

Who Are the Jackson Scholars?

By Amanda Price, *Assistant Director of the Jackson Center*

The Jackson Scholar Program is designed to nurture a sound training in ethics for Coastal Carolina University students who display outstanding leadership potential. The 2008-2010 Jackson Scholars include from the left, Sarah Heishman, Tarrah Casey, Perry Helton and Sonila Merkouris.



To better acquaint our readers with the scholars of the Jackson Center, each monthly newsletter will contain an article which will introduce a specific scholar, highlighting his or

her interests, community participation and lifelong ambitions.

Students selected undergo an intensive and varied two-year program. Scholars are involved with all Jackson Center events, including Tea and Ethics and Coffee and Ethics seminars, and attend annual lectures by the Center's visiting ethicist. Scholars also assist with Jackson Junior Scholar programs, and participate in a four-semester ethical leadership curriculum at Coastal Carolina University.

Our featured scholar, Perry Helton II, from Stafford, Va., is a double major in sociology and philosophy. He is determined to have a positive impact on his community. Having played a number of sports in high school such as football and soccer, and as an active student assistant coach for the Coastal Carolina football team,

Helton understands the value of teamwork and leadership among his peers.

The son of U.S. Army Col. Perry Helton Sr., Helton and his family lived in Europe for seven years. This experience, he says, greatly enhanced his view of the world, enabling him to develop strong social skills, and attributed to his understanding of other cultures and practices. During their stay at German military base Hohenfels and Baumholder, Helton worked as a sports camp counselor for children ages six to 10 coaching and instructing soccer and swimming. The experience is one of his greatest memories overseas.

Back in the states, Helton participated in a community service project reading to elementary students at North

SCHOLAR,

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PERRY HELTON II (LEFT), PERRY HELTON SR., WANDA HELTON AND JUSTIN HELTON

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The Jackson Center 2009 Calendar of Events

Tea and Ethics

Sex, Lies, and Hypocrisy: The Ethics of Censorship in Art

Arne Flaten, Associate Professor of History
Elizabeth Howie, Assistant Professor of History
January 29, 4:30 p.m. in Edwards Recital Hall
February 4, 5:30 p.m. at Croissants Bakery/Café,
3751 Grissom Parkway at Beach First Center

Gazing on the Face of the "Other": The Ethics of Compassion in the Global Village

Preston McKeever-Floyd, Assistant Professor of Philosophy and Religion
March 3, 4:30 p.m. in Recital Hall, Edwards Building
March 10, 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall of M.B. First Presbyterian Church,
3810 Grissom Parkway, at the corner of 38th Ave. N. and Grissom Parkway

Visiting Ethicist

Erik Parens, Bioethicist and Senior Research Scholar at the Hastings Center
Reshaping the Human Body: The Ethics of Biotechnology
April 23, 5 p.m. in Wall Auditorium



AT THE CENTER

Scholar,

Myrtle Beach Elementary School. As a child, Helton's parents encouraged him to enjoy reading. Finding himself a role-model to many students, Helton was excited to instill within them the same desire to read and learn he acquired at a young age.

In order to further his impact on the youth of his community, Helton participated in the 2008 Jackson Junior Scholar Summer Ethics Academy. He was an instant hit with the young students as the only male counselor.

With the Jackson Junior Scholar Academy back in session this Spring at Wittemore Park Middle School, Helton is excited to once again engage with students. He aims to expose them to new approaches to learning, to help them recognize and understand the value in ethical reasoning, and simply have fun in academic activities.

When he isn't busy with his studies and extra curricular endeavors, he is out with friends, playing video games or reading. It should come as no surprise that Helton favors NCAA Football as his videogame of choice. And with a vivid imagination too precious to waste, Helton enjoys

mystery, horror and science fiction novels by authors such as Dean Koontz, Stephen King and James Patterson.

After graduation, Helton hopes to continue his studies at graduate school, preferably on the east coast near his family. Ultimately, he hopes to achieve a position with the FBI or CIA as a field agent specializing in international intelligence, or as a U.S. Marshall field operative.

No matter his ambitions, this Jackson Scholar undoubtedly will find his path to greatness, which we hope many will witness, seek and be proud to follow.

"THOUGH EVERY CHILD HAS ITS OWN PERSONALITY, YOU CAN REACH EACH OF THEM TOGETHER BY ENCOURAGING THEM TO WORK AS A GROUP, SHARE IDEAS AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE DISCUSSION."

—PERRY HELTON, REFLECTING ON JACKSON JUNIOR SCHOLARS

Jackson Center Starts Pilot After-School Program

By Caroline Evans, *Director of the Jackson Junior Scholar Academy*

The Jackson Family Center for Ethics and Values is proud to announce that it has started its first after-school program for the Jackson Junior Scholars. The program is similar to the Center's Summer Ethics Academy for rising sixth-graders and uses the same guidelines and syllabus.

From Jan. 27 to March 11, the Jackson Scholars, led by Caroline Evans, former Jackson Scholar and Coastal Carolina University alumna of 2008, will teach the ethics based after-school program to 15 youths who attend Whittemore Middle School in Conway from 3:45 to 5 p.m. two days a week. The students in the pro-

gram are also a part of the county's WRAP program, which provides after-school clubs, activities and help for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders.

The 15 students who take part in the program will participate in and fuel discussions in ethics concerning fairness, bullying, honesty, character, violence, leadership and facing daily moral dilemmas. Each session involves group discussion and allows the student to ask questions, illustrate their thoughts and share their opinions with their peers. It is the Center's goal to start and spread discussions about ethics and morals among these students in the

hope they will in turn discuss these topics with other student and their families.

At the end of the program, students and the Jackson Scholars will be asked to complete an assessment, which will help the Jackson Center make any necessary changes to the program so that we might continue the program at more schools in the county.

As this is a pilot after-school program for the Jackson Junior Scholars, we have high hopes for its success and anticipate spreading the program throughout Horry County and beyond.



WHITTEMORE PARK TIGERS

"THE CHILD AS AN INDIVIDUAL IS TO BE HELPED IN DEVELOPING AND MAINTAINING DIGNITY AND RESPECT FOR HIM/HERSELF AND OTHERS."

—WHITTEMORE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

"CULTIVATING AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE AND LIFELONG REWARDS OF PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL INTEGRITY."



Scholars in Celebration of Inquiry

Ethics: How are our moral standards taught?

Jackson Scholars: Tarrah Casey, Perry Helton, Sarah Heishman and Sonila Merkouris

Student Host: Victoria Day

Friday, February 13, 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. in Wall 308

Ethics is defined as a set of standards of right and wrong established by a particular group and imposed on members of that group as a means of regulating and setting limits on behavior. How do we form these moral standards?



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