

# News

## Student Research Spotlights in Arts and Humanities

Interviews compiled by Aminah Jenkins, Associate Editor, and Melissa Taylor, Staff Writer

*Elena Blackwelder, '23: "White Women and Civil Rights: The Sisters Were Only In It For Themselves"*

**Please describe your research.**

"My research focuses on the tensions between white feminism and womanism, which emphasizes intersectionality and advancement of BIPOC women. By using various movies and TV shows, I discuss how interracial female friendship inherently places the emotional burden on women of color and mainly serves to make white women feel more positively about themselves."

**Why did you decide to conduct undergraduate research while at Meredith?**

"Research was not something that I knew I was interested in when I first came to Meredith. After completing some smaller projects in classes, I realized that it gave me an opportunity to dive into more specialized topics or a subject that might not perfectly align with my majors."

*Adriana Sofia Gomez, '22: "Political Violence in Venezuela: Does Oil Policy Fuel the Fire?"*

**Please describe your research.**

"The purpose of this investigation is to explore causes of political violence in Venezuela today. The research focuses on the role historical factors of Venezuelan and global politics play in the crisis that has been occurring for years now. This will hopefully determine the impact of poor oil policy decisions, a drop in revenue or a combination of both."

**Why did you decide to conduct undergraduate research while at Meredith?**

"Because it was required for my thesis! I was inspired by many of the presentations I saw my freshman year. I was lucky enough to be in an Environmental Policy class with Dr. Rogers, and he helped and inspired me to continue research so that I can present on CSA day my senior year. Also since I am from Venezuela, I wanted to learn more about the situation and raise awareness about it."

**Is there any advice you would give to future CSA Day participants or undergraduate researchers?**

"Academia is not welcoming but

as minorities we need to take up space and open the doors to those who are following us. We need to show our community and others that we are more than capable while continuously being our authentic selves."

*Bliss Wells, '23: "Representation in Theatre: The Power of Visibility and Equity on Stage"*

**Please describe your research.**

"The impact of theatrical representation has been evident through recent productions and their success on stage and eventually in film. In this research presentation, I am exploring the impact of representation on marginalized groups by presenting data from current Wake County students and through resources expressing the value of representation."

**Why did you decide to conduct undergraduate research while at Meredith?**

"I felt so disconnected from the world the past two years to a point where I wasn't seeing what was happening in my field. I wanted to research a topic that

would not only teach me about what's happening in theaters but also that I could connect to through current events."

*Krista Wiese Telford, '22: "The Faces of Circe: Enchantress, Seductress, Goddess"*

**Please describe your research.**

"Under the guidance of Dr. Robin Colby for the English Department, I surveyed over a dozen depictions of Circe from Homer's 8th century B.C. epic. While many scholars have focused on specific depictions of Circe, I aim to provide a broad overview of her appearances in literature from Ovid's 'Metamorphoses' to Madeline Miller's 2018 novel *Circe*."

**Why did you decide to conduct undergraduate research while at Meredith?**

"I conducted this research to serve as my work sample for my PhD in English applications. The work started as a seminar paper and grew into a longer research project since I was so fascinated by my topic. As I am a senior, I wanted to take advantage of the wonderful support network and guidance I have prior to graduating."

## Student Research Spotlights in Business and Economics

Interviews compiled by Elinor Shelp-Peck, Co-Editor in Chief, Aminah Jenkins, Associate Editor, and Piper Carriere, Staff Writer

*Regan Andersen, '22: "Playing Games or Being Played?"*

**Please describe your research.**

"My [research] is a study of the characteristics of in game marketing in mobile games. I further discuss potential policy changes that the Federal Trade Commission can make to protect children from harmful advertising practices. I am working in the Business Department with Jeff Langenderfer."

**Why did you decide to conduct undergraduate research while at Meredith?**

"I decided to conduct undergraduate

research because I wanted to try something new. I was unsure of what I wanted to do for my thesis and decided to find a fun way to enjoy my research. While I was playing the games I noticed patterns and my research idea was born!"

**Is there any advice you would give to future CSA Day participants or undergraduate researchers?**

"I would say to go for it and share all the hard work that you have accomplished."

*Caroline Welsh, '22: "The Connection Between the Career and Fam-*

*ily Plans of Meredith Students"*

**Please describe your research.**

"My honors thesis in economics [was advised by] is Dr. [Anne] York. In my presentation, I discuss how the human capital model can be used to explain investment decisions in education and career for Meredith students by looking at data about family and career plans from a survey sent to the undergraduate population."

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**Is there any advice you would give to future CSA Day participants or undergraduate researchers?**

"Undergraduate research has definitely been a rewarding experience here at Meredith, so I would definitely recommend it to anyone who is interested. Given that, it does require some hard work and dedication, so my advice would be to choose a topic that really interests you and to start early!"

## The Colton Review Reveal on CSA Day

By Haileigh West, Staff Writer

This year's edition of *The Colton Review* will be revealed as part of Celebrating Student Achievement (CSA) Day. The reveal will be on April 7 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium. Meredith community members will also have the option of attending the reveal via Zoom.

"We're so excited to unveil Volume 18 of *The Colton Review* and display all of the hard work completed by our art and literary staff this year," Co-Editor Olivia

Slack, '22, stated.

"[During the reveal, we] will talk about the publication, the winners of our... awards will read excerpts of their works and either hard copies or electronic copies of the publication will be available," Co-Editor Krista Wiese, '22, said.

When asked about common themes that emerged among the submitted works of *The Colton Review* this year, Wiese said, "Every year, we are excited to see what themes will emerge from the

submissions we receive. This year, we received more fantasy, science fiction and magical realism than ever before."

"We think the amount of genre fiction we've received is indicative of our community's desire to explore other worlds and other versions of the self," Slack added.

Students can get involved in *The Colton Review* reveal by "showing up to celebrate with us," Wiese said.

"This event is a celebration

of the creativity and hard work of the Meredith community," Wiese explained. "Support the winners of our... awards by being in the audience when they read their work, and take home a copy or two of this year's publication to read in your own time and share with friends and family."

Students interested in joining *The Colton Review* can reach out to coltonreview@email.meredith.edu.