

THE ALBERT DORMAN QUESTION

by Usama Elmalak and Daniel Perez

Since the inception of the Albert Dorman Honors College in 1994, it has been directly responsible for many of the top graduates at NJIT. Furthermore, it has attempted to be a leader in the industry as well as improve its name in the NJIT community. However, where would the college be without its students to whom credit is due for helping establish the ADHC as one of the cornerstones of NJIT. In attempt to bridge the line of communication between the administration and the students, we have conducted various interviews with many student of the ADHC with two primary concerns in mind that were suggested by Mr. Albert Dorman himself: What is one aspect of the Honors College that you'd like to remain constant? And what is one aspect that you'd like to change?

Upon those two questions, we were able to gather many responses from various students of various majors and varying levels of academic standings at NJIT. Many students expressed concern about the unavailability of upper level honors courses, either because of the lack there of or the conflicting nature of their scheduling. According to one student "I am tired of having to take honors humanities courses when my major has nothing to do with them." Moreover, it was suggested the honors college should have a more active role as a job finding resource. Other concerns that were expressed are: Less restriction about how to complete the service requirement, weighted averages for honors courses, an honors music program, more on/off campus programs, and the repair computers in computer lab.

The students were also asked about what aspect of the honors college they'd like to

remain the same. Ms. Chipepo received much gratitude from various students for her helpfulness and encouragement of interpersonal communication. According to one student: "Ms. Chipepo...definitely the best thing that ever happened to the honors college." Another item that was popular among students is the availability of the lounges. They provide convenient access to many resources. Another item that received good remarks was the friendliness of the honors staff. Other items that received praise were: the scholarships and financial aid, the existence of the committees and the Honors council as they provide a deeper dimension to the Honors students, the diversity of the colloquia and the various social activities on campus such as the dinner, cruise, date auction, etc...

In essence there were a few outlier responses but in general all the responses were quite good. Therefore, it is only necessary to improve a few major aspects such as the Honors course offerings. However overall, the college and its friendly staff deserve much praise for college's current standing.

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STUDY ABROAD

by Gregory Torbick and Veronica Cabellero

Regine Jean-Baptiste recently returned from six months of studying abroad in Jonkoping, Sweden. Jonkoping is in the central part of Sweden, about half way between Stockholm and Copenhagen. Regine went for a semester, which, in the Swedish school system starts in August and goes until January. Continuing with her major, Regine took management courses at Jonkoping Business School that counted towards her NJIT requirements. Not all courses count, though, so she recommends checking with an advisor when planning your trip.

Though Regine would have graduated in December, she is now going to graduate in the spring, due to a pair of required courses that all international students take when going to Jonkoping: Swedish Language and Culture, and Swedish Economics.

Geoffrey D. Cox also returned recently from studying abroad. He has spent the last 7 months studying computer science in Singapore, where gum chewing and pornography are illegal. The university he attended was Nan Yang Technical University, a school Geoffrey found "very challenging." "Everyone was on point," he asserts. In addition to two computer science classes, Geoffrey also took Elementary Chinese Language and Chinese Traditions and Society. Though everything was taught in English, he was very interested in learning another language and opted for those classes.

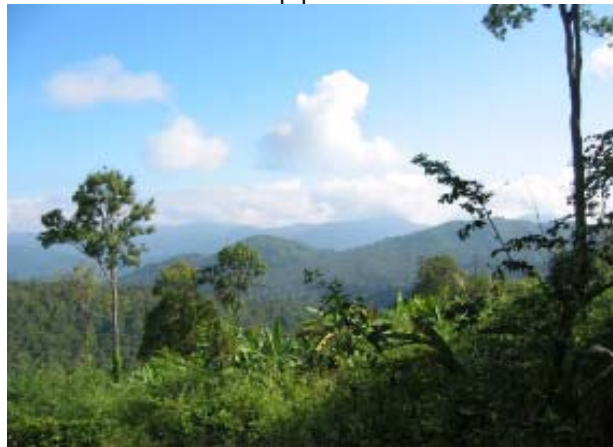
As to the quality of education in Sweden, Jean-Baptiste answers, "I think that it

was as good as ours, if not better. A standard term is twenty weeks. They have a course system over there of A, B, C, D where C is about what our senior year is and D is more like our masters program. I was taking C and D courses so maybe that's why I thought it was harder." When asked about the teaching style she stated, "I found that they were much more theoretical. As a management major, in my classes at NJIT, most of the teachers have practical or real world experience. Over there, most professors have gone from BA to a

Masters Degree without any real work experience, so they teach mostly from theoretical concepts of management." The classes, she explained, would contain a portion called seminar series, which would feature a special guest lecturer similar to the colloquium program here at NJIT. Students would also have a breakout, in which five groups of five would

come together for a recitation and discuss problems or theories that they were confused about. Regine explained that all classes were available in English and that most of the school was taught in English with an option for Swedish students to study in Swedish.

When asked about Swedish culture, Jean-Baptiste had this to say: "Swedish people are very shy. [Where as] people here would just say to one another, 'Hello, how you doing' in passing, there they aren't used to people doing that so they take it literally and actually stop and have a conversation. Also they are



not as phony about friendship over there. If someone doesn't like you, they don't pretend to be your friend but if you are someone's friend it's that much more genuine." When asked how this culture changed her as a person, Regine said she felt that her experience helped her to become a better friend. "One of the things that I picked up on from how shy they were was how observant they were as a result. I sit back more now and observe things. I was never a totally outgoing person but now I am more reserved. I try to observe what a person is looking for when they talk to me and be a better friend to them by providing what they need." Jean-Baptiste felt the most positive aspect of the experience was being immersed in so many different cultures. "Going to Sweden I picked up German, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese, and a South African language. I got to travel in Sweden and actually see how these people live. I think I always had an open mind about other people's cultures, and you need to be [to enjoy studying abroad]," Jean-Baptiste.

Geoffrey agrees. "[Traveling abroad] made me a different person. I have a different perspective". Geoffrey went on to say that the experience taught him to handle the unknown and take on challenges better. He stated that he felt, "Not smarter, but more experienced, but at the same time it made me aware of the fact that I am not experienced enough." "A lot of things were the same, but at the same time there were many things that were different. It wasn't so much a shock as it was an experience." When asked what he liked the best, he explained that he liked the people the best because they try to help you understand the culture. Geoffrey recommends being with as many chefs, performers, and locals as possible so that a true cultural immersion can be experienced. "These experiences make you realize who you are and what you are doing."

When asked about the negative aspects of the trip, Geoffrey's only response was

having to come back. "I wouldn't change a thing, I just wanted more time."

When questioned about the downsides Jean-Baptiste mentioned not having a Plan B in case classes that were needed to graduate got canceled or similar situations. She also cited missing friends and family as a problem; however, "With the Internet these days it isn't nearly as hard." When asked what she would say to someone considering a semester abroad Regine stated, "I'd say: do it. Don't give it a second thought. Get the application from Scott Kline in the Office of International Students in the basement of Eberhardt. Have no expectations. Keep an open mind. Laughter costs nothing."



SOCIAL EVENTS: LOLLIPOPS AND AN OPEN BAR

by Vivek Gangiredla

Sreelatha Akkapeddi is a girl on a mission. She wants to make sure that the students of the Albert Dorman Honors College (ADHC) enjoy their on-campus life and be an active part of the friendly honors students' community. As the chair of the Honors Social committee, Sree has been working hard to organize fun events for students to take part in. She wants to help build an enjoyable atmosphere by encouraging students to socialize with each other within these entertaining settings. She also wants to remove the stereotype most commonly attached to students from the Honors College. They are often considered to be mostly consumed by thoughts of work and high grades, but Sree intends to show a fresh side of the Honors College to the rest of the NJIT community.

Sree has already organized a few social events this semester. On Feb 14th, she helped raise funds for her committee by selling carnations in Tiernan Hall with the help of her committee members, and gladdened the hearts of many forgetful romantics by providing them with a source of last-minute Valentine's Day flowers. She also arranged for a chocolate lollipop-making contest in the Honors Lounge on the same day with the help of the Community Service chair, Lara Garnant. Students who rarely visited the Lounge showed up to interact with fellow students and create their own uniquely designed chocolate lollipops, leading to a very enjoyable encounter with hot chocolate, delectable artistry and some very interesting abstract designs. A few members of the social

committee also took part in the Newark St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 9th, helping the Honors Council President Rasha Batarseh make self-painted t-shirts for the participating students.

Upcoming events include the traditional ADHC Students versus Faculty game, scheduled to take place during Spring Week. The Honors College administration has been trying to get more faculty members to participate and, according to Sree, her committee members have been increasingly involved in publicizing the game. There is also an Honors College Movie Day in the works,

where the Social Committee will arrange for a day's worth of movies to be played in the Honors Lounge. The Honors College Talent show, which was very successful last year, might be brought back for a second edition this

"Honors students always seem stressed, so I want to make life more fun and relaxed within the Honors College environment."

semester or could be replaced with an Honors Pub Night featuring the band of the Lounge Committee chair Sean McTigue. Fundraising for these events will take place through one or more bake sales to be organized in April, which will feature home-made baked delicacies contributed by the social committee members. Sree hopes that all these events will help her accomplish her desire to bring together the Honors college community and provide a means for them to relax and enjoy themselves together with their fellow students.

The 16th Annual Honors Senior Dinner, scheduled to be held on April 10th, is another fun social event being sponsored by the Honors College this semester. The dinner will be held at

SOCIAL EVENTS: LOLLIPOPS AND AN OPEN BAR

...continued

the elegant Pantagis Restaurant (Snuffy's) in Scotch Plains and is open to all ADHC seniors who will graduate in the coming year. The Honors college administration will also be present, along with selected faculty members and alumni. The Senior Representative of the Honors Council, Miao Li, also extended the invitation to all ADHC students who wish to join the seniors in celebrating their final year as an undergraduate student at NJIT, saying "This will be a fun event for the seniors to enjoy themselves with their fellow students, so everyone is invited".

The fun begins at 7pm and goes on till 11pm, giving the attendees ample time to savor the mouth-watering food and dance to the invigorating music being produced by one of Newark's best DJs. There will also be a four-hour open bar for those legally eligible to drink, and while the Honors College administration knows that its students will drink responsibly, they have arranged for transportation from NJIT to the restaurant and back so that the students can focus purely on having fun.

The dinner serves a dual purpose, serving as the setting for the Honors College to recognize excellence within the ADHC. Awards will be presented to selected seniors for overall distinction, while one of the distinguished faculty members will be honored for outstanding service to the Honors students. This event is wholly funded by the Honors College, and there is a \$35 fee for seniors and students who wish to attend. The ADHC has certainly been working hard to ensure that its students make the most of their experience at NJIT and have fun tackling the challenging academic curriculum. The administration understands the need for students to have an active social life on campus and to inherit a

sense of belonging within the Honors College community, as can be seen from the fact that all of these social events could not have been possible without the active assistance and encouragement of the Assistant to the Dean, the much-loved Ms. Chipeco. Thus, it is up to the students of the ADHC to utilize these opportunities and benefit from its strong fun-loving community.



FRESHMAN RETREAT

by Chris Hodac

As the school year comes to a close and the Honors College Senior class graduates, we lose a great deal of talented and hard-working individuals to the work force. However, the incoming freshman class, whose talents and skills will help to maintain the prestige of the Honors College, replenishes this loss. In an attempt to foster the potential in these new students, the Honors College holds an annual Freshman Retreat, where the incoming class can meet their fellow classmates, as well as the administrative staff of the Honors College, in an enriching weekend at a nearby camp. This year's retreat, the fifth of its kind, will be held at the Happiness is Camping Retreat Center in Blairstown, New Jersey. The retreat is a three-day event, beginning on Thursday, August 28, and ending on Saturday, August 30. Aside from attending the retreat, the incoming freshmen living on campus will be given the unique opportunity to move into their dormitories on Thursday. During the retreat, a variety of trust activities will be performed and games will be played that are designed to be fun and to also help foster interaction between the students. Leading these activities will be trained and experienced upper-class students of the Honors College who will be acting as Counselors. For more information about the retreat and/or the campsite, check the Honors College website at <http://honors.njit.edu>, or the Happiness is Camping Retreat Center website at <http://www.happinessiscamping.org>.

HONORS DATE AUCTION

by Steve Mawhinney

On Wednesday, November 20, 2002 the third annual Albert Dorman Honors College Date Auction was held in the Hazell Center. In all, twenty-two students, nine men and thirteen women, courageously put themselves up for sale as fellow students gave up their hard earned money to spend some time with the guy or girl of their choice. The winner of each auction got to hang out with his/her date at the party which was held in the Pub later that night.

All the money collected from the date auction will be given to the Peter Ho Memorial Clinic at St. Michaels Hospital here in Newark. A total of \$1210 was collected at the auction and after-party. A ceremony will be held at the hospital later this month where representatives from ADHC will present the check to the clinic.

The auction was conducted by Masters of Ceremonies Louis Calabrese, Steve Mawhinney and Sreelatha Akkapeddi. They were quite successful in enthusing the audience all night long. The Hazell Center was packed with people giving up money for the clinic or just supporting their friends who were in the auction. It is safe to say that everyone involved with this event had a great time, especially those who won a date for that night. However the real winners of this auction are the children of the Peter Ho Memorial Clinic.

Sreelatha Akkapeddi, Honors College Social Committee Chairwoman and organizer of the auction, would like to thank all of those who participated including the MC's, the house DJ Nick Nagy, and also the NJIT Student Senate for the use of their sound equipment. This event is really catching on with students, so be on the lookout for the fourth annual ADHC date auction in fall of 2003.

SPRING INTO A NEW SERIES OF COLLOQUIA

by Tambe Barsbay

Although the majority of people probably would not know what a "colloquium" is, ask any Honors College student and they certainly will know. A colloquium, according to the dictionary, is an academic seminar on a broad field of study.

As usual, the Albert Dorman Honors College has put together the spring semester's colloquia schedule with a host of new and interesting topics. The Spring 2003 schedule included a March 5th seminar on a growing problem of today, *Biometrics Methods and Technologies: Protection from Identity Theft*, delivered by biomedical engineering Professor Michael Recce and Brigadier General William T. Marshall. Also on a scientific note is another event on the same day, the *Margaret & Herman Bokor Science Lecture*, to be given at Montclair State University by Physicist Brian Greene.

For the few NJIT women reading this, the next colloquium titled *Be Your Own Mentor: Strategies for Success from Sheila Wellington* proved to be an excellent seminar to attend. Author Wellington, who gave the seminar on March 31st, is also an advocate for women in business. The event was cosponsored by NJIT's Murray Center for Women in Technology.

For those interested in science or forensics, the April 7 colloquium entitled *Forensic Science: DNA in Law Enforcement* was an enlightening presentation. Ed LaRue, a forensic scientist with the New Jersey State Police, presented along with attorney Harry McCurdy.

April 11th is the date of another *Honors Night at the Theater*, held in Bradley Hall Theater at Rutgers-Newark. The show is a joint NJIT and Rutgers production of *As*

Five Years Pass by Federico Garcia Lorca. The Honors College website boasted that the show is followed by the opportunity to speak with the Director. Note that, to receive credit for attendance, Honors students must be present at the play and the conversation with the director.

The final colloquium of the semester is on April 23rd, and it would be an excellent choice for any student with an interest in security, code breaking, or application protection. The seminar *Private Communications in a Public World via Cryptography* will be presented by Robert Statica, the Associate Director of NJIT's Cryptography & Telecommunication Laboratory.

Judging from this list students should not have a hard time choosing the minimum of two colloquia that interest them for this semester.



ALBERT DORMAN HONORS COLLEGE

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GRADUATING ADHC SENIOR CLASS OF 2003

compiled by Anisha Gulrajani

Janet C. Alejandro	PTC	John Anthony Lopilato	COE
Pavlo M. Andrushkiw	IS	William L Malmstedt	ARCH
Ritika Arora	IT	John Michael Maranski	ME
Amber A. Ash	ARCH	Michele M. McGahhey	CS
Benjamin Paul Bakas	ARCH	Brent A. Mckim	ARCH
Rasha Batarseh	BMED	Sean Michael McTigue	BIOL
Elaine M. Bochniewicz	MATH	Manuel Antonio Millan	ARCH
Christopher Bzik	IE	Goce Mitovski	COE
Juan Miguel Calles	COE	Issei Miyoshi	ME
Rocco P. Ciccolini	CHE	Marta A. Morais	ARCH
Roger Lee Coffman Jr.	COE	Tomasz Moscicki	BIOL
Crystal Daisy Cooper	CE	Antonio Salvatore Musumeci	CS
Geoffrey D. Cox	CS	James Opare-Asamoah	MGMT
Nicholas M. De Bonis	IT	Nicholas D. Pankiewicz	CS
Meredith A. Doll	CHE	Rakshita Hasmukh Patel	COE
Justin M. Feintuch	MGMT	Shreyash Patel	CS
Marisa D. Fontainhas	CE	David R. Pittman	CS
Joseph Frank Frega	CE	Sriram Sivaprasa Polepeddi	CS
Nicole Marie Fusco	CHM	Vincent A. Rea	ARCH
Emilia Cristina Gagiù	BIOL	Michael Regn	CHE
Jimmy Hemeda	COE	Seila Reviriego	ARCH
Geoffrey D. Hickman	ARCH	John Rodriguez	CS
Niveen S. Ismail	CHE	Mohamed Shama	ARCH
Charles Jamerlan	CS	Alexandra C. Shull	ARCH
Regine Jean-Baptiste	MGMT	Swatee Singh	EE
John Jelis	ME	Adriana Surugiu	CS
Yung-Kwang John Kiely	STS	Kurt L. Thoens	CS
Constance Ghinam Kim	ARCH	Tara E. Vargas	COE
Hyun Soo Kim	COE	Michael J. Vilaboy	EE
Jessica A. Latherow	ARCH	Narayan Viswanadhan	BIOL
Krysthian A. Lemus	ME	Ronn Philip Walvick	COE
Pablo Andres Lemus	CE	Alison D. Wood	IS
Brandon M Lodriguss	IS	Jen-Wei Yang	EE

DIARY OF AN HONORS ATHLETE

by Sharae' Robinson

NJIT women's basketball is tough. Preseason started September 9. It did not end until Friday, March 7. More people started the season than finished. What makes our team a little different from other teams at NJIT, and the rest of the NCAA for that matter, is that practice generally starts *before* the crack of dawn. We do more before 8AM than many people do all day long.

This season included seven months of running, jump training, pool work-outs, individual skill training, weight-lifting, full court playing, regular practice, conditioning, game films, games, team meetings, bus and plane rides — the list goes on and on. Oh yeah — not to mention classes, and for teammate, Breanna Trumbull, and me, Honors College commitments. Throw being a commuter student and sleep deprivation into the mix, and welcome to my life.

Before engaging in the sample schedule, please allow me to clear the air. This is in no way, an attempt to undermine the dedication and hard work of anyone else involved in the women's basketball program. If anything, this is one account of similar experiences. We all rise before the sun does. Some of us even go to bed before it sets! The following is a typical Tuesday for me during the 2003 Spring semester. Some incidents may vary from week to week.

4:00AM: Rise and shine. Hit the snooze button.

4:09AM: Rise and shine, Part 2. Roll out of bed. Curse the alarm clock.

4:35AM: Somehow manage to get dressed, and leave the house — *teeth un-brushed and hair undone*

5:00AM: Arrive at NJIT's gym (*still dark outside*). Chat (*excuse me, grunt*) with teammates about practice agenda, previous day's occurrences, daily episodes in the training room and other miscellaneous topics.

5:15AM: Heat therapy for injured right shoulder. Discuss other times I can come in for more treatment with Roger, our trainer.

5:45AM: On court — Stretch and get used to the bright lights and freezing gym.

6:00AM: Practice begins.

8:00 AM: Practice ends. Time for a shower and quick breakfast paid for by a generous, on-campus teammate (ahem, Schrkya Massey).

8:30 AM: Class.

9:55 AM: Sprint from NJIT to Rutgers.

10:00AM: Class.

11:25AM: Sprint from Rutgers back to NJIT.

11:30AM: Time to grab some grub on the run. *Where is the free food on campus today?*

11:40AM: Honors College Colloquium (*which started at 11:30AM — sorry, Ms. Chipepo!*)

1:00 PM: Class. *By this time, the day catches up to me.*

Some of the professor's lecture begins to sound like Charlie Brown's teacher or some other sort of barely audible blur.

2:25 PM: Class ends.

2:30PM: Time for a snack. *Man, I need a nap...*

3:00PM: Return to Roger for more heat therapy.

3:35PM: Discuss another heat session time. Leave trainer.

3:35PM: Go to the Honors Lab to check e-mail. *Team rule: Must check e-mail twice a day for unexpected announcements, team meetings, etc.*

4:00PM: Class. *At this point, it feels like midnight.*

5:00PM: Class finally ends, and so does my school day.

5:01PM: Make a dash for the car to avoid as much rush hour traffic as possible.

5:30PM: Arrive home. *I can barely keep my eyes open.*

5:35PM: Eat dinner. Chat with dad. Open mail. Make some phone calls. Check e-mail. Get

tempted to take a nap (*not a wise decision — waaaaaay too close to bed time for a nap*).

6:15PM: Check e-mail again. Time for some schoolwork.

7:45PM: Time for a shower and a few more phone calls (*free night time minutes!*)

8:30PM: Good night! Must get at least 7 hours in order to function again at 4AM tomorrow morning.

THE END...

Readers may view this article as a number of things. A complaint... An apology to professors on behalf of exhausted athletes everywhere... A humorous plea to my coach for later practices... A boring testimony... Or, one may take it for what it really is: a day in the hectic life of me, Sharae' Robinson, a commuting female basketball player in the Albert Dorman Honors College.

Albert Dorman Honors College

NJIT

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COMMUNITY SERVICE CHANGES

by Jessica Ho

Since Fall 2002, the charitable Community Service Committee has a new chairperson, Lara Garnant. My interview with Lara revealed her undying love for helping people in need and her quest to motivate other students to pitch in. She has implemented plans that have improved the committee and has even more ideas for next year.

The Community Service Committee has a different focus this year compared to the previous years. The drive and determination to help the community has increased dramatically. The committee is trying to increase the level of impact it has on NJIT and the surrounding community as well as boosting the members' level of dedication.

This year, there is a wider range of events a committee member can participate in, with a minimum of two per semester. Now, instead of choosing two unrelated events, the two events must be in the same category such as tutoring for kids in Newark. The Community Service Committee also wants to include at least one project that will take place every semester as a continuing contribution to a particular part of the Newark community.

Aside from the increase in events, Lara has increased the communication between her and the forty committee members. For example, she tries to schedule events when most members are available, pursue activities of interest to her members, and always sends out timely notices for the events with all the details. Some of the events that were held last semester were the ADHC float construction and parade, the Peace Garden construction, and the "Quest for a Million Pennies" fundraiser for St. Jude's.

As for the following academic year, the Community Service Committee will try to increase the unity between its members. The chairperson also hopes to pursue ways of improving her leadership abilities for the benefit of the committee and its members.

The Albert Dorman Honors College Newsletter Committee

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