

# HONOUR WATCH

ISSUE X: October 2017

MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC HONORS STUDENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



## U p c o m i n g D a t e s

**Wednesday, Nov. 1:** Advanced Registration for Winter '17 & Spring '18

**Wednesday, Nov. 1:** All Saints' Day

**Thursday, Nov. 2:** All Souls' Day

**Sunday, Nov. 5:** Daylight Savings Time Ends

**Sunday, Nov. 5:** Guy Fawkes Night

**Sunday, Nov. 11:** Veterans Day

**Tuesday, Nov. 17:** Voting Starts for Open  
AHSA Executive Positions

**Wednesday, Nov. 22:** Thanksgiving Break

**Thursday, Nov. 23:** AHSA Voting Closes

**Thursday, Nov. 23:** Thanksgiving

**Friday, Nov. 24:** New AHSA Executive Positions  
Announced

**Friday, Nov. 24:** Black Friday

**Thursday, Nov. 30:** Mawlid un Nabi

**Thursday, Nov. 30:** Feast Day of St. Andrew

## B I R T H D A Y S

November 02: Ryan Anderson (21)

November 02: Catherine Gabbard (21)

November 02: Emma Marriner (22)

November 03: Gayle Hereford (19)

November 05: Bailee Pennington (21)

November 12: Kelsey Bolen (21)

November 12: Cailin Wile (22)

November 14: Ashleigh Adkins (21)

November 14: Kathryn Branham (21)

## FALL BREAK TRIPS



Jonathan Dean traveled to England over Fall Break to visit graduate schools. His journey began in Manchester and then proceeded to take him through Nottingham to London; he also visited Winchester, Oxford, and Cambridge. Jonathan adventured to many art galleries, old castles, and museums all throughout the place that he has studied for years.

Natalie Morton took a break from studying nursing to travel to New York City. While in New York, Natalie visited the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Statue of Liberty, the 9/11 memorial, and many other fascinating places.



Abigail Mohr and her family journeyed to the Red River Gorge, where they hiked to find the Creation Falls. Abigail enjoyed exploring old Native American caves and climbing cool rock formations. There is no better way to get your mind off of the busyness of college than getting out and exploring nature.

Cody Evans spent his Fall Break bass fishing in the Battle of the Bluegrass tournament at Lake Cumberland with the Morehead State Bass Fishing Team. Cody arrived at Lake Cumberland with the team on Thursday night and fished through Saturday. Morehead's Bass Fishing Team managed to win the tournament and claim the title of state champions. Cody managed to pull in some nice fish during the tournament, too!

Honors Program,

## Letter from the EDITOR

I hope you all are adjusting to the cold well! As the second half of the semester kicks into gear, the Honors Program is beginning to move into a new phase of its existence, moving to a new location for the first time in many years. Additionally, several leadership positions in the Program are opening up for new students to occupy (more information on that in our section on AHSA), so next semester – not to mention next year – will look very different from this one. Hopefully, this will allow the Program new opportunities that will benefit future students, and we're excited to see what's yet to come.

Within this issue, we're very excited to present to you an interview conducted by our deputy-editor Harrison Fouch and myself with Dr. Joseph "Jay" Morgan, Morehead's newly-selected president. We were very honored that Dr. Morgan took the time out of his busy schedule to speak with us and hope you all will, in turn, take the time to read over his remarks and statements. Since that time, Dr. Morgan has been in contact with the Honors Program on the changes being made, a line of communication that we hope represents a new period of closeness between the Program and the university administration.

I want to close out this letter with a brief but significant announcement: at the end of this semester, I plan to resign my roles in the Academic Honors Student Association, both as editor-in-chief of HonOUR Watch and as Secretary of Public Relations. I have been involved with the current form of AHSA since its inception at the end of the Spring 2014 semester and have headed HonOUR Watch since the first issue was released in Spring 2016. It has been a wonderful few years, but, as I prepare to finish out my undergraduate years at Morehead and move on to a graduate program, I believe it is best if I leave these to the next generation of students, both so that I can focus on my own projects and to effect a smooth transition into the next generation of Honors leaders. I don't mean to focus on myself too much, but I think it's worth noting that my Honors class, the class of 2018, has seen a great many changes to the Honors Program: we were the first class to live in the Honors community in Fields Hall, we re-founded the Academic Honors Student Association, and, now, we are seeing the migration of the Honors offices into Fields and the end of the Honors House. In a way, our four years here have ended in something a closed loop, beginning with the Honors students – us – being moved into Fields only to be followed by the rest of the Honors Program. We have come to treasure the Honors community that was built in Fields, and it has warmed our hearts to see other classes of students come to join that community. As Honors consolidates, we can only hope that this community will grow stronger together and afford better opportunities for Honors students in the future. All this being said, I will remain for the upcoming November issue of HonOUR Watch, and will then help with the work to appoint a new editor-in-chief. I hope, in the meanwhile, that you all have a wonderful month and a wonderful Thanksgiving with your friends and families.

Jonathan Dean, *Editor-in-Chief*

## HONORS EVENTS

Every **Monday at 5:00pm**, Jacob Tackett has been hosting **Meditation Monday** at the Honors House. He began on the very first week by giving a brief history of the practice, some information on how beneficial it can be to those who practice, and leading a meditation session for ten minute. Each week beings a new meditation experience and new information on the subject, but if you can't make it, Jacob knows a few websites and apps that can help lead you. If you're at all interested in trying meditation as a way to distress from your classes or are just curious about what it's like, I highly recommend stopping by the Honors House by Monday!



On Thursday, **October 26** from 10:00am to 2:00pm, the Academic Honors Student Association hosted their regular **Puppy Playtime** event on the lawn of Fields Hall. Five lovable dogs were chosen that Wednesday, and on Thursday morning some volunteers went to the shelter to give them baths, then help bring them over. Students then had the opportunity to play with and pet the dogs, or pay one dollar to feed them a treat. All proceeds from this event went to sponsoring the adoption fee for one of the dogs. Two of the dogs from the event were adopted – one of them by our own Abbey Whaley! This is such a highly anticipated event and it's great to see students having a great time with the dogs, as well as supporting the local shelter.

**October 26** was also the date of the annual **Honors Halloween party**. This was a special one because it was the last Halloween party to be held at the Honors House. This event began around 7:00pm when students showed up in their costumes. There was a costume competition which was won by freshman Jacob Tackett, and another competition right after for pumpkin carving which was won by Kathryn Wilkerson and her Charlie Brown pumpkin. For those who didn't carve pumpkins, there was also a pumpkin painting and a viewing of Hocus Pocus upstairs. It was truly a SPOOKtacular night!

by Clare Johnson & Victoria Nash

Honors tradition continued this month through the annual **Honors breakfast**. Held on **October 3**, Honors students from all years stopped by the Honors House to enjoy great food and even better company. Even without the House in coming semesters, Vanessa looks forward to continuing Honors breakfasts since they promote camaraderie and a familial atmosphere among Honors students

The first annual **Honors Alumni Breakfast** was held on **October 21** in collaboration with MSU's Homecoming festivities. This breakfast allowed alumni to come back to campus and see the Honors House and current Honors students. By talking with current students, alumni were able to catch a glimpse of how the Honors Program has evolved over the years. In addition to visiting with alumni, Honors students were also able to assist with cooking for the meal. While this is the first time the Honors Program has hosted an alumni breakfast, the Program looks forward to seeing the event grow in coming years.

The **game of Murder** is back by popular demand – twenty-two Honors students from all years started the first ever Program-wide game of Murder on October 23. Participants have been planning and dodging plastic knife kills since that day. While promoting cooperation between plays, Murder also allows Honors students to become well-acquainted with one another in terms of names, schedules, hobbies, etc. These factors, combined with the overall intensity of the game, promise to make this event a memorable community-builder for the Honors Program.

## A H S A r e p o r t

In late November, there will be a special election to choose a new Chairman of Academics and Overseas Experiences and a new Chairman of Finance and Membership on the executive board of the Academic Honors Student Association. Nominations are already open; votes will be taken from November 17 to November 23, and results will be announced on November 24!

Dr. Morgan, the president of Morehead State University, informed the Honors Program that administration hoped to have Honors offices moved into Fields Hall around the first week of December. Be sure to see what you can do to help out around the house!

**F I N A L S S C H E D U L E**

<b>Final Exam Time</b>	<b>Monday 12/04/17</b>	<b>Tuesday 12/05/17</b>	<b>Wednesday 12/06/17</b>	<b>Thursday 12/07/17</b>	<b>Friday 12/08/17</b>
<b>8:00am - 10:00am</b>	8:00am MWF Classes	9:30am TTh Classes	9:00am MWF Classes	8:00am TTh Classes	10:00am MWF Classes
<b>10:15am - 12:15pm</b>	11:00am MWF Classes	12:30pm TTh Classes	12:00pm MWF Classes	11:00am TTh Classes	1:00pm MWF Classes
<b>12:45pm - 2:45pm</b>	2:00pm MWF Classes				
<b>3:00pm - 5:00pm</b>	3:00pm MWF Classes	3:30pm TTh Classes	4:00pm MWF Classes	2:00pm TTh Classes	
<b>6:30pm - 8:30pm</b>	Classes meeting at 5pm or later on Monday evenings	Classes meeting at 5pm or later on Tuesday evenings	Classes meeting at 5pm or later on Wednesday evenings	Classes meeting at 5pm or later on Thursday evenings	

**O N T H I S D A Y I n h i s t o r y**

**October 31, 475:** Romulus Augustulus, the last Western Roman Emperor, is proclaimed Emperor of the Romans.

**October 31, 802:** Empress Irene of Byzantium is banished to Lesbos.

**October 31, 1517:** Martin Luther posts his 95 Theses on the door of the castle church in Wittenberg, sparking the Protestant Reformation.

**October 31, 1822:** Emperor Agustín I of Mexico attempts to dissolve the Mexican Empire's Congress.

**October 31, 1922:** Benito Mussolini is made Prime Minister of Italy.

**October 31, 1940:** The Battle of Britain concludes with the British forcing invading German forces out of the British Isles.

**October 31, 1998:** Iraq announces that it will not cooperate with United Nations weapons inspectors, part of the Iraq disarmament crisis.

## FACULTY FEATURE

### Dr. Jay Morgan (MSU President)



At the beginning of October, we got the opportunity to sit down and speak with Dr. Jay Morgan, Morehead State University's new president. We felt this would be a wonderful chance to connect our Honors students with the new president, especially with the changes that have been occurring with regards to the Program and its place in the university. Below, you'll find our questions to Dr. Morgan in bold immediately followed by his responses. We would like to sincerely thank Dr. Morgan for being willing to speak with us and being very inviting and welcoming, and we hope that we will be able to build a strong bond between the Honors Program and Dr. Morgan's administration in the years to come here at Morehead State University.

**What did you do before coming to Morehead?** Before coming to Morehead, I was vice president for the council of post-secondary education in Kentucky. Prior to that, I was provost and vice president at Murray State University. I spent 17 or 18 years at Murray, starting as an assistant professor. When I left to go to Frankfort, I'd risen all the way to provost, and prior to that I was a high school teacher and coach.

**What subjects did you teach?** I taught agricultural business, education courses like methods of teaching, a couple of policy courses, and I taught research methodology. That kind of gives you a smattering.

**What are some of your favorite books?** One of the books I'm reading right now is Thank You for Being Late by Thomas Friedman. It's about trends that you see in technology, the economy, the workforce, and decentralization and centralization. I'm also kind of a World War II history buff. At any given time, I probably have at least one or two books on World War II history laying on the nightstand, just to read a few pages whenever I have a few minutes. Between the trendbooks and the World War II history books, those are some of my most frequent reading materials.

**What are some of your hobbies?** My wife and I have three kids, so you can tell what my hobbies are: going to ball games, taking them around to all the things they're involved in, like school stuff. I'd say if we had a hobby it's probably as a family - we go to a lot of ball games.

**What brought you to Morehead?** Number one, I felt like I understood Morehead. The school that I came from, Murray State, was very much a sister-like, rural, regional school. So I felt comfortable, and I like the size of Morehead State. I like the town and gown relationship. It's very much interconnected in feel. I like it because whether you're faculty, staff, or student, you're not just a number. There's a name there and most people know your name. That's kind of what attracted me here.

**What is a typical day like for you, and what do you foresee for Morehead?** You know, every day in this position is different. Some days you deal with personnel, both good things and issues. I deal a lot with alumni through the region, fundraising, and I advocate in Frankfort for funds on behalf of Morehead State. That kind of leads me into Part B of your question. I hope during the next 5-10 years or so that we're regarded as an extremely strong institution of academic excellence, where you can get a quality education for an affordable price. I hope that we can really brand ourselves, where people look at us and say, "There's something special at Morehead."

**What are your feelings about the Honors Program, and do you see anything that you would like for it to do in the future?** I'd like to come up with some sort of expanded Honors Program - maybe sort of a living-learning community. Fields Hall would kind of be branded a little bit. Honors students are very much the type of students that we want here. We'd like to have more of them, more people involved in the Honors Program. We want to keep the strength of the Program, but I'd like more people involved. In the next year or so, we'd like to start putting something a little bigger together for the Honors Program.



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