

NCHC E-letter

July 2004

Edited by

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NCHC News

Elizabeth Beck retired from Iowa State University on June 30, but remains at ISU on a contract basis. The NCHC office has moved to new digs; however, we will continue to receive mail at 2130 Jischke Honors Building, and our phones, fax, and email addresses remain the same. As in any move—even across campus—there are still boxes to unpack and lost files to ‘find.’ If you have called, written or emailed and we have not responded, please let us know. And we apologize in advance.

2004 Conference Update

Hotel

The hotel is now accepting reservations either by phone or on-line. For complete information and a link to the hotel, please go to nchchonors.org, click on National Conference, Conference Forms, and scroll down to Hotel Registration Website. Rates are as follows: single/double: \$189; triple/quadruple: \$209. The cut-off date for the conference room rate is October 8, 2004.

Conference On-line Registration

All conference registrations will be taken on-line this year. The form is on the NCHC Conference website. Remember the \$50 late fee kicks in on October 8.

Presentation Notifications

All presentation notifications have been emailed to presenters. If you have not received anything, please contact the national office: nhc@iastate.edu. Section chairs received many many wonderful proposals but, unfortunately, could not accept all of them. They wanted you to know how difficult their choices were this year.

New Orleans Information

Once again we'd like to remind you of all the information about New Orleans and the 2004 Conference available on the website. Go to www.nchchonors.org; click on National Conference, then Conference Forms. Scroll to Conference information and there you are.

News from the Spring Executive Committee Meeting

Establishment of Special Interest Sections

At the mid year meeting, the Executive Committee passed a Standing Order that permitted the establishment of Special Interest Sections (SIS) for the purpose of allowing members who have interests in certain topics to come together to promote the NCHC. At the time a Special Interest Section is established, the President will appoint an initial convener. Subsequently, the Special Interest Section will elect its own chair.

Any interested member in good standing may join a Special Interest Section. Under NCHC's Constitution and By-laws, no member can belong to more than two standing committees. Membership in a SIS does not carry this restriction: you can be on two standing committees and as many (or as few) SISs as you wish.

Special Interest Sections may request funds for projects; time and space for meetings at the NCHC annual conference, and will receive all mailings and notices sent by the national office to committee chairs.

Two Special Interest Sections were established at the mid year meeting: Technology and Distance Education moved from a Standing Committee to a Special Interest Section with Jon Schlenker as the convener, and Civic Democracy with Jim Knauer as the convener. If you would like to join either of these SIS, please contact its convener.

Anyone interested in creating a Special Interest Section should contact Norm Weiner <weiner@oswego>

Strategic Initiative Funds Available

At our recent retreat in Ames, Iowa, the Finance Committee announced that the dues increase has already begun to bring in some additional funds to help provide more and better services for our membership. As a result, the Executive Committee voted to reserve \$10,000 for committees (and SIS) to use in 2004 to further NCHC priorities. (Each committee can receive up to \$2,000.)

If you are interested in applying for these funds on behalf of your committee, please send a letter detailing your proposal to Liz Beck at NCHC headquarters. In explaining how your committee would use the money, be sure to provide a budget breakdown, a timeline, and a brief discussion of how your proposal will address a particular priority. (Bear in mind that we have only \$10,000, so we may not be able to fund every proposal.) Deadline for proposals is 1 August 2004. We realize that it's a very short time from now to then, but we've only just found out about the money, and we'd like to move quickly enough to let the committees use it in 2004.

Committee chairs received this information in a separate mailing in late June. You are reminded that August 1 is only 3 weeks away.

Dues for 2004

Remember, if you have not paid your dues for 2004, you will not be able to attend the 2004 Conference at member rates. Neither will you be allowed to present. If you have any question about the status of your dues, please email nchc@iastate.edu. Thanks. We will send reminder emails to those whose dues have not been renewed.

2004 Student of the Year Award

Honors Directors, you are invited to nominate your best student for the third annual NCHC Student of the Year Award. Nominations for the award will be accepted by the Student Concerns Committee until October 4. To nominate a student, download the application form on the nchc website (www.nchchonors.org--go to announcements) and ask the student fill it in. Send it, along with a letter of support from you detailing why this student should be chosen Student of the Year, to Maggie Hill, Oklahoma State University, OSU Honors College, 510 Edmon Low Library, Stillwater, OK 74078. You may also send a list of the student's activities and/or resume.

The winner will be recognized at the 2004 national conference.

NCHC Faculty Institute - Rome as Text: Applications of Field-Based Exploration, Rome, Italy, March 14 – March 19, 2005. Registration deadline: December 9, 2004 or until spaces are filled.

Rome Unearthed

The City of Rome is a paradigm of a historically, culturally, and topographically layered urban center. Juxtaposed you will find monuments and remains of ancient, modern, medieval, renaissance, and other periods. By utilizing the methods of NCHC's City as Text©, participants will analyze literally and figuratively unearthed expressions of the City. Guided explorations in the Forum Romanum (a paradigmatically unearthed space) and in the Campus Martius (the location of our hotel) will be followed by self-directed and self-designed explorations of specific interest to the participant.

All explorations will entail responsive writing and group discussion to develop pedagogical strategies which can be used in the classroom, as well as to provide a model for field-exploration-based learning.

Institute Fees: \$240 Program Fee (includes \$40 non-refundable application fee). The Program Fee includes group transfers from airport to hotel for those who arrive on March 14 no later than 9 am, one group dinner, instructional fees, some museum passes, and books or handouts. Program fees do not include air fare, lodging, individual or local transportation in the City, optional museum visits, or lunches or other personal costs. Lodging information will be sent upon request and the cost includes breakfast. Air travel should be individually arranged by each participant.

Further details will be included in the August and September NCHC e-newsletters. Official announcements, with all necessary budget information, will be distributed in September and October. Facilitators of the Institute will be present at the "Idea Exchange" of the annual meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council in New Orleans. For initial inquiries, contact Prof. James Ruebel, Honors College, Ball State University, Muncie, IN 47306; 765-285-1024; jruebel@bsu.edu.

Summer Honors Semester in Seattle--Summer 2005

The Honors Semesters Committee is announcing a planned summer semester in Seattle for summer 2005. The topic of the Semester is Livable Spaces in Natural Places and is co-sponsored by Seattle University. The Semester will weave together environmental, cultural and design issues in considering the development of the cityscape of Seattle. More information will be available soon on the NCHC website and through a mailing to the Honors directors. Questions regarding the Semester may be directed to Paul Kidder, Seattle University <PEKIDDER@seattleu.edu>

2004 Satellite Seminar

Once again NCHC is collaborating with Phi Theta Kappa to produce an outstanding Satellite Seminar Series on Phi Theta Kappa's Honors Study Topic, "Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are." For complete information and registration deadlines, please go to the NCHC website (www.nchchonors.org), and click on Satellite Seminar.

NCHC and Phi Theta Kappa feel that it is important to focus this topic through a series of satellite presentations because, to quote Phi Theta Kappa's introduction to the topic, "Popular culture can be a vehicle for change, a generational and international unifier, a leveler of classes, a tool for recognizing and understanding even the least among us. Popular culture boldly manifests itself in anger and rebellion, but also provides comfort through shared experiences."

The satellite speaker presentations will be a shared experience for college honors programs which can be comforting and highly effective teaching tools--important complements to our honors programs.

The series will begin on Tuesday, September 28 with a presentation by Dr. Robert McElvaine on the impact of popular culture on the interpretation of history and the role of popular culture in shaping society's values.

On October 12, Dr. Tricia Rose will address the "culture of youth and its music" and will focus on the ways in which this culture has been created and developed in recent years.

On October 26, Dr. Susan Bordo will help us understand the new field of academic work called "body studies" in which scholars look at the image-driven emphasis on physical attractiveness, sexual allure and success. The presentation will address the power of mass imagery to influence youth and adults both positively and negatively.

On November 9, Professor Stephanie Coontz, co-chair of the Council on Contemporary Families, will address America's changing values about love, sex and marriage.

On November 16, Dr Richard Lapchick will help us understand the impact of sports on society, both positive and negative and will suggest constructive ways to make sports a win-win in America.

Faith Gabelnick

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the death of our longtime colleague Faith Gabelnick. She was active in NCHC for many years, and her husband, John Howarth, is a past president of NCHC. Our condolences to her family and many friends. She is survived by her husband, John Howarth, and by several children and grandchildren.

Following are excerpts from a news release from Western Michigan University.

Dr. Faith Gabelnick, first dean of the Lee Honors College at Western Michigan University and president emerita of Pacific University died June 13. She was 60. In 1995, Gabelnick became the first woman to lead the 155-year-old Pacific University, a private, four-year liberal arts university in Oregon. After eight years of service, she retired in July 2003. She was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer earlier this year.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Faith Gabelnick Endowed Fund for Community Service at Pacific University, c/o University Relations, 2043 College Way, Forest Grove, OR 97116-1756; or The Faith Gabelnick Global Community Connection Fund at The A.K. Rice Institute (FGGCC) PO Box 1776, Jupiter, FL, 33468-1776. Contributions to the Lee Honors College also may be given in memory of Dr. Gabelnick and should be made through the WMU Foundation, Kalamazoo MI 49008-5403.

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, 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.