



The Honor Roll



Honors Program E-News

Issue 2: Fall 2010

The Honors and University Scholars Programs Welcomed 184 new students

The Honors student newsletter, "Four Point," received third prize in the national student newsletter competition organized by National Collegiate Honors Council !



The Honors and University Scholars Programs have had a busy and successful semester this Fall.

We welcomed a new group of 48 freshman and 24 upper-division Honors students as well as a new group of 112 Scholars. Those students have been taking classes all semester, both within the Honors Program and around the university.

They have also made the Honors Program lounge a lively and busy place where students do homework, meet to discuss classes, work on projects or just hang out.



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12 Honors students are scheduled to graduate this Fall & we are anticipating another 47 graduates this Spring!

Graduating students have completed majors in everything from engineering to music and have completed an impressive variety of senior projects, including senior recitals on French horn and on percussion, an environmental engineering project on the 'sustainability of water treatment plants in developing countries,' a business school project on the performance of Chinese mutual funds, a Biology project on "autonomous cardiac control of subjects with epilepsy," and even a marketing study of CSU students' perceptions of "engaged learning!"



Curricular Development



Fall Semester has also been a busy year for curricular development in Honors. In addition to again offering two Scholars Learning Communities, the Honors program developed several new courses for Fall and Spring. Professor David Adams developed and offered a new course on the History of the American West this Fall. In Spring, we will be hosting Dr. Nirmal Selvamony, a CLASS visiting Professor from India, who will offer a course on Indian Ecocriticism to Honors and Scholars students. This past summer, Honors supported several faculty members' attendance at workshops on the "reacting to the past" curriculum (which involves students in historical simulations in the classroom). This curriculum was incorporated in an Honors section of Eng 102 this Fall, and will also be offered as a free-standing "universal honors experience course" in Spring.



Undergraduate Research Program

More than 20 honors students (as well as several Scholars students) participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research program and presented poster sessions this Fall. Three upper-division Biology majors have applied for prestigious undergraduate research experiences at the Cleveland Clinic; we are hopeful that all three will be successful and will spend Spring 2011 semester participating in ongoing research at the Lerner Institute. A number of students also presented papers at professional conferences and/or published papers in professional journals. Particularly impressive is Amanda Smith's publication of a sole-authored essay entitled "Defining Welles' Macbeth: Hollywood Horror and the Hybrid Mode" in the prestigious journal *Literature/Film Quarterly*, an achievement of which most faculty members would be proud. Amanda graduated from Honors in Spring 2010 – we congratulate her and the other student-scholars emerging from the program.

Recruitment Efforts

This is the time of year when the Honors office becomes a busy center for student recruitment.



A few weeks ago, we had an open house in connection with Fall Visit Day – we had an overflow

crowd of interested students and parents and we are expecting a strong group of freshman applicants this year. Honors program staff have been visiting schools and college fairs in the area and are encountering increased interest in CSU – the word appears to be getting out about CSU in general and the Honors Program in particular. We also are working on encouraging upper-division applications, both within CSU and

from our partner schools in the region. We held a well-attended workshop for upper-division applicants in November (and plan another one for late January). The Honors Program also completed agreements with the Honors Programs at CCC and LCCC which reserves a few spaces in the program for students who complete the Honors curriculum at those colleges.

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Announcements



Junior Alex Brinkman (majoring in Psychology and English) received one of 35 Trow Scholarships from Alpha Lambda Delta, a national honors society. She received the award in recognition of her academic achievement, her community service and her involvement in the Alpha Lambda Delta society.

One of our staff advisors, Lauren Davis, also was recognized by Alpha Lambda Delta: she was recognized as one of the organization's Outstanding Advisors for the year 2009-10.

The Honors Program office welcomed two new staff members in the past few months. Jami Derry, who many people will know from her work in the International Office, joined our staff as Administrative Coordinator. And, Colleen Prendergast, who is new to CSU, has taken over as our Program Secretary. We're excited by the new ideas and the new energy they've brought to the office. Stop by the fourth floor of Main Classroom or phone us at x5559 if you have any Honors or Scholars-related questions. Jami and Colleen will do their best to answer them for you!

Outside the Classroom

Honors students have been very active outside the classroom, both at CSU and in the community. Almost 50 participated in Honors-sponsored volunteer work this Fall and another 100 will be doing so in Spring. Honors students are active in SGA, in campus newspapers and other publications, and in the Residence Halls. Several also serve as SI or SLA instructors and/or work as tutors in the various tutoring offices around campus.

