



HONOR GRAM

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY
HONORS PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

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THE HONORGRAM

is a newsletter designed to inform and update Honors faculty and students as well as those who are interested in the La Sierra University Honors Program. If you have any questions or comments concerning the newsletter, or ideas that you would like to contribute, please email us: honors@lasierra.edu



UHNR 122 students resting in St. Mark's Cathedral in Venice, Italy.

2007 INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

by Alexandra Lopez

This past summer, the students in UHNR 122: Global Cultures in Context – The Experience, traveled to Europe. Chaperoned by Jim Wilson and Mary Wilson, the students experience three different countries for 13 days of foreign foods, foreign people, and foreign places. Despite the obvious foreignism that the students encountered, the students were able to formulate a bond with each other that could only come from the ultimate international travel experience. This tour was provided by EF Tours and is a requirement for all Honors students and is a class that correlates with UHNR 121: Global Cultures in Context – Theories and Perspectives. When reflecting upon the trip, sophomore Canty Wang said, “It was a very efficient way to see three countries in two weeks.”

As a UHNR 122 student myself, I, along with my fellow students, trekked through the countries of Austria, Italy, and France. We saw as much as we could in the limited time we were given. In Austria, we traveled to Salzburg and visited places that inspired the movie, “The Sound of Music”, such as the backyard scene where the captain’s

mansion was filmed, and the catacombs that were re-created for the scene in which the VonTrapp family had to run for their lives. We also had the opportunity to visit Mozart’s house, as well as where he grew up. In addition to Salzburg, we also traveled to Innsbruck where we marveled at the crystals in the Swarovski store and shopped at the local markets.

In Italy, we all stayed in a hotel conveniently located by a beautiful tourist beach amidst a cornucopia of gelato stands. While in there, our class visited Venice and Florence.

We rode a ferry to Venice and after walking throughout the city, I found it to be a place where pigeons flock by the dozens and authentic gelato is truly authentic. From touring castles and cathedrals, to riding gondolas and buying silk ties or trinkets for a reasonable price from Italian vendors, I could definitely attest to having had a full day in Venice. Florence was a city that where we were provided with a tour of a leather factory as well as the knowledge of distinguishing real leather. In addition, we had the pleasure of listening to live music as

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L to R: Alexandra Lopez, Ciara Talbot, Karolyna Suarez, Jijuntha Silpanisong, Hilda Riderer, Robert Walker, Canty Wang, Nina Park, Meliseanna Gibbons, Traci Caryl, Kelli Smith, Zack Jagers.

the city was teeming with aspiring musicians playing on the streets for any change the pedestrian might offer.

From Italy, we took an overnight train to Paris, France where we saw famous landmarks such as the Eiffel tower, Notre Dame, the Louvre, and the palace of Versailles where Marie Antoinette lived. I relished the many delicacies that France willingly offered to the wandering tourist. Some of the many desserts in which I delighted in were the undeniably delicious banana and nutella crêpe, the brown sugar-topped custard, also known as crème brûlée, and the mouth-watering, sweet-tooth-satisfying fruit tart, just to name a few. In agreement on the tastiness of the treats, sophomore Nina Park said, “The lime tart in Rouen was the best thing I ate in Europe, even better than the gelato.”

Throughout the duration of the trip, we were required to keep a journal of our daily adventures in order to write the assigned 7 to 8 page paper that included analyzing and reflecting on the international trip using the third person. Personally, the assignment not only provided me with insight and personal growth as a UHNR 122 student; it preserved my fond memories of a special time that could only be established through travel writing.

Next year’s UHNR 122 trip will be to Istanbul, Turkey, and Berlin, Germany. See “Going Global in a Whole New Way” for more information on next year’s UHNR 122 trip.



L to R: James Wilson, Mary Wilson, Nina Park, Karolyna Suarez, Robert Walker, Patrick York, Zack Jagers, Traci Caryl, Hilda Riderer, Kelli Smith, Jijuntha Silpanisong, Ciara Talbot, Meliseanna Gibbons, Canty Wang, Alexandra Lopez.



L to R: Traci Caryl, Hilda Riderer, Nina Park, Ciara Talbot, Alexandra Lopez.

GOING GLOBAL IN A WHOLE NEW WAY by Dr. Douglas Clark

Something entirely new this year – we are revising the Honors course, Global Cultures in Context UHNIZ 121 and 122, to make it more engaging and relevant for our students. In the past, freshman LSU students who took this core Honors course were part of a large group of mostly high school students and normally traveled to various parts of Europe.

Because of the vision of Dr. Suzanne Mallery, in the Department of Psychology, our “Going Global” component of Honors education at La Sierra will be run independently by the program. We will limit travel to two countries and will focus on a major issue of our times within a global context. Students will travel with Suzanne and her husband Paul to Istanbul and Berlin for two and a half weeks to explore Islam, East and West.

In Dr. Mallery’s words: “It is becoming increasingly clear in the 21st century that Islam is a key social force in world events. La Sierra University students, as future leaders in America and throughout the world, want and need to understand

Islam both as a religion and as a social force. The philosophy of the Honors Program is that this need can best be met by a combination of classroom instruction and cultural immersion. As a result, beginning this year, freshman Honors students will be taking a course on Islam in Europe. The course will focus on the conflicts and opportunities that have arisen as European secular democracies have addressed the needs and demands of their Muslim religious minority populations. Students will examine the compatibility of Islam with democracy and human rights, the problem of national identity (i.e. what makes a person “French,” for example), stereotyping and prejudice, Islamism and terrorism, and conflicts between faith and modernity. The classroom component of the course will be complemented by travel to Berlin and Istanbul. The contrast between these two locations will help students develop a more complex understanding of various points of view and will aid them as they are called to address the issues raised by Islam in the modern world with integrity and honesty.”

We are working with professionals in the academic travel business to help us ensure comfortable and safe travel and accommodations arrangements, as well as to keep costs down. But our primary challenge is finances. As anyone knows who travels internationally, prices have skyrocketed, especially because of fuel prices for the airlines and the poor showing of the U.S. dollar against the euro.

So, to realize this new vision for Going Global in the Honors Program, particularly when budgets on campus are tight, we are soliciting external funds. To make it work well and not be overly taxing to students and their families, we hope to raise \$10,000 by the end of the calendar year. This will take a lot of work on the part of all of us, but we think it is worth it.

Thank you for supporting this international educational experience of a lifetime for our Honors students by making a substantial contribution.

Here’s how:



HELP MAKE THE 2008 INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE HAPPEN!!

Funding comes from:

1. Honors students
2. The Honors Program
3. Generous donors like YOU!

PLEASE DONATE ONLINE: www.lasierraconnect.org

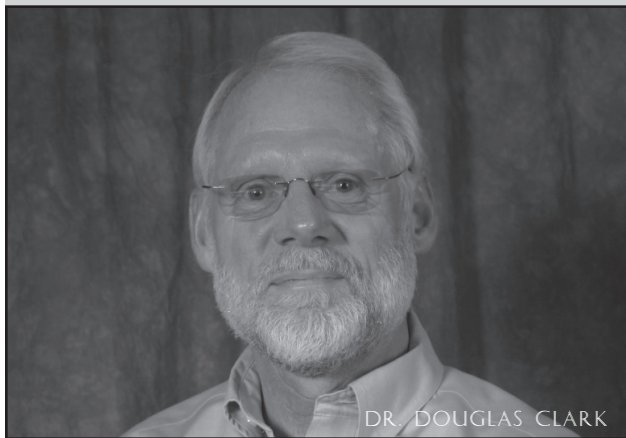
or write a check today to: La Sierra University, noting “Going Global” in the memo line
and send to:

Honors Program, La Sierra University, 4500 Riverwalk Parkway, Riverside, CA 92515.

[To strengthen the development program at LSU, 5% of all gifts will be used to defray fundraising costs.]

THANK YOU! *Your donations are greatly appreciated!*

DONATION BOX



DR. DOUGLAS CLARK

FROM THE DIRECTOR:

With apologies to Garrison Keillor, it has not been a quiet week in our home town of the Honors Program at La Sierra University. The new academic term is well underway and everyone, including Honors students, is off and running. Among the sixty+ students in the program, some are currently studying overseas, others have been preparing madly for Community Involvement Project presentations (see the report in this issue of the *HONORGram*), some are working famously with professors Bradley, Chartier, Clark, Kim or Mallery to grasp the meaning of the universe (it's 42, as many already knew), and all are engaged in the rewarding enterprise of Honors education.

I am privileged at this point in the program's distinguished history to begin my tenure as the new Honors Director, stepping in where Dr. Paul Mallery once stood. The strength, breadth and depth of the present program owe their conception and shape in large part to Paul and his vision for this aspect of La Sierra University's educational identity. This success also derives from the input of Honors students over the past several years, as well as Honors faculty and administrators. While there may be advantages to entering a position previously gutted by failed leadership, poor performance and lagging results, this is clearly not the case at La Sierra. The program is cutting edge, long on academic credibility, deeply embedded with service opportunities in our world, holistic to the core.

Where we are short is in the arena of funding support. Tightened budgets affect all of us, especially at a time when we hope to expand the program in the development of global awareness and participation among our students. And this is where I will be placing a good deal of my energies. Thank you for joining us to maintain the quality of the Honors Program at La Sierra and helping us enlarge our vision of what it can become with increased support.

The best to everyone from La Sierra University where the administrators are strong, the faculty and staff good looking, and all the students above average.

HONORS COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

On November 2, 2007, Honors students presented their community involvement projects in the Visual Arts Center. The Honors Community Involvement Projects are an attempt (along with other aspects of the Honors curriculum) to encourage students to engage in their communities to transform and build them with integrity, courage, openness, and compassion; to charge students' imaginations as they recognize their own social responsibilities; to facilitate students as they begin developing their worldviews and value systems that will sustain this engagement; and to develop the potential to reach the highest levels of leadership, becoming the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

For the Community Involvement Projects, students work in groups with a community agency on a project that engages the student in a community as he or she seeks to transform and build that community. It culminates in a written summary of the ways community involvement has changed the student and the community, with an analysis of each.

PROJECT E.D.I.T. (EDUCATE DIRECT INNOVATE TEACH)

Julie Chun, Adam Hori. *Community Partner: Bryant Park Community Center*



Project E.D.I.T. was developed in response to Bryant Park Community Center students voicing interest in exploring video production. The collaboration of team leaders Julie Chun and Adam Hori, and the Bryant Park Community Center staff, led to the development of a video editing curriculum and classes. The program gave students opportunity to learn basic video production skill through hands-on experience with equipment and software, and culminated in video projects chosen by the students.

FILING FOR THE COMMUNITY

PyoungHwa Peace Kim. *Community Partner: Arlington Temporary Assistance*



Arlington Temporary Assistance is a non-profit organization that provides groceries and clothing to people who have temporary subsistence needs. By volunteering at Arlington Temporary Assistance, I have realized that I could help and perhaps improve Arlington Temporary Assistance by helping to improve its filing structure. In this presentation, I share how I attempted to improve Arlington Temporary Assistance.

KNOWLEDGE EQUALS POWER: COMPLETE THE PICTURE

Gianina Carlos, Kevin DeLeon, Krista Gonzales, Zulema Ibarra, Debra Marovitch, Nelly Montoya, Rindala Obeid, Michael Tyler



Community Partners: World Affairs Council; LSU Spiritual Life Office; Norco SDA Church; El Centro SDA Church; Azure Hills SDA Church; Global Cultural Connections; UCR Interfaith Dialogue.

This group of eight continues to be a voice on the Internet and in the local community, raising awareness of media bias in reference to the

Middle East. Through a website on current news stories, and through various presentations around the local community, Knowledge Equals Power continues to inform and educate the American public on the Middle East and media slants around the world, taking the initiative to bring others updates on the different



sides to major stories about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq, OPEC/economics, and other issues in the Middle East.

INTERVIEW *by Nina Park*

WITH THE HONORS DIRECTOR

Q: What prompted you to become involved in the LSU Honors Program?

A: When I arrived on campus over a year ago, people were talking about the Honors Program and an opportunity opened for me, at the invitation of Director Paul Mallery with strong support from Associate Provost, Dr. Barbara Favorito, to become Associate Honors Director. I have not looked back. Having seen the quality of the program, the seriousness of the Honors faculty and the type of students who joined, I found myself inescapably drawn to it.

Q: When did you become interested in Honors Programs in general?

A: The education of any group of students is an important vocation, one that can make a huge difference in the way we all live our lives. My own intellectual journey from the beginning of my teaching career more than three decades ago brought me into direct contact with highly motivated college students, encounters which rather naturally led to my involvement in the early stages of an Honors Program at Southwestern Adventist University and participation in the program at Walla Walla University. It was a natural fit from the start, one that has kept me in dynamic contact with engaging students, active minds, and spontaneous curiosity.

Q: What are your duties as the Honors Program Director?

A: Mostly I am privileged to work with great students, faculty and administrators in maintaining the strong momentum of a well-conceived, holistic educational experience. In doing so, I am responsible for the office staff (now six remarkable people strong), for overseeing the curriculum and several classes each quarter, for directing the administrative business of the Honors Council and Faculty, for representing the Honors Program in several settings on campus, for recruiting new student participants and for soliciting funds to support the program.

Q: What key changes are you planning to make this year, and for the future?

A: Primarily I hope to keep the program strong. I have said over and over how balanced, multi-disciplinary and well-structured Honors education is at La Sierra. I also want to help enhance the various levels of community embedded in and encouraged by the program, especially the international, global community. With the Drs. Mallery (Suzanne and Paul), I am working to expand the international experience all Honors students take into a meaningful encounter in significant global locations with important people and contemporary issues that shape our world. So, this coming summer to Istanbul and Berlin to reflect on Islam East and West. One goal will be to find more sources of funding, some external, which will allow us to dream new dreams in order to build on what we now have.

Q: What elements do you feel are essential for a good Honors Program?

A: Solid academics make for a strong Honors Program. These are in place at La Sierra throughout the time a student is on campus by means of courses and rigorous academic requirements and a nurturing environment in which careful thought takes root and matures. So also an altruistic commitment to service to the wider world around us. Honors education should represent the best not only in what we give to the world, but in how we help it change systemically for the better. Honors education should also aim to create whole persons who make the best use of their minds, who give of themselves physically and socially and who develop an informed faith.



Q: What benefits do you think Honors Programs offer?

A: For those who naturally or through nurture are curious, Honors education is the ticket to a rewarding university experience and life-long growth. The smaller classes, often team-taught, the scholarship and community-involvement projects, the opportunities for enlarging one's global worldview, the chance to be part of a campus as well as a smaller learning community—these all add to the development of responsible citizens of our ever-shrinking, ever-more-populous global village.

Q: Out of all your accomplishments, what is your proudest achievement?

A: Does having three adorable grandchildren count?! (I have photos!)

I don't know that I can answer the question, certainly not easily. While no Indiana Jones of an archaeologist, I do take pride in a number of archaeological achievements in research, publication, and conference planning. I suspect that the discovery over several summers of excavation of a special kind of ancient home, a "four-room" house from 1200 BC in central Jordan, is at the top of the list. To be able to contribute to the growing body of information about how people lived in antiquity, how they made a living, what they ate, how they worshiped, what they wore, how they survived, has long been a grace for me and a source of genuine satisfaction.

Q: What Honors and non-Honors classes are you teaching?

A: This year I am involved in the beginning course of the Honors curriculum. Along with Zulema Ibarra and Lynne Solis, I am privileged to study with our newest Honors students, the class of 2011. Next term, it will be, along with Paul Mallery, the seniors, the class of 2008, in their capstone Honors course, the class of 2008. I also teach in the University Studies program, this year two courses, one with Dr. Ginger Harwood, on Adventism in a Global Context. And right now, I am engaged with undergraduate and graduate students in a one-of-a-kind course on the Dead Sea Scrolls, for which we travel every Monday night to San Diego to hear world-class scholars talk about their encounters with what is arguably the greatest archaeological find of the last century.

Q: What is your passion outside of teaching?

A: I like old things. Two, three, four-thousand years old. Really old stuff. As an archaeologist working in the Middle East for over thirty years, I have come to appreciate what we can learn about ancient societies, especially ancient biblical societies. Archaeology provides an open window onto old people, places and events—really old stuff.

HONORS FACULTY



DR. PAUL MALLERY



DR. GARY BRADLEY



DR. GARY CHARTIER



DR. SUZANNE MALLERY



DR. DOUG CLARK



DR. JOHN JONES



DR. WONIL KIM



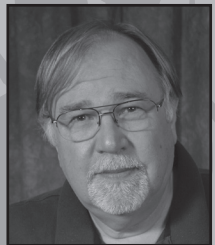
DR. KRISTA MOTSCHEDLER



ANDREW HOWE



DAN TIANOW



DR. JAMES WILSON

HONORS OFFICE



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

Dr. Douglas Clark, *Honors Director*; Zulema Ibarra, *Student Secretary & Advisor*; Felisa Meier, *Secretary*; Juliana Muchinyi, *Recruitment*; Nina Park, *Public Relations*; Mary Gamino, *Student Secretary*; Alexandra Lopez, *Editor*.

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY
THRU THURSDAY
9 am – 12 pm, 1 pm – 5 pm

FRIDAY
9 am–12 pm

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CHRISTINA THOMPSON
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JASMINE SILVA
MEAGAN MILLER

FRESHMAN
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CANTY WANG
CIARA TALBOT
FERN NELSON
HILDA RIDERER
JINIUTHA SILPANISONG
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ZACHARY JAGGERS
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NELLY MONTOYA
PEACE KIM
ADAMI HORII
AMANDA O'REILLY
CHRISTIAN BOSSE
DEBRA MAROVITCH
KEVIN DELEON
KRISTA GONZALES
LARISSA HOUSE

SENIOR
HONORS STUDENTS



Recently, the Honors Student Council held its first dessert hour of the year. On October 31, 2007 at 6 pm, there was an Honors Dessert Hour where a myriad of candy options were provided along with hot cocoa and apple cider for the students' enjoyment. The theme of the dessert hour was "Paint Your Own Pumpkin" in which students were privileged with the opportunity of getting in touch with their creative side and decorating a mini pumpkin with acrylic paint.

The Honors Council has more events planned in the future so be sure to watch for announcements!

HONORS DESSERT HOUR

6 pm, Wednesday, November 28, 2007

MOVIE NIGHT

9 pm, Saturday night, December 8, 2007

HONORS EVENTS

INTERESTED IN THE HONORGRAM? If you enjoy writing, taking pictures, or you simply want to be tuned into what's what and who's who in Honors, then be a part of the Honors newsletter. Not only will it look good on your resumé, your contribution will be greatly appreciated.

ALEXANDRA LOPEZ
Honorgram Editor

DR. DOUGLAS CLARK
Honors Program Director

FELISA MEIER
Community Involvement information

NINA PARK
Dr. Douglas Clark interview

DR. MARY WILSON
International Experience Photos

THE HONORS PROGRAM began at La Sierra University in 1983. It strives to give special attention to undergraduates of outstanding intellectual and creative ability and aims to charge the imagination in an environment where students initiative is the guiding force. Students are given the opportunity to recognize their potential through encouragement, discussion and interaction. The overall objectives of the program are focused on the La Sierra University mission "to Seek, to Know, to Serve..."

LA SIERRA UNIVERSITY

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