

Fall Newsletter 2018

RECIPES TO TRY

Seasoned Ranch Oyster Crackers

Crackers

Carly Heying

Ingredients:

- 1 oz package Ranch dressing (1 TBSP)
- ½ tsp dill weed
- ¼ cup vegetable oil
- 5 cups oyster crackers

Directions:

Combine all in a large bowl. Spread on a baking sheet and bake at 250° for 15-20 minutes.

Kitty's Sugar Cookies

Caroline Meek

Ingredients:

- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup real butter
- 1 cup shortening
- 2 eggs
- 2 teaspoons almond extract
- 4 cups flour
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 2 teaspoons baking soda

Directions:

Cream together the sugar, butter, and shortening. Add eggs and almond extract. Mix together all dry ingredients in another bowl and gradually add to the butter mixture. Make into balls and roll in sugar. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet and slightly press down. Bake for 10-12 minutes at 350 degrees. Cool on wire.

PSP Tailgate and Football Game



Presidential Scholars Program Resources

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Art Spisak

Staff Advisor: Emily Johnson/Camille Socarras

Executive Board

President: Liam Crawford

Vice President: Ariana Mitra

Secretary/Treasurer: Michael Li

Committee Chairs

Mentoring: Allison Rowe

Alumni: Caroline Meek

Outreach: Carly Heying

Events: Jenah Black

Class Representatives

Senior: Allison Monroe

Junior: Barbara Badovinac

Sophomore: Anthony DeSalvo

Freshman: Kirsten Lucy and Ally Andreason

Freshman Spotlights



Benney Argue

Major: Neuroscience

“People tend to be surprised to find out that I've never had the opportunity to read the Harry Potter books or see the movies before. I'm in the process of reading them now. :D”



Katherine Srail

Major: Spanish, Pre-med

“I would have a bonobo chimp for a pet. Their intelligence is really interesting, especially if they know sign language. Imagine a pet you could have a conversation with!”



Ryan Summers

Major: Undeclared Engineering

“I would invite the characters from the TV show Friends to dinner. I would take them to Central Perk. Friends is my favorite TV show and never fails to make me laugh.”



Elly Vinton

Major: Pre-med Biology

“If I could spend all of my time in Hawaii, I would. I know this sounds super cliché, but I went to Hawaii this past summer, and I've never felt more like myself.”



Sophia Gilbert

Major: Political Science, History

“A hot dog is not a sandwich. If you removed the bread from a hot dog, it would still be called a hot dog, whereas if you removed the bread from a peanut butter sandwich it would no longer be called a peanut butter sandwich.”

Upcoming Changes to the PSP

Camille Socarras, the Honors Program Scholarship Coordinator, will be the new staff advisor for the PSP.

Starting next academic year, the Presidential Scholarship will be a second year (and following) scholarship.

Applications from first-year honors students will be due in the Spring semester, and the awards will be announced later that same semester.

The scholarship will begin in the second year. It will be renewable for a total of

three years, assuming renewal criteria are met.

There will be a monetary award, although not in the same amount as in the past. Rather, the emphasis will be on community and scholar development.

Many of the same events currently part of the PSP will continue, including Presidential seminars for the new Presidentials in the Fall and Spring of sophomore year.

Student Research Spotlight – Abigail McCollough

Abigail McCollough, PSP Class of 2017, has spent the last four months working under Dr. Mary Weber in a microbiology lab, studying chlamydia, bacteria that invade host cells in order to reproduce.

One of Dr. Weber's projects focuses on the proteins that chlamydia secrete to aid their parasitism. The research aims to identify where these proteins go in the host cell and what they do.

"I have been doing a lot of ectopic expression,"

McCollough said, "which is where we tag the protein that we want to study with green fluorescence protein. Then under a fluorescence microscope, we can figure out where in a cell the protein is going, and that could give us some hint as to what it's doing."

Dr. Weber's research is McCollough's first experience in a college-level lab.

"I was interested in Dr. Weber's project because it seemed very different

from anything I'd ever done," McCollough said.

"The first day, Dr. Weber gave me the lab procedure to make chemically-competent E. coli, and it felt like it was in Spanish," McCollough said. "Dr. Weber had to explain literally everything. She'd ask me questions, and I'd be completely off base.

"But in the four months that I've been in her lab, I slowly learned to understand stuff," McCollough said.

"I still walk through new

procedures to make sure that I do everything right, but I can read something new and know what I'm going to do."

Now, McCollough enjoys both her time spent in the lab and the lab environment.

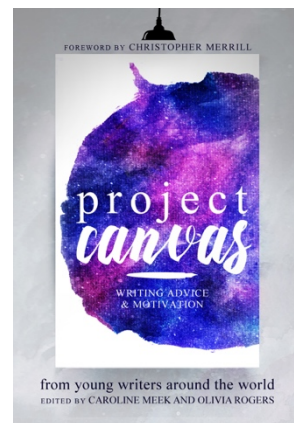
"I was always worried that I'd never find something that I actually like doing all the time, but I love being in the lab, even when I'm doing the same thing," McCollough said. "It's actually a lot of fun. I never have a day that I regret going to the lab."

Student Spotlight – Caroline Meek

This November, after two years of working with young international writers, Sophomore Caroline Meek has published a book of writing advice and motivation. The anthology includes chapters by 61

teens from 11 different countries, with topics on writing when you aren't inspired, to advice on crafting a convincing villain. Caroline, along with her co-founder Olivia Rogers, hopes that

Project Canvas will be used as a tool for young writers to improve their writing and find inspiration in a global community. Copies can be ordered on Amazon or directly from Caroline, at caroline-meek@uiowa.edu!



Alumni Spotlight - Brett Taber



Taber is currently the Executive Director of Social Impact for the Minnesota Vikings and has been with the organization since 2007.

He oversees all community engagement

and philanthropic efforts for the Vikings.

Taber graduated from the University of Iowa with degrees in Anthropology and Ancient Civilizations.

He received his Master's in Sports Administration

from the University of St. Thomas.

Taber is a graduate of the inaugural cohort of the George Washington Sports Philanthropy Certificate program.