A Ground-Breaking Homecoming for the Art Department!

This year’s homecoming on October 16, 2009, was initiated with a unique and memorable "boom"! This excitement was ignited by the ground breaking of the Huber Arts Center. With an estimated year on this projects completion, faculty and students are excited about what this new building means for their students’ future artistic growth in the classroom.

Right now, the Art Department is spread out campus-wide during this major reconstruction. Courses are being held in Gilbert Hall, Horton Hall, Stewart Hall, Shippen Hall, and the Faculty Office Building as the department navigates these divided boundaries and continues to meet the needs of each student.

Professor Steve Dolbin, the Chair of the Art department, is proud to be associated in the construction of the new Huber Art Center design. This new facility will have a state-of-the-art sculpture and ceramics area like nothing students have had the opportunity to access before on campus. It includes a new lecture hall, computer lab, one drawing studio and one paint studio; as well as a permanent roof over the outside work area and double in size the amount of studio space that is presently available.

The Art Department consists of 7 faculty members teaching 120 art majors along with 90 art education majors. With such large numbers to support, the department is hopeful that the new building will increase the amount of college applications received with an interest in joining the art major.

Professor Dolbin and Professor Jan Ruby, a faculty member for the past 18 years, are hopeful that this new building can help the department maintain a solid number of majors and minors. The new building will be sufficient to give all current students enough work space.
Besides the courses required for art majors and art education majors, there is also a general education course, Art Appreciation, which has high enrollment as well. With a fairly small group of faculty, the department is mindful of the time they must provide to each of their students. They hope that with this new building the department will be able to increase standards, not the admissions, in order to maintain the student-to-faculty ratio in the classroom and to provide a more individually-based program, which has been the strength of the department.

Professor Dolbin, a Shippensburg undergraduate of 1983, sees this new building as contributing creativity and culture to students and the overall atmosphere of the campus. Centrally located, it will stand out as an architectural gem. When he first came to campus, the art department was very small. Art is no longer a developing major, as it was when he was a student. All of the faculty are active in their work and established in the art world. With their help, our art students are becoming very skilled and held to high standards.

The new Huber Arts Center is the first building dedicated to art in the history of the University, since the original Huber Center was a library. This building symbolizes a significant step in the history of Shippensburg’s Art Department in that a dedicated space will be erected for students to develop and to practice their creativity.

Getting the Right “Chemistry”

The Chemistry Department has dynamic programs for student involvement here on Shippensburg’s campus. Even though it is a considerably small major, chemistry has been making a big impact supporting other majors and providing valuable general education courses for all students campus-wide.

One advantage students in the Chemistry Department have is the low student-to-faculty ratio, especially when they are in the labs. On average, there will only be 20 students in a lab at a time so each student is given the proper attention they need from their professors. Students have a lot of lab instruction time in comparison
The department has strong resources to supply each student with well-informed instructions for their prospective futures. Sophomores at Shippensburg are able to start and are even encouraged to begin undergraduate research with the assistance of our faculty members.

Dr. John Richardson, the Department of Chemistry Chair, is proud to display that 100% of the students that have come to Shippensburg and graduated with a degree in chemistry have gone on to successful careers or have started attending graduate schools to continue their education. Richardson has been on the faculty at the university for 16 years and has seen increased interest in research and analysis projects. Students have begun participating in a National Chemistry Presentation meeting, which takes place in San Francisco this year. This annual event involves students preparing for the conference by doing research development for preventions or cures of diseases and much more.

While trying to improve their education, chemistry students are also working to connect with the local community by doing two camps during the summer to improve interest in the major among children. Chemistry is something that we, as consumers, deal with in our everyday lives. The department is beginning to see growth in enrollment and is happy to see students.

**Two New Faculty**

Two of the newest members of the English Department are working to enhance the skills of students to teach future generations. Dr. Dan Shiffman and Dr. Shannon Mortimore are from two different worlds when it comes to their experiences with teaching but bring a great sense of passion for literature and education.

Dr. Shiffman has been teaching at the university level since 1994, working in other states like Idaho and Georgia and even internationally in Japan for four years. He accepted a Fulbright scholarship to teach at Osaka University for one year and then at Osaka International School.

Dr. Shiffman was challenged by the language barrier he faced with his students but feels that it helped him to become a better teacher. Now that he is helping others at Shippensburg to teach English, he is able to give them a new perspective. What if English is a young child’s second language? As a professor of English education, he is able to enlighten students of Shippensburg University in language acquisition, a very helpful skill that S.U. students are fortunate to have.

Dr. Shiffman finds it refreshing that Shippensburg students and faculty all have great respect for good education. With such great enthusiasm for learning, he hopes to help develop more outreach programs for students to get involved. A writing center for English education students is one he is truly interested in getting started to increase participation with hands-on learning programs.

Dr. Mortimore received her Ph.D. at Western Michigan University and was a high school English teacher for 7 years before graduate school. She came to Shippensburg because she loved that this was a place for its many eager students to thrive due to its exceptional, educationally-focused environment.

Her approach to learning incorporates some alternative literature to keep optimal interest among her students. Dr. Mortimore has found that using graphic novel studies and even video games can meet the interests of her students and provides active participation throughout the semester.

Students here at Shippensburg are very lucky to have these two new additions to the English department for their abilities to teach the educators of tomorrow.
The Fashion Archives has been a unique resource available to the Shippensburg community since 1980. With over 15,000 items in the University’s possession the staff has been able to be inspired by history to create shows for nearly thirty semesters.

Dr. Karin Bohleke, who has been working in the Fashion Archives since June of 2007, is excited to feature a decade by decade display from the nineteenth century to the twentieth century for the archive’s thirtieth show anniversary this coming spring. The show will have extravagant attire for all to enjoy.

Presently, the volunteers, student interns, work study students and others have assisted Dr. Bohleke in setting up an exhibit on the effects of when “America Goes to War.” One example that Dr. Bohleke pointed out was how khaki pants came into fashion after being worn by American soldiers coming back from World War II and Korea. Khakis were part of their summer uniforms. In the post war era, men went into civilian life—the work place and the classroom. Shortly after, civilians popularized these pants and they were seen as appropriate clothing for class rooms and the work place. The idea of this particular exhibit is to enlighten people of the trends created by war and promote the fashion history of not only khakis, but of the origins of many other clothing fads.

Faculty members from the Sociology, History, Women’s Studies, English, French and Art Departments have brought their students down to the archives to take advantage of this great resource and to incorporate the information into their classes. Not only can you find fashion in the archives but an extensive reference library that students can access.

In the exhibit going on now there are donated uniforms from members of the university’s community. Donations are the main source keeping the archives running successfully throughout the years. The primary support of the archives comes from the generosity of Ship supporters. Dr. Bohleke and her staff are truly grateful for all contributions because each one protects the future of the Archives.
Fashions of the Past cont.

“America Goes to War” displays many articles of clothing: a uniform of soldier who fought in France using a machine gun that was pulled by horses and mules, nurse attire from World War I, clothing of a soldier imprisoned during war, a Desert Storm Persian Gulf war veteran’s outfit, and cultural and patriotic pins that were worn in America while troops were fighting.

We are fortunate to have such an exceptional exhibit at Shippensburg since it is uncommon to find at many other state schools. As a university, we are growing and learning from the resources the Archives are offering us.

To learn more about the fall or spring showcase, please go to:

http://webspace.ship.edu/fasharch/.

Scholarships Encourage Students to Succeed

Robert Sammartino was a dedicated member of the Shippensburg University Marching Band during his tenure as a student, from 1989-1993. His experiences on the field and in the classroom prepared him well for a successful career and fostered an enduring passion for music. As part of the marching percussion section and as drum line captain, Rob practiced discipline and loyalty to his section and the band, leading others by example and sheer personal determination.

Earlier this year, at age 38, Rob lost his two-year battle to a very rare form of non-Hodgkin lymphoma. In his memory, Rob’s mother established an endowed scholarship at the SU Foundation for a member of the marching percussion section.

At this year’s homecoming game, the first Robert Sammartino Memorial Scholarship for Marching Percussion was awarded to Jeremy Styers. Jeremy is currently a junior studying Geography with a concentration in Geographic Info Systems and has played with the SU Marching Band since he was a freshman. Jeremy was chosen for his dedication, loyalty, and hard work. Last year, in addition to performing, he served as co-chair of the equipment crew. This year he is continuing in the position on his own.

Scholarships like this one and others are important to the continuing success of Shippensburg University students. The SU Foundation is committed to making a first-class education accessible to all qualified students. The promises of a Shippensburg education are great, but the cost of attending is a stretch for many of our students. Scholarship endowments help bridge that gap while enabling the University to attract exceptional students.

Did you receive a scholarship when you were a student at Ship? Have you considered giving back to help a student achieve success through a scholarship? Consider how you might be able to give the gift of education this holiday season by contacting the SU Foundation for more details at www.SUFoundation.org or contact Elizabeth Herr at 717-477-1377, ext 3186.

Katelyn Moore, a senior at Shippensburg and a Foundations scholarship recipient, has been very active within the chemistry major since her sophomore year. Moore has participated with three different faculty members in experiments. Last year, she presented a molecular magnet research project at the American Chemical Meeting in Salt Lake City.

“The Foundation gave me a scholarship, which allowed me to do research. Without that help, I wouldn’t have been able to do it.”

-Katelyn Moore, S.U. Senior
Luhrs Performing Arts Center Events in 2009

DECEMBER 2009

Junie B. Jones
Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009 11 AM
$15, $12 & $10

Junie B. Jones
Saturday, Dec. 5, 2009 2 PM
$15, $12 & $10

Kenny Rogers
2009 Christmas & Hits Tour
Sunday, Dec. 6, 2009 7 PM
SOLD OUT

Canadian Brass Christmas
Thursday, Dec. 10, 2009 8 PM
$38, $32, $27 & $22

"Light"
Presented by King Street Church
Saturday, Dec. 12, 2009 2 PM
$8 for adults, $5 for students and seniors

"Light"
Presented by King Street Church
Saturday, Dec. 12, 2009 7 PM
$8 for adults, $5 for students and seniors
Shippensburg’s Provost, Dr. Barbara Lyman, is getting ready to lay down ground work with the Academic Master Planning Committee after the university underwent a successful facilities master plan. Although the committee has not laid out specific plans yet for this endeavor, the process is beginning with a task force of core senior faculty members willing to take responsibility for getting this important process underway.

Dr. Doug Ensley, a math faculty member of 16 years here at Shippensburg, was approached to be involved in the Academic Master Plan Committee. As he says, following the facilities plan, the academic master plan will focus on increasing the University’s effective use of resources for all academic organizations.

There will be a need for campus-wide participation, by having representatives fill out surveys and scale their needs and wants for their group. From there, the committee will be able to prioritize the budget according to collected results. By keeping records of organizations being included in Shippensburg’s economic structure, this plan will be able to see what programs are working or whether one needs more or less monetary support. The objective by May 2010 is to have a foundation to be implemented for future years and offer more opportunities based on the needs of society on campus.

The functionality of this plan will come from surveys, recommendations and suggestions for improvement and when to remove an unproductive program and activate a more significant program. The plan will allow deans to receive and apply more suggestions from our alumni. Now that annual assessments of student learning are becoming influential on campus, faculty will be able to add a fresh purpose to the curriculum, based on what they learn from this academic master planning process.

Overall, faculty and others are curious as to what will emerge from this multi-year exercise, a serious look at what we do here at Ship and how we do it in the area of academics. What we learn should take the university into the next decade with a greater focus and purpose.
### Shippensburg University College of Arts and Sciences

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