

The Honors Chronicle

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October 2009

Calendar

October

28th - National Collegiate Honors Council Conference in Washington, D.C.

Runs through November 1.

31st - Annual Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter Dog Walk

Contact Laura Nelson at ln1713@ship.edu for more information about this service opportunity.

November

2nd - Deadline for applying for Honors independent capstone project funding for projects to be completed in spring 2010

Submit applications to Sharon Poe, Horton Hall 104. Forms are available on the Honors Program website.

4th - Pizza with a Prof: Dr. Wendy Becker, Management/Marketing Department

5:00 to 5:45 p.m., location TBA

5th - Honors Read: *Pardonable Lies* by Jacqueline Winspear

4:00 p.m., CUB 217

Books are available for pick-up in the Honors office, Horton Hall 104.

7th - Ship Trip (formerly Excitement in Education)

9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Shippen Hall

16th - Deadline for applying for the Honors Program Study Abroad Scholarship for students studying abroad in spring 2010

Submit applications to Sharon Poe, Horton Hall 104. Forms are available on the Honors Program website.

17th - Dominican Day sponsored by the Honors Colloquium

7:00 to 9:00 p.m., CUB MPR

This event will include Dominican food, dancing, souvenirs, crafts, and more!

Making a Global Difference!

Students Attend Social Entrepreneurship Conference in Washington, D.C.

By the Honors Colloquium 2009 Public Relations Team



Photo courtesy of Tyler Miller

On September 25, 2009, the Honors Colloquium had the chance to attend the Leadership for a Better World Conference in Washington, D.C. The basic premise of the conference was to allow social entrepreneurs to come together and talk about the growing and exciting changes in the field of social entrepreneurship.

Not only did they get a chance to talk about it; they also offered advice to each other and others who were there who possibly wanted to break into the field of social entrepreneurship. Social entrepreneurship is using the role of business in society to foster social

change through models of innovation, according to the conference website.

This conference included an exciting forum of inspiring individuals who all had a socially oriented outlook toward today's business world. These people have made an impact on the business world through their efforts to make consumers and other businessmen and women more aware of the changing world around us.

Some of the speakers included Seth Goldman, President and TeaEO of Honest Tea, a company of organic teas that he started in his own kitchen in 1998 and is now looking into partnering with

the Coca-Cola Company.

Another excellent speaker was Dr. Rosabeth Moss Kanter, a professor at the Harvard Business School. Dr. Kanter spoke about her book *Supercorp*. She also discussed the role of corporations in social entrepreneurship. Dr. Kanter's presentation focused on potential partnerships between business, non-profit groups, and other social entrepreneurs. She showed that it takes interdisciplinary partnerships to solve major world problems.

The keynote speaker at the conference was Nobel Laureate, Thomas Schelling. During his address, Shelling, a noted economist, discussed the role of the social entrepreneur in the issue of climate change. Shelling noted that new approaches were needed to address climate change in both the developed and developing world. He too emphasized the importance of partnerships in addressing this issue.

The conference also included two break-out sessions, which were perfectly suited for the teams in our class. The

See Conference

Conference, cont'd

finance and public relations teams attended the session entitled Communicating Social Change with Heather Peeler, managing director of Community Wealth Ventures, and Brian Gaines, vice president of regional operations for College Summit, which talked about how to market your projects and create successful social change. The strategy and operations teams attended Motivations and Strategy: Scaling Your Social Enterprise with Shannon Herbert, vice president for integrated marketing at National Geographic Global Media, which discussed a framework for leaders who are exploring the realms of social change and impact.

This conference was important to our class, as social entrepreneurship is exactly what we are basing this year's project on. Our project focuses on enhancing the education of children in the Dominican Republic. We are cur-

rently working on a curriculum for students and teachers that we will implement when we travel to the Dominican Republic in early January. While there we will interact with the students and teachers, creating a learning experience for all those involved.

While at the conference, our ideas were strengthened and we were given suggestions for new ways to approach our project through the wonderful speakers and venues such as the networking lunch. For senior and Honors Colloquium student Wendy Tanner, this was the most exciting part of the conference. "Besides the speakers, I also enjoyed the networking lunch. It was a great opportunity to meet other people," she said. "Not only were we able to describe our project, but we also received some good advice related to it." Even if a student was not looking into this field, this conference was an opportunity to learn.

For senior and Honors Colloquium student Sarah Moussetis, this was the

case. "The conference was an excellent opportunity for me, although I am not a business major. I learned many valuable tips and tricks from men and women that have spent their careers doing well in their communities through their businesses," she said. "This conference gave me the opportunity to talk to important individuals that I would not otherwise be able to ever speak to, and I'm grateful for having been able to attend." This shows how even though there were aspects of the conference that were unfamiliar to students, there was still things they could learn.

This conference was an amazing opportunity for our class, as it allowed us to see that our project is going in the right direction, and we are excited about the social change that we will impart.

For more information about the project, e-mail sureachout@gmail.com and be sure to check out our class blog at www.sureachout.blogspot.com.



Speak Out!



By Jen Coccagna, Honors senior

We asked the Honors Colloquium students...

What do you hope to accomplish through your project, "Reach Out: Enhancing Education in the Dominican Republic"?

"I hope to be able to influence the image of the U.S. in the minds of those we help, while leaving behind a great legacy project for others to continue."



Jon Moats
Honors senior

"I hope to make the project successful by helping children in the Dominican Republic. I also hope that future Honors students will be enthusiastic about the project."



Kali Antolik
Honors senior

"I hope to make a difference in the lives of children in the Dominican Republic! I also hope to enhance my skills in my field of study."



Katie Marshall
Honors senior

"I hope to bring not only knowledge, but also happiness to children in the Dominican Republic. I just want to make as many people smile as I can."



Glenn Burney
Honors senior

"I hope to establish a program that will make a permanent difference in the lives of others. I also hope to lay the groundwork to expand the project in the future."



Dennis Shindle
Honors senior

My Life in the Dominican Republic

By Annamarie McCormick, Honors senior

¡Hola todos! I was fortunate enough to be able to spend last semester in Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic, studying at the Pontificia Universidad Católica. Living and studying in the Dominican Republic was an incredible experience, and I firmly believe that the experience of living with a host family was an integral part of my adaptation to Dominican life, culture, and, especially, the language.

Unlike many study abroad programs, CIEE's program at Pontificia (PUCMM for short), places students in true immersion experiences, beginning, of course,



Photos courtesy of Annamarie McCormick

Annamarie stands with her Dominican host family, the Tejadas

with our host families.

I was placed with the Tejada family, consisting of my host mom, older brother, and younger sister. Living with a host family was a wonderful insight into the culture of Santiago, besides the obvious language development advantage. I cooked with my host sister, let her give me a "Dominican makeover," learned to make platanitos with my host mom, brewed maté tea, and watched Barack Obama's inauguration with my entire Dominican family.

In addition to living with a host family, students in Santiago study at PUCMM, taking classes with Dominican and Haitian students, many of whom we got to know very well.

If I had to give one piece of advice to students planning on studying abroad, especially in a country that is not primarily English speaking, it would be to not be afraid to put yourself outside your "comfort zone" and try new things. Some of the most amazing and memorable experiences stemmed from things I never would have considered doing—waterfall jumping, riding on the back of a motoconcho, joining a Dominican triathlon team, painting a mural on the wall of a Dominican folklore museum, and crossing into Haiti to visit a street market—so be open minded.



Not everything will work out how you want it to go. Sometimes trips won't be how you had envisioned them, sometimes the weather won't work in your favor—but the most important thing to remember is that everything, everything is a new and exciting adventure and a learning experience if you are willing to be open to possibilities.

I highly recommend studying abroad to all students. Don't let the obvious excuses get in the way. You can make it fit in your schedule, you can find a country that interests you, and what you don't know about the language you will learn, I promise. To have the experience of representing your university and your country abroad is eye opening and something I believe everyone should experience. ¡Que le vaya muy bien!

Tales of a CP Nothing

How My Internship with the Walt Disney Company was Magical

By Shaun Thompson, Honors senior

I have always known that I wanted to work for Disney. While growing up, I can remember watching movies like *The Little Mermaid* and *Aladdin* thinking about how great it would be to be a part of that magic.

As I got older and started making trips to Disney theme parks like Walt Disney World and Disneyland Paris, I completely fell in love with another area of the Walt Disney Company.

It was because of this passion that the second I learned about the Walt Disney College Program, I knew I had to participate. I felt that it would be a great way to get started in—and possibly lead to a career with—the Walt Disney Company.

The Walt Disney College Program is an

internship opportunity for college students, allowing them to work for a short period of time in a wide selection of fields. In addition to your roles as a Walt Disney World cast member, you have the chance to take classes and attend lectures regarding the business and creative aspects of the company.

While in Florida, the students live in one of four apartment complexes owned by Disney, allowing participants to meet other students taking part in the program. As a CP (College Program Participant), I was introduced to young people from all over the world, learning about other cultures and views, and making friendships that will last a lifetime.

I did the Walt Disney College Program with the Spring 2009 Advantage Program,

meaning I was in Florida working at Disney World from January until August of this year. My assigned role was in merchandise, and I worked in one of the busi-



Photos courtesy of Shaun Thompson

Shaun Thompson poses with the iconic Mickey Mouse ears

See Disney

Pizza with a Prof: Dr. Jeb Kegerreis

An Inside Look at Applying to Graduate Schools

By Katie O'Flaherty, Honors junior

Dr. Jeb Kegerreis, an assistant professor in the Chemistry Department, conducted September's Pizza with a Prof. He attended Shippensburg University for his undergraduate degree and then moved on to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for a doctorate in chemical physics. In April, he successfully defended his dissertation, "Quantum Mechanical Time Correlation Functions for Neat Fluids," and has returned to Shippensburg to begin his career.

The Pizza with a Prof was a huge success. Though only 12 students were anticipated, 32 Honors students attended to ask Dr. Kegerreis about grad school, his dissertation, and a possible future in chemistry.

Dr. Kegerreis' advice about grad school was to definitely attend a large school, because "that's where the

money is." Students from a small school, such as Shippensburg, have the advantage of a closer education, where we can get to know the professors and talk to them on a one-on-one basis. Such a relationship is not nearly as feasible in a larger grad school, but there are other benefits.

The University of Illinois, the second ranked public school for chemistry, has a deservedly big name, which will open opportunities and catch the attention of employers who know about the quality of education.

When applying for grad school, Dr. Kegerreis recommended that students should visit the school and make an appointment to talk to students there. There are also job opportunities to help defer the cost of tuition, such as getting a position as a teaching assistant, graduate assistant, or through research experiences for undergraduates

(REUs). REUs are summer research positions open to grad students.

All in all, the Pizza with a Prof was a great experience. It helped students who attended to develop a great relationship with a professor and opened up questions that students never would have even thought of asking.

All students should participate in the Pizza with a Prof programs. Great faculty, wonderful advice, and free pizza: what could be better?



Photo courtesy of Katelyn Moore

Students enjoy pizza with Dr. Jeb Kegerreis of the Chemistry Department

Disney, cont'd

est stores in the world, the Emporium in the Magic Kingdom. We were the store that guests walked through when entering the park in the morning and left the park through at night. While often times a challenge, I've gained so many skills from working at the world's No. 1 travel destination, ranging from the famous Disney guest service to solving problems quickly and as a team. I would recommend the College Program to anyone interested because it can truly be an experience that will change your life. You might even get to see a celebrity or two! Let me just say that Suri Cruise really is a beautiful baby.

I know that my participation in the Disney College Program will help me in becoming an artist or designer for Disney. I had the time of my life in Florida, and I hope that anyone curious about the program will consider attending a presenta-



Shaun Thompson stands with friends outside of Cinderella's Palace at Walt Disney World

tion nearby or e-mailing me at st0065@hip.edu. A lot of useful information can also be found at the Walt Disney World College Program website: www.disneycollegeprogram.com.

JACQUELINE
WINSPEAR
PARDONABLE
LIES A MAISIE DOBBS NOVEL

When: Thursday, November 5 at 4:30 p.m.
Where: CUB 217

The next Honors Read will feature the book *Pardonable Lies* by Jacqueline Winspear. A discussion of this book will be co-hosted by Honors sophomore Elisabeth Davis and Dr. Steven Burg from the History and Philosophy Department. The book is "a thrilling mystery that will enthrall fans of Jacqueline Winspear's heroine and likely win her new ones" (*Detroit Free Press*).

Pick up your copy in Horton Hall 104 today!

A Window to History

By Anthony Comegna, Honors senior



Photo courtesy of Elisabeth Davis

The 2009 PASSHE Summer Honors Program students pose for a group photo outside of a castle in Europe

It strikes me that in writing a retrospective of my experience in the PASSHE Summer Honors Program, many people would proceed to wax philosophic about all that they learned about other cultures and the magical insights they gained into the intricacies of humanity, but I am afraid I simply cannot do that. If this seems condescending, I implore you to read on.

While in Belgium, the Netherlands, and France, I realized that, at the very least, the Belgians, Dutch, and French are no more different than we Pennsylvanians are from Californians or Texans. Sure, they may speak different languages and spend their time in different ways, but if you can understand everything someone from Kentucky says, or make sense of how people can spend 15 hours a day playing World of Warcraft, then you must be tapping into some collective cultural unconscious I simply am not a part

of. Instead, I wish to discuss how the program changed my perspective on my desired future career as an historian.

While in Europe, we encountered a multitude of historical places and artifacts from castles and museum collections to torture devices and breweries. When touring museums in the past, I never considered the pieces to actually be hundreds or thousands of years old. They always seemed rather like replicas that someone crafted a few years ago and simply placed in the museum next to a placard.

This perception of historical sources changed as soon as I entered my first castle. Trite as the expression may be, it is true that you never forget your first—especially when it's your first castle. Running up and down the treacherous staircases of Beersel Castle, peering out at Belgium from the highest reaches of the keeps, and inspecting

the overgrown ruins of the castle foundation, I experienced a small piece of life 800 years ago that textbooks, try as they might, simply fail to fully communicate.

Seeing the scattered latrines, witnessing the logic and science of castle construction for myself, feeling the stones one by one, and imagining all the souls that lived to steal away with that pretty scullery maid with the fiery red hair to steal kisses by the smithy, the very idea that history actually happened came alive in the shape of Beersel Castle.

Further examples are myriad. In Bayeux, we saw the famous Bayeux Tapestry depicting the Norman invasion of England and the Battle of

Hastings (1066). Before seeing the tapestry, I had always imagined it as a crude cartoon strip. Once confronted with the great primary source as Ahab confronted the great whale, I saw it as so much more.

It contained everything from knowledge about mythology and superstitions to more mundane political and military history. It showed carnage and death and raw humanity. PowerPoint slide-shows simply cannot contain it. At the Louvre in Paris, I saw Hammurabi's Code. That's right, the actual Code of Hammurabi. I had known for some time that it was in the collection there, *See PASSHE* but when I Page 6

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Horton Hall 104 (717) 477-1604

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday, 8:00 to 11:45 a.m.

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PASSHE, cont'd

actually encountered it, it quite literally stunned me. I snapped a picture of some nondescript statue, turned a corner, and BAM!—right there was the seminal document in the history of law. World history texts will tell you that Hammurabi's Code is the first documented and public legal code in history (that we know of), and there it was. Let me be clear: I find the real historical and philosophical significance of the code to be rather diminutive, but the fact remains that if I am to enter the scholarly conversation on such a topic, I must make reference to it and adequately demonstrate

my position. How am I to do this with a static, impersonal view of history such as the passive museum-zombie I was prior to this trip? If history is to mean anything, it must be personalized and individualized.

In summation, the PASSHE Summer Honors Program radically changed my perception of my own field. If you think that sounds a little dramatic, it was. If I had any advice to offer my younger peers, it would be to put all you possibly can into bettering yourself and the Honors Program because the Summer Honors Program is the very best it has to offer and, after all, who wants to depend upon luck?

THE HONORABLE MENTION

Thanks to **Kristen Imboden, Kady Taylor, and Addy Virtus**, who represented the Honors Program at the Shippensburg University Open House on Saturday, September 19.

Thanks to all the students who participated in Rails to Trails: **Carlee Allen, Jordan Dewalt, Noret Flood, Jennifer Fourhman, Kaitlin Klinger, Neil Lennon, Traci Migliori, Laura Nelson, Jennifer O'Malley, Holly Plank, Ryan Schweikert, Alexa Sleeper, Nicholas Spinelle, Megan Veazey, and Alan Zanotti.**

A special thanks to **Angela Darosh, Scott Karper, and Addy Virtus** for helping our new students on move-in day!

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