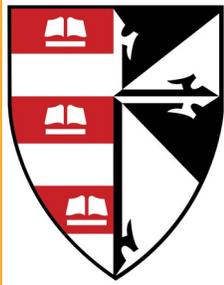


BARRY UNIVERSITY

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- **Honors Program Get Together and Social on the 17th.**
- **Barry Mini Conference**
- **Alek's Corner**
- **News for Science Majors**
- **Fight for Education**
- **Meet HPSAB**
- **Honors Lab**



Barry University

Honors Program Newsletter

VOLUME 2, ISSUE ONE

OCTOBER 2013

Welcome:

On behalf of HPSAB, I would like to take the opportunity to welcome everyone back for another year at Barry University. The Honors Program has a wide array of members this year, including freshmen, new transfer students, returning members, and people who have recently decided to join the program. We come from all different walks of life, and represent a wide variety of majors/academic fields, including education, biology, English, and more! Despite this, one thing has proven to be a constant among us all: change.

This year is one of many changes, big and small. Looking through the newsletter, you will notice several new features, including increased opportunities for student involvement, a “corner’s column” featuring a message from an HPSAB member, and a fantastic new newsletter editor, Hemaghini Das! While it can sometimes be intimidating to go through these changes, it is important to embrace them as they come. As ancient philosopher Heraclitus once said, “No man ever steps in the same river twice, for it’s not the same river and he’s not the same man.”

With the hustle and bustle of college life, something new is always on the horizon. I encourage you all to seize every opportunity you can, and to really take the time to enjoy your time at Barry. Each and every one of us has an amazing support group at our disposal, comprised of professors, friends, fellow HPSAB and Honors Program members, and classmates; with them, anything is possible.

Thank you for reading, and enjoy the rest of the newsletter! I am confident that great things are in store for each and every one of you this semester!

Sincerely,
Cheryl Frazier

Honors Get-Together

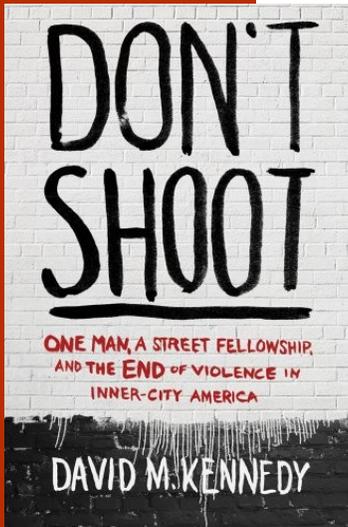
Recently, the Honors Program was able to have a successful orientation for the new Honors Program students. The new students got to meet each other and several of the Honors Program teachers. In addition, speakers Houghton Kinsman, who graduated in 2013 from the Honors Program, and Debra Mejia, a current senior, were able to share their experiences and give the students advice about the requirements of the program. Thanks to all those who attended.

For new and returning students, HPSAB invites you to attend the Honors Social and Get-Together on October 17, 2013 in Andreas 112 from 5pm to 7pm. This is a chance to meet other students and also get to know your peers better. HPSAB has plans to make this a fun evening with lots of memorable experiences, so be sure to RSVP by October 11, 2013 at 5 pm. A fantastic dinner will be provided, compliments of the Honors Program, so be sure to reply to the email!

As a reminder, all Honors Program students are required to participate, so take this opportunity to attend a fun event while fulfilling the program requirements.



Attend the Barry University Mini Conference



Each semester, Barry has a mini-conference centered on the common reader. This semester, the common reader is entitled “*Don’t Shoot: One Man, a Street Fellowship, and the End of Violence in Inner-City America*” by David M. Kennedy. The book provides a well-written account of how inner city violence can be reduced; it focuses on being a responsible and ethical citizen. Anyone can attend the mini conference, but it is an especially great opportunity for first year students, who are all required to read the text. There are many speakers available throughout the day at different times; in addition, author David M. Kennedy will visit campus and serve as the keynote speaker. If you have read the book, this is an excellent opportunity to get the first hand perspective of the author who wrote it. Be sure to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Visit <http://www.barry.edu/commonreader/> for more information.

Alek is on a BFA degree track in Theatre with acting specialization, so if that’s an interest of yours, be sure to ask him!

Alek’s Corner

I am super excited that the new year is well under way! I know that I’ve been super busy between my schoolwork and my commitment to organizations on campus, so the past month has flown right by. I wouldn’t have it any other way though.

I especially want to give the warmest welcome to all the new Honors Program students. I hope your transition into the program has been successful and you’re enjoying whichever class you’re in. If you’re an altogether new student to Barry, I have a special request for you; make your next month go by as fast as mine did. How, you may ask? Get involved. The more involved you are at the school, the more you will get out of your education; between your peers, professors, and the plethora of diverse activities to do on campus, you have no excuse to not reach out and find your niche here at school. It’s so easy too! Join a club, go to an art exhibit, or do some community service.

I hope I’ve inspired all and I am so happy to call you a part of my Honors Program family! I’m always here to listen and help; please feel free to get in touch. if you want to chat!

Be Heard

Do you want to get published in the next edition of the newsletter? If so, just answer the following question and we’ll include some of the answers we receive in next month’s newsletter. This is your chance to be famous: What are some of the traditions that you celebrate for Thanksgiving? If you come from a culture that doesn’t celebrate Thanksgiving, do you have any similar holidays that you celebrate?





In the News for Science Majors

Scientists have long been working to create artificial organs; these can be used for the numerous individuals who need an organ transplant throughout their lives. Recently, scientists at the University of Pittsburgh have been working on creating an artificial heart from skin cells. In order to do this, Lei Yang and his colleagues first converted skin cells into stem cells, and then placed the cells into a mixture of growth factors. They then placed the resulting cardiac cells into the shell of a mouse heart. The human cells transformed the shell into tissue that pulsed 40 to 50 times per minute. Scientists hope to use this advancement to understand how the heart works and to make advances in custom-made organs for human individuals. Already, a new group of scientists is working on creating human livers, using a similar technique with the mice. While there are issues in trying to make these cells into standard human “adult” cells, being able to grow human cells inside of mice organ shells is a great advancement and raises optimism.

Here’s a link for more info:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/08/130813112301.htm>

Fighting for Equal Education

Here in the United States, we sometimes take public education for granted. However, in many countries of the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and other locations, many are denied the opportunity to have an education. This is particularly an issue for young girls. Malala Yousufzai, a now 16 year-old Pakistani girl, was shot in the face and neck on October 9, 2012 for promoting education for young girls and speaking out against fundamentalist Islamic beliefs. Many other girls attempting to support education have been threatened and have to live in hiding to avoid violence. The lack of education in young girls creates many issues for them. These girls are often married early and have children at a young age. This increases the chances of having complications during their pregnancy and virtually eliminates the chances of them having any higher education. Girls without an education are more likely to marry early, increasing their chances of entering into a violent situation, suffering from sexually transmitted diseases, and lacking the skills necessary to be independent. In an attempt to alleviate this situation, the UN has declared October 11th to be the International Day of the Girl Child, which would be a day to promote the rights of girls and increase awareness of their situation. There are also goals to increase the minimum age of marriage to eighteen to cut down on child marriage, improve the equality of secondary education to eliminate the gender gap, and mobilize leaders to create more opportunity for young women. Right now, girls are forced to smuggle books inside their shawls at the risk of being killed if they are discovered with the texts; many civil organizations look forward to a day where this is not the case. Despite suffering from the traumatic shooting, Yousufzai is still striving to advocate for girl’s education. She was recently honored and recognized at Harvard University for her efforts. Education is one of the most valuable tools in life, and awareness of the issue of the plight of young women can only help the attempt to eliminate gender inequality for young girls.

Here’s a link for more info:

<http://nation.time.com/2013/09/28/malala-yousafzai-honored-at-harvard/>

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” – Nelson Mandela



“I don’t mind if I have to sit on the floor at school. All I want is education. And I am afraid of no one” - Malala Yousufzai

OCTOBER 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 World Vegetarian Day	2	3	4	5
6	7 Feast Day of the Adrian	8 Bridging Cultures Bookshelf	9	10	11 International Day of the Girl Child	12
13	14 Brown Bag Lunch Discussion	15 Brown Bag Lunch Discussion	16	17 Honors Social and Get Together	18 450 Years of Shakespeare	19
20	21 Brown Bag Lunch Discussion	22	23 Performance of Romeo and Juliet / Brown Bag Lunch Discussion	24 Reclaiming Community from Violence Mini conference	25	26 Make A Difference Day
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween/ Hispanic Heritage Month		

Schedule of Events

- Be sure to attend the Honors Social and Get-Together on the 17th in Andreas 112 on October 17th from 5pm to 7 pm.
- The 450 Years of Shakespeare extends until the 27th, so be sure to check out all the events
- The mini-conference on the 24th is a great opportunity to discuss the common reader and get input on what you can do to help promote a violence free community.
- Brown Bag Lunch Discussions on the Common Reader will be held on the following days:
 1. Monday, Oct. 14 in Landon 204 from 12 – 1 p.m.
 2. Tuesday, Oct. 15 in Landon 204 from 12 – 1 p.m.
 3. Monday, Oct. 21 in Landon 302 from 12 – 1 p.m.
 4. Wednesday, Oct. 23 in Landon

October Fun Facts:

- October is National Pizza Month as well as Popcorn Month; this month sounds like a great time to head to the movies to enjoy some of these foods.
- Henry Ford introduced his first Model T car on the first of October. Imagine if he could see how popular cars have become now.
- October is Squirrel Awareness month – remember that the next time you see one of these furry critters on campus! Even Harvard has been deemed one of the most squirrel crazed schools in the US.

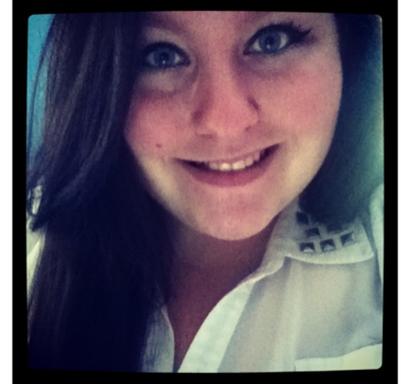


Diana Bellian

Dianna Bellian is currently serving as Chair of the Honors Program Student Advisory Board for her second term. She is a senior, majoring in English Literature, and has been in the Honors Program for what will be 4 years this spring. Her thesis is centered on the social repercussions of Young Adult Dystopian fiction, which she will hopefully defend successfully in the coming school year. Dianna is way too involved in school and currently serves on the e-boards for several student organizations including Philosophy Club and The English Association. When not reading, writing, or quoting dead poets and writers (like all English majors do), Dianna enjoys rollerblading, painting, being sarcastic, and making new friends. She has a slight obsession with the British Broadcasting Channel, Korean Soap operas, and Buffy the Vampire Slayer. HPSAB strives to make every student's Honor's experience as fruitful, fun, and fulfilling as possible so please don't hesitate to come to her with any of your ideas or concerns!

Cheryl Frazier

Cheryl Frazier is in her third year at Barry. She is currently majoring in Elementary Education, with a minor in Philosophy. Cheryl was born and raised in a small town in Maryland, just outside of Virginia. She is excited to begin her third year as a member of the Honors Program Student Advisory Board, where she will serve as a co-vice-chair of HPSAB along with Bethany Dill. Last year, she served as the Newsletter Editor/Historian; while she is sad that her time as editor has come to a close, she is extremely confident that the newsletter has been put into good hands! Cheryl is also heavily involved in various organizations around campus; she is President of the Philosophy Club, Vice President of the Education Association, and is currently trying to start up an a capella group on campus! In her free time, she enjoys reading, blogging, and going on adventures. She looks forward to the opportunity to work with the rest of HPSAB to bring exciting opportunities to the Honors Program students!



Bethany Dill

Bethany is a third-year education major at Barry and a third-year member of HPSAB (formerly PR Officer and Secretary). As co-Vice-Chair, she hopes to encourage HP involvement overall in both the HP and Barry communities, to develop HP Lecture Series that are relevant and helpful to HP students, and to connect first-year and transfer students with opportunities for service and leadership.



Latoya Luke

Latoya Luke is a Junior Biology Pre-Dental major, hoping to start dental school in the near future. Although a Brooklyn native, she enjoys the slow relaxed pace of Floridian life. She is currently on the Honors Program Student Advisory Board serving as the Student Representative. Outside of her student representative duties on HPSAB, she serves on the e-board of Pals-4-Paws community service club and the Barry University Student Alumni Association. She enjoys singing, cooking, crocheting visiting new places and television show-binging on Netflix. Don't hesitate to contact her for any question, comments, or suggestions for the Honors Program!





Hemaghini Das

Hemaghini Das is a sophomore at Barry; this is her second year serving as a member of HPSAB. She is an elementary education major with a minor in general science. Miami Shores isn't far from her home in Orlando, Florida. Miami isn't the farthest she's been though; Hemaghini has visited India several times and looks forward to going again. Hemaghini is currently the historian and newsletter editor on the Honors Program Student Advisory Board and is a member of Pinky Promise. As historian, she sends out the newsletters and takes pictures at events to create lasting memories. Aside from HPSAB, Hemaghini serves as the underclassman liaison of the Educational Association of Barry and is a pre-service teacher at Van E. Blanton Elementary School. Hemaghini is proud to call herself a Stamps Scholar, which is a scholarship for leadership. She spends her time watching reality television, writing, helping other students, and exploring Miami. Feel free to stop her around campus any time for help.



Taylor Malinowski

Taylor Malinowski is a junior at Barry University and a second year honors student. She is originally from Meriden, CT but she moved to Miami about a year ago to pursue her education. Taylor's major is Biology Pre-Physician Assistant. She is an active member of the American Medical Student Association and Tri-Beta at Barry University. She is also interested in women studies, sports, medical research and anthropology research. Her future aspiration is to be a Physician Assistant in the United States Airforce. She serves as a student representative on HPSAB.



Alek Sayers

Alekzander Sayers the Mighty is a Sophomore who hails from the great state of Maine. He is on a BFA degree track in Theatre with acting specialization at Barry and can be seen displaying his acting chops in the coming production of *Romeo and Juliet* this October. Alek serves on the Honors Program Student Advisory Board as the Public Relations Officer, and is also active as the VP of Membership for Alpha Delta Gamma. When asked about his favorite part of the Honors Program, Alek said "I really enjoy the level of respect the professors give you in honors classes; they know you have a thirst for knowledge and they will be more than willing to help you and get to know you on a personal level."

Dr. Pawena Sirimangkala is the Honors Program Director and Associate Professor of Communication. She teaches HUM 199 H1 and co-teaches HUM 300 H1 with Dr. Larry Byrne. She earned her doctorate degree in Communication with a specialty in Intercultural Communication from Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, in 1993. Her research has been primarily aimed at explaining the role of communication in the intercultural communication relational process. Her current research projects examine politeness in Thailand and Taoist behavior in science technology. She travels with students to present their research papers at national and regional conferences (e.g., National Conference on Undergraduate Research, Southern Regional Honors Council, and National Communication Association). In 2006 and 2007, she co-directed the Thailand Study Abroad Program. Since 2010, she has traveled with her students to China as part of the Honors Program's China Study Abroad. While in China, she and her students spend one month mastering the Chinese Mandarin (Putong hua/Zhong Wen) and learning about the Chinese's rich history, fine arts, and culture. In her spare time, Dr. Sirimangkala is devoted to advancing her Mandarin proficiency. Her current goal is to reach an intermediate level in speaking, reading, and writing Chinese.



Honors Program Lab:

Did you know that the Honors Program has a computer lab open to your use? Currently located in Landon 206 G, this lab provides students with a quiet place to work and study, whether it be on your Honors Program Thesis or your general coursework! The lab also features free printing to students who have a key.

Those interested in using the lab may contact Dr. Sirimangkala for more information on purchasing a key. Keys are available for a \$10 deposit, which is returned upon your completion of the program.

This lab is for HP students only.

Just a reminder for the students using the lab—be sure to be responsible about usage, sign-in, and keep the door locked.

Have you ever wondered what majors the HP students have? Here's the amount of students in each major. Ask around at the Social and Get Together to find other HP Students in your major!



Major	Number of Students
Science	11
Business	6
Psychology	4
Education	3
Nursing	3
Sports	3
English	2
Criminology	2
Other	6

Stay Tuned:

HPSAB is working on updating our newsletter for the 2013-2014 school year! We have many new features planned, including highlighting HP faculty members, allowing students to submit entries to include in the newsletter, and reporting on where HP alumni are today! If you have any ideas of what you would like to see in our monthly newsletter, please let us know!