



The Newsletter of the Shippensburg University Honors Program
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Honors Heads to Harrisburg

By Lisa Watson, Honors Freshman

On Monday, April 11, 2016, ten of our students traveled to the Dixon University Center in Harrisburg, PA to host the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education 5th Annual Honors Student Conference. Students from eleven state universities presented on topics discussing how Honors is represented on each of their campuses. The day began with a welcome from our conference coordinators, Elizabeth Karper and Megan Lawrence, followed by a fun icebreaker. As we transitioned into our first two panel sessions, students from each university were able to interact with other students to learn more about what kinds of academic and social events each student was involved in.



Honors students pose for a picture outside the conference center
 Front Row (from left to right): Paula Bauder, Yelena Gulkewicz, Elizabeth Karper, Dr. Kim Klein, Megan Lawrence, Rachel Smith, John Watts
 Back Row (from left to right): Codey Fickes, McKenzie Horn, Jordan Back, Lisa Watson

The first panel sessions discussed Honors on Campus, International Honors Service Projects, National Honors Opportunities, and Honors in the Community. Our very own Elizabeth Karper, McKenzie Horn, and John Watts presented in two of these discussions, sharing information about Reach Out and the various ways that Shippensburg Honors students get involved with national Honors opportunities. The second panel sessions were on Honors Alumni Relations, Promoting Your Honors Program, Honors Mentor Programs, and Honors Study Abroad. Megan Lawrence presented in the Honors Alumni Relations session.

After these insightful looks at how different campuses in our PASSHE system approach each of these topics, we transitioned into a poster session, where each university shared information about the activities and events that their Honors Student Organizations host each year. This was a relaxed and informal time for everyone to mingle and interact.

Our keynote speaker, Dr. Barbara Lyman, Shippensburg's Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, spoke to us about the importance of the Honors leadership on campus after lunch. She emphasized how vital the Honors students are to promoting the academic community and helping it to grow. Her speech was very inspiring, and we know that her encouraging words will create a rippling effect to the other Honors students at all the PASSHE schools.

Our third and final panel sessions were then held, granting Codey Fickes the opportunity to speak on Student Involvement in Developing Honors Curricula. Other panelists spoke on Presenting PASSHE as a Unit, Fundraising for Honors, and Making the Transition from Classroom to Career.

This conference brought students together from across the state and permitted them the opportunity to share, ask questions, and learn about how each of the PASSHE schools present Honors in their own unique ways. After closing remarks, everyone gathered outside for group photos, ending the day with a few laughs and smiles.

SU Honors student Rachel Smith (right) with students from Cheyney University.



I would like to congratulate and thank all of the people who participated in the year-long planning process, and the students who gave presentations and worked tirelessly throughout the day to make the conference a huge success. These people are our director and secretary, Dr. Kim Klein and Ms. Cindy Poe; conference coordinators, Elizabeth Karper and Megan Lawrence; and our students, Jordan Back, Paula Bauder, Codey Fickes, Yelena Gulkewicz, McKenzie Horn, Rachel Smith, Lisa Watson, and John Watts.

A Stay in South Korea

By Amber Leisher, Honors Senior



Amber tries on traditional Korean clothing called Hanbok with friends in Seoul, South Korea.

I am thankful to have the opportunity to go abroad my last semester of university to South Korea. I participated in a traditional study abroad program in the Netherlands in 2014, but I have found this study abroad experience to be rewarding in a different way. At Soonchunhyang University, we participate in a language exchange program where we help Korean students improve their English in exchange for free housing, a weekly stipend, and partial airfare reimbursement. I am happy to be immersed in a culture so different from that of America. I enjoy eating Korean food and learning about Korean traditions and way of life. I have traveled to many cities in Korea and have made friends with people from all around the world. I encourage anyone who is interested in studying abroad to look into this program.

Hungary for Chess

By Nicholas McGarrell, Honors Senior

In January, I had the opportunity to travel to Budapest, Hungary with four other members of the Shippensburg University Chess Club and faculty member, Dr. Dave Kennedy, to participate in the Perenyi Memorial Open chess tournament. The tournament lasted ten days, including one rest day in the middle. We took advantage of our day off to travel by train to Vienna, Austria, where we spent one night. This trip was an incredible experience as we had the opportunity to embrace the local culture of an area of the world that none of us had traveled to before while representing the university in a unique and unprecedented way, as this was the first international chess event that the Shippensburg University Chess Club has participated in. As we only had one game a day, we were free to sample the local cuisine, travel to several historic sites, and even experience the local nightlife. In all, this trip was one of my most fond memories of my time as a student at Ship, and it provided an exciting and enlightening way to broaden my cultural horizons.



Nicholas McGarrell (far left) enjoys a dinner in Vienna with his fellow teammates and faculty advisor.



Honors students enjoy a Thai dinner before hearing Hannah Strauch's discussion of Thailand.

Thai Food, PA Weather

By Jake Gillespie, Honors Sophomore

Hannah Strauch met with ten Honors students on April 5 to discuss her experiences with ROTC in Thailand. During Hannah's talk, the students enjoyed traditional Thai food from the White Elephant restaurant located in Carlisle. Hannah's discussion, held in the Honors Seminar Room, touched on a variety of issues, such as weather, etiquette, gender roles, and religion. Hannah's trip was funded by ROTC, who worked with a similar program in Thailand to recruit American students to help teach English to the Thai cadets. Along with teaching, Hannah took part in the basic physical training expected of the cadets in Thailand, despite the hot and humid conditions. Not only did these ten Honors students leave the talk with full stomachs, but also a unique cultural perspective on a very interesting country.

A Tour of Italy: The Honors Spring Banquet

By Emily Bach, Honors Sophomore

This year's annual spring banquet stress of finals and into the beautiful of a Tour of Italy. On April 26, Italian invited students into the banquet hard work they exhibited throughout delicious Italian-themed food, such and, of course, biscotti and cannoli to video played, allowing students to photographs on the screen captured seniors as their freshmen pictures in the video, bringing on a lot of laughter faculty honored freshmen and seniors and dedication to the Honors Program. Honors Capstone Project Award for original poetry and short stories. Tyler



The Tuscarora Room, decorated in an Italian theme.

received honorable mentions for their outstanding capstone projects. Freshman Tristan Phillips was also awarded the Outstanding Honors First-Year Research Award for his paper, "Primefree Shifted Lucas Sequences of the Second Kind." Honorable mentions were awarded to Olivia Turner and Kristin Naumann. Senior Sarah Latch was also recognized with the Spirit of Honors Award which honors the graduating senior who exemplifies the Honors Program's mission of scholarship, leadership, and service and who has made a lasting positive impact on the program through their academic achievements and leadership in and service to the Honors Program. Dr. Klein and Cindy Poe honored each graduating student with a medallion recognizing their completion of the Honors Program requirements, a description of their senior capstone project and their future plans, and a special coffee mug as a little gift for them to remember the program as they enter new chapters in their lives. As summer approaches and another year ends, *buona fortuna* to everyone!

transported students away from the country of Italy with this year's theme music and pictures of Italian landmarks where everyone was rewarded for the this past year. Students enjoyed as chicken parmesan, Caesar salad, finish. After dinner, the year in review reminisce about the past year as previous events. Nostalgia hit the the Honors Program were featured in and "ahs." Once the video finished, with awards recognizing their efforts John Watts won this year's Outstanding his project, "Trails," a collection of his Garrett and Madelyn Moyer-Keehn

Brain Food with Dr. Harrow

By Kailee Tressler, Honors Junior



On Thursday, March 17, a classroom in Shippen Hall was bustling with Honors students who had converged to munch on some pizza and listen to Dr. Sharon Harrow. Dr. Harrow, of the English Department, has taught at Shippensburg since 2000. She has a BA from the University of Michigan and a MA and PhD from the University

of Arizona. She has two books: *Adventures in Domesticity: Gender and Colonial Adulteration in Eighteenth-Century British Literature* and *British Sporting Literature and Culture in the Long Eighteenth Century*, with the second being just recently released. She teaches the

Honors classes, Intro to Literature and WIFYS, and is going to work on creating an Honors Interdisciplinary Seminar (possibly with a theatrical focus). I had never met Dr. Harrow before, but she seemed to have a good relationship with the Honors students, and was very positive and enthusiastic as she gave a presentation titled, "Intellectual Trajectories." Through this presentation she gave us a glimpse of her various interests and pursuits, both past and present. Some of these included boxing as well as African-American, Native-American, and Caribbean literature. She discussed how her interests have led to different experiences in her life, and also encouraged students to travel. Her final presentation slide said, "Follow your intellectual curiosities! My intellectual curiosities have taken me to Michigan, Arizona, Ithaca, New York, the boxing ring, Broadway, the Sorbonne, Paris, London, and Shippensburg... and who knows where else! Where will your curiosities take you?" Thank you, Dr. Harrow, for hosting Pizza with a Prof!



Honors students sit down with Dr. Harrow for pizza and a discussion.

Honors Symposium

By Mackenzie Brouse, Honors Sophomore

Every spring, Honors seniors have the opportunity to present their Honors capstone research at the Honors Symposium, the formal forum for the presentation of capstone projects. On Tuesday, April 19, twenty-six outstanding seniors presented their capstone projects in the Honors Seminar Room in Presidents Hall and Orndorff Theatre in the Ceddia Union Building. This year's senior projects included:

~ Alyssa Monaghan and Kelly Monaghan, "The Migration of Disease: Movement of Rickettsia Species into Pennsylvania Tick Populations"

~ Kyra Newmaster, "Quantitation of Autophagic Flux through Activation and Inhibition of Autophagy in Glioma Cells That Express GFP-p62 and DsRed-LC3"

~ Elias Shissler, "Investigating Brown Adipose Tissue or BAT"

~ Devon Newcomer, "The U.S. Army and the Development of Camouflage Uniforms in World War II"

~ Collin Brackin, "Developing Leadership and Excellence in a Near Peer Environment"

~ Madelyn Moyer-Keehn, "Komorebi: Creating an Undergraduate Online Literary Magazine"

~ John Watts, "Transmogrified: From the Desktop to Finished Artistic Product"

~ Nicholas Ecker, "Case Study of *Spring Awakening*"

~ Sarah Latch, "The Environmental and Economic Impacts of Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture in Delaware's Inland Bays"

~ Caitlin Lawlor, "Do Quotas Promote Gender Equality? A Case Study of Five Nations"

~ Kailee Tressler, "Blind Users and the Accessibility of Banking and Finance Websites and Apps"

~ Heather Hockenberry, "Quality Partner Support and PTSD Symptoms in Veterans"

~ Rikki Sargent, "Time Allocation and Sexual Behavior Differences between Collegiate Female Volleyball Athletes and Non-Athletes"

~ Hannah Strauch, "Coping Styles of Transitioning First-Year College Students"

~ Tyler Garrett, "Design, Development, and Implementation of Water Quality Sensors for Real-Time Data Collection and Observation of Global Climate Change"

~ Curtis Rabe, "Automatic Music Genre Classification through Machine Learning"

~ Otto Wallenmeyer, "Developing and Designing an Actigraph for Mosquito Activity Monitoring"

~ Megan Baer, "Implementing Game-Based Learning in the Middle School Level Classroom to Increase Student Engagement"



Honors senior, Haley Jones, makes her capstone presentation.



Capstone project award winners: (From left to right): John Watts (winner of the Outstanding Honors Capstone Project Award). Maddie Moyer-Keehn and Tyler Garrett (honorable mentions).

~ Caitlin Clark, "Student-Led Socratic Seminars: Crafting Conversation in the Classroom"

~ Victoria Walls, "Scientific Inquiry through the Five Senses: A Reach Out Manual for Educating Students in the Dominican Republic"

~ Sara Landis, "Teaching English as a Second Language: A Study of Best Practice and Culturally Appropriate Education in the Dominican Republic"

~ Brielle Arch, "Mathematically Modeling Disparities in Special Education School Funding"

~ Lara John, "Modeling Energy Exchange of the Whooping Crane and the Resources Available in Aransas National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR)"

~ Haley Jones, "Gauss and the Arithmetic-Geometric Mean: A Hidden Relationship to Pi"

~ Stefan Szilagyi, "Effects of Glucose and Bicarbonate as Recovery Methods for In-Season Competitive Swim Training"

Congratulations to all the graduating Honors Program seniors and thank you for your contributions throughout your undergraduate years!

Close Encounters of the Second Kind

By Tristan Phillips, Honors Freshman

This school year I had the opportunity to do mathematics research with my adviser, Dr. Lenny Jones. Over the fall we worked on the problem of showing that for any Lucas sequence of the Second Kind it is possible to come up with infinitely many values of k , such that the sequence plus or minus k has no primes in it. This is interesting since it has been conjectured that many of these sequences have an infinite number of primes in them.

After a lot of hard work, and just as the fall semester was coming to an end, we completed writing the paper, "Primefree Shifted Lucas Sequences of the Second Kind," and submitted it to the *Journal of Number Theory* for publication.

During the winter I had the wonderful experience of getting to present my research at the Joint Mathematics Meetings which were held in Seattle, WA. Having never been to a mathematics conference or to the west coast, it was quite exciting. Out there my presentation went well, and I was also able to watch many other interesting presentations (and explore Seattle).

This spring I had the chance to again present my research at the Minds@Work conference. It was fun seeing so many other undergrads present research that they were passionate about. Additionally this spring I received the report from the referee who has suggested some changes to our paper, but believes that the paper should be published after those revisions.

I would like to thank the Undergraduate Research Grant Program here at Shippensburg, as well as the general encouragement for undergraduates to do research, and of course my research advisor Dr. Jones.

Life Lessons at Volvo

By Elizabeth Karper, Honors Junior

I started interning at Volvo Construction Equipment (VCE) in Shippensburg in May 2015. Volvo Construction Equipment is one of the world's largest manufacturers of construction machines. I am a Plant Buyer Intern, which means that I work with the plant buyers who purchase the parts for the machines. I have been exposed to so many aspects of purchasing through my internship, and I am actually able to apply concepts I learn in class while at work.

I have worked on numerous projects, but some of the most important ones include: supporting the creation of a global and local vendor (supplier) codes in SAP to enable every Volvo CE buyer



Elizabeth prepares to drive the wheel loader.



Elizabeth presents her display at the Intern Expo at Volvo last summer.

worldwide to buy from

a new supplier; issuing detailed request for quotations comprised of estimated annual usages, drawings, project scope summary, and an invitation to open questions; improving a quote by 14% (\$52,000); and completing various reports by planning, prioritizing, and communicating with suppliers and buyers to ensure that delivery dates were met, parts drove correctly to suppliers, and suppliers were informed of their order's status.

One of my favorite parts of my internship was having the chance to participate in a product audit. Audits are performed on a percentage of machines to ensure that the machine is safe and ready for shipment. As part of the audit, I was able to test-drive a wheel loader, check torque specifications, and verify serial numbers. Driving the wheel loader was one of the scariest things I've ever done, but now it's one of my greatest accomplishments. I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to intern at Volvo CE, and I highly encourage anyone who is looking for great real-world work experience to apply for a Volvo internship.

A Humbling Trip

By Matthew Troxell, Honors Freshman



Honors freshmen Caroline Brough, Moriah Hathaway, and Jeremiah Steigleman climb the Lincoln Memorial with the Washington Monument in the background.

For many of my fellow students and me, the Holocaust has been a central topic in history classes from fifth grade through college. Most students have heard of the tragedy time and time again, the horrors of the Holocaust condensed down into statistics and facts to be covered in a week's time. Personally, I felt no connection to the Holocaust or the millions of people who experienced the terror firsthand, and I am certain that I was not alone in that feeling. However, I underwent a drastic change since the Honors Program trip to Washington D.C., where touring the Holocaust Museum was the major focus. As the tour began, I still had a feeling of detachment. That quickly changed after the guide handed each student an identification book. Inside the book was a name, a picture, and a story. Each student was following a different individual through their unique experience of the Holocaust. By reading my survivor's story and retracing his life throughout the museum, I was able to establish a connection that I had never expected. Reading the story of just one survivor made me yearn to read more stories and to put more focus into the different exhibits on display in the museum, and made me wonder about what stories people had that were never told, stories that we will never hear. The simple act of sharing one story made a world of difference and turned a class trip into a surreal experience. All the years of learning about the Holocaust came to the forefront of my thought, and I was able to finally connect on a deeper level. The statistics are now more than just numbers, they represent over 9 million different people, all with their own story. I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to attend such a trip and to be moved on such a deep level.

Senior Sports Recap

By Jacob Gillespie, Honors Sophomore



Rikki Sargemt swims the breaststroke.

Honors students have been involved in almost every club and activity the university has to offer, and athletics is no exception. While all of our Honors athletes have contributed to their respective teams in some way, two senior swimmers went above and beyond. Rikki Sargemt and Stefan Szilagyi helped to lead both the women's and men's swim team, respectively, to very successful seasons. Stefan holds



Stefan Szilagyi swims the backstroke.

the sixth fastest time in school history for the 200 butterfly, and third in school history in the 100 butterfly. Rikki set the school record in the 100, 200, and 400 individual medley, as well as the 100 and 200 breaststroke, and was part of the school record-setting 200 and 400 freestyle relay and 400 medley relay teams. Even though these two Honors athletes graduated in May, there is no doubt that they have left their mark on this university, both in and out of the pool.

Final Thoughts From The Editors

Dear reader,

Mackenzie and I have finally obtained our proverbial “sea-legs” and are navigating the treacherous waters of newsletter editing with relative ease. However, the time that both of us have dreaded has come. Our beloved captain, John Watts, is “jumping Ship” and paddling out to open water on his own. Captain, it was a pleasure serving as your First-Mate, and we’ll do our best to continue the high-quality work that you have made a standard here with the newsletters. As for you, the reader, we hope that you enjoy this edition of *.hnr*s, and are just as excited for the future as we are.

Jake Gillespie

It has been a roller coaster of a semester. I think it’s safe to say that Jake and I have had our share of ups and downs as I’m sure many of you have as well. We’ve experienced the breathlessness you feel right before the drop. But, we’ve all made it to the top! Our ride is now slowing down and coming to an end, however, and though Jake and I will be staying on the track for another turn, our good friend and mentor, John Watts, is departing. Thank you for going on this crazy ride with us, John! We’ll miss you! Congratulations to you and all the graduating seniors! Everyone, enjoy your summer and go find something that takes your breath away!

Mackenzie Brouse

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The cover photo of this edition of *.hnr*s was taken by Honors Program sophomore, Mackenzie Brouse.