



# THE CURRENT

## The End of an Era:



## Saying Goodbye to Etscorn & BAMS

### IN THIS ISSUE

Etscorn Feature ..... page 01

BAMS Feature ..... page 06

### SAVE THE DATE

**Nov. 25-29**

Thanksgiving Break

**Dec. 1**

Last day of classes

**Dec. 3 - 9**

Final exams

**Dec. 12**

Virtual Commencement

# THE ETS CORN HONORS CENTER: A FOND FAREWELL 2004 - 2020

For years, U of L students have spoken the oft-repeated rumor, “Oh, I hear they’re tearing Threlkeld down soon.” Threlkeld Hall, the Honors residence Hall from 2002 - 2016 before the switch to Kurz Hall, was never the height of luxury, but it provided a central location for students to live in a dedicated Honors community, conveniently close to food and classrooms. This year, the rumors become fact.

In the next few weeks, the University will begin demolishing Threlkeld Hall to make space for two new residence halls. As a result, the Etscorn Honors Center will be closing in its current location on Friday, November 20th. For the Spring 2021 semester, some of the University Honors Program’s offices will temporarily relocate to the second floor of Ekstrom Library’s East Wing, directly beside the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research. From November 23, 2020 through January 11, 2021, Honors will be operating remotely while our temporary space in the library is completed.

We wanted to take this moment to reflect on the closing of the Etscorn Center and the vital role it has played for the Honors Program and the Honors community on campus.

After years of development and planning under the guidance of former Honors Director, Dr. John Richardson, the Irvin F. and Alice S. Etscorn Honors Center opened in August 2004 in time to welcome 450 new Honors first-year students. The Etscorn family is a long-term supporter of the University Honors Program. In addition to donating funds to help create the Etscorn Center, the family’s contributions have supported student scholarships, conference participation, and international research opportunities to numerous Honors students over the last two decades.

For the last sixteen years, the Etscorn Center has served as the central hub of Honors activity on campus. More than 8,000 Honors students have crossed its threshold to participate in summer orientation, engage in lively discussion in their Honors seminars, discuss their academic and professional plans with advisors, participate in Fulbright workshops, eat food at any number of Honors events or parties, engage in Honors Student Council meetings, or to just simply connect with Honors staff, faculty, or their fellow students.

It’s hard to imagine Honors without Etscorn, but the heart of the Program isn’t a physical location – it’s the people. As Honors moves to its transitional space in the Ekstrom Library (and looks forward to a more permanent location in the future) rest assured that we are only saying goodbye to a physical location. The rest of Honors remains.

We hope you will all join us in bidding a fond farewell to the Etscorn Honors Center.

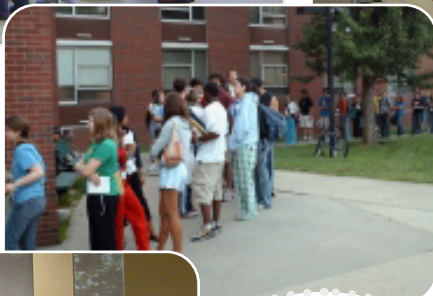
...

*Have a story, memory, or photo to share about the Etscorn Honors Center? Email us at [honors@louisville.edu](mailto:honors@louisville.edu) to contribute to the online archive.*

# ETSCORN THROUGH THE YEARS



Above & Right: Students queue outside of Etscorn and around the building. Sixteen years ago, scheduling your advising appointment required getting in line at 6AM if you wanted the best slot!



Below: Students compare their schedules to Honors appointment availability - all on paper at the front desk!



The offices of advisors Katherine Rucker and Sarah Exner didn't exist until 2011! Before then, a curved seating area (below) provided space to study or catch up with friends.



For its first few years, the classroom had carpet!

Right: Andrew Grubb, now Honors Academic Coordinator Sr., presented as a student at the 2005 KY Honors Roundtable.



2004  
-  
2010



Below: Dr. Bethany Smith, now the Fellowships Coordinator for the National & International Scholarship Office, has her photo taken by a fellow student at their 2005 Modes of Inquiry session.



Left: Students mingle outside of Etscorn during a 2006 orientation session next to the building sign that once existed.



# ETSCORN THROUGH THE YEARS

Right: Students mingle outside the Etscorn Center at a 2012 orientation session.

Below: Assistant Director Luke Buckman hangs crafted leaves on the Etscorn front window for the Honors Fall Festival, 2010.



2010  
-  
2015



Below: The Etscorn classroom - now carpetless! - hosted many non-academic events, like this 2014 baby shower for then-advisor Ketti Tonnemacher.



Above: Honors staff celebrate Dr. John Richardson's sixteen years as Executive Director of Honors and say goodbye as he "retires" to return to teaching.

Left: Alex O'Keefe, then-Academic Coordinator, sits in full undead g(l)ory at the front desk for Honors' Day of the Zombie, 2014.



Above: the 2015 - 2016 Honors Service LLC listens to Luke Buckman and assistant Jamitra Fulleord describe their Honors 101 course.

Right: HSC members participate in an icebreaker at the 2015 Janus meeting, introducing new members to the returning Council members.



# ETSCORN THROUGH THE YEARS

Left: Advisors Sarah Exner and Katherine Rucker sample Nord's donuts at a 2017 HSC Service event.

Below: Students pose outside Etscorn after attending "Pops with Professors."



2015  
-  
2018



Above: Luke chats with Honors student workers at a 2016 bagel breakfast in honor of Bilbo Baggins' birthday.

Right: Now-alumni Jerome Soldo, Chelsea Cornell, and Matthew Smith pose in the Etscorn lobby after a 2017 Medical School Spotlight event. Note the Etscorn plaque on the wall behind them - installed in 2004 when the Center first opened.



Above: Honors student Danielle Deal welcomes prospective Cardinals to the Etscorn Center during the summer 2015 Accolade.



Below: The Spring 2018 Music Scenes and Subcultures seminar class in the Etscorn classroom, when Academic Coordinator Emma Radulski (front row, fourth from right) was a UoFL junior.



Left: HSC members play an icebreaker at the 2018 Janus meeting.

# ETSCORN THROUGH THE YEARS

HSC member Allison LaRoy receives an award for being the "Best Embodiment of the Color Yellow" from 2018-2019 President Noah Smith at the 2019 Janus meeting.



Below: Olivia's beloved dog Penny schmoozes for the camera but does not receive a Janus award.



Above: Luke and Olivia twinning in matching moiré patterns and decorative shark bowls, 2019.

2019  
-  
2020



In March 2020, the Honors Program went remote to keep staff and students safe from the spread of COVID-19. Since we couldn't use the Etscorn Center as a meeting place to see graduating students and distribute Honors graduation materials, we had to get creative with our well wishes (above)!

Pictured to the right is the office in Fall 2020 - note the red floor sticker to ensure 6-ft. distancing, decreased seating capacity, spray sanitizer, and sneeze guards for the front desk. Honors is leaving Etscorn during unusual circumstances, but we'll always look back with fondness on the place we called home for 16 years.



# BAMS: THE FINAL CHAPTER

## 2008 - 2020

This past September 28 – October 2, Honors Student Council held its 8th and final Book & Media Sale fundraiser.

Throughout the course of 2019, HSC collected an astounding 25,000 donated items, all of which were stored in the basement of Threlkeld Hall in preparation for our big sale in March 2020. Due to COVID-19, that event was postponed to this fall semester. With everyone's health and safety in mind, Council members decide to host a smaller version of BAMS outside the Honors House. By the end of the week, the students were able to raise **\$2,700** for Americana World Community Center through this year's BAMS! All remaining items at the end of the week were donated to: Louisville Metro Department of Corrections, The Rosewater Bookstore, St. Vincent de Paul, Americana, and Goodwill of Kentucky. This year's sale could not have happened without the efforts of the entire 2019-20 and 2020-21 Councils. Special thanks and recognition to Spencer Cox, Sydney Fischer, Chelsea Pipes, and William Smith for going above and beyond to ensure that this most recent BAMS could be successful.

After many discussions, Honors Student Council decided that the 2020 Book & Media Sale would be its last. During the last twelve years of BAMS, Council members raised approximately **\$100,000** to support organizations dedicated to serving those in need in the Louisville community, including: the Children's Hospital Foundation, Camp Quality Kentuckiana, and the Americana Community Center. What began as a fundraising idea on a whim in 2008 (when HSC was a much smaller organization) grew into an event beloved by people on campus and in the Louisville community, which many looked forward to with anticipation. Honors Student Council is sorry to say goodbye to BAMS, but is already planning ahead to its next fundraising idea.

For everyone over the years who donated items, helped us promote the event, bought countless books, CDs, and DVDs at the sale, and helped Honors Student Council to support these amazing local organizations—**thank you so much!** You helped make this possible and we deeply appreciate it! As Council's history with Book & Media Sale comes to a close, we wanted to offer past HSC Presidents the opportunity to write about what BAMS meant to them. We also wanted to acknowledge and thank all the former Philanthropy VPs and Council Presidents who helped make the Book & Media Sale a success over the last 12 years who weren't able to submit a blurb: Fran Clare, David Song, Greg Shaw, Ashley Farnkopf, Emily Benken, Tasneem Karim, Rachel Carter, Kasey Golding, Katie Armstrong, Adaline Heitz, Jordan Burns, and Kirstin Henry.

And, finally, one last thanks to George Howe, Julia Onnembo, Albert Burton, Kenny Quisenberry, Josiah Brock, and everyone else in Student Activities who helped make us feel welcome, supported us, and--most importantly--provided a space for our sale (The Red Barn) this last decade.

*BAMS reflections cont. on next page*

# GOODBYE, BAMS!

## Sydney Fischer

HSC President, 2020 - 2021

When I joined Honors Student Council, BAMS was part of the reason. I loved it, and my first sale inspired me to run for Vice President of Outreach to plan it alongside my friend and fellow VP, Spencer Cox. Who would've thought I'd be one of the people to plan **the final BAMS**? It definitely didn't turn out how I originally thought it would, but I wouldn't change it for the world. As I skillfully stated during one of our weekly meetings, "I cried like...six times."

Planning the Book and Media Sale in a normal year is no small feat, but planning it during a pandemic is even worse. If you would've told me that a week before the sale (an event I had been planning for over a year!) that school would be cancelled and we wouldn't get to have it, I would've called you crazy. Unfortunately, this is exactly what happened.

While BAMS didn't turn out quite like we had planned, I am so incredibly proud of the work that everyone put into this sale. Whether they were previously on HSC, volunteers, or are now alumni, none of this would have been possible without them. Previously a seven-day event, BAMS 2020 was shortened to a total of only twenty hours spread throughout five days. However, during this shortened, crazy version, HSC managed to raise **\$2000** for Americana World Community Center, in addition to the **\$700** raised in the spring. I spent two years preparing for when I would plan the sale, and now that it has come and gone, I am so thankful for the support from the UofL community and beyond in making this event as successful as it could be. I wanted to give a special thank you to William Smith for planning the remainder of BAMS, as well as Spencer Cox, Luke Buckman, and Chelsea Pipes for all the work they put into it over the past year. None of this could have been done without them.

Go HSC, go Honors, and most importantly, go BAMS! I'll miss you and all the good you have done over the years.



To sell books, you must collect and sort books! Above left: The Etscorn Honors House was used as extra storage space. Approximately 25,000 items (including books, records, DVDs, and CDs) were collected for the sale.

Above right, Danielle Graves (HSC President 2019-2020) describes the sorting process as HSC members get ready to sort. This photo was taken before the March 2020 BAMS was postponed due to COVID-19.

BAMS was truly a team effort of epic proportions!



# GOODBYE, BAMS!

## Spencer Cox

HSC Philanthropy Vice President, 2019-2020

Honors Student Council has done so much good over the years, and BAMS has been a major part of this organization's positive impact both on campus and in the community. This was one of the most difficult experiences of my life both physically and mentally--carrying thousands of books around the city of Louisville, sorting items multiple times a week, and coordinating between 40 student leaders in the Honors Program--but I enjoyed my time leading the meetings and interacting with Americana. Unfortunately, BAMS 2020 was cut short due to COVID-19, as many things were in the last year, but a positive impact was still made through the continuation of Council's efforts.

The sale in early October represented hundreds of hours of hard work by my team and I, not to mention all the HSC members of the past, and we ended up collecting one of the largest amounts of items ever. Seeing BAMS end in this way is bittersweet. For all the good it did, it was never a perfect form of fundraising, but the week of the sale made all of the hard work worth it.

To every HSC member who helped out in the past years with BAMS, know that all your work was appreciated by the community and reciprocated by the sales that followed your own. While BAMS was good, I am more than excited to see Honors move on to new creative ideas to lead their philanthropy efforts.

Go Cards!



Spencer poses with a homemade BAMS giftcard, one of several gifts given to lucky BAMS customers.



*The Fall 2020 BAMS was much different from all its predecessors (like the 2018 BAMS, seen below).*

*BAMS 2020 was smaller, outdoors, and a masks-required event. Still, it was well-run and well-attended!*



# GOODBYE, BAMS!

## Noah Smith

HSC President, 2018-2019

Anyone who has been on Honors Student Council during a BAMS year has a love-hate relationship with the biennial sale. While I was fortunate enough not to have been President of HSC during a BAMS year, I was President during a random BAMS audit, which was almost as fun as hauling 20,000 books out of Threlkeld's basement. I also tried my best move away from BAMS during my tenure, pitching several ideas like a GISHWHES-esque scavenger hunt, absorbing *The White Squirrel* to become a satirical magazine titled *The Off-White Squirrel*, and a pop culture conference — none of which could knock BAMS off its throne as king of all HSC events.



One might think that I was glad to receive word that BAMS was finally coming to an end, but when Luke broke the news I was confronted with a reality I had not considered. BAMS was a common theme that united the varied cohorts of HSC across the years. BAMS had come to be a cornerstone of the HSC experience and a rite of passage — were you even on Council if you weren't demanded to sort books? It's hard to imagine HSC without BAMS, but I hope future Councils will use this opportunity to embrace change and to take a risk on some new event that will also inspire camaraderie for years to come.



*Noah and fellow HSC member Hannah having fun with BAMS decor.*

*Right: Troy and then-advisor Olivia Sailor coordinating the 2018 BAMS layout.*

*Below: Troy discusses the 2016 sale with Mark Hebert.*



## Troy Sterling

HSC President, 2017-18

Stacks of books and boxes piled higher than the tables - that's not something that leaves your mind! BAMS is unforgettable. It brought the whole of HSC together to plan and run, pushing us to work together for a common plan. And despite the countless hours invested, the final product was always a great "book-end" to a year well spent. Whether through camaraderie, new books (my favorite book came from the 2016 sale), or the money we raised, the legacy of BAMS touches so many.

I'm so proud of HSC and everyone that has contributed to its success in over the past several years.



# GOODBYE, BAMS!

## Natalie Smith

HSC Vice President, 2015-16

BAMS was an incredibly ambitious community service project for a group of undergraduates to undertake, so when I joined HSC I was a little nervous about how we would pull it off (though it had already been done before). What I learned was that it's only possible by collaborative effort. Working with that special group of people on BAMS was fun, hard, and so, so worth it—but only made possible by the dedication of each person involved. It was inspiring and rewarding to be a part of it!

## Marianna Michael

HSC President, 2014-15

BAMS was a utopia for book lovers and, alas, it has become a place that cannot be. In a world of e-books and streaming music, BAMS cut against the grain and preserved those time-tested mediums like books and records. BAMS will forever be preserved in my mind as an event that brought immense joy to people, whether it was those who put on the event, those who partook of the festivities, or those who received the benefits of the funds that were raised. It was a community event from the moment it began to the moment it ended.

*Right: Marianna presents a check for \$3,177.00 to Eddie Bobbitt, the Executive Director of Camp Quality Kentuckiana. CQKY provides summer camp experiences for children diagnosed with cancer and was the recipient of the 2014 Yule Ball proceeds.*



## **Meet Max-a-Million, the BAMS superhero!**

Designed by Ryan Moran (read his reflection on the next page!) and constructed by the Children's Hospital Foundation (HSC's philanthropic partner for the 2014 sale) Max-a-Million zoomed around campus collecting donations and spreading the good news of BAMS.

*Above: Max-a-Million (Emily Benken, HSC Pres. 2015-16) poses with Morgan Blair, a 2014 UofL graduate who now works in Campus Housing!*



# GOODBYE, BAMS!

## Ryan Moran

HSC President, 2011-2013

Through a series of serendipitous events my sophomore year, I quickly found myself as HSC's Co-President and one of the leaders of the 2012 BAMS. For better or worse, I had no idea what I was getting myself into when I agreed to Luke Buckman that I would help lead the sale. There were numerous hints that it was a large undertaking, but some combination of naivety, hubris, overzealousness, and optimism led me to say yes. And for that I am thankful, as I learned more than I could have expected, I made relationships I wouldn't have otherwise enjoyed, and I genuinely believe we were able to make an impact on our community through the region's largest used book sale. In a variety of ways, I did not realize what I was learning in the moment, but I now know that acting as a leader taught me how to be a better one. I had never attempted to tackle such a large challenge—in terms of timeline, extent of operations, breadth of skills required, and sheer number of physical books to be collected. I learned to solve a problem by breaking it into its individual components (how do you bring a superhero-themed mascot for a book sale to life?). I learned that successful teaming requires deep trust and honest communication (how else do you orchestrate book pickups across an entire city when you don't have a car?). And I learned that short-term issues deserve short-term solutions, but long-term problems require long-term solutions (where do you store 30,000 books for 6 months?).

Most experiences in life are also dictated by the individuals you share them with, and BAMS was no different. I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to work alongside a dedicated, perseverant, intelligent, and kind group. I would be remiss if I did not mention Olivia Sailor, Kirstin Henry, and Jordan Burns, who somehow brought together our community outreach, transportation, and operations needs. But I think we can all agree that the true leader of the entire initiative—the strategist, the motivational speaker, the person who put in more hours than anyone else—was Luke Buckman. Luke brought the vision, the reason, and the humanity to the project. I was lucky to become friends with him then, to work alongside him again the next year as the subsequent President of HSC, and finally to serve as a student employee with the Honors Program my senior year.



Months of hard work gave way to one exhausting and joyous week in April, when the Book Sale was finally held. Somewhere between the sleep deprivation, rumored allergic reactions to cardboard, and classes that I may or may not have attended, that week was a blur. By the end of the week, I estimate that north of 11 tons of books were collected, transported, stored, processed, and sold during the 2012 BAMS. But the books were only the means to a more impactful end: later that month, we presented a check to the (then-named) Kosair Children's Hospital in the amount of **\$11,000**—providing enough funding for the renovation of a room within their Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). Being able to hand over a jumbo-sized check was fun, but touring the hospital, understanding what the money was going for, and meeting some of the families that had benefitted from the hospital's expertise made the nine months leading up to that moment all worthwhile.



2020 truly is the end of an era. As the sun sets on Threlkeld Hall—where I met some of my first, best, and longest-lasting friends—and the beloved Book and Media Sale closes its final chapter, things will inevitably change for the next generation of Honors Students at the University of Louisville. I am excited to see the new impact ideas that will take its place, the next long-term initiatives the Honors Student Council will spearhead, and the new traditions that will rise up in the next residence hall. Regardless of what may come in the future, I am confident that with the caring and talented advisers, ambitious and socially-minded students, and supportive Louisville community, the Book Sale will be just one in a series of hallmark events put on by the University of Louisville Honors Program and Honors Student Council.

*Upper right: Ryan with Emily Benken, HSC Pres. 2015 - 2016.*

*Above: Luke Buckman, Amanda Current, Ryan Moran, Olivia Sailor, Kirstin Henry, and Brianna Flanigan presenting the funds raised by the 2012 BAMS for the Kosair Children's Hospital (now called the Norton Children's Hospital).*

# GOODBYE, BAMS!

## Olivia Sailor

HSC President, 2011-12

Former Honors Academic Advisor

I have the distinction of having participated in the planning and execution of the Book and Media Sale as a student volunteer, a student leader, and then as an Honors Student Council co-advisor. I'm here to tell you that organizing a charity book sale was a challenge. As a student volunteer, the challenge was moving past my discomfort in cold-calling businesses to ask if they would donate incentives or house a donation box and the bruises from moving boxes into the Red Barn.

As a student leader, the challenge was winning and keeping the attention of my council members throughout a year-long haul during my predictably stressful final year of undergrad.

As an advisor, the challenge was learning to counsel a group of students instead of telling them exactly what to do as I watched them make the same and different mistakes of years past. I failed at every one of those challenges in some capacity. The point is not the failure, the point is that I kept at it even through the frustration and exhaustion. I found inspiration through the relationships I forged and the responsibility I felt and the dreams that were shared with me. BAMS was a challenge, but my friends and mentors in the Honors Program were always there to offer support or distraction or a quiet room to just exist in without demand. And now, a decade or so later from that first experience, that's what I remember about BAMS; the people who struggled beside me as we tried to make the world a slightly better place.



*Olivia with HSC member Angela and Dr. Venkman - Katherine Rucker's dog and unofficial 2016 BAMS mascot!*



## John Guardiola

HSC Vice President, 2009-2011

I love BAMS so much it's hard to write a blurb.



*John, in red, stands with Luke Buckman and Olivia Sailor at the Red Barn counter during BAMS 2010.*

*Upper left, HSC member Michael Lonneman previews the 2010 BAMS selection. Below, customers peruse rows of books.*

# Stay Healthy!



**Avoid close contact with people who are sick.**



**Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.**



**Stay home as often as possible, especially if you feel sick.**



**Cover your cough or sneeze** with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



**Clean and disinfect** frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.



**Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.



**Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer** with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not readily available.