

# The University Honors Program

## Annual Report: 2009-10

### DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM

Honors programs serve a unique function in institutions with highly heterogeneous student bodies. The best of these programs provide a diversity of curricula for a diversity of students to attract and retain talented students and to provide an exceptional educational experience for the most capable students. With the heterogeneous student population at Texas State University-San Marcos, the University Honors Program ensures that the ablest students do not lose their enthusiasm for learning. In addition, honors classes provide an opportunity for sometimes reluctant students to try something new. The honors program provides a means for the university to recruit and retain talented and gifted students who might be drawn to other universities without such a program. Our staff provides students personal assistance in planning their educational and career goals.

The University Honors Program has grown significantly since it was founded in 1967 by History professor, Dr. Emmie Craddock. Currently, the University Honors Program serves more than 1200 of Texas State University's best and brightest students. Students in our small seminars encounter the university's best faculty, teaching subjects they know and love. We offer a diverse curriculum, representing many departments and colleges on campus, providing professors a teaching laboratory wherein they can explore new research areas or teaching methods. We offer more than \$30,500 in scholarships annually to honors students. Our 2005 move from ASB South to Lampasas Hall has provided a significant change in the identity and sense of community among honors students, faculty, and other visitors to the Honors Coffee Forum, our classrooms, and computer lab. This year Dr. Steve Zinkgraf, Dr. & Mrs. William Liddle, and Mr. Steve Gregg made financial contributions to the University Honors Program.

Additionally, we serve a broader student population through several widespread initiatives: 1) recruiting the best high school students from across the state in collaboration with the Admissions Office through mailings, Scholars Day events and Bobcat Days presentations; 2) grooming Texas State students for nationally competitive scholarships, including the Rhodes, Fulbright, Truman, and Rockefeller competitions through advising and letters of recommendation in collaboration with other departments; 3) collaborating on the Common Experience by curating the art and photography exhibits in the Gallery of Common Experience; serving on the CE team; designing, publishing and distributing CE posters throughout campus and the community; and collaborating with departments across campus to host and support various Common Experience events; 4) supporting our students' participation in and faculty offerings of quality study abroad opportunities; 5) collaborating with Residence Life on the honors living learning community in Butler Hall; and 6) continuing collaborations on undergraduate research across campus with the fall Undergraduate Research Conference, Thesis Forum and juried poster session.

### STATE OF THE PROGRAM

#### Staff

- Dr. Heather Galloway, Director (full-time) and Professor of Physics
- Diann A. McCabe, Associate Director (full-time)
- Melanie Liddle, Administrative Assistant (full-time as of Fall 07)
- Desareé Williams, Graduate Assistant (Anthropology major) (June 09 through May 10)

The program employed 10 student workers: Hylary Ahrendt, Alyssa Lynette Aparicio, Elissa Fontenot, Caitlin Hagans, Amber Jackson, Jessa McKinnis, Rhonda Martinez, Roberto Sanchez, Meghan Taylor, and Anthony Villanacci.

### **Honors Students**

Students join the University Honors Program on a rolling basis. Once accepted into the program, students may choose to take one or more honors classes. In addition, students are invited to various program events and can make use of the space in Lampasas for study, meetings or conversation. Advising for honors courses, assistance in applying for post-graduate programs, and other references are available upon request. The honors website, [www.txstate.edu/honors](http://www.txstate.edu/honors) and the honors email, [honors@txstate.edu](mailto:honors@txstate.edu), provides initial contact information and responses to basic questions.

Students who choose to graduate in the program must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.25 and complete at least five honors courses including the honors thesis. Students completing the honors thesis also make a presentation at the thesis forum scheduled during the semester in which they are completed their thesis.

As of fall 2006 honors students have the option of minoring in Honors Studies. This option requires completion of seven honors courses, including Hon 4390A, Senior Seminar, and Hon 4390B, the Honors Thesis. In addition, students must show a cross-cultural competency through a study abroad or similar experience.

### **The Honors Students Association**

The University Honors Student Association is open to all honors students and provides an avenue for student involvement in the governance of the program and for interaction among honors students. Members serve on Honors Program committees and host a “Meet the Professor Night” for incoming honors faculty each semester, and are encouraged to participate in other on-campus organizations serving as the student voice of the University Honors Program. HSA also hosts a variety of events throughout the academic year such as honors information meetings, receptions for alumni and artists whose work is exhibited in the Gallery of Common Experience, Multicultural Dinner night, and picnics for honors students and faculty. **HSA officers** include Kelly Schnarr: President, Amanda Schramm: Vice-President, Ryan Gates: Treasurer, Robert Kuykendall & Sarah Vielma: Historian, Katelynn Butler: Secretary, Robert Sanchez: Webmaster, and Caitlin Hagans & Jonathan Hagans: Social Directors.

### **Honors Courses**

Honors courses are proposed by professors who are then interviewed by the honors curriculum committee. Once the committee approves the course proposal, the course proposal is approved by the Honors Director, Dean of University College, and sent to the VPAA’s office for a course number. Each honors course must be interdisciplinary and writing intensive. Substitutions are secured during the approval process.

Beginning fall 07 students have the option of enrolling in Hon 4391, the Honors Independent Study course. This course allows a student to design a course of study for honors credit under the supervision of a faculty member.

Students can also complete an honors contract for honors credit wherein they contract with a professor in an advanced non-honors course. The student receives honors credit for the course upon completing the regular course requirements plus the equivalent of 15% additional work set forth in the honors contract.

The program began offering departmental honors classes for the first time in the fall of 2008 with BLAW 2361. In the fall of 2009 CHEM 2341 and MATH 2471 were added to the schedule. Honors sections of US1100 have been offered in the fall semester for the past three years.

### Scholarships

The program currently administers 4 different scholarships totaling \$30,500 per year: Camp Scholarships (\$500 each per annum), Craddock Scholarships (\$1,500 each per annum), the FitzPatrick Scholarships (\$1,000 each per annum), B.J. and Stan Friedman Scholarship (\$1500 per annum), and University Honors Program Scholarships (\$1,000 each per annum). The Gregg Scholarship (\$4000 each per annum) was initiated September 2009 for spring 2010 disbursement. We also administer and award up to \$3000 in undergraduate Honors Thesis Grants.

### Lampasas Hall

Along with the Center for International Studies, the Honors Program has been housed in the renovated Lampasas Hall since fall 2005. Located directly on the quad next to Old Main, Lampasas Hall has provided students, faculty, and community members a gathering place for study, conversation, art receptions and gallery exhibits, classrooms, computer lab work, student and faculty offices, and meeting and kitchen space. Honors students and non-Honors students alike enjoy its facilities and visit regularly. Tours this past year included students from the Communication Arts School from the Taft campus in San Antonio, the space was used for meetings of the Diamond Way Buddhist Group, Alpha Lambda Delta, the English Conversation Group, and celebrative gatherings such as receptions for US1100 instructors, Emerging Stars instructors, and the board of the Center for International Studies.

Located in the Honors Coffee Forum, the site of a former art gallery, **the Gallery of the Common Experience** provides a visual response to the theme of the Common Experience. Curated by Linda Kelsey-Jones and honors student volunteers, the gallery features exhibits throughout the year. <http://www.txstate.edu/honors/forum/gallcommonexp.html>

### The 2009-2010 Common Experience: The Whole Mind: Crossing Boundaries of Disciplines

The proposal for The Whole Mind: Crossing Boundaries of Disciplines was written in the University Honors Program originating with Associate Director Diann McCabe and gallery curator Linda Kelsey-Jones (Art & Design) along with honors professors Dan Lochman (English), Terry McCabe (Mathematics), Honors Director Heather Galloway (Physics), and Hiroko Warshauer (Mathematics). Once the proposal was accepted, the Whole Mind Common Experience committee grew to over 100 students, faculty and staff from across campus disciplines and also included representatives from the San Marcos Public Library, and the Community Arts Program. Committee members made presentations to the local chamber of commerce, inviting participation in the Common Experience. A Facebook site was maintained by a student to promote Common Experience events. All events were well attended and the common reader, Dan Pink's *A Whole New Mind: Why Right-Brainers Will Rule the Future* was enjoyed by students in US1100 and across the campus and community. During the summer of 2009 Friday Common Experience brown bag lunches were held in the honors coffee forum, and monthly meetings of the whole committee were held in Lampasas 501 and/or 502B from August through April. <http://www.txstate.edu/commonexperience/pastsitearchives/2009-2010/>

<b>HONORS FACULTY</b>	
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<b>Fall 2009 (17 + 4390A, B, 4391 +3 Departmental + 6 Honors sections of US1100)</b>	<b>Spring 2010 (17 + 4390A, B, 4391 + 2 Departmental Honors Courses)</b>
Abunseir, A., Extension Studies	Beebe, S., Comm Studies
Booth, C., Chemistry (Deptl)	Booth, C., Chemistry (Deptl)

Canabal, M., Family & Consumer Science	Campbell, A., Art & Design
Crixell, S., Family & Consumer Science	Evans, P., English
Galloway, H., University Honors (Honors & US1100)	Hanson, S., English
Hale, Business (Deptl)	2 Hood, J., Theatre & Dance
Hawkins, C., Social Work (Honors & US1100)	Hutcheson, P., Philosophy
2 Hood, J., Theatre & Dance (2 US1100)	Liddle, W., History (Emeritus)
Jaffe, C., Modern Languages	Galloway, H., University Honors
Liddle, W., History (Emeritus)	Grasso, K., Political Science
Lochman, D., English	Hanson, S., English
Lopes, V., Biology	Hawkins, C., Social Work
2 McCabe, D., University Honors (Honors & US1100)	2 McCabe, D., University Honors
Makowski, History	McKinney, A., Philosophy
Mandziuk, R., Communication Studies	Martin, C., Modern Languages
Menninger, M., History	Martinez, G., Mass Comm/Journalism
Morrison, S., English	Olson, D., Physics
Raphael, R., Philosophy	Peirce, K., English
Renick, C., Health Administration	Raphael, R., Philosophy
Skerpan-Wheeler, E., English Subervi, F., (US1100)	Rast, W., Biology
Ward, K., Political Science	Ugalde, S., Modern Languages
Warshauer, M., Math Wayment, S., Math (Deptl)	Wayment, S., Mathematics (Deptl)

<b>Honors Statistics:</b>
<b>Fall 2009</b>
<b>New entering freshmen: 154</b>
<b>Fall active honors students: 1158</b>
<b>Fall 12th day enrollment: 266</b>
<b>End of semester enrollment: 227</b>
<b>Honors courses offered: 23</b>
<b>(New honors courses: 6)</b>
<b>(Departmental honors courses: 3)</b>
<b>Honors University Seminar sections: 6</b>
<b>Honors contract courses completed: 15</b>
<b>Fall 2009 graduates in the University Honors Program: 6</b>

<b>Spring 2010</b>
<b>Active honors students: 1157</b>
<b>Spring 12th day enrollment: 304</b>
<b>End of semester enrollment: 299</b>
<b>Honors courses offered: 22</b>
<b>(New honors courses: 6)</b>
<b>(Departmental honors courses: 2)</b>
<b>Honors contract courses completed: 6</b>
<b>Spring 2010 graduates in the University Honors Program: 24</b>

<b>Summer I &amp; II 2010</b>
<b>Honors courses offered: 4</b>

<b>(New honors courses: 1)</b>
<b>Honors contracts completed: 2</b>
<b>Summer 2010 graduates in the University Honors Program: 2</b>

<b>Total graduates in the honors program: 32</b>
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**Graduation in the University Honors Program by College:**

College	Fall 2009	Spring 2010	Summer 2010
Applied Arts			
Business		2	
Education	3	0	
Fine Arts & Comm.		6	1
Health Professions		0	
Liberal Arts		12	1
Science	3	3	
University College		1	
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2</b>

<b>HONORS COMMITTEES</b>
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**Honors Course Curriculum Committee**

Members of the Honors Course Curriculum Committee meet to interview faculty proposing honors courses:

- Diann A. McCabe, University Honors Program
- Desareé Williams, Honors Graduate Assistant (Anthropology)
- Rhonda Martinez, Honors student (Education)
- Max Warshauer, Mathematics
- Heather Galloway, University Honors Program/Physics
- Audrey McKinney, Philosophy
- Jeff Gordon, Philosophy
- Caitlin Hagans, Honors student (International Studies)
- Dan Lochman, English
- Dennis Dunn, International Studies
- John Hood, Theatre/Honors
- Carole Martin, Modern Languages

**Scholarship Committees**

**Craddock & Honors Scholarships**

- Heather Galloway, University Honors Program
- Elvin Holt, English
- William Liddle, History
- Lynette Watkins, Chemistry

**Gregg Scholarship**

- Heather Galloway, University Honors Program
- Diann McCabe, University Honors Program

**Fitzpatrick Scholarship**

- Ragan Aaron, Honors student (Psychology)
- Diann McCabe, University Honors Program
- Desareé Williams, Honors Graduate Assistant (Anthropology)

**BJ and Stan Scholarship**

- B.J. Friedman, Nutrition
- Stan Friedman, Psychology

**Honors Scholarship Committee**

- Heather Galloway, University Honors Program/Physics
- Vicente Lopes, Biology
- Diann McCabe, University Honors Program
- Audrey McKinney, Philosophy
- Max Warshauer, Mathematics

**Thesis Grant Committee**

- John Hood, Theatre/Honors
- Diann McCabe, University Honors Program
- Desareé Williams, Honors Graduate Assistant (Anthropology)

**2009-2010 Scholarship Recipients:**

GREGG (\$1500 ea. for Fall 2009)

- Rebekah Frank
- Caitlin Hagans  
(\$2000 ea. for 2010-2011)
- Megan Clark
- Alexa McLatcher

CRADDOCK (\$1500/year)

- Mandy Brown
- Valene Bummara
- Danielle Faurie

HONORS (\$1000/year)

- Hylary Ahrendt
- Monica Ahsan
- Taylor Clark
- Audrey Decker
- Angelika Fuller
- Beatriz Gomez
- Caitlin Hagans
- Mutsuko Heinai
- Gabe Hurtado
- Kelsey Kite
- Kyle Poupart
- Alexandra Scarborough
- Emma Stephens
- Anastasiya Travina

FITZPATRICK (\$1000/year)

- April Esquivel
- Eric Harper
- Rhonda Martinez
- Alysha Moore

CAMP (\$500/year)

- Laura Kobylecky
- Caitlin Martin

**2009-2010 Thesis Grant Recipients**

- Michael Beebower for "Electrochemical reduction of organobromides catalyzed by a novel dicobalt complex having two salen units" (\$500, spring 2010)
- Carter Maddox for "Atame! to Take!: Visioning Almodovar onto the American stage" (\$500, fall 2009)
- Kosaku Narioka for "Understanding Israeli and Palestinian perspectives on the peace talks" (\$500, fall 2009)
- Deanna Ledezma
- Sarah Williams
- Ava Pope

### **University Honors Program Committee**

The University Honors Program receives direction and advice from the University Honors Program Committee which met December 10, 2009. For FY 2010, the committee consisted of:

- Lori Czop Assaf, Curriculum & Instruction
- Stephen Awoniyi, Health & Human Performance
- James Bell, Management
- Chandra Bilson, Computer Information Systems & Quantitative Methods
- Kambra Bolch, Admissions
- Ron Brown, University College
- Heather Galloway, University Honors Program
- Stephen Gates, Honors Student Association
- Caitlin Hagans, HSA
- Janet Hale, Business
- Catherine Hawkins, School of Social Work
- John Hood, Theatre/Honors
- Gwendolyn Hustvedt, Family & Consumer Science
- Catherine Jaffe, Modern Languages
- Melanie Liddle, University Honors Program
- Daniel Lochman, English
- Roseann Mandziuk, Communication Studies
- Diann McCabe, University Honors Program
- Eileen Morrison, Health Administration
- Rodney Rohde, Clinical Laboratory Science
- Kelly Schnarr, HSA
- Michelle Sotolongo, Honors Alumna
- Federico Subervi, School of Journalism, Center for the Study of Latino Media & Markets
- Max Warshauer, Mathematics
- Linette Watkins, Chemistry & Bio-Chemistry
- Desaree Williams, Honors Graduate Assistant

### **Honors Awards:**

Honors students show their appreciation to a 09-10 honors professor with the honors professor of the year award. In addition, honors students acknowledge a professor and a staff member from across the university who has been effective in an advisory role. For Fall 09 and Spring 10, the following received acknowledgement from honors students:

- John Hood (Theatre/Honors) and Steven Beebe (Communication Studies), Honors Professors of the Year
- Dr. Betty Harkins (Occupational Education), Goodbread Faculty Advisor of the Year
- Karl Boyson (Fine Arts and Communication), Bishop Staff Advisor of the Year

**Honors program outreach and collaboration: providing a place for innovative thinking among faculty, staff and students throughout 09-10**

**Fall 2009**

- Honors professors John Hood, Federico Subervi, Catherine Hawkins, Diann McCabe, and Heather Galloway taught honors sections of US1100 in the fall of 2009, participating in Paws Preview, the fall honors retreat, and Dan Pink's talk.
- Honors professor John Hood and honors students from Troupe Texas staged bi-weekly play and poetry readings at Wake the Dead coffee house in San Marcos during the fall semester

**August**

- Honors alumnus Dr. Joseph L. Brown (Graduate Diversity Recruiting Officer for the School of Humanities and Sciences and lecturer in the department of psychology at Stanford University) gave the address for New Student Convocation. He also led a workshop on Using the Whole Mind in Applying to Graduate School, and led a conversation on creativity before a gathering of graduate education students, faculty, staff and honors students in the honors coffee forum.

**September**

- Curator Linda Kelsey-Jones organized "Artists Respond: with HOPE," a reception for Alan Pogue and HOPE organizers Brian and Andi Steidle whose work was featured in the Gallery of the Common Experience. During the reception honors student Angelika Fuller and others from the STAND organization presented a check to the Steidle's to support the work of HOPE. Associate Director Diann McCabe is the advisor to STAND.
- Sixty freshmen honors students attended a day-long honors retreat for freshmen held in the honors space in Lampasas Hall. Honors professor John Hood and friends performed bluegrass music for the honors freshman retreat and Hood and donor, Dr. Steve Zingraf led workshops for the honors retreat. Numerous honors alumnus and faculty attended the closing dinner.
- Associate Director Diann McCabe presented "Thinking in New Directions" at the 17th Annual African American Leadership Conference in September 2009.
- Honors professor Donald Olson, Russell Doescher, honors student Ava Pope, Joe Herbert & Bob Newton presented "Edvard Much's Starry Skies" for the September 17 Physics Department Colloquium. The presentation had its origins in Olson's honors class, Astronomy in Art, History and Literature.
- Artistic director and writer, Joe Luis Cedillo, and other members of the Black and Latino Playwrights' Conference visited Professor John Hood's honors Screenwriting class

**October**

- Director and Associate Director Heather Galloway and Diann McCabe attend Texas State Parents Breakfast.
- Honors professor Dan Lochman (English) brought writer Suzanne Keen to campus for a talk in the Wittliff Collections on Strategic Empathy and the Arts: The Novel-reading Mind as a Common Experience event focused on empathy. Keen also visited John Hood's honors class, The World's a Stage: Dramatic Glimpses of the Human Condition and Contemporary Issues, combined with Catherine Hawkins' class, Universal Human Rights: a Global Perspective. Keene also served on an empathy panel for a Philosophy Dialogue.
- Honors student Angelika Fuller presented a philosophy dialogue on her humanitarian work with No More Deaths in Arizona.
- The Fall Common Experience speaker, Daniel Pink, spoke at 4 p.m. in Evans on Johnny Bunko: The Last Career Guide You'll Ever Need for Career Month and at 8 p.m. in Evans on the whole mind. Before the 8 p.m. talk a reception for Pink also honored donor, Steve Gregg, in the Wittliff Gallery. Honors Director Heather Galloway and President Trauth presented Mr. Gregg with a plaque in appreciation of the honors scholarship he endowed. For the 8 p.m. Common Experience talk President Trauth introduced Dan Pink before he gave the address on The Whole Mind to a packed house in Evans Auditorium. Honors



- staff, faculty and students initiated the plans to bring Pink to campus along with a committee from the Whole Mind Common Experience.
- The Honors Student Association hosted the Spring 2010 honors professors and a gathering of 100 students for Meet the Professor Night. Professors include Steve Beebe, Rebecca Raphael, Sandra Mayo, Elvin Holt, Catherine Hawkins, Peter Hutcheson, Pat Evans, Gilbert Martinez, Bill Liddle, Steve Awoniyi, Audrey McKinney, Sharon Ugalde, Andrew Campbell, Don Olson, John Hood, Kathleen Peirce, Carole Martin, Ken Grasso, Walter Rast, Stanley Wayment, Chad Boothe, and Heather Galloway.
  - Honors student Biatriz Gomez along with students from Rincon Hispano Universitario presented a Dia de Los Muertos Celebration featuring speakers, folklorico performances, mariachi music, and food. Biatriz set up an altar that resided in the honors coffee forum for the month of October with wide participation. Speakers at the celebration included Dean Jaime Chahin and honors alumnus Michelle Sotolongo who established the first Dia de Los Muertos celebration in honors some five years ago. Dancers included residents from San Marcos who performed outside Lampasas on the quad in front of Old Main.
  - Honors staff and students staffed a table and made presentations at Bobcat Day.

#### November

- Honors hosted "My Mind Has a Mind of Its Own: Poems about Perception" along with the Department of English. The San Marcos Jazz Trio provided music before Texas State's creative writing faculty read poems before a packed audience in the coffee forum.
- Honors student Lauryn Gould presented "The Inner Symphony in Recital: A Performance for the Whole Mind" in the School of Music Recital Hall as part of her honors thesis work inspired by Daniel Pink's book, *A Whole New Mind*.
- Honors director Dr. Heather Galloway and Community Arts Coordinator, Grady Hillman organized a "Whole Brain Tour" in the College of Art and Design, the Department of Technology, the School of Engineering, and the Department of Physics
- Honors director and associate director Galloway and McCabe traveled to Washington, D.C. along with four honors students for the National Collegiate Honors Council Conference. McCabe presented a session on innovation in honors.
- Honors professor Amjad Bin Mohammed brought to campus Ms. Sarwat Husian, president of the Council on American-Islamic Relations in San Antonio. Husian gave a Common Experience talk on stereotypes and misconceptions about Islam before about 100 students, faculty, staff, and community residents.
- Honors professor Donald Olson is notified that his research with honors students in Mexico in the 90s is featured in a new children's book, *On the Texas Trail of Cabeza de Vaca* by Peter Lourie.
- Honors curator Linda Kelsey-Jones and honors student curators arranged the art exhibit, "Symphony and Metaphor," and reception for the artists and students, faculty and staff in the Gallery of the Common Experience in the honors coffee forum. Guest artists Jeanne Stern and Elantu Viovoide addressed the reception guests.
- Honors professor Catherine Hawkins and honors student Hylary Ahrendt made a presentation on Human Trafficking to Residence Life. Hylary was a student in Hawkins's honors class, Universal Human Rights: A Global Perspective.
- Honors professor Kathleen Peirce exhibited her graduate creative writing students' hand-made books in the conference room (Lampasas 407A) in an exhibit entitled "Object Lessons."
- As part of her honors contract course supervised by Professor Andy Campbell, honors student Jennie Gray curated the exhibit, "Our Stories, Our Selves: A Feminist Art Show," in Lampasas 407A. Fifty guests attended the reception Gray organized.  
<http://star.txstate.edu/content/%E2%80%99our-stories-ourselves-feminist-art-show%E2%80%99>
- Honors student Angelika Fuller and other students in the Diamond Way Buddhist Center brought Lama Ole Nydahl to campus for a talk outside of Old Main and Lampasas.

- Honors professor Dan Lochman invited Diane Kanawati and Salwa from Austin Freedom of Faith to his honors class, Origins of Civilization, to discuss Islam. Honors professor Amjad Mohammed's honors class, Introduction to Islam, also joined in the discussion.
- Students in honors professor Catherine Hawkins's Universal Human Rights honors class volunteered to serve Thanksgiving dinner at Southside Community Center.

#### December

- Honors and the Office of the Associate Vice President for Research and Federal Relations host the 4th Annual Undergraduate Research Conference and Thesis Forum in Lampasas. Open to all majors and disciplines, students made 18 oral research presentations and presented 12 research posters in a juried session. First place poster winners were honors student Christina Zambrano, Benjamin Lamb, and Deleigh Hermes for "Newcomers: Wurzbach Manor" under the supervision of Art & Design professor Jason Reed. Second place winners were Gabrielle Timmoins, Risha Patel, and Chi Nguyen for "Value of Bat Subsidy Effects of Non-Cave Ecosystems." <http://www.txstate.edu/honors/forum/past/f09/urc-thesis.html>
- Honors student Carter Maddox's play, "Take!" was directed by Charlie Diblasi and produced by honors student Zachary Schulte for four performances in the Theatre Center. "Take!" was written as part of Carter Maddox's honors thesis.
- The Honors Program Committee met for a presentation on the state of the program and a workshop on future plans.
- Seven of the top ten downloads of eCommons are honors students' theses: <http://ecommons.txstate.edu/topdownloads.html>

#### Spring 2010

##### January

- Honors student Edgar Gordyn's research paper, "The Storytelling Tradition in Miguel Cervantes' *Don Quixote*" is published on the eCommons website. Gordyn's paper was written for honors professor Cathy Jaffe's honors class, Don Quixote and the Birth of the Modern Novel in the spring 2009 semester. His was the first honors research paper posted to eCommons. (Honors theses have been posted since 2006.)
- Honors alumna and colleague Margaret Vaverek was named employee of the month: <http://www.hr.txstate.edu/hrbulletin/January-2010-HR-Bulletin/page-13.html>
- Associate Director Diann McCabe presented the Whole Mind Common Experience theme to 30 Resident Assistants in a training program.
- Students in Honors professor Susan Hanson's Nature and the Quest for Meaning class join together in a pre-semester overnight retreat at University Camp. Greenbelt Alliance president Todd Derkacz visits class.
- Honors student Angelika Fuller traveled through Siberia with the Diamond Way Buddhist Group.

##### February

- Honors students in honors professor Janet Hale's BLaw class (from fall 08) invited businessman and space explorer Richard Garriott to Texas State to be the Business Leadership Week keynote speaker. Hale's students introduced Garriott before his talk on space exploration. Honors students hosted a reception for Garriott in the coffee forum where he discussed his role as a gamer.
- As part of the honors class, The Art of Storytelling, John Hood's honors students staged storytelling performances on 2 nights in the spring at Cheatham Street Warehouse before an audience of students, faculty and community residents.
- Honors Director Heather Galloway coordinated two days of Scholars Day activities with each college for some 100 prospective high ability students. Some 15 current honors students presented posters of their research and activities on each of the two days of presentations.
- Honors student Deanna Ledezma presented "Written at His 'Desk of Well-Being and Thinking': Gender and Psychoanalysis in Jack Kerouac's *The Subterraneans*" at the 31st

Annual Meeting of the Southwest/Texas Popular & American Culture Associations in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Honors Program contributed \$200 toward her expenses for the trip.

- Honors staff and students staffed a table and made presentations for Bobcat Day.
- Honors curator Linda Kelsey-Jones and honors students hosted a reception for artists for the “Cartography of the Whole Mind” art exhibit in the honors coffee forum.
- Writer Stephen Harrigan, author of *Water and Light*, visits honors professor Susan Hanson's Nature and the Quest for Meaning class. Students read Harrigan's text.

#### March

- Seven honors students plus Honors Director Heather Galloway, Associate Director Diann McCabe and honors professor Nancy Wilson hosted a luncheon in honors for visiting Fulbright Scholar Dr. Cecile Nyambe from Cameroon. Dr. Nyambe answered questions about her research on feminism.
- Honors alumnus and Juilliard Professor Wayne Oquin returned to campus for the fourth “Juilliard Rejoins Texas State for a Common Experience in the Arts: Portraits of the Artist’s Mind” to a packed house in Evans Auditorium. Honors hosted a reception in the coffee forum for the visiting actors, dancers and musicians from Juilliard.
- The Honors Student Association hosted Meet the Professor Night with \*\*\*\*\*
- Honors professor Gilbert Martinez and students from his honors class, Free Speech, Free Press, and the Supreme Court of the United States, visited St. Mary's Law School in San Antonio to hear oral arguments before the Texas Supreme Court.  
<http://www.speakfreelyblog.blogspot.com/>
- Honors professor John Hood’s honors class, The Art of Storytelling, performed oral presentations, songs, improv, and dance at historic Cheatham Street Warehouse in San Marcos before a crowd of students, faculty and community members.
- Students in honors professor Susan Hanson's Nature and the Quest for Meaning class take a glass bottom boat ride and wetland tour of Aquarena Springs. The students in class also participated in Bobcat Build.

#### April

- Two honors students, Rebekah Frank and Kosaku Narioka, had their thesis research chosen from among 2600 submissions to present at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in Missoula, Montana. Frank’s thesis, “Cover Your Eyes: Considering Empathetic Response when Reviewing Visual Art Conveying Trauma,” was supervised by Art History Professor Andrew Campbell and Metals Professor Beverly Penn.  
[https://www.umt.edu/ce/secure/ncur2010/search/Display\\_NCUR.aspx?id=41391](https://www.umt.edu/ce/secure/ncur2010/search/Display_NCUR.aspx?id=41391)
- Narioka’s thesis, “Searching for the Point of No Return,” was supervised by Professor Richard Warms, Anthropology.
- Twenty-four honors students presented spring honors theses at the spring 2010 honors thesis forum. <http://www.txstate.edu/honors/forum/honorconf/sched.html>
- *Bloomberg Businessweek* features a complimentary issue from McCoy College of Business Administration with Richard Garriott on the cover and back cover. Honors students are featured introducing Garriott at his talk at Texas State and at his reception in honors.
- Honors staff and faculty collaborated on Sir Ken Robinson’s talk and reception in the Wittliff Gallery and his Common Experience on Creativity before a packed house in Evans Auditorium.
- Honors student Ben Sullivan presented “Lou Gehrig and ALS: A Caregiver’s Story” at the Faith in Action National Conference in Orlando, Florida. The paper was written for the honors class, Baseball and the American Experience, taught by Professor Oren Renick. Sullivan’s story about writing the paper was featured in a *Texas Monthly* ad and on the Texas State Rising Star series. <http://www.txstate.edu/rising-stars/ben-sullivan>

- Honors students, faculty and staff were recognized at the spring honors awards ceremony in the Wittliff Gallery with a welcome given by Provost Perry Moore.
- Honors professor Craig Hanks arranged for visiting philosophy professor and clinical bioethicist Jessica Miller from the University of Maine to present “Neuroethics: How the new brain science is changing the way we think about ethics” in the honors coffee forum before an audience of students and faculty.
- Honors graduate assistant, Desareé Williams, was awarded the Alpha Lambda Delta Fellowship. <http://www.nationalald.org/ALD2005/fellows2010.asp>
- Honors hosted a reception in the honors coffee forum for Austin filmmaker, Turk Pipkin, before a showing of his film, *One Peace at a Time* in Flowers Hall.
- Theatre professor Nadine Mozon’s students in her Actor Artist Aesthetic course performed “This Is Your Brain on Stage” in the honors coffee forum. Based on Dan Pink’s book, *A Whole New Mind*, the students’ performances were a rehearsal for a final performance to be held in the Theatre Department.
- Associate Director Diann McCabe served as “guest director” for *The Servant of Two Masters* in the Theatre Department.
- Students in honors professor Susan Hanson's Nature and the Quest for Meaning class had lunch at Wildlife Habitat #1 in San Marcos and a tour of the San Marcos Nature Center. Dianne Odegard of Bat Conservation International visited class. Class members also visited the campus observatory, went kayaking on Lady Bird Lake in Austin, and watched the bat emergence at Bracken Cave.

#### May

- Honors professor Andy Campbell’s honors class, The Graphic Novel: Form and Practice, held an end-of-semester book release party featuring his honors students’ 10-page graphic novellas written during the course of the semester.
- Honors professor John Hood’s students in The Art of Storytelling performed a final time at Cheatham Street Warehouse before an audience of faculty, students and community residents.
- Honors student, Kosaki Narioka, is featured as a Texas State Rising Star. <http://www.txstate.edu/rising-stars/kosaku-narioka.html>

#### June

- Honors graduate Ben Sullivan presented “Lou Gehrig and ALS: A Caregiver’s Story,” at the annual symposium on baseball and American culture at the Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.
- Honors hosted 6 tours for New Student Orientation, making presentations and inviting students to join the program. Honors hosted incoming honors students in schedule building. Honors welcomed students from four transfer orientation, answering questions about the program and helping students join and register for classes.

#### July

- Honors professor Don Olson, English professor Marilyn Olson, and honors student Ava Pope publish their findings on Walt Whitman’s writing of a “strange huge meteor-procession” in the July 2010 issue of *Sky and Telescope*. Professor Olson teaches the honors class, Astronomy in Art, History and Literature. Physics major Ava Pope’s work as a student in Olson’s honors class led to her research with him.
- Honors professor John Hood offers the first on-campus summer II honors course, Literature in Performance, a team-taught class with English professor Dan Lochman.
- Admissions counselors met with honors staff for exchange of information over a light breakfast.
- Honors hosted 5 tours for New Student Orientation, making presentations and inviting students to join the program. Honors hosted incoming honors students in schedule building on the second day of NSO. Honors welcomed students from three transfer orientations, answering questions about the program and helping students join and register for classes.

- Honors staff met with Murel Miller, Veterans Certifying Assistant, to plan a strategy to reach undergraduate students who are veterans at Texas State.

### **Honors Student Achievements**

- International Studies major Beatriz Gomez spent the spring semester as an international exchange student at The Hague University/University Higher European Studies in Amsterdam. Beatriz learned about this opportunity at the fall 2009 study abroad fair.
- International Studies major Michelle Brown (1993) was presented the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award by the College of Liberal Arts in 2009. Brown had also been awarded the Walter Richter Humanitarian Award in 2009 for her work with Refugees International. In 2003 the University Honors Program brought Brown to campus to speak about her work in the talk, *The Aftermath of War*.
- Music major Wayne Oquin (1999) was named a 2009 Distinguished Alumnus at Texas State. Wayne is an internationally recognized musician, composer and professor at The Juilliard School who initiated the Juilliard Rejoins Texas State for a Common Experience in the Arts program.
- English major Olivia Burgess (2002) graduated from Texas A&M with a Ph.D in English. She will be a lecturer there in the 2010-2011 academic year.
- SRT major, Carley Wolf (Dec 2006) continues to perform music around the U.S. in a group called Ghost Wolves.
- International Studies/French major, James Collins (May 2007) graduated from University of Minnesota with Masters in Business Administration and in Public Policy.
- International Studies/Spanish major Louie D. Valencia (May 2007) is finishing a Masters in Early Modern and Modern European History at Fordham University. In the fall he will begin a Ph.D. program in Early Modern and Modern European History, with a secondary concentration in Urban Studies. He will also work toward a Doctoral Certificate in Medieval Studies.
- Psychology major Heidi Blocker (May 2007) will begin a Ph.D. program in the Social/Affect Program at the University of Denver in the fall. She will minor in Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience and receive a full tuition remission, a stipend, and a chance of winning an additional award for exceptionally qualified first year grad students.
- MACY major Roxanne Morales (Dec 2009) began work as an audit assistant for DeLoitte & Touche LLP in Houston, Texas
- Marketing major Saki Matsukawa (Dec 2009) works for Fuji Television in Japan.
- Physics major Ava Pope (May 2010) has been accepted to a Ph.D in Physics program at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. Pope was featured in *Under the Microscope: Stories for, by and about Women Scientists*  
<http://www.underthemicroscope.com/q-a/a-conversation-with-ava-pope-physicist>
- Journalism major Kosaku Narioka (May 2010) will begin an internship with The Wallstreet Journal/Dow Jones Newswires in Tokyo, Japan.
- English major Carter Maddox (May 2010) will enter the MA in Literature at Texas State.
- Political Science/Philosophy major Goyland Williams (May 2010) will enter the MA in Philosophy program at Howard University.
- Chemistry major Michael Beebower (May 2010) will begin a Ph.D. program in organic chemistry at Indiana University-Bloomington.
- Studio Art major Rebekah Franke (May 2010) will enter an MFA Program at the Cranbrook Academy of Art.
- Psychology major Naomi Medina (May 2010) will enter the Master's in Health Psychology at Texas State University.
- Psychology major Ragan Aaron (May 2010) will begin a Master's in Mental Health Counseling at Appalachian State University.
- English major Rachel Gibbs (May 2010) will teach English in Funabashi, Japan.

### **Honors Faculty and Staff Reported Achievements**

- Honors administrative assistant, Melanie Liddle, was awarded the 2010 Staff Council Tina Schultz Staff Excellence Award.
- Health Administration professor Eileen Morrison's second edition of her textbook, *Ethics in Health Administration: A Practical Approach for Decision Makers* was published.
- History professor Liz Makowski presented "Papal Enclosure of Medieval Nuns," *Enfermements*, International Colloquium, Troyes, France, October 22-24, 2009.
- The Dean of the McCoy College of Business Administration nominated students for Rising Stars! in honors professor Janet Hale's departmental honors course, Business Law.
- Philosophy professors Jeffrey Gordon and Audrey McKinney published, 'Love or lust: a phenomenological investigation', *British Society of Phenomenological Research* (to appear January 2010).
- During the winter recess Journalism professor Federico Subervi travelled to Puerto Rico co-teach a class on Travel Writing organized by the College of Communication of the University of Oklahoma.
- History professor Peter Siegenthaler, along with Nagakura Saburo and Hida Minzokumura, published a chapter, "Architecture, Folklore Studies, and Cultural Democracy," in *Making Japanese History*, edited by Christoph Brumann and Rupert Cox.
- Mathematics professor Max Warshauer was named a Piper Professor in spring 2010.
- English professor Steve Wilson won the Everett Swinney Senate Teaching Award.
- Presidential Awards for Excellence in Teaching went to Ms. Kathleen Peirce, Department of English and Dr. Gwendolyn Hustvedt, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences
- Presidential Award for Excellence in Service went to honors faculty member Mr. David Nolan, School of Journalism and Mass Communication
- The Presidential Seminar Award went to an active supervisor of honors theses, Dr. James LeSage, Department of Finance and Economics
- The Everett Swinney Award went to Dr. Donald Olson, Department of Physics.
- Employee of the year was Honors alumna, Ms. Margaret Vaverek

### **SPECIAL INITIATIVES**

- Adding GS 3310, General Science, and CS 1428, Foundations of Computer Science, as new departmental honors classes
- Offering the first on-campus summer honors class with HON 3396J, Literature in Performance.
- Common Experience meetings planning for The Whole Mind theme involving disciplines and staff from across campus and the community.
- Opening Lampasas 407A for student curated art exhibits.
- Collaboration with Texas State Marketing and Admissions to create a view book for honors.
- Honors director Heather Galloway and associate director Diann McCabe have served on the LBJ/MLK Crossroads Project committee.