



Sam Houston
STATE UNIVERSITY

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™

The Dialogue

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

SPRING 2014

SHSU's "LET'S TALK!™" GENERATES SPECIAL FUNDING

Sam Houston State University hosted an evening of lively and engaging conversation at the seventh annual "Let's Talk!™" event on March 20, in the Lowman Student Center Ballroom on campus.

"Twenty-four facilitators were seated at individual tables with guests and led discussions over an elegant dinner and fine wine on wide-ranging topics, from music to sports, crime to culinary concepts, the oil industry to the wine industry, and all things Texan to the British PBS hit *Downton Abbey*," said Jacel Angel, Director of Special Programs in SHSU's Office of University Advancement and coordinator of the event.

Among the discussion leaders were: NFL Hall of Fame member Dave Elmendorf; singer/songwriter Neal McCoy; Texas Commissioner



of Education Michael Williams; Texas Monthly editor and author Jake Silverstein; KTRK, Channel 13 investigative reporter Brian Collister; Messina Hof Winery & Resort CEO Paul Bonarrigo; and PBS's *Manor of Speaking* host Ernie Manouse.

Guests are encouraged to pre-select their topics through early reservations to receive consideration for their first, second or third choices. "Tables fill up quickly," said Dr. Maria Holmes, Assistant Director of the Honors College. So, plan early to attend the 2015 Let's Talk!™ on Thursday, March 19, 2015."

Proceeds from ticket sales fund scholarships and programs for the Elliott T. Bowers Honors College. Since it was first held in 2008, the event has generated more than \$250,000.

WANT TO BE FEATURED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE DIALOGUE?

E-MAIL YOUR STORY TO HONORS@SHSU.EDU.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

Each semester, the Honors College requires students to participate in community service to qualify for advanced registration. The Honors College helps students to achieve this goal by providing various opportunities for community service, notifying students of service opportunities across campus, and participating in campus-wide service opportunities through the year.



HONORS PUTS "ALL PAWS IN"



Each spring, the SHSU Student Government Association coordinates the largest campus community service event called Bearkat All Paws In. This event is instrumental in helping the Huntsville community through volunteer activities such as cleaning Huntsville State Park, visiting the elderly at Ella Smithers Geriatric Center, or cleaning the Wynne Home, a historic building that houses art and provides art classes to the Huntsville community. During this event, students are provided breakfast and then are spread out to their service locations across the Huntsville community.

The Honors College participates in this event each year and the students always have a fun time serving with old friends and making new friends. This year, the Honors College students were assigned to Eastham-Thomason & Kat Barr Ross Memorial State Park to pick up trash. Students were split into groups and sent out to cover the area. One group embraced the spirit of the event by naming themselves "Team Jedi Warriors." After a long day picking up trash, the students were then allowed to explore the national park together and experience nature they helped to clean.

UNIV 1301: HONORS' ACE COURSE

"I would have never imagined that such a small town would have such a great need!" says Reauna Hall, during National Make A Difference Day. The "small town" she was referring to is Huntsville, and the "great need" is The Good Shepherd Mission. Last week, she and 12 of her classmates in the Honors First Year Experience course volunteered their time helping to serve lunch and work in the food pantry at The Good Shepherd Mission.

Their understanding of the value of community service went beyond just this one day. Their professor, Dr. Maria Holmes, first provided her students with statistical information on hunger in the community—a topic that surprised many. She gave them background on The Good Shepherd home store to keep its doors open to the public. In addition, the

Mission welcomes volunteers to help with the food pantry, clothing store, mentoring, bible study, and a variety of other projects. Many of Dr. Holmes' students have



volunteered in the past at local shelters in their hometowns, but had no idea that Huntsville was in need of assistance as well.

One student, Gina Collura, said, "This experience has taught me that it is a blessing to give back. It is very rewarding and you feel good doing it." The few hours of volunteering seemed like a very small thing to the giver, but to the people receiving the kindness, it helped to make their lives better. This community engagement experience of the SHSU students shows they take our motto seriously: "The Measure of a Life is its Service."

NOTE: Dr. Holmes teaches an Academic Community Engagement (ACE) course at SHSU. There are 192 such courses offered at SHSU. For more information, please contact The Center for Academic Community Engagement at ace@shsu.edu.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT, SARAH RENFRO

It has been an eventful year for mathematics major and Honors senior Sarah Renfro. Not only has she attended several conferences, but she has also been working on her research in knot theory, titled “Knot Mosaics and Hextiling” with Dr. Brandy Doleshal, Assistant Professor in Mathematics and Statistics.

“Thanks to support from SHSU and the Honors College, I have presented my research at two conferences (including the SHSU Seventh Annual URS) and have attended several others, including the 16th Annual Nebraska Conference for Undergraduate Women in Mathematics in Lincoln, the Texas Undergraduate Topology and Geometry Conference in Austin, and The Joint Mathematics Conference in Baltimore.” Sarah believes that attending conferences provides great opportunities for building essential career skills, while giving her the opportunity to get feedback on her research from other mathematics experts.



A mathematical knot can be described as a tangled rope in three dimensions with the ends glued together such that the rope has no beginning and no end. The concept of knot theory originated in 1867, when physicist Lord Kelvin proposed that each element on the periodic table was associated to a unique knot in the ether. After two decades of extensive research on and development of Kelvin’s proposal, Scottish physicist Peter Tait composed what is now known as Tait’s Knot Table. When Tait’s theory was disproven, mathematicians studied the topic merely out of curiosity.

Sarah, however, has taken the topic more seriously, and she expanded the definition of knot mosaics to hexagonal tiles to find lower and upper bounds of the number of tiles needed to construct a knot. She is excited to continue her research this summer in a Research Experience for Undergraduates program at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, where she will be collaborating with other undergraduates on the topic of Knot Invariants for Pseudoknots.

EXPLORING THE SOUTH

This semester, Honors student Jenny Seay and Honors Ambassador Clint Morrison attended the Sigma Tau Delta international English Honor Society’s 90th Anniversary Convention in Savannah, Georgia. The conference was a chance for students across the country to share their stories, graphic novels, poetry, and literary analyses.



Seay presented her paper over the use and properties of setting in John Milton’s late-Renaissance epic, *Paradise Lost*, focusing on the effects settings had on reiterating the relationships between the characters and their journeys. Seay’s session moderator was the president of Sigma Tau Delta, who specializes

in Milton. Morrison presented his paper over the Renaissance hero culture in F. Scott Fitzgerald’s novel *The Great Gatsby*.

Along with attending several sessions and learning about literature from a variety of eras, Morrison and Seay also spent some time exploring downtown Savannah and even ate at the restaurant where they filmed the movie, *Forrest Gump*. Seay and Morrison also attended the 1920s-themed gala (to commemorate the conference’s anniversary), where everyone dressed up in time-period costumes. Seay commented, “Surprisingly, there weren’t that many flappers present, but everyone looked gorgeous.”

BENEFITS OF HONORS THESES

Two Honors College students, Sahabia Ahmed and Stephen Sears, went to the Eighth Annual Economics Scholar Program Conference for Undergraduate Research on March 28 to represent SHSU’s College of Business Administration. This conference, held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, provided the opportunity for students around the country to share their research on world economic issues.

Ahmed and Sears presented their papers on “Information and Communications Technology and Immigration from Africa” and “Effects of Gender and Race on

Occupational Wages,” respectively. Both of these papers were based on research they completed for their honors theses under the supervision of faculty advisor Dr. Hiranya K. Nath, professor of economics.

The option of completing an undergraduate thesis is a wonderful opportunity for students to work closely for two full semesters with a professor who specializes in their specific areas of interest. Once students successfully completes their theses, they then graduate with “Highest Honors,” a distinction given only to Honors College students who write theses.

*For more information about the thesis option, contact Dr. Gene Young in the Honors College office.



THE SEVENTH ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The 2014 URS, hosted by the Honors College Student Ambassadors and held in the CHSS Building and LSC Ballroom, was another resounding success, with 101 students presenting their research in oral-media and poster sessions and a total of 126 in attendance. This year's URS had a record number of poster presentations, including 24 in sciences alone, with 11 others in non-science fields such as CJ, Psychology, Business, Sociology, Political Science, and Education, and there were 53 sessions of oral-media presentations throughout the day. Dr. John Pascarella, Dean of the College of Sciences, was the keynote speaker at the luncheon (held in the LSC ballroom), and he spoke about the long-term importance of being involved in research as undergraduates.

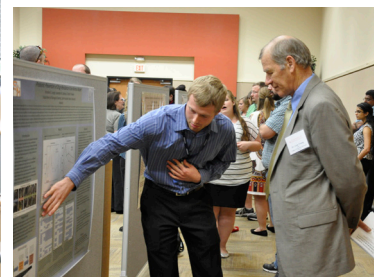
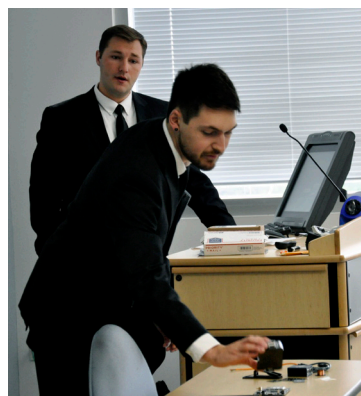
Session and poster moderators (faculty volunteers who gave constructive written feedback to every presenter) included Dr. Tracy Bilsing, Dr. Maria Botero, Dr. Paul Child, Dr. Madhusudan Choudhary, Dr. S. West Gurley, Dr. Helena Halmari, Mr. William Kerr, Dr. Santosh Kumar, Ms. Barbara Miles, Dr. Carroll Ferguson Nardone, Ms. Damilola Omotajo, Dean John Pascarella, Dr. Todd Primm, Mr. Jeffery Roberts, Dr. Joni Seeling, Dr. David Thompson, Dr. Stacy Ulbig, Ms. Candice Williams, and Ms. Sonja Yung. In addition to the Honors College, the Colleges of Business, Education, Fine Arts and Mass Communication, Health Sciences, Humanities and Social

Sciences, and Sciences sponsored the free event. Dr. Hiranya Nath also provided support with his generous Assam Scholarship, awarded to the best presentation by an honors student.

A total of three research scholarships of \$500 each, including the Assam Scholarship, were awarded in the closing ceremony. The Assam Scholarship for Outstanding Honors Research was awarded to Julia Swyden for her oral-media presentation, "The Effect of Omega-3 Fatty Acids on Joint Inflammation of Young Horses Undergoing Regular Exercise," part of her ongoing research on horse health issues. The Honors College Award for Best Overall Oral-Media Presentation was awarded to Stephen Sears (also a member of the Honors College) whose presentation, "Effects of Gender and Race on Occupational Wages," examined wage disparities between women, African-Americans and Hispanics on the one hand and Asians on the other. And The Honors College Best Overall Poster Award went to Zechariah Carroll for his research into cell-cycle regulation. His poster was titled "Sequence Comparisons of Aurora Kinase Homologs in Rhodobacter sphaeroides." According to Todd Primm, who evaluated the presentation, Zechariah's poster "blew me away."

The Honors College Student Ambassadors, along with the Honors College staff, worked hard all year to promote the URS across campus. Trey Cawley and

Heather Woitena, URS Co-chairs, dedicated themselves to speaking to student organizations, holding informational meetings, organizing the event, designing the program (with Melanie Adams), and selecting new merchandise. Their exceptional work is what made the URS such a success.



TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN BE INVOLVED WITH THE URS, CONTACT DR. KIMBERLY BELL AT KBELL@SHSU.EDU.



HONORS ACCOLADES

DOUBLE TEAMED

Alpha Chi National College Honor Scholarship Society, a member of the Association of College Honor Societies, began in 1915 as a campus honor society at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. Today there are 389 chapters and more than 350,000 members across the nation. The Texas Omicron Chapter was established in 1923 at Sam Houston State University, the first sponsor was Dr. Earl Huffor, a faculty member in the Department of English.

The official purpose of Alpha Chi is the promotion and recognition of scholarship and of those elements of character which make scholarship effective for good among the students in the academic divisions of colleges and universities in the United States of America and other countries.

The following Honors students were inducted in this year's ceremony on May 4:

Melanie Adams, Historian
 Jessica Cordero
 Heather Johnson
 Sarah Kavanagh
 Chelsea King, Vice President
 Robert Martin
 Diane Hawes
 Marivel Sanchez
 Katherine Schulte
 Barbi Stimac
 Klaudie Stone
 Brittany Valencia
 Darion Walton
 Varion Walton

HONORS BANKS IN

Recent Honors graduate Samantha McKinley has been accepted into the only accredited banking program in the nation with BBVA Compass LEAP Program. McKinley is one of only fifteen people across the nation to be accepted into this officer development program in Birmingham, Alabama. McKinley graduated this semester (a year early) as a Banking and Finance double major.

In spite of her early graduation,

McKinley was extremely involved on campus, and served as an Honors Ambassador, Orange Key university ambassador, and secretary for the Banking and Finance Club. She was also actively involved in the Freshman Leadership program and the Student Money Management Center and attended many leadership conferences across the country.



McKinley is excited to start her career and is looking forward to moving out of state after living in Texas her entire life. She strongly encourages students to continue to keep their eyes on the proverbial prize, saying, "You also have to keep in mind why you're in college...it is an investment in your future."

Who's Who Among Honors?

Each year, Sam Houston State University submits a roster of outstanding students for inclusion in "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges," a national award for academic distinction. This award is intended for the top 100 students of the university who are academically motivated, participate in extracurricular activities, and demonstrate commitment to service. This year, the Honors College is proud to announce that nearly 70% of the award winners are Honors College students.

Melanie Adams	Katie Day	Marissa Hill	Kaisa Marshall	Gloria Sanchez
Oscar Aguilar	Shelby Dennis	Lindsay Hixon	Jessica Martinez	Brooke Selover
Dallas Andrews	Oliver Dubiel	Thomas Howarth	Samantha McKinley	Kimberly Setien
Kaylee Austin	Emily Eisterhold	Amber Jamison	Christian Morris	Courtney Shaw
Michelle Cantua	Ashley Fluty	Camilla Jones	Laura Norby	Dayley Shearon
Taylor Carden	Jessica Francis	Paige Klinge	Lie Oei	Aria Shirani
Karen Castiblanco	Annel Gonzalez	Nastasia Lacayo	Mairead O'Hara	Kaeleigh Stengle
Nicolas Castro Pinzon	Jessica Gradante	Megan Lamberth	Jose Olivares Villarreal	Catherine Till
William Cawley II	Brittany Gregory	Crystal Lara	Jessica Oswald	Taylor Tompkins
Cynthia Chauvin	Sarah Hammonds	Stephen Lee	Sara Reagan	Joseph Vranas
Tara Cobler	Lauren Hansen	Ruth Lee	Sarah Renfro	Darion Walton
Spencer Copeland	Leann Harrel	Christa Maria Lumsden	Libbie Roberts	Varion Walton
Christopher Cruz	Diane Hawes	Kevin Madden	Magen Ross	
David Cullen	Katherine Hernandez	Kyle Maguire	Ann Ruiz	

PRACTICAL KINESIOLOGY

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT, DR. BILL HYMAN

ADAPTED FROM LINDA GILCHREIST

Dr. Bill Hyman is a dedicated Professor of Health and Kinesiology at Sam Houston State University who teaches the Honors only section of Fitness for Life each semester. He is also an active member of the Honors College Council as well as the graduate coordinator for health education.

Last year, Dr. Hyman travelled to Uganda to put his knowledge of kinesiology into practice to benefit the local community. During his trip, Dr. Hyman learned more about the extent of the problem that the Ugandans were having in relation to physical exercise. Though they walk everywhere and



overeating is not a problem, many children grow up without a proper knowledge about physical education. Dr. Hyman has now developed a training program for the teachers of Uganda to attend to learn about physical education so they can, in turn, teach the students. Dr. Hyman says, "The opportunities over there are virtually endless and limitless. Any faculty member or school teacher who has a concept or curriculum could go over there and share with the teachers or share with the Rwandan educational system and would be welcomed with open arms."

HONORS ONLINE!

SEMINAR SPOTLIGHT

This semester, the Honors College has joined the SHSU online community by offering the first online Honors Seminar. Because many Honors College students have degree programs or internships that make it difficult to schedule traditional classroom seminars, the Honors College decided to offer another option for completing the required six hours of Honors seminars.

This online seminar was the product of combining two other seminar favorites, Difficult Dialogues and Journeys, to create an engaging class with a wide variety of intriguing topics. This semester's seminar utilized short videos like TED Talks to encourage online discussions between students about the particular issues conveyed.

One of the unique features about this seminar is that in the last section, students chose the topics themselves so that anything the professors had missed or the students had a strong reaction to could be discussed in further detail. One of the benefits of Honors Seminars is that they are all interdisciplinary and so are taught by professors from a variety of disciplines like science, history, music, or social science.

Because this seminar was highly successful, The Honors College will continue to offer it in Fall 2014. The course will target 'Culture War' topics, such as immigration, gender, climate change, and capital punishment, among many others.

HONORS GOES CULTURAL

CULTURAL OUTING SPOTLIGHT

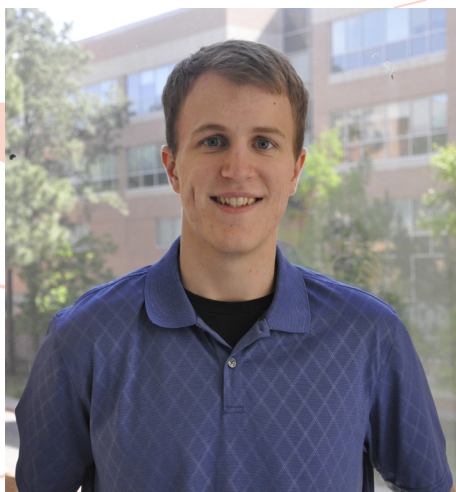
Each semester, the Honors College hosts an event for Honors students to have a special night out with Honors College faculty. Past events have included supporting the local Huntsville Community Theater's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and attending the Renaissance Fair. All cultural outings include dinner at an interesting restaurant. Amazing opportunities such as these are additional benefits of being in the Honors College; they are also a great reward and chance for fun during challenging and busy semesters. Finally, these outings are a chance for Honors students to get dressed up for a night on the town.

This spring, the Honors Student Advisory Council organized a trip to downtown Houston, where 50 Honors students, their friends, and Honors faculty dined at The Aquarium and then attended *The Wizard of Oz* at the Theater Under the Stars. Everyone enjoyed exploring the Aquarium before enjoying a *prix fixe* menu. The play had an outstanding cast and spectacular visual effects. Dr. Kimberly Bell, Honors Associate Director, Dr. Maria Holmes, Honors Assistant Director, and Dr. Patrick Lewis, Honors newest Assistant Director, were also in attendance and enjoyed the opportunity to socialize and relax with students.



SHSU INTERN HELPS PROTECT COLORADO RIVER

BY TREY CAWLEY, HONORS ALUM AND FORMER AMBASSADOR



One of Carly Tipton's first experiences working in her criminal justice internship involved evicting a squatter and his goats from a Texas island.

"The Lower Colorado River Authority's western district Rangers were advised that an individual had been squatting on an island on Lake LBJ," Tipton said. "This individual had transported several goats to this island with the intention of claiming imminent domain. I went with two Rangers to take a boat out to the island, and we docked and began searching the area for the individual and his goats. We found a campsite in the center of the island and two of the animals. We documented the incident and referred it to LCRA's legal department."

Tipton accepted the internship this spring with the LCRA's Public Safety Department to gain additional experience in her criminal justice education.

The Lower Colorado River Authority was created by the state of Texas in 1934 to tame the Colorado River and bring electrical power to rural Texas. The maintenance of six hydro-electric dams and three power plants fulfills this purpose to areas such as Travis County

and its surrounding communities. The agency also maintains parks, electrical substations, radio towers and telecommunication sites, and offers waste water services and recreational activities, such as fishing, camping and swimming.

The Public Safety Department protects these holdings. As a part of her internship, Tipton worked with the Public Safety Department's dispatch office helping stranded boaters, and she frequently traveled with the LCRA Rangers on patrol to land on or near the lakes and rivers within the agency's jurisdiction.

"Making contact with boaters out on lakes within LCRA's jurisdiction was really cool," Tipton said. "I realized almost immediately how difficult it is to make contact out on the water with another vessel, due to the wake caused by other boaters, windy weather conditions, and the caution a law enforcement officer must exercise in order to not damage their own police boat or a subject's vessel. Sgt. Snyder of the Western District Rangers taught me how to make contact with other boats successfully and had me practice out on the water."

Protecting the LCRA's resources is serious business. After 9/11, there exist broad threats to the welfare of the electrical grid and infrastructure inside the United States, adding a homeland security aspect to Tipton's internship. In addition to this, Tipton had the opportunity to see what running directed patrol on various LCRA power and environmental assets looked like for a utility public safety department.

"Learning about the importance of protecting LCRA infrastructure was extremely valuable," Tipton said. "I rode out with several LCRA Rangers on directed patrol of substations and radio

towers, looking for any evidence of copper theft and reporting any discrepancies we found."

With these experiences, Tipton's view of the power of internships has only increased.

"I came to college knowing that I would pursue an internship in criminal justice my senior year," she said. "An internship gives one an opportunity to apply criminological theory in practice with a law enforcement agency. Acquiring knowledge in the classroom is vital, but real world experience before graduation is just as significant to a student's future."

"An internship can give a student a much more realistic perspective on what career path they should pursue," she added. "Sam Houston's CJ Internship program should be utilized by every student who plans to pursue a career in criminal justice."

Tipton's long-term plan is to enter environmental law enforcement by becoming a Game Warden with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. She will take the skills developed from the internship program to accomplish this goal.

"My internship with the LCRA Public Safety department has been one of the most fulfilling experiences I have had as a college student," Tipton said. "The rangers, dispatchers, executive officers and personnel, and investigators that work within the public safety department have taught me what it means to be an exceptional public servant, a hardworking peace officer, and an efficient guardian of environmental assets."

HONORS STUDENT LEADERSHIP

HONORS SWEEPS THE SAMMYS

The annual Sammys is the official university ceremony that recognizes the most outstanding student leaders and organizations at Sam Houston State University. Each year, approximately twenty-eight awards are given. The Honors College is proud to recognize the following Honors Students for their selection as Sammys award winners.

- ❖ **Outstanding Sophomore Student Leader:**
Sarah Kennedy
- ❖ **Outstanding Overall Student Organization & Outstanding Cultural Organization:**
Ballet Folklorico: Jocelyn Ovalle, Treasure & Jessica Martinez
- ❖ **Outstanding Religious Organizations:**
Wesley Foundation: Megan Lamberth, Facilitator and Connections Intern & Shealynn Vogan, Vice President
- ❖ **Outstanding Special Interest Organization:**
Project Sunshine: Kaeleigh Stengle, Vice President
- ❖ **Excellence in Service: College of Business Administration:**
Samantha McKinley, Honors Ambassador
- ❖ **Excellence in Service: College of Education:**
Sean Crenwelge, Honors Ambassador
- ❖ **The Sammy Award, Faculty & Staff:**
R. Michael Yawn, Honors Seminar Professor
- ❖ **The Sammy Award, Student:**
Sarah Hammonds

EXCELLENCE IN ACADEMICS

The Augusta Lawrence Scholarship was established on October 23, 1951, by Mr. Orville Bullington to perpetuate the memory of Ms. Augusta Lawrence, one time professor of English at Sam Houston State Teachers College. Mr. Bullington wanted to stress the high ideals and outstanding teaching



abilities that Ms. Lawrence embodied. He therefore took the proceeds of stock from four companies and placed them in an endowment fund which would serve as the basis for the Augusta Lawrence Scholarship. In the intervening years, the proceeds have grown to such an extent that \$1,000 scholarships can be offered each year.

The 2014 winner of the Augusta Lawrence Scholarship was Tara Cobler, a Psychology major. Aside from being a member of the Elliott T. Bowers Honors College, she also represents the Honors College as a student Ambassador.

HONORS AMBASSADOR TAKES PRESIDENCY

Honors College Ambassador Spencer Copeland won the run for Student Body President of Sam Houston State University with 54 percent of the vote. Copeland has been an active member of the SHSU Student Government Association throughout his college career and is excited for the challenge ahead.

Copeland entered the Honors College in Fall 2012 and is now a Senior majoring in Criminal Justice.



HONORS TWIN SUCCESS

Honors twins, Darion and Varion Walton, made their mark on SHSU by succeeding above and beyond expectations. Because they grew up in a low-income home, they worked especially hard to build a better future during their academic career. Both brothers graduated in May with degrees in Business Administration. During their time at SHSU, they were members of the Beta Gamma Sigma international business honors fraternity, and engaged in many volunteer activities, including Huntsville Hospitality House ministry, Good Shepherd Mission, Faith Family Church, and Bearkat All Paws In.

Darion Walton was president of Golden Key International Honor Society and was an ambassador for the College of Business Administration.

Varion Walton was president of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and was also actively involved in the National Society of Leadership and Success and the Society of Human Resource Development.

Both will continue their education at SHSU pursuing their MBAs. Darion hopes to become a professor at a small university and Varion wants to establish a career in hospital administration.



- ❖ Emily Adams is pursuing her Veterinary M.D. at U.C. Davis in Sacramento, CA.
- ❖ Christopher Cruz is pursuing his M.A. in International Affairs at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX.
- ❖ Teresa Duarte is pursuing her J.D. at University of Houston Law Center in Houston, TX.
- ❖ Ryan Kingsley is working in the Police K-9 division with the Department of Homeland Security.
- ❖ Kyle Maguire is an Area Manager for Amazon in Nevada.
- ❖ Mairead O'Hara is pursuing her M.A. in Higher Education Administration and is an outdoor recreation graduate assistant at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL.
- ❖ Linden Reid is pursuing her M.S. in Parasitology and will be a Teaching Assistant in the Zoology Department at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL.
- ❖ Sebastiaan Roling is working for PT Varco Indo in Indonesia.
- ❖ Marla Shifflet is pursuing her Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry at Auburn University in Auburn, AL.
- ❖ Audrey Wilson is in the Esper Studies Acting program in NYC, NY.
- ❖ Sara Winbigler is pursuing her J.D. at South Texas College of Law in Houston, TX.

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A MEASURE OF A LIFE...

ALUM SPOTLIGHT, JESSICA WEBB-RHODES



Elliott T. Bowers Honors College alumna Jessica Webb-Rhodes graduated with a BBA in 2005, with a double major in International Business and Economics. She earned her J.D. from the University Of Houston Law Center in 2011 and is licensed to practice law in Texas and North Dakota. While she lives in Humble, she currently works as corporate counsel for BBVA Compass in Houston.

Webb-Rhodes originally chose to attend SHSU because she knew that she would build strong connections with faculty and be able to participate in business and international programs that would help her succeed in her career. She was also awarded several scholarships that made SHSU even more appealing. Webb-Rhodes kept herself busy during her academic career by being an active member of the Honors College and serving as an ambassador for the

College of Business; she was also active in Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society, Golden Key Honor Society, Alpha Chi Honor Society, and Freshman Leadership Initiative Program. She served as the President for the International Business Society.

When they are not working, Webb-Rhodes and her husband, Monte, continue the SHSU motto that "A measure of a life is its service." They spend their free time volunteering with Great Dane Rescue of Southeast Texas. They have (so far) adopted two Great Danes and a Chihuahua. Webb-Rhodes continues to stay actively involved in the community, and is a member of several groups, including the Houston Downtown Alliance, Museum of Fine Arts Houston Art Crowd, Houston Young Professionals Association, and the Houston Museum of Natural Sciences.

ALUMNI NEWS

- ❖ Ashley Benedict is a Private Label Manager at Michaels Stores, Inc. in Dallas, TX.
- ❖ David J. Deveau is a Managing Director at Noble Motion Dance in Houston, TX.
- ❖ Emma Quintero received her J.D. from University of Texas School of Law and is a criminal defense attorney at Madrid Law in Houston, TX.
- ❖ Meredith Mohr is a Proposal Editor with PAS Global in Houston, TX.
- ❖ Marea Pappas is a Graduate Teaching Assistant and currently pursuing her M.S. in Agricultural Economics at Texas A&M University in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.
- ❖ Ayomide Shittu is attending the University of Texas School of Law and is a Summer Associate at Thompson and Knight in Austin, TX.

SPRING 2014 GRADUATES

On May 9, the Honors College hosted the spring 2014 Bowers Medallion Ceremony for our spring and summer graduates. Over 325 people attended, including 68 graduating Honors students and their guests, to celebrate their outstanding accomplishments in the Honors College. The audience viewed a "senior salute" power point slide show with each senior's picture, major, senior project title, home town, and a quote on their honors experience. Many graduates were recognized for their hard work that culminated with the completion of their Senior Honors Thesis project.

The Bowers Medallion Ceremony is the Honors College graduation program to officially recognize those who have completed the requirements to earn the distinction of graduation "With Honors" or "Highest Honors." Each student so honored received the Medallion designed to replicate the symbol of the Honors College at SHSU. The design incorporates the Sam Houston figure and laurel leaf circle. The graduates also received a white stole embroidered with an orange Honors College symbol. We wish our graduates every success and will follow their bright futures with pride and great interest.

College of Business Administration

Cynthia Chauvin	Jordan Hickerson
Kyle Maguire*	Samantha McKinley
Brytnie Miller	Joy Peterangelo
Sebastian Roling*	Iryna Romanenko
Somkene Tassie	Darion Walton
Varion Walton	

College of Education

Amber Ansley	Alicia Carter
Sean Crenwelge	Emily Gauteson
Sara Reagan	

College of Health Sciences

Gwendolyn Arnold

College of Sciences

Emily Adams	Maryse Bakouetila
Jessica Francis	Elizabeth Johnson
Heather Johnson	Stephen Lee*
Christina Pryor	Linden Reid
Marla Shifflet	Michelle Shutts
Lauren Sommer	

College of Criminal Justice

Corinthia Alexander	Lindsay Ashworth
William Cawley*	Christopher Cruz
Orlando Gray	Ryan Kingsley
Robert Martin	Ezequiel Mendez
Mairead O'Hara*	Courtney Shaw
Hanna Theiss	Carly Tipton
Luisa Vargas	Sara Winbigler*

College of Fine Arts and Mass Communication

Farrah Al Sulaiman*	John Arensdorf
Brianna Bonnette*	Shannon Boone
Chelsea Cooper	Mary Maule
Olayemi Otulana	Ardeen Pierre
Samantha Toney	Audrey Wilson

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Miguel Arellano Arriaga	S. Caitlyn Dennis
Teresa Duarte	Annel Gonzalez
Brittany Gregory*	Thomas Karli*
Paige Klinge	Jessica Oswald*
Joycelyn Ovalle	Ann Ruiz
Coby Steele	Kaeleigh Stengle*
Klaudie Stone	Claudia Vasquez
Angela Wood*	Tiffany Young*

*Denotes Highest Honors



FALL 2014 EVENTS AT A GLANCE

In addition to the various events hosted by SHSU, the Honors College hosts events exclusive to its students as a benefit of being in the Honors College. We strongly encourage all of our students to participate each semester to help enrich their Honors College experience.

AUGUST 27	Wake Up with Honors, Honors Lounge, ABIV 107
SEPTEMBER 3	Honors Assembly, Olson Auditorium, ABIV 220
SEPTEMBER 5–6	Honors Welcome Retreat, University Camp
SEPTEMBER 13	Honors Parents and Family Luncheon, LSC Ballroom
OCTOBER 9	Homecoming Parade, Town Square
OCTOBER 11	Homecoming, Bowers Stadium
NOVEMBER 1	Battle of the Piney Woods, Reliant Stadium
NOVEMBER 22	Honors Open House, Olson Auditorium
DECEMBER 12	Bowers Medallion Ceremony, LSC Ballroom

SAVE THE DATE!

- ❖ Honors Assembly & Group Photo
September 3
- ❖ Honors Welcome Retreat
September 5–6
- ❖ Parent and Family Luncheon
September 13
- ❖ Homecoming
October 11

WHO ARE YOUR HONORS AMBASSADORS?

The Honors Ambassadors are the official student representatives of SHSU's Elliott T. Bowers Honors College. The Ambassadors serve as hosts for Honors College events and for other university functions, such as banquets, luncheons, meetings, speaker series, visitation days and career fairs.

Founded in 2004 as a leadership and service organization, the Ambassadors support the Honors College at special events, recruiting activities, regional and national honors professional conferences, and additional university-wide occasions, including the Let's Talk!™ dinner and

the Undergraduate Research Symposium. Selection to this esteemed group is recognized as one of the highest honors a student can achieve in the Honors College. Service, leadership, and academic excellence are the foundations of this prestigious organization for service-minded Honors College

students who aspire to maximize their undergraduate experience.

At the Ambassadors Banquet, nine newly selected Ambassadors were inducted: Rebecca Wood, Alondra Garza, Jessica Cordero, Mujtaba Ghene, Jessica Martinez, Kortney Hanson, Summer Styles, Sarah Landsman, Sarah Kavanagh.

WHAT IS H.S.A.C.?

The Honors Student Advisory Council is the official liaison between the faculty and the Honors College student body. This important, student-run organization is responsible for several Honors events throughout the year, including the Cultural Outing, Pizza with the Profs, Honors Luau, and Ice Cream Social, that help facilitate a friendly and exciting environment for Honors students to meet new friends and build close relationships with faculty.

This coming year, H.S.A.C. is transitioning to a renewed mind-set of community engagement through service and building friendships while giving back to the university and to the Huntsville community. Building on this, H.S.A.C. also takes the lead in offering several community service activities for Honors students to take part in throughout the year.

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Pamela Zelbst

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Philosophy
Health & Kinesiology
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Business
Criminal Justice
Music
Political Science
Management

HSAC Officers

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Stephan Little
Anthony Bagwell
Darby Slack

President
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Secretary
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Honors Student Ambassadors

Sahabia Ahmed
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Trey Cawley
Tara Cobler
Spencer Copeland
Sean Crenwelge
Katherine Hernandez
Megan Lamberth
Stephan Little
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Brooke Selover
Michael Semmlinger
Aria Shirani
Lea Sonby
Heather Weitena
Shealynn Vogan

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