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History of the Honors College

Appalachian State University (ASU) has offered team-taught, interdisciplinary honors courses that fulfill core curriculum/general education requirements for over 40 years. In the late 1960s, several departments hired new faculty members with innovative ideas regarding student learning. Some of these new faculty members began advocating for a formal honors program, similar to ones they had experienced at previous academic institutions, among them Dr. Tom McGowan and Dr. Tom McLaughlin in the English department. The honors program began under the leadership of Dr. O. Kenneth Webb in the General College before moving to Academic Affairs in the late 1980s.

Dr. Hans Heymann organized the first departmental honors program in English in 1970 and, at first, honors was only available in academic departments. Dr. Helen Latour (Languages/Latin) and Dr. Max Smith (Music) were instrumental in forming the General Honors curriculum in the late 1970s, with the first General Honors course offered in the early 1980s. The University Honors Program was renamed the Heltzer Honors Program in 2004 to acknowledge a generous, promised bequest from Harry and Jerri Heltzer of Lenoir, North Carolina. In 2008, the Heltzer Honors Program moved to the newly formed University College, led by Dr. Dave Haney. The honors courses and curriculum have been revised several times since the Honors Program began, most recently in 2007. In July 2010, The Heltzer Honors Program became The Honors College at ASU, housing the Heltzer Honors Program for International Education.

In the late 1970s, the Chancellor's Scholarship was created specifically to promote the development of the General Honors Program by attracting the highest caliber scholars to the new General Honors Program. It became the University's only full academic scholarship at the time, and again in the 2007-2008 academic year, having lost value during the intervening years.

The following faculty have served as leaders of the Honors Program/College:

- Dr. Hubie Williams (English, 1981-1984)
- Dr. Tom McLaughlin (English, 1984-1987)
- Dr. Don Saunders (History, 1987-1999)
- Dr. Ozzie Ostwalt (Philosophy and Religion, 1999-2004)
- Dr. Lynn Moss Sanders (English, 2004-2008)
- Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones (Biology, 2008-present)

Honors College Mission Statement

Appalachian State University, a member institution of the University of North Carolina, has offered academic honors programs to its most academically successful students for more than 35 years. The Honors College offers stimulating honors classes, a living and social community of like-minded learners, and an environment that values global understanding and service. These characteristics contribute to the goal of providing opportunities to broaden and enrich the university experience of the most intellectually-motivated students at ASU. The program
emphasizes developing independent and creative thinking, promoting open and provocative discussion, and nurturing cultured and caring idea exchange. Honors at Appalachian is an academically rigorous program within the larger University, preparing students for their post-graduate training and long-term goals, and developing the intellectual and moral leaders of the future.

Honors College Staff

*Director of The Honors College and Academic Advisor, pre-health regardless of major*

**Leslie Sargent Jones, Ph.D.,** Professor of Biology  
A.B., Bryn Mawr College, PA (Psychology)  
Ph.D., Northwestern University, IL (Anatomy)  
Postdoctoral Fellow, Duke University, NC (Pharmacology)

Dr. Jones was a neuroscience researcher and medical school educator for over 20 years before discovering a passion for the role of honors in America’s future. Starting out as an honors thesis advisor in the 1990s, she was slowly lured into the remarkable world of honors education. She became the Associate Dean of the Honors College at the University of South Carolina before becoming the Director of the Honors Program at ASU in 2008, which became the Honors College in 2010. Being able to mentor and teach the best students in a university is an exceptional opportunity – and a profound responsibility. This critically important mission motivates her pursuit of excellence in honors education at ASU. She was awarded the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience “Distinguished Mentor” award at the Fall 2012 meeting in New Orleans in recognition of her work founding and directing IMPULSE (see below). She is current President of the North Carolina Honors Association (2013-14).

Dr. Jones obtained her A.B. in Psychology studying septal rage at Bryn Mawr College. She then worked for a year in biophysics at the University of Pennsylvania and a year in genetics at the University of Chicago. She returned to school for her doctorate at Northwestern University School of Medicine examining the anatomical substrates of classical conditioning using 2-deoxyglucose. She was a technical writer in software documentation for two years after that, and then worked as an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow in Pharmacology at Duke University School of Medicine, correlating alpha,-adrenergic receptor levels with stroke. She stayed on at Duke as a Research Assistant Professor in Pediatric Neurology studying calcium-activated conductances in a cellular model of epilepsy. Her laboratory at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, where she was an Assistant and Associate Professor from 1988 to 2008, focused on molecules that contribute to morphological and physiological cellular plasticity. Most of the later work was on the role of integrins, a family of cell-extracellular matrix proteins, first shown to be in the adult mammalian brain in her lab, in neuroplasticity.

*Associate Director and Academic Advisor, humanities and arts*

**Heather Waldroup, Ph.D.,** Associate Professor of Art  
B.A., Florida State University (English)  
M.A., Florida State University (Art History)  
Ph.D., University of California, Santa Cruz (History of Consciousness)
CLIR Postdoctoral Fellow in Scholarly Information Resources, Libraries of the Claremont Colleges (Claremont, CA)

Dr. Waldroup has been with ASU since 2004, when she joined the faculty as Assistant (now Associate) Professor of art history in the Department of Art. Her research explores the intersection of Western and Oceanic visual cultures since the late 19th century, with a focus on colonial photography, contemporary Indigenous art, and museum collection and display. She is currently completing a monograph on American colonial photography from Hawai’i and Samoa, under contract with University of Hawai’i Press.

Prior to joining the Honors College staff, Dr. Waldroup had team-taught an interdisciplinary Honors seminar, taught the Art Department’s honors seminar, and been involved with several Honors thesis projects. Since joining the Honors College in 2014, she has served as chair of the Honors Council, oversees assessment for the College, and advises Honors students in the Arts and Humanities. In May 2014, Dr. Waldroup traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland, to research potential study abroad prospects for Honors College students.

Director of Prestigious Scholarship Program and Academic Advisor, sciences:
Dale Wheeler, Ph.D., Professor, Chemistry
B.S., Western Illinois University (Chemistry)
M.S., Kansas State University (Chemistry)
Ph.D., University of Idaho (Chemistry)
Camille and Henry Dreyfus Postdoctoral Fellow, Berea College, KY (Chemistry)

Dr. Wheeler has been involved with the ASU Honors Program since 1999, when the community was located in Coffey Hall and has served on the Chancellor’s Scholarship selection committee since 2000. Since the spring of 2008, he has served as the Director of the Prestigious Scholarships Program (PSP) mentoring students through the application process. Within the Honors College, he is the Director of the AIM High Program and the academic advisor for science, math, and computer science majors.

Dr. Wheeler holds a Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of Idaho, where his doctoral dissertation involved the study of porphyrins. He obtained his M.S. from Kansas State University where his research investigated vanadium imido complexes. Following graduate studies, he completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Berea College as a Henry and Camille Dreyfus Fellow and then was a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, where his research involved the study of organometallic salts as model systems for nonlinear optical materials until his appointment at Appalachian in August 1998. Currently, Dr. Wheeler’s research centers around the use of organic and air-sensitive organometallic synthetic techniques to create molecules that are potential hydrogen producing catalysts. He teaches introductory and inorganic chemistry classes at ASU.

Honors Advising Coordinator and Academic Advisor, education
Angela Mead, Ed.D.
B.A., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (Communications)
M.A., Appalachian State University (Higher Education Administration)
Ed.D. Appalachian State University (Educational Leadership)

Dr. Mead graduated from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill with a degree in Communication Studies. She moved to Boone to obtain a masters degree in higher education administration and fell in love with the university, students and area, so remained once her degree was complete. She has worked with honors students since 2005, and currently serves as the Honors Advising Coordinator for the Honors College, where she coordinates advising, orientation, and other student services for approximately 750 honors students. Her scholarly interests include honors program development, first generation college students, and advising. Angela loves working with and teaching these highly motivated students who will be the change agents for the future, and she is proud to play a small part in preparing these students for their amazing futures.

Director of Communications and Academic Advisor, pre-law and business  
Lisa M. Kirscht, J.D.  
B.S., East Carolina University, (Sociology)  
J.D., North Carolina Central University School of Law

Ms. Lisa Kirscht joined the Honors College after gaining broad legal experience in Florida. For much of her career, she worked as a judicial staff attorney for the Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida, where she researched and drafted proposed orders, judgments, and appellate opinions in complex domestic, criminal, and civil law cases. This experience brought Lisa to Barry University School of Law, where she taught legal writing as an Assistant Professor of law, and most recently as the Director of Barry's Academic Success Program.

During her career, Ms. Kirscht also enjoyed working for a branch of Fidelity National Title Company as an underwriting counsel, where she assessed and underwrote title insurance risks in residential and commercial real estate transactions. She has experience practicing law in the areas of insurance defense and domestic law, and in criminal law as an assistant public defender for the Twelfth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida.

Ms. Kirscht left ASU in April to complete her further graduate studies. This position was replaced in May with Dr. Andrea McDowell.

Director of Communications and Academic Advisor, social science, pre-law, and business  
G. Andrea McDowell, Ph.D.  
B.A., Rhodes College, TN (Anthropology and History)  
M.A., University of Texas at Austin (Visual Communication/ Photojournalism)  
M.A., Temple University, PA (Anthropology)  
Ph.D., Temple University, PA (Anthropology)

Dr. McDowell came to the Honors College from a faculty position in anthropology and with professional experience in still photography and graphic design. She spent two and a half years living and working in Japan during and after graduating from Rhodes College. As a cultural and visual anthropologist, Dr. McDowell studied the post-1990 return
migration of Nikkei (of Japanese descent) from Latin America to Japan, and has fieldwork experience in the Soconusco Coast of Chiapas, Mexico, and Lima, Peru. Most recently, her research focus has turned to global food systems and she is currently studying economic and environmental impacts to local food culture. Dr. McDowell was drawn to the Honors College at ASU because its commitment to student-faculty research, international experience, interdisciplinary and service learning match her own educational philosophy. In her most recent position as an Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Dr. McDowell was most successful in mentorship, on which she is now primarily focused in her position with the Honors College. Dr. McDowell excels at teaching, directing, and challenging intellectually motivated students to reach their highest potential, and at the same time, guiding them towards life-long learning and civic engagement.

**Office Manager: Jessica Yandow, M.P.A.**
B.S., Appalachian State University (Political Science)
M.P.A., Appalachian State University

Jessica Yandow has been at ASU since 2005, first as a student, and, starting in 2011, in administrative support positions. While completing her Masters in Public Administration she decided to pursue a career in higher education, so she began her professional career in the Office of Research, where she worked with faculty on their grants and supported the Compliance Office. She came to the Honors College in 2013 and manages all of the College’s budgetary and office needs. She also oversees the International Travel Scholarships, and recently traveled to the University of Johannesburg to help with the effort to expand student opportunities with that ASU partner.

The trip to South Africa has caused her to add travel to her other interests, such as the role of religion in public policy, emotional labor and the work-life balance, and mental health and wellness for college-aged students. She plans to travel to Dublin, Ireland, in 2015 to learn more about the city that the Chancellor’s Scholars visit during their first semester, and she will continue to work to Save the Rhinos, of course.

**Office Assistant: Rachel Robinson**

Rachel Robinson joined the office as a part-time Office Assistant in August, 2013. She came with many years of experience in Financial Aid at Virginia Tech University and Caldwell County Community College. She helped to revamp much of the office organization and was instrumental in supporting the office during a time of position transitions, but left to take on a fulltime position, which the Honors College could not offer, in April.

**Student Assistant: Jane Bowers (senior, Dance Studies)**

**Work Study Students:** Aja Purkett (junior), Courtney Fish (sophomore), Jocelyn Lima (freshman)
Web address for Staff profiles: http://honors.appstate.edu/Meet-Staff

Honors College Faculty

The Honors College Faculty (HCF) comprises individuals from departments across the campus with an interest in honors education. There were 20 faculty members in the College for 2013-2014 (listed below), with two joining during the year (Drs. Michael Jacobson and Chris Osmond) and one retiring (Dr. Emory Maiden).

In order to join the HCF, an ASU faculty member may apply to join the HCF through this process:

1. Teach two HON courses before applying (either the same course twice or two different ones)
2. Submit a letter indicating why they wish to join the faculty and teach in Honors
3. Attach a Curriculum Vitae with their letter

Applications for membership in the HCF are reviewed by the HCF Review Committee (HCFRC). Members for 2013-2014 were: Tom Hansell, Kristan Cockerill, Seth Cohen, and Mark Zrull. The Honors College Director is an ex officio, non-voting member.

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<tr>
<th>Faculty Member</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phillip Ardoin</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristan Cockerill</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seth Cohen</td>
<td>Fermentation Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Dale</td>
<td>Education (FDN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeanne Dubino</td>
<td>Global Studies/English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Howard Giskin</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Hansell</td>
<td>Appalachian Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andy Heckert</td>
<td>Geology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra Hellenbrand</td>
<td>Global Studies/LLC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Jacobson</td>
<td>Education (C&amp;I)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Klima</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas McLaughlin</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Howard Neufeld</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Osmond</td>
<td>Education (FDN)</td>
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<td>Dee Parks</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
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<td>Neva Jean Specht</td>
<td>History</td>
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<td>Brett Taubman</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Valante</td>
<td>History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnny Waters</td>
<td>Geology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Zrull</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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An additional responsibility of the HCF is to review and approve or deny all proposals for modifications or additions to the Honors College curriculum. The Honors College Academic Program Approving Committee (HCAPAC) consists of five elected, voting members and the Honors College Director as an ex officio, non-voting member. The members of the HCAPAC for 2013-2014 were: Jeanne Dubino, Rick Klima, Dee Parks, Andy Heckert, and Johnny Waters.
Honors College Advisory Board

The Honors College Advisory Committee represents academic and administrative units from across the campus with an interest in Honors. The committee meets each semester to review Honors College initiatives and development, and to provide guidance and advice to the Director. Meetings are called once each semester to report out to the Board the activities and initiatives of the College. Members for the 2013-14 year were:

Lynn Moss Sanders (Former Honors Coordinator), English
Tom McLaughlin (Former Honors Coordinator), English
Ozzie Ostwalt (Former Honors Coordinator), Philosophy and Religion
Jessie Lutabingwa, Office of International Education and Development
Lynne Waugh, Academic Advising
Johnny Waters, Geology
Michael Dale, Reich College of Education
Joseph Cazier, Walker College of Business
Nancy Schneeloch-Bingham, Hayes School of Music

Tom Kane, Housing and Residence Life
Patrick Setzer, Alumni Affairs
Laura Crandall, Advancement Services
Sharon Jensen, Career Development
Lloyd Scott, Admissions
Kelly McBride, Library
Claudia Cartaya-Marin, Chemistry
Janice Pope, Communication
Susan Davies, Enrollment Services
Richard Krenn, General Education
Alan Utter, Office of Student Research
Susan Roggenkamp, College of Health Sciences
Clark Maddux, ACT Office
Jeff Tiller, Technology and Environmental Design

Honors College Student Advisory Board and Appalachian Honors Association! (AHA!)

The elected officers of the Appalachian Honors Association (AHA!) serve as the Honors College Student Advisory Board, providing a liaison between the students and the Honors College faculty, staff, and the Honors College Advisory Board. The president of AHA! serves as part of the ad hoc three-person grievance subcommittee representative. The officers for 2013-14 were elected in Fall of 2013. The new officers for 2014-15 will be elected at the start of the 2014-15 year so that incoming freshmen may participate. There was a shift in officers in the late spring due to unforeseen circumstances, and, in a meeting at the end of the semester, the officers decided to revisit their role and mission in the College. Plans are in process for the officers and other volunteers to take up a role of academic peer mentoring for the students.

AHA! Officers 2013-14:
President Nicholas Smith
Vice Presidents Katie Falls & Sarah Eubanks
Secretary Courtney Fish
Treasurer    Charlie Mize
Publicity/Academic/Service Chairs: Indigo Grubbs/MacGregor Sheppard/Erica Baker

Appalachian Honors Association! (AHA!)

AHA! sponsors activities that support and enhance the academic, service, and social experience of the Honors College students. As an officially recognized ASU club, AHA! students help increase the Honors College’s visibility throughout campus, including service events, such as an annual canned food drive, educational programs with guest speakers, and social opportunities, such as ski trips. Traditional events sponsored by AHA! included: the Great Raft Debate, Exam Week Ice Cream Socials, and the “East Hall” Memorial Halloween Party.

Academic Integrity Policy

According to the ASU Academic Integrity Policy, "Students will not lie, cheat, or steal to gain academic advantage" and "will oppose every instance of academic dishonesty" (http://studentconduct.appstate.edu/). The Honors College takes this policy seriously, and takes students at their word that they will abide by this policy. A student's violation of this agreement may result in immediate dismissal from The Honors College.

Code of Student Conduct

The ASU Code of Student Conduct provides extensive guidelines on conduct for students attending ASU (http://studentconduct.appstate.edu/). Students in the Honors College are held to the high standards detailed by this code and are expected to epitomize respectful and responsible conduct. The Honors College students value diversity, promote pluralism, and cultivate community.

Any violations of this code for which a student takes responsibility, or for which they are found to be responsible, may be grounds for dismissal from the Honors College. This is determined on a case-by-case basis by the Director of the Honors College. Appeals from dismissal decisions may be made to an ad hoc three-person grievance subcommittee composed of two members of the Honors College Advisory Board and one member of the Student Advisory Committee. There have been no such cases since the Advisory Board was constituted in 2008.

For the past three years, incoming freshmen have been asked to review and sign a document that reiterates these policies and explains that if they are reported to the Office of Student Conduct, that office has the student’s permission to let the Honors College know of the charge and any finding. This policy and the form were approved by the University’s General Counsel. The forms have proved useful in meetings with the Residence Life Coordinator (RLC) for the Honors Residential option; the waiver allows the RLC to discuss problems that occur on the Housing side with the Honors College Director. The web address for this information is http://honors.appstate.edu/academics/policies-academic-integrity.
Departmental Honors Programs and Honors Council

There are 29 honors programs offered within departments and the College of Business for their majors. The requirements and procedures for graduating with departmental honors are listed on the websites of the specific department of interest and in the ASU Bulletin. Most departmental honors programs require at least nine hours in departmental honors courses, including a three-hour senior honors thesis/project. Students may take part in more than one honors program at a time, but multiple theses may be required or much larger combined theses. Admission to departmental honors programs is usually offered by invitation only, but students interested in enrolling may make application to the relevant departmental honors director to request admission to the program. Two new programs were added in the 2013-14 year: Exercise Science and Technology and Environmental Design.

Anthropology, Dr. Cheryl Claassen
Appalachian Studies, Dr. Katherine Ledford
Art, Dr. Jim Toub
Biology, Dr. Lynn Sieffermann
Chemistry, Dr. Libby Puckett
College of Business, Dr. Joseph Cazier
Communication, Dr. Jennifer Grey
Computer Science, Dr. Dee Parks
Criminal Justice, Dr. Elicka Peterson
Dance, Prof. Marianne Adams
English, Dr. Holly Martin
Exercise Science, Dr. Scott Collier
Language, Literature and Culture (Spanish & French), Dr. Andres Fisher

Geography and Planning, Dr. Rich Crepeau
Geology, Dr. Chuanhui Gu
Global Studies, Dr. Jeanne Dubino
History, Dr. Scott Jessee/Dr. Benno Wiener
Interdisciplinary Studies, Dr. Joe Gonzalez
Mathematics, Dr. Vicky Klima
Philosophy and Religion, Dr. Monique Lanoix/Dr. Shawn Arthur
Physics and Astronomy, Dr. Richard Gray
Political Science, Dr. Elicka Peterson
Psychology, Dr. Lisa Emery
Social Work, Dr. Michael Howell
Sociology, Drs. Michael Wise/Ed Folts
Tech and Env Design, Prof. Jeff Tiller

2013-2014 Honors College Student Profile

Honors College students are found in all academic colleges and most majors on the campus. For 2013-14, there were 750 students on average in the College (some graduated in December, others joined in the spring), with the majority in the College of Arts and Sciences. While there were no new honors programs created in those colleges without Honors (e.g., Music, Education), there continue to be students in those areas of study who are also pursuing University Honors. Several honors programs were removed from University College, and the students from those degree programs are now largely in Arts and Sciences, with some in Fine and Applied Arts.
The demographics of the Honors College illustrate that in-state students make up the majority of the population (88%), and Wake County was the largest single county source of students. There were significantly more females (64.7%) than males, following the national trend for honors programs. While many students do not report their racial identity (29%), of those who self-reported, most identify as White (88.4%); other groups that students self-identified with were Hispanic/Latino (2.3%), Black/African American (2%), Asian (0.8%), and mixed (two or more races: 3%). Eight and a half percent indicated they were first generation college students (an increase of 2% from last year), and 19.1% are classified as low income, based on Pell eligibility (an increase of 4%). This demographic data (see table) was provided by Institutional Research, Assessment and Planning from a run in August, 2014.

Honors College Admissions Data

The 2012-13 admissions cycle for the entering class of 2013 produced a return to the higher yields of previous years (31%). It is shown in the context of the previous years before to illustrate the impact of the changing limits on the applicant pool. For the entering class of 2012 there was no limit: anyone who wanted to be considered could apply to the Honors College. For the entering class of 2013, however, the applicant pool was limited to students with a 1250 M/V SAT (ACT 28) or higher; this limitation was implemented by Admissions on the Scholarship
The graph indicates the numbers of students who applied, were admitted, and ultimately matriculated as the freshmen class of indicated year. The entering class of 2013 was 137 students, with 53% females and 12% from out of North Carolina. The average M/V SAT returned to the higher, previous level of 1356 (coincidentally the same as for 2011) from the low point since 2008 of 1333 in 2012.

Information on the incoming class of Fall 2013 is shown at right, along with a graph indicating the numbers of transfer hours freshmen brought in. The average was 12.8 hours, with approximately one quarter bringing in no college credit at all; note that about half have more than 15 hours.

Incoming Freshmen Data

- Entering Number of Honors Students: 137
- Average SAT(M+V; ACTs converted): 1356
- Average high school class percentile: top 5-10%
- Gender ratio: 53% female, 47% male
- In state:out of state students: 88%:12%

Internal Recruiting and Admissions Data

Starting in Fall 2009, freshmen ASU students were invited to apply to transfer into the Honors College if they had a 3.5+ GPA at the end of their first semester. Initial numbers before this effort (2008-09) were very small, but, as seen in the graph, with the exception of last year, the numbers have grown each succeeding year as the possibility to pursue honors this has become more widely known. Students must submit two letters of recommendation from ASU faculty, their résumé, and an essay on why they wish to be in Honors, in addition to having the requisite GPA (the same process obtains for external transfers from other schools). The demand fell slightly in the last year, 2012-13, as demand for housing in Summit declined, but the application numbers resiled this past year so that the spring 2014 number was over 80.
There has not yet been any evidence of transfers coming from the community colleges with which we have MoU/MoAs, but it is hoped that this starts to impact external transfer data soon. At this point, students from other schools transferring into Honors at ASU remains in single digits.

**Honors College Total Numbers**

The total number of students in the Honors College grew from around 500 in 2008 (exact number uncertain) to a high point of ~800 in the 2012-13 academic year. With the loss of resources after the 2009 economic crisis, that number was reduced to ~750; the resources were not keeping up with intended growth, or supporting the existing needs of the College. There must be a sufficient number of advising faculty/staff to provide the intense and extensive advising that Honors students require and value, and the College needs two more positions to do that to return to the 800 student total. There are also insufficient funds to support current students in the travel costs of the International Education requirement; the evidence for this is that 10% of students do not travel to complete this requirement, most due to fiscal constraints. To keep the total number of students within a manageable range, while assures that all qualified internal applicants can be admitted, the number of entering freshmen has been restricted to ~140 (although Fall 2014 saw an over yielding of 151). This limit is also needed as there are not sufficient rewards/incentives to get departments to release faculty to teach HON courses. Therefore, there have not been enough Freshman Seminar seats (HON 1515) to accommodate more than 140 students.

**Chancellor’s Scholarship**

The oldest prestigious scholarship at ASU is the Chancellor's Scholarship, offered through the Honors College. It was awarded in spring 2012 for the 2012-13 academic year to ten incoming first-year students, a one-third reduction from the number established in 2007. It was awarded through fall of 2011 at 15 per year. The cut was recommended by the Scholarship Advisory Committee, a Committee constituted by Academic Affairs and chaired through Enrollment Management. The cut was thought necessary, due to the growing costs of the scholarship and the resulting reduction in funding available for other scholarships that are supported by the New River Light and Power income to ASU.

The recipients of the scholarship are required to enroll in at least one Honors course each semester for their first four semesters. Chancellor's Scholarships are renewable for up to eight semesters if the student maintains a 3.45 academic average. Chancellor's Scholarships are not tied to any major or college, and students may use their award to pursue approved, ASU-associated national and international programs of study.
The scholarship provides the following benefits to incoming scholars:

- Full institutional costs for eight semesters, including tuition, fees, housing, and a meal plan.
- A Fall Break trip to Dublin, Ireland, for all ten freshmen Chancellor's Scholars (lead by the Honors Director and co-teacher of the CS special course Voyages).
- Full study abroad support to any of 200 ASU partner institutions around the world for one or more of the eight, awarded semesters (including travel cost assistance).
- Opportunities for service-learning courses and programs locally and throughout the world with the Appalachian and the Community Together (ACT) office (with travel cost assistance).
- Support for research and scholarship through the Office of Student Research (OSR) for research and scholarship in the student's target area of study, including travel funds to attend conferences where the student is presenting.
- Support from the Prestigious Scholarships Program for travel to conferences in the student's area of research/scholarship and immediate membership in AIM High, with focused mentoring to enhance graduate/professional school and prestigious scholarship applications.
- Tuition assistance for summer travel courses with ASU professors.
- Priority registration for course selection.
- Participation in a unique freshman Honors class designed for the Chancellor's Scholars to promote their professional development (Voyages).
- Dedicated, personalized academic mentoring and advising from the Honors faculty and staff.
- Housing available in the Honors residence hall (Cone Hall for freshmen, Summit for continuing students), or housing support may be used off campus or elsewhere on campus after the first year.
- Chancellor's Scholars may be in any major and in any college.
- Participation in the Honors College and Appalachian Honors Association! activities, including lectures, service opportunities, and social events.

Selection of the Chancellor's Scholars

The selection process for the 2013-14 application cycle for Fall 2014 matriculation was carried out by the Chancellor’s Scholarship Committee. The committee comprised 14 faculty for initial written applications for interviews (Drs. Jim Toub, Michael Dale, Thomas McLaughlin, Johnny Waters, Howie Neufeld, Mark Zrull, Jeanne Dubino, Alexandra Hellenbrand, Dale Wheeler, Wendy Winn, Lisa Runner, Joe Cazier, Jacqueline Bergman, Dee Parks, Richard Crepeau), who were then joined by six students for interviews on Scholars’ Day. The number of scholarship offers returned to 10
after a reduction to only seven for the cohort entering in Fall 2013 (from 10 before that and 15 originally, see graph).

The yield for the last year of 15 offers, Fall 2011, had been very high (85%). The yield on the seven in the Fall of 2013 was also excellent (80%), and there was also a higher average M/V SAT (1470), as would be expected by fewer offers. The yield on the ten offers made in the Spring 2014 cycle, to matriculate for Fall 2014, also happily stayed at 80%, but the SAT average fell back slightly to the more typical level of 1453. Only the yield for the ten offers for Fall 2012 was out of range (50%), attributable to the uncertainty that year of where the freshmen would be housed. The opening of the Cone-Summit Honors housing opportunity in 2012-13 seems to meet the expectations of incoming freshmen for Honors housing.

- Number of Chancellor's Scholars awarded for Fall 2014: 10
- Chancellors Scholars Average SAT (M+V; ACTs converted): 1453

The data for the past nine years is shown above for context. Notations indicate where changes were made to the scholarship award. Data indicate the number of offers needed to fill the scholarships offered and the average SAT of the final group. Note that 2008 was the beginning of the “full-ride” scholarship awarded to 15 scholars.

**Honors Graduation Data**

The data on four, five, and six graduation rates from the entering Honors classes from 2005 on were provided by the ASU Institutional Research, Assessment, and Planning Office (shown in graph). Note that only years to the 2007 years have complete six-year data as of this data-run by IRAP. While the five- and six-year graduation rates for 2007 were lower than 2005-6, the four- and five-year graduation rates were actually higher for the 2008 cohort than the three earlier years (but similar to 2005). The 2010 number is currently 61%, but this is from a run prior to August graduation; it will likely be similar to 2009 when the data year closes.
It is noteworthy that the Honors Program/College graduation rates are significantly higher than those for the University as a whole (six-year percent graduated from 2007 is 81.7% for Honors vs. 68.6% for ASU total). While this is not surprising, given the higher entering qualifications of this pool, it is also the case that these high-ability students, who could go to school anywhere, choose to stay and complete their degrees at ASU; this is at least a partial validation of the experience they are having in the Honors College.

University Honors Graduation Rates

Starting in the fall of 2009, all students matriculating in the then-Heltzer Honors Program were required to apply for admission to the Heltzer Honors Program. Thus, the graduates four years later, in the 2012-13 academic year, were the first cohort of those who had gone through a required application process. Prior to that, students were “invited” into the Program based on their test scores and GPAs. Rather than choosing to be in Honors, they were simply told that they were in, if they wished to be. As a result, with starting numbers of around 330 invited, coded as Honors students, and allowed to live in Honors housing, very few actually chose to do the Program, and the completion rates were probably less than 15% of those invited (the numbers are somewhat uncertain, as no firm data was kept on how many students actually started the Program before 2008).

Once an intentional application process was introduced, the impact was seen directly on that entering cohort four years later (white bars with asterisks in graph). Completion rates this past academic year were the highest ever, at 50%, reaching a target set five years ago when the application process started. The goal now for the Honors College is to reach a 70% completion within four more years. This is an ambitious goal, and would put the Honors College among the most successful, thesis-requiring programs/colleges in the country. Significant resources to
support research and international education, and additional advisors, are needed to attain that level.

Postgraduate Placements of 2013-14 Graduates

The latest round of Honors College graduates from May 2014, are once again pursuing graduate degrees, along with professional opportunities. They are listed below grouped by their post-baccalaureate plans. While the data was only half complete when collected, more than half of those are heading directly to graduate/professional programs. Others have plans for further schooling, but will be working through jobs, internships, and travel opportunities to determine their best path.

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The Honors College Curriculum
and Requirements for Graduation with University Honors

The Honors College offers outstanding and highly-motivated students a special opportunity to broaden and enrich their academic experience by providing Honors courses that will lead to graduation with University Honors from the Honors College. Honors courses are offered through the Honors College (HON courses) and as departmental offerings in more than 30 majors. Most departmental honors courses at the lower division level are designed to fulfill general education or departmental curriculum requirements. Honors courses are typically conducted as seminars in which students meet in small groups to discuss readings, exchange ideas, debate, and share results of individual study and research. The emphasis in Honors is on independent and creative thinking with a great deal of student participation expected. Support facilities, including classrooms, study rooms, and special programs are available to all Honors College students. In order to graduate with University Honors from the Honors College and have the designation on the final transcript, Honors students must complete the following University Honors (for a total of at least 24 required semester hours in Honors):

1. At least nine semester hours of University Honors courses in at least two of the three major discipline areas (humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences) and one each from the three levels of HON 1515, HON 2515, and HON 3515.
2. Nine additional semester hours of Honors courses from any area.
3. At least three semester hours of Honors courses in the major.
4. The Honors College International Education requirement.
5. Both a total cumulative and Honors course GPA of 3.45 in the senior year.
6. An Honors Thesis/Project (three semester hours minimum), to be examined (defended) and approved by both an advisor in the student’s thesis/project area and a second reader from a different department. (For a list of the 2013-14 theses see below).

**Honors Courses 2013-14**

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<tr>
<th>Dept/College</th>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Professor</th>
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<td>ANT 2235-410 North Amer Archeology</td>
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<td>ANT 2300-410 Meso American Cultures</td>
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<td>ANT 4533-410 Paleopathology</td>
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<td>Art</td>
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<td>Astronomy</td>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>CHE 2202-410 Org II</td>
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<td>CHE 4000 Seminar</td>
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<td>CHE 4580-410 Biochemistry I lecture</td>
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<td>College of Business</td>
<td>ACC 2100-410 Principles of Acct IT</td>
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<td>ECO 2030-410 Principles of Economic Price Theory</td>
<td>McKee, M. &amp; Groothuis, P.</td>
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<td>MKT 3050-410 Principles of Marketing</td>
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<td>BUS 3510-410 Junior Honors Thesis</td>
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<td>MGT 3630-410 Organizational Behavior</td>
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<td>FIN 3680-410 Introduction to Finance</td>
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<td>MGT 4740-410 Strategic Management</td>
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<td>BUS 4546-410 Honors Practicum</td>
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<td>College of Education</td>
<td>FDN 2400-410 Critical Perspectives in Learning &amp; Teaching</td>
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<td>CI 2300-410 Teaching Learning Digital Age</td>
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<td>Communication</td>
<td>COM 1200-410 Foundations of Human Communication</td>
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<td>COM 3010-410 Media Graphics</td>
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<td>COM 3155-410 Persuasion</td>
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<td>COM 3220-410 PR Ethics Cases</td>
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<td>COM 3300-410 Mass Media and Society</td>
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<td>COM 3340-410 Journalism Ethics &amp; Free Society</td>
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<td>COM Ethnographic Storytelling &amp; Inquiry</td>
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<td>COM 3680-410 Literary Journalism</td>
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<td>COM 3928-411 Comm Research Methods</td>
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<td>COM 4101-410 Speech Writing</td>
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<td>CS 3430-410 Database</td>
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MAT 3510-410 Jr Honors Sem | Marland, E.  
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PHY-1150-210: Honors Lab  
PHY-1150-211: Honors Lab  
PHY 1151-410 Analytical Physics II & lab  
PHY 3560 Undergraduate Research  
PHY 4002 Applied Physics Literature | Burris, J.  
Burris, J.  
Burris, J.  
Burris, J.  
Burris, J.  
Coffey, T. J. |
| Political Science    | PS 3320-410 Glbl Cnflct & Mediation: The UN  
PS 4535-410 Moot Court  
PS 3530-410 Music & Politics  
PS 3536-410 Law and Politics  
PS 3115-410 Research Methods | Scherlen, R.  
Hester, R.  
Love, N.  
Burnett, C.  
Ruseva, T. |
| Psychology           | PSY 1200-410 Honors - Psych: HSSF  
PSY 1200-411 Honors - Psych: HSSF  
PSY 3511-101 Honors Colloquium: The Science and Practice of Psychotherapy  
PSY 3512-101 HON Col: Biofeedback  
PSY 3512-102 HON Col: Psychosoc Stressors and Psychopathology | Bringle, R. & Fearrington, J.  
Curtin, L.  
Grizzard, L.  
Deni, J.  
Canu, W. |
| Religion             | REL 1110-410 Religions of the World  
REL 2020-410 New Testament  
REL 3530-410 The Bible and Science | Thomas, E.  
Hankins, C.  
Duke, R. |
| Sociology            | SOC 1000-410 The Sociological Perspective | Wise, M. & Folts, E. |
| Social Work          | SW 2615-410 Cultural Competence in the Helping Professions  
SW 3330-411 Social Welfare Policies, Programs, and Issues  
SW 3850-411 Social Work Research Methods I  
SW 3870-410 Social Work Research Methods II | Levy, D.  
Phillips, D.  
Howell, M.  
Howell, M. |

**Honors College Courses**

| Freshmen Seminars     | HON 1515-101 Metamorphoses in Life: Love & Death  
HON 1515-102 Race & Resistance  
HON 1515-103 Arthurian Legends  
HON 1515-104 Creative Life and Practice  
HON 1515-105 Contemp Brazilian Lit & Culture  
HON 1515-106 Teacher Leadership in a Global Society  
HON 1515-107 The Demon-Haunted World: Science and Critical Thinking | Dale, M.  
Gonzalez, J.  
Hellenbrand, A.  
McLaughlin, T.  
James, B.  
Jacobsen, M. & Stanley, J.  
Waters, J. |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Sophomore Seminars    | FALL  
HON 2515-101 Biology, Technology, and Culture | Lappan, S. |
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<td>Audacity of Nope</td>
<td>Osmond, C.</td>
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<td>HON 2515-103</td>
<td>Myth and Meaning</td>
<td>Maddux, C.</td>
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<td>HON 2515-104</td>
<td>Citizens, Strangers, and Savages: Literature and Politics in Theory and Practice</td>
<td>Lanoix, M.</td>
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<td>HON 2515-145</td>
<td>Great Cities: Vienna</td>
<td>Toub, J.,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mansure, V. &amp;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hellenbrand, A.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

**Junior Seminars**

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HON 3515-101</td>
<td>China &amp; Chinese Americans</td>
<td>Martin, H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HON 3515-102</td>
<td>We Are Water</td>
<td>Cockerill, C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HON 3515-105</td>
<td>Int’ Exp: Bringing the World Home</td>
<td>Dubino, J.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-108</td>
<td>Community-Based Art</td>
<td>Hansell, T.</td>
</tr>
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<td>HON 3515-109</td>
<td>Wine Production Practices</td>
<td>Cohen, S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-110</td>
<td>Massive Open Online Courses</td>
<td>Parks &amp; Wilkes</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>SPRING</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-101</td>
<td>Music &amp; Politics</td>
<td>Love, N.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HON 3515-102</td>
<td>Zombie Masters: Parasites to Politics</td>
<td>Jones, L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-103</td>
<td>We Are Water</td>
<td>Cockerill, K.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-104</td>
<td>Tycoons, Titans, Blaggards</td>
<td>Dunston, L.</td>
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<td>HON 3515-105</td>
<td>Emerging Technologies</td>
<td>McGann, S.</td>
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<td>HON 3515-106</td>
<td>Japanese Lit &amp; Identity</td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-107</td>
<td>Cartoons to Colbert: Political Humor Explorations</td>
<td>DeHart, J.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mansure, V. &amp;</td>
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<td>Hellenbrand, A.</td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-145</td>
<td>Fin de Siècle Vienna</td>
<td>Harris, A.</td>
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<td>Meznar, M. &amp;</td>
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**Special Topics**

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HON 3531</td>
<td>Voyages</td>
<td>Jones, L.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FALL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-146</td>
<td>Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>HON 3515-147</td>
<td>Brazil &amp; Sustainability</td>
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<td><strong>SPRING</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>HON 3531-145</td>
<td>International Experience (Brazil, England, India, South Africa)</td>
<td>Jones, L.</td>
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In addition to scheduled courses, the following honors thesis courses available are for students in the listed departments:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>ACC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthropology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appalachian Studies</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ART</td>
<td>4510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>BIO</td>
<td>4510 &amp; 4519</td>
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<td>CHE</td>
<td>4000-410 &amp; 4510</td>
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<td>Communication</td>
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<td>Computer Information Systems</td>
<td>CIS</td>
<td>3510 &amp; 4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Information Systems</td>
<td>POM</td>
<td>3510 &amp; 4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>CS</td>
<td>4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural, Gender and Global Studies</td>
<td>GLS</td>
<td>4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural, Gender and Global Studies</td>
<td>IDS</td>
<td>4510 &amp; 4550</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>ECO</td>
<td>3510 &amp; 4510</td>
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<td>Environmental Science</td>
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<td>Exercise Science</td>
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<td>Finance, Banking and Insurance</td>
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<td>3510 &amp; 4510</td>
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<td>Geography and Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>GLY</td>
<td>4501 &amp; 4510</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Subject</th>
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<tr>
<td>Government and Justice Studies</td>
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<td>4509 &amp; 4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government and Justice Studies</td>
<td>CI</td>
<td>4509 &amp; 4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>HIS</td>
<td>4509 &amp; 4510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Languages, Literatures, and Cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>MGT</td>
<td>3510 &amp; 4510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>HOS</td>
<td>3510 &amp; 4510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>MKT</td>
<td>3510 &amp; 4510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematical Sciences</td>
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<td>4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy and Religion</td>
<td>PHI</td>
<td>4510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy and Religion</td>
<td>REL</td>
<td>4510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physics and Astronomy</td>
<td>PHY</td>
<td>4002 &amp; 4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics and Astronomy</td>
<td>AST</td>
<td>4002 &amp; 4510</td>
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<td>Psychology</td>
<td>PSY</td>
<td>4511 &amp; 4512</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td>SW</td>
<td>4510</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology and Environmental Design</td>
<td>TEC</td>
<td>4510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theatre and Dance</td>
<td>DAN</td>
<td>4510</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Academic Mentoring: Honors College Advising**

All advising for Honors students is handled by the Honors College advising faculty/staff. Through regular meetings with their Honors advisor, Honors students have the chance to discuss course registration plans with someone who gets to know them and helps them plan a curricular path leading to their professional and personal goals. For Honors students, advising is not just about completing a degree, but realizing a dream. This personalized, academic mentoring by the faculty and professional Honors College advisors began in 2009; it is an additional benefit of being in the Honors College, and a critical piece in promoting student success and University Honors completion, as evidenced by the increasing completion rates of honors students (see thesis numbers on page 21).

In the Fall of 2010, the newly created Honors College began to invite the students in the College who were already declared, and those over 30 sh who are undeclared and do not have required advising until they declare, to come for continued advising. Although this latter advising cannot be required of the continuing students, many choose to come for that value-added benefit of being in Honors. The numbers of these students, combined with the freshmen who have required advising, has grown to a point where the faculty/staff of the College are now handling far more advising than they can comfortably manage, along with their other duties. The head of the College, for example, sees an average of 100 students for pre-registration advising. While this is not an appropriate level of individual advising for the College leader, and a similar disproportion exists for the other four faculty/staff members, it is essential that students have this one–on–one counseling to optimize their completion of Honors, along with their majors.
Advising in 2013-14 was provided by the following five personnel, with their areas of disciplinary responsibility listed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dr. Jones</th>
<th>Dr. Wheeler</th>
<th>Dr. Waldroup</th>
<th>Ms. Kirsch/McDowell</th>
<th>Dr. Mead</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All pre-meds regardless of major</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Sciences: all Natural Sciences</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Sciences: Humanities (English, Foreign Languages &amp; Literatures, and Philosophy &amp; Religion)</td>
<td>All pre-law regardless of major</td>
<td>Language, Reading &amp; Exceptionalities (Special Ed.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All other pre-health professions</td>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>Women's Studies</td>
<td>Finance, Banking and Insurance</td>
<td>Child Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication Disorders</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Nursing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise Science</td>
<td>Sustainable Development</td>
<td>Global Studies</td>
<td>Management</td>
<td>Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>School of Music</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Rec Management</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Art</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Undecided</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition &amp; Dietetics</td>
<td>Theatre &amp; Dance</td>
<td>Computer Information Systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>International Business</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Interior Design</td>
<td>Health Care Management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Social Work</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This past year saw the graduation of the first cohort of those who had been advised in Honors since freshmen year, and the graduation rate for Honors has risen from a ~12-15% (an approximation due to uncertainty of numbers in earlier years) low in 2008 to 50.7% (71 graduates with a starting cohort of 140). While this growth in completion rates is gratifying, and in keeping with numbers nationally for thesis-requiring honors programs, it is far from what is desired. As noted previously, a level of 70% would be more in line with the most successful honors programs in the country. To that end, new initiatives are implemented each year to see if they might have an impact on improving completion, and advising has been the most important.
In a survey to assess what the students felt about their Honors College advising experience, the overwhelming majority of the 111 students who responded (15% response rate) felt the experience was either Satisfactory or Very Satisfactory (over 83%, see graph). This is very encouraging about the process, although there are clear areas that could be improved even further (e.g., the process for making appointments and signing in). It also informed us that the younger students remain unclear on the thesis expectation, and this is an area of needed growth, so now we know that more information needs to be provided earlier in advising. However, the comments were mostly very positive, and in response to the open question of “what do you value about HC advising” there were 52 observations such as: “I liked that you seemed to care about each student. It makes me feel valued…enjoyed being able just to talk with my advisor. That was great as it created a connection that was something more than just formally business,” “Personal attention, length of advising meetings,” “4-year planning help, as well as the ability to keep an honors advisor even after declaring a major,” and “suggestions for life after college. Advising that went beyond the undergraduate curriculum.”

**Research and Creative Endeavors**

Honors students complete a thesis as the capstone experience of their Honors curriculum, typically in their senior year. However, students start building the foundations for those projects during their freshman year. Students in the creative areas usually work on their performance and production skills both through class work and studio and practice time from their first semester. Similarly, students who plan to pursue degrees in other areas that may depend on library, laboratory, or field research begin identifying areas of interest and potential mentors their first year as well.

Ideally, students are working as volunteers on a mentor’s project by their second semester. In the best circumstances, students will find job opportunities that reflect their interests for the summer after freshmen year, and then be able to continue their on-campus research as sophomores using the Independent Study option, or with support from the Office of Student Research. This will set the student up for a more focused experience the summer after their sophomore year, perhaps even connecting a research topic with an international experience.

By their junior year, students should be narrowing their ideas to a topic appropriate for an undergraduate thesis, with the help of a mentor, and beginning to draft a prospectus of what they will do. The third and final summer may be when they actually do the research, especially if their project requires an intense period of research, data collection, or preparation. Even if the summer is not needed for their thesis project, it is a last opportunity to gain a full-time experience related to their future career path, whether that is through a bench-research project, a writing job, an internship in business, or a clinical experience.
The theses produced by the graduating students are strong evidence that the students have been involved in innovative research and creative activities while at Appalachian.

**Honors College Theses Fall 2013 and Spring 2014**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Thesis Title</th>
<th>Major(s)</th>
<th>Director(s)</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chase Batchelor</td>
<td>Hyporheic Exchange and Nutrient Uptake in a Forested Urban Stream</td>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>Chuanhui Gu</td>
<td>12/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Clarke</td>
<td>How Patterns of Eye Contact Unfold Over Time: An Eye Tracking Study</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Chris Dickinson</td>
<td>12/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cassidy Culbreth</td>
<td>Is Clicker Training More Effective Than Verbal Cues With Shelter Dogs?</td>
<td>Psychology and Sociology</td>
<td>Kenneth Steele</td>
<td>12/2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carmen Erdie</td>
<td>Intercultural Persuasion and Global Politics</td>
<td>Communication and Political Science</td>
<td>Lynn Gregory</td>
<td>12/2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dale Keller</td>
<td>Effects of Environmental Enrichment Upon the Amygdalae of Adolescent Rats</td>
<td>Cell and Molecular Biology</td>
<td>Mark Zrull</td>
<td>12/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cara Lewis</td>
<td>Irish Traditional Music: A Lecture-Recital of Representative Forms and Styles Performed on the Irish Flute</td>
<td>Music Education and Performance</td>
<td>Nancy Schneeloch-Bingham</td>
<td>12/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Moeller</td>
<td>The Impact of Foreign Relations on Chinese Consumerism</td>
<td>International Business</td>
<td>Pia Albinsson and Jennifer Henson</td>
<td>12/2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brindley Polk</td>
<td>Primary and Secondary Educational Changes During the Third Reich</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Rennie Brantz</td>
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<td>Eguono Akpoduado</td>
<td>Female Sex Offenders: Effects of Gender and Legal History</td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Twila Wingrove</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy Ballard</td>
<td>A Contextual Profile of Tariq Ramadan: Islam and Modernity Revisited</td>
<td>Religious Studies</td>
<td>William M. Hutchins</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bradley Beamon</td>
<td>The Effects of Music on the Test-Taking Abilities of High School Musicians</td>
<td>Music Education</td>
<td>Lisa Runner</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Meredith Branham</td>
<td>What Drives Uncertainty in Large Point Sources?</td>
<td>Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>Eric Marland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gretchen Brown</td>
<td>Puritan Women and Piety: Examining the Lives of Anne Hutchinson, Anne Bradstreet, and Mary Rowlandson</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Sheila Phipps</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Gordon Buckingham</td>
<td>The Spatial Distribution of Large pond Sources of Carbon Dioxide Emissions</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>Kathy Schroeder</td>
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<td>Katherine Burkhalter</td>
<td>Cultivating Creativity: Orff-Schulwerk in the 21st</td>
<td>Music Education</td>
<td>Susan Mills</td>
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<td>Joshua Carr</td>
<td>Utilizing Dance and Creative Arts to Build and Strengthen Community Bonds</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Marianne Adams</td>
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<td>Fostering Community, Creativity, and Independence through Art Therapy Techniques</td>
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<td>Robert Bringle</td>
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<td>Hannah Collins</td>
<td>Contextual Factors and their Impact on Communication in Dementia</td>
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<td>Louise Keegan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Jay Fenwick</td>
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<td>Kate Cook</td>
<td>Feminism and Empowerment: Female Protagonists in the Works of John Green</td>
<td>English Secondary Education</td>
<td>Elaine O'Quinn</td>
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<td>Miranda Cook</td>
<td>Comparison Study of Factors Contributing to Obesity: Mexico and the United States in the Areas of Physical Activity and Diet</td>
<td>Health Care Management</td>
<td>Becki Battista</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Alexandra Dezii</td>
<td>ADHD Stigma in a College Population</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Will Canu</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Rachel Duffus</td>
<td>Recognizing the Simultaneous Occurrence of Women's Rights and Elder Abuse in Ghana's Watch Camps to Gain International Aid for Improved Elder Care</td>
<td>Global Studies and Spanish</td>
<td>Jeanne Dubino</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carmen Erdie</td>
<td>Persuasion in Political and International Crisis</td>
<td>Communication &amp; Political Science</td>
<td>Lynn Gregory</td>
<td>08/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shelby Forsyth</td>
<td>It's Not About Breaking In - It's About Moving Up: The Glass Ceiling and the Role of Female Creatives in Advertising</td>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>Thomas Mueller</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Olivia Frank</td>
<td>Case Analysis of the Real Economic Impact of Corporations in Charlotte</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Thomas Mueller</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelsey Fuller</td>
<td>How Perceived Risk Impacts International Travel</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Elizabeth Davison</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Gannett</td>
<td>Evaluating Relationships between Water Quality Partners and Human Behavior in an Impaired New England Estuary</td>
<td>Sustainable Development</td>
<td>Michael Gangloff</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Daniel Gaspari</td>
<td>Magnetic and Morphologic Characterization of Coal Ash and Trace Metal Concentration in River Sediment Contaminated by the Kingsron Spill</td>
<td>Geology</td>
<td>Ellen Cowan</td>
<td>08/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Gerber</td>
<td>Light Element Abundance Inhomogeneities and Deep Mixing in Galactic Globular Clusters</td>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>Michael Briley</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Brianna Germond</td>
<td>Environmental Design for Alzheimer's and Dementia</td>
<td>Interior Design</td>
<td>Jeanne Mercer-Ballard</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Katarina Hauser</td>
<td>Synthesis, Surface Immobilization, and Electrochemical Characterization of Cobalt Bis(glyoxime) Hydrogen Catalysts</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Michael Hambouger</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Zachary Herman</td>
<td>Serious Leisure and Leisure Motivations Among Self-Identified Cyclists</td>
<td>Recreation Management and Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
<td>Erik Rabinowitz</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Horsman</td>
<td>Volatile Organic Compounds in Human Exhaled Breath</td>
<td>Biology and Chemistry</td>
<td>Barkley Sive</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Noah Hughes</td>
<td>Reverse Mathematics: Calibrating Logical Strength in Mathematics</td>
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<td>Jeffry Hirst</td>
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<td>Ashley Hurd</td>
<td>Re-thinking Employee Engagement: What it Means and Why it Matters</td>
<td>General Management</td>
<td>Jacqui Bergman</td>
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<td>Emily Jacobs</td>
<td>Media Depictions of Age and Gender: Comparing Men’s Health and Women’s Health Magazines</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Lisa Curtin</td>
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<td>Emily Johnson</td>
<td>Bridging the Gap: Using Young Adult Literature to Access the Classics</td>
<td>English Secondary Education</td>
<td>Elaine O'Quinn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taylor Jones</td>
<td>Indirect Determination of Enzyme Kinetics Using Capillary Electrophoresis with Chemiluminescence Detection</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Libby Pucket</td>
<td>08/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Field</td>
<td>Advisor</td>
<td>Date</td>
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<td>Tia Joyce</td>
<td>The &quot;Not So Special&quot; Relationship? Examining the Israeli-Palestinian Policy of President George H. W. Bush</td>
<td>History &amp; Political Science</td>
<td>Rennie Brantz</td>
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<td>Nina Laughlin</td>
<td>Effects of Caffeine Ingestion on Sodium-Aided Hyperhydration</td>
<td>Exercise Science</td>
<td>David Morris</td>
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<td>Alexis Lefkowitz</td>
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<td>Twila Wingrove</td>
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<td>Katerine Marr</td>
<td>Physical Epistemology and the Collapse of the Phenomenal World</td>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>Christopher Bartel</td>
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<td>Kayla Mason</td>
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<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Benito del Pliego</td>
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<td>Alison McClay</td>
<td>Geometry and Tonal Music: A Mathematical and Musical Analogy in Microtonal Systems</td>
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<td>Vicky Klima</td>
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<td>Faith Miller</td>
<td>The Crossing Number of Tripartite Graph: K3,3,3</td>
<td>Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>Mark Ginn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catherine Moore</td>
<td>An Analysis of Recent Studies on the Relationship between Religion and Health and their Implications for Holistic Health</td>
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<td>Rodney Duke</td>
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<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Will Canu</td>
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<td>Tyler Morton</td>
<td>A Study of Motivational Factors Influencing Student Social Media Involvement</td>
<td>Computer Information Systems</td>
<td>B. Dawn Medlin</td>
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<td>Nadareh Naseri</td>
<td>Latinas Activas: A Learning Experience, Implementation and Evaluation of a Physical Activity Intervention for Latinas in Watauga County, North Carolina</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>Becki Battista and Catherine Fountain</td>
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<td>Benjamin Neustel</td>
<td>Southern Rattlesnake Master: A Review and Way Forward</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Matt Estep</td>
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<td>Chirayu Patel</td>
<td>The Use of Vesicular Stomatitis Virus and Natural Products for the Treatment of Cervical Cancer</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Maryam Ahmed</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Payment</td>
<td>Social-Economic Decision Making and Aging: The Role of Motivation</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Lisa Emery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allyson Pollock</td>
<td>The Significance of American Sign Language in the Language Development of Deaf Children</td>
<td>Communication Sciences and Disorders</td>
<td>Jennifer Dalton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jaclyn Redman</td>
<td>Phytoecdysteroid Does Response in Skeletal Muscle Protein Synthesis</td>
<td>Exercise Science</td>
<td>Kevin Zwetsloot</td>
<td>08/2014</td>
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<td>Molly Reid</td>
<td>Dramatic Expression in Piano Music: A Senior Recital Program of Works Spanning Three Centuries</td>
<td>Piano Performance</td>
<td>Rodney Reynerson</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexandra Smith</td>
<td>Examining Future Wedding Trends of the American Millennial Generation</td>
<td>Hospitality and Tourism Management</td>
<td>Michael Dotson</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Thacker</td>
<td>Branding Appalachian State University</td>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Unal Boya</td>
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<td>Allison Tresslar</td>
<td>Humanism in Literature: Triumph of the Human Spirit in a Pessimistic World</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Craig Fischer</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<td>David Valder</td>
<td>A Post-Sugar-Cane Politics: Cultivating a</td>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Dana Powell</td>
<td>08/2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The numbers of honors theses produced over the past seven years is shown in the figure at right. The total number (gray) is also subdivided to illustrate the component numbers of those theses that were for department only or graduating with the Honors College distinction of University Honors. While the past year showed a slight decline in both departmental and Honors College thesis numbers, the trend over the past six years is still clear growth. It is expected that this trend will continue, in part due to the “academic mentoring” model of advising (started with most incoming Honors freshmen in 2009) and the creation of more department honors programs (nine new programs in the past five years). There is some concern that the departmental thesis numbers may be trending downwards, perhaps attributable to the burden of the budget cuts and the increased teaching loads of the faculty; many say they cannot also mentor theses, as student numbers increase (15,176 to 15,421 between 2012 and 2013), but faculty numbers do not (901 both years).

**Honors College International Education Requirement**

Starting in the Fall of 2007, the Honors curriculum changed to include the requirement of an International Education Experience. Since this requirement took effect, students have studied abroad and become global citizens in a plethora of ways. The Honors College is dedicated to helping students study away to gain a broader understanding of the world and to diversify their

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Caley Wahl</th>
<th>Multicultural Music Education Resources</th>
<th>Music Education</th>
<th>Susan Mills</th>
<th>05/2014</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kirstie Wolf</td>
<td>Appalachian State University: A Case-Study of Prevention and Educational Resources for Interpersonal Violence</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
<td>Donna Lillian</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dawn Woodard</td>
<td>Characterizing Uncertainty in Anthropogenic Point Source Emissions of CO2</td>
<td>Mathematical Sciences</td>
<td>Eric Marland</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chelsea Zemmin</td>
<td>Time Course of Phytoecdysteroid-Induced Protein Synthesis in Skeletal Muscles of Mice</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Kevin Zwetsloot</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Susan Zhao</td>
<td>Oxygen Sensing Properties of Nanofibrous Biomaterials Incorporating Tris(4,7-diphenyl-1,10-phenanthroline) ruthenium (II)</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Leslie Sargent Jones</td>
<td>05/2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
learning. While the Honors College support 40 students in the their International Education program, the total number studying abroad was closer to 137, based on numbers provided by OIED.

Honors College International Educational Experiences

The Honors College, in collaboration with the Office of International Education and Development, created several different educational opportunities for students wishing to have an international setting for their learning. Thanks to partner institutions in India, South Africa and Mexico, four different internship opportunities were in place for Summer 2013.

University of the Free State, UFS, Bloemfontein, South Africa (http://www.ufs.ac.za/)

The UFS generously set up multiple opportunities for ASU students to spend four weeks learning how health care practitioners in several fields prepare for their careers. Three students went for internships in the Summer of 2014 at the School of Medicine. Pre-medical students were paired with a third year medical student at UFS and spent two weeks in hospital rotations and then some time at outreach clinics around the city. Bloemfontein, the “City of Roses,” is the capital of the Free State and sits in the center of South Africa. It is also the Judicial Capital and sixth largest city of South Africa, and has a proud history as the birthplace of the African National Congress. It is situated on the high, central South African plateau 1,395 meters above sea level, so it is cold in July. Students were housed in residence halls on the UFS campus and made many new friends.

University of Johannesburg, UJ, Johannesburg, South Africa (http://www.uj.ac.za/EN/Pages/Home.aspx)

A new program was created for Summer 2014 at UJ, in the financial capital of South Africa. Two students spent four weeks in multiple physical therapy/sports medicine rotations hosted at UJ through their Faculty of Health Sciences, and in collaboration with their partner, the University of Witwatersrand (Wits, http://www.wits.ac.za/). The students lived in a guest-house near campus, making friends both in their homestay and at the universities where they studied.
Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla – BUAP, Puebla, Mexico (http://www.buap.mx/)

BUAP is located in the historic and beautiful city of Puebla, a World Heritage Site, where students experience Mexican history, culture, and geology (one of the tallest volcanoes in the world, Popocatépetl, “smokes” on the horizon). BUAP is a non-residential university, so students rent rooms in homestays near the campus, learning about life in Puebla from people who live there. While there were no students at BUAP the summer of 2014, there have been students there the two previous summers, and plans for more students who are Spanish proficient to go in the Summer of 2015.

Universidad de las Americas Puebla – UDLAP, Puebla, Mexico (http://www.udlap.mx/)

UDLAP is close to Puebla, but is located in Cholula, home to the world’s largest pyramid by volume, with a 16th century church on top. Exploring the state of Puebla included off-campus excursions into the rich cultural heritage and natural beauty of this region. Students were stay in residence halls on the UDLAP campus while there. There were no Spanish-proficient students able to go to UDLAP in Summer 2014, but several planning to go in 2015, continuing this exchange from the previous two years.

Bishop Heber College, Trichy, India (www.bhc.edu.in)

Three students spent the month of June, 2014, at Bishop Heber College, which is located in the Tamil Nadu city of Tiruchirappalli, commonly known as Trichy. This city of 27 million has one of the largest Hindu temple complexes, Sri Ranganathaswamy, and the historic Rock Fort on the banks of the River Cauvery. Two of the students were set up at the Janet Nursing Home and the Stephens Nursing home, where they had extensive
medical clinic shadowing experiences in Ob/Gyn practice and HIV care. Another student, who was in pre-veterinary studies, was allowed to spend her days at a public veterinary clinic observing everything from neutering to car accident trauma surgery. All of them reported exceptional and life-changing experiences.

Madras Christian Council of Social Services, Chennai, India (http://mccss.org/)

Two students spent four weeks in May-June with the irrepressible Ms. Isabel Richardson, the Director of this remarkable service organization in northern Chennai. They were involved in programs such as Night Shelter for Street Children, Women in Development (entrepreneurial self-help), Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children, and the Family Counseling Center. They lived at the MCCSS location and worked with the staff of the MCCSS on varied projects, traveling the countryside for conferences and children’s field trips, as well. It was a dramatic experience and both report that, as a result, they are galvanized to “make a difference” through their careers.

Federal Rural University of Pernambuco, UFRPE, Recife, Brazil (http://www.ufrpe.br)

A Chemistry major spent the month of June in the laboratory of Dr. Leucio Alves in Recife, Brazil, learning molecular biological techniques used in the study of the zoonotic disease leishmania. He was able to travel extensively around the area (and watch the World Cup games), and enjoyed visiting beautiful beaches and cultural sites, such as the Brennand Institute adjacent to the Veterinary School campus of UFRPE (at left) while there.

University of Keele, United Kingdom (http://www.keele.ac.uk/)

The beautiful Staffordshire region is the home of this partner university of ASU, and it presents an opportunity for pre-pharmacy students to spend a month working in a pharmacy laboratory, working with pharmacy students, and shadowing at regional pharmacies. One student went in Summer 2014 and spent his four weeks observing pharmaceutical science practice, participating in research, and attending some classes and sharing in
student group work. It was an exceptional opportunity for this pre-pharmacy student to see his discipline taught and implemented in another country.

Honors College International Courses

Four travel courses were run through the Honors College, two, typical faculty-led courses abroad (HON 2515 “Great Cities: Vienna” and 3515 “Fin de Siècle Vienna” to Vienna, pictured at right), and one semester-long course with travel embedded during the fall break (“Voyages” photo below). The latter course took the seven Chancellor’s Scholar freshmen to Dublin for five days over Fall Break. The students actually design their own itinerary for their time in Dublin during the weeks before the trip, and then spend the weeks after the trip presenting about their learning outcomes from the experience. The fourth travel course is the HON 3531 International Experience course, which includes all of the International Education Experience opportunities described above.

Many students also took advantage of ASU faculty-led courses unrelated to Honors to fulfill the international education requirement, while still others went on full year, one semester, or summer study abroad programs. Examples of study abroad sites where students spent a semester or more include Australia, Austria, Chile, Finland, Italy (photo left), Japan, and Spain.

Heltzer Honors Program for International Education (HHPIE)

Established in 2009, the Heltzer Honors Program for International Education Scholarship Award is awarded exclusively to Honors College students who are traveling abroad in an experience that earns them academic credit on their transcript. They were assisted in proportion to the credits to be earned ($100/credit).
### HHPIE Awards for 2013-14

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Shara</td>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>Allison</td>
<td>Chile</td>
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<td>Pruett</td>
<td>Callie</td>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Audrey</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>Breed</td>
<td>Miana</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Uganda</td>
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<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boling</td>
<td>Abby</td>
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<td>Smith</td>
<td>Casandra</td>
<td>Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Milosh</td>
<td>Cassidy</td>
<td>Spain</td>
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<td>Fagan</td>
<td>Margaret</td>
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<td>McGuire</td>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td>UK</td>
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<td>Stockstad</td>
<td>Marissa</td>
<td>India</td>
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<td>France &amp; Italy</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Morgan</td>
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<td>Molly</td>
<td>England &amp; France</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bowman</td>
<td>Anna</td>
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<tr>
<td>Driver</td>
<td>Emily</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
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</table>
The total expended for the 2013-14 year in support of student travel was $20,900. In comparison to previous years, the number of those applying for support from this source of travel funds dropped (31 vs. 44 the previous year); however, a number of students traveled to conferences with support directly from Honors College funds, so the number traveling internationally with some form of support is actually higher (35). The total spent is also higher when these trips are included ($26.7K). There are, of course, many other students traveling abroad who simply do not need nor request the support from either the College or the HHPIE.

Minor in Medical Humanities

Created in the then-Heltzer Honors Program in 2009, the Minor in Medical Humanities is designed for the health care pre-professional who wants to have a richer and broader program of study than just the required major or courses. By pursuing this minor, students explore questions in the Humanities and Social Sciences that have a direct bearing on health care today. Courses such as Medical Ethics and Health Law, for example, will take the students into current issues of health care practice through the prism of ethical and legal concerns. Courses like Chinese Medicine and Our Primate Heritage will extend the student's thinking into the history of health care and the growing field of evolutionary medicine. While this minor and most of the courses are not required for medical school or any other health care graduate program, students will find that the minor will strengthen their application for those programs both for what it says on their transcript and for what it does to their thinking, writing, and speaking.

This minor is for those students who want a bit more than the standard preparation for their health care field of choice, both those who are already in Honors or for those not in Honors who want to be able to take some Honors courses. The Minor is administered by The Honors College, but application is open to all students in the University regardless of major, and all students accepted in the Minor may sign up for any Honors courses in the Minor. In order to participate in the Minor, a student must have a 3.3 overall GPA at time of application, and this GPA must be maintained to graduate with the Minor. Students are required to apply to participate in the Minor in Medical Humanities and earn the notation on their transcript. Applications must be submitted to the Honors College office to the attention of the Minor in Medical Humanities Committee (MMHC) for review and approval. The minor requires 15 semester hours of coursework, including Medical Ethics, the only required course.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical Humanities Requirements: 3 semester hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHL 3015 (3) Medical Ethics</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical Humanities Electives: 12 hours</th>
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<td>ANT 1430 (3) Our Primate Heritage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANT 2230 (3) Biological Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANT 3300 (3) Human Osteology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANT 4600 (3) Medical Anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COM 2131 (3) Health Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECN 3610 (3) Economy of Health Care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCM 2110 (3) Introduction to Health System Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCM 4910 (3) Health Law*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIS 3121 (3) History of Ancient Medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HP 4200 (3) Epidemiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHL 3600 (3) Philosophy of Science</td>
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<td>PSY 3205 (3) Biological Psychology</td>
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<td>PSY 3653 (3) Health Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY 4562 (3) Psychology of Adulthood and Aging</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3140 (3) Chinese Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>REL 3150 (3) Religion, Culture, and the Body</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 3100 (3) Gerontology</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 3600 (3) Medical Sociology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SW 4555 (3) Death, Dying, and Living</td>
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<tr>
<td>WS 3300 (3) Gender and Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3) Independent Study (as approved by MMHC)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional, relevant courses may be offered as Selected Topics by departments or as HON courses from the Honors College. Such courses may be included for the minor with approval of the Minor in Medical Humanities Committee (Director of The Honors College, Director of Health Professional Advising, three contributing faculty members, one each from any of the departments contributing courses to the Minor). Examples of such courses that have been offered previously include: Chinese Medicine; Personal and Family Health; Ancient Medicine; Biotech and Society; Social Deviance; Genocide; Humans and Nature; Brains, Behavior and Sex.

MMHC members 2013-14: Leslie Sargent Jones, Chair (Director, The Honors College), Celeste Crowe (Director, Health Professions Advising), Jennifer Gray (COM), Lucinda McCray (HIS), Monique Lanoix/Shawn Arthur (P&R).

The second cohort of graduates with the minor occurred in 2014: Hannah Collins, Chirayu Patel, Elizabeth Watts, and Susan Zhao. This brings the total number of graduates to eight.

Students pursuing the Minor 2013-14:
Accelerated Degree Options

In partnership with the Walker College of Business, the Honors College is promoting the opportunity to do an accelerated B.S./M.B.A. In fact, ASU offers all high-achieving students the opportunity to complete both their bachelor’s degree and their master’s of business administration degree at ASU in 4.5 to 5 years. If students come in with Advanced Placement/College credit, they can finish their B.A. or B.S. in six to seven semesters and begin the Walker College of Business MBA program. If they use their last semester as an undergraduate (up to 12 sh) to take graduate courses, they can further shorten the time-to-degree. Since the MBA program offers an intensive one-year format and a rolling admissions process, a student could complete both degrees within four and a half years.

Using this as a model, the Honors College and Graduate School are hoping to encourage students to pursue similar accelerated models and stay at ASU for their graduate degrees in other fields, as well. Currently there is one student pursuing this opportunity, with several others expressing interest.

Honors Pre-Professional Advising

As part of the academic mentoring program in 2013-14, students in the Honors College receive tailored pre-professional advising. There is advising for pre-medical and pre-dental students, as well as those planning for pharmacy, DPT (physical therapy), and PA (physician assistant) graduate programs (Dr. Jones), for law school and business school (Ms. Kirscht then Dr. McDowell), and for education or nursing careers (Dr. Mead). This mentoring combines the features of pre-professional advising that might be offered by a pre-professional advising office (and that ASU does have for pre-medical/dental students) with the curricular advising needed to be sure that program requirements are met. By integrating both important aspects of support for students, the success rate for post-baccalaureate goals can be improved, as seen by the data that all pre-medical students were admitted to medical school (including UNC-CH and UA-B) and the one pre-law student was accepted to American University Washington College of Law.
Memoranda of Agreement/Understanding (MoA) with Community College Honors Programs

Starting in the Spring of 2011, the Honors College at ASU has been building relationships with community colleges (CC) across the state to develop increased transfer possibilities for the high ability institutions at our sister institutions in the CC system. The first MoA that was signed in 2011 was with Southwestern Community College. This was followed with MoAs with Asheville-Buncombe Technical CC, Haywood CC, and Wake Forest Technical CC in 2013. This past Spring 2014 an MoA was signed with Louisburg College, the first with a private two year college.

Honors College Events

A number of events are held throughout the year to meet different goals for the college. Some are designed to promote the student community (Freshmen Retreat and Welcome Supper, Vanguard Knighting), while others are for recruiting purposes (Open House, Honors Days). Still others are to involve the families both at the beginning (Freshmen Family Picnic) and end of their students’ career in Honors at Appalachian (Honorum Laurus in December and May).

The Honors College Freshmen Retreat/Town as Text Inaugural Event

In the Fall of 2012, the Honors College was able to inaugurate a Freshmen Retreat event, thanks to gifts provided by some very generous donors. Again this past year, in Fall 2013, the students participated in the Town as Text on the first day of the Retreat and then were bused to the Broadstone location for a second day of events planned and managed by the Recreation Management office. Town as Text is a unique event arranged single-handedly by Dr. Dale Wheeler, Director of Prestigious Scholarships. While the concept was borrowed from the NCHC’s “City as Text®” event, this is different in that students visited specific agencies and sites in Boone and then returned to report what they had learned to the rest
of the class. The second day’s activities included large group field events in the morning, followed by individual games, high ropes climbing, and river fun in the afternoon. A barbecue lunch was provided (through University Catering). It was a great success again, by all report, and will be repeated, funds permitting.

Welcome Supper
On the first Sunday before fall classes start, the Prestigious Scholarships Program and the Honors College host a supper for all of the entering freshmen. Some students are not able to come to the Retreat, so this is a chance to bring everyone together as they start college. It is also a forum for PSP and the Honors College to provide some information to help students at the start of their academic career. They are reminded about drop/add week and to meet with their advisor during that week in case of a scheduling emergency. They are also reminded of the myriad opportunities that both PSP and the College offer them as they begin their professional path.

Vanguard Knighting
Students who are willing to assist the college at public events (Open House, Honors Days, Scholars Day) are invited to join the Honors Vanguard to be recognized for their service to the college. There is no reward attached to this service, either monetary or in service points, but approximately 12 students a year volunteer to join the group and are knighted at the start of the academic year.

Freshmen Family Picnic
Each year in September, the Honors College hosts a picnic lunch on the Sunday of Family Weekend. This is an opportunity for the families of the freshmen to come and visit their students after the first month of university, early enough to address any issues that might have emerged as the students start college. It is a chance to meet the classmates and new friends their students have made, and to see the campus more intimately. There are generally over 200 people who attend, including some faculty, and it is a fun way for the students to connect their families with their new home.
Open House
Each Fall and Spring the University hosts an Open House event attended by over 5,000 guests. The Honors College once again provided information to prospective students through both a table manned by staff and Honors Vanguard students, as well as through talks offered by the College Director or Associate Director. Feedback on these offerings are always very positive and result in many applications, as indicated by their input to Admissions.

Honors Days
There were six days in Fall 2013 when Admissions invited around 30 students and their families to come and visit ASU and the Honors College. While these days are organized and funded by Admissions, the Honors College partners closely with that office to assure an outstanding experience for these students, from attending a mock Honors class (arranged with Honors College Faculty by the HC office) to presenting about Honors during lunch (Director plus a student). The guests also learn about advising and the University Honors curriculum from the Honors College Director of Student Services (Dr. Mead).

Scholars’ Day
This single day in late February is the interview and recruiting day for the top applicants to ASU who are being considered for merit-based scholarships. The interviews for the Honors College’s Chancellor’s Scholarship take place at this. Current Chancellor’s Scholars participate both as interviewers and as hosts in the Honors College facilities where we entertain the candidates before and after their committee interview (see above under Chancellor’s Scholarship).

Honorum Laurus
The Honorum Laurus is the ceremony honoring those who have completed the Honors College’s curricular requirements and will be graduating with University Honors. The celebration is held each December and May the day before graduation. The immediate family of all graduates are invited and each student is awarded the Honors medal and afforded the chance to speak from the stage. This makes it a uniquely personal recognition that the families and students appreciate. The spring 2014 hosted the families of over 70 students in the Parkway Ballroom of the new Plemmons extension.

The ceremony is also an opportunity to acknowledge the superb contributions of our faculty. The “Honors College Faculty Member of the Year” award is selected by the students of the graduating Honors Vanguard. They choose the winner from among those who have taught HON courses during their time at ASU. The winner of this award at the May Honorum Laurus was Dr. Johnny Waters (right), Geology. For the second year, an award selected by the Honors College office was also given for an Honors College Mentor of the Year; this award recognizes a faculty member who has done exceptional work in mentoring students towards their theses. This year’s awardee was Dr. Becki Battista (left), Exercise Science. There is also a Special
Award given to a retiring Honors College faculty member, which went to Dr. Jay Wentworth (right with Dr. Jones at a later medaling), Interdisciplinary Studies and Watauga Global Community.
Honors Residential Community (Cone and Summit Halls)

Students in the Honors College are not required to participate in the residential offering, but Housing allows Honors student living on campus to stay on campus all four years, if they choose, which is another benefit of being in Honors. It is perceived as a great feature of Honors to many students, and approximately 40% of the College students live in the Honors residential community. About 90% of the freshmen live in Cone, joined by roughly an equal number of continuing students living in Summit as part of the Honors residential community. The Honors students in both halls have slide-card access to each other’s building, promoting a sense of community between the freshmen and older students.

Together with Appalachian Hall, the Honors College office and classroom building, the Summit and Cone buildings comprise the Brad and Carol Wilson Honors and Engagement Community. The space, with its enclose “bailey” between the four sides of the buildings (see below), is a favorite space for students to meet and play, and classes are often seen meeting on the grassy courtyard in warm weather. It is also where the Freshman Family Picnic was hosted in September during Family Weekend.

Conference Attendance: Honors College Staff

Federation for European Neuroscience Societies (FENS): An ASU Honors College student and a student for IMPULSE from the University of the Free State in South Africa co-presented a poster with Dr. Jones at the FENS biennial conference in Milan, Italy (see under Students).

North Carolina Honors Association (NCHA): The Honors College at Appalachian hosted the 2013 North Carolina Honors Association conference at the new Honors facility in Boone, NC. The NCHA President for 2013-14, Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones, was inaugurated at the event. A record number of faculty and students attended this event, with presentations made by both students and their mentors on academic topics and on innovations in honors education.

National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC): Three of the staff (Jones, Wheeler, and Mead) along with five Honors College students attended the annual conference of the NCHC in New Orleans. Dr. Jones and her three
students gave a presentation on the international education experience; Dr. Wheeler and his student gave a presentation on their Portz Award work with the Hunger Coalition; Dr. Mead and her student presented on the internal transfer opportunities for students who did not start in Honors as first semester freshmen.

Conference Attendance: Honors College Students

FENS: Alison Rossi, accompanied by Dr. Jones, shown here with a co-presenting colleague from UFS in South Africa (Gerdien Kritzinger), presented a poster at the Federation for European Neuroscience biennial conference in Milan, Italy. July, 2014.

Society for Neuroscience (SfN): Seven Honors College students attended the annual meeting of the SfN in New Orleans, Nov. 2013, to present a poster on the online, along with mentor Dr. Jones, on the undergraduate neuroscience journal that is hosted through the Honors College at ASU. The students were also able to present at the concurrent Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience meeting. The team is shown here with a student IMPULSE colleague from St. Olaf College.

SYNAPSE: Eleven students went to Asheville, North Carolina, March 29, 2014, to present a poster on IMPULSE at the Symposium for Young Neuroscientists and Professors of the Southeast. They are pictured here with Dr. B.J. Casey, an ASU graduate and featured speaker at the event from the Cornell Weill School of Medicine.

NCHC: Five students presented at the national Honors conference (NCHC) in New Orleans on their opportunities through the Honors College. Seniors Miranda Cook (top left in group), Alex Dezii (top right in group), and Caleb Yelton (bottom left in group) are shown here talking about their Honors international experiences in Mexico, India, and South Africa (all were introduced by Dr. Jones, bottom right in group). Sophomore Justin Davis (a left) presented a video he had made as part of the NCHC Portz grant for service, while senior Josh Carr (at right) discussed the advantages of Honors in a new recruiting strategy.
SNCURCS (State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium): ASU sent 48 students to this conference in the Fall of 2013, many of whom were Honors students.

NCUR: There were 47 ASU students at the annual meeting of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research, including Honors students like Sarah Yoder (at right) Carys Kunze, Molly Reid were among several Honors College students to present at the spring 2014 meeting at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY.

Hemingway Society Conference 2014: Dean Cates, who is doing his honors thesis on Hemingway, is shown at right with his mentor, Dr. Carl Eby, Chair of ASU’s Department of English, at the Hemingway Conference in Venice in July. Dean took the opportunity to continue his study of Hemingway and the locations of some of his work both in Italy and in Spain.

Universiteit Gent Department of Math: Math major Noah Hughes and his mentor, Prof. Jeff Hirst were invited to the University of Ghent to present their findings on reverse mathematics analyzing what are known as ‘marriage theorems,’ Spring 2014.

Appalachian Regional Commission Conference: For the second year in a row, Honors faculty member Dr. Tom Hansell (Appalachian Studies) partnered students in his Community-Based Art Honors seminar course with the Elk Knob Community Heritage Organization (EKCHO) and Watauga Arts Council to create a public art plan for the Elk Knob community. The Honors students helped make the plan a reality by creating custom crafted picnic tables, which were donated to the Sutherland Station of the Creston Volunteer Fire Department and the new Meat Camp Volunteer Fire Department. Community members will use the tables as a new community space. The Honors students presented their work at the Appalachian Teaching Conference in Washington D.C., where they received a positive response and encouragement for next year's project.

Assessment

Course Evaluations by Students

Faculty are sent evaluation forms to distribute at the end of the semester so that the Honors College can gauge the students’ responses to the courses. The results from the Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 evaluations (at right) indicate that the students were generally satisfied with the overall quality of the courses, with certain unfortunate exceptions. The average score for Fall and for Spring were 4.0 and 4.35, respectively (out of a Likert scale of 5), but unlike last year, there was more variability, and there is at least one rather low course each semester. These were
faculty who were new to Honors and did not adjust well to the increased expectations and unique challenges of this population. Some were able to improve over the semester and may teach again, others will not be invited to teach these courses, as students would not take them. Having two courses below an average of 3, which is very unusual, resulted in a drop in the average from the previous year as well (4.5 for both semesters).

Course Assessment by Faculty

Starting in 2009, an assessment document was created to collect data from the Honors faculty evaluating the students in their courses. The short instrument had 12 questions, with a Likert 1-5 scale offered for answering the questions, shown here:

Faculty Assessment of Students in HON Course Questionnaire

Q1: Overall preparedness of the students for your course
Q2: Level of student communication in writing
Q3: Level of student communication in speaking
Q4: Level of student creativity for all assignments
Q5: Level of student critical analysis for all assignments
Q6: Level of student autonomy and independence in coursework
Q7: Global competence (how well do students understand the course material in an international context?)
Q8: Level of understanding of themoral / ethical dimensions of the course topic area
Q9: Evidence of leadership by students in the course
Q10: Level of responsibility of students throughout the course
Q11: Overall rating of the caliber of the students
Q12: Level of student course mastery by semester's end
Q13: Overall rating of your satisfaction with the course
The result of these assessments for the Fall 2013 and Spring 2014 semesters indicate that the faculty responding to the request generally rated the caliber of the students as very high (4.42/5), though this is down slightly from last year (4.55). They rated the students’ preparedness as 4.42, which continued an improving trend from 3.8 to 4.24 the previous two years. Written communication also improved to 4.28 (from 4.14 last year and 3.9/5 year before). A similar trend was seen in the creativity score of 4.42 (4.24 last year and 3.9 the year before), but leadership is flat at 4.0 between 4.19 of last year and 3.9 the year before. All other questions also received scores of 4 or higher except for the level of critical analysis (3.83) and global competence 3.6). The global competence is somewhat lower than we would like, given that 90% of students graduating with University Honors travel abroad at some point.

Thesis Assessment

In parallel with the assessment instrument for course assessment, thesis committee members (thesis director together with second reader) and students were given similar questions and asked to rate students/themselves on a 1-5 Likert scale:

Q1: Communication - writing
Q2: Communication - speaking
Q3: Thesis-specific communication
Q4: Mastery of thesis topic
Q5: Level of creativity
Q6: Level of critical analysis
Q7: Level of autonomy and independence in completing their thesis
Q8: Global competence
Q9: Understanding of moral/ethical dimensions of thesis/topic
Q10: Preparation for completing thesis prior to beginning work
Q11: Level of performance throughout thesis process
Q12: Potential for Leadership in future professional goals
Q13: Overall rating of thesis / thesis defense

In self-assessments, the students largely agreed with their committee on their accomplishments at the end of the thesis process. Apparent mismatches in the assessment were seen in “Communication - writing,” where the students viewed themselves as more competent (a reverse from the year before) than did their committee (4.8 vs 4.18). The same was true about their sense of their critical analysis skills (students 4.6 vs. faculty 4.0). Students also thought they were better at communicating about their project than their mentors felt that they were (4.46 vs. 4.14). They students also thought they understood the moral and ethical dimensions of their projects very well (4.8), while their mentors were not as strongly impressed (4.34). Of note, however, is that the mismatch in student vs. faculty views on the students’ performances was never greater than 0.8 and that all evaluations from both groups were averaged over 4.0.
GoogleAnalytics for Honors College Website

In 2008, the website for the then-Heltzer Honors Program was revised, and three more times since, eventually migrating to a Drupal platform. Data for the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 period indicates the usage is still growing globally, though it is relatively flat now at the national level (see chart). All states are again represented, with North Carolina having the highest number of hits, of course (29,700 compared to 31,262 last year and 29,765 in 2011-12). The percentage of non-NC hits among US views has increased again from 9.8% in 2011-12, to 25.9% in 2012-13, and now 28.22% this past year, 2013-14. Similarly, the number of world views (non-US) has increased from 3.5% in 2011-12 to 11.9% in 2012-13, and is now 22.1% in 2013-14, which is a further doubling in the percent of global visitors. Non-US views were once again primarily from the Philippines, with >7,000 views, a doubling from last year, and 4 minutes/session, 3.5 pages/visit, indicating serious visitors. This is followed by Britain, India, and Australia, each with over 250 views, again a substantial increase from the year before.

National data (above) showed that Georgia and Tennessee had the most views after NC, and spent almost as long and visited as many pages as NC viewers. South Carolina, Florida, Virginia, and California all had over 700 visits. States with over 500 visits included New York and Texas. Metro regions (below) with the highest visit numbers were again in-state, except for Atlanta,
New York, Nashville, and Washington, D.C. All cities in the top ten are now seeing hit rates of over 500. Last year, metro areas outside the southeast that produced over 250 visits/year included San Francisco, Chicago, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia. This year, Boston joined that group. Within the southeast, Columbia, SC, grew as a source of visits; yielding on this out-of-state interest would be significantly enhanced if in-state tuition was available to those with exceptional test scores.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Sessions</th>
<th>Avg. Session Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Georgia</td>
<td>1,244</td>
<td>00:03:01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Tennessee</td>
<td>1,090</td>
<td>00:02:33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. South Carolina</td>
<td>913</td>
<td>00:02:50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Florida</td>
<td>855</td>
<td>00:02:36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Virginia</td>
<td>771</td>
<td>00:02:11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. California</td>
<td>719</td>
<td>00:01:02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. New York</td>
<td>630</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Texas</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>00:01:32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Illinois</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>00:01:43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The detailed data on website usage show that 34,813 visits were from “new users,” compared to 27,967 last year and over 22,000 the year before that. They spent on average 3:19 minutes per visit and visited an average of 3.48 pages, an increase over the 3.3 pages/visit of the year before.
It was anticipated that the site would reach saturation at some point, but that clearly has not happened yet. There is continued growth internationally, and while it is not clear how a state institution could capitalize on that, or even if it should, the potential for growth with international students seems to be there.

**Honors College Hosted Journal: IMPULSE**

The online, undergraduate neuroscience journal *IMPULSE* has been hosted through the Honors College since 2009. Dr. Jones serves as the Founding Faculty Advisor for this journal, which has students and faculty from institutions around the world contributing to its mission: training undergraduates in scientific publishing. Founded in 2003, the journal is an outlet for undergraduate neuroscience research, as well as providing an opportunity for students to learn about reviewing, editing, and publishing in the sciences.

In the 2013-14 year, ASU students served as Reviewers and the essential editorial staff: Miranda Cook as Editor-in-Chief, Dana Cobb as Executive Editor, Alison Rossi as Managing Editor, Corbin Ester as Executive Associate Editor, and Danielle Russell and Dawn Woodard as Publicity Editors. These students presented posters on the journal at the Society for Neuroscience conference in San Diego, at the SYNAPSE conference in Asheville, and Alison Rossi presented at the Federation for European Neuroscience Societies meeting in Milan, Italy.

The journal can be found at: [http://impulse.appstate.edu](http://impulse.appstate.edu).
Introduction: Since 2000, the Appalachian State University Prestigious Scholarship Program (PSP) has continually supported enrichment activities and has provided opportunities for Appalachian’s most promising students. This year, the program focused on two major areas: support for the submission of competitive scholarship applications, and the AIM High program.

- Prestigious Scholarship Application Support: Three external scholarship applications were completed and submitted. These included a Goldwater Scholarship application, a Hollings Scholarship application, and a Gillman Scholarship application. All three applications successfully received scholarship support.

- AIM High: In July 2013, ~330 students were invited to participate in the AIM High program. The application can be found at http://psp.appstate.edu/join-aim-high.

- NCHC Presentation: AIM High students planted fruit trees and constructed raised garden beds in March 2013 at the Hospitality House in Boone with funding provided by a 2013 NCHC PORTZ Grant.

AIM High

During the AIM High meeings, students were presented with information pertaining to the requirements and opportunities during their time at Appalachian to make their graduate school applications more competitive. Topics included the personal statement, active involvement in research and creative activities, letters of recommendation, resumes, funding opportunities for research projects, and appropriate scholarships.

Five meetings were held through the year.

* August 27, Parkway Ballroom, Introduction to AIM High
* September 17, Price Lake Room, Undergraduate Scholarly Opportunities and Faculty Mentors
* October 8, Price Lake Room, Professional Conferences and Funding Scholarly Projects
* October 22, Price Lake Room, International Experience Opportunities, Study Abroad and Research
* October 29, Price Lake Room, Preparation for the Senior Thesis and GRE preparation
* November 12, Linville Falls Room, Graduate School Applications
ATTENDANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<td>August 27</td>
<td>76</td>
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<td>September 17</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 8</td>
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<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 29</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 12</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Attendance (after banquet)</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A major change to AIM High implemented this year was to have ALL of the meetings in the fall semester in an attempt to improve attendance and retention throughout the program. Overall, this worked well and this change will continue into the fall of 2014.

The meeting schedule, with make-up meetings, speakers, and topics are shown in the table below. The meeting content follows:

August 37, 2013 – Introductory Meeting and Banquet – An overview of the program and requirements were presented by Dr. Dale E. Wheeler, Director of the AIM High Program (76 enthusiastic students attended).

September 17, 2013 – The presentation began with Dale Wheeler discussing the importance of undergraduate research, effective ways to identify opportunities for undergraduate research, funding opportunities and the responsibilities of students once they have committed to a project. The importance and responsibilities of a faculty mentor were discussed. Guest speakers were Prof. Melissa Gutschall (Nutrition), Prof. Randy Reed (Philosophy and Religion), and Prof. Gwen Robbins Schug (Anthropology). Students were given the assignment to identify a potential faculty mentor (53 students attended).

October 8, 2013 – Feedback was given by students concerning their experiences in identifying a faculty mentor. Questions and discussion followed. Guest speakers were Dr. Mark Zrull
(Psychology), Carys Kunze (former AIM High student), and Dr. Alan Utter (Director, Office of Student Research). Presentations concerning the importance of attending professional conferences, the benefits to undergraduate students of attending professional conferences, and opportunities for funding scholarly projects from campus programs. A question and answer period followed (54 students attended).

October 22, 2013 – Guest speakers were Dr. Garner Dewey (Executive Vice Chancellor - Academic Affairs), Ms. Leah Newell (Interim Director, International Edu & Development), and Dr. Martin Meznar (Associate Dean of the Walker College of Business). Prof. Dewey spoke about the university QEP directive and how international experiences are the centerpiece of the program. Ms. Newell spoke about the OIED office and the resources that the office provides to students seeking opportunities for international experiences. Dr. Meznar spoke about the international programs in the College of Business and the opportunities for participation from the student population at large (46 students attended).

October 29, 2013 – Guest speakers were Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones (Director of the University Honors College) and Ms. Cama Duke (Assoc. Director LAP/Director of LSS). Several students also spoke about their experiences with original scholarly activities and writing a research thesis. Dr. Jones spoke about preparation for and the importance of writing an undergraduate thesis in preparation for graduate school. Ms. Duke spoke about how to prepare for the GRE exam and what to expect on the exam (38 students attended).

November 12, 2013 – Guest speakers were Ms. Sandra Krause (Graduate School), Prof. Jeff McBride (Graduate Program Director, HLES) and Prof. Joseph Cazier (Director of the MBA program in the Walker College of Business). Each speaker gave a short presentation about their respective graduate programs and how to prepare as undergraduates for submission of a competitive graduate school application. Panel members answered questions from students about what to expect in graduate school. Discussion topics included preparation for graduate school applications, expectations for admission, stipends and assistantships, and realistic goals while in graduate school (43 students attended).
Scholarship Applications

Three students completed and submitted scholarship applications, and all three were awarded their national scholarship. The PSP staff provided support to ensure that complete and competitive applications were submitted and all requirements were fulfilled by the posted deadlines.

**Fall 2013/Spring 2014**
Corbin Ester* Goldwater Scholarship
Laura Heinen* Hollings Scholarship
Marissa Stockstad * Gillman Scholarship

*All Successfully received their awards
Assistance for the Goldwater Scholarship applicants also included a faculty review committee to interview and provided suggestions for improvement. Members of the committee included, Dr. Andy Heckert (geology), Dr. Claudia Cartaya-Marin (chemistry), Dr. Dru Henson (biology), Dr. Brad Conrad (physics), Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones (Director of the Honors College / biology), and Dr. Dale Wheeler (Director of the Prestigious Scholarships Program).

Scholarship Informational Meetings

Fulbright

Informational Sessions:  
Wed, Apr. 15 at 9:30a: Appalachian Hall, Rm. 162  
Wed, Apr. 16 at 12:00n: Appalachian Hall, Rm. 163  
Thurs, Apr. 17 at 11:00a: Appalachian Hall, Rm. 163

Five students attended these meetings.

Throughout the spring semester, Dr. Wheeler met with four additional students to discuss details of the Fulbright application process.

AIM High Travel Grant Activity

No applications for an AIM High Travel Grant were received this year.

Justin Davis - Student Travel to the National Collegiate Honors Council meeting

In March 2013, AIM High executed its service commitment based upon a PORTZ Grant award received earlier in the year by Dr. Dale Wheeler. The goals of the project were to provide nutritious food for working families in need throughout Watauga County. The students’ work included planting fruit trees, constructing raised garden beds, incorporating compost, and planting seeds that would yield fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the summer and fall to provide future harvests for these families.

Honors sophomore Justin Davis created and produced a video documentary for the PORTZ Grant, entitled Appalachian Fresh Produce for Those in Need, and presented it with Dr. Wheeler at the 2013 NCHC annual conference in New Orleans in November. The video presentation documents AIM High’s community service project in March 2013. Here is the link to the 5 minute video that we showed at the National Honors Conference in New Orleans in November 2013.  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tpdRGQd1uPcc
PSP Website

The PSP website was periodically updated to reflect upcoming events and approaching deadlines. Minor updates were made during the spring semester.

Graduate Assistant

Starting in the Fall 2013, the funding previously used to support a graduate student position was reallocated to a more general Honors College Office staff position that would support both Honors and PSP specifically. Rachel Robinson worked in this position until March 2013 and helped greatly with the AIM High meetings in the Fall 2013.

Honors Advising

In addition to his PSP role, in June, October, and March, Dr. Wheeler advised all science and math majors (not pre-health) students entering or currently enrolled in the Honors College program. He met with about 40 students in June, 40 students in October, and about 25 students in March. The rationale for this additional role is that helps Dr. Wheeler identify potential scholars in the STEM fields far earlier than he would otherwise see them. This strategy yielded ASU’s first Goldwater Scholar in 14 years, Corbin Ester.

APPetite for Life

Upon review of the cost, logistics, and the value to the PSP of implementing these events throughout the past several years, the program was discontinued for the Fall of 2013.

Chancellor’s Scholars’ Banquet and Guest Speaker

On Tuesday, September 10, 2013, from 6-8 pm in the Parkway Ballroom of the Plemmons Student Union, past and present Chancellor’s Scholars joined for an evening of dinner and conversation to honor Dr. Stephen Heffner and present him with the Chancellor’s Scholars Alumni Award. Dr. Heffner graduated in 2005 with a computer science degree and served as the President of the Appalachian Honors Society (AHA!). It is anticipated that the Chancellor’s Scholars Alumni Award banquet will be an annual event.

Town As Text

As part of early move-in for freshman Honors students 95 students participated in the Town As Text event on August 14, 2013. It was the second year for this event. Students selected agencies of interest and were assigned based upon their responses. Students met at 9:30a for a light
breakfast and then were briefed about their specific assignments. The students rode the Appalcart to the agency location, and then met with the agency director. Students were given a list of suggested questions to find out information about the agency such as: What is the history of the agency? What services are provided? What population does the agency serve? What are the major concerns or issues currently facing the agency? How can ASU students benefit from the agency (volunteer opportunities or internships)? What is the future of the agency? Following the 20-30 minute interviews, students found a place for lunch and to create a three minute presentation to present to the rest of the class. Students gathered in the Belk Library, Room 114 at 1:30 pm and presentations started at 2:00 pm. Every student was part of the presentations and all agencies were represented. The presentations lasted about two hours. Following the presentations, students were free until 7:30 pm when they were to meet at the entrance of the Horn in The West outdoor drama. One hundred people attended the musical theatre presentation. Students walked home together following the play.

Overview

It is a continuing goal of the PSP Office to increase the number of students who apply for and obtain prestigious scholarships. This past year, the office had three applications awarded scholarship funding, the highest number in recent memory. The AIM High program is now appropriately focused on rising sophomores to advise them in a timely manner on goals for submitting competitive graduate school and prestigious scholarship applications. In June 2014, invitations were sent to 350 rising sophomores with GPAs of 3.65 and higher to apply to join AIM High. Monthly meetings will be held throughout the fall of 2014. The AIM High travel grants will continue with the goal of having students attend professional meetings and travel support will be provided to students attending professional that will enhance their chances of obtaining a prestigious scholarship.

This year the program also increased recruiting for prestigious scholarships through discussions with the Honors Council departmental representatives, the Office of International Education and Development, and the Department of Cultural, Gender and Global Studies. Fulbright grant informational meetings were held in April.
**AGENCY RANKINGS FORM** (print this page and return)

YOU MUST COMPLETE BOTH THE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT FORM AND THE AGENCY RANKINGS FORM TO PARTICIPATE. Return the completed forms, with signatures, by Monday, July 15th:

ASU Honors College  
Town as Text Experience  
ASU Box 32073  
Boone, NC  28608

If you have questions about this activity, please contact us at honors@appstate.edu or at (828) 262-2083.

Please purchase a ticket for me to attend the outdoor theater production of Horn in the West on Wednesday evening, August 14 from 8-10p.

**Your Name (print clearly) _________________________________**

Please rank your top choices (i.e., 1, 2, and 3) for the locations you would like to visit. Only 6 students will be placed into each group; groups will be assigned on a first request basis, so send your request to us ASAP, thanks. Town as Text is from 9a-4p on Wed, August 14.

___ 1) Boone Arts Council and Art Gallery  
___ 2) Watauga County Health Department  
___ 3) Watauga County Social Services  
___ 4) Project on Aging  
___ 5) Appalachian Business Enterprise Center  
___ 6) NC Cooperative Extension Office  
___ 7) Watauga County Public Library  
___ 8) Watauga County Office of Economic Development  
___ 9) Watauga Fire Marshal / Emergency Management  
___ 10) Watauga County Sheriff’s Office  
___ 11) Boone City Hall  
___ 12) Boone Fire Department  
___ 13) Sanitation and Recycling Center  
___ 14) Watauga County Parks and Recreation Center  
___ 15) Watauga County Humane Society  
___ 16) Boone Hospitality House  
___ 17) Watauga County Hunger Coalition  
___ 18) Watauga Democrat Newspaper  
___ 19) OASIS Women’s Crisis Intervention Center  
___ 20) Daniel Boone Gardens  
___ 21) Boone Mall

In the event that your top choices for groups are filled, the Honors staff will place you into another group based upon your interests.

Your intended academic major (if known) ________________________________

Other interests ________________________________
Laurus Honorum: The Honors College Newsletter 2013-2014 Issues

The ASU Honors College was awarded First Place for its electronic newsletter by the National Collegiate Honors Council at the annual meeting in Boston, MA, Fall 2012. Part of the award for this honor is that Dr. Jones served on the judging panel for the Fall 2013 awards.

FALL 2013

The Laurus Honorum ("honored with the laurel") is the NCHC award-winning newsletter of the Honors College at Appalachian State University.

Published quarterly, the Laurus Honorum provides news to our students, parents, alumni, and the Appalachian community about Honors College events, programs, and stories featuring our amazing Honors students and alumni.

We want to share your stories and accomplishments. Follow us below and let us hear from you!

Some Honors programs have service requirements in their curricula, but I learned very quickly at ASU that the desire to serve others and contribute to global transformation is in the nature of it, and we don’t have to require anything: Honors College students, like most students at ASU, are already doing it.

Honors Students: Serving the Nation and the World

Several Honors students took their education beyond the classroom in 2012-2013 by participating in alternative service experiences (ASE), offered by Appalachian in the Community (AIC). These Honors students spent their fall, winter, and spring breaks exploring a variety of social issues while working in many diverse communities around the nation and the world.

International Experiences

Dominican Republic...

Bess Smith: “Going to the DR was one of the best experiences I’ve had at ASU so far. I was able to experience the oldest European settlement on the New World. We visited the Spanish Village, which has an ‘auditorium’ guarded by a statue for people who died in wars and revolutions. We also went to Puerta Sierra, which was the city open for the first time. We started by meeting with residents and ended our stay with another group at a house where we stayed, and the view of the College from a house up on the mountain where we ate all our meals.”

Chelsea Lineberger: “In January, I joined 14 other students and one faculty member to travel to La Represa, Dominican Republic (photo on left). An international agency, Service for Human Rights, invited us to the team. We helped the construction of a house throughout the three weeks helping residents there and exploring local culture. It was interesting to see people living in a country that has a 70% literacy rate but is still quite poor and not well known. We did two weeks in La Represa and ended the third week in Santo Domingo (photograph on right).”

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International Experiences

Guatemala . . .

Colleen Cramm (photo on right) “We made a dent in the backs of two pick-up trucks for thirty minutes and really felt the difference of living in the hilly terrain of Guatemala. By the time we reached the village we had bad backaches. The children’s range in Spanish. By the time we reached the village we had had to walk through the jungle and climb steep, steep slopes for at least five or six hours. They didn’t know us yet, but they knew we wanted to see them. I hope to be back soon.”

Before . . .

Bobby Van Gelder: “Group arrived with ACT’s new bus and we had to climb over a hill to see our first community. It was such a wonderful experience. We were greeted by a language that made me feel like I was in a child’s school, broken up, beautiful, and not hard to understand. While we worked hard and left many laughs, the experience cultivated in us something that I have not experienced before. In a short time, it was like we were one.”

Nicaragua . . .

A few photos from Brittany Weidel’s experience in Nicaragua . . .

Jamaica . . .

Drew Bennett: “It was an honor to choose our organization on campus that has had the greatest effect on me. I have joined the LIPS for my second year. I am ecstatic to see the environment and the people involved growing and changing for the better.”

The students who visited Le Bonheur were able to see first-hand the hard work that goes into making dreams come true for children, including those who are less fortunate. The trip was a valuable opportunity for students to learn about the challenges faced by children in this community and to participate in the work being done to improve their lives.

West Virginia . . .

Kelsey Miller: “This year, I led my third ASE trip. My group and I traveled to Las Aliñgas, Dominican Republic, working with a non-profit organization called Sister Linked Project (SLP), organized through ACT’s International Community Development Initiative. The goal of SLP’s work consists of organizing short-term, volunteer groups from abroad to contribute their time and physical labor to community projects. David spent most of the time in La Aliñgas teaching English courses in their community center and conducting interviews to whom SLP about community needs. In turn, we went on a community guanicoe a group of sustainable practices to our people. The project was a huge success. It’s great to see how much it has benefited the community and the people involved.”

David Valdez Spends Summer Serving in the Dominican Republic

Honors student, David Valdez, spent two months of his summer in the Dominican Republic, working with a non-profit organization called Sister Linked Project (SLP), organized through ACT’s International Community Development Initiative. The goal of SLP’s work consists of organizing short-term, volunteer groups from abroad to contribute their time and physical labor to community projects. David spent most of his time in La Aliñgas teaching English courses in their community center and conducting interviews to whom SLP about community needs. In turn, we went on a community guanicoe a group of sustainable practices to our people. The project was a huge success. It’s great to see how much it has benefited the community and the people involved.”

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Kathleen Haney: “This year, I led my second ASE trip. By my group and I traveled to Punta Gorda, and nowhere else could I have learned so much about life in the area. I gained a new perspective on the community and its people, and I was able to make a real, meaningful contribution.”

Maryland . . .

Beth Bautista: “I was able to go to West Virginia and work for the company Sustainable Willa- mence, which produced clean, green energy to replace coal in a small community. Assembling the computers and wiring the community, we were able to learn about the challenges faced by these communities and how they are working to overcome them.”

Laurel Bautista: “As described in my essay, this trip was a great opportunity for me to serve alongside a number of other students and to make a real, meaningful difference in the lives of those we worked with.”

Georgia . . .

Marta Stockdale: “Last spring break I went on my first ASE to Murphy-Harrel Children’s Home in Lexington, Georgia. Getting to spend time with the children was a truly eye-opening experience, and much more rewarding than sitting at home or going to the beach. I gathered new appreciation not only for the environment, but for the work being done.”

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AWARDS

Brian Ghe Receives Competitive U.S. Department of State
Critical Language Scholarship

Shady Kimzey Receives Peer Leader of the Year Award

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Shady Kimzey Receives Peer Leader of the Year Award
Shady was selected as one of 18 students to study in a highly competitive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship for Russian Studies. Brian is a computer science major and is pursuing a career in city and county management and communication. Honors in political science, Brian earned his official BACC and professional status in Russian in less than a year and led the Spanish Students Association.

Shady Kimzey Receives Peer Leader of the Year Award

Shady is pursuing a career in cancer prevention and related areas and is interested in cancer prevention research. She is also interested in pharmacology and is interested in pharmacology research. She is also interested in pharmacology and is interested in pharmacology research.

Brian Ghe Receives Competitive U.S. Department of State
Critical Language Scholarship

Brian Ghe was one of 12 students selected to study in the highly competitive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship for Russian Studies. He is a computer science major and is pursuing his education in both the Russian and English languages. With a unique combination of study, Brian has focused his efforts in the fields of cancer and cancer research, with a particular emphasis on translational research. Brian is interested in translational research, and his future plans include pursuing a career in cancer prevention and related areas.

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EMILY LONG STUDIES IN GERMANY

Honors student, Emily Stewart Long, traveled to Trier, Germany to study German history, politics, language and culture as part of the Honors College’s study abroad program. Emily is an Honors senior, and is looking forward to her upcoming trip to study in Germany. Emily describes the opportunity to study abroad as a wonderful opportunity to engage with a new culture and language, learn more about herself, and experience a new way of life.

Upon her return, Emily wrote, “I feel more well-rounded as an individual after my trip to Trier, Germany. The people I encountered were friendly, open, and welcoming. I learned a great deal about German culture and history, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have experienced it firsthand.”

Emily also expressed her appreciation for the support she received from the Honors College and the study abroad program. She said, “The Honors College and the study abroad program provided me with the resources and support I needed to have a successful study abroad experience. I am grateful for the opportunity to have participated in such a valuable educational experience.”

Emily’s trip to Germany was one of many international opportunities available to students through the Honors College. The Honors College offers study abroad programs in a variety of destinations, including Europe, Asia, and Latin America. These programs provide students with opportunities to engage with new cultures, learn new languages, and gain valuable academic and personal experiences.

The Honors College is committed to providing students with opportunities to explore the world and engage with diverse perspectives. Through study abroad programs, students can gain a deeper understanding of themselves and the world around them, and develop the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in a rapidly changing global landscape.

In conclusion, Emily’s study abroad experience in Germany was a valuable and transformative experience for her. She returned with a greater appreciation for German culture and history, and a deeper understanding of herself and the world around her. The Honors College is proud to offer students such opportunities to engage with new cultures and learn new languages, and encourages all students to consider participating in a study abroad program.

Cody Taylor
Honors Student

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Cody Taylor
Honors Student
While working, I was able to spend over one year studying for the LSAT on evenings and weekends, and I was able to earn and save enough money to financially reduce the financial burden of attending law school. Additionally, I spent much time working with Drs. Jones and Dr. Wheeler on my Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships preparing me to write the required personal statement, which I was pleased with as I was applying to law school. Were it not for their advice, my personal statement would not have been nearly as well constructed.

I look forward to pursuing my law degree and opportunities for internships and employment that go along with being located in D.C. It also has strong ties with the SEC, World Bank, and IMF – all places I can see myself seeking employment after graduation. I will always be grateful to the Honors College for playing a key role in my admittance to GW.
As we greet 2014 there is much to celebrate. We are delighted to welcome our new Associate Director, Dr. Heather Waldroup, and also to announce a new Honors program in Sport Science. Congratulations to both! It was wonderful to have the largest number ever of Honors graduates at our Honorum Laurus ceremony in December. Though we are sad to say farewell to those wonderful scholars, you will see what we mean. We are very proud of our students; as you can read about their thesis defenses, thanks to all the students who went off to confer-ences this fall to help represent Honors. There are also several great travel courses, like the Vien-
tese, as well as to our forward-thinking undergraduate scholars, so you can read about their thesis defenses, we also hope you will love hearing from our alumni as much as we do; to Italy, LaTrobe to Lake Louise. We also hope you will see what we mean. We are very proud of our students; like Katie Fals and the entire Based Art students, like Katie Fals and the entire WINTER 2013

The Laurus Honorum ("honored with the laurel") is the NCHC award-winning newsletter of the Honors College at Appalachian State University.

Published quarterly, the Laurus Honorum provides news to our students, parents, alumni, and the Appalachian community about Honors College events, programs, and stories featuring our amazing Honors students and alumni.

We want to share your stories and accomplishments. Follow us below and let us hear from you!

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

A Word From the Director

SPRING 2013 COURSE LINE-UP

EXPEDITION: AVALANCHE!

The Honors College HON course line-up for spring ex-
cursions has some old favorites like Dr. Dale’s love and bound-
ary science course, Environmental Science in the Great Pyrenees, as well as new that were offered last year for the first time, like our new Honors course, Dr. Donahue’s American Literature in America, and Dr. Hellenbrand’s student travel program, "Expeditioning in Canada." Under the guidance of Richard Campbell from University Recreation (our internal Honors Adventure Retreat leader), Andrew and his classmates went on the trip of a lifetime to Canada, an experience of epic mountain climbing, breathtaking views, and a whole lot of snow.

As we greet 2014 there is much to celebrate. We are delighted to welcome our new Associate Director, Dr. Heather Waldroup, and also to announce a new Honors program in Sport Science. Congratulations to both! It was wonderful to have the largest number ever of Honors graduates at our Honorum Laurus ceremony in December. Though we are sad to say farewell to those wonderful scholars, you will see what we mean. We are very proud of our students; as you can read about their thesis defenses, thanks to all the students who went off to confer-ences this fall to help represent Honors. There are also several great travel courses, like the Vien-
tese, as well as to our forward-thinking undergraduate scholars, so you can read about their thesis defenses, we also hope you will love hearing from our alumni as much as we do; to Italy, LaTrobe to Lake Louise. We also hope you will see what we mean. We are very proud of our students; like Katie Fals and the entire Based Art students, like Katie Fals and the entire

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EXPEDITION: AVALANCHE!

In Spring 2013, Biology major and Honors freshman Andrew Cox signed up for an unusual spring break trip, “Expeditioning in Canada.” Under the guidance of Richard Campbell from University Recreation (our internal Honors Adventure Retreat leader), Andrew and his classmates went on the trip of a lifetime to Canada, an experience of epic mountain climbing, breathtaking views, and a whole lot of snow.

Their crew rented cross country skis and split boards from Calgary University, then headed out to get their ski legs acclimated to Canada with Banff and Lake Louise, two of Canada’s most iconic ski resorts. After a couple of falls and some great snow, the focus was shifted to the main purpose of the trip: learning everything from glacier safety precautions to advanced techniques for skiing on powder. With a positive and fun atmosphere the group braved the infamous Wapta Traverse, a multi-day trekking and skiing getaway through some of the most beautiful mountains in North America. Fluctuating heading into the expedition with two world-class guides, the students were able to make the most out the adventure and bonded quickly over the love of snow sports. Sizing in fantastic conditions and enjoying the unparal-

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Students
The Honors College held its December Honors Luncheon ceremony on December 13th, celebrating all of the hard work and dedication of our December Honors College graduates. Family, friends, and faculty members who served in defense of the students honored them to see the students receive their medals, symbolizing “an honored with the laurel.”

The special guest honored this year was retiring faculty member Dr. Richard A. Spencer (bottom photo), who taught an Honors class each year in Religious Studies. Dr. Spencer played a large role in running both the Religious Studies program and the Honors College newsletter. Each year, he traveled to Greece and Turkey with students who received honor contract credit based on their experience. Congratulations to all!

New Exercise Science Honors Program!

The Department of Exercise Science is the newest unit at AU to create a new honors program. Thanks to the remarkable support of the hard work of Dr. Scott Good and David Herron, the ES faculty proposed an Honors track that will allow ES majors who complete the course of study to graduate with Honors in Exercise Science. The course would include all of the majors offering departmental honors is greatly appreciated by both ES majors and the Honors College. It will encourage students to pursue primary research and an Honors thesis as they prepare for their graduate school goals, whether in PT, MD, PhD, or any other health-related advanced degree.

The end of each semester brings the excitement of attending thesis defenses of students across the disciplines. There are only a few in December, of course, but still enough to see some of the joy of scholarly discovery. This semester we were able to sample a variety of topics, including Frederick Nietzsche’s On the Genealogy of Morals; Their Vertical Gaze with Jodie Sugan (presented on right); her Director was Dr. Ken Smook (Psychology), and her Second Reader was Ms. Gillian Gordon of the Watauga Humane Society, where the study was conducted. Thank you WHS for accommodating this work.

The Geography Department was ably represented by Chiu Backer and her Thesis Director Dr. Cheryl Gau. Second Reader Dr. Caley (on right in bottom photo), a Music major, presented on “The Thrill of the Thesis Defense!” Pictured on the left, Bradley Polk tackled the problem of Primary and Secondary Education Changes during the Third Reich with Director Dr. Benno Weiner (History, pictured with Bradley at the podium) and our own Dr. Angela Mead as her Second Reader. This challenging topic led to an extended and engaging conversation on the role of government in education and whether questioning authority can and should be taught.

Another Psychology Professor, Dr. Mark Zell, was the Director for Biology major Carlson Keller’s thesis on Effects of Environmental Enrichment Upon the Aggression of Adolescent Rats, with Second Reader Dr. Darrell Lewis, a neuroscientist from Duke University. The discussion at the defense was a lively exchange on the role of emotion in activating FOS expression in the hippocampus and how this can be used to understand PTSD.

The Geology Department was ably represented by Chase Backer and her Thesis Director Dr. Cheryl Gau. Second Reader Dr. Curtin Grizzard as Second Reader helped think through how psychologists like Maslow would evaluate self-actualization of the main characters in The Scarlet Letter (Continued on Page 7).

The Chocolate War

Lisa Moeller (pictured on left), an International Business major, gave a thoughtful and insightful analysis in Chinese Preference for Luxury Goods. Lisa discussed how Chinese consumers have specific preferences for luxury goods, and often tend to prefer luxury goods from outside of China. Her thesis was co-directed by Dr. Patricia Alston and Dr. Jennifer Hansen (both in Marketing) with Dr. Ronne Weimer (History) as Second Reader. Lisa evaluated brand preferences of a wide variety of brands and items of Chinese consumers.

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Honors students Dean Cascio (left in photos) and Andrew Green (right in photos) spent their fall semester studying in Florence, Italy. Although their coursework focused on the arts, they also immersed themselves in the culture and everyday life of the city. They highlighted the importance of adaptation and staying open-minded in order to fully appreciate the learning experience. Living in Tuscany meant - during the cooling, and art, etc. Even an entire semester is not long enough to take it all in. This gorgeous backdrop of Beccaccio’s Document (top photo) is made in the Michelangelo’s David. Both would be the focus, and the craftsmanship of the glassy dome. There is the Sagrares to sample, along with pepperoni and crostini at sidewalk cafes along the Arno, pictured here with the Ponte Vecchio. The peperoncini pair Dean and Andrea return in the spring semester and have promised to write us a piece on how this experience has influenced them and their future decision—stay tuned!

When Irish Eyes are Smiling

For Fall Break this year the freshmen Chancellor’s Scholars went to Dublin for four days as part of their Voyage course. This class, specifically designed for the CU students, challenges them to create an inquiry that will help them gain a deeper understanding of their professional goals and place on the planet. The temporal and spatial journey of the class has been consulting the myriad opportunities of Eire’s capital city and then selecting a reasonable number of experiences in sample that will mirror the needs of everyone in the group.

Honors Students Help Make Public Art Plan a Reality

The Elk Knob Community Art Project is sponsored by EKCHO, the Appalachian Teaching project of the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Honors College, and the Center for Appalachian Studies at ASU.

Endless Possibilities for Honors Alumna

Between wrapping up her full courses and studying for final exams, Honors junior Katie Fols dedicated her time to raise funds for the nonprofit organization, PARTNERS Canines. With the help of her sisters from the Chi Omega fraternity, Katie made 400 Christmas ornaments to display among the many canine photographs in a local Blowing Rock restaurant, Bistro Baca. The money collected from customers who purchased an ornament went to the organization.

Owner and president of PARTNERS Canines, Melissa Balicki, had the pleasure to supervise these cute dogs living in high kill shelters locally and in surrounding counties. The dogs will be transported to other shelters in the New England area where they have a greater chance to be adopted. If you want to learn more about PARTNERS Canines, visit www.partnerscanines.org.

Examples of some of the sites chosen this fall included the Brit`s of Spike, the National Museum of Ireland, and the Abbey Theatre, where they saw the debut of a distinctly Irish play, the Hanging Gardens. Students with an interest in the modern history of Ireland and human rights toured Kinsealy, Ireland, where student monks were in the National Gallery of Ireland with its excellent collection of Irish art. The art pieces were also seen in the breadth of the country. Students also visited the beauty of Christ Church Cathedral, while the critics in the crowd enjoyed a close-up tour of a biomedical laboratory at Trinity College.

As a modern capital, Dublin provides a lively insight into the global population that characterizes a world city. The sights of all the streets were speaking anything from Russian to Spanish, Mandarin to Urdu, and although it was disappointing not to hear much Irish, or even as many local people in the restaurants as expected, the large number of tourists and expats in Temple Bar, where the class stayed, made it feel like a very global experience. Some classes were particularly invited to one of the bars in the form her host’s movie.

When asked to list their favorite memories of the trip, students would get dreamy and poetic. Their presentations in the second half of the course illustrated how differently they each reacted to the voyage, with some finding the Long Room at Trinity College to be their most moving experience, while others noted in the wild bars of the student class (Irish dancing) that they took one evening. Everyone had food-tasting high on their list, and the red-wine-drenched oysters were seen from the top of the Guinness Storehouse was a single memory for all.

The shortness and intensity of the adventure gave it a special quality, and the general consensus was that a trip back with a longer stay would be needed to make sure that it was all there, all real. Her mid-life age, Bette Heroin, do you wonder aga lifetime?

When Irish Eyes are Smiling (Continued from Page 9)

For Full Break this year the freshmen Chancellor’s Scholars went to Dublin for four days as part of their Voyage course. This class, specifically designed for the CU students, challenges them to create an inquiry that will help them gain a deeper understanding of their professional goals and place on the planet. The temporal and spatial journey of the class has been consulting the myriad opportunities of Eire’s capital city and then selecting a reasonable number of experiences in sample that will mirror the needs of everyone in the group.

(Continued on Page 10)

When Irish Eyes are Smiling (Continued from Page 9)

Honors Students Help Make Public Art Plan a Reality

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ALUMNI

Endless Possibilities for Honors Alumna

So much has happened for Honors alumna Brittany Mouldin Freeman since graduating in 2012. After completing an internship with BB&T in Piedmont, her plans were to seek a graduate degree in accounting at UNC-Wilmington. Before this could happen, however, Brittany was offered a job at BB&T and to enter its Leadership Development Program. She accepted the job and began studying for her CPA license in November 2012, a requirement for the position. Because she graduated from AHS with 250 credit hours and had summer internship positions as an undergradu- ate, Brittany met the requirement for the CPA license. In her attempt, Brittany passed all four parts just in time to be married to her high school sweetheart in June 2013. She ultimately received her certificate and obtained a position as a Treasury Analyst for Branch Banking and Trust Company.

Brittany’s dream to get her Ph.D. has now kicked into overdrive, and she applied to 80’s distance learning program to earn an MBA with a concentration in finance, beginning in the Spring 2014 semester. "Being counting has provided me a background on how to report a company’s financial information. I am now ready to use strategic approaches to investing these resources as well as grow skills applicable to all businesses. Being this degree will assist me in my current position as well as set me up for the ability to have certain perspectives while I get my Ph.D. and teach in the future." Brittany looks forward to having this degree to help strengthen her accounting knowledge and show her a different perspective in business.

“None of this would have been possible without the foundation and knowledge I obtained at ASU. I attribute this change from how strong (4.0) undergraduate accounting program is and how well the College of Business business program and the Honors College helped prepare me for the future!”

Honors Student Helps to Save Dogs

Katie’s Christmas ornaments decorate canine photos at Bistro Baca in Blowing Rock.

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INTERNATIONAL

The Italian Job

Honors students Dean Cascio (left in photos) and Andrew Green (right in photos) spent their fall semester studying in Florence, Italy. Although their coursework focused on the arts, they also immersed themselves in the culture and everyday life of the city. They highlighted the importance of adaptation and staying open-minded in order to fully appreciate the learning experience. Living in Tuscany meant - during the cooling, and art, etc. Even an entire semester is not long enough to take it all in. This gorgeous backdrop of Beccaccio’s Document (top photo) is made in the Michelangelo’s David. Both would be the focus, and the craftsmanship of the glassy dome. There is the Sagrares to sample, along with pepperoni and crostini at sidewalk cafes along the Arno, pictured here with the Ponte Vecchio. The peperoncini pair Dean and Andrea return in the spring semester and have promised to write us a piece on how this experience has influenced them and their future decision—stay tuned!

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(Continued on Page 10)
Honors Alumna Cori Rogers
Thrives in Medical School

Honors alumna Cori Rogers has taken a singular path toward success as a medical student. The 2011 NC State University graduate has excelled in her medical school courses, with a particular focus on her physiology coursework. Cori, a biology major, took the initiative to create a study group with her classmates to enhance her understanding of the material.

Cori Rogers, BS Biology 2011
MD Student, Duke University School of Medicine

Cori Rogers (left) attends Health Fair with fellow medical student.

"While I always knew that my undergraduate education at ASU was preparing me for the future, I never appreciated how much it would impact my perspectives," Cori said. "Duke is a world-renowned medical school, and I am excited to be a part of this incredible institution." She also expressed her gratitude to the Honors College, which provided her with a strong foundation and a network of talented peers.

Cori's success in medical school has been fueled by her hard work and dedication. She has already published several research papers and presented her work at numerous conferences. Her research interests include immunology and virology, and she is currently working on a project focused on the interactions between host and pathogen.

"I am confident that my Honors education will serve as a valuable asset in my future career," Cori said. "I am grateful for the opportunities that Honors has provided me with, and I look forward to continuing my academic journey.

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Honors Students Present in Washington D.C.

Honors students in Dr. Tom Hamill’s Community-Based Art Honors seminar presented their work at the annual North Carolina Honors Association (NCHA) conference. The students worked with community organizations to create art projects that addressed issues facing their communities.

"The students were able to apply their Honors education to real-world situations," Dr. Hamill said. "This allowed them to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Honors Students Participate at SNURCS

Five Honors students were among 40 other ASU undergraduate students who attended the 9th Annual State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research Conference (SNURCS) held at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. The students presented their research in multiple different formats, including posters and exhibits.

"It was a great opportunity to share our work with other students and faculty," said one of the Honors students. "We learned a lot from each other and were able to gain new insights."
Honors Faculty, Staff, and Students Present at NCHC in New Orleans

Honors College staff and students hit the town roll in New Orleans to present at the 2013 National Collegiate Honors Council’s (NCHC) annual conference.

Five Honors students gave presentations about their opportunities through the Honors College. Sophomore Justin Davis (pictured left) presented a video he made as part of the NCHC Portz grant for service along with Dr. Dale Wheeler (see story on Page 18), and junior, Josh Kimmich from the University of California, San Diego, as well as Honors Faculty Jane Woehner from the College, all assisted in representing the journal both at the NCHC and the Portz meeting.

Also in attendance were editorial members from several of the journal’s other review teams. The Associate Editors, Sarah Jones from Furman University and Sara Illum from the University of California, San Diego, as well as the Managing Editor, Jane Woehner from the College, all assisted in representing the journal both at the Portz meeting and the conference.

In Summer 2013, Honors sophomore Jenna Hambleton was among a handful of dedicated individuals to participate in a service-internship program at the Conservator’s Center in Mebane, NC. The Center is a for-profit business that promotes the health and welfare of exotic pets while providing meaningful educational experiences to visitors. Jenna’s days began preparing food for large cats, wolves, and a variety of smaller carnivores and omnivores. The remainder of her days were spent preparing for the following day, including feeding and enrichment activities so that people could have their exotic pets. The animals included lions, tigers, binturongs, and wolves. Jenna worked hard all day to attend to their needs.

The Conservator’s Center’s mission includes education, conservation, and protecting animals. Each animal at the center lives a very happy and comfortable life due to all of the hard work from staff, interns, and the generous donations from many supporters. Jenna gained knowledge and experience she will never forget, and many interns return to volunteer regularly.

If you are interested in learning more about the Conservator’s Center, you can visit their website at www.conservatorscenter.org.

Dr. Heather Waldroup is new Associate Director of the Honors College

Dr. Heather Waldroup has been named the new Honors Associate Director, effective immediately. Dr. Waldroup has been a faculty member in the Department of Art and is also a faculty member in Global Studies. She has served students at Appalachian since arriving here in 2004.

Dr. Waldroup earned her Ph.D. from the inter-disciplinary History of Consciousness Program at the University of California, Santa Cruz in 2004. Her research considers the intersections of modernity, imperialism, and the practice of collecting in the South Pacific, with a focus on colonial-era photography and contemporary museum practices. Her scholarly record includes a number of articles in peer-reviewed journals and curatorial projects, including the first exhibition by a Pacific Islander artist in Western North Carolina. Her book manuscript, Collecting the American Pacific: Photography and Diaspora, 1860-1920, is under contract with University of Hawai’i Press.

Dr. Waldroup has taught a variety of undergraduate art history courses, including Honors courses, and she has directed several Honors Theses. Dr. Waldroup will be advising Honors students who are pursuing studies in the arts and foreign languages. The Honors College looks forward to having Dr. Waldroup’s demonstrated dedication and experience help serve our Honors students in 2014 and the years ahead.

PORTZ Grant Video Documentary Presented at NCHC Conference

In March 2013, AIM High executed its service commitment based upon a PORTZ Grant award received earlier in the year by Julie Albright of Watauga County to provide food assistance to working families in need throughout Watauga County. The students’ work included planting fruit trees, constructing raised garden beds, seeding and planting fruit and vegetables throughout the summer and fall to provide future harvests for these families.

During the five-day conference, the group had the chance to explore New Orleans with NCHC Trustee Tom Trent. They also enjoyed fresh beignets in plates of powdered sugar, cajun coffee, and Creole Cajun cuisine while visiting the French Quarter and enjoying a different culture from their own.

The video presentation documents AIM High’s community service project in March 2013. Click here to access the video posted on our website.
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NEWS

Yandow Into Africa!
Jessica Yandow, Honors College Office Manager, recently accompanied Dr. Jones to South Africa to help set up student shadowing opportunities at the University of Johannesburg's Department of Sport and Movement Studies. Shown here with the Head of Division, Dr. Yupa Guppo (left), and Professor Leon Lougan (who will oversee the students' rotations), Ms. Yandow toured the facilities that the students will be visiting in June. Ms. Yandow arranged the scholarships for the Heltzer Honors Program for International Education and was thus uniquely positioned to contribute ideas for future students' experiences. She, in turn, was able to gain a deeper appreciation of the value of these programs.

Balancing The Selfie Season with the Big Five in Honors
A Word from the Director

Spring has been late and slow this year, but it has not delayed the arrival of the spring travel season. Students have already set off on their myriad adventures and I have just returned from a visit to the University of Johannesburg, where two of our students will shadow in Sports and Movement Studies for the month of June. As our students start to send us back stories from their journeys, I decided to include one of my own from home, just as a reminder that they should not stay away too long; we want them to come back! They may be hunting for that perfect picture of the African “big five”, but while on their summer voyages they are continuing to “hug” the academic big five for honors: intellectual honesty, academic excellence, service commitment, moral sensitivity, and global sensibility.

Stories in this issue follow our usual pattern with items about next semester’s courses, accomplishments of the students, including tales from abroad, and a note or two from alumni. There is also great news about new honors programs in Exercise Science and Technology, Industrial Design, and Interior Design, and some conference reports, of course!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Laurus Honorus (”honored with the laurel”) is the NCHC award-winning newsletter of the Honors College at Appalachian State University.

Published quarterly, the Laurus Honorus provides news to our students, parents, alumni, and the Appalachian community about Honors College events, programs, and stories featuring our amazing Honors students and alumni.

We want to share your stories and accomplishments. Follow us below and let us hear from you!

Yandow Into Africa!

Jessica Yandow, Honors College Office Manager, recently accompanied Dr. Jones to South Africa to help set up student shadowing opportunities at the University of Johannesburg’s Department of Sport and Movement Studies. Shown here with the Head of Division, Dr. Yupa Guppo (left) and Professor Leon Lougan (who will oversee the students’ rotations), Ms. Yandow toured the facilities that the students will be visiting in June. Ms. Yandow arranged the scholarships for the Heltzer Honors Program for International Education and was thus uniquely positioned to contribute ideas for future students’ experiences. She, in turn, was able to gain a deeper appreciation of the value of these programs.

Happy Spring, and join us in July for more updates on the summer voyages!
Entreprenurial Philanthropy

Over winter break, Jack Schauffler (right) learned about a project his best friend, Alex Wilhelm, from UNCG was trying to launch and Jack jumped at the chance to join. The mission for their start-up, United Solar Initiative, is to empower community leaders through renewable energy solutions by providing knowledge and resources to eliminate energy poverty and promote sustainable living.

United Solar Initiative, Inc. (USI) is a newly created North Carolina non-profit corporation that aims to deliver photovoltaic solar energy systems to the underprivileged in the US and abroad. These systems are intended to provide lighting, general electric needs, and water pumping capabilities to people who need it. USI is a philanthropic organization and all revenue added to the budget will be used to further the organization’s mission. The purpose of USI is to have a positive impact on communities by providing the tools needed for residents to provide themselves with a sustainable source of electricity and to unify entities within the solar industry through collaboration for a common cause. Currently, all USI directors are either full-time students or have full-time employment elsewhere.

There is now an installation in place in San Ramon, Nicaragua (right), through a partnership with an Appalachian State trip sponsored by the Appropriate Technology Department. Looking towards the future, they have a US$100,000 budget for the next year, including planned installations in Nicaragua, through partnering with Sister Communities of San Ramon, and in Kenya, through partnering with Carolina for Kibera. They are in the process of applying for 501(c)(3) status to be recognized as a tax-deductible organization, as well as applying for several grants, an example being the EPA P3 grant. They are excited for the future as they grow with the help of their advisory board, including Straus Solar owner Markus Wilhelm and Carolina for Kibera founder Bja Barrett.

The “Value-Added” of AIM High!

As a sophomore, Shauna Joyner participated in Appalachian’s Aim High program. In addition to the delicious food provided at the meetings, she greatly appreciated all the speakers who took the time to share their experiences with research, study abroad, and graduate school applications. The Aim High program especially emphasized the importance of undergraduate research as a means of not only practical experience, but also of demonstrating commitment to a field of study, which is highly desirable to graduate programs. Because of this emphasis, Shauna was motivated to seek out research opportunities and is currently a research assistant in the field of psychology.

Shauna found the speakers of the Aim High program to be honest and genuinely passionate about helping students succeed in both their present and future endeavors. She received valuable information about what steps were needed to be a competitive applicant to graduate schools as well as how to reach these steps. Because of the Aim High program, Shauna feels confident that she will be able to carry out the actions necessary to achieving her goal of going to graduate school.
Dillon Hewitt-Castillo ventured to Costa Rica over winter break with a group from the College of Business to study the supply chain of coffee. Dillon loves good coffee and was thrilled to explore a coffee cooperative called “Coopebrush,” where he witnessed the damage caused by a fungus that attacks and diminishes coffee plants. “I spoke with an agro engineer about the alternative offer farmers in Costa Rica face and how Appalachian students can help.” As part of his studies there, Dillon also learned the process by which coffee is evaluated for quality, including aroma, acidity, and flavors. In addition to learning about coffee, Dillon had the chance to sleep in the rainforest, and he even scuba dived! “I’m so grateful to have had the opportunity to participate on this trip. I got to learn about something I love, experience a new culture, and I created lasting memories.”

Correy Dowd Interns at Fort Belvoir with Army Base

Correy Dowd, a junior psychology major (shown below with her father), spent last summer as an intern at Fort Belvoir Community Hospital on the Army base in Virginia (right). Her internship took place in the outpatient behavioral health unit where soldiers came to receive counseling, group therapy, and seek other psychiatric needs. She was able to observe both one-on-one and group therapy sessions. Within the unit, there is a specific treatment center for soldiers who experienced traumatic brain injury (TBI) during combat. This is where she spent the majority of her time. A great and sadly expanding number of soldiers returning home from the war zone have experienced and continuously struggle with TBI. New technologies, in the form of computer programs, are being implemented to combat some of the impact of TBI to cognitive abilities. Her part in the unit was to score various psychological measures soldiers would complete before they began the program and to meet and greet soldiers when they arrived, as well as help them begin their programs and check on their progress. Beyond the outpatient unit she was also able to spend time in the inpatient psychiatric unit, as well as the co-occurring unit. The inpatient unit is a facility within the hospital that keeps individuals for up to two weeks. Most patients are hospitalized for substance abuse or attempts to harm themselves or others. The inpatient treatment team consisted of a variety of therapy options including recreational therapy, music therapy and art therapy, and she was able to participate in these therapies during her time there. The co-occurring program is a transition from inpatient to outpatient care and was her favorite experience because it was far more personal and intimate than any of the other settings. She would ideally love to end up in a career setting similar to the one in co-occurring. This internship was an amazing experience to explore her passions and discover the future career setting that she now realizes is what she desires!

CONFERENCES

SYNAPSE 2014

Honors students representing the undergraduate journal, IMPULSE, recently traveled to the University of North Carolina at Asheville to attend Synapse 2014, a regional neuroscience conference promoting undergraduate research. Attendees heard from keynote speakers Dr. BJ Casey, Appalachian alumni and current Professor of Developmental Psychology at Cornell University, and Dr. Michael Platt, Director of the Duke Institute for Brain Sciences. The Impulse members also critiqued the abstracts of other undergraduates while seeking to promote the journal.

--- Kyle Sasser

Six of the IMPULSE team consult about the presentation and plan their approach.

Drs. BJ Casey and Platt address a workshop.

The whole conference team (back row, l to r) Devin Helfman, Sarah Firshtans, Kyle Sasser, Danielle Russell, Corbin Ester, Hannah Johnson; (front row, l to r) Alison Rosi, Dana Cobb, Hannah Kraeger, Dr. BJ Casey, Elizabeth Moore, Rachel Slodge.
**ALUMNI**

**Alumni Pastore Heads for UNC-Chapel Hill DPT Program**

Congratulations to our 2013 Honors graduate, Anthony Pastore, who will be moving on to UNC-Chapel Hill’s Physical Therapy Graduate Program in the fall! “I wholeheartedly believe that my enrollment in the Honors College prepared me for the application process and provided me the motivation that was necessary to get accepted into graduate school. Much of my interview was spent talking about my experiences traveling abroad and in research. Things I probably would not have done without being a member of the Honors College. Thank you to Dr. Jones and the Honors College staff for the support you gave me along the way!”

**Alumni Comadoll, Cutshall, and Sears Start Medical School in the Fall**

This coming fall Shea Comadoll (Dec. 2013, at left), Michael Cutshall (May 2013, center) and Taylor Sears (May 2012, at right) will be Mile first-year medical students) at three different schools. Shea, a chemistry major, will be at Wake Forest School of Medicine; Michael, a biology major, will be in his home state at UT Memphis College of Medicine, while Taylor, a biology major, will be attending ECU’s Brody School of Medicine. These students, proudly applied after they had gained more clinical experience, a key component to a successful application. Congratulations to all three future physicians!

**Research and Creative Endeavors Day at ASU**

Several Honors College students were among the throng of students presenting at the “Research and Creative Endeavors Day at ASU” on April 18, 2014. Kim Noel (chemistry, center photo) was one of three to win an award for best undergraduate poster presentation. Others to win accolades for their research and their presentations were Eguano Akpoduado (top left), Kathryn Woodward (top right), Brianna Germond (middle right), Autumn Cheek (bottom right), and Dawn Woodard (l) and Meredith Branham (r; bottom left).

**Residential**

**Honor Grad Enjoyed Pediatric Residency in Burlington, VT**

With much anticipation and sadness to leave the beloved Appalachian Mountains in the summer of 2013, Honors graduate Whitney Irwin graduated from ASU and began her pursuit of medicine by starting her studies at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, Georgia (home of “The Master”). Four exciting and grueling years were spent in lab studying the anatomy of cadavers, pouring over textbooks in the library (like every week was finals week), and by the patient bedside. There has never been a greater privilege than to be treated with the most intimate details of someone’s life and provide hope for the future. Whitney owes an incalculable amount of thanks to Dr. Nathan Mowa, who, in advising her on her Honors thesis, showed her the importance of dedication and critical thinking. Her time working in the lab with Dr. Mowa and Dr. Shull in the biology department for her Honors research at ASU created the perfect foundation for her to thrive in medical school. Throughout medical school, Whitney had the opportunity to participate in medical mission trips in both Peru and South East Asia. Her zeal for the mountains and adventure drove her to Burlington, Vermont, where she is currently completing her pediatric residency. She hopes to practice medicine abroad to some degree upon completion of her training.

**Summer 2014 Issue of Laurus Honorum coming in July!**

While we are sad that Ms. Lisa Kirscht is moving to the higher elevations of Denver, we are delighted to introduce you to Dr. McDowell, who is moving from New Mexico to take on an advisor for the Honors social science, pre-law, and business majors. A cultural anthropologist by training, Dr. McDowell has extensive professional experience in photography and graphic design, skills she will be applying in future issues of this newsletter and for the Honors College website.

Step by and give her a good ol’ Mountaineer welcome when you are next in App Hall!

**The Honors College Newsletter**

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**Giving**

**GIVE NOW**

If you would like to donate to the Honors College and support our talented students, please visit our website and click on the image above, which is located at the bottom of our home page at [honors.appstate.edu](http://honors.appstate.edu).

For more information on how to donate, please email or call the Honors College. We appreciate your support and generosity!
SUMMER 2014
**HONORUM LAURUS CEREMONY, SPRING 2014**

In the Honors Laurea ceremony, the Honors College recognizes those who have completed the requirements to earn the distinction of University Honors. Graduating students are presented the Honors Laurea medal and with officially "honored by the board." The medal design reflects the logos of the University College, which in turn incorporates the embracing arms of the Appalachian State University wordmark that graduates have now taken flight going wing to the world; we wish them success and will follow their bright futures with pride and great interest.

On May 10th, the Honors College hosted the Spring 2014 Honors Laurea. Over 200 people attended, including 75 graduating Honors students and their guests, to celebrate their outstanding accomplishments in the Honors College. Their hard work culminated with the completion of their Honors Thesis project, with wide-ranging subsets that included Amanda Farr’s "Art Management Museum in Modern Society," Alison McIver’s "Mathematical Sciences Geometry and Topical Music," and Jennifer Gentz’s "Willing Dies and Creative Arts in Wild and Strongarm Community." Visit our website to get a fascinating glimpse of all our talent and graduate, Honors Thesis Abstracts. www.honors.appstate.edu/theses/examples.

**NEWS**

**FACTOR SPOTLIGHT: SPECIAL AWARDS**

*Above left:* Dr. Jason Forman of the Honors College, recipient of the Faculty Mentor of the Year award, was honored at the Spring 2014 Honors Laurea ceremony.

*Above right:* Dr. Jason Forman, recipient of the Faculty Mentor of the Year award, and Dr. John Doherty, recipient of the Spring 2014 Honors Laurea ceremony.

*Right:* Dr. John Doherty, recipient of the Spring 2014 Honors Laurea ceremony.

**INTERNATIONAL**

**PHYSIOTHERAPY IN JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA**

Junior student Margaret Kinnaird and AVU student Mary Rutterford, both physiotherapy majors, spent an immersive and fulfilling four weeks in Johannesburg, South Africa, on an international exchange coordinated by the Honors College and the University of Johannesburg. Their time included a week each of the following: the South African campus in the Department of Physiotherapy, shadowing in their healthcare units; the University of Johannesburg, shadowing in areas such as orthopaedics and oncology rehabilitation; a University of Johannesburg campus; and the rugby stadium where they were working with the local team. This international experience provided invaluable, providing these two students with hands-on understanding and an international perspective of the practice of physiotherapy.

_"This is illustrated by the following excerpt from Margaret’s blog: ‘The next patient I observed had a shoulder injury. It was only her second visit, so the visit wasn’t very long due to her lingering injuries. It’s fair watching the knowledge imparted to the patients because I get to see what they do and see the difference that physical therapy makes in the status. Margaret further reflects on their activity outside of school: ‘I’m so glad we went to Johannesburg. We went to Mandela House and the University of Johannesburg. We also went to a local hospital and saw the patients, which was really interesting. I saw that people suffering from different conditions are treated with great compassion and care."*"
ITALY & SPAIN: ITALY & SPAIN: ITALY & SPAIN: ITALY & SPAIN:
DEAN CATES RETURNS TO STUDY HEMISPHERES AND RUN WITH THE BULLS

This past fall, with the help of the Honors College, Dean Cates spent a semester in Florence, Italy. As Dean Cates mentions, his experience proved only the beginning. The more I uncovered, the greater the interest I felt in the history, culture, and people of the world. The largest challenge was learning the language and the customs of the country.

During this journey, I lived with two other students in a small apartment. We shared the same kitchen and bathroom, but we rarely talked. The language barrier was the biggest challenge, but it made the experience more rewarding. We tried to communicate with the locals, but our attempts were often met with confusion. However, the food was amazing, and we loved trying new dishes.

I joined a local Italian family for dinner one night and was surprised to find out that they had never been to the United States. We had a great conversation about our cultures and shared stories about our families. It was a wonderful experience to share our knowledge and learn from them.

In the end, my experience in Italy was a life-changing experience. I learned so much about the country and its people, and I will always cherish the memories I made there.

CULTURE & THE ARTS IN VIENNA:
HONORS STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD

A group of twenty-one students and three faculty members studied culture and the arts in Vienna for three weeks this summer. This honors study abroad seminar focused on visual arts (Dr. Tandy, music (Dr. Satter), and literature (Dr. Gadd). The group visited art museums, including the Kunsthistorisches Museum, the Albertina, and the Leopold Collection. Students also explored the architecture of the city, including the Vienna State Opera House and the Vienna State Theater. The students learned about the history of the city and its influence on art and culture.

In addition to the museum visits, the group also went on a boat tour of the Danube River, where they enjoyed the beautiful scenery and the local music. We also had the opportunity to visit the Schönbrunn Palace, which was once the home of the Habsburg emperors. It was a privilege to see such an impressive example of Baroque architecture.

The students also went on a trip to Bratislava, Slovakia, where they explored the historic center of the city and tried the local cuisine. The trip was a great way to see more of Central Europe and to learn about the culture of a neighboring country.

In conclusion, this study abroad experience was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the arts and culture of Vienna. The seminar was well-organized, and the faculty members were knowledgeable and passionate about their subjects. I would highly recommend this program to anyone interested in studying the arts and the history of Vienna.

MAC SHEPARD IN BRAZIL:
WALKER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS GROUP STUDIES BUSINESS, SOCIETY & SUSTAINABILITY

Senior student and business major Mac Shepard recently traveled with a group of business students from the Walker College of Business to Brazil to study business, society, and sustainability. Mr. Shepard was accompanied by Dr. Martin Murray, as an honors student, who was able to join the group. This being his first time out of the US, he had no idea what to expect. Reflecting on the journey, he states, “I was blown away by the difference in culture, the beauty of the landscapes and the people that I met on my travels.”

The WSU group spent two weeks visiting Brazil’s northern cities of Manaus and Porto Velho. Manaus is the largest city in the Amazon, with over two million people, and is a hub for trade and manufacturing. Porto Velho is a port city on the northern coast, and is famous for its dates and cacao. The students had the opportunity to visit the Amazon jungle, where they learned about the importance of conservation and the impact of deforestation.

In the city of Porto Velho, the students had the opportunity to visit the Amazon River and go on a boat tour to see the local wildlife. They also went on a hiking trip to explore the jungle and see the variety of plants and animals. The students were impressed by the beauty of the Amazon and the importance of preserving this natural resource.

In conclusion, this study abroad experience was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the business and social issues facing Brazil. The seminar was well-organized, and the faculty members were knowledgeable and passionate about their subjects. I would highly recommend this program to anyone interested in studying business and sustainability in Brazil.

DOWN UNDER:
MARYKAY BURGESS SPENDS SPRING SEMESTER AT LA TroBE UNIVERSITY IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Above: Sydney Opera House

Dr. MaryKay’s own words: “My experience has been absolutely life-changing. This experience has been so eye-opening and has taught me so much about the world.”

The students learned about the culture and history of Australia, as well as the business and political systems. They also had the opportunity to visit the surfing beaches and the wildlife parks.

In conclusion, this study abroad experience was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the culture and history of Australia. The seminar was well-organized, and the faculty members were knowledgeable and passionate about their subjects. I would highly recommend this program to anyone interested in studying Australia’s culture and business systems.

Above: Sydney Opera House
INTERNATIONAL

TRICHY, INDIA:

MADDIE BREESEH, MARISSA STOCKSTAD, AND MORGAN FITCH

Honors students Maddie Brees, Mariissa Stockstad, and Morgan Fitch, junior biology majors, spent a month this summer at Balick Medical College in Trichy, India, engaged in pre-medical observation. The experience was "an amazing eye-opening experience."

Above: Maddie (right) and Mariissa (center) working with endocrinology and Dr. Bari.

Below: Maddie (left) and Morgan (right) in the endocrinology lab.

RIGHT: Maddie (left) and Morgan (right) at the Indian Museum.

SMALL TOWN IN INDIA:

A small town in India, we were able to see the different aspects of rural life and how it compares to what we see in the United States.

SMALL TOWN IN INDIA:

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SOCIAL SERVICE IN CHENNAI, INDIA

Senior student Mary Claire Linsdell, along with 200 student Natalie Gelichi, both junior social work majors, spent the month of June in Chennai, India, working with the Madras Christian Council of Social Service (MCSS). This social services organization works on a variety of projects including women in development, human trafficking, an integrated clinic for senior citizens and children (where Mary Claire and Natalie stayed), and hands-on community work. The following slide report from Mary Claire’s travel blog summarizes their experience: "Some of the things we’ve seen and the stories we’ve heard have been heart-wrenching, but the beauty of it all is seen through this organization. The people here are the best advocates for their clients, and everything is very community-oriented. Social work is practiced at a macro level, which helps everybody on the staff, in the homes, and in their surrounding community. Despite the darkness there is a whole lot of light."

Above: Mary Claire (left) and Natalie (right) in the homes. "I met a lady today who has 6 kids living in a one room and they are all perfect kids..."

INTERNATIONAL

TIBOR NAGY AT "HOME" IN BRAZIL

Tibor Nagy went back to Brazil to spend a month learning how to use molecular biological techniques to identify and study the skin fungal pathogen. Originally from São Paulo, Tibor is a rising junior Chemistry major who hopes to go to medical school, but found himself drawn into the fascinating world of research while working in the laboratory of the Career Area at UFRP’s partner institution in Belo Horizonte, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG). In his blog, "I thank Dr. Dani and Dr. Linsdell for giving me this opportunity." He was able to work with people and learn from them.

Above: Tibor Nagy at work in the lab.

Below: Tibor Nagy at home in Brazil.

NIC MCGUIRE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KEELE

A new opportunity opened up at 300’s partner school, the University of Keele, in their Pharmacy School. Keesle is a rigorous senior Chemistry major; he was asked for a chance to observe at a pharmacy program abroad, and our colleague colleagues at UFRP agreed to give it a try. We were there right after the first semester ended. We spent the time with the University of Keele, and we were glad to be part of the lab everyday. We are willing to do it again.

Above: Nic McGuire at work in the lab.

Below: Nic McGuire at the University of Keele.

FACULTY

CENTRAL ASIA:

Faculty five way for student-involved climate change research

Above: Dr. Emily Waterman and Dr. Sarah Carver, both from the Department of Geology in Uppsala, Sweden.

Honors’ College Faculty from the Department of Geology are traveling this summer to China and Mongolia. Why? To Dr. Sylvie Waterman’s words, “That’s where the rocks are that tell the story. In geology, we need the right sequence of rocks, of the right age, and in the right place. In our case, in Central Asia. In their research, Drs. Waterman and Carver are exploring geological evidence for connections between past climate change and related mass extinction (specifically in the Permian period from 250-150 million years ago) and present climate change. Drs. Waterman and Carver first traveled to the end of June in Ulanbaatar, China, for a geology conference and an expedition to the Tansui Gorge in the Mongolian Taiga. Then on July 11 they, along with undergraduate geology student Conner Bellerct, departed for the Lake Proterozoic Zone of Mongolia. In both trips they are building collaborative relationships with local colleagues in order to facilitate student-involved research and study abroad opportunities in these regions. This will allow for cutting-edge research and exciting new international exchange opportunities for Honors’ College students.”
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, HEATHER WALDRUP:
TRAVELS TO SCOTLAND

Dr. Heather Waldroup, Associate Director of the Honors College, traveled to Scotland in May to research future study abroad opportunities for Honors students. Dr. Waldroup visited cultural sites in Edinburgh and Glasgow and met with professionals in the heritage and tourism industries. She hopes to offer an interdisciplinary Hon. 2015 seminar in Heritage Studies in the Spring of 2015 that will include travel to Scotland over Spring Break. This course will consider the interactions of the arts industry, public culture, and international tourism in relationship to larger structural forces, using sites in Edinburgh as a case study. As part of their work for the course, students will visit local cultural sites, conduct research in museums and archives, and meet with professionals in the heritage industry, such as curators, archivists, and park rangers. The contact Dr. Waldroup made during her trip will facilitate student research and expand Appalachian's international connections. During her time in Scotland, Dr. Waldroup also continued her research on women travel writers, consulting manuscript collections at the Writer's Museum and the National Library of Scotland.

BRIAN FRERER: TALKING BOX CO.

Brian Frerer is an English professor at Appalachian State University and the founder of Talking Box Co. He has written and produced two books on the history of English literature, "The Shakespearean Heritage" and "The Victorian Novel." In addition to his academic work, Brian Frerer is an accomplished musician and has released several albums under the band name Talking Box. His latest album, "The Shakespearean Heritage," was released in 2013 and features a unique blend of rock and classical music. Brian Frerer's music has been featured in several TV shows and movies, including "The Tudors" and "The Devil's Advocate."
Honors College Annual Report
2013-14
UPCOMING

WATCH FOR THE STORY OF THE 2014 FRESHMAN RETREAT IN THE FALL NEWSLETTER.

This two-day event began on August 13th with the "South to You" adventure in Boone followed by a day at AHEC's Broadview Facility.

WELCOME 2014 FRESHMAN HONORS STUDENTS!

The Honors College Newsletter

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