



Office of Alumni & Development
Mileti Alumni Center
Bowling Green State University
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0053

Did you appreciate your experience as a BGSU Honors student? Do you want to help ensure that current students have access to equally amazing experiences? Consider the following ways to stay connected and make a difference:

- Read news from the HAS through this bi-annual newsletter and a monthly email series. Not getting the monthly email? Update your contact info by visiting our website.
- Join our new Facebook page for ongoing updates. Look for **BGSU Honors Alumni Society** under **non-profit organizations**.
- Offer co-op and internship opportunities for current Honors students.
- Submit biographical information to our virtual yearbook.
- Share personal or professional experiences with current Honors Program students by presenting or serving on a panel.
- Contribute financial or in-kind donations to support the Honors Program.
- Volunteer to serve as a board member on the Honors Alumni Society.

For more details, visit our web site at www.bgsu.edu/offices/honors/ALUMNI.htm. You can also call us at (419) 372-8504 or email us at honors@bgsu.edu.

Logo Design

Are you creative? Do you have a knack for creating logos and designs?

If so, you can get involved and help the Honors Alumni Society create a logo. We are asking alumni to demonstrate their expert computer graphic skills.

Basic guidelines for the logo include:

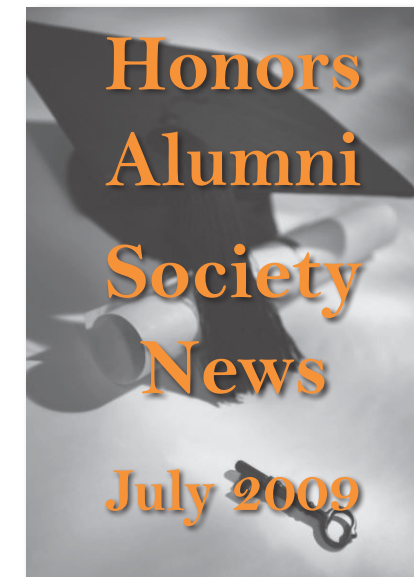
- Representative of the Honors Alumni Society
- Designed in a vector-based program (i.e. Adobe Illustrator, Corel Draw, InDesign). This will allow for the logo to be scaled to any size without losing resolution
- Formatted as a JPEG and TIF image
- Composed in black and white. If you prefer to use color please produce a black and white version as well.

Send your masterpiece to **Paul Valdez** at tonyvaldez82@gmail.com. The Executive Board members of the Society will vote on which entry to designate as our official logo at their annual meeting in the fall.

Need to contact a member of the Honors Program staff? Please call us at (419) 372-8504 or email us at honors@bgsu.edu.

Please also consider stopping by to visit our new Learning Community and office space by visiting us in the LOFT (Harshman 209E).

Dr. Paul Moore, Director | Dr. Jodi Devine, Associate Director | Dawn Shores, Assistant Director
Denise Vollmar, Administrative Assistant | Shandus Valentine, Program Assistant | Rachel Armstrong, Program Assistant



Congratulations to our newest Honor Alumni Society members

Honors Alumni Society Update

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Congratulations to our newest Honors Alumni Society members

This May, the Honors Program recognized 144 graduates of the Program. 69 of them, or 48%, graduated with University Honors. This is both the highest number and the highest percentage of **University Honors** graduates in history. Congratulations to each as they transition into new life roles and join the Honors Alumni Society.



Honors Alumni Society Update

It has been a phenomenal couple of years watching this organization grow from a brilliant idea into a successful reality. Thank you to all of those alumni, staff, and students that have been a part of this success. It has been a true honor to serve as the Chair during these nascent stages and I enthusiastically look forward to the promise of the future. But first, here is a recap of the past year...

In September, we celebrated the Honors Program's 30-Year Anniversary with a silent auction and alumni gathering hosted in the Honors Program LOFT. Through these efforts we raised \$1500.00 to benefit Honors Program scholarships.

Also part of the 30-Year Anniversary, the Honors Alumni Society convened for the annual meeting to discuss goals and priorities. As a result of this meeting we put into motion our first election cycle to fill two vacant positions on the board. Stefanie Yager Makar ('93) and Jamie Hannan ('08) were elected to positions on the board. Stefanie is our newly elected Trustee and Jaime will serve in the role of Secretary/Treasurer. Please take a moment to read their biographies in the later part of this newsletter.

Additionally, as we welcome two new board members we anticipate the transition of the Chair-elect, Aaron Schuab, into the role of Chair. Aaron is excited to assume this new role at Homecoming 2009 and brings a great deal of enthusiasm and new direction. We look forward to the leadership he will provide over the next year.

Lastly, since the inception of the Carrie J. Dulin Scholarship we have successfully raised \$17,235 to help endow this scholarship. We are inching closer to our final goal of \$25,000, but still have \$7,765 left to raise. Given our success over the past two years I have absolute faith that we can attain our goal by the fall of 2010. Please join us in this final fundraising push over the next year. Thank you to all of you who have already been such generous supporters of this effort. Please contact the Honors Program for more details about supporting this scholarship.

Thank you again for the wonderful experiences and I look forward to our continued growth and success.

Paul Valdez, 2004 | Outgoing Honors Alumni Society President

bgsualumni.com

Network with fellow alumni | Tell us your accomplishments | Update your address

Call for Society Board Members

The Honors Alumni Society wants you to consider a leadership role with the Executive Board. In the fall we will conduct elections with anticipated vacancies in the trustee positions. Please consider nominating yourself or encouraging an Honors friend. All nominations should include:

1. Name
2. Biography (150-200 words)
3. Statement of Interest (100 words)

Please send nominations to honors@bgsu.edu. All nominations are due by **August 1, 2009**.

Meet the new members of the HAS Alumni Board

Stefanie Yager Makar (1993)

Born on November 13, 1970 in Wilmington, Delaware, my family moved to Sylvania, Ohio and I attended Catholic schools in the area until graduating from Notre Dame Academy in 1989. After high school, I attended Bowling Green State University and majored in English and Fine Art with a concentration in Photography. While attending BGSU, I took art classes in Florence, Italy at Studio Arts Center International in 1991. My first job after graduating college in 1993 was for Re/Max Team Advantage in Bowling Green, Ohio as personal assistant and marketer. I then moved to the Detroit area and held jobs at EDS (Electronic Data Systems) in Troy, Michigan for five years as a personal and financial assistant as well as a lead communicator. Married in May 1989, my husband Simon and I had our first child, Sarah Ann, in 2000. After I left EDS, I joined several organizations where I served as part of the leadership teams including Rochester Newcomers, MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) and our neighborhood Homeowners Association. We had our second child, Michael Patrick, in 2005 and relocated in 2008 to Melbourne, Florida where my husband practices Medical Physics and I am still involved in MOPS, raising my children, running the household, as well as planning a Fine Art Photography business.

Jaime Hannan (2008)

My name is Jaime Hannan and I am a first year master's student in Communication Disorders here at BGSU. I am from Warren, Michigan and graduated with my bachelor's degree from BGSU in May 2008. While an undergraduate, I was actively involved in the Honors Program and served as both secretary and president of the Honors Student Association, as well as a peer facilitator, Honors Fellow, Honors Ambassador, and member of the Honors Student Advisory Board. I was involved in other BGSU campus activities as well. The Honors Program greatly shaped my undergraduate experiences by challenging me academically and helping me to hone my leadership skills. As an Honors Program alum, I have a strong desire to stay connected with the program and to give back to a program that has given me so much. I recognize the importance of building and maintaining a successful Honors Alumni Society as a way to keep alumni connected and to give them an avenue in which to give back to the program. For these reasons and more, I am excited about serving on the Honors Alumni Society Board. Thank you.

We also thank the following for their continued service to the Board:

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| Chair - Paul Valdez (2004) | Chair elect - Aaron Schaub (1996) |
| Trustee - Matt Bertke (2006) | Trustee - Brett Berquist (1994) |
| Trustee - Katy Creecy (1999) | Trustee - Abbie Taylor Smith (1989) |
| Trustee - Dennis Bentley (1996) | Trustee - Therese Melko Lynch (2000) |

From the Director

Summer in the Honors Program is always an interesting time of the year. It is the period of time where the office gets to reflect on the accomplishments and struggles of the previous academic year and to use this reflect to plan the future. In addition, I often use this time to start reading books that I just don't have time to during the busy academic year.

These two thoughts, planning for the next year and reading books, brings to mind something that I am reading and thinking about right now. I am currently in the middle of an interesting book called *The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable* by Nassim Nicholas Taleb. This book details how we often fail to recognize or account for highly improbable events in our thinking and planning and it is often these events that have a large impact on future events. Highly improbable events make most future predictions erroneous and make the whole endeavor of projecting into the future highly dubious. This is an interesting read and worthy of some thought. Given the conclusions drawn from *The Black Swan*, I am about to embark on a dangerous mission and that is to outline our reshaped five to ten year vision of the Honors Program.

Currently, the Honors Program has finished some small tweaks to our core curriculum of Introduction to Critical Thinking and Critical Thinking about Great Ideas. Despite the demand for critical thinking skills from employers and educators alike, we are still the only Honors Program in the nation that has critical thinking at the center of its core curriculum. We have recently developed a new Honors distinction called **Presidential Honors** that consists of 4-six credit hour classes that will count for a student's entire general education program. These series of courses are integrated so that intellectual connections are made across all of the courses and include learning that occurs within a traditional classroom setting and outside of this arena. The Honors Program is still looking to expand to an Honors College with our own building that contains a residence hall. Finally, we are expanding our influence on undergraduate research and scholarship through increased funding directly to undergraduate students and expanding how we connect students with faculty members to perform independent study.

Although we have changed considerably over the last five years, we are continuing to envision a better Honors Program designed to address all of the needs of our students from the day they enter our program to beyond their alumni years.

Dr. Paul Moore, Director

Carrie J. Dulin Scholarship



Recipients of the Carrie J. Dulin Scholarship: Jacquie Dolezal and Cara Hanson

Carrie J. Dulin, an Honors alumna from 1993-1997, was a member of the Tuition Raffle Committee, served as its chair, and was very active in both the Honors Program and the Honors Student Association. After graduating, Ms. Dulin joined the Peace Corps in Armenia and unexpectedly died before beginning her job with Medicines Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) as a project manager in Nigeria.

This Scholarship was created by Dr. Dennis Bentley and members of the Honors Alumni Society to honor the memory of Ms. Dulin and provide financial support for two students who are following in the footsteps of this dedicated alumna. In addition to their demonstrated academic achievement, applicants should be civically engaged citizens who foster social change and community cohesion through their service to the community.

This year's winners, Jacquie Dolezal and Cara Hanson, were awarded \$1000 and \$250 respectively.