

The Honors Program Newsletter

VOL. 16, ISSUE 3

FORMERLY *HONORABLE INTENTIONS*

NOVEMBER 2002

CALENDAR

Note: The food and clothing drive, originally scheduled for Dec. 3 to 6, has been canceled.

November

25 — “Excitement in Education” Informational Meeting

7:45 p.m., CUB 216

December

2 — Student Steering Committee

7:45 p.m., Honors Lounge

All Honors students are welcome.



Have a relaxing break and a happy holiday season!

January

27 — General Honors Meeting

9:30 p.m., DHC 051

February

3 — “Excitement in Education” Planning Meeting

7:45 p.m., CUB 216

There will be another planning meeting on March 24, 7:45 p.m., CUB 216. “Excitement in Education” is scheduled for

Connectedness: The Key at the NCHC Conference in Salt Lake City

BY MEG DAMERON

Recently I was able to attend the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Conference in Salt Lake City. Dr. Klein, the Honors director, and Dr. Dessants, a member of the faculty steering committee, also attended. The conference consisted of several days of sessions on a multitude of topics concerning Honors students and faculty. It was held at the Grand America Hotel, Salt Lake's only five star hotel, complete with upholstered walls, marble floors, and chandeliers in each bathroom stall. I arrived late in the evening on Wednesday, Oct. 30. I was tired from the flight, but, deciding that airline crackers did not make a balanced dinner, I set out in search of some food. While wondering through the hotel lobby I was adopted by a lively group of about 10 students from Texas Tech who were headed to Denny's. Over greasy fries and grilled cheese we discussed the successes and failures of our Honors programs. I had been instantly initiated into the student body and knew from that moment that the trip would be a success.

The next morning I attended a session dubbed “Students in Honors.” It was geared specifically for students and included an overview of topics such as the characteristics of successful Honors students, student leadership, and the roles of student associations. That afternoon I participated in a “City as a Text” event where students and faculty divided into small groups and explored the Salt Lake area. My group had a list of locations to find in the downtown area. Through our exploration we learned about the history of Salt Lake, had time to do some shopping, and had a tour of Temple Square.

Friday I attended a number of sessions that dealt with specific issues. I was especially interested in the session on Student Associations. It was a good opportunity to compare the organization of other schools' Student Associations with our Honors Program Student Steering Committee. Friday night was the culmination of the conference with a gala featuring selections of opera, piano, and ballet.

From the conference I gained a better understanding about what makes a program successful and what our program should be working towards. Connectedness, meaning student involvement, faculty-student interaction, and student leadership, was identified in nearly every session as key to the improvement of an Honors program. I was able to glean valuable ideas from other students and faculty and learn what types of activities were most successful in other schools.

[Watch for information on the Northeast Region NCHC Conference, March 27 to 30 in Gettysburg. Two Honors students will also have the opportunity to attend the 2003 national conference in Chicago.]

Meet the new Honors GAs

The Honors newsletter customarily introduces new graduate assistants in the first issue of the year. Due to lack of space, the task was postponed until this month.

Trevor Kase organizes Honors programming, and is in his first semester of the Applied History (M.A.) program. He graduated from Ship in 1995, and worked as a substitute teacher and a corporate trainer before re-

turning to school this semester. He now lives just east of Hershey, is married, and has a six-year-old son, Jack, in kindergarten.

Shaun Kirkpatrick works on the Honors newsletter, brochure, and new Web site. He is also in his first semester in Applied History, and just graduated in May from Messiah College. He is from Chambersburg, and still lives at home. Hey, it's free.

University awards research grants to nine Honors students

DEPARTMENT	HONORS STUDENT(S)	RESEARCH GRANT PROJECT TITLE
BIOLOGY	Slaven Jesic	Aquatic Sowbug Abundance and Isotope Sampling to Indicate Water Quality and Nutrient Sources to Local Spring Ecosystems
FINANCE	Matthew Anderson	Getting One Step Ahead of the Rest, an In-Depth Study of Summer Employment for Undergraduate Business Students
PSYCHOLOGY	Daniel Furr	Trends in Dating Scripts amongst Undergraduate Students
PSYCHOLOGY	Jessica Shultz	Maternal Dating Patterns: Adolescents' Perceptions and Attitudes
PHYSICS	Benjamin Sauerwine	Software Design and Device Installation to Run the Physics Telescope
PHYSICS/ART	Christine Norris, Benjamin Sauerwine, Kathryn Shirk	Three Mechanical Devices: Theory, Device, and Construction
TEACHER ED	Tanya Andreadis	The Effectiveness of the Reading Recovery Program
TEACHER ED	Natalie Cochran	The Processes and Outcomes of Student Advocacy Groups

Nine Honors students received between \$95 and \$900 in research funding from the university's Undergraduate Research Program in October.

In all, the program received 60 applications from Shippensburg undergrads, all of whom received some funding. The program awarded a total of \$36,197, according to the publicity office.

Elementary education major Natalie Cochran received a grant for her project, "The Processes and Outcomes of Student Advocacy Groups." Cochran is the president of Bridge for Kids, a campus advocacy group, and will be analyzing how the group's activities relate to skills the students learn at Shippensburg.

Cochran will interview her group members and compile data to present in a paper and poster display in the spring. The grant money will enable her group to travel to Washington for the Children's Defense Fund annual conference.

For her project, she works closely with Dr. Kent Chrisman, who planned on taking a sabbatical "on that exact issue," she said. Cochran credited Chrisman for his help in obtaining the grant. "Honestly, I couldn't have done it without his expertise," she said.

Cochran's project is in addition to her normal coursework. It is possible to have a grant for a class project, as three Honors students do: Christy Norris, Ben Sauerwine, and Kate Shirk work with three classmates on "Three Mechanical Devices: Theory, Design, and Construction" for Dr. Alan Cresswell's Physics 400 course in mechanics. The class will design a sundial, a trebuchet, and a Foucault pendulum to be erected on campus.

Sauerwine is helping to design the trebuchet, and Norris and Shirk are planning the pendulum. The two are studying pendulum movements to determine how much energy a pendulum loses with each swing. They will then put that energy into a magnetic field, to keep the pendulum going indefinitely. They hope to have a working model ready by Dec. 6.

The Physics Department hopes to have the models approved in the spring, after which a full-sized pendulum will be erected.

The grant money will go to supplies for the models, and for the actual devices.

A pendulum used to hang in Franklin Science Center, Norris and Shirk said, but the university dismantled it when they remodeled the building.

New York, "Rent" a great time

BY STEPHANIE RUSH

In the weeks and days leading up to the New York trip, I had no idea what to expect. Not only had I never attended a Broadway musical or play, but I also had never been to New York City. I was excited though; my friends love Rent and rave about it constantly. New York was enticing in itself. There definitely was too much to see and do for just one day.

My friends and I visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art to get schoolwork done, and then hiked the forty or so blocks to Times Square. Along the way, we did some window-shopping. We ate lunch at a local restaurant, and took the subway downtown to see Ground Zero. The church across the street is still adorned with flowers, T-shirts, and other mementos mourning those lost last year. After some last-minute shopping and caffeine fixes at Starbucks, we headed to the Nederlander Theatre for Rent.

There was already a line at the theatre, but as soon as the doors opened, we moved quickly. Before settling into our seats, we picked up some souvenirs and chatted with each other about our day. The performance was awesome and definitely changed my perspectives on what the stereotypical musical is normally confined to.

The bus ride may have been long, the subway system confusing, and prices through the roof, but I had a great time in New York. I can't wait for next year's trip.

THE HONORABLE MENTION

Congratulations to **Angie Bard** for winning the \$50 gift certificate for the Honors newsletter naming contest! Bard submitted the first entry, "The Honorable Mention," on Aug. 30. While the newsletter name has not yet been decided, Bard's will be used as the title of our new "kudos" section, highlighting noteworthy achievements of Honors students.

Congratulations to **Matthew Anderson, Tanya Andreadis, Natalie Cochran, Daniel Furr, Slaven Jesic, Christine Norris, Benjamin Sauerwine, Kathryn Shirk, and Jessica Shultz** for earning undergraduate research grants of \$95 to \$900 for their projects! See the article and table for details.

THE SSHE SUMMER HONORS PROGRAM

SSHE sets dates for 2003 China trip

The 2003 State System of Higher Education's Summer Honors Program will run from May 19 to June 20, the SSHE announced recently.

Kutztown University hosts this summer's program, which travels to China. Two Shippensburg Honors students are able to attend.

Students interested in applying

should attend the SSHE trip workshop, to be held in January. Tim MacBain and Renee Sowinski, who represented Shippensburg at last summer's program to Spain, will be on hand to offer advice.

Applications will be available at the workshop. The application deadline is typically in mid-February.



Above: Renee Sowinski and Tim MacBain, the Shippensburg Honors Program representatives on the 2002 trip to Spain.

Left: A cathedral in Seville, Spain.

[Photographs courtesy of Renee Sowinski.]

SSHE program is "unforgettable"

BY RENEE SOWINSKI

Last June, I participated in the 2002 State System of Higher Education Summer Honors Scholarship Program. It was an incredible experience, one that I will remember for the rest of my life. Tim MacBain and I were chosen to represent Shippensburg University in the program and along with 28 Honors students from the 14 Pennsylvania state schools, we studied at Lock Haven University and traveled to Spain.

The focus of the program was "Conflict in Spanish Art and Culture." For two weeks, we studied at Lock Haven and took classes on the art, culture, and history of Spain and prepared individual presentations. The trip was a great cultural and educational experience.

We traveled to Madrid, Toledo, Cordoba, Seville, Costa del Sol, and Segovia. In each city, we viewed and studied architecture and other forms of art. A local guide informed our group on important historical aspects of the towns we visited, and each student was responsible for leading a discussion on a piece of art/architecture. My presentation was on Pablo Picasso's famous painting, "Guernica." Seeing the actual piece that I had read and studied so much about at Lock Haven was stimulating, and it was an overall terrific, hands-on learning experience unlike anything I had ever done.

The trip was more than just a learning experience; we had a lot of free time to explore the cities of Spain on our own, enjoy the nightlife, and create bonds with the people in our group. I visited the palaces of Spanish Kings, the tomb of Christopher Columbus, many beautiful cathedrals, and a beautiful beach on the Mediterranean. The program gave me the opportunity to meet new people, learn new things, and travel overseas for free! I sincerely recommend this program to anyone interested. It is an unforgettable experience.



Be "immersed fully" in culture

BY TIM MacBAIN

The State System Scholarship Program offers what is easily one of the greatest opportunities to the thousands of students attending State Colleges. I was honored last year as being one of two selected students from Shippensburg who joined 26 other State System students at Lock Haven University for the start of the program.

The topic for this program was "Conflict in Spanish Art and Culture." During the first two weeks at Lock Haven, we were taught the basics of art appreciation and technique while studying those aspects of Spanish history which separate Spain from the culture of the European continent.

While in Spain, we were immersed fully into Spanish culture. Our class was taken to such intriguing places as the Prado Museum, the most stunning cathedrals in the country, the Reina Sofia Museum of Modern Art, the burial place of Ferdinand and Isabella, the Royal Palace, Seville's city streets, the Spanish coast on the Mediterranean, and the Great Mosque in Cordoba. I cannot describe to you the amount of information I learned or the things which I experienced by visiting these places.

Though the educational value alone makes this program an obviously wonderful experience for students, I must also say that the social experience was another big part of the program. The students we met from other universities came from different regions of the state and had some very differing backgrounds, but we all got along very well. This made for lots of good times, and most of us keep in touch with each other to this day.

Overall, I think it's clear that any one of us that had participated in the program would hastily jump at the chance to do it again. Though this coming Scholarship Program will undoubtedly have a different topic and look at different issues of China, I am convinced that the same awesome experience will be had by those students who attend. This program truly offers a "once in a lifetime" learning and social experience that will change your outlook on the world.

Right: Ship students Joe Eberly and Greg Barrick stand atop a sand dune in Denmark.

[Photograph courtesy of Joe Eberly.]

Study abroad, change your life

BY JOE EBERLY

As a member of the Honors Program we have many opportunities to expand our horizons through challenging classes and extracurricular gatherings, but there are also amazing opportunities beyond the shores of the U.S. Last spring I spontaneously decided to study abroad in Denmark, and it has impacted me in ways I never expected. Of course I am in Denmark to learn, but when I look back on this experience, academics will be the last thing I think about.

As a study abroad student you are often thrust into a unique and often unknown culture. Culture shock seems to be such a harsh way of describing it, as it is truly an exciting experience. Learning and adapting to a new culture has positively changed the way I look at the world as a whole. It has been a humbling experience as I have seen many negative stereotypes of other countries wiped away as well as seeing many negative stereotypes about Americans that are simply not true. I have met people from every inhabited continent in the world and often the only difference between us is the language they speak, and, amazingly enough, this boundary is not significant because they all speak English.

While studying at another university the opportunity exists to take courses not offered at Shippensburg. Here in Denmark there are many courses relating to business and politics in the European Union, which will affect us all in the near future. The opportunity also exists to study languages in the native country abroad, which can increase your skills exponentially. I have taken the opportunity to take a brief course in the Danish language and a course in Aspects of Denmark. Between these courses and my travels around Denmark, I have learned more about this awesome country than I could have ever hoped to learn in any geography class in the U.S.

I encourage everyone to look into study abroad to discover the many opportunities available to a Shippensburg University student. It is possible to study Spanish in South America, business in Denmark, or anything one might desire. Some believe that studying abroad is financially out of reach or that graduating on time would become impossible, but this is clearly not the case. Several international universities' tuition is a direct exchange with Shippensburg's and some are even less! As far as graduating on time, schools can be found abroad with courses that can transfer into any major's requirements. For more information on study abroad options contact Dr. Twining, the study abroad director, at 477-1151.

Experience Greece and Italy

BY DR. NEIL BRASHER AND DR. SALLY BRASHER

[Ed. note: The following article is excerpted from the course description pamphlet, titled "Summer Session 2003 in Europe." Contact the professors for the full pamphlet and application.]

This is a study abroad course that will be based in Italy and Greece. This is not your typical study abroad course where students go to a foreign country and take classes at a host university. While somewhat short, it is a holistic approach that maximizes the international experience.

The course will focus on how political structures and political theory have evolved. The course will focus on early civilizations (Minoan, Greek, and Roman) and the medieval European city-states. This will lead to a better understanding of contemporary political/societal structures and thought.

The course is a three-credit-hour Political Science course offering titled: Special Topics in Political Science: Early European Political Thought. Students will be required to do a paper on one of the sites we will be visiting or topics we will be discussing. While in Europe they will be required to keep an academic journal where they react to tours, sites, readings, and culture.

Program costs (includes: airfare, lodging, field trips, entrance fees, activities, some meals, transportation in Europe) are \$2400 per student. In addition, tuition for summer courses is about \$580. There are no academic prerequisite-sites for this trip.

A \$500 non-refundable deposit is required with your application. Applications will be taken until the program is filled. Make your check out to Shippensburg University/Brussels Study Abroad. The program is limited to 15 students. Airfare (\$800) will be due at the earliest Dec. 15. The balance will be due May 1. Please apply as early as possible.

Tentative itinerary for the course, June 3-25, 2003

June 3—Depart from D.C.	June 15,16—Crete: Plakias
June 4,5—Rome	June 17—Crete: Iraklio
June 6,7,8—Siena	June 18,19—Santorini
June 9,10—Venice	June 20,21—FREE
June 11,12—Ferry to Greece	June 22,23—Mykonos
June 13—Athens, Crete	June 24—Athens
June 14—Crete: Hania	June 25—Return to D.C.

Come with us to Berlin! Visit the beautiful castles of Potsdam!

The German Studies Minor is organizing a trip to Berlin during Spring Break, Mar. 9-16, 2003. The trip is open to anyone; students will get one credit for participating. The program fee of \$1109 includes airfare to and from Philadelphia, lodging with breakfast, a full-day excursion to Potsdam, visits to Sans-Souci Palace and the Reichstag, and medical insurance. Contact Dr. Alain Nganang at 477-1503 or apngan@ship.edu for more information.

Visit the *new* Honors Web site at www.ship.edu/~honors. The "Students" page is especially for current members. E-mail any announcements *you* want on the page to sk1664@ship.edu. Digital or scanned photos of Honors events also welcome!

DINNER AND A MOVIE

BY RYAN HESS

Expanding the Honors Program beyond the classroom is one of the most important goals for the program that was set early in the year, and the dinner and a movie event on November 14th certainly worked towards that goal. The idea came about at one of the first steering committee meetings, and Natalie Cochran and Steph Rush worked to make the activity occur. With Fay Cimino's help, they prepared spaghetti with meatballs, garlic bread, and peach cobbler. While they cooked, other Honors Program members transformed the McLean Hall recreation room into a dining room and movie area. During the meal, students had a chance to catch up with some of the members that they don't see outside the classroom and to share a home-cooked meal, which was a much appreciated break from the dining hall. Afterwards, the group watched "Mr. Deeds" and enjoyed a well-deserved break from a week of exams and meetings. Judging by the good turn out and the positive feedback, this will become a regular event. The Public Relations/Membership Development committee is to be commended for organizing such a wonderful evening.

Have a Great
Break!!

See You at the
General Meeting
on
January 27!



Honors Program Staff

Dr. Kim Klein – Director
Mrs. Sharon Poe – Secretary
Trevor Kase – Graduate Assistant
Shaun Kirkatrick – Graduate Assistant

Mrs. Poe is in the Honors Office located in Horton Hall 104 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Monday-Friday and can be reached at 477-1604 or email her at: sapoe@ship.edu.



Honors Program Officers for 2002-2003

Ryan Hess – President
Meg Dameron – Vice President
Secretary/Treasurer – Becky Kennedy

Honors Office

Horton Hall 104
(477-1604)
Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Friday: 8 a.m.-11:45 a.m.

12210
Honors Program
Shippensburg University
1871 Old Main Drive
Shippensburg, PA 17257