

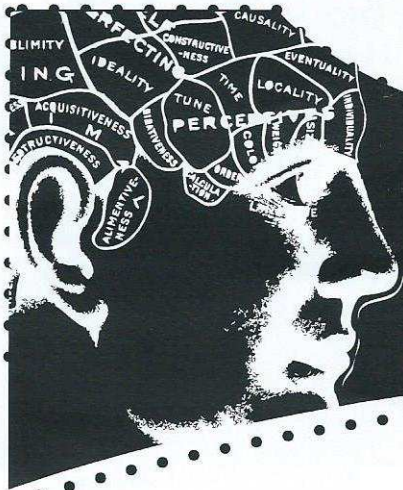
**OTC
HONORS
PROGRAM**

**THE PINNACLE
DESTINATION KNOWN**

**2012
2013**

Nam et ipsa scientia potestas est.

**THE HONORS PROGRAM PROVIDES ACADEMICALLY
EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO
DEVELOP THEIR FULL POTENTIAL THROUGH
THE ENHANCED LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
OF A DESIGNATED COMMUNITY
OF SCHOLARS**



VOL 3

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**NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR:
Todd Yerby**

This has the potential to be a good story... I really get tired of hearing about potential. When someone tells you that you have potential, though it is almost always intended as a compliment, I don't necessarily take it as one. To me, when someone says that you have potential, it's akin to them saying, "You'll do better next time". I hear all the time that our students have potential, and though I know it is meant in a complimentary fashion, I fear that it looks well into the future and often overlooks the good works of the moment. Don't settle for hearing that you have potential, after all potential might be nothing more than a lack of doing in the moment with a focus toward tomorrow. Do well now, and let that become an expectation, so much so that folks have no time to talk about your potential. Current behavior is the best indicator of future behavior, and based on your current behavior I don't want you to have promise, not the opportunity for great things but the expectation.



MAXINE SZURA, VP of Activities

Welcome, Welcome, Thanks for stopping by! I have had such an honor to be the VP of Activities and as the year is ending I am getting excited for the end of the year event. Our Poll results were overwhelmingly for the Springfield Cardinals Game! I am hoping we can get together a bit before the game to grill some hotdogs and hamburgers! I am graduating this semester and I hope next year's VP enjoys the position as much as I have! Next semester I plan on going to MSU and start working on a Bachelors in Psychology to gain a Master's in Occupational Therapy. Best of Luck to all of the Graduates and Future Graduates! Thanks for being a part of the Honors Program!



LIFE'S IRONIES

By Niki Ferguson

For those of you that tend to notice the ironic bits of life, at least the irony that reveals itself; it is better than an aggregate of chaos with no decipherable trends.

College can take a lot out of you and that is without all the additional stressors in life. It is easy to turn to a cynical disposition; the more admirable task is illuminating the silver linings. Be that person. Be the person that lights up the room. Smile.

I know more cynical people than I do encouraging people and it is a shame. I have to make a conscious effort to remind myself that happiness is contagious. I am planting the seed to watch it grow.

So as you all continue down that less traveled road, remember that we are all part of the same race and most people are inclined to connect with you if you meet them on their terms. There is far more good in the world than people perceive; the key is recognizing it. Once again—smile!

The History of OTC Honors Program: Part II

BY KATHY SHELDAHL— An Honors Representative for the VP of Academic Integrity
— Newsletter designer

(Continued from volume 2)

It is a testament to the passion and commitment of the faculty, involved in Honors, that there were some professors who taught classes pro bono in the beginning; to help give a good start to this program.

The Honors Program of OTC has grown from the first seven students who completed the Honors Seminar during the spring 2009 semester, to about seventy-five students in the fall 2012 semester; and from three courses offered throughout 2009, to approximately twenty-five sections being offered in the 2012/2013 academic year.

Just a few of the benefits of membership in the Honors Program are the ability to transfer OYC honors credits to many four-year colleges, several scholarship awards dedicated specifically for Honors students; up \$2,000 in OTC Foundation scholarships and up to \$30,000 in institution scholarships.

Regarding the goal of students being service-oriented; it has been documented that over 850 hours of community, campus involvement, cultural and leadership service were logged in the 2011/2012 school year.

One of the most important functions of the Honors Program continues to be recruitment; always looking for and finding venues to make people more aware of the existence and benefits of being a member of the Honors Program. Where would the Program be without those who are committed to excellence in education?

Author's note: I would like to extend my appreciation to Shirley Lawler and Marcia Wheeler for their help and direction, and to Rita Jackson who made herself available for my questions. Also, thanks to Mr. Yerby for granting an interview at such short notice and most of all, thank you Dr. Caron Daugherty for your hugely invaluable contributions, I couldn't have asked for more!

ANGELA MILTON

VP of Fundraising, Honors Student Council



Hello everyone, I hope the semester is treating you all well so far! We have several fundraisers planned this semester so be sure to watch your announcements. Our bake sales and other fundraisers provide a great opportunity for you to earn service hours. I look forward to working with you this semester and good luck with your classes.



“Quotes”

There is no end to education. It is not that you read a book, pass an examination, and finish with education. The whole of life, from the moment you are born to the moment you die, is a process of learning.

- Jiddu Krishnamurti -

Submitted by Jennifer Loo

"Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity."

- Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968)

Submitted by Kathy Sheldahl



Word of the Month

Verbigeration:

(vər-bij'ə-rā'shən) n.

Obsessive repetition of meaningless words and phrases, especially as a symptom of mental illness.

*From Latin verbigerātus, past participle of verbigerāre, to chat, dispute, from *verbiger, carrying words : verbum, word; see verb + gerere, to carry.]*

EG: “The speaker’s verbigeration had his listeners scratching their heads in confusion.”

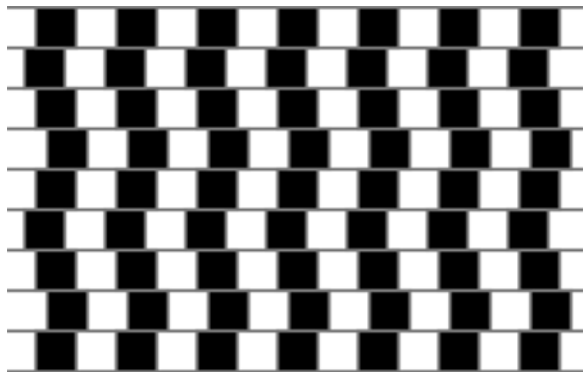
Mental Break

The logic professor posted a notice on his class door: "Class is canceled today on account of spring. We will meet again at 1:00 P.M. three days after two days before the day before tomorrow." What day does the class meet?

Unscramble

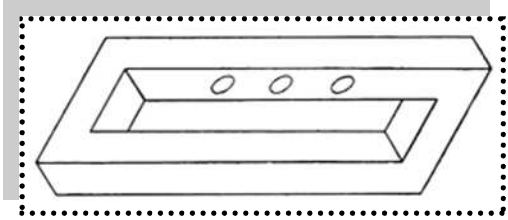
- OMME _____
- MIDIO _____
- ALARID _____
- STAMYGN _____
- DITY _____
- TACED _____
- RUMENA _____
- LOSEORA _____

There's a three digit number which:
 If you add seven to it it divides exactly by seven;
 If you add eight to it it divides exactly by eight;
 If you add nine to it it divides exactly by nine.
 What is the number?



I N T E L L E C T U A L E P Y
 I S H R E W D T B S Q L R E L
 D N R U Z A T R U U B E A R R
 E B T Y H B I O I A V S T C A
 T Y F E M L I C E E C M I E L
 F T N K L C K G L E D A O P O
 I D V I I L D C R E X R N T H
 G R A D A E I E B J Z T A I C
 R N U K L R B G E S I W L V S
 T J Q W R R B L E S V Q C E R
 U U O T A M D S E N S I B L E
 O N H L N L U F R E T S A M N
 K L A C I G O L F A L N F L W
 N O I R Y D M T O Y I B S I S
 X P B S R D H U P J S H A R L

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| ABLE | LOGICAL |
| BRAINY | MASTERFUL |
| BRILLIANT | PERCEPTIVE |
| CEREBRAL | QUICK |
| CLEVER | RATIONAL |
| GIFTED | SCHOLARLY |
| INTELLECTUAL | SENSIBLE |
| INTELLIGENT | SHREWD |
| JUDICIOUS | SMART |
| KNOWLEDGEABLE | WISE |



Are the holes on the inside or outside?



INVESTING IN SERVICE

By Kaitlyn Schumacher

As honors students we are required to do fifty hours of community service. I have seen that the main concern of honors students is that they may not complete those hours. I have just started my journey in this program and I have already completed 10 of my hours. You see, completing these hours is not as hard as you might think. Think of it as you are investing in community service.

Investing is a difficult thing but you invest more than you may realize; for example, if you decide to eat a healthy snack instead of an entire bag of Doritos you are investing in your health, or if you purchase a fuel efficient car you're investing in transportation and, whether you like it or not, protecting the environment. When you invest in service you are investing in your community, the lives of the people you are helping, and yourself.

With investing comes sacrifice and risk. Let's face it there is no way you can serve without sacrificing something. You may be sacrificing your finances by donating to the cause or even valuable study time but as with investing there is some cost that has to be paid before you will ever obtain any form of profit. When you are investing in service you often have to plan ahead which means that you may miss a concert you have been looking forward to, or hanging out with your friends. Risk and sacrifice are the hardest parts and unfortunately they come before reward but you know that reward is coming.

When you are serving you have to put others first, see the world through their eyes, and reach out to help meet their needs. You can learn so much from people you never met before, but by lending a hand and taking time to reach out to them you will see just how much your investment means to them. When you teach a child a new skill or simply listen to that retired veteran in the nursing home tell you stories of World War II and see how you have added a bit of happiness to their day you will see how much your sacrifice and time meant to them.

Nothing beats the feeling of knowing you have helped another person. That is the reward I am talking about. In the scheme of things when you look back at your life you won't remember the time you missed out on karaoke night or what your grade was on that paper, but you will remember the smile on that vets face or the moment when that child finally understood math and that was all due to your investment in caring about them.

My Investment

I am a firm believer in practice what you preach. As I wrote in my article Investing In Service I told you how you can invest in service, but that is not just something I wrote. It comes from experience. I believe in order to get the most out of your service experience you need to serve in an area the you can 1) relate to the people you are serving 2) have a strong desire to serve a specific group of people or 3) enjoy what you are doing to serve these people. In my case I have all three.

I come from a low income single parent household, with that background I understand how hard it can be to be a part of anything. I also have a strong desire to reach out and help others who are going through this experience. I was blessed enough to be able to take dance, be a member of the swim team and be a cheerleader. I choose to use those talents to volunteer my time to offer swim lessons, dance lessons, and cheerleading to children who can't afford to learn otherwise.

Now, with that being said, I do enjoy doing volunteer time but sometimes it can be difficult. While I do teach voluntarily I also teach for the YMCA. My sacrifice is that I sometimes have to give these kids my time and energy when I simply don't have it. I might have to work a eight hour day and still have to teach these kids. My risk is that these kids might have a rough home and school life and not want to listen and rebel against what I have told them. I have to be patient and understand where they are coming from and, even though it is irritating and draining, give them the best opportunity to learn.

My favorite story to tell is when I volunteered my time to teach one child how to swim. We'll call him Taylor. When Taylor first started swimming with me I wasn't sure how much I could take. Taylor loved to jump in and out of the pool but didn't really want to sit still long enough to learn to swim. After a bit of patience on my part we were able to learn

to swim. Today Taylor is a member of the local swim team and last year was the high point winner at the championship meet. Now I'm not going to take all the credit, but my hour a day was the foundation that Taylor's love of swimming was built on. If I hadn't taught Taylor to swim heaven only knows the path Taylor would have taken.

I also enjoy English. I have loved writing since I was in 4th grade and writing has always been easy for me. After graduating high school I have had an opportunity to help one student to learn how to write an essay. English is this student's second language and as a senior in high school his teachers felt he should know by now how to write a basic essay. After a hour of just teaching him the basics he was able to learn to enjoy writing, take pride in what he wrote, and receive his first A on a paper. He now is applying to go to college, a dream that he felt was unachievable because of his inability to write well.

As one of the coaches for the swim team I was there when Taylor won that award. I will say I could not have been more proud. Taylor one day wants to be a lifeguard and teach swim lessons himself and that student I was telling you about wants to be a teacher and coach football. Words cannot express how proud I am of these two, not because I lead them there but because they now had a sense of accomplishment, purpose, and determination. I have had numerous students and over the years I have seen them grow up to be great kids. Their accomplishments are my reward, I am so happy for them when they reach that goal. When you're investing in service take the time to care about the people you are helping. They may not mean a lot to you but your help means the world to them and can impact their lives in a way you can't even imagine.

JASON HODGE, VP of Academic Integrity **The Start of a New Tradition: The 2013 Honors Conference**

On March 2, the OTC Honors Program hosted the first OTC Honors Conference, featuring presenters from OTC and Missouri State University - West Plains. This was a great opportunity for students to get experience presenting at a conference, as well as a chance to see presentations on a wide variety of topics. These topics ranged from biology to literature. One popular presentation, featuring alumni from both OTC and MSU-West Plains, discussed the experience of transitioning from a two-year college to a four-year university.

In addition to these educational presentations, there was also a viewing of the movie *Argo*, a formal dinner, and a concert by the OTC Performance Choir. This was the first OTC Honors Conference, but we plan to continue it in the future, allowing area students who may not be able to attend large regional conferences the chance to get experience attending and presenting at conferences. The Conference was a rewarding experience for all those involved, and will hopefully grow to include more schools in the future.



Graduate Questionnaire: This semester's graduates were asked to answer a few questions regarding their experiences at OTC, in the Honors Program and their plans for the future. Here are the questions and responses we received.

1. What is your major?
2. What inspired you to choose the path you've taken?
3. What is the one thing that drives you to your goal?
4. How has your experience with the Honors Program been?
5. Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Hannah Schumann:

1. As of now, my major is Biomedical Sciences/Pre Cell and Molecular Biology.
2. I would like to do something in the medical field because I want to be able to take it with me when I go on mission trips.
3. There are so many people in the U.S. and around the world that are in need of medical care, and I want to be able to help those people.
4. My experience with the honors program has been really great. I've met a lot of awesome people that I've become friends with and that share the same interests as me. In fact, when I transfer over to MSU I've already got a study group established from the people I've met at OTC.
5. Ten years is kind of hard for me to picture. A lot can change in ten years, but I hope that I'll be in a career that makes me happy and allows me to reach all of my goals.

Emily Lundstrom:

1. Nursing
2. Multiple job shadowing experiences helped me choose nursing. It was also my love of the medical field, and my desire to work with children that helped me decide to go to nursing school. I really love all the different opportunities in the nursing field and the variety of things you can do as a nurse.
3. The hope of a better future and the desire to be self supportive is what drives me to get through school and to become a nurse.
4. I really enjoyed being in the program. I truly believe that it was because of the Honors Program that I was accepted into all the nursing programs I applied to. I believe these classes really prepared me for what my classes may be like in nursing school. I also really enjoyed getting to know a lot of the members of the program and becoming friends with so many people.
5. I have no idea where I will be in 10 years; I feel like I have so many options. I may end up traveling as a nurse for a few years after I graduate, or I may go back to school to be a nurse

Maxine Szura:

1. Occupational Therapy
2. I love to help people and I love to see people win. If I help them to succeed then I am successful. It is what I have always wanted to do.
3. My son. He is so incredibly intelligent and I want to be able to provide whatever he may need, so I knew I needed a job that would always be in demand. Healthcare is that profession. I love to help people so Therapy is where I belong.
4. It has been one crazy ride. I never expected to be able to get into a program like this, so when I was accepted I was so excited. After one semester I decided I wanted to serve others so I joined the Honors Student Council as VP of Activities. I am very grateful for this position because it has allowed me to grow as an individual and I might not be the person I am today without the program.
5. In ten years I will have a Master's Degree and working toward a Doctorates. I hope to be practicing somewhere where there is lots of snow (maybe I will finally get sick of it) and helping people get back on track in their own lives.

Angelia Wade:

1. Associate of Arts in Education (OTC) Family and Consumer Science Secondary education (MSU)
2. I was inspired by my dad who teaches business and accounting at a private college in Jackson, MS. Teaching others has always seemed to come natural for me and it conveniently fits into my life as a mother to four children. Having the same schedule as my children will allow me to spend more time with them as they grow up.
3. The one thing that drives me is the knowledge that many of the struggles and hardships I've encountered during my 40 years of life have brought, can make a difference in the lives of many young people who are on the verge of becoming adults. Knowing that my future students will soon go out in the world, become parents themselves and the things that they learned in my classes will be applied and passed on to their children. One person can make a difference in a whole community and I strive to be that kind of person.
4. My experience in the program has been generally positive. My favorite part of the program was the camaraderie of the students and most of the faculty. The project aspect of each class has allowed each of us to connect the subject being taught with our own personal lives and experiences, making the learning more relevant and therefore, more memorable.
5. I see myself as a principle or a superintendent of a small, rural school district. I have a strong interest in learning about any cutting edge ideas in the education field and I am thrilled to think of the possibilities of the future. All students deserve to be educated and I am thrilled in knowing that someday, I will play a vital part in a community I am proud to call my own.

Meagan Rippee:

1. My major at Ozarks Tech is Associate of Arts/Transfer Degree. I plan to begin Missouri State University at the end of this May. My undergraduate major at MSU is Clinical Laboratory Science/ Medical Technology. I'm not sure where or what my graduate studies will take me to, but I would like to learn to teach and be involved in scientific research such as cancer.
2. I have always been fascinated with biology –it is my favorite subject of the sciences. I especially took to microbiology when I completed the course here at OTC. It's fascinating to me what can happen among life-forms that the naked eye can't see! I look forward to studying and solving clinical problems to benefit my community and assisting in their wellness.
3. One thing that drives me to my goal is my desire to make a difference in people's lives. I do not wish to be stuck in a career or job that is unfulfilling. I believe that life is too short to work in a field that you are not satisfied with. Also, I hope to have a family one day, and I want to be an example to my children. I want to show them that they can achieve great things through hard work and determination.
4. My experience in the Honors Program has been a long one! I began the Honors Program back in fall 2010. Many of my friends from the Honors Program have already moved on to 4-year institutions. Nevertheless, it has been pleasant to get to know some of these new faces this final semester! Since entering the Honors Program, I have always felt welcome and I believe I have grown socially and academically. I will carry these skills with me to any challenge I may face.
5. In 10 years, I see myself working in a laboratory and taking care of my family. Hopefully I will be done with graduate studies by then. I would like to be involved with research as well.

Zach Dampier:

1. I will be a Cell and Molecular Biology major when I transfer over to MSU this Fall. I am currently a pre-pharmacy student as well.
2. I chose that path because I absolutely love science and I want to be prepared for a future career in medicine
3. The one thing that drives me is the fact that the reward for all my hard work will be so great in the end.
4. I loved the Honors Program while I was here at OTC! I made a lot of great friends that I will never forget. I also transferred over to MSU's honors college due to my experience with OTC's Honors Program.
5. In 10 years I see myself hopefully owning my own pharmacy and driving a corvette :). Although I have changed my mind so many times so who truly knows where I will be!

Graduate questionnaires, (Continued)

Katelyn Marlin:

1. Elementary Education (yes, teaching elementary kids all day long).
2. I was homeschooled from 5th grade on, and I pretty much had control of my schooling . My parents would choose the curriculum (sometimes I would help select it) but I was held responsible for managing my time, schedule and getting everything completed in a normal school year, like all the other kids. I loved having that control. It taught me how to manage my own learning, and if I had trouble with a subject, I didn't blame my teacher, I just figured out why I was wrong or asked for help. It was great! I am a strong believer in self-facilitated learning, and my background has inspired me to help others find it for themselves.
3. To inspire the next generation of kids to know that it is okay to be curious, make mistakes, and ask questions. I want to show them how to drive their own education and learning.
4. My experience here at OTC in the Honors Program has been the highlight of my first years in college. There is a feeling of community between the honors students and professors that I really enjoy. The friends I make in the Honors classes I have taken (especially my Honors seminar class) are the friends that I have kept in my time here.
5. My wildest dreams? I would be traveling around the world in Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, and everywhere else. I want to see all the big places like Angel Falls, Lake Victoria, Venice, the jungle, Great Barrier Reef, and Rio de Janeiro just to name a few. I would have unlimited time to read books, plant gardens, and have a house (similar to the house in the Happiest Millionaire) with slides instead of stairs. In reality? I will possibly be teaching my class full of third graders and living my real dream, teaching. Or possibly raising myself a lovely little family and having adventures at home with my children and their many pets. Maybe I'll get myself in gear and finally start writing, on paper, the books and stories I am constantly writing in my head. I fully plan on getting further addicted to the world outdoors, my happy place. In 2 years I will have my bachelor's degree from MSU and I plan to go on and get my masters as well. That is a lot of school, but oh so worth it.

Stephen Griffis:

1. Supply Chain Logistics
2. I have been in Materials for decades in one form or the other: picking & stocking parts, receiving, shipping, even being an over the road driver for a few years. I figure with the real world experience I have, it would only be a logical step to have a degree in the field of Logistics
3. I initially began college in 1989- lasting only one semester before I was on academic probation. Working full time, and after more than twenty years, I decided to give it a go in 2008 to prove to myself that I could do it.
4. I have enjoyed all of the different classes offered through the Program. The instructors have been top notch! The diverse groups of Honors Students have made it a blast to be in as well.
5. Finishing up my Masters, and going for my PhD!

ART by HONORS

Daffodils
by Jay Johnston



I long to lie in a field of daisies,
my head upon her downy lap,
while she reads Brautigan Whitman Keats Rousseau
in a voice like effervescent fire,
furred and rough like a lion,
soft and dimpled like the lamb.
Her knee kisses my bearded cheek,
her lilt caresses my cochlea,
as words and time entwine
together like her fingers through my flowing hair;
mmmm....God how she loves my hair....
her and I frozen there,
a snapshot of a moment's time;
As Blake's angels watch us from the trees,
I lay where I always want to be
in a field of daisies
My beard upon your knee

Collegiate

By Kathy SheIdahl

Words, numbers, stats	Pages of reading
Latin and Greek	And study marathons
So overwhelmed	Eyes burning from nights
I can hardly speak	That seem like eons
Head slowly spinning	Ears ringing with lectures
With data and facts	Going around in my head
Pinning flash cards on walls	Can't wait for the day
With so many tacks	When I can put all this to bed.



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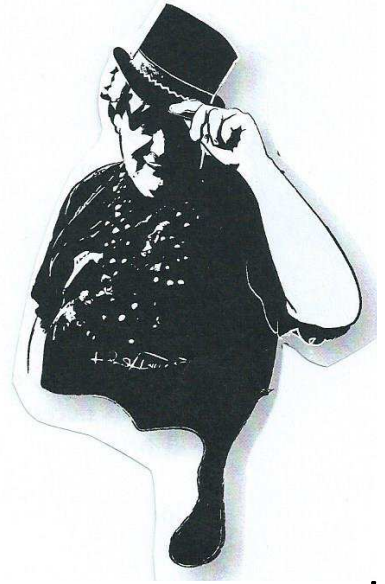
We are the OTC Honors Program! Watch us code!

by Craig Ragland

JAY JOHNSTON,

President

Here we are at the end of yet another year. I always like to take this time to reflect on how time passes. Many of our ranks are moving on to the next phase, be it further education or into their respective careers, as many more are joining us, ready to undertake this adventure known as the OTC Honors Program. I can't help but see it as a changing of seasons, and the passing of day into night and then to day again; each phase vital in developing us as individuals, and as members of society. I encourage those moving on to see it the same, as they leave this place and program that is surely as dear to them as it is to myself (I can't seem to make myself leave!!). I challenge each to take with them the lessons they have learned here, and to use them to further the goals and ideals of this program. I also encourage those entering to be prepared for the challenge that is honors, and to relish in the certainty that when their time comes to move on, they too will take many of those same lessons with them on their respective paths. It is the cycle; the circle; the turning of the wheel. I hope each and every one of you sees and appreciates this passing of time, and takes and grows from it in their way. Congratulations to our graduates, and welcome to our new students. And to all those of you already ensconced, and continuing in this phase of their (our) development, I say keep up the good work; it will pay off.



CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME TO OUR F13–S14 HSC OFFICER TEAM!!!

President—Eric Lawson

VP of Public Relations—Jason Hodge

VP of Community Involvement—Shayne “Buttons” Jacopian

VP of Activities—Heather Morgan

Secretary—Edgar Martinez

Treasurer—Taylor Davis

We still need committed students to serve as our VP of Academic Integrity and VP of Fundraising.

ZACH DAMPIER

VP of Public Relations

Editor-in-Chief OTC Honors Newsletter

Hello Honors Students! Here is the long awaited newsletter. I want to thank everyone for their patience and submissions. My consulting team worked very hard to get this newsletter put together for you and we hope that you enjoy it. I have truly loved being the VP of Public Relations and I have enjoyed setting milestones in the Honors Program that will continue for years to come. I am passing the torch on to Jason Hodge, who is our current VP of Academic Integrity. I have great faith that Jason will do the newsletter justice and uphold the responsibilities of this office. Thank you everyone for your hard work and I will miss you all very much. Please give a special thanks to Ms. Kathy Sheldahl, our new newsletter designer, as she worked very hard to put this together! Also I want to extend an **EXTRA** special thanks to Mrs. Jenny McIntire, she helped me out a lot this semester and helped make better use of our Facebook and Twitter platforms! Thank you so much!

