

Academe

Celebrating Academic Leadership and Christian Scholarship



DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS

Huntington University's Department of Theatre Arts offers degree programs in general theatre, performance, design/technology and theatre education. All are broad-based majors designed to provide students with a strong foundation for their careers and solid preparation for related fields of graduate study.

Theatre students at Huntington University combine classroom study, studio work and production experience to gain a balanced education. A typical season will include main-stage and studio productions, children's shows, musicals, workshops, and student-directed one-acts. Off-campus learning opportunities are available and encouraged, including the programs offered by the Los Angeles Film Studies Center in cooperation with the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities.

FROM THE STAGE TO STORE DISPLAYS

The transition from stage to window displays may seem like an unusual one, but for Josh Scott, the same skills apply.

Josh, a 2005 graduate, is a merchandiser and visual design specialist with Vera Bradley, a leading manufacturer of handbags, travel bags and accessories. In his position, he trains retailers on design and display techniques to boost sales and best showcase merchandise in store layouts.

"My degree in theatre technology and design prepared me in many ways," Josh says. "For theatre, your design has to function alongside the designs of others – it has to be collaborative. That is a great skill to have in a company because it helps me find solutions that support both a merchandising initiative, as well as sales and marketing. Each area is working toward the same goal, just like lights, costumes, sets, etc. My designs need to support their initiatives and still fit within the vision of Vera Bradley."

While Josh's job keeps him extremely busy, he has found time to engage in extracurricular theatre opportunities. He has done freelance work painting backdrops for photographers, and he served as the technical director and designer for the Fort Wayne Youth Theatre. He also did technical work for the Civic Theatre in Fort Wayne and has appeared in productions there. In the spring of 2007, Josh served as a guest designer for Huntington University's rendition of "Crimes of the Heart."

At Huntington, Josh had several opportunities to experience theatre in different environments. He spent a January Term in Los Angeles, attended Southeastern Theatre Conference events, met regularly with Christians in Theatre Arts and spent a semester in Spain.

"SETC was great because you met and worked with other students in your field, working through design competitions, auditioning and interviewing for summer stock jobs, and



"I allowed myself to be sensitive to the Spirit and had a desire to be transformed during my college years. I chose Huntington because I wanted an environment that would nurture and encourage that – and it did."

attending workshops," Josh says.

Josh appreciates the close-knit Huntington community that gave him both personal attention and room to grow academically.

"At school there was mutual respect in the learning environment, and it was that kind of 'give-and-take' in the classroom that was important to me," Josh says. "I wouldn't have had that at a larger school. There was more of a sense of community within the student body as well – I think we all felt we were part of this thing called 'Huntington' together. We were what made it what it was. It wasn't so big and segmented that you lost that intimacy."

Huntington also gave Josh an environment to develop spiritually. "I grew so much in my time at Huntington because I opened myself up to it," he says. "I allowed myself to be sensitive to the Spirit, and had a desire to be transformed during those years. I chose Huntington because I wanted an environment that would nurture and encourage that – and it did."

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS & NOTES



• RichLyn Library will host **Dr. Timothy O. Smith**, assistant professor of history, for the fall “Focus on Excellence” colloquium. The event will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 19 in

the Johnson Conference Room of the library. Admission is free, and parking is available in the lot adjacent to the library. Light refreshments will be served. Smith will present his new book titled “Britain and the Origins of the Vietnam War: UK Policy in Indo-China, 1943-50.” A question-and-answer session will follow his lecture.

• **Mr. Matthew Ruiz**, instructor in exercise science, attended the Association for Applied Sport Psychology Annual Conference in Louisville on Oct 24-27.

• An essay written by **Dr. Ann McPherran**, vice president for university planning and strategy, has been published in this month’s issue of University Business. The October edition’s feature was “the state of higher education.” Several essays by higher education leaders were in the issue.

McPherran’s article, titled “The Commodity Market and the University Education,” may be found at www.universitybusiness.com.

• In the summer of 2007, **Mrs. Kristie Worfel**, adjunct faculty in the Department of Theatre Arts, completed the apprenticeship level of study with Mimeistry International. She will begin to study the journeyman requirements. This is equivalent to finishing a bachelor’s degree and starting a master’s program. The written test Worfel took in July lasted five hours and involved scripture application to movement ministry (both mime and dance).

• **Dr. Gary C. Newton**, professor of discipling ministries, has been offered a contract to write a book with Broadman & Holman Academic Publishers titled “Heart-Deep Teaching: Turning Sitters into Doers.” The purpose of this book will be to explain how to teach in such a way as to progressively change the heart and character of the learner into the likeness of Christ. While many contemporary teaching strategies tend to be biblically shallow, “Heart-Deep Teaching” will attempt to show the teacher how to stimulate the learner to respond to Truth at deeper levels: cognitively, affectively, volitionally

and practically. Newton plans to complete his manuscript by December 2008.

• **Dr. Del Doughty**, associate professor of English, participated in the “Teaching the Great Books” seminar at the annual meeting of the Association of Literary Scholars and Critics” held at the Allegro Hotel in Chicago from Oct. 12-14. The title of Doughty’s paper was “Who Needs Scientists When There’s a Poet Around? What ‘Moby-Dick’ Tells Us That the Pharmaceutical Companies Don’t Want Us to Know.”

• The first part of **Dr. Paul Michelson’s** Venetian Jewish Chronology, covering the 14th-17th centuries, has been published online as part of the Venetian Jewish Anthology project at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Michelson serves as distinguished professor of history. To read the anthology, log on to <http://humwww.ucsc.edu:16080/jewishstudies/vja/chronology/>.

• **Prof. Susie Burson**, assistant professor of education, served as a consultant for an article in Scholastic.com about helping children deal with special events. The article, titled “Scare Away the Special-Occasion Sugar High,” was published Oct. 15.

SUMMER RESEARCH



Ashley Meyer (far right) and students from Hong Kong Baptist University participated in an advertising campaign photo shoot. The pictures are posted on large pillars on campus.

• Students in the mathematics and science disciplines often complete research experiences.

• For a list of chemistry majors who have had research experiences, log on to www.huntington.edu/chemistry/student_research.htm.

MATH TAKES MEYER 7,900 MILES AWAY

Hong Kong hosts summer research experience

An aptitude for math led Huntington University student Ashley Meyer 7,900 miles from home. Meyer traveled to Hong Kong for an eight-week research experience in the summer of 2007.

A senior mathematics major from Angola, Ind., Meyer conducted research at Hong Kong Baptist University, an experience organized through the Colorado School of Mines and the National Science Foundation’s Research Experiences for Undergraduates. On the trip, she focused on numerical analysis and scientific computing (math and computers), her data having applications in applied science and engineering. She worked with Dr. Leevan Ling from Hong Kong Baptist University on his research regarding the effective condition number. In short, the effective condition number gives an *a priori* estimate to the accuracy of a method for solving partial differential equations.

Meyer’s typical day included plenty of work, but included some free time as well. “I worked from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with lunch at 1 p.m.,” she said. “In the evening, I’d find a random restaurant, park or museum, and just enjoy the city. On weekends, I’d put in a few hours to touch up loose ends and then explore the city some more.”

Meyer enjoyed her housing accommodations. “I lived in an international house at the university,” she said. “It was like a hotel and even offered maid service.”

Dr. Francis Jones, professor of mathematical sciences, encouraged Meyer to pursue a research experience and to take the steps necessary to go on to graduate school. Meyer said the trip was key in helping her discover what lies in the near future for her.

“The trip gave me an idea of what grad school will be like in the research aspect and what it would be like to get my doctorate,” she said. “It showed me what math research is and what I could possibly do with my math major.”

After she graduates in May, Meyer plans to pursue a Ph.D. in math. She hopes to find a specific area of research interest while in graduate school.

Regarding how Huntington prepared her for the experience, she said, “The project was way more advanced than what I was prepared for. But my classes gave me the background to understand what I was researching. I used the skills I had and learned to read and understand the concepts I was working with.”

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Basketball: The women's team used a stingy defense to pull away from the Wilberforce University Bulldogs in the second half and cruised to the 74-50 win to claim the Huntington University Vista Inn Tournament title on Nov. 9. The men's team picked up its first win of the season on Nov. 10 against Central Bible College, bringing its record to 1-2.



Junior Nick Johnson, who earned an individual berth in last year's NAIA National Cross Country Championship, will look to put his experience and knowledge of the course to good use as a competitor this year.

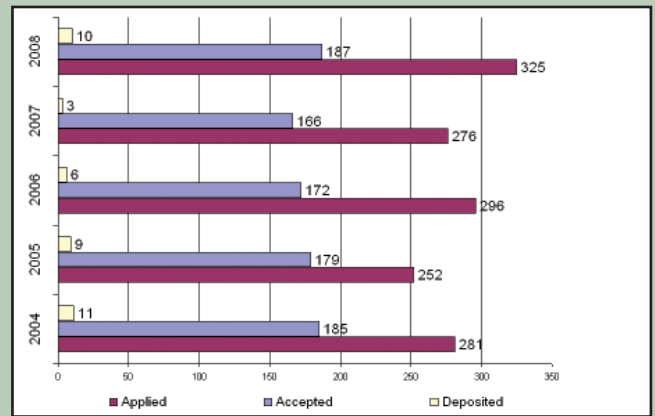
Cross Country: After placing third in the NAIA Region VIII Championship, the Foresters jumped from 20th to 13th in the final cross country ranking. The move up earned them one of the 14 at-large berths in the NAIA National Championship on Nov. 17 in Kenosha, Wis.

Soccer: The men's team had one final try to get one in the win column in conference play, but came up short with a 2-1 loss to Bethel College in their season finale on Oct. 23. In the first round of the Mid-Central Conference tournament, the #6-seeded women's team gave the #3-seeded St. Francis Cougars all they could handle, but came up short in the 3-2 loss on Oct. 20.

Volleyball: The Foresters were hoping for a different outcome in their rematch with Taylor University, but the Trojans again topped HU 30-22, 30-26, 26-30, 30-27 in an MCC tournament semifinal match on Nov. 8.

For news and up-to-date results of Forester Athletics, visit www.huntington.edu/athletics.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE



The chart above summarizes the number of prospective students who have applied and been accepted to Huntington University for the fall 2008 semester. The bars represent year-to-date comparisons over the past five years.

ADVANCEMENT NEWS

The Advancement Office reported to the Board of Trustees that final capital campaign projects and goals are on track to be finalized by mid-January. In addition, the campaign steering committee met for the first time to receive an update of the planning process. The Advancement staff made presentations to the Church of the United Brethren in Christ Lay Leadership Training Sessions in Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania. Parent Weekend was held on campus Nov. 2-3 with more than 175 parents in attendance.

AROUND CAMPUS...

- Over Huntington University's Fall Break on Oct. 15-16, eight students traveled on behalf of the Joe Mertz Center to Rushford, Minn., to help with flood relief projects. The trip was led by **Adam Shoemaker**, a senior not-for-profit business major from Sheridan, Ind. Shoemaker is the student director of the JMC. Rushford, a town of approximately 1,700 people, was devastated by a flood in mid-August. Students helped put a new roof on a business, drywall Root River Church, tear out plaster and rip off siding. They also assisted with removing carpet and tile, painting, cleaning the local grocery and installing a vent at the local pizza shop.
- The Joe Mertz Center connected campus and community Oct. 20 during the organization's annual Fall Work Day. The JMC has planned and coordinated this event to plunge students into community service since 1996. Volunteers divide up into groups and are assigned a location and a project. JMC employees contact and are contacted by organizations or people who need volunteer help. This year, there were 215 volunteers including 208 students, five faculty and two staff. Volunteers went to 18 different sites to offer assistance.
- The Huntington University Department of Nursing, in collaboration with the Huntington County Health Department, offered flu shots to faculty, staff, students and the public on Nov. 6.

Shots were given to 59 adults and eight children in the lower level of the Science Hall in the main nursing lab. Nursing students staffed the registration table while **Prof. Margaret Winter**, the university's director of nursing; **Dr. Patricia Pierce**, assistant director of nursing; and Tami Berlier, the health department's public health nurse, administered the shots.

• Huntington University honored the 178 Merillat Scholars at a dinner held Nov. 6 in the upper level of the Habecker Dining Commons. The founders of the scholarship were represented by **Dr. Ruth Merillat** of Adrian, Mich., and her son, **Dr. Richard Merillat**, of Naples, Fla. The Merillat Scholar award is a scholarship primarily for United Brethren in Christ Church members or children of Huntington University alumni or students involved in Youth for Christ in high school at the Student Leader level. Since the Merillat Scholar award began in the fall of 1994, almost \$10 million has been given to more than 1,000 students. The first Merillat Scholar class consisted of 29 recipients.

• The Baptist Press recognized Huntington University's student newspaper and a student journalist at its "Excellence in Journalism" conference. **Sarah Lang**, a senior journalism major from Findlay, Ohio, tied for first place in the news story category. The Huntingtonian, the

university's student newspaper, won first place in the overall newspaper – division I category.

- **Brett Jenkins**, a senior English major, had her poem "Windex" published in Denver Syntax, a quarterly online magazine that focuses on "witty and clever pieces that play on words while keeping the focus on the storyline."
- Huntington University announced the Mother and Father of the Year awards at a luncheon during Parent Weekend, Nov. 2-3. The winners were nominated by their children and selected by the Huntington University Parent Council. **Dr. G. Blair Dowden**, president, presented the recipients with plaques. The Mother of the Year is **Karen Garman** of Angola, Ind., nominated by her daughter **Erica (Garman) Barrows**. The Father of the Year is **Larry Pryor** from Indianapolis, Ind., nominated by his daughter, **Lindsay Pryor**.



Nominated by her daughter Erica (Garman) Barrows (right), Karen Garman receives the Mother of the Year Award.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			14 All-Area Music Student Recital/4 pm	15	16 Bible study/11 am Signs & Wonders/9 pm M Basketball/8 pm (H)	17 Cross Country/TBA (A) W Basketball/4 pm (A) Guerilla Theatre/9 pm
18 Signs & Wonders/ 8:30 pm	19 "Focus on Excellence"/7:30 pm	20	21 Thanksgiving Break M Basketball/7 pm (A)	22 THANKSGIVING	23 Thanksgiving Break Signs & Wonders/9 pm	24 W Basketball/1 pm (H) M Basketball/3 pm (H)
25 Signs & Wonders/ 8:30 pm	26	27 W Basketball/7 pm (A) M Basketball/ 7:30 pm (A)	28 All-Area Music Student Recital/4 pm	29	30 Bible study/11 am "A Christmas Celebration"/7:30 pm	1 W Basketball/1 pm (H) M Basketball/3 pm (A)
2	3	4 M Basketball/7 pm (H)	5 W Basketball/7 pm (H)	6	7 Final Day of Classes Signs & Wonders/9 pm	8 W Basketball/1 pm (A) M Basketball/3 pm (H)
9 Signs & Wonders/ 8:30 pm	10 Semester Exams	11 Semester Exams	12 Foundation Breakfast/ 7:45 am Semester Exams	<i>For a detailed calendar of campus events, visit www.huntington.edu/calendar.</i>		

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Choosing a college is a big decision—one that often involves the entire family. Considering all the academic challenges, financial commitments, and personal growth that takes place at college, persisting through four (or five!) years of higher education also involves both students and their entire families.

They say when you see a turtle on a fencepost, you know it did not get there by itself.

In the same way, we know that our students did not get to Huntington University by themselves, and they don't stay here by their own effort. There are mothers, fathers, siblings, grandparents, guardians and other members of the extended family supporting them, encouraging them and cheering them on.

I recently had the privilege of recognizing one outstanding mom and one outstanding dad as our first Huntington University Mother and Father of the Year. (See story, page 3). Numerous parents were nominated by their sons and daughters for this honor. The essays they wrote were so compelling that it was very difficult for our Parent Council to make a final selection for these awards.

Let me share with you just one example. Here's the essay written about our Mother of the Year:

"Many parents have positive impacts on the lives of their children. I know that I wouldn't be where I am

today without the positive impact I received from my mother. She is hardworking, devoted, loving, honest and caring. She is the hardest working woman that I know. Still today, she works more than 50 hours a week and almost always seven days a week to help my brothers and me with college. She has told me over and over we can do anything if we truly desire.

She also has been a huge influence on my faith. She sends me cards throughout the week with Bible verses and just letting me know that she's praying for me. It's reassuring to know that she is praying for me and believes that I can do anything. We pray before meals and before any major event. If I had not seen the Lord through my mother, I may not have ever become a Christian myself. I could see the Lord shine through my mother, and I wanted to be like that. I wanted to have the faith she has and the kindness to help anyone even if it means that she has to give up things that she needs. She is there to listen to my every need and desire at any time of the night, and trust me I have called her at all hours of the night!

To go back even further, when I was a child, my mother worked multiple jobs just to keep food on our table. Not only was she our mother, but our best friend and sole provider. She went without many things just so we could have things that we wanted. If we did something great and were able to go to McDonald's, she would take a peanut butter and jelly sandwich because we couldn't afford for all of



Dr. G. Blair Dowden
President of Huntington University

us to eat. She gave up so much to provide for us.

My mother is willing to help anyone if they need it. The week before and after my wedding, she worked so hard to make everything perfect. She did such a wonderful job. I could not ask for a better woman to be my mom, my role model and my best friend."

Our students are indeed fortunate to have such steadfast and committed parents. HU moms and dads have sacrificed much, led by example, and taught their children to seek knowledge and wisdom. I am so grateful for the remarkable example and godly heritage that HU parents provide for our students.