Director's Notes

The Honors Program this spring has been focused on scholarship and service. We’ve attended the Literary Evenings Monday Night Lecture Series The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, Honors Night at the Opera and Madame Butterfly, and the Big Read service learning outreach. The following students volunteered to interact with the residents at Shuman Detention Center and the Renewal Treatment Center as they responded to The Heart is a Lonely Hunter by Carson McCullers: Kendra Moxon, Kelly Rockenstein, Tina Beaver, Sheila Matisz, Elyssa Johannesen, Ronica Bioni, Jamie Haner, Mary Shannon Brady, and Angela Marcone – thank you, students!

Two significant Honors events remain: the Northeast Regional Honors Conference and the CCAC Honors Forum. Honors students Mary Shannon Brady, Sheila Matisz, and Amanda Haskin have been selected to present their undergraduate research papers at the Northeast Regional Honors Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from April 4–7, 2013. Each of the students’ research projects explores an aspect of the 2013 conference theme and has enriched the students’ academic experiences at CCAC. Mary Shannon wrote in a reflective response to her honors project, “Looking back now, I am gushingly-proud of my paper and photo diary, and I have learned a multitude of things about myself. I solidified my strength as a writer, a researcher, a master of time management, and a proactive, independent student.”

Mary Shannon’s paper “Annie Dillard’s: Pittsburgh’s Literary Darling” was completed as part of her Honors contract in General Literature with Professor Elizabeth Throesch at North Campus. Sheila’s Matisz’s paper “Black Holes and Star Formation” was completed as part of her Honors contract in Introduction to Astronomy with Professor Paul Yondola at Boyce Campus, and Amanda Haskin’s paper “Paleolithic Cave Art & the Psyche: What Were They Thinking?” was completed as part of her Honors contract in Art Appreciation with Professor Jennifer Bechak at South Campus.

Mary Shannon, Sheila, and Amanda will be joined at the conference by two other Honors students, Natalya Mishkova and Shawn Hinnebusch. They will participate in City as Text explorations of Philadelphia, attend student research presentations, engage in active learning sessions, attend the NRHC Student Caucus meeting, and will interact with over three hundred other undergraduate Honors students from all over the Northeast region in social and education activities.

Invitations were sent this week to the CCAC Honors celebration, the Honors Forum to be held on Friday, April 26th from 3:30 – 6:00 pm in the Student Service Center, Allegheny Campus. We look forward to recognizing Honors students and faculty and their contributions to the academic community this year, particularly our Honors graduates. Please join us!

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CCAC Honors Program Wins the Pink Feet Race for the Cure

Thank you to the CCAC community for your generous support of the Honors Program’s Pink Feet Race for the Cure. As you may remember, the CCAC Honors Program competed against the Honors Program from Point Park University to raise money for breast cancer research.

CCAC Honors students Phyllis Anderson, Tina Beaver, Molly McGinnis, and Robin Monroe served as team captains and generously gave of their time, ingenuity, and competitive spirit in conducting the race, competing not only with Point Park but also with the Honors students at the other CCAC campuses. The competition between campuses was won by South at $1,106.70, then North with $902.14, Boyce at $743, Allegheny at $513.85, and the Office of College Services at $52.

Honors students who participated by working the cafeteria tables and/or selling their pink feet include the following: Sheila Matisz, Rebecca Stevens, Danielle Thompson, Yulia Tesakova-Guthridge, Sherry Durrick, Allison Graham, Alaina Caputo, Kimberly Howie, Natalya Mishkova, Phyllis Anderson, Kelly Butler, Aimee Erhardt, Joyce Hallahan, Molly McGinnis, Tina Beaver, Brooke Behanna, Linda Evans, Danielle Grimplin, Keith Krass, Jessica Kiefer, Shannon Hailstones, Richard Pfab, Amy Hurey, Elyssa Johannesen, Crystal Beatty, Jess Yonek, Julia Scott, Samantha Badolato, Terrell Grayson, Robin Monroe, Christina DeSalvo, Megan Peterson, Heather O’Hara, Jessica Glista, Mary Shannon Brady, Rachel Snyder, Kelly Butler, Donovin Fogg, Peter Biernsser, Ronda Davis, David West, Crystal Hinnebusch, Shawn Hinnebusch, and Gilbert Huerta.

With your generous help, the CCAC Honors Program easily won the 2012 Pink Feet race, outselling Point Park’s Honors programs by raising $3,317.69 with Point Park at $688. On December 6th, the Honors Directors from both schools presented their checks to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation. Thank you for your continued commitment to help in the fight against breast cancer.
With Professor Srujana Kanjula: a 3-credit hybrid course (POL 229 NC31H)
The course explores the relationship between women and politics while examining women’s political status/role within their socio-economic and cultural context. Emphasis is laid on women as citizens, voters, activists, freedom fighters, election candidates, leaders and development workers. Guest speakers (to be announced) will encourage interactive discussions with women of different cultures.
Blackboard coursework begins August 19. Saturday seminars are at North Campus: 9/14, 10/5, 10/26, 11/9, 9:30 am to 4:10 pm

With Professor Joe Delphia: a 3-credit hybrid course (ART 106H AC61H)
This course will explore the fundamentals of design, and craft as they pertain to the visual arts. Students will examine the development of art throughout history and learn various methods of art criticism. Students will travel to experience art and architecture of significance in and around Pittsburgh including at the Carnegie Museum of Art, the Andy Warhol Museum, and Frank L. Wright’s Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob.
Blackboard coursework begins August 19. Saturday seminars are at Allegheny Campus: 8/31, 9/21, 10/12, 11/2, 9:30 am to 4:10 pm

With Professor Julia Fennell: A one-credit distance-learning course with on-campus weekly study group sessions (SDS 115H SC31W)
Discover your leadership potential! We will study great leaders as portrayed in the humanities by writers and historians to gain an understanding of leadership and to develop or improve the essential skills required to be effective leaders. Topics include leadership theory, vision, goals, ethics, decision making, conflict management, team building, initiating change, and leading through service.
Blackboard coursework begins September 3. Saturday Seminars are at South Campus: 9/7, 9/28, 10/19 and 11/16, 9:30 am to 4:10 pm

As an Honors Student, you may enroll in your spring courses when registration opens on April 15th, regardless of the number of credits you have earned! Register via CCAC Central e-services. Be sure to take advantage of this to reserve your seat in Honors courses!
Honors course enrollment is limited to 18 students. Eligible Honors students will be refunded the cost of tuition (up to three credits per course) after successful completion (earning a C or better) of Honors-designated courses.
Honors Students Win Scholarship

CCAC Honors students Kevin Boglitz, Crystal Hinnenbusch, William Moran, and Rebecca Stevens have been named to the 2013 All-Pennsylvania Community College Academic Team. As a member of the team, each student will receive a scholarship to one of the 14 PASSHE (Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education) universities. The award ceremony will be held April 8th in Harrisburg, PA.

Kevin is a student at North Campus and has completed Honors Leadership with Srujana Kanjula. In December 2012, he completed his degree in Information Technology and will participate in May’s graduation. Kevin has chosen to transfer to Slippery Rock University.

Crystal attends classes at the North Campus. She completed Honors contracts in Creative Writing with Fred Jordan, Personal & Community Health and Wellness with Andrea Sanders, and Earth Science with Emmett Rafferty.

William will be graduating with an Honors degree this May in Business Management, having earned 12 credits in Honors. He has completed Honors contracts in Elementary Spanish II with Christian Nutini, Cooperative Education with Gretchen Graham, and Introduction to Psychology with John Biondo. He is currently enrolled in Honors Introduction to Nutrition with Kalina White. William will be transferring to IUP in the fall.

Rebecca attends Boyce Campus and will graduate in May 2014 with a Physical Therapy Assistant degree. She has completed Honors contracts in Intro to Physical Therapy with Norman Johnson and Physical Therapy Principles with Steven Bannister.

Congratulations Kevin, Crystal, William, and Rebecca!

The Big Read Kick-off Celebration

at the August Wilson Center
Each semester four Honors students will be featured in *Word of Honor*.

**Donovin Fogg**

**North Campus, General Studies Major**

**Educational Goals:**
I plan on completing my general studies degree in the fall, then to transfer to Pitt to major in Geology.

**Career Goals:**
I hope to specialize in volcanology and study volcanic islands in tropical regions.

**Special Interests/Hobbies:**
I am a self-proclaimed GearHead, and I love Dr. Who, my Ferret, and my motorcycle.

**About My Spring 2013 Honor Contract:**
I am researching the historic strategic uses of the rivers of the City of Pittsburgh in Western Civilizations II with Brady Crytzer. I will present a paper based upon this research.

**What is your favorite book/author?**
The *Restaurant at the End of the Universe* and *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* by Douglas Adams.

**If you could have dinner with anyone (dead or alive), who would you choose and why?**
Anthony Bourdain because he would be interesting to talk to, and it would guarantee a good meal.

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**Grace Neith**

**Allegheny Campus, Nanotechnology Major**

**Educational Goals:**
After graduation, I plan to take one year off of school to gain career experience in my field before perusing my bachelor’s degree in biological sciences. Then I plan to further my education with a masters in genetics and finally a PhD in tissue engineering.

**Career Goals:**
My main career goal is to develop a virtually painless, minimally invasive procedure to regrow limbs through the combination of nanotechnology, genetic counseling, and tissue engineering.

**Special Interests/Hobbies:**
I am a singer/songwriter, poet, art teacher, and photographer in my free time. Music and artistic expression are and always have been a part of my life; also, I have a t-shirt line designed for people and/or family and friends of people living with an amputation, Amp-U-Tees.

**About My Spring 2013 Honor Contract:**
I will be doing two honors contracts this spring. The first will be an original portfolio of creative fiction, mostly poetry, in Creative Writing with Derek Handley. The second is a biographical and analytical study of Flannery O’Connor and her works in English Comp II with Lester Nott.

**What is your favorite book/author?**
My favorite books are *The Pact* by Jodi Picoult, who is my favorite author, *Night* by Elie Wiesel, and *Briar Rose* by Jane Yolen.

**If you could have dinner with anyone (dead or alive), who would you choose and why?**
If I could have dinner with anyone, I’d dine with my stepfather one more time. He was an amazing man who persevered against all odds to achieve his goals. Sadly, my time to learn from him was cut short by his untimely death.

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**Honors Night at the Opera**

*Madama Butterfly*
At the end of each academic year, the Honors Program recognizes the academic achievements of Honors students and faculty at the Honors Forum. The program begins with visual presentations and refreshments, followed by student and faculty speakers in the auditorium.

Honors pins, cords and medallions will be presented to Honors graduates based on the number of Honors credits earned. We will announce the recipients of the Honors Service awards and the 2013-14 Leadership in Honors Scholars.

If you would like to attend, please send an email to rshissler@ccac.edu and Include your name, campus, current email address, number of guests (limit 4) and if you are graduating in May.

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**Sana Chowdry**  
**Boyce Campus, History Major**

**Educational Goals:**  
I plan to transfer soon to Chatham University to study Middle Eastern history.

**Career Goals:**  
History shows us many beneficial lessons, and I intend to teach these lessons. I want to be able to benefit people, and I see teaching as a means to benefit others.

**Special Interests/Hobbies:**  
Researching about ancient Egypt has been a dear hobby since childhood. Along with researching, I like to read, write stories and draw digitally.

**About My Spring 2013 Honor Contract:**  
For my honors project in U.S. History 1 with Aaron Hoffman, I am writing about slavery in America. What makes my project unique is that I will be comparing American slavery with slavery in other cultures around the same time period.

**What is your favorite book/author?**  
My favorite book is *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens; however, my favorite author is J.R.R Tolkien. I find his writings most interesting. I really like his word/phrase choice, and that he added poetry in his “Middle Earth” series.

**If you could have dinner with anyone (dead or alive), who would you choose and why?**  
I would love to have dinner with Prophet Muhammad. I’ve had many idols and role models; however, he has always been a role model to me no matter what phase of life I have been in.

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**Jaime Haner**  
**South Campus, Math & Science and Biology Major**

**Educational Goals:**  
I plan to transfer to Carlow in the fall and apply for the perfusion program. I will also receive my bachelors degree in biology.

**Career Goals:**  
I plan to work as a perfusionist upon graduation. I will likely continue my education in biology as well.

**Special Interests/Hobbies:**  
I love all outdoor sports, including kayaking, hiking, camping and skiing. I also really love gardening and natural foods and cooking.

**About My Spring 2013 Honor Contract:**  
I am doing a Mendelian genetic dihybrid cross for Genetics with Heather Klenovich. I am trying to determine the breeding characteristics of a dwarf plant variety.

**What is your favorite book/author?**  
I love anything by Jane Austin and John Steinbeck. I don’t have nearly as much time as I’d like to read, but I love getting lost in a good book.

**If you could have dinner with anyone (dead or alive), who would you choose and why?**  
Jane Goodall - she is an amazing scientist and engaging storyteller. I’ve read all of her books and she makes me feel right there with her. She has had amazing life experiences and has a great view of humanity and our place in the world.
Spring 2013 Honors Contract Faculty

| Honors Leadership (SDS 115H) with Professor Srujana Kanjula, Fall 2012 |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Aaron Hoffman          | Eugene Zizka            | John Biondo            |
| Anita Torchia          | Faith Williard         | John Lange             |
| Brady Crytzer          | Gerald Jennings        | Johnathan Corliss      |
| Colleen Moore          | Gerry Dinnen           | Joyceann Dilka         |
| David Sluss            | Gretchen Graham        | Judy Berasi            |
| Denise Lake            | Heather Beschizza      | Jui-Yu Chiu            |
| Derek Handler          | Heather Klenovich      | Katherine Larkin       |
| Don Smith              | Helen Ortmant          | Kathy Wallace          |
| Elizabeth Strenkowski | Jeannine Stanko        | Lester Nott            |
| Emmett Rafferty        | Joe Hrebenak           | Lori Breen             |

Honors Leadership (SDS 115H) with Professor Srujana Kanjula, Fall 2012
Kevin Boglitz, Mary Shannon Brady, Alexander Bull, Ronda Davis, Aimee Erhardt, Donovin Fogg, Viorel Grusca, Amy Hurey, Charity Jeck, Elyssa Johannesen, Melva Jones-Head, Abbey Kernick, Michael Matone, Molly McGinnis, Robin Monroe, Emily Rabatin, Bonnie Sarazen, and Jayne Shrum.

General Literature (ENG 115H) with Professor Derek Handley, Fall 2012
Crystal Beatty, Patricia Capitolo, Christina Dawson, Sandra DeLorenze, Kimberly Howie, Eshe Isley, Abbey Kernick, Amanda Locke, John McNally, Carly Moroski, Megan Peterson, and John Rice.

Religions Around the World (PHL 111H) with Professor Scott Mayberry, Fall 2012
Phyllis Anderson, Alaina Caputo, Krista Cerepani, Sherry Durick, Danielle Grimplin, Joyce Hallahan, Candy Lowen, Andrew Michael, Nicholas Moffitt, Megan Peterson, Shannon Polacek, Bonnie Sarazen, Yulia Tesakova-Guthridge, and Danielle Thompson.

Introduction to Nutrition (BIO 117H) with Professor Kalina White, Spring 2013

Stay Connected with the Honors Program online!
For the latest news and information on the CCAC Honors Program, visit the Honors Blackboard site or join us on Facebook!

If you are on Facebook, become our friend! Type “Ccacs” Honors into the search box and submit a friend request.

Visit the Honors Program Blackboard site at http://courses.ccac.edu.
Your log-in username and password are the same as your CCAC academic email account.

HONORS RESOURCE ROOMS
Each of the four main campuses has a room set aside specifically for Honors Students!
Equipped with computers, these Honors Resource Rooms are a great place to study, work on projects, and socialize with other Honors students.

Allegheny Campus: Room L-213
(in the library)
Students must check in at the Circulation Desk and the library staff will open the room.

Boyce Campus: Room N306
Students must ask the reading tech to open the door.

North Campus: Room 2019
Students can ask the secretary (Chris Dagg) whose office is located on the second floor to open the room.

South Campus: Room B409
(Honors Program Office)
The space is available from 9am-2pm, Monday—Friday.

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Introduction to Nutrition (BIO 117H) with Professor Kalina White, Spring 2013