

Issue 3:
Spring 2011



Moving On to Graduate School

This year's grads have bright futures ahead of them, despite the tight economy. Quite a few have already found professional employment in the region, while others have been admitted to graduate programs, both locally and around the country. Some of the students headed to grad school include:

Lindsay Watson – Wake Forest (Law)

Monica Marti – CSU (Physician's Assistant Program)

Shannon Wood – Kent State (Information Science)

Brittany Bate – CSU (Sociology)

Ross Verheul – Purdue (Life Sciences)

Jeff Swiers – CSU (Health Sciences)

Adina Feigenbaum – Kent State (Graphic Design)

Greg Ballinger – Pacific Northwest Film Scoring Program

Dan Barnes – Kent State (Speech Language Pathology)

Leila Muhieddine – NEOUCOM

Valentinas Gruzdis – CSU (Chemistry)

Yujia Feng -- Syracuse (MBA)

Kevin Wilmott – Moody Theological Institute (Theology)

Ricky Singh – CSU (Computer Engineering)



Steve Logan – USC (Music Performance/Percussion)

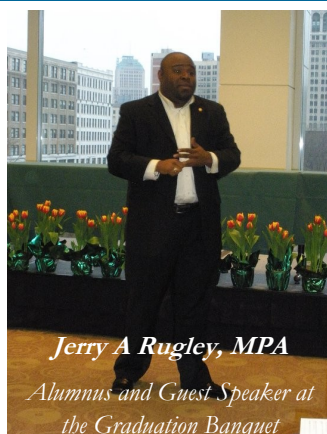
Donald O'Malley – CSU (Economics)

Graduation

Spring semester 2011 was a busy and successful one for the University Honors and Scholars Programs. 40 Honors students graduated in May, which, when added to the 11 who

graduated in Fall and 5 more scheduled to graduate at the end of Summer 2011, makes this the largest class in the history of the program. Another 9 students graduated with Uni-

versity Scholars distinction, as that program begins to mature and the first cohorts begin to complete their program.



Jerry A Rugley, MPA

Alumnus and Guest Speaker at the Graduation Banquet

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Check it out!

- Winners announced for the T-shirt contest
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- Who stood out this year?
- What's coming for Fall 2011?
- Tell us your ideas!

Recruitment

Despite tight state budgets, we were able to admit a strong, but somewhat smaller, group of new Honors students. 40 new freshmen will enter CSU's Honors Program next year. This promises to be our strongest group yet, with 6 students who graduated either first or second in their high school class and an average ACT composite score of over 30. 15 new juniors also will join the program. This group includes three students who come from our new partner-

ship with Honors Programs at CCC and LCCC. Admissions to University Scholars are on-

"40 new freshmen will enter CSU's Honors Program next year."

going; about 40 students have already accepted invitations to join the program and more will come in as the summer orien-

tation program continues. Overall, applications to Honors were up, with 161 freshman applicants and over 90 junior applicants, as the program's ability to attract strong students to CSU is growing. The admissions committee now has the "good" problem of having to be selective in deciding which students to invite to join the program.



*Decorating the windows in January.
Olivia Smosarski,
Yoey Feigenbaum, Thomas French*



Right to Left

Natasha Evans, Mike Washington, Shane Poloha, Daniel Pistilli, Steve Thomas, and Anam Khan

STEM Poster Contest

A number of students from Honors and Scholars participated in the Choose Ohio First STEM poster presentation, held this year in Akron. CSU students were among the 89 competitors from 6 different Ohio institutions; students rated each other's posters and were not allowed to vote for students from their

own school. The results were outstanding for the CSU group, which won first (Na'Tasha Evans), second (Anam Khan), fifth (Mike Washington), and eighth (Dan Pistilli, Steve Thomas, Shane Poloha and Brendan Skrtic).



End of spring semester Potluck

Outside the Classroom

Honors and Scholars students once again were active, visible members of the CSU community. Several were actively involved in leadership roles in student publications such as the Cauldron and the Cleveland Stater; others work as tutors in TASC and/or as SI and SLA leaders in various departments. Volunteer work was also widespread, as members of the program were active participants in Viking Ex-

peditions, the high school Model UN program, and a range of other volunteer activities around the greater Cleveland area. 20 or more Honors and Scholars students were members of varsity athletic teams at CSU this year. Honors and Scholars students also contributed to CSU's efforts to build support from the Cleveland community. Brittany Elmlinger (Health Sciences), Kelly Zaleski (Nursing) and

Jayson Gerbec (Business Economics) all spoke to the large group of high school counselors who visited CSU in the Spring. And, Melanie McDowell (Spanish and Nursing) was the featured student speaker at the first annual Radiance event held in May.

"Honors and Scholars students once again were active, visible members of the CSU community."

Awards and Recognitions

A number of students in the Honors and Scholars Programs achieved unusual distinction this year. **Dan Barnes**, a major in Speech Pathology, was honored as the valedictorian for the College of Science and Health Professions. **Chris Ebert**, a student in the Levin College, won the Campbell-Steinbacher Fellowship, which will involve her in applied research in urban studies for the coming academic year.

Emiliya Akhumian is the 2011 recipient of the Jennie S. Hwang award for outstanding women college students in STEM. **Brittany Bate**, majoring in Psychology and Sociology-Criminology, and a member of the CSU Softball team, received the President's Award for the senior student-athlete with the highest cumulative GPA (3.93!!). **Lolly Feigenbaum** won second prize in the Learning Communities

essay competition at the end of Fall semester. **Justine Keenan** (freshman Linguistics major) had her essay "The Audacity of Help: Who Needs Whom Exactly" published in *The Indicator*. **Kara Walsh**, a member of the University Scholars Program, won first prize in the statewide French essay competition. Congratulations to you all for your outstanding contributions.

Alumni

Over the summer, the Honors Program staff will be meeting with a group of alumni and current students to organize an Honors alumni association. We hope that that new group will be active in the coming year, organizing events to bring together current and former students and to involve alumni in the CSU community.

T-shirt Contest

Thank-you to everyone who submitted a design for the t-shirt contest held in April. We had some amazing designs and some humorous tag lines submitted. After intense discussion amongst the



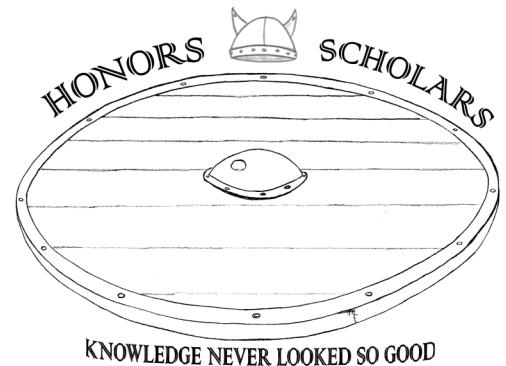
Front Design

committee three winners were selected. Congratulations to Mathieu Fortin (1st place), Lolly Feigenbaum (2nd place), and Chris Grzelewski (3rd place).

The design was created by Mathieu and the tag line came from Lolly. Chris's design in-

corporated a great slogan with an interesting design. It has been determined that his design will become the department's new logo.

The final design for the t-shirt is being sent to the printers this month. The shirts will be printed in black on a light green t-shirt. You will be able



Back Design

to purchase one to show your pride and affiliation sometime in August 2011.

Research Partnerships

Three students from the Honors and Scholars programs participated in a research partnership with the Cleveland Clinic in Spring 2011. Ross Verheul, Scotty Fulton, and Justin Jones were accepted into the program, through which

they joined ongoing research projects at the Lerner Institute, gaining valuable research experience while still undergraduates. We expect to have several more students take part in this program in Spring 2012.

New Courses

We are looking forward to another successful year in 2011-12. We have several new courses scheduled for the coming academic year. Professor Sonya Charles (Philosophy) is developing a new course, with the help of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, on Utopias, Dystopias and Human Nature – the

first offering will be in Fall, with a second scheduled for the following academic year. Professor Laura Wertheimer (History) will offer a course on the ancient world based on the reacting to the past curriculum (which involves re-enacting historical events in class) in Spring 12.

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www.csuohio.edu/honors



We are always looking for new ideas for the Honors and Scholars Programs and for new ways we can get involved in the many things going on around CSU. We are also looking for faculty and staff who are interested in getting involved in the program in a variety of ways. So, we welcome any ideas and suggestions you may have. Feel free to stop by our office (MC 412) – check out the view and the student lounge while you're here!