

Student Newsletter



Student Spotlight - Cassandra Hoover

Cassandra Hoover '20 is a psychology major with a double minor in counseling and German. She is also the treasurer of the Unite for Her Club and is a member of Women's Rugby team. Her interest in gerontology began when she took the class Counseling the Older Adult. This semester Cassandra is doing an internship at the Department of Social Services in the Adult Protective Services department. Cassandra plan to pursue a career as a certified mental health counselor and a school counselor.

This past fall semester, Cassandra submitted a paper to the [State Society on Aging of New York](#) and presented her research at their annual conference in Saratoga Springs. Her research focused on internet use and older adults. She wanted to investigate if there were any benefits for older individuals who used the internet. In addition, she also wanted to explore the implementation of internet-based counseling.

She won the undergraduate paper award – pretty awesome for a first conference! She was also very pleased that there were conference attendees who missed her presentation, but connected with her later to hear what she had to say.

Cassandra is very grateful for Dr. Bergman's encouragement to participate in the conference.



Faculty Spotlight - Dr. Elizabeth Bergman

Elizabeth Bergman, Aging Studies Chair, wrote a commentary for The Ithacan on Aging As An Opportunity For Freedom.

How I wish that when I was a young adult someone had told me to take a long view of life. I wish I knew then what I know now — that I would change profoundly

and yet stay the same, that I would overcome challenges that would fundamentally alter the course of my life and that life would grace me with the opportunity to reinvent myself many times over.



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Staff Spotlight - Zack Griswold '19

Zack Griswold '19, majored in Aging Studies (BS) and minored in both Business Administration and Health Policy & Management. Upon graduating from IC he worked as a Case Manager for the Schuyler County Office for the Aging.

The driving force behind Zack returning to the Ithaca College Campus was the sense of community and the culture that the campus encompasses. He also wanted the opportunity to come back and assist and support the students of the Gerontology Institute. Since he was a student in the Aging Studies program here at IC, he believes that he brings a unique perspective



that could benefit both the Gerontology Institute and the Students.

Zack is looking forward to supporting the great work the Gerontology Institute provides not only to the IC community but also to the Tompkins County community as a whole.

Alumni Spotlight - Grace Goodhew '13

During her time here at IC, Grace Goodhew found a passion for long term care administration. She graduated with a BS in Gerontology and a minor in Administration. She credits her unique major in Gerontology as the baseline for her fruitful career trajectory in geriatrics, and plans to continue working with this under served, vulnerable population.

After IC graduation, Goodhew earned an MBA with a concentration in healthcare. She interned at Spaulding Healthcare in Skilled Nursing Administration and worked as a Project Analyst with Partners eCare, implementing electronic health records across the system. She then worked as Administrative Fellow at Geisinger Health System where she implemented an Aging Brain program and planned an Aging Institute- a geriatric multi-specialty clinic model.



From 2016-19, at the Johns Hopkins Division of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology, she started a pilot home visiting medical home model aimed at improving quality of care and reduced end of life spending for participants. She was promoted to Division Administrator overseeing 13 clinical service lines, three internationally known research centers, and the #1 Geriatric fellowship training program in the country.

Today Grace is a Business Process Consultant for University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Health Plan. She creates clinical workflows for geriatric members in skilled nursing facilities, and those striving to stay in their communities. She also partners with Medicare leaders in writing and defining benefits and involved in prototype development for digital Medicare products.

She advises those who are interested in a career in geriatrics to be open to opportunities that may not directly serve geriatric adults, but may have a downstream or sideline benefit to that population. Opportunities in healthcare are extensive, and having a geriatric focus only adds value to your other core skills.

Upcoming Events

Ithaca College Gerontology Institute Distinguished Speaker

The Ithaca College Gerontology Institute is pleased to announce that our 2020 Distinguished speaker is Elizabeth “Like” Lokon, MSG, Ph.D. Dr. Lokon is the Director of Opening Minds

through Art (OMA) for the Scripps Gerontology Center at Miami University. She will talk on the intersection of the arts, dementia, and intergenerational service learning.

April 6, 2020, 7-9 pm, Textor 102

[For More Information on the Keynote Speaker](#)

[For More Information on Opening Minds Through Art](#)



Volunteer Opportunities

IC and Longview Intergenerational Choir Meet and Greet

Do you like to sing? Do you want to join an intergenerational choir with IC and Longview folks? Come to the meet and greet to find out more information.

Thursday, February 6th, 2020
4:00 pm Whalen Music School

This choir meets at Longview every Thursday at 6 pm throughout the semester. Transportation by IC is provided.



We Want to Hear From You!

Monthly Student Newsletter

Do you want to be featured in our monthly student newsletter? Would you like to spread the word on events and volunteer opportunities? If so, please contact Jessica Martinez-Peraza.

Newsletters will be sent out on the first Monday of every month. If you would like to be featured in the newsletter, contact her by the last Monday of the previous Month.

Submissions for March's issue will be taken till February 24th.

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