

**NCHC E-letter  
December, 2004**

**Edited by**

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**NCHC Website: [www.nchchonors.org](http://www.nchchonors.org)**

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**President Norm Weiner's Remarks**

Immediate Past President Norman Weiner's remarks, given at the Presidential Luncheon at the recent Conference in New Orleans are up on the web, under NCHC News. For those of you who missed the conference (or the luncheon), he very neatly summarized what NCHC has done in the past year and what NCHC members can expect in the coming year. It is worth going to the web to read his speech.

We will publish NCHC's **President Virginia McComb's** vision for 2005 in our January e-letter.

**Awards presented at 2004 Conference**

Presidential Leadership Award

Carole Harter, President, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Portz Scholars

Rebecca Fowler, University of Texas at San Antonio

Amy Gant, University of Nebraska at Lincoln

Megan McWenie, University of Arizona

Newsletter Contest Winners

*Student produced:*

First place: Oregon State University

Second place: Temple University

Third place: Westminster College

*Faculty/student produced:*

First place: California State University, Fullerton

Second place: The City University of New York

Third place: Auburn University

2004 Student of the Year

William Brewer, Central Michigan University

### **Conference Evaluation**

In an on-going effort to be more responsive to members' needs, we will be sending a Conference Evaluation Form via email to Conference 2004 attendees. When you receive the form, please fill it out and email it back to Headquarters. However, if you did not attend the 2004 Conference but want to make your wishes known about any aspect of future conferences, please don't hesitate to email us your concerns ([nchc@iastate.edu](mailto:nchc@iastate.edu)). If you attended the Conference and do not receive an evaluation form by the end of December, please let us know and we'll send you one.

### **Ballots**

Ballots have been mailed to all members. Remember to vote for four candidates for Executive Committee-Professional and 3 candidates for Executive Committee-Student. **Ballots must be received by December 20, 2004 to be counted.** Vote today: make your voice heard. Please mail your ballot today in the envelope that came with the mailing.

### **Dues Reminders**

We will be mailing 2005 dues reminders in the near future. Dues for all membership types for 2005 are as follows: Institutional, \$500; Professional from member institution, \$100; Professional from non-member institution, \$250; Student, \$35 (or \$90 for three years), and Affiliate, \$50.

### **Your Dues Increase At Work**

As we near the end of this first year of the dues increase, the Executive Committee is pleased to report that the increase has been successful in helping to stabilize NCHC's fiscal situation: The year will end without the organization having to dip into the reserves.

In addition, the increase has provided seed money for funding new activities that will promote more service to the membership, including the strategic initiative proposals noted below, the implementation of a new Honors In Practice journal, and the move to professionalize the staff and office by hiring an Executive Director and moving to permanent headquarters at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Although it may not be possible to increase our reserves by much this year, we are on the path to building a stronger, more viable organization in order to serve the membership in the best manner possible. With continued, careful planning and a consistent and focused set of priorities that advance the work of the NCHC, we should be able to become an even better steward to our membership.

### **Honors Colleges Discussion**

Following a spirited and informative discussion during the Open Forum at the Conference, the *Basic Characteristics of a Fully Developed Honors College* document was revised, and we've posted the revision on the web. Please remember that this document is for continuing discussion purposes; nothing has been adopted or formalized.

### **Semester in Seattle, *Livable Spaces in Natural Places* the 2005 NCHC Honors Semester, May 23 – August 12, 2005**

If you did not receive the colorful brochure describing the *Semester in Seattle*, please contact headquarters ([nchc@iastate.edu](mailto:nchc@iastate.edu)). You can also access the brochure on-line at [www.nchchonors.org](http://www.nchchonors.org). Click on the Honors Semester button, and follow the link.

Seattle is lovely any time of the year, but especially so in spring/summer. Located between the Cascade Mountains and Puget Sound, Seattle is a model of the new American city. Integrating natural beauty with urban growth has made Seattle a living laboratory for designing human communities. Using a set of interdisciplinary and interconnected explorations, students in this Semester will collaborate on shaping communities within city neighborhoods.

**Deadlines for the Seattle Semester are fast approaching: January 10, 2005, Early admission application; February 1, 2005, Regular admission application.** With the holidays and winter break in the offing, you and your students will want to make your plans now.

## Strategic Initiatives

At their Spring Executive Committee meeting, committee members voted to reserve \$10,000 for committees and special interest sections to use to further their committee's/group's priorities. In June committee chairs and SIS conveners were invited to submit proposals for up to \$2,000 of these funds. We received three proposals and were happy to fund these Strategic Initiatives:

- The Publications Board was granted \$1,840 to purchase a computer, software, and internet access for the editors of JNCHC and the newly created HIP (Honors in Practice).
- The Civil Discourse SIS was granted \$1,954 to support the Civic Democracy Lab
- The Assessment & Evaluation Committee was granted \$1,800 to be used to help new honors programs that want to be reviewed. These new programs (those less than 5 years old) may apply for a grant of up to \$600 to help defray the cost of bringing a consultant onto their campus. For more information, contact Robert Spurrier ([Robert.spurrier@okstate.edu](mailto:Robert.spurrier@okstate.edu)).

Providing funding for these Strategic Initiative Grants is just one of the ways the dues increase you voted for is helping NCHC better serve you.

## Final Budget for 2004

The final budget for 2004 will be posted on the web site by the end of January. Please review it to see where your dues monies go.

## National Honors Report

Your Publications Board voted to re-institute the *National Honors Report*. It's purpose is to be NCHC's journal of record and will focus on the business of NCHC. To be published annually, it will include minutes from the Annual Business Meeting, minutes from Executive Committee meetings, budget information, yearly reports from the president, immediate past president, committees, SIS, and headquarters. Look for *NHR* sometime in late February or March.

## Honors in Practice

In addition to re-instituting *NHR*, Pub Board voted to create a new publication: *Honors in Practice* or *HIP*. This journal will focus on practical and descriptive essays, descriptions of successful honors courses, suggestions for out-of-class experiences, and administrative issues for Honors programs. *HIP* will use a double-blind peer review process and will be published annually. Inquiries should be directed to Ada Long and Dail Mullins, *HIP*, 316 Cook St, St. George Island, FL 32328 or emailed to [adalong@uab.edu](mailto:adalong@uab.edu).

## Happy Holidays

Your NCHC staff, Liz, Carol, Kris, Nancy and Philip, wish you all a safe and wonderful holiday season. Send us postcards from wherever your winter break takes you!

## NCHC Listserv

We receive calls asking how to get on (or off) the NCHC listserv. Complete instructions are on NCHC's home page. Go to [www.nchchonors.org](http://www.nchchonors.org), scroll down to the button that asks "Want to join the ListServ?" and follow the links. Keep in mind that not everyone on the ListServ is an NCHC member and not all NCHC members are on the listserv. However, everyone on the ListServ is interested in Honors education.

## Members who have joined/renewed since November 1, 2004

### Institutions

Daytona Beach Community College	Miller, Vera	<a href="mailto:millerv@dbcc.edu">millerv@dbcc.edu</a>
Del Mar College	Luckie, JoAnn	<a href="mailto:jluckie@delmar.edu">jluckie@delmar.edu</a>
Golden West College	Whitchurch, Charles	<a href="mailto:cwhitchurch@gwc.eccd.edu">cwhitchurch@gwc.eccd.edu</a>
Guilford College	Ricks, Vance	<a href="mailto:vricks@guilford.edu">vricks@guilford.edu</a>
Macon State College	Wilson, Martha	<a href="mailto:mwilson@mail.maconstate.edu">mwilson@mail.maconstate.edu</a>
New Orleans, University of	Blanton, Linda Lonon	<a href="mailto:lblanton@uno.edu">lblanton@uno.edu</a>

Northeastern State University  
Radford University

Carey, Karen  
King, Joseph

[careyka@nsuok.edu](mailto:careyka@nsuok.edu)  
[jking@runet.edu](mailto:jking@runet.edu)

*Professional from Non-Member Institution*

Hawaii at Manoa, University of  
University of Windsor

Hilgers, Thomas  
Niewitecka, Barbara

[hilgers@hawaii.edu](mailto:hilgers@hawaii.edu)  
[duck@uwindsor.ca](mailto:duck@uwindsor.ca)