

The Honors Program Newsletter

VOL. 16, ISSUE 5

FROM THE HONORS OFFICE, HORTON HALL 104

APRIL 2004

CALENDAR

April

27 — Honors Program Spring Banquet

6-7:30 p.m., Tuscarora Room

Come to celebrate the end of another year in Honors and recognize the graduating seniors. See the article on this page.

29 — International Textbook Service Project

2-4 p.m., McCune Hall, Honors Lounge

Volunteers are needed to package and mail books. See the article on this page.

May

4 — Freshmen Orientation Committee Meeting

4:30 p.m., Dauphin Humanities Center 216

See the article on this page.

8 — Shippensburg University Commencement

See Page 2 for a list of May 2004 Honors graduates.

June

24 — Welcome Luncheon for Incoming Honors Freshman and Their Families

The luncheon will be hosted by Dr. Tony Ceddia, President of Shippensburg University, and Dr. Klein.

11:45 a.m., Tuscarora Room

September

2 — Honors Fall General Meeting and Reception

3:30 p.m., Tuscarora Room

The Summer newsletter will be mailed during the week of August 2. Please contact Sharon Poe if you do not receive it.

Student volunteers needed for International Textbook Project

The Honors Program is continuing its International Textbook Service Project this semester. The project involves collecting books and other educational materials from Shippensburg students and faculty and shipping the materials overseas to schools in need. On April 29, from 2-4 p.m., Honors student volunteers will meet in the Honors Lounge in McCune Hall to package and ship the books that were donated last semester.

During finals week, approximately 20 Honors student volunteers are needed to help collect books that will be donated this semester and take them to the Honors Lounge. If you can help with either effort, contact Megan Werts, HSO Service Committee chair, at mw3784@ship.edu, and let her know which days and times you are available to help.

Long summer ahead? Mentor a freshman!

The Honors Program's Freshmen Orientation Committee is seeking friendly, helpful Honors students to assist incoming freshmen in the often difficult transition to college. The committee will hold its first meeting on Tuesday, May 4 at 4:30 p.m. in DHC 216. The committee will plan orientation activities for Academic Day and the fall semester. If you are interested in participating on the committee but cannot attend the meeting, please contact the committee's co-chair, Joe Eberly, at joeeberly@hotmail.com.

The committee is also seeking 50 students to serve as mentors for the new freshmen. As a mentor, you will receive contact information for one new student entering the Honors Program in Fall 2004, and you should contact your "mentee" at least three times during the summer. In these contacts, you have the opportunity to offer advice and support about beginning college life, as well as giving your mentee a positive first impression of the Honors Program.

To become a mentor, contact Sharon Poe at sapoe@ship.edu. In your message, please include your name, major, e-mail, and your summer address and phone number.

A free night of feast and fun: The Honors Spring Banquet

BY CHRISTOPHER VOSS AND DENISE YARWOOD

The Honors Program is gearing up for the annual Spring Banquet, which celebrates Honors students' dedication to scholarship and service throughout the school year. The banquet will be held on Tuesday, April 27 at 6:00 p.m. in the Tuscarora Room.

Honors students and their guests will be treated to dinner and a brief program. The guest speaker will be Dr. John Benhart, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Benhart has taught many popular Honors classes and has been a tireless advocate of the program. The program will also include recognition of the graduating seniors and the presentation of student awards. For dinner, chicken cordon bleu, roasted red bliss potatoes, and grilled vegetables will be served, with white chocolate mousse for dessert.

Last year's banquet was a resounding success, and the goal of the Spring Banquet Committee this year has been to meet, or even exceed, the high standard set by its predecessor! Denise Yarwood, chair of the banquet committee, notes, "Our members have worked hard and had a lot of fun organizing what promises to be a gala event! I would encourage you to do your utmost to attend, as I think you will find the evening entertaining and interesting, besides giving you an opportunity to catch up with some fellow Honors students you may not have seen for a while. And, of course, an elegant three course meal is always a good thing! I look forward to seeing you on the 27th."

NE-NCHC Conference report

BY GWEN UMBREIT, ADAM DELLINGER, JOE EBERLY, DANA LEESE, AND ELIJAH YEARICK

"Exploring our Common Humanity" was the theme of the 2004 Northeast Region of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NE-NCHC) Conference, held in Hartford, Connecticut from April 1-4. Five Honors students—Elijah Yearick, Joe Eberly, Dana Leese, Adam Dellinger, and Gwen Umbreit—represented Shippensburg University at the conference. We shared many experiences over the course of the four days. We explored the city, participated in discussions with our peers, attended student research presentations, and met Honors students from throughout the Northeast region.

At the core of the conference was the work of our peers. Much of the schedule was devoted to student presentations ranging from poster presentations to literary analysis to examinations of the world today. Each presentation drew the audience into discussion. In true Honors style, many views were voiced. Though we did not always agree, a sense of camaraderie shone through, further binding us into a community.

The conference also provided many networking opportunities for students and faculty alike. We were in the company of Honors representatives from schools all over the northeastern United States and Puerto Rico. The educational presentations were regularly interspersed with many social events, including catered meals, group outings in the city, mixers, and dances.

Overall, the trip was a beneficial, enriching experience for all of us. We would encourage all students interested in attending or presenting at the national or regional Honors conferences in 2004-2005 to contact Dr. Klein for more information

Farewell and congratulations May 2004 Honors graduates!

The Honors Program congratulates the 22 Honors students who are graduating this spring. The Honors graduates and their majors are:

Matthew Anderson, Marketing
Natalie Cochran, Elementary Education
Shayna Cooke, Chemistry
Jacob Crouse, Psychology
Adam Dellinger, Geoenvironmental Studies
Colleen Dorsey, Elementary Education
Karen Ehrhardt, Management Information Systems
Melissa Gonzalez, Psychology
Page Heath, Accounting
Rennae Hillen, Information Tech. for Business Education
Erin Hollinshead, Spanish
Rebecca Kennedy, Mathematics
Carl Levengood, Computer Science
Ryan Muldowney, Computer Science
Christine Norris, Physics
Matthew Pimental, Geography
Rebecca Purse, Geoenvironmental Studies
Courtney Ripple, Communications/Journalism
Eric Shulenberg, Finance/Economics
Renee Sowinski, Business Information Systems
Rebecca Strawn, Chemistry
Sarah Walton, Elementary Education

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

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THE HONORABLE MENTION

The Honors Program began its International Textbook Service Project in December 2003. Thanks to the students who helped to collect book donations during finals week: **Stacey Budzyn, Anna Carlen, James Dibble, Jen Matthias, Stephanie Rush, Gwen Umbreit, Christopher Voss, Megan Werts, and Denise Yarwood.**

A special thanks goes to **Tracey Halstead and Ashlee Johnson** for helping at the Honors Program table at the Open House on March 20.

Thank you to **Anna Carlen, Meg Dameron, Tyler Miller, and Stephanie Rush** for serving on the review committee for the new Honors Student Handbook. The handbook will be distributed to all Honors students in the fall 2004 semester.

"Excitement in Education," was held again on April 3. The Saturday faculty and staff included **Ashley Beaver, Anna Carlen, Hillary Fraker, Amy Houser, Jessica Kirkwood, Jessica Kreger, Becky Krieder, Mark Lehman, Jen Matthias, Jess Reich, Lora Ruhl, Stephanie Rush, Susie Shimer, Caitlin Torrens, and Jeremy Winn.** Thanks to all who helped!

Studying Abroad in the “Magic City”

BY JASON LODER

There is nothing like the experience of studying in a foreign country. I knew little of Prague, Czech Republic when I first considered studying here. When I researched it, I found that it is a very cheap place to live and that it is considered one of the most beautiful cities in Europe. Who wouldn't want to go to a place nicknamed “the magic city?”

Before I even left home there was a huge build up of anticipation towards the history, culture, and lifestyle I was about to face. I knew I wouldn't see my family and friends face-to-face for four months, but I knew they'd be there when I returned. I talk to family and friends through e-mail and telephone often, and it is possible for them to visit.

After I left on January 20, I enjoyed two days in London as part of the program I came through. Here I met many people who became friends, toured the city, and ordered my first legal beer in a pub. Then I travelled to Prague, met with the program directors, and checked into the dorms. Although some people moved out of the dorms and into flats, I decided to stay. They are very livable and a lot of fun with so many familiar people around.

I am studying at Charles University, which was established in the 1300s. I started my stay with a two-week intensive Czech language class, which was intended to give me a basic

understanding of the language. It was very easy, and I received three credits for it! Now I take four classes, and they meet once a week for three hours or twice a week for an hour and a half. Technology isn't as readily available in every class here, but the teachers use other means to teach. For example, in an architecture class, instead of sitting in a classroom, we walk around the city and listen as the professor discusses the city's architecture. The teachers grade primarily on one or two essays and participation. I have access to a computer lab during the day and internet is available in the dorms.

Because I have classes on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday only, I have a lot of free time to travel, party, and study. Prague's nightlife is top notch. The dance clubs play a lot of techno, which is huge throughout Europe, hip hop, and drum and bass. There are also many nice places to listen to live bands playing jazz, classical music, and much more. And it is easy to travel on weekends to other European countries, such as Hungary, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and Germany.

I would do the whole experience over and over again if I could. I watch ballets and operas, walk by new churches that I plan to visit each day, and interact with Europeans all the time. Words can't describe the beautiful women here and the view of the city I see everyday as I go to school. You should come see for yourself.

Honors Photo Gallery

Below are pictures from the most recent E², showing Honors students and Harrisburg middle school students working together.

Honors and GEAR UP: Partners in Excitement in Education

BY STEPHANIE RUSH

In the early morning of Saturday, April 3, students from various middle schools in the Harrisburg Public School District took a bus to Shippensburg University to participate in Excitement In Education (E²).

E² has been an Honors Program community service project since 1992. The Honors Program has worked with GEAR UP on this project for the past three semesters. GEAR UP, or Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, is a mentoring partnership between Shippensburg University and the Harrisburg Public School District.

As in past years, six classes were offered and taught by Shippensburg University students. Students did not have to be

education majors to help out. Students often teach a class in an area that is interesting to them or a hobby. The classes this year were: The Art of Advertising, Clowning Around, Game of Chance, Rap=Poetry?, School of Rock, and Understanding Uniqueness. The middle school students took three 45-minute classes, ate lunch, and went on campus tours while they were at Ship. The experience allowed the students to form an understanding of what college is like by meeting college students and touring the campus.

The Honors Program and GEAR UP will sponsor E² again in fall 2004 and spring 2005. Students are needed to teach classes, help with registration, serve lunch, and give tours of the campus. More information on how to get involved will be available at the Honors fall general meeting.

Tuesday, April 27

*The Honors Program
Spring Banquet*

*Tuscarora Room
6 – 7:30 p.m.*

SUMMER ADDRESS CHANGES: If you will be a returning student next year and your summer address is not your permanent address, please contact Sharon Poe by phone at 477-1604 or by e-mail at sapoe@ship.edu to report the change. The summer issue of the newsletter will have important information on the general Honors meeting and other 2004-2005 Honors events. Thanks, and have a great summer!

In this issue of **The Honors Program Newsletter:**

- Summertime Blues Cure – Page 1
- Farewell to our Graduates — Page 2
- NE-NCHC Conference Report — Page 2
- Studying Abroad in “The Magic City” – Page 3

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