

THE

STILL CROOKED! THE KERNING IS WORSE
THIS TIME TOO! GET IT FIXED! NOW!
- Project Manager

Volume 28 | Issue 4
March 2015 | www.ship.edu/honors

Do you
think "THE" should be this far
up? It's a bit in poor taste, I
think.
- Project Manager

HONORS

Well, at least THIS isn't totally terrible.
- Project Manager

CHRONICLÉ

Upcoming Events

March 23- 24: Honors Registration for Fall 2015. Contact Cindy Poe at cmpoe@ship.edu to schedule Honors classes

March 28: Honors Field Trip to Washington D.C.

March 29: Annual Easter Egg Hunt 2:30 p.m., Student Rec Pavilion

March 30: Priority Registration for Fall 2015 Begins

April 1: Application deadline for Honors independent capstone project grants for projects to be completed in Summer or Fall 2015.

Week of April 6: Election of 2015-2016 HSO Officers

April 7: Major Scholarships Advising Workshop: Fulbright Program, Hosted by Dr. Jon Skaff, Fulbright Program Adviser 3:30-4:30 p.m., DHC 208

For more events, check out the Honors Program spring semester schedule with the QR code below!



Maastricht University: Leading in Learning

Amber Leisher, Honors Junior

This time last year, I received my acceptance letter to study at Maastricht University in the Netherlands for the fall 2014 semester. Knowing that I was going to be abroad for four months was overwhelming since I have never been out of the country, but I was ready to venture out. Having worked all summer and with the help of the Honors Program scholarship, I saved up enough money to ensure I would be comfortable abroad with all of the trips I planned on taking.



The streets of Maastricht, Netherlands.

All the pamphlets I read, all the articles I skimmed, and all of the many people I talked to really could not prepare me for all that was about to come. Stepping into Maastricht, I was very lost and had no idea how to get my to apartment. Looking back I have to laugh because passing the train station was a part of my daily commute to the university. Once I mastered how to get around, without Google maps, I felt much more comfortable and had a great sense of accomplishment and independence being able to navigate a foreign country.

To give a little insight about Maastricht University and the city itself, Maastricht University is a fairly new university, established in 1976. The Faculty of Psychology and Neuroscience was founded in 1995. The university is unique because they have taken a different approach to learning by adopting a problem-based learning style versus regular lecture. The city of Maastricht is one of the oldest cities in the Netherlands. Maastricht is also the southernmost city; about three kilometers from the Belgian border.

During my four month stay in Maastricht, I had the opportunity to travel to France, Germany, Belgium, England, and Italy, as well as several cities in the Netherlands. My two favorite places were Rome and London. I had

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SPEAK OUT

What is your blueprint for a successful semester?

"Get as much work done as possible before breaks so you have time to enjoy them and be more productive afterwards. Also have a work-free environment you can go to when you're stressed."
- Tatyana Thomas, junior Spanish Secondary Ed major



"I make lots of lists and try to set smaller goals I can achieve before I have to do big projects."
- Tara Kennedy, sophomore Biology/Ecology major



"Get involved and make friends that you can do work with to make it fun."
- Megan Lawrence, sophomore Accounting major



"I keep a planner for all of my responsibilities for classes, clubs, and work so I can plan ahead for studying."
- Elizabeth Karper, sophomore Marketing major



"I keep in contact with my advisor so I can stay on the right track and not get stressed."
- Ashley Seyler, senior Mathematics Secondary Education



Reach Out Updates

Jennifer Spangler, Honors Senior



Sara Landis and Amanda Schwarz read theater scripts in the Dominican Republic.

Over winter break, twelve students and three faculty members of Reach Out went to the Pathways of Learning school in Santo Domingo. The group presented the teaching manuals to the school's teachers and principal, including a curricular program made by Honors seniors Ashley Stuck and Lauren Wenerd entitled "Teaching Using Mentor Texts: A Hands-On Learning Approach." Senior Amanda Schwarz, a Mid-Level Education major with concentrations in Science and Language Arts also created a curricular program for the school, entitled "Reaching Out to Integrate Language Arts Education in the Dominican Republic. Schwarz commented on the students' reactions, stating, "I presented my manual [on reading fluency] to the teachers and the kids, and they responded very positively...the kids were able to perform some of the readers theater scripts (an interactive fluency activity) that I brought down, and they really enjoyed it!" Afterward, they all tested the activities together. The Reach Out students spent two days teaching and observing in the classrooms, spread out to each class so there were Shippensburg students with each of the elementary grades. Before returning

to the United States, the Reach Out group spent the weekend on a cultural tourism trip through historical parts of the Dominican Republic and spent a day at the beach. Junior Tori Walls, a Mid-Level Education major with concentrations in Science and Language Arts says, "Reach Out is a life-changing experience. I've met some of my best friends through the club and gotten closer with existing friends and made unforgettable memories on my trips. ...traveling makes it all worth it to me."

Reach Out has several events around campus this month. Keep your eyes open for some fun activities and chances to get involved. A Dominican Craft and Game night is planned soon in the CUB, time TBA. There are some fundraisers in the works as well, so keep watching for more updates if you want to help fund the students who will travel to the Dominican Republic next winter and support the school with curricular materials and classroom supplies. If supporting the program from home sounds great to you but you would like to be personally involved in the initiative, apply now! The application deadline is March 16.

Global Dinner: Mexico

Katie Miller, Honors Junior

On Thursday, February 12, six Honors students journeyed out into the cold for a Global Dinner. Honors senior Julia Saintz hosted at what we thought would be the local Mexican restaurant, Checko's, but it turned into a hilarious, unforgettable night. When we arrived at Checko's, we were all starving, with visions of taquitos dancing in our heads, as Julia had promised some of the best Mexican cuisine in Chambersburg. However, when we opened our menus, we were utterly confused: chicken fingers and French fries? Philly cheese steak? The point of the dinner is to experience authentic cuisine with a student who has studied abroad at that destination, so we awkwardly decided to order something small and then leave, and suddenly it dawned on us: they gave us the tourist menu! The owner of the restaurant had decided upon our entry that we probably weren't interested in their authentic Mexican food, so they gave us their more Americanized menu. After contemplating our ordeal, we decided to take the plunge and head over to a restaurant we knew was serving up authentic Mexican food: Montezuma's. Compared to Checko's, which is a tiny establishment tucked away on one of the side streets in Chambersburg, Montezuma's sticks out like a sore thumb on the side of the highway. We were even hungrier at this point, so we hurried in to get our fill of enchiladas, tacos, and burritos and finally hear about Julia's experiences in Latin America. The most fascinating part of Julia's talk was hearing her opinions on volunteering abroad, which completely changed my view. Julia says, "When volunteering abroad, you have to be sure to humble yourself with the local people that you are helping. It has happened to me often that I am referred to as 'teacher' because, as I have had it explained, the people I am helping see me as being more knowledgeable than them because I am a white American. Volunteering abroad is all about helping the people to help themselves and their own communities. We shouldn't be doing it all. We should merely help to facilitate community development." She also showed us photos from her travels, and explained her research on Fair Trade coffee farms. The experience was certainly an adventure the six of us will not forget.

Apple Pie With Alumni: A Delicious Discussion

Elizabeth Karper, Honors Sophomore

The Honors Program held its second “Apple Pie with Alumni” Career Development Panel on Wednesday, February 19, 2015 in the Honors Seminar Room in Presidents Hall. This panel focused on careers in Accounting and Computer Science with alumni Jennifer Hoover and Christopher Eby attending to offer advice and share their experiences. Jennifer works as a Certified Public Accountant for Boyer & Ritter, and Christopher designs software for Deloitte Consulting. As the coordinator for the alumni panels, I sometimes can’t relate to the topic (such as our education panel because I’m a Marketing major), but there are always questions that students ask that I can relate to, such as, “What is one thing you wish you knew sooner in your college career?” The answer was, “To use the Career Center to its full capacity because they have the best resources to help you get ahead in applying for internships and jobs.”

At this second alumni panel, some questions were focused on accounting which, to be honest, kind of flew over my head, but I thoroughly enjoyed hearing how accounting and computer science relate in the workforce. The alumni stressed how departments work together, and how they all communicate with each other at work and at offsite jobs. They detailed the importance of knowing when to ask for help instead of wasting time on a project, their opinions on when and if to earn your Masters in Business, and how membership in the Honors Program helped them in their endeavors before and after graduation. Even though I’m not an accounting or computer science major, I still received meaningful advice from this panel. And that’s the goal of these panels. I want to connect students with alumni in their respective fields and give them the chance to learn not only about their field, but also gain life advice and tips they can use in any job, no matter what their major.



Students and alumni gathered in the Honors Seminar Room while discussing opportunities and career options. Apple pie was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Megan Lawrence, Honors Sophomore

I absolutely loved attending the Apple Pie with Alumni panel! I knew immediately that I wanted to attend because the panel included a Certified Public Accountant from the size of firm that I would like to work at once I graduate and pass my CPA exam. I helped Elizabeth plan questions for this panel because I am an Accounting and Management Information Systems dual major, so the topics were right up my alley. We planned to ask accounting or computer science-specific questions, questions relating to getting internships and jobs in the future, and how the Honors Program prepared and benefitted the alumni in their fields today. I definitely learned a lot from these two alumni, had a great time talking to them individually after the panel concluded, and will attend the next panel to learn about other fields and network with more Honors alumni.

Allison Wilson, Honors Sophomore

I liked attending the Apple Pie with Alumni panel hosted by the Honors Program. I enjoyed listening to the alumni talk about how their time at Shippensburg University and experiences through the Honors Program aided them in their careers. I found their information very helpful in preparing for my future career, such as when Jennifer talked about how she prepared for her CPA exams. This is what I want to do after graduation so I appreciated the advice from someone who was recently in my position. I hope this event continues because it is a great opportunity for Honors Program students to learn about life after graduation.

Research and Mathematics

Mary Grace Keller, Honors Sophomore

Once students in the Honors Program start their sophomore year at Shippensburg University, the capstone project begins to hover over their heads. Students begin to wonder what topic they will select for research, which professor to work with, and how to get funding.

Professor Marc Renault, of the SU Mathematics Department, came to speak with Honors students on Thursday, Feb. 5, and answer some of these lingering questions and guide them into the first steps of undergraduate research. Renault received his Ph.D. from Temple University and joined the SU faculty in 2002. He is the chair of the SU Advisory Council for Undergraduate Research, which consists of faculty and one student member, Honors sophomore Elias Shissler.

Research projects enhance a student's overall college experience, Renault said. He encourages students of all disciplines to get involved in the process.

When Renault was in school for his master's degree, he benefitted from the student research experience. He worked with a professor studying graph theory.

While working on a problem one evening, Renault was able to find a solution. "It was such an amazing feeling," Renault said, "I had solved a problem that nobody in the world had an answer to." Renault told Honors students about the Celebration of Student Research Conference, now renamed, "Minds @ Work." The conference is held each semester in April. Last year, 393 students presented either posters or oral seminars, demonstrating their work. This year's conference, part of which is the Honors Symposium, will be April 21. The registration deadline is Feb. 23.

In the summer, there is also the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) available. Students are paid to participate in and support faculty research. In 2014, 18 research projects were funded by Provost Barbara Lyman and Jim Mike, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Students participating in SURE can live at SU for free in the summer, in addition to getting paid hourly wages. For someone looking to step outside the realm of Shippensburg, there is the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU). Students get to spend six to eight weeks living at another university and work on research. The National Science Foundation funds the entire experience. Most of the research projects revolve around math and science fields.

To get started in undergraduate research, Renault recommends that students start by finding a professor and conducting some informal research for a semester or two. If the results prove to be promising, apply for a grant and see what happens, Renault said.

Twenty-five Honors students were packed into the seminar classroom of Presidents Hall to hear Renault speak — and munch on some free pizza. Brad Olah, a sophomore computer science major, is interested in research surrounding virtual reality. Through his experiences with gaming and technology, Olah has noticed a lack of physical feedback in those fields. Research in virtual reality could contribute to gaming, military training or more, Olah said. Being able to physically experience a virtual reality could be the idea Olah needs to start his own capstone project. Erica Misner, a sophomore biology major, also attended Renault's "Pizza with a Prof" session. "I learned that research is a lot more widespread than I originally thought," Misner said. As a biology major, Misner is required to conduct one research project, although two are highly recommended. Misner plans to have her research in biology become her capstone project for the Honors Program.



the chance to travel to Rome in November where I saw the Pope speak in Vatican City. I was also fortunate to go to the top of Vatican and have a breathtaking view of the city. While in Rome, I was able to see the Spanish Steps and the Coliseum. London was a different experience from Rome because it is much more modern and I was very happy to hear English since the primary language of the Netherlands is Dutch. In London, I visited Abbey Road and Abbey Road Studios, Buckingham Palace, London Bridge, and Big Ben.

Although I had a great experience traveling and being able to study at such a prestigious university, what really made my stay unforgettable were the people whom I met throughout my semester abroad. From the start, I bonded with people from all around the world who were studying at Maastricht University. People who were once strangers are now my closest friends, and it is really great to know I have life-long friends around the world. Studying abroad can be particularly difficult because of culture shock and missing home, but having people who understand exactly what you are going through really helps.

Since studying abroad, I plan to continue graduate school in London, England—something I never would have dreamed about before studying abroad. Studying abroad provided me the excellent opportunity to experience another country's culture and helped me grow into a more independent, diverse individual.

For anybody who is a psychology major and is interested in studying abroad, Shippensburg offers a direct exchange with Maastricht University, which is an especially great opportunity to take advantage of since you pay Shippensburg tuition. Even if you are not a psychology major, Maastricht is a very challenging, prestigious university to study at. Study abroad allows you to use financial aid and most scholarships. There are several scholarships you can apply for to fund your study abroad experience, including the Honors Study Abroad Scholarship. The Honors Program awards one or two scholarships of \$400 each year to Honors students studying abroad which is very beneficial when thinking about mandatory costs such as residence permits, insurance, transportation, and exchange rates. The Honors Program also counts up to six study abroad credits towards Honors credits which is a great help fulfilling your Honors requirements.

Editor's Corner

It seems to me that everything is defined by a constant progression. There are beginnings, middles, and ends, and there is almost always a clear distinction between origins and the final product. The Honors Program, and by extension, *The Honors Chronicle*, are no different in that regard. I doubt that the creators of that very first newsletter in October of 1985 would have envisioned that the newsletter would eventually look like it does today. Progress marches onward.

Life on the Shippensburg University campus is no different. The ever-shifting boundaries of the campus improvement projects make the daily routines subject to frequent change. The path a person took yesterday or the day before will not be the same, and if it is, it certainly won't appear that way.

The masthead for this edition reflects that progress. Today, we write the blueprints for how we'll live our lives tomorrow. The design always changes, and we're always improving, or adjusting for any and all contingencies. By no means is it the effort of a single person. All of us have a hand in the process of design and implementation.

Thank you for being part of that process.

John

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