

A Wonderful Honors Week!

Contact Information:

- Susan Dinan, Ph.D.,
Director
dinans@wpunj.edu
126 Raubinger Hall

- Jan Pinkston,
Program Assistant
pinkstonj@wpunj.edu
127 Raubinger Hall



Susan Dinan, Director

Highlights:

Honors Week	1
Research Presentation	
Photos	2
Talent Show	3
Dates to Remember	4

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make Honors Week a great success this year. The week was full of wonderful, enlightening, and engaging activities.

On Saturday night in Shea 101, Music Track student Joe Bergen presented an amazing multimedia collaboration that included music, dance, film, art, poetry, and theatre. Joe collaborated with other artists on several pieces.

On Monday, Music Track students Shawn Baltazor and Andrew Tait presented their thesis projects in Shea. Shawn's project examined "The Jazz Ride Cymbal," and Andrew's analyzed the "The Development of the Jazz Baritone Saxophone." Dr. Jeffrey Kresky directs the Music Track.

Tuesday night featured six readings and performances by students in Dr. Philip Cioffari's Performing and Literary Arts Track in Hobart Manor.

Two students produced works that would be considered science fiction. Rachel Kaplan read from "Rain," a fantasy novel and Jessica Kuhran read from her novella "Devour the Heart to Feed the Soul." Two students wrote stories about coming of age as teenagers and young adults. Lisa Paitchell read from her novella, "Judith" about a 20 year old women questioning the meaning of life, and Amy Van Drueten, read from her novella "The Redemption of a Teenage Nobody" about a girl trying to find her place in a broken family. John Penola shared parts of his poetry collection "The Spire." Ashley Pettet created a performance "Nothin' Like a Dame: Women in the History of Entertainment" in which she sang well known works of several female vocalists and ended with a composition of her own.

On Wednesday afternoon students from other Honors Tracks discussed their research in Hobart Manor. Seven students who will graduate from Dr. Neil Kressel's Social Sciences Track discussed an array of topics. Carol Chu spoke about "The Impact of Graduate Students' Perceptions of Social Support Systems and Acculturation on their Mental Health and Perceptions of Stress." Christopher Larres discussed "Acculturation, Ethnic Identity, and Quality of Life of Greek-



Joe Bergen performing a drum solo in Hobart Manor

Americans in New Jersey." Bahar Mansur examined "The Effects of Thought Suppression on the Accessibility of Food-Related Thoughts." Amy Moors discussed "Probing the Perceptions of Feminist Men." Jennifer Sudol analyzed "Popularity, Assertiveness, and Aggression among Boys and Girls in Middle School." Lindsey Magazzu considered "The North Hollywood Bank Robbery: A Case Study of a Police Encounter with Unprecedented Violence." Samantha Branin examined "Moral Education in American Public High Schools."

Four students from Dr. John Peterman's Humanities Track presented their thesis research. Karen Ellis discussed the "Islamic Moral Economy." Aurora Rosado considered her identity as a Puerto Rican American in "No Hablo Espanol." Dylan McAuliffe studied "Nationalism in the 21st Century." Ada Grafals addressed the topic of "Multicultural Education."

Michael Blizzard was the only student representing the Biopsychology Track directed by Dr. Robert Benno, and he discussed his work on "The Legacy of Eugenics in the United States."

Dr. Peter Mandik directs the Cognitive Science track, and representing the track were Colleen Takemoto who discussed "Disfluent Speech and its Attempted Control as Conceivable Stigma," and Matthew Tirino who examined "The Indeterminacy of Translation: A Critique of Quine."

Honors Week Talent Show

On Wednesday evening after the thesis research presentations had wrapped up we enjoyed the first Honors Talent Show, organized by students in the Honors Club. The event brought together faculty, students and staff from the Honors community to share their many talents.

The talent show began with Dr. Robert Benno, director of the Biopsychology Honors Track playing the piano and singing original compositions based upon well-known songs. Dr. Benno oversees the Mouse Lab in the Science building, and suitably, he wrote a song for the mice.



Dr. Benno plays the piano

Dr. Vardiman of the Psychology Department read some of his poems, as did three students Maria Bell, John Penola, and Athos Kyriakides.

Kamilah Bayete a student in the Performing and Literary Arts Track and a student of karate performed a martial praise.



Kamilah Bayete executing a kick

No doubt she was the first person ever to have donned a gi and done a full kata in the mansion!

A few student musicians performed including Pablo Briceno on the classical guitar, and Jordan Piper and Adam Lomeo who played piano and guitar and included a piece by Theolonius Monk.

Recognition of Michael Blizzard!

On Thursday evening Honors Week concluded with a banquet in the café at Valley Road. The event was attended by members of the William Paterson University administration, faculty, and students. Mark Tambone, the first graduate of the Performing and Literary Arts Track, spoke about the importance of doing Honors, and he learned from writing and producing a series of one act plays.

At the banquet Michael Blizzard was presented with a trophy and honored for his many efforts on the part of the Honors College. Michael has been instrumental in creating the Honors Club, moreover he coordinated the fall coat drive Dr and planned the talent show. In March Michael attended the Northeast Regional Honors Conference with Susan Dinan and Amy Moors, where he and Amy presented their Honors research. Dr. Benno and Dr. Cioffari spoke about Michael and his achievements. Dr. Marty Hahn, the founding director of the William Paterson University Honors Program wrote of Michael, "he is one of the most enthusiastic, hard working students I have ever known. He is totally unafraid to take on a challenge." Congratulations to Michael!



Michael Blizzard



University
300 Pompton Road
Wayne, NJ 07470

Phone:
973-720-3657

Fax:
973-720-3693

E-Mail:
honors@wpunj.edu

We're on the Web!

<http://www.wpunj.edu/icip/honors/>

T-shirts can be purchased for \$10 from Jess Pepe (pepei@student.wpunj.edu) or from Susan Dinan.



Honors College students model their t-shirts: Lauren, Neal, Christina, Jenny, Dave, Jess, and Luke

28 April Field Trip to Central Park All are welcome to join us as we take a walking tour of Central Park to learn its history and then venture to the Central Park Zoo to watch the penguins have lunch and visit other exhibits. We are meeting at Tavern on the Green at 10:45.

14 May Honors Convocation A ceremony recognizing the achievements of students in the Honors College and academic departments. All graduates of the Honors Tracks and their families are welcome to attend. You must RSVP to the Honors Office if you wish to attend.
4:30 reception in the Atrium Lobby
5:30 ceremony in Shea Auditorium

15 May Commencement Congratulations to all graduating seniors in Honors!
10:30 at Wightman Field

18-19 July Orientation Students entering the Honors College in the fall will attend this Orientation session. We are inviting some current Honors students to help introduce new students to the College. Please contact Susan Dinan if you wish to attend.

Honors and Service Projects!

One important component of Honors programs and colleges nationally is a commitment to service. This year has been the first year that William Paterson University's Honors College has existed, and I would like to commend the students in the Honors Club for their commitment to service. In November, our coat drive, organized by Michael Blizzard, collected over 200 coats for distribution in shelters in Paterson and surrounding communities. In April, we raised about \$50 for cancer research at our Talent Show, and collected over 100 media items for the troops in Iraq or in military hospitals, organized by Jessica Pepe. If you have ideas for service projects for 2007-2008, please email your suggestions to Susan Dinan at dinans@wpunj.edu.

Media Entertainment Drive, by Jess Pepe

Operation M.E.D. was a great success; we collected 14 novels, 47 movies (both DVD's and VHS), 3 video games, 1 gameboy with 3 games, and 125 CD's!!! I'd like to thank the 183 students who joined the facebook group to show their support of the troops and the drive. A special thanks goes out to Shelly Cilibrasi, Ashley Hartman, Christina Auger, Lauren Lewandoski, Dylan McAuliffe, Joann Schifano (Academic Support/Math department), Dr. Lisbe (Dept. of Common Health), Craig Woelpper, Irene Grskovic, Professor Philip Cioffari, my parents Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Pepe, and anyone else who donated to the drive that I failed to mention. Thank you!