Greetings! The fall 2010 semester is in full swing and we are pleased to bring you the second edition of our semi-annual alumni newsletter. I would like to thank all of you who participated in our communications survey last spring. You may remember that Catherine Gryniowski ’10 conducted the survey. She used your feedback as part of her bachelor’s essay, and also provided us with information about your communication preferences. We, in turn, took what you had to say into account when we updated our website. We hope you’ll find time to visit the Honors Alumni section, where you will find campus news, event information and alumni updates. You will also notice our newsletter has changed – all based on your suggestions and preferences. We hope you find our website and this edition of The Honors College Alumni Update interesting and informative.

John Newell, dean, Honors College

HONORS COLLEGE NEWS

Over the summer, we expanded our facilities. The Honors College, Office of Nationally Competitive Awards, and Office of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities now share space in 6 Green Way. There is a cozy seminar-style classroom on the first floor and also an office where students can study 24/7. Trisha Folds-Bennett and Mary Moser have offices on the second floor.

Promoting Literacy and Peace

Honors College students are playing an important role in an important initiative that the College of Charleston has undertaken. Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortensen, was the inspiration for the project. The goal of the initiative is to engage College of Charleston students in literacy-focused outreach projects and provide them with leadership opportunities that they can use to help strengthen our local community.

One aspect of the Literacy Outreach Initiative is the training of College of Charleston students who are sent into Charleston County schools, where they share the themes of Three Cups of Tea with elementary- through high-school-age students. College students are working with nearly 5,000 students in 27 Lowcountry schools. Another part of the project involves student participation in the Pennies for Peace campaign, which raises money to build schools in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Many of our Honors freshmen are participating in the Literacy Outreach Initiative as part of their Honors ICE class. Others are volunteering through the Honors Student Association, other campus organizations or classes that have incorporated the initiative into their curriculum. The Literacy Outreach Initiative provides many wonderful opportunities for students to participate in this community engagement project, tackle a need in our community, and work together to make a difference.

Supporting the Honors College

Planning for the Future

The Honors College is grateful for the support of our community.

If you would like to give a gift to the Honors College, go to the College of Charleston Foundation website. Please be sure to indicate that you would like your tax-deductible donation to go to the Honors College.

Thank you for your support!

Upcoming Events

Come back to campus for the Honors College Faculty Lecture Series!

Fridays from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Hawkins Living Learning Center
Buist-Rivers Residence Hall

October 29
“The Role of Culture in Economic Development” – Frank Hefner, Department of Economics and Finance

November 12
“Computer Modeling in Mediterranean Landscape Archaeology” – Jim Neuhard, chair, Classics department

Alumni “like” Honors Alumni-College of Charleston
HONORS ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

From College of Charleston to Uganda

In 2007, Tiffany Hammond Christian ’93 was a professor of social work at Appalachian State University. Some of her students asked her to explore the idea of leading a trip to East Africa, and the seed that had been planted then has grown into an annual service-learning program. Over the past three years, more than 20 students have done volunteer work in rural Uganda. Some of their successes include building nine outhouses, one brick house and one mud hut. They’ve donated five pigs for an animal husbandry program and started a lending library with more than 200 books. In addition, her students spend time in the local schools and help support women’s empowerment programs through health education.

Christian has also started Youth 4 Uganda, a nonprofit through which she hopes to help middle and high school students volunteer in Uganda. She is convinced that the way to experience life in other countries.

“This is never what I had planned to do, but it’s exactly what I’m supposed to be doing,” Christian says. “When I was a student at the College, I learned firsthand what an impact one person can make. There have been so many people that changed my life for the better, the least I can do is try to be a similar influence on someone else.”

WE APPRECIATE OUR CONTRIBUTORS!

Thank you to the Honors College students, alumni and staff who contributed to this edition of the Honors College newsletter!

Class of 2014 | Today’s Students/Tomorrow’s Leaders

Every fall the Honors College welcomes a new class of entering freshmen and every year our applicants are more and more impressive. They begin a life of scholarly pursuits in high school and continue their paths to success in the Honors College. Our class of 2014 includes ten high school valedictorians, four high school salutatorians, one student who scored a perfect 800 on the verbal section of the SAT, four students who scored a perfect 800 on the math section of the SAT, three students with enough AP/IB credit to be college juniors, eleven students with enough AP/IB credit to be college sophomores, one author of children’s books, two Eagle Scouts, a number of top athletes (including a top tennis player on athletic scholarship, one nationally ranked sailor, and a competitive horseback rider), one tap and clog dancer, one registered and published author of poetry, several musicians (including a French horn player, trombone player), and numerous singers, one LTDV sideline reporter, one radio DJ, and several founders of volunteer organizations, including the co-founder of Stop Teen Suicide, and the founder of PASTAtlanta (People Against Slavery & Trafficking).

Class of 2014 profile

- entering freshmen: 182
- average SAT: 1340
- average ACT: 29
- average weighted GPA: 4.36
- average unweighted GPA: 3.80
- percentile rank in class: 94%
- in-state students: 100
- out-of-state students: 82
- in-state Junior Fellows: 9
- out-of-state Junior Fellows: 7

This year, 16 of our entering freshmen were selected to participate at the junior-fellow level of the William Aiken Fellows Society. William Aiken Junior Fellows are students who have an SAT score of 1400 or above and rank in the top four percent of their high school graduating class. They participate in a rigorous interview process to earn their place in the society. Throughout their college careers, William Aiken Fellows participate in programs that help them refine their leadership skills and enrich their academic experience. By the time they graduate these students will have developed a professional and academic portfolio that showcases their abilities and prepares them to compete for national and international scholarships that are available only to top scholars.

2010 William Aiken Junior Fellows profile

- junior fellow members: 16
- average SAT: 1460
- average ACT: 32
- average weighted GPA: 4.78
- average unweighted GPA: 3.96
- percentile rank in class: 99%

Honors Alumni - Where are they now?

Hattie Greene ’10 and Paul Branch ’10, both H.C. graduates, were married in Atlanta, Ga.

Lauren Bruna ’08 received her M.S. in communication from Illinois State University in May. She is now a communication instructor at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill.

Jeff Silverberg ’07 and Mary Karem ’05 were married in Charleston.

Daniel B. Cobb ’06 graduated from MUSC College of Medicine in May and began an internal medicine residency at the University of Colorado Denver.

Brooke Folk ’06 and fellow H.C. graduate Christopher Permenter ’05 were married at Middleton Place in Charleston. Brooke is pursuing a Ph.D. at Rutgers University and Chris is working at Automated Trading Desk.

Kessya “Kiaut” Doris ’05 was awarded a $150,000 teaching fellowship from the Knowles Science Teach Foundation.

Erin Haloday ’05 and Alexander Ziegler ’05 were married in May. They met in an honors geology class during their freshman year.

Karin Marie Susan ’05 and Clint Ryan Hebert were married in Lafayette, La.

Ashley Purn Nishau ’04 and James Nishau ’04, both H.C. graduates, were married in 2007 in Charleston. They each received a Ph.D. degree in 2009.

Jessica Rivers ’04 is working on her doctorate in communication and culture at Indiana University.

Jessica and Emilbo Colanen were married in August in a small ceremony near Atlanta, Ga.

Melissa Siegel ’03 lives in the Netherlands, where she is a postdoctoral researcher and program manager of the Migration Studies Specialization at Maastricht University, where she also completed her Ph.D. in public policy this year.

Stephanie Wheeler ’03 received her Ph.D. in health policy and management from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in May. She is an assistant professor of health policy and management at the Gillings School of Global Public Health at UNC–Chapel Hill.

Millie Embree ’02 recently graduated from the MUSC College of Dental Medicine with a D.M.D./Ph.D. and is now an assistant professor at Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in New York City.

Susan West Story ’93, her husband Jimmy and son Mac live in Bogota, Colombia. Jimmy is serving a two-year term as deputy director of the Narcotics Affairs Section at the American Embassy in Colombia.

For more updates, go to the alumni section of the Honors College website. We want to hear from you, so please send your news to honorsalumni@cofc.edu.

HONORS COLLEGE


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