The Honors Chronicle

Volume 21, Issue 2

http://webspace.ship.edu/honors

October 2007

Calendar

October

10 - Advising Meeting for Spring 2008 Scheduling

Horton 110, 5:00-5:45 p.m.

11 - Advising Meeting for Spring 2008 Scheduling

Horton 110, 8:30-9:15 a.m.

15-16 - Honors Scheduling for Spring 2008

All students who intend to schedule Honors courses in the Spring 2008 semester must contact Sharon Poe, Honors secretary, at sapoe@ship.edu with the Honors courses they would like to schedule.

15-19 - Geek Week

16 - Freshmen Orientation Session and Dinner: Learning Styles *CUB* 226 *B&C*, 5:30-6:15 p.m.

23 - Honors Interdisciplinary Arts Field Trip to Philadelphia

23 - Freshmen Orientation Session: Stress Management *CUB 226 B&C*, *5:30-6:15 p.m.*

30 - Freshmen Orientation Session: Money Wise

CUB 226 B&C, 5:30-6:15 p.m.

31-November 4 - National Collegiate Honors Council Conference

Denver, Colorado

Honors students Michelle Baker, Ryan Blackman, Joseph Livingston, Nicole Thierwechter, and Honors Director Dr. Kim Klein will make presentations at the conference.

November

7 - HSO Meeting

CUB 217, 8:00 p.m.

Research Bound



By Jenna McCaffrey and David Miller, Honors seniors

Over this past summer, we took classes at Wallop's Island Marine Science Consortium on the coast of Virginia. The Consortium is a marine research center that is funded by several east coast universities. There are dorms, labs, recreation areas, a dining hall and several research

vessels available to students taking classes. Since Shippensburg University is a contributing affiliate of this marine consortium, every student is eligible to take classes there at the cost of Shippensburg University tuition.

There are a variety of marine science-based classes offered throughout the summer, including: marine biology, marine ecology, ichthyology, oceanography, and marine mammals. Each class involves extensive field work in and around Wallops Island. Classes typically have both a lecture period and a field work component each day, which would involve boat trips to the ocean or inlets, hikes on the beaches and tidal flats, and trips to aquariums and other research facilities. Some classes do not require prerequisites, so the opportunity to take classes is not restricted to science majors.

Our experience involved a lot of work on research vessels out in the ocean and in the Chincoteague Inlet area, gathering organisms to take back to the



labs to observe and study. The labs are all equipped with running salt water aquaria, and are open for use by the students. We utilized this opportunity to bring back sea horses, mantis shrimp, burr fish (puffer fish), flounder, blue fish, jelly fish (that lit up in the dark!), sea anemones, crabs, snails, plankton, and many other marine



Photos by Jenna McCaffrey

Senior David Miller holds two burr fish, also known as puffer fish, at the Marine Science Consortium in Wallops Island.

organisms. There were also many microscopes and equipment available for us to do our own research and observation of the animals. We were even fortunate enough to witness the sea horse give birth to about 300 babies and observe them under the microscopes. (Don't worry; all of these creatures were set free at the end of each class cycle!) These are experiences that are unique to this type of institution, which you just cannot achieve in a regular lecture-based classroom.

We were fortunate enough to have a professor who was world renowned for his work in marine research. Dr. Jay Hunt, from East Stroudsburg University, was able to give us insight on many topics that he had experienced first hand, such as traveling to the bottom of the deep ocean in submersibles off the coast of Japan, and identifying new species of squid. These professors are at Wallops Island not only because of their expertise in their respective fields, but because they want the students to learn and experience marine science hands-on.

Studying at the Marine Science Consortium is a tremendous opportunity to extend your learning beyond the confines of Shippensburg. It is an experience that we would definitely recommend more students take advantage of.

SideNotes By Stacie Wight

Happy Halloween!

Every year, regardless of age, we all find a way to celebrate Halloween. As

younger children, we participated in parades at school dressed as our favorite Disney characters and then trick-ornight. all treated Hopped up on sugar, we would swap-out and trade candy with friends until well past



our bedtime. This year, we will forgo our Disney costumes and attend other various Halloween parties and instead of collecting candy, many will be handing it out. Halloween was not a created holiday for children to wander around collecting candy. Instead, it originated as Samhain, a Pagan festival celebrated in Ireland and Great Britain. Samhain was a festival that celebrated the end of the summer season and harvest. This festival typically lasted about three days. In the 19th century, immigrants

from this region brought with them their versions of Samhain to North America. The name Halloween is derived from All-hallow-even as it refers to the evening before All Hallows Day (November 1). This day was used by Europeans to celebrate other various Pagan religious traditions. Today it is celebrated in Ireland, United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, and the United Kingdom. Recently, parts of Western Europe have begun celebrating the holiday. Many parts of Ireland refer to Halloween as Pooky Night (one of my new favorite names for Halloween). Although still celebrated today, Halloween has changed a lot from its original start. Have a fantastic Pooky Night

and mark our Americanized Halloween with plenty of jack-o-lanterns, candv. and costumes!





Geek Week is the opportunity to show off your HSO spirit. During the week, HSO students are encouraged to participate in dress-up days. At the end of the week, watch a professor kiss a pig, or a goat, or another farm animal at the home football game on Saturday, October 20. During the week, all students may cast money to vote for the professor they'd like to see do the kissing. Look for more details in the Honors Program's weekly e-mail updates.



"I step away from stressful situations and take a break."



Sabrina Dooley Freshman

"I listen to music while I read a good book (not a text book)."



Valerie Koontz Junior

Speak Out! By Grace Burkholder, Honors junior

How do you relieve stress?

"I do voga. It really works, too!



Paris Peet Theater Professor

"I go to a park and walk around in nice weather."



Kara Bushman Sophomore

"I go for a walk around campus to clear my mind."



Matt Stern Senior

Undergraduate Research, Study Abroad, and Internship Opportunities

SSHE 2007: MIRABILE INVENTU

Seniors Emily Cisney and Jenn Bly studied for one week at California University of Pennsylvania, before embarking on a three-week expense-paid trip in Europe. They visited more than 12 cities, including Rome, Florence, Venice, Paris, and London.



Photos courtesy of Jenn Bly and Emily Cisney



"I can't believe I'm here," I said over and over again. I said it gawking up at the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, ogling a real Gutenberg Bible in

Mainz, floating down a Venetian canal, picnicking over the city of Florence at sunset, admiring artwork in Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum, and rambling along the Renaissance streets of Roth-

Ever since I first heard about the PA-SSHE Summer Honors program in my freshman year, I knew I wanted to participate in it someday. After agonizing over every word in my application, I fortunately got the opportunity to participate in the 2007 program, Mirabile Inventu: European Renaissance and Reformation with Antique Connections. Mirabile Inventu means roughly "wonderful to discover" in Latin, and that is exactly what our adventures were this summer.

First, we completed an intensive week of classes at California University alongside 27 other students, two from each state school in Pennsylvania.

It was exciting and intellectually stimulating to meet students from across the state with similar goals and personalities. Each of us picked a topic of interest that would be our specialty over the next month, mine being rhetoric. I examined Pico della Mirandola who was a Renaissance humanist, fighting for the empowerment of the individual. He said in his famous "Oration on the Dignity of Man," "...you may, as the free and proud shaper of your own being, fashion yourself in the form you may prefer." It's amazing that the truth in his statement still exists over 500 years later.

We visited over 12 cities in more than five countries. The places we traveled are the sites where history actually occurred: where Michelangelo sculpted, where Henry VIII lodged his many wives, and where the volcano, Mt. Vesuvius, wiped out an entire civilization. I felt like I stepped into the pages of a history book and stepped out into modern Europe (which is just as exciting). I learned how to synthesize ideas from a wide variety of fields and how to appreciate invention and exploration. The cities we visited were lively, thriving, and beautiful, each in their own way. Every time we had to board the bus to move on to another city I started wishing that we could stay for another day...or two...or three.

Because we were only in the cities for a few days each, we had to be sure to appreciate every moment for what it was. Some of the fondest memories I have include tossing a coin in the Trevi fountain, passing by elaborate street performers and statues, washing clothes in hotel bathtubs, gelato, trying to decipher elaborate maps, touring the Kriminalmuseum, the Vatican, shoe shopping, European signs, meeting native tour guides, and hearing great presentations by our peers.

While we were watching "The Merchant of Venice" performed in Shakespeare's Globe Theater, I sighed again, "I can't believe I'm here." Basically, our entire PA-SSHE Program was one surreal experience followed by another. I will carry the memories from Mirabile Inventu with me for the rest of my life. I encourage every honors student to apply for next year's PA-SSHE trip to China; you don't want to miss out on a wonderful opportunity.



I will never forget sharing with my friends a light dinner of warm, freshly made

bread with thick sliced meats and cheeses topped with a dessert of delectable berries and fruits from the street market. Sitting on a stone wall, we ate while gazing from a hill over the quiet city of Florence as the setting sun bathed the buildings and gentle Arno River with a golden glow.

My PA-SSHE Mirabile Inventu experience was all about being in the moment. When you take a journey, your senses become overwhelmed by all of the new and amazing experiences.

There are some instances where you cannot appreciate everything around you, and the best thing to do is just sit and watch the people as they go on with their daily lives (trust me, it is very relaxing and quite entertaining).

As a traveler, you are allowed something special: you feel like you are detached from the real world...time is standing still and you are given a rare gift. There is no need to worry about what is

See EUROPE



Emily Cisney, left, and Jenn Bly, right, visited the ancient ruins at Pompeii within the first week of their journey.

HONORABLE ALUM: BARBARA WHEELER

When Barbara Wheeler graduated from the Honors Program in 2001 with a communications/journalism degree and a minor in art, she left for volunteer work in Jackson, Mississippi. Within the next few years, she would move to New York City and eventually become a magazine managing editor and communications executive for a non-profit organization.



Barbara Wheeler

By Jess Krout, Honors senior

Barbara Wheeler remembers her "Inventions and Innovations" course with Professor Janet Ruby.

"It wasn't a generic entrepreneurial class," Wheeler said. "It engaged business principles with elements of creativity and design."

Now, business and creativity are key elements of

Wheeler's job, as a managing editor of <u>Response</u>, the official magazine of United Methodist women. The magazine, with a circulation of approximately 30,000, is even subscribed internationally. It publishes 11 times a year without advertisements. The magazine raises awareness of social and justice issues across the globe.

"I really love what I do," Wheeler said. "Now I feel like I'm getting to refine my journalism skills." Wheeler, who grew up outside of Newville, Pa., never expected that she would live in Mississippi and later New York.

"I had always wanted to live in New York," Wheeler said.

Before she graduated from SU, she had applied to volunteer with The United Methodist Church at the suggestion of Reverend Jan Bye, SU United Campus Minister.

When the church told Wheeler she was accepted as a volunteer in Jackson, she decided to go.

"I didn't feel the need or pressure to start my ca-

reer," Wheeler explained.

Even though her parents were surprised at her decision, Wheeler said, "It was a good experience to see a different part of the country."

In Jackson, she volunteered at a community center and wellness clinic. She taught in an after-school program and helped to give free income tax preparation. She also did some public relations work, relying on her education at SU.

Later, Wheeler moved to New York City to coordinate the program for which she had volunteered.

"Staying with an organization is beneficial, because you learn people, and you learn the ins and outs of things, and sort of the politics of the organization," she said.

In October 2006, Wheeler became managing editor of <u>Response</u> and is drawing again on her education from SU.

"I was very excited about working in journalism again at an organization that I feel is along with my views and values."

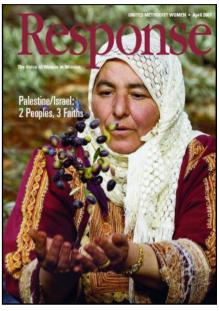
Wheeler says that people have helped her to become who she is. They've motivated her and encouraged her to push herself.

"It's empowered me to say, 'Yeah, you can do this."

The field of journalism can be demanding sometimes, she says, but she tries to keep a balance between life and work. Wheeler takes a lunch break away from the office each day.

"Keeping a balance gives you a baseline to draw **justice issues around the world.** energy from."

Wheeler also says, she's been very fortunate.



Photos courtesy of Barbara Wheeler

Wheeler helps to produce Response, the official magazine of United Methodist women. The cover of the April 2007 issue, pictured above, features a Palestinian woman. The magazine aims to raise awareness of social and justice issues around the world.

PA-SSHE 2008 in

CHINA

Applications will be available in the Honors office, Horton Hall 104, by mid-October.

EUROPE, cont'd

going on in the world, no need to think about what will happen after graduation.

For me, being in Europe was like living and being a new me, an Emily with no worries. I could sit down and watch the people stroll in front of the Santa Croce in Florence while eating a delicious gelato.

In Austria, even though we had only one day and night to stay, gazing at the serene Alps felt like a lifetime.

Time felt both endless and too short. The history that permeates all of Europe goes back so far, you feel as if you are in a constant time warp. One moment you are in the Colosseum with hundreds of prisoners grimly waiting to die at the claws of a lion. The next moment, you are peering into the little stores of glass, leather, and shoes as you search for that elusive perfect pair of shoes. There

is so much history woven into the land, you are constantly learning and making connections between every bit of information you hear.

Traveling outside of the United States has absolutely changed a part of me. I like to think it has made me more acceptable of life and its little quirks. It has made me more appreciative of how diverse the world is — the rich, beautiful cultures, and even more accepting of other people's opinions and ideals.

Sometimes, there are things that just cannot be taught in a seminar, book, or laboratory. These are the things in life that help you grow, make you take a step back, and exclaim, "Life is amazing."

If you love traveling, do it. If you love learning, do it. If you love experiencing what the world has to offer, then what is holding you back? PA-SSHE 2008 is in China — an exotic, mysterious country that is totally different than Shippensburg... obviously.

Live a little and lose yourself in that moment.

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Mentor and mentee share experiences

Mentor

By Amanda Johnson, Honors senior

Looking back on my freshman year I realize I would have felt the benefits of having a mentor. I would have really appreciated having someone to ask questions about my professors, classes, dorms, and other things. It would have been nice to already have friends when I got to college where I didn't know many people. That is what I hoped to be for my mentee.



I wanted Katie to be able to come to me if she needed advice about things such as roommates and classes. I can honestly say that I can give advice from first-hand experience on both of these issues. I enjoy being able to pass on the things I learned my freshman year.

I also hoped that having a mentor would encourage Katie to stay involved in the Honors Program. I've found some good friendships not only in my honors classes but also activities in HSO. I hope Katie can do the same.

This is my second year as a mentor for the Honors Program and my first mentee is now a mentor. I have found it really interesting to see how we students grow and change from freshmen to upperclassmen. We all have advice to give from the different things we have experienced, and I feel we should pass that on.

As a senior, I find myself constantly wishing I could go back in time to three years ago and start my entire college experience over again as a freshman. I've found that college is really an indescribable and once in a lifetime experience. No matter how much I tried to prepare for my freshman year, or how much advice I was given before I came, it was like nothing I expected or ever will experience again. I hope as a mentor I can help my mentee to not only have a wonderfully indescribable experience but to truly appreciate it.

Orientation welcomes freshmen

By Amy Harmon, Honors junior

We kicked off freshmen orientation weekend this year with a trip to the Corn Festival on Saturday, August 25. Despite the heat, many freshmen and mentors walked downtown to soak up the Shippensburg atmosphere and do some shopping. Our next activity was the picnic on Sunday. This gave the incoming freshmen a chance to meet their mentors and get to know some fellow freshmen. The picnic began with a meet-and-greet game. After this, some played games, while others chose to relax and get to know fellow Honors students. No picnic is complete without food, so pizza from Pizza Man was brought in. By the end of the weekend, mentors had the opportunity to meet and get to know their mentees, and freshmen were able to meet their fellow Honors classmates.

Orientation events for freshmen will continue throughout the semester. The first orientation session, organized by the orientation committee, was held on Tuesday, September 18. The topic was Roommates and Commuter Issues. The next orientation event organized by the orientation committee will be on Tuesday, October 16, from 5:30-6:15 p.m. in CUB 226 B&C, and the topic will be Money Wise. While this session is not mandatory, attendance is strongly encouraged for mentors and their mentees. The last two sessions are on October 23 and October 30 with the topics of Stress Management and Learning Styles, respectively. One more mandatory orientation session organized by the Honors Program remains on October 2, focusing on study abroad opportunities.

Thanks to all who helped make this year's orientation a success!

Mentee

By Katie O' Flaherty, Honors freshman

Coming to a school four hours away from my parents and my home was a huge adjustment, so when the Honors Program announced the mentor/mentee program, I decided it couldn't hurt to sign up. After a few e-mails and finally meeting Amanda Johnson, my mentor, at the Honors picnic, it was a relief to have someone to talk to about scheduling, classes, and Shippensburg in general. She is always there to



answer any questions I have about the Honors Program, and whenever there is a meeting of the HSO or another part of the Honors Program, she is always willing to go with me.

Having a mentor to answer questions, sit with at Honors events, and to just get into the swing of things at college has been invaluable to me so far this year. Through my mentor, I have also met others involved in the Honors Program, both freshmen and upperclassmen. I am looking forward to participating in more Honors events and activities, and I'm very glad I am able to be a part of it.

HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE

Horton Hall 104

(717) 477-1604

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Friday 8 - 11:45 a.m.

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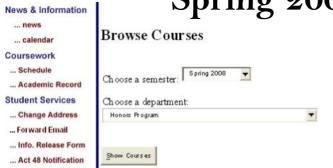
THE HONORS CHRONICLE

Editors, 2007-2008

Editors: Jessica Krout jk2223@ship.edu
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Scheduling

Spring 2008



- Two general advising meetings will be held on Wednesday, October 10, from 5:00-5:45 p.m., or Thursday, October 11, from 8:30-9:15 a.m. Both sessions will be held in Horton Hall 110.
- Honors classes for Spring and Fall 2008 can be accessed on-line at http://webspace.ship.edu/honors/advising.
- Please contact Honors secretary, Mrs. Sharon Poe, sapoe@ship.edu, on Monday, October 15 or Tuesday, October 16, with your Honors class selections.

THE HONORABLE MENTION

Kara Bushman, Mary Dell, Dennis Shindle, and **Shaun Thompson** represented the Honors Program at the University Open House in September.

Thanks to the following persons who served as mentors to incoming Honors freshmen: Kali Antolik, Michelle Baker, Kristen Beddia, Amanda Benedict, Jenn Bly, Cadie Brumm, Grace Burkholder, Jacquelyn Butler, Jen Coccagna, Anthony Comegna, Elana DiPietro, Kelly Dirks, Andrew Evans, Tiffany Frazier, Danielle Geller, Amy Harmon, Jason Hornberger, Amanda Johnson, Scott Jones, Emily Jung, Megan Keener, Valerie Koontz, Breann Kunkle, Sam Levy, Katie Marshall, Ashley Martin, Laura Martin, Annamarie McCormick, Brittney Miller, Ally Morgan, Sarah Mousetis, Paul Rutledge, Emily Sattler, Diana Schneider, Katie Shultz, Matt Stern, Megan Veazey, Kayse Vernon, Audrey Weeks, and Beth Zucconi.