

# Honorable News

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*“For now it is enough to re-invite you, to open the doors again and again to the joys and responsibilities of becoming a life-long learner, a lover of learning.”*

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## The Idea of a University

-Dr. Howe, Honors Program Director

The Idea of a University—being the title of the Honors First-Year Writing Seminar, it’s a phrase that all Honors students know well. Even beyond that initial semester, it looms as a topic of conversation, pressed, as we all are, to give explicit thought to what we’re doing here and what we seek to be always accomplishing. ‘What is a University?’—that’s a complex question especially when you get past the initial move of defining it in terms of buildings, brochures, and banners. A more pressing question has to do with defining a university in terms of its ends, in terms of what it aims to do. This is an old, but evolving discussion.

Not long ago in that first year writing class, we were going around sharing

ideas about these questions and I was completely struck by one student’s remarks. He was worried that being in college would get in the way of what he really wanted to be doing right now. “Of course” you might think, “that makes sense... plenty of young people would like to be doing something else then sitting in a classroom, reading books, writing papers....etc.” But that wasn’t it; he wasn’t worried that college was in his way of having fun or getting out into the world after four years of high school, or anything like this. No, what worried him was that college would get in the way of what he really wanted to be doing, which, he said was LEARNING! This is why I was so struck. It wasn’t that I was offended or taken

aback. Rather, it opened my eyes and made me really think: of things that seem naturally to pair with one another, learning and universities go together. But of course, he was right; it’s quite possible that our universities have lost sight of what should be so obvious, that the promotion of learning is entirely central to their purpose.

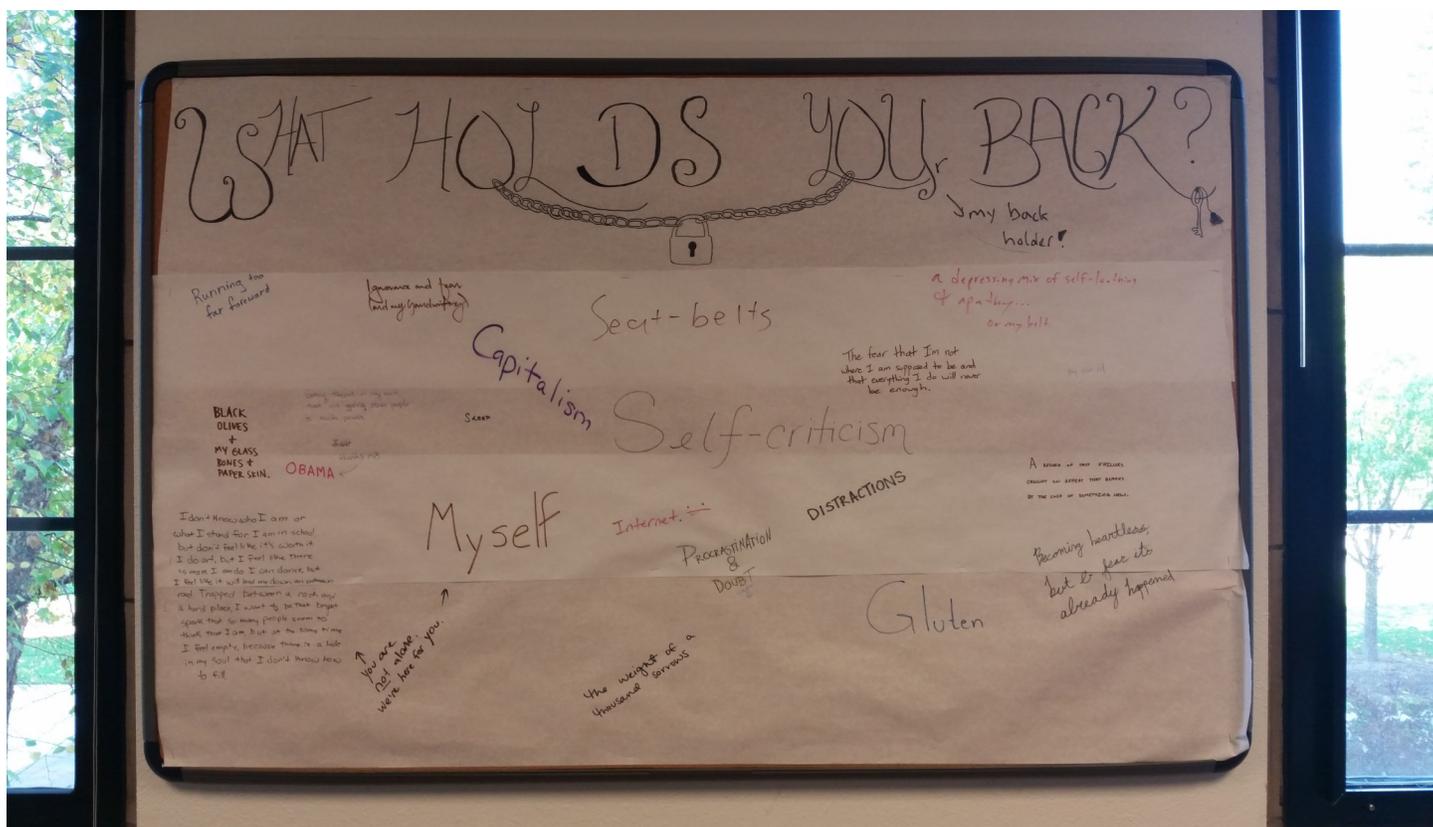
There is much more that could be said here (about the nature and content of learning, about the things that happen in universities that numb our natural instinct to be enthused and engaged with our world, with ideas and thoughts, with our inborn capacity to wonder, etc). For now it is enough to re-invite you, to open the doors again and again to the joys and responsibilities of becoming a life-long learner, a lover of learning. To come to some sense of what enthuses you, of what fills you with joy and opens you out onto and into our world is to give you better and better ideas of what a University ought to be.



# We Say, They Say

The discussions on our Honors board continue to excite lively responses and interesting ideas. This round our question came from the Honors Community. See what students have said and what Dr. Clayton's and Dr. Palmer's answers are, and stop by the Honors study room to see what our next question is!

## What Holds You Back?



**Words from Dr. Clayton**

As a worrywart, what holds me back is worrying about making mistakes that matter.

**Words from Dr. Palmer**

I hold myself back. Proverbs says it with more precision: "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he. . . ."

Questions or comments? Email Michael Sucharski at [msucharski@regis.edu](mailto:msucharski@regis.edu).

# Friends New and Old

-Michael Sucharski, Editor

Hello everyone! Another year of learning and loving learning has begun at last. I know that we all are excited to see our old friends and to make a few new ones. Though, like many, I was surprised by the absence of one of our dearest friends: Connie Gates. Connie has taken up a position with Father Woody's and is continuing to work for the benefit of all. She has written a letter for us explaining her change, and I know that we will all support her in this as she supported us in everything.

"Dear Honors students and alumni,

Hello from my new office in the Chapel basement. For those of you who do not know, I have taken a position with Father Woody Programs at Regis University. It was not an easy decision since I have loved working with you for the past 10 years. But it was a decision that has been coming for quite some time.

Last September I began to feel unsettled, like something was missing, in my job. I didn't know it at the time but I now believe that the Holy Spirit was nudging me. I did what I have always done when I don't know what to do. I picked up a book! Angels and Saints by Dr. Scott Hahn reminded me that within the Body of Christ I am not alone and I need to live my life as God



intends. Although I believe that is true I was left with a really big question: HOW?

The second book I chose was *The Jesuit Guide to Almost Everything* by James Martin S.J. Leave it to the Jesuits (or at least this Jesuit with some words of wisdom from our own Father Shelton!) to provide some down to earth advice. I was led to write down my perfect job description: a sense of purpose, working with college students, administrative responsibilities, imaginative problem solving, organizational skills and community building. In addition, my list includes feeding the hungry, helping the homeless and poor, and ministering to the stranger in a strange land. I guess what it comes down to is that I want to use the skills I have developed over the years to do what Jesus tells us to do before I retire.

Luckily for me, (and more than likely because the Holy Spirit is on top of things) a position with Father Woody Programs became available. Since I began to work for Father

Woody, his workers have made 300 sandwiches a week for Denver's Homeless and 25 rosaries a week for American soldiers stationed in far off lands. We have tutored in 4 inner-city Catholic schools and filled food bags for students to take home to their families. Father Woody's Workers serve alongside Christ in the City missionaries in downtown Denver and serve the needs of Denver's senior population at Mullen Home and now, Shalom Park.

Although I miss working in Carroll Hall I feel like a part of me that was hungry is now being fed. Thank you all for 10 wonderful years!"

Connie will continue to be missed by everyone here. But we will also get to know and love all of our new additions to Honors, including Raeann Hankinson, who will be working as our new authority person thing, and she's written a piece about herself to help us all get to know her better:

"I have been working at

Regis for 3 years. I moved to Honors Department from School of Nursing, Post Licensure department. I was working directly for the Executive Director of DNP, NNP and FNP programs.

Prior to working at Regis, I served 4 years in the United States Marine Corps, from 2000 to 2005. After I was discharged from the United States Marine Corps, I found an awesome career as an equipment manager for F-16 fight jets. While working as an equipment manager, I served in the Colorado Air National Guard. Overall, I served 14 years in the military, and I admit they were the best years of my life.

I am mother of a 15 year old son and a 16 month old son. I received my Bachelor's degree in Liberal Arts from Regis University."

So there you have it. Come by Carroll Hall and meet Raeann if you haven't already, and don't forget to stop by the Chapel basement to say hello to Connie when you get the chance.

# Hiking Matthews-Winters Park, Honors Style

-Sean Ankarlo, SHAC Junior Representative

Over the weekend of September 12th, the Student Honors Advisory Council launched their first event with great success. SHAC aims to organize fun and engaging community-based activities. The council hosted a hike at Matthews-Winters Park to give honors students an opportunity to break away from the urban atmosphere.

The late summer air was mild as students of every class arrived at the trailhead, ready for some adventure. After a quick gathering of the hiking group, the nine students began to ascend the mild path, surrounded by red soil and beautiful scenery. Three miles of winding trail and rich conversation gave way to a beautiful view as the group reached the top of



the plateau, Matthews-Winters's signature view. A short rest and a selfie later, the group was on their way again to descend the last mile back to the trailhead. Outside of a few slippery rocks, the group made their way back home safely and with many great memories to boot.

SHAC aims to bring many more diverse and exciting opportunities to

honors students including service projects, sixty-second lectures, seasonal parties, and much more. If you do not see SHAC advertising it, feel free to suggest it! Your SHAC representatives would be more than happy to listen!

They are...

Sophomore Representatives:

Jibin Abraham, John Mullooly

Junior Representatives:

Sean Ankarlo, Kristy Nguyen

Senior Representatives:

Andy Horner, Abbey King

The hike was a wonderful opportunity to relax, and SHAC looks forward to serving the honors community in the future.



Andy Horner snaps a selfie with his fellow hikers: (Left to Right) Sean Ankarlo, Jibin Abraham, John Mullooly, Elise Horning, Trish Bryant, Abbey King, Naomi Sellers, and KC Moore.

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ideas, submissions?

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for further information.

## Upcoming Events!

### October

60 Second Lectures—10/14  
Honors Luncheon—10/23  
Fall Fest—10/28

### November

Movie Night—11/4  
Honors Breakfast—11/16