

Honors Program Newsletter

Welcome!

On behalf of HPSAB, I hope that you are all doing well and that your wallets aren't too empty from having to buy textbooks for the new semester. January and February are exciting months. New classes have started, and the end of the school year (and the beginning of summer) is actually in sight now. Though those procrastination urges are setting in (especially for me), it's important to try and keep up with schoolwork, so you don't have a mountain of it. That way, you can have some fun over the weekend: go to the beach, watch a movie, or just hang out at Starbucks, but be sure to stay smart – always let someone know where you're going.

This month's newsletter is filled with tons of opportunities to get involved! It might surprise you how much fun you could have at one of these great activities we have planned. So, read up on this newsletter and see what you might be interested in. Participating in these activities is also an excellent way to improve your academic resume. Of course, if you have any additional suggestions about what types of activities you want to participate in, be sure to let us know!

Yours truly,
Hemaghini Das



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Morikami Japanese Garden Trip

As we stated in our October newsletter, HPSAB has made it our mission to bring all of the students in the Honors Program closer together as a community. To accomplish this, we have planned many different activities that

mix social and academic interests and give us the opportunity to better get to know one another.

As part of this effort, we invite you to attend our Morikami Japanese Garden Trip on March 16th.

The trip will last from 10 am – 12 pm, after which we invite you to join us for lunch!

Please keep an eye out for emails with more information regarding the trip. We hope to see you there!

A Generation in Trouble: The Future of US Education

Each semester the Honors Program hosts a Guest Lecture Series for students and faculty. Last Spring, the guest lecture series centered around revolutions of the 21st century, particularly in light of the Occupy Wall Street movement.

We hope to have as much success this year as we did at last year's event!

This year's Guest Lecture Series is entitled "A Generation in Trouble: The Future of US Education." Our topic evaluates the successes and failings of the United States education system in the scope of global standings. Are our school systems failing us? Is the influx of technology helping or hindering us? What



Dr. Linda Berdayes



Dr. Sean Buckreis

can we do to ensure that we remain competitive in a global economy where education remains one of the top criteria to succeed?

Dr. Linda Berdayes and Dr. Sean Buckreis will be speaking at the event.

We welcome you to join us for the lecture. It will take place on **February 14th** from **4 pm- 5:30 pm** in the **Landon Events Room (Landon 110)**.

If interested in attending, please RSVP to Dr. Sirimangkala by 5 pm on February 11th.

We hope to see you there!

Important Thesis Project Reminder!

This is a reminder that **ALL SENIORS** need to schedule their oral thesis defense dates.

In addition, **ALL JUNIORS** need to submit their proposals for thesis projects.

Please contact Dr. Sirimangkala if you have any questions regarding your Honors Program Thesis project!



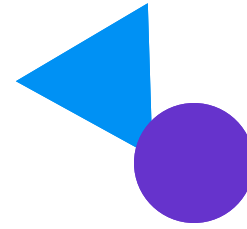
Florida Collegiate Honors Council Conference

HPSAB will be attending the 2013 Florida Collegiate Honors Council Conference in Fort Lauderdale from February 22-24.

The theme of the conference is "**Empowering Honors: How Will We Shape the Future?**" We look forward to discussing the role of Honors students in a global society, and will provide a reflection of the conference in a future newsletter.

Calendar of Events

February 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Anti-Black Violence in Florida- 12-1 pm Wellness Wednesdays- 1-2 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation- 4-5 pm	7 "Carbon in Nano and Outer Space"- 4-5 pm	8 College Brides Walk- 9:30 am "Volviendo" film screening- 2-4 pm	9 RunWild 5K Run/Walk at Zoo Miami- 7 am
10	11 "Coexist" film screening- 12-2 pm	12 "Genesis and the Big Bang"- 12:30- 2 pm	13 Ash Wednesday Mass and Ashes- 12:05 and 5:15 pm Masses Live Your Calling Panel- 5-6 pm	14 HP Guest Lecture Series- 4-5:30 pm, Landon Events Room	15	16
17	18 Homecoming Kickoff 11-2 Pie a Professor- 12 pm Un Masque Fashion Show- 8 pm	19 Gamers' Ball- 6-9 pm Sailfish Bonfire & Golf Cart Parade- 9 pm	20 Tailgate/Pregame BBQ- 3:30-7:30 pm Basketball Shoot Out- 3:30-7:30 pm Women's Basketball Game vs. PBA- 5:30 pm Men's Basketball Game vs. PBA- 7:30 pm Great Books Lecture Series- 12- 12:50 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation- 4-5 pm	21 SGA Powder Puff Flag Football- 3-6 pm Barry Beauties- 8 pm	22 Elementary School Activity- 9 am Festival of Nations- 12 pm Concert/ Band- 6-10 pm	23 Presidents Reception- 5-7 pm Masquerade Ball- 9 pm Fine Arts Opera: L'Enfant et les Sortilèges- 7-9 pm
24 Reunion Mass- 11 am	25 English Association Meeting- 5:30 pm (Contact Dianna Bellian for details)	26	27 Sacrament of Reconciliation-4-5 pm Wellness Day 2013- 11 am- 3 pm "The Economic Theory of Israel Kirzner"- 12-12:50 pm	28		

Black History Month

In the United States, Americans have recognized black history since 1926. What we now know as “Black History Month” began as “Negro History Month.” The main push for the recognition and study of black history came from Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in attempts to bring light to the contributions of blacks in America. Thanks to his hard work and determination, we now celebrate Black History Month every February.



Dr. Carter G. Woodson

This month serves as an opportunity to commemorate heavily influential African American citizens, as well as to respect the history and culture of African Americans. It reminds us of the importance of diversity; in an exceedingly diverse global society, we are bound to encounter people from all walks of life. It is pivotal that we take the opportunity to respect and embrace our differences, as they provide us with the opportunity to learn more about others and become closer as a community.

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.asalh.org/blackhistorymonthorigins.html>

“An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity.”



-Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Volunteers Needed!

We need volunteers to help set up the room for our Guest Lecture Series on February 14th! If you are available, please contact Dr. Sirimangkala as soon as possible.



Midterm Study Groups

Midterms can be extremely stressful for students, especially when attempting to tackle them alone. We encourage you to form study groups for midterm exams to help you prepare and succeed! If you think that you would benefit from pre-formed midterm and finals study groups, please contact one of the members of HPSAB to discuss the possibility.

Lab Key Reminder

Did you know that the Honors Program has a computer lab open to your use? Currently located in **Landon 206 G**, this lab provides students with a quiet place to work and study, whether it be on your Honors Program Thesis or your general coursework! The lab also features free printing to students who have a key.



Those interested in using the lab may contact **Dr. Sirimangkala** for more information on purchasing a key. Keys are available for a \$10 deposit, which is returned upon your completion of the program.

Questions/Comments?

Questions? Comments? Concerns? We're here to help you! If you have any feedback on the program, HPSAB, or the events we host, please do not hesitate to contact us! We rely on the opinions of HP members to make this experience as beneficial as possible. You can contact each of the members through e-mail, and our numbers are available upon request. Also, if you see any of us on campus, don't be afraid to stop us and chat, whether it's to give us feedback or just say hello! We look forward to the rest of the year with each and every one of you. Thanks for reading, and come back next month!

Sincerely,

HPSAB
Dianna, Bethany, Aaron, Hemaghini, Latoya, and Cheryl
Dr. Sirimangkala, Faculty Advisor