Honors Alumnus
Robert Saum in Afghanistan
viewing an Afghan version of polo
The University of Dayton Honors Program is pleased to announce a new opportunity for rising juniors interested in writing a thesis. The Berry Summer Thesis Institute will welcome its first cohort of ten students in the summer of 2012. This program, supported by the Berry family and Dayton in Action, will consist of a ten-week, on-campus workshop with research and scholarship opportunities, academic Honors credit, professional development sessions and public presentation forums.

Students will work directly with thesis advisors in their majors doing research or scholarship and will participate in a ten-week, team-taught course introducing students to service, learning and leadership skill development. Students will also have the opportunity to attend a series of workshops to learn about national fellowship and scholarship opportunities, and how to prepare applications for these prestigious awards.

The goals of this program are to attract the University’s rising juniors interested in writing a thesis. The program is pleased to announce a new opportunity for students to service, learning and leadership skill development. Students will also have the opportunity to attend a series of workshops to learn about national fellowship and scholarship opportunities, and how to prepare applications for these prestigious awards.

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Huston partnered with a man in California to net proved to be a turning point and in 1996 Troll and Toad completed 50,000 sales, taking orders from to take orders for game cards. Huston only game cards, especially out of print, Huston made the leap into opening his own no longer interested in just operating stores, of daycare kids.” With the birth of Donkey As an Honors Computer Science student at government. that Pitzer values are “a sense of account- picture and the depth of the situation. It is your stuff and know what you are talking ceutical company in the world. Pitzer has had a “good time in history to be an entrepreneur. determination of his fellow Honors Program try and excel” in the program. The drive and the Honors Program helped motivate Huston ate something and then accomplish it.” The accomplished a goal that is similar to a basketball businesses.

In order to bring his idea to fruition Huston ran and for his new business in SCRTF magazine and purchased a 1,800 number for game cards. Huston only expected to make 2,000 sales, but he actually completed 50,000 sales, taking orders from 10 am to 10 pm, and unphasing his phone at night because he was accounting for so many orders. Since this was in 1994, Huston had no computer and used index cards and jiffy bags to complete his orders. The Troll and Toad expanded slowly. The arrival of the internet proved to be a game changer. Huston partnered with a man in California to increase his stock, both owning 50% of the partnerships to work well since it requires “being able to sense the other partner’s movements and work with them.”

What Pitzer loves most about her job is the fact that there is a “tremendous amount of flexibility.” “No one in the company tells her what to do next step by step, but rather she is given freedom to think and solve problems inde- pendently. This idea of flexibility translates to what Pitzer learned in the Honors Program at UD. “The Honors Program itself is given to you. It’s an opportunity to take the initiative and run with it.” What she loved most about the Honors Program was that her peers “challenged her because they try to be all smart. Being able to figure out how to work through barriers is something that you can apply to your personal and professional lives.” She encourages current Honors Program students to simply follow their passion because this passion will show in their work.

Eli Lilly embodies a strong calling to service within their mission, and at the end of this past summer Pitzer was given a week off to be involved in the Disaster Relief Operations in the East Coast for Irene. She was in Prov- en experience.” What Pitzer learned in the Honors Program was that she learned more about co-operation, teamwork, and leadership skills. Pitzer experienced another service opportunity with Eli Lilly in Costa Rica in December 2011.

Robert Saum, Class of 1984

Robert Saum is currently the Chief of Staff to the Managing Director of the World Bank. This is a distinctive and challenging international profession that provides loans to developing countries for capital programs. Its official goal is to “fund development.” By law, Saum has the authority to develop capacities seamlessly, specifically with the company’s technical strategies. Pitzer asserts that it is important to “know your stuff and know what you are talking about” in order to be able to have a sustained dialogue and to have some influence in the public arena.

In the past, Pitzer worked with Indrawati, former Minister of Finance of Indonesia, and is the 65th most powerful woman in the world. Pitzer’s position allows her to work with Indrawati on all policy matters and decisions for the organization.

Carol Bennett is currently a lawyer in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She specifically works in the Office of General Counsel in the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid services. Why did Bennett choose the path she did? “I was chief sport writer here sophomore year and sports editor last year.” As editor-in-chief, Rosen has been able to see the publication of 40 issues in just more than 5,000 copies each, as well as update the FN webpage on a daily basis.

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class notes

Class of 1986
Joan Fullner
Here’s a photo of a few Honors Program friends that met during this summer’s UD Reunion. Weekend, our 25th anniversary! It was great to see everyone again and the UD campus looks great.

Class of 1990
Musha Dowhan recently defended her master’s thesis in Theological Studies. I think she is from Dayton. She is now a faculty member in UD’s Department of Religious Studies and is finishing putting her P.D. in Finance to work in a new way by teaching REL 368, Christian Ethics and the Business World.

Class of 1991
Annique Logan spent much of this past summer working with the International Development Design Summit (IDDS). In its 5th year, the Summit brings together approximately 70 people of diverse backgrounds from nearly 20 countries, who for 5 weeks collaborate to co-create solutions addressing some of the most pressing challenges of poverty. Participants included engineers, farmers, health care workers and teachers, among others, and represented both developed and developing countries. Annique has spent most of her career in the mobile communications industry and, accordingly, served on a team investigating how user generated content approaches could serve in markets such as Ghana. Annique currently lives in Colorado and extends well wishes to the UD family.

Class of 1995
Elizabeth Shook
Both married to Chris Hatch, Scholars, ’94 earned tenure this summer at UC, San Diego in the Computer Science and Engineering Department. As a first step towards tenure on campus, Beth accepted a 50% appointment as the Director of the Center for Teaching Development, charged with developing a new mission for the Center. Clearly she needs some additional instruction in “how to say no.”

Class of 1996
Bill King is now the College of Engineering Blinn Professor in the Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, and Dean of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He lives in Champaign, Illinois, with his wife, children and William (age 5) and David (age 2).

Class of 1998
Elizabeth Witham Bentley earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of Chicago College of Pharmacy this past May. She is currently completing a Pharmacy Practice Residency at North Shore University HealthSystem in the Chicago area. She and her husband, John, have two daughters: Annabelle, 3 and Nora, 1.

Class of 2005
Jacee Crell
After five sold out years at the University of Notre Dame, marching in the Band of the Fighting Irish and working as an Assistant Rector in St. Edward’s Hall, I moved to a Book of Philo- sophy in Aerospace Engineeering in August of 2010. I spent the next year discerning a call to the priesthood with the Congregation of Holy Cross, but ultimately determined that wasn’t where God wanted me to be. I plan to return to the Dayton area where my family lives and start working in the engineering field.

Class of 2006
Julie Cervin Bing
My husband, Matthew, and I are proud to announce the birth of our daughter, Margaret Elizabeth Bing, on September 22, 2011.

Class of 2007
Malcolm Pappas
I just started a Ph.D. Program at the University of Michigan. The goal is in Psychology, and I’m doing a sub-program in Cognitive, Brain, Behavior. It’s experimental, not a clinical program.

Class of 2008
Dea Alton
My wife Amy and I had a baby girl, Elise Patricia, born on February 25th. She’s ready for her first UD game in a few more weeks! We live in Cincinnati, where I’m a Financial Planner, and my wife Amy is a Speech Pathologist.

Class of 2009
Alex Orlowski
I’m in my last year at the University of Chicago Law School. After graduating this spring, my wife (Katie Orlovitski (Ill)) and I will be moving to Chicago. I hope all has well. I look forward to our reunion next year with the law firm of Barnes and Thornburg, LLP. Hope all is well. Look forward to hearing from you.

Class of 2010
Courtney Razo Padilla
I’d like to share a few updates. On June 18 my husband Lionel (class of 2008) and I were married at the Chapel on campus. In July we moved to Cleve- land Heights, Ohio, and I began my first year of law school at Case Western Reserve University. It’s been a truly exciting year.

Class of 2011
Andrew Gooden
I’m currently living in Manhattan and working in outside sales for Continental Tire, a Ger- man tire manufacturing company where my territory includes the great cities of Boston, New York City, and Philadelphia which I have and will continue to enjoy.

Class of 2012
Aguwa Okon
My classes at the John C. Whitehead School of Public Administration where I graduate next year will focus on issues related to the Nigerian government. After graduation I will work for the Nigerian International NGO office part time. I will be mostly involved with women’s issues in various NGO working groups, but it should give me plenty of exposure to the NGO-UN system. Plus it’s an opportunity to continue to learn about different cultures that I love — the Marianists and the UN.

Help make a difference in the lives of current students.
Consider a gift to the
Dr. Patrick F. Peltier
Honors Program Founders Fund
Make a Donation to the University Honors Program
125 Alumni Hall
University of Dayton
Dayton, OH 45469-0311
or on-line at
www.udayton.edu/Alumni/ Pages.aspx?id=1423
News and notes from the University of Dayton Honors Program

On-line issues of HonorsLink can be found at: www.udayton.edu/alumni

Classnotes are featured in the January issue so send us your news!

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Leslie Sollmann, Class of 2012
Ohio Space Grant Consortium Scholarship

Leslie Sollmann was awarded the Ohio Space Grant Consortium Scholarship for her Honors thesis, *Bleed Hole Configuration, Sizing, and Location for Use in a Hypersonic Inlet*. Sollmann recently attended the Regional Space Grant Consortium Meeting where she presented her research. She will also make a presentation at the Ohio Space Grant Consortium Meeting in spring 2012.

Sonya Bilocerkowycz, Class of 2011
Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship

Sonya Bilocerkowycz, a English major who graduated in 2011, was awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Belarus. She will travel there for a year, during which she will teach English in a series of ESL courses.

AJ Ferguson, Class of 2013
Truman Fellowship Finalist

AJ Ferguson, a Mechanical Engineering major, has been named a Truman Fellowship Finalist. The program offers funding, internship placement and professional development for students pursuing graduate degrees in public service fields.

Jason K. Heyl, Class of 2013
SPIE Scholarship in Optics and Photonics

Jason K. Heyl, an Electronic and Computer Engineering Technology major, has been awarded a 2011 Scholarship from the International Society for Optics and Photonics (SPIE). Heyl was recognized for “his potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field” in a recent SPIE press release.

Honors Students Win Accounting Scholarships

The following Honors students were awarded scholarships this year from the SBA Department of Accounting: Adeline Bodart, Melissa Ehrbar, Benjamin Foster, Molly Hobbs, Lauren Ranly, Brittan Stegemiller, Mary Hannah Viertel and Kristin Whalen.

Twelve Honors Students Graduate December 17, 2011

Congratulations to Eunice Awonuga Asigon, Nicholas Direnzi, Claire Ellerhorse, Lauren Epner, Nichole Hanus, Daniel Prindle, Dana Rhoades, Elizabeth Schmackers, Leah Schumacher, Paul Thomas, Andrea Varney and Melanie Wagner!