

The Dialogue

The Sam Houston State Honors College Newsletter
VOLUME 01, Issue 01 Spring & Summer 2010



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A Note from the Director

Welcome to Issue 1 of *The Dialogue*, the Sam Houston State Honors College Newsletter. Our recent upgrade from Honors Program to Honors College brings with it a higher level of distinction. In an effort to connect with more people through technology, we are introducing this newsletter, which will be available both online and in printed versions. In this way, current and prospective students, faculty, administrators, parents, and alumni can stay up to date with the news of the Honors College. Each issue will highlight the accomplishments of an alumnus, a professor, and a student. The issues will also feature a section written by and for the students. We are excited about this new endeavor and hope you are, too. Watch for the next edition of *The Dialogue*, the Honors College newsletter.

Sincerely,
Dr. Gene Young

Let us hear from YOU!

If you have any thing you would like to share with the rest of the Honors College, let us know!

We are looking for pictures and articles from our talented students. Let us know what you are doing for the summer. Are you going abroad? Have you found an internship? Share your experiences!

honors@shsu.edu
936-294-1477





Honors Ambassadors Showing Bearkat Sprit

The Honors Ambassadors is an elite group of enthusiastic and involved honors students who represent the highest ideals of the university. Through leadership and service, the Ambassadors sponsor special events that support and enhance the honors community at SHSU. They serve as official representatives of the Honors College at SHSU events. These include Saturdays at Sam, the High School Honors Dinner, Summer Orientation, and Let's Talk. They also mentor new students, organize the undergraduate research symposium, and assist in recruiting honors students.

Honors Ambassadors!

- **Jeremy Angus**— Psychology/Philosophy
- **Curtis Balusek**—Math and Physics
Double Major
- **Will Caron**— Banking and Finance
Double Major
- **Chelsea Casey**— Animal Science Pre-Vet/
Science
- **Kalyn Cavazos**— Criminal Justice/Psychology
- **Sean Crenwelge**— Interdisciplinary Studies
- **Brittany Disiere**— Forensic Chemistry/
Criminal Justice and Biology
- **Morgan Foulkes**—International Business/
Mathematics
- **Tina Ho**— Criminal Justice/Spanish
- **Amanda Howard**— English/Education
- **Christopher John**— Forensic Chemistry/
Criminal Justice and Biology
- **Keri Kershaw**—Biology and Psychology/
Chemistry
- **Elizabeth Nesselrode**—Chemistry/Biology
- **Katelyn Stafford**—Criminal Justice/ Chemistry
- **Austin Pearce**—Biology/Chemistry
- **Hilary Prentice**—Accounting
- **Rachel Voss**—Political Science and History/
Spanish
- **Brittany Winner**—Forensic Chemistry/
Criminal Justice and Biology

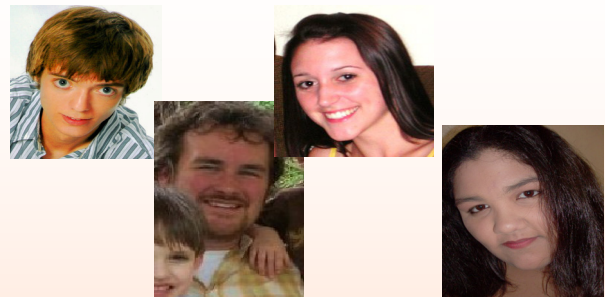
New Honors Student Advisory Council Officers

President: Thomas Merka, Mass Communication

Vice President: Jeremy Angus, Psychology

Secretary: Mary Gibson, Psychology

Historian: Cathy Luzadas, Criminal Justice



Hello honors students! Let me start by saying that I am ecstatic about being able to act as your HSAC president for the upcoming school year! The other officers and I are busy planning fun and exciting events for the fall semester that we know you're going to enjoy. Don't forget about the annual honors Luau on the Lake and the new Meet the Freshmen event that will take place your first week back at Sam! Make sure you check the Honors College Blackboard so you can keep track of all our events and outings. This year's officer team is motivated to make the Honors College more than something to have on your résumé. We want it to be a family! You can help us in achieving this goal by attending the events and building those strong ties of friendship that will make us a family. I look forward to seeing all of you at the luau!

Sincerely,
Thomas Merka - HSAC President



Spring 2010 Honors Graduates

Abigail Beard	Interdisciplinary Studies & Generalist EC-6
Linda Borja	Mass Communication
Sherah Bortz	Broadcast Journalism
Monique Broussard	Mass Communication
Kelsey Buffolano	Music Therapy
Laura Collier	Biology
Adriel De La Cruz	Criminal Justice
Reyna De La Cruz	Geology
Andrew Enriquez	Criminal Justice
Jessica Guderian	Psychology
Emalee Harmon	Criminal Justice
Amanda Haynes	Criminal Justice
Sara Henk	Chemistry
Megan Hilker	Accounting
Whitney Hunt	Criminal Justice
Heather Itzen	Mass Communication & Broadcast Journalism
Jason Johnson	Criminal Justice
Ashley Juge	Communication Studies
Jason Lamb	Accounting
Brittany Litaker	Criminal Justice
Kristen Mack	Forensic Chemistry & Criminal Justice
Sarah Martin	Forensic Chemistry
Clarita Mayorga	Spanish
*Sarah Murray	Psychology & Political Science *
Jonathon Myers	Mass Communications
Trisha O'Bryon	Chemistry
Ashley Pipkin	Chemistry for Professional Chemists
Dominic Pollone	Criminal Justice
Rachel Renshaw	Interdisciplinary Studies
Nelson Sheppard	Chemistry
Jennifer Setera	Criminal Justice & Political Science
*Brittney Singleton	Marketing *
Savannah Sipole	Political Science
Matheus Tozzi	Psychology
Heather Vincent	English & History
Veronica Ward	Accounting



“You have brains
in your head. You
have feet in your
shoes. You can
steer yourself in
any direction you
choose. You're on
your own.

And you know
what you know.
You are the guy
who'll decide
where to go.”

~ Dr. Seuss

Congratulations
Spring 2010 Grad-
uates! You all have
bright futures
ahead!

* Denotes Graduation with “Highest Honors”





Voices From Abroad

By: David Courtade

My twenty-second birthday was cut to seven hours. I boarded a flight in Vancouver, Canada around 11:00 a.m. on February 24, 2009 and arrived in Seoul, South Korea around 5:00 p.m. on February 25th. As the 25th is my birthday, I had seven hours left to the day, and I did not know one person in a country over 6,000 miles away from everything that was familiar to me. As birthdays mark a transition into another year of existence, this birthday led me into one of the most life changing years of my life. I created wonderful memories and learned lessons that will stay with me for life. I had the opportunity to

meet students from all over the world and developed friendships that will last a lifetime. Studying abroad opened my eyes to new cultures and languages as well. Moreover, I traveled to countries such as Japan, China, Hong Kong, and the Philippines. I saw a whole different part of the world and received a type of education that I cannot find in a classroom. Choosing to spend two semesters at Soonchunhyang University in South Korea was one of the best decisions of my life.

For More Information on Study Abroad Programs Contact:
International Programs
936-294-3276
oip@shsu.edu

“One’s destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things.” ~ Henry Miller

“Live well,
Learn plenty,
Laugh often,
Love much.” ~
Ralph Waldo
Emerson

Alumni Notes

- 2004** Grad **Angela Croon** is working as a Software Engineer for Owen Healthcare in Houston, TX.
- 2005** Grad **Jeff Roberts** received his Masters in History from SHSU and is now pursuing a PhD at Texas A&M.
- 2006** Grad **Brett Finn** is working on his Masters in Criminal Justice at SHSU, and is an intern with the FBI.
- 2007** Grad **Brandon Waller** is a Senior Accountant and Auditor for Null-Lairson, P.C. in Houston.
- 2008** Grad **Emma Quintero** studied Political Science at SHSU and is now in Law School at the University of Texas in Austin.
- 2009** Grad **Jenna Sassie** studied Chemistry, Biology, and Pre-med at SHSU and is now in Medical School at the University of Texas in Houston.
- 2009** Grad **Jadrian Wooten** received his MBA in Economics from SHSU and is going to Washington State University for his PhD.
- 2010** Grad **Sarah Martin** is pursuing her Masters in Forensic Science here at SHSU.





The Rush for Summer Jobs

By: Laura DuBose

As summer comes to full swing, the rush for a summer job becomes even more difficult. Not only is there more pressure to save up over the summer, but there seem to be fewer jobs. Many places have already hired for the summer and are no longer looking for employees. There is also the conflict between finding a job that is related to your future career or just a job to make some fast money. These are the sad facts of summer employment. Luckily, we are located in an area that offers many opportunities in exchange for a short commute. We also have resources that our competition, mainly high school students, do not have. Career Services offers the Jobs 4 Kats interface, where there is a search engine for jobs on campus and off campus. For those of you still looking for a job, this is a pretty good place to start. The next option may be simply looking around and walking in to any place with a "Help Wanted" sign. If you're lucky, you may get an interview. If not, there's always the pool for the rest of the summer?

From and For the Students!

Summer In Puebla

"Bienvenidos a Mexico." I'd heard this welcoming phrase more than a few times on various trips to Mexico with my family to soak up the sun on some of their fabulous beach destinations. However, this time was going to be a little different. I was going to be on my own in a foreign country. This time it would be me, now officially considered an adult and completely responsible for myself in a country where I could carry on a conversation but only concerning food and the location of the bathroom, in a foreign country with only my classmates and professor for help.

This whole idea started in the winter of 2009 when Dr. Koeniger, a professor of Spanish at Sam Houston State University, made a presentation about the study abroad program offered in the summer in Puebla, Mexico. It just so happened that the class that was being offered in Mexico was also one that I needed for my degree in criminal justice and one that would be necessary if I decided to pursue a minor in foreign language. The more I learned about the program the more interested I became. I even applied for a scholarship from the International Programs office and received one. That was my sign it was meant for me to go and I made plans then to head to Mexico and study Spanish for an entire month, known as the first summer session here at SHSU.

Upon arrival into Mexico City and then a bus into the state of Puebla, my family that was assigned to me by the Universidad Iberoamericana was waiting for me with a sign stating none other than "Bienvenidos Whitney," or in English, "Welcome Whitney." Immediately I was embraced literally and metaphorically into the arms of a welcoming family who didn't know me other than a small picture and a paragraph about my interests and

By: Whitney Hunt

family. I could tell then that this was going to be one of the best experiences of my life.

I spent a little over a month in Puebla, living with my family, experiencing the culture, eating traditional food and homemade meals by my "mom," and going to class at the Universidad Iberoamericana (a private prestigious university, one of six in the entire country of Mexico) being taught by my SHSU professor Monday through Friday. Tuesdays were spent with the other students of the program attending museums, hiking ancient ruins, and visiting cathedrals and churches in Puebla and the surrounding town of Cholula. All the while living on my street, Rio Balsas, with my Mexican parents and older sister and making life-long friends.

I still speak to my family regularly since leaving Mexico. The internet makes it easy nowadays to stay connected and I talk to them at least once a week. My Spanish will never be the same, as now I can communicate effectively and completely in Spanish (speaking Spanish twenty-four hours a day helps you learn quite quickly), which I certainly wasn't able to do when I first landed in Mexico. I just declared myself to be a Spanish minor on my degree plan. Studying in Puebla really helped me appreciate and get to know a fantastic culture up-close and personal as well as taught me about myself and my ability to continue to be adventurous and to try new things and experiences. When asked about study abroad programs now, I can confidently say "Go!" It's one of the most amazing things you can do for yourself and an incredibly empowering experience. I plan on returning to visit my family hopefully this coming summer, and for all of the friends and relationships I made and built in Puebla, this one's for you: "Viva Mexico."





Laura DuBose

Student Spotlight

Yes, I am the editor of this Newsletter, but to expedite the process, this is my highlight!

I am a Musical Theatre Major with minors in Dance and Business, and I am a member of the Honors College. I try to keep a good balance between academics and dreams.

As a Junior Musical Theatre Major I am faced with the process of becoming a successful performer. So far, my endeavors have become rather fruitful. This summer, my roommate and I traveled to Shreveport, Louisiana. I was an extra in the new ABC TV Series "The Gates." Look for my hand in episode five! Together we worked on a film called "Butter" starring Jennifer Garner, Ty Burrell, Hugh Jackman, Alicia Silverstone, and more. This will come out in 2011, and hopefully you will see me talking to Ty Burrell about butter because it totally happened.

One thing that I want to convey to all students, young and old, is that your dreams are possible. Whether you achieve them totally, like if I were to become a big movie star, or if you only get the experience, like being an extra and seeing the magic happen.

Make sure to support your local arts!



Dr. Kimberly Bell

Professor Highlight

In addition to teaching in the English Department **Kimberly K. Bell**, recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award, serves as the assistant director of the university's Honors College. She joined the SHSU faculty in 2002 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 2008. Her specialties are in medieval and classical literature, history of language, textual studies and genre theory.

She earned her bachelor's degree from The American College of Greece, her master's degree from Clark University, and doctorate from Georgia State University. Bell has co-written two books and several book chapters and journal articles and has made numerous conference presentations.

Her previous awards include the SHSU College of Humanities and Social Sciences Teaching Award in English and Who's Who Among American Teachers.

"Dr. Bell is a dedicated professor who puts the needs of her students before herself. Her teaching style is welcoming and she takes a personal interest in her pupil's learning. Her guidance ensures success."

"Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration." ~ Thomas Edison

"A professor is one who talks in someone else's sleep." ~

W.H. Auden

Want to be featured in the next Dialogue?

Recommend yourself, a friend or a professor to the Honors College to be featured in the next newsletter. Please email or stop by with a name and why they should be in our featured section.





The Dialogue?

The title of “*The Dialogue*” was inspired by the efforts of the Honors College to enhance communication. Many of our efforts include interaction between people including the Let’s Talk Series and Difficult Dialogues Seminar.

The Dialogue fits the Honors College standards for this newsletter. We want to provide the best news and information to this group of distinguished people at Sam Houston.

Upcoming Events

All Honors Applications due **June 30**

New Student Orientations **June 24-25, July 8-9,
July 15-16, July 22-23, and July 29-30**

All incoming Honors Freshmen must be advised for Fall

August 24 is Honors Fun Day at **5:00 p.m.**

August 29 is the Luau at Elkins Lake from
6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

August 31 is the Mandatory Honors Assembly

September 11 is Parents Weekend Luncheon
Noon

RSVP to the Honors College by **Tuesday September 7**

Please make sure to check your email, the website, and blackboard for all the information on Honors events.

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Sam Houston State Honors College

Box 2479
Huntsville, TX 77341

936-294-1477 ph
936-294-1090 fax
honors@shsu.edu





- Gene Young, Ph.D. Director, Honors College
- Kimberly Bell, Ph.D. Assistant Director, Honors College
- Maria A. Holmes, M.A. Academic Advisor/ Senior Administrative Assistant
- Laura DuBose Student Editor



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Huntsville, TX 77341

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936-294-1090 fax
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