YOU can help improve the Honors Program...

How satisfied are you with the Honors Program? What are the program's benefits? How could it be improved? Now you can tell us. Honors students will soon receive a “Questionnaire for Shippensburg Honors Students” in the mail. This anonymous survey, developed by Honors Director Dr. Klein in consultation with the Faculty and Student Steering Committees, gives students the opportunity to evaluate the current Honors Program.

“The survey will tell us where the Honors Program is doing well and where there is need for improvement,” President Ryan Hess said. “Through this, we can focus both student and faculty efforts towards addressing areas that are lacking at the current time.”

“But to achieve any of these results, students must participate in the survey process so that the surveys reflect the majority opinion of students,” Hess said.

Surveys should be mailed to Honors Secretary Sharon Poe at the Honors Program, Horton Hall 104.

Northeast Honors scholars will gather at Gettysburg in March

Ryan Hess, Meg Dameron, Jeremy Winn, and Stephanie Rush will represent Shippensburg at the 2003 Northeast Region of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NE-NCHC) Conference, to be held March 27-30, 2003, at the Eisenhower Inn in Gettysburg.

The theme of the conference is “Civil War: Many Battles, Many Stories,” and this will be reflected in the keynote address and in the “battlefield-as-text” experience.

In addition, representatives will have the opportunity to get to know and interact with Honors students from other universities, as well as attend discussions and panel sessions that offer practical advice on many aspects of Honors Program planning and leadership, from organizing service projects to social events.

Transportation will be provided to and from the university on all three days of the conference. Space is still available for students interested in attending. Please contact Honors Director Dr. Klein at kmklei@ship.edu for more information.

Darth Vader takes Ship

James Earl Jones loves speaking to college students. Typically, he says, it involves going to a commencement and telling a graduating class, “The Force be with you.” On Feb. 13, however, the actor sat down for an hour with Shippensburg students in the Mark Room of Old Main and answered their questions.

Jones, known for his roles in Star Wars, Field of Dreams, and The Hunt for Red October, came to campus for the Gifted Minority Scholarship Fund program dinner that night.

Honors students were impressed with the meeting. “I’m a huge Lion King fan,” junior Rebecca Purse said, “and hearing Musafa’s voice say, ‘Hello,’... just made me smile.”

Junior Natalie Cochran asked Jones about the relationship between an actor and the audience. Jones enthusiastically described what he termed a “positive-negative charge” that he feels when performing on stage.

In response to Jones’ comments on his portrayals of boxer Jack Jefferson in The Great White Hope and of the Rev. Vernon Johns in The Vernon Johns Story, senior Travis Myers said, “One of the things that intrigued me was that he likes to play characters from history whom he would have liked to meet, though he may not have agreed with what they stood for.”

The next opportunity for Honors students to meet a special campus speaker will be on April 1, when Andrew Cuomo will be at Shippensburg. Cuomo, the U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President Clinton, will speak with students at 4:15 p.m. in the Mark Room. Interested students should contact Sharon Poe at extension 1604 by March 17.
Sophomore, junior women invited to the summer Undergraduate Women’s Leadership Institute

FROM WOMEN’S NEWS OF SU

Applications are now available for the 15th Annual Undergraduate Women’s Leadership Institute to be held July 27 to Aug. 1 at the McKeever Learning Center, Sandy Lake, Pa.

The six-day institute brings together about 50 women students, faculty, and staff from the 14 system universities in an informal setting. The curriculum includes a variety of workshops ranging from ice breakers and self-discovery exercises to concrete skill-building sessions.

Instructional sessions are conducted by a variety of talented women who contribute not only to the content of learning activities but also serve as role models and potential mentors. All sessions are interactive, requiring participants to engage in discussions, role plays, simulations, and case study analyses. Students meet in small groups to process and apply information as well as learn from each others’ experiences.

Guest speakers, outdoor recreation, and team building exercises also contribute to a variety of activities and create multiple learning opportunities. Additionally, literature, music, and videos about women and women’s issues are available on site.

The Undergraduate Women’s Leadership Institute is sponsored by the PA-SSHE Women’s Consortium, Student Affairs Offices, and APSCUF.

Sophomore and junior women students are encouraged to pick up an application at the Women’s Center, Multicultural Student Affairs, the Non-Traditional Student Lounge, Resident Directors or online on the Women’s Center Web site. Applications consist of a few essay questions and two reference forms. Return completed applications to the Women’s Center, Horton Hall 132, by Friday, March 28.

Scholarships to intern in Washington, D.C., available from SSHE

The State System of Higher Education (SSHE) offers students of all majors $4,000 scholarships to participate in the Washington Center’s internship program in the summer or fall of 2003.

The SSHE will offer a total of 50 scholarships, and according to Dr. David Twining, “Shippensburg University is among the first to take advantage of this program.” With a scholarship, an internship through the center will cost “equal to or less than” that of a semester at Shippensburg, Twining said. The university will count the summer internship as 12 credits, and the fall internship as 15.

“Students must have a 2.75 GPA and be second-semester sophomores or higher. Special ‘tracks’ exist for Minority Affairs, Women’s Studies, Pre-Law, Information Technology, Environmental Affairs, and other fields,” Twining said.

Interested students must apply by April 1. Applications will be available on the Web site. www.ship.edu/~honors

“Excitement in” this E² update

BY MEG Dameron

What does E² equal?

“Excitement in Education” is a program organized and sponsored by the Shippensburg University Honors Program. The program began in 1992 and is designed to introduce middle school students to a college campus and allow them to get to know what college life will be like. Dubbed “E-Squared” for short, the program focuses on putting a creative spin on learning and inspiring students to attend college.

This year begins a partnership between the Harrisburg school district and Shippensburg University. This partnership, known as “Gear Up,” is working in conjunction with the Honors Program to offer E-Squared to the students of the Harrisburg Middle School.

This year’s E-Squared will be held on April 5. Honors students have already been at work developing lessons such as “The Rewarding Rigmarole of Writing” and “Beboping through Genetics.” Other students will also help with campus tours, registration, and lunch. Anyone interested in serving in any capacities should contact one of the steering committee officers. The next E-Squared meeting for all participants will be 7:45 p.m., Monday, March 24 in CUB 216.

Special meetings for individual jobs will be announced by e-mail.

THE HONORABLE MENTION

Congratulations to junior Rennae Hillen and sophomore Meg Dameron for being chosen to travel to China in the 2003 SSHE Summer Honors Program. Junior Rebecca Purse will serve as the alternate.

Ryan Hess, Meg Dameron, Jeremy Winn, and Stephanie Rush will represent the Shippensburg University Honors Program at the NE-NCHC Conference in Gettysburg. To join them, see the article on Page 1.

NEWS from the Honors Steering Committee

* The Honors Lounge now has informational binders on special Study Abroad, Internship, and Scholarship opportunities. Stop by to check them out!
* There are two social events planned for this semester. The first is another Dinner and a Movie Night, with a special post-“Excitement in Education” celebration, on April 12. Time and location to be announced.
* The second social event will be a talent show and coffee-house in the basement of McCune Hall, March 20, 7:00 p.m. The Honors Student Steering Committee meets every other week, at 7:45 p.m. in the Honors Lounge. Upcoming dates: March 5 and March 19. All Honors students are welcome.
IT’S SCHEDULING TIME

Scheduling is approaching for Fall 2003! This semester, course descriptions may be found exclusively at our Web site:

www.ship.edu/~honors

Just click on the “Courses” button. For a more “print-friendly” page, go directly to www.ship.edu/~honors/Courses.html. Here are some important points to remember:

* The scheduling meeting for Honors students will be held on Monday, March 17 in DHC 051. YOU MUST ATTEND THIS MEETING TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR HONORS CLASSES.
* You need to attend only during your scheduling period:
  - Seniors, Juniors, Sophomores 6:30-7:00
  - Freshmen 7:00-8:00
* If you do not currently have an Honors course and are not planning to schedule one, your priority scheduling privilege will be revoked unless you have already earned 24 Honors credits.
* Be certain that there are no holds on your record (any unpaid bills related to the University, library or parking fines, incomplete Heath Center forms, etc.). You WILL NOT be permitted to schedule if you have ANY holds.
* If you need to make a change to your Honors courses, the change MUST be made through Sharon Poe, the Honors secretary (extension 1604 or sapoe@ship.edu).

*ALSO KEEP IN MIND*

PASS/FAIL OPTION:
* Students in the Honors Program are expected to maintain a “B” average in their Honors courses; therefore, pass/fail is NOT an option for Honors courses.

REQUIREMENT REMINDER:
* To remain in and graduate from the Honors Program, you must maintain at least a 3.25 QPA in both your Honors and non-Honors courses.

*General Scheduling Notice*
* All students MUST meet with their advisor before they will be permitted to schedule. The advisor/department office must release the advising hold before the computer will allow you to proceed.
* If a course is closed or restricted, you will not be able to schedule the course without going to the department offering the course during your appointment time.
* Your opportunity to schedule lasts from the date and time of your appointment to that time the following day. You are responsible for scheduling your non-honors courses at that time.
In this issue of **The Honors Program Newsletter**: 

- “It’s Scheduling Time” for Fall 2003 — Page 3
- Information on the upcoming student survey — Page 1
- How you can meet with a former presidential cabinet member — Page 1
- Travel opportunities for the summer and fall — Page 2
- An update on “Excitement in Education” — Page 2