

Greetings from the Director

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

Welcome to the University Honors College at William Paterson University! I hope everyone enjoyed a relaxing and productive summer! We are thrilled to have 90 first year students joining the Honors College and are delighted to welcome back our upper division and Track students.

The Honors College has several new features this year, some of which are described in this newsletter.

We have organized Honors residential communities in High Mountain East for first year students. The residential communities will feature informal events led by Honors faculty members. All Honors students are welcome to join the faculty for events in the lounges of High Mountain East. You are invited to watch films, analyze a World Series game, learn about the city of Paterson, and enjoy lunch with a faculty member. See the *Dates to Remember* column on page 4 for a list of events.

The Honors Student Advisory Council is off to a running start this year with plans to participate in the campus' Breast Cancer

Walk on 5 October, sponsor a coat drive, and organize a talent show, comedy hour or fashion show. All students enrolled in an Honors class or an Honors Track are welcome to join the Council.

Honors faculty members have planned a series of workshops to help students apply to graduate school, and Honors students at all levels are welcome to these meetings.

We have an exciting year planned. Please share your ideas about creating a dynamic Honors College with us!



2006 Honors College Ice Cream Social

Student Advisory Council



Michael Blizzard

My name is Michael L. Blizzard, a senior majoring in Psychology and English who is a member of the Biopsychology Honors track. I am one of the undergraduate scholar leaders of the Student Advisory Council to Honors. (The next newsletter will profile Coleen Takemoto another leader of the Student Advisory Council)

The council is made up of a few students who share their ideas about upcoming events, and also advise Dr. Dinan on

curricular issues. On Thursday 5 October, Honor students will participate in the Breast Cancer Walk on campus. We encourage everyone to participate in this event, which begins in front of the Library.

This semester we will be initiating the Honors Club, under the auspices of the Student Government Association. On the agenda for this semester, we plan on holding a coat drive during the holiday season for the homeless. We would also like to host a talent show during which Honor Students and faculty members can perform for the WPU community. Our first club meeting will be on Tuesday 3 October in Raubinger Hall 133 (inside the Grad. Studies suite) during common hour. Please email honors@wpunj.edu if you are interested in becoming a member of this club.

For more information, visit the Honors Group site on WP Connect. Information will be posted on this site and will not be sent to individual email accounts.

Highlights:

Student Advisory Council	1
A Word from Jan	2
Honors Tracks	3
Dates to Remember	4

Help Us Help You

Welcome to a new academic year at William Paterson University. One of the hallmarks of the Honors College is the individual attention given to each student. Whether you are a first year student enrolled in Honors sections of General Education courses, a Sophomore planning to enroll in an Honors GE course or Track, or an upper-level student already enrolled in one of the Honors Tracks, the staff of the Honors College looks forward to assisting you with your educational and professional goals.



An Honors Cluster visits the beach at Sandy Hook. This semester all Honors clusters will be going on field trips too!

What you can expect from us in the coming weeks...

If you are a **First Year Student**, you will receive a personalized letter describing the Spring 2007 Honors courses and highlighting the courses you are eligible to take. We will also be contacting you around mid-October to ensure that you fully understand the registration process and have consulted with your advisor.

If you are at the **Sophomore level** and have not entered a track, you will receive information about Spring 2007 Honors GE courses, as well as information about the various Honors Tracks. We will also contact you in mid-October to assist you with Honors course and/or track selection, as well as answer any questions or concerns you may have.

If you are a current **Track Student**, you will be hearing from us in mid-October when we confirm that you are getting proper advisement from both your major advisor and the Program Director of your particular track. Students who are planning to graduate in the Spring 2007, will be given information about Honors Week (April 16-20, 2007), and will be made aware of our expectations for participation in Honors Week, which includes the completion of a form describing your final Honors thesis/project.

What you can do...

- **Check your WPU email account** for messages from the Honors College (sorry, university policy does not permit us to send email to private email accounts).
- **Visit the Honors Group on WP Connect.** Information and special announcements are posted regularly on the Honors Group page.

(To access the Honors Group, click on WP Connect in the upper left corner of the WPUNJ homepage. After logging in, click on "Groups" in the upper right corner. A new window will appear and you will see a link to the Honors College Group.) Check the announcements regularly!

- **Visit the Honors website** (www.wpunj.edu/icip/honors). It is currently being updated with information and links to Honors forms that can be downloaded.
- **Read all correspondence** from the Honors College carefully, follow all instructions, and meet deadlines.
- **Contact us if you need help!** We can be reached several ways. Call us at 973.720.3657, email us at honors@wpunj.edu or stop by our offices in Raubinger 126-129 (on the first floor or Raubinger, through the Graduate Studies double doors). We are always glad to address your questions and concerns or direct you to someone who can.

Honors Communities

This fall marks the beginning of residence hall communities for Honors students in High Mountain East. Communities of Honors students live within this building reserved for first year students who are receiving scholarships for academic merit. The goal of the residence hall communities is to help build connections between Honors students and foster a sense of community.

Honors students living in High Mountain East are welcome to participate in all the events organized by the Office of Residence Life. In addition, the Honors College and the Office of Residence Life are working together to bring faculty members into the residence hall to meet with students informally. Faculty members are coming to share an interest, a favorite film, or some time with the students. All Honors students are welcome to attend the events in High Mountain East, and non-residents will be granted access to the lounges where the events will take place. Please join us for films, talks, baseball games, and lunches. The schedule of events is listed on the *Dates to Remember* column.

Travel to Europe with Honors!

Honors students should see the world, but it is not always possible for them to participate in study abroad programs. During the summer 2007 Dr. Susan Dinan will take a group of Honors students to Europe for an excursion lasting about two weeks. The trip is open to all Honors students and will probably cost about \$2000. The trip will be planned by the students who wish to participate in it. So, if you are interested in visiting London, Paris, Prague, Rome or another location please attend a meeting with Dr. Susan Dinan at 12:30 on 27 September in the conference room inside the Graduate Studies Suite in Raubinger Hall or email Dr. Susan Dinan to express your interest in the excursion.

Honors Tracks

The Honors College offers seven distinctive tracks that function like a minor, a distinctive set of courses that enhance a student's academic career. Students select one of the tracks based on their major, academic goals, and personal interests. Some of the benefits of the program include smaller class sizes, more individualized instruction and attention, increased opportunities for faculty-student research, interaction with other honors students, and the "Honors" designation on diplomas and transcripts.

Biospsychology Draws students from biology, chemistry, nursing, psychology, and sociology who are interested in topics such as how the brain works, the biological basis of behavior, and drug effects on behavior.

Program Director: Dr. Robert Benno
Science 449, 973-720-3440
bennor@wpunj.edu

Cognitive Science Draws students from all majors who are interested in an interdisciplinary exploration of how the mind works. Students explore connections between Philosophy, Psychology, Artificial Intelligence, Linguistics, Neuroscience, and Anthropology, through the modeling of cognition and consciousness in computers and robots.

Program Director: Dr. Peter Mandik
Atrium 263, 973-720-2173
mandikp@wpunj.edu

Humanities Draws students from all majors who are interested in exploring the connections between Philosophy, History, and Literature.

Students explore, develop, and critique ideas through reading, writing and discussion with like-minded students and faculty.

Program Director: Dr. John Peterman
Atrium 269B, 973-720-3030
petermanj@wpunj.edu

Life Science and Environmental Ethics

Open to students of any major, this Track is of special interest to science students who wish to explore the ethical issues caused by their scientific knowledge or to business students who wish to better understand the ethical dimensions of the technical areas in which they will soon be working. The Track addresses ethical, political, and social issues in the life science fields of biology, medicine, and the environmental sciences.

Program Director: Dr. Karen Swanson
Science 444, 973-720-2589
swansonk@wpunj.edu

Music Designed for music majors who are interested in thinking about music from a theoretical perspective.

Program Director: Dr. Jeffrey Kresky
Shea 171, 973-720-3470
kreskyj@wpunj.edu

Performing and Literary Arts Draws students from all majors who are interested in writing for public performance, producing or staging a play, acting, and performing a musical review or play.

Program Director: Dr. Philip Cioffari
Atrium 224B, 973-720-3053
cioffarip@wpunj.edu

Social Sciences Serves students from all majors, but especially from psychology, sociology, political science, and anthropology. Students explore how the social sciences, together and separately, can enhance our understanding of contemporary social problems.

Program Director: Dr. Neil Kressel
Science 239, 973-720-3389
kresseln@wpunj.edu



An Honors Cluster visits the Cloisters museum. This semester all Honors clusters will be going on field trips too!

University Honors College

126-129 Raubinger Hall
William Paterson
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/>

28 September *Smokestacks and Steeples: A Portrait of Paterson* Dr. Vincent Parrillo of the Sociology Department, and an expert on race and ethnicity, shows his documentary about Paterson and engages in a discussion with students.
7:00 in High Mountain East

3 October Student Advisory Council meeting All Honors students are welcome.
12:30 in Raubinger 133, inside the Graduate Studies suite

5 WPUNJ Breast Cancer Awareness Walk Please join your fellow Honors students and faculty members for a walk to support breast cancer awareness. You must have at least \$5 in sponsorship to walk.
12:30 in front of the Library

10 October Graduate School Workshop. Are you interested in applying to graduate school? This workshop will show you how to evaluate graduate schools and determine which programs best meet your needs. All Honors students are welcome!
12:30 in the Library Paterson Room

12 October Lunch in the Lounge with Dr. Dinan. All Honors students are welcome. Please RSVP to Dr. Susan Dinan so we know how many lunches to order!
12:30 High Mountain East

17 October Graduate School Workshop This workshop will show you how to complete an application for graduate school and determine which materials are appropriate to include with an application. All Honors students are welcome!
12:30 in Raubinger 133, inside the Graduate Studies suite

17 October *The Browning Version*, Dr. Jeffrey Kresky of the Music Department will show this film about a English school teacher who is despised and feared by his students, and the crisis his professional and personal failures precipitate.
7:00 High Mountain East

Dates to Remember

24 October Graduate School Workshop This workshop will show you how to write a convincing personal statement for a graduate school application. All Honors students are welcome!
12:30 in the Paterson Room of the Library

21-29 October, World Series! Watch a World Series game with Dr. Robert Benno of the Biology department and discuss just what the mind and body have to accomplish in order for a professional athlete to perform. Date and time depend upon the game schedule.
High Mountain East

2 November *Mona Lisa Smile* Join Dr. Karen Swanson of the Environmental Science Department and Dr. Susan Dinan for a screening of this film about a group of women attending Wellsley in the 1950s. What choices did women have to make about life, work, and family in the 1950s, and what choices do we have to make today?
7:00 High Mountain East

15-19 November National Collegiate Honors Council conference in Philadelphia, PA A few students will be able to attend this conference. Please see Jan or Dr. Susan Dinan if you are interested in participating in the conference.

7 December Honors Holiday Party
2:00 Hobart Manor

29 March – 1 April Northeast Regional Honors Council conference in Providence. Students may present their thesis research at this conference. Please see Jan or Dr. Susan Dinan if you are interested in participating in the conference.

16-20 April Honors Week Events will be held around campus over the course of the week. Details will follow.