

## **HUNTINGDON STUDENTS PRESENT AND ARE HONORED AT THE NATIONAL EXCHANGE CLUB CONVENTION**

Four Huntingdon College students presented seminars and were honored at the 94<sup>th</sup> National Exchange Club convention held in Chandler, AZ July 11-14, 2012. The four students all serve as 2012-2013 officers of the Collegiate Exchange Club of Huntingdon, the only collegiate Exchange Club in the U.S. The Exchange Club is America's oldest service club, focusing upon improving communities by sponsoring projects to prevent child abuse, promote Americanism, encourage youth and perform community service.

Huntingdon students Russ Barnwell (President), Olivia Larkin (Vice-President), Zachary Turner (Treasurer), and Blake Bosch (Secretary) were honored at the National Exchange Club Celebration Banquet on Saturday, July 14, 2012, by Thomas Keiffer, President of the Minnesota District of Exchange Clubs and Past-Chair of the Winona State University Foundation, as "Honorary Imagineers" to serve in the 2012-2013 Class of Imagineers of National Exchange Club President Lou Molitor from Wisconsin. Lou and his "Class of Imagineers," composed of the Exchange Club State Presidents of the 50 U.S. states, Puerto Rico and the four Collegiate Exchange Club of Huntingdon students will focus their efforts on club building and retention. The Huntingdon students will serve as advisors and resources for the national efforts in new collegiate club building, networking, and retention.

The four Huntingdon students, along with faculty sponsor and Montgomery Exchangeite of the Year Dr. Maureen Murphy, presented three national seminars on "Building Collegiate and Excel Clubs" on Thursday through Saturday during the convention. The students were the only college student voting delegates amongst the 473 voting delegates from all 50 states and Puerto Rico. President Russ Barnwell received a rousing round of applause from the entire convention of delegates during the presidential candidate sessions when he was one of three delegates who advanced to the microphone to ask the three presidential candidates questions concerning the role of college students in the growth and health of Exchange Clubs.

The Huntingdon students networked with professionals from all over the U.S., and through their personal interactions with other Exchangeites at the convention have pledged to help build and charter Collegiate Exchange Clubs in the U.S. at the following locations in 2012-2013: Berry College (GA), Winona State University (MN), The Citadel (SC), Marquette Univ.(WI), Univ. Wisconsin-Madison (WI), Troy University (AL), Troy University-Dothan (AL), and Franklin Olin College of Engineering (Boston, MA).

Dr. Maureen Murphy, faculty advisor for the Collegiate Exchange Club of Huntingdon, was so pleased with the leadership, demonstrated outstanding speaking ability, devotion to service, and professional presence of the Huntingdon students at the national convention. The students were called the “stars of the convention.”

“I certainly underestimated the impact the Huntingdon college students would have on the future direction and organization of the National Exchange Clubs as well as the impact of the relationships and professional networks forged between the Huntingdon students and Exchangites from across the U.S. This was truly an outstanding time for our students to shine, network, and set the example for leadership and service across the nation,” commented Murphy.

A tradition of the national convention is that when a delegate meets a new delegate, they each exchange pins from their respective states. Zachary Turner (Treasurer from the Huntingdon Club) came armed with scores of Huntingdon College pins that were traded at the convention. The students wore their pins they received on their badge lanyards.

The Collegiate Exchange Club of Huntingdon College received a National Service Award (NSA) for its charter year activities in 2011-2012.

**PHOTO #1:** Collegiate Exchangites (L to R) with Bob Arnold, District Director Troy, AL Exchange Clubs at the national convention: Blake Bosch, Olivia Larkin, Russ Barnwell, Bob Arnold, Zachary Turner.



**Photo #2:** Collegiate Exchange of Huntingdon members with Ray and Betty Carlson, national President and First-Lady candidates from CA. L to R: Blake Bosch, Olivia Larkin, Ray Carlson, Betty Carlson, Russ Barnwell, Zachary Turner.





**2012-2013 Collegiate Exchange of Huntingdon Officers**

**President Russ Barnwell (Jacksonville, AL)**

**Vice-President Olivia Larkin (Florence, AL)**



**Zachary Turner-Treasurer (Citronelle, AL)**

**Blake Bosch-Secretary (Tuscaloosa, AL)**

