Welcome, readers, to the Spring 2014 edition of Volamus, a quarterly newsletter of the Richard A. Henson Honors Program at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore!

Honors’ Busy Bees

Spring bursts forth in all its glory on our beautiful campus and keeps the honors community buzzing with as much unbridled excitement as this little bee enjoying the sweet rewards of productivity among the Spanish Blue-bells (Hyacinthoides hispanica) in bloom outside the Student Services Center.

This issue of Volamus brings you highlights of student research and creative endeavors, an array of awards and accolades bestowed upon our best and brightest, reports of internships to be undertaken this summer, news of initiatives that are shaping the future face of honors education at UMES, profiles of some of our scholar athletes, and the results of leadership, professional development, and service activities to which our students have contributed their time, talents, and efforts throughout this vibrant, vernal season.

So, amidst the buzz of an academic year at its close, take some time out to smell the flowers, to indulge in the true spirit of Hawk pride, and to read these stories that attest to the transformative power of the Honors Program. I know you’ll agree—our students are the “Bee’s Knees”!

Welcome Back, Everyone!

Dr. Michael E. Lane, Editor of Volamus, is Director of the Honors Program and Associate Professor of French.

What’s Inside:

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10. Spring Graduates
11. FLAGSHIP 2014
12. Calendar, Contacts & Summer Submissions

This issue features the dozens of Honors students in the “word cloud” below. Read about them all!
**Research Highlights**

**10 Present at State Honors Conference**

Honors students travelled with Dr. *Lane*, Mrs. *Roberts*, and Ms. *Turner* to present research at McDaniel C. in Westminster, host of the 2014 Maryland Collegiate Honors Council (MCHC) Conference. *(left to right): Emily Tull, BreAsia Deal, Susana Yeboah, Barbara Romero, Kenneth Kuemeta, So Jin Park, Derrick Cheruiyot, Joy Mudoh, Tina Ndam, and Jessica Parker.*

**Elizabeth Ranger on Turkey in Albuquerque**

Junior English major, Liz *Ranger*, delivered a paper at the Western Social Science Association’s meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico on April 5, one of only two undergraduate presenters in the History category.

Her paper, entitled “The Death of the Treaty of Sèvres: The Final Blow, the Armistice of Mudanya,” investigates how the 1922 signing of the Armistice between Italy, France, Britain, and Turkey led to the end of the Treaty of Sèvres and the partitioning of the former Ottoman Empire.

In addition to the scholarly exuberance of the conference, Liz says it was great fun flying alone and eating Turkish food—two firsts for her—as well as witnessing political protests outside her hotel and constant quaking from seismic activity common to Albuquerque.

**Barbara Romero, Seasoned Scientist**

Senior Biology major and Math minor, Barbara *Romero*, is a step closer to becoming a molecular biologist specializing in infectious diseases. She’ll begin her graduate studies at the University of Delaware in Fall 2014.

Romero plans to pursue research in vaccines and she’s certainly no newcomer to research, having participated in the MBRS Rise and MARC U Star programs under the close mentorship of Dr. Jennifer Hearne with whom she investigated proteins. During the Summer of 2013, she was in residence at the University of Toledo, OH, studying *E. coli*.

She cites as especially beneficial her multiple presentations in conferences and symposia and the networking opportunities such meetings afforded her to connect with other scientists.

**Strong Honors Presence at UMES Research Symposium**

Eleven Honors Program undergraduates presented research at the 2014 Regional Research Symposium sponsored by the School of Graduate Studies on 17 April: Abena *Acheampong*, John *Black*, Heather *Goldsborough*, Laurel *Huffman*, Ezechiel *Kiessu*, Frimpong *Kodua*, Leondra *Morse*, Tina *Ndam*, Ujala *Noman*, So Jin *Park*, and Barbara *Romero*. Others in the honors community involved were: Stephanie *Yeboah* and Susana *Yeboah*, who assisted with the conference registration; Dr. *Lane*, who served as a judge; Kadijah *Felder-Patterson*, who introduced UMES President, Juliette B. *Bell* during the conference’s opening ceremony, and numerous honors-affiliated faculty, staff, and students who were in attendance.

Special kudos go to sophomore Biology major, So Jin *Park*, whose “Studying the Magnetic Resonance Properties of Superparamagnetic Iron Oxide (Fe₂O₃) Nanoparticles” took first prize in the undergraduate poster award category!
This smiling and gold stole-bedecked group joined Administrative Assistant to Phi Kappa Phi, Mrs. Roberts, new initiate, Dr. Lane, student co-VPs, Megan Buja (who also provided the keynote address) and Rachel Thornton, and other peer inductees, to become members of the distinguished Honor Society at the 30 April ceremony. In all, 22 Honors Program students received meritorious recognition that evening: Alexandria Alford, Genevieve Booth, Leah Carpenter, Noman Choudhry, Jon’Mel Davenport, Emily Diseroad, Nivel Felicien, Reine Fowajuh, Frimpong Kodua, Ronesha Johnson, Jeffery Locklear, Viair Myles, William Neville, Ujala Noman, Kevin O’Dell, Elizabeth Ranger, Ibironke Sanni, Kortne Smith, Justin Townsend, Emily Tull, Michael Veverka, and Daisha Washington.

Grainger Selected for USDA Agricultural Outlook Forum

Senior Agriculture major, Chelsea Grainger, has been named a winner of the 2014 Agricultural Outlook Forum, an annual essay competition juried by the USDA. Grainger’s prose on “Agriculture as a Career” earned her a spot among only 20 undergrad peer awardees in the country. Grainger travelled to Arlington, VA, to attend the two-day forum, held February 20-21, 2014.

Honda All-Star Challenge Team Finishes Third at Nationals

The Honda Campus All-Star Challenge is a fast-paced, trivia-based game for students from America’s HBCUs. This year, the UMES team advanced to the national finals in Los Angeles, led by Honors student and Team Captain, Mariah Dennis, a rising Senior Biology major. Among her teammates are fellow honors student, Jonathan Wheeler, a Junior studying Computer Science, Jonathon Weary and Murali Wasisek. Although competition was fierce, especially that of last year’s champs from Morgan State, we’re proud to report that the Hawks finished third. Bravo, Team!

Interested in joining the team? Contact Dr. James White jmwhite@umes.edu
Aleaya Bowie, Asia Gibbs
Fast Cash for Fast Thinkers!

Sophomores Aleaya Bowie (Biology) and Asia Gibbs (Criminal Justice) know their stuff and it paid off. The pair competed in the “Think Fast Challenge,” a quiz game centered on African-American history, especially as it relates to HBCUs. The match, sponsored by Campus Life during Black History Month, ended with the two walking away champions… and $200 richer in prize money!

Honors Students
Contribute to Dinner Theatre

Colleen Hendrickson (above, as Cher to Nick Donchak’s Sonny), Jon’Mel Davenport, Tahja Cropper, and Patrick Lieb were among the cast and crew of the 2014 Dinner Theatre production of Motown ‘n’ Much Mo’, take 3. Also, Honors students in the Hospitality and Tourism Management program who provided a veritable feast include Leah Carpenter and Shawnelle Sanford.

Zombies invade the audience and stage, designed and painted by Honors’ own Dr. Lane, during a rendition of MJ’s Thriller.
An impressive number of Honors Program students will be participating in professional development activities this summer as interns with private companies, non-profits, government agencies, and more. Here are a select few… stay tuned, we’ll report on more in the Summer edition of Volamus (late July 2014).

**Jessica Parker**, Financial Resources Office
Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response

Rising Senior Accounting major, Jessica C. **Parker**, will spend 10 weeks this summer in Atlanta, GA, as a Thurgood Marshall College Fund Centers for Disease Control Ambassador to the Financial Resources Office of the CDC’s Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response.

Intern Parker will assist in developing informational materials on CDC’s preparedness portfolio and, by contributing to the 2015 Fiscal Allocation Process, will learn how federal agencies leverage competitive funding to fulfill priority activities.

Parker was selected for this position following her participation in the TMCF/CDC Public Health Workshop and Ambassador Training, held 07-10 April in Atlanta.

**Tahja Cropper**, American Advertising Federation
Louis Carr Internship Foundation

Early Monday morning on 02 June, Tahja **Cropper** will report to work as a paid intern at the American Advertising Federation in Washington, D.C.

Cropper, a native of Princess Anne, MD, is a Junior English major pursuing the brand-new UMES minor in Telecommunications. Funding for her ten-week internship, which provides students with a “complete career experience in Media,” is provided by the Louis Carr Internship Foundation.

Throughout the academic year, Cropper can be seen as an assistant in the Office of Residence Life and as one of the hosts of the Youtube-sited video series, Discover UMES.

**Viair Myles**, Nordstrom, Inc.

Senior Human Ecology major, Viair **Myles**, from Waldorf, MD, heads to Seattle, WA this summer to intern as a buyer for Nordstrom, Inc. She then plans to attend NC State U. to pursue an advanced degree in Global Luxury Management.

**Heather Goldsborough**, NASA Wallops Island

Heather **Goldsborough**, pictured here with research completed with Honors alumna, Blessing **Aroh**, will intern this summer as an Environmental Support Specialist at the NASA facility on Wallops Island. Goldsborough is a sophomore Chemistry major.
Academic Underpinning Opens Lanes to Sportive Success
Buja, Munoz and Teammates Bowl to Another Victory

Honors students Megan Buja and Tatiana Munoz have striking stories to tell as members of UMES’s oft-acclaimed Women’s Bowling Team. This year, they dueled Florida A&M to seize yet another Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference championship, their third in as many years. And this “three-peat” is just a sampling of their prowess on the lanes.

Buja, a graduating Human Ecology major specializing in Dietetics, has earned the NCAA Elite 89 Award for three consecutive years, was named UMES Female Scholar Athlete of the Year for 2012 and 2013, and has been a consistent high-scorer for the team that’s won two NCAA and two USBC Championships during her time at UMES.

“Being a student athlete is the best thing I could have done in my life,” says Munoz, a junior Rehabilitation Psychology major in the School of Health Professions. She believes that her ambitions on the lanes and in the classroom feed one another, make the other stronger. Munoz must be right, since clearly, she and Buja are “on the ball” as celebrated sportswomen and outstanding scholars. Both women took home their academic department’s highest honor at the 2014 Honors Convocation in April (see page 2 for details).
Welcome to Honors!

The Honors Program extends a special welcome to these 10 new students, recruited this Spring:

Ayokunle Akangbe
Anthony Bagley
Iragena Bangamwabo
Khatsara Bediako
Cody Bland
Tochi Chukwu
Michelle McCulley
Mohammed Salih
Shawnelle Sanford
Marketa Stanfield
Allison Woods

Interested in Joining Honors?

The Honors Program actively seeks dynamic, talented, engaged & engaging student-scholars from all undergraduate major programs.

Eligibility:
1st through 3rd semester students who maintain a 3.5+ GPA

See “Why Join Honors?” & schedule a meeting with Dr. Lane to discuss how honors can help you attain your personal and professional goals.

New Scholarship Makes Our Hearts Singh

Honors learned in April that Dr. Gurbax and Mrs. Balwant Singh, who have, between them, contributed a mind-boggling 80 years of extraordinary instruction and sterling service to UMES have made provisions with the institution to fund an endowment that supports student scholarship in STEM disciplines for honors students.

Dr. Singh, a member of the faculty in Natural Sciences since 1970, will retire on July 30. Prior to her own retirement, Mrs. Singh graced our campus for nearly as long, most notably as an IT Systems Analyst in Administrative Computing. They leave a tangible, heartfelt, and living legacy to Honors.

The Program has had prepared a plaque which reads “Richard A. Henson Honors Program, Distinguished Friends” and lists the Singhs in the first position. It’s a tribute that we’ll be displaying prominently and proudly in the Honors Program offices for many years to come.

Honors Opens Residential Learning Community

The premier place serious scholars, excellent leaders, and responsible citizens call their campus home!

The Honors Residential Learning Community (RLC), in Murphy Annex, is a unique housing experience for scholar-citizens dedicated to discovery of the world and to pursuits that improve the lives of others. The Honors RLC provides programs that emphasize academic excellence, promote professional development, value leadership, celebrate cultural diversity, and stress philanthropic service to communities, locally (UMES; Eastern Shore) and globally. To apply, visit “Community” at http://www.umes.edu/honors/

Beginning Fall 2014, Murphy Annex will be home to the newly-created Honors Residential Learning Community.
More than 60 Honors Program freshmen and sophomores completed this two-day series of leadership training and professional development, sponsored in part by the Honors Title III Activity, “Strategic Enhancement of the Honors Program: Preparing Underrepresented Students for the 21st Century.” The workshops’ ten sessions strengthened skills and bolstered the spirit of honors community. The event featured current Seniors, campus and regional experts from a variety of professional fields, and motivational speakers/authors Emeka and Carrie Anazia (Acing the Undergrad) as guest speakers who addressed managerial styles and ethics, time management, team building, profile-enhancing internships, application to graduate schools, and more.

We look forward to reprising Emerging Leaders next year—it is slated for 20—21 February, 2015.

2014—2015 Honors Student Association Officers Elected

Congratulations to the Cabinet members elected 22 April, who will assume their offices on 01 July.

President
Emily Tull

Executive VP
Connor Neville

VP Community Service
Taylor Seaton

VP Social Media
Emily Diseroad

Secretary
Jessica Parker

Treasurer
Heather Goldsborough

Representative At-Large
BreAsia Deal
In an early February ceremony, Dr. Lane once again donned his regalia and wielded his sword to swear into service six new members of the Vanguard, who are special ambassadors of the Honors Program.

Learn more about the Vanguard and review the full list of members here.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Nickname</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abena Acheampong</td>
<td>“the Aspiring”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jasmine Brown</td>
<td>“the Just”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kadijah Felder-Patterson</td>
<td>“the Kind”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ezechielle Kiessu</td>
<td>“the Enlightened”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwo Ola</td>
<td>“the Trustworthy”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Tull</td>
<td>“the Erudite”</td>
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Atiya Stewart, Miss Junior
Honors Program Agriculture Education major, Atiya Stewart, has been voted to represent her class as Miss Junior. Congratulations, Atiya!

Seth Ward, Justin Matthews
Cinch Student Government Elections
Seth Ward (right) and running mate, Justin Matthews (left), have been declared the top executive Officers-Elect (President, VP) respectively of UMES Student Government Association for 2014-2015 and assume their posts on 01 July.

Laurel Huffman
“Retires” from TMCF after Sterling Service
Laurel Huffman, a Senior specializing in Human Ecology, has served 2 years as UMES’s student ambassador to Thurgood Marshall College Fund. Once she’s crossed the stage and received her diploma this month, she’ll vacate that seat, bound for Minneapolis, where she’ll pursue a combined Master’s Degree in Public Health Nutrition and Registered Dietetics at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Huffman aspires to a career in international nutrition education and cites Zimbabwe as an ideal destination along her future career path. Having witnessed her excellence of leadership, we have no doubt she’ll go that far—and beyond! Thank you for two fabulous years of service, Laurel!
We tip our hats to the following students who, in addition to satisfying the requirements to earn their baccalaureate degrees, have also met all criteria for graduation from the Richard A. Henson Honors Program!

Students, as you leave us to pursue the horizon of your dreams, we wish you our best in every endeavor and look forward to seeing you when you return to visit UMES!

Megan Buja  
*Human Ecology*

George Chandler  
*Biology*

Briante Dickerson  
*Accounting*

Breonna Evans  
*Exercise Science*

Chelsea Grainger  
*Agriculture*

Laurel Huffman  
*Human Ecology*

Shelby Hurley  
*Agriculture*

Nikkia King  
*Biology*

Frimpong Kodua  
*Biology*

Jeffery Locklear  
*Exercise Science*

Deedra Mills  
*Aviation Science*

Joy Mudoh  
*Biology*

Viair Myles  
*Human Ecology*

Esther Nwogu  
*Computer Science*

Bianca Parker  
*Rehabilitation Psychology*

Barbara Romero  
*Biology*

Michael Taylor  
*Sociology*

Tyler Thornes  
*English Education*

Photographs of the Honors Program Medaling Ceremony  
- 15 May 2014 -  
are forthcoming. Please see the Summer Newsletter!
The Freshmen Living And Giving Summer Honors Immersion Program—FLAGSHIP—is a pilot residential learning community with a service focus, housed in centrally-located Murphy Hall.

The program will provide incoming Honors Freshmen curricular, co-curricular, service, and social opportunities that acquaint them with their new collegiate lives, peers, UMES resources, and regional partners for purposes of professional development and philanthropic voluntarism. Upper-class Honors students will contribute to the program as Mentors / Resident Assistants.

An Honors Title III Initiative in partnership with Summer Enrichment Academy (SEA), participants will earn six hours of coursework to jumpstart their collegiate careers. A series of Orientation Sessions will introduce students to campus facilities and resources—the Center for Access & Academic Success, Library Services, Career Services, International Programs, and more! Students will travel to sites throughout the Eastern Shore to tour facilities and interview with our partners in education, health care, government, social services, the arts, and other disciplines.

All this… AND excursions to the beach, to Washington, DC, and to New York City!

DON’T MISS THE BOAT!
Recently-hatched goslings guarded by Mother Goose shy away from Dr. Lane’s lens. May 2014.

MAY
15 Honors Graduation Medaling Ceremony
16 Commencement
25 Rome and Paris program begins

JUNE
03 Rome and Paris program concludes
22 FLAGSHIP Honors Summer Bridge Program begins

JULY
10-17 Enrollment 101 Dates for Freshman Orientations

AUGUST
01 FLAGSHIP ends
20 Honors Residential Learning Community Opens (Murphy Annex)
25 First Day of Fall 2014 Classes

Involved in a great honors experience?
Be the star you are!

Contribute an article to our Summer edition!
Students, alumni, faculty, all are welcome to submit an article & photo highlighting activity and accomplishments in honors education at UMES.

Send to melane@umes.edu by July 15, 2014