiana

Major: Biochemistry and likely Business Administration

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before stumbling." (Proverbs 16:18)

Hobbies or interests: I enjoy chess, reading, movies, chemistry, strategy, board games, and *The Office*.

Best high school experiences: Random or funny moments; for example, we had a top 20 in the class luncheon and a guy randomly broke out in song very loudly.

In college, I am most looking forward to: Pursuing a degree and subject(s) I enjoy.

If I could have any superpower: Telekinesis, because if you can control things on a molecular level, it encompasses nearly all other powers.

If I could travel anywhere: "I can travel anywhere, except Cuba, and I will travel to New Zealand and walk the *Lord of the Rings* trail to Mordor and I will hike Mount Doom." - Dwight Schrute (*The Office*, Season 2)

Featured Freshmen

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Fried zucchini, Pad Thai, garlic red skin mashed potatoes, barbecue chicken, and Subway foot-long subs.

Strange thing I did as a child: I threw "eww" at people. For those of you unfamiliar with this, it is an imaginary 2-year-old's concoction, and when people pretended to throw back, I cried.



Ethan Linder

Home: Seaford, Delaware

Major: Christian Ministries, with a possible double major in Business Administration

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)

Hobbies or interests: Baseball, dodge ball, soccer, disc golf, ultimate frisbee, tennis, softball, running, reading, writing, working, bicycling, piano, and an occasional video game are a few of my hobbies. My interests include music, lifestyle worship, pneumatology, the Philadelphia Phillies, good books, pottery, art, thought, sports, coffee shops, and generally, most things creative or worship-related.

Best high school experiences: I would have to say that I have two outstanding ones. I had the chance to intern with our church during the summer of my junior year. That experience provided me with a great vision of what ministry is and how it's done well. Another experience would be our youth group's Kentucky missions trip. We had an opportunity to remedy the needs of a hurting population. While the physical needs were great, I realized that each person has one ultimate need: love.

In college, I am most looking forward to: In one word, growth. I'm excited to grow spiritually, intellectually, and corporately with a group of believers who want to learn and want to change the world for Jesus Christ. I look forward to new friendships, new knowledge, and an even deeper understanding of what God's heart is.

If I could have any superpower: Flight would have to be mine. It would lend a person an entirely new opportunity to view the world in a different way; it would allow me to see God's creativity on display in new ways. Also, it would give me a leg up in games of Ultimate Frisbee.

If I could travel anywhere: New Zealand would be at, or near, the top of my list. The sheer natural beauty, picturesque mountains, water, and fields make it a great place to visit.



If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Pizza, burgers, protein shakes, turkey sandwiches, and shrimp.

Strange thing I did as a child: On a trip to Disney World, a Disney bus driver inadvertently shut the door as I was exiting the bus. My head was stuck in the bus door... it was a less than pleasant experience, but it's fun to laugh about!

Nathan Little

Home: Bluffton, Ohio

Major: Social Studies Education

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13)

Hobbies or interests: Soccer, track, weight-lifting, youth group, and friends.

Best high school experiences: Making it to the regional semi-finals in soccer because we beat the defending state champs. Attending American Legion

Featured Freshmen

Buckeye Boys State was one of my best experiences. Going to Cedar Point and Kings Island with my class.

In college, I am most looking forward to: There are several things that I'm looking forward to about college. The top two would have to be being on my own and being in a place with lots of other people that want the same thing — a good education and to grow closer to God.



If I could have any superpower: If I could have any superpower, I would have the power of time control.

If I could travel anywhere: I would travel to New Zealand, because most people there speak English and it just looks so amazing.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Cinnamon rolls, strawberries, bacon, angel food cake, and peanut butter.

Strange thing I did as a child: As a child, I treated everything as if it was a ball, always throwing things and I carried around my baseball bat like it was my teddy bear.

Janice Murray

Servant Leader Scholarship Recipient

Home: Dearborn Hts., Michigan

Major: English and Writing

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up on wings as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint." (Isaiah 40:31)

Hobbies or interests: I like reading, watching TV (I prefer books, but if there's a story to be had, I'm happy), making music, and learning about almost anything, especially words and writing.

Best high school experiences: Since my school's marching band and concert band are one and the same, we're really close. Band members have taught me a lot and given me some amazing friendships, so band was certainly the highlight of high school for me. I also loved the little bit of camp counseling I was able to do last summer, Picture Rallies with my youth group, and the relationships I was able to develop with classmates and teachers through AP classes.

In college, I am most looking forward to: Learning with people who are actually excited by learning, figuring out how to have a social life, and (Can you tell I have trouble with superlatives like "most?") growing closer to God.

If I could have any superpower: Assuming that some other people have superpowers, I'd pick empathetic mimicry (basically copying the power of someone nearby). That would give me the chance to be normal sometimes (when I wasn't duplicating a power) and to experience many different powers without becoming lazy or dependent on one.



If I could travel anywhere: I'd probably pick England, because I'd love to experience the country that birthed ours and was home to so many great authors.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Cheese, chicken, pasta, crackers, and chocolate.

Strange thing I did as a child: When I was a toddler, I'd steal my dad's slippers and run around in them, even though they were wa-a-ay too big for me.

Ilana Shinkle

Home: Lawrenceville, Illinois

Major: Music Education

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "Don't blink!"

Featured Freshmen

Hobbies or interests: Playing piano, dancing, acting, band, hiking, traveling, and generally being extremely busy.

Best high school experiences: Playing volleyball and soccer late one evening in the deserted high school gym, forking the school lawn at 3 am with thousands of forks, band trips, and mission trips.

In college, I am most looking forward to: Being overwhelmed with opportunities.

If I could have any superpower: Flying. I would love to be able to travel around the world. It would also come in handy to be able to get away and relax.

If I could travel anywhere: Next to the goalie at the World Cup Championships.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Rice, curry, granola cereal, fresh pineapple, chocolate milkshakes.

Strange thing I did as a child: I didn't want to go to kindergarten because they were going to make me read. I refused to explain why that would be so awful, but I was terrified of reading.



Tabitha Vachon

Home: New Haven, Indiana

Major: Pre-Med with a minor in Spanish

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "If you trip in life, make it part of your dance" -Anonymous

"Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down his friend can help him up..." (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)

Hobbies or interests: Dancing, reading, music, shopping, and caring for others.

Best high school experiences: My best experience actually started in 6th grade when I met my best friend. Going all throughout high school with the same best friend has been an amazing experience that I am extremely grateful for.

In college, I am most looking forward to: I am most looking forward to making new friendships along the way and learning about medicine.

If I could have any superpower: Rehabilitation would be a great power to have because I would love to help others and cure those in need.

If I could travel anywhere: I would travel to Paris to learn about a new culture and language. It is also a dream of mine to see the Eiffel Tower.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be: Strawberries, authentic tacos, LIFE cereal, rice, peanut butter.

Strange thing I did as a child: As a child, I always disliked the feeling of grass and would cry if I had to sit on it.



Mary-Madison Weaver

Home: Bartlesville, Oklahoma (originally Tyler, TX)

Major: Pre-Pharmacy

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, And trust in the Lord." Psalm 4:5

Hobbies or interests: Singing, playing the piano, my family, hanging out with friends.

Best high school experiences: I was featured as a guest solo artist with the Bartlesville Symphony Orchestra.

In college, I am most looking forward to: Stretching myself — academically, emotionally, etc.

Featured Freshmen & Mary C. Dodd Honors Student



If I could have any superpower: The power of transport...snap my fingers and immediately be anywhere I wanted. Why? Because I love to travel!

If I could travel anywhere: Ooo...hard one, but if I could only pick one... Israel. I want to walk where he walked.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and

could only eat five foods, they would be: Oranges, peanuts, chicken, apples, and grapes (then I would dry up some grapes to get a sixth food...raisins!)

Strange thing I did as a child: My sisters and I raided the rag bag, dressed ourselves in the rags, and pretended we were wild people.

Natalie Smith

Mary C. Dodd Honors Student

Home: South Lyon, Michigan

Major: Nursing

Favorite quote or Bible verse: "Dreams do come true, if only we wish hard enough. You can have anything in life if you will sacrifice everything else for it." —J. M. Barrie, "Peter Pan"

"If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given to him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." James 1:5-6

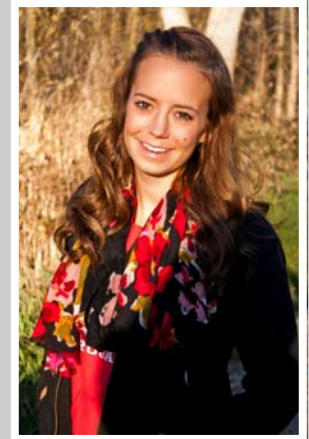
Hobbies or interests: I love playing racquetball, reading, downhill skiing, singing, traveling, and getting coffee with friends. I also enjoy long-distance running and recently ran my first half marathon!

Best high school experiences: My best high school experiences were when I participated in my school's theater program and drama club. During that time, I was introduced to my mentor, met a great group of friends, fell in love with the art of acting, and grew as a

performer. I am very grateful that God gave me opportunities in high school to perform, because without them I would not be who I am today.

In college, I am most looking forward to: I am looking forward to growing in my walk with Christ, meeting new friends, and taking nursing courses. I am also really excited about the Transcultural Nursing Practicum.

If I could have any superpower: If I could have any superpower, I would want to fly. I would love the convenience of being free to travel wherever I want. I would also never have to worry about getting stuck in traffic, being late to appointments, or paying for airplane tickets.



If I could travel anywhere: If I could travel anywhere in the world, I would go to Haiti. One of my favorite blogs is about a Christian family that followed God's call to Haiti, where they worked with a medical missionary team. Their experiences influenced my decision to pursue a nursing degree. I would love to go to Haiti someday to show God's love to the people there through medical missions.

If I was stranded on a deserted island and could only eat five foods, they would be:

I would eat fruit salad, guacamole, corn on the cob, Cold Stone's Cheesecake ice cream, and sweet potatoes.

Strange thing I did as a child: When I was a child, I had a really bad habit of eating things that I shouldn't have. Once my sister and I ate a full bottle of my mom's prescribed medication. Another time, I ate berries that I had found in my neighbor's yard. We didn't know what kind of berries they were, and my mom was convinced they were poisonous. Thankfully, they were not.

Scholar Spotlight

Year: Senior

Major: Biology and Illustration

Hometown: Columbus, Ohio

Favorite aspect of the JWHC and why: My favorite aspect of the JWHC is how the community shapes me into a more godly person. The faculty, students, discussions, parties, and assignments all can be opportunities to become more like Christ, if you let them. It's a little bit like training for an athletic event, sometimes it's hard (though most of the time it's basically fantastic), but it can help make you into the person you want to be.



What you love most about IWU: The people. I have made incredible friends over the past three years, and I think that is what I love MOST about IWU. (I also may be slightly nostalgic approaching my senior year, otherwise I'd probably also rave about the professors.)

Advice for freshmen: Don't stay in your room, or go home every weekend. The Honors College, your RA, and basically the college as a whole will conspire to make sure you have things to do. You should make the time to go to them. Also, I remember freshmen year being told that it (college life) gets easier, but I wasn't sure how. It's not like I was learning time management skills for the first time, or anything like that. But then sophomore year comes around, and it's easier.

Hodson Summer Research Institute: This summer I'm staying on campus working for the biology department as a research assistant, meaning I'm working in a lab here and getting paid for it. I didn't plan on doing lab research when I first applied to IWU, however the opportunity is incredible. My lab partner, our professor, and I are working on how the neurons in the retina communicate with each other (primarily pH regulation of synaptic transmission, for those who care), and we just got a paper published in the European Journal of Neurophysiology!! The insight into not only the research method, but also the research industry (like, getting published, or getting grants, or getting your Ph.D.) is phenomenal.

Up Next . . .

The August issue of the *Freshman Perspective* will include important campus information for you to know when you arrive. It's also your last chance to be included among the Featured Freshmen! Don't forget to reply to the e-mail with your picture and responses!