Seven years ago I was chosen as Honors director and given a mandate to introduce certain changes in the program--more visibility, broader participation, greater dynamism, expanded offerings. And I was asked to imagine what Honors might be, the hardest task of all. For seven years I have devoted a considerable portion of my effort to fulfilling this mandate. I have worked with a wonderful staff, with their own ideas and energy, making my job far easier. These have been seven of the most rewarding, enjoyable, and stimulating years of my professional life. I have said repeatedly that I have the best job in the university. Then why leave?

Insofar as possible I have endeavored to do what I enjoy doing. Oh, there is always a percentage of any job that one would rather not do; you have to clean the stables if you’re going to ride the horses. But I always advise students who talk to me about majors and careers that the secret to happiness in life is to find what you enjoy doing and figure a way to get someone to pay you to do it. So why would I leave a job I so enjoy? In addition to purely personal considerations, I can articulate three reasons.

First, I have done what I set out to do. When I took this job I told myself I’d stay at least five years for I felt it would take that long to do what I wanted. I have met my own goals, so I feel free to leave. Of course, I have set many new goals along the way and much of that remains to be done.

Given adequate university support, the Honors Program could become much more than it now is. And it would be satisfying to lead it further. But that is not a job I took responsibility for. Nor is it a job I could do by myself. And that leads to a further consideration.

Second, university support has declined over the last few years. Partly this is due to budget constraints, partly to the uncertainties of this transition time, partly to other priorities, partly to factors unknown to me. Whether we propose major restructuring of the program, dramatic shifts in space, or simple administrative matters (like a full-time secretary), the same answer comes back: good idea but not now. I have reluctantly concluded that if I am to do something now, it will have to be elsewhere, which leads to my most important consideration.

Third, I have other tasks that both need doing and that I much enjoy. I have books to write. I have been working for over three years on writing a narrative commentary on the Apocalypse of John and still it is only about one-third done. I also have plans for a monograph on the Apocalypse that I’d like to get out before the end of the millennium. I am responsible for developing publications for a national seminar I chair, but have only the barest of outlines of what we will do. I have requested and received a professional development leave for this next year that should allow me to work on these goals.

Continued on Page 5
Honors Program Benefactors

We gratefully acknowledge gifts from the following people. These contributions help to fund scholarships for Honors students and to support Honors students in extracurricular activities.

Matching gifts from BP America and Chevron USA for Jacqueline C. Mutschler

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Where Can a UH 400 class get you?

GREENCastle, INdIANA

by Lora Wilson

Now, I know it sounds too good to be true, but a paper I wrote last spring for Dr. Finklestein’s seminar on evolving technology was my ticket to central Indiana (round trip, thank god!) All midwestern cynicism aside, I spent March 11 through 13 at DePauw University’s Twentieth Annual Undergraduate Honors Conference, and I have no doubt that the memories of that week-end will remain as some of the most cherished of my college life. Thirty students from across the country were invited to present research papers relating to the communication arts and sciences. Topics ranged from changing paradigms in the theatre (that would be mine) to political cartoons, and even to feminism in Star Trek: The Next Generation, written by a guy. Besides discussing each other’s papers in groups led by prominent scholars, we also had the opportunity to hear those scholars speak. Dr. Karlyn Hohrs Campbell spoke on a range of feminist issues, Dr. Gary Kreps on communication systems, and Dr. Ron Willis on spectatorship at the theatre. On top of all this, the food was fantastic. So, my words of wisdom as a senior dangerously close to walking is submit papers to this conference. Granted, it may only be in Indiana, but if you’re invited to go, the experience itself will be out of this world.

Lora’s stay in Greencastle was supported by the Honors Program Development Fund, which welcomes contributions from any source.

Search Committee Formed

Vice President Howard has appointed a search committee to find a new faculty director for the Honors Program. She hopes to have someone in place before the new academic year starts. This will be an internal search and Honors staff, faculty, and students are represented on the search committee.

Faculty and staff may make contributions through the annual Campus Scholarship Campaign; simply indicate the Honors Program on your pledge form.
Honorable Mentions

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA

Clarissa Landrum, President

After a terribly busy fall and early winter, ALD members took a little breather before gearing up for the annual spring reception and membership drive. There's some thought of electing next year's officers before this year is out. Since Rockafied House is still undergoing renovation, the reception will be held in the Upper Hearth Lounge on Monday, May 2 at 7:00. Senior Certificates will be awarded to all those who maintained the ALD minimum GPA of 3.5 and the senior with the highest GPA wins a book.

Psi Chi Chicago Bound

Eight members of the psychology honorary society, Psi Chi, will travel to Chicago to attend the Midwest Psychological Association meetings from May 5 to 7, held at the historic Palmer House Hotel. Psi Chi members from universities will present their research. None of the WSU group is presenting this year, but chapter president, Carolee Nigh, is hopeful that the experience will stimulate interest in presenting next year. Several of the delegation are already enrolled in the Psychology Departmental Honors Program. The Honors Program is pleased to make a donation towards this worthwhile trip.

SHA News

Kathy Gill, President

The tuition raffle was a success! We raised enough money to ensure that the 1994-95 SHA will have a great start. Our winners included Joanne Walls, $1000 tuition, and $50 College Store gift certificates to Joseph Wendling and Karen Bazeley.
SHA appreciates everyone who joined in to sell tickets or to stuff envelopes. Thanks to The College Store for donating two certificates. And a special thanks to Wright Patt Credit Union for the tuition donations and their continued support.

Between quarters, eight SHA members attended the MidEast Honors Association Conference at the Marriott in Dayton. The delegation consisted of: Diana Jaglowicz, David Elm, Amy Rang, Paul Zwart, Doug Alexander, Jason Evans, Kevin Smith, and Steve Sur. The theme of the conference was "Imagining the Future" and featured a stirring keynote address on the future of work by Frithjof Bergman.

Events for spring quarter include the May Daze where SHA will be collecting donations for a local charity. Sign-up if you can help. Start writing those campaign speeches. In May SHA will hold elections for the 1994-95 officers. The Honors banquet is almost here; be sure to attend on Saturday, May 21, and then join us Sunday for the annual student/faculty softball challenge and picnic. Don't let them beat us (again!!).

Phi Kappa Phi Nominates Another Winner

For the third year in a row, the WSU chapter of the honorary society, Phi Kappa Phi, has nominated a winner in the national scholarship contest. Sanjeev Mehrotra was selected for an Honorable Mention Scholarship of $1000 and an Active-For-Life membership in PKP. Sanjeev will be recognized at the Phi Kappa Phi induction ceremonies on Thursday, June 9.

President Flack Meets With Honors Students

After being on campus just over a month, President Flack came down to the Honors Office to meet with Honors students and field their questions. He didn't have to wait long to learn what was on their minds. He listened attentively, answered thoughtfully, and took notes. One of the problems that came up was lighting in some of the remote parking areas. That one has already been addressed. As always, we prepared food. President Flack didn't get a chance to eat much, but Lillie Howard was spotted having a chocolate gooie and the students laid waste to the veggies and dip. Winston Christmas was heard to say, "If you'd have that dip (Marzetti bacon ranch) all the time, Mary, I'd eat my vegetables," to which she replied, "I'm not your mother, Winston. It's not my job to make sure you eat your vegetables." President Flack more or less promised to come back, and we'll hold him to his word. But not too soon; he's got a lot of people to meet before he gets around our way again.
Rob Hegstrom (EE '89) finished his MS in Electrical Engineering in 1993 at the University of Dayton. He is still at Wright Patterson and still travelling a lot and enjoying it.

Ericka Hines (PLS '93) is a first-year law student at the University of Georgia. Shall we say that she is not exactly enjoying the overwhelming academic load. She longs a little wistfully (that's how one gets in Georgia--wistful) for the good old Wright State days when a woman had time for some social life. On the bright side, she was elected Vice President of the National Women's Law Student Association at its meeting in Charlottesville, Virginia. She hopes to work in Baltimore this summer, perhaps rooming with Jowanda Kenerly who has fallen in love with the place.

Kim Covert has decided to accept admission to the University of Chicago School of Law, turning down such places as Michigan. Ah, to have such choices.

Joe Pianthipmanus (MIS '93) is still with ATT Global Information Solutions (formerly NCR). He's not running the company yet, but he did get a new BMW.

Kirsten McCaw's latest, complete update on her law school status follows. Please help her decide. Send or call your two cents worth to the Honors Office.
Accepted at: Seton Hall ($30,000 scholarship offer), Syracuse, Ohio State, Indiana, Notre Dame
Wait-listed at: Cornell, Vanderbilt, William and Mary
No word from: Boston College

Jim North (BIO '82-MD '86) was finally shamed enough by hearsay reports of his doings that he phoned in with details. He married Ann Berry, an R.N. at Toledo Hospital, in 1990. They have Matthew, who is now three, and Katie, who was born on November 4. Jim is also really busy with the State Academy of Family Practice as program chair for the state meeting. This is the political body for family practice. Obviously, the main issue this year is health care reform, but the group is also involved in educational programs and credentialing. Jim is in private practice with two other guys. He does a little teaching and enjoys it enough that he might want to do it full-time someday. He works a lot with medical students. In short, he's having a great time, but when didn't Jim have a good time.

Michelle Dayton (BIO '91) blew in with husband Lee in tow. He (faithful readers may recall) has been stationed in New Jersey while Michelle has attended med school here. He returns soon for the duration and he and Michelle have bought a house in Fairborn, one with a baby room. Await further announcements.

Uriah M. King has been accepted at a Georgetown University summer work-study program. He will study political and economic systems and work part-time at a government agency or public policy “think tank” from June 8 through July 30.

Jennifer Hatherill will be attending the University of Chicago, Division of Social Sciences, in the fall. Maybe she and Kim can room together.

Brian Oskey will be a graduate assistant in electrical engineering at Wright State.

Julie Mills accepted a job with Mead Data Central as a financial analyst.

Jeanne Smith and Amy Rang will enter the MA program in English as GTAs and James Rogers will be a TA for Biology, all at Wright State.

Mary Beth Lengefeld will head off (probably to Springfield College) to begin work toward a doctorate in the area of athletic counseling.

Jonathan Raker will attend medical school, somewhere in Ohio, maybe Toledo.

Stephanie Preston, Heidi Riffle, Terrance Lau, David Kirkhart, Angie Norris, and Jeremy Couts will all attend a national college housing conference over Memorial Weekend to exchange ideas with other residents from across the country. On June 25, Stephanie will travel to NYC for the Stonewall 25 festival which will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the gay civil rights movement.

Teresa Pace Dixon (EE '89) stopped by to say she will be defending her PhD dissertation in June. She's job hunting, but hadn't found what she wanted in mid-April.

Kathy Gill will attend Ohio State University in the fall as a graduate assistant in the Department of Political Science.

Thom Brex plans to study 300 hours this summer for the CPA. He begins work in the fall for Ernst and Young in the tax division.

Jay Horton will fulfill his dreams and go to Colorado State University this fall as a teaching assistant in the exercise physiology program.

Corrina Monett will continue at Wright State's Biomedical Engineering Department as a graduate teaching assistant.
Jennifer Nozar is marrying Nathan Hall on July 30 at Ascension Church in Kettering. They will honeymoon for a week in South Carolina. She says she will have a teaching job this fall.

Heather Wessel and Mike Cromer will exchange wedding vows on June 25 at Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Huber Heights. Mike Lenahan will serve as best man with Aly Stemple attending as maid of honor. Following the ceremony, the happy couple plan to attend many baseball games in various locations throughout the mid-west.

Tracy Consani will attend the University of Tennessee at Knoxville as a student in the curriculum and instruction master’s program. She plans to marry Bill Saunders (WSU ’92) on December 17, 1994, at the First Baptist Church in Troy. Kirsten McCaw is acting as stage manager in charge of everything for the wedding. The groom presumes the Community Focus Editor for the Beavercreek News Current.

Mother Martha Bernard (BA-REL ’82, MA-ENG ’85) says life with a baby is quite elemental. She’s not always sure just which day it is and doesn’t really care anymore. She’s having fun, so she ignores all those job offers.

Spring is like a perhaps hand
(which comes carefully out of Nowhere) arranging
a window, into which people look (while people stare
arranging and changing placing carefully there a known thing here) and
changing everything carefully

spring is like a perhaps Hand in a window (carefully to
and fro moving New and Old things, while people stare carefully
moving a perhaps fraction of flower placing
an inch of air there) and
without breaking anything.

This piece was suggested by Bill Rickert, who is this quarter teaching an Honors Seminar on poetry as experience.

Spring Trivia
The first two correct entries win free Honors Dinner tickets.

1. Who was the first Honors Director to hit safely in six successive softball sorties?
2. This person often wonders if anyone has any witty remarks.
3. If you find a loaf of cracked wheat bread in 179 Millett, who made it?
4. This person has a year’s sabbatical and wants to go digging in Turkey.
5. Which Service First chauffer is prone to getting a little lost and overlooking red lights?
6. Whose office is as big as the president’s and has more windows?
7. Which member of the Honors staff has naturally curly hair and a beard?
8. What professor of religion who is working on a book on Revelation has a license plate number of 666 on his little red devil car?
9. Whose textbook on the New Testament will be coming out in a new edition this fall?
10. What name does Beverly call out when she has a computer problem?

My problem in life has never been boredom, rather I always have more interesting things to do than time to do them. Directing Honors has been wonderful. Other tasks, with a different kind of wonder, await. As a character in a C.S. Lewis novel remarked about quite a different topic, you can’t eat breakfast all day—however enjoyable it might be.

-dlb
Black History Month Trivia

Correction: Zora N. Hurston not Nora Z.—we knew that, but messed up anyway.

Jenny Wills won the $20 bookstore gift certificate

Sechwan Chicken
Submitted by David Barr

I enjoy Chinese cooking because it is fast, flexible, and tasty. I have adapted this recipe, my son’s favorite dish, from Martin Yan’s The Joy of Wokking (Doubleday, 1979:97).

Prepare marinade sauce of approximately:
1 T soy sauce
1 T wine
1/2 t sesame (or other) oil
1/4 t salt
2 t cornstarch

Cut 2-3 pieces of boneless chicken breast (12-16 oz) into bite size cubes. Marinate at least 30 minutes.

Prepare cooking sauce and set aside:
1/2 cup soup stock
1 T soy sauce
1 T wine
1/2 t chili oil
1/2 t salt
1/4 t white pepper
1/2 t sesame oil
2 t hoisin sauce
1/2 t sugar

Start the rice. Use the rest of the soup stock and enough water to make 2 cups of liquid with 1 cup dry rice. Cook about 15 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Prepare the spices and vegetables:
3-4 slices of ginger, slivered
2-3 cloves of garlic, chopped
2-3 dry red chili peppers cut in half (or crushed for extra hot dish)
Small can of bamboo shoots (1/2 cup)
Small cucumber, partially peeled and cut in 1/2 inch cubes
Large bell pepper cut int 1/2 inch cubes (mix green and red for nice colors and taste)
Other vegetables as available: small quantities of snap peas, shredded cabbage, and/or carrots.

Cook:
Heat 2-3 T oil in wok till very hot
Add ginger, garlic, and peppers, stirring for 20-30 seconds
Add chicken, stirring for about 2 minutes (chicken will turn white all over)
Remove chicken and cook vegetables for about 1 minute, stirring
Add hot sauce, stirring well for about 1 minute
Return chicken to wok
Thicken with about 2 t cornstarch dissolved in water
Serve immediately

Honors Dinner Goes Downtown

Having an annual spring banquet to celebrate the Honors Program was David’s idea, and when the first one seven years ago was a success, a tradition was born. To date, all the dinners have been at the Holiday Inn across from Wright State. Since we’ve eaten through most of their menu, we decided to risk a change. On May 21 we’ll gather at Kitty’s on Main Street in the Citizen’s Federal Plaza just down the street from the Victoria Theatre. Park in the underground garage, which you can enter from Jefferson Street. Kitty’s is usually rated one of Dayton’s top ten restaurants, with desserts receiving special accolades. The banquet rooms upstairs are lovely and we have some nice entertainment planned. The rhetoric will be both brilliant and brief. Anyone who wishes to attend need only send a check to the Honors Office (179 Millett Hall, Dayton, OH 45435) for $15 for each person attending. Your cost is so reasonable because, through prudent and careful budget management the rest of the year, we are able to provide a hefty subsidy for this special event. Participate in this evening and feel good about yourself, Wright State, the Honors Program, and life in general. A good meal in pleasant company can do that—and more.
Food for Thought

From:

The Meditations of Marcus Aurelius

Everything is only for a day, both that which remembers and that which is remembered. Observe constantly that all things take place by change, and accustom thyself to consider that the nature of the Universe loves nothing so much as to change the things which are and to make new things like them. For everything that exists is in a manner the seed of that which will be. . . . It is no evil for things to undergo change, and no good for things to subsist in consequence of change. Time is like a river made up of the events which happen and a violent stream; for as soon as a thing has been seen, it is carried away, and another comes in its place, and this will be carried away too. Everything which happens is as familiar and well known as the rose in spring and the fruit in summer; for such is disease, and death, and calumny, and treachery, and whatever else delights fools or vexes them. In the series of things those which follow are always aptly fitted to those which have gone before; for this series is not like a mere enumeration of disjointed things, which has only a necessary sequence, but it is a rational connection; and as all existing things are arranged together harmoniously, so the things which come into existence exhibit no mere succession, but a certain wonderful relationship.

Is any(one) afraid of change? Why, what can take place without change? What then is more pleasing or more suitable to the universal nature? And canst thou take a bath unless the wood undergoes a change? And canst thou be nourished unless the food undergoes a change? And can anything else that is useful be accomplished without change? Dost thou not see then that for thyself also to change is just the same, and equally necessary for the universal nature?

Always run the short way; and the short way is the natural: accordingly say and do everything in conformity with the soundest reason. For such a purpose frees a man from trouble, and warfare, and all artifice and ostentatious display.

Book of the Quarter

The Gate to Women's Country

By Sheri S. Tepper

Reviewed by Virginia Harley

Science fiction usually imagines a future. The novels in Isaac Asimov's Foundation series describe a golden age far into the future and predict a society capable of progressive evolution. The futures described by other writers are chilling nightmares. George Orwell's 1984 and more recently the Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood portray grim and cheerless societies where the rights of the individual have become subservient to the needs of the state. In Atwood's novel it is the women of the society that have become the oppressed class.

Sheri S. Tepper's The Gate to Women's Country falls somewhere between the two. Tepper depicts a society in the distant future, three hundred years after a nuclear war, in which two societies have emerged, separated by gender. In Women's Country, the women do everything--they farm, they practice medicine, the arts and sciences, and they are ruled by the "Damned Few," a council of women. Theirs is a society in which all members contribute, and in which science, arts, and crafts are required elements of a lifelong educational process. It is a society committed to non-aggression, and only those men who have renounced aggression are allowed to stay, as "servitors." in Women's Country.

Outside this walled city of women is garrisoned an all-male warrior society, armed only with bronze-age technology, that is honor-bound to protect Women's Country from the warriors of other cities. Sexual encounters between the warriors and the women of Women's Country are limited to two weeks each year at carnival.

When warrior commanders break their code of honor and plot to overthrow Women's Country, a dramatic struggle develops between these two contrasting societies, leading to a violent and unanticipated conclusion.

Tepper has written a thought-provoking and fast-paced novel which explores the role of gender in a society's attitudes towards aggression and violence, towards science and the arts, towards ethics and religion.

Spring Quarter Tip

(Good through May 15)

Go to the campus art gallery and see David Leach's trees--spring trees, winter trees, morning and afternoon trees; just trees--no forests, no birds, no bees--nothing but glorious trees.
Congratulations  
University Honors Program Graduates  
1994

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