

SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY

The Honors Program
Horton Hall 104

For Immediate Release
November 4, 2008

Contact: Dr. Kim Klein, Honors Program director
(717) 477-1604
<http://webpace.ship.edu/honors>

Grants to Propel Honors Student Research Projects in 2008-2009

SHIPPENSBURG, Pa. — Eight students in the Shippensburg University Honors Program have received undergraduate research grants totaling more than \$7,800 for the 2008-2009 academic year. The awards were recently announced by the university's Institute for Public Service.

The research will involve such varying fields as nanotechnology, ecology, chemistry, criminal justice, and book publication and will take multiple forms, including laboratory research, field work, and artistic projects. Funding is provided by the Shippensburg University Foundation.

"The students who have received grants submitted outstanding proposals," said Dr. Kim Klein, director of the Honors Program. "One of our goals as an Honors Program is to expand students' intellectual horizons beyond the classroom by promoting participation in undergraduate research, and these projects will allow the students to delve into areas of specialized study."

Each of the grant applications was selected by the university's Research Advisory Committee based on relevance and significance of topic, adequacy of design and feasibility, likelihood for success, and potential for learning.

The Undergraduate Research Program provides financial support to undergraduate students for research or scholarly activities related to their programs of study to enable them to better understand the scientific process, experience discovery, and develop their analytical and communication skills. Honors Program grant recipients include:

Marie Hathaway, a senior art major from Shippensburg, \$1,200, "Shifting the Campus Literary Journal from Margin to Center," to present on a panel for undergraduate literary journals at a national writing conference, and \$800, "My Father's Stories," to design and produce a handmade book of her late father's short stories.

Allison Jackson, a junior criminal justice major from Harrisburg, \$400, "Student Victimization Survey," to study whether official counts of campus crimes systematically underestimate the actual number of violations.

Breann Kunkle, a senior psychology major from Lehighton, \$800, "Behavioral Mimicry during Computer-Mediated Interactions," to study the chameleon effect in an AOL chat program and whether behavior imitation occurs subconsciously.

Ashley Martin, a junior biology major from Fayetteville, \$1,600, “Elucidating the Role of Apg5 Autophagy Protein in SNB19 Brain Tumor Cells,” to study a specific gene mutation.

David Miller Jr., a senior math and earth science major from Brookhaven, \$400, “Determination of Source Waters and Flowpaths to Limestone Springs in Cumberland County, PA, with Fluorescent Dye Tracing,” to study contributing areas to Big Spring, Newville supply, and surrounding springs and identify threats to water quantity and quality.

Katelyn Moore, a junior chemistry major from Chambersburg, \$750, “Synthesis of a Lanthanide Double-Decker Metallacrown Single-Molecule Magnet,” to synthesize a molecular complex that would potentially enhance the storage capacity of computer hard drives.

Paul Rutledge, a junior physics and math major from Lancaster, \$1,000, “A Nanoelectronic Current Carrying Array of Gold Interconnects Grown after a Low Pressure Plasma Deposition over Top of Nanospheres,” to build a microfluidic filtering device that can manipulate its contents.

Jordan Shick, a junior chemistry major from Mechanicsburg, \$925, “Cytotoxicity of Mesoporous Organosilicates in IEC-18 Cells,” to study drug delivery systems and the relative toxicity of nanoreservoirs.

For more information about the recipients and their research proposals, contact Klein at (717) 477-1604 or kmklei@ship.edu.

The Shippensburg University Honors Program is made up of more than 150 undergraduate students of diverse backgrounds and 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 and high levels of energy and participation; opportunities for research projects, internships, and study abroad experiences; and cultural events, social activities, and service projects. For more information, contact Dr. Kim Klein, Honors Program director, at (717) 477-1604 or kmklei@ship.edu.



Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257
(717) 477-7447