



Bobby "Blue" Bland

Blues legend to visit institute

Well-known authors also on tap for workshop

Ask any blues aficionado to name the music's greatest living legends and the first name you're likely to hear is B.B.King.

But in the very next breath, a true blues fan will list Bobby "Blue" Bland.

Bland, along with noted blues authors John



Pritchard

Pritchard and Robert Gordon, will be among the experts at NCHC's upcoming faculty institute, "Blues Terrains: Experiential Teaching and Learning." The institute is a partnership project with Southwest Tennessee

Community College and will take place in Memphis in March.

Bland recorded for Duke Records in the 1960s and became a household name for discs like "Cry, Cry, Cry," "I Pity the Fool," "Turn on Your Love Light," and "Lead Me On." His career has spanned almost six

decades and he is enshrined in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Pritchard is an English professor who recently published his



Gordon

first book, *Junior Ray*, a novel set in the Mississippi Delta that cradled the blues.

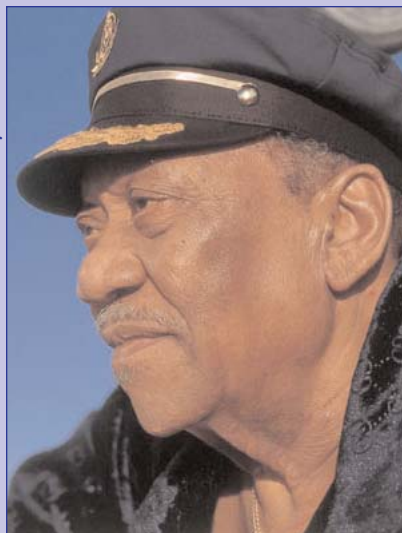
Gordon, a film producer as well as an author, is known for his biography of Muddy Waters, published as a book and presented as a Gordon-produced documentary on PBS in 2003. He also is a Grammy-nominated author of album liner notes.

Participants in this faculty institute will explore famous Beale Street, cemeteries and museums during the workshop.

They will spend a night in authentic "shotgun" shacks in the Mississippi Delta, all while discovering how to incorporate place-as-text methodology in their own course offerings.

The institute runs from March 10-15. Southwest Tennessee Community College coordinator is Dr. Clarence Christian. Facilitators include Dr. Bernice Braid, Dr. Ada Long, Dr. Shirley Forbes-Thomas and Dr. Bill Daniel.

Only two spots remain open in the faculty institute, "Blues Terrains: Experiential Teaching and Learning." If you'd like to fill one of them, go immediately to www.nchchonors.org/MemphisInstituteBrochure.pdf for an application form. Mail it and a check as directed or call NCHC at 402-472-9150 to pay with a credit card.



Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Bobby "Blue" Bland will visit with Faculty Institute participants in Memphis in March.

NCHC announces new art competition for students

NCHC members get a new benefit of membership with the establishment of the organization's Art Purchase Award competition.

Students in member honors programs are invited to submit two- and three-dimensional works for consideration. Annually, NCHC will purchase the winning artwork with a \$250 honorarium to the artist. Purchased work will be exhibited as the NCHC permanent collection in the national headquarters in Lincoln, Nebraska.

"This yearly competition will net

the winning student not only a nice check, but the credit of having work in a private collection," said Patricia Ann Speelman, NCHC executive director, who devised the project.

Judges will be announced next month.

Honors program and college directors should look for contest rules in the mail within the next few weeks.

In addition to the stipend, the winner will receive a complimentary registration to the NCHC annual conference, where he will be introduced during the annual meeting.

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Deadlines and Meetings (See Page 4)

- March 1:
 - Deadline for receipt of dues payments for inclusion in 2006 NCHC handbook
 - Deadline for receipt of applications for consulting matching grants
- March 15:
 - Deadline for submission of articles to Spring/Summer JNCHC
 - Deadline for receipt of Portz Fund Grant applications
- March 20:
 - Deadline for submission of proposals for presentation at 41st annual NCHC conference
- April 15:
 - Early registration deadline for Site Visitor Training Faculty Institute
- May 1:
 - Deadline to make hotel reservations for Site Visitor Training Institute
 - Deadline to enter NCHC Art Purchase Award competition
 - On-line registration for 41st annual NCHC conference opens
- June 9-11:
 - Publications Board meeting, Port Townsend, Washington
- June 15:
 - Strategic Planning Committee meeting, Lincoln, Nebraska
- June 16-17:
 - Committee chair retreat-Board of Directors meeting, Lincoln, Nebraska
- June 23-25:
 - Honors Semester Committee meeting, Brooklyn, New York



ED-ifying News

by Patricia Ann Speelman,
Executive Director

The NCHC staff has expanded. At the end of February, we hired Roy Thomas as a part-time office assistant. So don't be surprised if, when you call the national headquarters, a new voice greets you on the phone. I know you all join me in welcoming Roy to the NCHC family here in Lincoln.

We're just a couple of weeks away from the application deadline, so I'm quite surprised that not one honors program director has requested consideration for a matching mini-grant for 2006. These grants would provide up to \$600 each to three programs who arrange for an NCHC-trained site visitor to consult on their campuses. March 1 is the cut-off date for applications. To apply for one of these matching grants, send an e-mail message to 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.

Portz grant deadline nears

The NCHC Portz Fund Committee solicits applications from NCHC institutional and professional members for small grants (up to \$500.00) and for large grants (normally up to \$1,000.00) with a deadline of March 15.

Portz Fund grants are intended to support Honors program/college innovation.

Look for the Portz Fund link at the bottom of the NCHC home page of the website. It will take you to guidelines and an application form.

Honors in Action



University of Maine at Augusta Honors Program students together with other students from UMA's Office of Community Engagement work together for Habitat for Humanity on Saturday, January 28, 2006. Dr. Jon Schlenker is program director.

To submit photos for "Honors in Action," send as jpgs to 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.



Ada Long, left, and Dail Mullins, Jr., editors of *The Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*, look over submissions for the next issue.

It's not too late to submit an article for the next issue of *The Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council*.

In fact, Editor Ada Long is hoping for more submissions. March 15 is the deadline for the summer issue.

"It will feature a forum on outcomes assessment, accountability and honors,"

Marymount University in Los Angeles. "You can feel like you're out there on your own making changes, implementing ideas, and maintaining day to day operations. For me, the arrival of the *JNCHC* is often a message in a bottle, and it says: 'We're all in the same boat!'"

The first issue of *JNCHC* rolled off the presses six years ago and 12 editions

JNCHC great benefit to member directors

Long said. Each edition of the publication has a theme. Members look forward to getting them in the mail.

"Being an Honors Director is sometimes a lonely position," said Kelly Younger of Loyola

have been issued since then.

"The primary purpose of the *Journal*

... is to promote and disseminate research about honors education and other topics of interest to honors educators," Long noted.

Younger thinks it meets that goal.

"Many aspects of my Honors Program are inspired by what I

have learned through the journal," he said. "It is the best combination of scholarly research, administrative reporting, statistical analysis, and personal narrative.

"These articles are not written simply to 'get published' but to be read and utilized. There aren't many academic journals left in the US that can say the same."

**'I consider the
JNCHC a
necessity.'**

**-- Kelly Younger
Loyola Marymount
University**

2006 conference to offer new feature: Sunday workshops

It may be NCHC's 41st conference, and it may take place in history heavyweight Philadelphia, but there will be nothing old and stodgy about the annual celebration of honors education. In fact, a brand new program will be introduced.

"At the conference this year, we will be introducing 'Sunday Morning Live,'" said Kate Bruce of University of North Carolina, Wilmington, chair of the 2006 event. "It will include interactive workshops with topics such as designing your own City as Text, honors teaching issues in practice, and honors student issues. Watch for details and plan to stay Sunday morning!"

A new project in 2005 will make a re-appearance this fall, she added.

"We will continue the successful, student-organized, silent auction at the opening reception. The Philadelphia Experience evening will be at the remarkable Constitution Center.

"Finally, no NCHC conference would be complete without our perennial favorites such as City as Text, Beginning in Honors, Developing in Honors, Students in Honors, and Master Classes, and our informal networking with colleagues," Bruce noted.

Submit proposals now

The 2006 NCHC Annual Conference proposal forms are up on the NCHC web site (www.nchchonors.org). Proposal submission deadline is March 20, 2006. Please let interested faculty, students, and staff know.

The 2006 NCHC annual conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on November 15-19, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, is sure to be an exciting and educational experience. Embracing the rich historical roots of our host city, the theme of the conference is "Liberty: Foundation for Inquiry, Innovation, and Invention."

We welcome your proposals on this theme, as well as proposals specific to honors pedagogy, honors innovations and programming. Two other incredible forums are offered for student submissions: scholarly posters and student interdisciplinary research panels.

Registration opens May 1

On-line registration for the conference will open May 1. All presenters must be registered by October 15. Early registration (\$250) extends to October 15.



Highlights of the Faculty Institute in Miami, Florida: "Miami and the Everglades: Built and Endangered Environments"

January 2006



Clockwise from top left: First Meeting at the Dynamo Café (from left) Amy Smith, Hilbert College; Kevin Reyes, Long Island University; Bette Goldstone, Arcadia University; Facilitator Peter Machonis, Florida International University; Debra Socci Seminole Community College; Farooq Khan, University of West Georgia; Bob Strikwerda, Indiana University Kokomo; Dan Pardieck, Lander University. Hiking in the Everglades' Shark Valley (from left) Facilitator Devon Graham, Florida International University and Project Amazonas; Emmanuel Iyiegbuniwe, Western Kentucky University; Vernon Sykes, Kent State University. On the trail, an unnamed participant.

Assessment Institute opens sign-ups

Registration is now open for the 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.

Fees and Deadlines

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.

To register, click the "assessment Institute" link on the home page of the website, print out the form and mail or fax it to NCHC headquarters.

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

NCHC's Assessment and Evaluation Committee reviews 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.

Honors in Action



University of Maine at Augusta collaborates with Monroe College, N.Y., in hosting an NIF deliberative forum, "Globalization, Fear or Promise," in January.

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
Phone: 850.927.3776

Applications/registrations to Blues Terrains Faculty Institute: Mail completed application (on website) to Bernice Braid, NCHC, Long Island University, 1 University Plaza, Brooklyn, NY 11201
Email: 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

Applications for Consulting Matching grants: Email to speelman@unlserve.unl.edu

Papers for conference presentation: Click on 2006 Conference Information on NCHC website and follow instructions: www.nchchonors.org.

Applications for Site Visitor Training Institute: Mail to NCHC at address in box below.

National Collegiate Honors Council

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The Job Board -- *Positions available across the country*

Director, University Honors College; Eastern Michigan University invites nominations and applications for an innovative, dynamic individual to provide administrative leadership as Director of the University Honors College at Eastern Michigan University (EMU).

The University Honors College has been an important part of the undergraduate experience at EMU for more than two decades, often garnering special recognition, most recently in the Princeton Review's ranking of the 361 Best Midwestern Colleges. Primary responsibilities as Director of the University Honors College include:

- Administering all aspects of the College, including staffing, curriculum, budget, student certification and public relations
- Increasing diversity of students and staff in the College and improving the performance of Honors students, their experiences, research involvement, outside opportunities, and number of scholarships offered
- Generating additional revenue from grant proposals, fundraisers and major gifts.

This position reports to the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs in Undergraduate Studies and Curriculum.

As a vigorous advocate for the honors learning experience, the Director of the University Honors College will have:

- An earned doctoral degree – preferably in one of the traditional Arts and Sciences disciplines
- At least three years of successful and increasingly responsible teaching and administrative experience in higher education and in an Honors Program
- Academic credentials commensurate with a tenure-track position as an Associate or Full Professor at EMU.

Application review will begin after February 16, 2006 and will continue until the position is filled.

To apply please submit a letter of interest and CV, as well as the name, address, e-mail address, and phone number of four references to: Posting #APAA0602, Eastern Michigan University, 202 Boone Hall, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti MI 48197.

For questions please contact Robert Holkeboer, Search Committee Chair and Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research, either by phone at 734.487.0042 or by e-mail at robert.holkeboer@emich.edu.

Eastern Michigan University is a comprehensive, public, metropolitan university of more than 24,000 students who are pursuing undergraduate, graduate, specialist, certificate and doctoral studies. Eastern Michigan University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer. Women, minorities, veterans and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

Director, Honors College, Polytechnic University/ Associate Director, Othmer Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies

The University seeks a unique, creative, energetic and efficient scholar/administrator who can provide high-level and sophisticated vision and



operational leadership and can oversee the overall growth and development of the recently established Honors College. This individual will hold two important titles: Director, Honors College and Associate Director, Othmer Institute. This position reports to the Director of the Othmer Institute.

The University's Honors College [HC], which falls under the aegis of the Othmer Institute, attracts outstanding undergraduate students locally, nationally and internationally. The HC Director interacts with faculty generally, works closely with the HC College Faculty Governing Board and administrators across campus to ensure broad participation. The HC Director is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the Honors College, including annual review and assessment; assignment of Faculty Mentors, encouraging curriculum development; coordination and scheduling of Honors courses; recruitment, engagement, and retention of HC students; budget; possibly teaching an Honors College course, databases, planning events, outreach literature, fund raising and grant writing; assist promising HC students for nationally and internationally competitive grants and awards, and provide HC students with program information and intellectual and administrative support – including fellowship opportunities and applications, including but not limited to the Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Goldwater, and Fulbright.

As Associate Director of the Othmer Institute, this individual contributes significantly to the overall strategy of the Othmer Institute and works closely with the Director and all Othmer Faculty Fellows in support of the Institute in its various projects. The Associate director must be able to interact substantively with a wide range of faculty and must feel comfortable dealing with issues and activities than span fields and academic disciplines.

Qualifications: Must have superb oral and written communication, interpersonal, organizational and administrative skills. Must enjoy and be effective in working with a diverse community of faculty, students and other university professionals. Must be able to represent effectively the Honors College both internally and externally. Must have an earned Doctorate. Teaching experience is preferred. Must demonstrate a strong commitment to undergraduate educational innovation, interdisciplinary research and education.

Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Please submit a letter, CV, and contact information for three references to: Department of Human Resources, Polytechnic University, 6 MetroTech Center – JB 258, Brooklyn, New York

11201. E-Mail: honorscollege@poly.edu.

Assistant Director for Academic & Co-Curricular Support, Miami University (Oxford, Ohio)

The University Honors & Scholars Program seeks a dynamic, motivated, organized, and student-centered person to provide academic advising and program support to approximately 3,000 high-ability students. This is a full-time, 12-month, salaried position.

Duties and responsibilities for the successful applicant will include the following:

Coordinate all advising and academic support for Honors & Scholars students (e.g., maintain advising records and databases);

Provide proactive advising interventions, communications and outreach;

Coordinate and implement the audit process for all students each semester;

Coordinate the honors thesis process;

Participate in and help plan summer orientation sessions, the undergraduate research forum, recruitment events and graduation ceremony;

Serve as liaison to University advising personnel and divisional and departmental honors advisors;

Identify, recruit, and assist students in preparing for prestigious scholarships and fellowships (e.g., advertising, maintaining website, planning symposia, and mentoring students);

Serve as liaison with the honors student board and work with board members to create regular programming;

Plan, implement and advertise co-curricular programming activities.

Teach 2-3 one-credit honors courses per year;

Serve on relevant University committees;

Prepare regular summary and assessment reports;

Complete other general duties as assigned by the Honors & Scholars Program.

A master's degree in any discipline, and at least one year of advising or other relevant experience in a college or university setting; excellent written and oral communication skills (including public speaking); solid computer technology ability (proficiency in Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, BlackBoard); knowledge of university information technology systems (Banner, Mine, BannerWeb); and strong organizational and collaborative skills.

Experience working in an honors program or other program serving high-ability students; experience with the recruitment and application process for prestigious scholarships and fellowships; experience in planning co-curricular events and working with student groups; experience with academic research; and an understanding of student developmental theory; basic web-editing ability.

Send letter of application, resume and three current letters of reference to Jason Lanter, Chair, Search Committee, University Honors & Scholars Program, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 45056. Screening of applicants will begin **March 1** and continue until the position is filled.

Questions can be directed to Jason Lanter (lanterjr@muohio.edu).