The 2013 National Honors Conference: Conflict, Transformation, Creolization
By Megan Fick, Honors Senior

The 2013 National Collegiate Honors Council Conference (NCHC) was held from November 6-10 in New Orleans, LA. Megan Fick and Hannah Brant, Honors seniors; Shelby Coghill, Honors junior; and Dr. Kim Klein, Honors director, represented the Shippensburg University Honors Program at the conference. NCHC is the national professional organization for Honors Programs and Colleges that pulls students and faculty from colleges around the country together.

During the four-day conference, attendees had the opportunity to explore the city, attend panels and round-table discussions, as well as view student poster presentations. On the first day of the conference, students had the opportunity to participate in City as Text, a program created by long-time Honors directors, Bernice Braid and Ada Long, to encourage students visiting a new city to see the city through a native’s eyes. Students were broken into different groups based on interests. They then went to their destinations to explore and speak with locals. Coghill said, “My favorite part of the conference was City as Text, which allowed us to explore the city beyond what a tourist would typically get to experience.” The City as Text excursions also helped introduce attendees to students from around the country. Fick said, “Instead of grouping students with people from their own college, people were split up and put with others they had never met. This encouraged me to be more outgoing when talking to locals and to try something new—like eating frog legs.”

In addition to exploring the city, there were many posters, panels, presentations, and discussions to attend. Coghill said, “Fellow students and professors at the conference provided me with many great ideas for future service-learning projects that I hope to incorporate into Shippensburg's HSO Service Committee.” Attendees were excited to talk about their programs and to share ideas to shape the futures of Honors Programs around the country.

The most important part of the conference for our Honors Program came on Friday as a part of a panel on “What It Takes To Produce An Award-Winning Newsletter” in conjunction with the award. Winning Newsletter” in conjunction with the award. Fick said. Brant and Fick also made a presentation on Friday as a part of a panel on “What It Takes To Produce An Award-Winning Newsletter” in conjunction with the award.

There are many ways to become involved in NCHC and the conference such as giving a presentation, designing a research poster, or becoming a student member. Coghill says that “the NCHC conference is a unique and beneficial experience.” Brant also added, “the NCHC conference is the showcase of best practices in Honors Programs around the nation and world. It is a great place to share ideas, meet new people, and feel inspired, not to mention; a lot of fun!” If you are interested in more information about the conference or NCHC in general, please contact Dr. Klein, Megan, Hannah or Shelby.
**Brainstorm: A Benefit for the Lititz Wolf Sanctuary**

By Kailee Tressler, Honors Freshman

On Friday, November 8, the first annual Honors Student Organization Brainstorm Trivia Bowl took place. Teams comprised of students and faculty put on their thinking caps to answer 101 unique trivia questions ranging from superheroes to roller coasters. Of course, there were classic academic questions as well to round out areas of expertise. The teams were very competitive during the entire event. Finally, “The Silent E” prevailed. “The Silent E” team members were Dr. Tom Evitts, Dr. Ben Galluzzo, and Dr. Marc Renault. All proceeds from the Brainstorm Trivia Bowl were donated to the Wolf Sanctuary of Pennsylvania, located in Lititz. The Speedwell Wolves have been under the care of the Darlington family for over 30 years. The different packs consist of wolves and wolf hybrids that no longer have a place in the wild. The sanctuary is home to over 40 wolves, who are all provided with shelter, food, and veterinary care. Originally created as a private rescue, the 20-plus acres of natural woodland are also an educational facility, with many visitors each year. Congratulations to “The Silent E” and a big thank you to everyone who came out and supported this event! Look for more information about this opportunity in the coming years!

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**Pizza with a Prof**

By Mary Grace Keller, Honors Freshman

During the Pizza with a Prof session on Nov. 7 in the Franklin Science Center, Honors students sat down with Professor Jamonn Campbell of the Psychology Department and learned how college can be one of the best experiences life has to offer.

When he first started college at Slippery Rock University, Dr. Campbell wanted to be a veterinarian so he planned to major in biology. After suffering through his first biology class, Dr. Campbell decided to take a psychology class on a whim and ended up loving the subject. Dr. Campbell received his undergraduate degree at Slippery Rock University and entered the working world with a desire to further his education. Before long, Dr. Campbell was searching for graduate programs, “I went back to school, and I never looked back at that point,” Dr. Campbell said. After receiving his Ph.D. in social psychology at Miami University, Dr. Campbell came to SU to teach in the Psychology Department.

During the Pizza with a Prof session, Dr. Campbell asked students what they hoped to achieve in life and discussed goals with students. Dr. Campbell emphasized the importance of education and explained to students how valuable extra-curricular activities can be on a resume. Ironically, while Dr. Campbell was a college student he was not involved in many activities. He preferred to focus on academics and his social life.

Outside of the classroom, Dr. Campbell is involved in psychological research. He recently completed a study on sports fanatics and the mentioning of sports teams in obituaries.

Now that Dr. Campbell is an adviser, he sees the positive impact extra-curricular activities have on students and he encourages his advisees to get involved on campus. Dr. Campbell truly believes that college is one of the best times in a person's life.

Through pizza and conversation, a few individuals in the Honors Program were able to get to know a professor they had never met before and take a little bit of his wisdom with them.
Watts Up? – Conferences

Imagine that you've been magically transported to a land where you are surrounded by like-minded individuals who want nothing more than to engage you in conversation, listen to what you've learned, and contemplate the higher mysteries of life. If you haven't guessed it by now, you are at a conference.

The bottom line is this: attend conferences as often as possible. There are plenty of opportunities to be had at a conference, including, but not limited to:

- Networking. While at conferences, you have opportunities to meet individuals who can become professional contacts in your pursuit for a career.
- Friends! That's right, folks. Outside of networking, you'll be able to get out of the lab/studio/office/dungeon and actually meet real living people who may become friends with you!
- New modes of thought. While attending panels, individuals will present new ideas that you may have never even considered. Listen. Take notes. Ask questions, and accept that your ideas will be challenged.

Now that you know the advantages, you may be asking yourself how you would go about finding a conference to attend, or perhaps not. I can't presume to know anything about your thought processes. At any rate, the best way to find out about conferences is extremely easy: ask a professor. A professor within your field of study can point you in the right direction. Clubs, such as The Reflector, will also attend conferences.

Ultimately, take the time to look up what conferences that you can attend, and try to attend. A conference can be an unforgettable experience where you can meet friends, form connections, and learn all manner of new things. Be part of a conglomeration of great minds!

By John Watts, Honors Junior

International Service Learning Summit

Amanda Schwarz, Honors Junior

I never thought that I would experience my first snowfall almost a week before Halloween. Why did this happen, you ask? I was up north a bit in the lovely state of Illinois to attend the International Service Learning Summit hosted by Northwestern University. At the conference, I was able to learn more about international service learning and how to use this information to add new ideas to Reach Out. Reach Out, for those who are unfamiliar, is an international service learning initiative started by the Honors Program to improve the quality of teaching and learning at a school that serves low-income children in the Dominican Republic. I attended the service-learning conference with Stephanie Erdice, the director of the Women's Center, and our advisor, Dr. Gretchen Pierce.

Since I have not attended many conferences it was interesting to jump in to such a creative environment. The conference had a very unique format. We attended panel sessions and listened to speakers talk about key issues in international service learning. We were then broken up into small groups, or focus sessions, to develop three questions based on the information we heard. The purpose of this conference was not to answer the questions, but to develop talking points for the next conference in 2015. I thought this format was interesting, and I appreciated how interactive it was. I felt like I was contributing important ideas and that people were listening what I had to say even though I was the youngest attendee at the conference.

In addition to participating in these breakout sessions, I met a lot of interesting people from all over the country and the world. I presented our group's final thoughts to the entire conference, and my partner was an administrator at a college in South Africa. There were many administrators, deans, and professors present. A multitude of organizations and companies that deal with international service learning or work with colleges also attended. I had no idea how big a field this was! I talked to so many people and learned about so many new opportunities all over the world. It was definitely a worthwhile experience. I would not have been able to attend the conference if it wasn't for the generosity of the Honors Program. I am extremely thankful for the experience and will take what I learned in Illinois with me for the rest of my life.
Luke Strawser, Honors Senior

I conducted archival research on the gravestone of an unidentified Civil War soldier in Juniata County, PA. I presented at the Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference in the spring of 2012 at Kutztown University, and again that summer at the Association for Gravestone Studies Conference at Monmouth University in Monmouth, New Jersey. It was exciting that my presentation was received really well at both conferences. People asked a lot of questions and seemed really interested in what I had spent so much time working on.

I presented a history paper on ancient Egyptian medicine at the Shippensburg University Celebration of Student Research Conference in Spring 2013. I would have to say that the most exciting part about presenting research was sharing something that I felt very passionately about with others and seeing their reaction to my work. Overall it was an incredibly rewarding experience that I was so thankful to have!

Kelley Monaghan, Honors Sophomore

I co-wrote a paper titled “The Bahamas: How a Colonialist Past Impacts Modern Politics” and I presented at the 2013 PA Political Science Association Conference at Temple University-Harrisburg. The thing I found most exciting about presenting research was not only taking the time to investigate what had already been written on my topic (via a review of the available literature) in order to give me a breadth of information on the matter, but also, I enjoyed getting feedback from the chairperson on my panel as to how I could expand the scope of my project to make it even better.

Owen Ecker, Honors Senior

Kelsey Mengle, Honors Junior

I presented my chemistry research at the American Chemical Society National Conference in New Orleans this past April. It was awesome to be able to present in front of other chemists from around the country and to explore the French Quarter in my free time.
The Annual Pumpkin Carving Competition

The teams chose their pumpkins, and began to size them up. What to carve? Of course, this was a competition, so the decision was very important. The wind whipped around the teams as they froze their fingers, carefully scooping the insides from their pumpkins. Gradually, the students turned ordinary squash into Halloween works of art. Everything from video game motifs to traditional spooky scenes appeared on the orange backgrounds. After the judging, the winners were given ribbons and bragging rights for their efforts.

### Important Information

Reach Out Updates

Reach Out is so excited to be ending our semester on many high notes! Our math and creative expression manuals are almost completed and the creators, Hannah Dreibelbis and Jarret Voight, respectively, are going to be presenting workshops to the class in the next few weeks. If you see these students around campus, congratulate them on a job well done!

Reach Out hosted a table at the Latino Explosion and World Party and educated students as well as the campus community about the Dominican Republic and our project there. The table also offered opportunities to make decorative masks.

A group of 12 students and 3 faculty members will be travelling to the Dominican Republic in the beginning of January and are excited to bring you updates in next semester’s edition of The Chronicle. Keep your eyes open for their awesome adventures!

Request to alumni: Reach Out is creating a binder and photo album of past trips and events. If you have any stories or pictures to share, please email Shelby Coghill at sc8158@ship.edu. Thanks in advance!

We are always welcoming new members to our group. Whether you want to help fundraise, promote events, or just keep up-to-date on what we are doing, join us on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in Lehman Library 106.

Donuts for Sale!

On the morning of November 5, the Fundraising Committee sold donuts outside the university library. The sale was quite successful, and all of the donuts were sold!

Honorable Mention

Congratulations to our December 2013 graduates: Sarah Antonelli, Taylor Hudson, and Alexa Wellington!

Thank you to Sarah Antonelli, Lindy Gemmell, and Megan Lawrence for representing the Honors Program at the University Open Houses in November.

Congratulations to Connor Fox for receiving first place with his Skyrim-themed pumpkin in the annual Pumpkin Carving Contest!

Congratulations to Lara John and Nicholas McGarrell who received the Honors Study Abroad Scholarship for Spring 2014!
Attending conferences is a great way for students to enhance their learning beyond the classroom. Students can find conferences in any field or subject and at any level. Some conferences are held on campus and hosted by groups of students and faculty, and some are regional and national and hosted by groups all around the world. We have attended a variety of conferences both as attendees and presenter and have learned a lot from our experiences. It is amazing to see the different types of research being conducted by fellow students; it is also interesting to hear from experts and professionals we have studied in our courses. We encourage everyone to become as involved in conferences as possible during their years at Shippensburg and in their future careers. While funding and time are often obstacles, we encourage you to research your options and look for ways to attend. For Shippensburg students, the Honors Program is a great resource to make your conference dreams come true. After graduation, some employers will sponsor their employees to attend conferences, especially as presenters, because they recognize how valuable it can be for their employees to further their education.

-Hannah and Megan