The Quintessential

Inside this issue:

Spotlight on Anthony Gervacio
HSO Monthly Editor:

Anthony K. Gervacio has served as the Editor of the Honors Program monthly newsletter, *HSO Monthly*. His work with the newsletter has kept our busy honors students informed and up to date on the current happenings within the organization, as well as on campus. The newsletters have featured everything from spotlighting fellow HSO members to community service projects.

In addition to his work with *HSO Monthly*, Anthony is currently acting as a Writing Consultant for the spring 2017 semester. You can find him in the Writing Center helping students through any number of writing issues and tutoring for all types of writing assignments including research papers, scholarship applications, and creative writing.

Writing consultant appointments can be scheduled through [https://bowiestate.mywconline.com/](https://bowiestate.mywconline.com/).

The Honors Program Students and Director salute Anthony K. Gervacio for his creative writing and wonderful works!

*Pick up your copy of HSO Monthly in the Honors Suite, located in the Thurgood Marshall Library.*
Our Summer in Kenya

Alexandria (Alex) Brame and Jarrett Davis experienced a lot of Kenyan culture in the summer of 2016. They both lived in Nairobi for weeks conducted research at the University of Nairobi. Traveling to the coast and touching the Indian Ocean were also an experience they shared. They were able to visit the Nairobi National Museum where they saw the oldest remains of man. At Nairobi's National park, they went on their first safari.

The summer was not only filled with “fun stuff.” Alex and Jarrett went to the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) and International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and learned about the emerging research being conducted in Kenya. They, too, conducted field research, solvent extraction, and TLC analysis of the plants Azadiracta indica (a.k.a Neem) and Melia azedarach.

Neem is known to be extremely medicinal and is native to India. “Since there is so much research on the Neem from India, we wanted to see how the Kenyan Neem would be different due to its change in environment.” Melia azedarach has been commonly mistaken for Neem due to their similar morphology. Alex and Jarrett also sought to physically and chemically define these 2 plants.

Honda Campus All-Star Challenge: The Great 48

This year the Bowie State University HCASC team is excited to be representing in The Golden State—Los Angeles, California.

The 2016-2017 BSU HCASC roster will include Honors Program students Ibukun Ayo-Durojaiye, Jahlil Bennett, Kayla Rayford, and Carroll Reed III (Captain). The team along with Coach Robert Batten and Dr. Monika Gross will attend the 28th Annual Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC) April 8-12, 2017. The quiz bowl tournament is administered by College bowl for historically Black colleges and universities, and is sponsored by the Honda Motor Company. For more information on HCASC, including a full list of the 48 qualifying teams, visit www.hcasc.com.

Congratulations HCASC team on your success, and GOOD LUCK!

Expanding Our Community Through Service

Community Service is found not only to be a requirement as an honors student, but a privilege for our Honors Program members. On a quest to accomplish the required 200 community service hours you will find our students volunteering at any number of events.

On December 9th, 2016 a few honors students volunteered at the Bowie Town Center. There they volunteered at the Barnes & Noble for their Harry Potter event. The students dressed in their best Potter themed attire, and participated in crafts, trivia, dancing, and a host of other activities for those in attendance.

Most recently the students where able to return to one of their favorite places to complete community service, the PG County Animal Shelter. March 5th, 2017 the students enjoyed visiting, playing with, and walking a variety of different animals. The event as always was a “smashing success.”
Alex Brame & Jarrett Davis — Placed top 4 in the Plant Science category for the Emerging Research National Conference.

Phylecia Faublas — New Student Orientation Leader—Speaker at the Coalition of Equity and Equality v. Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)

B. Nichelle Hicks — Featured in a Bowie State University Ad.

Ashley Johnson — Won second place for her commercial in the CRMC Commercial Contest.

Moniesha Lawings — Won the Writing Center “My President Was Black” Contest.

Jhori Parrish — Inducted in to S.L.I.P. (Student Leadership Initiative Program) and became a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success.

David Proctor — Won first place for his commercial in the CRMC Commercial Contest.

Chris Stone — Initiated in to the ETA Zeta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.—ETA Zeta Chapter President—Thurgood Marshall College Fund Scholar—Accepted an offer to work with Harris Corporation as a Software Engineer—Man of Bowie’s Ignite Program—Studied Abroad in Ghana

Emerging Researchers National Conference

Our very own Alexandria Brame and Jarrett Davis took part in the Emerging Researchers National Conference. There they both presented in the Undergraduate Poster Presentations.

Alexandria Brame, senior biology major, presented The Elicitation of Beta-Carotene in Daucus carota with the Use of Benzoic Acid and Salicylic Acid. Her poster presentation illustrated the use of Salicylic Acid as a chemical elicitor to increase the synthesis of Beta-Carotene in carrots, Daucus carota.

Jarrett Davis, senior biology major presented Exogenous Pre-Harvest Treatment with Methyl Jasmonate and Chitosan Elicits Lycopene Biosynthesis in Tomato Plants. His presentation showed exogenous pre-harvest treatment of tomato plants with Methyl Jasmonate (MeJA) and Chitosan to elicit lycopene biosynthesis and stimulate plant growth.

Honors Lounge Revamp

This year the Honors Students have decided that it is time to change the honors lounge. The lounge has become a home away from the dorm, where you can find the students studying, gaming, or napping. So why not make it their own?

The Revamp will include updating the lounge décor, library, and furniture. The students hope to get the projector screen fixed as well, to begin utilizing that for meetings, studying, or practice presentations.

Honors students interested in volunteering for this project may contact Deja Forester.
The Honors Program

The Honors Program is an ancillary academic program within the University Undergraduate Program. The primary focus of the program is the development of intellectual ethical leadership skills while fostering excellence in education, commitment to the learning process, experimentation, and the sense of a learning community.

It is designed to augment the educational experience of the undergraduate academic program through cultural exposure and community uplift projects.

The program best addresses the needs of students who possess a seriousness of academic purpose and a desire to be active rather than passive learners. Also, the Honors Program challenges those who have an intellectual curiosity that supersedes an obsession with grades. Honors students seek success rather than avoid failure; have courage to take intellectual risks and demonstrate superior, ethical leadership in their chosen careers.

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