

The Eclectic

March 2007

Volume 12 Issue 3

The Honors College



The Spring Play

The Spring Honors College Play was performed on March 1-3 at the Slonaker House. This semester The Honors College Players presented an evening of one act performances. Perfection Upon Reflection written by J. Derekh Froude, a University of Arizona alumnus, is the story of two hopelessly attractive individuals who cannot find a counterpart to love them for all of their “radiant qualities.” The entire vignette was written in a non-formal rhyming scheme with alternating lines said in unison. The second play of the evening, Women and Wallace, is the story of how a young boy’s relationships with the women of his life were affected by the suicide of his mother. The script, written by Jonathan Marc Sherman, received several awards in the late 80’s when it was first published.

The Honors College Play has been a tradition of The Honors College for many years. Honors students are able to participate in every aspect of putting on a show regardless of experience or prior involvement. The Honors College Play is a wonderful way for students to remain connected to the theater community while still pursuing other academic interests. Look for future postings on the listserv if you would like to learn more about The Honors College Play or find out when the next performance will happen.

New Zealand/ Aotearoa: History, Cultures and Environment

Honors Study Abroad Course led by Professor Judy Temple (English/ Women’s Studies) and Dean Patricia MacCorquodale (Women’s Studies/ Sociology)
On-site instruction by University of Auckland faculty

New Zealand/Aotearoa: History, Cultures and Environment offers several options for academic credit (3 credits) depending upon a student’s educational plan.

Dates of travel: May 16- May 29, 2007

The application deadline is March 21 through UA Study Abroad Program.

Four orientation sessions will be held in March and April at the Honors College.

Handouts are available in Slonaker House. Students interested in receiving more information about the course should contact Professor MacCorquodale at pmac@email.arizona.edu or Professor Temple at jtemple@email.arizona.edu. Students with questions about the Study Abroad application should contact Lindsay Rossman at lrossman@email.arizona.edu.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA®

Arizona’s First University.

Professional Development Series

“Interviewing Like a Pro”
Slonaker living room
3/27/2007
2pm to 3pm

“Achieving Balance Between the Personal
and Professional: Is It a Myth?”
Slonaker living room
4/24/2007
3:30pm to 4:30pm

If you have suggestions for
future sessions on professional
development, contact
Dr. Karna Walter
(karna@u.arizona.edu;
621.6546).

Giué Family Scholarship for Women

The Giué Family Scholarship is open to female students with financial need who are graduating with honors and plan to continue to graduate school within a year of graduation. Three awards of \$500 are made annually. Students graduating with Honors in May, August or December 2007 will be considered.

Applications consist of:

*an application cover sheet (link below)

[Application_Form_Instructions1.pdf](#)

*a letter of recommendation by a faculty member

*the student's thesis abstract written in a way that

a lay person might understand

*a one-to-two page personal statement from the student which includes continuing education plans and career goals (particular schools where the student plans to apply for graduate and professional programs with application status noted)

*a statement of financial need

Applications due 3/23/07 to The Honors College
ATTN: Barbara Whittlesey.

Inquiries may be directed to Ms. Whittlesey at
whittleb@email.arizona.edu

The Frederica and John Hearst Prizes for Undergraduate Poetry 2007

FORUM LUNCHEONS FOR SPRING SEMESTER 2007

Honors students, faculty members, and professional staff join together in a relaxed and congenial setting for lunch. At every luncheon, a featured UA staff or faculty member briefly presents a portion of his or her research.

Thursday, March 29 - Dean Tom Peterson
College of Engineering

Thursday, April 05 - Prof. Renate Schulz
Center for Educational Resources in Culture,
Language and Literacy

More information about these dates will be
posted on our website at:
www.honors.arizona.edu

The Frederica Hearst Prizes for Lyrical Poetry
(rhymed or unrhymed verse)

First prize \$300

Four runner-up awards of \$50 each

The John Hearst Prizes for populist poetry
(poetry of the people, of the common person)

Four runner up awards of \$50

Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the
Hearst Undergraduate Poetry Awards Reception to be held
on **Wednesday, March 21, 2007, 4:30-6:30 p.m.**,
DuVal Auditorium, Arizona Health Sciences Center, to
which all applicants and their guests will be invited.

Queries may be directed to “Hearst Undergraduate Poetry
Contest” information at 626-6118. A message will be taken and
your queries will be answered as soon as possible.

University Learning Center Workshop

Workshops on study strategies, learning styles, UA resources, motivation and goal setting, time management, exam preparation and test taking skills will be held in the ULC Conference Room, Old Main 2nd Floor, unless otherwise noted. Series Workshops will be 5 weeks in a row, a different topic each week and will last 50 minutes. RSVP not required!

On-line workshops

It's new, convenient and free! Our workshops on-line are the same workshops offered in our sessions, except here you can take them at any time of day from any computer! Choose from a list of 9 different study skill development workshops. You don't need any additional software (the workshops are currently viewable through Internet Explorer) or materials when you take the workshops on-line. Included in each workshop are useful links to downloads.


<http://www.ulc.arizona.edu/workshops.htm>

Advising News

Graduating Seniors: Students graduating in May 2007 must schedule an appointment for a degree check in The Honors College in order to graduate with Honors. To appear in the Commencement Program as an Honors graduate, you will need to complete this degree check before March 30, 2007. You will need to make this appointment even if you have already completed a degree check in a previous semester. However, students who have already completed a degree check with Dr. Berry during this current semester need not make another appointment.

Continuing Students: Priority Registration for the Fall 2007 semester begins for Juniors and for Honors students on March 31. The following link will provide you with important information concerning HOW (and when) to register for classes: <http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/schedule074/rsvp/rsvp.htm>. Honors students should be meeting with their major/College advisors NOW and in the next couple of weeks, in order to plan a fall schedule. If you have not been to The Honors College during this semester or during the fall 2006 semester, you should also schedule an advising appointment with an Honors advisor in Slonaker House. Call 621-6901 to make an appointment. Schedule your appointment for a time after you have met with your major/College advisor. If you are still exploring majors and have not yet declared one, you should meet with Diana Rix in The Honors College. Call 621-6901 to make an appointment with Diana.

Juniors Preparing for the Honors Thesis: The Honors thesis is a six-unit project which takes place over a student's final two semesters. Students who plan to graduate in the Spring of 2008 should locate a thesis advisor by the end of this semester. Before leaving campus in May, students graduating in May 2008 should have spoken with the thesis advisor and engaged in preliminary discussion about the content and terms of the Honors thesis. Students are invited to make an appointment with an advisor in The Honors College to talk about the thesis (621-6901).



***“Nothing great was
ever achieved without
enthusiasm.”
Ralph Waldo Emerson
(1803 - 1882)***

Welcoming our New Advisor



Helena Rodrigues, Ph.D. is responsible for academic advising and curriculum issues at The Honors College. She earned her Ph.D. in political science at the University of Iowa, where she focused her research and studies on minority group politics, in particular the politics of Latinos. In her role as advisor at the Honors College, she strives to assist and guide all students in maximizing their Honors experience at the University of Arizona.

Profile of Rebecca Furst-Nichols By Emily Arnold

Sub-Saharan Africa is a region few Americans spend time thinking about, and it is definitely not the first place that comes to most students' minds when deciding where to spend a semester abroad. If we think about the area at all, we tend to picture war-torn villages, families fragmented by AIDS, and starving children. However, for University of Arizona honors student, Rebecca Furst-Nichols, Africa is a place of vibrant culture that is close to her heart. She spent months in the Sub-Saharan region studying and volunteering, and many more back at the UA contemplating the complex problems the region faces.

Rebecca has had a love for Africa for as long as she can remember. It runs in her family; her grandfather worked with the Peace Corps and World Bank on Western African issues, and her childhood home was decorated with African artwork. After her first year at the UA, Rebecca spent the summer in Tanzania teaching HIV/AIDS awareness in primary schools with Students for International Change. During that time, she stayed with a Tanzanian family and began to learn Swahili, a language she continues to study. Though she has always been exposed to African culture, this was her first visit to the continent, and the experience inspired her to spend the rest of her undergraduate career

studying the region.

Rebecca soon found a niche in the International Studies Department. Her focus track is applied political economy, where she has integrated development issues. During her sophomore year, Rebecca applied for the National Security Education Scholarship, a scholarship for nontraditional language studies. Through this scholarship program, she returned to Africa for a semester to continue studying Swahili. Originally she planned to study in Uganda; however, after a month-long negotiation with the administration there, Rebecca decided to transfer to a university in Tanzania. With her transcripts in an envelope, she traveled by bus to the Tanzanian university in Dar es Salaam and was directly enrolled.

Rebecca found the Tanzanian university experience to be drastically different from an American one. The semester started late due to a strike that took place during the first few weeks. After the strike ended, professors didn't always attend their classes, and there were very few reading materials. The students were lucky if there was one book they could all share. All of the foreign students were grouped together in one dorm with a 24-hour guard out front. This made it difficult to interact with the Tanzanian students to the extent that Rebecca had hoped.

Her study abroad experience changed how



Profile of Rebecca Furst-Nichols cont.

Rebecca felt about the task of development in Africa by allowing her to see the superficial impact foreign aid has had in the past. Prior to studying abroad, Rebecca believed that any well-meaning foreign aid workers could help the area; she now realizes “it is much, much more complicated.” Often, she says, solutions offered are only short-term, like providing temporary food supplies, when Africa really needs long-term, sustainable solutions. Rebecca sees youth development as an important part of a long-term solution since 40 is the average life expectancy in many areas of Africa. Spending time in Tanzania made her think about the direction she will take her studies.

Rebecca has augmented her language studies by volunteering with refugee families here in Tucson. She spends four or five afternoons a week helping a Sudanese family with everything from English to medical issues to the kids’ homework. On top of all this, Rebecca says she still has time for her friends

and hobbies. She enjoys playing intramural basketball and is the secretary of the Mortar Board Senior Honorary.

After her graduation in May, Rebecca will have to fulfill a one-year service requirement working for the federal government as part of her NSEP scholarship. Most likely she will be working with the State Department, possibly in the Bureau of African Affairs. After working for a few years with government or non-profit agencies, Rebecca plans to attend graduate school for International Affairs or Public Administration. She would like to see other parts of the world as well and is planning a big trip after graduation. When asked what advice she would give incoming UA students, Rebecca said, “Jump in strong. Identify any interest – it can always change. You can accomplish so much in four years if you start out strong in the beginning,” and clearly, Rebecca is living proof.

A Summer of Excellence

Do you know a high school junior eager to find out what college life is all about?

A Summer of Excellence is the University of Arizona’s premier pre – college program for gifted high school students. It is a great way for students to “try out” UA and earn transferable college credit. SOE is open to students completing their sophomore, junior, or senior year by 2007. The residential program runs two 5 –week sessions:

Session I June 2 – July 5

Session II July 7 – August 8

The priority application deadline is April 1 with all applications due by May 15. The cost is approximately \$1700. This includes: tuition, books, housing, food, and activities. Fear not! Scholarships are available for Arizona residents.

Further information is available on our website: <http://soe.honors.arizona.edu>

Or e-mail: soe@email.arizona.edu or call 520-621-9924.

Important Dates

Begin Fall advising

March 19th

Priority advising for juniors and Honors students

March 31st - April 6th

Last day for a complete withdrawal

May 2nd

Last day of classes/ Senior Thesis due

May 2nd

Honors College Pre Commencement

May 3rd

Begin final exams

May 4th

Grades available

May 9th

UA Commencement/Residence Hall close

May 12th

“Mentoring the College Bound”

H ED 397A Service Learning
3 Units
Wednesdays
4pm to 6:30pm

Interested in tutoring and mentoring students at under-resourced middle schools in the Tucson community?

Do you want to help students increase their level of academic achievement and likelihood of going to college?

Enroll in H ED 397A: Mentoring the College Bound. Students will learn about issues of equity and access to college, and then apply and expand that knowledge through a service-learning experience at an under-resourced middle school in the Tucson community.

“The real act
of discovery consists not
in finding new lands but seeing
with new eyes.”

Marcel Proust
Novelist, essayist
1871-1922

- Students must be able to participate in service at least 2-hours per week outside of class time.
- Option to contract course for Honors Credit
- A stipend will be awarded

For more information, please contact:
Michelle Espino
mespino@email.arizona.edu

The Honors College Faculty and Staff Tel: (520) 621-6901 Fax: (520) 621-8655

DR. PATRICIA MACCORQUODALE
Dean

STEPHANIE ADAMSON
Recruitment and Outreach

BRYAN ALLEN
Graduate Assistant

LUCIA BARTON
Program Coordinator

NICKY BAUER
Secretary, Administrative

DR. LAURA BERRY
Associate Dean

DR. WAYNE DECKER
Director of International Studies and External Affairs

KRISTY SAWDY
Event Coordinator

PETER IN-ALBON
Support Systems Analyst, Sr.

DIANA RIX
Advising Specialist

ANGELICA ROBISON
Secretary

DR. HELENA RODRIGUES
Academic Advisor

ALEX TRACY-RAMIREZ
Graduate Assistant

DR. KARNA WALTER
Director of Nationally Competitive Scholarships

BARBARA WHITTLESEY
Administrative Associate