

VOL. XXXVI

NO. 5

# THE HONORS REPORT

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022



**Welcome back! Happy Spring Semester!**  
**The January/February edition includes:**

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**The Honors Report is looking to feature Honor College students' accomplishments! Please submit your "Points of Pride" or nominate a friend to be featured, so we may acknowledge and celebrate these achievements! Reach out to Beth Roberts with your ideas.**

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Camryn Gurecki, Josh Marzak  
Elias Peluso,



**Millersville University**  
HONORS COLLEGE

## Honors College Spring 2022 Calendar of Events

### January

Fri, 28 - @7:00pm – Spoons Tournament; South 4th Floor Study Lounge

Sun, 30 - @7:00pm - HCSA Meeting; SMC 118

### February

Tues, 1 - @12:00-1:15pm - Commuter Pizza Lunch; Franklin House

Thur, 10 - Thesis Day

@12:05-1:10pm – Thesis Q & A; Zoom Meeting ID 294 629 5508

@4:30-5:45pm - Thesis Workshop (required for second year students);  
Zoom Meeting ID 294 629 5508

Sun, Feb 13 - HCSA Super Bowl Party; Great Room in South Village

Wed, 23 - @5:00pm - Meet & Greet with Dr. Wubah; Great Room in South Village

Sun, 27 - @7:00pm - HCSA Meeting; SMC 118

### March

Tues, 1 - @6:30pm - Virtual Resume Review with ELCM; Zoom Meeting ID 294 629 5508

Sun, 20 - @8:00pm - Movie Night; South 4th Floor Study Lounge

Sun, 27 - @7:00pm - HCSA Meeting; SMC 118

Tues, 29 - @7:00-8:00pm - Registration Hot Chocolate Social; Great Room in South Village

### April

Sat, 2 - TDB - Honors College Bus Trip to New York City

Wed, 6 - @6:00am - Honors College Early Registration for Fall 2022

Sun, 10 - @1:00pm - Phi Kappa Phi Induction and Reception; Lehr Dining Hall

Sun, 24 - @1:00pm - Spring Recognition Banquet; Lehr Dining Hall

Sun, 24 - @7:00pm - HCSA Meeting; SMC 118





## SPRING 2022 OFFICE HOURS

### Dr. Thyrum's Office Hours - Virtual

Monday 1:15 to 4 pm  
 Tuesday 12:15 to 1 pm  
 Wednesday 11:15 am to noon  
 Friday 11:15 am to noon  
 \*\*Students may also request other  
 appointment times; all times held on Zoom  
 at Meeting ID: 294 629 5508

### Franklin House Hours/Beth's Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 to noon &  
 1 to 4 pm  
 \*\*Beth will be available in Franklin  
 House during these hours. You may  
 also request a Zoom meeting with  
 Beth.

### Alanna's Office Hours

Tuesday 10 to 11 am  
 Thursday 10 to 11 am  
 Friday 12 to 1 pm  
 \*\*Alanna will be available in person  
 in Franklin House or on Zoom  
 during these hours  
 Meeting ID: 770 891 1082

### Jess's Office Hours

Monday 7 to 8 pm  
 Tuesday 2:30 to 3:30 pm  
 Wednesday 3 to 4 pm  
 \*\*Jess will be available in person in  
 South Village 303D or on Zoom  
 during these hours  
 Meeting ID: 984 638 4841

## THANK YOU TO FALL PROFESSORS

The Honors College would like to thank the wonderful professors who worked so hard to make the Fall 2021 semester a success! Without these amazing professors teaching honors courses, we would not be able to do what we do. Thank you to the following individuals for teaching your respective honors course:

THANK  
YOU

Dr. Marlene Arnold – Culture Through Film  
 Dr. Christine Filippone – History and Aesthetics of Photography  
 Dr. John Wallace – Biology Seminar  
 Dr. Jessica Hughes and Prof. James Machado – Fundamentals of Speech  
 Dr. Kenneth Smith – Principles of Microeconomics  
 Dr. Kaitlin Mondello – English Composition  
 Dr. Christine Gaudry – Explorations in World Literature  
 Dr. Samuel Earman – Physical Geology and Lab  
 Dr. Richard Glenn – Constitutional Law  
 Dr. Zhoudé Shao – Calculus 1  
 Dr. Zenaida Uy – Physics Seminar  
 Dr. Hannah Osborn – Psychology of Racism  
 Dr. Heather Girvin – Family Violence  
 Dr. Clarence Maxwell – Explorations in History of Ideas

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# THANK YOU CONT.

Two of the Fall 2021 Professors comment on their experience with Honors Students:  
Quotes Collected by Camryn Gurecki

**“Working with Honors students in English Composition and World Literature for the past 1.5 years has been such a rewarding experience for me as a new instructor at Millersville. I value the intellectual curiosity, creativity, and passion Honors students bring to each class as they develop their own interests and expertise in dialogue with the course material.”**  
- Kaitlin Mondello, English Composition

**“In a non-honors class, I do not believe I would have felt comfortable asking students to address difficult issues in literature which could have potentially become controversial in the classroom. At Millersville, Honors students are asked to build a sense of community, and this helped turn conflicted situations into collaborative discussions across differences. Teaching an Honors class gave me the opportunity to challenge students and require that they come up with an original research question instead of asking them to regurgitate what had been published by others.”** -Christine Gaudry, Explorations in World Literature

## HONORS STUDENTS ENJOY WINTER BREAK

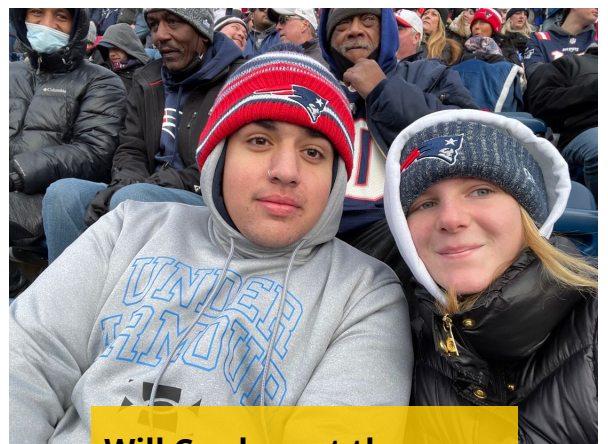
by Elias Peluso

**2022 is already here! Winter break was a well-needed (and well-deserved) time off from classwork. Even though it was only a month long, it feels much longer since when we were last at Millersville. A few Honors students highlight what they did over the break:**

**“I went to a Patriots game in Boston for the first time! I had so much fun, even if the Pats lost...”** -Will Cordero (He/Him)

**“After taking a break to recover from the previous semester, I've been preparing for my spring courses and gearing up to serve the local community more than before.”**

-Kyle Nazarchuk (He/Him, S2023, Meteorology major)



**Will Cordero at the game**

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## WINTER BREAK CONT.

Bronte ice skating



**"I went Ice Skating and Zip-lining at Refreshing Mountain for the first time in many years with one of my best friends."** - Bronte Angelica Spidalieri (She/Her, Class of May 2023, Major: International Business, Minor: Psychology)

**"Over the winter break, I used some down time to brush up on my 3D modeling skills. I need to texture it better, but I'm really happy with how it turned out!"** -

Daniel Foreacre (He/Him, Senior Computer Science Major)



Daniel's 3D Model



Elias at a Christmas display

**"Winter break was fun! I spent the whole time with my family, continuing our tradition of watching The Polar Express every Christmas Eve. My favorite gift was an Arduino robotics kit - I now have the materials to design and program robots of my own creation! I was even able to remain in touch with my college friends via online gaming sessions!"** -Elias Peluso (He/Him, Class of May 2023, Major: Robotics and Control Systems Technology)

## HISTORY OF THE HONORS COLLEGE: AN INTEVIEW WITH DR. OSBORNE

Interview Conducted by Claire DeVinney

**Dr. John Osborne was the 1st director of MU's Honors program starting in 1981. He is a faculty emeritus who served our History department from 1970-2003.**

**Q: Can you tell me a little bit about yourself? How did you come to teach at Millersville? What department were you part of?**

A: "While I was writing my Ph.D. thesis, I was tutoring a friend of mine who had been booted out of two colleges and was getting a D in the history course he was taking. The professor asked him, "How did you go from getting an "F" on the first exam to getting an "A" on the second exam?" He explained how I had tutored him. The professor wanted to see me, and I was hired to teach summer school there. One of their faculty members got ill, and I ended up teaching there for 5 years while writing my

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## DR. OSBORNE CONT.



dissertation, so I did have a fair amount of teaching experience when I applied for the job at Millersville in 1970. I was fortunate enough to get hired - to teach English History, which I taught for ten years before the opportunity came up to be on a committee to organize what was officially being called a "Scholar's Program."

**Q: You were the first director of the Millersville University Honors College. How long was your tenure as Honors College director?**

A: "We recruited our first class in the 1981-1982 year. I was the director for 19.5 years."

**Q: How were you involved in the creation of the Honors College? How did you feel that the Honors College would benefit students?**

A: "The program was first envisioned by our new provost. He came to MU from Carnegie Mellon, and he wanted to set up a Scholar's Program. He set up a committee to do so, and I was one of the people appointed. It turned out that the chair of the committee had to be on the faculty senate. I was the only committee member on the faculty senate, so I became the chair.

"In the 1980-1981 year, I was sent to the annual conference of honors program directors. They ran a session for new directors on how to set up a program. I had some fairly strong ideas on how the program should be organized, and I found out from this conference that these ideas were in keeping with how the best honors programs were run. The committee decided that we should have an honors thesis requirement and that we should build the program around the general education requirements.

"I ended up being the director, partially because I was the chair of the committee and partially because, when I was assembling the honors class, I called myself the director, so it looked more official. I ended up becoming the director afterward.

"What I was trying to do was recreate for Millersville's honors students the intention and support I had received from professors who had transformed my life. These professors would invite me to dinner. An art historian professor would take us on field trips to the national gallery and to Shakespeare plays. I always promised honors students as they came in that I would provide them the best teachers—professors who enjoy teaching and who are student-oriented. It worked out very well.

"I also wanted to incorporate a sense of camaraderie among the honors students. Being part of a group committed to ideas, you can learn almost as much from each other as you can from the class that you're in. The class gives you the background to have intelligent conversations with your fellow honors students. I organized one or two field trips every semester. I took them into Philadelphia to see plays, or into Baltimore to see the symphony, or to Washington D.C. or Baltimore to see opera. Soon after the program started, a student came to me and said, "All of these intellectual field trips are okay, but why don't we do something interesting or fun?" I said, "Like what?" He said, "Why don't we go white water rafting?" Almost at the same time, I discovered that



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there was a ropes course in the county park. One of the reasons I retired in 2000 was because I was 63 years old, and I was still doing the ropes course. I thought, "If I'm going to have them do it, I have to do it, too." We did about 10 or 15 years of white water rafting as well. That was always great fun."

*Excellence*  
WITHOUT  
*Elitism*

**Q: The Honors College motto is "Excellence without elitism." Were you involved in choosing that motto? How do you feel that it embodies the principles of the Honors College?**

A: "That was created well after my tenure, but I was always thinking that way. A former president of the college told me in the early days of the honors program that he was concerned about elitism in the Honors College. I said, "We're not giving special favors to the students. We are giving students who have drive and intellectual curiosity the opportunity to explore."

I think that the motto fits in with the opportunities we have for those who have the desire to pursue them. There are all sorts of stories of honors students going on to accomplish things they never thought they would be able to do when they arrived as freshmen. One of our graduates was the first Millersville student to be accepted into Harvard Law School!"

**Q: What did you learn about students from being the Honors College director? Did anything about the program surprise you?**

A: "I became very much aware of the fact that students with a lot of academic talent and a lot of intellectual curiosity undervalue what they can achieve. I tried to open students' eyes to the possibilities they could reach at Millersville. The students from the Honors College can do equally well as students at any other college. One of the most important things about the Honors program was that it did transform a lot of students' lives and opened their eyes to what they could achieve."

## 5 TIPS TO START THE SEMESTER OFF RIGHT FROM YOUR EDITORS

**It's the start of a new year and a new semester! Start your classes on the right foot with some tips from your Honors Report editors.**

1. "Check out professor office hours. If you need help, don't hesitate to ask for it early in the semester. Or if you know a professor is researching something you're interested in, reach out; maybe they can even become your thesis/creative project advisor!" - Natalie
2. "I find the best way to start the semester is with good organization! I recommend having a planner system that works for you to keep track of due dates, your job, extracurriculars, and other commitments!" - Natalie

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## TIPS FROM EDITORS CONT.



**Natalie Flory (pictured left) is a junior English Education major with a minor in ESL/Linguistics. She has been the Honors Report editor since January/February 2021. After a year as the Head Editor, she will be stepping down upon the release of this edition but is thankful for the experience.**

3. "Print out your syllabi! Even if you aren't a paper person, having hard copies on hand can save you a lot of time and confusion since you'll have easy access." - Claire

4. "Get plenty of sleep. I know I've gotten used to staying up and sleeping in late over winter break but having a consistent sleep schedule during the semester can make or break your academic performance. According to Harvard Medical School, proper sleep is crucial to learning and memory, so study hard and sleep well!" -Claire

5. "Keep an extra mask or two in your backpack. It never hurts to have a backup just in case!" -Claire



**Claire DeVinney is a freshman Atlantic World major with intended graduation of May 2025. She is stepping up as the Head Editor and is excited to get started with the Honors Report!**

## STUDENT ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT: MAX LUBAS

Interview Conducted by Natalie Flory



**Max Lubas**

**Q: How has being at MU and being involved with the Honors College and athletics impacted your college experience?**

A: "Being involved with athletics and the Honors College at Millersville has been very beneficial to my college experience. There are countless resources at the ready to assist you in pursuing your goals, both on the field and in the classroom."

**Q: What do you enjoy most about playing soccer at Millersville?**

A: "The thing I enjoy most about playing for Millersville is the passion that everybody brings to the program. We had great success this past season because everybody on the team plays a key role. There is a real sense of brotherhood among the team, and playing in the big games alongside your friends is truly a great experience."

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## MAX LUBAS CONT.

### Q: How do you balance your athletic commitments, honors academics, and maintain a social life?

A: "The most important thing when finding a balance is organization. I like to establish a routine and use various planners to map out my commitments to athletics and academics. Often, you may have to sacrifice the social aspect of your college experience to focus on academics or athletics, but in the end, it is always worth it."

### Q: Do you have any advice for students who are struggling to find balance among these commitments?

A: "My advice would be to just take a step back when you need to. It can be harmful to your mental health to overcommit and try to attend everything when you don't have enough time. Another piece of advice is to do your work early. By eliminating procrastination, you will have more free time to do what you want, and you won't feel yourself lagging."

## THE HUB OFFERS SERVICES TO MU STUDENTS

by Josh Marzak

**There are many resources available to students on Millersville's campus, but perhaps many students never realize the scope of resources offered by The HUB.**



[www.hubmillersville.com](http://www.hubmillersville.com)

The Hub is an independent, non-profit organization that is located directly next to the Biemesderfer Executive Center and the Dilworth Building. It is characteristically called the A-frame due to its towering gabled roof. Inside, one can find the cafe, a game room, think tank, the Campus Cupboard, the Campus Closet, and the home base for the Hub Mission.

"Our desire this semester is to be a safe haven for students to find peace, no matter how stressful their college experience may get," says Jacob Marino, the Acting Hub Director. "Whether that peace is a quiet place to study, a free meal, or just an encouraging conversation."

This semester will feature free hot lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11am to 1pm, continuing the effort to serve students and community members for the last several years.



**Shelves at the Campus Cupboard**

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## THE HUB CONT.

Anita Garber, a first-year Master's student at Millersville in the social work program, serves as the current intern at the Hub and oversees the Campus Cupboard and the Campus Closet. "The Campus Cupboard at the Hub exists as a type of free-market food pantry to meet the dietary needs [of students] and eradicate food insecurity on Millersville's Campus, which as indicated by a survey completed in 2019 was 36.5%, [which is] three times higher than the national average at 11%," she said. "My role, as an intern at The Hub, is to facilitate the ongoing operations of The Campus Cupboard (Open Monday through Friday 12pm to 9pm) and the Campus Closet (hours by appointment)." The Campus Closet features professional attire for students who may need clothing for job interviews, internships, etc.

On Friday nights from 9pm to midnight, The Hub holds French Toast Fridays. Live music, board games, and free homemade french toast and sausage (along with a few more surprises coming soon) will add to the list of services the Hub provides at this recurring event.

Not to mention, there are counseling and crisis ministry opportunities available to students, in addition to quiet places to study!

Overall, the Hub serves as a crucial link between university and community by serving students in their greatest areas of need. "The Hub will always be here continuing its mission: Love Students. Meet Needs. Build Community." says Jacob.



**The formal hours of operation will normally be Monday through Friday 8am to 10pm (hours are sometimes extended). Come check it out!**  
***You can even find opportunities for volunteering with the HUB, a great way to complete service for the Honors College.***



We wish all our honors students the best in the new semester! Reach out if you need help or support. Study hard and keep up the great work!