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NEWS

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2006

As the semester officially ends, the Honors Program Service-Learning Seminar would like to thank the university and community for helping us make our vision for this project a reality. Over 2,100 books--4,300 pounds--were shipped to Maseno University in Kenya and Delgado Community College in New Orleans. We look forward to what else the future has in store for the Shippensburg University Honors Program.

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2006

32 boxes containing 864 books were picked up today for shipment to Delgado Community College in New Orleans, LA. The books weighed a total of 1.495 pounds.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2006

Be sure to check out the article about the Honors Program Service-Learning Seminar in the current issue of *Shippensburg University Magazine* (Spring 2006).

MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2006

This Thursday, April 27, a reception will be held in Old Main Chapel from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. to thank HSL's various contributors for making Ship It: Textbooks Go Global a success. Acting Ambassador Lily Sambu from the Kenyan embassy in Washington, D.C., and her education attaché, Mr. Wilfred Pere, are expected to attend. The ambassador will be sharing a few remarks, as will Dr. Christine Martey-Ochola and students from the class.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2006

Delgado Community College in New Orleans, LA, has been selected to receive the remaining textbooks HSL collected over the past two semesters. Delgado experienced significant damage during Hurricane Katrina and will be able to put the resources we send to good use. To visit the college's website, [click here](#).

MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2006

As with Si Tanka less than a month ago, our attempts to establish contact with United Tribes Technical College have proven unsuccessful. Without any way to confirm whether they've received our various phone calls and e-mails, the class is reluctant to ship two dozen boxes of textbooks to the school. As such, we've turned to the possibility of sending the remaining materials to a college in the Gulf Coast region that was impacted by Hurricane Katrina.

MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2006

After a week or two of uncertainty, we've received confirmation that the textbooks have arrived at Maseno University in Kenya. The news was thrilling to say the least. The class is now exploring costs and options for shipping the remaining books to United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck before the end of the semester.

MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2006

Recent correspondence with APX freight has revealed that the shipment of books to Kenya—originally scheduled for delivery from New York to Paris to Nairobi via Air France—has been delayed. The reason for the delay is unclear; however, the books are now expected to arrive in Nairobi within the next day or two.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 2006

Boxes of 1,300 textbooks weighing a total of 2,875 pounds have been picked up by DHL at the university to be shipped by APX Air Cargo to Kenya. The estimated value of these books is over \$70,000. The materials are scheduled to arrive in Kenya in about a week.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2006

Because of our continuing inability to establish contact with Si Tanka University (Eagle Butte, SD), we have removed the school as one of our recipient universities. The materials designated for the institution will instead be sent to our other tribal college recipient, United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2006

Be sure to check out the article about our class that ran in today's issue of the *Public Opinion*. To access the article online, [click here](#).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2006

A special thanks to everyone who attended the Step Show fundraiser last week and to the Greek organizations that participated. An article about the show can be found in today's issue of *The Slate*.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2006

Be sure to check out the article about our class that ran on the front page of today's issue of *The Slate*.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2006

Next Wednesday, February 8, HSL will be hosting its first fundraiser of the year. The event will feature a Step Show in the CUB MPR at 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$3.00 per person. All proceeds will go to benefit the service-learning project.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2006

The formal collection period for textbooks and other resources is quickly winding down. The final day any materials will be accepted is Monday, February 6. Please [contact us](#) if you have questions about last-minute donations.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2005

HSL estimates that as of today, we're halfway toward our goal of 3,000 books and journals. Collection boxes will be left in the academic department offices and outside the Honors Program office, Horton Hall 104, throughout winter break for faculty who come in during that time to clean their offices or sort through materials they have.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2005

Be sure to check out the article about our class on the front page of yesterday's issue of *The News Chronicle*.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2005

The collection of textbooks, journals, and other supplies is well under way. Thanks to those professors and departments who have already contributed. HSL has set as its goal 3,000 books: 2,000 for Maseno University in Kenya and 500 each for Si Tanka University and United Tribes Technical College in the United States.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2005

Be sure to check out the article about our class that ran in last Tuesday's (Nov. 22) issue of *The Sentinel*. To access the article online, [click here](#).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2005

Collection of resources begins today and runs through the end of final exams. Boxes will be placed in each of the academic department offices, as well as outside the Honors Program office (Horton Hall 104). Faculty are invited to donate textbooks, reference books, journals, fiction/novels, transparencies, CD-ROM's, etc. Donated materials should be in new or good condition and copyrighted 1995-present. (Copyright exceptions will be made for complete journal sets.) Donations cannot have been purchased with state funds, and some excess materials may be sold to help cover shipping costs. If you have a particularly large number of books to contribute, please contact the class at hsl@ship.edu to make arrangements for someone to come and pick them up at your office.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2005

An open letter to the SU faculty:

This year, as part of a service-learning experience, our class is collecting textbooks of all subjects to send to Maseno University in Kenya and the Native American tribal colleges of WHITCU in the United States. Consider that in many of these institutions, the need for materials is so great that only one textbook exists for an entire class. Our hope is that, with your help, we'll be able to provide resources to the students and professors at these universities and significantly improve the quality of their education. As the semester draws to a close, we'll be approaching you with requests for resources—books, journals, overheads, etc.—that you'd be willing to donate to these schools. For more information, please visit www.ship.edu/~hsl.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2005

Dr. Fiorini and three students returned home today from Rapid City, South Dakota, where they attended Friday's session of the 2005 IPSL (International Partnership for Service-Learning and Leadership) conference and presented the idea for HSL to a group of a dozen professors and other professionals in the service-learning field.

In addition, they exchanged contact information with Valerian Three Irons, the Diversity and Service-Learning Associate at South Dakota State University. (Valerian is familiar with several of the WHITCU universities in the region and may prove to be a valuable source of information.)

To view pictures from the conference, [click here](#).

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CONTACT US

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The Honors Program Service-Learning Seminar
Ship It: Textbooks Go Global

Where It Began

In 1999, Gene Fiorini, a mathematics professor at Shippensburg University, was invited to speak at the University of the Philippines. This invitation was largely the result of his having written several articles with a Filipino colleague whom he had met in graduate school in Delaware. Dr. Fiorini returned to the Philippines to lecture a second and third time, ending up at the University of the Philippines-Visayas, a satellite campus several hours south of Manila. Visayas is mostly autonomous from the main campus in Manila, and it receives substantially less funding and support. As Dr. Fiorini toured the university and its sister high school, he perceived a definite need for textbooks and other resources, and upon returning home, he began sending Visayas unneeded books from his office and personal library.

How It Grew

University professors are constantly inundated with complimentary materials from publishing companies: textbooks, transparencies, CD's, and so forth, usually in the hopes that they'll select a particular book for their classes. Dr. Fiorini realized these accumulating and unused collections were an ideal supply for Visayas. A casual conversation with Dr. Kim Klein in 2002 revealed that the university honors program was searching for an international service project. With the help of a group of honors students and funding from university president Anthony Ceddia, 30 boxes of books were collected from SU faculty and shipped to the Philippines.

As the project unfolded, Denise Anderson, professor and chair of the social work department, e-mailed Dr. Fiorini from Thailand, where she was on sabbatical and where she had discerned a similar need in the schools. They began a dialogue about maintaining records of what had been done so that it could be duplicated by future groups of students. Fortuitously, in 2004, discussion was raised about transforming the project into an honors class that would fulfill the newly adopted research requirement for honors coursework, and Anderson and Fiorini accepted the challenge.

Where It Is Now

The Honors Program Service-Learning Seminar that exists today is thus the result of a remarkable progression and confluence of events. Funding and staffing issues had prevented the honors program from easily adopting a research requirement, but with "selected topics" already an approved course, Anderson and Fiorini simply made service-learning the selected topic. In effect, the seminar is a massive research project that engages students at the grassroots level, challenging them to create their own nonprofit organization through operations, needs assessment, public relations, and fundraising. *The mission of the organization is to promote learning by providing educational materials to under-resourced schools and communities.* To meet our class, [click here](#).

What is Service-Learning?

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THE CLASS



Fall Semester 2005: Ryan Blackman, Jennifer Bly, Ashley Cayless, Kristin Champlain, Emily Cisney, Erin Harmon, Amanda Johnson, Sherilyn Malloy, Katie Mayo, Tyler Miller, Jacob Rosenberry, Cella Sum



Spring Semester 2006: Ashley Cayless, Emily Cisney, Erin Harmon, Amanda Johnson, Sherilyn Malloy, Katie Mayo, Tyler Miller, Laura North



Instructors: Dr. Denise Anderson and Dr. Gene Fiorini

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WHAT IS SERVICE-LEARNING?

At its core, service-learning is just what its name implies: learning achieved through some form of service to others. More than token community service or civic engagement, service-learning is a pedagogical approach through which students become active participants in the learning process, encouraged to combine community-building efforts with innovative educational activities. The result is a meaningful and personally and academically enriching experience where both the 'server' and the 'served' are benefited.

The American Association for Higher Education defines service-learning as follows: "[A] method under which students learn and develop through thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in and meets the needs of a community and is coordinated with an institution of higher education and with the community; helps foster civic responsibility; is integrated into and enhances the academic curriculum of the students enrolled; and includes structured time for students to reflect on the service experience." (adapted from the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993)

At a time when the focus of contemporary academia is often solely on what the student can gain from his or her schooling, service-learning seeks to redirect the inward emphasis of education and demonstrate that looking outward to others can prove to be an equally valuable manner of learning.

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COLLEGES IN NEED

Throughout the world, there are many deserving institutions in need of educational resources. Some of these schools exist in regions where poverty is systemic or where conflict, government corruption, and economic atrophy have left the country—and thus, the educational system—in poor condition. When performing research on where the need is most prevalent, HSL was overwhelmed by the possibilities. Imagine having to narrow the options from, literally, the whole world to a manageable handful for final consideration.

But that's precisely what happened. With the help of our needs assessment team, HSL reviewed numerous countries based on socioeconomic factors, political stability, and various other criteria. Most important, though, was whether the nation's official language of education was English. Ultimately, the list of choices was pared down to Tanzania, Jamaica, the Philippines, New Zealand, and Kenya, and after much discussion, Kenya was selected. With the advice of Dr. Christine Martey-Ochola, a chemistry professor at Shippensburg and a native of Kenya, the class identified Maseno University as the school with which we'd like to work.

In addition to going abroad, HSL felt it was important to incorporate a domestic component into our project. Class members suggested allocating some of the resources we collect for the schools of WHITCU (the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities). There are 34 tribal colleges and universities spread across 13 states from Michigan to Washington to Arizona. This initiative is the result of an executive order signed by President George W. Bush in 2002 designed to provide federal support to these schools, many of which exist in impoverished areas. With the help of needs assessment surveys distributed to all 34 institutions, HSL chose **United Tribes Technical College** in Bismarck, ND. For more information about WHITCU, [click here](#).

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May 8 End-of-the-semester party

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CONTRIBUTORS

Individual Financial Donors

Dr. Gene Fiorini

Mr. Richard Humphrey

Mr. Jon Jones

Mr. John Malloy

Dr. Daniel Predecki

Organizations

Kiwanis Club of Shippensburg, PA

Noontime Lions Club of Chambersburg, PA

Knights of Columbus of Shippensburg, PA

Rotary Club of Shippensburg, PA

Businesses

Destiny Image Publishers

Giant of Shippensburg, PA

K-Mart of Shippensburg, PA

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Wal-Mart of Shippensburg, PA

Other

The following SU administrators have given generously to make this project a success:

Dr. Jody Harpster, Interim President

Dr. Rick Ruth, Interim Provost

Dr. Robert Bartos, Dean, Education & Human Services

Dr. Gene Fiorini, Interim Dean, Arts & Sciences

Dr. Stephen Holoviak, Dean, Business

The following individuals have facilitated various aspects of the project:

Mr. John Clinton, SU Foundation

Ms. Susan Cool, VP for Students Affairs Office

Dr. Peter Gigliotti, University Communications

Ms. Robin Maun, President's Office

Ms. Crystal Miracle, SU Foundation

Ms. Penny Mowery, President's Office

The following SU Greek organizations performed at the Step Show fundraiser in February:

Alpha Phi Alpha

Iota Phi Theta

Kappa Alpha Psi

Sigma Lambda Gamma

Zeta Sigma Chi

And of course, HSL would like to thank the faculty and staff of Shippensburg University for donating more than 2,000 textbooks, reference books, novels, journals, transparencies, and CD-ROMs to our cause!

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Since the "Ship It: Textbooks Go Global" service-learning project has been completed, our class is no longer accepting monetary donations or donations of textbooks and other educational materials. We'd like to thank all the **contributors** who made this project a success.

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IPSL Conference, Rapid City, SD











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