The Honors advisory committee is not a solidified group of students at this point. Our last meeting was attended by Kimberly Walleston, Noah Richard, Megan Ruggiero, Aimee Cates, Amy Hebert, Kayleigh Flynn, Aubrey Thomas, and Rachael Smith. This was just one meeting and we are not far enough along in the process to know who will remain active and who else could potentially join. There is also a primary honors advisory committee that is composed of faculty and staff members, facilitated by Ann Page Stecker. The students of Ann Page’s honors pathway are in charge of event planning this year, as is traditional for first-year students. The events they are potentially planning include a battle of the bands, a movie night, and a game night. The upperclassmen are also interested in organizing another scavenger hunt for the spring semester, along with our big plans for the volleyball tournament and the spring carnival.

First on our list of priorities right now is the new honors space, and determining access and utilization for each room. We are currently working with professor Chris Kubit to draft a business plan for the space. We will hopefully be opening up at least one of the rooms to the entire campus as a study space and conference area. The other two rooms will be for honors access only, and will provide students with quiet study areas, computer access, and areas for group meetings. We are also looking to get a coffee machine and printer/copier.

by Kimberly Walleston ‘09

Free Parking! The New Honors Space
The Honors Contract
Interwoven Amid the Stacks
The Honors Pathway
Quotes from ‘Betwixt and Between’
Notes from the Editors
Advisory Council Update
Coordinator’s Nanosecond

I wish to sing the praises of the impertinent question - the question some would say is “not suitable to the circumstances, inappropriate, and out of place.” But I do not think any question – other than say “will this be on the test?” is out of place in a classroom full of lively discourse and thought. Rather I agree with Gary Trudeau, the creator of the cartoon Doonesbury, that “the impertinent question is the glory and engine of human inquiry.” Copernicus asked it and shook the foundations of Renaissance Europe. Darwin asked it and it is repudiated in certain quarters to this day. Thomas Jefferson asked it and it was so ingrained by it that he declared it an inalienable right. Daniel Defoe asked it and it is reinvented in the shimmering wake of its discontents.” The impertinent question is, in my mind, the mark of the scholar.

by Professor Ann Page Stecker

The Wesson Honors Program has been given a brand new space in Danforth Hall. So far, immense progress has been made regarding the space’s restoration. One of the smaller rooms, “the blue room,” is now painted, and it currently contains a brand new table and chairs set, a computer, a whiteboard, and a bookcase. This room is truly immaculate. The other smaller room, “the green room,” is fully painted as well, and the larger room is still in the works in terms of painting and cleaning. A group of Wesson Honors students have been meeting in the space biweekly to determine who will have access to each room and when, what types of resources will be provided in each of the rooms, how the rooms will be decorated, and how we will all maintain the space’s renewed pristine appearance.

by Megan Ruggiero ’10

(continued on page 2)
I am an English major, and as part of the English program I had to complete an internship in a field that was in some way related to my studies. Having a love of libraries (and with the hope to have a career in Library Science), I decided I wanted to be an intern at a library. I knew I needed to work on completing my honors credits, so I asked Ann Page Stecker if an honors internship would be a possibility. She said it was, and she informed me that I would be the first student to complete an honors internship. With that in mind, we met a number of times while I was organizing the internship and planning the interdisciplinary components.

After working on this for a good part of last semester, I finally was able to do the internship over the summer at the library here on campus. The way I set up the internship, the entire basis of my work was interdisciplinary (rather than just one component being interdisciplinary); I worked with three different librarians in each of their three disciplines within library science. I worked with Lianne Keary, the former Archivist, on processing multiple collections. I worked with Kevin French, the systems librarian, to learn just exactly what ‘systems librarianship’ is (database management, for the most part). I worked with Anastasia Wells, the former cataloging librarian, on cataloging and processing incoming books. This was the area of my internship that I was most interested in and that I spent the most time working on. I now have an extensive working knowledge of the cataloging procedures used by librarians all over the country. Much of what I learned from Anastasia was information many graduate students in Library Science are not exposed to while getting their degree; a frequent complaint of recent graduates from MLS programs is that they do not have the cataloging experience their prospective employers require. Needless to say, I gained extremely valuable work experience. Earlier in the semester, after Anastasia had left and before the library had found a replacement for her, I was able to complete most of the tasks of the cataloging librarian so that the library could continue to bring in new materials during that time.

It is also important to note that if you are an honors student at Colby-Sawyer College, we would love to have your input regarding the usage of this new space. The group that has been meeting in the new space throughout the past weeks is not a select group. It is open for all Honors Program students to participate. The group plans to also take part in planning Wesson Weekends and Honors Program-sponsored activities on campus, as well as proposing new honors courses for the college. The more involvement the group has, and the more enthusiasm and effort it puts forth, the better the Wesson-Honors Program will be. Please, feel free to contact Kim Wallston (kwalleston@colby-sawyer.edu), Noah Richard (nrrichard@colby-sawyer.edu), or myself (muggiocolby-sawyer.edu) if you have any questions or would like to become involved with the honors advisory group. Also, stay tuned for information on future meetings and other opportunities. Cheers to our new space!

Preliminary plans have been made regarding each of the rooms. “The blue room” seems to be the perfect fit for a group study area or an independent study area. “The green room” is a natural space for a computer lab. The program is planning to equip it with multiple computers, a large LaserJet printer, a copy machine, and perhaps even a scanner. It has been decided that only Honors Program students will have access to these two rooms. The larger room will most likely become a lounge, and it will be our gift to Colby-Sawyer College. The plan is to grant access to all Colby-Sawyer students and faculty. However, these plans are far from finalized. Other topics of discussion that still need to be addressed are decorating, times of access for each of the rooms, and how the Honors Program will be able to keep an eye on the activities that will take place in our new space.

This pathway forces you, not only to understand liminality in terms of the readings, but through the discovery of others’ experiences, the liminality in your own life. This new understanding allows for a greater empathy for others and a new way of looking at other cultures in a way you wouldn’t think to.

"I loved my internship, and I had a great time working with the library staff.”

Abigail Cramer