

**THE
HONORS
COLLEGE**
at Appalachian State University



**2013-2014 Yearbook
The Honors College
Appalachian State University**

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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 alpha₁-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

Faculty Member	Department
Phillip Ardoin	Political Science
Kristan Cockerill	Interdisciplinary Studies
Seth Cohen	Fermentation Studies
Michael Dale	Education (FDN)
Jeanne Dubino	Global Studies/English
Howard Giskin	English
Tom Hansell	Appalachian Studies
Andy Heckert	Geology
Alexandra Hellenbrand	Global Studies/LLC
Michael Jacobson	Education (C&I)
Rick Klima	Mathematics
Thomas McLaughlin	English
Howard Neufeld	Biology
Chris Osmond	Education (FDN)
Dee Parks	Computer Science
Neva Jean Specht	History
Brett Taubman	Chemistry
Mary Valante	History
Johnny Waters	Geology
Mark Zrull	Psychology

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.



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

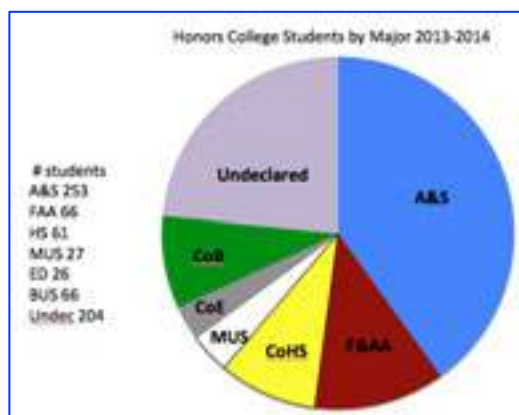
There are 29 honors programs offered within departments and the College of Business for their majors. The requirements and procedures for graduating with departmental honors are listed on the websites of the specific department of interest and in the ASU Bulletin. Most departmental honors programs require 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.

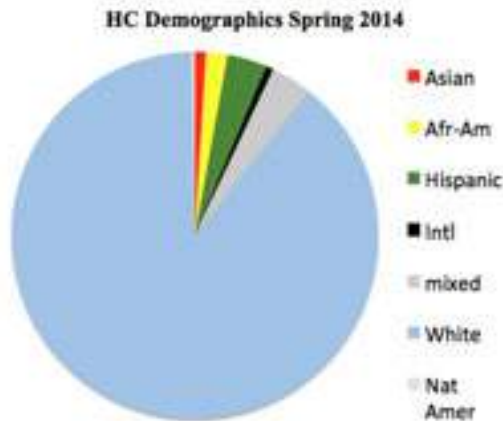
Anthropology, Dr. Cheryl Claassen
 Appalachian Studies, Dr. Katherine Ledford
 Art, Dr. Jim Toub
 Biology, Dr. Lynn Sieffermann
 Chemistry, Dr. Libby Puckett
 College of Business, Dr. Joseph Cazier
 Communication, Dr. Jennifer Grey
 Computer Science, Dr. Dee Parks
 Criminal Justice, Dr. Elicka Peterson
 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 Jesse/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.

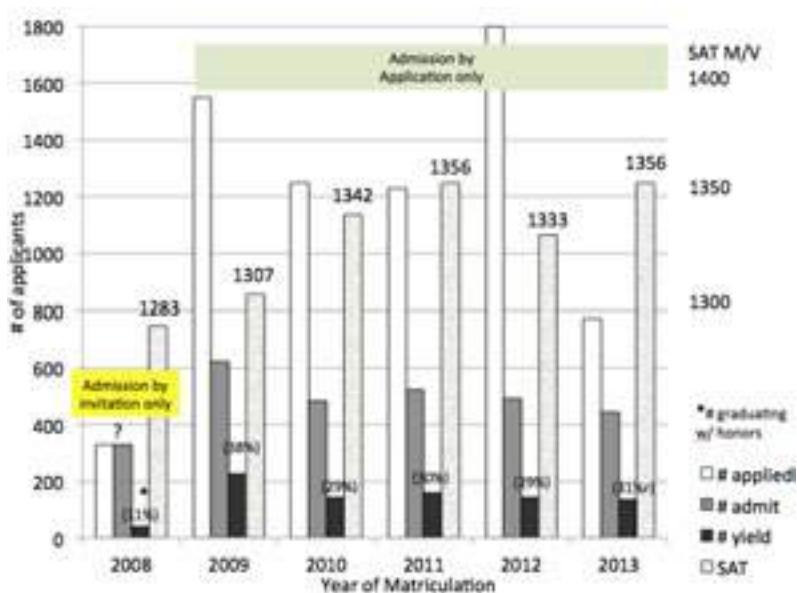
Honors College Student Demographic Data Enrolled Spring 2014			
	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
Race			
American Indian/Alaska Native	2	0	2
Asian	0	6	6
Black/African American	5	7	12
Hispanic/Latino	10	12	22
NR Alien	3	1	4
Two or More Races	5	18	23
White	188	268	456
Unknown	4	9	13
Total	217	421	638
			Percent Minority: 11.0%
			Percent by Gender:
			Male 34.0%
			Female 66.0%
Home Residence	Count	Percent	
NC Resident	561	87.9%	
Out of State	77	12.1%	
			First Generation College Students: 7.4% (n= 47)
			<i>Based on FAFSA data; neither parent attended college</i>
Top 5 NC Home Counties	Count		
Wake	112		
Mecklenburg	59		
Guilford	34		
Forsyth	26		
Watauga	25		
Durham	23		
Top 5 Home States			
Of Out of State Students	Count		
TN	13		
GA	12		
FL	9		
MD	6		
VA	6		
			<i>Prepared by H Langston, IRAP, 8/2014</i>

Honors College Admissions Data

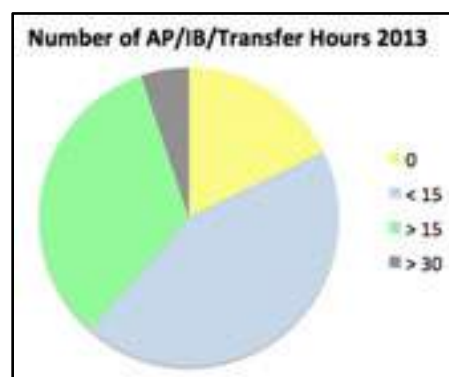
The 2012-13 admissions cycle for the entering class of 2013 produced a return to the higher yields of previous years (31%). It is shown in the context of the previous years before to illustrate the impact of the changing limits on the applicant pool. For the entering class of 2012 there was no limit: 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

portal to restrict access to those applications to qualified students. The Honors College does not have an independent portal for applications and uses the Admissions' Scholarship portal. The overall limitation by SAT for scholarship applications, then, also applies to the Honors College applications. This resulted in a substantial reduction in the number of applications seen, from 1800 in 2012 with no limit, to only 773 for Fall 2013 with the 1250 SAT limit. Extrapolation from previous, unlimited years and the growth in applications that was experienced would suggest that the true number of those wishing to apply is probably closer to 2000.

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%

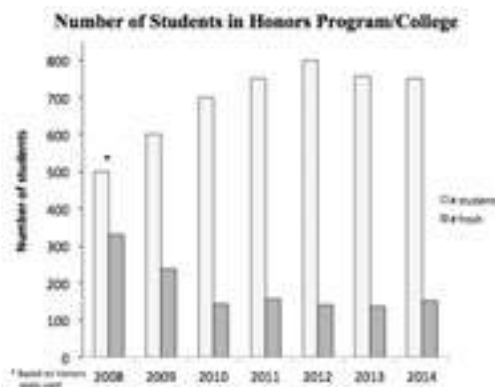
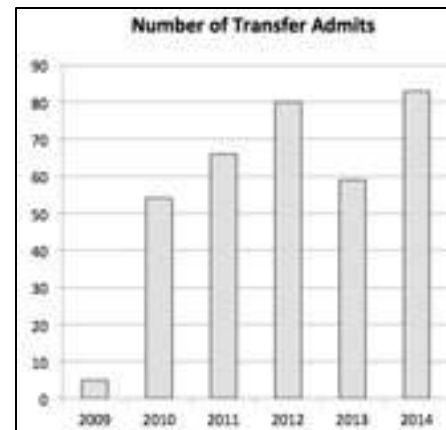
Internal Recruiting and Admissions Data

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 assuring 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.

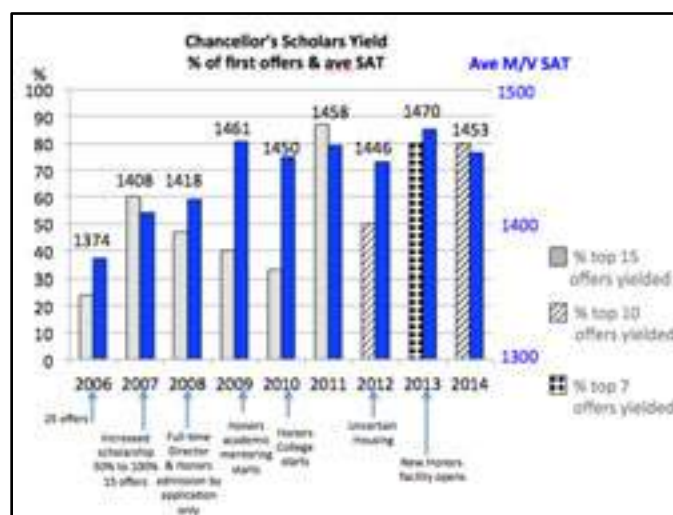
The scholarship provides the following benefits to incoming scholars:

- 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.

Honors Freshman Cohort Graduation Data							
All Who Have Graduated By Cohort Through May 2014							
	Freshman Cohort Year						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Graduated	210	230	179	100	5	0	0
Not Graduated	47	37	43	94	207	266	202
Original Cohort Total	257	267	222	194	212	266	202
Percent Graduated	81.7%	86.1%	80.6%	51.0%	2.4%	0.0%	0.0%

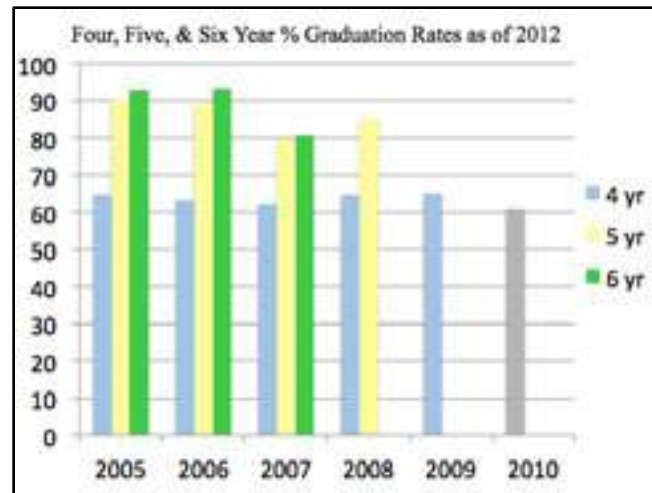
Honors Graduation Rates							
Graduation Rates Calculated Through August Graduations							
	Freshman Cohort Year						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Graduated 4 Years (n)	160	194	145	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4 Year %	62.3%	72.7%	65.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Graduated 5 Years (n)	205	228	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
5 Year %	79.8%	85.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Graduated 6 Years (n)	208	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6 Year %	80.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Original Cohort Total	257	267	222	194	212	266	202

Notes:
Honors determined by Banner SGASADD code 'HON' effective any time during the first year

ASU Graduation Rates							
Graduation Rates Calculated Through August Graduations							
	Freshman Cohort Year						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Graduated 4 Years (n)	1136	1225	1260	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
4 Year %	41.6%	44.2%	46.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Graduated 5 Years (n)	1763	1839	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
5 Year %	64.5%	66.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Graduated 6 Years (n)	1873	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
6 Year %	68.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Original Cohort Total	2732	2773	2733	2823	2971	3026	2883

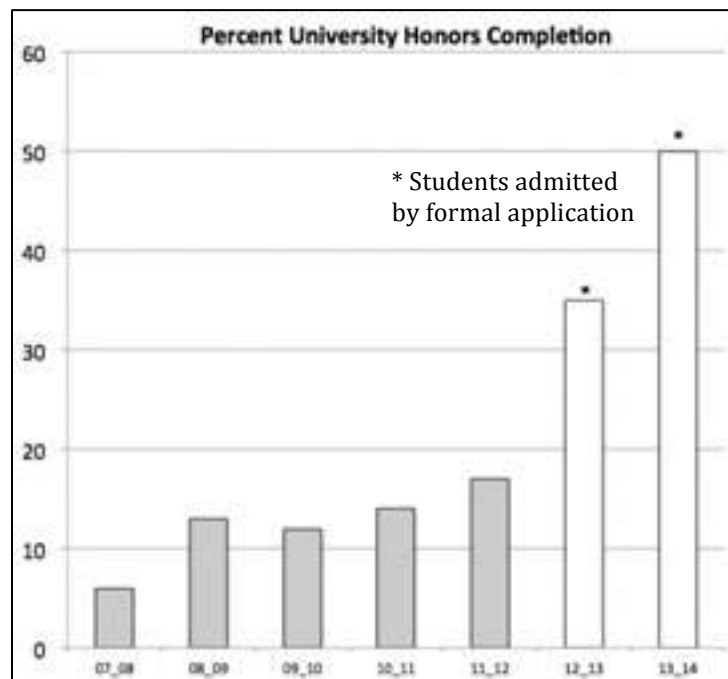
Prepared by H. Langdon, IRAP, 8/2014

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.

Graduate School	# Students	or	Occupations	# Students
Other schooling	1		Education	3
MD/DDS/DO	2		Business	3
DPT	3		Nonprofit	5
J.D.	1		Internships	1
MS/MA/MSW/MBA	8		Other	1
Ph.D.	3			

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

	Departmental Honors Courses	
Dept/College	Course	Professor
Anthropology	ANT 2235-410 North Amer Archeology ANT 2300-410 Meso American Cultures ANT 4533-410 Paleopathology	Claussen, C. Claussen, C. Liu, C-h.
Art	Art 4515 Junior/Senior Honors Seminar Pompeii: New Approaches to its Art and Archeology	Stephenson, J. & Klein, J.
Astronomy	AST 3560 Undergraduate Research	(as arranged)
Biology	BIO 3301-410 (available upon request) BIO 3536-410	Zerucha, T.
Chemistry	CHE 1110-410 Intro Chem lab CHE 1110-411 Intro Chem lab CHE 1120-410 Intro Chem lab II CHE 2202-410 Org II CHE 4000 Seminar CHE 4580-410 Biochemistry I lecture	TBA TBA TBA Cartaya, C. Cartaya, C. Allain, E.
College of Business	ACC 2100-410 Principles of Acct IT ECO 2030-410 Principles of Economic Price Theory MKT 3050-410 Principles of Marketing BUS 3510-410 Junior Honors Thesis MGT 3630-410 Organizational Behavior FIN 3680-410 Introduction to Finance MGT 4740-410 Strategic Management BUS 4546-410 Honors Practicum	Bagley McKee, M. & Groothius, P. Hyatt Cazier, J. Daly, J. Cox, D. Pouder, R. Cazier, J.
College of Education	FDN 2400-410 Critical Perspectives in Learning & Teaching CI 2300-410 Teaching Learning Digital Age CI 3400-410 Policies, Practices Ed Assessment	Wilson, B. Goodman, J. Jacobson, M.
Communication	COM 1200-410 Foundations of Human Communication COM 2612-410 Broadcast News Writing COM 3010-410 Media Graphics COM 3130-410 Minorities in Media COM 3155-410 Persuasion COM 3220-410 PR Ethics Cases COM 3300-410 Mass Media and Society COM 3317-410 Social Media Strategies COM 3318-410 Public Relations Princ COM 3340-410 Journalism Ethics & Free Society COM Ethnographic Storytelling & Inquiry COM 3600-410 Feature Writing	Welsh, S. Loggins, G Gonce, R. Hall, C. Spurlock, C. Mundy, D. Preston, H. McCorkindale Zatepilina-Monacell & Munday, D. Holman, L. Patti Edy, A.

	COM 3618-410 Public Relations Writing COM 3680-410 Literary Journalism COM 3928-411 Comm Research Methods COM 4101-410 Speech Writing COM 4418-410 PR Seminar	Hall, C. Hall, C. Gray, J. DeHart, J. McCorkindale
Computer Science	CS 1440-410 Computer Science I CS 3430-410 Database CS 3460-410 Data Structures CS 3515 Junior Honors Seminar: Massive Open Online Courses CS 4465 410 Computer Graphics	Johan, P. Tashakkori, R. McRae, A. Parks, D. & Wilkes, J. Parry
Criminal Justice	CJ4532-410 Moot Court CJ 3400-410 Theories in Crime and Justice CJ 3531-410 Cybercrime CJ 3115-410 Research Methods	Hester, R. Peterson, E. Marcum, C. Ruseva, T.
Dance	DAN 3430-410, Dance History DAN 4460-410 Somatics	Miller, R. & Daughtridge, E. Adams, M. & Atkins, L.
English	ENG 2001-410 Sophomore Writing ENG 2001-411 Sophomore Writing ENG 2001-412 Sophomore Writing ENG 2010-410 Studies in English Literature I ENG 2050-410 British Literature ENG 2020-410 English Literature II ENG 2050-410 English Literature II ENG 2030-410 World Literature ENG 2040-410 World Literature ENG 2310-410 American Literature I ENG 2350-410 Studies in American Literature II ENG 2320-410 American Literature II ENF 2350-410 Studies in American Literature II ENG 4508 Junior/Senior Honors Seminar ENG 4508 Jr/Sr Honors Seminar	Hart, S. Cook, S. Hart, S. Orvis, D. Orvis, D. McLaughlin, T. McLaughlin, T. Hickman, Atkinson, W. Maiden, E. Maiden, E. Conway, E. Conway, E. Martin, H. Martin, H. & Giskin, H.
Geography and Planning	GHY 3014-410 Geography of Latin America GHY 3140-410 Mountain Geography GHY 1020-410 Honors World Regional Geography GHY 3210-410 Economic Geography	Schroeder, K. Perry, B. McLees, L. Schroeder, K.
Global Studies	GLS 2000-410 Intro to Global Studies	Dubino, J.
History	HIS 3146-410 Medieval Warfare	Jessee, W.
Languages, Literature, & Culture	SNH 1050-410 Intermed SNH II LLC 2025-410 Don Quixote	James, B. Fogelquist, J.

Mathematical Sciences	MAT 1110-410 Calculus I MAT 2510-410 Soph Honors Sem MAT 3510-410 Jr Honors Sem	Marland, E. Klima, V. Marland, E.
Philosophy	PHL 2000-410 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics	Lanoix, M.
Physics	PHY 1150-410: Honors Analytical Physics 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. 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. & Fearington, 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.

	<p>HON 2515-102 Audacity of Nope HON 2515-103 Myth and Meaning HON 2515-104 Citizens, Strangers, and Savages: Literature and Politics in Theory and Practice HON 2515-105 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics HON 2515-106 Astrobiology SPRING HON 2515-101 Darwin HON 2515-102 Animal Planet HON 2515-103 Art and the Brain HON 2515-105 Narratives in the Caring Professions HON 2515-145 Great Cities: Vienna May 2014</p>	<p>Osmond, C. Wentworth, J Maddux, C. Lanoix, M. Smith, R. Waters, J. Dubino, J. Zrull, M. Osmond, C. Toub, J., Mansure, V. & Hellenbrand, A.</p>
Junior Seminars	<p>FALL HON 3515-101 China & Chinese Americans HON 3515-102 We Are Water HON 3515-105 Int' Exp: Bringing the World Home HON 3515-108 Community-Based Art HON 3515-109 Wine Production Practices HON 3515-110 Massive Open Online Courses SPRING HON 3515-101 Music & Politics HON 3515-102 Zombie Masters: Parasites to Politics HON 3515-103 We Are Water HON 3515-104 Tycoons, Titans, Blaggards HON 3515-105 Emerging Technologies HON 3515-106 Japanese Lit & Identity HON 3515-107 Cartoons to Colbert: Political Humor Explorations HON 3515-145 Fin de Siècle Vienna May 2014 HON 3515-146 Poland May 2014 HON 3515-147 Brazil & Sustainability May 2014</p>	<p>Martin, H. Cockerill, C. Dubino, J. Hansell, T. Cohen, S. Parks & Wilkes Love, N. Jones, L. Cockerill, K. Dunston, L. McGann, S. Wentworth, J. DeHart, J. Toub, J., Mansure, V. & Hellenbrand, A. Harris, A. Meznar, M. & Cazier, J.</p>
Special Topics	<p>FALL HON 3531 Voyages SPRING HON 3531-145 International Experience (Brazil, England, India, South Africa)</p>	<p>Jones, L. Jones, L.</p>



In addition to scheduled courses, the following honors thesis courses available are for students in the listed departments:

Department	Subject	Number
Accounting	ACC	3510 & 4510
Anthropology	ANT	4510
Appalachian Studies	AS	4510
Art	ART	4510
Biology	BIO	4518 & 4519
Chemistry	CHE	4000-410 & 4510
Communication	COM	4510
Computer Information Systems	CIS	3510 & 4510
Computer Information Systems	POM	3510 & 4510
Computer Science	CS	4510
Cultural, Gender and Global Studies	GLS	4510
Cultural, Gender and Global Studies	IDS	4510 & 4550
Economics	ECO	3510 & 4510
English	ENG	4510
Environmental Science	ENV	4510
Exercise Science	ES	4510
Finance, Banking and Insurance	FIN	3510 & 4510
Geography and Planning	GHY	4510
Geology	GLY	4501 & 4510

Department	Subject	Number
Government and Justice Studies	PS	4509 & 4510
Government and Justice Studies	CJ	4509 & 4510
History	HIS	4509 & 4510
Languages, Literatures, and Cultures	FRE	4510
Languages, Literatures, and Cultures	SNH	4510
Management	MGT	3510 & 4510
Management	HOS	3510 & 4510
Marketing	MKT	3510 & 4510
Mathematical Sciences	MAT	4510
Philosophy and Religion	PHL	4510
Philosophy and Religion	REL	4510
Physics and Astronomy	PHY	4002 & 4510
Physics and Astronomy	AST	4002 & 4510
Psychology	PSY	4511 & 4512
Social Work	SW	4510
Technology and Environmental Design	TEC	4510
Theatre and Dance	DAN	4510

Academic Mentoring: Honors College Advising

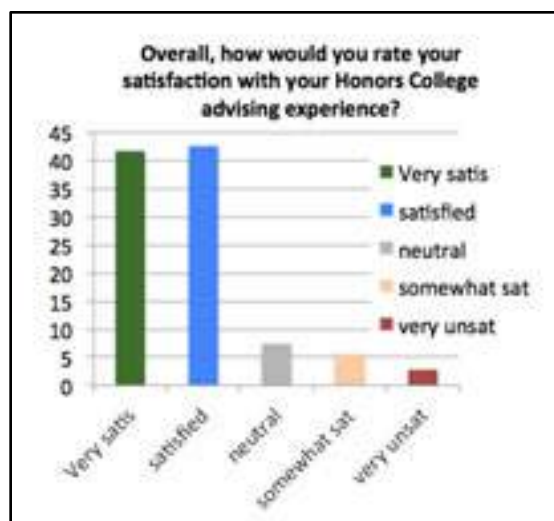
All advising for Honors students is handled by the Honors College advising faculty/staff. Through regular meetings with their Honors advisor, Honors students have the chance to discuss course registration plans with someone who gets to know them and helps them plan a curricular path leading to their 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:

Dr. Jones	Dr. Wheeler	Dr. Waldroup	Ms. Kirscht/ Dr. McDowell	Dr. Mead
All pre-meds regardless of major	Arts & Sciences: all Natural Sciences	Arts & Sciences: Humanities (English, Foreign Languages & Literatures, and Philosophy & Religion)	All pre-law regardless of major	Language, Reading & Exceptionalities (Special Ed.)
All pre-dental regardless of major	Computer Science	Appalachian Studies	Arts & Sciences: <i>Social Sciences</i> (Anthropology, Geography & Planning, Government & Justice Studies, History, and Sociology)	Curriculum & Instruction (Elem. Ed., Middle Grades)
All other pre-health professions	Environmental Science	Women's Studies	Finance, Banking and Insurance	Child Development
Communication Disorders	Math	Interdisciplinary Studies	Economics	Nursing
Exercise Science	Sustainable Development	Global Studies	Management	Communication
Psychology		School of Music	Marketing	Rec Management
Biology		Art	Accounting	Undecided
Nutrition & Dietetics		Theatre & Dance	Computer Information Systems	
		Technology	International Business	
		Interior Design	Health Care Management	
			Social Work	

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

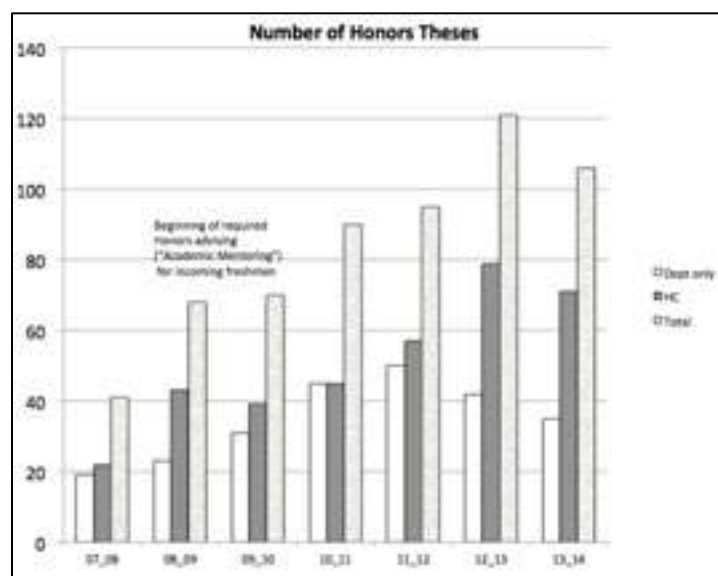
Name	Thesis Title	Major(s)	Director(s)	Date
Brittany Barringer	Factors That Impact Job Placement for Finance and Banking Undergraduates	Finance and Banking	Chris McNeil	12/2013
Chase Batchelor	Hyporheic Exchange and Nutrient Uptake in a Forested Urban Stream	Geology	Chuanhui Gu	12/2013
Sarah Clarke	How Patterns of Eye Contact Unfold Over Time: An Eye Tracking Study	Psychology	Chris Dickinson	12/2013
Cassidy Culbreth	Is Clicker Training More Effective Than Verbal Cues With Shelter Dogs?	Psychology and Sociology	Kenneth Steele	12/2013
Carmen Erdie	Intercultural Persuasion and Global Politics	Communication and Political Science	Lynn Gregory	12/2013
Dale Keller	Effects of Environmental Enrichment Upon the Amygdalae of Adolescent Rats	Cell and Molecular Biology	Mark Zrull	12/2013
Cara Lewis	Irish Traditional Music: A Lecture-Recital of Representative Forms and Styles Performed on the Irish Flute	Music Education and Performance	Nancy Schneeloch-Bingham	12/2013
Lisa Moeller	The Impact of Foreign Relations on Chinese Consumerism	International Business	Pia Albinsson and Jennifer Henson	12/2013
Brindley Polk	Primary and Secondary Educational Changes During the Third Reich	History	Rennie Brantz	12/2013
Eguono Akpoduado	Female Sex Offenders: Effects of Gender and Legal History	Criminal Justice	Twila Wingrove	05/2014
Lucy Ballard	A Contextual Profile of Tariq Ramadan: Islam and Modernity Revisited	Religious Studies	William M. Hutchins	05/2014
Bradley Beamon	The Effects of Music on the Test-Taking Abilities of High School Musicians	Music Education	Lisa Runner	05/2014
Sydney Beshore	Research in Support of Developing a Safe Home for Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking Survivors: Narrating the Process of Developing and Establishing The Tree House Nonprofit Organization	Interdisciplinary Studies	Lynn Gregory	05/2014
Meredith Branham	What Drives Uncertainty in Large Point Sources?	Mathematical Sciences	Eric Marland	05/2014
Gretchen Brown	Puritan Women and Piety: Examining the Lives of Anne Hutchinson, Anne Bradstreet, and Mary Rowlandson	History	Sheila Phipps	05/2014
Gordon Buckingham	The Spatial Distribution of Large pond Sources of Carbon Dioxide Emissions	Geography	Kathy Schroeder	08/2014
Katherine Burkhalter	Cultivating Creativity: Orff-Schulwerk in the 21st	Music Education	Susan Mills	05/2014
Joshua Carr	Utilizing Dance and Creative Arts to Build and Strengthen Community Bonds	Psychology	Marianne Adams	05/2014
Hannah Cartner	Fostering Community, Creativity, and Independence through Art Therapy Techniques	Psychology	Robert Bringle	08/2014
Hannah Collins	Contextual Factors and their Impact on Communication in Dementia	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Louise Keegan	05/2014

Daniel Cook	The Role of Informational Computer Science Education	Computer Science	Jay Fenwick	08/2014
Kate Cook	Feminism and Empowerment: Female Protagonists in the Works of John Green	English Secondary Education	Elaine O'Quinn	05/2014
Miranda Cook	Comparison Study of Factors Contributing to Obesity: Mexico and the United States in the Areas of Physical Activity and Diet	Health Care Management	Becki Battista	05/2014
Alexandra Dezii	ADHD Stigma in a College Population	Psychology	Will Canu	05/2014
Rachel Duffus	Recognizing the Simultaneous Occurrence of Women's Rights and Elder Abuse in Ghana's Watch Camps to Gain International Aid for Improved Elder Care	Global Studies and Spanish	Jeanne Dubino	05/2014
Carmen Erdie	Persuasion in Political and International Crisis	Communication & Political Science	Lynn Gregory	08/2014
Amanda Farr	Museums in Modern Society: Implementation of Modern Technologies and Mobile Devices	Art Management	Jody Servon	05/2014
Shelby Forsyth	It's Not About Breaking In - It's About Moving Up: The Glass Ceiling and the Role of Female Creatives in Advertising	Communication	Thomas Mueller	05/2014
Olivia Frank	Case Analysis of the Real Economic Impact of Corporations in Charlotte	Economics	Thomas Mueller	05/2014
Kelsey Fuller	How Perceived Risk Impacts International Travel	Sociology	Elizabeth Davison	05/2014
Anna Gannett	Evaluating Relationships between Water Quality Partners and Human Behavior in an Impaired New England Estuary	Sustainable Development	Michael Gangloff	05/2014
Daniel Gaspari	Magnetic and Morphologic Characterization of Coal Ash and Trace Metal Concentration in River Sediment Contaminated by the Kingsron Spill	Geology	Ellen Cowan	08/2014
Jeffrey Gerber	Light Element Abundance Inhomogeneities and Deep Mixing in Galactic Globular Clusters	Physics	Michael Briley	05/2014
Brianna Germond	Environmental Design for Alzheimer's and Dementia	Interior Design	Jeanne Mercer-Ballard	05/2014
Katarina Hauser	Synthesis, Surface Immobilization, and Electrochemical Characterization of Cobalt Bis(glyoxime) Hydrogen Catalysts	Chemistry	Michael Hambouger	05/2014
Zachary Herman	Serious Leisure and Leisure Motivations Among Self-Identified Cyclists	Recreation Management and Interdisciplinary Studies	Erik Rabinowitz	05/2014
Emily Horsman	Volatile Organic Compounds in Human Exhaled Breath	Biology and Chemistry	Barkley Sive	05/2014
Noah Hughes	Reverse Mathematics: Calibrating Logical Strength in Mathematics	Mathematical Sciences	Jeffry Hirst	05/2014
Ashley Hurd	Re-thinking Employee Engagement: What it Means and Why it Matters	General Management	Jacqui Bergman	05/2014
Emily Jacobs	Media Depictions of Age and Gender: Comparing Men's Health and Women's Health Magazines	Psychology	Lisa Curtin	05/2014
Emily Johnson	Bridging the Gap: Using Young Adult Literature to Access the Classics	English Secondary Education	Elaine O'Quinn	05/2014
Taylor Jones	Indirect Determination of Enzyme Kinetics Using Capillary Electrophoresis with Chemiluminescence Detection	Chemistry	Libby Pucket	08/2014

Tia Joyce	The "Not So Special" Relationship? Examining the Israeli-Palestinian Policy of President George H. W. Bush	History & Political Science	Rennie Brantz	05/2014
Kenneth Kennedy	American Music Copyright Law: A History and Future of Questions	Vocal Performance	Victor Mansure	05/2014
Nina Laughlin	Effects of Caffeine Ingestion on Sodium-Aided Hyperhydration	Exercise Science	David Morris	05/2014
Alexis Lefkowitz	The Effects of Relationship, Violence, Alcohol, and Dress on Rape Victim Blaming in the Courtroom	Psychology	Twila Wingrove	05/2014
Chelsea Lineberger	Effects of Caffeine Ingestion on Sodium-Aided Hyperhydration: An Analysis of Urine Specific Gravity	Exercise Science	David Morris	05/2014
Katherine Marr	Physical Epistemology and the Collapse of the Phenomenal World	Philosophy	Christopher Bartel	08/2014
Kayla Mason	Romantic Elements in the Works of Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer	Spanish	Benito del Pliego	05/2014
Alison McClay	Geometry and Tonal Music: A Mathematical and Musical Analogy in Microtonal Systems	Mathematical Sciences	Vicky Klima	05/2014
Faith Miller	The Crossing Number of Tripartite Graph: $K_{3,3,3}$	Mathematical Sciences	Mark Ginn	05/2014
Catherine Moore	An Analysis of Recent Studies on the Relationship between Religion and Health and their Implications for Holistic Health	Chemistry	Rodney Duke	05/2014
Hailey Moore	Examining Eating Habits Among College Students and Five Factor Model Personality Facets	Psychology	Will Canu	05/2014
Tyler Morton	A Study of Motivational Factors Influencing Student Social Media Involvement	Computer Information Systems	B. Dawn Medlin	05/2014
Nadareh Naseri	Latinas Activas: A Learning Experience, Implementation and Evaluation of a Physical Activity Intervention for Latinas in Watauga County, North Carolina	Spanish	Becki Battista and Catherine Fountain	05/2014
Benjamin Neustel	Southern Rattlesnake Master: A Review and Way Forward	Biology	Matt Estep	05/2014
Chirayu Patel	The Use of Vesicular Stomatitis Virus and Natural Products for the Treatment of Cervical Cancer	Biology	Maryam Ahmed	05/2014
Elizabeth Payment	Social-Economic Decision Making and Aging: The Role of Motivation	Psychology	Lisa Emery	08/2014
Allyson Pollock	The Significance of American Sign Language in the Language Development of Deaf Children	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Jennifer Dalton	05/2014
Jaclyn Redman	Phytoecdysteroid Does Response in Skeletal Muscle Protein Synthesis	Exercise Science	Kevin Zwetsloot	08/2014
Molly Reid	Dramatic Expression in Piano Music: A Senior Recital Program of Works Spanning Three Centuries	Piano Performance	Rodney Reynerson	05/2014
Alexandra Smith	Examining Future Wedding Trends of the American Millennial Generation	Hospitality and Tourism Management	Michael Dotson	05/2014
Ashley Thacker	Branding Appalachian State University	Marketing	Unal Boya	05/2014
Allison Tresslar	Humanism in Literature: Triumph of the Human Spirit in a Pessimistic World	Psychology	Craig Fischer	05/2014
David Valder	A Post-Sugar-Cane Politics: Cultivating a	Economics	Dana Powell	08/2014

	Diverse Economic Language in “Rurban” Dominican Republic			
Caley Wahl	Multicultural Music Education Resources	Music Education	Susan Mills	05/2014
Kelsey Wayne	Patriarchal Tradition, Gender Roles, and Legislative Action: A Multifaceted Approach in Observing the Sociocultural Normalization of Domestic Violence in Nicaragua	Spanish and Global Studies	Edward Behrend-Martinez	05/2014
Kirstie Wolf	Appalachian State University: A Case-Study of Prevention and Educational Resources for Interpersonal Violence	Anthropology	Donna Lillian	05/2014
Dawn Woodard	Characterizing Uncertainty in Anthropogenic Point Source Emissions of CO ₂	Mathematical Sciences	Eric Marland	05/2014
Chelsea Zemmin	Time Course of Phytoecdysteroid-Induced Protein Synthesis in Skeletal Muscles of Mice	Biology	Kevin Zwetsloot	05/2014
Susan Zhao	Oxygen Sensing Properties of Nanofibrous Biomaterials Incorporating Tris{4,7-diphenyl-1,10-phenanthroline} ruthenium (II)	Biology	Leslie Sargent Jones	05/2014

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

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.

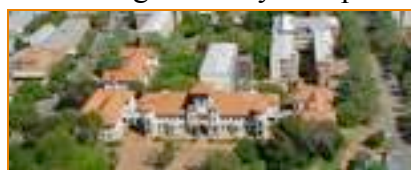
Honors College International Educational Experiences

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

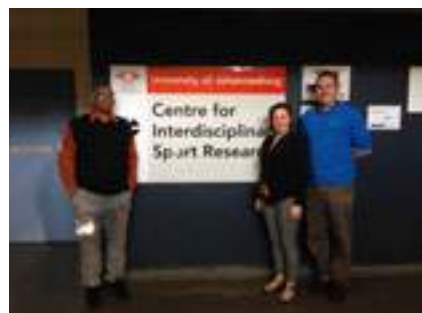


clinics around the city. Bloemfontein, the “City of Roses,” is the capital of the Free State and sits in the center of South Africa. It is also the Judicial Capital and sixth largest city of South Africa, and has a proud history as the birthplace of the African National Congress. It is situated on the 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, Popocatepetl, “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.



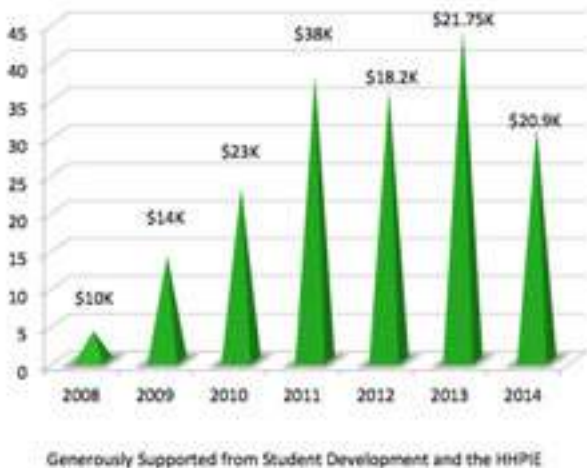
Heltzer Honors Program for International Education (HHPIE)

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

Last Name	First Name	Destination	Credit Hours	Amount
		Semester at Sea		
Clark	Shannon	(Multiple)	12	\$1,200.00
Cotton	Shara	Japan	12	\$1,200.00
Crook	Allison	Chile	12	\$1,200.00
Pruett	Callie	Australia	12	\$1,200.00
Thomas	Audrey	Finland	12	\$1,200.00
Breed	Miana	United Kingdom	12	\$1,200.00
Goldberg	Laura	Spain	15	\$1,500.00
Maslowski	Brittney	United Kingdom	12	\$1,200.00
Britton	Meadchen	Mexico	1	\$100.00
Hughes	Noah	Belguim	1	\$100.00
Fals	Victoria	Poland	3	\$300.00
Kopkin	Zachary	Uganda	6	\$600.00
Hundley	Elizabeth	Austria	6	\$600.00
Boling	Abby	South Africa	3	\$300.00
Smith	Casandra	Austra	6	\$600.00
Milosh	Cassidy	Spain	6	\$600.00
Fagan	Margaret	South Africa	3	\$300.00
McGuire	Nicholas	UK	3	\$300.00
Stockstad	Marissa	India	3	\$300.00
Reichmeider	Jesse	France & Italy	6	\$600.00
Fitch	Morgan	India	3	\$300.00
Boling	Abby	South Africa	6	\$600.00
Fagan	Margaret	South Africa	6	\$600.00
Joyner	Shauna	France & Italy	6	\$600.00
Connell	Leah	Austria	6	\$600.00
Higgins	Alexandra	France & Italy	6	\$600.00
Patterson	Kelly	Austria	6	\$600.00
Winstead	Molly	England & France	6	\$600.00
Choate	Colleen	Austria	6	\$600.00
Bowman	Anna	Austria	6	\$600.00
Driver	Emily	Austria	6	\$600.00

Number of applications for HHPIE scholarships and cost (\$K)



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.

Medical Humanities Requirements: 3 semester hours				
PHL	3015		(3)	Medical Ethics
Medical Humanities Electives: 12 hours				
ANT	1430		(3)	Our Primate Heritage
ANT	2230		(3)	Biological Anthropology
ANT	3300		(3)	Human Osteology
ANT	4600		(3)	Medical Anthropology
COM	2131		(3)	Health Communications
ECN	3610		(3)	Economy of Health Care
HCM	2110		(3)	Introduction to Health System Organization
HCM	4910		(3)	Health Law*
HIS	3121		(3)	History of Ancient Medicine
HP	4200		(3)	Epidemiology
PHL	3600		(3)	Philosophy of Science
PSY	3205		(3)	Biological Psychology
PSY	3653		(3)	Health Psychology
PSY	4562		(3)	Psychology of Adulthood and Aging
REL	3140		(3)	Chinese Medicine
REL	3150		(3)	Religion, Culture, and the Body
SOC	3100		(3)	Gerontology
SOC	3600		(3)	Medical Sociology
SW	4555		(3)	Death, Dying, and Living
WS	3300		(3)	Gender and Technology
			(3)	Independent Study (as approved by MMHC)

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:

Courtney Bowers, Hannah Collins, Karson Collins, Shelby Diachenko, Corbin Ester, April Kaiser, Taylor Lyall, Tibor Nagy, Alexa Newsome, Graham Neville, and Marissa Stockstad.

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



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 enclosed "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.

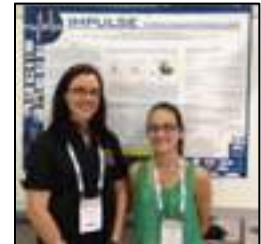
National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC): Three of the staff (Jones, Wheeler, and Mead) along with five Honors College students attended the annual conference of the NCHC in New Orleans. Dr. Jones and her three



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.

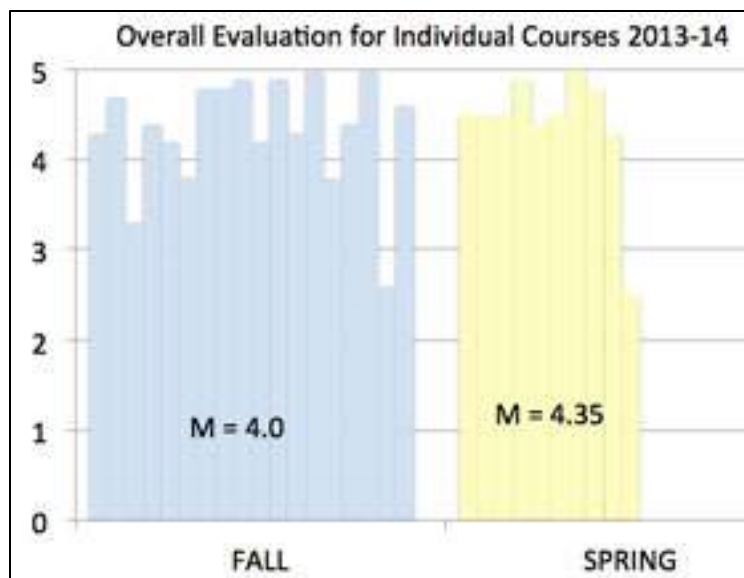


Assessment

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

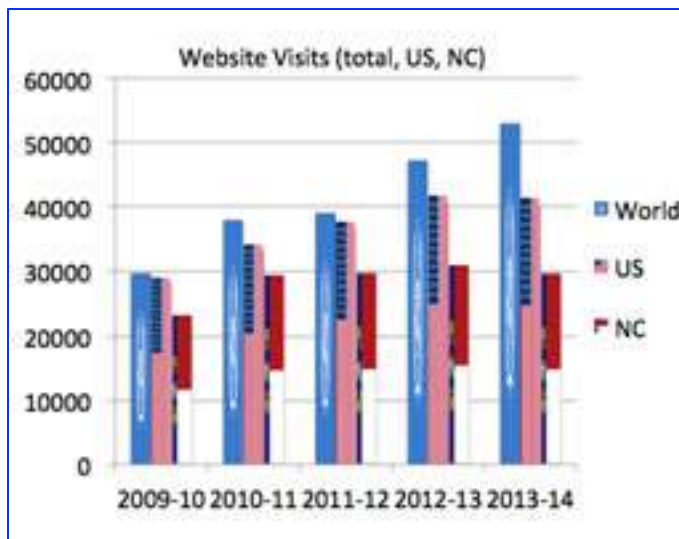
In parallel with the assessment instrument for course assessment, thesis committee members (thesis director together with second reader) and students were given similar questions and asked to rate students/themselves on a 1-5 Likert scale:

- 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.



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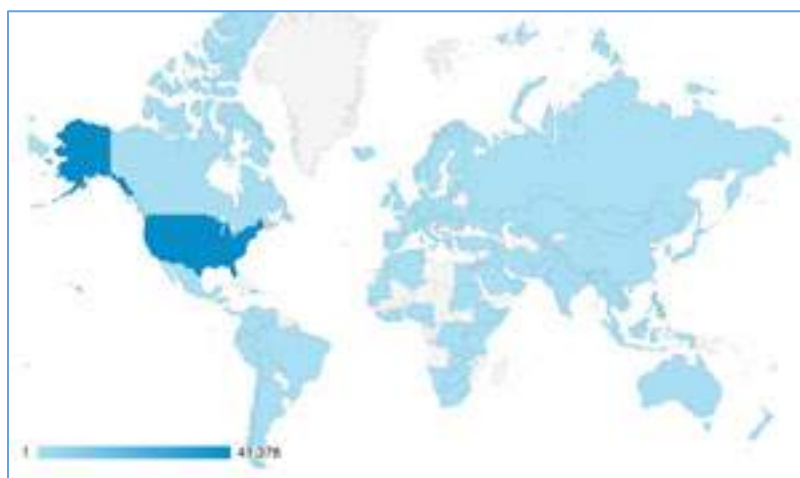
Metro	Sessions	Pages / Session	Avg. Session Duration
	41,378 % of Total 77.95% (53,094)	3.54 Site Avg 3.48 (1.77%)	00:03:18 Site Avg 00:03:19 (-0.94%)
1. Charlotte NC	19,101 (46.16%)	3.80	00:04:09
2. Raleigh-Durham (Fayetteville) NC	5,309 (12.83%)	4.00	00:03:16
3. Greensboro-High Point-Winston Salem NC	2,865 (6.92%)	3.59	00:02:51
4. (not set)	1,562 (3.77%)	3.31	00:02:31
5. Greenville-Spartanburg SC-Asheville NC-Anderson SC	1,368 (3.31%)	4.01	00:03:11
6. Atlanta GA	947 (2.29%)	3.30	00:02:43
7. New York NY	645 (1.56%)	2.24	00:01:25
8. Nashville TN	585 (1.41%)	3.07	00:02:23
9. Greenville-New Bern-Washington NC	579 (1.40%)	3.89	00:03:49
10. Washington DC (Hagerstown MD)	501 (1.21%)	2.91	00:02:02

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.

Region	Sessions	Pages / Session	Avg. Session Duration
	41,378 <small>% of Total: 77.85% (53,084)</small>	3.54 <small>Site Avg: 3.45 (1.77%)</small>	00:03:18 <small>Site Avg: 00:03:19 (-0.54%)</small>
1. North Carolina	29,760 (71.78%)	3.81	00:03:47
2. Georgia	1,244 (3.01%)	3.49	00:03:01
3. Tennessee	1,090 (2.63%)	3.40	00:02:33
4. South Carolina	913 (2.21%)	4.12	00:02:50
5. Florida	855 (2.07%)	3.20	00:02:36
6. Virginia	771 (1.86%)	3.09	00:02:11
7. California	719 (1.74%)	1.93	00:01:02
8. New York	630 (1.52%)	2.22	00:01:36
9. Texas	559 (1.35%)	2.20	00:01:32
10. Illinois	398 (0.96%)	2.44	00:01:43

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>.





2013-2014 PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (PSP) ANNUAL REPORT
Dr. Dale E. Wheeler, Director
June 30, 2014

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

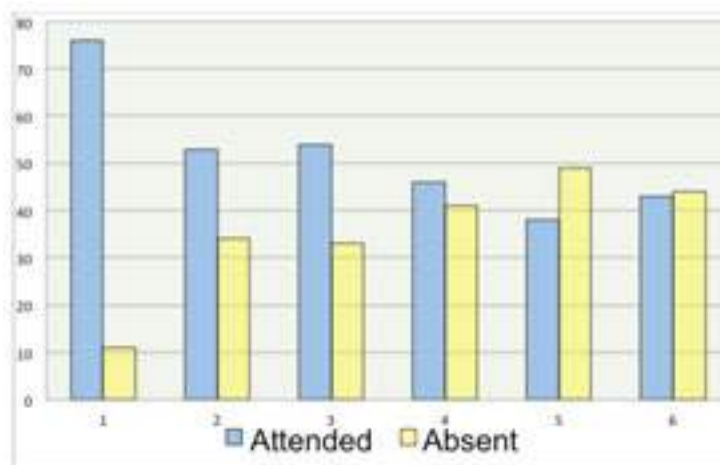
During the AIM High meetings, students were presented with information pertaining to the requirements and opportunities during their time at Appalachian to make their graduate school applications more competitive. Topics included the personal statement, active involvement in research and creative activities,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

Five meetings were held through the year.

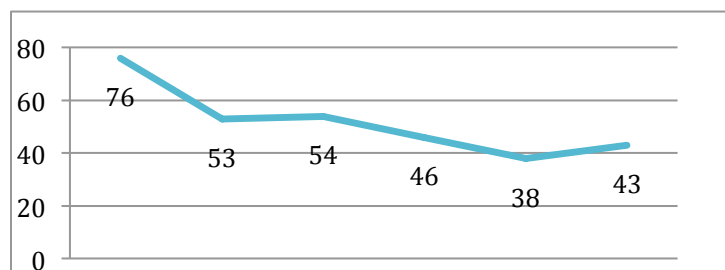
- * August 27, Parkway Ballroom, Introduction to AIM High
- * September 17, Price Lake Room, Undergraduate Scholarly Opportunities and Faculty Mentors
- * October 8, Price Lake Room, Professional Conferences and Funding Scholarly Projects
- * October 22, Price Lake Room, International Experience Opportunities, 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

August 27	76	87%
September 17	53	61%
October 8	54	62%
October 22	46	53%
October 29	38	44%
November 12	43	49%
Average Attendance	52	59%
(after banquet)	47	54%



Attendance Trendline



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 31, 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).



Informational Meetings Plemmons Student Union	Make Up Meetings Appalachian Hall Room 186	Meeting Topic	Guest Speakers
Tuesday, Aug. 27 Parkway Ballroom 6:00 - 7:30pm	Wednesday, Aug. 28 at 11am Thursday, Aug. 29 at 3:30pm	AIM High Peer Mentors Information	Dr. Dale E. Wheeler Director, Prestigious Scholarships Program
Tuesday, Sept. 17 Price Lake Room 5:30 - 7:00pm	Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 11am Thursday, Sept. 19 at 3:30pm	Faculty Mentors Undergraduate Scholarly Opportunities	Prof. Melissa Gutschall (Nutrition) Prof. Randy Reed (Philosophy and Religion) Prof. Gwen Robbins Schug (Anthropology)
Tuesday, Oct. 8 Price Lake Room 5:30 - 7:00pm	Wednesday, Oct. 9 at 11am Thursday, Oct. 10 at 3:30pm	Professional Conferences Funding for Scholarly Projects	Prof. Mark Zrull (Psychology) Carys Kunze (former AIM High student) Prof. Alan Utter (Director, Office of Student Research)
Tuesday, Oct. 22 Price Lake Room 5:30 - 7:00pm	Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 11am Thursday, Oct. 24 at 3:30pm	International Experience Opportunities Study Abroad and Research	Prof. Garner Dewey (Executive Vice Chancellor - Academic Affairs) Ms. Leah Newell (Interim Director, International Edu & Development) Dr. Martin Meznar (Associate Dean of the Walker College of Business)
Tuesday, Oct 29 Price Lake Room 5:30 - 7:00pm	Wednesday, Oct. 30 at 11am Thursday, Oct. 31 at 3:30pm	GRE Information Senior Thesis	Ms. Cama Duke (Director of LSS) Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones (Director, Appalachian Honors College)
Tuesday, Nov. 12 Linville Falls Room 5:30 - 7:00pm	Wednesday, Nov. 13 at 11am Thursday, Nov. 14 at 3:30pm	Graduate School Applications	Prof. Joe Cazier (Associate Dean of the Walker College of Business) Sandra Krause (Director, Graduate Admissions and Recruiting) Prof. Jeff McBride (Graduate Program Director, HLES)

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**



Hollings Scholar Laura Heinen at work



Gilman Scholar Marissa Stockstad at Bishop Heber College in Summer 2014 on her Gilman Scholarship study in Trichy, India.

Dr. Claudia (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).

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), Cartaya-Marin



(Goldwater Scholar Corbin Ester with mentor Dr. Wheeler)

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.

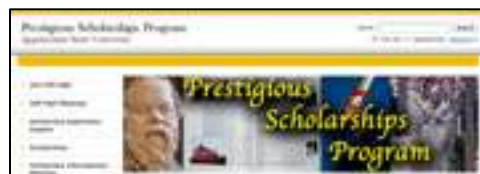
Justin Davis - Student Travel to the National Collegiate Honors Council meeting

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

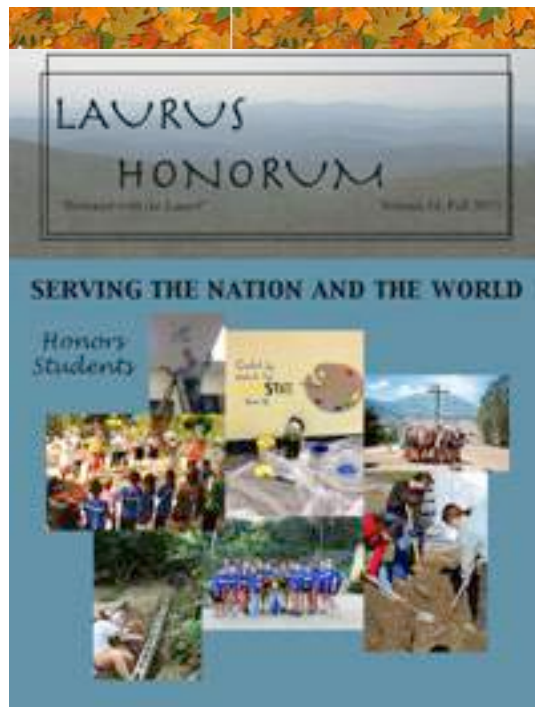
Your intended academic major (if known) _____

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



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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!



WELCOME

A Word From the Director

This fall issue of the Laurus Honorum focuses on something that Honors students do without being asked: service. The articles here deal mostly with service trips, both domestic and international, but that just gives you a flavor of all that our students do, from working at the Boone Hospitality House and Community Care Clinic, to working for the NC dental free clinics (MOMS). Honors students are committed and intensely involved in world-changing service.



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 mountain air, and we don't have to require anything. Honors College students, like most students at ASU, are already doing it.

New Vanguard Members Inducted

The newest members of the Honors Vanguard for 2013-2014 were recently knighted in the Honors College this fall! New members are excited to volunteer with Honors activities, such as open house, Honors Days, and meeting with prospective students to talk about the Honors College. Congratulations to all and thank you for your service!



New Members for 2013 - 2014

Katie Savannah Amos	Eryn Lee
Laurel Bates	Madison Burris
Courtney Fish	Allison Merius
Robert Harris	Savannah Kay
Dillon Hewitt-Castillo	Isabon Schriener
Shanna Joyner	MacGregor Shepard
Sara Lackey	Scott Williams

PAGE 2

SERVICE

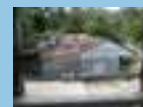
Honors Students: Serving the Nation and the World

Several Honors students took their education beyond the classroom in 2012-2013 by participating in Alternative Service Experiences (ASE) offered by Appalachian & the Community Together (ACT). 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 saw the Zona Colonial in Santo Domingo, the oldest European settlement in the New World. We visited the Pantoon Nacional, which has an 'eternity flame' guarded by a soldier for people who died in wars and revolutions. We also went to Parque Colon, which was the city square for the Zona Colonial. My photos on the right show the view out the window of the house where we stayed, and the view of the village from a house up on the mountain where we ate all of our meals."



Chelsea Lineberger: "In January, I joined 14 other students and one faculty member to travel to La Represa, Dominican Republic (photos on left). An international agency, Service for Peace, hosted us in the town. We finished the construction of a fence surrounding the local school to help keep children safe in an area that is prone to flooding. We helped host a celebration of Dia de los Reyes (Three Kings Day), and got to enjoy a tour of the oldest city in the western hemisphere, Santo Domingo. The residents of La Represa were giving, caring, and welcoming. They taught us more than we ever expected to learn, and gave us much more than we could have ever given to them. Ten warm, sunny, Caribbean days were spent learning of service, giving, and friendship."



SERVICE

Honors Students: Serving the Nation and the World

International Experiences

Jamaica ...

Drew Bennett: "If I were to choose one organization on campus that has had the greatest effect on my development and growth as a student leader, I would have no hesitation in asserting the profound influence and guidance ASE provided me. This organization is unique because it provides students the opportunity to create their own learning and service environment to generate hands-on solutions to issues and social problems that are important to them. Both as participants and group leaders, volunteers on the domestic and international stage gain real world experience in critical thinking, communication skills, group reflection, and cultural sensitivity and immersion. While many college students are spending their school breaks at home or on vacation, participants engaged with ASE are making permanent contributions to communities around the world. These service adventures cover the spectrum, ranging from building houses in the Dominican Republic, working with school children in Peru, or volunteering to alleviate food insecurity in the Bronx, only to name a few.

Returning to the program for a second year, I was fortunate enough to serve as an international leader to Jamaica last winter break with an amazing group of students. Throughout the fall semester, we met as a group to get to know each other and to prepare for our service journey. However, just as many adventures go, we were thrown a few curve balls and unexpected challenges on our trip that we were able to collectively utilize as fundamental learning experiences and, as a result, grow and build empathy for the community we were working with. Throughout the week, our main service project allowed us to connect and spend time with a local school and the young children who call that community home. We spent time with students, painted desks, and worked to improve the new living quarters for future volunteers. While we donated and left many bags of school supplies on the island, we brought back with us an invaluable international experience of service and cultural immersion that I'm confident will stay with us for the rest of our lives."



SERVICE

Honors Students: Serving the Nation and the World

International Experiences

Guatemala ...

Calleen Choate: (photo on right) "We rode standing in the backs of two pick-up trucks for thirty minutes over rocky dirt roads, chanting children's songs in Spanish. By the time we reached the village we had sweeping vistas of the Guatemalan mountains, as well tears in our eyes from the dirt and exhaust. But when we walked into the school courtyard, the tears came for a different reason. Forty or so children had laid a path of pine needles and flowers and stood clapping for us for at least ten minutes. They didn't know us yet, but they knew they wanted to love us, and for us to love them. Over the course of the next four days we would haul buckets of gravel, mix and pour concrete, and chop terraces out of a mountainside, but the real work was elsewhere. We witnessed a culture, we were taught a language by someone who didn't know ours, we listened to a child, played chase, braided hair, laughed, and even held kids while they cried. The real work we did in Guatemala was in the connections we made and the love we shared. Every day I was humbled and inspired."

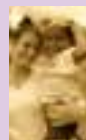


Belize ...

Molly Van Gilder: "Going abroad with ACT was so beneficial and unique because it allowed me to see Belize in a different light from that of a tourist trip. I feel that I really learned a lot, both through our service projects in different towns and from the people I met, especially my homestay family. Of all the spring break trips I could have taken, none could have been as rewarding as going to Punta Gorda, and nowhere else could I have learned so much about their culture and about myself."

Nicaragua ...

A few photos from **Brittany Mandel's** experience in Nicaragua ...



SERVICE

Honors Students: Serving the Nation and the World

Domestic Experiences

Georgia ...

Marissa Stockstad: (photo on right) "Last spring break I went on my first ASE to Murphy-Harst Children's Home in Cedartown, Georgia. Getting to spend this week with the children at the center and helping to finish their new recreation center was a truly eye-opening experience, and much more rewarding than sitting at home or going to the beach on break! I cannot wait to go on another ASE this coming year."



West Virginia ...



Beth Gaudette: (photo on left) "For my ASE spring break trip I went to West Virginia and worked for the company Sustainable Williamson, whose goal is to produce cleaner forms of energy to replace coal use in Central Appalachia. Assembling a drip irrigation system, painting a community center, and going to a local farm were some of the projects I had the joy to work on throughout the week. The trip was an unforgettable experience that I was so honored to be a part of. I gathered new appreciation not only for the environment, but also for the opportunities I have. The poverty in this area reminded me to be grateful for the college education I am receiving, and hopefully the bright future I will have."

Laurel Bates: (photo on right) "My ASE provided a great opportunity for me to serve alongside a group of passionate people. Although we have our own idea of what sustainability should look like in Boons, it takes wisdom and creativity to begin and promote sustainable practices in coal country. It was a privilege to live with and work for Eric Mathis, the founder of Sustainable Williamson, during the very beginning stages of Sustainable Williamson as we dug irrigation trenches for community greenhouses, pruned an orchard on top of a mountain-top removal site and promoted Sustainable Williamson throughout the community."



SERVICE

Honors Students: Serving the Nation and the World

Domestic Experiences

Tennessee ...

Kelsey Miller: "This year, I led my third ASE trip. My group and I traveled to Memphis, Tennessee, to work at Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. It was such a wonderful experience to serve the children and their families. We spent the week working hands-on with the children doing anything from crafts and serving hot cocoa, to playing games and rocking babies. Le Bonheur serves all families; they never turn away a sick child, even if they cannot pay. Working with them was a valuable way to see the needs of families and children. It makes me want to do more in my life, and in my future career with children, to make sure all kids can receive the type of care and respect that Le Bonheur offers their patients."



David Valder Spends Summer Serving in the Dominican Republic



Honors student, David Valder, spent two months of his summer in La Altagracia, Dominican Republic, working with a non-profit organization called Sister Island Project (SIP), organized through ACT's International Community Development Initiative. The bulk of SIP'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 Altagracia teaching English courses in their community center and conducting interviews to educate SIP about community needs. SIP sent two groups to La Altagracia in the last two years as the beginning of their plans to expand community development work into that small town. During his stay, David lived in four different households and ate all of his meals in one home. The family of the home where he ate really felt like his family. He loved living in a small, tight-knit community and watching them live and work united for the sake of the whole community, not just individuals. David hopes to return someday to visit all of his great friends and family he met there.



AWARDS

Shady Kimzey Receives Peer Leader of the Year Award



Shady describes receiving the award as "an incredible honor."

Congratulations to Honors senior, Shady Kimzey, who participated in a Thailand ASE and served as a Peer Leader on two additional ASE trips during the 2012-2013 academic year. Shady received the "U.S. Based Peer Leader of the Year Award" for her remarkable service and dedication.

"Pushing wheelbarrows of mulch for hours at a time was definitely some of the hardest physical work I've done, but our trip bonded incredibly fast due to the nature of the work." Shady and her group had the opportunity to speak with the women who ran the gardens about their experiences, which they found incredible. "Their wisdom, hard-work, kindness, and dedication to their community in the Asheville/Black Mountain area was an inspiration to me, especially since I aspire to be a professional in the non-profit sector. As a leader, I was especially impressed by our group's vulnerability with each other and their willingness to accept and love each other despite our wide range of backgrounds and beliefs - truly a testament to the Appalachian family."

ASE in Asheville, NC



ASE in Atlanta, GA

In Spring 2013, Shady led another ASE to Atlanta, Georgia, to work with two organizations: My Sister's House, a long-term live-in home for homeless women and children, and the Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children. The trip was a "Women's Issues" trip with a focus on the causes and consequences of women's homelessness. Shady asked to create this new trip because there were no other trips planned that addressed gender issues.



"This was definitely the most intense program I had been on or led. Each night we led reflections on topics that fell under causes and consequences, such as sex trafficking, poverty, and abuse/violence. We had a speaker come in from Men Stopping Violence and an anti-trafficking singer come in to complement our daily reflections. Our experiences at the shelters were intense and inspiring, and I could never hope to briefly describe what I learned over this break. It completely changed my views on women's issues, homelessness, poverty, and my role in all of it. All of the participants in our program were deeply affected by what we experienced and learned in reflection." (continued on page 10)

AWARDS

Kimzey Peer Leader . . . (continued from page 9)

The following are excerpts from Shady's journal during her experience in Atlanta:

"One of the main things that I learned on this trip is how it is incredibly difficult to break out of the view you have from privilege. Privilege is something that I experience because I am a white, middle-class, heterosexual Christian college student with no learning or developmental disabilities. Being at the shelters made me realize how many things I don't have to think about simply because I am privileged. . . . Unless you interact directly with the people you are attempting to serve, listen to their stories and perspectives, and don't try to impose your own ideas of what's best, you will never be a part of any solution."

Students who participated in the Atlanta ASE with Shady found her dedication remarkable. Here are a few things they had to say:

"Shady always made every adventure fun and full of passion. She inspired me to rethink the relationships and stereotypes I perpetuate in my daily life and has truly changed my way of thinking about the world. Our trip was so neatly organized thanks to her and she always reminded us that the women we were serving remained our priority". . . "Shady was a one of a kind ASE Peer Leader. Her passion drove the entire trip and I am so blessed to have been able to talk with her and hear her opinions and viewpoints on topics. Shady was so willing to listen to other's viewpoints and it seemed that the entire trip all she wanted to do was learn. She made the trip what it was and I think that overall she was the heart of our ASE!"

Shady's ASE in Thailand

Shady also traveled for a Women's Empowerment focused international ASE to Chiang Mai, Thailand, to work with DEPDG, a trafficking prevention program, mainly for girls, with a focus on education. This was her first time overseas and it was an incredibly eye-opening and intense experience. "I got to see a whole new perspective on Women's Empowerment on this trip, a view from the Eastern and Buddhist perspective. We had the opportunity to learn Thai, ride elephants, speak with the founder of DEPDG about anti-trafficking efforts in Thailand, go to the red light district, and serve some of the most joyful children I have ever seen. Although understanding Eastern culture and Eastern ideas about gender were difficult for someone who identifies as a Western feminist, this experience definitely widened my horizons and changed my ideas about international social justice work. Working with children who were at risk of being trafficked also was a heart-breaking reality to face, as well as an inspiring experience. I am so thankful that world-wide there are organizations working against trafficking, especially sex trafficking."



AWARDS

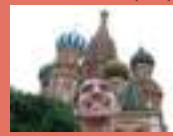
Brian Cleo Receives Competitive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship

Honors junior, Brian Cleo, was one of 32 students selected for the highly competitive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship for Russian Studies. Brian is a computer science major and is pursuing minors in both math and the Russian language. With this unique combination of studies, Brian hopes to work one day in the intelligence sector for the U.S. government, utilizing his skills in computer science and the Russian language towards natural language work. Based on the combination of his educational background and his goals, Brian was selected as one of the recipients for this prestigious scholarship. It allowed him to study advanced Russian in an intensive ten-week language program in Summer 2013 at the Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities in Kazan, Russia. Brian experienced total immersion by living with a host family and adhering to a Russian-only language policy. He completed a final presentation comparing the differences in computer science education in the Russian Federation and the U.S.

Brian also learned much about the Tartar and Russian culture, as Kazan is the capital of the Republic of Tartarstan, and he traveled extensively in the surrounding republics. As a result of this program, Brian raised his official ACTFL oral proficiency score in Russian by two levels and had the experience of a lifetime!



Brian at the Kazan Kremlin (above) and Saint Basil's Cathedral (below)



Nick Smith Receives Matt W. Williamson Scholarship



Honors junior, Nick Smith, was awarded the Matt W. Williamson Scholarship provided by the ASU Local Government Alumni Association. This scholarship is awarded annually to a student pursuing a career in city and county management and commemorates the work of Dr. Matt Williamson who created the TACGM program over 35 years ago.

Nick is pursuing a career in local government and worked as an intern this past summer in the City/County Planning Department in Winston-Salem, NC. Congratulations, Nick!

Honorable Mention

The following Honors students were awarded travel grants in 2013 from the Office of Student Research:

Caleigh Davis
Kevin Kijowski
Erin Latz
Chirayu Patel
Nicholas Tampa
David Valder

The following Honors students were awarded research grants in 2013 from the Office of Student Research:

Carys Kunze
Elizabeth Payment
Kaitlyn Woodard

Congratulations to all!

RESEARCH

CORBIN ESTER TRAINS IN CANCER PREVENTION RESEARCH AT MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

This past summer, Honors junior, Corbin Ester, worked in the National Cancer Institute funded Cancer Prevention Research Training Program, in the Department of Clinical Cancer Prevention at MD Anderson Cancer Center. While there, Corbin spent his summer working in the lab of Dr. Qiang Shen, learning basic lab techniques in cell/molecular biology.

"The skill set that I attained while working in the lab of Dr. Shen is truly invaluable, but the numerous interviews and shadowing experiences with the faculty from MD Anderson Cancer Center, Baylor, and UT Houston is what made this experience so unique. Our program directors encouraged us to not only learn from our immediate mentors, but to seek out advice from experts in our varied fields of interest. Working with many physician scientists, I know now that this is the only career for me. I would highly recommend this program to anyone who is interested in a career in cancer prevention research."



Corbin Ester (second from right)

Corbin's contributions this summer will assist with the publication of several manuscripts that Dr. Shen and collaborators are putting together. His future career plans include pursuing a dual degree in a M.D./Ph.D. program, after which he is interested in translational research, cancer prevention, and pediatric oncology.

MARISSA STOCKSTAD CONDUCTS RESEARCH AT OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY



Honors sophomore, Marissa Stockstad, spent her summer working as a research assistant alongside Dr. Michelle Kelley at Old Dominion University (ODU) in Norfolk, Virginia, through the National Institute of Drug Abuse's (NIDA) undergraduate internship. Marissa spent ten weeks conducting assessments, entering and analyzing data, and writing research papers about the ODU Family Health Study.

The ODU Family Health Study is a treatment-based research involving a triad (mother, father, and child), in which one or both of the parental figures has an alcohol or drug abuse problem. "The study hopes to determine the effects that behavioral couples therapy involving parental addicts and their partners has on children in the family, compared to individualized counseling for just the addict." Upon qualification, the subject families in the study were given a pretest assessment, consisting of questionnaires for both adults and the child and a SCID (Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV) for both adults. The couple then completed twelve weeks of Behavioral Couples Therapy to assist the couple in communication and the addict's recovery. The assessment questionnaires were administered once again upon completion of the therapy and again six months later. This internship was Marissa's first experience with research and it required her to learn a lot very quickly. When Marissa first arrived at ODU, she immediately began entering and auditing adult questionnaires and SCIDs, as well as child questionnaires. Soon, she began administering the child questionnaires for pre, post, and six-month follow-up assessments. By the end of the internship, Marissa had successfully administered every aspect of the assessment, including the SCID, and was working on a research paper. "I consider myself lucky to have been chosen to be part of such an important study and to be able to continue working on the study and paper throughout the year."

RESEARCH

DANA COBB RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY IN GERMANY

Honors student, Dana Cobb, was given the wonderful opportunity to study and intern in Germany for three months over the summer. She received a scholarship through a partnership with the Baden-Württemberg Stiftung, a governmental organization in the German state of Baden-Württemberg. Dana spent the first month at a language school, polishing her German skills in preparation for the next two months of working as an intern in a research lab.

She worked at the Institute of Neuroscience at the University of Tübingen in a lab investigating retinal degradation and optics. The first month of language classes was incredibly difficult, yet rewarding. Dana was able to improve her German, as well as make friends with people from all over the world.

In Tübingen, Dana spent the majority of her time working on a project in conjunction with a PhD candidate's project. Dana's project involved immense amounts of pipetting while she ran PCRs and gel electrophoresis. This allowed Dana to learn quite a bit about the chemistry and biology behind neuroscience research. She was also able to work on a behavioral neuroscience project that investigated the visual abilities of mice with an *nrl-1* mutation, which meant that the mice were night blind. The retinas were injected with stem cells of rods, in the hopes that the missing and degraded rods would be replaced by the stem cells. Dana was also able to work with new and high-tech equipment, such as a photon-laser and advanced tracking programs.

Though the science and learning was an incredible and rewarding experience, Dana's experience with the people in the city of Tübingen was the most meaningful. She was able to fully experience the German culture. She learned to navigate the public transportation system, attended festivals and concerts, frequented the weekend farmer's market, and



even attended church and bible study groups. She made friends with people from Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Armenia, Russia, Poland, England, Finland, and many more! Dana was also able to travel and was able to see some amazing sites: the largest waterfall in Europe, a concentration camp; one of the oldest libraries in Europe containing the oldest German translation of the Bible; the Louvre; the Swiss Alps; the castle where DNA was discovered; and many more beautiful sites.



RESEARCH & TEACHING

MICHAEL JUDGE AWARDED POSITION IN INTEGRATIVE MOLECULAR PLANT SYSTEMS PROGRAM



Honors student, Michael Judge, was awarded a position in the Integrative Molecular Plant Systems (IMPS) program, which provides graduate experiences to undergraduate students. Michael spent time as an NSF REU intern at NC State University, where he was placed under the mentorship of a postdoctoral associate. He worked in a plant molecular biology lab that seeks to uncover genetic regulation for the biosynthesis of a critical plant growth hormone called "auxin." *"I vied for a position in this lab in my application for the program because I was interested in how plants coordinate growth, development, and responses across numerous biological levels; the project I was assigned gave me that and more."* The lab aims to identify the role of a gene hypothesized to be involved in the balance between production of plant defense compounds

and coordination of auxin levels in specific tissues. *"This was a great opportunity through which I could approach my long-term academic goal of studying these types of integrated systems as networks. The actual work required immersion in literature and lab environment alike, with plenty of bench work. Most weeks involved over forty hours in the lab while maintaining scholarly activity for both the IMPS program and the lab, including meeting attendance and the preparation of four presentations, a literature review, and a formal poster."*

Michael's constant interaction with the IMPS coordinator, postdocs, PIs, PhD students, and other interns (IMPS and others) was invaluable to maximizing his experience. *"I will certainly strive to continue these relationships as I take on the further opportunities they have already led to. I only regret that I did not apply sooner; I can only imagine the wealth of benefits that an REU would have brought me a year earlier. It was one of the most intense and enriching experiences of my academic career so far."*

Honors sophomore, Matt Benfield, completed a six-week summer teaching internship in the Ukraine in Eastern Europe. He spent his time teaching children at a private summer camp about cultural diversity and acceptance. While helping the children with their English abilities, Matt worked with other college students from around the world to give the children a sense of how to accept other cultures and become global citizens.

MATT BENFIELD SPENDS SUMMER TEACHING IN THE UKRAINE



Matt is a global studies major and a member of AIESEC, the organization that gave him this opportunity. Before finding this internship through AIESEC, Matt didn't know much at all about the Ukraine, which is one of the main reasons he chose this country. *"This internship gave me the once in a lifetime chance to immerse myself into a totally unfamiliar culture, while making a difference in the lives of many children. By and large, the Ukrainian people have not yet gained the global mindset needed to accept other people and cultures, thanks to the influence of Soviet Union ideals. However, the youth of Ukraine are becoming more receptive to cultural diversity and I am proud to have been able to spark global thinking among the kids I taught."*



STUDY ABROAD

EMILY LONG STUDIES IN GERMANY

Honors senior, Emily Stewart Long, traveled to Trier, Germany, ASU's German sister school, to study language as part of a five-week summer study abroad course. Since her first trip to the country in 2009, Emily, a history and political science double major, has studied German history, politics, language and philosophy with ever growing enthusiasm. *"Returning to Germany after the country had singlehandedly shaped so much of my academic future was nearly overwhelming. I really appreciate that special kind of learning spurred on by a feeling of 'being-in-the-world' that is so often achieved with study abroad."*



Over the course of her summer studies in Trier, Emily worked towards proficiency in both spoken and written German through means of complete immersion. She recalls the tedious experience quite fondly. *"We all felt like children,"* she says laughing, *"allowing yourself to learn through immersion can be frightening, but that's really all it is, allowing another language to redefine you inside and out not only lets you learn the language but lets the language learn you—it redefines how we think, not just what we call something."*



During her time abroad Emily also traveled into Luxembourg and France as well as across the Bavarian countryside before ending her summer in Berlin, the city that sparked her deep interest in Germany so long ago.

HONORS STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT GREECE



Cody Taylor (bottom center) and Nick Smith (bottom left)

In May 2013, Honors students Nick Smith and Cody Taylor traveled to Greece as part of a program that provided an experiential and traditional learning opportunity, focusing on the ancient Greeks primarily, and on Modern Greece secondarily. The trip was led by Dr. Richard Spencer (Philosophy and Religion), who held lectures and instructional sessions in collaboration with a few local professional guides. Students were introduced to the history and developments of modern Greece in the European community.

Upon his return, Cody stated, *"The trip was by far one of the greatest experiences that I have ever had. I attribute all of the great things about this trip to our faculty leader, Dr. Spencer, who made everything both interesting and engaging. He encouraged a higher level of thinking and offered awesome one-on-one conversations to those of us who approached him with a topic."*



ALUMNI

IN HIS OWN WORDS: HONORS ALUMNUS DAVE TOWARNICKY DESCRIBES THE IMPACT OF THE HONORS EXPERIENCE

Attending graduate school and earning an advanced degree was always a personal goal of mine as I entered my senior year, and the Honors College was a tremendous resource as I began to explore my options. After focusing on both my University and College of Business Honors requirements, as well being a member of ASU's baseball team, I decided to apply for the Rhodes Scholarship, but I had no idea where to start.



It was at that point in my senior year that I finally made the trek across campus from my usual building, Raley Hall, to the Honors College and stumbled into Dr. Wheeler's and Dr. Jones' offices for the first time. When I told them I wanted to apply for the Rhodes Scholarship, I half expected them to say, "That's nice, good luck with that..." but the response was far more encouraging. Instead they said, "Let's do the Marshall too!" In the months that followed I met with Dr. Wheeler and Dr. Jones every week to work on personal statements and interview preparations. They knew better than anyone that selection for these two prestigious awards was difficult, but their optimism and clear commitment to my goals was inspiring. While I did not receive either award, my time spent with them was invaluable. Dr. Jones and the Honors College staff saw me through to graduate with University Honors, and for that I am very grateful.

setting while I learned about international capital markets. This provided me with numerous advantages as I prepared for graduate school, and working 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. everyday with limited vacation days made me appreciate life in an academic setting, making me want to return.

My biggest question about returning to school was whether I wanted to pursue an MBA or a JD. As a business major at Appalachian, I never considered law school, but during the course of my employment the frequency with which I encountered matters pertaining to the law was alarming. The issues ranged from maintaining compliance with new Dodd-Frank reporting regulations, to wire fraud, to Chinese currency market regulations. It became clear to me that the business leaders of tomorrow need to have a firm understanding of the legal environment in which they and their clients operate. Some of the most rewarding experiences at BB&T were not just making a big trade, but helping our clients navigate the legal complexity of conducting international business.

After graduating in December 2010 I was unsure if I wanted to immediately seek employment or attend graduate school right away. The decision soon became clear upon landing my first job as an FX Trader for BB&T. The hours I spent preparing for the interview round of the Rhodes Scholarship transformed me into a much more polished conversationalist and taught me the art of selling oneself while maintaining humility. Additionally, Dr. Jones encouraged me to complete my Honors Thesis topic, "Foreign Direct Investment in Developing Countries." There is no doubt that this experience, along with my improved interview skills, played a large role in getting my job at BB&T.

I believe my work experience at BB&T helped set me apart from other law school candidates in a positive way. (continued on page 17)

My two and a half years with BB&T gave me valuable experience in a high stress, high responsibility



ALUMNI

HONORS ALUMNUS DAVE TOWARNICKY ...
(continued from page 16)

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 drastically reduce the financial burden of attending law school. Additionally, the time I spent working with Dr. Jones and Dr. Wheeler on my Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships prepared me to attack the seemingly daunting task of writing a personal statement, which paid dividends 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 looked at many law schools in the New York area, but I chose to attend George Washington University Law School (GW) this fall because I felt D.C. more closely fit my personality, career goals, and family goals. I was awarded some merit-based financial aid, which also made a big impact. GW offers a wide range of specialties 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.

**HONORS ALUMNUS STEVEN M. HEFFNER, M.D.
RECEIVES CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARS
ALUMNI AWARD**

On a lovely evening in September, past and present Chancellor's Scholars (pictured below) joined for an evening of dinner and conversation to honor Dr. Steven M. Heffner (in photo on right) for all of his great accomplishments. Dr. Dale Wheeler (in photo on left), Director of the Prestigious Scholarships Program, organized the event and presented the award. Dr. Heffner joined the Honors College as Chancellor's Scholar in 2001 and graduated in 2005. He served as the former President of the Appalachian Honors Society (AHA) and graduated from ASU as a computer science major.

Dr. Heffner attended Wake Forest University Medical School, where he graduated in 2009 and then also went on to complete his family practice residency in 2012. He works at Salem Family Practice in Winston-Salem, NC, where he resides with his wife, Ashley Lewis Heffner, Ph.D., who was also a 2005 Chancellor's Scholar graduate of the Honors College. Current Chancellor's Scholars enjoyed hearing all about Dr. Heffner's journey into medical school during his presentation at the end of the evening. Congratulations, Dr. Heffner!



STUDENTS

**THOUGHTS AND WORDS OF WISDOM FOR HONORS STUDENTS
FROM HONORS DORM RESIDENT ASSISTANTS**

Cone Hall RA's ...



Ben Grace: "I look forward to building relationships with my residents and helping them adjust to college in any way that I can, be it as a source of campus information or just someone who will listen to them if they have any issues. I hope to teach high school one day, and this position will offer a wealth of experience in working with students."



Mariah Webber: "I am honored to be selected as an RA for the Honor's students. I am especially excited to work with such a diverse and educated group! I look forward to forming new relationships and assisting my residents in any way that I can. I hope that they acquire all the skills necessary to be successful in the upcoming school year and I am blessed to be a part of that."



Aaron Prestrud: "I am looking forward to learning about my Honors residents' passions, and helping them achieve their dreams. My advice is this, study more than you think that you need to, and spend more time getting to know your classmates and socializing than you study."



Meg Jones: "I am excited about enhancing our community this year on the floor and in the building. Some advice I would give to freshmen is to not be afraid to make friends the first couple of days. I would also suggest getting involved in things around campus early on because that provides some connections that you might need later in the year."

STUDENTS

**THOUGHTS AND WORDS OF WISDOM FOR HONORS STUDENTS
FROM HONORS DORM RESIDENT ASSISTANTS**

Summit Hall RA's ...



Kimberley Martin: "As an RA I look forward to love all my residents and be a support that they can turn to. Residents, if you see something, say something; if you need something, ask and if possible we can work it out. And of course balance fun with work, don't overwork yourself. Take care and have a great school year ahead! :)"



Sarah Eubanks: "I am highly looking forward to planting seeds of hope within the lives of each resident that can enable them to grow in an environment where everyone feels comfortable in their living space, feels confident in their success at Appalachian, and feels connected to their Honors community!"



Stephen Boatman: "I am very excited for this new year and all the new residents on my floor. I hope that we all grow as a community and individuals throughout the year."



Lauren Bonville: "I'm really excited for this coming year and look at it as an opportunity to build community on my floor as well as between the Honors College students. I really hope to see the bonds grow even stronger as my residents study and hang out together. I want my residents to know that I'm always just down the hall if they ever have any questions about the Honors College because as a junior Honors College student myself, I definitely know in which direction to point them."



Sara Lackey: "What I love about being an RA is working with people with a lot of different interests and backgrounds and finding ways to bring them together."

WATCH FOR THE WINTER 2014 ISSUE OF THE LAURUS HONORUM!

**MEET THE 2013 - 2014 APPALACHIAN
HONORS ASSOCIATION (AHA) OFFICERS**

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- Vice-President of Programming - Sarah Eubanks
- Vice-President of Development - Katie Fals
- Treasurer - Charlie Mize
- Secretary - Courtney Fish
- Publicity Chair - Indigo Grubbs
- Academic Chair - MacGregor Sheppard
- Service Chair - Erica Baker



Back row left to right: Charlie Mize, MacGregor Sheppard, Nick Smith, Courtney Fish, Indigo Grubbs. Front row left to right: Sarah Eubanks, Katie Fals, Erica Baker.



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 www.honors.appstate.edu.

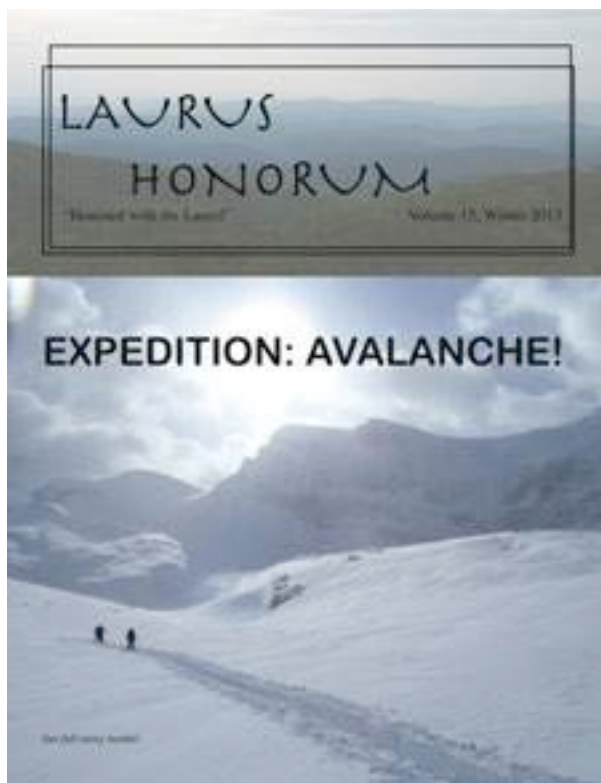
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WINTER 2013



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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!



PAGE 2



WELCOME

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 Exercise Science. Congratulations to both Dr. Waldroup and ES! 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 these excellent scholars; as you can read about their thesis defenses, you will see what we mean. We are very proud of our students, like Katie Fals and the entire *Community-Based Art* class, for their service to our region, and thanks to all the students who went off to conferences this fall to help represent Honors. There are also some fabulous trips to read about, from Ireland to Italy, LaTrobe to Lake Louise. We also hope you will love hearing from our alumni as much as we do; kudos to Brittany and Cori! So dive in, as Callie did "down under," and warm up with this fun read.

A Word From the Director



Spring 2014 Course Line-Up



The Honors College HON course line-up for spring once again has some old favorites, like Dr. Dale's *Love and Death* and Dr. Osmond's *Narratives in the Caring Professions*, as well as a few that were offered last year for the first time, like Dr. Love's *Music and Politics* or Dr. Dunston's *Tycoons, Titans and Bloggards*. A new course is Dr. Jones' *Zombie Masters: Parasites to Politics* that will go from the weird world of alien organisms taking over neural control of individuals from another species, to social memes and the mind control efforts of everything from gaming to governments.

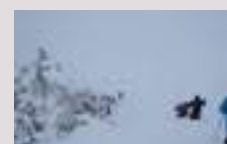
There are also several great travel courses, like the Vienna adventure with Drs. Toub, Mansure, and Hellenbrand. This combined HON 2515/3515 course will have students waltzing on the Danube in May. There are also two graduate business courses, one to Poland and another to Brazil, open to qualified upper class students with an interest in international business and sustainable business practices.



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STUDENTS

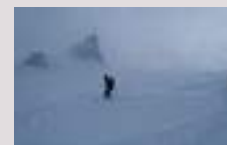
EXPEDITION: AVALANCHE!



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 intrepid Honors Freshmen Retreat leader!), Andrew and his classmates went on the trip of a lifetime to Canada to experience epic mountain climbs, 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 Norquay 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 advance techniques for skiing on powder. With a positive and fun atmosphere the group braved the infamous Wapta Traverse, a multi-day trekking and skiing pathway through some of the most beautiful mountains in North America. Plunging headlong into the expedition with two world-class guides, the students were able to make the most out of the adventure and bonded quickly over the love of snow sports. Skiing in fantastic conditions and enjoying the unparalleled sights of Canada made the days fly by.

But all too quickly the expedition came to an end. Although no one wanted to leave, everyone took away something. For some the best part of the trip was the sightseeing, for others it was the challenge of back-packing on skis, and for a few more it was just simply pushing the limits of skiing. Each person went into the trip as an individual but came out a part of a tight-knit group with bonds and memories to last a lifetime, and a new appreciation for snow!



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STUDENTS

Honors College Bids Farewell to December Graduates

The Honors College held its December *Honorum Laurus* 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 as directors for the students' Honors Theses joined to see the students receive their medals, symbolizing "one honored with the laurel."



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



New Exercise Science Honors Program!

The Department of Exercise Science is the newest unit at ASU to create a new Honors program. Thanks to the remarkable support and hard work of Drs. Scott Gollner and David Morris, 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. This much-awaited addition to the list of 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 DPT, MD, PA, or any other health-related advanced degree. Thank you, ES faculty and staff!



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STUDENTS

The Thrill of the Thesis Defense!

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 get a taste of the joy of scholarly discovery. This semester we were able to sample a variety of topics, including Cassidy Culbreth's *Is Clicker Training More Effective Than Verbal Cues with Shelter Dogs?* (pictured on right). Her Director was Dr. Ken Steele (Psychology), and her Second Reader was Ms. Gilda Gordon of the Watauga Humane Society, where the study was conducted. Thank you WHS for accommodating this work.



Psychology major Sarah Clarke also did primary research with Dr. Chris Dickinson on *Will You Look Me in the Eyes? ASD and Gaze Patterns*. Second Reader Dr. Nina Jo Moore brought the useful perspective of a Communications professor to the fascinating exchange that followed Sarah's description of the novel study on eye tracking and memory. The implications of her findings to autism provoked an intense discussion of neurotypical and atypical gaze patterns.

Another Psychology Professor, Dr. Mark Zrull, was the Director for Biology major Carlson Keller's thesis on *Effects of Environmental Enrichment Upon the Amygdala of Adolescent Rats*, with Second Reader Dr. Darrell Lewis, a neurologist from Duke University. The discussion at the defense was a lively exchange on the role of emotion in activating cFOS expression in the basolateral amygdala and how this can be used to help understand PTSD.



Pictured on the left, Brindley Polk tackled the problem of *Primary and Secondary Education Changes during the Third Reich* with Director Dr. Rennie Brantz (History, pictured with Brindley at the defense) and our own Dr. Angela Mead as her Second Reader. This challenging topic led to an extended and engrossing conversation on the role of government in education and whether questioning authority can and should be taught.

The Geology Department was ably represented by Chase Batchelor and her Thesis Director Dr. Chuanhui Gu. Second Reader Dr. Colby from Geography joined in the examination of Chase's thesis on *Hyporheic Exchange and Nutrient Uptake in a Forested and Urban Stream*. Since this was a local project, there was extensive discussion of what the next steps on this study of water exchange in local creeks might be.

As the debate was going on in Watauga County over whether *The Chocolate War* should be taught in school, Emily Johnson, an English Secondary Education major, was defending her thesis on *Bridging the Gap: Using Young Adult Literature to Access the Classics*. With Director Dr. Elaine O'Quinn (English) and Second Reader Dr. Chris Osmond (Education, committee shown on right), Emily embarked on a stimulating presentation of how to use *The Chocolate War*, for example, as a scaffold for introducing *Lord of the Flies* to young adult readers. Perhaps the Watauga School Board should take note.



(Continued on Page 7)

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STUDENTS

Thrill of the Thesis (Continued from Page 6)

Another close reading of pieces of literature was undertaken by Alison Tressler. Dr. Craig Fisher (English) directed her thesis on *Humanism in Literature: Triumph of the Human Spirit in a Pessimistic World*. Dr. Lisa Curtin Grizzard as Second Reader helped think through how psychologists like Maslow would evaluate self-actualization of the main characters in *The Scarlet Letter* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Finance and Banking major Brittany Barringer discussed *Factors that Impact Job Placement for Finance and Banking Undergraduates*. Brittany, along with Thesis Director Dr. Chris McNeil (Finance and Banking) and the Honors College's own Dr. Angela Mead as Second Reader discussed how student extracurricular involvement, internship experience and grades have an impact on job seekers' placement after graduation.



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. Pia Albinsson and Dr. Jennifer Henson (both in Marketing) with Dr. Benno Weiner (History) as Second Reader. Lisa evaluated brand preferences of a wide variety of brands and items of Chinese consumers.

Caley Wahl (on right in bottom photo), a Music major, presented on *Multicultural Music Education: Resources & Methods and Their effects on the Classroom as it Applies to Cultural Context and Authenticity*. Caley, along with four other members of her South Africa trip, gave a wonderful performance of an American Shaker hymn *Simple Gifts* and a South African song *Schweelo Eelee Makanana*, complete with culturally-appropriate responses from Caley's Thesis Director and Trip Leader, Dr. Suzi Mills (Music). This pair of cappella performances demonstrated the difference in performing music from different cultures. Caley, Dr. Mills, and Second Reader Dr. Tracy Smith (Education) had a very engaged discussion about how to incorporate culturally-appropriate movements, techniques and skills as a music teacher. Great fun was had by all.



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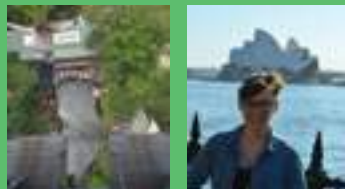


INTERNATIONAL

Callie Pruett Takes a Trip "Down Under"

Honors sophomore Callie Pruett traveled to "The Land Down Under" during her fall semester to study at La Trobe University in Melbourne, Australia. While school was her first priority, Callie got to explore the country on weekends and during her break while enjoying Australia's much warmer weather. Although Melbourne will always be her favorite place in Australia, a few of her best memories include visiting Steve Irwin's Australia Zoo; bungee jumping in Cairns; climbing Mount Wellington in Tasmania; touring the Sydney Opera House; scuba diving on the Great Barrier Reef; feeding wild cockatoos in Lorne; taking a trip on the Great Ocean Road; and even jumping the pond to New Zealand!

There were so many wonderful memories Callie could share, but it would take a lifetime to recount. Even beyond just the exciting memories, she counts her cultural awareness as the greatest gain that she received in her study abroad experience. "Living and adapting to another culture, even one as 'similar' to American culture, is something that can never be undervalued. My time in Australia was life changing, to say the least, and my experiences there will stay with me forever. I would highly recommend a study abroad experience to all university students."



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INTERNATIONAL



The Italian Job

Honors students Dean Cates (left in photos) and Andrew Graves (right in photos) spent their fall semester studying in Florence, Italy. Although their coursework focused in the areas of language and culture, it was the whole experience of living in another culture that was really driving the learning experience. Living in Tuscany means eating, of course, taking in cathedrals, and art, art, art. Even an entire semester is not long enough to take it all in. This gorgeous backdrop of Boccaccio's Decameron (top photo) is home to Michelangelo's David, Botticelli's Venus, and the cathedral with Brunelleschi's glorious dome. There is the Sangiovese to sample, along with panzanella and crostini toscani at sidewalk cafes along the Arno, pictured here with the Ponte Vecchio behind our peripatetic pair. Dean and Andrew return in the spring semester and have promised to write us a piece on how this experience has influenced them and their career decisions... 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 Voyages course. This class, specifically designed for the CS students, challenges them to create an itinerary 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 them researching the myriad opportunities of Eire's capital city and then selecting a reasonable number of experiences to sample that will meet the needs of everyone in the group.

(Continued on Page 10)



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INTERNATIONAL

When Irish Eyes are Smiling (Continued from Page 9)



Examples of some of the sites chosen this fall included the Book of Kells exhibit, the National Museum of Ireland, and the Abbey Theater, 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 Kilmaham Gaol, while others went to the National Gallery of Ireland with its excellent collection of J.B. Yeats art pieces. Everyone was able to take in the breadth of history over the past millennium through the beauty of Christ Church Cathedral, while the scientists 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 fluxes that characterize a world city. The swirl of voices on the streets were speaking everything from Russian to Spanish, Mandarin to Urdu, and although it was disappointing not to hear much Erse, or even as many local patrons 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 places were particularly reminiscent of the bar scene in the first *Star Wars* movie.

When asked to list their favorite memories of the trip, students would get dreamy and pause. 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 revelled in the wild fun of the Bodhrin class (Irish drumming) that they took one evening. Everyone had food-tasting high on their list, and the rainbow-decorated cityscape seen from the top of the Guinness Storehouse was a magic moment for all.

The shortness and intensity of the adventure gave it a surreal quality, and the general conclusion was that a trip back with a longer stay would be needed to make sure that it was all there, all real. Go raib maith agat, Baile Atha Cliath, do do warmth agus ailleacht.

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SERVICE

Honors Students Help Make Public Art Plan a Reality

For a 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. The tables were crafted to display a map of the area outlined with local quilt patterns. 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 (see story and photos on page 16).

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.



Honors Student Helps to Save Dogs



Katie's Christmas ornaments decorate canine photos at Bistro Roca in Blowing Rock.

Between wrapping up her fall courses and studying for final exams, Honors junior Katie Fals 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 Roca. The money collected from customers who purchased an ornament went to the organization.

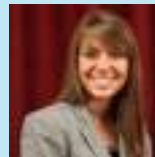
Owner and president of PARTNERS! Canines, Melissa Bahleda, will use the proceeds to vaccinate dogs living in high kill shelters locally and in surrounding counties. The dogs will be transported to other shelters in the New England area where they have a greater chance to be adopted. If you want to learn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

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ALUMNI

Endless Possibilities for Honors Alumna

So much has happened for Honors alumna Brittany Mauldin Freeman since graduating in 2012. After completing an internship with DHG in Pinehurst, 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 to graduate with a job in financial management. She accepted the job and began studying for her CPA license in November 2012, a requirement for the position. Because she graduated from ASU with 150 credit hours and held summer internship positions as an undergraduate, Brittany met the requirements for the CPA license. In her first attempt, Brittany passed all four parts just in time to be married to her high school sweetheart in June 2013. She subsequently 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 ECU's distance learning program to earn an MBA with a concentration in finance, beginning in the Spring 2014 semester. *"Accounting has provided me a background on how to report a company's resources and I am now ready to see strategic approaches to investing these resources as well as grow skills applicable to all businesses. Having this degree will assist me in my current position as well as set me up for the ability to have various 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 believe this shows how strong ASU's undergraduate accounting program is and how well the College of Business Honors program and the Honors College helped prepare me for the future!"

Calling All Honors Alumni . . .

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!

Current students, prospective students, parents, and all of us in Honors are thrilled to hear about the fascinating journeys our alumni take after graduating from the Honors College. Please send us your stories and photographs! Whether you have traveled, you are continuing your education, or you just landed your first job, we would love to hear from you. Email the Honors College at honors@appstate.edu and tell us all about it so we can showcase your experience!



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ALUMNI

Honors Alumna Cori Rogers Thrives in Medical School



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 exceed my expectations." Honors alumna Cori Rogers is now a second year medical student at the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. "I've done very well balancing the demands of school and life thanks to the lessons I learned from faculty and fellow students at ASU." The courses Cori took as an undergraduate here at ASU, such as *Immunology, Human Systems Physiology, and Cell Biology*, formed a vital foundation for her transition into medical school, but not solely based on what she learned from the books.

"The learning atmosphere in both the Honors College and the Biology Department went well beyond just memorizing facts. It encouraged purposeful thinking and asking the 'why' behind the 'what.' This type of critical thinking is the bread and butter of scientific and medical education. Those of my colleagues who focused on memorization throughout college have had difficulty adjusting to a new way of thinking. Completing basic science research at ASU and creating and defending an Honors Thesis helped teach me to never accept things at face value when there was much more to know. In labs that were associated with the biology and chemistry courses I took, we performed hands-on experiments and procedures that are often mentioned in my current studies in medical school. Being able to have not only seen, but completed the tests and assays that are discussed in my medical school courses, gives me a better understanding of the concepts behind the science."

Extracurricular involvement kept Cori very busy during her time at ASU. Juggling school along with other outside obligations pushed her to increase her capacity and become a more effective time manager, which is still incredibly useful to her. "Overall, I give ASU much of my thanks for the success I have enjoyed in medical school thus far. From helping me get accepted to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital Pediatric Oncology Education program in 2010 and 2011, to discovering my new home here at UTHSC, I give ASU and the Honors College my most sincere thanks. I love my alma mater and it's always great to be a Mountaineer!"



CONFERENCES

Appalachian's Honors College Hosts Annual NCHA Conference in Fall 2013

On October 4th and 5th, the Honors College hosted the annual North Carolina Honors Association (NCHA) conference. This professional organization of faculty, administrators, and students is dedicated to the promotion and advancement of undergraduate Honors education. NCHA creates an intellectual and administrative network of resources aimed to help our region's Honors programs grow and thrive through the dissemination and sharing of information and best practices statewide. Students, faculty, and administrators who are a part of Honors programs from universities and community colleges across the state attended the event to share ideas about how to continually improve the experiences of Honors students in North Carolina.

The event began on Friday evening with a reception, and on Saturday students and faculty presented research and posters on many different topics, which included "The Power of Group Dynamics in Musical Ensembles," "Raising Cultural Awareness Via Food," "Developing a Beehive Surveying System," and "Building Mentoring Networks Through Freshmen Seminars." Lunch included table topics on a number of different issues affecting Honors, which was followed by a business meeting for faculty and administrators and a student meeting that discussed the Honors student organization role. The conference concluded with a final session in which students reported on the ideas presented during their meeting, and the announcement of the Honors College's very own Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones as NCHA President for 2013-14.

The Honors College received high praise from all who attended for making the event a successful and productive collaboration of ideas to improve and expand the Honors mission statewide.

(Conference highlights continued on Page 15)



CONFERENCES

NCHA Conference Highlights (Continued from Page 14)

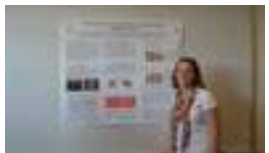


UNC-Wilmington



Winston-Salem University

Posters and Presentations



Left: Honors College Director, Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones, voted as President of NCHA for 2013-2014.



CONFERENCES

Honors Students Participate at SNURCS



Brian is a Computer Science major and discussed the process he went through in applying the course materials he learned in a computer science elective and implementing them in a real world application with working results. "I really enjoyed my time at the conference. The questions I received were particularly fun to answer and I felt that my presentation went over really well. I even received numerous contacts from schools around North Carolina in response to my presentation!"

Other Honors students who presented at the symposium included:

Corbin Ester (junior Chemistry major): *Novel cobaloximes as electrocatalysts for hydrogen production.* Mentor: Dr. Dale Wheeler (Chemistry).

Chirayu Patel (senior Biology major): *The Use of Vesicular Stomatitis Virus and Natural Products for the Treatment of Cervical Cancer.* Mentor: Dr. Maryam Ahmed (Biology).

Dawn Woodard (senior Mathematics major): *An Uncertainty Metric for Anthropogenic CO2 Emissions from Point Sources.* Mentor: Dr. Eric Marland (Mathematics).

A fifth Honors student, Jacob Pawlik (sophomore Chemistry major), also attended the symposium.

Five Honors students were among 48 other ASU undergraduate students who attended the 9th Annual State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium (SNURCS) held at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte on November 16th. ASU joined 34 other North Carolina academic institutions at the symposium where students presented their research in multiple different formats, including posters and exhibits.

Honors senior Brian Clea (pictured far left in photo), presented his work, *Creating a Public Transit iPhone App (ASU/Bus)*. His mentor was Dr. Rahman Tashakori (Computer Science).

Honors Students Present in Washington D.C.

Honors students in Dr. Tom Hansell's *Community-Based Art* Honors seminar course presented their work on creating a public art plan for the Elk Knob community at the Appalachian Teaching Conference in Washington D.C. See full story on Page 11.



CONFERENCES

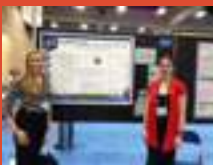
Society for Neuroscience 2013

By Kyle Sasser, Honors sophomore

Appalachian's editorial team for the journal *IMPULSE* traveled to San Diego, CA, to attend the Society for Neuroscience's (SfN) annual meeting for 2013. Composed of students Dana Cobb, Alison Rossi, Corbin Ester, Kyle Sasser, Danielle Russell, and Dawn Woodard, the team presented a poster on the educational and experiential benefits the journal has provided to past reviewers, authors, and editors. Presenting over three floor sessions, members introduced the study's findings while simultaneously educating attendees about the journal and recruiting interested undergraduates.

The team also presented at the Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience's (FUN) concurrent annual meeting. Here, members reviewed the work of other undergraduate students while continuing to promote *IMPULSE* and present the poster to this targeted group.

Also in attendance were editorial members from several of the journal's other reviewer training sites. The Associate Editors Simone Dixon from Furman University and Sara Kimmich from the University of California, San Diego, as well as Publicity Editor Jake Westerberg from St. Olaf College, all assisted in representing the journal both at SfN and the FUN meeting.



Honors Faculty, Staff, and Students Present at NCHC in New Orleans

Honors College staff and students let the good times 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), while senior Josh Carr (pictured right) presented with Dr. Angela Mead on *Recruiting Current Students into Honors: A Case Study*. The Honors College at ASU



(Continued on Page 18)

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CONFERENCES

Honors Staff and Students Present at NCHC

(Continued from Page 17)

currently actively recruits students in their freshman and sophomore year who are high achieving but are not in the Honors College. Their presentation described the process while Josh discussed his views as an internal admitted student. Dr. Mead was also invited to serve on a "Developing in Honors" roundtable discussion on the topic of *Honors Advising Beyond Course Selection*.

In the group shot on right, seniors Miranda Cook (top left), Alex Dezii (top right), and Caleb Yelton (bottom left) are shown here talking about their Honors international experiences in Mexico, India, and South Africa during the summer of 2013. All students were introduced by Dr. Jones (bottom right). The title of their presentation was *International Internships for Pre-Health Majors: A New Model*. Pictured below, the group describes the opportunities offered by the Honors College to study and intern in these foreign countries.



During the five-day conference, the group had the chance to explore New Orleans with NCHC's Town as Text®. They also enjoyed fresh beignets in piles of powdered sugar, chicory coffee, and great Cajun and seafood dishes. They were able to reconnect with former Honors College associate director, Dr. Michael Lane, who attended in his new position as Honors Director at the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore.

Dr. Jones was also invited to be a member of a "Developing in Honors" roundtable discussion on the topic *Making the Transition from Honors Program to Honors College*. She was also a member of the newsletter review committee based upon receiving a top award last year for our newsletter, the *Laurus Honorum*.

While they all had a good time exploring Bourbon Street and the French Quarter, the group was there primarily to learn about new innovations in Honors education and to meet others who work in Honors education. It was a great time for making new friends and connections, and visiting a fascinating city with a great history.

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 Dr. Dale Wheeler. The goals of the project were aimed 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 (pictured on Page 17) created and produced the 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. [Click here](#) to access the video posted on our website.

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INTERNSHIPS

Jenna Hambleton Completes Rewarding Internship at the Conservator's Center

In Summer 2013, Honors sophomore Jenna Hambleton was among a handful of dedicated individuals to participate in a six-week internship program at the Conservator's Center in Mebane, NC. The Center is a last resort for many animals that were once fancy pets, rescued, or unlucky enough to be part of breeding operations so that people could have their exotic pets. The animals included lions, tigers, binturongs, genets, and kinkajous, and Jenna worked hard all day to attend to their needs.

Jenna's days began preparing food for large cats, wolves, and a variety of smaller carnivores and omnivores. She first cleaned the enclosures, then placed food and moved around toys, logs, and other items to enrich the animals' everyday lives. Interns were allowed to enter enclosures only after keepers shifted out dangerous animals, checked multiple times, and deemed them safe to enter. No one entered enclosures with dangerous animals. The remainder of her days were spent preparing for the following day, and once a week she joined other interns to attend a class ranging in topics from nutrition to target training.

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

If you are interested in visiting or knowing more about the Conservator's Center, you can visit their website at www.conservatorscenter.org.



Left: Jenna target trains with Arthur Tiger under the supervision of one of the Conservator's Center's trained professional keepers.

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WATCH FOR OUR SPRING 2014 ISSUE OF THE LAURUS HONORUM!

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



The Honors College is excited to announce Dr. Heather Waldroup (pictured here in Patagonia) will be joining us as the new Associate Director beginning in the Spring 2014 semester. Dr. Waldroup is an Associate Professor 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 interdisciplinary History of Consciousness Program at the University of California 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 practice. Her scholarly record includes a number of articles in peer-reviewed journals and curatorial projects, including the first solo exhibition by a Pacific Islander artist in Western North Carolina. Her book manuscript, *Collecting the American Pacific: Photography and Empire, 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 majors in the fine 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!

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 www.honors.appstate.edu.

For more information on how to donate, please email or call the Honors College. We appreciate your support and generosity!

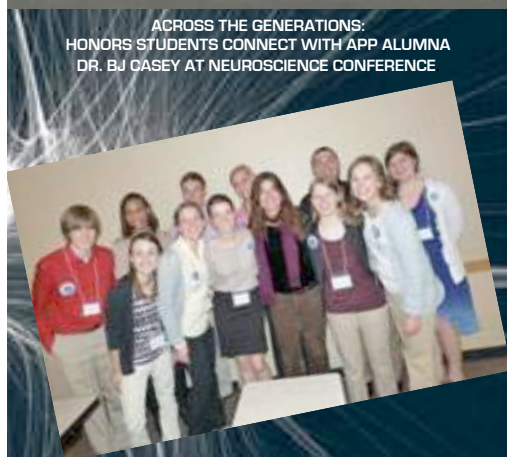
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The Honors College Newsletter

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 - Associate Director
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 - Advising Coordinator
Dr. Angela Mead
 - Pre-Law and Business Advisor
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SPRING 2014



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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!



PAGE 2

WELCOME

A Word from the Director

Balancing The Selfie Season with the Big Five in Honors

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 selfies 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 "bag" 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 and Environmental Design, and some conference reports, of course!

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



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. Yoga Coopoo (left), and Professor Leon Lategan (who will oversee the students' rotations), Ms. Yandow toured the facilities that the students will be visiting in June. Ms. Yandow manages 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.

PAGE 3

NEWS

Department of Technology And Environmental Design Creates Honors Program!

Thanks to the efforts of TED department chair, Professor Jeff Tiller, and his colleagues in the unit, the students of this large department will now have the opportunity to pursue departmental honors. The program follows the format of most other department honors programs, requiring two honors classes and a thesis to be completed, in addition to maintaining the same GPA that would earn *Cum Laude* Latin honors (3.45).

This program is open to all majors in any field of TED; students do not have to be in the Honors College to graduate with TED departmental honors. It is an extraordinary intellectual challenge that is available to any ambitious students in the TED majors who want to take their scholarship to the next level and prepare for graduate school with the kind of research and creative projects that the best schools expecting.

Current majors for whom this honors program is now a possibility include: Appropriate Technology, Building Science, Commercial Photography, Graphic Arts and Imaging Technology, Industrial Design, and Interior Design.

Congratulations to Technology and Environmental Design!



Fall 2014 Course Line-Up

The fall course list had some provocative additions to the regular offerings. Criminal Justice's *Cybercrime* course is a new 3515 from Dr. Marcum and is a nice counterpoint to Dr. Rick Klima's 2515

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Secret Codes. Unlearning Racism from Dr. Brandy Wilson is another new 3515, as is Professor McCraw's *Executive Seminar in International Leadership and Ethics*. Dr. Janice Pope (COM) has created a new course with *mymedia.myworld*, as has Dr. Chris Osmond with *Faces in a Crowd*, which will use the works of David Foster Wallace as the class framework. Dr. Alexandra Hellenbrand will take students into the world of The Blue Danube again, and several of the 1515s are returning hits, like *Contemporary Brazilian Culture and Literature* from Dr. Brent James. Happy Shopping!



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STUDENTS

Entrepreneurial Philanthropy

Over winter break, Jack Schaufler (right) learned about a project his best friend, Alex Wilhelm, from UNC-CH 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 photo voltaic 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 Strata Solar owner Markus Wilhelm and Carolina for Kibera founder Rye Barcott.






UNITED SOLAR INITIATIVE, INC.



PAGE 5

STUDENTS



Annual Chancellor's Scholars Dinner

On February 25th, the Annual Chancellor's Scholars Dinner was held at the Appalachian House, home of Chancellor and Mrs. Peacock. This event provided an opportunity for Chancellor Peacock and his wife, Roseanne, to get to know all four years of Chancellor's Scholars and talk about their experiences in the Honors College.

Also joining them were the Honors College staff, the Chancellor's Scholarship Committee, the Honors College Advisory Committee, the Provost, and other campus officials who all enjoyed a lovely evening. Pictured at right are some of the senior Chancellor's Scholars (l to r: Tyler Morton, Rachel Duffus, Nadareh Naseri, Kenneth Kennedy, Chancellor Peacock, Sarah Spain, Anna Gannett, Chelsea Lineberger, and Heather Newman).





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STUDENTS

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 those 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.



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AWARDS



Ester wins Goldwater Scholar Award!

Corbin Ester, a rising senior and chemistry major, was recently named to the national, highly prestigious Goldwater Scholars awards list for 2014-15. This followed on the heels of the Excellence in Scholastic Achievement Award he received from the Carolina Piedmont Section of the American Chemical Society this spring (pictured at left). Corbin's Goldwater award was for work he proposed based on his synthetic chemistry research in Dr. Dale Wheeler's laboratory. This experience, combined with his research the past two summers at the Univ of Kentucky and the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, are all part of his career path in oncology research and treatment.

CONGRATULATIONS, CORBIN!



Heinen Wins Hollings Award!

Sophomore Laura Heinen was announced as one of the 2014 Hollings Award winners! The Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship Program is part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); this scholarship provides selected undergraduate students with an award (up to a maximum of \$8,000) for two academic years of full-time study with an intervening 10-week, full-time internship (\$650/week) during the summer at a NOAA facility. Laura is shown here collecting data from Boone Creek for her research in Geology with senior Jacob Rudolph.



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INTERNATIONAL

Mixing Business with Pleasure in Costa Rica

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 "Coopedota," where he witnessed the damage caused by a fungus that attacks and diminishes coffee plants. *"I spoke with an agro engineer about the adversities coffee 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, assist with reforestation as part of conservation efforts, learn about the importance of energy and water conservation, explore the country, 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."*



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INTERNSHIPS



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 up 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 this 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!



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INTERNATIONAL



Freshman Ryan Hellenbrand Spends Spring Semester in Bamberg, Germany

Ryan Hellenbrand (second from left below), a freshmen studying abroad in Bamberg, Germany, for his second semester, is shown here with some German classmates in Nuremberg at an exhibition commemorating the Nuremberg Trials (he is second from left in the photo). Ryan is a Global Studies and Sustainable Development double major with a German minor and decided not to wait for his study abroad experiences. Although only a freshman, this is his second ASU trip abroad, as he went to Dublin over Fall Break with an Honors College class.



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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!



Dana Cobb and Elisabeth Moore (backs to the shot) evaluate a poster presented at the conference.



Drs. BJ Casey and Platt address a workshop.



The whole conference team: (back row, 1 to r) Devin Hoffman, Sarah Eubanks, Kyle Sasser, Danielle Russell, Corbin Ester, Hannah Johnson; (front row, 1 to r) Alison Rossi, Dana Cobb, Hannah Krueger, Dr. BJ Casey, Elizabeth Moore, Rachel Sledge.

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ALUMNI

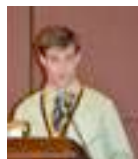
**Alumnus Pastore Heads for
UNC-CH DPT Program**

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!"



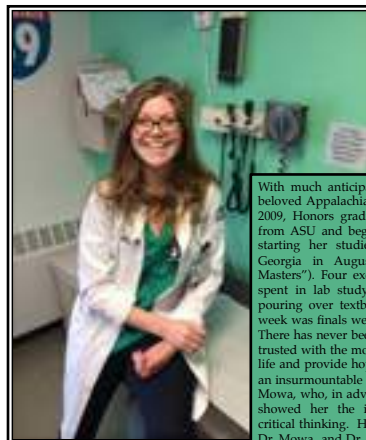
Alumni Comadoll, Cutshall, and Sears Start Medical School in the Fall

This coming fall Shea Comadoll (Dec. 2013, at left), Michael Cutshall (May 2013, center) and Taylor Sears (May 2012, at right) will be M1s (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 chemistry major, will be attending ECU's Brody School of Medicine. These students prudently applied after they had gained more clinical experience, a key component to a successful application. Congratulations to all three future physicians!



ALUMNI

**Honors Grad
Enjoys Pediatric
Residency in
Burlington, VT**



With much anticipation and sadness to leave the beloved Appalachian Mountains in the summer of 2009, 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 Masters"). 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 trusted with the most intimate details of someone's life and provide hope for the future. Whitney owes an insurmountable amount of thanks to Dr. Nathan Mowa, who, in advising her on her Honor's 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.

RESEARCH

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), Kaity Woodard (top right), Brianna Germond (middle right), Autumn Cheek (bottom right), and Dawn Woodard (l) and Meredith Branham (r, bottom left).

Summer 2014 Issue of Laurus Honorum coming in July!

Welcome, Dr. Andrea McDowell!

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 over as 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.

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



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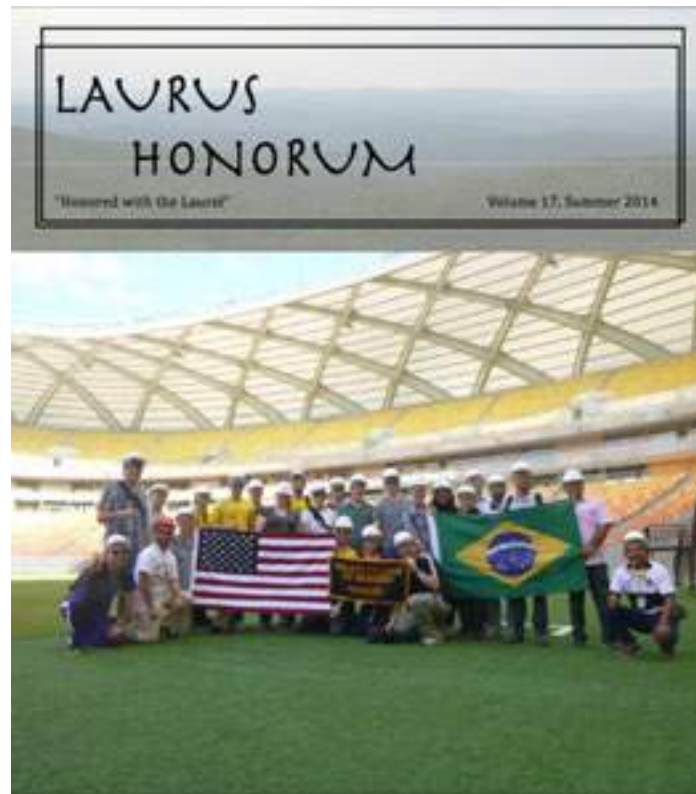
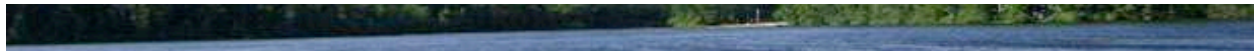
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SUMMER 2014



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Laurus Honorum ("honored with the laurel") is the NSIC 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 so let us hear from you! You can find all contact information and updates at:



You can also follow us on social media!



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WELCOME

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR: UPDATES AND GLOBAL SALUTATIONS FROM SOUTH AFRICA TO MILAN



Above: Dr. James in front of the Cavalli-Gigli Museum in Milan.

Welcome to the Summer 2014 Laurus Honorum newsletter! As usual, there are a lot of stories and news items in these pages, including an update on the Honors International Experience program, which took Ms. Justice Tandon and me to South Africa to help the latest trip was to Milan, Italy, for the European Neuroscience (EUN) conference. That story about the meeting of an ASU and a UPJ (South Africa) student, and their collaboration on a poster presentation, is also inside. While there I made a pilgrimage to Carlo Gigli, the namesake of Cavalli-Gigli, who shared the 1996 Nobel Prize in

Physiology or Medicine with Calaf for their work on the structure of the nervous system. (Never mind that Gigli was wrong about the synaptic, his other integrative insights made what Calaf discovered possible and revolutionized our understanding of several connections.) It is a wonderful tale of how perseverance can be an indispensable part of the "scientific method." There is a faculty highlight on Dr. Johnny Waters, this year's Honors Teacher of the Year, and lots of exciting summer travel reports from around the globe. There are also several updates on Honors students' recent global adventures, so don't let have some "laureate fun!"



Above: World Political Map. ©2013 Central Intelligence Agency, courtesy of State of Texas Libraries.



NEWS

HONORUM LAURUS CEREMONY, SPRING 2014

In the *Honorum Laurus* ceremony, the Honors College celebrates those who have completed the requirements to earn the distinction of University Honors. Graduating students are bestowed the *Honorum Laurus* medal and with it officially "honored with the laurel." The medal design reflects the logo of the Honors College, which in turn incorporates the mountain imagery of the Appalachian State University word mark. Our graduates have now taken flight going on to the world; we wish them success and will follow their bright futures with pride and great interest.



On May 15th, the Honors College hosted the Spring 2014 *Honorum Laurus*. Over 200 people attended, including 76 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 subjects that included Amanda Tier's "Art Management Museum in Madry Society," Alison Wallace's "Mathematical Science Geometry and Trigonometry," and Joshua Cain's "Thriving Dance and Creative Arts to Build and Strengthen Community Bonds." Visit our website to get a fascinating glimpse of all our talented graduates! *Honors Thesis Abstracts*: www.honors.appstate.edu/~academics/Honors-examples.



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NEWS

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: SPECIAL AWARDS



Below left: Dr. Johnny Waters (right), Honors College Faculty member and Teacher of the Year, along with Dr. Janna (left) at the Spring 2014 *Honorum Laurus* ceremony.



Below right: Dr. Janna Waters (left) Waters with the Honors College Teacher of the Year award and medal at the ceremony.



Below left: Dr. Jack Patton, Associate Professor of Health and Exercise Science and Honors College Teacher of the Year speaks at the Spring 2014 *Honorum Laurus* ceremony.



Right: Dr. Jay Wankewitz (right), the 2014 Honors College Special Award Winner is pictured here with Dr. Janna (left) after receiving the *Honorum Laurus* medal for his many years of service.

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ALUMNI

A SAMPLING OF WHAT OUR MOST RECENT HONORS ALUMNI ARE PURSUING POST-GRADUATION

NAME	EDUCATION
Egona Skopcevska	• Masters degree in criminal justice at University of Denver
Lary Ballard	• Masters degree in Sociology at Marquette University School with a focus on Islamic Studies
Reneah Cantone	• Masters degree in art therapy at Long Island University Post
Mira Casabelli	• M.D. at Wake Forest School of Medicine
Micaela Cook	• Postdoctorate program at Wake Forest School of Medicine, Performance and Special Research Center
Katarina Houser	• Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Michigan
Neah Hughes	• Masters degree in general education at ASU and additional year program supported by a teaching assistantship
Kenneth Kennedy	• Ph.D. at University of California Los Angeles
Alexis Lefebowitz	• Masters degree in clinical mental health counseling at University of North Carolina Charlotte
Nadavich Nasser	• Dental School at University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, TN
Alyson Padack	• Masters degree in speech language pathology at Colbyard University
Nelly Reid	• Masters degree in music theory and piano performance at Eastman College Conservatory of Music
Dawn Woodward	• Ph.D. in earth system science at University of California Irvine
Chelsea Zimmis	• Ph.D. in physical therapy at University of Colorado Denver
Susan Zhou	• Research assistant at the Wake Forest School of Medicine, Institute for Regenerative Medicine

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INTERNATIONAL

PHYSIOTHERAPY IN JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

Honors student Margaret Fagan and ASU student Abby Belling, both pre-physical therapy majors, spent an interesting and fun-filled four weeks in Johannesburg, South Africa, as an international experience coordinated by the Honors College with the University of Johannesburg. Their time included a week each at the following: the Duroshobole campus in the Department of Physiotherapy shadowing in their bachelors clinic; the Parkburg Road campus shadowing specialists in areas such as orthopedics and neurological rehab; the University of Witwatersrand campus; and the rugby stadium rehab clinic (also working with the Lions team members). This international experience proved invaluable, providing these two students first-hand understanding and an international perspective of the practice of physical therapy.



Below: Margaret Fagan (right) and Abby Belling (left) visit in the bachelors clinic at the Duroshobole clinic with Dr. James Wankewitz.



Right: Margaret Fagan and Abby Belling playing with some of the Johannesburg Lion Pups.

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 progressing quickly. It's fun watching the physiotherapists stretch out the patients because I get to see what they do in the clinic and differ from physical therapists in the states." Margaret further reflects on their activities outside of school: "Just we went to Soccer. We went to Highbury Street (where Nelson Mandela lived). When we got there, a group of 200-300 kids came running up to us and sang to a song. Throughout the street there were multiple other street performers, mostly singers. Even the people selling chocolate were singing. We walked past Desmond Tutu's house. That was surreal, but it was very cool to see. Then we went to the location where Nelson Mandela was shot and where his body was cut. Where his body was left in one of the museum honoring all the people who were shot for their political views."



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INTERNATIONAL

ITALY & SPAIN: DEAN CAFES RETURNS TO STUDY HEMINGWAY AND RUN WITH THE BULLS



This past fall, with the help of the Honors College, Dean Cafes spent the semester in Florence, Italy. As Dean describes, his experience proved only the beginning. "The more I let myself fall into an Italian pace, the more the city revealed its real beauty: restaurants, new friends, and a beautiful world view." This semester, the Honors College again sponsored Dean's travel to present and further his research on Ernest Hemingway. Students of Dean's report from the field below.

I began this journey on Jewish ground, stopping in Florence for a semester to regain my European bearings before continuing on to the Ernest Hemingway Society Conference in Venice, Florence was a breath of fresh air after a long day of travel - I stepped out of Times Square, stepped to walk on the best beaches in the city, and walked down my favorite streets to my room in the Centro. After my amazing experience, I spoke the language, learned the rules, and stayed with friends.

I arrived in Venice on Sunday in time for the author's opening ceremony on San Marco, the small island where the conference was held. The conference itself was interesting. As an outsider who has not yet earned my stripes as a Hemingway scholar, I remembered for the first time on this journey the atmosphere of travel. The desire to negotiate a grocery store, a bus station, or the walking streets of Venice became a theme in contrast to Hemingway's heroes, who never seem to step into the wrong side of the street for a bad moment's time.

During this journey I traveled to Madrid where I met my brother. We traveled the main axis of Madrid along with the Hemingway family: Pío Baroja, the Western Palace Hotel, and El Jardín de Botín. We did our best to keep up with the fast-paced life of Spanish girls. This dance defined the rhythm of our trip, shifting, sometimes quickly, between master and student. This contrast reminded us Hemingway's presence as a traveler, as an ex-pat, Hemingway (as well as many of his characters) was the embodiment of master and student. He began a lesson but never a writer. Hemingway taught for himself, for his characters, and for his readers in a simultaneous way and differentiation - in truly being and to be truly individual.

I learned this idea with me in the left wing of Pamplona and the festival of San Fermin (shown top right) where the Minister stands alone, but with total control of the crowd and the bull. All roads lead to the center of the festival. The Minister sits over with the bulls that morning after a long crowd created hour of waiting on the part, a crowd that will see horns, see jets, and the bulls in motion down the streets of Pamplona. I don't find a thing except my nerves in my throat as the bulls blazed past - just after dead man's curve - and I finished my run into Plaza del Toru and returned home with the crowd waiting there.

After the atrocity of San Fermin, I walked over and just across the airport in Bilbao with my own state between my brother's when and the without I had just left in that July in the San Juan. I learned an immense amount about the world, myself, and Ernest Hemingway. I love the Honors College to thank for such a dynamic, personally and academically enriching experience!





Dean Cafes with Dr. Carl (Dr. Chan) at SOI, Department of English, at the Honors College.



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INTERNATIONAL

DOWN UNDER: MARYBETH BURRIS SPENDS SPRING SEMESTER AT GATROBE UNIVERSITY IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

Above and left: Tourism.

Above: Sydney Opera House.

In Marybeth's own words, "My experience has been absolutely life changing." The emotions have surprised her but been so hard to teach about the world as she has living somewhere that "is very similar to the United States." For example, she noted, schools are very different from the United States, the food her teachers grading without harsh consequences, yet better were not mandatory. In fact, Marybeth excitedly proclaimed, "This experience has opened my eyes and I want to see a bit more of the world." The rate of inspiration is typical of Honors international experiences. We are expanding global horizons!

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INTERNATIONAL

CULTURE & THE ARTS IN VIENNA: HONORS STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD



Above: Class with professors, Dr. Alexandra Hildebrandt, Dr. Jim Tuohy, and Dr. Victor Mousour at the Neudorfstrasse village in Vienna.

A group of twenty-one students and three faculty members studied culture and the arts in Vienna for three weeks this semester. This semester study abroad seminar focused on visual arts (Dr. Tuohy), music (Dr. Mousour), and literature (Dr. Hildebrandt) of the 19th-century period. The group visited major landmarks in Vienna including St. Stephen's Cathedral, the Sigmund Freud (State Opera House), the Burgtheater (Burg Theater) and Schönbrunn Palace, as well as going on excursions to Hausbrunn concentration camp, Eisenstadt, and the Mausoleum at Melk. Honors student Elizabeth Hensley reported that the trip was an "eye-opening experience" she will always remember. The teacher reflected on the particular significance of the visit to the Hausbrunn concentration camp: "In history class, we just all taught the facts of the situation, but now I have a place to connect those facts." There is no substitute for the first-hand international experience Honors provides!



Above: Map of Austria (U.S. Central Intelligence Agency courtesy of Office of that Information).

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INTERNATIONAL

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



Above: Mac with his back from the Amazon forest.

Recent student and business major Macgregor Shepard recently traveled with a group of graduate students from the Walker College of Business to Brazil to study Business, Society, and Sustainability. The trip was a MIX class led by Dr. Mark Moran, an ex-honors student Mac 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 Amazon and the people that I met in my travels." The MIX group spent two weeks visiting Brazil's southern cities of Manaus and Fortaleza. Manaus is the largest city in the Amazon, with over two million people, and is a big trade and manufacturing center. Fortaleza is a port city on the northern coast, and is famous for its trade and as a vacation destination. Mac reports, "I had the first time in Manaus, an incredible experience that truly gave me a look into how developing countries work. Our Supply Chain Management class, I found the challenges of getting cargo in and from Manaus fascinating. Since there are no permanent roads connecting Manaus to the coast, each cargo is shipped up and down the Amazon River. The natural beauty of the place is amazing and was made even more amazing by traveling on a boat during our last few days there, staying in hammocks and talking to indigenous peoples. I would highly recommend that any student who is given the opportunity go abroad (especially Brazil). The only way to get this chance once in your lifetime, so seize it now while you can!"



Above: Group at first stop along the highway to Presidente Figueiredo.



Above and above: The boat used for travel in the Amazon.



Above: Boats docked and hydroelectric facility in the Amazon jungle.

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INTERNATIONAL

TRICHY, INDIA:

MADISE BREEN, MARISSA STOCKSTAEL, AND MORGAN FITCH

Honors students Madise Breen (junior marine science major), Marissa Stockstael (junior psychology major), and Morgan Fitch (junior biology major) spent a month this summer at Bishop Fisher College in Trichy, India, engaged in pre-vet/medical observation. As described by Madise in her blog report, it was "an amazing (if changing) experience."



Above: Madise (right) and Marissa (center) working with veterinarian and Dr. Rao.



Above: Morgan (center) and Madise (right) working at a private vet clinic with "cute, furry animals."



Left: Madise (right) and Marissa (right) in front of the Sree-Devar Temple (Sree-Devar Temple).

Right: Madise (left), Marissa (center), and Morgan (right) at Sree-Devar Temple ("The City of the Temple").

Right: Madise (left), Morgan (center), and Madise (right) at Sree-Devar Temple.

INTERNATIONAL

SOCIAL SERVICE IN CHENNAI, INDIA

Honors student Mary Clare Grube, along with 400 students from the National Christian Council of Social Service (NCCSS). This social services organization works on a variety of projects including: women in development, human trafficking, an integrated complex for senior citizens and children (where Mary Clare and Natalie stayed), and family counseling centers. The following field report from Mary Clare's travel blog summarizes their experience: "Some of the things we've seen and the stories we've heard are heart wrenching, but the beauty of it all is seen through the organization. The staff here are the best advocates for their clients, and everything is very community oriented. Social work is practiced on a macro level, which helps everybody on the staff, in the homes, and their surrounding community. Despite the darkness there is a whole lot of light."



Mary Clare (left in top-right photo, center in bottom-right photo, and left in bottom-left photo) and Natalie (left in top-left photo and right in bottom-left photo) in Chennai.

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 infectious diseases. 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 Dr. Luciane Alves at AN's partner institution in Brazil, the Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco (UFPE). What he had taken away is so big that "I called in Dr. Alves and thanked him so much for receiving me and taking such good care of me. I told him about my dream I will be writing and he told me if needed someone to read it, he would gladly do it. Dr. Alves is a really good professor, mentor and person. I am glad I got to spend this time with him. I know for a fact I have grown as a person and as a student due to all the things I learned while here in Brazil. After talking to him, I went and said goodbye to all the students in the lab. I honestly was not expecting to make this many new friends. I remember on the first day, I was really scared, but now I am glad I came. I had so much fun being in the lab every day and now I am wishing I would have stayed more. This time I spent here in Brazil is truly one of those I will always remember in my life. I am bringing back in my baggages a lot of good memories and knowledge to grow academically."



Above: Tibor Nagy (center) with his supervisor, Dr. Luciane Alves (right) and his colleagues.



NIC MCGUIRE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KEELE

A new opportunity opened up at AN's partner school, the University of Keele, in Great Britain. Thanks to Mr. McGuire, a rising junior Chemistry major, the lab asked for a student to observe at a pharmacy program abroad, and our generous colleagues at UK agreed to give it a try. He was there right after the Spring semester ended in May and launched into lab research on improving drug delivery formulations (the experience was a combination of hard work in the lab mixed with observations of clinical practice in pharmacies and work with pharmacy students on a literature review and eventual class presentation). He was also able to reconnect with a Keele student he had met freshman year when she was studying in Brazil in addition to the local adventures of learning his way around the town of Keele, he traveled to London on his last weekend and packed in sightings of historic Big Ben and Westminster Cathedral (photo left). Thanks to his hard work, we received the following note from the Head of the School of Pharmacy: "Nic's behaviour here has been exemplary and your University should be proud. He was enthusiastic to participate, was willing to join in activities, and was generally a good person to have as a partner and in our School. We would be delighted to welcome him back at any time and intend to provide a similar experience for other students from your University." Thanks, Nic, and good job!



FACULTY

CENTRAL ASIA: FACULTY PAY WAY FOR STUDENT-INVOLVED CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH



Above: Dr. Johnny Waters and Dr. Sarah Carmichael, both from the Department of Geology in Wuhan, China.

Honors College Faculty from the Department of Geology are traveling this summer to China and Mongolia. Why? Dr. Johnny Waters' own 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, that is Central Asia." In their research, Drs. Waters and Carmichael are examining geological evidence for connections between past ecosystem changes and related mass extinction (specifically in the Devonian period from 370-350 million years ago) and present climate change. Drs. Waters and Carmichael first traveled at the end of June to Wuhan, China, for a geobiology conference and an expedition to the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River. Then on July 10 they, along with undergraduate geology student Cameron Bickler, departed for the Gobi Proterozoic Zone of Mongolia. In both trips they are fostering 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 students! Stay tuned for what stories flow from these adventures.

STAFF

DR. MEAD ATTENDS NCHC INSTITUTE: LYON, FRANCE




Dr. Angela Mead, Director of Student Services for the Honors College, attended a National Collegiate History Council faculty seminar on the Faculties and Societies of Lyon, France, in July 2014. During this institute, Dr. Mead learned about strategies to enhance experiential learning for Honors students on study abroad trips. In small groups with other Honors faculty and administrators, Dr. Mead explored the culture and history of Lyon. From a quest to find unknown Louvre's hidden passages to the Roman and medieval parts of the city's to talks from those who survived World War II in France to exploring a huge daily farmer's market by the Saône River, Dr. Mead learned new ways to engage students and to foster experiential learning using the City as One™ methodology.

Above: Dr. Angela Mead attends a CCHC meeting in the city of Lyon, France.

Left: The first day Dr. Mead arrived was beautiful but, like all the Lyonese people, she visited with friends over the Bastille de Notre-Dame de Fourvière.




Top left: View of the Grand Théâtre, located in Augustin (1832). It is the oldest full theater in all of France and used for 1,500 spectators for grandiose events.

Top right: A lovely early morning's market, located on the banks of the Saône River. An fountain atop the hill and on the bank of the Saône and Saône's Lyon.

Right: A view of the Saône River, the Bastille of Notre-Dame de Fourvière atop the hill and on the bank of the Saône and Saône's Lyon.

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STAFF

OFFICE MANAGER AND DIRECTOR EXPLORE SOUTH AFRICA

Ms. Susana Yoshino and Dr. Leslie Sargent (over left) travel the day after graduation, visiting to South Africa to visit the University of Johannesburg to establish an opportunity for pre-PT (Physical Therapy) students to spend their study learning about how physiotherapists and habilitators are trained in South Africa. While there, Dr. Sargent met with Dr. Barbara Brown from Biology who was there with 400 students on a faculty-led pre-clinical program. It was great fun to join his group for supper one evening and see 400 students enjoying a meal! They also visited many of the scenic sites in Johannesburg that the students will visit to expand their understanding of South Africa and its rich cultural history, including the Apartheid Museum. On the weekend, the two explorers visited Pilanesburg National Park, three hours northwest of the city, for an animal woodland adventure. During a series of four game drives they saw more wildlife than they could have imagined, including at least one each of the African Big Five: rhinoceros, elephant, Cape buffalo, lion, and leopard (just barely the latter). The experience was breathtaking and other-worldly!





Top Right: Ms. Yoshino (over left) and Dr. Sargent (over left) visit the University of Johannesburg.

Right: Dr. Sargent (over left) and Professor Peter Condon, left, and Lesego, right.





Top left: Johannesburg (over left) and Dr. Sargent (over left) visit the Apartheid Museum with wonderful views of the city.

Bottom left: Susana Yoshino at the Apartheid Museum with wonderful views of the city.



Bottom right: Susana Yoshino and Dr. Sargent (over left) visit the Apartheid Museum with wonderful views of the city.

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STAFF

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, HEATHER WALDROUP, 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 3115 seminar in Heritage Studies in the Spring of 2015 that will include travel to Scotland over Spring Break. This course will consider the intersections of the arts industry, public culture, and sustainable tourism in relationship to larger institutional forces, using sites in Edinburgh as a case study. As part of their work for this course, students will visit local cultural sites, conduct research at museums and archives, and meet with professionals in the heritage industry, such as curators, archivists, and park rangers. The contacts Dr. Waldroup made during her trip will facilitate student research and sustain Appalachian's international connections. During her time in Scotland, Dr. Waldroup also continued her research on women travel writers, consulting manuscript collections at the Writers' Museum and the National Library of Scotland.






Above top: The National Gallery of Scotland with Edinburgh Castle visible in the background.

Above bottom: St. Walter Scott Monument, Edinburgh.

Bottom right: Glasgow Synagogue.

Bottom left: Edinburgh Castle.

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STUDENTS

BRIAN FROEB: TALKING BOX CO.

Business sophomore and psychology major Brian Froeb brings his unique blend of indie rock, funk, folk, and New Age to the music scene in Boone. In October of 2013, Brian (also and mostly) formed the band Talking Box Co. along with Spencer King (guitar, synth, and vocals), Ryan Marshall (guitar and vocals), and Austin Thomas (drums and vocals). Their influences include Acoustic Monkies, Train, Tool, Pearl Jam, The Roots, New Order, Arcade Fire, and Ten Ten Cinema Club.

Talking Box Co. has played shows in Boone at the ACC Battle of the Bands, the Honors River Production Exchange Festival, Art Crawl at Ball Gay Store, and a number of house shows. The band has also played shows nearby in Elan, Charlotte, and Greensboro. They have been recording with Joe Taylor and Matt Henshaw of the band From Boone and at The Robert J. Gilley Recording Studio.






Above: Brian Froeb at APYS Presents Battle of the Bands.

Top left (left to right): Brian Marshall, Spencer King, Ryan Marshall, Austin Thomas, and Brian Froeb at Ball Gay Store.

Bottom left (left to right): Spencer King, Ryan Marshall, Austin Thomas, and Brian Froeb at Ball Gay Store.

Bottom right (left to right): Ryan Marshall, Spencer King, Austin Thomas, and Brian Froeb.

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RESEARCH

**IMPULSE IN MILAN:
THE FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN NEUROSCIENCE SOCIETIES**

The Federation of European Neuroscience Societies conference was held in Milan, Italy, this year and IMPULSE was there! Representing the international undergraduate neuroscience journal based at App State were the Managing Editor, Alison Rosen, and Associate Editor from the University of the Free State, South Africa, Gerlene Kritzinger. The two students, joined by Dr. James, enjoyed the four day meeting and sessions that covered everything from neuronal to schizophrenia. They found time to climb the Duomo and have a pizza, but agreed it all was a tad short, though very sweet, chance to meet new colleagues and turn an e-collaboration into a friendship.



Above: From left to right Alison Rosen, Dr. Leslie Degenstein, and Gerlene Kritzinger at the FENS conference in Milan.



Above: The IMPULSE Managing Editors Alison Rosen (left), along with IMPULSE Editor Gerlene Kritzinger (right), in front of the poster presentation of their collaborative research with Dr. James.



Above: Alison Rosen (left) and Gerlene Kritzinger (right) at a poster presentation in Milan.

This makes the fourth FENS meeting that IMPULSE has attended, previous posters from other conferences and the one from this meeting can be found at www.impact-appstate.edu/index.html.



RESEARCH

**NOAH HUGHES IN GHENT:
PRESENTING "MARRIAGE THEOREM" RESEARCH**



Above: Noah on top of the Belfry overlooking the city center of Ghent (the highest tower in Belgium) in Belgium.

Noah Hughes traveled to Ghent this summer to present the findings of his collaborative research with Dr. Jeff Meier, Professor of Mathematics at ASU. Their original research in the area of reverse mathematics analyzes what are known as "marriage theorems". Paul Shuler (University of Utah), a colleague of Professor Meier, invited Noah to come to Ghent to share these results. Noah presented these results at the department's logic seminar at the University of Ghent. In addition to this, Noah began work with Dr. Shuler on another problem regarding "uniformly partitionable" bipartite graphs. They are currently working on the analysis of this problem via the program of Reverse Mathematics. We intend to develop results on their progress and future presentations of this exciting research!



Above: Map of Belgium (EU). Central Belgium (ignoring territory of Flanders) is shown.



Above: Noah on top of the Government castle in Ghent.



INTERNSHIPS

CORBIN ESTER ATTENDS NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Norris senior, Goldwater Scholar, and chemistry major Corbin Ester is currently participating in the National Institute of Health (NIH) Summer Internship Program (SIP) at the National Cancer Institute's Laboratory of Cancer Biology and Genetics. The NIH SIP is a highly competitive program and the National Cancer Institute is the Federal Government's principal agency for cancer research and training. Corbin is working with Dr. Miriam C. Peiris, head of the Carcinogen DNA Interactions Section. Corbin is learning basic lab and research techniques in molecular epidemiology. In addition, he is assisting Dr. Peiris with the publication of manuscripts reporting research findings.



Above: Corbin Ester (right) working at the NIH Summer Internship Program along with Dr. Miriam C. Peiris, research scientist looking Corbin with lab work.

As Corbin reports, "Working at the NIH has truly been an outstanding experience. From day one I have been exposed to not only some of the brightest minds in cancer research, but also to the boundless opportunities for interdisciplinary engagement. I have learned much working with Dr. Peiris, who has driven upon her many years of service with the NIH to impart knowledge of the lab within the context of developing a successful and beautiful career in cancer research. This experience has further increased my zeal for a future career in both research and medicine, and has proven to be an institution at which I would love to work one day. I highly recommend the NIH SIP to any student interested in any form of health research." Corbin's future career plans include pursuing a dual M.D./Ph.D. program, after which he plans to pursue translational research, cancer prevention, and pediatric oncology.



SERVICE

**NIKO GIBSON: VENIA CLOTHING
HONORS STUDENT LINES ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS
TO GIVE BACK.**



Honors Junior Niko Gibson began Venia Clothing because he wanted to run a business for joy and while at the same time giving back in some way. Venia is a t-shirt business selling shirts that are made and printed in the USA. Niko creates the t-shirt designs, which, once printed, are ready for sale. Twenty percent of the revenue currently goes to the Against Malaria Foundation, which has been used as one of the most efficient charities in the world.

Which t-shirts are now being sold at Bootsapp, the student store on campus, they will soon be available on his home website: www.veniaclothing.com.

Venia's mission is to bring positive social change through high quality American-made apparel. Because twenty percent of each purchase goes towards supporting a highly efficient and effective charity, every item purchased directly helps a worthy cause. Through a focus on simple designs, positive messages, and giving back, Venia's aim is to be a brand you can feel good about wearing. Niko reports, "I'm just in the beginning stages but I am excited to see where it goes!"



UPCOMING

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



This two-day event began on August 13th with the "Doves on Top" adventure in Boone followed by a day at ASU's Broadstone Facility.



WELCOME, 2014 FRESHMAN HONORS STUDENTS!



Ashley Anne Carpenter, the 2014 Honors College Student Orientation Leadership Advisor Leader (SAL), leads new freshmen through Freshman Orientation (May 29-31st 2014).

Right: Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones, Director of the Honors College (right), speaks to new freshmen during orientation.



WATCH FOR THE
FALL 2014 ISSUE

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