



Inside this issue:

p. 2-3

See some new faces, graduates, and 4.0 students for Fall 2009 and Spring 2010!

p. 4-7

Read students' stories about museum tours, ballets, and the study abroad program!

PHS News

This year's Presidential Honors Society Officers:

Ashlee Noblin
President

Briana Jamison
Vice President

Amber Ward
Secretary

Jonathan Spinks
Treasurer

Scott Harrison
Intramural Chair

If you are interested in joining the Presidential Honors Society, or have questions or would like information, contact the Honors Department at Honors@tarleton.edu or PHS President Ashlee Noblin at anoblin18@yahoo.com.



Visiting Scholars, 2009-2010

Dr. Craig E. Clifford

In October, 2009, Craig Hillis, author of *Texas Trilogy: Life in a Small Texas Town* (University of Texas Press, 2002), gave a public lecture on the power of the popular song in Texas and American culture, with special attention to such Texas songwriters as Cindy Walker, Guy Clark, Steve Fromholz, Townes Van Zandt, Jerry Jeff Walker, and James McMurtry: "Songs Matter: Texas Singer-Songwriters and Popular Culture." Mr. Hillis also met with the Freshman Honors Seminar to discuss issues of musical interpretation.

In March, Dr. Randolph Feezell, professor of philosophy at Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, did a reading from *Sport and Character: Reclaiming the Principles of Sportsmanship* (Human Kinetics, 2010), which he co-authored with Dr. Craig Clifford. Prof. Feezell also gave a guest lecture in a joint meeting of Dr. Clifford's Honors Seminar and Dr. Kayla Peak's graduate kinesiology class on leadership.

Mariachiara Russo, Associate Professor at the Advanced School of Modern Languages for Interpreters and Translators at the University of Bologna Forlì Campus in Italy, spent three days on campus in April. Prof. Russo gave a public lecture, "How Do I Tell Them What I Know about Them and They Don't: Interpreters' Dilemmas in the Interplay of Language and Culture"; met with Spanish majors to talk about careers in interpreting; and gave a guest lecture in Dr. Clifford's Honors Seminar on the relation of language, education, and culture.

Aretē

Aretē is the classical Greek word for "excellence or "virtue". Aretē is published by the Honors Programs at Tarleton State University.

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

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www.tarleton.edu/~honors

Who's Who of the Honors Programs 2009-2010

Graduating Seniors, 4.0 Students, and Incoming Freshmen

Graduating Seniors

Fall 2009

Amanda Couch
Presidential Honors Program

Rebecca Frazier
Presidential Honors Program

Will Mayfield
Presidential Honors Program

Crystal Sims
Presidential Honors Program

Spring 2010

Sarah Barmore
Presidential Honors Program

Lisa Brumback
Honors Degree Program

Zane Christian
Presidential Honors Program

Lydia Colvin
Presidential Honors Program

Rebecca Harris
Presidential Honors Program

Daniel Lipford
Honors Degree Program

Sarah Martin
Presidential Honors Program

Rachael Mayfield
Presidential Honors Program

Elizabeth Nabors
Honors Degree Program

Julie Vrazel
Presidential Honors Program

Sarah Warren
Presidential Honors Program

Summer 2010

Marsha Hutchison
Honors Degree Program

Jackie Reynolds
Presidential Honors Program

4.0 Students

Fall 2009

Rebecca Ator

Aimee Ayton

Sarah Barmore

Caroline Cavin

Lydia Colvin

Amanda Couch

Jillian Dean

Rebecca Frazier

Cletus Fuhrmann

Seth Gaston

Chelsea Gray

Nicole Hengst

Nikki Hudson

Rachael Mayfield

Carlee Olson

Jaylan Roan

Natalie Rose

Rijo Santhosh

TraeAnn Schlemmer

Crystal Sims

Julie Vrazel

Sarah Warren

Alexandria Wright

Spring 2010

Rebecca Ator

Aimee Ayton

Sarah Barmore

Carli Buckholz

Ryan Cheek

Lydia Colvin

Caitlyn Cooper

Amanda Couch

Anna Felix

Rebecca Frazier

Cletus Fuhrmann

Seth Gaston

Chelsea Gray

Douglas Knauth

Rachael Mayfield

Jaylan Roan

TraeAnn Schlemmer

Crystal Sims

Julie Vrazel

Sarah Warren

Alexandria Wright

Congratulations!

What Did You Do Last Semester?

Stories from students describing some of their favorite events

Study Abroad in Canada

Ashlee Noblin

Going to Canada was the best decision I have ever made. Canada may be connected to the United States but once you cross the border you enter a completely different world. English is the official language of most of Canada but not in all locations. Most Canadian citizens that we met spoke at least two languages, some as many as nine! While we were there we visited Ottawa, Montreal, and Quebec City.

The country is full of mixed heritages from the English, the French, and even the Scottish. The different cultures are evident not only in the diversity



of the people but also in the architecture. Many of the buildings had a European

appearance. The parliament building was the most amazing and is where the Canadian government does all of its business. In the early days of the Parliament, the building was built out of wood and lacquer, which catches fire easily. There was a bad thunderstorm where lightning struck the building. Everything was burnt to the ground except for the library. The librarian at the time saw the fire and knew he needed to protect Canadian history held within the walls, so he shut the steel doors and hoped that

it would hold. The original library is still intact thanks to one smart librarian. Another amazing building is the Chateau de Frontenac located in Quebec City. The chateau is the most photographed hotel in the world, and with good reason. Some believe that it was meant to be a castle or the home of a lord but the truth is that it was always meant to be a hotel. The inside is as beautiful as the outside, with a perfect view of the pier and the river. At night the best view of Old Quebec City is from Southside, which you must take a ferry to get to. The hotel is lit up by hundreds of lights and illuminates all of Old Quebec. It is a sight comparable to no other that I have seen.

There was one other aspect that was influenced by all types of cultures: The food! Italian restaurants, French bistros, Canadian Hockey bars, and many more types of restaurants could be found throughout the cities. My favorite dish by far was beaver tail, a pastry in the shape of a beaver tail covered in cream and cookie pieces. Believe me, it is amazing. In Ottawa there is a famous little stand that sells beaver tails. It is a necessity to visit!

Besides the food and the atmosphere of the country, my favorite part of the visit was the fact that it was hockey season. The Montreal Canadiens hockey team happened to be in the playoffs and playing while we were visiting Montreal. We visited Champ's local sports bar and got to visit with some true blue hockey fans and cheer their team on with them. Even though they lost while we were there it was fun.

I have many more stories and experiences that I could tell but it would probably take 20-30 more pages. The moral of the story is basically that if you have the chance to go on a Study Abroad trip, take the chance. There are plenty of ways to raise the money including scholarships, grants, and PHP students can get an additional \$800. I wouldn't change anything about my trip or my experience. The months of scrimping and saving were worth the wait. Don't let a Study Abroad experience pass you by!



What Did You Do Last Semester?

Stories from students describing some of their favorite events

A Summer in Spain

Rebecca Ator

This summer, I traveled to Pamplona, Spain to study Spanish with a group of 16 students and one TSU faculty member. Needless to say, it was an amazing experience that has changed my life forever.

On May 15, we found ourselves in Pamplona on a rainy afternoon, stiff, exhausted, and without luggage. My roommate, Megan, and I were directed to a taxi - a Ford Focus, which happens to be the car that I drive. After a somewhat terrifying first encounter with European traffic and a not-so-successful attempt to have a conversation with the driver, Megan and I arrived at the home of Ana Zazpe, our Spanish “mom.”

After introducing ourselves, dumping our carry-on bags on our beds, and doing our best to tell Ana a little bit about ourselves, we decided that a clean change of clothes was imperative. Ana showed us a map of the bus routes, and gave us directions to the most affordable shopping center. We made it to the mall, bought a few necessary items, and hopped on a bus to go back to Ana’s apartment. Then, we got completely lost. Never having lived in a large city, we were both confused by the public transit system. We ended up walking around with our map, pointing to a star labeled “CASA” and saying “¿Puedes ayudarme?” to every person who seemed somewhat approachable.

The people on the streets were surprisingly polite, and it didn’t matter to them that we barely spoke Spanish. They explained things in simple words and gestures, happy to help. After wandering around in a dark and unfamiliar city in a foreign country for what seemed like hours, Ana’s small apartment on Calle Zolina truly felt like home. She met us at the door with a huge smile and warm hugs, treating us the way my grandmother treats my sister and I when we haven’t been to see her in a long time. And we were just as thrilled to see her. The ice was officially broken: we were home and this was mom.

Throughout the next five weeks, we went to class at the Pamplona Learning Spanish Institute every weekday for about three hours. After school we had group excursions several times per week. We went on a walking tour of Pamplona, and learned all about the San Fermín festivals and Encierro (A.K.A. The Running of the Bulls). We toured the local newspaper company, the Caves of Urdaiz, the Town Hall, the Medieval Castle of Olite, the Museum of Navarra, and the Presidential Palace. We took day-trips to San Sebastián and Bilbao.

The Spanish I’d learned in high school quickly came back to me. The nightlife was spectacular, and I had plenty of opportunities to talk to the people of Spain. One night I met a couple of maxillofacial surgeons from Sevilla - Paco and Antonio - who had come to Pamplona to learn about the latest developments in their field. I mentioned Pedro Almodóvar, THE Spanish director who I had learned about in Dr. Anderson’s honors seminar on world film. Paco claimed that he had done a business deal with Almodóvar a couple of decades ago, before he was a surgeon. Another time I had the opportunity to discuss the right to bear arms with two teenage boys who had grown up in Pamplona. By the end of the five weeks, I was practically fluent.

I’ll try to sum up in one final sentence: Studying in Spain was literally the most amazing experience I’ve ever had.



From left to right: Rebecca Ator, Ana Zazpe and Megan Galloway

Who's Who of the Honors Programs 2009-2010

Graduating Seniors, 4.0 Students, and Incoming Freshmen

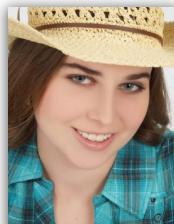
Incoming Freshmen



Rachel Choate
Pre-pharmacy
Stephenville



Warren Ethridge
Biomedical Science
Early



Tracy Hughes
Prevet
Plano



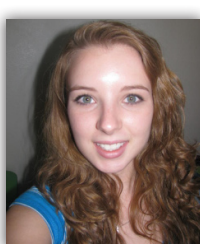
Johnna Mussey
Pre-med
San Antonio



Benjamin Naglieri
Mathematics
Hudson, NH



Katherine Newman
Environmental Science/Spanish
Mesquite



Shelby Nix
Pre-med
Comfort



Ashley Parker
English
Killeen



Samantha Parsons
English
Stephenville



Jontell Ritz
Pre-med
Kempner



Travis Salzillo
Engineering
Georgetown



Jeannette Sands
Pre-Physical Therapy
Carrollton



Sophia Sands
Music
Carrollton



Ian Troub
Communications
Copperas Cove



Jacob White
Wildlife Management
China Spring



Athena Wiggins
Pre-vet
Fort Worth



Christopher Willis
Theatre
Stephenville

What Did You Do Last Semester?

Stories from students describing some of their favorite events

Russian Masters Ballet

Emily Vankirk

On October 4th, 2009, Tarleton Honors Program students had the pleasure of attending a ballet performance by the stunning Russian Masters. The performance started at 2:00 p.m. and took place in the legendary Bass Hall. Those in attendance were awestruck with the beauty and intensity of the dancers' presentation. It was overall a highly enjoyed excursion and an interesting piece of cultural enrichment, that many of the Honors students look forward to repeating.



Sleeping Beauty at Bass Hall

Seth Gaston

The Honors Program took several interested students to see a performance of the ballet Sleeping Beauty. It was such an incredible event where culture, art and entertainment intertwined to create magic on the stage. As the performers gracefully danced through carefully choreographed movements, the audience could not help but become entranced by their deft and precise performances. The discipline and skill of the performers was apparent, and it was a joy to see them bring this story to life. It is fantastic to be given opportunities to partake in events such as these, that enrich one's college experience, and more importantly, one's life.

The Modern Art Museum

Rebecca Ator

After taking our respective detours to avoid the Cowtown Marathon, our group of 11 students and their guests finally assembled in front of the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth. As we approached the entrance, we couldn't miss Richard Serra's 230-ton Vortex. Many students paused to admire it. We saw children playing among the giant slabs of steel, clapping and shouting and listening to their echoes with delight. At this point, I knew nothing about modern art, but I was eager to learn. Our tour guide, Sharon Seelig directed our attention to the design of the building, which was a work of art on its own. Ms. Seelig explained that the museum was made mostly of large glass walls that appear to float on the surface of a large pool of water. Reflected in the water, the building appeared twice as large as it really was. When we entered the museum, we could see Roxy Paine's Conjoined, a stainless steel sculpture of two trees on the lawn on the far side of the reflecting pool. After admiring Paine's work as a group, we began our tour.



I remember seeing Anselm Kiefer's Book with Wings and Die Aschenblume and learning about Andy Warhol for the first time. We saw some of Warhol's Oxidation paintings, as well as his Rorschach paintings. All of these works stand out in my memory because I thought they were very unique and beautiful.

I consider that Saturday to be a day well-spent. I was introduced to new works, new names, and new concepts, and I discovered that I really like modern art.

What Did You Do Last Semester?

Stories from students describing some of their favorite events

Tour of the Kimbell and Amon Carter Art Museums

Seth Gaston

This Fall, the Tarleton Honors Programs offered its students the chance to attend a tour of the Kimbell and Amon Carter Museums in Fort Worth. Those who went enjoyed a fantastic collection of European art in the Kimbell Museum, as well as a great lunch at their cafeteria. Afterward, the tour continued at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, just a brief walk down the street. There, the group reunited with Dr. Punch Shaw, the guest tour guide for the event, where he had changed out of his suit and into an elegant “Texas tuxedo” - A worn denim shirt and jeans with that stereotypical old cowboy hat - to deliver the remainder of the tour. Dr. Shaw made the tour very fun, entertaining and educational for the group.

The first stop was the Kimbell Art Museum, where we viewed and discussed the small but incredible selection of European art that adorned the rooms. The tour included viewings of pre-Renaissance era pieces, and ended with works that were well into the Impressionist era and seemed near-candidates for the Modern Art Museum close by. One piece that fascinated, enthralled, and surprised everyone in attendance was *The Tormenting of Saint Anthony*, one of only four easel paintings that Michelangelo is known to have created. The piece, according to Dr. Shaw, was obtained by the Kimbell Art Museum under interesting circumstances. Apparently, its authenticity was under scrutiny, and so the Kimbell Art Museum took it at the time. It was later inspected and authenticated, a genuine Michelangelo painting. Aside from being one of only four verifiable Michelangelo easel paintings, it is also the first Michelangelo easel painting to enter an American collection, according to the Kimbell Art Museum website. The tour continued on through some fantastic European artists. My personal favorite painting was *On the Europe Bridge* by Gustave Caillebotte. It shows three late nineteenth century era men standing on a steel bridge, two of obviously greater wealth, and one working-class man. One of the wealthy men is walking out of the view of the painting, the other two, the other wealthy man and the working-class man, watch the train (representing the industrial age of the future) roll in. It was a great tour at the Kimbell Art Museum, and as the students sat down to eat lunch, they were all curious about what they would see at the Amon Carter Museum.

After a tasty lunch, the group met the denim-adorned Dr. Shaw at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, eager to see what was in store for them. What was in store was a fantastic collection by Cole and Remington, along with various other talented and imaginative artists. Remington and Cole both created excellent works, but my favorite was *The Hunter's Return* by Thomas Cole, which shows a hunting party returning home after what must have been a long time with their kills. The most interesting thing that Dr. Shaw pointed out about this work was that it was a very early environmentalist piece. It shows in the foreground the clearing that this small family has made in which to put their cabin. The image is stark, with hacked-apart tree trunks scattered around, but the majesty of nature in the background. Cole seems to be saying that man is destructive, and can bring down beauty that took thousands of years to form in a matter of hours and days. Nonetheless, it was a beautiful painting. Another crowd-pleaser was *A Dash for the Timber* by Frederic Remington. There seemed to be no message here except that life in the old West was rough. A group of men is chased into the woods by Apache warriors out for blood. The piece dripped with old-fashioned Western entertainment, and called to mind many John Wayne films. It was a fun afternoon.

The Kimbell and Amon Carter Art Museums have fantastic collections that anyone with any kind of taste for art should see. The tour was very enjoyable and entertaining, thanks in no small part to Dr. Shaw's fun, funny and witty commentary. The students are excited for the next opportunity to see some excellent art!

Spring 2011 Honors Classes

Chemistry

13096	CHEM 108-010	College Chemistry II	MWF 9:00-9:50	Low
13097	CHEM 108-020	College Chemistry II	TR 9:25-10:40	Bell
13098	CHEM 108-030	College Chemistry II	MW 6:00-7:15	Schultz
13103	CHEM 108-510	College Chemistry Lab	T 2:25-5:25	Low
13104	CHEM 108-520	College Chemistry Lab	R 2:00-5:00	Low

English

13356	ENGL 112-010	College Comp and Research	TR 9:25 - 10:50	Mollick
13412	ENGL 250-010	Backgrounds of Western Literature	TR 10:50-12:05	Young

Political Science

13316	POLS 202-010	Texas Government	TR 1:00-2:15	Justice
15588	POLS 202-70	Texas Government	TR 9:25-10:40	Margolis

History

13278	HIST 202-010	US History Since Reconstruction	MWF 9:00-9:50	D. Zelman
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Sociology

12934	SOC 201-060	Introduction to Sociology	MW 11:00-12:15	Anderson
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Physics

16906	PHYS 242-020	Principles of Physics II	MWF 10:00-10:50	Marble
16907	PHYS 242-520	Principles of Physics Lab	W 2:00-4:50	Marble

Honors Seminars

13302	HNRS 285-010	Natural Hazards	M 6:00-9:00	Hinga
13303	HNRS 285-020	Concept of a Liberal Education	M 6:00-9:00	Clifford

Tentative Offerings for Fall 2011

BIOL 120	General Biology
ENGL 112	College Comp and Research
ENGL 250	Backgrounds of Western Literature
POLS 202	Texas Government
HIST 202	US History Since Reconstruction
SOC 201	Introduction to Sociology
PHYS 242	Principles of Physics II

For more information, contact Dr. Craig Clifford in Hum. 359 (968-9029) or (968-1926)