

Honors Program

Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299



www.ship.edu

Office: 717-477-1604
Fax: 717-477-4096
E-mail: honors@ship.edu

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Contact: Dr. Kim Klein, 717-477-1604 or kmklei@ship.edu
<http://www.ship.edu/honors>

Honors Students Represent SU at 2012 NCHC Conference in Boston, MA

Two students represented the Shippensburg University Honors Program at the 47th annual conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), the national professional organization for Honors Programs and Colleges. The conference was held from November 14-18, 2012 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Miranda Aaron, a senior elementary education major; Holly Plank, a senior Earth/Space Science Secondary Education major; and Dr. Kim Klein, director of the Honors Program, were invited to make a presentation at the conference on “Overcoming the Challenges of Integrating Honors and Education Majors,” which complemented the conference’s theme of “Challenging Structures.”

“We both spoke about our experience in Honors general education courses, Honors seminars, and our research projects connected to Reach Out, the Honors Program’s service learning project in the Dominican Republic,” Plank said. A number of those who attended our presentation were anxious to discover new ideas to help education majors at their universities infuse honors into their undergraduate experience.”

“Having the opportunity to interact with faculty and students from Honors Programs across the country is one of the most beneficial parts of attending NCHC conferences,” Aaron said. “We got the chance to hear about the successes and struggles of other programs, compare them with our own program, and discuss ways to overcome these challenges. It is so inspiring to come back from the conference and have so many great ideas to try!”

Along with the incredible opportunities that come along with presenting at the national Honors conference, Aaron and Plank also had the chance to explore Boston during their free time. “We enjoyed walking the Historic Freedom Trail, which included sites such as the Paul Revere house and the site of the Boston Massacre. In addition, we got to visit Cambridge during the Harvard-Yale game, which provided an exciting atmosphere,” noted Plank.

The conference was held at the Boston Sheraton Hotel. Nearly 2,000 students, professors, and higher education administrators attended the five-day gathering to share ideas about honors education. For more information, go to <http://www.nchchonors.org>.

The Honors Program at Shippensburg University provides an outstanding undergraduate experience that emphasizes scholarship, leadership, and service. The program involves 175 students who are selected based on their academic achievement, intellectual curiosity, and evidence of leadership and civic engagement. Students benefit from small classes; outstanding instruction; exciting research and study abroad opportunities, and recreational, and cultural activities. For more information, please visit <http://www.ship.edu/honors>.