On the eve of April 12, the Virginia Wesleyan Model United Nations team and I embarked on our journey to New York City to participate in the annual National Model United Nations Conference. It was the start of the best week of my life.

When my team and I arrived in New York City, we had an entire morning and afternoon free to explore the city, to take in the sights, to hear the honking of the taxi drivers, to taste the food, to experience the big-city-living lifestyle. And, it was during this time that I feel in love with Central Park and the city.

But, that love and excitement for being in a new city, a new environment, heightened tremendously once the Opening Ceremony of the conference began. Sitting in a room that houses over 2,700 international and domestic students all participating in Model United Nations for the same reason, under the same motivations, and all sharing the same drive for knowledge is unbelievable. Although I was one person in a room full of strangers (except my team, of course), I was part of something all 2,700 of us shared. It truly was magical.

This momentum and excitement sets the tone for the rest of the conference and does not conclude until the closing ceremonies at the United Nations Building.

From the nervous energy and slight trepidation that I experience from walking into my first committee session, to a sense of personal accomplishment and feeling of relief at the conclusion of voting, the conference provides a roller-coaster of emotions.

More so though, the conference cultivates public speaking skills by allowing individuals to give speeches to dozens, if not hundreds, of their fellow delegates, enhances writing skills through drafting working papers, and teaches negotiation skills in trying to cooperate and work with other delegations.

The conference allows individuals to change how they view themselves and how they view their self-growth. I, for one, can attest to this fact.

What I take away the most from my experience at these Model United Nations conferences is my enhanced self-confidence skills. The hours of preparation I have to do in researching my country and the policies they support, as well as the ins and out of the committee on which I am serving, transform my knowledge base and my ability to communicate my ideas.

Participation in the Model United Nations Conferences also allows for the development and continuation of relationships that you carry with you for the rest of your life. I for one am still in contact with a few individuals I have met during the conferences I’ve attended.

But, more so, by being a member of the Virginia Wesleyan Model United Nations Team you gain a whole group of friends that will stand by you no matter what. Our team this year was very diverse. We each came from different backgrounds, have different interests, and have varying strengths and weaknesses. Yet, we managed to come together as a collective whole to create an unbreakable bond between us. And, it was with that cohesion and shared love and support for each other, we were able to come together and win Virginia Wesleyan College’s first ever Honorable Mention Award at the New York Conference.

This feat was hands down my most memorable and favorite moment the entire week in New York.

By this, I mean the coming together as a group,
being part of something greater than yourself. The teammates I had on this trip with me in New York City are amazing individuals and I love the unbreakable bond we all created.


It all begins by a spark of interest. An interest for the unknown. An interest in meeting and establishing relationships with people from all over the world. An interest for international politics. An interest for debate and diplomatic negotiation. An interest in representing something greater than yourself. An interest in being a part of a team that supports you, understands you, encourages you, and accepts you no matter what. An interest in traveling and broadening your surroundings. Model United Nations fulfills all of those interests and so much more.

### Intellectual Inquirer

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### Senior Spotlight: Carly Ciarochi

**Hometown:**

Connellsville, PA

**Education before VWC:**

Geibel Catholic High School

**Majors:**

English with Secondary Education Certification

**One thing that attracted you to VWC:**

The volleyball program and the location were my top reasons for choosing Virginia Wesleyan.

**Best memory from VWC:**

Making friends who I will consider family for the rest of my life.

**What you do for fun:ICTURE

I like to go to the beach and hang out with friends.

**Future plans:**

I plan to stay in the Virginia Beach area and have a teaching job at a local high school.

**Favorite course:**

Ceramics because it was fun to take my mind off of stressful classes and make really interesting artwork.

**Professor that has inspired you:**

Dr. Firek has inspired me to be passionate about my future career as a teacher. She is constantly smiling, and taught me how important it is to be consistent and fair. She also truly taught me that having a career you love will make all the difference in your life.

**Advice to H&S underclassmen:**

Do your best to fully embrace the Honors & Scholars Program. Take advantage of the opportunities that the program presents to you, not only academically, but in the service you complete in the Wesleyan community. Create fellowship among other scholars, and take your spirit wherever it leads you. The sky is the limit!
**Senior Spotlight: Nicolletta Cuthbert**

**Hometown:**
Morrisville, PA

**Education before VWC:**
Pensbury High School

**Majors:**
Biology
Chemistry

**One thing that attracted you to VWC:**
The scholarship and the field hockey team played on the National Training Center turf.

**Best memory from VWC:**
Inflatable field day, Qdoba Tuesdays, and the amazing field hockey season sophomore year.

**What you do for fun:**
Exercise, play with animals, watch cat videos...anything with animals.

**Future plans:**
I will be attending Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinarian Medicine at Virginia Tech.

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**Faculty Spotlight:**

**Dr. Paul L. Ewell**
Associate Professor of Management, Business, and Economics

Dr. Ewell was born on the Eastern Shore of Virginia in Nassawadox. He grew up and still lives in Justisville, a little fishing village on Hunting Creek. Ewell first came to VWC as a freshman in 1984 where he earned his B.A. degree in Management. As a student, he was attracted to VWC because it was close enough to his beloved Eastern Shore, so that he could go home for his mother’s home cooking, but yet far enough away that he did not have to worry about his parents visiting too often. Ewell earned my M.B.A. (concentration in management) from the Perdue School of Business from Salisbury State University in Maryland and his doctorate in Management from Huizenga School of Business from Nova Southeastern University in Florida. His dissertation research was in the area of IT-enabled business process reengineering.

Maintaining his ties with the college for over thirty years, Ewell served as an adjunct faculty member at Wesleyan for several years after he graduated while he worked in business and industry, and then as a full time faculty when he was recruited back in 2008. Ewell was drawn to teach at VWC because of the wonderful faculty that he encountered as a student, which he recalled as being caring, inspiring and well established scholars in their fields. According to Ewell a college is only as good as its faculty and Wesleyan has always had the best. Also, as a commercial fishing fellow, he wanted to stay very close to the Shore near his family’s seafood operation. He has continued working on the crab boats during the summer and other breaks from school.

When on campus, Ewell spends a crazy amount of time working with students because his passion is advising and supporting students. He teaches operations management, supply chain management, and information systems, among other courses. In addition to serving as the coordinator for the Business Department and academic adviser to a significant number of students, he also is the faculty adviser for two business clubs, the Marlin Business Association and APICS (Association for Operations Management) student chapter. When not engaged in all of these activities, he is working on his research specializing in maritime supply chain management and logistics.

When asked what he does for fun, he simply stated “I work. When you turn your hobby and your passion into your career, your work becomes your fun.” A few things that he loves and considers great fun are working with students on major projects; working in the Eastern Shore Watermen’s Museum and Research Center (for which he is the founder and executive director); being on boats, either working as a commercial fisherman or exploring abandoned fishing villages on the Chesapeake; and reading his favorite authors, William W. Warner (author of Pulitzer prizing winning Beautiful Swimmers) and Edgar Allan Poe, because what is more fun than horror and the macabre.

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”
~ Phillipians 4:13

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**Favorite course:**
Comparative Animal Physiology because it was about animals not people and Dr. Bartol made it the best class ever.

**Professor that has inspired you:**
Dr. Bartol because she helped me fulfill all the requirements so that I could be accepted into Vet school, and because her classes were always the best ones.

**Advice to H&S underclassmen:**
If you’re trying to get into pre-professional schools make sure you are aware of the requirements as they do change frequently, and are different for each school.
Senior Spotlight: Allison Dazey

Hometown: Portland, OR
Education before VWC: Reynolds High School
Majors: Business with an Accounting Concentration, Hispanic Studies
One thing that attracted you to VWC: My ASA tour guide, and of course the beach.
Best memory from VWC: Pulling all-nighters with my friends.
What you do for fun: I like going to the beach or going on walks on campus.
Future plans: I plan to take the CPA exam this summer and start working with an accounting firm in the fall.
Favorite course: Critical Reasoning with Dr. Woods because it helped me to realize the biases we naturally have, and it helped me to better understand and interact with others.
Professor that has inspired you: Professor Dessouki has done a great job guiding me through the past four years and is really great at making students feel at ease with and prepared for the impending future.
Favorite Quote: “If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”
~ African Proverb
Advice to H&S underclassmen: Work hard and play hard. Give your studies everything you can, and then take advantage of all of the activities and opportunities around you. Get involved and make the most of the four short years you have.

“First, have a definite, clear practical ideal; a goal, an objective. Second, have the necessary means to achieve your ends; wisdom, money, materials, and methods. Third, adjust all your means to that end.”
~ Aristotle

Senior Spotlight: Darren Driscoll

Hometown: Haymarket, VA
Education before VWC: Battlefield High School
Major: Chemistry
One thing that attracted you to VWC: The scholarship that I received.
Best memory from VWC: Qdoba Tuesdays
What you do for fun: I run, eat food, and watch sports.
Future plans: I am attending PhD graduate school in Chemistry at Virginia Tech.
Favorite course: Understanding Film because I enjoy watching films and this was a great class to learn about the process.
Professor that has inspired you: Dr. Kittredge was very helpful in the graduate school application process.
On Saturday April 12, students from the Honors and Scholars Program at Virginia Wesleyan College attended the Virginia Symphony Orchestra’s performance of Disney’s Pixar in Concert. Each semester Honors and Scholars students are given the opportunity to attend a variety of different events in the area, and for many students the evening at Chrysler Hall was a nostalgic trip down memory lane that will not be forgotten.

I was hesitant to go thinking the event would be geared towards a younger audience, but I would be lying if I said I wasn’t excited. It is hard to express in words the elation, emotion and excitement I felt as I sat and heard some of the most iconic scenes from each movie. As the instrumentalists played an assortment of award winning scores from iconic Pixar productions, a montage of memorable scenes was projected in the background. The audience was treated to a selection of stories many of us grew up on from the early Toy Story and A Bugs Life, to Cars 2, Brave, and everything in between.

The performance was a truly moving experience as everyone in attendance, including the performers, were emotionally involved. The Virginia Symphony Orchestra’s ability to switch from the gentle poignant music of WALL-E to the big band feel of The Incredibles, the conductor’s personal favorite, was truly amazing and I admit that there were times where I had tears in my eyes (the beginning of UP gets me every time).

The performance of Disney’s Pixar in Concert proved to be a memorable occasion for all in attendance. Reminiscing to a place of lighthearted childhood joy, the concert proved to be entertaining for all in attendance, filling the audience with laughter and memories. This was a chance for everyone to appreciate the joy of Pixar in a new and different way. I am appreciative that the Honors and Scholars Program is able to provide such diverse and enjoyable opportunities for its members.