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The University Honors College newsletter is published several times per semester.
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**WILLIAM
PATERSON
UNIVERSITY**

Honors Student To Show Film Project at Next Lunch in the Lounge**Kristen Pettet**

The second Lunch in the Lounge will be held Tuesday, October 13. Kristen Pettet, a student in the Honors Performing and Literary Arts Track, will show her fifteen minute film, "Misery To Miracles," a documentary based on a true story about a woman from Kristen's hometown. Born deaf, this woman endured many hardships growing up, including an abusive family and learning disabilities, that led her down a destructive path. One day her life began to turn around, and not only is she now able to hear, but she is happily married and giving back to her community by helping people in need.

Kristen interviewed the woman, the woman's husband, a doctor, and the woman's friend

who was also once deaf. Kristen says, "This film is a perfect example of the fact that we all have different journeys, but it is the hardships we face that become our greatest testimonies."

Kristen is a sophomore, majoring in Communication at William Paterson University, started this project last January, and learned about filmmaking through the process. She used only basic editing equipment because she wanted to keep the film simplistic so that the message would be clear.

She finished the project in early June, and has shown it at a few places, including a community center in Wyckoff. She also gives it out to people she meets while traveling with her family. Kristen said that she was inspired to see how it touched people of all different ages.

Although Kristen would like to branch out into other areas of film, she really enjoyed producing an inspirational documentary.

Jess Pepe, Senior in Honors College, Reflects on the Annual Breast Cancer Walk

I have been walking in *Making Strides* for the past 8 years, and this was my third walk here at Willy P. (I wasn't able to make it my freshman year). I walk to remember those who passed away from breast cancer, as well as other cancers and diseases, and to honor those who continue to fight the disease every day. My grandma is a 30 year breast cancer survivor and she loves that I participate in this walk every year. The school raised over \$5,000 this year, and over 500 walkers came out. Billy the Bear was there to sport the Breast Cancer Awareness t-shirt and posed for pictures with those in attendance- including Dr. and Mrs. Speert, the athletic teams, sororities and fraternities, student clubs, individual walkers, and the adorable children from the Child Development Center. This was Billy the Bear's first walk, but William Paterson's 14th Annual! Karen Hilberg, from the Rec Center, will continue to collect donations through October.

Thanks to everyone who participated!



Jess Pepe with WPU mascot, Billy the Bear at the walk.

Please read carefully...

The following Honors courses are being offered during the spring 2010 semester. Enrollment is by permit only. Permits will be available on or after Monday, October 19, 2009 on a first-come, first-served basis. To obtain a permit for an Honors course, please send an email to honors@wpunj.edu, and include your name, 855 number, and the name of the Honors class(es) you would like to enroll in for the spring. If you have questions or concerns, please call Jan at 973.720.3657.

PLEASE DO NOT REQUEST PERMITS UNTIL ON OR AFTER 10/19/09. THANK YOU!

Arts and Communication

COMM 101 - Introduction to Theatre — J. Beal F, 11:00 - 1:40

A wide-ranging and free-wheeling look at theatre in all its aspects from all sides- script, staging, performing, watching, directing, technical work, historical, contemporary, dramatic, comedic, musical. In short, we try to answer these questions: what is theatre, and why should we care?

ARTH 101- Approaches to Western Art — M. Williams TR, 3:30-4:45

A study of the major movements, individuals and issues in visual art, from its origins in the cave paintings of Altamira and Lascaux through its continuation into the present. The course emphasizes the acquisition of visual literacy in "reading," analyzing and understanding art. Opportunities to view and interact with original art are emphasized, along with the development of student writing skills.

Humanities

ENG 150 - Introduction to Literature — S. Fisher MW, 3:30 – 4:45

This course gives students a sense of a literary tradition unfolding across time in the genres of poetry, drama, essay and fiction.

ENG 150 – Introduction to Literature – B. O’Broin MW, 11:00 – 12:15

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HIST 102 - The West and the World: The Age of Discovery to Decolonization — S. Dinan TR, 8:00 – 9:15

This class begins with the question, what is the modern world? To answer it we will examine political, social, cultural, intellectual and economic developments from the sixteenth century to the present. By reading and analyzing a variety of primary sources we will grapple with the issues considered paramount by people at different moments in European history.

SPAN 106 – Basic Intensive Spanish I and II — O. DelaSuaee MTWR, 2:00 – 3:15

This course offers students the opportunity of completing the university language requirement (6 credits) in one semester by covering the entire first year curriculum in an intensive setting. Cultural activities supplement this unique experience for the exceptionally motivated student.

Math and Science

ENV 110 - Environmental Foundations – K. Swanson MW, 9:30 – 10:45, Lab: W, 2:00 – 4:45

This course will stress a holistic view of the environment from the viewpoints of several disciplines of the sciences, the social sciences and the humanities.

ENV 115-53 – General Geology – K. Swanson

TR 11:00 – 12:15, Lab: R 2:00 – 4:45

An introduction to geological concepts, principles, and processes as they relate to the origin and evolution of the earth. Topics include: minerals, rocks and fossils, topographic and geologic maps, glaciers, rivers, groundwater, deserts and wind, shorelines and ocean basins, earthquakes and earth's interior, mountain building, evolution of continents, plate tectonics, structural geology, and geologic time. The companion laboratory includes field trips and hands-on experiences that complement lecture materials.

Race and Gender

WS 150 – Racism and Sexism – S. Bedell

TR, 2:00 – 3:15

In common with standard sections, this course will examine racism, sexism, heterosexism, and classism looking at current laws, historical documents, academic articles, films, and hearing the personal experiences of other students. Engaging the topics, students will read critically, write on complex topics and work at concept development. Such skill development assignments will prepare students for an intensive undergraduate program regardless of major.

GE Health and Movement Sciences

PEGE 200 -- Active Lifestyles for Health – J. Vickers

WF, 11:00 – 12:15

Physical Education for aerobic conditioning and life-long good health!

Social Sciences

PSY 110 General Psychology (ONLINE) – J. Austin

This course provides a broad overview of the field of psychology and the study of the human mind and behavior. This online format promotes involvement through an active discussion board and interactive learning modules. A variety of assignments encourage students to translate theories and concepts into a meaningful context related to their own lives and experiences.

PSY 210 – Developmental Psychology – N. Pakizegi

TR, 2:00 – 3:15

This course is about how we come to be who we are through the course of our development. It will cover physical, social, emotional and intellectual development in each of the main periods of life from infancy through emerging adulthood. Issues of class, race, gender and culture will be interwoven throughout the topics.

ANTH 202 -- Anthropology of Education: Foundations for Teaching – M. Villar

W, 9:30am-12:10pm

This course explores the relationship between learning, teaching, schooling, society and culture. It examines biological, social and cultural aspects of the acquisition, transmission and production of knowledge, analyzes the connection between educational systems and socio-cultural contexts, and looks at the roles schools play as agents of continuity, conflict and change in the new global order. Students will use ethnographic methods to gain a first-hand understanding of the challenges and rewards of teaching in contemporary schools.

Honors Track Spotlight: Dr. Benno and the Biopsychology Track



Dr. Benno holding a mouse in the lab.

Dr. Robert Benno, Professor of Biology at William Paterson, has served as the Honors Biopsychology Track director for over fifteen years. A behavioral geneticist, Benno works with mice

to study the role of genes and environment in various neurological diseases. While his main focus is on Autism, he is also interested in topics such as drug abuse.

Dr. Benno considers the behavioral genetics lab, founded in 1973 by Emeritus Professor of Biology, Dr. Martin Hahn, to be the heart of the Biopsychology Honors track. "The research that the students conduct while they are in the Biopsychology Track looks impressive on resumes and on applications for graduate school," said Benno.

Many of the students who graduated from the Biopsychology Track have gone on to become researchers, medical doctors, nurses, dentists, veterinarians and professionals in various fields. One former student, Dr. John Deluca, is a neuropsychologist for the Kessler Institute. "The students we have trained in the Honors Biopsychology Track make an impact in the world, and we're

learning from *them* now," said Benno proudly. He is also in regular contact with one of the first graduates of the track, Dr. Tamara Phillips, who is currently professor and vice-chair of the Behavioral Neuroscience Department at the Oregon Health and Science University. Phillips has conducted extensive studies on drug use, and Benno is using her studies as a guideline for his own work.

The Biopsychology Honors Program was developed over thirty years ago by Dr. Martin Hahn and Dr. Benno with a grant from the National Science Foundation. Originally, it was considered to be an independent honors cross-disciplinary program between the College of Science and Health and the College of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Benno noted that it was difficult to get funding for research materials in the mouse lab when the program was first implemented, and he is pleased that in later years as the University began supporting the Honors College, the situation has improved. "With more funding, we now have a more integrated program and are able to offer a better experience for the students," said Benno.

Lab Technician Norman Schanz has been assisting Honors students in the mouse lab for twenty two years. "The

hands-on and group experience is very helpful to the students," commented Norm, who is currently working with Dr. Benno and two senior Biopsychology Honors track students on their thesis projects. The two students aided each other's research, and used the same mice, at different stages of development, as their subjects. One of the students, Shelly Cilibrasi, a Biology and Education major, just completed a developmental study on BTBR mice, a strand that is a model for Autism. The other student, Kristina Kosztyo, a Psychology major and Biology minor, is conducting experiments comparing genetically "normal" and Autistic mice. Her research calculates the mice's abilities to interact with familiar and unfamiliar environments. Her experiments have lasted all summer and she is now in the data analysis stage. Both students will present their thesis projects during Honors Week next April.

Benno just published an article, "Exaggerated responses to stress in the BTBR T^{tf}/J mouse: An unusual behavioral phenotype." His future plans include continued teaching and research. He looks forward to the completion of the science building project. "The mouse lab is one of the things that will be totally renovated in the science building," said Benno.

First Lunch in the Lounge Was Very Informative

Honors College students met for the first Lunch in the Lounge on September 24 in High Mountain East. Following introductions, Dr. Dinan and Kristina Kosztyo, president of the student-led Honors Club, talked about becoming a member of the club, course registration, and upcoming events. A question and answer session followed.

All event dates can be found on page 4, and registration information for the upcoming spring semester can be found on page 2.



Honors Student Chosen to Speak at Luncheon

Shelly Cilibrasi, an Honors student and recipient of the Arlene and Helmut Schreiber Education Scholarship, spoke at the Pioneer Society Luncheon on Wednesday, September 30, 2009. During her remarks, Shelly discussed the importance of scholarships, and explained how scholarships have contributed to her success at William Paterson.

The Pioneer Society is a group of former William Paterson University students who graduated fifty or more years ago. The luncheon gives them an opportunity to meet together.

Shelly, a senior Biology and Education major, is enrolled in the Biopsychology Honors track. She is currently working on her capstone project in the mouse lab, and plans to graduate in 2011. *Congratulations Shelly!*

Upcoming Events

13 October	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	Lunch in the Lounge High Mountain East, 4th floor lounge
13 October	Tuesday	6:00-9:00	Ceramic Painting Night Location TBA (Must Sign-Up in Advance)
14 October	Wednesday	5:00-6:00	Knitting Night High Mountain East, 4th floor lounge
20 October	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	Honors Club Meeting UC 168 A
22 October	Thursday	12:30-1:45	MANDATORY Meeting for all Students in Honors Tracks UC 168 A/B
27 October	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	Lunch in the Lounge High Mountain East, 4th floor lounge
27 October	Tuesday	7:00-10:00 p.m.	Proposed Halloween-A-Palooza UC 211
10 November	Tuesday	12:30-1:45	Final Collection for Honors Coat Drive Main Street, Student Center (Outside campus bookstore)
12 November	Thursday	12:30-1:45	MANDATORY Meeting for all First Year Students Atrium Auditorium
14 November	Saturday	TBA	Proposed Honors Club Trip to Washington DC
19 November	Thursday	12:30 - 1:45	Lunch in the Lounge High Mountain East, 4th floor lounge
1 December	Tuesday	3:00-4:00	Honors College Annual Holiday Party Hobart Manor
Remember to check your university e-mail for important information from the Honors College and Honors Club about changes to the above calendar and additional events!			

Third Knitting Night Held

Another Knitting Night was held on September 29 in High Mountain East. Rachael Mierzwa, the student who came up with this wonderful idea, was pleased by the dedication of the students who attended the event. She said, "Half of the students brought their own supplies and worked on individual projects, while others either improved their knitting skills or learned the craft for the first time." Currently, there are 29 completed scarves. Another Knitting Night is being planned Wednesday, October 14 in High Mountain East from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The scarves are being donated along with the proceeds from this year's annual coat drive, which will be held the week of November 2, with the final collection on Main Street of the Student Center on Tuesday, November 10 during common hour. Donations of gently used coats, and new hats, gloves, and scarves will be accepted. The proceeds from the Honors Coat Drive will be taken to Eva's Village and the Passaic County Head Start. Volunteers are needed to work at the final collection table. Please watch for more details.



Rachael Mierzwa teaching Carla Rainey to knit.