

THE Honors Chronicle

VOLUME 26, ISSUE 1

WWW.SHIP.EDU/HONORS

OCTOBER 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

October:

- 19: Reach Out: Halloween Zumbathon - Henderson Gym, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 20: Mentor-Mentee Pumpkin Carving Contest - Seavers Pavilion, 2:00 p.m.
- 21: Service Opportunity: Clean Up Richard Ave. and Queen St., 1:00 p.m.
- 22: HSO Meeting - CUB 105, 9:00 p.m.
- 22 & 23: Honors Scheduling Spring 2013
- 31: Deadline for Seniors to submit Honors Program Advising Worksheet

November:

- 1: Deadline for Honors Independent Capstone Funding Applications
- 7: National Boren and Gilman Scholarships Advising Workshop - CUB 232, 3:30 p.m.
- 10: Service Opportunity Leaf Raking, 2:00 pm
- 15: Deadline for applying for Honors Study Abroad Scholarship for Spring 2013
- 15: Deadline for submitting presentation proposals for 2013 National Conference for Undergraduate Research
- 15: Pizza with a Prof with Dr. Anca Lasc from the Art Department- Time TBA
- 17: Service Opportunity: Leaf Raking, 12:00 pm
- 19: HSO Meeting - CUB 105, 5:00 p.m.
- 21: Deadline for submitting presentation proposals for the 2013 National Regional Honors Council Conference.

ROTC CADET GAINS NEW PERSPECTIVE IN AFRICA

By Stephanie Pryor, *Honors Junior*

The Shippensburg Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) and Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency Program (CULP) offered several cadets the chance to do special service abroad this past summer, including Honors junior Sarah Antonelli, who spent three weeks in Cape Verde, Africa. CULP allows cadets to familiarize themselves with cultures around the globe as well as prepare for their future careers in the U.S. military. After earning a spot in the program, Antonelli's specific duty was to teach English to Cape Verdean military personnel as part of the Cadet English Language Training Team (CELTT). "They speak Portuguese, which is somewhat similar to Spanish," Antonelli commented. "I was extremely interested in the people of Cape Verde from the beginning and even more interested to hear the language." Antonelli's CELTT experience was not typical of the program, she noted. Instead of visiting a school, she

spent each day at an army base working with native soldiers, practicing English in workbooks, and playing games like Hangman to test their skills. Her students ranged in age from 20 to 45 years old. Antonelli said, "My group of guys knew and understood a good amount of English. It was mainly putting the words into sentences and paragraphs and being able to hold a conversation." She wasn't the only one teaching, however. Antonelli's students gave her a hands-on lesson about their culture in return. "On the weekends, the Cape Verdean military would take us to different places on their island to show us their culture. On Fridays, we played soccer with the soldiers. [It's] a very important sport in their culture."



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KADY TAYLOR SELECTED FOR TEACH FOR AMERICA

By Kady Taylor, *2012 Honors Graduate*

Kady Taylor graduated from Shippensburg University in May of 2012 with a degree in Elementary Education and a minor in Reading. She is now teaching in Lakewood, OH through the Teach for America program. Kady teaches 1st grade at Village Preparatory: Woodland Hills in Cleveland, OH where 95% of her students live below the poverty line. All of her students get free/reduced lunch, and 98% of her students are reading at pre-kindergarten levels. She was kind enough to take time to write an article for the *Honors Chronicle* regarding her experience at Shippensburg University in the Honors Program, with the group Reach Out, and how these opportunities are affecting her today.

By Katie Benedict, *Honors Sophomore*

Reach Out, a Shippensburg University Honors Program initiative, is a group that works to improve the educational experience of children in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Having the chance to be a part of the 2009 Honors Colloquium who designed and began this program, afforded me many opportunities to strengthen my leadership abilities, apply theoretical knowledge to the field, and ultimately, make a difference through participating in the Teach for America program. As a pre-service elementary education major, I often questioned the role I would come to play in the field of education. How could I empower my students to strive for excellence and take ownership of their knowledge? How could I ensure that each and every child was getting the education they deserve? But most importantly, how can I be a voice for every student getting left behind? During the fall semester of my senior year, I made the choice to apply

for Teach for America, a national program that is growing a movement of leaders who work to ensure that children growing up in poverty receive an excellent education. As a compassionate, strong, determined individual, I believed Teach for America was the perfect vehicle to take charge, create change, and make a difference in the lives of children across the nation. I wanted to be the inspiration for children to break barriers. The striking statistics show low-income children who do not graduate from high school are often lost in the shuffle, losing their voice, and most importantly, losing their opportunities to succeed in a real world environment. Through Teach for America, this desire has become a reality through not only the creation of a sustainable education, but by the opening of doors that illustrate a world of opportunity and possibility for my students. In reflecting upon my experiences in Reach Out, I realize that because I have witnessed educational inequality on an international scale, my understanding of the impact and role a meaningful education can have on a child's life has grown exponentially. To hear about hardship is something many people can attest to; however, to experience hardship through the eyes of a child who lives it first hand is something to be cherished. The lessons learned are invaluable.

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Nicole Nicholson | *Sophomore*
Mentor

To me, being a mentor is equivalent to being a lifeguard. It may be a funny analogy, but hear me out. Lifeguards are meant to be there when something goes wrong or when somebody needs help. My experience as a mentee last year and a mentor this year showed me that mentors basically have the same job as a lifeguard. They are there for you if you ever need help, but if you seem to be fitting in nicely they let you work on finding your own way. As a mentee last year, I was able to ask my mentor questions on scheduling, how to deal with time management, and how to get involved in Honors Program activities. It was nice being able to talk to somebody who knew the ins-and-outs of the program and yet was still willing to let me figure things out on my own so I could ask for help only when I needed it. By helping out with Honors orientation, I got to meet my mentee, Hannah, a little sooner than most. It was a great way to talk one-on-one before the mentor-mentee welcome back picnic. I'm hoping to be able to participate with Hannah in some of the upcoming events such as the pumpkin carving contest. As a mentor this year, I hope I can do just as good of a job as my mentor did last year.

Honors Mentor/Mentee
SPOTLIGHT

Hannah Strauch | *Freshman*
Mentee

Shippensburg University was not my first choice for where I wanted to attend college, but after being accepted into the Honors Program at Shippensburg University, I knew Shippensburg was definitely the right choice. I was nervous for Honors Orientation in August because I knew I was going to have to try and make new friends. Then, I received an email from my mentor, Nicole Nicholson. From that one email, my comfort level rose. Although I met my mentor at Honors Orientation, I did not get to really talk with her until the Honors mentor-mentee picnic after the semester started. I feel as though I can email Nicole at any time. Just knowing that there is someone who would not hesitate to help out made me relax and realize that Shippensburg is the perfect university for me. I cannot wait to start helping out since I know there is someone there for me. I would love to be part of the mentor/mentee program as a mentor, knowing how much my own mentor has helped me. I can't imagine being anywhere else other than Ship!



Compiled by: Amanda Sanger, *Honors Sophomore*

Question: Where would you go if you could study abroad for a semester and why?

Speak OUT

"If I could go anywhere to study abroad for a semester, I would want to go to Italy. Just the aesthetic value of the country would be enough, but my grandmother was born in Italy, so I think it would be great to experience the culture there first-hand."

Dale Hoover- *Sophomore*



"If I were to study abroad, I would go to Japan to be immersed in the language, culture, and the overall experience of the country. Since Japan has one of the world's largest economies, travelling there would benefit my accounting major and I could also explore the sources of the video game and anime series in which I'm interested."

Matt Brautigam-*Junior*



"Maybe Malaysia, because it's a tropical area, it has a huge amount of biodiversity, and because I've done work in the Pacific in Hawaii. I'd like to go to another Pacific area, because it has more diversity."

Dr. Heather Sahli - *Biology Professor*



"The list of countries where I'd like to study is basically all-inclusive; I'd be equally happy in Indonesia as in Guyana! I'd choose a country where I could learn a new language, experience a new culture, and maybe do some good while I'm there."

Adrienne Henke - *Senior*



"I would love to study abroad in Dublin, Ireland, if possible... I've always wanted to go to Ireland, get in touch with my Irish roots, meet the locals, and also, the landscape is just beautiful in Ireland."

Connor Daly - *Freshman*



Compiled by: Katie Benedict, *Honors Sophomore* and Nick McGarrell, *Honors Freshman*



By John Watts, *Honors Sophomore*

Ahhh ... Election season is here again. Like any good investigative reporter and seeker of truth, I'm going to cover the subject most efficiently by not covering it at all. That's right! It's the most talked about topic, and I'm not going to say a single word about it - except for the ones I just said. Instead, I'm going to take this opportunity to talk about a far more interesting topic like Studying Abroad. That being said, when I think internationally, I think of James Bond cruising around exotic locales being suave and dangerous in equal measure. The reality, of course, isn't quite like that. To clear up the misconceptions, I've made a nice little list of facts and suggestions just for you.

- 1) First and foremost, the key thing to remember about studying abroad is that you DO NOT receive an Aston Martin * upon arrival. I hate to be the Debbie Downer here, but it's true.
- 2) Your international studies should steer clear of questionable cultural practices. It's not worth the trouble. Don't even think about it. I can see you thinking about it, so stop immediately.
- 3) Take some time out of your studies to go see important landmarks or culturally important festivals. It's okay to have a little fun, kids.
- 4) Despite what you may think, you might want to reconsider wearing the kilt/kimono/sombrero/lederhosen. Just trust me on this one.
- 5) Be polite and EXTREMELY respectful. You've already got tourist written all over you, so be a polite one. Also, keep in mind that you represent not only your institution, but your country as well. No pressure or anything, but everyone back home is putting a lot of faith in you.
- 6) Don't be afraid to eat the local fare, but be sure to use good judgment. For example, steer clear of things like African bush meat. Let's just say that grilled monkey tastes NOTHING like chicken, and it's not even remotely healthy for you.
- 7) It's not impossible for you to see the world. The Honors Program has many opportunities for international studies, like the trip to Britain taking place at the end of next semester.

I hope this list gave you a bit of help clearing up any misconceptions about international studies. Now get up and get out there and see the world, meet new people, learn new things, and avoid being eaten.

* If you're not familiar with this name, it's a car company in Europe. A wee bit higher than my pay grade can afford....

Continued from page 1

[ROTC Cadet Teaches in Africa]

The menu in Cape Verde was also a shock for Antonelli, as fish is the staple food in the islanders' diet. "I had to try the different seafood and do my best to become accustomed to a new and different taste, which was difficult," she reflected. Although Africa was a foreign place to Antonelli, the relationships that she developed there no longer seem so far away. On the final day of her teaching experience, Antonelli exchanged rings with the only female soldier in her class as an act of friendship. She said, "Though our personal rings weren't sentimental to us, the ring we got in return was extremely sentimental. I am able to look at the ring every day and remember my amazing experiences and the new friends that I made." In returning to Shippensburg University this fall, Antonelli said that understanding how to deal with personal differences among other people is the greatest lesson she learned while in Africa with the ROTC. A group of ten cadets, including Antonelli, and three leaders made the journey, and, though they shared the same goal, they had conflicting ideas about how to teach the soldiers. Antonelli said, "Our differences allowed us to change things up and keep it interesting for the soldiers to learn. Now, at school, I am able to relate to people better. I feel I am more understanding of cultural and personal differences." Antonelli advises the students of Shippensburg to make the best of an experience and never take friends for granted. "Immersing oneself in the entire culture is an amazing, life-changing way to understand a person or a group of people," she said. "Sharing who you are and your life with people of other cultures will teach you about yourself as well." At the conclusion of the trip, Antonelli wrote an essay to receive Honors credit for her experience abroad through North Georgia University. As a psychology major she hopes to pursue a career in grief counseling for war veterans. At the culmination of her studies, Antonelli will spend a minimum of 8 years in the U.S. Army paying back ROTC for her education.



[Honorable Alumni]

Reach Out helped me to explore my potential as a leader and understand the importance of advocating for an important cause. The stories and tales I gathered over my trips to the Dominican Republic have stayed with me over the years, working to shape the educator that I am slowly becoming. Working with the low-income communities of Santo Domingo not only complemented the mission of Teach for America, but also helped to better prepare me for the experiences I have had so far teaching at an urban location. The journey I began at the end of May with Teach for America has been an eye-opening, soul-searching experience. The hours and work have been grueling, the conversations deep and reflective, and the expectations high. In setting personal goals for myself, I asked myself two main questions. First, how have I impacted my students? To simply look at test scores would be trivial - however, to analyze academic and personal growth over the course of a year, to see the creation of real-world connections, that is success. Secondly, what impact have my students had on me? To learn from the story of each student and deliver effective instruction for each individual is to create a well-crafted, reciprocal relationship. I can easily say that the creation of these goals would not have been nearly as easy if it weren't for my experiences with Reach Out. It's my job, and I love the fact that I now have the chance to be a part of a national educational reform movement.

2012 PASSHE SUMMER HONORS PROGRAM

By Karli Wagner, *Honors Senior*

This summer I participated in the 2012 PASSHE Summer Honors Program: There and Back Again. This program was hosted by California University. Two students from every PASSHE Honors Program were chosen to participate in this program that traveled to Oxford, England. We also spent one week at California University where we stayed in the Honors student residence halls. It was very interesting to see Cal U Honors Program's housing especially because we are currently developing our own here at Ship. This made me especially grateful that the Honors student housing will be finished for me to see before I graduate. While in England we had the opportunity to do and see many things. The best part of my trip was during a free day when I was given a tour of London by a native Englishman. I got to see a lot of things in a very short amount of time because he knew how to navigate the city's Tube (subway) system. While in Oxford we also got the chance to apply what we learned at Cal U in the classroom to places and stories in Oxford. We learned about different types of architecture at Cal U, and we were able to see these lessons applied through visiting places like Christ Church College and Canterbury Cathedral. We also got to experience things outside of the educational aspects. Our hotel was located right on the River Thames, and during our stay, Oxford University's 8's Week, a rowing regatta, was taking place. We got to watch the different colleges compete in this rowing sport right outside of our hotel. We also had the opportunity to eat dinner at a restaurant at the top of the river, cleverly named Head of the River. Here we were able to try true English food and desserts and experience a college hangout place after one of the races. We also had the opportunity to punt on the River Thames. In order to punt we were broken into groups of four and put into boats where one person had to move the boat along with a long pole. Surprisingly, this is a leisure sport in England. During the trip we were exposed to many different cultural experiences along with educational encounters. Overall the trip was very rewarding and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

By Ethan Goldbach, *Honors Senior*

The PASSHE Summer Honors Program was one of the greatest experiences of my life, let alone my student career here at Shipensburg. There's simply no way I can pin down just one or two moments as my favorite because the whole trip was such a blast! The host institution, subject of study, and location of travel changes annually. Every year, twenty-eight students (two from each PASSHE university) are provided with funding for six credits, food and lodging, and airfare. In other words, it's as all-expenses-paid as you can get. We began our trip by having classes with four fabulous professors at California University of PA. We learned about some really bizarre and interesting things. My favorite lecture, for example, was about the evolution of books, between scrolls and books, and how we think of them today. For centuries, they were written on thin sheets of sheepskin – the thinner the better. Therefore, the most valuable paper was written on skin made of sheep embryos! After that week, we traveled to Oxford to do some sight-seeing and food-tasting. We experienced the colleges of Oxford, tours of old castles, the world's oldest standing barns, and some incredible museums and concerts. Everywhere we went was brimming with history and culture. The memories we shared helped us grow into lifelong friends (we can only presume).

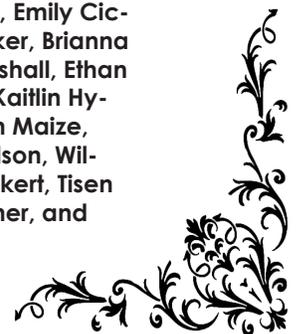


{ Honorable Mention }

Thanks to all the students who helped at Honors freshman orientation on August 3rd-4th, 2012; **Miranda Aaron, Katie Benedict, Hannah Brant, Brianna Evans, Megan Fick, Grant Innerst, Melissa Koontz, Katie Lazarski, Steven Masel, Kelsey Mengle, Nicole Nicholson, Lindsay Rosen, Kayleigh Schreyer, Ryan Schweikert, Karli Wagner, and John Watts.**

Thanks to **Sarah Antonelli, Krista Bussewitz, Nicole Nicholson, and Christopher Silvia** for coordinating and helping at the Honors Program station during the University's Open House on September 15th, 2012.

Thanks to our mentors for the 2012 – 2013 academic year: **Miranda Aaron, Rachel Aleardi, Katie Benedict, Aaron Benner, Hannah Brant, Krista Bussewitz, Andrew Campbell, Jenny Carlin, Emily Cicocioppo, Brooke Clippinger, Janae DelMaestro, Erin Deneen, Jordan Dewalt, Owen Ecker, Brianna Evans, Megan Fick, Evan Fishel, Noret Flood IV, Connor Fox, Lindy Gemmell, Melina Godshall, Ethan Goldbach, Jazmine Hall, Douglas Hamberger, Carley Heck, Michael Hock, Olivia Hunt, Kaitlin Hyman, Lucinda Kauffman, Melissa Koontz, Jacob Landis, Shannon Lee, Jacob Lutter, Sarah Maize, Steve Masel, Deborah Mathes, Kelsey Mengle, Tierney Miller, Maggi Miller, Nicole Nicholson, William Parisi, Jennifer Phillips, Holly Plank, Heather Rensch, Amanda Schwarz, Ryan Schweikert, Tisen Shrawder, Nicholas Spinelle, Luke Strawser, Carissa Strohecker, Jarrett Voight, Karli Wagner, and John Watts.**



Ads

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National Honors Newsletter Contest 3rd place

Congrats

Reach Out presents...



ZUMBathon

Friday Night Blacklights

Henderson Gym
October 19th, 7-9pm
(Doors open at 6:15pm)

Students w/ ID: \$3
Nonstudents
Preregistered: \$7
At the Door: \$10

Help us bring educational materials to the Dominican Republic!!!

Group of ten or more? Come together and pay only \$20 for everyone!
-- Contact us at reachout@ship.edu for more information! --



Editors' Corner

Dear Readers,



We are very excited to be taking over as editors of the *Honors Chronicle* for the 2012-2013 school year. We have been working hard to make some positive changes to the content and layout of the chronicle and will continue to make improvements throughout the year. One of the biggest additions we recently introduced is the new *Honors Chronicle* online that can be read at <http://shipso.wordpress.com>. This online component features honors updates and additional articles not found in the print version. We hope you check it out and become regular readers online as well.

Our focus for this issue was on studying abroad and international travel. Many students in the Honors Program recently traveled abroad, and we wanted to share their experiences with our readers. We hope that their stories inspire you to explore the world both on your own and with some of the upcoming travel opportunities offered through the Honors Program.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue of the *Honors Chronicle*. Feel to contact us if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions.

Hannah Brant and Megan Fick

Our Apologies

The editors apologize for the errors in the April 2012 issue concerning the article, "Student Showcase - Sarah Antonelli." The correct spelling for the tumor is pheochromocytoma. It was located on the left adrenal near the kidney and was not a brain tumor.
