

November Issue 2016

By Alyssa Lien, Editor-in-Chief

HONORABLE MENTION

Skidmore College Periclean Honors Forum

New York City Trip



The Honors Forum trip to New York City was so much fun! We had a full bus of students and faculty that went the day in New York City. We had pizza together for dinner as

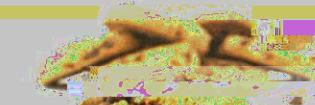
one day we headed over to Broadway. We saw *The Color Purple*, which was an amazing production with phenomenal and moving performances from everyone involved. I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to spend the day in the city and see such a fantastic show with my

Silky Honors

Forum members.

As a part of the Honors Forum's initiative to increase our students' visibility outside of our university setting, opportunities, the Executive Council set in motion this year's trip to New York City during Thanksgiving break. The Honors Forum and a Student Government Organization team up to host a

fundraiser to benefit Code Blue, a local organization that helps homeless shelters. The homeless food drive, "Country Line," proved to be very successful, and we will continue this kind of community service next semester.



Silky Date:

Holiday Party & Student Forum

Thursday, December 15th, 12-2 p.m.

Feature: Course Juggler Project by Spencer Adams



I first came up with the idea for Course Juggler during my sophomore year when I had to register for classes. After struggling to sift through potentially interesting classes from the course Catalog, figure out which of those would work together by using the Master Schedule, and wasting piles of paper trying to come up with different viable schedules, I knew there had to be a better way. In my sophomore year I was able to take advantage of a new independent study to develop my idea. I worked closely with the associate professor of Computer Science, Michael DeConno, and computer science professors, Michael Kirschstein, through a collaborative and iterative process in "living" my idea.

DeConno, Course Juggler

Fast forward to today, here is Course Juggler:
fellow Skidmore students! Since I released the software on November 1, we have had over 1000 downloads, representing roughly 10% of the student body, with many from any other college or university. I did not do any promotional work. By consolidating class descriptions, course schedule information, in a single screen, Course Juggler makes it easy to browse lists of classes available by department, view a class's description, add sections of interest to them, and click and drag courses to a visual timeline. Students can then view their total credits and lets them add and delete courses to their "juggled" their way to a schedule they like. They can then save, print, print the schedules they've created, and create a .ics file to import into their calendar application or even register for a class.

With this validation is both the concept and the need, I am looking to take the software to the next level. I will migrate my current Java based program into a web-based application, allowing users to download it from phones, tablets, or computers and develop schedules even more easily and quickly.

