Editor’s Note: We have eighteen graduating Highlander Scholars from 11 different majors this year. This is the largest graduating class in the history of the Honors Academy. This article will briefly summarize each Scholar’s Capstone Project.

Bernadette Altizer — Education — “Avoiding Chaos: Classroom Management Strategies for the Beginning Teacher.” The chaos of an ineffectively managed classroom is one of the greatest fears of beginning teachers. Yet, if effective classroom management is implemented, not only will chaos be avoided, true learning will occur—in both academic and social skill areas. This presentation will offer advice and resources for the beginning teacher.

Walter Badillo— Information Technology — “Virtual Resume Posting: A New Service for Students.” I will demonstrate knowledge of the MySQL database manager and fine tune the current web application to allow the student body to use this system as a resume-posting utility.

Natasha Brooks— Biology — “3-D Object Discrimination Study Using Male Long-Evans Rate: Vibrissal System vs. Visual System.” I will determine sensory involvement in 3-D object discrimination in rats, determine which sensory system is used most and examine the extent to which rats can see in the infrared spectrum.

Andrea Crigger— Information Technology — “Behind the Scenes in a Computer Science Internship.” I will summarize the experience of my summer internship with CBM Technologies, Inc. as a Softward Programmer/Analyst.

Todd Harkrader— Criminal Justice — “Chemical and Biological Terrorism and the Role of the Police.” My objectives are to introduce the listener to the world of chemical and biological terrorism and discuss how this poses a threat to our Nation’s police forces.

Kristin Iacone— Media Studies — “Inside The Southwest Times Newspaper: An Internship.” I will resolve challenges while gaining real-world working experience at The Southwest Times newspaper by building and maintaining their website.

Denise Lewis— Dance — “HERStory: The Dance.” A choreography exploration which has been 22 years in the making. I have incorporated movement to which I have been exposed throughout my dance training thus far, setting that movement to music by Michael Jackson.

Continued on page 3.

The Thirteenth Annual Highlander Scholars Spring Banquet was held on April 13th in the Muse Banquet Hall. Outstanding attendance was recorded with over 125 people enjoying the luncheon and presentations.

Much to our dismay, this is Dr. Rogers final year of his three year term as Director. He was presented with a beautiful plaque from HASO and a framed print of McConnell Library from the Advisory Committee for his outstanding service and dedication to the Academy for the past three years. We will miss him!

Much to our delight, Dr. Joseph S. King, Professor of Psychology, was named as our new Director beginning on May 1, 2003. We welcome him and know he will continue the work begun by Dr. Rogers. We look forward to him introducing his own innovations and creativity to the Academy. Welcome!!!

With 18 Highlander Scholar graduates, this is the largest graduating class in recent history. With majors ranging from Biology to Information Technology to Dance, this is also the most diversity seen in a graduating class.

Administrators, faculty members, parents and siblings, and students attended this Banquet, and everyone had a wonderful time. We will miss this most amazing group of graduates and want to wish them well in their future pursuits in all the years to come! We sincerely hope they will keep in touch with us.
Q. What GPA is necessary to maintain membership in the Academy?

A. To remain in the Honors Academy (and to be eligible to live in Floyd Hall next year, you must finish the academic year with a minimum GPA of:

- *Freshmen (<25 semester hours) 3.0
- Sophomore (26-55 semester hours) 3.3
- Junior (56-85 semester hours) 3.4
- Senior (86+ semester hours) 3.5

*Floyd Hall housing eligibility for freshmen is based on their first semester GPA. Please contact the office if you have further questions.

On March 28th, the Virginia Collegiate Honors Council (VCHC) held its Annual Meeting at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. As President of the VCHC, Dr. Rogers led the proceedings.

Timothy Marsh, Seth Peery, and Lucinda Swanson, three of our graduating Highlander Scholars presented their Capstone Projects and Julie Richardson, the Graduate Assistant for the Honors Academy, presented work from her Master’s Thesis.

Seth Peery commented, “The VCHC Conference provided us with an excellent opportunity to showcase our work and see how well our Honors Academy compares to its counterparts at other institutions. As a professional conference, it presented an opportunity for students to get at the undergraduate level. We came away from the conference with a sense of satisfaction - that the scholarly efforts we put into our capstone projects were on a level equal to, if not greater than, the best in the state. I would like to extend a sincere message of thanks to Dr. Rogers and the Honors Academy for allowing us to participate in this most intellectually stimulating and engaging experience.”

“I thought the VCHC conference was a great opportunity to showcase my Capstone Project and meet with other honors students and professionals from all over the Commonwealth of Virginia. We all had a lot of fun, and this is an experience I definitely recommend to anyone who might be interested in presenting a project or paper,” commented presenter Lucinda Swanson.

“I truly enjoyed my time at the conference and recommend that other honors students attend future conferences. I got a chance to meet honors students from different universities and to hear how their honors programs worked.

The fun of the weekend even extended into the evening for a chance to unwind after a day of presenting” stated Tim Marsh.

This yearly event is a great opportunity for all Highlander Scholars. If you have worked on an interesting contract or would like to present your Capstone Project, please keep the VCHC Conference in mind for next year.

The Radford University Student Awards Ceremony and Banquet was held on Saturday, April 26, and the Honors Academy had a very prominent presence.

The highlight of the evening came with the announcement that Honors Academy members were recipients of all of the Outstanding Student Awards, and sixteen members were Who’s Who Award winners. Outstanding Student Award recipients were: Ross Holberg, Nicole Kolar, Mikel Chavers, Ashley Zahnriian, Jill Gugliotta, Melissa Janoske and Donika Patel.

Thanks to the efforts of Lucinda Swanson, Brittany Hawks, Alicia Wagner and everyone else who participated, HASO was the recipient of the Student Organization Community Service Award. Congratulations to HASO and all award recipients.

Do you have questions about the Academy? Please let us know!

Q. Can I complete an Honors Contract for summer courses?

A. The answer is that, as always, it is up to the professor of the course. It is acceptable to the Honors Academy if you want to complete an Honors Contract during Maymester, Summer I, Summer II, and/or Summer III. Some professors feel that the short course time is inappropriate to complete a contract, some don’t have any problem at all. It is important for you to propose a contract that is appropriate for the time constraints of a summer session.
Timothy Marsh— Media Studies — “WVRU: A Look Inside Present Day Public Radio.” I will describe my internship at RU’s Public Radio Station, WVRU, consisting of station development and, primarily, working with the local underwriting program.

Dwayne Martin— Music — “The Relationship Between Affective Reaction and Physical Response to Stress Under Various Musical Conditions.” I will, through an experimental study using college-age students, discover how well a person is in tune with their body by studying the body’s and mind’s reaction to stress under varying musical conditions.

Damian May— Music — “The Effects of Active vs. Passive Music on Saliva Immunoglobulin.” Through research and experimentation, I will determine the effects of no music, passive music, and active music on immunoglobulin concentration in human saliva. I will use my findings and the literature in a comparison in the field of psychoneuroimmunology.

Mariah Moates— Theatre — “Boy Gets Girl.” My objective is to direct and cast this full-length play performance in the Studio Theatre.

Susan Niedbalski— English — “Self-Publication of Poetry Volume: “Solipsism.” I have self-published a bound book of my original poetry from which I will read during my Undergraduate/Graduate Forum presentation.

S. Seth Peery— Political Science — “A Political, Economic, and Technical Analysis of the Importance of Broadband Telecommunications Infrastructure to Local and Regional Policymaking.” I will investigate the significance, determine the relevance, and consider the value of broadband telecommunications. I will also examine the efficacy of public agencies such as VECTEC, CIT, and the Coalfield Coalition as vehicles for the improvement of intelligent public opinions.

Melissa Powell— Education — “Teaching Children to Make Good Choices in an Inclusive Classroom.” I will learn to use teacher research as a tool for inquiry, complete a qualitative analysis of my data on classroom behavior management in inclusive classrooms, and leave a web page summarizing my research with links and readings for the RU College of Education.

S. Alex Sandidge— Information Technology — “A First Glance into the Information Technology World.” I will build a web-based, interactive presentation that summarizes my internship experience concentrating on what technology expertise I have gained, my knowledge synthesis from prior coursework, and share career insights gained from this experience in the Information Technology field with future students.

Lucinda Swanson— Communication — “Understanding Chinese Communication and Culture.” This project will consist of my completion of a magazine that will analyze the Chinese culture and differences between American and Chinese methods of communication. Different articles will explain different aspects of Chinese communication or culture.

James Thomas— Communication — “Modern Masculinity: A Critical Analysis of Masculinity from a Mainstream Perspective.” This project is an examination of the male role in U.S. society by many measures. One of my main points deals with men's suicide. This includes the reasons, the statistics behind it, and what is being done to stop this appalling trend.

Kristin Walker— English — “A Change in Focus.” My presentation about my student teaching experience. I will discuss the benefits of an English Reading Workshop in action. Some of the topics will include improving students’ reading ability, increasing reading appreciation, and creating a classroom library.

Editor's Note: We are very proud of each of you and wish you all good luck in the coming years whether you are going on to graduate school or seeking employment. Please keep in touch!

FORUM FACTS

The 12th Annual Undergraduate/Graduate and Student Engagement Forum was held on April 14-17. Participation this year was outstanding with 119 presentations by 190 students and 56 faculty sponsors. A wide variety of papers discussed research in disciplines ranging from anthropology to theatre, and many entire classes participated as a group. Some students presented their research as posters while students in dance debuted original choreography. A new dimension of the UG/GR Forum this year was the “by invitation only” student engagement session conducted on Thursday. The Honors Academy would like to express its sincere gratitude to UG/GR Coordinator and Graduate Assistant Julie Richardson for a job exceptionally well done this year. Julie enhanced the electronic abstract submission process and provided an on-line schedule complete with title, authors and abstracts. Thanks as well to the Division of Student Affairs and Center for Experiential Learning and Career Development for financial contributions to assist with costs of advertising and programs.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Did we miss you? Please let us know.

March: Trinity Breedlove, Amy Bur- nette, Megan Burrus, James Byrd, Roger Conner II, Megan Delph, Pradeepa Ganhew, Maranatha Heiman, Julie Kane, Rachel Kenley, Rebecca Latimer, Denise Lewis, Steve Mignogna, William Miller, Ruth Perry, Maple Potts, Amy Ratliff, Mark Revell, Courtney Scherer, Justine Schott, Jodie Smith, Kendall Swann, Melanie Thong, Alicia Wagner, Amanda Wagner, Brandyn Webster, Jessica Wilkerson, Eric Young, Adam Van Zandbergen

April: Emily Arthur, Nichole Bell, Christi Bialas, Melanie Boffo, Mikel Chavers, Natalia Denda, Alexandra Di- Pasquale, Nancy Fields, Warren Fellerman, Lori Ferguson, Ashley Hackley, Morgan Herbert, Jenness Huff, Jill Jaskulski, Charlene Kidder, Margaret Kosiicki, Jeffrey Lyerly, Allison McGuire, Becky Minter, Laura Morris, Vicki Norris, Melissa Powell, William Powell, Kwame Sarpang, Sarah Watson, Kaleb Woldeamanuel, Timothy Willging, Brittany White, Courtney Vengrin

May: Abigail Babcock, Gregory Baker, Daniel Boothe, Erika Cole, Dana Doganes, Jason Farmer, Matthew Fra- zier, Lindsey Havens, Brittany Hawks, Brice Hutchings, Anna Jensen, Daniel Lee, Samara McMillion, Casey Moore, Donika Patel, Charles Robinson, Carrie Roop, Dustin Samuelson, S. Alex Sandidge, Kacey Sebert, Courtney Ward, Emily Wise


July: Megan Adams, Audra Akers, Melissa Bellows, Meredith Bensen, Amanda Bostic, Gregory Broz, Jessica Ciaburri, Amanda Dillon, Colleen Dixon, Tim Dutton, Angela Dyke, Ashley Ferguson, Barbara Fertitta, Deanna Flora, Lauren Fox, Dana Gelb, Maxine Gonzalez, Ross Holberg, Susan Hung, Melissa Janoske, Allison Jensen, Laura Johnson, Ryan Livingston, Rachel Lythgoe, Shann- non McKay, Maureen Nisch, Martha Phillips, Ashley Queenenberry, Margaret Rogosinski, Shannon Stanley, Megan Stears, Alicia Stewart, Lucinda Swanson, Nicole Theriault, Danielle Tyler, Heather Vanderlanede, Megan Welsh, Amy White

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To All Honors Academy Members

This is your newsletter. We encourage your feedback. If you would like to submit any articles, announcements, or have any comments or questions, we want to hear from you. Come by the office, mail, or email input for your newsletter. We want this to be both informative and fun. The office is in Floyd Hall, our post office box number is 6971, and our email address is: honors@radford.edu.

We hope to hear from you!

Loretta Opes, Editor