

inside
this
issue

Visiting Scholar
Dr. Richard
Hull speaks.....



Visiting Scholar
Mr. Joe Holly
gives lectures....



Piano Performance
major and Nursing
major featured....



Reorganization of Presidential Honors Society

LESLIE RADDATZ
interdisciplinary studies

As the spring semester of 2003 began, the Presidential Honors Society was officially inactive. However, at a class meeting of Dr. Charles Howard's honors seminar, it was decided that this organization could be salvaged. I had the honor of being chosen to lead that effort as president. The other officers are as follows: Vice-president - Mackenzie Campbell-Furtick, Secretary/Treasurer - Aubrey Gideon, and Reporter/Historian - Aeliya Jafri.

The official task of the Presidential Honors Society (PHS) was to reorganize. It was established that the PHS would be an organization that combines academic and social service.

Another problem the PHS faced was the Brown-Bag Lunch Series. There was a high expectation by the students and faculty to bring this series back after a year's hiatus. Therefore, a committee was created, headed by Aeliya Jafri, and the Brown Bag Lunch Series was resurrected.

"The Brown-Bag Lunches have helped reestablish the Presidential Honors Society this semester," Jafri said.

The committee handled publicity and refreshments for the lunches. Fortunately, Dr. Clifford had already been working on a list of speakers for the series and so the PHS had a head start on the project.

"I'm very happy to see the Brown-Bag Lunch Series come back to Tarleton," Dr. Charles Howard, a regular attendee of the series, said. "It's an outstanding opportunity for faculty and students to interact and discuss current



Presidential Honors Society Officers: (left to right)
Secretary/Treasurer: Aubrey Gideon, President: Leslie Raddatz,
Vice President: Mackenzie Campbell-Furtick, and Historian/Reporter: Aeliya Jafri

Photo by Craig Clifford

topics of research and interest."

The Presidential Honors Society has high expectations for the future. It is looking to gain members and is

currently planning a poetry contest for the Fall 2002. The society is open to any student who maintains a 3.4 GPA and takes honors courses.

Presidential Honors Program's Science Education Poet

AMANDA BAULCH
english

Think only English majors can write beautiful and poignant poetry? Think again.

On April 24, 2003 the Presidential Honors Program's own Ileana Zea, a Science Education major, was awarded the title of Outstanding Poet for the 2002-2003 edition of *Anthology*.

Anthology is a student forum for

prose, poetry, and visual arts.

Along with having four poems published in the *Anthology*, Ileana received a \$100 prize check compliments of Allied Body and Frame.

If you would like to snag a free copy of *Anthology* and read Ileana's prize-winning poetry, the books can be found at the Information Desk in the Barry B. Thompson Center and in the Dick Smith Library.

Congratulations, Ileana!

Hull Lectures on Topics From Media to Medical Ethics

EVA MULLER
industrial design

Dr. Richard T. Hull was one of the Visiting Scholars that the Presidential Honors Program invited to the Tarleton campus. In March of 2003, Dr. Hull gave a series of lectures on medical ethics and the ethics of scientific research.

Dr. Hull is Professor Emeritus in philosophy at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where he held a joint appointment in the School of Medicine. He has published and lectured extensively in the areas of medical ethics, philosophy of science, and the ethics of scientific research.

Also, Dr. Hull was the Executive Director of the Texas Council for the Hu-



Dr. Hull presents his Power Point presentation "Critical Thinking and the Media" to the Honors Seminar. Photo by Craig Clifford

Aretē

Aretē is Greek for "excellence" or "virtue."

Aretē is published by the Honors Programs at Tarleton State University.

Issue Editor: Ileana Zea
Director: Dr. Craig Clifford

Issue Contributors

Amanda Baulch Leslie Raddatz
Eva Muller

The opinions expressed within are those of the individual writers, not necessarily those of *Aretē* or of Tarleton State University.

All correspondence should be addressed to The Editor, *Aretē*, Box T-0545, Stephenville, TX 76402. Phone: (254) 968-1926. E-mail: cliffor@tarleton.edu

Aretē is available on-line at www.tarleton.edu/~honors

Copyright 2002
Honors Programs
Tarleton State University

manities from September 1997 to August 1999. He holds a Ph.D. in philosophy from Indiana University.

Dr. Hull held various lectures on the Tarleton Campus, all of which were open to students from the entire university.

The first lecture was a guest lecture, held on Monday, March 10th, in the Honors Seminar on "Media Literacy." The topic was "Critical Thinking and the Media."

On Tuesday, March 11, Dr. Hull held another lecture in the Barry B. Thompson Student Center, room 219. It was a guest lecture for Biology 4851, a seminar for pre-medical students. The topic was: "Physician-Assisted Suicide: An Ethical Canary." During this lecture, pizza and drinks were provided.

Also on that Tuesday afternoon, Dr. Hull held a public lecture in the Hydrology Building. The topic was "Whither Geology: Passive Information Source, or Proactive Environmentalism?" This lecture was followed by

a reception with refreshments.

On Wednesday, March 12, Dr. Hull gave his final guest lecture in the Humanities building in Honors History 2023: U. S. History II. The topic was "If You Don't Know It, You're Condemned to Repeat It: Why Scientists Should Study the History of Science."

Overall, the lectures were a great success and attracted a lot of students.



Dr. Hull's public lecture on geology ethics. Photo by Craig Clifford

PHP Offers Honors Sections of Many Core Courses



Beth Rinard
Instructor, Geoscience.....**Photo by Craig Clifford**

Honors sections of core courses are limited to a maximum of 25 students and feature innovative approaches to teaching with an emphasis on discussion, critical thinking, and active student involvement.

All Tarleton students who have a 3.0 GPA are eligible for Honors classes. Students with a lower GPA may register for an Honors class with the permission of the instructor. Incoming freshmen who place out of English 1113 (first-semester freshman English) are invited to take the Honors section of English 1123 (second-semester freshman). Incoming freshmen with a composite SAT of 1100 or a combined ACT of 24 or higher are invited to take other freshman Honors courses.

Honors classes are officially designated on the student's permanent transcript. Any student who completes 18 or more hours of such classes with a minimum 3.0 GPA in Honors classes and overall will receive recognition as an Honors Degree Program graduate.

Fall 2003 Honors Classes

Biology

General Biology Lab
11455 BIOL 1204-100 M 3:00 - 5:50

English

College Composition and Research
10703 ENGL 1123-010 MWF 11:00 - 11:50
10704 ENGL 1123-020 TR 10:50 - 12:05

Communications

Fundamentals of Speech
10841 COMS 1013-010 TR 9:25 - 10:40

Political Science

American Government
11408 POLS 2013-010 MWF 10:00 - 10:50

History

United States History through 1877
11408 POLS 2013-010 MWF 9:00 - 9:50

Geology

Physical Geology
10538 GEOL 1054-010 MWF 10:00 - 10:50
10539 GEOL 1054-020 TR 9:25 - 10:40

Physical Geology Lab
10543 GEOL 1054-510 T 1:00 - 2:50

Physics

Principles of Physics
11600 PHYS 1224-010 MWF 9:00 - 9:50



Dr. Charles Howard, Associate Professor of Speech.....**Photo by Dr. Craig Clifford**

Julie Allen Proves a Non-Traditional Success

ILEANA ZEA
science education

The Presidential Honors Program proudly supports Julie Allen, a nursing major and currently the only non-traditional student in the program.

After homeschooling her four children, with ages ranging from 25 to 19, Julie Allen decided it was time to go to college. She had homeschooled for twelve years, so when her youngest child started high school, she didn't know what to do.

"I knew I had to go to school to get a good job," Julie said. "My daughter Esther and my husband were the main ones who encouraged me to go back to school."

Julie's daughter Esther had also been a part of the Presidential Honors Program.

"Esther is how I got into the program," Julie said. "She really encouraged me to talk to Dr. Clifford during my sophomore year."

When she first began at Tarleton, Julie's major was undecided.

"Dr. Clifford tried to persuade me

to go into teaching, because I had homeschooled my children," Julie said. "but I had done that for so long. My husband suggested nursing, and I've never regreted it."

As a non-traditional student, many wonder how Julie accustoms herself to college life. Julie just smiles and says, "There are more pros than cons."

"I love being with younger people," Julie says. "It helps me to stay young and open minded. I like the honors classes because there is more discussion, not just lectures. This discussion really brings the elements of the course out."

However, Julie does admit that it can be difficult. Her biggest difficulty is balancing her responsibilities at home with those at school. She also explains that the nursing program itself is very difficult.

"All nursing programs are difficult because of the essence of what you have to do," Julie said. "You are always going to study. The requirements for the classes are very high.



At Tarleton you must pass all nursing courses with a seventy-five percent, and all other classes with seventy percent."

Obviously, being a member of the nursing program takes a special type of person. Julie describes that person as someone who is both self-motivated and disciplined.

Although Julie is constantly busy with the nursing program, going to clinicals and having three hour a day classes, she remains well aware of how the Presidential Honors Program has helped her.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed being in the program," Julie said. "It has helped me to take advantage of what's out there. I get to go to a conference for nursing next year, and I hope to attend the National Student Nurses Conference."

Perhaps Julie's most exciting news isn't attending the conference next year, but that she will participate in an internship this summer at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.

The Mayo Clinic "thoroughly diagnoses and treats complex medical problems in every specialty."

The Presidential Honors Program is quite proud of this non-traditional student who has carried the tradition of success in the program.



Julie Allen speaks with Maria Calderon in Spanish as she records personal information. Julie is taking a Nursing Conversational Spanish course as an elective to increase her communicative skills as a future nurse. The course is taught by Ms. Alicia Figueroa and Ms. Bea Marin. Photo by Ileana Zea

Liana Stone Sets Eyes on Graduate School

ILEANA ZEA
science education

This May, Presidential Honors Program senior, Liana Stone, a Piano Performance major, will graduate.

Liana is from Keller, TX, and has been playing the piano since she was seven years old.

“My first piano lessons were on small wooden boxes where my parents had taken five keys off of a piano and put them on the box,” Liana said. “I practiced by just pressing the keys. This taught me the fundamentals of technique.”

Liana enjoys playing because it is an “expression in and of itself.”

During her sophomore year in high school, Liana began to think seriously about a career in music and began private lessons at Tarrant County College where she was enrolled in a college preparatory program.

During a high school piano competition, Liana encountered Tarleton for the first time. Tarleton held a piano competition and after her audition, Dr. Sophia Park approached Liana about enrolling in the piano program at Tarleton and to apply to the Presidential Honors Program.

Liana enrolled in Tarleton and later earned many accolades. Among these were “Outstanding Freshman Pianist,” “Outstanding Pianist,” and “Outstanding Graduate,” all awarded by the Fine Arts Department. Liana has also been a member of Phi Eta

Sigma, Alpha Chi, Mu Phi Epsilon, and the Texas Music Teacher’s Association.

Part of her degree requirement for the Piano Performance degree was that Liana perform at two recitals. Also, she had to satisfy requirements for the Presidential Honors Program by completing a senior research project before graduation.

The title of her project was, “Mendelssohn’s *Variations Serieuses* and the Use of Neoclassicism.” She researched it to show the connections between Mendelssohn

and Bach, showing similarities in com-

position styles. Liana also gave a presentation at the Presidential Honors Society sponsored Brown-Bag Lunch. There, she explained Neoclassicism and how Mendelssohn had an affinity for it due to his teachers and family connections.

“The Presidential Honors Program has really helped me be successful in college by giving me many opportunities I may not have had,” Liana said. “Such as the presentations and classroom experience.”

After her graduation in May, Liana will work at Coppell Conservatory.

“This is basically a music school with approximately two hundred students,” Liana said. “I’ll be teaching private lessons in Music Theory.”

Liana will also enroll in graduate school at Southern Methodist where she will study Piano Pedagogy and Piano Performance.

“I’m going to graduate school because I think it will improve my playing,” she said. “This will make me a better teacher and give me more experience in the one-on-one setting so that I can have more advanced students once I’m finished with graduate school.”



Liana Stone celebrates with her family after her senior recital. Liana performed Mendelssohn’s *Variations Serieuses* as part of her degree requirement for her Piano Performance major.....Photo by Craig Clifford

Brown-Bag Lunch Lectures Now Online

Dr. Craig Clifford
Director, Honors Programs

For over a decade now, the Presidential Honors Society, a student organization open to students in the Presidential Honors Program and the Honors Degree Program, has hosted the Brown-Bag Lunch Speaker Series each spring semester. Presentations are given every Wednesday at noon during the spring semester in the Multipurpose Room of the Dick Smith Library. Faculty members talk about their research or scholarship, give readings, discuss important issues of public policy; students in the Presidential Honors Program often give presentations about their senior research projects. The audience is invited to bring a lunch, often drinks and cookies are provided, and the discussion is always lively. This series represents an important aspect of what a university is all about—the free and open pursuit of truth, the exchange and reflective evaluation of ideas, and the

enjoyment of learning for its own sake. Thanks to the Center for Instructional Technology and Distance Learning, all of the Brown-Bag Lunch lectures are available online. Karl Easterling, an Educational Technology Specialist, has been videotaping the lectures each

week. He then puts the video online so that everyone can enjoy them. You can view the lectures in Realplayer or Windows Media Player. The links for the lectures are on the Honors Homepage: www.tarleton.edu/~honors.



Dr. Sam Dodson presents a Brown-Bag Lunch lecture entitled "The Dramatic Monologue: The Modern Subjective View".....Photo by Craig Clifford

Presidential Honors Society Brown-Bag Lunch Series Spring 2003		Multipurpose Room, Dick Smith Library (unless otherwise indicated)
Wednesdays 12:00 - 12:50	Everyone is invited. Bring a lunch	
February 5	Dr. Charles Howard, Associate Professor of Communications "Diversity in the Dock: The Supreme Court, Admissions and the Case of <i>Grutter v. Bollinger</i> "	
February 12	Dr. Leslie Stanley-Stevens, Associate Professor of Sociology "Lies, Damned Lies, and Statistics: A Critical Reflection on the Misuse of Statistics" (Humanities 110)	
February 19	Dr. Roger Wittie, Dept. Head and Associate Professor of Agribus., Agron., Hort. & Range Management "Beer in America: Food, Fellowship, and Fun"	
February 26	Due to weather, this lecture has been postponed until April 30th.	
March 5	Nikki Groth, Presidential Honors Scholar, Senior in Interdisciplinary Studies "Digital Literacy in the Classroom"	
March 12	Dr. Chris Guthrie, Professor of History "The Appeal of Socialism to Small Property Owners in Southern France"	
March 26	Dr. Sam Dodson, Assistant Professor of English "The Dramatic Monologue: The Modern Subjective View"	
April 2	Dr. Bert Little Associate Vice President for Academic Research and Grants "Preventing the Fleecing of the American Taxpayer: Detection of Fraud in the Crop Insurance Program"	
April 9	Liana Stone, Presidential Honors Scholar, Senior in Music "The Influence of Neo-Classicism on Felix Mendelssohn's <i>Variations Serieuses</i> " (Choir Rehearsal Hall, Fine Arts 107)	
April 16	Dr. Jim Pauff, Assistant Professor of Communications "Why Some Killers Kill"	
April 23	Tarleton Chamber Choir Student Conductors' Concert (Choir Rehearsal Hall, Fine Arts 107)	
April 30	Dr. Mallory Young, Professor of English, and Dr. Craig Clifford, Director, Honors Programs and Professor of Philosophy "Condescension or Comprehension? The Coen Brothers' <i>Raising Arizona</i> , <i>Fargo</i> , and <i>O Brother, Where Art Thou?</i> "	

Sponsored by the Presidential Honors Society and the Presidential Honors Program
For more information, call 254-968-1926 or e-mail honors@tarleton.edu.

Joe Holley Lectures on Importance of Media, His Book

ILEANA ZEA
science education

On April 7th and 8th, the Presidential Honors Visiting Scholars Program proudly featured Mr. Joe Holley. Mr. Holley is a Visting Scholar in Journalism and Political Commentary.

Mr. Holley is the editor of "Insight," the Sunday opinion section of the *San Antonio Express-News*.

In the past he has also been the editorial page editor of the *San Antonio Light* and the *San Diego Tribune* and editor of the *Texas Observer*.

Mr. Holley is co-author with Tara Holley of *My Mother's Keeper* (William Morrow and Avon Books), 1997, and he is also the recipient of the "The Pulliam," a prestigious national award for editorial writing.

Tarleton had the honor of Mr. Holley giving four presentations to various courses, all of which were open to the entire student body.

On the first day, April 7, Mr. Holley gave a guest lecture to the Communications 3113 class, Writing for Publication. The topic of this lecture was "Dealing With the Concrete."

Later that night, Mr. Holley attended Dr. Charles Howard's Honors Seminar, "Media Literacy," to talk about "Taking the Media Seriously - The Importance of the Media for a Functioning Democracy."

During this presentation, the idea was presented that the news is, in theory, supposed to make us better informed citizens because we are supposed to run the government, or be the ones who hold those in charge accountable. Journalists have to select what they present, Mr. Holley explained, and they should be concerned about what is useful to the citizens.

"Local news has been trivialized for a long time," Holley said.

The Media Literacy class discussed how many "non-news" stories were shown by the media, and its effectiveness on the viewers.



Mr. Joe Holley lectures in the Fine Arts building, the topic of which is "Race and Burden of Memory - A Case Study of How We Deal With the Past"..... Photo by Craig Clifford

Mr. Holley described a system created by a television news station in Austin, TX. In 1996, this station, KVUE, created criteria that prevented stories about violence from dominating the news. In order for a story about violence to be aired, it had to meet one of the following criteria: (1) the event requires that action be taken, (2) there is an immediate threat to safety, (3) there is a threat to children, (4) the crime has a significant community impact, or (5) the story lends itself to a crime prevention effort.

This does not mean that if a story didn't meet the criteria that it wouldn't be covered. This criteria was instated specifically to choose which stories were to be aired.

"This seemed to be a thoughtful way to take the consumer's view and integrate it into the media," Mr. Holley said.

Mr. Holley also discussed with the

"Media Literacy" class two articles he had written. One was "Who's Burning the Black Churches." From this, Holley discussed how trends in the media were started and subsequently snowballed.

Additionally, Mr. Joe Holley lectured on April 8, to the Social Work 3393 class, Human Behavior and Social Environment. This lecture was actually a discussion of the book, *My Mother's Keeper*, which Holley co-authored. This book was about the portrayal and treatment of mental illness.

Later that afternoon Mr. Holley gave a public lecture in the Fine Arts building, the topic being: "Race and Burden of Memory - A Case Study of How We Deal With the Past."

This lecture had a great turnout of a mixture of both students and faculty. A reception in the gallery alcove followed this lecture.



All PHP and HDP members who wish to share their ideas, stories, or insight to the newsletter are more than welcome! Please send any and all comments to Dr. Craig Clifford at cliffor@tarleton.edu. The more student participation in the newsletter, the better it will be!

May Graduates:

Desiree Beauchamp - English/History
Nikki Groth - Interdisciplinary Studies
Patricia Henley - Agricultural Services
Johnathan Jones - Music
Mason Kuettel - Math
Sabina Landeros - Political Science/Spanish
Emmeken Otte - Animal Biology/Chemistry
Liana Stone - Music

August Graduates:

Cheryl Beeler - Psychology
Laura Clark - Biology

Aretē
The Honors Programs
Humanities 361
Box T-0545
Tarleton State University
Stephenville, TX 76402

“Our progress as a nation can be no swifter than our progress in education.
The human mind is our fundamental resource.” -John F. Kennedy