

# Honors Program Newsletter

## WELCOME

Volume 7, Issue 2

November 2018

Greetings everyone! We hope the start of this semester has not been too hard on you. Now that we've approached the halfway mark, it's important to leave all the procrastination behind. The semester is quickly coming to an end, be sure to make it count!

With the holidays right around the corner, it is the perfect time to think of loved ones we appreciate and even those who've had a significant impact in our lives. To us, we are grateful for family, friends and all the great

opportunities we've received through both the Honors Program and at Barry in general. We're especially grateful for those professors who extended assignments' due dates at our convenience.

Speaking of assignments, it's also imperative to stay on task with homework, exams, papers, etc. as the end of the semester is approaching faster than we know it. Time management and organization are key. To enjoy yourselves before the commencement of the holidays, try to reflect on

modes to better improve your schooling. Although we may not regard it as a blessing in general (especially as college kids), we are very fortunate to have access to professional education and the opportunity to further our careers. The chance to interact with friends and applying our knowledge with our peers everyday is truly something to be thankful for.

Gratefully Yours,

HP Co-Editors

Johania Charles

Nicole Rafols

### Special points of interest:

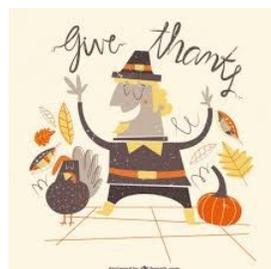
- **Alumni News:** Hear about the wonderful opportunities former HP students have received after graduating from Barry & successfully completing their thesis.
- **Dr. Callaghan's interview:** Meet our generous Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences who loves to support the HP program in every way possible.

### Inside this issue:

Alumni News	2
Field Trip Recap	3
Dr. Callaghan's interview	4
Literacy Corner	5
Dr. Glenn Bowen	6
HP Announcements And HPSAB Contacts	7

## FALL INTO GOOD HABITS

- ◇ Give, smile more
- ◇ Help others
- ◇ Spend quality time with family
- ◇ Embrace critique
- ◇ Develop a growth mindset
- ◇ Network
- ◇ Be organized



- ◇ Eliminate distractions
- ◇ Make, know and follow through on goals
- ◇ Prioritize
- ◇ Meditate
- ◇ Don't cram studying into only one session
- ◇ Develop gratitude

# Alumni News

To update you on my life (I think it's been 2 years maybe? Yikes.): I am still living in Arizona, and although I have lost touch with some people from Barry throughout the years, I have managed to hold on to quite a few ties.

This fall marks the start of my first official salaried job as a "fully functioning" adult. I taught as an adjunct for Mesa Community College since 2016. This fall I took the leap and moved down to high school to teach for Arizona School for the Arts alongside my older sister, Jamie. I don't quite know when it happened, but I think you're grown up when full health coverage and a state pension is a super exciting future prospect. I teach 9th grade English, and I must say that 14 year olds are exhausting.

I really love that I'm getting the chance to teach literature, although my curriculum definitely needs updated (a crusade which I do not take lightly). I plan to make changes for next fall and expose students to a more contemporary, diverse palate of authors. Some of my top choices include *Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini and *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. Our theme for the course is identity and culture, and I can definitely say that much of my inspiration is derived from what I learned taking humanities and sociology during my time in the honors program.

I hope all is well on the east coast, and that this year brings good things and the wherewithal to withstand the bad.

Best,  
Dianna

**Dianna Bellian**  
**Former HPSAB Secretary and**  
**Chair**



*“Even all these years later, I still love getting the newsletter. I think this is officially the year where I no longer recognize the faces of HP students! It's a little bittersweet.”*

Dianna entered the Honors Program in 2010 and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in English from Barry University in May 2014; her Senior Honors thesis title was *Selling social consciousness: The irony and implications of mass marketing young adult dystopian fiction*. Dianna also served on HPSAB (as Secretary in 2011 and as HPSAB Chair from 2012 - 2014). Thank you Dianna for sending in your alumni news updates!

# HP FALL 2018 FIELD TRIP: PEREZ ART MUSEUM



Our HP students enjoying Jesús Rafael Soto's *Penetrable* sculpture



Kevin, Jonathan, Walter, Adriel, Abigail, Johania, Michidael and Emma (not photographed)



Students appreciating Miami's warm sun

## Exploring the arts

On Saturday October 13th, 2018, the Honors Program students and faculty set out to explore the wonderful art works and exhibitions the Jose M. Perez Art Museum (PAM) has to offer. Among those in attendance were Dr. Byrne, Dr. Sirimangkala, Michidael Ceard, Johania Charles, Emma James, Walter MacWaters, Jonathan Rojas, Abigail Solórzano, Adriel Solórzano, and Kevin Dalia (our very own HP alum- nus and a former HPSAB Chair).

This trip provided students with the opportunity to bond with each other outside the classroom setting while being introduced to different art works intended to make a statement. Each attendee had a least one favorite art work or something that sparked his/her interest while at the museum. One of the most notable works on display is the Surrounded Island project (not pictured) that took place in Biscayne Bay Miami (1980-83).

The project was 11 islands made out of floating pink woven polypropylene fabric that spread 7 miles long. This project was created by Christo and Jeanne Claude to bring beauty to a place that was suffering from many social and economic issues at the time. It was meant to bring people together in a place so divided. The museum also features other great art works that commemorate the rich culture of Miami.

PAM is definitely worth the visit!



Abigail & Adriel Solórzano



Johania Charles



Michidael Ceard

*"Every human is an artist. The dream of your life is to make beautiful art."  
- Don Miguel Ruiz*

**Karen A. Callaghan,  
Professor of Sociology**

**Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences**



*Dr. Callaghan is a beloved member of Barry faculty who has overseen the Honors Program during her time working in administration. Her interests in our program has generated support from other areas of the college, which has been very encouraging for our program and aided in our success as an academic program at Barry.*

***First thing's first, how did you end up at Barry?***

*I was hired as an assistant professor of sociology, in 1989. I came to Miami because my husband is a sociologist and he received a job offer from University of Miami. When we arrived, I had never heard of Barry; but I applied still and ended up getting the job. Part of the reason why we've stayed so long has been because we were both really happy with our positions. I became Department Chair, Associate Dean, and then Dean. I liked working in the field, organizing events.*

***What inspired you to get into sociology service learning?***

*I didn't know what majors were because I was the first to go to college in my family. So my first semester was undecided. I thought I'd get into biology since it was my favorite subject in high school, but I wasn't really sure, I was not interested in becoming a physician. I really enjoyed psychology, so I became a psychology major. I believe I had to take a sociology class with my friend one semester, and ever since then I was hooked. That's why I always tell students to try different classes to find their interests. It's part of the undergraduate experience, and you find an area you love so much; you just want to do it more and more. I wish everyone could have this passion in his/her major.*

***What's the farthest place you have gone, or your favorite research you have done?***

*I've done community based participatory research, on the island of Granada educating the community about breast cancer. The death rates in Granada are much higher than they are here, 23% deaths among women are from cancer. So we basically set up a training program in which healthcare professionals can appropriately detect breast cancer, including how to do physical checks, introducing breast cancer screening as a part of physicals, etc. We began educating the community as well, such as clinical breast exams. They don't involve the most advanced technology, but they could be a good way to detect some problems.*

*Research is not just research; you do research in aid of a particular community and issue they are facing, and try to involve the community members as much as possible to find a solution.*

***What inspires or who inspires you the most?***

*When I work on projects, it's always the people in the community that we are working with; they inspire me so much. I feel like it's very selfish, but they help me see my life in such a different way and it makes you realize how many people are privileged in this country. We feel like we are struggling, but when we look at other people and see how willing they are to work, it's truly inspiring. The second thing that inspires me the most is the students. The biggest kick is when students come to the university to find that inspiration and passion. When you hear all these horrible things in the world, it's when you see people being self-sacrificing and respectful, and willing to look forward. Those things affirm those beliefs in me that the world can be a better place once people strive for it.*

***Interview was conducted and written by Nicole Rafols, HPSAB and Co-Editor.***

# LITERACY CORNER

## CORREGIDORA

### BY GAYL JONES

This novel pushes against the grain of postmodern African American literature as it tackles issues dealing with the psychological effects of slavery, sexual abuse, and generational woes. Jones' use of sporadic internal reflection by the protagonist, Ursa Corregidora, allows readers to dig deep into their darkest places where emotions such as pain, grief, and anger rule. This novel explains the effects that the past can have on an individual whose family has experienced great trauma, abuse, and neglect.

The novel "Corregidora" follows the life of a mulatto African American woman by the name of Ursa. At the beginning of the



Gayl Jones

#### BOOK REVIEW BY MICHIDAEAL CEARD

"If you want a gripping, tension filled novel that makes you cringe at the beginning of every sentence, then 'Corregidora' by Gayl Jones is definitely worth your time."

-Mishee

novel, Ursa loses her ability to make children through a physical altercation with her husband Mutt. Jones describes the ability to make children as "making generations." This concept is important to Ursa due to the oral tradition passed down by the women in Ursa's family. They must "make generations" in order to carry down the horrific story of their slave master, Corregidora, who raped and impregnated Ursa's great-grandmother and grandmother. The women who are born in this family must "make generations" in order for the Corregidora story to live on. When faced with the obstacle of being barren, Ursa reflects on the effects of the past and the way that it has shaped her present circumstances. The novel concludes with Ursa's seeking closure from her transgressors, thus entering into a new light that would make life bearable.

Jones' utilizes Ursa's mental reflections to frame the novel. Reading about Ursa's broken thoughts and accounts of the different events in her family's history makes the novel more vivid and real. In Ursa's words, "it was her very own memory, not theirs, her very own real, terrible, lonely, and dark memory." As these events are explained, we delve into this collective memory that has been passed down through "making generations." Have you witnessed any vicious cycles in the communities you resonate with? If so, Jones' "Corregidora" provides an answer on how it should be dealt with.

## Florida Campus Compact honors Barry community engagement administrator

Dr. Glenn Bowen, executive director of Barry University's Center for Community Service Initiatives (CCSI), recently received Florida Campus Compact's Engaged Scholarship Research Award. The award is presented annually for outstanding contributions to engaged scholarship through research. Bowen is a section coeditor of the *International Journal of Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement* and a member of the review board of the *International Journal of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education*. In addition, he is a manuscript reviewer for a dozen other journals, most of which publish articles derived from research in the community engagement field.

Among his initiatives is the

Faculty Learning Community for Engaged Scholarship, a key component of the infrastructure for faculty development at Barry. On October 25, 2018, Bowen was honored at Florida Campus Compact's Annual Awards Gala hosted by the University of Miami in Coral Gables.

no, associate vice provost for student success and undergraduate studies; Dr. Roxanne Davies, associate vice president for mission and student engagement; and Courtney Berrien, associate director of CCSI.



In attendance at the event were Barry University President Sister Linda Bevilacqua, OP, PhD; Dr. John D. Murray, provost; Dr. Scott F. Smith, vice president for mission and student engagement; Dr. Karen Callaghan, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Victor Roma-

*Dr. Glenn Bowen and CCSI have worked closely with several Honors Program students and alumni.*

## HP Announcements



Honors Program Fall 2018

Guest Lecture Series

Wednesday, November 14, 2018 | 12 – 1 p.m. | Landon Events Room



Join the Honors Program's Fall Guest Lecture Series in response to the United Nations' call for immediate action to address climate change through education.

Dr. Kelsey Reider received Bachelor of Science degrees in Zoology and Marine Ecology from Ohio State University in 2007 and Master of Science and doctoral degrees in Biology from Florida International University in 2011 and 2018, respectively. Having spent much of the last five years among melting glaciers at the top of the Andes, Dr. Reider has a compelling story to tell about documenting ecological responses to climate change in one of the most rapidly warming places on Earth.



*Holiday Party*

*December 6th, 2018 4-5:30 pm in Lehman 328*

*Food and games will be provided as we celebrate the conclusion of the semester and our graduating seniors in December \*RSVP by Nov 28\**

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Need to print in the HP lab (Landon 206G)? Contact Dr. Sirimangkala.  
A \$10 key deposit is required.