

CHC Alumni Newsletter

Updates from the Robert E. Cook Honors College



Dr. Chauna Craig, CHC Director

Welcome!

I hope you are all weathering the transitions of life and season well as we move into winter with its warm family holidays and cool weather. This is typically a time to take stock, reflect, and think about future directions. As IUP restructures and prepares for a new medical school and a more focused array of programs, I am thinking about future directions for the Cook Honors College. More, I am collecting and assessing data on the added value this program brings to our students and university and striving to ensure that we continue thriving next year, five years from now, and so on. You can help.

Please consider sharing with the CHC brief stories of how your honors education at IUP prepared you for the life you have now. I'm interested in hearing how the questions and conversations in our humanities-based core curriculum impacted you, whatever your major or current field. If you regularly recruit or hire employees, I'd love to know what makes one candidate stand out in a field of qualified people and whether any of those qualities are or could be developed or enhanced through honors education.

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Director's Welcome!



Dr. Chauna Craig, CHC Director



ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS



Simply stated, I know that many honors programs are little more than sections of general education classes for honors students, the advanced or accelerated versions of subject-based classes found in high schools. My oldest son is applying to college this year, and as I attend honors info sessions and scour websites, I'm more convinced than ever that the Cook Honors College core curriculum still stands out as distinctive for its inquiry-based approach, teaching students not only how to think but what to think about in a global culture in which technological advances are outpacing important conversations about whether changes are good or bad and "what, therefore, we should do?"

The honors curriculum has evolved in the past when science core was added, and upcoming changes to liberal studies and program offerings and our Gen Z students' needs require that we continue to rethink and revise the program. I want to maintain and strengthen the aspects of the curriculum that have been and will be most valuable to our graduates, and your insights on what is most valuable will help with that.

You can email either me at craig@iup.edu or Kevin Berezansky (kevinb@iup.edu) with your story and/or ideas (please let us know if it's okay to attribute quotes to you). The rest of this newsletter is full of recent photos of honors students studying abroad, volunteering in the community, and building their own community's present and future. I share these to remind you of the wonderful work of this honors college.

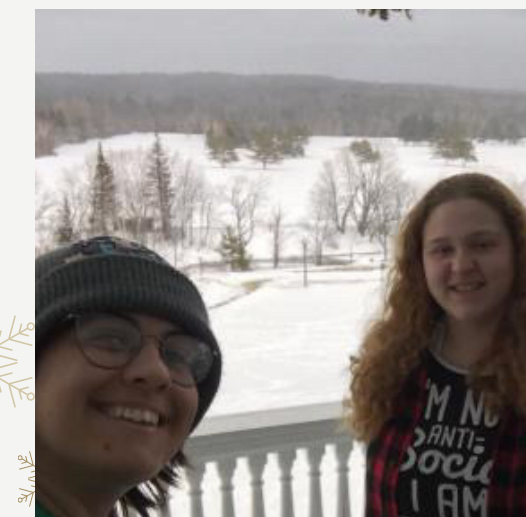
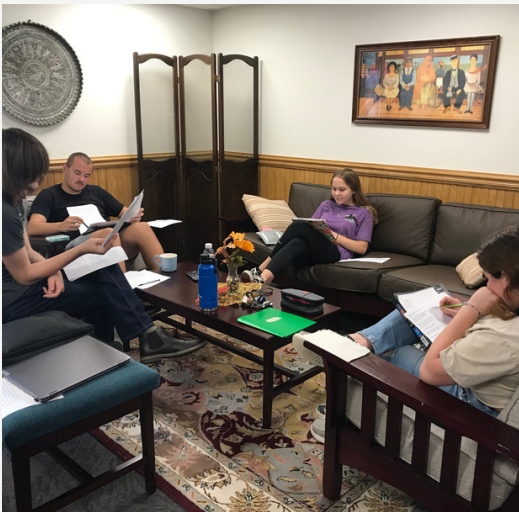
Thank you in advance and have a wonderful holiday season.

All best,

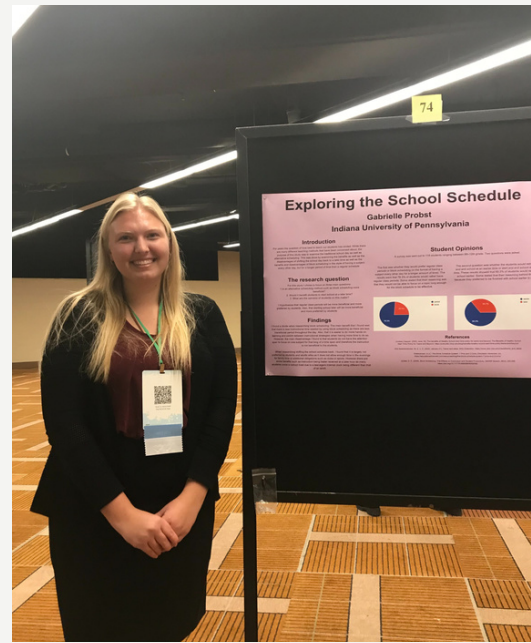


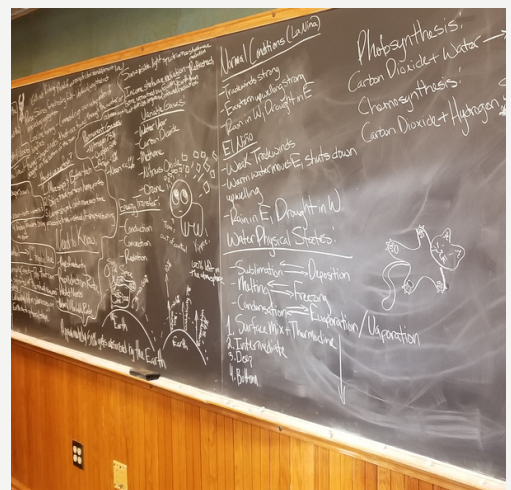
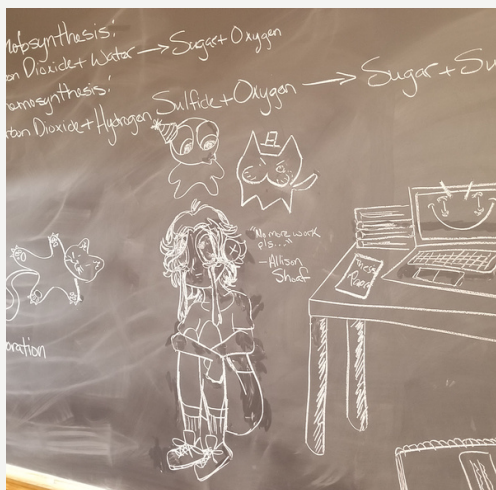
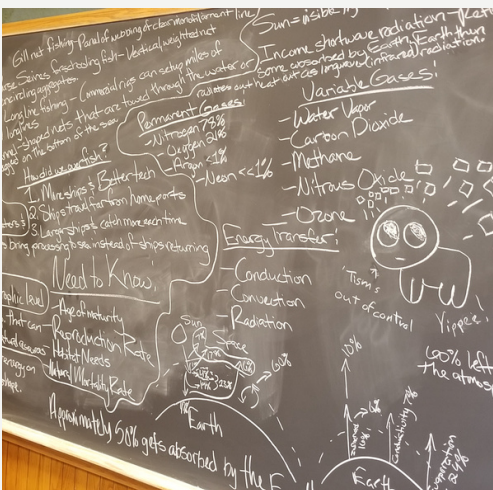












And that's a wrap on the Fall 2023 semester! We hope you've enjoyed this issue and are proud of the success that continues to be a part of the CHC legacy. Happy Holidays!

