SUPER SUMMER FUN EDITION!

The Honors Chronicle

Volume 27 | Issue 4

Summer 2014 | www.ship.edu/honors

Upcoming Events

August 1-2: Honors Freshmen Orientation

August 26: Honors Welcome Back Picnic
5:30-6:30 p.m., the Student Rec Pavilion

August 28: HSO Meeting
6:30 p.m. at the Presidents Hall MPR

August 29: Deadline for Honors seniors who are completing independent capstone projects in 2014-2015 to submit the "Independent Capstone Project Proposal" form to the Honors office, Presidents Hall. The form is available on the Forms page of the Honors Program website.

September 2: Honors Fall Reception and General Meeting
3:30-4:30 p.m. at the Tuscarora Room, Reisner Hall. All Honors students must attend.

September 4: Volleyball Game
3:30-5:00 p.m. at the Student Rec Pavilion
Hosted by the HSO Activities Committee

September 4: HSO Meeting
6:30 p.m. at the Presidents Hall MPR

September 15: Deadline for Honors juniors to submit the "Election of Honors Capstone Project" form to the Honors office, Presidents Hall. The form is available on the Forms page of the Honors Program website.

September 18: Volleyball Game
3:30 p.m. at the Student Rec Pavilion
Hosted by the HSO Activities Committee.

Find these exciting events and more on the online Honors Program calendar, located at www. ship.edu/Honors/Calendar.

Reflections from New York

Compiled by John Watts, Honors Senior

During spring break, Honors professors Dr. David Godshalk and Dr. Carla Kungl organized a field experience for students in their Honors World History II and Honors Intro to Literature classes. The field experience, "Journey to the Center of the World: New York and the Rise of Modernity" provided Honors students with opportunities to experience firsthand many of the neighborhoods, buildings, parks, and food that inspired the writers and historical actors they were studying in their Honors classes. The following pieces are the reflections that each student had following their trip.

(front row, left to right) Mary Grace Keller, Dr. Kungl, Dr. Godshalk (back row, left to right) Alyson Poorbaugh, Emma Hergenroeder, Michelle Bradley, Sharon Juarez, Keith Russell

"The trip to New York was astounding. What I managed to get out of the entire experience was cultural awareness. I was exposed to many different types of people and ways of living. It also dispelled some of the stereotypes that surround New York. People were much nicer than I thought they would be, so I was pleasantly surprised by that. One of my favorite parts of the trip was waking up early on Saturday morning to go exploring with friends. We went to a flea market that had many interesting antiques, jewelry, clothes, and other items. The merchants that I interacted with were very generous and shared stories of their lives in New York. I ended up buying a vintage fedora, ties, and a blazer because the deals were too hard to pass up. We also had the opportunity to dine at the New York Athletic Club, which was a once in a lifetime opportunity. The food there was the most delectable and appetizing I have ever had, but the company of friends made it all the better. I think that Dr. Godshalk might be one of the best traveling companions ever because he knew some of the best places in New York and was very humorous throughout the trip. There was always something interesting to do or see and if I could go back, I would want to attend a musical on Broadway. Overall, the trip was excellent and I would encourage anyone to go." - *Keith Russell*

"On my spring break I had the incredible opportunity to travel to New York City for the first time. Although several students have

Continued on page 3

NYFLC 2014: Catching Fire

by Katie Miller, Honors Junior

From March 29 to 31, I had the opportunity and the fortune to be one of the over 700 professionals, educators, and students that attended the National Young Feminist Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. Feminists of all genders, religions, ethnicities, and backgrounds gathered to discuss feminist issues concerning the U.S., and all across the world. To be one of the attendees was a life-changing experience, and one that I truly needed.

I have considered myself a feminist for several years, and an active one at that. I'm outspoken about issues I feel strongly about, and will not shy away from an opportunity to educate someone about feminism and what it stands for. But, without a strong feminist presence on Shippensburg University's campus, I was beginning to feel distanced from feminism; and that's exactly where the conference comes in.

(Right to left) Honors Program student Katie Miller displays feminist spirit with fellow Shippensburg University student Courtney Kensinger at NYFLC 2014

I made the trek to Washington with the Women and Gender Studies program, a small group of students who are minors in the program and care strongly about feminist issues. The conference was a series of panels on focused issues that campus group could focus on: Environmentalism and Feminism, Connecting with the Afghan Woman, and Sexual Assault Awareness were a few of the panels I attended. The panels were a forum for experts on the issues to share their insight with students, and for students to ask for ideas on how to best confront these issues on their campuses with their feminist groups. Hearing other students' ideas was one of my favourite things about the panels: sharing ideas is what strengthens the collection of feminists among students, who will one day be the professionals and educators in the U.S.

One of the most interesting and compelling panels I attended was the panel Connecting to Afghan Women. The panel was full of Afghan women who now travel between Afghanistan and America to help the women of their country. Tearful stories of escaping arranged marriages and becoming students were so inspiring, and the women offered imperative advice for campus groups hoping to connect with women in Afghanistan through fundraising and partnering other with schools.

Being surrounded by so many feminists, of all walks of life was one of the most rewarding experiences I have had in my entire academic career. People with more experience and understanding about issues I myself am not familiar with were able to educate me on what it means to be a leader on campus and worldwide.

Honors Read Recommends

by Maddie Moyer-Keehen, Honors Junior

The Book: Stolen: A Letter to My Captor by Lucy Christopher

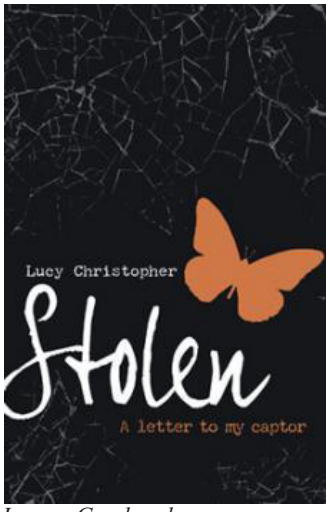


Image: Goodreads

Summary: After having coffee with an Australian man named Ty in an airport, Gemma is kidnapped and taken back to Australia. In his house, secluded in the middle of a desert, she has no contact with the outside world and no way of leaving. Throughout, she discovers more about Ty, his life, and his motivation behind the kidnapping. Stolen is engrossing all the way through as Lucy reveals more about Gemma and Ty, weaving their stories in with beautiful descriptions of the landscape and Ty's art. It is unlike anything else I've ever read, and I would strongly recommend picking it for your last book of the summer.

This semester Honors Read will be discussing Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs on September 22 at 4:30 pm and Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn on November 12 at 6:45 pm. Books for these discussions will be available in the Honors Program office. If you have suggestions for future books to discuss or are interested in joining us to lead a discussion, email me at mm6915@ship.edu or Katie Miller at km0903@ship.edu.

Reflections from New York, continued from page 1

traveled to New York City before or most likely will in the future, my experience with the Honors Program in the city was unique. I had a once-in-a-lifetime chance to observe how Coach handbags are designed and made before entering their high-class stores all around the world. I also had the unbelievable opportunity to dine as a guest at the all-exclusive New York Athletic Club. It was amazing to briefly experience the lifestyle of some of New York City's elite. I also visited the Museum of Modern Art and got to see some of my favorite art works by Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, and Jackson Pollock. I am extremely grateful for the rare opportunities that were presented to me during this trip and I cannot wait to experience more of New York City in the near future." - *Sharon Juarez*

"New York City! The Big Apple! The City That Never Sleeps! NYC might not, but I certainly slept when I got home from our weekend excursion. We had a packed schedule of sights and experiences, and yet it was only a sliver of the culture and history there. If I had to choose one word to describe the trip, it would be "adventure." There was always something interesting going on! The spirit of adventure inspired me to try new foods, including my first sushi. I usually detest seafood, but something about New York made it perfectly natural to step outside my comfort zone. I also unexpectedly found myself at ease on the Staten Island Ferry. I tend to be nervous over water, whether I'm driving on a bridge or flying across the pond; but in the spirit of the weekend and surrounded by my friends, I enjoyed and was relaxed by the sunset ferry ride. I would love to go back and visit more of the city! I'm sure New York has many more adventures in store for me." - *Emma Hergenroeder*

(front row, left to right) Michelle Bradley, Dr. Godshalk, Sharon Juarez (back row, left to right) Dr. Kungl, Emma Hergenroeder, Alyson Poorbaugh, Keith Russell

"The trip to NYC was, quite frankly, amazing. We got to see so much more of the city than I ever knew existed, from the extremely informative presentation at Coach from Campbell to the best place for dumplings in China Town. Dr. Godshalk and Dr. Kungl were able to fit so much in just three days; I can only imagine what it would have been like with the original 5 days. I'm definitely looking at returning again this summer if possible to check out some of the locations we had to skip like the top of the rock, and to revisit some of the areas we sped through like Chelsea market and the high line, an old elevated shipping platform turned walking park. The only way to get some extra time to see more was to wake up early, which Keith, Aly, and I did to go and check out a parking garage turned flea market that Dr. Godshalk told us about. I'm of a split for the best part of the trip because it was all so amazing; I'd have to choose between either the wonderful dinner the first night in the New York Athletic Club overlooking Central Park, or the ferry trip we took to Staten Island right at sunset. This trip was definitely better than anything I could have done on my own thanks to our professors, especially Dr. Godshalk who seems to just know every interesting thing there is in New York City." - *Michelle Bradley*

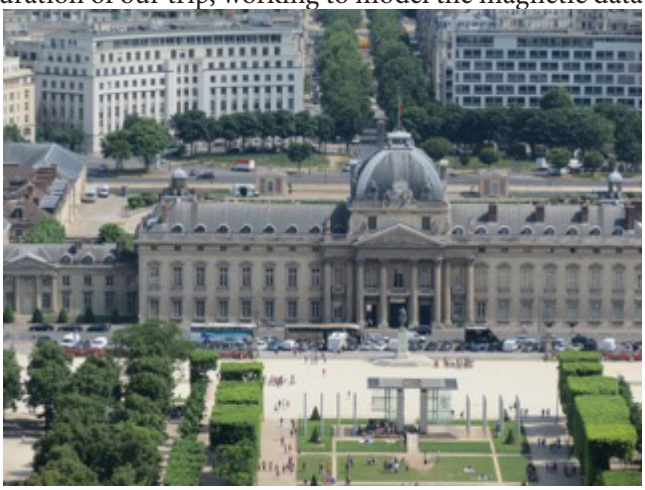
"New York City is a place filled with numerous sights and sounds; a place worth visiting. Over spring break, I had the opportunity to visit New York with several other Students in the Honors Program. Each day was filled with a myriad of experiences. We were able to dine at the New York City Athletics' Club and tour an apartment, two experiences few tourists get to have. We also visited museums, such as the Museum of Modern Art and the Rubin Museum. We went to the 9/11 Memorial and Trinity Church and experienced the Staten Island Sunset Ferry Cruise. We also were able to encounter multiple different cultures. We toured Little Italy, China Town and Little India. We dined at so many different places and had the opportunity to try so many different dishes. Although extremely difficult, I would have to say that my favorite part of the trip was trying all the different cuisines. I was able to try my first Chinese Dumpling and Bubble Tea. Despite the fact that I did not enjoy everything I tried, I loved having the chance to try them. If given the opportunity, I would really like to see *Wicked* or *RENT* on Broadway. New York City was a wonderful experience, and I am ecstatic that I was able to visit with a group of individuals I knew." - *Alyson Poorbaugh*

L'étude de la chimie: A Reflection From Paris

by Connor Daly, Honors Junior

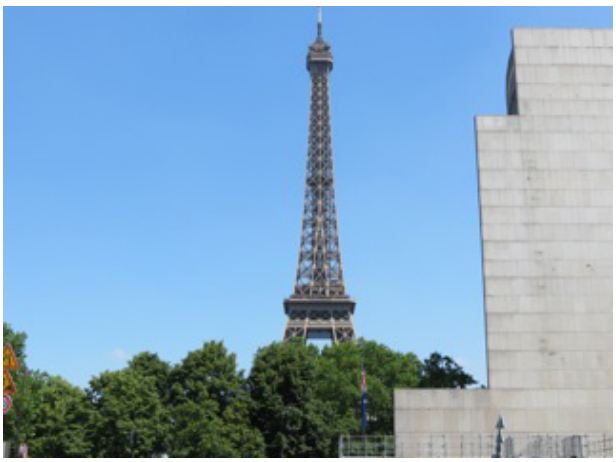
Following my first semester as an undergraduate chemistry major, I was inclined from both the urging of my professors and fellow classmates, as well as personal interest, to pursue undergraduate research. It became my personal goal to do as much research as my classes and professors would allow during my undergraduate career. Despite my pursuit of research experiences, I was grateful and surprised when one of my professors, Dr. Curtis Zaleski, approached me during the spring semester with the opportunity to perform research over the summer. The initial two weeks of research were to consist of a trip to France to study at the Institut de Chimie Moléculaire et des Matériaux d'Orsay (ICMMO) at the University of Paris – Sud 11. I accepted the opportunity and following the end of the semester began preparations immediately. Thus, the initial three weeks of the summer consisted of preparations for the trip. Primarily this involved obtaining my passport, studying the most basic of French phrases (as I had no prior education in French), and studying the basics of magneto-chemistry from sources provided by Dr. Zaleski.

Upon our arrival in France, however, the summer became far more interesting. We worked with Dr. Talal Mallah of the Inorganic Chemistry Department of the university for the duration of our trip, working to model the magnetic data of several metallocrown complexes previously synthesized in Shippensburg. Dr. Mallah was incredibly helpful in this regard, providing the necessary facilities and his own personal input and knowledge regarding both the software and magnetization. During our time there, we also attended a lecture by Dr. Mallah, and I can happily say that I have learned more regarding magnetism in one day than I previously learned in my entire life. Lunches were in the company of faculty, talking and learning about the other group's respective country. Upon our (late) return to the hotel room in the evening, I would continue to fit data and read papers suggested by either Dr. Mallah or Dr. Zaleski.



A view of Paris. Photo by Connor Daly

However, we were not constantly "chained to the lab bench." We travelled to Paris in order to tour the city and see the sights as well. Initially, I was shocked as soon as I departed the metro and witnessed the architecture of Paris. It was so different compared to most of the architecture that I had grown up with. In addition, we toured many of the most interesting and famous landmarks in Paris, including: the Eiffel Tower, Louvre Museum, Versailles, Arc de Triomphe de l'Étoile, and Notre Dame Cathedral. Looking back, I will honestly admit my surprise at having visited so many famous monuments and locations in Paris, however I will never regret it. My personal favorite visits were the Louvre Museum and the Notre Dame Cathedral. I am not an artist by trade; however, I appreciate beauty for what it is. I felt a sense of surrealism seeing, among many other famous works, both the Mona Lisa and the statue of Venus de Milo in the same day. Notre Dame proved interesting to me both because of my faith as a Catholic, and due to the stunning design and grandeur of the cathedral itself. I will confess, however, that while touring Versailles I was equally entranced by the palace and its grandeur, but also disgusted with the former monarchy of France at how lavish and almost ostentatious the palace was.



An iconic figure. Photo by Connor Daly

Following my experience in France, I will continue to perform research for Dr. Zaleski in Shippensburg, more knowledgeable in chemistry, and hopefully slightly worldlier than before I left for France.

An Adventure in Costa Rica

By Kailee Tressler, Honors Sophomore

William Parisi is a Junior Geo-Environmental Studies major at Shippensburg University. In the fall of 2013, Will spent some time studying abroad in a much more tropical climate than Shippensburg. Will spent 90 days in Costa Rica attending Universidad Latina. "Costa Rica is considered the most sustainable country on the world stage so it was exciting studying it there where so many innovations are happening." Will said. The classes had many analyses of case studies and service learning projects based on Sustainable Development ideas and principles.

The population commonly speaks Spanish, however some phrases and words are unique to Costa Rica. Will said that there is a stronger language barrier in the capital city of San Jose, where he stayed, but that English is more common at tourist locations like beaches, rainforests, and volcanoes. Knowing English is very important in these areas because of the tourist economy. When asked to describe the culture Will wrote: "The best way to describe the culture is to describe the phrase 'pura vida'. The direct translation means 'pure life' but its meaning is so much more. Costa Ricans (or 'ticos' as they call themselves) use this phrase all of the time a greeting, agreeing with someone, a thank you, expressing good will, and even in a sarcastic way or other negative way. It is more or less the national slogan."

Rice and beans were present at every meal, including breakfast. He also said that the culture is becoming very Americanized with many American brand stores and fast food restaurants. Will also wrote, "They have no military at all, instead money that would go to something like that provides free college and free health care to everyone. And Costa Rica has some of the best healthcare in the world, on par or better than the U.S. The infrastructure is terrible and the majority of drivers do not follow the traffic laws so it is a zoo on the streets. My walk to school was always an adventure because of that. Soccer is the single biggest topic of conversation there and is super important to the Ticos…Costa Rica is very very close to being considered a developed country."

San Jose is located in the Central Valley. The city is surrounded by mountains and volcanoes on all sides. The weather in the valley held around 70 degrees during Will's stay. However, it was also the rainy season in the valley. "It down poured almost every day at 2 pm like clockwork." Unlike the four seasons we have here Will said that they only have a dry and rainy season. Fortunately it is hot and dry at the coast, creating ideal weather for the beach. Will's favorite activity was traveling and was on the go every weekend. "I had never been out of the U.S. before going to Costa Rica so I soaked up as much as I could out of each travel experience I had." Will stayed with a wonderful host family in a small house in the city during his trip. The family included a host mother, grandmother, sister, and a brother. He said that his host mother was an amazing cook, preparing breakfast and dinner for him every day. He still keeps in contact with this family. Will enjoyed his time abroad very much and would like to return.

The United States Of Honors

By Amanda Schwarz, Honors Senior

Rain and dreary weather did little to stop the dedicated Honors students from the PASSHE schools from attending the United State of Honors Conference earlier in April. John Watts and I were fortunate to be the Shippensburg participants at this conference. Dr. Klein and the other Honors directors spent the afternoon in their annual meeting. I served as a panelist on the Service and Valuing Honors panels, and John discussed Ship's award-winning *Honors Chronicle* in a newsletter panel.

Being a panelist was a bit nerve-wracking, but it was amazing to share all of the amazing activities our honors program hosts each year. I learned about some great programs that the other universities host throughout the year, and John learned about other newsletters. I was surprised to learn that Cheney advertises their honors program on local BET TV channels!

Readers may know that I also attended the PASSHE Summer Honors Program last summer. During my time at the conference, I was very pleased to have a mini-reunion with several of my friends from the trip! We caught up on all of our adventures over the past months and even got a picture in front of the PASSHE seal.

The conference is a wonderful chance to meet so many wonderful people and promote Ship's honors program. I think I can speak for both John and I when I say that this conference was a fantastic professional development opportunity, and we learned a lot about other Honors Programs.

Editor's Corner

The *Honors Chronicle* that you now posess, whether in print or digitally, is truly unique. This is the very first Super Summer Fun Edition of the *Chronicle*. You may be asking yourself what makes this particular edition more super or more engaged in summer fun, and the answer is strikingly simple: it says so in the masthead. I know, it's not very groundbreaking or particularly honest, but it sounds good on paper. This edition of the *Chronicle* compresses the events from April until now, and to make things even more exciting, we have an October lurking right around the corner. I hope you enjoy reading about the exploits of our students, and I hope that the stories will keep you at the edge of your seat, waiting for more until the next issue arrives.

I would like to dedicate this particular issue to our new class of Honors Program students. You all have an incredible journey full of challenges and opportunities ahead. Embrace every moment of it. Welcome to our world of leadership, scholarship, and service.

Live long and prosper,

John

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