The Honors Program Newsletter

VOL. 16, ISSUE 5

FROM THE HONORS OFFICE, HORTON HALL 104

APRIL 2003

CALENDAR

April

29 — Honors Spring Banquet

6 p.m., Tuscarora Room

Come to celebrate the end of another year in Honors and recognize the graduating seniors. See the article on this page.

30 — Student Survey Forum

6:45 p.m., DHC 051

An opportunity to review and discuss the results of the student survey. See the article below.

May

10 — Shippensburg University Commencement

See Page 2 for a list of May and August 2003 Honors graduates.

19 — SSHE Summer Honors Program to China

Kutztown University

Students return from Beijing, China, on June 20. Check out the Apr. 29 issue of *The Slate* for a feature article on the trip!

August

22 — Academic Day / Freshmen Orientation Day

There will be a planning meeting on May 1 at 3:30 p.m. in DHC 216. See the article on this page for how you can participate.

September

3 — First General Honors Meeting

9:30 p.m., DHC 051

Student survey results are in: Discuss the findings on Apr. 30

Over 70 Honors students responded to the Spring 2003 Honors Student Survey. Students interested in reviewing and discussing the survey results in greater detail should attend the Student Survey Forum on Apr. 30 at 6:45 p.m. in DHC 051.

Thank you to all students who participated in the survey. Your feedback offers an excellent picture of how the Honors Program now stands and how it may be improved in the future.

Survey respondents, by year and % of the Honors Program

year	respondents	Honors total	% response
Freshmen	29	42	69.0%
Sophomores	20	37	54.1%
Juniors	14	36	38.9%
Seniors	9	28	32.1%
TOTAL	72	143	50.3%

Boring summer ahead? Mentor a freshman!

The Honors Mentoring Program and the new Freshmen Orientation Committee are seeking friendly, helpful Honors students to assist incoming freshmen in the often-difficult transition to college.

As a member of the new Freshmen Orientation Committee, you will help plan incoming students' orientation on Academic Day. If you are interested, the first committee planning meeting will be on May 1 at 3:30 p.m. in DHC 216.

As a mentor, you will receive contact information for one new student entering the Honors Program in Fall 2003. This person will be your "mentee," and you should contact that person at least three times during the summer. In these contacts, you have the opportunity to offer someone advice and support about beginning college life, as well as give them a positive first impression of the Honors Program.

To be a mentor or to serve on the orientation committee, contact Sharon Poe, Honors secretary, at sapoe@ship.edu. In the message, please include your name, major, e-mail, summer address, and phone number, as well as your permanent address and phone number if different.

A free night of feast and fun: The Spring Banquet is coming

BY ANNA CARLEN

The Honors Program is organizing a Spring Banquet for the Honors students for appreciation of all their hard work and effort throughout the school year.

Honors Program President Ryan Hess said, "In effort to increase involvement in the Honors Program, students have been taking an initiative to improve the Spring Banquet. It's going to be enjoyable and entertaining."

The banquet will be taking place on April 29 at 6 p.m. in the Tuscarora Room. Dinner will be served and there will be a short program.

The program will include a short speech by Dr. Benhart, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as student awards such as "Best Mentor" and "Most Involved Freshman."

The dinner will be a nice break from the dining hall food. The menu will include chicken breasts, twice-baked potatoes, mixed vegetables, and cheesecake for dessert.

Each student is allowed to bring a guest with them. Invitations should be in the mail soon so make sure to RSVP "yes!"

SENIORS - Farewell from the Honors Program! Come to the Spring Banquet for a special gift in recognition of years of hard work. See Page 2 for the list of Honors graduates.

Rome will leave you speechless

BY ASHLEY REPPERT

"I just don't know how to describe it!" This is the response I have found myself giving recently to those who ask how my Spring Break was. I joined a group of 50 professors, students, parents, and alumni on a week long trip to Rome from March 8 to 15. Although I was introduced to the idea of going on the trip through the Honors Program, it was actually sponsored by Shippensburg University's Art Department and proved to be one of the best experiences of my life.

The trip was well planned but not structured, which was very nice. Each day was a "free day." We were released on our own to explore the city with large or small groups and to design a plan for our own day's events. Not only did I get to spend five full days exploring ancient ruins like the Coliseum, the Vatican, beautiful churches, authentic marketplaces and restaurants, and everything Rome has to offer, but I also was able to take the speed train to Florence. It was there that I was given the most special chance to see original art pieces by the likes of Renoir, Raphael, Caravaggio, Leonardo; the most amazing sight was seeing Michelangelo's *The David*.

While getting to see the tourist attractions was incredible, enjoying the culture was personally my most enjoyable experience. Interacting with the Italians, hearing their views on our country, indulging in excellent foods and even better gelato (their form of water ice but much better than ours), learning some of the language, browsing through Italian markets, taking siesta when they take siesta, all of this brought me to have an appreciation for other cultures and their differences.

I would suggest to any student or faculty member to consider taking a trip through the university. I was given the chance of a lifetime to not only explore a whole new world, but also to meet amazing people connected to Shippensburg University. Keep your eyes open for future trips sponsored by the Art Department; I know they have great plans for years to come. My excursion to Rome was truly an experience that I just can not even begin to describe!

Ed. note: The Honors Program plans to offer a similar trip next spring, in conjunction with the International Relations course. Incidentally, our water ice was introduced by Italian immigrants in Philadelphia.

The Regional Conference report

BY STEPHANIE RUSH

The National Collegiate Honors Council held the annual northeast regional conference in Gettysburg, March 27 to 30. The conference opened Thursday night, and closed Sunday morning. Meg Dameron, Ryan Hess, Jeremy Winn, and I attended from Ship.

The theme of the conference was "The Civil War—Many Battles, Many Stories." Almost all of the discussions, lectures, and presentations dealt with subjects like racism, the effects of the Civil War, and other topics pertinent to the 1860s.

The bulk of Friday was "Battlefield-as-Text," basically touring the battle sites with a booklet explaining their significance. The evening had the President's Welcome Dinner and a social activity.

Saturday started with breakfast roundtable discussions and poster presentations given by Honors students. Lectures and other presentations followed, normally based on students' individual research or Honors class projects.

Attending the conferences are great opportunities for all Honors students because not only do you get to meet new people and learn how to improve your school's Honors Program, but also you can gain ideas for projects and research you can do on your own. Consider attending next year's conference in Hartford, Conn.

THE HONORABLE MENTION

Over 50 middle school students turned out on Apr. 5 for a rainy but "exciting" day of "Excitement in Education." The Saturday faculty and staff of Shippen Hall included Mike Angstadt, Anna Carlen, Natalie Cochran, Fay Cimino, Kallie Drenning, Erika Englehart, Amanda Griffis, Erin Harmon, Ryan Hess, Becky Kennedy, Becky Kreider, Jen Matthias, Tyler Miller, Jen Price, Allecia Rickard, Stephanie Rush, Carrie Smith, Larry Shoop, Gwen Umbreit, and Megan Werts. Thanks to all who helped! See the photos on Page 3, and pick up *The Slate* on Apr. 15 for special coverage of the event.

Several Honors students enjoyed hot chocolate and literary readings at the successful Honors Talent Show and Coffee House on March 20 in McCune Hall Basement. Stephanie Rush organized the event, and Jen Matthias and Natalie Cochran provided the entertainment. Cochran read the poem, "This is My Child," by Ann Arnett Ferguson, while Matthias presented the commencement classic, Oh the Places You'll Go! by Theodore Seuss Geisel.

The Honors Program will graduate 25 seniors in May and August. **Dara Mundey** and **Heather Trible** deserve special recognition for accumulating 36 Honors credits over their years at Ship, the most of any of the graduates. The Honors grads and their majors:

Staci Anderson, Management Tanya Andreadis, Elementary Education Allison Brown, Communication/Journalism Eric Dinsmore, Management Jill Fraker, Elementary Education Daniel Furr, Psychology Troy Hess, Biology Ryan Hurst, Accounting and Finance Elizabeth Klemick, Political Science Erin Koveleski, French and English Chad Kuipers, Economics M. Catherine Lambert, English Andrea Lapihuska, Psychology Timothy MacBain, Social Studies Kandis McCartney, Chemistry John Monn, English Dara Mundey, Elementary Education Travis Myers, English and Spanish Karen Page, Information Management and Analysis Jessica Shultz, Psychology Susan Sperduto, Criminal Justice William Staub, Mathematics Heather Trible, Elementary Education Lori Wisniewski, Criminal Justice Lisa Young, Biology

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

HONORS OFFICE HH 104 (477-1604) M-Th 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. F 9 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. DIRECTOR: Dr. Kim Klein SECRETARY: Mrs. Sharon Poe GAs: Trevor Kase, Shaun Kirkpatrick On the Web: www.ship.edu/~honors

Excitement in Education: the day in pics







Upper left: Middle school students arrive during registration, shortly before 9:30 a.m. **Above:** Students investigate "Mind Matters" in one of six interactive courses offered. All photos courtesy of Larry Shoop.

Above: Honors members and staff serve pizza to students and "faculty" during lunch, between 11:25 and 12. Middle school students attended two classes before lunch, and then received brief tours of campus before their third and final class. **Below:** Middle school and Honors students and staff pose for a group photo around 1:30, at the end of a full day and an enjoyable "Excitement in Education" event.



E² equals just the start: other ways to volunteer

BY MEGAN WERTS

My name's Megan Werts. I am the President of the Volunteers Club on campus as well as an Honors student. At our last Volunteers Service Council meeting, upcoming events were set. If you are interested in getting involved in more service projects, I think it's a great idea and would like to help you out with it. As Honors students, hopefully we'll be able to increase our opportunities to benefit the community.

Our upcoming events include:

- YMCA Volunteers play sports and participate in various other activities with children on Tuesday evenings from approximately 6 to 9:30 p.m. Specific meeting time and place are available to interested students.
- Kings Kettle This is a food pantry in Shippensburg (within walking distance of campus). They operate on various Tuesday and Thursday evenings. If students would like to help out they can contact us and we'll fill them in on the details.
- Boys and Girls Club This is an after-school program in Chambersburg for children, ages 6 to 18. It runs Monday through Friday from 3 to 8 p.m. (I believe). Volunteers schedule their own hours and may tutor, teach classes, or simply play games and sports with the children. Applications are available by request for interested students.

Again, if you would like to participate in any of these activities or want more details, contact the Volunteers Club at volunteers_club@yahoo.com or Megan at 477-7217.

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SUMMER ADDRESS CHANGES: If you will be a returning student next year and your summer address is not your permanent address, please contact the Honors Office in Horton Hall 104, at 477-1604, or e-mail us at sapoe@ship.edu to report the changes. The summer issue of the newsletter will have important information on mentoring, the mandatory fall Honors meeting, and other news and events. Thanks, and have a great summer!!

11208010 Honors Program Shippensburg University 1871 Old Main Drive Shippensburg, PA 17257