

# The Meredith Herald

September 28, 2016

## Summer Abroad in Spain: "I did not feel particularly homesick"

Seung Pang, Staff Writer

Grabbing books and brochures from every table at the Study Abroad Fair, Katie Murphy already knew that she wanted to study abroad when she was a freshman. Murphy sat on the floor of her room and dog-eared every program that she was interested in. Finally, she decided on the United Kingdom Meredith Program. But once wasn't enough, because she loved her first study abroad experience so much that she went abroad again this past summer to Spain.

Led by Dr. Wade, Murphy began her adventure in the capital, Madrid, with ten other Meredith students. "My first impression of Spain was that it was beautiful and laid back," she said. She was surrounded by spectacular architecture, city markets, open air plazas, and people walking around town together. During lunch time, the city closes shops so everyone goes home to enjoy lunch with their families. "I just felt a sense of calmness," Murphy said.

A week after, Murphy traveled to an old small town, Santiago de Compostela, to the north of Spain. There, she took classes with other international students in a university and made a new friend from Canada. "Since the university is in town, locals are used to having students around and they love to hear us using Spanish," she said. "The people were all incredibly kind and willing to talk to us."

Daily schedule of life was very different in Spain. Murphy would wake up at 8 in the morning to leave the house to walk to school around 8:40. After classes end at 2 in the afternoon, she and other students, along with their families, would eat lunch together and siesta

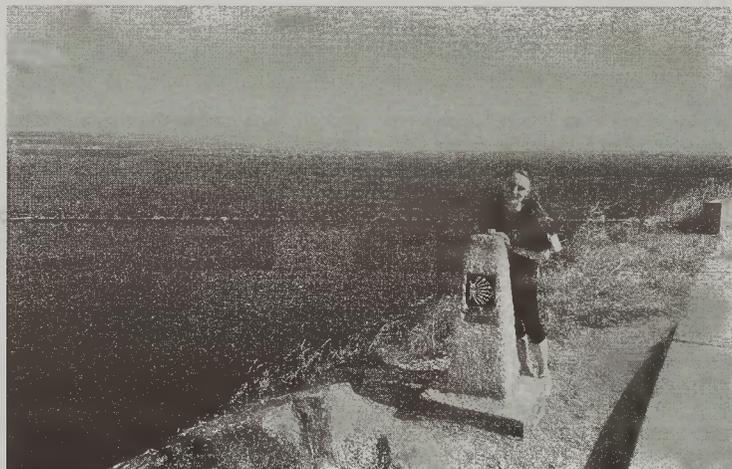
(an afternoon rest or nap) until 5. Then, everyone would meet up for an activity or just walk around town until dinner at 9. After that, they would go out again to watch a soccer game for the Euro Cup or to go get chocolate con churros. "We would go home for the night around midnight," she said. "It took a while to get used to."

While in Spain, Murphy ate lots of seafood, breads, and fresh vegetables, and became accustomed to eating bigger meals. Her favorite were "pimientos de Padrón," flaky and delicious little green peppers from a town about 30 minutes away from the city called Padrón. "My host mom would put them on the

stove in Spain's 'special' olive oil," she said. "I still dream about them sometimes."

A day trip to Cape Finisterre was the best thing that happened to her. Meaning "the end of the known world," Cape Finisterre was the reason that people used to believe that the world ended before they found out it is not flat. "I could completely understand why people thought that; the sky and the sea blend together perfectly at the horizon," she said. "It was one of the most beautiful scenes I have ever seen in my life."

Throughout her time in Spain, Murphy did not feel homesick. "I was too busy trying to absorb everything Spain had to offer to think about home too much," she said. "If I can navigate my way around Spain in Spanish, I know I can thrive in my time here at Meredith College."



A photo of Katie at in Cape Finisterre, Spain (Photo credit: Katie Murphy)

## Freshmen Vote for Class Representatives

Rachel Crawford

The Meredith class of 2020 held their first class elections from Monday, September 19th to Tuesday, September 20th. The results, released the night of polling, are as follows:

President: Alli Barrow  
Vice President: Carol Jablonski  
Cornhuskin' Co-Chairs: Zoë Raymond and Lindsey Scott  
Stunt Co-Chairs: Becca Edmonson and Whitney Pepper  
Honor Council Representatives: Lindsey Norris and Sofia Mazzola  
Student Life Representatives:

Kiana Bradford, Allie Kvasnicka, and Calla Terrell

Alli Barrow, the Class President of 2020, said she knew she wanted to be involved in leadership from the moment she joined the Meredith community. "I decided to run for a SGA position because I felt it was the right fit for me and it would give me the perfect opportunity to show my leadership skills, as well as put my strengths to use," Barrow said in an interview. Barrow was involved in student government in high school, but

she expects her time as freshman class president to be a brand-new experience. When asked what she is most excited about for the year, Barrow said, "I am most excited about my opportunity to help each and every member of 2020 find their voice and make their first year in Wonderland all they have imagined it would be!"

Two more additions to the freshman SGA board are Lindsey Scott and Zoë Raymond, the co-chairs for the class of 2020's first Cornhuskin'. Scott and Raymond

said that their decision to run was motivated by a desire to make sure every member of the freshman class had the opportunity to be involved in Cornhuskin'. Before coming to Meredith, Scott and Raymond were both involved in school spirit activities like Spirit Club, cheerleading, and theater. As the new Corn co-chairs, they are excited about promoting class unity, and of course, in their own words, "FINALLY being able to experience the best Meredith tradition ever!"

## Correction for Title IX Article

In the September 14 story on Title IX, Dean Ann Gleason was quoted incorrectly. Her actual statement was: "The significant physical and emotional effects of sexual violence interfere with a student's ability to fully pursue her college education and experience. There are resources, support and assistance we can provide at Meredith College for students who experience sexual violence, even if the violence occurred off campus - for more information, access the Meredith College Title IX website at [www.meredith.edu/title-ix](http://www.meredith.edu/title-ix)." The Herald regrets this error in quoting.