The Honors Program Newsletter

VOL. 17, ISSUE 3

FROM THE HONORS OFFICE, HORTON HALL 104

NOVEMBER 2003

CALENDAR

For updates, go to our Web site, http://www.ship.edu/~honors, and click on "Calendar."

December

1 — Deadline for Honors Abroad Travel Scholarships

Two travel scholarships of up to \$400 are available from the Honors Program to cover the cost of a plane ticket for the Honors Abroad spring break and summer courses. Contact Dr. Klein at kmklei@ship.edu for more information.

4 — Deadline to Apply for Summer Course in Austria

If interested in the summer Environmental Geography course in Austria, you must send Dr. Benhart (jebenh@ship.edu) your name, home address, school address, and e-mail address. A \$100 deposit is also due by December 4, with the rest of the payment due near the end of spring semester. The course will run from July 7 to 30. Meetings will be held in November and December to discuss the course and to have students that have taken the course in the past react to your questions.

13 — Fall Commencement

If you graduate in December, please contact Dr. Klein at kmklei@ship.edu to arrange an exit interview and to pick up



Have a relaxing break and a happy holiday season!

your Honors cord.

January

15 — Spring Honors General Meeting

3:30 p.m., DHC 051

All Honors Program members are expected to attend.

28 — Deadline for SSHE Summer Program Applications

Applications are due by 11:45 a.m. to Sharon Poe in the Honors Office, Horton Hall 104.

February

12 — Uncommon Conversations: Alice Walker

tentative, time and place TBA

Alice Walker is a prize-winning poet, novelist, and shortstory writer, whose works include *The Color Purple*. More information at the General Meeting on January 15.

19 — Pizza with a Prof: Dr. Sharon Harrow and Dr. Cathy Dibello, English Department

The February newsletter will be mailed during the week of Feb. 23. Call x1604 or stop by the Honors Office if you do not receive it.

Common ground in Chicago

BY ANNA CARLEN, HSO SECRETARY

On Nov. 5, Meg Dameron, Stephanie Rush, and I flew to Chicago in an attempt to "Find Common Ground." "Finding Common Ground" was the title of the 2003 annual National Collegiate Honors Council conference. Hundreds of honors students from schools across the United States attended the conference in order to learn new and different ideas to bring back to their honors programs.

With over a hundred sessions, picking which to attend was the most difficult part. Sessions were presented by honors directors, faculty, and students. The presenters discussed different ways in which their programs work, and the types of courses, graduation requirements, and programs that are successful on their campus.

Meg, Stephanie, and I attended numerous sessions focused on freshmen seminar classes, special honors program orientations, honors program newsletters and websites, mentor/mentee programs, and undergraduate research. All of us came back to Ship with many ideas to strengthen and improve our honors program.

The conference was a great experience for all of us. Being able to interact with students and faculty alike was beneficial because we were able to get both views of issues surrounding honors programs across the country today. Learning what other schools are doing and how upperclassmen students are playing a major role in their honors programs showed us how Ship's Honors Program and the upperclassmen students can help out too.

Besides attending sessions during the day, there was a gala held at the Museum of Science and Industry and a student party at the end of the conference. There was even free time allotted for students to take in the sights of Chicago. Even though it was cold and windy, we braved the weather and visited Navy Pier, the Art Institute of Chicago, Chinatown, and the downtown shops.

Regional conference in Hartford

The Honors Program will send four or five Honors students to the Northeast Region of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NE-NCHC) Conference, which will be held from April 1 to 4, 2004, at the Hartford Hilton, Hartford, Conn. The conference theme is "Exploring our Common Humanity."

Dr. Mark Anderson, Honors Director of the SUNY-Brockport Honors Program, said, "Hartford is a great site for exploring important figures and significant events in American life. Special activities have been planned for the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, the Mark Twain Center, and the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, which is America's oldest public art museum. Hartford was also the home of Thomas Gallaudet, the founder of the American School for the Deaf, the residence of poet Wallace Stevens, and the location of the Amistad trials of 53 West Africans following their 1839 rebellion on a slave ship. Special conference activities will focus on these individuals and events. In addition, the conference will deal with such topics as business ethics, redevelopment, ecological issues, arts in the city, and immigration relevant to our Hartford location."

Students interested in attending should contact the Honors Office in the spring to register. More information will be provided at the General Meeting on January 15.

Excitement in Education scores

BY STEPHANIE RUSH, HSO VICE-PRESIDENT

November 1 marked the 13th year of Excitement In Education (E2), the Saturday school event sponsored by the Honors Program.

For the second year, the Honors Program collaborated with the Gear Up program to make the day a success. Gear Up is a program within the College of Education and Human Services aimed at creating a bridge between Shippensburg University education students and Harrisburg middle school students.

Similar to previous years, six classes were offered for the middle school students to choose from. Each student attended three classes, had a pizza lunch, and went on a campus tour.

Honors students from all majors and years taught courses, and numerous others helped with campus tours, lunch, and registration.

Excitement In Education is beneficial for the middle school students because it allows them to have fun taking classes not normally taught at school and to get an idea of what college is like.

E² will be held again in the spring. Planning meetings will begin early next semester. More information in the February newsletter.

Game night a "monopoly" on fun

BY FLORIDA CIMINO. HONORS SENIOR

The Recreation Committee threw the first social activity of the semester on November 1, to celebrate the success of E2. Game Night was held in the CUB and a dozen students played games and talked to unwind from a long day.

There were numerous games to choose from, although Taboo was the game of choice. After playing games, attendees were entertained with stories from road trips, classes, and other experiences.

If you are interested in helping plan recreation events, consider joining the Recreation Committee. Contact Jen Matthias or Becky Kreider for more information.

HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE

(717) 477-1604 Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Fri. 8 - 11:45 a.m.

Director: Dr. Kim Klein kmklei@ship.edu Secretary: Mrs. Sharon Poe sapoe@ship.edu **Graduate Assistants:** Jessica Kirkwood jk3275@ship.edu

Shaun Kirkpatrick sk1664@ship.edu

HONORS STUDENT ORGANIZATION (HSO)

Officers

President: Meg Dameron nutmegatron@yahoo.com Vice President: Stephanie Rush sr4349@ship.edu Secretary: Anna Carlen ac6363@ship.edu Erin Harmon eh4362@ship.edu Treasurer:

Committee Chairs

Media: Naomi Creason ob1kenobimd@hotmail.com

Stephanie Rush sr4349@ship.edu Megan Werts mw3784@ship.edu

Service: Recreation: Becky Kreider yogachic@aol.com Jen Matthias jm2298@ship.edu

Orientation: Erin Harmon eh4362@ship.edu

E²: Meg Dameron nutmegatron@yahoo.com

Study abroad opportunities abound for Honors students

At the freshmen orientation session on October 21, students discovered how easy it is to spend a semester-or even iust a week—abroad.

Dr. Neil Brasher told students of the first chance: a spring break trip to Brussels, Belgium. Trip participants will meet NATO and EU officials, experience Belgian food and culture, spend two days in Paris, and have free time to venture to Amsterdam or London. Interested students can contact Dr. Brasher at cnbras@ship.edu.

Dr. David Twining, Director of the Study Abroad Program at Shippensburg, noted the several international universities at which Ship students can spend a semester or two, in such diverse places as Australia, Denmark, England, and New Visit the Study Abroad Web site at http:// www.ship.edu/academic/study_abroad for details.

Two Honors students who did spend semesters abroad, Joe Eberly and Liz Dideon, recounted their experiences. Eberly went to Denmark for Fall 2002, while Dideon traveled to Australia in Spring 2003.

In a November 2002 article for The Honors Program Newsletter, Eberly wrote of his time in Denmark: "As a study abroad student you are often thrust into a unique and often unknown culture. Culture shock seems to be such a harsh way of describing it, as it is truly an exciting experience. Learning and adapting to a new culture has positively changed the way I look at the world as a whole."

Pizza with a Prof: Exploring careers over free food

BY JEN MATTHIAS, HONORS JUNIOR

Attending the Math Department's "Pizza with a Prof" on Sept. 25 was both informative and interesting. I am an Elementary Education Major with a Math minor and I have never really thought about any career other than teaching with a Math degree. However, Dr. Fiorini was very knowledgeable as he spoke about the possible careers that Math majors can pursue other than teaching.

He talked about Math majors in a career that involves figuring out and creating patterns. Such skills can allow a person to have an intense job, such as one with the government—dealing with spies.

A person with a Math degree can be hired at just about every kind of company that exists, to help with the statistics of the company and much more. Those were just a few of the things he mentioned.

I found the "Pizza with a Prof" to be very interesting. I was feeling a bit under the weather that evening, but I am glad I went. Not only was it free food, but it was also a chance to meet Dr. Fiorini and Dr. Choi, professors in my minor, and find out interesting information about the field.

The Honors Program is planning two Pizza with a Prof events for Spring 2004, the first hosted by Dr. Harrow and Dr. Dibello of the English Department on Feb. 19, and the second co-hosted by Prof. Ruby of Art and Prof. Carlin of Communications/Journalism on April 15. Check the master calendar on the Honors Web site for more information.

16 Honors students awarded research grants

Sixteen Honors students received between \$75 and \$600 in research funding from the Undergraduate Research Program in October. The program, run by the Institute for Public Service, awarded a total of \$35,750 in grant money to over 90 projects.

The grants cover student projects from October 2003 to June 2004. Students will present their results at a research poster program in the spring.

Students of any major can apply for research grants, as shown in the chart below.

DEPARTMENT	IN HONORS	RESEARCH GRANT PROJECT TITLE
ART	Meg Dameron, Gwen Umbreit	The History of Book Arts: The Integration of Book Arts into the History Curricula
BIOLOGY	Slaven Jesic	A Stable-Isotope Diet Analysis of Herons to Indicated Exposure to PCBs from, and Extent of Predation on Stocked Trout
BUSINESS	Matthew Anderson	Getting One Step Ahead of the Rest, an In-Depth Study of Summer Employment for Undergraduate Business Students
CHEMISTRY	Shayna Cooke	Studies on Synthesis, Structure, and Reactivity of Phosphanyl(organyl)boranes
CHEMISTRY	Jeb Kegerreis	Spectroscopy and Electrochemistry of Rhenium-Dioxo Compounds as Surrogates for Analogous Technetium Complexes
CHEMISTRY/ GEOGRAPHY	Sara Andria	Determination of Iron in Environmental Water Samples Using Attenuated Total Reflectance Spectroelectrochemical Sensing
GEOGRAPHY	Matthew Pimental	Recent Increases in Truck Traffic in the Cumberland Valley
HISTORY	Jeremy Winn	Rally Forth! A Look at the Effect of Alfred the Great's Kingship on Anglo-Saxon England and Beyond
PHYSICS	Ben Sauerwine	Small Particle Manipulation Using an Atomic Force Microscope
PSYCHOLOGY	Jacob Crouse	The Relationship Between Neurocognitive Dysfunction, Social Insight, and Social Anhedonia
PSYCHOLOGY	Stephanie Ficiak	Getting There by Accident: An Assessment of Student Perceptions of Liability
PSYCHOLOGY	Melissa Gonzalez	Sociotropy-Autonomy and Interpersonal Interaction
PSYCHOLOGY	Ashlie Salawage	Personal Space Anxiety in High Trait-Anxious and Low Trait-Anxious People
TEACHER ED	Caitlin Torrens	Hands-On Science Education
TEACHER ED	Donna Wheeler	Composting: Nature Recycling

THE HONORABLE MENTION

Thanks to all who assisted with Excitement in Education! Participants included Mike Angstadt, Nick Anspach, Jamie Booth, Caitlin Burger, Anna Carlen, Florida Cimino, Meg Dameron, Kallie Drenning, Ashley Gross, Erin Harmon, Erin Hollinshead, Becky Kreider, Jen Matthias, Katie Mayo, Christy Norris, Jacob Rosenberry, Lora Ruhl,

Stephanie Rush, Larry Shoop, Carrie Smith, Taralyn Tetreault, Paula Thomas, and Megan Werts.

Thanks to **Anna Carlen**, **Florida Cimino**, and **Stephanie Ficiak** for getting up early on a Saturday to help represent the Honors Program at one of the Admissions Open Houses this fall.

HONORS PROGRAM PHOTO GALLERY





Photos from Australia: Liz Dideon spent Spring 2003 in the province of Queensland, Australia, experiencing the Outback (above), tropical rain forests, and the Great Barrier Reef, where she met a Great Potato Cod





Photos from Excitement in Education: Harrisburg middle school students play a card game to match shapes, colors, and patterns in one class (above), learn to sing and play songs from the 1960s in another (left), and in a third session prepare to make and eat Ecuadorian quacamole (below).



Farewell: This is my last issue editing *The Honors Program Newsletter*, since I will be graduating in December. I have enjoyed being an Honors GA and getting to know many of you. If you would like to keep in contact, my non-Ship e-mail address is leps88@yahoo.com. Thanks! — Shaun

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Thursday, January 15, 2004

Honors Spring General Meeting

3:30 p.m., DHC 051

Begin the semester right by seeing all of your Honors classmates and learning about the many Uncommon Conversations, Pizza with Profs, community service events, and other opportunities available this spring. All Honors Program members are expected to attend. If unable, you must contact Sharon Poe at sapoe@ship.edu *before* the meeting.

Studying abroad in 2004? Two travel scholarships of up to \$400 are available from the Honors Program to cover the cost of a plane ticket for the Honors Abroad spring break and summer courses. Contact Dr. Klein for more information.

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