

# UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE

William Paterson University

September 2010

## Contact Information



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The University Honors College newsletter is published several times per semester.  
Rachael Mierzwa, editor.



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## A message from the Director...

The semester is off to a wonderful start for the Honors College. This year, fifty-nine Honors College students are living in High Mountain East, consisting of four mentors and fifty-five first year students. The term began with mentors helping new students move into their rooms in the Learning Community in High Mountain East. The new students and mentors had dinner with Jan Pinkston and me in Wayne Hall that evening.



*Honors students, Joe Merringer and Michael Starrett, helped move-in and welcome first year students to the Honors community.*

After everyone got settled on campus, the Honors Club organized a trip to the Discovery Times Square exhibit in New York to see King Tut with plenty of time afterwards to admire the city. I greatly appreciated the chance to get to chat with several new students, and begin to get to know them.



*Mentors and First Year Honors students enjoying dinner in Wayne Hall*



*Students in line for King Tut*

Our first large social event of the semester, the Ice Cream Social, was wonderful and with determination and hard work we managed to eat ten gallons of ice cream!



*Honors Students taking a break on move-in day.*

This semester, the Honors College will continue to offer students opportunities to get to know one another outside the classroom. In November, the Honors Club is planning a weekend trip to Williamsburg, VA, that will include three guided tours, great hotel accommodations, and a comfortable charter bus. The Honors Club will also host several Lunches in the Lounge/Club meetings, a ceramic painting party, bake sales, and Knitting Nights. Plans are also underway for an apple picking event, the annual coat drive, and the Honors Holiday Party on November 30.

I hope that everyone's semester has started off well. Please do not hesitate to come to the office and speak with me or Jan if you encounter problems or have questions.

## Honors College Holds 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Back-to-School Ice Cream Social



*Maeghan Adinolfi, Jan Pinkston, and Lauren Ensley at the Ice Cream Social.*

The annual Honors Ice Cream Social was held Thursday, September 16. Due to the threat of rain, the group ventured inside Hobart Manor to enjoy their ice cream, meet new friends and catch up with old classmates and professors.

Thanks to everyone who attended and helped make this annual event a great success!



*President Waldron chats with Honors students (from left) Laura Jo Rieseke, Shannon Post, and Melissa Zolla.*

## Honors College 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Coat Drive



**Who:** Generous people who want to help people in need in our community

**What:** Gently used or new **Coats** (all sizes, including kids)

New **Scarves, Hats, and Gloves** (homemade or store-bought)

**When: Wednesday, October 27– Friday, November 12**

**Where:** Bins will be in residence halls, The University Commons & at the Honors College office (Raubinger Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, through the Graduate Studies glass door)



This October and November, the Honors College will be conducting its fifth annual coat drive. Last year, the Honors Club and Honors College worked together to collect coats and other winter clothing for Eva's Kitchen in Paterson and the Passaic County Head Start. In previous years, Honors students have gone with Dr. Dinan to distribute the donations to both locations and witness first-hand how desperately the coats were needed. We again plan to help our community.

Over the past year, Honors College student Rachael Mierzwa, hosted "Knitting Nights," in which students gathered to learn how to knit scarves with the intention of donating them to this year's coat drive. Rachael says, "There has been a lot of support for this project. Many people have already contributed scarves and plan to make more. Honors students will also gather to gift wrap and add notes to the 50+ scarves already collected. It is truly a blessing to serve others this way." Rachael has planned another "Knitting Night" on **Thursday, October 7** from 6:00-7:00pm in High Mountain East's 4th floor lounge. At this event more people will be taught to knit and those who already learned will have another opportunity to complete more scarves. Coats and other winter clothing will go to the Passaic County Head Start and other local organizations. The date of distribution is set for the morning of Thursday November, 18. Anyone who wants to volunteer can contact the Honors Club President at [Mierzwar@student.wpunj.edu](mailto:Mierzwar@student.wpunj.edu). We ask that you once again search through those closets and donate whatever you can. We thank-you in advance for your generosity; your gift of warmth means more than you know.



### Honors Students Featured in "Writing Across the Curriculum" Magazine

The following Honors Students have been recognized in the current issue of *Writing Across the Curriculum*, a magazine exhibiting the outstanding writing produced by WPU students in all disciplines. Each piece was first put forward by a faculty member who assigned the particular paper, then selected again by a faculty jury that reviewed dozens of pieces of work produced on campus during the 2009-2010 academic year. Of the 14 selections published in the current issue, 8 of the selections were written by current and former Honors students:

**Isabel Anreus** -- Humanities Honors Track student -- "Naked Lunch with a Side of Surrealism": A Literary Analysis

**Mariam Ashraf** -- Humanities Honors Track graduate -- "White": A Poem

**Jennifer Bauer** -- Social Sciences Honors Track graduate -- "Environmental Justice: The Case of North Carolina, Warren County Protests": Gandhian Forum for Peace and Justice Essay Contest

**Emilija Bitinaityte** - Sophomore Honors student -- "Metamorphosis": A Memoir

**Brian Canever** -- former Honors Club member -- "Tibetan Sky Burial": A Research Essay

**Alex Chilowicz** -- Honors Music Track graduate -- "George Crumb's 'Dream Images (Love-Death Music)' and Music of an Earlier Era": A Musical Analysis

**Nick DePue** -- former Honors Club member -- "Enzyme-Substrate Binding: A Cellular Romance": A Scientific Description

**Dan Lehner** -- Honors Music Track student -- "Van Gogh: 'The Starry Night'": An Analytic Essay

### Meet the Honors College Staff

#### Director

Susan Dinan

#### Assistant Director

Jan Pinkston

#### Student Assistants

Amanda Corey

John Fromholtz

Rachael Mierzwa

Laura Jo Rieske

#### Track Directors

Robert Benno — Biopsychology

Philip Cioffari — Performing and Literary Arts

Jeffrey Kresky — Music

Neil Kressel — Social Sciences

Katherine Makarec — Cognitive Science

Christina McSherry — Nursing

Mahmoud Watad — Management

Mahmoud Watad — Marketing

John Peterman — Humanities

Karen Swanson — Life Sciences and Env. Ethics

Susan Dinan — Independent

### Meet the Honors Club Executive Board

#### President

Rachael Mierzwa

#### Vice President

Gabriella Tosto

#### Secretary

Miranda Van Dunk

#### Treasurer

Michael Starrett

#### Social Events Officers

Jaclyn Kukuch

Marisol Garcia

#### Community Service Officers

Cindy Antunes

Jenna Tosto



## Honors Students Visit Discovery Times Square King Tut Display

The Honors Club hosted a trip New York City to see the King Tut display in New York City on Saturday, September 18. Thirty-nine students and faculty signed up to marvel at the boy King and the vast array of artifacts dating back to the 18th dynasty during Tut's rule, including one pictured to the left. Students and guests were able to view a chariot that had never been out of Egypt, and is rumored to have been linked to the king's death.

The ten galleries were filled with figurines, statues, and some "every-day" items that would have been used by the King such as a board game similar to Parcheesi. It was incredible to see such beautifully painted and well-preserved pieces of history and to be able to experience it in NYC. Almost everything was laden with gold or accented with obsidian and glass; when it came to the admiration of Pharaohs extravagance and detail was a must. If you haven't gotten a chance to visit this exhibit, buy your tickets now. You don't want to miss this opportunity!

*"It was Fan-TUT-tastic!"*

*-Adrian Lopez, William Paterson Student*

*"A walk through Egypt in New York City,"*

*-Clara Melissa Diaz, Vice President of the Organization of Latin American Students*

*"An extraordinary trip we will always remember."*

*-Jennifer Chrzanowski, William Paterson Student*



*Brian Cornish gets dressed up*



*Students going to the exhibit*



*Janna Domenico & Miranda Van Dunk goofing around in the gift shop (Right).*



*Dr. Christina McSherry*

## Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Christina McSherry, Director of the Honors Nursing Track

This summer, Dr. Christina McSherry traveled to Ghana, Africa on her first mission trip. She was part of a medical group, consisting of three nurses, two doctors and a high school student, who performed cataract surgeries. She spent two weeks in Ghana assisting with these surgeries as well as promoting general eye health and teaching the local medical personnel how to screen patients for cataract problems.

Dr. McSherry and the other medical staff members were able to treat 2,000 individuals in the clinic and perform sixty-two surgeries. She notes how different this experience was from working in an American operating room. "You have roosters and chickens walking around just outside the screened windows, and the temperature goes up

to about 95 degrees while you're performing surgery. This is something you would never experience in the United States," noted McSherry.

Having always wanted to do mission work, Dr. McSherry welcomed the chance to participate in this program. Her experience as an operating room nurse helped her adjust to being on her feet for ten to twelve hour days, and helped the surgeries go much more smoothly.

The most rewarding part, she said, was "watching people go from being blind to being able to see. What a blessing to be a part of that."

When asked what inspired her to go to Africa she replied, "I believe in giving back or paying it forward, however you wish to say it. There have been times in my life when [others] have reached out and helped me...I wanted to use my experience and knowledge to help others reach their potential, just as I

was helped to reach mine. I believe that if you are successful and have a lot of experience, knowledge, resources, you should share it with others," and that is exactly what she did.

Dr. Christina McSherry holds a Doctorate in Nursing Research and Theory Development from New York University and a Masters in Nursing Education from NYU. She has served of Director of the Honors Nursing Track since 2008.



*Local families singing and playing instruments*



*Young boys smiling for the camera*

## Upcoming Events

<b>7 October</b>	Thursday	6:00 - 7:00	<b>Knitting Night</b> 3rd Floor Lounge- Student Center
<b>9 October</b>	Saturday	10:00-5:00	<b>Honors College Apple/Pumpkin Picking</b> Carpoolers needed! Demarest Farms in Hillsdale, NJ
<b>12 October</b>	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	<b>Honors Club Meeting/Lunch in the Lounge</b> <b>Program: Film by Honors student, Kristen Pettet</b> High Mountain East– 4th Floor
<b>13 October</b>	Wednesday	12:30-1:45	<b>Honors Club Bake Sale/Coat Drive Collection</b> Main Street in Student Center– Bakers needed!
<b>19 October</b>	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	<b>MANDATORY Meeting for First Year Students about GE</b> Honors College– 168 A/B
<b>26 October</b>	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	<b>Honors Club Meeting/Lunch in the Lounge</b> High Mountain East-4th Floor
<b>4 November</b>	Tuesday	6:00-9:00	<b>Knitting Night</b> 3rd Floor Lounge- Student Center
<b>5-7 November</b>	Friday-Sunday	TBA	<b>Proposed trip to Williamsburg, VA</b>
<b>9 November</b>	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	<b>MANDATORY meeting for First Year Students about Tracks</b> Honors College– 168 A/B
<b>9 November</b>	Tuesday	6:00-9:00	<b>Ceramic Painting Night</b> Multipurpose Room in Student Center– Free!
<b>10 November</b>	Wednesday	12:30-1:45	<b>Honors Club Bake Sale</b> Main Street in Student Center
<b>11 November</b>	Thursday	12:30-1:45	<b>Honors Club Meeting/Lunch in the Lounge</b> High Mountain East– 4th Floor Lounge
<b>12 November</b>	Friday	TBA	<b>End Coat Drive</b>
<b>18 November</b>	Thursday	12:30-1:45	<b>MANDATORY Meeting for Current Track Students</b> Honors College — SC 3rd Floor Restaurant
<b>7 December</b>	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	<b>Honors Club Meeting/Lunch in the Lounge– 4th Floor HME</b> <b>Program: Honors student, Brian Messenger, will discuss his</b> <b>“study abroad” experience</b>

Check your university e-mail for important information from the Honors College & Honors Club about changes/additions to the calendar!

### **Important Spring 2011 Registration information**

Students who are in good standing in the Honors College are eligible for priority registration. (In order to be considered in good standing, students must have a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA, AND be enrolled in an Honors general education course OR enrolled in an Honors Track.)The date for priority registration will be announced soon. We are currently finalizing the list of the Spring 2011 Honors General Education courses. Please watch your email for updates on priority registration, and the Spring 2011 Honors General Education course listing.