

# The Honors Chronicle

Volume 24, Issue 5

www.ship.edu/honors

April 2011

## Calendar

### April

**15 - Application Deadline for the Honors Study Abroad Scholarship**

Submit applications to Sharon Poe, Horton 201. Students who are studying abroad in summer or fall 2011 are eligible to apply. Applications are available on the Forms page of the Honors website.

**18 - 22 - HSO Sports Week**

7:00 p.m., Seavers Pavilion

**19 - Honors Symposium**

3:00 p.m.-8:45 p.m., SU Foundation Conference Center

**21 - Honors Spring Banquet**

6:00 p.m., Tuscarora Room, Reisner Hall

**22 - HSO Service Project: Earth Day**

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Library Lawn

**22 - Participation Points Tracking Form Due**

Submit form to Sharon Poe, Horton 201.

**28 - Model Organization of American States Presentation**

3:30 p.m., Grove 408

Honors students who participated in the 2011 Washington Model Organization of American States will discuss their experience.

**28 - Self-Defense Class: Hosted by the HSO Recreation Committee**

7:00 p.m., Seavers Courtyard

### May

**7 - Undergraduate Commencement**

### June

**20 - University-Wide Freshmen Orientation**

## SU Honors at NRHC in Snowy Portland, Me.

By Sara Workman, Honors senior

Three Honors Program students—Jennifer Hoover, Kristen Imboden, and Sara Workman—along with Honors director Dr. Kim Klein represented Shippensburg University at the 2011 Northeast Regional Honors Conference (NRHC). The conference took place from March 31 to April 3 at the Eastland Park Hotel in Portland, Maine. The conference provides a forum for undergraduate Honors students to showcase their research and creative projects.

The conference got off

to a memorable start as we arrived just before a major snowstorm began in Portland. Despite the snow, the conference’s signature event, “City as Text,” went on as planned on the conference’s first day. During City as Text, conference participants have the opportunity to explore the host city’s major sites. We ventured to Portland’s historic “Old Port” and visited many of the quaint shops located in this his-



Photo courtesy of Jennifer Hoover

From left to right: Jennifer Hoover, Kristen Imboden, and Sara Workman enjoy the sights of Portland, Maine.

torical area.

The conference banquet was held during the evening. Samuel Merrill, the director of the New *See Conference* England Page 3

## Introducing the Delegation from Guatemala! Honors Students Participate in Model OAS in D.C.

By Sarah Ricker, Honors Program graduate assistant



Photo courtesy of Dr. Mark Sachleben

Dr. Mark Sachleben and the SU students who composed the Guatemala delegation at the Model OAS.

Five Honors Program students from Shippensburg University joined students from 29 other

universities from across the Americas at the 2011 Washington Model Organization of American States (OAS) in Washington, D.C. from March 29-April 2, 2011. The five-day event simulated the proceedings of the Organization of

American States General Assembly, providing students with a real-world experience learning about the functions of the OAS and mastering the art of diplomacy.

The SU Honors students--Addy Virtus, a junior psychology major; Paul Engelkemier, a sophomore political science major; Tracy Migliori, a junior history education major; Ethan Goldbach, a sophomore elementary education major; and Rachel O’Neill, a sophomore *See MOAS* Page 3

# SU Honors Program Represented at 2011 NCUR

By Elisabeth Davis, Honors junior

For about a year, I have been researching the medieval cult of Saint Michael, a project that has become a passion and obsession for me. In early April, I was able to present my preliminary findings at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR), something I never would have been able to do without the funding of the Honors Program and the university's Undergraduate Research Grant Program. This year's conference was held in Ithaca, New York, approximately four hours north of Shippensburg, and it took place from March 30 through April 2.

Ithaca, New York is a cross between an old mining town and a romantic getaway in the mountains. The area surrounding Ithaca is a collection of little hamlets, all of which remind me of the mining towns in northern Pennsylvania. Downtown Ithaca is beautiful and charming, with a variety of shops and restaurants, including the most vegetarian restaurants I've ever seen. The town itself is divided between two colleges: Cornell University and Ithaca College. In fact, you cannot tell where one ends and the other one begins. Exploring this area certainly added to the experience of attending the conference.

It is a very humbling experience to attend a conference like NCUR. At NCUR you meet students and faculty from all over the United States who are equally intelligent and driven. I have never met so many students planning on attaining their Ph.D.s with such impressive undergraduate research experiences. Yet, being the geek that I am, I have to admit that my favorite part of the conference was attending various oral presentation sessions and the plenary speakers. Attending other presentations gave me insight into my own studies as well as an idea of what my peers in the field of history are doing. Presenting my research gave me valuable feedback, which gave me with new perspectives on my work. However, I must admit that hearing the plenary speakers was the highlight of the conference. My favorite speaker was David Campbell, a biologist and writer from Grinnell College who combined perspectives from biology and archeology to create a history of the Maya in

Guatemala. His talk was humorous, insightful, and very interesting, even for a non-science major. The other plenary speakers were also very interesting, challenging the students in attendance to discover their passions that would help them change the world.

Perhaps, however, the most impressive part of the conference was the organization that went into making it run smoothly. The attendees were housed at various hotels in the Ithaca area, and the college arranged an impressive shuttle bus system to get everyone to and from the college and airport in a timely manner. The organization at Ithaca College was the most impressive, particularly in environmental progress. Ithaca College is dedicated to limiting its impact on the environment, and it has a strong program in place to do so. For example, all of the cups, cutlery, and plates made for the conference and the College in general were biodegradable. The college also had an impressive recycling program with recycling bins highly visible throughout the campus. Between the plenary speakers and this system, I've begun to develop several ideas for programs which would benefit Shippensburg University, which I would like to try to implement next year. Yet, most of all, I came up



with things that everyone can do on a personal level to live a little more sustainably.

Attending research conferences is an amazing experience, so for anyone planning an undergraduate research project next year, I highly recommend the National Conference on Undergraduate Research. This is my second year attending the conference, and each year I am astounded by the papers and speakers I hear. In addition, I am impressed by the organization that makes the conference run smoothly. Next year's conference will be held at Weber State University in Utah. I highly encourage everyone to apply. Attending a national conference is an eye-opening and humbling experience that you will treasure forever.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Honors Program and the university for giving me funding to attend NCUR. It was a valuable experience that I will



*Congratulations*

**Honors Graduates 2011**

Anthony Blair, Lisa Brehm, Kristen Brooks, Angela Darosh, Katherine DiNolfi, Sabrina Dooley, Samantha Dougherty, Christopher Eby, Kathleen Frey, Kristen Imboden, Katie Kitner, Kaitlin Klinger, Michele Muenker, Katherine O'Flaherty, Jessica Rossi, Sara Shin, Angela Shultz, Kara Slowick, Stephanie Troup, Sara Wlazelek, Justine Wnuck, and Sara Workman

## MOAS, cont'd

communications/journalism major--are members of the Model OAS class that is offered each spring semester by Dr. Mark Sachleben, assistant professor of political science.

To prepare for the conference, students spent the semester researching Guatemala, the country that they represented at the conference; the OAS; and important issues that confront the nations of the Western Hemisphere.

At the conference, the SU students won the award for best written resolution for the General Committee. Ethan Goldbach was also elected as vice chair of the committee that deals with human rights issues for the 2012 Model OAS conference.

"The Model OAS provides worthwhile chances for students wishing to experience outside-the-classroom educational opportunities," said Goldbach.

"My experience at the 2011 Model OAS taught me about the importance of diplomacy and allowed me to meet and network with students and faculty from across the hemisphere. I encourage all Honors students to look into participating in this memorable class if they are interested in politics, current

*"My experience at the 2011 Model OAS taught me about the importance of diplomacy and allowed me to meet and network with students and faculty from across the hemisphere."*

issues, or understanding how governmental and non-governmental organizations help shape the hemisphere," said Goldbach.

"The Washington Model OAS is an excellent opportunity for students, not only to learn about regional issues and problems facing the Western Hemisphere, but it is also a chance to interact with students from across the United States and throughout the Americas," said Sachleben. The Honors Program will offer the Model OAS seminar in spring 2012. For more information, please contact Dr. Sachleben at mdsachleben@ship.edu.

## Conference, cont'd

Environmental Finance Center at the University of Southern Maine, presented the keynote address. His discussed the challenges that our world faces as the current levels of the sea continue to rise, creating potentially devastating effects on local communities.

Our research presentations took place on the conference's second day. My presentation was entitled "Exploring the Causes of Nurses' Strikes in the United States, 1990-2010." Jennifer Hoover, a junior accounting major, presented "Managing Workers' Compensation Liability." Senior elementary education major Kristen Imboden presented her research project entitled "Revitalizing Literacy Education in the Dominican Republic."

On our last day in Portland, we viewed the poster research presentations and spent more time exploring the city before heading back to the airport. It was a very rewarding experience to present our research, and our experience in Portland was unforgettable!



# Speak Out!



By Brianna Evans, Honors freshman

What was your favorite Honors experience from the past academic year?

I enjoyed the stimulating discussions that challenged me to examine controversial issues from multiple perspectives.



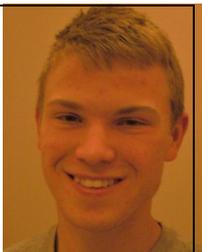
Tiffany Florio  
Honors freshman

Traveling to the Dominican Republic with Reach Out and being able to help and teach the kids for a week.



Steph Savarese  
Honors junior

Helping out with the Honors Freshmen Orientation. I was able to meet all of the exciting new Honors students.



Jordan Dewalt  
Honors sophomore

Travelling with Honors students to the Dominican Republic. We were in a school helping kids directly, and it was really moving.



Dr. Gretchen Pierce  
Honors professor

My favorite Honors experience was serving as HSO President and welcoming the incoming freshmen during orientation!



Kristen Imboden  
Honors senior

## Honors Student Represents SU at the Harrisburg Internship Semester

By Monika Mironenko, Honors junior

During the Fall of 2010, I had the great opportunity to intern in Harrisburg through The Harrisburg Internship Semester (THIS). THIS is a fifteen-credit, semester-long internship program sponsored by the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE). Every semester, one student is chosen from each of the fourteen state universities to participate in the program.

Students are placed in various state agencies or organizations that work closely with the state government. Some of the placements include the Governor's Budget Office, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Legisla-

tive Office for Research Liaison. Along with the internship, which is worth nine credits, the students are enrolled in a seminar class and complete a research paper relevant to their agency or organization.

I was placed with the Pennsylvania Association of Resources for Autism and Other Intellectual Disabilities (PAR), which is a non-profit organization that advocates for agencies and companies that provide intellectual disabilities services in the state. PAR works closely with the Department of Public Welfare to resolve issues that arise between companies that provide intellectual disability services and the department when regulations are



Photo courtesy of Monika Mironenko

The Harrisburg Internship Semester (THIS) students pose in front of the state capitol.

being created or changed.

For a public administration major like me, working with PAR was incredible. I composed policy briefings and PARmails (informative letters that get sent out to members). I participated in creating marketing materials for PAR's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference and helped with many other aspects of the conference. I learned to navigate and update PAR's online database, researched legislation and attended legislative meetings and hearings. I also went to multiple conferences with my sponsor.

One of my favorite memories was going to the Pennsylvania Governor's Conference for Women in Pittsburgh. There were about 2,500 attendees and we got to promote PAR to them. At first I was unsure of how the audience would respond, but surprisingly, I was able to engage them quite well!

During my four short months with PAR, I learned a great deal about advocacy work, public/private sector relations, and professional life in general. I was fortunate to have obtained new skills and knowledge, and I feel privileged for the opportunity to work with PAR's amazing staff members.

I look back on my experience in The Harrisburg Internship Semester with fondness because I got to take part in so many new experiences. I am grateful to PASSHE and Shippensburg University for giving me the opportunity to intern with PAR. If you need an internship, I would highly recommend researching and learning more about THIS!

## Club Plug

By Melissa Koontz, Honors sophomore

Shippensburg University's Concert Choir includes approximately 50 students who have many different majors. It is directed by Dr. Blaine Shover. Students may elect to earn credit for participating in concert choir.

The music we perform varies considerably in style, and we sing in several different languages. Even though Shippensburg does not offer a music major, our sound is quite impressive.

There are currently eight Honors students in concert choir, including D.J. Barkdoll, Elizabeth Cooper, Ethan Goldbach, Carley Heck, Melissa Koontz, Steve Masel, Tisen Shrawder, and Alexandra Wellington. Concert choir practices from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Monday evenings and from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday afternoons.

The concert choir performs several times during the year. The choir recently completed its annual Spring Tour from March 24-26. This year, we sang in churches in Pottsville, Todd, and Littlestown, Pennsylvania. The tour culminates each year with a post-tour concert held at Messiah Methodist Church, located just a few blocks from campus. One of the highlights of the tour is seeing a musical on Sunday. This year, we saw *42<sup>nd</sup> Street* at Toby's Dinner Theatre in Baltimore.



Photo courtesy of Melissa Koontz

A recent performance of the SU Concert Choir.

Another musical opportunity for Shippensburg students is Madrigals, which is comprised of 23 singers. Becoming a member of Madrigals requires a second audition. Madrigals meet for practice from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday afternoons. The Madrigals recently performed at the "Hearts for Haiti" benefit concert at Shippensburg Area High School along with other local musical groups. The concert raised funds to aid the Haitian relief effort.

Participating in the Shippensburg University choir is a very rewarding and enjoyable experience, as well as a good way to make some new friends. Auditions are held each semester, and Dr. Shover is always looking for new singers. Consider joining us!

# National Scholarships and Fellowships Available to Honors Students

By Angela Darosh, Honors senior

National scholarships and fellowships offer exciting post-graduate opportunities for Honors students. Fulbright grants, Hertz Foundation fellowships, Udall Scholarships, and the Luce Scholars Program are a few of the national fellowships and scholarships that Honors students should consider applying for.

Each year over 1,500 U.S. students receive Fulbright grants, which allow them to study, teach English, or conduct research abroad. Applicants must have earned a bachelor's degree by the time that their award would begin and be U.S. citizens. The U.S. State Department sponsors the Fulbright Program. Grants are available in nearly all fields and disciplines, and the program operates in more than 140 countries around the world.

In 2009, Shippensburg University Honors Program alumnus, Jennifer Bly, received a Fulbright grant to teach English in Uruguay. As a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant, Bly became involved in all levels in the Uruguayan public education system at various locations across the country. During her time in Uruguay, Bly wrote a blog, which is posted at <http://myfulbright.blogspot.com/>. More informa-

tion about the Fulbright Program is available online at <http://us.fulbrightonline.org/home.html>. Another good source of information about the Fulbright Program is Dr. Jonathan Skaff, the university's Fulbright Program advisor.

The Hertz Foundation fellowship is available to students pursuing Ph.D.s in the applied physical, biological, and engineering sciences. Following a rigorous application and interview process, approximately 15 to 20 students are awarded a Hertz Fellowship each year. The fellowship provides both financial support and mentorship to assist students in their academic endeavors. For more information on eligibility requirements and benefits of the Hertz Foundation fellowship, check out the website at <http://www.hertzfoundation.org>.

The Udall Foundation promotes studies in environmental fields. In particular, the foundation promotes leadership in environmental fields such as policy, engineering, urban planning and renewal, and many more. Sophomore or junior-level college students who are committed to careers related

to the environment are eligible to apply for Udall Scholarships. To find out more about Udall Scholarships, go to <http://www.udall.gov> or contact Dr. William Blewett, the SU Udall Scholarship advisor.

The Luce Scholars Program provides stipends and internships for fifteen-to-eighteen American students each year. The Luce Scholars Program enables students to live and work in Asia in an attempt to enhance the understanding of Asia among future leaders in the United States. In addition to offering financial assistance and work placement, the scholarship also provides students with language training. More information about the program is available at <http://www.hluce.org/lprogram.aspx>.

These national scholarships and fellowships are just a few of the many opportunities available to Honors Program students, and more will be highlighted in future issues of *The Honors Chronicle*.

## Ship Trip Report for 2010-2011

By Kaitlin Hyman, Honors sophomore

Few Honors service projects involve as much preparation and coordination as the annual event known as Ship Trip. Ship Trip is a Shippensburg Honors student-run event that occurs once each semester. The event brings middle school students from the areas surrounding Shippensburg to the university where they take classes, tour the campus, and eat in the campus dining hall. The goal of Ship Trip is to introduce students to the university and inspire them to attend college.

This year, the Ship Trip committee chairs were Miranda Aaron and Katie Hyman. They had two assistant chairs, Tiffany Florio and Lindy Gemmell. At the beginning of each semester, the chairs and assistant chairs meet with the committee's advisor, Dr. Lynn Baynum, who is a professor in the Teacher Education department to select a date and begin planning the event. Once a date for Ship Trip is chosen, the chairs contact the middle schools that will be invited. In the fall, Harrisburg Middle School students are invited to participate in Ship Trip. In the spring, the participating schools include Big Spring Middle School, Lamberton

Middle School (from the Carlisle school district), Chambersburg Middle School, and Shippensburg Middle School. The fall program typically includes about 40 students, while the spring usually hosts about 60-70 students.

Each semester, six different classes are offered to the middle school students, with two Shippensburg Honors students teaching each class. Teachers may sign up to teach together or

*See Ship Trip*

### HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE

Horton Hall 201 (717) 477-1604

Hours: Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Friday, 8:00 to 11:45 a.m.

Web site: <http://www.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. Sarah Ricker [sr9571@ship.edu](mailto:sr9571@ship.edu)

### HONORS STUDENT ORGANIZATION (HSO)

#### Officers, 2010-2011

**President:** Kristen Imboden [ki1368@ship.edu](mailto:ki1368@ship.edu)  
**Vice President:** Elisabeth Davis [ed6494@ship.edu](mailto:ed6494@ship.edu)  
**Secretary:** Sarah Montanari [sm4874@ship.edu](mailto:sm4874@ship.edu)  
**Treasurer:** Nicholas Spinelle [ns0365@ship.edu](mailto:ns0365@ship.edu)

### THE HONORS CHRONICLE

**Editor:** Angela Darosh [ad3690@ship.edu](mailto:ad3690@ship.edu)

Submit story ideas to Angela at [ad3690@ship.edu](mailto:ad3690@ship.edu).

### Ship Trip, cont'd

may sign up alone and be placed with another teacher. Teachers are responsible for deciding what the subject of their class will be and how they will deliver the instruction. They are encouraged to pick subjects they are interested in that will be fun and interesting to middle school students. The teachers then meet with the chairs to discuss the lesson plans and activities they have created for the students. This semester, the following classes were offered: Amazing Adaptations, Creatively Rewriting History, Domain of Ukraine, Little Bits of Languages, Muscle Madness, and Mysteries in History. Each class had something different to offer, from learning a different language and culture to decoding clues in invisible ink about conspiracy theories throughout history.

Each middle school student attends three classes throughout the day. Students are also provided

with lunch and a tour of campus. When the third class is finished, they all gather together to participate in a wrap-up activity. For the fall of 2010, the wrap-up activity was a game of "Jeopardy!" that featured questions from the different classes that took place throughout the day. The spring 2011 semester's wrap-up session included each chair and assistant chair taking a group of the middle school students and leading a discussion with them on college life and answering any other questions that they had.

At the end of the day, the middle school students, their chaperones, and all of the Honors volunteers are given an evaluation sheet so that they can rate how their day went. The Ship Trip chairs gather this feedback and use it to make improvements in the program for the upcoming semester. The Ship Trip chairs are already using this information to plan for Ship Trip 2011-2012!

### THE HONORABLE MENTION

A very special thank you to our secretary, **Sharon Poe**, for all of the work she has done for the Honors Program during the past nine years. We wish you a very happy and healthy retirement!

Thanks to all of our HSO officers, committee chairs, and assistant chairs for their great work in 2010-2011: **Miranda Aaron, Nathan Barr, Hannah Brant, Matthew Brautigan, Angela Darosh, Elisabeth Davis, Janae Delmaestro, Christopher Eby, Noret Flood, Tiffany Florio, Kenneth French, Lindy Gemmell, Clay Helm, Jennifer Hoover, Katie Hyman, Kristen Imboden, Shannon Lee, Jackie Maguire, Kate Malone, Steve Masel, Chelsea Meier, Maggi Miller, Sarah Montanari, Abby Montler, Megan Moore, Laura Nelson, Holly Plank, Rachel Sieke, AJ Simmons, Rachel Slotkin, Nicholas Spinelle, Carissa Strohecker, Kady Taylor, Ub Ubomong, Addy Virtus, and Karli Wagner.**

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Find us at the following sites: [www.facebook.com/shiphonors](http://www.facebook.com/shiphonors) and [www.youtube.com/shiphonors](http://www.youtube.com/shiphonors).*



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