

Students take original work outside the classroom

HOUGHTON — Houghton was well represented at the 9th Annual Penn-York Undergraduate Research Association Conference as eight students each presented aspects of their original work on Saturday, Nov. 8. The conference, hosted by the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, gave students the invaluable opportunity to step beyond the comfort of the classroom and receive feedback on their work from those outside the Houghton arena.

Under subject umbrellas ranging from English to Biology, Houghton students gave these oral and poster presentations:

Elise Spieser, Mount

Holyoke's Effects on Emily Dickinson's Religious Views

M. Chase Whittemore, Identity

Paul Ziegenfuss, The Hemlock Kingdom

Hannah Stoveken, Going Green: Using Plants to Produce Useful Human Proteins

Holly Hrywnak, The Angelus: The Painting and a Prayer

Emma McConnell, The Synthesis of Béla Bartók's Compositional Style

Clara Giebel, Coziars' Catches and the Harmony of Immortal Souls: The Affect of Music in Shakespeare's Comedies

Steven Crance, Nitrate, Am-

monia and Trophic Dynamics of Star Lake in the Northwestern Adirondack Park

The Houghton students who were poised in front of 58 members of their peers selected from seven colleges and universities across western New York and Pennsylvania, were accompanied by Dr. Laurie Dashnau of writing and Dr. Matt Pelletier of biology.

Houghton boasted the largest number of participating students at the conference, with the exception of the host institution. "I think it is important for students to have an opportunity to articulate the work they have done. Being able to communicate your work effec-

tively is a very important skill," said Pelletier.

While learning the importance of representing Houghton as a place that cultivates scholarly leaders and exposing their reputable work, students also received encouraging feedback from fellow presenters as well as the conference organizer. To supplement their presentations, attendees were addressed by keynote speaker Dr. Brian H. Bornstein, Professor of Psychology and Courtesy Professor of Law at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. His talk was titled, "The Joys and Challenges of Undergraduate Research: Tales from the Front."