

Honors Program

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For Immediate Release: February 26, 2009
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Honors Students Chosen for University Faculty Association Awards

SHIPPENSBURG, Pa. — Two students in the Shippensburg University Honors Program have received the 2009 Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties/Shippensburg University Student Awards.

Valerie Koontz, a mathematics secondary education major from Harrisburg, earned the APSCUF/SU Dr. Robert Winter College of Arts and Sciences Student Award for Outstanding Scholarship and Service. Koontz, 21, co-chairs the Honors Program's Excitement in Education service project, which introduces middle schoolers from low-income families to university life. She also volunteers as a math tutor for local high school and college students.

Ally Morgan, a junior human resource management major from Mifflinburg, earned the APSCUF/SU Dr. William Knerr John L. Grove College of Business Student Award for Outstanding Scholarship and Service. Morgan, 20, is editor of the Honors Program's student-produced newsletter, *The Honors Chronicle*, and volunteers at a homeless shelter in Harrisburg.

Koontz and Morgan edged more than two dozen other entrants in the competition, which was open to all juniors and seniors at Shippensburg with a 3.3 GPA or higher. Applicants were evaluated on leadership and volunteer activities and were required to submit an essay explaining how Ship faculty members have influenced the quality of their college experience.

"Valerie and Ally have exemplary undergraduate records of scholarship, leadership, and service of which they can be proud," said Honors Program Director Kim Klein. "They are well deserving of these awards, and we thank APSCUF for its work in recognizing talented students."

The award recipients are chosen annually by a committee of APSCUF faculty members at Shippensburg. Koontz and Morgan will receive their certificates and a \$500 prize in April.

The Shippensburg University Honors Program is made up of more than 150 undergraduate students of diverse interests who are accepted to the program based on academic achievement, intellectual curiosity, and evidence of leadership and community service.

The Honors Program offers small, dynamic classes with excellent instruction; opportunities for research projects, internships, and study abroad experiences; and cultural events, social activities, and service projects.