

# The Honors Chronicle

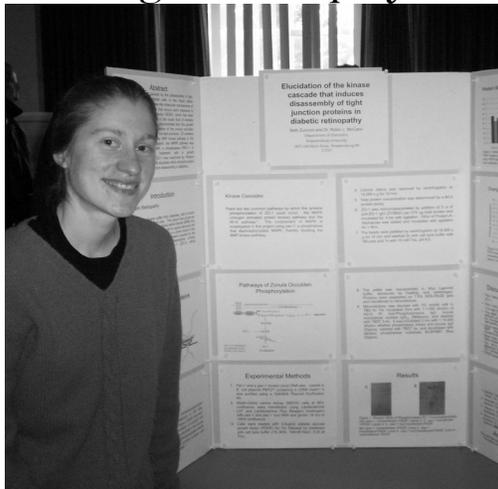
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April 2008

## Students Take the Initiative!

Undergrads Display Their Research on April 3.



Beth Zucconi presents her research.

Photo by Ally Morgan

By Ally Morgan, Honors sophomore

The Undergraduate Research fair was held this year on Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. At the fair, students had a chance to present projects that they have been working on for quite some time. Students could research a subject individually, or work in groups to accomplish their goals. Some students took an interdisciplinary approach to their research and delved into several aspects of a topic, while others chose to research alone.

One group of students including Honors junior, Nicole Tucker, took an interdisciplinary approach to the study of

catapults. This study involved both history and physics majors. Together, these students collaborated and after debate, decided to further research and design an “onager.” An onager is like a catapult with a sling. They then built a model to test the design for major flaws.

“We are now working on the full-sized model which is estimated to be about 8 feet by 4 feet with a 9 ft arm” says Nicole Tucker. “Another physics student and I will be testing the wood and rope for the model with the force and range equations to get the maximum range without breaking the machine.”

Another honors student, senior Beth Zucconi, worked on some-

thing completely different. Beth decided to research various chemicals and reactions associated with diabetes. Her research allowed her to delve into a field of medical science that she would otherwise have not been able to research.

Honors sophomore Mark Messick researched along with other business students to find the most efficient way for a company to improve their shipping routes. In doing this, his group managed to formulate a strategy that would save the company 51,000 miles annually along

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## Calendar

### April

#### 19 - Earth Day 2008

Plant Trees in Caledonia State Park. Meet at the CUB lobby at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided

#### 22 - Spring Banquet

CUB Multi-purpose Room, 6:00 p.m.

#### 23 - Self-Defense Class

CUB 216, 7:00 p.m. Light Refreshments will be provided.

#### 23 - HSO Meeting

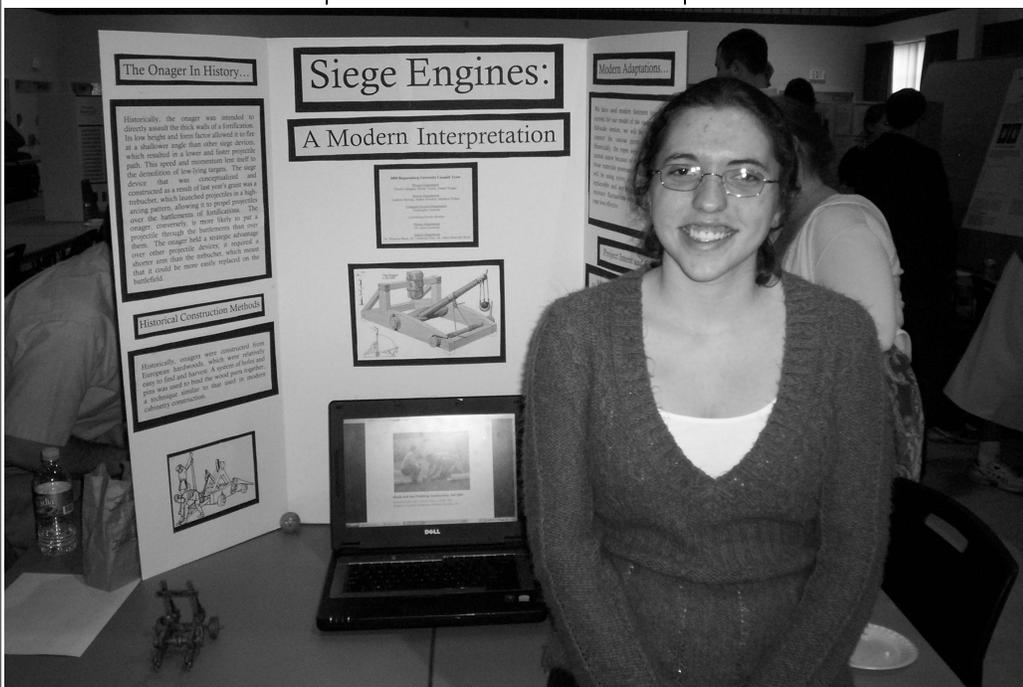
CUB 217, 8:00 p.m.

#### 24 - Honors Read: *The Alchemist*

CUB 315, 3:30 p.m.

### May

1 - Participation Forms due to Sharon Poe.



Honors Junior Nicole Tucker stands in front of the onager catapult designed by her.

Photo by Ally Morgan

# SideNotes

By Stacie Wight

(RED) Campaign Across Africa

(RED) MANIFESTO - "ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL. THEY ARE NOT. AS FIRST WORLD CONSUMERS, WE HAVE TREMENDOUS POWER. WHAT WE COLLECTIVELY CHOOSE TO BUY, OR NOT TO BUY, CAN CHANGE THE COURSE OF LIFE AND HISTORY ON THIS PLANET. (RED) IS THAT SIMPLE AN IDEA... AND THAT POWERFUL. NOW, YOU HAVE A CHOICE. THERE ARE (RED) CREDIT CARDS... AND (RED) FASHION BRANDS. IF YOU BUY A (RED) PRODUCT..., A (RED) COMPANY WILL GIVE SOME OF ITS PROFITS TO BUY AND DISTRIBUTE ANTI-RETROVIRAL MEDICINE TO OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS DYING OF AIDS IN AFRICA. (RED) IS NOT A CHARITY...YOU BUY (RED) STUFF, WE GET THE MONEY, BUY THE PILLS AND DISTRIBUTE THEM. THEY TAKE THE PILLS, AND STAY ALIVE... IF THEY DON'T GET THE PILLS, THEY DIE... ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS UPGRADE YOUR CHOICE."

(RED) was created by Bono and Bobby Shriver to raise awareness and money for AIDS. 100% of the money collected by the (RED) campaign is given to the Global Fund where, again, 100% of the money is used to purchase much needed medicine for the women and children of Africa suffering from AIDS. By purchasing (RED) products found at GAP clothing, Converse, Apple, Dell... you are raising money to help fight aids in Africa and save lives. How hard is it for you to buy a (RED) shirt at GAP to wear to class? Make a statement; join a cause worth backing. I challenge everyone to find a (RED) product that fits you and support this campaign. Remember, "All you have to do is upgrade your choice."

Learn more @ [www.joinred.com](http://www.joinred.com).

# The Honors Program



# Spring Banquet

By Amy Harmon, Honors junior

The Honors Program's annual Spring Banquet will be held Tuesday, April 22nd at 6:00 p.m. in the CUB Multi-purpose Room. The Spring Banquet is an event designed to honor graduating seniors and present student and faculty awards. Also, the 2008-2009 Honors Student Organization officers will be announced. Invitations for this year's banquet went out as an E-Vite and students should have RSVP'd by Monday, April 14. As always there will be great food and great company.



# Speak Out!



By Mark Messick, Honors sophomore

"I vote to see my political beliefs pan out on a national scale."



Neil Lennon  
Freshman

What inspires you to vote?

"I vote because I think it's important to have a say in my government."



Mike Drain  
Senior

"I actually have not voted because I am not politically informed enough to select a candidate."



Angela Shultz  
Freshman

My desire to keep our currency from collapse because of hyper-inflation and a desire for immediate cessation of war in Iraq drive my voting.



Anthony Comegna  
Sophomore

I vote because I can. It's a freedom I feel is important to exercise.



Valerie Koontz  
Junior

# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

By Christina Shirk, Honors junior

## Dr. Alison Feeney



Dr. Alison Feeney is currently teaching the Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar on Pirates. This unconventional course topic allows the students to study more serious issues like government, politics, history, geography and warfare in a fun way.

The "Pirates of the Caribbean" movie trilogy is actually what inspired Dr. Feeney to devise a course on piracy. She noticed the large role geography played in the films, and thought a piracy approach would make mapping in the classroom more fun.

Dr. Feeney has conducted research in the area of interactive multimedia and animated mapping. She feels it is important to teach with a variety of techniques to ensure comprehension and retention. So, she incorporates mapping, GPS, and interactive media programs with graphics, sound, music and animations throughout the course.

Recently, the class participated in a live video conference with the Mariner's Museum out of Newport News, VA. Surrounded by cameras, the students learned about topics like European wars during the hay day of the pirates of the Caribbean, Blackbeard and the Chesapeake Bay. They were able to ask questions and interact with the museum representatives.

Not only does the course include interactive field trips, but the students will actually be going on a boat on the Chesapeake Bay to learn more about the ecosystem at the end of the semester.

Dr. Feeney enjoys combining student learning with real-life geography application. She also promotes student learning projects. She is currently working with the National State Parks to update, revise and improve their online maps of campgrounds to make them more user-friendly. She actually allows students to contribute to projects such as these, and upon completion they are able to say they mapped for the National State Parks or other organizations. She, along with Dr. Janet Smith, will be presenting their work this month in Boston.

# International Success!

## 2008 Washington Model Organization of the American States

By Amanda Johnson, Honors senior

Students of Shippensburg University recently explored their education in a more hands on approach. These students attended the Washington Model Organization of American States (WMOAS) from April 8-12. The model is based off of an intergovernmental organization called the Organization of American States (OAS) which is comprised of 35 western hemispheric countries. The OAS promotes democracy and strives to protect human rights, develop trade opportunities, and create a place for members of the Americas to communicate.

At the model conference, students addressed many issues facing the OAS by drafting resolutions. These resolutions

sought to improve many aspects of the OAS including political, economic, cultural, and social issues affecting Latin America. The students then discussed ways in which all member states can work together for a better tomorrow. Each student presented and debated their resolution at the model meeting.

The students are a part of an Interdisciplinary Political Science course, advised by Dr. Mark Sachleben offered through Shippensburg University's Political Science Department and Honors Program. This creative approach to learning gives students the opportunity to improve their knowledge of structures and procedures of the OAS and



Honors senior Beth Kusko participates in exciting debates with her group.

improve their debating skills.

The students also had to opportunity to meet with diplomats from the nation they represented. The two teams from Shippensburg represented the countries of Haiti and Belize. Both groups had an excellent experience at their country's embassy. The students learned more about the country's stance on various issues and learned to think as a diplomat from another country. This proved to be a great experience for the students.

Fortunately, this class will be offered again next spring. As one can see, it was truly an excellent opportunity



Students question the US ambassador to the OAS.



Members of the class pose at the gala in the Hall of Americas.

Photos courtesy of Nicole Siegel

# Serving with a Smile!

By Grace Burkholder, Honors sophomore



Photo courtesy of Grace Burkholder

Honors students Brittney Miller, Emily Cisney, Emily Kremmel, Lindsay Poehlman, Stacy Crum, and Grace Burkholder prepare to host a self-defense night on April 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the CUB room 216.

What do you automatically think when you see “service learning project” on the syllabus on the first day of class? “Oh no, a group project that no doubt will be huge, difficult, and time consuming.” What we fail to realize when we first read this part of the syllabus is how we get the chance to use what we learn. In so many classes, we have lectures, notes, and exams. Do we really learn it; do we really care what we’re learning? Unless we are interested, we probably don’t absorb the information as much as our professors hope. Service learning projects give us the chance to get interested, use what we learn in the classroom, and utilize the various resources our school provides.

Our Honors Intro to Women’s Studies class

is planning two service-learning projects this semester. The over-arching focus that interested the entire class was the need to be safe in the college community. Approximately half of the class is organizing a safe-ride program. They are working to set up a club that other schools already have in place that provides transportation around the community. To promote safety on the personal level, our group will host a self-defense class open to any students.

A campus police officer will present information about campus safety, basic tips, and demonstrate a few simple self-defense moves. While we have heard many basic tips and guidelines on how to be safe from elementary school up to now, a reminder class is always useful. Due to recent events in our community, we are reminded to be aware of our surroundings and how to protect ourselves.

But why would this be important to a women’s studies class? Many people automatically think “radical feminist man-haters” when they hear the words “women’s studies.” This assumption is

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## RESEARCH Cont’d

with \$26,000 annually. These students, along with many others, helped to make the undergraduate research fair a success. By exploring these topics, students are able to improve their research and writing skills while gaining knowledge not found in the classroom. The undergraduate research fair gives an excellent opportunity for student advancement. Students should take advantage of this opportunity and embrace this opportunity to learn.



Mark Messick stands in front of his poster showing efficient routes.

Photo by Ally Morgan

### HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE

Horton Hall 104 (717) 477-1604

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.,  
Friday 8 - 11:45 a.m.

Web site: <http://webspace.ship.edu/honors>

**Director:** Dr. Kim Klein [kmklei@ship.edu](mailto:kmklei@ship.edu)  
**Secretary:** Mrs. Sharon Poe [sapoe@ship.edu](mailto:sapoe@ship.edu)  
**Graduate Assistant:** Ms. Melissa Bittner [mb7474@ship.edu](mailto:mb7474@ship.edu)

### HONORS STUDENT ORGANIZATION (HSO)

#### Officers, 2007-2008

**President:** Ryan Blackman [rb8770@ship.edu](mailto:rb8770@ship.edu)  
**Vice President:** Michelle Baker [mb2921@ship.edu](mailto:mb2921@ship.edu)  
**Secretary:** Amy Harmon [ah9172@ship.edu](mailto:ah9172@ship.edu)  
**Treasurer:** Andrew Evans [ae8988@ship.edu](mailto:ae8988@ship.edu)

### THE HONORS CHRONICLE

#### Editor, 2007-2008

**Editor:** Ally Morgan [am6890@ship.edu](mailto:am6890@ship.edu)

Submit story ideas to Ally at [am6890@ship.edu](mailto:am6890@ship.edu).

## SERVICE Cont'd

grossly over-dramatic. First, feminist is not synonymous with "man-hater." Feminists are men and women who believe in the equality of men and women in all aspects of life. Secondly, not all feminists are radical. Some want to completely change the world immediately. Others, myself included, want to make people aware of the systems of inequality that our society supports. By increasing awareness, we can more gradually change how our society views and treats women on a greater spectrum.

How does our project fit in with these main points? Our group is not assuming that by taking an intro class that we can automatically change the fact that women are more at risk for physical attack in the community. Our research and class discussion brings these issues to the forefront of our minds. We know that talking in class will not change what our society is. We have decided to take a proactive stance. Because we live in a society in

which people believe it is okay to have power over others and sometimes misuse that power to violate others, we must start small to change people's attitudes by first informing them.

By offering a free informational and fun self-defense class, we are serving other people. We researched statistics about our campus and other state schools; we are coordinating schedules and strengthening our interpersonal skills by meeting with each other, professors, and the campus police. Through each of these steps we are learning. I can only conclude that our self-defense class project fulfills the "service" and "learning" portions of the assignment. What started out as an "oh-no-a-group-project" feeling has changed to interest, energy, and commitment to educate the campus and make small steps toward adjusting the attitudes of the world.

## Wrapping up a Semester of Service

By Megan Veazey, Honors sophomore



Students gather for Relay for Life on April 4th.

Photo by Megan Veazey

For the spring 2008 semester, there was definitely no shortage of fun and creative ways to get your four service points in! Just a reminder to everyone, at least four out of your twelve points need to come from a service project to remain in good standing in the Honors Program.

The first service event for the semester was Relay for Life, starting at 6pm on April 4 until 6am on April 5.

This campus-wide event was a 12-hour walk to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Our goal this year was to raise at least \$10,000. At 5am, the current total was up to \$15,201! This was over double what was raised last year.

The next service project coming up is taking place on April 19, 2008. Students are meeting in the CUB lobby to carpool to Caledonia State

## Success Beyond the Grades!

By Rennae Hillen, Honors Alumnus

Photo courtesy of Rennae Hillen



As a student, your success or failure is associated

with grades. A letter or a percentage classifies your effort and understanding of a topic or subject. Through those classifications you have earned awards, scholarships, and completion of courses and degrees. What happens after graduation when there are no more grades? How do you gauge success? Finding fulfillment in a job and success in the "real world" can be challenging. To truly excel in the working world, it is important to find success beyond the grades.

A manager or supervisor may set performance goals for you or your department, but it is extremely important to find what drives you within your occupation. It is as important if not more so to develop your own goals for yourself instead of being dependent on others to set goals and evaluate those goals for you. When setting goals ask yourself if they are SMART. SMART goals are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-

bound. Another important tool is to create performance goals that allow you to evaluate your success throughout the journey rather than outcome goals that only allow evaluation at the end of a project or a period of time. By creating goals that are performance based and following the SMART technique, you will be able to evaluate your own success more effectively.

The second key to finding success beyond the grades is to enter a career that you are passionate about. Developing and achieving the best goals, without passion, will not feel like success. I could personally develop some fantastic cycling goals and work hard to achieve those goals. However, because I am definitely not passionate about cycling, my hard work would prove challenging and accomplishing my goals would not feel like success but instead a means to an end. Finding passion must come from inside you and may force you to change companies, jobs, or even careers. There is no failure in making changes to move towards finding your passion.

You can only be successful when you determine what success is to you. This no longer will be expressed to you in a syllabus or on a grade report. Set YOUR goals, follow YOUR passion and YOU will achieve success.

Park to plant trees in honor of Earth Day. This great event comes with free lunch as well! For more information, email Beth Kusko at ek4832@ship.edu.

The service committee is wrapping up the semester on April 25 with Banana Splits and Games at Elm Croft Nursing Home. New this year, honors students are meeting in front of the CUB at 1:00pm to carpool to the nursing home. We get to pick and design the game for about 45 residents to play, so we need a lot of volunteers!! If you are interested, email either Jenn Bly jb3775@ship.edu or Megan Veazey mv7192@ship.edu



Photo by Megan Veazey

Honors students Annamarie McCormick and Justine Wnuck walk the track to help raise money for the American Cancer Society.

# EARTH DAY 2008

Come plant trees in Caledonia State Park on April 19 to celebrate Earth Day! Meet at the CUB lobby at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be provided!

## THE HONORABLE MENTION

Congratulations to our graduates: Michelle Baker, Ryan Blackman, Jennifer Bly, Jacklyn Bonitz, John Calvello, Kevin Casero, Kristin Champlain, Emily Cisney, Katharine Criswell, Stacy Crum, Rebecca Cummins, Marc Dessel, Jean Flitner, Rebecca Fowler, Danielle Geller, Amanda Johnson, Emily Jones, Scott Jones, Megan Keener, Mustafa Khaliqi, Kelsey Klunk, Elizabeth Kusko, Jenna McCaffrey, Julie Miller, Daniel Paterno, James Saylor Jr, Katie Shultz, Matthew Stern, Toby Stouffer, Nicole Thierwechter, Audrey Weeks, Stacie Wight, John Yackovich, and Beth Zucconi.