

# The Newsletter of the Scarborough Society

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## First Scarborough Society fellow sets high standards

"A win/win situation." That's how Society President Ray Alvarez described the Scarborough Society's formation of a work scholarship to benefit full-time, degree-seeking Shepherd University students who demonstrate competence in information technology and a commitment to improving technology in the Scarborough Library.

Since the announcement was made in the spring of 2004, Sara Meurer, a graphic design major from Poolesville, Maryland, has been named as the first recipient of the scholarship. Meurer expects to graduate in the spring of 2006.

Recipients of the scholarship are expected to attend and fully participate in the bi-weekly student training program with library staff and spend approximately nine hours a week mentoring in Scarborough Library

technology projects.

Since receiving the \$2,500 scholarship, Meurer has gone beyond what is expected of recipients by designing a new Web page and a new logo for the Library. She's also developed tutorials for using the large-format Epson scanner the Society presented to the library this year.

Both on her own initiative and as part of her studies at Shepherd, Meurer has become skilled in several graphics programs and in the newly acquired optical character recognition (OCR) software program used to con-



Sara Meurer

Al Henderson

vert printed pages into editable text. All are used in conjunction with the new \$1,400 scanner and are available to both University and town patrons of the library.

"The nature of this grant to the library staff is a perfect fit to one of our missions to provide technology support and resources to the library," said Alvarez. "Equally important, it provides an excellent opportunity for deserving Shepherd University students to gain work experience and financial assistance while pursuing their academic studies."

After graduating, Meurer hopes to join her older sister, a graphic designer, in opening their own graphic design-studio. Already poised and cheerful, Meurer's experience assisting people at the Scarborough Library should prove helpful in the sisters' entrepreneurial endeavors. • *Al Henderson*

## Spring wine tour – redux

Building on the success of last year's wine tour in Loudoun County, Virginia, the Scarborough Society is again planning a trip that will feature stops at the Hillsborough and Breau vineyards with lunch at Magnolia's at the Mill followed by a stroll through the antique stores and curio shops in Purcellville. The tour is scheduled for Saturday, May 14. The bus will leave the Scarborough Library at 10:15 a.m., returning around 4:30 p.m. The cost for the trip, including lunch, is \$55.

Phyllis Smock, organizer of the event, says she hopes for a good turnout. "Last year's event was well received, and I think everyone will enjoy visiting Hillsborough and the quaint village of Purcellville," she said.

Those interested in attending should contact Smock at 304/264-0560 or call the Shepherd University Foundation at 304/876-5021.

## Theme set for August Gala

*Under the Tuscan Sun* is a best-selling book, a popular movie, and now the theme for the Scarborough Society's 2005 Gala to be held Saturday, August 20 at the Clarion Inn. This year's theme reflects the warm, endearing, vibrant Italian getaway described by poet and essayist Frances Mayes in her account of buying and restoring an abandoned farmhouse in Tuscany. The event's major sponsors will be BB&T Wealth Management and Jefferson Security Bank.

The Gala raises funds for the work of the Scarborough Society.

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## Student

Evan Blumenstein  
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## A message from Dale Hicks, Society membership chair

Students visiting the Shepherd University Library for the first time are amazed that a school the size of Shepherd University is home to such an outstanding study and research facility. This 21st Century venue provides over a half million items including 164,000 books, periodicals, microfilm/fiche, audio-visual and government documents, electronic databases, full text periodicals, two PCs for the community/non-Shepherd use, 14 PCs for students use, and a laptop port for every seat in the library.

The Scarborough Society was formed to assist with the continued maintenance of this wonderful part of the campus named for Dr. Ruth Scarborough, a professor who devoted thirty years of her teaching career to hundreds of students from 1936 to 1966.

You can do your part by sharing this message with a friend. Please help us expand the membership of the Scarborough Society by encouraging a friend to join you in signing up today.

## Theme set for August Gala

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Invitations to the dinner dance will be mailed in July to Scarborough members, guests, and friends of the University. The evening cost is \$135 per couple, \$70 single.

Committee members for this event include Sara Lueck '67, Mary Jane Davis '60, Kathy Klein, Suzanne Horner, Phyllis Smock, Jody Carter '75, Monica Lingenfelter, Cathy Nevy, Rhiannon Smith '05, and Sharon Henderson.

## From the President...

It's all about the money!

When we first organized the Scarborough Society in May 2002, we determined our overall goal was in "enhancing learning opportunities for Shepherd students and communities." We concluded that we could best achieve that goal by raising supplement monies for the Scarborough Library. As I have stated on many occasions, we should not be ashamed to always be extending our hand for more money for this worthy goal.

In a spring 2004 edition of the *Shepherd University Magazine*, Dr. David Dunlop addressed the issue of rising tuitions and decreasing financial support from the state and federal governments. As a result, there is simply not enough money to fund all of the necessary components of a first class learning institution and still make it an affordable financial alternative for the students. The University needs and welcomes support from advocacy and fundraising groups like the Scarborough Society. Our Society's focus is on raising funds to support the Scarborough Library so that Shepherd students and professors have access to the materials and resources they need to pursue their studies.

Over the past several years, thanks to the generous support of our annual membership holders and attendees at our annual Gala, we have been able to make over \$50,000 of direct support to the library. These funds have been used for the purchase of reference books, databases, laptop computers, and other digital equipment for student use. We created a scholarship fund to be awarded annually to a full-time, degree-seeking Shepherd student with a demonstrated competence in information technology, as well as a commitment to improving technology in the Scarborough Library. The first scholarship of \$2,500 was awarded this year to Sara Louise Meurer, Class of 2006. As responsible stewards of your contributions, we have also set aside a \$25,000 long-term endowment with the University's Foundation for future needs of the library.

When Shepherd University completes its current recruiting for a new dean of the library, that person will find

a committed Society with a willingness to raise supplemental funds to assist in achieving the library mission. Additionally, we still have funds in our Society to invest in the library's needs. We look forward to working with the new dean.

For our work to continue we need your support. We need the support you provide through your annual membership. We stress the *annual* part of this message since we occasionally hear from a non-renewing member that they were not aware of the need for annual renewals. We sincerely regret any confusion we have created, but from day one, we have tried to stress the *annual* nature of our membership. We will continue to make efforts to avoid any misperceptions.

Another way you can help is by referring us to companies or individuals that may become sponsorships of our annual Gala. We have had great continuing corporate sponsorship from BB&T Wealth Management and Jefferson Security banks as Gala presenting sponsors. This past year we added a tiered sponsorship program to encourage other firms to join in this fund-raising program. We had several new participants, but can always use more. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

Finally, we are always searching for new members. We would love to hear of any firms, organizations, or individuals that you think may be interested in joining our Society. We welcome your recommendations. We will send them information on the Society, its purpose, and a membership application form. This would be a great way to extend our reach to interested friends of Shepherd University's Scarborough Library.

*Remember, it's all about the money!* We can collectively assist Shepherd University by contributing to enhance the learning opportunities for its students, the faculty, and the larger communities Shepherd serves. The library is the heart and soul of a University. If it thrives, the campus thrives and students and faculty benefit. Your continued financial support is a wise investment in the future of a great institution.

*Ray Alvarez  
President, Scarborough Society*

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