The University Honors Program

Annual Report: 2010-11

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM

Honors programs serve a unique function in institutions with highly heterogeneous student bodies. The best of these programs provide diverse curricula for a wide array 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 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. Honors faculty represent many departments and colleges on campus, providing professors a teaching laboratory wherein they can explore new research areas or teaching methods. Additionally, we offer scholarships annually to Honors students. This year Ms. Amy Eoff, Dr. & Mrs. Michael Heintze, Dr. & Mrs. William Liddle, Mrs. Judith Row, and Ms. Margaret Vaverek made financial contributions to the University Honors Program.

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 and Bobcat Days presentations; 2) 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; 3) supporting our students' participation in and faculty offerings of quality study abroad opportunities; 4) collaborating with Residence Life on the honors living learning community in Butler Hall; and 5) continuing collaborations on undergraduate research across campus with the fall Undergraduate Research Conference and Thesis Forum.

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)
- John Hood, Senior Lecturer and Scholarship & Fellowship Advisor (full-time)
- Desareé Williams, Graduate Assistant and Anthropology graduate student (summer 2009 through summer 2011)
- Carl Mackey, Graduate Assistant (Fall 2010)
- Kevin Beahan, Graduate Assistant and Applied Geography graduate student, (joined the Honors staff in spring 2011)
- Genoveva Rodriguez, Mass Communications Intern (spring 2011)
- Anthony Villanacci, Graphic Designer

The program also employed 11 student workers: Alyssa Lynette Aparicio, Sierra Berry, Adrienne Enderle, Caitlin Hagans, Emily Koontz, Rhonda Martinez, Elissa Myers, Brianne Richardson, Daniel Shay, Sarah Vielma, and Briane Willis.

Honors Students

Students can join the University Honors Program on a rolling admissions basis. Once accepted into the program, students may choose to take one or more Honors classes. Additionally, 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 and the honors email, 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 completed their thesis.

As of fall 2006 Honors students have the option of earning a minor 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 study abroad or a similar experience.

The Honors Students Association

The University Honors Student Association (HSA) 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 oncampus 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. The 2010-2011 HSA officers included: Kelly Schnarr, President; Amanda Schramm, Vice-President; Ryan Gates, Treasurer; Robert Kuykendall and Sarah Vielma, Historians; Katelynn Butler, Secretary; Robert Sanchez, Webmaster; and Caitlin Hagans and 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, it 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.

In fall 2010, several Departmental Honors Courses were offered: BLAW 2361, CHEM 2341, CS 1428, MATH 2471, and GS 3310. Three Departmental Honors Courses were offered in spring

2011: MATH 2472, CHEM 2342, and GS 3320. Seven Honors sections of US1100 were offered in the fall semester.

Scholarships

The program currently administers 6 different scholarships totaling each year. In Spring 2011, Honors gave away \$26,500 in: 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), University Honors Program Scholarships (\$1,000 each per annum), and the Gregg Scholarship (\$2000-4000 each per annum). 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 with 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. This space was used as a stage for students in the HON 3395O class to perform improv to students and faculty in the Forum. Students from a San Antonio High School also toured the space during their visit to Texas State as prospective Bobcats. The Texas State Intensive English Program, Alpha Lambda Delta, and Emerging Stars have held receptions here during the year. Honors student Meghan Clark also used the Forum to give a presentation about her experiences through Semester at Sea and why other students participate in it.

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 2010-2011 Common Experience: Sustainability

Something about the 2010-2011 CE on Sustainability here blah blah

HONORS FACULTY

| Fall 2010 (18 + 4390A, B, 4391 + 5 Spring 2010 (21 + 4390A, B, 4391 + 3 | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| Departmental + 7 Honors sections of | Departmental Honors Courses) | |
| US1100) | | |
| Abunseir, A., Extension Studies | Abunseir, A., Extension Studies | |
| Awoniyi, S., Health & Human Performance | Beebe, S., Comm Studies | |
| Beale-Rivaya, Y., Modern Languages | Bishop, P., Theatre & Dance | |
| Duganne, E., Art & Design | Booth, C., Chemistry (Deptl) | |
| 3 Galloway, H., University Honors (Honors & | Campbell, A., Art & Design | |
| US1100) | | |
| Ginsburg, H., Psychology | Ferrero, D., Math | |
| Hawkins, C., Social Work (Honors & US1100) | Hanson, S., English | |
| 4 Hood, J., Theatre & Dance (Honors & | 2 Hood, J., Theatre & Dance | |
| US1100) | | |
| Hustvedt, G., Family & Consumer Sci | Hustvedt, G., Family & Consumer Sci | |
| (US1100) | (US1100) | |
| Irvin, I., Chemistry (Deptl) | Hutcheson, P., Philosophy | |
| Jones, C., English | Galloway, H., University Honors | |
| Lemke, M., Biology (Deptl) | Grasso, K., Political Science | |

| Lopes, V., Biology | Lemke, M., Biology (Deptl) | |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| 3 McCabe, D., University Honors (Honors & | Locklin, B., Modern Languages | |
| US1100) | | |
| Monroe, D., English | 2 McCabe, D., University Honors | |
| Qasem, A., Computer Science (Deptl) | McKinney, A., Philosophy | |
| Raphael, R., Philosophy | Martin, C., Modern Languages | |
| Renick, O., Health Administration | Martinez, G., Mass Comm/Journalism | |
| Salem, P., Communication | Murphy, A., | |
| Stokes, A., Business (Deptl) | Noll, S., English | |
| Tally, R., English | Siegenthaler, P., History | |
| Subervi, F., Journalism & Mass Comm | Rast, W., Biology | |
| (Honors & US1100) | | |
| Wayment, S., Math (Deptl) | Ward, K., Political Science | |
| Warshauer, M., Math | Wayment, S., Math (Deptl) | |
| Wilson, N., English | Wilson, N., English | |
| | Wilson, S., English | |

| Honors Statistics: |
|--|
| Fall 2010 |
| New entering freshmen: ## |
| Fall active honors students: ## |
| Fall 12th day enrollment: ## |
| End of semester enrollment: 406 (not including US 1100) |
| Honors courses offered: 26 |
| New honors courses: 8 |
| Departmental honors courses: 5 |
| Honors University Seminar sections: 7 |
| Honors contract courses completed: ## |
| Fall 2010 graduates in the University Honors Program: ## |

| Spring 2011 |
|---|
| Active honors students: ## |
| Spring 12th day enrollment: ## |
| End of semester enrollment: 334 |
| Honors courses offered: 24 |
| New honors courses: 4 |
| Departmental honors courses: 3 |
| Honors contract courses completed: 06 |
| Spring 2011 graduates in the University Honors Program: |
| ## |

| Summer I & II 2011 | | |
|--|--|--|
| Honors courses offered: ## | | |
| New honors courses: ## | | |
| Honors contracts completed: ## | | |
| Summer 2011 graduates in the University Honors | | |
| Program: ## | | |

| Total graduates in the honors program: ## | | |
|---|--|--|
| Total number of students in the program: 1192 | | |

Graduation in the University Honors Program by College:

| College | Fall 2010 | Spring 2011 | Summer 2011 |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| Applied Arts | ## | ## | ## |
| Business | ## | ## | ## |
| Education | ## | ## | ## |
| Fine Arts & Comm. | ## | ## | ## |
| Health Professions | ## | ## | ## |
| Liberal Arts | ## | ## | ## |
| Science | ## | ## | ## |
| University College | ## | ## | ## |
| Total | ## | ## | ## |

HONORS COMMITTEES

Honors Course Curriculum Committee

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

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

Scholarship Committees

Craddock and 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

- Rhonda Martinez, Honors student (Education)
- Diann McCabe, University Honors Program
- Desareé Williams, Honors Graduate Assistant (Anthropology)

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

Honors Scholarship Committee

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

Thesis Grant Committee

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

2010-2011 Scholarship Recipients:

GREGG (\$2000/year)

Shaun Ford

CRADDOCK (\$1500/year)

Mallory C. Marcone

Annie Ruth Schultz

Matthew D. Sheehan

FITZPATRICK (\$1000/year)

Sierra Raine Berry

Eric Alan Harper

Elissa Erin Myers

Michelle A. Stav

Emma Stephens

CAMP (\$500/year)

Hylary Kirsten Ahrendt

Bailey L. Smith

HONORS (\$1000/year)

Mandy A. Brown

Audrey Elise Decker

Caitlin Hagans

Gabriel Hanson Hurtado

Haydyn Marina Jackson

Kelsey E. Kite

Laura C. Kobylecky

Amanda M. Magera

Alexa Hale McLatcher

Roberto Sanchez

Hannah C. Sanderson

Alexandra M. Scarborough

Sunny M. Tompkins

Alexandra D. Warner

2010-2011 Thesis Grant Recipients

- Victor Holk
- ?? Who else ??

University Honors Program Committee

The University Honors Program receives direction and advice from the University Honors Program Committee, which, met February 18, 2011. The committee met to discuss the Honors program's proposal to become an Honors College. The committee consisted of:

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

Honors Awards:

Honors students show their appreciation to a 2010-11 Honors professor with the Honors Professor of the Year Award. Honors students also acknowledge a professor and a staff member from across the university who has been effective in an advisory role. For Fall '10 and Spring '11, the following received acknowledgement from honors students:

- Honors Professor of the Year
 - Dr. Catherine Hawkins
- Goodbread Faculty Advisor of the Year
 - Dr. Laura Strop
- Bishop Staff Advisor of the Year
 - Mr. Murel Miller

Honors program outreach and collaboration: providing a place for innovative thinking among faculty, staff and students throughout 2010-2011

Fall 2010

Honors professors John Hood, Federico Subervi, Catherine Hawkins, Diann McCabe, Heather Galloway, and Gwendolyn Hustvedt taught honors sections of US1100 in the fall of 2010.

There were 8 new Honors classes offered this semester:

- Making Spaces Steve Awoniyi, Department of Health & Human Performance
- The Black Image in Postwar America Erina Duganne, School of Art & Design
- Media Literacy Federico Subervi, School of Journalism & Mass Communication
- Depictions of Sexuality in Children's and Adolescent Literature and Culture Caroline Jones, Department of Modern Languages
- Service Learning and the Second Language Acquisition Learner Yasmine Beale-Rosano-Rivaya, Department of Modern Languages
- Building a Greener Future: One House at a Time Heather Galloway, University Honors Program and Department of Physics
- Foundation of Computer Science (CS 1428) Apan Qasem, Department of Computer Science
- General Science I (GS 3310) Maureen Lemke, Department of Biology

August

• HSA officers hosted an afternoon and evening BBQ in Sewell Park for HSA members and other interested Texas State students.

September

- Supporting Women in Geography hosted "Take Back the Tap" as part of a national campaign by Food and Water Watch. This organization handed out water bottles to students, faculty, and staff with the intent of encouraging people to stop drinking from plastic bottles in exchange for consuming tap water for environmental and health benefits. The even took place September 10 in the Quad.
- The Sustainability Must be Beautiful Exhibit was featured in the Forum and coincided with the 2010-2011 Common Experience theme of sustainability. Each work of art reflected ideas of the environment itself, environmental awareness, education, or was made out of recycled materials. A reception for the exhibit was held on September 30 in the Coffee Forum.
- Beth Ferguson presented the Solar Demonstration Project during a reception for the Common Experience gallery exhibit. The presentation was designed to educate people about energy consumption and the benefits of using solar power.

October

- Fall Freshman Retreat was held October 2. This was a time for students to build and strengthen the honors community at Texas State. The retreat included various workshops, a time for play, and a talent show. The retreat incorporated ideas from this year's Common Experience theme of sustainability. HSA coordinated the morning icebreakers with the freshmen. Students made collages inspired by a Walt Whitman poem in Dr. Heather Galloway and Professor Diann McCabe's workshop. Dr. Steve Zinkgraf and Professor John Hood hosted a Shakespearan swordfighting workshop, which gave students the opportunity to hurl Shakespearean insults and one another while swordfighting. Graduate assistants Carl Mackey and Desareé Williams created a workshop that discussed multiculturalism.
- Meet the Professor Night was on October 7. Professors teaching classes in Spring 2011 gave short presentations to recruit Honors students to their classes. Student had the opportunity to meet new and returning Honors faculty.
- Wangari Mathaai, founder of the Greenbelt Movement, was scheduled to speak as part of the Common Experience. A tree planting ceremony was conducted in her honor on

- October 11 outside of Strahan Coliseum. Students in Dr. Catherine Hawkins' "Universal Human Rights: A Global Perspective" class conducted the ceremony, which also coincided with 10/10/10, which was the Global Work Party Day: A Day to Celebrate Climate Solutions.
- Bobcat Day and Honors Luncheon: Staff and students spoke to potential Texas State students at the Bobcat Day held in the LBJ Student Center. An Honors Luncheon was also held in Lampasas 407 for invited high school students. Current honors students spoke to incoming students about life as a freshman, Honors courses, and campus life.
- Honors staff and an Honors student attended the NCHC Conference on October 20 24 in Kansas City, Missouri. This conference is designed to allow honors groups to exchange and promote ideas that have been successful within their particular honors association. This year's NCHC was attended by Honors student Beatriz Gomez and Honors staff, Dr. Heather Galloway and Professor Diann McCabe. They presented "Staying Hungry: Creativity and the Low-Budget Freshman Retreat".
- There was a reception for Colin Beavan in the Forum, which preceded his Common Experience speech in Strahan Coliseum on October 22 at 7:00 pm.In November 2006, Colin Beavan launched a year-long project in which he and his family attempted to live with as little environmental impact as possible in New York City. Beavan's experiment is the subject of his book, No Impact Man, which is the 2010-2011 Common Experience text
- The 4th annual Día de los Muertos event was sponsored by the University Honors Program. This annual Common Experience event preserves and sustains cultural traditions as well as ties between the University and the San Marcos community. All Texas State students, faculty, staff, and the San Marcos community were invited to participate in the festivities, which included interactive arts and crafts, folkloric dance by Grupo Ocotochtli, San Marcos Mariachi Academy, traditional food, and games.

November

- Students in Professor John Hood's HON 4390A Senior Seminar: Thesis Development class gave preliminary presentations of the theses they would complete in Spring 2011. The presentations were as follows:
 - o Wesley E. Abel Sink or Swim: Current Tax Policy Affecting the United States' Competitiveness Abroad
 - o Anthony Adrian Many Relations and the Problem of the Many
 - o Brittany Barton An Observational Study on Ukrainian Mail Order

Brides

- Linda Clayton She Has Decided Not to Die
- o Danielle Faurie A Qualitative Study on the Acceptance of Alternative Energy by Corn Farmers in Iowa
- o Angelika Fuller A Geographic Analysis of Immigrant Detention in the U.S.A: The Distribution and Environmental
 - Contexts of Detention Centers
 - o Jennie Gray Contemporary Women Artist Book for Youth Audience
 - o Ashleah Howard Law as a Career
- Ocrey Jackson Solving the Musician's Dilemma: One Community's HAAM, Another Community's Example
 - o Emily Lanning Magical Women Who Do Magic Without Being Men
- o Brett McDowell Master Limited Partnerships: What's the True Incentive?
- Amanda Schramm A Freshman Court and Outcome of the Senate Bill
 1070: The Development and Applications of a Supreme Court Decision Making Model
 - o Julie Sheah Media Literacy and Minority Women in the Mainstream

- o Karissa Reiter Effect of Food on Mind Eating on Purpose
- Sustaining the Moment: Poems on the Act of Attention: The Department of English, the University Honors Program, and the Common Experience sponsored a night of jazz and poetry reading. The Montecristos played live music at 6:00 p.m. This preceded poetry readings by MFA faculty on the subject of "sustaining the moment" at 7:00 p.m.
- Honors had an Open House during Bobcat Day for prospective students interested in the Honors Program. Students talked about their class experiences as well as their participation in various Honors and related campus activities.
- Teaching Poetry to Children
- UNPLUGGED: Acoustic Concert & Variety Show: Students in Professor John Hoods' Honors University Seminar courses produced an acoustic concert and variety show. There was singing, storytelling, dance, and juggling performances. This was a free Common Experience Sustainability Event...that saved electricity and hearing. The event was held in the LBJ Student Center Amphitheatre
- The Honors Student Association hosted its annual Multicultural Dinner this fall. Attendees were invited to bring a dish of their choice to share with everyone. Honors faculty, students, and staff enjoyed delicious food in a very relaxing atmosphere.
- Students from the Honors section of GS3310 went on a field trip with Professor Lemke to Canyon Gorge and the McDonald Observatory.

December

- Students in Professor John Hoods HON 3396F The Art of Storytelling class gave oral presentations, sang songs, and performed improv and dance at Cheatham Street Warehouse as part of their course final.
- The Office of the Associate Vice President for Research and the University Honors Program sponsored the 5th Annual Undergraduate Research Conference on December 2 and 3 in the LBJ Student Center. Each year, they sponsor an Undergraduate Research Conference (URC). The goal of the event is to showcase and celebrate Texas State undergraduate student work from the different colleges and disciplines. The URC is a wonderful way for students and faculty to learn about the different research projects that are occurring on the Texas State campus. The conference featured keynote speaker, Professor Jason Reed, Texas State University, Department of Photography. His speech was titled "Borderland Collective: Research to Create Change". Prizes were awarded to poster presenters:

First place:

Danielle Faurie, "Uranium Remediation in Hanford Vadose Zone Sediments by Ammonia Gas Treatment"

Second place:

Lucinda Choules, "The Efficacy of Garlic as an Antibacterial Agent"

Honorable mentions:

Sherille Bradley, "Changes in Escherichia coli and Pseudomonas aeruginosa Grown in Mixed Culture for 500 Generations"

Amanda Duran, "Characterization of Singlet Oxygen Generated DNA-Protein Cross-links"

Joseph Whitt, "Trafficking Patterns of Candida albicans Cell Mutants Within Murine Macrophages Upon Phagocytosis"

Spring 2011

- Social and Political Humor through the Art of Improvisation Paige Bishop, Department of Theatre & Dance
- Vishnu, Bollywood and Masala: South Asian Literature in Context Nancy Wilson, Department of English
- Early American History through Biography Angela Murphy, Department of History
- General Science II (GS 3320) Maureen Lemke, Department of Biology

January

- Nature & the Quest for Meaning Camping Trip: Professor Susan Hanson took students from her *Nature* & the Quest for Meaning class on a camping trip the weekend before classes started as a way to "introduce" them to nature. Not only was this an opportunity for students to get to know one another, it was also a great way to start the semester.
- Honors Freshman Hannah Sanderson created the Voyagers Travel Club for students who are interested in travel. This student organization provides opportunities for student travelers to talk about their experiences and also allows novice travelers to ask questions and hear stories from experienced travelers.

February

- A Memorial Ceremony was held for Earl Lee Moseley, Dr. on February 28 in the Memorial Garden. Earl Moseley was a Southwestern University graduate and later become heavily involved at Texas State, holding numerous positions such as Coordinator of Campus Activities and Assistant Director for Multicultural Student Affairs. There was a reception held in the Honor's Coffee Forum immediately following his memorial service.
- Group of high school students visited (El Paso, San Antonio, Chicago) the Honors Program to learn about joining the program and its benefits.
- Honors staff and students manned a table and gave presentations at Bobcat Day in the LBJ Student Center. Some prospective students were also invited to a lunch in Flowers Hall and student panel discussion in Lampasas.
- A Veteran student organization created The Combat Paper Project, which uses art-making workshops to allow military veterans express their military experiences through art. Throughout the week, this organization held art demonstrations in the Quad from 10:00 am 1:00 pm. There were also workshops from 2:00 6:00 pm in the RFM lobby. Honors hosted a reception and Combat Paper art gallery in the Coffee Forum on Thursday, February 24 at 6:00 pm.
- This year's Gallery of the Common Experience was about Sustainability and the interconnectedness of The Commons. The Commons are described as anything that we all have joint "ownership" of or access to, such as the air or the oceans. In acknowledgement of how it is everyone's responsibility to take care of and protect these natural systems, the Forum encouraged students, faculty and staff to participate in the curation/creation of this gallery.

March

- Janisse Ray, poet and writer gave a talk to Susan Hanson's Nature & the Quest for Meaning class in the Coffee Forum on March 10.
- A reception was held for Janisse Ray and the Juilliard Performers in the Coffee Forum from 3-5 pm on March 10.
- Sustaining the Moment: Reflections of Art and Nature (Juilliard Concert) was held in Evans Liberal Arts at 7 pm on March 10.
- Meet the Professor Night was held at the end of the month for students to learn about and sign up for the Honors Fall 2011 courses.

April

- The University Honors Program sponsored a seminar and lunch for faculty and graduate students where Professor Steven Moore gave a talk on "Sustainability, Codes, and Mobile Judgement in the Built Environment".
- Thesis Forums
- The Honors Student Association raised \$300 for Relay for Life and participated in the event held at Bobcat Stadium
- Out of the Box sponsored an art contest, which was supported by the University Honors Program, in the Coffee Forum. This art contest was featured as a temporary exhibit in the Forum from April 11-15.
- Honors student, Jon Lindsey presented his thesis *Dare to Wear* as part of the Common Experience Gallery on Sustainability. Lindsey's thesis was "an exploration of the attitude and habits of the consumer in regards to garment care and its relationship to sustainability and effects on the environment". As part of his thesis, he asked a small sample of Texas State students to wear one pair of jeans for an entire week to test what the jeans looked like in comparison to a pair of jeans that had only been worn for one day. The jeans and his results were displayed in the Lampasas entrance from April 25 to May 4.
- Professor Jessica Miller from the University of Maine presented "Neuroethics: How the new brain science is changing the way we think about ethics" in the Honors Coffee Forum as part of the Bioethics in the 21st Century discussion series.
- The annual University Honors Program Recognition Ceremony and Reception was held on April 28, 2011 in the Wittliff Collections at the Alkek Library. Honors graduate Victor Holk performed his original song "Warriors" to open the ceremony. HSA President Kelly Schnarr introduced Texas State University President Dr. Denise Trauth, who gave a short introductory speech.

May

• The HON 3396G Graphic Novel: Form and Practice course had a Graphic Novel Release party at the end of the semester for students to showcase the techniques they learned and graphic novels they created in class.

Honors Student Achievements

- Honors alum Christian Wallace (Fall 2010, BA History and English) has been accepted to the National University of Ireland in Galway and Teach for America.
- Honors alumnae Chloe Yingst (Spring 2011, BFA Studio Art and Communication Design) won a competition in Austin to present a solo show.
- Honors alumnae Orquidea Morales has been accepted to a PhD program at the University of Michigan.
- Honors alumnae Ragan E. Aaron published an article in the March 2011 issues of Arts & Health vol .3, no. 1, titled "Arts-based interventions to reduce anxiety levels among college students".
- Rewound: A night directed by Kellen Stanley (Studio Art) was held at Transit in San Antonio. The night featured a double bill of Samuel Beckett's Krapp's Last Tape next to The Marnie Tape performance. This is a continuation of her undergrad thesis from last December
- The honors thesis of Veronica Suarez (Anthropology 12/10), Attractions: Five Stories, is the paper of the day (3/28/11) on eCommons at http://ecommons.txstate.edu/honorprog/146/
- Christian Wallace (English/History 12/10) presented his honors thesis, Beyond the Tracks: A History of Cheatham Street Warehouse, at the Alpha Chi National Convention in San Diego, California, March 26, 2011.

- Elizabeth Wellings (Comm Studies 12/10) presented her honors thesis, Negative Stereotypes of Online Gamers and Their Communication Consequences, at the American Culture Association Popular Cultural Association in San Antonio, April 23, 2011.
- Honors student Anthony Adrian (Philosophy, Dec 2011) will publish two papers related to his honors thesis, Hylomorphism. "Ruminations on Intermittent Existence," will be published in April by Stance: An International Undergraduate Philosophy Journal http://stance.iweb.bsu.edu/.

This paper sets up a framework for arguments for or against believing that objects (houses, guns, etc.) can have a "gap" in their existence by analyzing the relationship between parts and wholes (mereology).

- A second paper, "Many Relations and The Problem of The Many," will be published in June by Aporia http://aporia.byu.edu/site.php?id=current.
- This paper offers a synthesis of the most contemporary theorizing of the part-whole relationship (mereology) with an ancient theory that states that objects are constituted by matter and form (hylomorphism).
- In addition, the "Many Relations" paper has also won two essay contests: The David Hume Scholarship (put on by Texas State) and Best Undergraduate Paper in the professorial conference The Virtue Revolution: The History of Virtue in Philosophy and Theology.
- Both journals are undergraduate philosophy journals, though they aren't "in-house" operations. To give some context, the home institutions of past published students include: Stance: Rutgers, St. Andrews, University of Warwick, Pepperdine, North Carolina Chapel Hill; Aporia: Oxford, Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Cornell, Columbia, Stanford.
- While Anthony works on the editorial board of Stance as an external reviewer, his position was attained by competitive application, and Stance operates on a blind-review process.

Honors Faculty and Staff Reported Achievements

• Honors alumna Michelle Sotolongo,....MA program at Texas State?

Special Initiatives

- We had our first Mass Comm Intern: Genoveva Rodriguez
- Reaching out to the Texas State student veteran population.
- Invitation only lunches for some prospective Texas State Students during Bobcat Day and an Honors Open House where select Honors faculty and students talk about classes and events in Honors.
- Close collaboration with Admissions, especially with Kambra Bolch.
- Terry Scholars are now automatically admitted to the Honors Program.
- Automatically contact National and Assured Scholarship recipients.

- Honors Associate Director Diann McCabe was a panelist for a Philosophy Dialogue panel Discussion on "Children, Philosophy, and the World of Imagination".
- Texas State published the University's enrollment highlights, which featured the enrollment growth of the University Honors Program from 2005 to 2009.
- New classes offered in Fall 2010: HON 2390M Making Spaces, HON 3394Z The Black Image in Postwar America, HON 3395N Media Literacy, HON 3396H Depictions of Sexuality in Children's and Adolescent Literature and Culture, HON 3396I Service Learning and the Second Language Acquisition Learner, HON 3480B Building a Greener Future: One House at a Time, CS 1428 Foundations of Computer Science, and GS 3310 General Science I.
- Offering new Honors courses in Spring 2011: HON 3395O Social and Political Humor through the Art of Improvisation, HON 3395Q Vishnu, Bollywood & Masala: South Asian Literature in Context; HON 3396L Early American History through Biography, and GS 3320 General Science II.
- Honors collaboration with LeaderShape. LeaderShape is a six (6)-day, intensive program that uses dialogue and interactive self-discovery in a supportive Learning Community that challenges participants to *lead with integrity* while working towards a vision grounded in their deepest values.
- Bobcat Net Impact, Texas State's chapter of Net Impact Central, won a silver award in competition for the Force for Change Award, an annual international competition that recognizes and rewards outstanding members who have led a project that results in a positive environmental impact. The students produced "Wear the Sun," a video about the benefits of solar drying. Find the video through Bobcat Tube on the Texas State home page.
- Diann McCabe promoting diversity funding through the San Marcos Arts Commission