



Spring 2009

The Human-Animal Bond: Program Development and Updates

The fall and spring semesters of 2008-09 have shown remarkable growth for the Human Animal Bond (HAB) program. Enrollment for the program is at approximately 50 students, up 40% from last year. The three core HAB courses are now offered regularly (HAB 107: Introduction to the Human-Animal Bond, HAB 108: A Survey of Animals in Service, PSY 307: Learning and Cognition) and students can choose between the three Canine courses or the three Equine courses. Dr. Anne Perkins, director of the HAB program, teaches HAB 107, HAB 108, and PSY 307. Newly hired equine instructor, Leif Hallberg, M.A. teaches the three equine courses and Tia Nelson, DVM, and Lynn Jennings, M.A. teach the three canine courses.

Jodi Schellenger, MBA, Program Manager for the HAB, has been working diligently on renovating the HAB Center, located at 173 Henry. Her hard work and dedication to the program have paid off with a significant donation from Pads for Paws, discounts from Home Depot and Pierce Flooring, and the tremendous contribution of Mike Campbell, the contractor who donated all of his time to make the project possible. Volunteer labor was donated by students, faculty, and their families. The HAB Center will be used for canine lab classes, to house the offices of the equine and canine instructors, and for meetings and other events. *Keep on the look out for the full story of the HAB Center's renovations in the next newsletter!*



The HAB Center Crew

HAB and ME: By Brady Gibbons

As a senior at Carroll College, my experience here is winding up. I am going to graduate this May with a major in Business Administration and a minor in Marketing. So what does that have to do with Carroll's Human Animal Bond Program. All my life I have been around ranches and agriculture. Carroll's HAB program was only in its infancy when I began here a few years ago. I have always wanted to run a guest ranch, and figured out that the main area I would need to address would be my business savvy. It was not long before I started getting my credits for business squared away. At about that time, I saw more and more about the HAB program, and how there was an Equine track developing. Since my schedule was lightening up, I decided to look into it. What I found was the opportunity to finish my last semester with two equine focused HAB classes. I am in the process

Contact HAB 406.447.4328

The Advisory Committee

Since 2007 the HAB Advisory Committee has been growing and flourishing with activities such as fund raising events throughout the Helena area and internal guidance and support for the HAB Program.

Most recently the Advisory Committee hosted *Pooches and Petit-Fours* Tea raising \$2,370 for the HAB Canine program.

The committee also secured a \$100,000 donation to endow a faculty position and personally donated a substantial sum to hire Leif Hallberg for the 2009 spring semester.



Pooches and Petit-Fours

Next Informative Reception

March 25th, 2009

5:30 - 7:00 PM

Board Room in the Carroll Student Center

Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments served.

More information on back page

HAB Faculty News and Updates

Dr. Anne Perkins recently attended the International Society of Anthrozoology (ISAZ) conference where she met many other professionals dedicated to exploring the human-animal bond. She was also an invited guest presenter at the Equine Guided Education Association (EGEA) where she presented “*What is your horse telling you? A cognitive neuro-behavioral perspective.*” The lecture was very well received and Dr. Perkins was interviewed by a German film crew doing a documentary on the human-animal bond.

Walking the Way of the Horse: Exploring the Power of the Horse-Human Relationship by **Leif Hallberg, M.A.**, was published by IUniverse in October of 2008. Leif Hallberg attended the October 2008 North American Riding for the Handicapped Association (NARHA) conference, promoting the HAB program and selling her new book.

Introducing **Tia Nelson, DVM**, and **Lynn Jennings, M.A.**, HAB Canine instructors.

Canine Corner: The Power of Service

Tia Nelson, DVM and Lynn Jennings will be co-teaching the canine classes in the HAB program. The canine program is designed to teach assessment and training tools specific to service dogs. The program not only educates Carroll students, but also gives back to the dogs with whom they partner. Carroll College and the Humane Society work together to rehabilitate rescue dogs for a life of successful human-canine partnership. Students initially assess the rescue dogs to ensure that they will be safe and well-suited for companionship. Once assessed, the canine faculty partner two students to a dog for the remainder of the semester. During this time students learn how to care for and train the dogs. Dogs are then adopted by members of the Helena community and as a part of that service, Carroll students train the new dog owners to ensure successful placement. This service is free of charge and promotes the importance of educated canine ownership.

HAB and ME Continued from the front page

of taking both Historical Perspectives of the Horse-Human Relationship, and Equine Assisted Activities and Therapies (EAAT). These classes have been an incredible way to round out my time here at Carroll. Sadly enough, I will not be able to take any more of the equine classes, since I am graduating (!). As for the other students exploring the equine track, the HAB program is working on developing the curriculum so it can be a major in the near future. Overall, the HAB program here at Carroll is making haste at becoming yet another distinguishing facet that Carroll has to offer. As for the professors within the HAB field here, they are amazing. I see only good things for this program in years to come, and would highly recommend looking into Carroll’s HAB program if this area sparks an interest within you.



HAB students help at local endurance race

Equine Corner: New Equine Courses Proposed to the Curriculum Committee

Leif Hallberg, M.A., has been dedicating her time to teaching equine specific courses at Carroll College and developing the equine curriculum for presentation to the Curriculum Committee. Made up of faculty members and the registrar, the Curriculum Committee assesses the academic merit of proposed classes. Ms. Hallberg officially submitted three equine courses for approval through the committee on February 4, 2009. We are hopeful that the courses will be approved by the Curriculum Committee and will be officially “on the books” for Fall 2009. *Keep on the look out for new developments!*

Informative Receptions

You are invited to personally meet Dr. Perkins and be informed of the exciting updates and new opportunities for the Human-Animal Bond Program!
Call for more information!

Human-Animal Bond

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Fund Raising and Public Awareness

You can help HAB by:

- ◆ Donating to the program
- ◆ Getting the word out there about who we are and what we do!
- ◆ Getting involved!

Contact us for more information!

406. 447.4328