

# Proceedings of GREAT Day

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Volume 2015

Article 14

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2016

## An Interview with Cortney Linnecke

Cortney Linnecke  
*SUNY Geneseo*

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### Recommended Citation

Linnecke, Cortney (2016) "An Interview with Cortney Linnecke," *Proceedings of GREAT Day*. Vol. 2015, Article 14.

Available at: <https://knight scholar.geneseo.edu/proceedings-of-great-day/vol2015/iss1/14>

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## An Interview with Cortney Linnecke

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**Hometown:** *Chautauqua Lake, NY*

**Major:** *Double major in English-Creative Writing and International Relations-Developing Worlds*

**Hobbies:** *Geneseo Women's Club Hockey Team, Newman Campus Ministries, Gestures: Organization for Deaf Awareness.*

### **Do/did you like Geneseo? Why did you choose to come to Geneseo?**

*Cortney:* In terms of value, I thought Geneseo offered the highest standard of education at the most affordable cost. Geneseo also offered a wide array of majors and minors (I came in undecided) and a robust study abroad program, both of which were extremely important factors in my decision. I think Geneseo was an important stepping stone for me in terms of transitioning from a small town into the greater world beyond. Not only did Geneseo help broaden my mind regarding my understanding of others, but it also helped me grow as an individual and gain a sense of self-awareness that I did not have before. On top of that, I met some of my very best friends at Geneseo, for which I will always be grateful.

### **Why do you feel that GREAT Day is important ?**

I think GREAT Day is important because it encourages students to go beyond the required coursework in the classroom to pursue knowledge in a way that perhaps feels more personal, creative, and meaningful. GREAT Day was important for me because it allowed me the chance to delve deeply into a topic I really cared about, an obscure topic that I would not have had the chance to explore within the confines of my normal class curriculums.

### **How did it feel to present your work at GREAT day?**

I was nervous to present my work, but it ended up being the best part of the whole experience! After putting so much work into my thesis, it was incredibly rewarding to share my knowledge and passion about conflict in the Congo with other people in a live, immediate setting. Best of all was seeing the audience's interest in my topic and hearing their dialogue after my presentation—raising awareness and instigating conversation about the Congo was my project goal from the very start.