Happy April Redhawks! We hope you enjoyed your three day weekend, but it is time to buckle down for the rest of the semester. Beginning this month, we will be starting a monthly newsletter for all honors students and faculty. This newsletter will be a great way to stay up-to-date on all that is going on within the program. Within this month’s newsletter you will find information on upcoming events for the rest of the semester, a couple spotlights on some people we are extremely thankful for and proud of, and a little insight on the Honors Executive Council. We look forward to helping you all learn more about the program and get more involved! If any students or faculty members have anything they would like to be advertised in the next month’s newsletter, please let us know and we would be more than willing to help you out! Enjoy our first Jane Stephens Honors Program newsletter!

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A Look in the Past

This past month seemed to be filled with events, and we would like to thank everybody who came out to any of them! The Frist Steps and Show-Me Days were wonderful and we look forward to those in the future. The latest event we had was the Black Light Dance. We had an excellent turnout and hope that everybody enjoyed themselves as much as we did. From Jesse’s amazing face painting skills to Dr. Dickson’s superb dance moves, it was definitely a night to remember. As most of you know, March was also supposed to be the month for Honors Crack Trivia Night. Be sure to look at the upcoming events to find out when Trivia Night was rescheduled for!
Andrew Bauman's "Reagan, Springsteen and Mellencamp: 1980s Heartland America" Senior Paper Presentation April 9th at 4:00p.m.

"This paper investigates the United States in the 1980s, specifically within the context of the Heartland, which had come to symbolize the nation and its values in the 20th Century. I specifically look at the contrast of visions, one represented by Ronald Reagan, and the other by rock musicians Bruce Springsteen and John Mellencamp, both of which represented Heartland America and the spirit of the nation in the 1980s. Both were messages of redemption for Middle America, but would remain in direct contrast politically. Further, I look at the paradox of Reagan and Springsteen. Both men seemed to promote a high level of national consciousness and both seemed to embody the spirit of the nation, but they would do so while remaining in direct contrast to one another. " - Andrew Bauman

Thank you to the students who continually show up to events! We look forward to seeing everybody around more the rest of this semester and those to follow!

Upcoming Events:

April 10th: First Step -
Open House 3:00-5:00p.m.

April 15th: Honors Crack Trivia Night -
Test your knowledge at trivia beginning at 6:00p.m.

April 17th: First Step -
Open House 3:00-5:00p.m.

April 27th: Blanket Night -
Make a blanket and help the community at the Honors Program Blanket Night from 5:00-7:00p.m.

May 1st: First Step -
Open House 3:00-5:00p.m.

May 2nd: Messy Olympics & Cookout
De-stress with some messy fun and food beginning at 3:00p.m.

May 6th: Jane Stephens Honors Program Banquet @ 6:00p.m.
Doors Open @ 5:30p.m.

May 9th: First Step -
Open House 3:00-5:00p.m.

We encourage all honors faculty and students to attend all events! Open houses are for next years Redhawks to meet current students/faculty and see the Honors House, so feel free to stop by anytime! Programs, unless specifically stated otherwise, are open to all honors faculty and students as well. We look forward to seeing more people around!
Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Bambi Robinson

Dr. Bambi Robinson has been a professor of Philosophy here at SEMO for a long time (almost 24 years!). She originally went to school at the University of North Carolina in Greensboro for her Bachelor’s in Philosophy before receiving her Masters and Ph.D. from Ohio State University. One of the particular classes she enjoys teaching is her UI 100 course, ESPs, UFOs, and Bigfoot. She first found out about the Honors Program when she was an undergrad, and when she got to SEMO she quickly became involved in the Honors Program here. The students are her favorite part of the program because of their lively minds. She also loves the Murder Mystery Dinner because she’s “not good at solving mysteries, but it’s fun!” Dr. Bambi is also the faculty advisor for Quiz Bowl, which is where trivia masters can display their knowledge (shameless plug, sorry!). She also likes Netflix and is currently binge-watching House of Cards. Dr. Bambi can often be found at the Honors House during events, so if you see her be sure to say hi!

-Holly Pletka

You should have all recently received an email from the program regarding Exempli Gratia nominations. Please keep in mind that all nominees should possess the qualities that were defined in the email. Should you not have received the email, please contact us with any questions you have. These nominations should be turned in by Wednesday, April 8th.

April Volunteer Opportunities

Southeast Serves Week
April 8-11
https://semo.wufoo.com/forms/southeast-serves-week-2015/
15 projects & 50 different shifts

Messy Morning
April 25
10am – 2pm
Show Me Center

Walk with Me Southeast
April 11th 8am – 12pm
Arena Park

Serves about 4,000 individuals with autism and other developmental disabilities
2015 Thomas S. Messer Lecture
Thursday, April 9th

- 12:00 p.m. — Kent Library Lecture
  The King James Version After 400 years and 1,000 Years of “Englishing” the Bible

- 5:30 p.m. — Honors House Lecture @ 603 N Henderson
  From Biblical Archeology to Near Eastern Archaeology: The Development of a Discipline Over the Last 50 Years

- 7:30 p.m. — Feature Lecture in Johnson Hall Lecture Room @ 975 Greek Drive
  Taxes and Talents, Stones and Shekels: Archaeological Insights for Interpreting the Old and New Testaments
  Guest Lecturer:
  Dr. Joel Drinkard
  Professor of Old Testament Interpretation
  Campbellsville University

The Messer Lecture is sponsored by Baptist Student Union
Contact: Bruce Gentry - bwgentry@semo.edu
This semester’s Honors Executive Council consists of seven very active members of the Jane Stephens Honors Program who enjoy getting the chance to make the program better for all current and future students. As members of the council, these students plan social, educational, and volunteerism events and work hard to keep everyone involved and included. This semester’s council is made up of Daniel Hedgcoth, Chairperson; Jesse Weyand, Programming Coordinator; Christina Thomas, Publicity Coordinator; Ashley Garrett, Student and Faculty Liaison; Suzanna Tullos, Historian; Cassie Park, Learning in Volunteerism Coordinator; and Holly Pletka, Secretary. These students will finish out this semester before next year’s council takes over right before summer in order to plan events for the Fall.

Be sure to say congrats to next year’s council as you see them around campus! Their newly claimed positions are featured below!

Suzanna Tullos - Chairperson
Lydia Cameron - Historian
Raven Lawhorn - Learning Community Representative
Brooke Reeves - Learning in Volunteerism Coordinator
Cassie Park - Programming Coordinator
Christina Thomas - Publicity Coordinator
Lucy Freitag - Secretary
Tracie Beard - Student and Faculty Liaison
New Director: Dr. Kevin Dickson

If you have been by the Honors House throughout the day or to any of the events this semester, you have probably seen a new face milling about. That new face belongs to the one and only Dr. Kevin Dickson, otherwise known as the new director of the Jane Stephens Honors Program. Dr. Dickson is a Management professor in the Harrison College of Business, so as you can imagine, he stays pretty busy.

Much like other professors, despite popular belief, Dr. Dickson does have a life outside of school. He enjoys spending time with his family. He is married and has four children.

As the new director for the program, Dr. Dickson has a many goals in mind. Above all else, Dr. Dickson wants more students to graduate as an Honors Scholar! With three months under his belt, he is getting the hang of things and making the best of every situation he comes to. With such a drive for success, Dr. Dickson has the potential to do great things for the program.

Stop by the Honors House throughout the week or during special events and get to know the director better! We wish you the best of the rest of your first semester, Dr. Dickson!