

Bauer College Promotes Honors Business Program

The Honors College and the Bauer College of Business have always enjoyed strong ties, but in the last few semesters, the relationship between the two colleges has deepened. Arthur Warga, Dean of the Bauer College, has made it a stated mission to devote more energy and more resources to creating a specific Honors business program, with a goal of adding to the number of Honors College students in the Bauer College.

“When I became dean [in 2002], I realized that a lot of our resources were not going to our best students,” Warga notes. “It was at that point that we decided to make our association with the Honors College a higher priority.”

Along those lines, the Bauer College has significantly increased the number of Honors sections in its core business classes. Under the guidance and supervision of longtime Honors professor, Dr. Everette Gardner, the Bauer College now offers Honors classes in the departments of Accounting, Decision and Information Science, Finance, Management, and Marketing.

Gardner, the director of the Honors Business program, says that Honors College students will be required to take the Honors sections of those classes required for their degree.

As Gardner explains, “We’ve always offered Honors classes, but we’ve never had a specific, coherent Honors curriculum. Now we will, and we think our best students will benefit greatly as a result.”

“These courses are challenging, to be sure,” says Warga. “But our expectations for students pursuing a degree in the Bauer College have never been higher. A student working on a B.B.A. in Finance or Operations Management, for example, can expect to be challenged as much as a student seeking a degree in Applied Math. That hasn’t always been the case.”

Beyond these new course offerings, the Bauer College is also stepping up its efforts in other areas. Targeted recruiting of Honors caliber high school students begins this spring. To that end, Bauer College representatives will visit area high schools and increase the business presence at all future Honors College high school banquets. Additionally, the Bauer College will add an academic advisor devoted exclusively to Honors students.

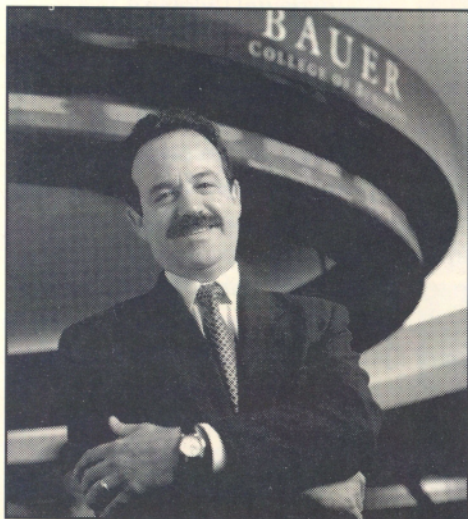
These steps are all part of Warga’s objective to increase Honors enrollment in the Bauer College. “Currently, there are about 200 Honors students in our college. We want to get that number up to 300. And by doing what we’re doing, by creating a type of reward system for our best students, we’re confident not only that we can reach that goal, but that we can reach it soon.”

Gardner agrees, adding, “We’ve got a dozen of our best faculty members involved in our Honors program. We’ve got the AIM Center and other wonderful facilities. We’ve got these new Honors classes. There is no reason to believe that we can’t offer something great to all of our Honors students.”

Dr. Ted Estess, Dean of the Honors College, is excited by the new opportunities as well. “I’m so pleased with the commitment of Dr. Warga and Dr. Gardner. Clearly the prospects for our students in the Bauer College have never been brighter.”



Each semester, the Honors Business Program hosts a mixer for its students. Pictured at last fall's event are (L-R) : Melanie Barr Fitzpatrick (Honors College Admissions Counselor/Academic Advisor); Chatique Sample (FR, Pre-Business); Nadia Al-Haj (JR, Pre-Business); and Anca Loghin (FR, Pre-Business).



Dr. Arthur Warga, Dean of the Bauer College of Business

New Faces of Fall

Professor Helen Hattab

The summer and fall of 2003 saw The Honors College welcome several new members to its teaching ranks and staff. The College also bid a reluctant farewell to several of its recent faculty. Among the new faces this fall is Helen Hattab, who arrives at The Honors College after a stint at Wabash College in Indiana. Originally from the Netherlands, Professor Hattab earned her Ph.D. in Philosophy at the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to her turn as a lecturer and discussion leader in *The Human Situation*, she teaches in the philosophy department at UH. A specialist in Renaissance and early modern philosophy, this fall she taught a graduate philosophy seminar on René Descartes, on whose work she has recently published a pair of articles. In the spring, Professor Hattab will continue researching her forthcoming book, *Causes, Laws and Mechanisms: The Transformation of the Efficient Cause from the Late Scholastics to*



Dr. Mike Barnes leads class discussion outdoors on a sunny October afternoon.

Terry Scholarship to UH in 2004

The University of Houston has been selected as an award institution for Terry Foundation Scholarships for the 2004 academic year, joining both the University of Texas and Texas A&M University.

The Honors College, which will administer the program, will nominate 32 students to be interviewed by The Terry Foundation Board of Directors. The Foundation will grant approximately 16 incoming freshmen up to full scholarships at the University of Houston.

Interested students must apply for the Terry Foundation Scholarship at the University of Houston no later than February 13, 2004. Student selection will be based on leadership, academics, and financial need.

For more information, please contact Assistant Dean Jodie Koszegi <jkoszegi@uh.edu> at 713.743.1752 or visit <http://www.uh.edu/honors/scholarships.html>.

Descartes, at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., where she has a research grant. Of teaching in *The Human Situation*, she remarks, "I am finding it more challenging to teach Human Sit than any other undergraduate course I have taught as a professor. But since I enjoy challenges and am always experimenting with different texts and methods of teaching, it is also proving to be a very rewarding experience."

Dr. Barnes, I Presume?

The college also welcomed—or rather, welcomed back—two other faces that will be familiar to many Honors alumni. Michael Barnes graduated from The Honors College in 1994 with a B.A. in Classical Studies and English. He went on to graduate from the University of Missouri with a Ph.D. in Classical Languages and Literature in the spring of 2003. Professor Barnes' specialty is ancient epic poetry, particularly the Homeric poems and the *Argonautica*, a third-century B.C. E. Greek epic by the scholar-poet, Apollonius of Rhodes. Like Professor Hattab, Professor Barnes teaches in *The Human Situation*, a course he himself took as a freshman in 1989. Asked to describe what it's like to be the only Honors student who has returned to teach Human Sit, he says, "It's a remarkable situation; in fact, if I think too much about it I get a little dizzy. There's a pretty common technique in epic poetry called ring-composition, in which an episode—a battle, say, or an assembly—is introduced and concluded by similar narrative elements that 'ring' that episode. It's occurred to me that there's something of a ring composition to my adult life—my years in grad school framed by my years as a student in The Honors College and now as a Human Sit professor in the very same place." In addition to his teaching duties, Professor Barnes is at work on a series of articles on Apollonius and is the assistant editor of the forthcoming *Blackwell Companion to Ancient Epic*.

Jodie Returns as Assistant Dean

Jodie Köszegei's association with The Honors College extends over the last 20 years, beginning with her matriculation as an undergraduate in the fall of 1983. After graduating with a B.A. in Political Science, Jodie (then Jodie Fiore) entered the University of Houston Law Center, earning her J.D. in 1990. As The Honors College's Coordinator of Academic Services for eight years, Jodie established herself as a men-

tor for hundreds of Honors College students. Her multi-faceted position as a recruiter, admissions officer, and primary academic advisor allowed her to shepherd Honors College students from their freshman summer orientation all the way through graduation. For her work, Jodie won both the George Magner Award for excellence in undergraduate advising and The Honors College Distinguished Service Award. This summer Jodie returned to the college as the new assistant dean, where she will continue her work in undergraduate academic affairs while also devoting herself to a variety of special projects, including the reorganization of The Honors College website and the establishment of the new chapter of Terry Scholars on the University of Houston campus.

...And a Fond Farewell

Three recent post-doctoral teaching fellows—Andrew Hass, Michael Moore, and Traci Levy—have departed The Honors College for positions elsewhere. Professor Hass accepted a position in Scotland to teach at the University of Stirling; Professor Moore joined the history faculty at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville; and Professor Levy is now a member of the department of political science at Adelphi University.

In Other News...

In other faculty news, Cynthia Freeland spent the fall semester in Washington, D.C. working on a book on the aesthetic issues surrounding art forgeries, while Robert Zaretsky is putting the finishing touches on his second book, *Cock and Bull Stories: Folco de Baroncelli and the Invention of the Camargue*, due out in March 2004 from the University of Nebraska Press.



New Assistant Dean Jodie Kőszegi is pictured here with fellow Honors administrators and students at this year's NCHC gala, hosted at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. L-R: Junius Taville (JR, Mechanical Engineering); Associate Dean Bill Monroe; Zimuzo Agim (JR, Finance); Sara Keeton (SO, Biology); Katie Stout (JR, Communications); Christina Mosely (SO, Math); Dr. Michael Barnes; Patrick Shea (SR, Biology); Dean Ted Estess; and Melanie Barr Fitzpatrick, Admissions Counselor/Academic Advisor.



Dr. William Monroe and Dr. Ross Lence survey the progress of the new building. They are pictured here standing in the second-floor atrium of the new Honors College lobby.

The Ten and The Hundred Update

Have you joined "The Ten and The Hundred"? The Ten and The Hundred committee, chaired by Dr. Bill Monroe and Dr. Ross Lence, is a special opportunity for alumni to honor Dean Ted Estess in the new Honors College space.

The committee is comprised of 10 alumni who have pledged \$10,000 each and 100 alumni who have pledged \$1000 each to name the Estess Alumni Library. The committee will be featured in a prominent place within the library, which will be a highlight of the new space and host to guest lectures, special events, and Senior Honors Thesis defenses.

Currently, more than \$170,000 has been raised through the committee, but there are still a few spaces left to meet the \$200,000 goal. For more information about joining The Ten and The Hundred, please contact Dr. Bill Monroe <wmonroe@uh.edu> or Dr. Ross Lence <rlence@uh.edu>.

Happy Birthday to the Honors Retreat: a Retrospective

For the past 20 years, the Honors Retreat has served as a rite of passage for many Honors College students and faculty. For the students who attend the retreat, the experience typically has a formative and profound impact. Friendships begin and deepen over shared meals and group activities; an appreciation and understanding for one another's gifts, talents and cultures starts to grow; romances are kindled. Although the format of the

to begin building friendships conducive to a learning community."

This year marks the 20th birthday of the Honors Retreat under Dr. Estess' leadership in The Honors College. However, many of the college's graduates are probably unaware that the first Honors Retreat (or "Honors Weekend," as it was titled in the fall of 1983) was not in fact the first incarnation of an Honors getaway from the university. The Honors Program was founded in 1958 and Honors students began retreating into the piney woods as early as the 1960s. In September 1970, the fourth annual Honors Conference served as "an orientation retreat for all Honors Program students, some faculty and a few guests" (Fall 1970 Honors Program Newsletter). The entering freshman class was then comprised of 55 members, contrasted to today's entering classes of around 300. Students rode on un-air-conditioned buses to El Rancho Cima, a Boy Scout camp near San Marcos. The Honors Conference took place over three days at the beginning of the school year. As part of the conference, attendees broke into small groups to discuss a variety of pre-assigned reading materials, including *The Population Bomb* by Paul Ehrlich and *Steppenwolf* by Herman Hesse. In the evenings, students broke into small groups designed to assist competitive students in adjusting to a positive interdependent environment. Campers also took advantage of opportunities to horse-back ride, hike, canoe and swim in the river.



Deans Monroe and Estess enjoy a relaxed moment with Dr. Ross Lence during a plenary session at the 2001 Honors Retreat.

Honors Retreat has changed over the years, its purpose has remained constant. Dr. Ted Estess, Dean of the Honors College, sees the retreat as "an occasion for students and faculty of The Honors College, both commuting and residential, to go for a couple of days and nights and begin to get to know each other..."



Honors Weekend 1984 at Camp Manison, Pearland: Dr. Douglas Dyckes (Associate Director), Dr. Ted Estess (Program Director), Sharon Long Damoff ('84, English), Terry Ussery Sherrill ('84, Accounting), Roger Joyner ('86, Electrical Engineering); and Steven Crockett ('86, Chemical Engineering) cheerfully warm the bench with Mrs. Maria Holmes, the Program's then-Coordinator of Academic Services, during the annual faculty/student softball game.

Despite the lack of air-conditioning, the challenges of scaling "Appetite Hill" for dinner each evening and enduring chilly nights spent outside in tents, these Honors Conferences were recorded for posterity with the "general impression . . . that practically everyone would like to return there next year (with the exception . . . of those hardy souls who prefer to rough it at a motel)" (Fall 1970 Honors College Newsletter).

In contrast, the Honors Retreat (as it was christened in the mid-'80s) now takes place at Camp Allen, a retreat and conference center located approximately 55 miles northwest of Houston. While students still travel to Retreat by bus, the buses are now air-conditioned, with reclining seats and video monitors. Although Camp Allen's motel-style accommodations have always been considered by some in Honors to epitomize "roughing it," the addition of two new residential wings within a stone's throw of the conference center affords all attendees a leisurely stroll to the dining hall.



James Gibbons ('74, English) paddles his canoe across the lake at El Rancho Cima during the 1970 Honors Conference.

There can be no doubt that recent Honors students are enjoying decidedly upgraded accommodations than the early Cima pioneers.

These changes have not gone unnoticed by The Honors College administration. Dr. Estess echoes those early Honors alums when he notes that “suffering creates community,” and hints with a smile that a return to a less luxurious venue might come under consideration someday. And although there are no plans at present to incorporate pre-assigned readings into the community-building structure of the Honors Retreat, the latter-day retreats continue to enjoy a high success rate with students because of the many opportunities for student interaction the retreat offers.

Some events of the modern retreats may have no counterpart in the early retreats but other aspects of the retreat are very similar. Campers have always participated in plenary sessions hosted by a variety of faculty and facilitators. For two decades, experienced students have sought to initiate the new by conducting interest sessions whose topics have changed little



Softball teams at the 2003 Honors Retreat even had their own cheerleaders. (L-R): Kim Black (Biology, SR); Magda Szczesniak (Music Performance, SR); Michael Lassoff (English, SR).

students and play softball. Although teams for the annual games have occasionally fallen along lines of students versus faculty, it is likelier to see teams evenly mixed, with as many as 25 players taking the field at a time.

The returning students who come to Honors Retreat as counselors each year serve as the cornerstone for Honors community-building. For Dr. Estess, one of his favorite things about the retreat is “seeing the counselors reconnect with each other and getting to know the new students.” Despite the variety of motivations for attending, nearly all counselors value this opportunity to participate in an Honors tradition and to pass down the oral history of The Honors College.

Do you have an interesting Retreat memory you'd like to share? Email your story to Jodie (jkoszegi@uh.edu). Your story may appear in a future newsletter or on The Honors College website.



The yellow color group flashes tired but satisfied smiles following their successful completion of Camp Allen's Ropes course at the 1992 Honors Retreat.

in the interim: life in the residence halls, finding things to do in the city of Houston, writing that first Human Situation paper, and balancing extra-curricular activities with studies. And what began as a campfire sing-along has become in recent years the Honors Follies. Amidst the not inconsiderable singing, dancing, instrumental and comic performances always rendered, there is inevitably the unexpected. In the fall of '94, one freshman became infamous as he claimed to absorb nutrients through his skull by smashing various foodstuffs into his head. No doubt the early conferences had their share of highly charged, highly imaginative performers as well.

Faculty participation has consistently played a large role in the development of the Honors community. Faculty members come out to Camp Allen to participate in plenary sessions, conduct majors workshops, enjoy lunch with the



The pink color group takes on a team-building challenge under Camp Allen's Pavilion at the 1997 Honors Retreat.

alumni notes

1989-90

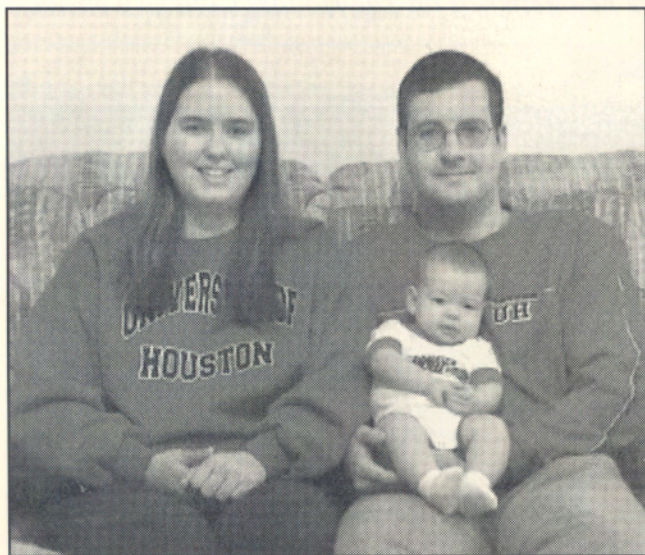
Brian Murray ('89, Hotel and Restaurant Management) is Associate Dean of Undergraduate Business Programs for the College of Business at the University of Dallas. Among his projects there has been the development of a new undergraduate business curriculum that is integrated with the traditional liberal arts mission of the University of Dallas. <bmurray@gsm.udallas.edu>

Ben Olguin ('89, Spanish) is an assistant professor in English at the University of Texas-San Antonio. He is currently completing a book on Chicana and Chicano Prisoner Culture, *La Pinta: History, Culture, and Ideology in Chicana and Chicano Convict Discourses*, which is being co-sponsored by the National Research Council. <bolguin@utsa.edu>

Tim Devetski ('90, Mathematics & Political Science) works in the tax section of Vinson & Elkins, where he was recently named Partner. <tdevetski@velaw.com>

Brad Slywka ('90, Biochemistry & Biophysics) completed his residency in emergency medicine at the University of Louisville. He now lives with his wife and two daughters in Grand Rapids, Michigan, where he works as an attending physician and as a partner in a group that staffs two large hospitals in Grand Rapids. <bradslywka@aol.com>

Mark Turner ('90, Political Science) recently completed the Master of Divinity degree at the Cranmer Theological House in Houston.



Tim Brown ('97, Chemical Engineering), Michelle Devor-Brown ('99, Interdisciplinary Studies), are pictured here at home with their son Nathaniel, born in August of 2003. Tim and Michelle met each other at the 1995 Honors Retreat.

1991-95

Alan Austin ('91, Music) is the special projects director at the Moores School of Music and the executive director of the Texas Music Festival, a prestigious event sponsored by (and held in) the Moores School each summer. It attracts gifted young musicians from around the world. <tmf@uh.edu>

Trey Wilkinson ('92, Marketing; MBA '02, Finance) lives in Houston, where he recently joined the Houston Private Bank at Bank of America as a Private Client Manager. He had spent the last seven years with AIM Investments. He also serves as the official scorer at selected Houston Astros home baseball games. <treywilkinson@houston.rr.com>

Nichol Bradford ('94, Marketing) is Brand Manager in the Marketing division of Vivendi Universal Games (www.vugames.com) in Los Angeles, California. <nicholbradford@hotmail.com>

Corin Hoggard ('94, Biology) produces the highly rated 6 a.m. weekday newscast on Houston's Channel 13 (KTRK). In the little spare time that job leaves him, he freelances for majorleaguebaseball.com and performs in Halley's Comic (www.halleyscomic.com), a sketch comedy troupe. <choggard@houston.rr.com>

Eric Hoggard ('95, Biology) lives in Roseville, Minnesota, and recently began the second year of his radiology residency at the University of Minnesota. <hogg0007@umn.edu>

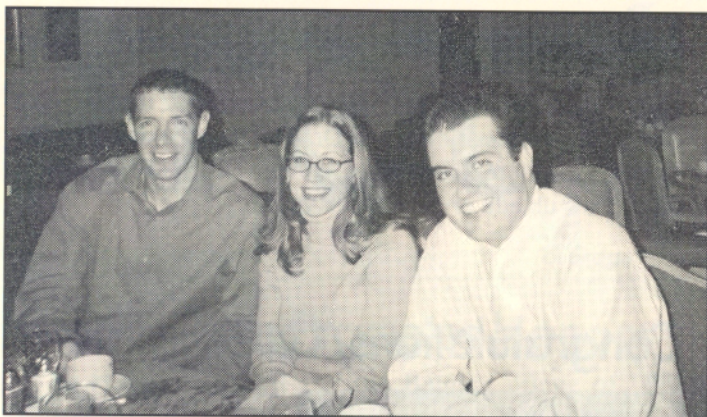
Matthew Mucker ('95, Medical Technology) works for Microsoft in Dallas and is pursuing an MBA at the University of Texas at Arlington. <matthew@mucker.net>

1996-97

Fermeen Fazal ('96, Biology; '97, English; '00, J.D.) is currently working at the Texas Supreme Court for Justice Michael Schneider in Austin. She had been an associate in the litigation and appellate sections of Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP for two years. <fermeenf@yahoo.com>

David Newstead ('96, English/Creative Writing) finished his master's degree at Texas A&M-Corpus Christi, writing his thesis on larval fish ecology and freshwater inflows to estuaries. <djn15301@kestrel.tamucc.edu>

Jack Middlebrooks ('96, Biology) finished his residency in internal medicine at UCLA in June 2003, took his board exams, and is now in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. <jmiddleb@eudoramail.com>



On Saturday, November 8, more than 25 alumni gathered in Chicago to enjoy brunch and the company of old friends. Catching up are Joel Westra ('98, Political Science); Anne Rinn ('00, Psychology); Bill Cochrane ('00, Management). The brunch was hosted at the Palmer House Hilton as part of this year's NCHC festivities.

Eric Ellwanger ('97, Management) received a major fellowship to support his pursuit of a Master's of Public Administration degree at the University of North Texas. His wife **Tara** ('97, Finance) finished her MBA at Duke University and is an analyst with American Airlines. <ellwangers@attbi.com>

Angélique Jamail ('97, English/Creative Writing) is pursuing an MFA in Writing at Vermont College while continuing to teach English at Kinkaid High School in Houston. <angelique.jamail@kinkaid.org>

1998-99

Josh Breeden ('98, Architecture) lives in New York City, where he works for an architectural firm called SHoP (Sharples Holden Pasquarelli). One of his design projects at Columbia University won the Lucille Smyser Lowenfish Memorial Prize for best final semester design solution at graduation and was written up in the June 2003 issue of *Architectural Record*. <joshbreeden1001@hotmail.com>

Alan Julson ('98, Political Science & Economics) is living in the Washington D.C. area, where he is the Voter File Project Director for the Democratic National Committee. <aljulson@netzero.net>

Erin Moore Daly ('98, English) went to New York City and spent a year working for Teach for America in Harlem. She then took on a marketing and writing position with Garrison Architects in SoHo. She still pursues her interests in Jung and philosophy. <daly@garrisonarchitects.com>

Alice Cherqui ('99, Biology & Classical Studies) graduated from medical school at UTMB and began her neurosurgery residency in Kansas City, Kansas, in June 2003. <amcherqui@msn.com>

Ginny Fugarino ('99, English & Psychology; '02 Master's in Occupational Technology) is a Human Resources Specialist at the Houston Division of H-E-B. This fall she began her graduate studies in literature at the University of Houston. In her spare

time, she volunteers for the Houston READ Commission and the Houston Area Women's Center. <fugarino.ginny@heb.com>

Mindi Morris ('99, Psychology) left her Library Development post at UH to enter nursing school at North Harris College this past fall. <mindimorris@hotmail.com>

Lesley Sisterhen ('99, Music) is finishing a Doctor of Musical Arts degree at the University of Oklahoma. She also teaches piano at the University of Central Oklahoma, where she is an adjunct faculty member. <lsisterhen822@cs.com>

2000-02

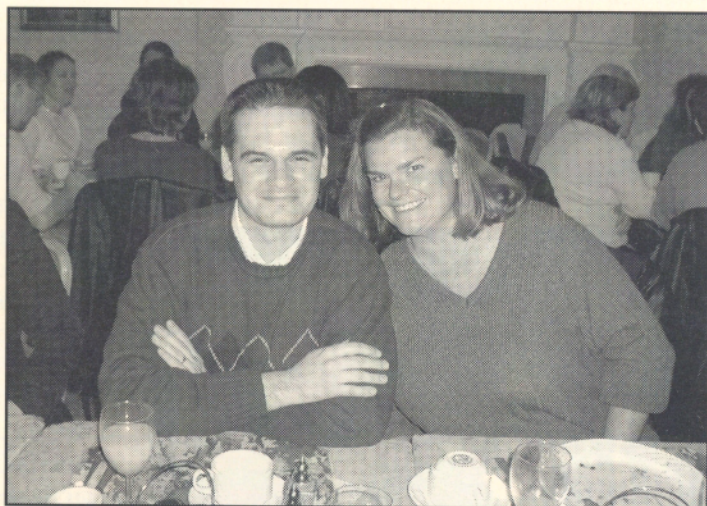
Vera June ('00, Political Science) is in her second year at Stetson University Law School. She has just published a book entitled *Single and Finally Satisfied* (available at www.1stbooks.com).

Jay Sun ('01, Applied Music) is currently pursuing two degrees at UH, a BS in computer science and a Master's of Music in piano performance. He expects to graduate in the fall of 2004. <re_famire@yahoo.com>

Julie Glasco ('02, History) has begun law school at the University of Iowa after working in the Houston office of Fulbright & Jaworski for a year. <jglasco@fullbright.com>

Lukas Grabiec ('02, Political Science) is studying for his MBA at the Theseus Institute in Sophia Antipolis, France. <lukas.grabiec@theseus.fr>

Anne-Marie Konshak ('02, Biology) finished her second year at the UH College of Optometry and was accepted into the Army health professions scholarship program. <akonshak.2006@alumni.opt.uh.edu>

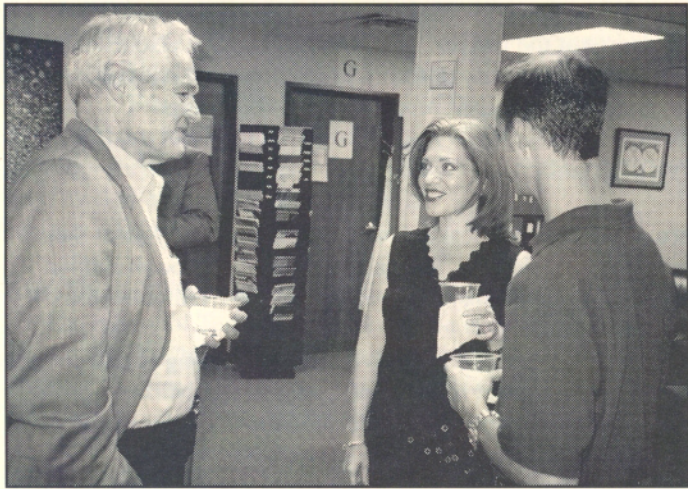


Also in attendance at the Alumni Brunch were Andrew Swiston ('93, Computer Science) and Therese Browne Johnson ('88, Psychology). Both reside with their families in the Chicago area.

**We want to hear from you! Please email
Brenda Rhoden with your alumni updates
at bjrhoden.uh.edu**

Honors Alumni Event

On Saturday, October 4, 2003, The Honors College hosted a reception for the School of Theatre's performance of *The Nerd*. Over two dozen alumni gathered for food, libations, and camaraderie prior to the evening's production.



Dean Estess visits with Pam Previtte O'Brien ('86, French) and her husband, Heath Quebedeaux, at The Honors College reception preceding *The Nerd*.

Alumni Association Happy Hours

Look for The Honors College banner! The Honors College Alumni Association Happy Hours will be held on the first Thursday of each month, from 5-8 p.m. For more information about The Honors College Alumni Association (or to become a board member), please contact Brenda Rhoden at 713-743-9025 or bjrhoden@uh.edu.

March 4, 2004
Sherlock's West Gray
(above Birraporetti's)
1997A West Gray Street
Houston, TX 77019

April 1, 2004
The Social
(west of downtown)
3730 Washington Ave.
Houston, TX 77007



Nancy Mangum McCaslin ('83, English) and her husband, Randy McCaslin, enjoy themselves at *The Nerd* reception.

Study Abroad Opportunity

Join The Honors College in France on June 12 through June 26, 2004. Dr. Ross Lence and Dr. Bill Monroe will be your guides. For more information, contact Brenda Rhoden at bjrhoden@uh.edu or 713-743-9025.

Congratulations, Queen Kate!



2003 Homecoming Queen Kate Dalton (SR, Psychology).

The Cougars may not have done very well during their homecoming loss to Southern Miss, but one Honors College student had a great day, anyway. On Saturday, November 8, during halftime of the football game, Kate Dalton (SR, Psychology) was chosen as the 2003 University of Houston Homecoming Queen. Congratulations to Kate from The Honors College.

The Great Conversation

This year's annual Great Conversation, chaired by Steve & Vicki Smith, will be held on Wednesday, March 31, 2004 at the Houston Country Club at 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Molly Block at mblock@central.uh.edu or by phone at 713-743-9741.

The Honors College

713-743-9010

www.uh.edu/honors

To apply to The Honors College, visit
www.uh.edu/honors/appladmis.html