

UMKC HONORS PROGRAM

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

November 26, 2006

*Don't forget to read *The King of Kings County* by Whitney Terrell, we will be discussing it on Wednesday!

- I. Honors 100
- II. City Internships
- III. "Unequal Treatment" (a report that is concurrent with the disparities topic)
- IV. "State of Black Kansas City Equality Index"
- V. Procedure for Requesting Letters of Recommendation

- I. Jill Dunlap and Jane Webb will be offering a follow-up course to Honors 100 this spring. This is a great opportunity for any honors student involved in planning events for the campus community to learn better how to lead these activities and get one honors credit in the process.

Honors 350 (ref. # 41072) is a team-taught class designed to help honors students understand student engagement in college. As part of this exploration, students will be required to attend 4 events throughout the course of the spring semester. For each event they attend, students will submit a one-page, double-spaced reaction paper about the event. Attendance at these events will serve as preparation for the second half of class, during which students will work in groups to plan their own campus educational event. The class will meet together at Oak Street Residence Hall for the first two class periods and then every other Monday thereafter. The class times will provide an opportunity for students to discuss the events they attended and to brainstorm during the project planning process. We hope that the class will be a fun, interactive learning experience around issues of interest to the class, and that it will also serve as a lesson on student engagement issues in a campus environment.

For more information or to get a consent number, contact Jill at dunlapji@umkc.edu

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- II. The City Internship Program is now taking applications for winter semester 2007 (deadline: December 1). This program allows UMKC students to work at City Hall on projects meaningful to their areas of study; gain a unique perspective on civic issues; and network for job opportunities, while serving the home city of their university. Selection is based on a combination of interview skills, grade point average, personal statements, references and skills. These volunteer positions range from 10-20 hours a week during the semester. Please note: All upper class, graduate, and professional school students are eligible to apply. Internship job descriptions encompass nearly all disciplines.

Students are encouraged to earn credit for their internship, after first consulting with their academic advisor or internship coordinator. Scholarships are available for a maximum of three hours' tuition at the resident rate.

For full information about these internships (including a complete listing of internship job descriptions by department), visit: www.kcmo.org/manager.nsf/web/cityinterns

For internship and scholarship application forms, visit: www.centerforthecity.umkc.edu . Click on "Student information", then on "Internship Opportunities". If there are other questions, please contact me via e-mail or phone (below).

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III. The following information and links are concerning documents that Phaedra mentioned in Colloquium on Nov. 8 (when Gwen Grant spoke).

The Institute of Medicine (IOM), which serves as an adviser to the nation to improve health, was commissioned to write a report that explores racial and ethnic disparities within health care in our country. "Unequal Treatment," published in 2003 by the IOM, provides strong evidence that healthcare disparities remain in our system even after socioeconomic conditions are accounted for. As a basis for public policy, this report is a must read for those working and studying in the health care field. Although not specific to Kansas City, the ideas explored in the report are concurrent with the disparities topic that we have covered during the course of this semester's colloquium. <http://www.nap.edu/catalog/10260.html>

These are other reports done by the IOM on racial and ethnic topics.
<http://www.iom.edu/CMS/2955.aspx?show=0;11&list=topic#LP11>

IV. If anyone would like a copy of the "State of Black Kansas City Equality Index," which Gwen Grant presented in Colloquium on Wed, please go see Sally (204 Haag Hall) as she has some extras.

V. If you would like a copy of Dr. Levy's guide to requesting letters of recommendation, please e-mail her at levy@umkc.edu.

Very Truly Yours,

Sean McClain
Honors Co-President