

"Honorable Mention"

The Official Newsletter of the ECU HSA

Spring 2011

Great Plains Honors Conference Report

Five Honors students traveled to Arlington, Texas for the Great Plains Honors Conference which was held April 1st-3rd. Three students presented their own original research while two other students attended sessions to get a better idea of how to better the student leadership roles of the Honors Student Association.

Rosa Denton, an Early Childhood Education major from Porum, presented a poster of her original research titled "Get Up and Get Moving." For her project, Rosa observed the effects of physical stimulation on the learning process of elementary school students.

Two other students presented their theses at the conference. Jordan Hearod, a senior Biology major from McAlester, shared his research on the strength and density of long bones in several genera of turtles. Joe Jacobi, a senior History major from Lawton, presented his thesis research about Revolutionary War Icon John Paul Jones. For his thesis, Jacobi examined the revolutionary media's attitudes towards Jones.

Finally, sophomore Dani White of Norman and freshman Trevor Sutton of Tupelo, both business majors, sat in on sessions specifically geared towards leadership and the advancement of a collegiate honors program.

In addition to presenting and observing sessions, the students also had the opportunity to tour the historic museum district of Dallas, listen to two guest speakers, and socialize with their peers from other honors programs. Great Plains proved to be an enriching and educational experience for all who attended.



Trevor and Dani on their way to Dallas Museum District



Rosa smiling with her poster



Whitewashing Huck Finn

In February, the Honors Program in conjunction with the HSA Academic Branch hosted its first ever forum on censorship entitled "Whitewashing Huck Finn." The purpose of the forum was to discuss recent proposals to edit *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Those in favor of editing wish to remove some of the more pejorative terms and instead replace them with more politically correct terms. Honors students listened to and asked questions of a panel made up of representatives from the Student Oklahoma Education Association, Literati, the Association of Black Students, the Native American Students Association, and the library. Students had a chance to hear many differing opinions while also being able to express their own.

Based on the positive reviews from faculty and student alike, both the Honors Program and the HSA Academic Branch have expressed interest in hosting another forum on another 'hot-button' topic. For students, these forums will continue to provide a good learning experience on how to civilly discuss differing ideas on a somewhat sensitive issue.



Dustin Watterson sends word that he will receive his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the University of Oklahoma this June. Dustin, class of 2006, graduated with University Scholastic Honors, majoring in biology and minoring in chemistry. While at ECU, he was a McNair scholar, and he played in the Pride of Tigerland marching band, the Jazz ensemble, and the First Baptist Winds of Praise. Before attending OU, he worked at Kerr Lab. After graduation, Dustin will ply his new skills at Ocean Dental in Moore.

Spring 2017 Honors Graduates

- ❖ *Phoebe Barron*
- ❖ *Jordan Hearod*
- ❖ *Angela Marshall*
- ❖ *Hannah Medrano*
- ❖ *Matt Payne*
- ❖ *Checed Rodgers*
- ❖ *Roselynn Simpson*
- ❖ *Alex Taussig*

