

Jamie Joyner in the Jurassic

Who would have thought an outing with son Xavier to see *Jurassic Park* and some episodes of Shark Week filmed in Costa Rica would lead to the unique idea that landed Jamie Joyner a Wentworth Scholarship?

Jamie, an adventurous second year masters student graduating in May, has been bitten by the travel bug. Before starting the next stage of her life, which includes teaching at UNCW for a year before applying for a PhD in literature, Jamie plans to get a little wild and journey to Costa Rica to explore the portrayal of feminism and nature's female power in the novel *Jurassic Park*.

"I want to look at the power of matriarchy and how it uses nature to succeed over patriarchy." Jamie said. Jamie will examine the role of the dinosaurs as the feminine maternal protagonist pushing against the patriarchal system of humans and man made institutions that control them. This idea of women pushing back has fueled Jamie's adventures before.

This will be Jamie's second Wentworth trip with the first taking her over the pond to Jolly Ol' England to study Mary Wollstonecraft, a powerful female visionary who made great gains for women in her time. Some of the ideas gained from that trip have jumped over into the Jurassic, but Jamie admits Costa Rica will be a whole new experience.

"I am planning on roughing it, or what the natives call going 'tiko' " Jamie says. She plans to stay in fishing villages, yoga retreats, and family owned B&Bs that take her off the beaten path to marvelous places featured in or similar to settings in the book. Jamie is most excited about hiking Cavo Blanco National Park. "Not many people go there..but it is a beautiful place right out of the novel". Besides Cavo Blanco, Jamie will visit volcanoes and jungles to explore the cultural views of nature and feminine power.

When asked for her greatest inspiration Jamie answered being a mom. "First I am a

mom,” she said, “and I am very interested in the way society treats moms vs non-moms and how mothers are portrayed in books”.

For her, exploring the sexual nature of the dinosaurs in *Jurassic Park* and looking at the eco-feminism found in the nature of Costa Rica seemed like a great and fun way to further her independent study. Packed and prepped, Jamie is ready for eye-opening experiences, beautiful hikes, and maybe a dino or two along the way.