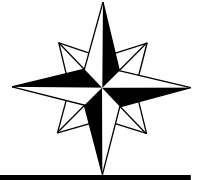


Honors Program Newsletter

Illinois State University



HONORS PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2007

Greetings,

As I near the end of my first year as the Director of the Honors Program I must say how much I have enjoyed all the experiences that go with the job, in particular the opportunity to interact with new communities of students, staff, and administrators.



This past year, as I read through student submissions of research proposals, in-course projects and papers, I was delighted and thrilled to note the high quality of work done by Illinois State's Honors students.

Earlier this semester I had the opportunity to travel with a group of Honors students to the Honors Council of Illinois Region Spring Conference (more about them in this newsletter) and I was very proud of their performance there. Not only were their research projects of the highest quality but their presentation skills were excellent enough to elicit praise from representatives of other schools. Listening to student research presentations is one of the more edifying aspects of this job for it educates and stimulates me intellectually.

I do enjoy getting to meet all of you at various events throughout the year and I look forward to deepening our relationship.

I would like to acknowledge here the terrific efforts of the entire Honors staff for their excellent work to make the Program the success that it is. It is their daily mentorship that allows Honors students to flourish in their careers here at ISU, and their vigilance, generosity, and hard work maintain the high quality of the Honors Program.

Cheers,

Kim Pereira, PhD,
Director, Honors Program
Professor of Theatre



Honors Students Present at Conference

Five Honors Program students made research presentations at the spring conference of the Honors Council of Illinois Region at North Central College in Naperville.

Chris Harvey, History, presented "Mightier than the Pen: An Explanation of Mamluk Furusiyya Literature."

Cori Johnson, Criminal Justice Sciences, presented "College Students' Perceptions of Female Police Officers."

Nathan Kidwell, Physics, presented "Theoretical calculations of multiple light scattering in turbid media."

Robert Kosic, Politics and Government, presented "The Role of Power in International Relations With Regard to State Compliance of ICJ Rulings, a Comparative Analysis: Qatar v. Bahrain and Nicaragua v. USA."

Ben Swiercz, History Education, presented "The Secular Constitution and the Religious Public: A Tense yet Welcome Relationship."



From Left to Right. (Sitting): Nathan Kidwell, Dr. Pereira, Ben Swiercz, Cori Johnson. (Standing): Chris Harvey, Robert Kosic.

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Mr. Clark Goes to Washington

Sophomore Honors student Tyler Clark has spent the last three months in our nation's capitol. Tyler is serving in an internship through The Washington Center, one of the premier internship organizations in Washington, D.C.

Tyler is currently interning with Winning Strategies Washington, a small, bi-partisan government relations firm located in D.C.'s historic Chinatown district. At Winning Strategies, Tyler is kept busy doing research for clients, attending congressional hearings, developing the company website, and performing an array of administrative and clerical duties. Tyler has learned a great deal about the lobbying process and the influence it has on our leaders in Congress (it's not as bad as the papers make it out to be!).

The Washington Center provides great opportunities to hear influential people speak. Tyler has seen Mike McCurry, former press secretary for President Clinton, Frank Fahrenkopf, Jr., former chairman of the Republican National Convention and current co-chairman of the Commission on Presidential Debates, and most recently former Secretary of State Madeline Albright.

Tyler has also had the opportunity to meet with various high-ranking members of Congress and their staffs. Tyler is also looking forward to tours of the Saudi Arabian Embassy and the Pentagon.



Tyler Clark, middle, at a peace rally.



On weekends, Tyler can be found in various places around the city. He has toured the Capitol Building (where he sat on the House floor!), the Library of Congress, the National Archives, the National Mall, the National Gallery of Art, and many more museums, galleries, and institutions in D.C. Tyler has also been found observing war protesters on the National Mall, observing the Right to Life march that was so large it surrounded the Capitol Building, or the March on the Pentagon which included many students from Illinois protesting the war in Iraq.

While Tyler loves the bustling metropolis that is Bloomington-Normal, Washington, D.C., has a lot to offer. Tyler has enjoyed dining out at some of the best restaurants in the area, including Clyde's at Gallery Place, Kramerbooks, and the Tastee Diner in Bethesda, MD. He also enjoys the vibrant night life that can be found in the historic neighborhoods of Adams-Morgan, DuPont Circle, and Georgetown.

Tyler is looking forward to returning to ISU in the fall and using the skills he has learned in D.C. to help campus. Tyler would like to encourage anyone who is interested in getting involved in politics to contact him to discuss a few initiatives he is planning in advance of the presidential campaigns.

You can reach Tyler by e-mail at tmclar2@ilstu.edu if you'd like to learn more about his experience.

Photos courtesy of Tyler Clark.



Honors Students in Washington, D.C.

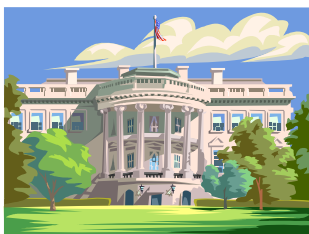
Three political science majors in the Honors Program have been accepted into The Washington Center summer internship program. They are each interested in different experiences, though they have not yet been placed at an internship site.

Amanda Conley, a junior, is going to the TWC-London program. While she has not yet received her placement with The Washington Center, in all likelihood, she will be working with a governmental agency or activist group. Her goals for that kind of internship are to strengthen her skills in public service by working with an agency/group helping "the little people" have their voice heard. She hopes to gain a lot of knowledge about the culture of Britain and the people there. She plans on fully immersing herself and taking in the whole experience to the best of her abilities.

Erin Clark, a sophomore Presidential Scholar, is seeking an internship which can help her get a better idea of what she wants to do in the future. Her goals are to do some sort of research on human rights and make important contacts through this opportunity in D.C.

Bradley Melzer, a junior, and attended a TWC Leaders on Leadership program in May 2006 and has been accepted into the NAFTA program, which will require him to take a class about NAFTA (North America Free Trade Agreement). His goals for the internship are to pursue his interest in International Affairs and Foreign Policy as well as his interest in business and world economics. His ultimate goal is to work either in Washington D.C. or go to law school, and he feels this is a once in a lifetime opportunity that will go a long way in allowing him to pursue his dreams and goals.

~Becky Mentzer



National Scholarship News

The Honors Program manages the application process for major scholarship competitions, which are open to all students on campus who meet the requirements. The following students were our campus nominees for various prestigious scholarships in 2006-2007 competitions:

Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

This award is for sophomores or juniors majoring in mathematics, science or technology who intend to pursue graduate study leading to a Ph.D. and career in teaching and research.

Honorable Mention

Patrice Baumhardt, Sophomore, Biological Sciences

James Barr, Junior, Applied Computer Science

Kristin Geary, Sophomore, Biochemistry/Molecular Biology

Nathan Kidwell, Sophomore, Physics

Harry S. Truman Scholarship

This award provides support for graduate school for students preparing for careers in public service.

Truman Finalist

Jason Wallace, Junior, Political Science

Amanda Conley, Junior, Political Science

Morris K. Udall Scholarship

This award is for sophomores or juniors who have a commitment to improving or preserving the environment.

Pahroul Dave, Junior, Environmental Health

Fulbright Student Scholarship

These awards offer full support for a year of graduate study or teaching in a foreign country.

* **Zohra Belghiti**, Graduate Student, Language & Literature Research Grant, Morocco *

Jessica Brinton, Graduating Senior, English Teaching Assistantship, Turkey

Michelle Hill, Graduating Senior, English Teaching Assistantship, Spain

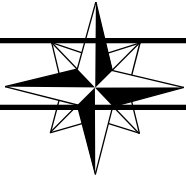
* **Margaret Iha**, Graduate Student, Creative Writing/Playwriting Research Grant, Romania *

* **Timothy Johnson**, Graduate Student, English Teaching Assistantship, Turkey *

* recommended to country's Fulbright Screening Committee; awaiting news of acceptance

Illinois State currently has two Fulbright Scholars: Rafiq Ahmed (ETA South Korea) & Lauren Fraser (ETA Germany).

For more information on National Scholarships, contact Becky Mentzer at rementz@ilstu.edu.



Honors Students in the News

Congratulations to the following students for their recent achievements.

Honors Program Travel Grants

Sarah Genta
Cori Johnson
Lisa Manus
Anne Perry
Katrina Porter
Jakob Sedig
Jason Wallace

Honors Program In-Course Honors Awards

Category 1: Paper, Essay, or Writing Project

Best Project

Amanda Donnan, FIL 241

Meritorious Project

Emily Hofmann, PAS 175

Honorable Mentions

Tara Barnes, FCS 347
Amanda Conley, POL 215
Michael Crisp, THE 170
Rachel Forbes, ENG 241
Nora Hayes, MAT 323
Julie Sestan, COM 355

Category 2: Other Projects

Best Project

Peter Lamonica, ITK 356

Meritorious Projects

Kristina Roderer, C&I 257
Allyson Wetzell, ENG 170

Honorable Mentions

Jillian Ganschow, FCS 226
Ruxandra Radulescu, ART 316
Karen Schmitt, C&I 210

Study Abroad essay contest winners

1st Place Amy O'Shaughnessy
2nd Place Mark Wirtz
3rd Place Christine Brown

Grabill-Homan Peace Prize

Jennifer Snyder

Redbird 5 Scholarship

Maggy Gleason

Laurine Reiske Scholarship

Ameilia Gould

Caterpillar Excellence Fund Scholarships

Audrey Karrick
Laura Meade
Tim Pantaleone
Matthew Weber
Elizabeth Heeren
Ashley Brewer
Ryan Cullen

Country Insurance and Financial Services Scholarship

TJ Turner

State Farm Scholars in Actuarial Science

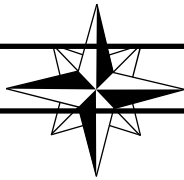
Jeremy Harlow
Thomas Lauren
Andrew Lewis
Christine Pflueger
David Prevo
Laura Sudholt
Rebecca Weinschenker

State Farm Scholarship for Academic Excellence in Actuarial Science

Mary Risius
Shawn O'Kelley

These students deserve a gold star!

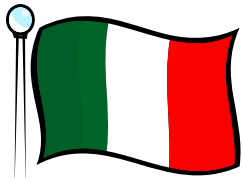




Where in the world are Honors students?

Florence, Italy

Kathryn Flack, Accounting
Laurel Halfar, Biological Sciences



England

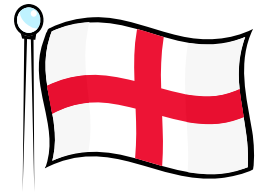
Canterbury

Kristina Gaddy, English
Sharon Rothblum,
Elementary Education



Leicester

Jennifer Keigher, English
Emily Wittrig, Political Science

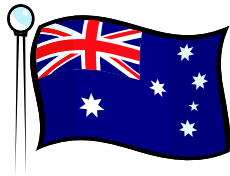


Edith Cowan, Australia

Danielle Duvik, English

Griffith, Australia

Katie Giberson, Computer Science
Brett Nerad, English



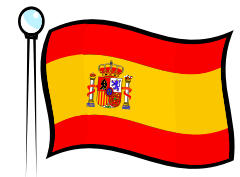
Granada, Spain

Laura Beckman,
Middle Level Education
Lindsay Dudal, Speech Pathology
Molly Gleason, Spanish Education



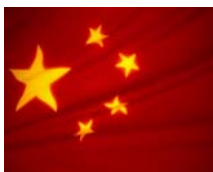
Madrid, Spain

Danika Kmetz, Public Relations



Hong Kong, China

Matthew Jacobs, Economics



Limerick, Ireland

Elizabeth Rainville, Speech Pathology

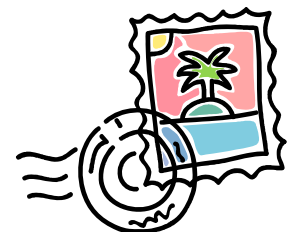


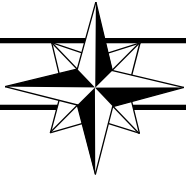
To learn about study abroad opportunities, visit the Office of International Studies and Programs, Fell 308.

<http://www.internationalstudies.ilstu.edu/>

Going abroad? Send the Honors Office a postcard. We'd love to hear about your adventures.

Campus Box 6100
Normal, IL 61790-6100





Honors Odds and Ends

Sophomore Honors Designation Events

West Side Story, Discussion with Cast and Director Thursday, April 12, 7:30 pm, CPA

- You must attend the show and stay after for the discussion.
- Honors students may purchase tickets at a discounted price of \$8. The CPA Box Office is open 12-5 pm, Mon-Fri.
- You may bring non-Honors friends.

Honors Research Mentorship Presentations

Wednesday, April 18th, 5-6 pm, Schroeder 242

Timothy Garvin, PHY
Nathan Kidwell, PHY
Lisa Manus, CHE
Jeremy Braithwaite, CJS
Valerie Yant, CHE

Thursday, April 19th, 4-5 pm, Schroeder 207

Bruce Colter, SWK
James Kristoff, PHY
Alison O'Connell, PHY
Robin VanHerrmann, PSY
Lauren Vickroy, MUS

Honors Staff

Director

Dr. Kim Pereira

Associate Director

Sara Schickel

Assistant Director

Becky Mentzer

Coordinator of Student Programs

Christie Proctor

Public Service Coordinator

Anita Chiodo

Graduate Assistant

Becky Hoerr

Secretaries

Julie Brooks Diana Woodring

The Honors Program has SALT

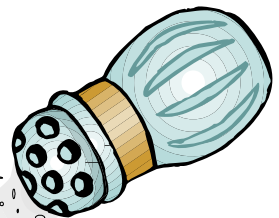
We are pleased to announce the members of the first Honors SALT Team. The Honors Program Student Assistants Leadership Team is a new leadership program for selected Honors students.

SALT team members will develop leadership skills while promoting the Honors Program and building a sense of community among Honors students through creating and implementing innovative programs, as well as preserving Honors Program traditions.

SALT team members will represent the program and promote the opportunities of Honors to prospective students. This leadership team will also oversee Honors special events, such as Welcome Week, Viva Variety, the formal, and other activities.

The following students were selected to be members of the inaugural SALT team:

Kristen Avara
Meghan Betzel
Ben Burke
Jenna Grider
Doug Johnson
Danika Kmetz
Megan Miller
Lauren Woodard



The SALT team will be looking for other Honors students to help implement activities throughout the school year.

Relay for Life
April 13-14 on the Quad