HonorsLINK, Issue 2012.1

University of Dayton. Honors Program

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Honors Alumnus
Robert Saum in Afghanistan
viewing an Afghan version of polo
The University Honors Program is pleased to announce a new opportunity for rising seniors interested in writing a thesis. The Berry family and all academic units, will be pleased to announce a new opportunity for rising juniors interested in writing a thesis.

The goals of this program are to attract the rising juniors interested in writing a thesis. In the coming year you will have multiple opportunities to see this for yourself. As I reflect on the past year, a lot has happened. Vocational, or “calling” has taken on greater importance for our program as we have formally welcomed the Champlain Scholars into our fold. As always, our students’ work continues to amaze, inspire, and fill me with thankfulness for the daily opportunities our office has to walk the path of Blessed Father Chaminade, facilitating our students’ discernment of who they are becoming — what they are called to be. In the coming year you will have multiple opportunities to see this for yourself. On January 20 you can enjoy our students’ artistic talents with the opening of the annual Honors Art Exhibition. Or, if you’d like, come see what mysteries of God’s creation our students have explored at the Honors Students Symposium 2012 held in the morning, followed by a family lunch and presentation delivered by Dr. David W. Darrow, our Director for the University Honors Program.

The UHP-family is constantly expanding, and with the addition of 327 new Honors students, this year is no exception. We kicked off the new school year by hosting our annual Honors Students Welcome — our first-years had the privilege of moving into their dorms a day before their fellow classmates, getting a head start on touring the campus, interacting with each other, and learning more about the Honors Program. Move-in was executed in the morning, followed by a family lunch and presentation delivered by Dr. David W. Darrow, our Director for the University Honors Program.

The University of Dayton’s Catholic Intellectual Tradition is called to be. In the coming year you will have multiple opportunities to see this for yourself. As I reflect on the past year, a lot has happened. Vocational, or “calling” has taken on greater importance for our program as we have formally welcomed the Champlain Scholars into our fold. As always, our students’ work continues to amaze, inspire, and fill me with thankfulness for the daily opportunities our office has to walk the path of Blessed Father Chaminade, facilitating our students’ discernment of who they are becoming — what they are called to be. In the coming year you will have multiple opportunities to see this for yourself. On January 20 you can enjoy our students’ artistic talents with the opening of the annual Honors Art Exhibition. Or, if you’d like, come see what mysteries of God’s creation our students have explored at the Honors Students Symposium 2012 held in the morning, followed by a family lunch and presentation delivered by Dr. David W. Darrow, our Director for the University Honors Program.

The University Honors Program places a strong emphasis on the search for truth, which forms the heart of the University’s Catholic Intellectual Tradition. A particular goal is to call upon students to critically examine the pertinent relationship between these values and everyday issues in their pursuit of knowledge.

The newly integrated, Honors-designated Learning-Living Community (LLC) is one element of the Honors Program that brings together scholars in a small community especially suited for this common purpose. In the Call to Question LLC (C2Q), students expand upon the areas of history, philosophy, and religious studies, exploring the different ways in which significant human values have emerged and progressed throughout time. During the fall semester some of the courses shared among students included HST 103 (West and the World), PHL 103 (Introduction to Philosophy) and REL 103 (Introduction to Religion: Catholic Option), all of which not only fulfilled general education graduation requirements but also carried Honors credits applicable to the Honors Program diploma requirements. Located in Stuart Complex and open to incoming Honors students of all majors, the learning-living community is coordinated by Dr. Darrow, and its faculty consists of Dr. Michael Carter (History), Dr. Alexis McCloud (Philosophy) and Dr. Dennis Doyle (Religious Studies).

Within the C2Q Honors LLC there is a wide range of community activities available — the New Beginnings retreat, for instance. In addition, two Perspectives on Faith and Life events in the fall semester provided students with the opportunity to critically analyze academic, religious and social topics through meaningful discussions with peers and academic faculty members. This discussion series, open to 60 to 80 students per session, paired students with faculty members to share individual opinions and beliefs.

On a broader scale, the UHP also seeks to facilitate integration between students and our knowledge of the University and the City of Dayton — dinners and dialogues with faculty members, tours of the Marian library collection, or performances by the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra in downtown Dayton are just a handful of such social and cultural activities. First-year students interested in the LLC are further encouraged to be participants in the Campus Ministry’s Callings Program held over the summer.

Call to Question LLC is just the newest of several Honors LLCs available to our incoming students which combine earning Honors credits with a cohort experience in both the classroom and residence life.

What’s New articles written by Chin Yi Chen, UHP 2014
Photographs contributed by HDSW11 student leaders and Ramona Speranza

Honors Students Welcome 2011

What’s New at the UHP?

Honors Students Welcome 2011: From the top: East Day activity; Scavenger Hunt destination; HDSW11 social leaders (left to right) Jessica Gormley, Julia Pennock, and Adri Kelly, Needle Beads; Clinic Hills, Kaitlyn Hiti, Layout and Production Manager; Kaitlyn Hiti, Layout and Production Manager; Stephanie Kepler (center), and Honors Students!
Honor students at the University of Dayton are given opportunities to develop and use their leadership skills. In this highly competitive, globalized world it is important for students to stand out and become leaders in the workforce.

The Honors Program has made pivotal contributions to its graduates. Highlighted are four alumni of the Honors Program who are making their mark in business and government.

Jon Huston, Class of 1987

As an Honor Computer Science student at the University of Dayton, Jon Huston has fond memories of experiencing the “golden age of arcade kids.” With the birth of Donkey Kong, Pacman, and Star Wars to name a few, Huston loved going to the arcade and seeing the classics being born one by one. His passion for gaming was clear as he owned 150 arcade games and worked at a gaming store. While working huston at this gaming store in Huber Heights and traded game cards at card shows, he realized that he wanted to create “one place where people can go to get any kind of gaming card they may want.” In 1994, no longer interested in just operating stores, Huston made the leap into opening his own business. He went on to create Troll and Toad, a store and website where people, according to the website, can purchase “collectible game cards, especially out of print Magic: The Gathering single cards.”

In order to bring his idea to fruition Huston worked at this gaming store in arcade games and worked at a gaming store. While Huston worked at this gaming store in arcade games and worked at a gaming store.
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Sonya Bilocerkowycz, Class of 2011
Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship

Sonya Bilocerkowycz, a English major who graduated in 2011, was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Belarus. She will travel there for a year, during which she will teach English in a series of ESL courses.

AJ Ferguson, Class of 2013
Truman Fellowship Finalist

AJ Ferguson, a Mechanical Engineering major, has been named a Truman Fellowship Finalist. The program offers funding, internship placement and professional development for students pursuing graduate degrees in public service fields.

Jason K. Heyl, Class of 2013
SPIE Scholarship in Optics and Photonics

Jason K. Heyl, an Electronic and Computer Engineering Technology major, has been awarded a 2011 Scholarship from the International Society for Optics and Photonics (SPIE). Heyl was recognized for “his potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field” in a recent SPIE press release.

Leslie Sollmann, Class of 2012
Ohio Space Grant Consortium Scholarship

Leslie Sollmann was awarded the Ohio Space Grant Consortium Scholarship for her Honors thesis, Bleed Hole Configuration, Sizing, and Location for Use in a Hypersonic Inlet. Sollmann recently attended the Regional Space Grant Consortium Meeting where she presented her research. She will also make a presentation at the Ohio Space Grant Consortium Meeting in spring 2012.

Honors Students Win Accounting Scholarships

The following Honors students were awarded scholarships this year from the SBA Department of Accounting: Adeline Bodart, Melissa Ehrbar, Benjamin Foster, Molly Hobbs, Lauren Ranly, Brittan Stegemiller, Mary Hannah Viertel and Kristin Whalen.

Twelve Honors Students Graduate December 17, 2011

Congratulations to Eunice Awonuga Asigon, Nicholas Direnzi, Claire Ellerhorse, Lauren Epner, Nichole Hanus, Daniel Prindle, Dana Rhoades, Elizabeth Schmackers, Leah Schumacher, Paul Thomas, Andrea Varney and Melanie Wagner!

January
20 Honors Art Exhibition Open House
27 Honors Students Symposium: Senior Registration Due
31 Hull Fellowship Applications Due
31 Chaminade Scholars Applications Due

February
20 Imani Winds Workshop
24 Summer Thesis Institute Applications Due

March
23 Honors Students Symposium and Reception

April
1 Juniors: Thesis Proposal and Fellowship Request Documents Due
8 Seniors: Theses Due
18 Joseph W. Stander Symposium

May
5 Honors Graduation Brunch
6 Graduation