

# The Honors Chronicle

Volume 21, Issue 1

<http://webspaceship.edu/honors/>

Summer 2007

## Calendar

### August

#### 25 - Freshmen Orientation Event: Corn Festival

2:00 p.m.

Meet in front of Ezra Lehman Memorial Library to walk downtown together.

#### 26 - Freshmen Orientation Picnic

Southampton Township Park, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Meet in front of the CUB along Cumberland Drive at 3:45 p.m.

#### 28 - Freshmen Orientation Session and Dinner: Honors Student Organization

CUB 226 B &amp; C, 5:30-6:15 p.m.

### September

#### 4 - Honors Fall Reception and General Meeting

Tuscarora Room, 3:30 p.m.

All Honors students must attend.

#### 11 - Freshmen Orientation Session and Dinner: Undergraduate Research Opportunities

CUB 226 B &amp; C, 5:30-6:15 p.m.

#### 13 - Career Development Work- shop: Resumes and Internships

3:30-4:45 p.m., Career Center, CUB

#### 25 - Freshmen Orientation Session and Dinner: Honors Curriculum and Scheduling

CUB 226 B &amp; C, 5:30-6:15 p.m.

### October

#### 1 - Deadline for Applying for Un- dergraduate Research Grants

#### 2 - Freshmen Orientation Session and Dinner: Study Abroad

CUB 226 B &amp; C, 5:30-6:15 p.m.

## Welcome, Class of 2011



The students who attended the Honors Orientation Luncheon on June 21 are pictured above. Front row (left to right): Neil Lennon, Kaitlin Klinger, Sabrina Dooley, Hope Cornell, Ubokmfum Umobong, Kara Slowick, Stephanie Troup, Sam Carrasco, Dr. Kim Klein. Middle row: Executive Vice President Dr. G.F. (Jody) Harpster, Margaret Merlie, Justine Wnuck, Angela Shultz, Emily Kremmel, Kristen Brooks, Serenity Macaluso, Kasey Cunningham, Lisa Brehm, Stephanie Metzler, Michele Muenker, Kate DiNolfi. Back row: Brent Hollendonner, Joey Sauthoff, Kevin McCrabb, Matt Dewese, Chris Torrens, Matt Corson, Lucas Kalathas, Jessica Solanick, Jason Unrath.

## Letter from the HSO President

Welcome to the Honors Student Organization (HSO). As an extension of the Honors Program, the HSO allows for the continuance of higher education outside the classroom through various outlets. The HSO fosters the commitment of the Honors Program to scholarship, leadership and service, and in ways which allow students to have fun and form lasting relationships.

All students within the Honors Program should feel welcome and encouraged to join the HSO and take advantage of the opportunities stemming from participation. While building up a resume to be proud of, students can be involved in volunteer works, recreational activities or various other activities. The HSO is designed for the benefit of all involved: the university, the Honors Program, the community, and above all, the students actively involved.

The HSO is constantly changing and seeking interested students to take ownership of the organization and further expand on the progress the

HSO has seen in the past. As a member of the SU Honors Program, or a prospective student, I encourage you to seek more information about the HSO and to find ways to get involved and take advantage of what the organization can do for you. If you have any questions about the HSO or Honors Program itself, feel free to e-mail me at [rb8770@ship.edu](mailto:rb8770@ship.edu) or to contact any of the other HSO officers or committee chairs.

I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Thank you,

*Ryan Blackman*  
HSO President  
2007-2008





## SideNotes

By Stacie Wight

### "Get a Card, Be a Judge"

One of my absolute favorite pastimes is reading. I do not have time to indulge in delightful novels during the school year, but pool-side in the summer time is the perfect opportunity for me to catch up.

My favorite authors are just that, my favorite, but I get bored reading their particular style over and over. That is why everyone this summer should get a card and be a judge.

Hit up the local library for a library card and judge a book by its cover, its font, its size, or its color. I never quite know what I will end up with when I leave.

I recently finished reading a book by a fabulous Indian author whose book cover was an appealing blend of orange, red, and yellow with a mango (*The Mango Season*, Amulya Malladi).

Jasper Fforde is also a recent favorite. He was a random discovery by a friend, who was doing the same exact thing I did at the library, judging books. Fforde has a series (*The Thursday Next Books*) that enthralls its readers to an extent that I cannot even begin to describe. Everyone should read a Jasper Fforde novel.

However, before you start taking my recommendations, get a card and be a judge for yourself. If you find a new captivating author, pass it along! Have a spectacular summer and try taking some time for yourself and a book.



## Mentors hook up with mentees

By Megan Veazey, Honors sophomore

Get ready freshmen, because the orientation committee has planned some great activities for you this year!

It all starts on August 25. Mentors and mentees will have the opportunity to walk into town and attend Shippensburg's annual corn festival. The festival is a great way to branch off and meet new people. You'll be surprised how many familiar faces you find in your classes on Monday!

Then, after the university activity fair ends on August 26, an organized car pool will chariot you away to a mentor/mentee picnic. Here, you will get to meet your mentor face-to-face.

A large component of the Honors orientation committee is the mentor/mentee program. Although those of you who attended the summer luncheon have already heard about the program, a little recap couldn't hurt. All fresh-

men who decide they want a mentor will be assigned either one or two upper class Honors students that can teach them about the program, answer any questions, and just be a friend.

A new addition to the orientation calendar this year will be four student-run freshmen sessions. The topics will be roommate/commuter problems, learning styles, stress management, and budgeting. These sessions will contain hands-on activities and a chance to get to know other students in the Honors Program. The sessions will be held in the fireside CUB lounges at 5 p.m. on September 18 and October 16, 23, and 30.

If you are a freshman and did not have the chance to request a mentor, it's not too late! Just e-mail Megan Veazey at mv7192@ship.edu or Emily Sattler es2393@ship.edu. We hope you are all as excited as we are for this year! So, enjoy the remainder of your summer, look to be contacted by your mentor sometime in August, and we'll see you on August 26 for the picnic!

## Fall Reception and General Meeting

All Honors students MUST attend.

**Tuesday, September 4, 2007**  
**Tuscarora Room, 3:30 p.m.**

### HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE

Horton Hall 104 (717) 477-1604

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.,  
Friday 8 - 11:45 a.m.

Web site: <http://webspace.ship.edu/honors>

**Director:** Dr. Kim Klein [kmklei@ship.edu](mailto:kmklei@ship.edu)  
**Secretary:** Mrs. Sharon Poe [sapoe@ship.edu](mailto:sapoe@ship.edu)  
**Graduate Assistant:** Ms. Melissa Bittner [mb7474@ship.edu](mailto:mb7474@ship.edu)

### HONORS STUDENT ORGANIZATION (HSO)

**Officers, 2007-2008**

**President:** Ryan Blackman [rb8770@ship.edu](mailto:rb8770@ship.edu)  
**Vice President:** Michelle Baker [mb2921@ship.edu](mailto:mb2921@ship.edu)  
**Secretary:** Amy Harmon [ah9172@ship.edu](mailto:ah9172@ship.edu)  
**Treasurer:** Andrew Evans [ae8988@ship.edu](mailto:ae8988@ship.edu)

### THE HONORABLE MENTION

At the Honors Program Spring Banquet on April 24, 2007, **Nicole Thierwechter** and **Jessica Krout** were recognized as the 2006-2007 recipients of the "Spirit of Honors" Award. **Dr. Christine Senecal** was presented with the 2006-2007 "Honors Professor of the Year" Award.

Kudos to **Nicole Thierwechter** and **Michelle Baker** who were selected to work on undergraduate research projects at Princeton University and Carnegie Mellon University, respectively, in summer 2007.

Congratulations to **Amanda Forest**, the recipient of the Honors Program study abroad scholarship for fall 2007. Amanda will be studying in Australia.

Congratulations to Honors senior **Elizabeth Kusko** who received a full scholarship to study abroad in South Korea in fall 2007.

## Undergraduate Research, Study Abroad, and Internship Opportunities

# Living in LONDON

By Beth Rauch, Honors junior

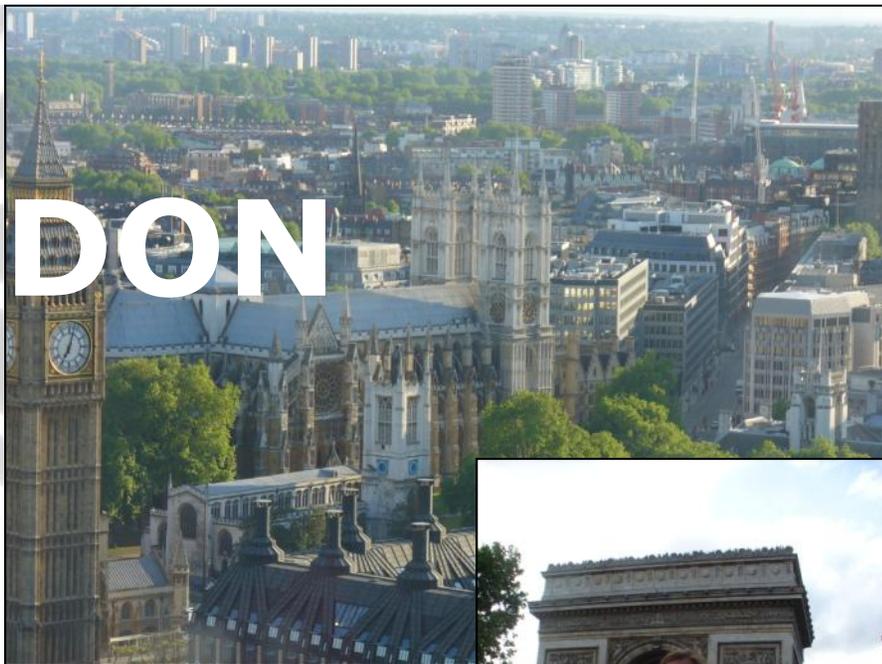
**W**e were a few months into our study abroad experience and another American student said to me, “You know, study abroad is like one big field trip. You learn a little, eat out a lot, spend more money than you want to, see neat places, and above all, make new friends.” That was probably the best way to sum it up.

In spring 2007, I chose to study at University of Westminster located in Central London. Student housing was available, and I was given a room at a dorm in Northern London. One thing very unique about Uni. Westminster was the way it was spread out all over the city and not located in one place like Shippensburg and many other American colleges. I found this to be better for my experience, because it forced me to get to know many parts of the city and not just one area very well.

I took four courses at Uni. Westminster: Art & Society, London Theatre in Performance, Civil War to Enlightenment Literature, and Introduction to Critical Approaches. The latter two of these courses had a literature focus. The former two were only offered to study abroad students, and I found them to be valuable lessons in culture. In Art & Society we learned about visual arts and architecture. We visited museums and auction previews, as well as walked the streets of London to observe the history of architecture in such an old city. We laid upon the floor of some of the most historical buildings in London to observe famous paintings on the ceilings. London Theatre in Performance was exactly what it sounds like. We went to plays and musicals all over London. We learned about different types of theatres and got to tour examples of them all throughout the city. We met actors, directors, and critics so we could ask them questions to learn about London Theatre. These classes met over a 12-week period, and we only had one or two grades for each class. This made the classes very difficult, because the professors expected us to put so much work into one assignment.

Academics were not the only thing in London that was different than in America. For the first time ever I was expected to feed myself all the time. There was no on-campus dining hall. Not only did I have to figure out what stores sold food but also I had to figure out what brands I liked to buy, how much was the appropriate amount to spend on groceries, and how long food would last in the refrigerator (which is different than in America because in Europe they do not use so much preservatives in their foods). This might have been one of the hardest things for me to learn; many of the other American students I was living with simply did not ever cook and only ever went out to eat, which was so expensive!

If I had to sum up my 5 months in London with one word I would say, expensive! First of all, the U.S. dollar currently has one of the worst exchange rates and to make it worse, the British Pound Sterling is a strong currency right now. All the



Photos courtesy of Beth Rauch

money I saved for my trip was cut in half when I arrived in England because of the exchange rate. Not only that but living in such a big city is more expensive than other areas. This was a great way to learn about managing money.

One of the biggest benefits of studying in London was having all of Europe on my doorstep. It was so easy to take a plane or train to anywhere I wanted to go. While I was living in London, I took trips to Rome, Paris, Wales, Scotland, and many locations in England. For me, travel was not my highest priority for my study abroad experience, so I did not spend as much time traveling as other students did, but I found my travel experiences to be so rewarding. I learned so much about human diversity and communication. I hope that I began to understand a little more about other cultures that I would not have learned if I had not visited other countries.

A two-week vacation to another country can be great fun, but nothing can match living in another culture to learn more about yourself and other people. I made friends that lived in London, and we bonded and learned so much from each other; but probably the most rewarding relationships I made in my time living in London were with students also studying in England from different countries. I made friends with students from Australia, India, Austria, Spain, Japan, China, Canada, and Italy. We bonded, because we were all away from home in a new place; we learned together, which formed relationships that many of us will never form again. A huge benefit of that is having a couch to crash on in so many different



**Above: Junior Beth Rauch takes a picture overlooking London.**

**Below: Beth traveled to Paris and is pictured here at the Arc de Triomphe.**

countries all over the world!

As a young adult, study abroad is an unmatched experience. Never again will we have the opportunity of doing something so rewarding and yet so hard. It is a great way to learn about yourself and to appreciate your home. I have been home for a month and a half now. Independence Day was meaningful for me, because, for the first time in my life, I felt like I had a better grasp on what it means to be an American. The adjustment of moving home has been even harder than the adjustment of leaving the United States. For one thing, I have a lot less freedom. Also, I feel like I've changed so much, but everything has stayed the same. I've lost a lot of friends but the friends I've gained are so far away. I am broke! But most importantly I've learned to be proud – proud of myself, proud of my family background, and above everything else, proud to be an American.

# Farewell, Class of 2007



Graduating seniors were recognized at the Honors Program Spring Banquet on April 24, 2007. Front row (left to right): **Honors Program Director Dr. Kim Klein, Lora Ruhl, Tracey Halstead, Natasha Alligood-Percoco, Cella Sum, Stephanie Lawton, Melissa Ford, Nicole Thierwechter, Ashley Beaver.** Back row: **Interim Provost Dr. Rick Ruth, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences Dr. James Mike, Katie Mayo, Derek Wolfe, Brandon Miller, Christopher Voss, Martin Rodriguez, James Dibble, Mark Lehman, Nicole Perugini, Sherilyn Malloy, University President Dr. William Ruud.**