University of Oncological Resistance (UOR)

Vitae est super ripam torrentis

School of Unequivocally Living Fully (SOULF)

Report Card

Program: The Ellen Project

Student: Ellen Harris-Braun

Term: 2014-2015

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| **Grade** | **Course** |
| A+++ | Advanced Seminar on Triple-Negative BRCA1 |
| A+ | Home Economics |
| A+ | Fitness and Conditioning |
| A | Theater Arts |
| B | Achieving Average |
| A | Bucket List (extracurricular) |

GPA = 4.0314159265359~

HIGH HONORS: Ellen consistently surpassed the expectations of the faculty for students in these courses. Not only has she blown the doors off of the 10-month life expectancy for the average student, she has done so with grace, humor, a plethora of accessories, and luminous determination in the face of ODTAA.

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| **Grade** | **Course** |
| A+++(Rufus be damned) | Advanced Seminar on Triple-Negative BRCA-1 |

Ellen has successfully visited all but two websites on the entire internet related to this topic. She understandably missed those two because they are in Japanese. Sometime in November, the amount of information on the subject that was in her brain surpassed that contained in the minds of the entire UOR faculty. She is every insecure teacher’s nightmare, as she quickly masters the subject matter sooner and more thoroughly than most of her professors.

Lab: Ellen demonstrated an exceptional aptitude in pill, time, and injection management. Her choice in lab partner was excellent: their communication, cooperation, and teamwork remained strong throughout the class and evoked visible admiration from other students.

Ellen has received extra credit for taking on blogging on this course’s subject matter. She articulately communicated complex procedures and other aspects of what she was learning, often with humor, and provided superb photos to entertain and instruct the readers. Her posts were so compelling that they left her growing fan base desiring more frequent and lengthy contributions, especially with regards to her seldom-mentioned emotional state.

Ellen earned additional extra credit by putting in infinitely more hours than originally required. Her diligence was such that supervising instructor Collea commented, “I would give Ellen an A+++ if it weren’t for fish oil and nettles.”

Ellen will continue to be an invaluable TA next semester. “You need a researcher on staff,” she commented to Collea, to which he responded, “That’s why I have you.”

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| **Grade** | **Course** |
| A+ | Home Economics |

Ellen did a superb job at creating an unfriendly terrain for triple-negative BRCA1 with frequent concocting and consumption of green monster smoothies, cutting out inflammatories, and most recently, accessing her inner lupine by ingesting large amounts of protein. Drawing on her past culinary studies with instructor Childs, she researched and organized procurement of the best ingredients, and she engaged directly or coached others in chopping, dicing, marinating, sautéing, and stewing.

She aced her final exam with her analysis of how an anti-cancer diet works and her persuasive concluding arguments, and received full extra credit for listing 25 supplements and describing how they work as well as potential interactions that would result in unwanted effects.

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| **Grade** | **Course** |
| A+ | Fitness and Conditioning |

It would be fair to say that this class has not been one of Ellen’s favorites in the past. Despite this, for the Ellen Project she was extremely dedicated, applying herself to all aspects: endurance, cardio-fitness, core strength, and Qi Gong.

Endurance, cardio-fitness, and core strength: For these activities, Ellen was punctual – even getting the instructor Carolyn to show up on time, although it was during Carolyn’s teenage sleep hours. Ellen received both the most improved and the MVP awards, showing great leadership skills in inspiring many others to get sweaty with her. Had it not been for these heroic efforts, the average physical fitness of the community would be significantly lower. An additional side benefit was a significantly higher level of community interactions, resulting in a strengthened sense of team spirit for all. It is noted that toward the end of the semester, Ellen renewed her determination to keep the daily step count going.

Qi Gong: Ellen has demonstrated great willingness, if not enthusiasm, for this subject. She proved to be a model student and a leader in her class, and drew additional students to the course. She displayed a particular interest in instructor Holden, aka “the hunk on the rock,” with “7 Minutes of Magic” holding her attention for the full allotted 7 minutes and sometimes more.

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| **Grade** | **Course** |
| A | Theater Arts |

Ellen truly honed her comedic and improvisational skills this semester, culminating with her ultimate triumph: an audible chortle from instructor Chandra. She showed great graphic creativity in her individual projects, including embellishments to the standard “No BP Left Arm” sign and the unforgettable punch card “Buy 10 Brain Zaps, Get 1 Free.” Ellen displayed a surprisingly theatrical flair through the medium of Snapchat and creative license with her clever hashtag #toeswithaview, which proved inspiring to fellow students and beyond on Instagram.

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| **Grade** | **Course** |
| B | Achieving Average |

Ellen earned a solid B in this course. The subject did not come easily to her. She applied herself inconsistently and her attempts appeared half-hearted. However, I am optimistic that she will improve her focus and effort in this area going forward.

It must be noted that toward the end of the semester Ellen showed improvement in “just spending David’s money.” Nevertheless, she could still apply more effort to that end.

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| **Grade** | **Course** |
| A | Bucket List (extracurricular) |

Ellen worked diligently to create a bucket-list plan and has made terrific progress toward achieving her goals. She developed and realized detailed travel plans to the Grand Canyon, Florida Keys, New York City, France, and England. She is on track toward accomplishing her BL plan, despite the lackadaisical habits of other students occasionally slowing her down.

It must be noted that Ellen completed a destined-to-be-immortal t-shirt slogan: “It’s all connected … dammit!”