

# Academe

Celebrating Academic Leadership and Christian Scholarship



## SHARING HIS PHILOSOPHY

### PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Students who want to develop habits of honest, clear, constructive, critical thought, should consider Huntington University's Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy. The Philosophy Department teaches students to examine the basic assumptions on which all knowledge and beliefs are built. Philosophy majors at Huntington are trained to think deeply and critically for a variety of different fields. They grapple with the major issues confronting today's society in the light of the history of philosophical thought, the methods of philosophical analysis, and the Christian world and life view. A philosophy degree is a good choice for students looking forward to professional training in such areas as law and theology, or aspiring to a teaching career in philosophy. There are numerous options for combining a major in philosophy with majors in other disciplines.

It's only fitting that John Wait would quote a philosopher when giving advice to incoming college students.

"Conquer yourself rather than the world," he urges incoming freshmen, citing the words of Descartes.

A 2001 graduate of Huntington University with a degree in philosophy, Wait currently teaches geometry and algebra II at Oakridge Military Academy in Greensboro, N.C.

Prior to his current position, Wait served as master counselor at Camp E-Ma-Etu in North Carolina, a residential program for at-risk-youth. Wait supervised the day-to-day functions of the property's six groups, and he also trained group counselors in programmatic therapy.

It might be a surprising career choice for a philosophy major, but Wait says it fits.

"Well, a philosophy degree does not exactly scream 'career,' but I did feel like I had a good plan upon graduation," explains Wait, a native of Lake Odessa, Mich. "As far as I can comment concerning other people in my current professional field, I would definitely say that my experience and major at Huntington has a lot to do with my rapid success."

Working at Camp E-Ma-Etu provided Wait with a perfect opportunity to share his faith by example with his campers. "Counseling kids in an experiential setting is more than just a bunch of words," he says. "The most important aspect of my job is role modeling. My faith sets clear moral guidelines, which I in turn show to my kids with what I do."

Wait was initially drawn to Huntington by the Forester soccer program. He found the coaches and players to be great ambassadors for the University. "Their attitude was so welcoming that I couldn't help but be a part of it."

Being at a small institution provides students with plenty of opportunities to get involved. In addition to



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playing soccer, Wait also participated in track, student senate, theatre, and the student newspaper. "Perhaps the best part of being at a small institution was the student unity across campus," he says. "Other than that, I liked being able to have a relationship with all my professors."

Wait says the Huntington professors were essential in helping him think through important issues in his faith and preparing him for his current position.

"Growing up in the church, it seemed as if I had always lived inside a little bubble," Wait reflects. "Huntington helped me move out of that bubble and begin to actually think and deal with issues using the principles that the church should be based upon. Most of this occurred, however, through my relationship with a few professors who took the time to believe in me and guide me toward a sound way of thinking."

## FACULTY & STAFF NEWS



• **Dr. Paul E. Michelson**, distinguished professor of history at Huntington University, has been elected to a four year term, 2006-2009, as president of the Society for Romanian

Studies. The SRS is the leading international organization for scholars interested in the study of Romanian culture and civilization, as well as in the histories of the countries of Romania and Moldova.

• **Dr. Paul E. Michelson** recently gave two lectures to a Taylor University honors seminar on C. S. Lewis titled “Marketing Narnia: Into a Wardrobe...Full of Money,” and “The Many Lives of C. S. Lewis: Biographical Approaches to CSL.”

• On February 10, **President G. Blair Dowden** congratulated 54 prospective students on being awarded a Presidential Scholarship of \$7,000. Twenty-one of these students received an

additional Colloquium Scholarship of \$1,500. Based on high academic achievement, these scholarships are the highest merit awards bestowed on an incoming student.

• **Dr. Beth Felker Jones**, assistant professor of Bible and religion, had a book review published in the February 21, 2006, issue of the Christian Century titled “Jesus: The Prequel” It is a review of Anne Rice’s novel “Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt.” To read the online version of the article, log on <http://www.christiancentury.org/article.lasso?id=1807>

• **Mr. Troy Irick**, vice president for advancement, has been invited to be a panel member at the “Opportunities for Indiana” summit co-hosted by Purdue University, the Lilly Endowment and the Indiana Career Professionals Association. The event is being held at Purdue on April 13, 2006. Irick will serve as a panelist for the Intern and Experiential Learning Programs breakout session, along with individuals from Indiana University and Indiana State University.

• **Dr. Luke Feters**, assistant professor of ministry and missions, recently was awarded

the Dean’s Citation for Academic Excellence from the Ball State University Graduate School as recognition of completing the Ed.D. program with a “perfect academic record.”

• **Prof. Ken Hopper**, assistant professor of art, recently won best of show in the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Nine County Art Show. Hopper’s work was displayed in the Clark Gallery of the Honeywell Center in Wabash, Ind.

• **Dr. Pat Zezula**, professor of physical education, attended the Indiana Professional Preparation Conference at McCormick’s Creek on February 9-10, 2006. Presentations were made by the Indiana Department of Education and Indiana Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. Discussion groups focused on the proposed new teaching standards for health and physical education.

• **Prof. Bob Myers**, instructor in worship leadership, recently presented “Lenten Observance for the Evangelical Protestant” as part of the worship leadership seminars his department hosts. Myers gave an explanation of the origins of Lent.

## AFRICA TRIP PUTS BUSINESS GOALS IN PERSPECTIVE *Student, local businessmen serve Ghana’s pastors*

In February, Huntington University senior and business major Tim Foster gave some of the biggest presentations in his college career. However, it wasn’t in his business classes, but at a large conference in Kumasi, Ghana, speaking to more than 300 African pastors and leaders.



Foster traveled to Ghana with two local business leaders—Travis Holdman, president and CEO of MarkleBank, and Jeff Shelton, owner of Shelton Financial Group in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Holdman and Shelton have traveled to Africa five times in the past three years as volunteer associate trainers with the non-profit organization EQUIP. Founded in 1996, EQUIP works to develop effective church leaders around the world. Holdman and Shelton are part of an EQUIP initiative called the “Million Leader Mandate.”

“On a previous trip to Ghana, I realized there was a great opportunity to expose a young leader to EQUIP’s Million Leader Mandate material, and

to give that person the cultural experience of west Africa,” Holdman said. “Jeff Shelton and I talked about the importance of conveying the need to integrate faith and work for college students.”

Holdman serves as the president of the Huntington University Foundation Board, and he decided to invite an HU student along on their next trip. After contacting Dr. Ann McPherrren, an HU business professor on the MarkleBank Board of Directors, he was given the names of two business students to interview, and Foster was eventually chosen for the trip.

Foster raised money for the Ghana trip through support letters and petitions to different boards and committees. The trio left for Africa on January 30 and returned home February 5. For Foster, it was his first ministry experience overseas.

The EQUIP volunteers taught lessons in Biblical leadership at two-day conferences. While in Ghana, Foster helped teach several lessons.

“The first lesson I taught was on partnership,” he said. “It was a case study on Samuel and Saul.”

Tim’s business education at HU was good preparation as he spoke in front of 300 African church leaders.

“Having to give presentations for almost all my business classes gave me confidence and the preparation to speak for such a large audience,” he said. “I had good training. I felt comfortable, down to earth with them.”

The African pastors Tim taught will now use the lessons they learned to impact their own communities.

“There are leaders that are coming up in Ghana,” said Tim. “They are stepping up to the plate to teach people, to spread the word of God.”

Tim said the Ghana trip was refreshing for his faith. “These people have nothing,” he said. “But they are so happy and their faith seems like a lot more than my own. It’s unbelievable.”

The trip also accomplished Holdman and Shelton’s goal of showing a college student how a businessman can be others-centered.

“It’s a completely different approach,” Tim said about integrating business and faith. “It got my concern and focus off what I could do for myself, such as getting the best job or salary, and instead made me think about how I can serve these people the best I can. I learned a lot, just seeing the way Travis and Jeff sacrifice their time, doing it wholeheartedly.”

# SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

**Men's Basketball:** The NAIA National Tournament pairings were released and there was no surprise for the 2nd-ranked Foresters (28-5), who drew the second seed in the pairings. Making their sixth trip to Branson in seven years, the Foresters will face Fisher College (16-14) out of Boston, Massachusetts in first round action on Thursday, March 9 at 4:00 p.m. (CST).

**Baseball:** Although the Foresters dropped two of three games to the NAIA 10th-ranked Tigers of Campbellsville University, their 3-2 win was a monumental one, giving Coach Mike Frame his 500th win at the Forester helm. The win came in the opening game of Saturday's doubleheader. The Foresters got on the board first when Thad Frame smacked a one out double and then scored on an Andy Janzen single in the top of the fourth. HU added two more in the fifth on a two-run shot by Keith Benbow, his first round-tripper of the season, that also scored Adam Culy. Campbellsville got two back in the bottom of the sixth, but Josh Clark (1-1) shut down the Tigers in the seventh to preserve the win and help Coach Frame reach another milestone in his 22nd year with the Foresters.

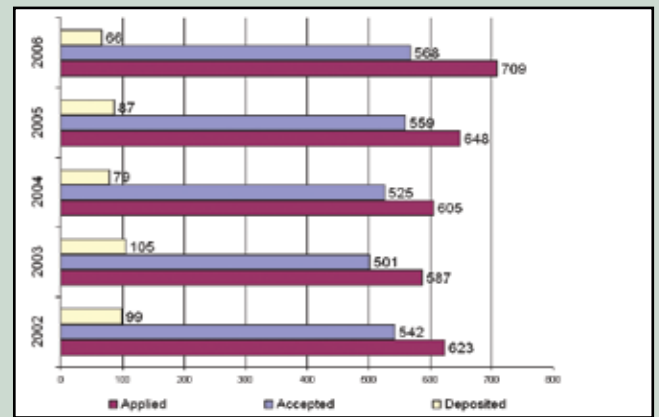
**Track & Field:** Hannie joins Sanders (1000) and Beach (shot put) as automatic qualifiers for the Indoor Track and Field National Championships to be held in Johnson City, Tennessee on March 9-11. Nick Johnson (3000) and Jill Roughia (1000) have both met the NAIA's provisional qualification standards as did the men's 4x400 relay.

For news and up-to-date results of Forester Athletics, visit [www.huntington.edu/athletics](http://www.huntington.edu/athletics).



Coach Mike Frame earns his 500th career win at Huntington.

## ADMISSIONS UPDATE



The chart above summarizes the number of prospective students who have applied and been accepted to Huntington University for the fall 2006 semester. The bars represent year-to-date comparisons over the past five years.

## ADVANCEMENT UPDATE

Giving to the University Fund during February saw a significant increase over the same month last year, and year to date giving to the unrestricted University Fund is 16% ahead of last year. A successful phonathon was held during the month. During the two week span in which forty-two student callers contacted 3,797 friends of HU, pledges of \$95,024 were received. Also during February, the Alumni office held a number of gatherings in Florida with alumni and friends. Finally, the Advancement Office is coordinating and traveling with a number of University friends to Branson this week for the NAIA national men's basketball tourney.

## AROUND CAMPUS...

- Huntington University sophomore **Alicia Pyle** has been selected as the featured pianist for the 2006 Fort Wayne Philharmonic Gala: A Grand Night for Music. "I was very surprised and excited to be invited as the featured guest performer with the orchestra in a concert added this year after the evening's dinner and auction



festivities," she said. "This is truly a blessing for me to work toward and anticipate." In addition to playing with the orchestra, Pyle will perform under the leadership of Bradley Thachuk, associate conductor of the Fort Wayne Philharmonic.

- Huntington University's **Stephanie Bills**, a senior education major from Lagrange, Ind., wanted to serve others during her final college spring break but couldn't because her student teaching assignment requires that she take her

break with the public school where she teaches. Instead of allowing that to discourage her, Bills gathered information and organized a special ministry opportunity just for student teachers. The first week of April, she and approximately 15 other student teachers will travel to Mississippi to assist in clean-up efforts in the Biloxi area. They will work with Hands-On America, the long-term branch of Hands-On USA, the same organization that partnered with the January term and fall break groups.

- Huntington University communication students recently earned top honors at the Intercollegiate National Religious Broadcasters (iNRB) student awards. Huntington placed in five of the 11 categories, including three 1<sup>st</sup> place awards and two 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards. First place winners in each category received a \$150 cash prize along with an expenses paid trip to this year's iNRB national convention in Dallas, Texas. "I am so proud of our broadcasting and film studies students," said **Dr. Lance Clark**, associate professor of communication. "This year's iNRB competition was extremely challenging with a record number of colleges and universities entering."

- Huntington University will host a high school art exhibit from March 7-25, 2006, in the Robert E. Wilson Gallery of the Merillat

Centre for the Arts. "We wanted to provide an opportunity for regional high school students to have a professional quality exhibit to showcase their work," said **Professor Rebecca Coffman**, professor of art. "It's also a great opportunity to introduce them to Huntington University. Most importantly, we want to celebrate the visual arts being created by high school students in this area." The competition is open to high school students within a 150-mile radius of the University. The awards reception will be held on March 25, 2006, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The high school art exhibit is open to the public. The Robert E. Wilson Gallery is open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., before and after all Merillat Centre performances, and by appointment. For further information, contact Rebecca Coffman, gallery director, at (260) 359-4272.

- Mr. Tom Bancroft, cofounder of Funnypages Productions, served as the speaker for the Huntington University Forester Lecture Series on Thursday, February 23, 2006, in the Zurcher Auditorium of the Merillat Centre for the Arts. Bancroft, author of "Creating Characters with Personality," presented a how-to lecture about animation. He has had extensive experience with designing characters for several feature-length and short films.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			8 All-Area Music Student Recital/4:30 pm	9 M Basketball/4 pm (A) Track & Field (A)	10 Mid-Semester Track & Field (A)	11 Baseball/12:30 pm (A) Track & Field (A)
12	13 Spring Recess Baseball/10 am (A)	14 Spring Recess Baseball/2 pm (A)	15 Spring Recess	16 Spring Recess Baseball/10 am (A)	17 Spring Recess Baseball/2 pm (A) Track & Field (A)	18 Baseball/10 am (A) Track & Field (A)
19	20 CLEP/DANTES/8 am	21 CLEP/DANTES/8 am Baseball/3 pm (A) Forester Lecture/7 pm	22 CLEP/DANTES/8 am	23 CLEP/DANTES/8 am	24 CLEP/DANTES/8 am Baseball/5 pm (H) Longaker Honors Recital/7:30 pm	25 Baseball/noon (H) Track & Field/10 am (A)
26	27 Advising/8 am	28 Advising/8 am	29 Advising/8 am	30 Advising/8 am Baseball/1:30 pm (A)	31 Advising/8 am Final Withdraw/9 am	1 Jr./Sr. Banquet/7 pm Baseball/1 pm (H) Track & Field/11 am (A)
2	3 Advising/8 am	4 Advising/8 am Baseball/4 pm (A)	5 Advising/8 am All-Area Music Student Recital/4:30 pm	6 Advising/8 am Baseball/4 pm (H) "The House of Bernarda Alba"/7:30 pm	7 Advising/8 am "The House of Bernarda Alba"/9:30 am, 7:30 pm Track & Field (A)	8 Baseball/1 pm (H) "The House of Bernarda Alba"/2 & 7:30 pm Track & Field (A)
9	10 Advising/8 am	11 Advising/8 am Baseball/1 pm (A)	12 Foundation Break- fast/7:45 am Advising/8 am	<i>For a detailed calendar of campus events, visit <a href="http://www.huntington.edu/calendar">www.huntington.edu/calendar</a>.</i>		

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Huntington University will recess for Spring Break next week. For many college students across the country, Spring Break means visiting a sunny beachside resort for sun and fun. For many Huntington University students, however, Spring Break brings an opportunity to "put feet to their faith" and demonstrate Christ's love to others through hard work.

For example, seven students and one alumna will minister in San Francisco during Spring Break. In collaboration with the Center for Student Missions (CSM), the group will volunteer with several different food banks, a food distribution center, an after school program, and an HIV/Aids center. This effort is being led by Nicole Fain of the Campus Ministries Office and Joanne Miller, staff advisor to HU's Joe Mertz Center for Volunteer Service.

Dean Norris Friesen and Professor Jim O'Donnell will lead a team of HU volunteers to the Central American nation of Belize. The group will work with a day care center in a poor neighborhood of Belize City. The facility is the target of frequent break-ins and vandalism. HU volunteers will fix windows, paint over graffiti, fill in playground sand, and play with the children. They will also host an after-school Bible study program with neighborhood kids. The team will coordinate their work with HU alumna Lisa Stout and her husband, Andy, who are working in Belize under the auspices

of the Friends Church. The HU group includes eleven students, two faculty, one alumnus, and two parents. The trip is being organized in cooperation with Christian Service International.

The HU golf team, under the direction of Coach Pete Schownir, will travel to Georgia and will offer a free golf clinic in cooperation with First Tee of Augusta. This nonprofit organization seeks to use the game of golf to develop character, personal integrity, and leadership skills in young people of all ethnic and economic backgrounds. The clinic is being coordinated by Jay Tropf, who earned his recreation management degree from HU in 2005 and now serves as a Life Skill Professional with First Tee.

HU student teachers have also organized a volunteer service project during their Spring Break in early April with area public schools. Stephanie Bills, a senior education major from Lagrange, Ind., has recruited a group of 15 student teachers to help provide focused assistance to Biloxi, Mississippi schools. Many of the area's schools were damaged or destroyed by the fall storms resulting in libraries, classroom resources, and teachers' instructional materials being lost. Stephanie and other HU education majors and professors have contacted Huntington County service organizations, businesses, and schools to ask for help in replacing these lost resources. Monetary donations



Dr. G. Blair Dowden  
President of Huntington University

and teaching supplies are now being collected. To participate, contact Professor Susie Burson or Mrs. Nancy Peace at the HU Education Department.

I am very proud of these HU students, faculty, staff and alumni. They have embraced the mission of Huntington University. Rather than relaxing over Spring Break, they will devote their time to "impacting our world for Christ." Please join me in praying for their safe travel and effective service. They are ambassadors of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.