

The Honors Chronicle

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November 2006

Honors students 'Let Honors Ring' at the NCHC Conference in Philadelphia



Photo courtesy of Michelle Baker

Honors senior Mark Lehman and juniors Ryan Blackman, Michelle Baker, and Ashley Cayless meet Benjamin Franklin.

By Michelle Baker, Honors junior

Philadelphia hosted the 41st Annual Conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) on November 15-19.

As always, Shippensburg University's Honors Program was well-represented, this year with six honors students in attendance with Dr. Kim Klein, Honors Program Director.

Two Honors seniors showed off their intellectual undertakings.

Heather Palmer attended the Master Class for her work in poetry and later in the conference, presented her work at the Master Class Showcase.

Mark Lehman presented the "Evolution of the Roman Legion through the Second Century C.E." at a student interdisciplinary research panel on "Rethinking Ancient His-

tory." Here, he impressed the audience with his knowledge and strong research on ancient Rome (see p. 4 for more information on Mark's presentation).

Juniors Ryan Blackman and Ashley Cayless, with help the help of Dr. Klein and Dr. Gene Fiorini, SU mathematics professor, led a session about their work with the Honors service learning class.

They received a great reception for their accomplishments with the "Ship It: Textbook Go Global" project.

Even the newsletter had its chance to shine, although it did not receive any awards. Honors junior Jess Krout accompanied the newsletter in the National Newsletter Contest.

See NCHC

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SU to host 2009 SSHE Summer Honors Program in Europe

By Jess Krout, Honors junior

At the fall 2006 meeting of the PA SSHE Honors directors, Shippensburg University was selected to host the 2009 SSHE Summer Honors Program. This will mark the first time that Shippensburg has hosted the program since 1987.

Shippensburg's successful proposal was developed by Honors Program Director, Dr. Kim Klein, and Dr. Niel Brasher, Dr. Cynthia Botteron, and Dr. Christine Senecal. The program, entitled "Constructing European Identity: The Middle Ages and the Modern Era," will begin with a week of coursework at Shippensburg. The courses will be "European Identity in the Middle Ages" taught by Dr. Christine Senecal and "European Politics and

Identity in the Modern Era" taught by Dr. Neil Brasher and Dr. Cynthia Botteron.

The second week of the program will be based in Brussels, Belgium, and the third week will include field explorations to sights in Belgium, Germany, and the Netherlands. Some sights that will be visited include NATO and SHAPE, the European Union, and the Grand Place.

Each year, one of the 14 PA SSHE schools hosts the Summer Honors Program, and two students from each school are chosen to attend the program, including students from Shippensburg.

Applications for this year's summer program, hosted by California University of Pennsylvania, are available in the Honors office, Horton Hall 104.

Calendar

December

2 - Excitement in Education

Grove Hall

Contact Michelle Baker at mb2921@ship.edu for more information.

January

19 - SSHE 2007 Summer Honors Program application deadline

Students interested in applying for the SSHE 2007 Summer Honors Program in Europe must have their applications turned into Sharon Poe at the Honors office, Horton Hall 104, by 11:45 a.m.

23 - Spring General Meeting

3:30 p.m., Tuscarora Room

All Honors students must attend.

SideNotes

By Stacie Wight

"Flash me your roller skating Wheaties!"

I would like to wish everyone the very Merriest Christmas-wanza and good luck on your upcoming finals! Here is some wonderful advice that comes from some of the most brilliant minds on campus.



1. **Eat your Wheaties!** It is actually ridiculously helpful to your brain if you eat breakfast and all of your other important HEALTHY meals while studying.
2. **Have routine dance parties to release collected energy from sitting and drinking coffee!** Coffee and caffeine are great to keep you up but are rough on your system, and in the long run, won't help you remember what you studied in those wee hours. Don't try to pull all-nighters, but do try to explore your inner eyelids for about 8 hours.

3. **Go bowling or roller skating!** Exercise will help you unwind and clear your mind so your study sessions are more valuable and you retain more "useful" information.
4. **Focus on the end! Plan something special to look forward too.** I am going to New York when I finish my exams. You don't have to have something that elaborate planned, but plan to hook up with some friends to go out for pizza and ice cream, or go buy a new DVD to crash in front of the TV with. Get creative and motivate yourself!
5. **Flash Me!** Grab those index cards your mom insisted on buying and don't make a paper football or practice hitting your roommate with them across the room, but write on them. It's ingenious, I know! It helps more then it hurts, and you can make them in front of the TV and then study them everywhere you go. Good luck everyone on your final exams!

Honors students wake up for 'Dash for Drew'

By Emily Cisney, Honors junior

It was very early on Saturday, November 11, that our group of Honors students drove to Greencastle-Antrim High School to compete with hundreds of other individuals. What is it that compelled us to leave our warm beds on a Saturday morning?

To run two miles at 9 a.m. for Dash for Drew, an event created with proceeds going to the newly established Drew Michael Taylor Foundation.

The purpose of the foundation is to provide educational and recreational opportunities for children by focusing attention and financial needs towards them. Drew Taylor was a little boy who died in a terrible car accident in the Outer Banks during the summer on a family vacation and his family decided to create a bit of hope and joy from it by starting the foundation in his name to honor his memory.

When we arrived at the high school track, it was amazing to feel the energy from the hundreds of people ready to run for a little boy most probably never knew. There were many volunteers throughout the building and the track who were excited to help everyone out. People were scattered everywhere, some talking with friends, others focused on warming up and stretching. Pretty soon, it was time to take off on the cross-country like path that wove around the school property.

We had a number of Honors students run in the competitive race and even finish before many others. The rest of us decided to stretch our legs for the fun run/walk that took place after the competitive race. Everyone did a great job and each person should be very proud of what they did.

Thank you to everyone who contributed and ran/walked!



Speak Out!



By Kaitlin Daley, Honors sophomore

What is the best way to study for an Honors course?

"The best way for me to study is to go to a professor before a test and ask for helpful tips. This allows the professor to know that you care about your grade and that you want to do well on the test."



Ally Morgan
Freshman

"I like to study in groups. This is helpful to reinforce material and decrease the stress and anxiety of studying."



Nick Ray
Sophomore

"The best way for me to study is to type up my notes before a test. This helps me to remember the information through repetition."



Valerie Koontz
Sophomore

"I love mnemonics devices. They can be funny, and who forgets things that are funny? You will never forget it, and it's great for lists."



Joe Livingston
Sophomore

"A great way to study is making flashcards. They're a good way to work a simple term with a complex idea. It also allows friends to help you study."



Matt Stern
Junior

Undergraduate Research, Study Abroad, and Internship Opportunities

Undergrads receive grants for research

The Institute for Public Service at Shippensburg University has announced the recipients of this year's undergraduate research grants. Congratulations to the following Honors students who earned undergraduate research grants for the 2006-07 academic year:

- Danielle Geller — "Postmodernism"
- Emily Jones — "Comparing Letter Detection and Identification as a Function of Letter and Background Contrast"
- Scott Jones — "An Investigation into Aggressive and Cannibalistic Interactions in Related Versus Unrelated Larval Marbled Salamanders in South-Central Pennsylvania"
- Mark Lehman — "China's Political Evolution as Defined by a Revolution or a Reform"
- Michael Manis — "Postmodernism"
- Katie Mayo — "Elucidating the Role of APG5 in Autophagy and Protection Against Bacterial Infections: Engineering Fluorescent Expression Vectors Containing APG5 for Confocal Microscopy Studies"
- Paul Rutledge — "Notes on the Conformal Operator Connecting the Comma Vertex and the CSV Vertex"
- Nicole Thierwechter — "Understanding the Role of Individual Genes in Pheromone Detection during *Drosophila melanogaster* Courtship"
- Derek Wolfe — "Improving Lead Detection in Environmental Water Samples: Investigations using Thiol-Functionalized Magnesium Phyllosilicate Clay Thin Films"
- Natasha Alligood — "Heterologous Expression of an Insect Poxvirus 57K gene"
- Matthew Baile — "Determining the Role of HERV-K Transcripts in Tumorigenesis"
- Riley Cameron — "Designing and Hand Building a Fully Functional Special Effects Prop"

Glass studies abroad in London, England



Photo courtesy of Jenna Glass

By Jenna Glass, Honors junior

The wheels touched down, and we were in London. My roommate and I had come to London for a three-week study course in business. I had lived outside of the country before with my family, but this time I was alone and I was nervous — but it was a good nervous. We had so many things we wanted to see, but we could not lose focus on the fact that we were there to study, and to get as much out of our three week course as possible.

While in London, I took corporate finance and had the chance to visit the Bank of England. The professor was lucky enough to schedule a presentation for the class, where we learned about the history of the bank, and the fact that we were sitting above 60,000 bars of gold!

The class itself was a much bigger challenge than I had anticipated. My professor was a true English man with a strong accent that took some time to get used to. Aside from the language, currency became a large issue when adjusting to the pound and interpreting financial statements.

Overall, my three-week visit to London was a success. The school provided great deals on all the plays in town and I got to experience life in a big city. London is a great place to study with a multitude of choices that makes it impossible to get bored. There are great people, plenty of shopping, tasty cafés, and an exciting nightlife. A three-hour class each day seemed like a small price to pay for such a memorable experience.

Glass stands next to Big Ben in London, England, where she studied abroad this summer.

Washington, D.C., London offers a full-time program for internships

For the first time ever, The Washington Center will offer a full-time internship program that combines with a study abroad opportunity in London, England.

The internship will begin with eight days of seminars in Washington, D.C., and then, students will spend eight weeks in their internship placements in London, combining programming with academic study.

The Washington Center hopes that students will achieve a "comparative understanding of professional, cultural, and political life in the two countries."

Participation will be limited. Students must apply by February 2, 2007, for the summer term.

Students are eligible to apply for special Honors scholarships.

For further information and to download the program application, visit <http://www.twc.edu/students/london.shtml>.

For additional information, students are encouraged to write to The Washington Center at dclon-don@twc.edu.



Photos courtesy of Michelle Baker and Jess Krout



Left: Honors junior Ryan Blackman mimics a founding father statue at the Constitution Center in Philadelphia.

Above: Honors junior Ashley Cayless, senior Mark Lehman, and juniors Michelle Baker and Ryan Blackman get some grub at the Reading Terminal Market, conveniently located near the conference hotel.

NCHC (cont'd)

The conference had a lot more to offer as other schools presented ideas and successes from their honors programs.

We all got some great ideas for honors curriculum, freshman orientation, and Honors Student Organization (HSO) activities. Some of my favorite workshops dealt with fundraising and activities. Still reveling from the great success of Kiss-a-Pig and Date-a-palooza, I got some great ideas on how to improve our fundraisers for next year.

And more importantly, some workshops had fabulous activities we can use for HSO with our new funds including chocolate tasting, movie nights, and bus trips.

Not only that, but one school also had an event similar to our Geek Week, so I got some great ideas on how to improve ours for next year.

And what would a trip be to Philadelphia without some sightseeing? The conference hosted City-as-Text where a dozen different historical and cultural sites were available for conference students.

On Friday night, the Constitution Center was opened specifically for the conference. Some of us even got our picture with Ben Franklin (okay not the real one, someone dressed as Ben Franklin, but it's still cool, no?).

Possibly the best part of the trip was the food. The Reading Terminal Market was across the street from the conference hotel. The Market is a large indoor marketplace with every type of fresh, raw, or ready to eat food imaginable. Jess Krout even wrapped her mouth around a famous Philly cheese steak.

The NCHC conference is always a great opportunity to meet new people, share noble ideas and hard work, and have a lot of fun. This year was no exception.

Next year's conference is in Denver, Colorado. The Honors Program is already looking ahead to presentations and workshops to present. Interested? Talk to Dr. Klein, because the conference is a great opportunity, and the Honors Program is always proud to show off student accomplishments.

How to: prepare a presentation for a national conference

By Mark Lehman, Honors senior

This year at the National Collegiate Honors Council I had the opportunity to present a paper entitled "The Evolution of the Roman Legion Through the Second Century C.E." It examined the military, economic, social, political, and geographic causalities that forced Rome to focus on an infantry dominant military. Due to time restraints, the presented material was a portion of a larger project on the evolution of the Roman legion through the 5th Century C.E.

This was conducted through a research grant offered by the undergraduate research program here at Shippensburg. The research grant enabled me to produce an original research project that contained significant research in the field of history, warranting a presentation in front of a national audience.

From the application, it was clear that this conference was interested in an interdisciplinary approach to research by college students. In picking which portion to present, I had to examine which aspects appeal to a wide audience. Once done, an abstract was created and submitted along with an online form to the National Collegiate Honors Council. From there, exemplary research work was selected and assigned to panels.

Preparation took the form of extensively

reviewing notes and identifying key aspects of the research to highlight during the presentation. The actual presentation was a detailed outline of my research findings, followed by another presentation by a student



from the University of Wyoming, who was a biology major. I am used to conferences confined to history majors, so it was different hearing another field's perspective applied to history.

The challenging aspect of any conference comes from the questions fielded by the audience, and this conference was no exception. Classical historians were present, who pressed me to justify my findings beyond the scope of what was presented. What was pleasant about this experience was that the questioners were quite congenial and supplied me with additional information and sources I was unaware of. It was an overall great experience, and it is quite satisfying to be able to present research to a large audience and have it well received.



Geek Week 2006

By Beth Kusko, Honors junior

During the week of November 6-10, the HSO hosted the first official Geek Week, Clash of the Classes, and Kiss-a-Pig fundraiser. What a huge success! Honors kids warped back through time to the high school days of spirit weeks — showing off their “Honorz Stoodent” t-shirts, dressing up, flashing back through the decades, palling around with a twin, and finally sporting true Ship pride.

Friday afternoon proved to be a battle of epic proportions as each class fought for bragging rights at Clash of the Classes.

As the freshmen and sophomores put up a great fight of relay races, tug-of-war, egg tossing, and pie-eating, it was the upperclassmen that came out on top and can boast of victory.

Also, all week money for the kiss

-a-pig fundraiser was being collected at the Anthony F. Ceddia Union Building, which resulted in an astounding \$215.

Lucky Dr. Doug Ensley of the mathematics department was our winner, as he rather willingly puckered up during halftime of the last home football game and kissed the lovely pig named Sandy Wilson.

On the note of fundraisers, Date-a-Palooza, held November 15, was an elegant and most classy event. As 10 honors students and 10 campus “celebrities” were auctioned off for dates, almost \$800 dollars was raised for not only the HSO, but for a local charity, “Coats for Kids,” as well.

Wow, the last couple of weeks were amazingly exciting and massive amounts of fun. Thanks to everyone for participating and making the HSO a bold mark on the map!

Mathematics professor Dr. Doug Ensley puckers up to kiss the pig, named Sandy Wilson, at the Nov. 11 football game.

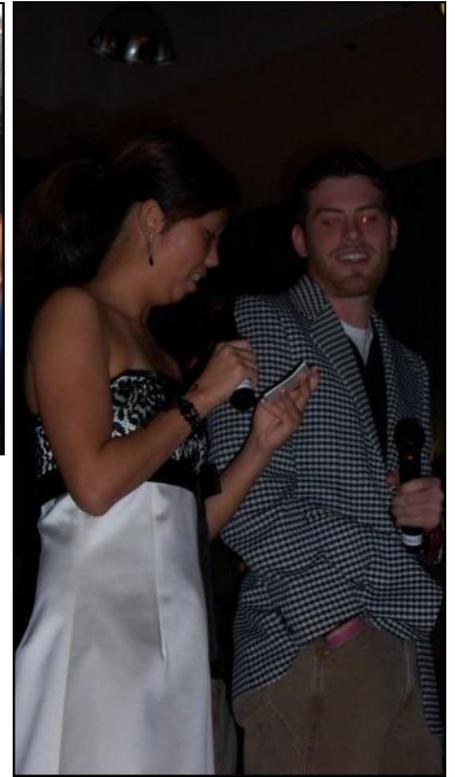
Photo courtesy of Michelle Baker



Photos courtesy of Beth Kusko and Michelle Baker

Above: The sophomores try to gain some ground during the pie-eating contest at Clash of the Classes.

Right: Honors junior Beth Kusko interviews auctionee Honors senior Nick Anspach at Date-a-Palooza.



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THE HONORS CHRONICLE

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The Spring General Meeting

is Tuesday, January
23 at 3:30 p.m. All
Honors students are
required to attend!

THE HONORABLE MENTION

Thanks to everyone who put forth their talents and helped to organize Geek Week, Kiss-a-Pig, and Date-a-Palooza. In particular, thanks **Michelle Baker**, **Beth Kusko**, and **Nikki Thierwechter**, for organizing the events.

Kara Bushman, **Brittney Miller**, and **Megan Veazey** represented the Honors Program at the University Open House on October 28. **Ashley Cayless** and **Breann Kunkle** represented the program at the Open House held on December 2.

Danielle Geller and **Beth Rauch** led the most recent Honors Read book discussions on *The Dew Breaker* and *Of Mice and Men*.

Congratulations to our December graduates: **Corey Lehman**, **Katie Mayo**, **Heather Palmer**, and **Denise Yarwood**.