



The Conscientia

Oklahoma City University Honors Program

October 2011



Upcoming Events in Banning Hall:

October 23, 6pm: pumpkin carving with candy and cupcakes

November 20, 6pm: Thanksgiving dinner from Cracker Barrel

December 4, 6pm: Christmas tree decorating with Buffalo Wild Wings

Director's Column

Welcome back to OCU and the Honors Program! Is it really October? Are you looking forward to Halloween? I hope that all of your classes are going well and that you will be able to take advantage of Honors opportunities during the Fall semester.

We have had excellent attendance at our first Pizza with the Professor events. Over thirty people came to hear President Robert Henry speak on Native American art and culture. The Honors-Sigma Tau Delta Banned Book reading brought a good crowd to Banning Hall. Other featured guests this semester will be Mary Benner, who will tell you all about study abroad opportunities, and our famous OCU Firing Line. A special guest in December will be the OCU personal counselor, Brandi Gibson, who will be talking about stress relief during finals. I will host the annual Christmas Dinner at my house in December. And don't forget the SPARKS Easter Egg Hunt in the Spring.

The Great Plains Honors Council conference will be held in Kansas City this Spring and it's not too early to think about making a poster or paper presentation. Several students attended the national conference in Kansas City last year, and all had a great time. The next National Collegiate Honors Council conference will be in Boston in October 2012. Attendance at the GPHC conference is a stepping stone to the national conference. So plan ahead and don't miss out on these great opportunities. Why should you do this? It's fun, non-threatening, and looks great on those job and graduate school applications. You can also get good practice for a conference presentation by participating in Undergraduate Research Day at OCU this Fall and next Spring. Deadlines for proposals for both the regional and national conferences will be early in February. Think about making a research proposal based on your class work THIS semester.

Honors Class of 2011!

Welcome the 46 new members of the University Honors Program! Honors Orientation began with early move-in to campus housing, a perk for all Honors students. Did you take advantage of this in August? Sunday night over 150 people, including new students and their families, continuing Honors students, and Honors faculty attended a cook-out in the Caf. Monday was our world-famous Ropes course. And we all survived the heat!! Be sure to congratulate the "survivors"—all of those who participated. Check out the list of new students below to see who might be in your classes:



Name

Major

Seth Adams	BA Music
Alexis Banks	Chemistry
Marcedes J. Bingham	Film Production
Raechel Brown	Cell and Molecular Biology
Brandon Burkett	BA Music
Cameron Calloway	Biology
Laura Cunningham	Music Business
Colin Ferguson	Philosophy
Alexandria Hansen	Early Childhood Education
Christina Hansen	Biology
Duncan Hicks	University Studies
Samuel Hendrix	Biology
Kathryn Hirsch	Acting
Theresa Hottel	English
Victoria Jameson	Dance Performance
Alexandria Johnson	Entertainment Business
Blakeley Knox	BA Music
William Lugar	Film Production
Atticus Marker	University Studies
Lauren Matheny	BFA Acting
Devin Murphy	Film
Paul Mabbitt	Theater
Amanda McCann	Biomedical Sciences
Eric McClure	Music Performance
Blakeley Pearson	Pre-Med
Jordan Michael Pierce	Music Theater
Lillie Pennington	Biology
Elizabeth Roewe	Entertainment Business
Kelissa Sanders	Political Science
Leigh Smith	Religion
Krista Spears	Psychology and Photography
Caitlin Swisher	Nursing
Ryanne Tate	Dance Management
Andrew Thomason	Applied Mathematics
Lauren Thompson	BFA Acting
Jacob Tipps	Cellular Biology
Victoria Trujillo	Music
Racquel Valadez	Physics
Andrew Wasson	History/Political Science
Kendra Wilson	Political Science
Cody Wimmer	Acting
Julia Witcher	Film Studies/History
Alexa Wojcikiewicz	Dance Mgmt
Kathryn Wonderly	Choral Music Education
Brittany Yanchick	Psychology

What did you do over the summer?

- “I worked two jobs, won Best in Show at the A-Kon cosplay contest with my group Saucy Noodle Cosplay, traveled to Ocean City, Maryland, for a week, got hooked on Dance Moms, and got closer with a lot of wonderful people.”

–Beth Lipton

- “I went to Bolivia for a mission trip, and I went to Austria to visit my wonderful boyfriend. We also went to Venice, Dublin, and Paris while I was there. :)” –Heather Peden

- “I took differential equations at the UW, went camping with my family several times, and overall had a very pleasant summer.”

–Erica Olavarria

- “I interned in Chicago at Northlight Theatre! I was a casting intern, and it was a truly amazing experience.”

–Allie Schexnayder

- “I lived in Hawaii.”

–Jake Lamb

- “I spent a week studying ecology at yellowstone national park, worked at OCUs outdoor lab, waited tables, and spent a few weeks in Miami!”

–Angelina Stancampiano

- “I surfed.” –Trey Witzel

Undergraduate Research Day!

The deadline for entry into the URD poster contest is November 18.

For more information, contact Dr. Bennett at rbennet@my.okcu.edu.

PWP: Study Abroad!

Have you ever thought about studying abroad? Come listen to fellow students share their study abroad experiences! This event will take place on Monday, October 10, and it will be held in the CETL classroom (on the second floor of the library).



Spring 2012 Honors courses

Are you curious about Honors courses for the Spring? Dr. Tracy Floreani will teach the Honors Junior-Senior Seminar: Literature of Human Rights. President Robert Henry and Oklahoma State Senator David Holt will team teach an Honors Special Topics course on public policy issues, just in time to get you ready for the 2012 election! Both courses will be taught in the evening. The complete schedule is as follows:

HON 1061H	Honors Colloquium	Bennett
ENGL 1213H	Composition II	Bennett, Hessler, Clemens- Fox
ENGL 2114H	Classics of Western Culture II	Bennett, Ross
REL 1003H	Introduction to Biblical Literature	Wolfe
HIST 1003H	US History to 1876	Clark
HIST 1303H	World Civilization Since 1500	Cobb
CHEM 1003H	Science Technology and Society	Nail
HON 3163H	Jr/Sr Seminar: Literature of Human Rights	Floreani
MUS 1212H	Music Theory	Bennett
INDP 1013	Arts and Human Values	C. Smith
HON 3263	Special Topics in Honors: Trending: Hot Topics in Public Policy	Henry, Holt

Please remember the dates October 31 and November 1. These are the dates for Honors priority pre-enrollment.



BREAKING NEWS!! HONORS STUDENTS AND PROFS HEAD TO PHOENIX FOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE

On October 19, seven Honors students will head to Phoenix for the annual conference of the National Collegiate Honors Council with Drs. Hessler and Bennett. Anthony England, Jacob Lamb, Erica Olavarria, and Dr. Hessler will be presenting their projects from the Digital Textuality class, and Alley Agee, Kaleb Oakleaf, and Dr. Bennett will share in a roundtable about their composition II class, Gleeful Research. Melody Metivier will be at the IDEA exchange to talk about blogging while studying abroad, and Joanna Chenoweth will moderate two sessions.

The regional conference will be coming up in the spring (March 30-April 1) in Kansas City. This conference features student presentations, so think about a paper or a poster that you might propose for it. Deadlines are usually mid-February. You don't want to miss out on this great opportunity!!



Honors Logo Contest!!

Do you have any ideas for an Honors logo? Send your ideas by email to eolavarria.stu@my.okcu.edu. The designer of the winning logo will receive a gift card and his/her logo might be featured on future Honors shirts!!

ATTENTION ALL OF YOU WHO ARE INTERESTED IN STUDY ABROAD!

For the first time, the University Honors Program has scholarship money for study abroad. If you are planning on studying abroad in 2011-2012, please read the guidelines below. Applications for Spring 2012 are due November 1!!!!

**University Honors Program
International Study Scholarship
2011-2012**

Guidelines:

1. Program must be a minimum of one month. Preference will be given for programs one semester or longer.
2. Program must be for academic credit. Student must include the Enrollment Authorization Form available from the Study Abroad office with the application.
3. Preference will be given for students studying in the following types of programs: programs that include home stays; programs where students' academic work is in a second language; OCU program or international study partner.
4. Student must have maintained a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 and a minimum 3.25 GPA in Honors course work.
5. Award: Up to \$1,750 for a semester program. Up to \$750 for a program less than one semester in length.

Application:

1. Deadline to submit application for all programs: November 1st for Spring 2012 programs; March 1 for Summer and Fall 2012.
2. Applications should be submitted to Dr. Virginia McCombs, Walker Center 229.
3. Application will require information about where the student is going to study and what s/he will be studying and/or doing.
4. Enrollment Authorization Form must be included with application.
5. In a 350 to 500 word essay, the student must explain how this particular study abroad experience will: 1) enhance his/her education in their major field and/or the liberal arts tradition; and 2) prepare the student for his/her future career and life.

Special requirements:

1. Scholarship winners must keep an active blog of their experiences—a minimum of one posting a week.
2. Upon their return, scholarship winners will participate in an Honors International Education event to share their experiences with other students.

-Newsletter Writers Wanted-

Would you like to write an article for the newsletter? Take pictures? All positions are open. Please contact our Student Assistant Director, Erica Olavarria, eolavarria.stu@my.okcu.edu, if you are interested.

HONORS CONTRACTS

Have you thought about an Honors contract in a modern language course or one of your major courses? Have you done anything about it? This is a great way to earn Honors credit, particularly if you are on a tight schedule and find it hard to enroll in Honors courses. If you are interested in contracting a course for Honors credit, please see Dr. McCombs soon.

FALL HONORS RECRUITMENT

Do you have friends who are interested in the Honors Program? The Honors Program will accept applications from interested students October 3-October 21, because we know there are talented students who did not apply for the Fall, but who belong in Honors. If you have a friend and/or classmate interested in the Honors Program, encourage him/her to see Dr. McCombs in Walker Center 229 or Dr. Bennett in WC 253. Or they can always email at vmccombs@okcu.edu.

Applications are currently available in Walker Center 228!!!

