Divine Wisdom Lecture

King’s College was honored to have Dr. Michael C. Brannigan as last year’s Divine Wisdom Speaker. Brannigan is the Endowed Chair in Ethics and Moral Values at the College of St. Rose. For his lecture, he used Buddhist concepts to diagnose the problem of society’s increasing lack of presence. He explained that people are becoming less and less present in their own lives. We have every type of technology available to stay connected, but it is actually making the distance grow. An emotional connection cannot be formed through a text message. Brannigan also related this issue to healthcare. Healing can only occur when both friends and family and the actual patient are present in the situation. For example, a get well email is nothing compared to a bedside visit for support. Brannigan’s thoughts served as an important reminder to take time to actually live our lives rather than rush through each day.

I Think I’ll Go To Boston...

The Honors Program sponsored a trip for eleven students accompanied by three faculty advisors over three nights and four days to Boston, MA. The itinerary for the trip included many options, allowing students’ specific interests to guide their exploration of the city. “I think the trip was just the right mix of group experiences and personal exploration into what we like,” Giancarlo DiLonardo, sophomore, says. Traveling through Boston, students learned unique facts about the city. “I learned that the streets in Boston are wider than those of most cities to prevent the spread of fire in case a building should go up in flames,” Joseph Foreman, freshman, informs. Despite the difference in size, students found similarities between Boston and their college town. “I didn’t realize how close all of the college campuses in Boston were and I thought that was really cool, kind of like King’s and Wilkes on a much bigger scale with Harvard, MIT, BU and BC,” Ian Oakley, freshman, says. Students visited numerous historic sites along the Freedom Trail including the Bunker Hill Monument. “We walked up 294 spiraling steps to the top of a narrow tower but the view was worth the effort,” Anthony Melf, sophomore, explains. Although some students did not know one another, they became fast friends. “Everyone bonded quickly and got along well. We made the best out of every situation, and even managed to have fun running around Boston in the rain and wind,” Oakley says. Students who attended the trip include: Allison Baumgartner, Christine Guarino, Sarah Yocius, Elizabeth Wendolowski, Ian Oakley, Joseph Foreman, Giancarlo DiLonardo, Michael Deegan, Anthony Melf, Benjamin Foreman and Matthew Deegan. Faculty advisors include: Dr. Irwin, Dr. Johnson, and Dr. Malesic.
AUSTRALIA!
New last year, the Honors Program began holding Lounge and Learns which were led by our fellow classmates! Andrew St. Clair was one of the first students to volunteer for the opportunity. He enthralled us with a presentation about his trip to Australia. While he was “down under” Andrew had the chance to visit some of the most famous places on the continent. His array of pictures transported us everywhere from the Sydney Opera House to the Aborigine Outback. Thank you Andrew for sharing that incredible experience with us!

ON DECK...
If you’re bored over fall break and can’t wait to get back to school, we want you to know that there are plenty of events to look forward to this semester! Along with the usual line up of Lounge and Learns, we will be bringing back Trivia Night! Within the next month there will also be an opportunity to help out at one of our local charities. And for those of you who love your Christmas sweaters, there will be an ugly sweater party right before winter break! Stay tuned this semester so you don’t miss out!

CONGRATULATIONS!
The Honors Program wants to offer congratulations to the winners of this semester’s Honors Program Trivia Night! The members of the winning team included Joe Foreman, Anthony Scaccia, and Laura Panzitta. All of the teams were within striking distance of the top spot through five rounds, but the winning students pulled off an incredible final round move and were rewarded with the most points. They each received a gift card to Barnes and Noble in order to enhance their learning opportunities! Will Joe, Anthony, and Laura be able to defend their title in the fall? Or will another team carry away the crown instead? Come and find out during the fall semester!