Welcome back Redhawks! We hope you all had a great summer and an even better start to the Fall 2015 semester. These first few weeks of the academic year have been full of exciting events that have hopefully allowed all of you to get out and experience everything that SEMO has to offer. Within these same weeks, our Honors Council students have been busy not only getting to know each of you, but also planning lots of fun events for throughout the upcoming semester.

You all may have seen our honors students when you first arrived at your dorm during opening week. Many honors students were part of the move-in crews that helped everyone settle into their dorms for their first week at SEMO. After that, you probably saw our booth at the Welcome Picnic the Sunday before class started. It was great to see and interact with so many of the wonderful students in the program. We also had the Honors Seek and Find during opening week, which you can read more about on page 2.

In this monthly newsletter, you can stay up to date with the current and upcoming activities that you, as a part of the Honors Program, can be a part of throughout the year. Be sure to check back every month to see what new and exciting opportunities the Honors Program has to offer!
Honors Seek & Find

Thank you to everyone who came to our seek & find event! We know that opening week can be crazy and we appreciate that you made time to come to the event. Even though it rained, we hope that you all had fun and learned something about the SEMO campus.

Did You Know?
The honors house is a great place to stop by and hang out if you have free time during the day. We’re open on weekdays from 8-5 and offer free printing!

Upcoming Honors Events

September 12th, 2-3:30
Honors Open House

September 18th, 5:30 pm
Nacho Ordinary Mexican Fiesta & Trivia Night

October 3rd, 1:00 pm
The Honors Games
Meet The Honors Council

My name is Christina Thomas. I’m the chairperson of the Honors Council. I am from a town outside of Memphis, TN. I have played basketball and softball since I was little but decided to focus on my schoolwork when I got to college. I am currently the President of Phi Eta Sigma, Publicity Coordinator of Psi Chi, a tutor on campus, and I work at the Honors House and Simply Swirled. In my free time, I play intramural sand volleyball and softball and go to every SEMO gymnastics meet I can.

My name is Lydia Cameron and I’m the Honors Council Historian. I’m a sophomore studying communication disorders with a double minor in child development and global cultures. In my spare time I enjoy reading, knitting, and cooking/baking. On campus I’m involved with the Honors Program, Student Activities Council, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association, Residence Hall Association and Campus United Way.

My name is Tracie Beard. I’m the Honors Learning Community Representative. Currently, I am a sophomore majoring in Early Childhood Education. This is my second year living on the honors learning community floor. I am a member of Gamma Sigma Sigma and a Merick hall representative to Residence Hall Association. I also work at the University School for Young Children.

My name is Brooke Reeves and I’m the Learning in Volunteerism Chair. I’m a junior double majoring in Communication Disorders and Political Science. I’m involved with Residence Hall Association, Student Government, National Student Speech Language Hearing Association, and Tri Sigma.
My name is Raven Lawhorn and I'm the Publicity Chair for the Honors Council. I'm a junior majoring in Accounting. I'm an RA in Dearmont and an active member of Gamma Phi Beta. I'm also a graduate of the Emerging Leaders program.

My name is Lucy Freitag, and I am the Honors Council Secretary. I am a sophomore majoring in Forensic Chemistry, with aspirations to work in a crime lab in my future. I am also involved with the Knitting and Crochet Club here at SEMO, and in my spare time I enjoy listening to music, reading, and watching movies.

My name is Cassie Park and I am from Troy, Missouri. I am majoring in Biomedical Sciences with a minor in Chemistry. My ultimate goal is to become a pediatric oncologist. I am the Programming Chair for the Jane Stephens Honors Program, the Reporter for the Alpha Chi Sigma Professional Chemistry Fraternity, a facilitator for the First-year Leadership Program, a member of the Student Medical Society, have participated as an Opening Week Leader for 2 years, and have completed both FyLP and Emerging Leaders.

My name is Karen Muramatsu and I'm the Student and Faculty Liaison. I'm a junior at Southeast Missouri State University majoring in Political Science and Global Studies. I was born in Sao Paulo (Brazil) and I lived in Japan with my parents since I was five. My family has a diverse cultural background. They come from Brazil, Japan, and Italy. I’m passionate for cultural diversity, leadership, and service. For this reason, I love to get involved on campus and work with the wonderful students we have here. I’m the founding president of Unified Young Leaders and the Brazilian Student Association. I’m also president of the International Student Association. I’m the Vice President for Phi Eta Sigma National Honors Society and Model United Nations, and a judge in the All University Judicial Board. I have participated in Emerging Leaders 2014, CSIS 2015, and the Sue Shear Institute 2015. I also received the Power of Women scholarship for 2015-2016. I'm currently a student worker at the honors house, a tutor and assistant at the department of Global Cultures and Languages. My hobbies are traveling, reading, watching movies, and playing with dogs. I am really excited to work on the council this year and be able to provide fun events for all of the honors students.
Dr. Beard is an alumna of Southeast Missouri State University, where she received her B.S. in Secondary Education and her Master of Arts in teaching. She received her PhD in Business Administration from the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville. She is starting her 40th year teaching here at SEMO, where she is a professor of accounting. She recently received the Donald L. Harrison College of Business Students’ Choice Award for Excellence in Teaching for 2014-2015.

When asked about the Honors program, Dr. Beard says:

“I have discovered that the Honors Program provides valuable opportunities to work with some of the best and brightest students at Southeast as they achieve special honors distinction. We do not offer any honors sections of accounting courses but students have contracted with me and the Honors Program to receive honors credit in several of my classes... The projects have included preparing a budget for a family farm; papers, Power Points, and class presentations on new accounting standards, research tools, and international convergence of accounting rules and concepts; and survey results relating to financial literacy of college students. I believe these projects have enhanced the research and communication skills of these students.”

Dr. Beard is married to Daniel Beard, who has taught in the Department of Health, Human Performance, and Recreation at Southeast following a career as a principal in the Jackson R-2 School District. They have two adult children, Brian and Laura, who are also Southeast alumni. If you see her on campus, don’t be afraid to say hi!

Honors Contracts: What You Need To Know

Honors contracts have been moved over to a new online system. To submit an honors contract login with your Southeast Key and password at https://faculty.semo.edu/honors. With this system you or your honors faculty member can create, edit, and approve an honors contract. Once a contract has been approved by you and your honors faculty member, the director can then approve the contract. You can view the status of your contract at any time in this system. Once complete, your honors faculty member can mark the contract as complete in the system.
Dr. Kevin Dickson is a professor of Management in the College of Business. Dr. Dickson has a Ph.D. degree in Management from the University of Texas at Austin. He also received a Master of Organizational Behavior and Bachelor of Arts from Brigham Young University. He has been teaching at Southeast Missouri State University since 2004 and became the head of the Jane Stephens Honors Program in January of 2015. When Dr. Dickson is not at the Honors House he can be found in his Dempster office or spending time with his family. He can be reached at Dempster Ext. 6023, Honors House Ext. 2513 or by email at kdickson@semo.edu