

The Honors Chronicle

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April 2010

Honors Class Experiences Washington, D.C.

By Krista Bussewitz, Honors freshman

Full disclosure: I love field trips. There is something about taking all of that head knowledge—stuff from books and lecture and discussion—and seeing how it works in the real world that I really enjoy. That is why I jumped at the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. with Dr. Alison Dagnes for the day.

I had already traveled to our nation's capital on several occasions. What made the trip unique was that Dr. Dagnes arranged for us to meet with staffers on Capitol Hill: people who could give us an inside perspective on the workings of politics. We met with three staffers from Representative Brian Higgins of New

York and from the Chief of Staff for Representative Todd Platts of Pennsylvania. They discussed a variety of topics right from the headlines, like the passage of health care reform and the growing importance of social media. While they talked, I felt almost surreal being seated in a place where,

sometime in weeks past, congressmen and senators had sat debating legislation now made law. In that simple spare room, I gained a new appreciation for all the



Photo courtesy of Krista Bussewitz

Honors students pose outside the Capitol

hard work that happens behind closed doors in politics, away from the watchful media eye.

See D.C.

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Honors Program Co-Hosts Regional Conference

By Ally Morgan, Honors senior

Six Shippensburg University Honors students and faculty participated in the 2010 Northeast Regional Honors Conference, which was held in Harrisburg from April 8-11. This year's conference theme was "Defining the Center." The annual conference allows students to come together to share their research and creative projects with Honors students and faculty from across the northeastern U.S.

The conference began on Friday, April 9 with its signature event, "City As Text." City As Text allows conference participants to undertake independent explorations of the conference site oriented

around the conference theme. As chair of the local organizing committee, Honors director Dr. Kim Klein and Honors graduate assistant Tyler Miller created and coordinated the City As Text explorations. This year's exploration sites included the Pennsylvania State Capitol and Museum, Public and Private Art in Harrisburg, Harrisburg Then and Now, Hershey, Gettysburg, and Lancaster. Honors students and faculty explored the sites and made connections between the physical places, people, and conference

theme. Honors graduate assistant Tyler Miller led the Gettysburg group. "Living in Chambersburg, I sometimes take for granted that an important and historic destination like Gettysburg is just down the road," says Tyler. "It was a great opportunity to accompany a group of students and professors who had never been there before." Students and faculty had a lot of fun in this portion of the conference and were

"Not only did I get to spread the word about our international project, but I also had the opportunity to meet other honors students and hear them share their innovative ideas."

- Jamie McNulty, Honors senior

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Calendar

April

19-20 - Price is Right

Mowrey Hall Recreation Room

8:00-10:00 p.m. (Monday)

8:30-11:00 p.m. (Tuesday)

20 - Honors Spring Banquet

Tuscarora Room, 6:30 p.m.

23-24 - Relay for Life

6:00 p.m.-6:00 a.m.

This year's theme is Disney. The Honors Program is having a team, and anyone interested in participating should contact Megan Veazey at mv7192@ship.edu.

24 - Microchipping clinic at Cumberland Valley Animal Shelter

CVAS in Chambersburg

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Transportation will be provided if needed. For more information, contact Laura Nelson at ln1713@ship.edu.

25 - Honors Program Symposium

CUB Lounges, 2:00 p.m.

Honors seniors will present their capstone research projects.

27 - Uncommon Conversation: Howell Raines

Mark Room, Old Main, 4:00 p.m.

Howell Raines, former executive editor of *The New York Times*, will share his insights regarding the purpose and meaning of life as developed through his memoirs "The One that Got Away" and "Fly Fishing through the Midlife Crisis."

August

6-7 - Freshman Orientation

The Honors Program will host a mandatory orientation for incoming Honors students. For more information, please go to http://www.ship.edu/Honors/Prospective/Freshmen_Orientation.

D.C., Continued

ing a brief tour of the Capitol building, we toured the Franklin Delano Roosevelt, World War II, and Lincoln memorials. The weather was perfect and the famous cherry blossoms were in full bloom. As we wandered among people of many ages and backgrounds and the words of our 32nd president, once again I began to understand what FDR meant when he said, "in these days of difficulty, we Americans everywhere must and will choose the path of social justice...the path of faith, the path of hope, the path of love for our common man." For all that has happened in the past few years, I can think of no better words for our people, our country, and our political system to live by.

NRHC, Continued

able to learn more about central Pennsylvania. On Saturday, April 10, Honors seniors JohnPaul Bennett, Jamie McNulty, and Ally Morgan made invited presentations on their Honors capstone research and service-learning projects. JohnPaul presented his research on China's emerging middle class. Jamie and Ally presented on the Honors Colloquium's project, "Reach Out: Enhancing Education in the Dominican Republic." "It was a fantastic opportunity for me to attend the Honors Regional Conference," Jamie comments. "Not only did I get to spread the word about our international project, but I also had the opportunity to meet other honors students and hear them share their innovative ideas." Jamie and Ally attended sessions on the importance of probiotics for digestion, the effects of yoga on stress relief, and several others. Saturday's events concluded with a student party, which was DJ'd by Dr. Mike Long, assistant profes-

sor of math at Shippensburg University.

By participating in the conference, Honors students and faculty are able to share ideas with students from many other schools and disciplines. Conferences are a great opportunity to network and develop research and presentation skills. Honors students should take advantage of all conference opportunities presented to them!



Photo courtesy of Gettysburg Visitor Center
Soldiers National Cemetery in Gettysburg

Club Plug

By Wendy Tanner, Honors senior

As an athlete throughout middle school and high school, I thought coming to college meant the end of sports for me. However, my activity level took a huge leap after meeting a basketball rival from back home the spring of my freshman year. She was a member of the Shippensburg University Women's Club Rugby Team.

Two questions often come to mind when rugby is mentioned. First, what is it? And second, Shippensburg has a team? The answers: it's a great sport and Ship does have a team! We play on Saturdays on Eckles Field (the field behind the coal plant).

It only took one practice and I was hooked. Rugby is sometimes called "elegant chaos." To an unfamiliar viewer, a game looks chaotic and unorganized, but in reality there is a sense of control and order. We have rules to follow. We run plays. There is a strategy behind every pass and kick.

When I first joined the team, I had no idea how much it would change my life. I had joined a tight-knit group that rapidly became my family. And it was with this family that I reached a level of competition that I never had before in high school. It was with this team that I became a two-time national champion. In May 2008 and May 2009, we traveled to Palo Alto, California to compete for the Division II National Collegiate Championship title. Winning those national championships made all those Sundays of waking up bruised, sore,



Photo courtesy of Wendy Tanner

Honors student Wendy Tanner holds a national championship trophy

and stiff worth it. It made post-game ice baths not seem so bad after all.

As graduation approaches, I reflect back on my rugby career. It is incredible to think that a club sport that doesn't get all the perks of a varsity sport has won two national championships. With dedication, a lot of fundraising, and learning how to "rub some dirt on it," the Shippensburg Women's Rugby Team has certainly exceeded expectations, especially my own. My experience as a rugby player has taught me that taking a chance on something can turn into one of the best things you have ever done.

(Other members of the rugby team who are members of the Honors Program are senior Sarah Mousetis, junior Stacie Stuart, and freshman Rachel O'Neill.)

The Price Is Right

By Wendy Tanner, Honors senior

This year's members of "The Game" Honors seminar are putting their creativity to use for a good cause. On Monday, April 19 and Tuesday, April 20, the class is hosting their own version of The Price Is Right to raise money for Chilean earthquake relief.

As part of the class, each student has created one of the games from the show. Some of the games include: Superball, the Race Game, Pathfinder, Hi Lo, Easy as 1 2 3, and of course, the famous Plinko. The cost to play each game is 25 cents, but by bringing a canned good, students can play two free games. All the canned goods will be sent to Chile.

Contestants will be entered in a contest where they may hear the familiar phrase, "Come on Down," which allows them to spin the wheel for a spot in the Showcase Showdown, where they can win fabulous college prizes. The Showcase takes place toward the end of the second night, and students must be present in order to participate.

The class is excited to get the campus community involved in their service project. Honors sophomore Brian Hay said, "It should be one of the most interactive programs to hit this campus."

The class decided to raise money for Chile since there has been such a big push to raise money for Haiti. The Chil-

See Game

Pizza with a Prof: Dr. James and Dr. Loveland

By Sabrina Dooley, Honors junior

Where are topics like whale blubber and sheep's eyeballs appropriate dinner conversation? Why with the professors of the Anthropology Department, of course!

On March 18, 20 Honors students and two anthropology professors, Dr. James and Dr. Loveland, gathered outside at the concrete tables in front of Grove Hall for Pizza with a Prof. Once there, we proceeded to devour two and a half boxes of pizza and a bag full of soft drinks. While we ate, students sat on the benches or against the side of Grove. Dr. Loveland and Dr. James split up to talk to separate groups of students.

I remained in the group surrounding Dr. James. Somehow, the conversation turned to weird foods. In their travels, Dr. James and Dr. Loveland have eaten pretty odd dishes.

The craziest thing the students had eaten was whole seafood, crayfish with eyes and shells still attached, and whole baby octopi. The professors had us beaten by far. Dr. Loveland had managed to choke down part of a whale blubber burger in one of the northern European nations.

"It tasted terrible," she said. "Now that I think about it, I can't imagine that kind of thing is very healthy for you. But how often are you going to get to try whale blubber?"

Dr. James' Greek in-laws delighted in feeding her strange delicacies.

"They said, 'Here, try this!' So I did. They watched me excitedly as I ate the food. It tasted bland and spongy. It wasn't very good. 'Want to know what it is?' they asked me eagerly, so I said, 'Sure.' 'Sheep's eyeball!' they exclaimed triumphantly. They were disappointed when I didn't freak out," Dr. James laughed a little. "I just can't imagine why people would go through the trouble to cook and eat the eyeballs if they taste so bland."

The professors continued to talk to us for a while. We volunteered our travel experiences, mostly to Europe, and the professors would offer us anecdotes about their anthropological observations.

I was particularly grateful for this opportunity to talk with the anthropology professors. During the fall 2008 semester, I took the Honors Cultural Anthropology course expecting nothing more than to fill a general education



Photo courtesy of Angela Darosh

Dr. James, Dr. Loveland, and Dr. Lorenz pose with students outside Grove Hall

requirement. Instead I ended up becoming fascinated by the eccentric and energetic Dr. James and the range of cultures she presented. A few weeks ago I officially declared my anthropology minor, and I will be taking two anthropology courses next semester. If anyone has a free elective or a lingering general education requirement, I would encourage them to take Introduction to Cultural Anthropology. These professors know how to keep things interesting!

Game, Continued

ean earthquake, which occurred at the end of February, was stronger in magnitude than the Haiti earthquake. Chile is still experiencing aftershocks that continue to damage the country.

Dr. Mike Long, the brain behind the idea, said, "This event provides an opportunity to connect the content of "The Game" class with a service project to support relief efforts

in Chile while mixing in all of the fun of the wildly popular and longest running game show in the United States: "The Price Is Right."

The Price Is Right will take place in the Mowrey Hall Recreation Room. On Monday, April 19 it runs from 8 to 10 p.m. and on Tuesday, April 20 it runs from 8:30 to 11 p.m. Invite your friends and grab your quarters and canned goods and "come on down" for Chile!

Congratulations



Honors 2010 Graduates

Kali Antolik, Jessica Barben, Kristen Beddia, JohnPaul Bennett, Grace Burkholder, Glenn Burney, Kara Bushman, Jennifer Coccagna, Anthony Comegna, Mary Dell, Tiffany Frazier, Courtney Johnson, Keri Kimes, Katie Marshall, Ashley Martin, Kelly Mays, Annamarie McCormick, Kevin McCrabb, Jamie McNulty, Brittney Miller, Michelle Miller, Jonathan Moats, Katelyn Moore, Allison Morgan, Sarah Mousetis, Catherine Putz, Paul Rutledge, Diana Schneider, Wendy Tanner, Shaun Thompson, Todd Vargson, Megan Veazey

HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE

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.

www.ship.edu/honors

Director: Dr. Kim Klein *kmklei@ship.edu*
Secretary: Mrs. Sharon Poe *sapoe@ship.edu*
Graduate Assistant: Mr. Tyler Miller *tm0041@ship.edu*

HONORS STUDENT ORGANIZATION (HSO)

Officers, 2009-2010

President: Allison Morgan *am6890@ship.edu*
Vice President: Elisabeth Davis *ed6494@ship.edu*
Secretary: Scott Karper *lk0214@ship.edu*
Treasurer: Kady Taylor *kt0816@ship.edu*

THE HONORS CHRONICLE

Editor: Angela Darosh *ad3690@ship.edu*

Submit story ideas to Angela at *ad3690@ship.edu*.

Honors Symposium

Honors Symposium



COME OUT AND SUPPORT OUR
HONORS SENIORS AS THEY
PRESENT THEIR CAPSTONE
RESEARCH PROJECTS!

Sunday, April 25

CUB Lounges, 2:00 p.m.

THE HONORABLE MENTION

Congratulations to **Anthony Comegna** and **Kaitlin Klinger** for winning the 2010 APSCUF-Shippensburg University Student Awards.

A big thank you to our secretary, **Sharon Poe**, for all the work she has done this year, and our graduate assistant, **Tyler Miller**, who will be graduating in May!

A special thanks to all of our 2009-2010 HSO committee chairs and officers: **Nathan Barr, Jen Coccagna, Angela Darosh, Elisabeth Davis, Chris Eby, Noret Flood, Jen Hoover, Kristen Imboden, Scott Karper, Katie Marshall, Chelsea Meier, Abby Montler, Ally Morgan, Laura Nelson, Nick Spinelle, Kady Taylor, Ub Ubomong, Megan Veazey, and Addy Virtus.**

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Honors Program
Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257