



# Election Results

## Executive Committee changes its name to Board of Directors



Berger

NCHC members cast 222 ballots, passing 30 amendments to their constitution and by-laws, and electing a vice president and seven representatives to the newly-named Board of Directors.

Most voters marked a straight slate of “yes” or “no” votes for the amendments which change the name of the organization’s governing body from Executive Committee to Board of Directors.

In addition, the amendments effect another change. The officers, who have been known as the Interim Operations Board, will now be called the Executive Committee.

Because not all voters chose a straight ticket, the counts vary for each amendment.

The largest number of “yes” votes cast was 138. The largest number of “no” votes cast was 67.

Election results were certified by Hanigan Bjorkman Ecklund LLP, certified public accountants, of Lincoln, Neb.

Hallie Savage of Clarion University of Pennsylvania was elected vice president. She enters a four-year commitment to NCHC. In 2006, she will serve as vice president. In 2007, as president-elect, Savage will plan the 42nd annual conference.

Her term as president will be during 2008 and she will remain on the Executive Committee as immediate past president

through 2009.

She defeated Lydia Lyons.

Elected to three-year terms as directors were Patrice Berger of University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Bruce Fox of Northern Arizona University, Bonnie D. Irwin of Eastern Illinois University and Bob Spurrier of Oklahoma State University.

Also on the ballot were Michael F. Bassman of East Carolina University and John Britt of Lee College.

Lauren Huesemann of University of New Mexico defeated fellow students Julie Meigs of Chapman University and Maria L. Parra-Sandoval of University of Nevada, Las Vegas, for a one-year term on the board.

Samantha Sherwood, University of Connecticut, and Oscar Villanueva of Lamar University won two-year student terms.

They defeated Ilana Koymfan of Long Island University-Brooklyn Campus, Darris Saylor of University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and Nicholas A. Steiner of University of Cincinnati.

The newly elected representatives will take office beginning Jan. 1, 2006. Their first board meeting will take place in Tampa, Fla., from Feb. 3-5, 2006.

One thousand one ballots were mailed on Nov. 14. They were due on Dec. 8.

The rate of return was 22 per cent.



Savage



Huesemann



Sherwood



Villanueva



Fox



Irwin



Spurrier

## NCHC offers rare opportunity to students

Honors students at two- and four-year institutions will have an opportunity to participate in humanities, English, sociology and chemistry classes with fellow students from throughout the United States when NCHC offers the 2006 Honors Semester in June: *Blues Terrains: Memphis and the Mississippi Delta*.

Partnering to present the semester is Southwest Tennessee Community College.

Just one month long (5/31-6/29), the program is designed to be an experiential learning project, focused in time and space, to explore a theme -- the Blues -- relevant to Memphis and the Mississippi Delta,

where the courses will take place.

Application deadline is Jan. 23.

The cost is \$3,000 per person and includes tuition, housing, orientation, local transportation, receptions, museum and festival admissions, field experiences and some meals.

Scholarships are available.



Each student will carry an 8-hour load. All students will enroll in an Integrative Seminar: Delta as Text, and each will choose one of three, related, elective classes: Lyrics and Literature on Location; Sociology, Inequality, and the Blues; or The Muddy Waters of Science.

Select students also will have the opportunity to develop performance experience under the tutelage of indigenous musicians.

For an application, course descriptions, and faculty list, click “Honors Semesters” on the NCHC website homepage. Questions? Call Dr. Bernice Braid at 718-780-4379.

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## Deadlines (See Page 3)

- Jan. 6: Deadline for submission of articles to 2006 HIP
- Jan. 11: Board of Directors reservations plans due for Feb. meeting in Tampa
- Jan. 23: Deadline to register for Faculty Institute in Memphis, Tenn.
- Jan. 23: Admission deadline for Blues Honors Semester applications
- Jan. 31: Due date for NCHC site visitor profile updates
- March 1: Deadline for submission of articles to Spring/Summer JNCHC
- Deadline for receipt of applications for consulting matching grants
- March 15: Deadline for receipt of Portz Fund Grant applications
- April 15: Early registration deadline for Site Visitor Training Faculty Institute



## ED-ifying News

by Patricia Ann Speelman,  
Executive Director

I recently sent you an e-mail asking for your ideas about how NCHC can better serve you and your program or college.

As part of the process to professionalize operations, the Board of Directors has established a Strategic Planning Committee and the two groups will work together during three meetings annually to formulate long range plans for the organization, as well as to evaluate progress on short term goals.

The next meeting is in early February and we want to include as much input from the field as we can collect.

Won't you please take a few minutes to fire off an e-mail to me and let me know what you'd like NCHC to do for you. Don't be afraid to dream big. It's only by dreaming that wonderful things happen. Don't set up any limitations on your thoughts. Don't assume that geography, time, funding, or politics can create barriers to progress. They can't! You can e-mail me at [speelman@unlserve.unl.edu](mailto:speelman@unlserve.unl.edu).

To be considered in the next round of discussions, your idea-filled e-mails must reach me by Jan. 15.

On behalf of the NCHC staff, let me take this opportunity to wish you, your staff, faculty, students and family the very merriest of holidays and a new year that is full of prosperity, scholarship, joy and love.

# Grants offered for consulting

New honors programs are eligible to apply for matching grants to support consultants fees. The NCHC Executive Committee has allocated \$1,800.00 for 2006. This amount will be divided into three \$600.00 matching grants for Honors Programs created in the last five years at NCHC institutional member institutions.

Consultants should come from the list of NCHC Recommended Site Visitors.

The NCHC Assessment and Evaluation Committee will review the applications and report with recommendations to the Executive Committee at its spring meeting.

Consulting visits to the three Honors Programs will take place in the summer or fall of 2006.

To apply for one of these matching grants, send an e-mail message to [speelman@unlserve.unl.edu](mailto:speelman@unlserve.unl.edu) with the following information included in an attached document:



1. Name of institution
2. Date honors program was established
3. Name and title of honors administrator
4. E-mail address of honors administrator
5. Telephone number of honors administrator
6. Specific information on how Institution will provide matching funds (not in-kind contribution) for consulting visit
7. Concise description of need for consultant

Electronic applications are due by March 1, 2006.

# Assessment Faculty Institute planned

Watch your NCHC communications soon for details about this 2006 Faculty Institute: "Assessment and Evaluation of Honors Programs and Honors Colleges."

This practical, hands-on institute is for:

1. NCHC members who wish to become an NCHC-recommended Site Visitor (see back of this page for additional requirements and the procedures involved).

2. Faculty and administrators who wish to learn about honors program and honors college evaluation in the context of NCHC's Basic Characteristics of a Fully Developed Honors Program (1994) and Basic Characteristics of a Fully Developed Honors College (2005).

3. Honors deans, directors, and coordinators considering or preparing for a site visit at their institutions.

4. Representatives of institutions considering

moving from an Honors Program to an Honors College.

5. Honors administrators interested in sharing various models for Honors Programs and Honors Colleges.

The institute will take place in Lincoln, Neb., at the NCHC headquarters in Neihardt Residence Center, July 6-8, 2006.

Facilitators will include Ron Brandolini of Valencia Community College, Rosalie Otero of University of New Mexico, Rolland Pack of Freed-Hardeman University, and Bob Spurrier of Oklahoma State University.

The fee for NCHC members is \$300 for registrations postmarked before April 15, 2006; \$400 after that date.

The early registration fee for non-members is \$400. After April 15, non-members will pay \$500.

Hotel accommodations will be at Embassy Suites — Downtown Lincoln and will cost \$99.00 per night, plus applicable taxes, for

single or double room.

An individual who wishes to become an NCHC-recommended Site Visitor must be a current NCHC institutional representative or individual professional member of NCHC and must have attended three out of the last five national conferences, including the conference at which his or her application is considered. The individual also must have successfully completed an NCHC Institute for Site Visitor Training. These Institutes generally are offered every other year and have been held in Brooklyn (2000), Chicago (2002), and Albuquerque (2004).

To be considered, an applicant must submit an application form, abbreviated curriculum vitae limited to Honors and assessment/evaluation activities, the names and addresses of three relevant professional references (at least two must be from institutions other than the applicant's own home institu-

tion), and a one-page statement of the applicant's views on the role of a site visitor.

NCHC's Assessment and Evaluation Committee reviews the application materials and submits the names of persons recommended as new site visitors to the Executive Committee, which has the authority to direct the addition of names to the list of recommended site visitors.

To remain on the list, a site visitor must be a current NCHC institutional representative or individual professional member of NCHC, have attended three out of the last five national conferences (on a rolling basis), update the required information forms for the web page by Jan. 31 of each year (including the institutions for which they have conducted site visits in the previous calendar year), and have conducted at least one site visit or have attended an NCHC Institute for Site Visitor Training in the preceding six years.

## Institute sells out in Miami, a few spots left for sessions in Memphis

**N**CHC Faculty Institutes provide professional development opportunities for faculty interested in understanding the underlying principles of active learning — both the design and the subject matter explored — as exercises in place-based experience.

“Miami and the Everglades: Built and Endangered Environments,” set to run in Florida in January, is sold out.

There are still some openings in “Exploring Blues Terrains: Experiential Teaching and Learning,” scheduled for March 10-15, 2006 in Memphis, Tenn. Registration deadline is Jan. 23, 2006.

Click the “Faculty Institute” button on the NCHC web site home page to get registration forms.

“The Blues, a uniquely Southern art form and a concept of multiple meanings, will serve as the unifying theme,” writes Clarence Christian of Southwest Tennessee Community College who partners with NCHC to present this program.

“Participants in this institute will explore varied terrains of the blues -- cultural, geo-physical, aesthetic, racial/ethnic, and psycho-spiritual -- in search of the people, lore, and myths that are the ‘blues’ in both music and metaphor,” he added.

Explorations will include Beale Street, Mississippi blues museums, the Memphis home of W.C. Handy, Hoo-Doo stores, juke joints, sugar shacks, Elmwood Cemetery and the grave of Ma Rainey II.

The group will spend one night at the Shack Up Inns in the Mississippi

Delta. These authentic “shotgun” shacks, with tin roofs and cypress walls, along with nearby blues-related sites, provide a unique living and learning experience.

Facilitators include Shirley Forbes Thomas of John Brown University, Ada Long of University of Alabama at Birmingham, Bill Daniel of Winthrop University and Bernice Braid of Long Island University, Brooklyn.

Cost of the Institute is \$350.

Lodging is \$89 plus tax for four nights at the Marriott Hotel in Memphis and \$65 plus tax for one night at the Shack Up Inns.

Participants will have the chance to meet esteemed photojournalist Dr. Ernest Withers Sr. and indigenous blues teacher Mr. Johnnie Billington.



**Guitars played by great blues artists add to the allure of Memphis. This one was belonged to the legendary B.B. King.**

## Eight to rotate off Executive Committee

**T**he NCHC newly named Board of Directors (formerly the Executive Committee) bids farewell to eight members whose terms end on Dec. 31. The eight participated in landmark decisions during their time of service, including those to hire an executive director and establish a permanent national headquarters at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Retiring at the end of the year are Immediate Past President Norm Weiner of State University of New York, Oswego; Bruce Carter, Syracuse University; Lydia Lyons, Hillsborough Community College; Nancy Poulson, Florida Atlantic University; Charlie Slavin, University of Maine; Akofa Bonsi formerly of University of Alabama, Birmingham; David Duncan, formerly of University of Florida; and Holli C. Hitt, formerly of Mississippi State University. The last three are student representatives who were graduated in the spring.

Jim Knauer, now retired from Lock Haven University, resigned from the board effective Oct. 31. James Ruebel of Ball State University fills his unexpired term through 2006.

### How to submit

Articles to *Journal of National Collegiate Honors Council* and to *Honors in Practice*: E-mail to Ada Long at [adalong@uab.edu](mailto:adalong@uab.edu)  
Phone: 850.927.3776

Applications/registrations to Blues Terrains Honors Semester or Faculty Institute: Mail completed application (on website) to Bernice Braid, NCHC, Long Island University, 1 University Plaza, Brooklyn, NY 11201  
Email: [braid@liu.edu](mailto:braid@liu.edu)  
Phone: (718) 780-4379  
Fax (718) 488-1370

Applications for Portz Fund grants: Mail to NCHC Portz Fund Committee, Dr. Kate Bruce, Honors Scholars Program, University of North Carolina Wilmington, 601 S. College Rd., Wilmington, NC 28403  
Phone (910) 962-3374  
Fax (910) 962-7020  
Email: [bruce@uncw.edu](mailto:bruce@uncw.edu)

Site Visitor profile updates, Board of Directors travel plans for February meeting, and applications for Consulting Matching grants: Email to [spelman@unlserve.unl.edu](mailto:spelman@unlserve.unl.edu)

### National Collegiate Honors Council

#### Executive Committee

President Jon Schlenker, University of Maine, Augusta  
President Elect Kate Bruce, University of North Carolina, Wilmington  
Past President Virginia McCombs, Oklahoma City University  
Secretary John Madden, Cerritos College  
Treasurer Philip Way, University of Cincinnati  
Larry Andrews, Kent State University  
Richard Badenhausen, Westminster College  
Kambra Bolch, Texas Tech University  
Akofa Bonsi, University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Bruce Carter, Syracuse University  
Danielle Coulter, Ball State University  
David Duncan, Harvard University  
Holli Hitt, University of Alabama, Birmingham  
Jocelyn Jackson, Morehouse College  
Kathleen King, University of Maine, Augusta  
Lydia Lyons, Hillsborough Community College  
Nancy Poulson, Florida Atlantic University  
Jacci Rodgers, Oklahoma City University  
Stephen Rosenbaum, University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
James Ruebel, Ball State University  
Charlie Slavin, University of Maine  
Stephen Wainscott, Clemson University  
Emily Zhivotovskiy, Long Island University, C.W. Post

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



Honors students in nursing at University of Alabama, Birmingham, visited the headquarters of the honor society of nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, in Indianapolis. Ellen Buckner is coordinator of the Honors in Nursing program.

# Honors in Action

To submit photos for "Honors in Action," send as jpgs to [nchc@unlserve.unl.edu](mailto:nchc@unlserve.unl.edu). Enclose information for the captions: people's names, what the activity is, name of school, name of honors director or dean. You must get written permission to publish from anyone in the photos before you send the photos to us.



The University of Cincinnati Honors Program was featured in an article in the Chronicle of Higher Education in October. The article told of these students, who spent 40 hours helping Habitat for Humanity build a house, and then wrote about their experiences. Philip Way is program director.



During a backstage tour at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Canada, students in the honors program at Central Michigan University tried on prop masks used in one of the two performances they attended. The field trip is offered annually by CMU. Jim Hill is program director.



Every two weeks, students in the Honors College at Rutgers University, Camden, cook dinner for families staying in the Ronald McDonald House in Camden. Here, students chop vegetables for salads. Allen Woll is associate dean of the Honors College.



Honors students at Heidelberg College hosted a "Bob the Builder" Party for children at the local library. Program director is Jan Younger.



Tim O'Brien (center), author of *The Things They Carried*, meets with freshman honors students who read his book at Valparaiso University. Margaret Franson is associate dean of Christ College, the Honors College.

# The Job Board -- Positions available across the country

## Michigan State University, Honors College & Graduate School Academic Specialist, Coordinator for National/International Scholarships and Fellowships

Michigan State University seeks a Coordinator for National/International Scholarships and Fellowships. The Coordinator and a support person will work in cooperation with existing Honors College and Graduate School staff and faculty throughout the University to (a) Collect and disseminate information to students, faculty, and academic advisers about major national and international scholarship and fellowship program; (b) Identify and encourage interested and appropriate students to prepare and compete for these awards; (c) Coordinate with faculty advisers to assist students in preparing effective applications; (d) Assist faculty and other staff members in preparing effective letters of recommendation in support of the student applications; (e) Assist in coordinating any required University selection or screening process; (f) Work with Honors College, the Graduate School, University Relations and academic units to ensure that student success in these competitions is known and acknowledged both within and outside the University.

Education: MA/MS or higher

Experience: Knowledge of and experience with the major national and international fellowship programs; experience advising diverse groups of undergraduate & graduate students

The Coordinator will be appointed as an academic specialist, on an annual basis with a rolling fixed term contract. The coordinator reports jointly to the Dean of Honors College and the Dean of the Graduate School. Salary will be commensurate with experience, education and background.

To apply, send application materials (a letter of introduction, a resume, and list of three references) to Ronald C. Fisher, Dean, Honors College, Eustace-Cole Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824-1041. Applications will



be accepted until the position is filled. Expected starting time: January 2006

*MSU is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution*

## Dean of Commonwealth College The University of Massachusetts

Amherst invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of Commonwealth College, the honors college at the University's flagship campus. Commonwealth College is recognized as a leader among honors colleges nationwide and has developed and implemented innovative programs that are now being emulated on campuses across the country. Academically challenging, the curriculum encourages undergraduate students to engage with each other and with faculty, to develop critical thinking and analytical skills, and to gain essential communication and research abilities.

Commonwealth College serves more than 2800 students and is dedicated to helping students to make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of others through research, community service learning initiatives and community diversity and social justice programs.

The Dean of Commonwealth College, who reports directly to the Provost, is responsible for encouraging and facilitating the continued and increased involvement in Commonwealth College of students and faculty from across the campus; collaborating with members of the Deans Council on projects that enhance the undergraduate edu-

cational experience for students enrolled in the College; and developing and implementing programs for active, in-depth learning. Through fundraising and other activities, the Dean is responsible for securing the resources necessary to realize a vision for the College, fostering diversity and social justice among faculty, staff and students, and encouraging and supporting undergraduate research opportunities. The Dean interacts with both on-campus and off-campus constituencies that include, among others, faculty, staff, students, administrators, the President's Office, state legislators, alumni, and private donors.

The successful candidate will have a demonstrated commitment to undergraduate education and research; a strong record of academic administrative experience including effectively managing a staff and multimillion dollar budget; an ability to serve as a vigorous spokesperson and advocate for the College on campus, within the Commonwealth, nationally, and globally; an ability to work effectively with faculty members, students, staff, administrators, alumni, and external constituencies; a dedication to issues of community diversity and social justice; and proven success in fundraising from alumni, private donors and foundations. Candidates are required to have a doctoral degree or equivalent and a distinguished record of teaching, scholarship and research to merit an appointment as a tenured full professor.

The University of Massachusetts Amherst is a vibrant and growing institution, committed to the vigorous enhancement of its stature as a leading public research university. It is home to 19,400 undergraduate and 5,700 graduate students and a world-class faculty in a community fully committed to growth in scholarship, creative performance and production, opportunity, diversity and inclusion. The campus is a member of the Five College Consortium and collaborates with Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke and Smith Colleges on many initiatives and projects. UMass Amherst is in the first year of Amherst 250, an ambitious project to recruit an additional 250 new faculty members over the next five years. Moreover, a \$560 million, five-year capital improvement plan is currently underway, including new construction, renovations and other infrastructure enhancements. Additional information about the campus and Commonwealth College is available online at <http://www.umass.edu> and <http://www.comcol.umass.edu/>

The appointment will be effective on or about July 1, 2006. Nominations are invited. To ensure full consideration, applications, including a curriculum vitae and a statement about the candidate's views on the role of honors in undergraduate education, should be received by January 13, 2006. Acceptance of nominations and applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Please send nominations and applications to [3137@imsearch.com](mailto:3137@imsearch.com) or Mary King at Isaacson, Miller, Inc., 334 Boylston Street, Suite 500, Boston MA 02116.

The University of Massachusetts Amherst is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Women and members of minority groups are encouraged to apply.



*Patti, Nicolette,  
Melissa and Ryan  
wish all of you*