



Pittsburg State University

International Programs and Services

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‘Joining the Honors College opens doors for you,’ says PSU alumna

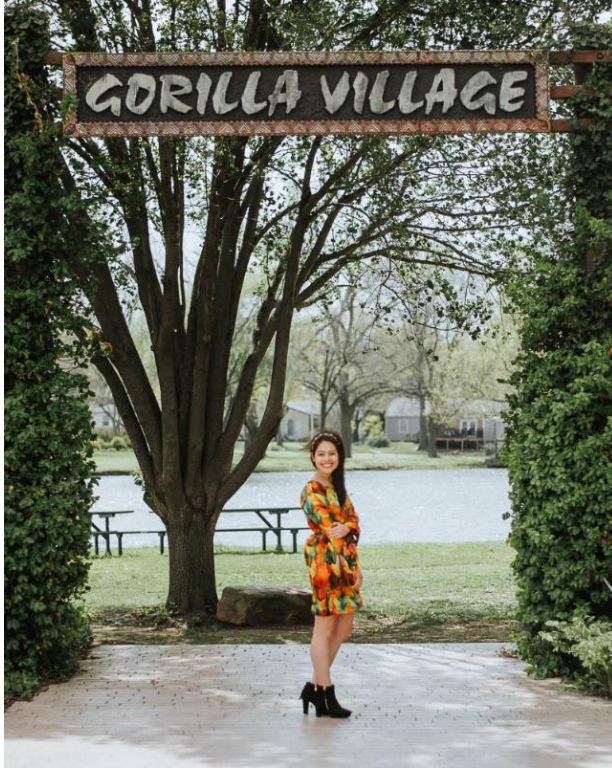


Photo courtesy of Magali Chase.

Many students who choose to pursue their degree abroad search for opportunities to enhance their experience academically as well as socially.

That is what Magali Chase, of Paraguay, was searching for when she discovered the Honors College program at Pittsburg State University.

“When I was looking for colleges, one of the options was a college in Kansas because we share a sisterhood with the Committee Paraguay-Kansas that enables us to pay in state tuition; so, as I was researching the different options in Kansas I found PSU and of course the honors college scholarship that was a big and amazing opportunity to get me there,” Chase said.

Chase, who graduated in 2017 with a degree in Music, said that once she discovered Pitt State and the Honors College, she began to get excited about the opportunities that awaited her.

“It was definitely a blessing and when I learned about how many international students lived

there...,” she said. “As I was learning about the college through emails, through Google Maps, and the PSU website I was starting to fall in love with the university and little did I know that I was going to spend the most significant four years of my life and meet unforgettable people.”

The Honors College offers many benefits to students in the program such as financial aid, honors courses, priority enrollment, study abroad opportunities, and a welcoming community. Chase said these benefits helped make her experience at PSU “amazing,” and that “joining the Honors College opens doors for you everywhere.”

“...without that financial help I wouldn't be able to study in the U.S.A for sure,” Chase said.

“Intellectually... there were some classes we took that were only Honors College students from different grade levels... Also... I felt a positive pressure on me to give my best in everything I did that being: academics, social as in friends, different clubs or works I was involved in.”

Chase said one of the most amazing things about Pitt State was the welcoming community she found.

“Since day one they took me as I am; they were curious to learn about my country and about who I was,” she said. “I felt welcomed to share my life story with them and to learn so much from them... you get to learn a lot from each of them; their talents, their stories and their dreams. You make this little-big community where you do social activities to integrate more with each other, community service, and special classes.”



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Chase said it was not only the students who left an impact on her time at PSU, but also the faculty and staff that welcomed her. Craig Fuchs, Honors College Director, especially, was a huge part of her life at PSU.

“I have to talk about Dr. Fuchs here, because he was a father to me at that time; always willing to help and guide me through the adaptation process; we are blessed to have him as the director in the HC, thank you Dr. Fuchs,” she said.

Reflecting back on her time at Pitt State and in the Honors College, Chase said being an international student in the U.S.A and at Pitt State is something she will “be forever thankful for.”

“The international office has offered me great opportunities to reach out to the community and to help others feel as welcome as I felt, since day one,” she said. “I can honestly say that who I am today has been impacted greatly by those four years spent in Pittsburg, Kansas. I’m thankful to all the professors I got a chance to meet, and learn from and to the students that with great care receive us. Once a Gorilla, Always a Gorilla.”