

**THE
HONORS
COLLEGE**
at Appalachian State University



**2014-2015 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 40 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 Past-President of the North Carolina Honors Association (2014-15).

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 α_1 -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 Director of Student Services for the Honors College, where she coordinates advising, orientation, and other student services for approximately 700 honors students. Her scholarly interests include honors program development, first-generation college students, and advising. Dr. Mead 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, 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.

Student Assistants: Anna Coppedge (senior, Exercise Science) and Rachel Sledge (junior, Exercise Science)

Work Study Students: Aja Purkett (junior, Communication), Shauna Joyner (sophomore, Art)

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 2014-2015 (listed below), with two joining during the year (Drs. Michael Behrent and Nancy Love) and two retiring (Drs. Michael Jacobson and Howard Giskin).

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
Michael Behrent	History
Kristan Cockerill	Interdisciplinary Studies
Seth Cohen	Fermentation Studies
Michael Dale	Education (FDN)
Jeanne Dubino	Global Studies/English
Tom Hansell	Appalachian Studies
Andy Heckert	Geology
Alexandra Hellenbrand	Global Studies/LLC
Rick Klima	Mathematics
Nancy Love	G&JS
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 2014-2015 were: Phillip Ardoin, Kristan Cockerill, Seth Cohen, and Tom Hansell. 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 2014-2015 were: Michael Dale, Jeanne Dubino, Andy Heckert, Chris Osmond, 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 2014-15 year were:

Lynn Moss Sanders (Former Honors Coordinator), English
Tom McLaughlin (Former Honors Coordinator), English
Ozzie Ostwalt (Former Honors Coordinator), Philosophy and Religion
Jesse Lutabingwa, Office of International Education and Development
Lynne Waugh, Academic Advising
Johnny Waters, Geology
Michael Dale, Reich College of Education
Marty Meznar, 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 Management
Richard Krenn, General Education
Alan Utter, Office of Student Research
Susan Roggenkamp, College of Health Sciences
Robert Sanders, Graduate School
Jeff Tiller, Technology and Environmental Design

Honors College Partnership Board

The initial stages of establishing a Partnership Board for the Honors College were started in the fall of 2013, when a slate of potential members was sent to Advancement for research. Starting in the summer of 2014, selected possible members were approached and invited to serve on this nascent board. The Founding member was Dr. Johnny Waters. He has been joined by six other members, as seen below. The current charges of the Partnership Board are the following:

1. Identifying potential donors to help support scholarships and resources for research, international education, and events.
2. Devising strategies to generate interest in supporting the College so that such donors would want give.

Current board membership includes:



Dr. David Cook graduated from ASU in 1980 and completed his M.D. at ECU in 1984. He did both his internship and residency at Bethesda Naval Hospital in 1988, followed by an EMG/Neuromuscular Fellowship at Duke University in 1989. He is Board Certified in both Neurology and Electrodiagnostic Medicine. He has been in private practice for over 18 years in the Capital Neurology & Headache Center of Cary, NC, and is a member of the Wake County Medical Society Executive Council.



Mrs. Jerri Heltzer is a long-standing supporter of Appalachian, and particularly Honors. She and her husband, Mr. Harry Heltzer (deceased) put a bequest in place for the Honors Program in 2004, and she donates annually to the Heltzer Honor Program for International Education (\$5K for the past ten years). She has identified friends, like Dr. Ronald Mitsch, as potential donors (he has donated over \$50K to the HHP4IE), and continues to support the Honors College with her planned bequest.



Mr. Tim Hefflinger is a 2012 graduate of ASU, with University and Departmental Honors. He was a double major in Philosophy and Sustainable Development; for the latter he was the Outstanding Senior for University College and its representative as the Commencement Speaker. He is currently pursuing a Master of Science degree in Disaster Resilience Leadership from Tulane University in New Orleans, LA, where he also works at the Tulane University Law School Library, overseeing Circulation. He has published in YES! Magazine and presented at the University of East London conference on "Assessing Progress in International Development"; his topic was: "The 'Discipline' of Mainstream Economic Development: Creating Docile Bodies," which was published in Undergraduate Journal of International Development.



Dr. Steven Heffner is a Family Medicine physician with Novant Health at Salem Family Medicine in Winston-Salem. He is a former Chancellor's Scholar and 2005 graduate of ASU and a 2009 graduate of Wake Forest Medical School. He completed his Family Medicine residency in Family Medicine at the Wake

Forest Medical center, and is board certified for that specialty. He was a Computer Science major who wrote his thesis on how to improve CAT scan programming for diagnosis of breast cancer. He was last year's inaugural winner of the Chancellor's Scholars Alumni Award (<http://honors.appstate.edu/about/news/1056>).



Mr. Chuck Mantooth is the President of Watauga Medical Center, Inc. in Watauga County, NC. He has been affiliated with the Watauga Medical Center and Appalachian Regional Healthcare System for most of his professional years since 1990. He is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, but is excited about working with the UNC institution in his current “backyard.”



Mrs. Nan Nichols VanHoy is a 1980 Biology Secondary Education major, and has an MS in Biology, as well as a Certificate in School Administration from ASU. She is an ardent supporter of her Alma Mater and has been an active booster for the athletics program at ASU for many years. Recently retired as the Principal of Maiden Middle School in Maiden, NC, she is ready to engage in new challenges, such as helping the Honors College develop in new and exciting ways.



Dr. Johnny Waters is an ASU Professor of Geology and a former member of the 2005-06 Taskforce to study Honors at ASU and what its future should be. He been a member of the Chancellor's Scholars selection committee the past seven years and a member of the Honors College faculty since it started five years ago. He also won the Honors College Teacher of the Year award in May, 2014. He has been secretary of the Paleontological Society, and has raised approximately \$2,000,000 in external research. He has negotiated cooperative scientific agreements with the Mongolia Academy of Science and the Nanjing Institute of Geology and Paleontology, and recently initiated a new research agreement with a group in Wuhan, China than supported the 2015 field season in the Gobi. He is one of eight co-leaders of 200 scientists from 20 countries working on a geology research project funded in part the United Nations. Thanks to him, an example of the type of gift Board members can solicit and what they can accomplish, was inaugurated this January: the Honors College Partnership Board Research Fund. This gift was put in place and implemented in less time than it takes to say the name. Dr. Waters donated to support the research for eight students, which included sending some to conferences to present their findings. The winners and their awarded proposals were:

Daniel Anauo: travel to NC schools for music education research

Dana Cobb: travel to Göttingen, Germany, conference to present her neuroscience research

Michael Judge: materials for plant molecular biology research

Sarah Lackey: travel to Chicago conference to present her political science research

Tibor Nagy: materials for inorganic synthetic chemistry research

Alex Prevatte: travel to UDLAP (Mexico) for research with a research collaborator

Travis Tabor: materials for organic chemistry research
Kelley Whittaker: materials for cancer molecular biology research

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 2014-15 were elected in Fall of 2014.

AHA! Officers 2014-15:

<i>President</i>	Sarah Eubanks
<i>Vice President</i>	Zachary Shadomy
<i>Secretary</i>	Rachel Sledge
<i>Treasurer</i>	Elisabeth Moore



AHA! also 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. The group created a new opportunity for upperclass students to participate in a peer mentoring initiative for the freshmen, and this new role will be expanded to include helping with early move-in and the Freshmen Honors Retreat in 2015.

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 to 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. Exercise Science was approved by the unit in 2014-15, but has not yet gone to AP&P. The College of Education has been working on creating a college-wide honors program for some time, but has not yet proposed one. The School of Music, Sustainable Development, Nursing, Nutrition & Health Care Management, Recreation Management & Physical Education, and Theater are the remaining colleges/departments without honors opportunities for their students. Appalachian Studies has removed its undergraduate program, so the honors program for that degree is also lost.

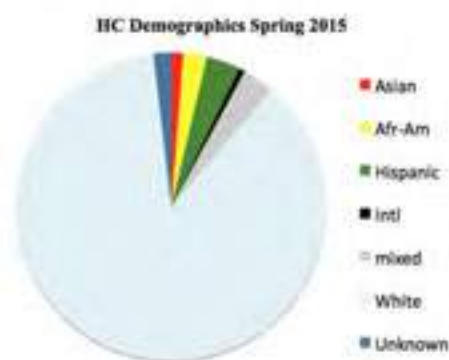
Anthropology, Dr. Cheryl Claassen
Art, Dr. Jim Toub
Biology, Dr. Lynn Sieffermann
Chemistry, Dr. Libby Puckett

College of Business, Dr. Dawn Medlin
Communication, Dr. Jennifer Grey
Computer Science, Dr. Dee Parks
Criminal Justice, Dr. Elicka Peterson

Dance, Prof. Marianne Adams
English, Dr. David Orvis
Exercise Science, Dr. Scott Collier
Environmental Science, Dr. Chris Thaxton
Lang, Lit and Culture, Dr. Andres Fisher
Geography and Planning, Dr. Rich Crepeau
Geology, Dr. Chuanhui Gu
Global Studies, Dr. Jeanne Dubino
History, Dr. Benno Wiener

Interdisciplinary Studies, Dr. Joe Gonzalez
Mathematics, Dr. Vicky Klima
Philosophy and Religion, Dr. Laura Ammon
Physics and Astronomy, Dr. Richard Gray
Political Science, Dr. Elicka Peterson
Psychology, Dr. Lisa Emery
Social Work, Dr. Michael Howell
Sociology, Dr. Ed Folts
Tech and Env Design, Dr. Susan Doll

2014-2015 Honors College Student Profile



For 2014-15, there were ~650 students on average in the College (some graduated in December, others joined in the spring). This is a drop in the total number of students from the year before (750), in line with the reduction in the budgetary support for the Honors College and the continued reduction in the number of Chancellor's Scholars.

The demographics of the Honors College illustrate that in-state students make up the majority of the population (90.5%), and Wake County was the largest single county source of students. There were significantly more females

(65.3%) than males, following the national trend for honors programs. While many students do not report their racial identity (12%), of those who self-reported, most identify as White (87%); other groups that students self-identified with were Hispanic/Latino (3.6%), Black/African American (2.5%), Asian (1.2%), and mixed (two or more races: 3.3%). Twelve and a half percent indicated they were first-generation college students (a further increase of 4% from last year, continuing the trend of growth in this population), and 18.3% are classified as low income, based on Pell eligibility. This demographic data (see table) was provided by Institutional Research, Assessment and Planning from a run in July, 2015.

Honors College Student Demographic Data Enrolled Spring 2015			
	Gender		Total
	Male	Female	
Race			
American Indian/Alaska Native	0	0	0
Asian	1	7	8
Black/African American	6	10	16
Hispanic/Latino	12	11	23
Intl	2	0	2
Two or More Races	8	13	21
White	190	165	355
Unknown	8	8	12
Total	223	199	422
Home Residence	Count	Percent	
NC Resident	185	90.5%	
Out of State	17	9.5%	
Top 5 NC Home Counties	Count		
Wake	119		
Mecklenburg	80		
Guilford	30		
Watauga	27		
Forsyth	25		
Union	24		
Top 5 Home States Of Out of State Students	Count		
GA	11		
TX	10		
NC	8		
IL	6		
VA	4		

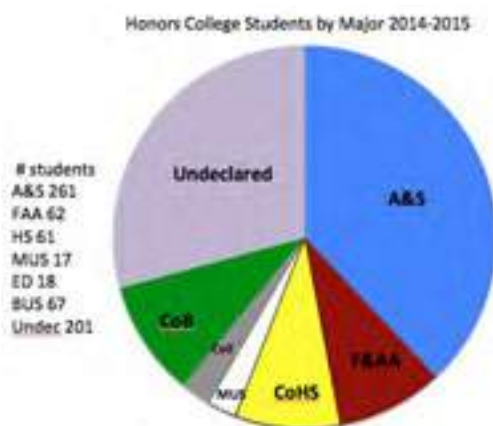
Percent Minority:
15.6%

Percent by Gender:
Male: 34.7%
Female: 65.3%

First Generation College Students: 12.8% (n=52)
Based on FAFSA and admissions application data:
neither parent attended college

Pell Eligible: 18.3% (n=118)
Based on Pell financial aid offers

Prepared by K. Campbell, IRAP, 5/20/15

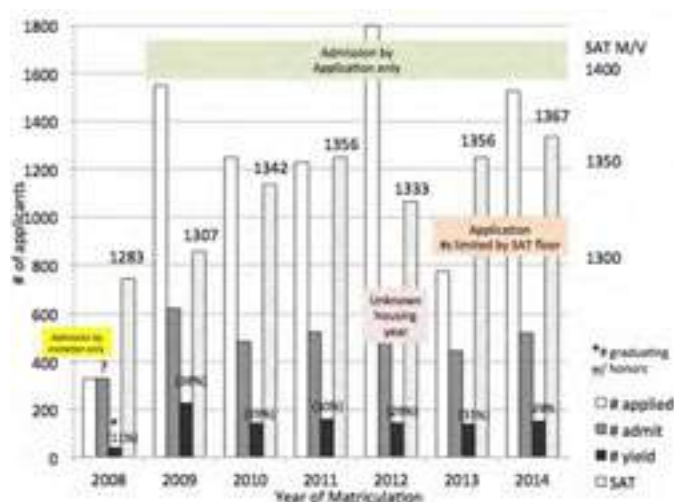


Honors College students are found in every college and, at some time or another, in every major. The majority are in the College of Arts & Sciences, and generally the numbers of Honors students in the colleges parallels the relative sizes of the colleges. The Undeclared students are those freshmen and sophomores in University College who have not yet declared. The numbers of Honors students in the College of Education and the School of Music have been declining, perhaps as a reflection of the absence of

honors programs in those colleges and the resulting difficulty for those students to complete both their majors and University Honors.

Honors College Admissions Data

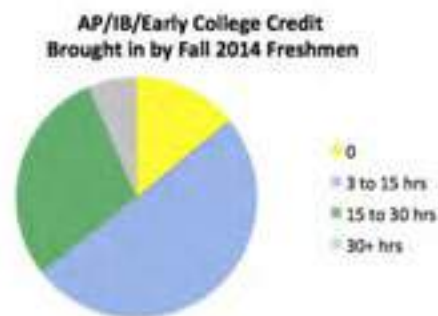
The admissions cycle for the entering classes prior to 2013 had no restrictions on the applicant pool. However, for the class of 2013 the applicant pool was limited to students with a 1250 M/V SAT (ACT 28) or higher; this limitation was implemented by Admissions on the Scholarship portal to restrict access to those applications to qualified students. The Honors College does not have an independent portal for applications and uses the Admissions' Scholarship portal. For the entering class of 2014, the scholarship portal floor was dropped by Admissions to 1150 M/V SAT (ACT 26). This limitation 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, and then 1525 for the entering class of 2014, with a floor of 1150. Extrapolation from previous, unlimited years, and the growth in applications that was experienced up to 2012, would suggest that the true number of those wishing to apply is probably over 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 2014 was 150 students, with 66% females and 11.3% from out of North Carolina. The average M/V SAT was a record at 1367, marking an 84 point gain since the transition from admission by invitation in 2008 to admission by application in 2009.

Information on the incoming class of Fall 2014 is provided, along with a graph indicating the numbers of transfer hours freshmen brought in. The average was 12.9 hours, reflecting similar numbers to 2013 (12.8). However, the percent of students bringing in no credit fell slightly to

only 14%, as the number bringing in credit has been growing. This indicates a continuing shift in the preparation of these students for college, a growing number of whom are pursuing early college, in particular. This may prove to be a challenge for Honors (and the University) in the future, as they arrive thinking they will graduate early, which will preclude completing University Honors (and reduce the number spending four years at ASU).

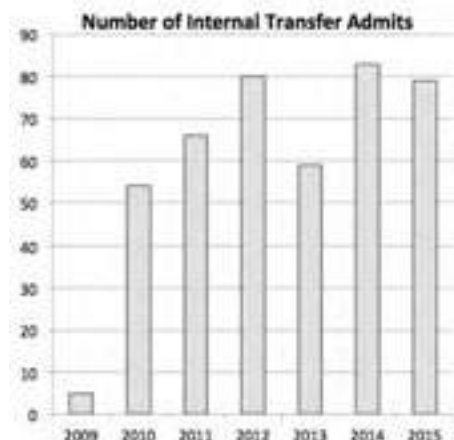


Incoming Freshmen Data Fall 2014

- Entering Number of Honors Students: 150
- Average SAT (M+V; ACTs converted): 1367
- Average high school class percentile: top 5-10%
- Female:male ratio: 66% female, 34% male
- In-state:out-of-state students: 88.7%:11.3%

Internal Recruiting and Admissions Data

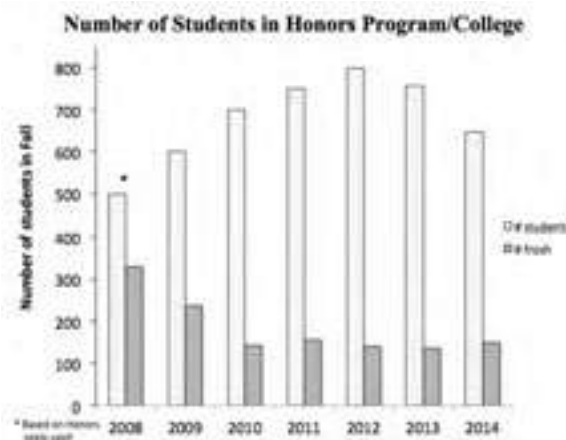
Starting in Fall 2009, freshmen ASU students were invited to apply to transfer into the Honors College if they had a 3.5+ GPA at the end of their first semester. Initial numbers before this effort (2008-09) were very small, but, as seen in the graph, with the exception of 2013, the numbers have grown each succeeding year as the possibility to pursue Honors 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 for students already at ASU to enter the Honors College continued at about the same level as the preceding year, with nearly 80 being admitted to join the freshmen in January of 2015.



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

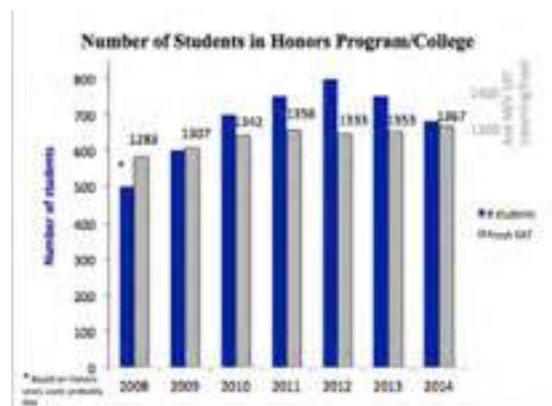
The total number of students in the Honors College grew from around 500 in 2008 (exact number uncertain) to a high point of ~800 in the 2012-13 academic year, with the expectation of new positions. However, with the loss of resources after the 2009 economic crisis, that number was reduced to ~750; the resources were



not keeping up with intended growth, nor 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 intended number of the 800 total students. 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, mostly due to fiscal constraints.

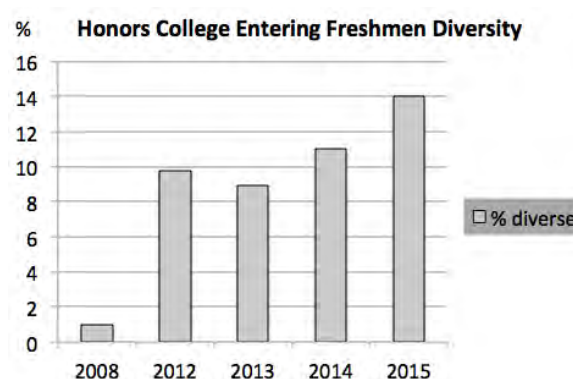
To keep the total number of students within a manageable range, while assuring that all qualified internal applicants can be admitted, the number of entering freshmen was restricted to ~140 for Fall 2014 (but over-yielded to 150, leaving 10+ students without HON 1515 seats, as departments continue to have their own financial struggle with releasing faculty to teach HON courses). For Fall of 2015, the number has been reduced further in recognition of growing limitations in advising, courses, travel support, and general support from the College's operating budget, which was reduced by 50% in the 2014-15 fiscal year. The snapshot number of students in the College during the Spring 2015 semester was 667.

An advantage of reducing the class size, however, is that the quality of the yielded students is higher. It is apparent from the graph at right that as the College size peaked in 2011, the average SAT of the incoming freshmen dipped (there were multiple reasons for this), but subsequently reducing the incoming class size, and hence the College, has resulted in an increase in the average SAT, once again.



Honors College Diversity

In 2008, the number of non-white students (of any group) in the Honors College was vanishingly small. While efforts to increase the numbers through freshmen admission were introduced, it became apparent that it would be difficult to yield freshmen of color to Honors if they did not see upperclass students like themselves in the College. Consequently, an aggressive internal admission process was started in 2010 to increase the numbers of students representing many different types of diversity: e.g., racial, ethnic, national origin, and socioeconomic. The success of these efforts, as shown in the total percentage of diversity in the College (see demographic data in Student Profile above, 11.4% for entire College), has also resulted in a substantial increase in the number of non-white students entering the College as first semester freshmen (14%, see graph at right).

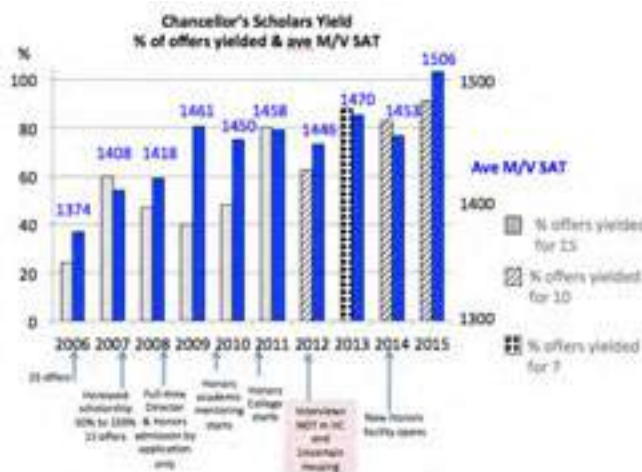


Chancellor's Scholarship

The oldest, most distinguished and academically-competitive scholarship at ASU is the Chancellor's Scholarship, offered through the Honors College. It was started in 1980 specifically to attract the highest-caliber students possible to build the new Honors Program. It originally covered all expenses, but over time lost ground, as costs grew but the scholarship did not. The same numbers of students were being given scholarships, but with an ever-decreasing percent of the costs of attendance being covered. By the early 2000's it was recognized that the caliber of the students was decreasing in parallel with the value of the scholarship, and the institutional decision was made to decrease the number of scholarships to 15, but return it to a full ride scholarship. The impressive increase in the quality of the awardees that resulted from this decision, along with important changes for Honors (e.g., changing the interview/selection process, moving from Program to College, moving to the new Honors housing and office facilities), can be seen in the accompanying graph.

In 2011-12, the Scholarship Advisory Committee, a Committee constituted by Academic Affairs and chaired through Enrollment Management, recommended a reduction to only ten awards. The cut was sought by Enrollment Management, due to that unit's interest in having more support for students just above the ASU average. With the growing costs of tuition and housing, all scholarships cost more, resulting in a reduction in the total number of scholarships that can be supported by the New River Light and Power income to ASU.

The decision to reduce the number of Chancellor's Scholars in order to increase the numbers of scholarships to other, less academically-competitive categories of students, was a decision that was not reviewed institutionally nor by Faculty Senate. The number of scholarships was further cut to only seven students the following year (Fall 2013) by this group again, to reduce the costs of the Chancellor's Scholarship further. The number of Chancellor's Scholarships returned to ten in the fall of 2014, as the total number had then dropped from the 60 intended by the institution in 2007, to only 42. Next year, 2015-16, it will be only 37, due to the year of only seven.



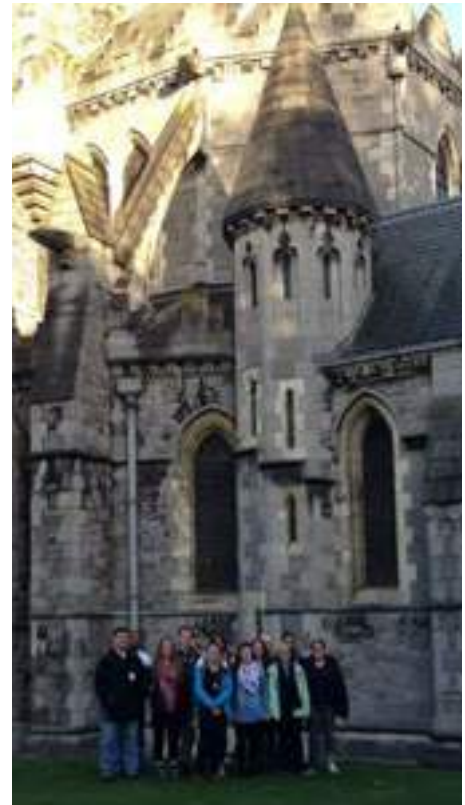
The impact on the Honors College is that the total number of admitted freshmen has also been reduced in order to minimize the impact of losing one third of these most-competitive students. The rule of thumb has been to have the Chancellor's Scholars represent 10% of the class, which at 15 meant a freshmen class of 150. That number has been held despite the decrease, in hopes that the numbers would return. Since the number has remained at ten or less for four years, the incoming Honors class has been reduced to ~120 students. This is still more than it should be, with only ten Chancellor's Scholars, but the caliber of the class still continues to rise, so 8% might be a manageable representation, as long as Honors continues to attract other outstanding

students without the scholarship.

The recipients of the Chancellor's Scholarship must be admitted to the Honors College and are required to enroll in at least one Honors course each semester for their first four semesters. The 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 (other than Honors), 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).
- 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 and taught by the head of the College 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 2014-15 application cycle for Fall 2015 matriculation was carried out by the Chancellor's Scholarship Committee. The committee comprised 15 faculty for initial written applications for interviews (Drs. Jamie Anderson-Parson, Jacqueline Bergman, Richard Crepeau, Michael Dale, Jeanne Dubino, Louis Gallien, Alexandra Hellenbrand, Howie Neufeld, Dee Parks, Janice Pope, Lisa Runner, Heather Waldroup, Dale Wheeler), who were then joined by Dr. Johnny Waters and six current Chancellor's Scholars for the interviews and selection of awardees on Scholars Day. The number of scholarship offers was ten again.

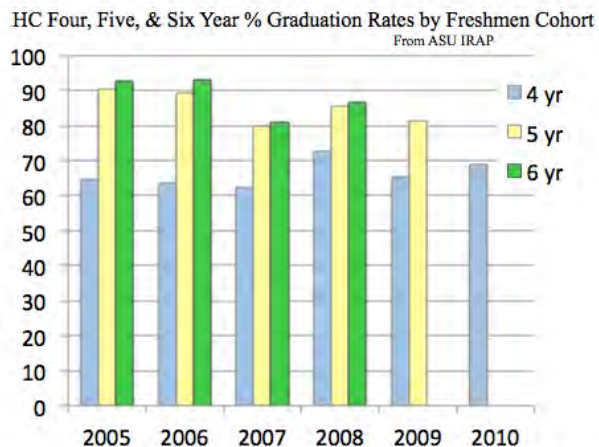
The yield on offers was the best experienced, with 11 offers (91% yield) being made to yield the ten scholars (see graph above). They are also the most academically-competitive group of scholars ever admitted for the Chancellor's Scholarship or any other at ASU, with an average Math/Verbal SAT of 1506 for the ten matriculating students. As can be seen in the graph, the trend on both yield and caliber of the Chancellor's Scholars has continued to show a steady climb since the conversion of the scholarship to a full-ride (2007), the change in the recruiting/selection process (2009), and the creation of the Honors College (2010).

- Number of Chancellor's Scholars awarded for Fall 2014: 10
- Chancellors Scholars Average SAT (M+V; ACTs converted): 1506

The data for the past ten 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 2007 was the beginning of the "full-ride" scholarship awarded to 15 scholars.

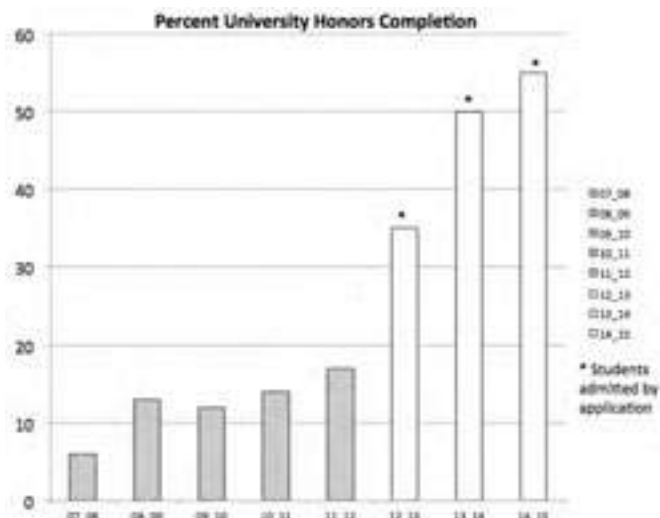
Honors Graduation Data

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). 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 2008 is 86.5% for Honors vs. 69.6% 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 Honors. 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 committed to the Program before 2008).



Once an intentional application process was introduced, the impact was seen directly on that entering cohort four years later. The white bars in the graph represent each past academic year since the application process was introduced, and graduates as a percent of entering students continues to climb. Note that many other initiatives were also instituted, so no single change effected these results. The 2014-15 group has the highest completion rate at 54%, surpassing the 50% target set six years ago when the application process was implemented. The goal the Honors College should try to reach is a 70% completion. However, this is an ambitious goal that 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, would need to be committed to the Honors College to attain that level.

Honors Freshman Cohort Graduation Data								
All Who Have Graduated By Cohort Through May 2015								
	Freshman Cohort Year							
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Graduated	210	232	185	143	127	4	0	0
Not Graduated	47	55	37	21	85	162	200	213
Original Cohort Total	257	287	222	164	212	166	200	213
Percent Graduated	81.7%	80.9%	83.3%	87.2%	59.9%	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)	250	234	245	133	N/A	N/A	N/A	
4 Year %	62.3%	72.7%	65.3%	68.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Graduated 5 Years (n)	205	228	182	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
5 Year %	79.8%	83.6%	81.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Graduated 6 Years (n)	208	231	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
6 Year %	80.9%	80.5%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Original Cohort Total	257	287	222	164	212	166	200	
Notes:								
Honors determined by Banner SGASADD code "HON" effective any time during the first year								
ASU Graduation Rates - All Students								
Graduation Rates Calculated Through August Graduations								
	Freshman Cohort Year							
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
Graduated 4 Years (n)	1130	1225	1299	1389	N/A	N/A	N/A	
4 Year %	41.6%	44.2%	46.6%	49.2%	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Graduated 5 Years (n)	1763	1839	1850	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
5 Year %	64.5%	66.3%	67.7%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Graduated 6 Years (n)	1874	1930	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
6 Year %	68.6%	68.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Original Cohort Total	2732	2773	2733	2823	2971	3026	2893	
Prepared by K. Langdon, JRP, 3/2011								

Postgraduate Placements of 2014-15 Graduates

The latest round of Honors College graduates from May 2015, are once again pursuing graduate degrees, along with professional opportunities. They are listed below grouped by their post-baccalaureate plans. While the data is only partially complete, as many are still nailing down jobs or graduate choices, more than half of those are heading directly to graduate/professional school programs. Others have plans for further schooling, but will be working through jobs, internships, and travel opportunities to determine their best path. Not included in this data are students who defer graduate school for a year or more after graduation. For example, four graduates from 2014 will be attending MD/DDS programs in the fall; they are not included here, nor could they be counted in the data from 2014. But integrating over time, over two-thirds of the Honors College graduates pursue graduate/professional school degrees.

Graduate School	# Students	Occupations	# Students
MD/DDS/DO	3	Teaching	3
Ph.D.	4	Business	5
MS Speech/audiology	3	Nonprofit	1
J.D.	2	Internships	8
MS/MA/MSW/MBA	21	Research	4
Other grad programs	3	Other	9 (+9 unreported)

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 challenging 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 2014-15 theses, see below).

Honors Courses 2014-15

Note that courses with identical numbers and sections were taught in different semesters.

Dept/College	Departmental Honors Courses	Professor
Anthropology	ANT 1420-410 Archaeology of Human Past ANT 2215-410 Cultural Anthropology ANT 2230-410 Biological Anthropology ANT 2400-410 Native American Thr Ethnography ANT 3533-410 Microscopy in Archaeology ANT 4400-410 Paleolithic Archaeology	Whyte, T. Mines, D. Schug, G. Powell, D. Kimball, L. TBA
Art	ART 4515 Jr/Sr Honors Seminar The Art of Mapping ART 4515 Jr/Sr Honors Seminar African Art ART 4515 Jr/Sr Honors Seminar	Cleveland, K. Bentor, E. Prouty, I.
Astronomy	AST 3560 Undergraduate Research	(as arranged)
Biology	BIO 3301-410 (available upon request) BIO 4001/4011-410 Developmental Biology	Zerucha, T.
Chemistry	CHE 1110-410 Intro Chem lab CHE 1120-410 Intro Chem lab CHE 2202-410 Org II CHE 2202-410 Org II CHE 2202-411 Org II CHE 4000-410 Honors Seminar CHE 4000-410 Honors Seminar CHE 4580-410 Biochemistry I lecture	Howell, A. Howell, A. Ramey, M. Cartaya, C. Cartaya, C. Cartaya, C. Cecile, C. Cecile, C.
College of Business	ACT 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis ACT 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis CIS 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis CIS 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis FIN 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis FIN 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis MGT 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis MGT 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis MKT 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis MKT 3510-410 Jr Honors Thesis FIN 3545-410 Tycoons, Titans, & Blaggards ECO 2030-410 Principles of Economic Price Theory FIN 3680-410 Intro Fin MKT 3050-410 Principles of Marketing MGT 4750-410 Strategic Management	Vannoy, S Medlin, D. Vannoy, S Medlin, D. Vannoy, S Medlin, D. Vannoy, S Medlin, D. Vannoy, S Medlin, D. Dunston, L. McNeil, C. McNeil, C. Burman, B. Pouder, R.
College of Education	FDN 2400-410 Critical Perspectives in Learning & Teaching FDN 2400-410 Critical Perspectives in Learning & Teaching FDN 3530-410 Unlearning Racism	Nelsen, P. Mielke D. Wilson, B.
Communication	COM 1200-410 Foundations of Human Communication	Welsh, S.

	COM 1200-411 Foundations of Human Communication COM 1200-410 Foundations of Human Communication COM 3010-410 Media Graphics COM 3010-410 Media Graphics COM 3131-410 Minorities in Media COM 3155-410 Persuasion COM 3220-410 PR Ethics Cases COM 3220-410 PR Ethics Cases COM 3300-410 Mass Media and Society COM 3300-410 Mass Media and Society COM 3317-410 Social Media Strategies COM 3318-410 Public Relations Princ COM 3549-410 Ethnogrph Storytelling & Inq COM 3928-410 Comm Research Methods COM 3928-411 Comm Research Methods COM 3929-410 Rhet Theory & Crit COM 4418-410 PR Seminar	Welsh, S. Gonce, R. Gregory, L. Gonce, R. Edy, C. Ward, A. Preston, H. Ward, A. Oh, S-H Preston, H. McCorkindale, T. McCorkindale, T. Patti, C. Gray, J. Sirmon, R. Welsh, S. McCorkindale, T.
Computer Science	CS 1440-410 Computer Science I CS 3440-410 Client-side Web Programming CS 3490-410 Programming Languages CS 3535-410 Music Informatics	Swanson, J. Russell, R. Fenwick, J. Parry, R.
Criminal Justice	CJ 3533-410 Cybercrime CJ 3533-410 Victimology	Marcum, C. Peterson, E.
Dance	DAN 3430-410 Dance History DAN 4460-410 Somatics	Miller, R. Adams, M. &
English	ENG 2001-410 Sophomore Writing ENG 2001-411 Sophomore Writing ENG 2001-412 Sophomore Writing ENG 2010-410 British Literature ENG 2020-410 British Literature ENG 2030-410 World Literature ENG 2040-410 World Literature ENG 2050-410 British Literature ENG 2050-410 British Literature ENG 2320-410 American Literature ENG 2350-410 American Literature ENG 4508 Junior/Senior Honors Seminar	Hart, S. Hart, S. Cook, S. Wilson, J. Brewer, W. Pitofsky, A. Atkinson, W. Wilson, J. Brewer, W. Maiden, E. Maiden, E. Bruce, R.
Geography and Planning	GHY 3014-410 Geography of Latin America PLN 2410-410 Town, City & Regional Planning	Schroeder, K. Kolenda, R.
Geology	GLY 1102-410 Intro to Hist Geology GLY 1103-410 Envir Change, Hazards, Resources GLY 4510 3D Mechanical Modeling GLY 4510 Quant GW Disch in Boone Creek	Heckert, A. Wilson, C. Marshall, S. Anderson, W.
Global Studies	GLS 2000-410 Intro to Global Studies GLS 2000-410 Intro to Global Studies	Wood, C. Gonzalez, J.
History	HIS 1110-410 History and Culture HIS 1400-410 World Empires	Deathridge, K. Weiner, B.

	HIS 3135-410 Spain to 1492 HIS 3239-410 Country Music American Culture HIS 3542-410 History of the Jewish People HIS 3922-410 Western Intellectual Tradition	Jessee, W. Goff, J. Best, J. Behrent, M.
Languages, Lit & Cult	LLC 2025-410 Lit in Trans: Don Quixote	Fogelquist, J.
Mathematical Sciences	MAT 1110-410 Calculus I MAT 2510-410 Sophomore Honors Seminar MAT 3510-410 Junior Honors Seminar	Weigl, N. Cook, W. Klima, R.
Music	MUS 2018-410 Intro to World Music	Semmes, L.
Philosophy	PHL 1100-410 Logic PHL 1501-410 Everyday PHL: Hist & Soc Persp PHL 1501-411 Everyday PHL: Hist & Soc Persp PHL 1503-410 Everyday PHL: Local to Global PHL 2000-410 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics PHL 2000-410 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics PHL 2000-411 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics PHL 2000-412 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics PHL 2000-413 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics PHL 2000-414 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics PHL 2000-416 Philosophy, Society, and Ethics PHL 2013-410 Philosophy of Art PHL 2015-410 Environ. Ethics PHL 2015-410 Environ. Ethics PHL 3015-410 Medical Ethics	Rardin, T. Malloy, D. Kwong, J. Rardin, T. Taylor, J. Malloy, T. Elmore, R. Elmore, R. Ruble, M. Ruble, M. Ruble, M. Bartel, C. Cremaldi, A. Elmore, R. Elmore, R.
Physics	PHY 1150-410 Honors Analytical Physics I PHY 1150-411 Honors Analytical Physics I PHY 1150-412 Honors Analytical Physics I PHY 1151-410 Honors Analytical Physics II PHY 1151-411 Honors Analytical Physics II	Burris, J. Burris, J. Burris, J. Burris, J. Burris, J.
Political Science	PS 3510 Jr/Sr Honors Seminar PS 3530-410 Music and Politics PS 4225-410 International Security PS 4532-410 Issues in American Politics	Ardoin, P. Love, N. Lust, A. Ardoin, P.
Psychology	PSY 1200-410 Honors - Psych: HSSF PSY 1200-410 Honors - Psych: HSSF PSY 3511-101 Honors Colloquium: Memory and Emotion PSY 3512-101 Honors Colloquium: Women's Hlth M & B PSY 3512-102 Honors Colloquium: Psy of Close Relationships	Fearrington, J. Fearrington, J. Emery, L. Martz, D. Bringle, R.
Religion	REL 1100-410 Religion & Contemp Issues REL 1100-411 Religion & Contemp Issues REL 1110-410 Religions of the World REL 1110-410 Religions of the World REL 1110-411 Religions of the World REL 2010-410 Old Testament REL 2010-411 Old Testament REL 2020-410 New Testament	Schilbrack, K. Reed, R. Ellis, T. Ammon, L. Ellis, T. Hankins, C. Hankins, C. Ostwalt, C.

	REL 2020-411 New Testament REL 2020-411 New Testament REL 2030-410 Islamic Literature REL 2120-410 Christianity	Duke, R. Duke, R. Hutchins, W. Ammon, L.
Social Work	SW 2010-410 Prof. Soc Work Contemp Soc SW 2010-410 Prof. Soc Work Contemp Soc SW 2020-410 American Soc Welfare System SW 2020-410 American Soc Welfare System SW 2615-410 Cultural Comp in the Helping Profs SW 2630-410 Human Behav & Soc Envir SW 2630-410 Human Behav & Soc Envir SW 3330-410 Soc Welf Pol, Prog & Iss SW 3870-410 Social Work Research Methods II SW 4010-410 Soc Work Practice w Groups	Ashcraft, K. MacNamaray, M. Hamilton, L. Hamilton, L. Wright, R. Dakin, E. Dakin, E. Phillips, D. Fawson, P. Broce, R.
Sociology	SOC 1000-410 The Sociological Perspective SOC 1000-410 The Sociological Perspective	Folts, E. Folts, E.
Spanish	SNH 1050-410 Intermed Spanish II	James, B.
Technology	TEC 2601-410 Energy Issues & Technology TEC 2601-410 Energy Issues & Technology	Doll, S. Doll, S.
	Honors College Courses	
Freshmen Seminars	FALL HON 1515-101 Metamorphoses in Life: Love & Death HON 1515-102 Computer Forensics HON 1515-103 Business for Good HON 1515-104 Sound Advice: Sense of Sound HON 1515-105 Contemp Brazilian Lit & Culture HON 1515-106 Coping with a Complex Universe HON 1515-107 Common Good & Social Justice SPRING HON 1515-101 Metamorphoses in Life: Love & Death	Dale, M. Norris & Fenwick Pipes, J. Licata, T. James, B. Solinsky, J.. Behrent, M. Dale, M.
Sophomore Seminars	FALL HON 2515-101 Faces in the Crowd HON 2515-102 Blue Danube HON 2515-103 Mymedia.Myworld HON 2515-104 Modernism & Postmodernism HON 2515-105 Secret Codes SPRING HON 2515-101 Graphic Novel HON 2515-103 Art and the Brain HON 2515-105 Food Fights: Cannibalizing Culture HON 2515-106 Darwin HON 2515-107 Asian Cultures & Societies	Osmond, C. Hellenbrand, A. Pope, J. Maiden, E. Klima, R. Fischer, C. Zrull, M. McDowell, G. Waters, J. Tu, X.

Junior Seminars	<p>FALL HON 3515-101 Cybercrime HON 3515-102 We Are Water HON 3515-103 Fermented Beverages of World HON 3515-104 Inventing Language(s) HON 3515-105 Bible & Science HON 3515-106 Unlearning Racism HON 3515-108 Community-Based Art HON 3515-109 Exec. Sem Int'l Ldshp & Ethics</p> <p>SPRING HON 3515-101 Music & Politics HON 3515-103 We Are Water HON 3515-104 Tycoons, Titans, Blaggards HON 3515-105 Global Information Technologies HON 3515-106 King Arthur HON 3515-107 Unlearning Racism HON 3515-108 Bringing the World Home</p> <p>Summer 2015 HON 3515-101 Critical Persp Racism & Whiteness HON 3515-146 Poland</p>	<p>Marcum, C. Cockerill, C. Sommer, S. Lillian, D. Duke, R. Wilson, B. Hansell, T. McGraw, R.</p> <p>Love, N. Cockerill, K. Dunston, L. Mitchell, A. Hellenbrand, A. Wilson, B. Dubino, J.</p> <p>Wilson, B. Vannoy, S.</p>
Special Topics	<p>FALL HON 3531 Voyages</p> <p>SPRING/Summer HON 3531-145 International Experience (India, Mexico, South Africa)</p>	<p>Jones, L.</p> <p>Jones, L.</p>

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 33).



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 2014-15 was provided by the following five personnel, with their areas of disciplinary responsibility listed:

Dr. Jones	Dr. Wheeler	Dr. Waldroup	Dr. McDowell	Dr. Mead
ALL pre-meds regardless of major	Arts & Sciences: ALL Natural Sciences	Arts & Sciences: ALL Humanities	ALL pre-law regardless of major	College of Education: ALL majors
ALL pre-dental regardless of major	Computer Science	School of Music	Arts & Sciences: ALL Social Sciences	Communication
All other pre-health professions	Environmental Science	Art	ALL Business majors	Child Development
Biology	Math	Theatre & Dance	Social Work	Nursing
Exercise Science	Sustainable Devl	Technology	Health Care Management	Nutrition & Dietetics
		Interior Design		Communication Disorders
				Rec Management
				Undecided

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 (montage above shows Honors College students presenting at OSR's Celebration of Student Research and Creative Endeavors Day). 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 2014 and Spring 2015

Student	Thesis Title	Major	Mentor	Date
Amanda Adams	A Review of Hospitality and Tourism Management Graduates' Post Education Employment	Hospitality and Tourism Management	Brian Whitaker	05/2015
Jane Bowers	A Call to Action	Dance Studies	Susan Lutz	05/2015
Miana Breed	The Literary Richard III: The Making of a Monster Through Historiography	Department of English	Allison Gullet	05/2015
Dean Cates	The Creative Effect of Trauma in a Farewell to Arms	English & Economics	Carl Eby	05/2015
Shannon Clark	Native Land, Foreign Capital: A Historical and Anthropological Analysis of Resource Exploitation on the North Slope Borough of Alaska	Anthropology & History	Brian Burke	05/2015
Brian Clee	On Virtual Reality as a Viable Medium for Competency Based Education	Computer Science	Dee Parks	05/2015
Dana Cobb	Environmental Enrichment Promotes Adaptation To Environment Rearrangement In Younger But Not Older Adolescent Rats	Department of Psychology	Mark Zrull	05/2015
Karson Collins	Intervention Methods For Spurring Emergent Literacy in Children Who Are Deaf of Hard of Hearing By Hearing Parents: A Literature Review	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Robin Morehouse	05/2015
Kristen Content	Consistency Of Stress Hormone Profiles And Associations Between Personality And Hormone Levels In A Wild Breeding Bird	Department of Biology	Lynn Siefferman	05/2015
Allison Cook	The Role of Transformative Learning in Study Abroad Experiences	Art	Tricia Treacy	05/2015
Audrey Cook	Walkability Analysis of the Downtown Durham Self-Guided Walking Tour	Appropriate Technology	Marie Hoepfl	05/2015

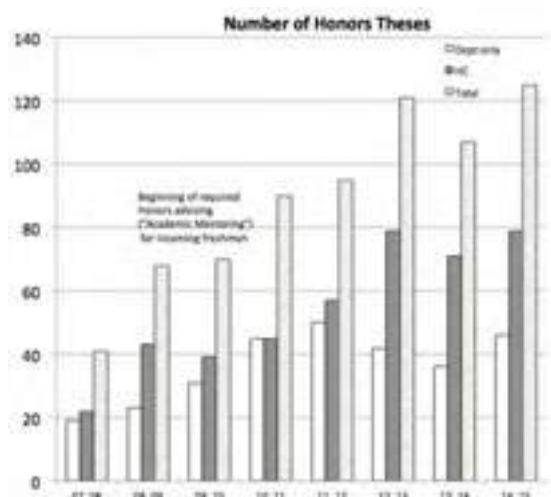
Margaret Cooper	#Ferguson: Social Networks, Social Change & Citizen Reporting	Communication	Carolyn Edy	05/2015
Anna Coppedge	Vitamin D Receptor Concentration Influences Interleukin-6 Concentration in Burned and Non-burned Human Skeletal Muscle	Exercise Science	Ed Merritt	05/2015
Allison Crook	The Effect Of International Aid And Development On Maternal Health In Haiti	Spanish & Global Studies	Andrew Fisher	05/2015
Zachary Cruz	The Effect Of Mood On Wishful Thinking And NFL Outcome Predictions	Department of Psychology	Andrew Smith	05/2015
Katlyn Dublin	Personality Traits Of Accounting Professionals In Different Practice Areas	Accounting	Rebecca Kaenzig	05/2015
Correy Dowd	Anxiety Sensitivity And Risk-Taking Behaviors	Department of Psychology	Joshua Broman-Fulks	05/2015
Joshua Draper	The Cool Japan Project And The Globalization Of Anime And Manga In The United States	Global Studies	Wei Xie	05/2015
Olivia Easley	Clothing Calamity: A Crisis Case Study On Slave Labor Allegations Against Spanish Retailer Zara	Department of Communication	Tina McCorkindale	05/2015
Corbin Ester	Organic framework for novel cobalt glyoximes as potential hydrogen catalysts	Chemistry	Dale Wheeler	05/2015
Victoria Fals	The True Cost of Oil	Accounting	Lynn Stallworth	05/2015
Ciera Ferrone	Examining the Effects of gender Role Stereotypes on Juror Decisions in Cases of Sexual Assault	Psychology	Twila Wingrove	05/2015
Ingrid Forsyth	Hymn Singing in the Taizé Community	Religious Studies & Music Performance	Reeves Shulstad	05/2015
Hanna Fox	The Progression of Women in Legislation: From Property to People	Political Science	Elicka Peterson-Sparks	05/2015
Madison Frink	Seeing the Sacred: A Photographic Study of Spirituality in the High Country	Commercial Photography	Chip Williams	05/2015
Rebecca Gates	Effects of Whole-body heating on Sleep Quality and Chronic Lower Back Pain	Exercise Science	Caroline Smith	05/2015
Haley Goins	Follow The Leader: A Review in Trends in Research of Women's Progression to Partner in Large Accounting Firms	Accounting	Pennie Bagley	05/2015
Laura Goldberg	The Advertising Campaign of Victoria Silva: Fictitious Hispanic-American Presidential Candidate	Advertising & Spanish	Lynn Gregory	05/2015
Andrew Graves	If You Don't Have Anything Nice to Say, Don't Say it at All: Examining TAR Effects and Its Influence on Attitude Formation	Psychology	Ken Steele	05/2015
Anna Howard	Millennials Look Online: Wedding Planning Trends Among Today's Brides	Hospitality & Tourism Management	Dana Clark & Michael Dotson	05/2015
Michael Judge	Expression Profiling of the FLIP4 Protein Family in Arabidopsis thaliana	Biology	Annkatrin Rose	05/2015
Kristie Kennedy	Mathematics and Music: Using Group Theory to Qualify N-Note Tonal Systems	Department of Mathematics	Vicki Klima	05/2015
Anna Knotts	Accessibility over Appeal: Developing	Communication	Scott Welsh	05/2015

	Classical Music Audiences through Community			
Zachary Kopkin	Land of Hope: Charting Development and Children's Lives in Uganda through Education	Anthropology	Greg Reck	05/2015
Amy Koran	The Charitable Contribution Deduction: How Tax Policy Influences Donor Behavior	Accounting	Tammy Kowalczyk	05/2015
Carys Kunze	The Power of Group Dynamics in Musical Ensembles	Music Education	Jennifer Snodgrass	05/2015
Sarah Lackey	The Impact of Age on Political Attitudes: A Comparative Analysis of the Baby Boomer, Generation X, and Millennial Generations	Political Science	Philip Ardoin	05/2015
Rebecca LaMaire	Crafting A/R/Tographic Spaces for New Art Educators Through Visual Journaling	Art Education	Brooke Hofsess	05/2015
Nicholas Lee	An Exploration of Interventions used by Occupational Therapists	Department of Psychology	Cynthia Anderson	05/2015
Kenneth Logsdon	Mexican-American Involvement in Community Gardens: A Study of Participation and Ethnic Identity	Anthropology	Dana Powell	05/2015
Emily Long	The Acolytes of Being: A Definition of 'Transcendence' in German History and Politics	History & Political Science	Nancy Love & Michael Behrent	05/2015
Paige Marley	Procedures of Nongovernmental Organizations and Social Entrepreneurs in International Development: Two Case Studies	Political Science & Global Studies	Renee Scherlen	05/2015
Merrick Marquie	Economic Analysis of Recovery in States with Higher Minimum Wages than National Law	Economics, Marketing & Management	John Lehman	05/2015
David Marvel	Gustav Mahler's "Lieder eines Fahrenden Gesellen" as Chamber Music; Orchestration from a Cultural and Stylistic Perspective	Music Performance	James Stokes	05/2015
Brittney Maslowski	With Or Without Your Blessing: Elizabeth Grimbald And The Struggle Of A Southern Teacher	Department of History	Sheila Phipps	05/2015
Marissa Mueller	Review of Chromosome Numbers within the BCD Clade	Biology	Biology	05/2015
Kimberly Noel	Comparison of Water Quality Upstream and Downstream of Coal Refuse in Southwest Virginia's Clinch River Basin	Department of Chemistry	Carol Babyak	05/2015
Genevieve Parshley	Organic and Intentional: A Study of Network Theory and Nonprofit Collaboration in the High Country	Communication	Janice Pope	05/2015
Kelly Patterson	Environmental Enrichment Affects the Behavior of Adolescent Rats in a Social Preference Task	Psychology	Mark Zrull	05/2015
Devon Patton	Can Quality Overcome Quantity?	Special Education	Denise Brewer	05/2015
Kaitlyn Pechanik	Mindfulness and Suppression as Emotion Regulation Strategies	Special Education	Lisa Emery	05/2015
Jefferson Phillips	Historical Foundations of Rural EMS System Challenges	History	Amy Rutenberg	05/2015

Katherine Reynolds	The Impact of Sign Language on Hearing Babies' Communication	Communication Sciences & Disorders	Jennifer Dalton	05/2015
Connor Roberson	Hollowing	Department of English	Kristen Jorgenson	05/2015
Alison Rossi	Magnetic Resonance Imaging in the Legal Diagnosis of Antisocial Personality Disorder	Psychology	Mark Zrull	05/2015
Kelsey Rothenberg	An Integrative Approach to Health, Healing and Illness in a Global Health Community	Anthropology	Gregory Reck	05/2015
Danielle Russell	Synthesis of Functionalized Tolanes for Release of Rose Scent	Department of Chemistry	Michael Ramey	05/2015
Graham Shelton	The Norman Conquest of Southern Italy and Sicily: The d'Hauteville Family and the Creation of the Norman Kingdom	Department of History	W. Scott Jessee	05/2015
Olivia Sings	Racial Biases within Justice and Equality	Criminal Justice	Catherine Marcum	05/2015
Beatrice Smith	Terpenes and Aphid Abundance in Solidago Altissima Individuals	Biology	Ray Williams	05/2015
Nicholas Smith	Functions of the Community Farmers' Market	Department of Sociology	Cameron Lippard	05/2015
Nicole Steyl	Increasing Knowledge and Skills of Students	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Joseph F. Klein	05/2015
Erin Taylor	Cultivating Creative Communities: Creative Placemaking in North Carolina	Art Management	Jody Servon	05/2015
Audrey Thomas	"A Little More Swinging And Upbeat:" The Music Traditions Of The Boone Mennonite Brethren Church	Department of History	Bruce Stewart	05/2015
Chloe Tipton	Pedagogy of Thoughtfulness: An Investigation of Habits of Mind and Mission Statement of WNC Schools	Interdisciplinary Studies	Peter Nelsen	05/2015
Eric Vickers	The Future of Managing Terrorism Risk: Industry Challenges & Opportunities	Risk Management & Insurance	Dave Wood	05/2015
William Vickers	The Weapons in our Hands are Limitless: The Protocols of the Elders of Zion's Influence on Hitler and Nazi Germany	History	Rennie Brantz	05/2015
Joshua Watson	A Comparison of the Efficiency in Finding Genes Between Sequences Enriched for Hypomethylated Regions and Whole Genome Shotgun Sequence in Bread Wheat	Biology	Matt Estep	05/2015
Kelly Whitaker	The Effects of SH3 Adaptor Function on Tks5 Podosome Localization	Biology	Darren Seals	05/2015
Allison Williams	Satisfaction with Work-Life Balance in the Medical Profession: A Review of the Literature	Biology	Dana E. Brackney	05/2015
Caitlin Williams	The Analysis of Age-Related Differences in Communication Efficiency through the Examination of Executive Function in Young and Older Adults	Communication Sciences and Disorders	Lisa Emery	05/2015
Molly Winstead	An American Drama: The Debate of Slavery	Theatre Arts &	Judkin Browning	05/2015

Shannon Wright	in Ante-bellum Theatre Tumblr's Mental Health Community: The Patters of Microblogging on Trends of Depression	History Department of Psychology	Leslie Sargent Jones	05/2015
Chase Erickson	Sour Springs: A Story of Groundwater Contamination in the Blue Ridge Mountains	Journalism	Carolyn Edy	12/2014
Ryan Lambert	The Use of Ca I and Hy in Determining Stellar Activity	Physics	Richard O. Gray	12/2014
Alyssa Tyler	Map and Level Design: The Creation of Video Game Maps and Characters	Computer Science	Dee Parks	12/2014
Caleb Yelton	The Adaptive Use of Past Death Experience on Treatment Preferences in End-of-Life Care	Psychology	Lisa Emery	12/2014

The numbers of honors theses produced over the past eight years is shown in the figure at right. The total number (light gray) is subdivided to illustrate the component numbers of theses; the white bars represent the number that were for department only, while the dark gray were for those graduating with the Honors College distinction of University Honors. The past year showed a return to strong numbers for both departmental and Honors College thesis numbers, and the trend of overall growth is clear. While this trend may continue, thanks in part to the “academic mentoring” model of advising (started with most incoming Honors freshmen in 2009) and the creation of more department honors programs (ten new programs in the past five years), there is some concern that the thesis numbers may starting declining as the growing burden of continuing budget cuts and the increased teaching loads of the faculty take a toll. Many tenure-track faculty say they cannot also mentor theses, as student numbers increase, but faculty numbers do not, and non-tenure track faculty cannot be expected to mentor theses; it is not part of their contract, and most do not maintain any scholarly research program in which to engage students.



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 supports 40 students in the their International Education program, the total number studying abroad was closer to 137, based on numbers provided by OIED.

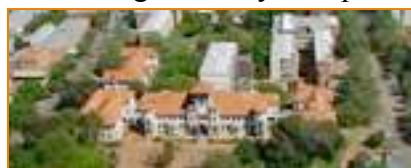
Honors College International Educational Experiences

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 Brazil, England, India, Mexico, and South Africa five different internship opportunities were in place for Summer 2015.



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 2015 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.



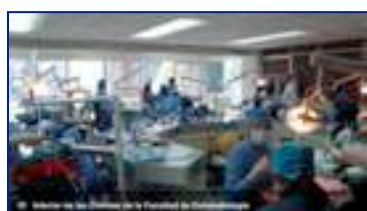
University of Johannesburg, UJ, Johannesburg, South Africa (<http://www.uj.ac.za/EN/Pages/Home.aspx>)

A new program was created for Summer 2014 at UJ, in the financial capital of South Africa. Two students spent four



weeks in summer 2015 at 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 were able to live in a hostel on campus.

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 2015, there have been students there two previous summers, and plans for more students who are Spanish proficient to go in the future.

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 stayed in residence halls on the UDLAP campus while there. There were two pre-medical Spanish-proficient students who went to UDLAP in Summer 2015, and two who were not proficient, but who went to the chemistry research laboratory of Dr. Erick Bandala (an UDLAP visiting professor to ASU, fall o2014), where the work is largely done in English.

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

Three students spent the month of June, 2015, 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 ecology

studies, was allowed to spend her days learning how to do field observation work counting birds in a local wetland. All of them reported exceptional and life-changing experiences.

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



In 2014, two students spent four weeks with the irrepressible Ms. Isabel Richardson, the Director of this remarkable service organization in northern Chennai. They were involved in programs such as

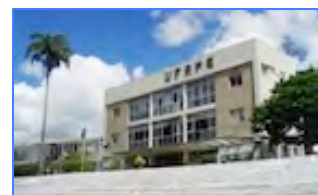


Night Shelter for Street Children, Women in Development (entrepreneurial self-help), Prevention of Trafficking in Women and Children, and the Family Counseling Center. They lived at the MCCSS location and worked with the staff of the MCCSS on varied projects, traveling the countryside for conferences 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. While no students went in this program for 2015, two rising Honors sophomores did learn about this program through Honors and arranged an internship for their Global Studies major at this site.

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



A Chemistry major spent the month of June, 2014, in the laboratory of Dr. Leucio Alves in Recife, Brazil, learning molecular biological techniques used in the study of the zoonotic disease leishmania. There was no student with sufficient Portuguese proficiency to do this program in 2015.



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. There was one student in Summer 2014 who spent his four weeks observing pharmaceutical science practice, participating in research, and attending some classes and sharing in student group work. There was not a pre-pharmacy student for this program in 2015.



Honors College International Courses

One semester-long course with travel embedded during the fall break ("*Voyages*") and another with travel embedded for the spring break ("*King Arthur*" photo right) were run through the Honors college.



The *Voyages* course took the ten Chancellor's Scholar freshmen to Dublin for five days over Fall Break. The students designed their own itinerary for their time in Dublin during the weeks before the trip, and then spent the weeks after the trip presenting about their learning outcomes from the experience. Two seniors accompanied the group as upperclass mentors for the first time.

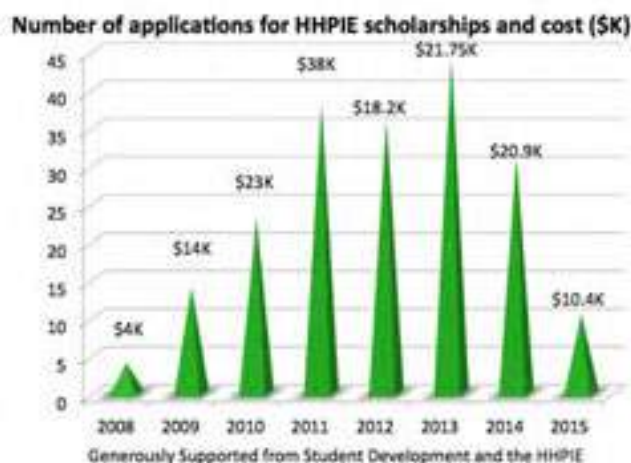
Many students also took advantage of ASU faculty-led courses unrelated to Honors to fulfill the international education requirement, while still others went on full year, one semester, or summer study abroad programs. Examples of study abroad sites where students spent a semester or more include Australia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Denmark, Ecuador, England, France, Germany, Italy, 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 (\$50/credit).

HHPIE Awards for 2014-15

The total expended for the 2014-15 year in support of student travel was \$10,400. In comparison to previous years, the number of those applying for support from this source of travel funds dropped again (21 vs. 31 last year and 44 the previous year). Also, the amount provided to students was cut to \$50/credit in order to assure that there would be adequate funds in the near future to support travel. The gifts that have funded part of this travel (the Mitsch and Heltzer donations) have not been renewed and are running out. The first \$10,000 are generously funded by Student Development, and they have provided this funding consistently each of the past seven years, but there is no written agreement about receiving it, therefore the other foundation funds are being husbanded against the possibility of losing that resource.



Many of the students who are traveling to conferences receive funding directly from Honors College funds, so the number traveling internationally with some form of support is actually somewhat higher. The College spent an additional \$2,700 on international travel, and The Office of Student Development also supports many students' trips to international conferences or for research (they supported two students for over \$1,500 each this past year for thesis research). 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.

The table below shows the student recipients of these awards for 2014-15 and their use.

Last Name	First Name	Banner ID	Destination	Semester	Credit Hours	Amount
Jones	Taylor	900452720	Iceland	201430	4	\$400.00
Burton	Eric	900516321	Peru	201430	6	\$600.00
Mroz	Kylee	900493176	Australia	201440	14	\$1,200.00
Lawson	Elyse	900495218	Denmark	201440	32	\$1,200.00
Gerber	Sydney	900492841	Japan	201440	24	\$1,200.00
Bryson	Amanda	900495126	Australia	201510	12	\$1,200.00
Hains	Kathleen	900512288	England	201510	13	\$600.00
Nolen	Elizabeth	900523840	England	201510	15	\$600.00
Cress	Kevyn	900516187	England	201510	13	\$600.00
Wright	Shannon	900472622	Guatemala	201510	1	\$100.00
Davis	Wesley	900501353	Spain	201510	12	\$600.00
Smith	Ian	900493347	Germany	201520	6	\$300.00
Young	Kayla	900528844	Spain/Ireland	201520	6	\$300.00
Ysidron	Dominic	900571547	Spain	201520	6	\$300.00
Bowman	Kimberly	900501200	Australia	201520	6	\$300.00
Miller	Jordan	900497017	South Africa	201520	3	\$150.00
Ray	Savannah	900493577	Mexico	201520	3	\$150.00
Gilliam	Nick	900519597	Cuba	201520	3	\$150.00
Willet	Howard	900495227	Mexico	201520	3	\$150.00
Staszkiwicz	Maddison	900533773	Mexico	201520	3	\$150.00
Prevatte	Alex	900524587	Mexico	201520	3	\$150.00
Total Scholarships Awarded						\$10,400.00

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 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 2014-15: Leslie Sargent Jones, Chair (Director, The Honors College), Celeste Crowe (Director, Health Professions Advising), Jennifer Gray (COM), Lucinda McCray (HIS), Eric Karchmar (ANT)

The third cohort of graduates with the Minor graduated in 2015: Courtney Bowers, Karson Collins, Corbin Ester, and Nicholas Lee. This brings the total number of graduates to twelve.

Students Pursuing the Minor 2014-15:

Aakriti Agrawal, Mary Beth Burriss, Courtney Bowers, Karson Collins, Leah Connell, Shelby Diachenko, Katherine Drysdale, Corbin Ester, April Kaiser, Grace Koontz, Nicholas Lee, Taylor Lyall, Rebecca Rzasa, Tibor Nagy, Alexa Newsome, Brittney Sanderson, Holly Skinner, Marissa Stockstad, and Ellen Thomas.

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 in any number of degrees 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 a master's program while still an undergrad. 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 in English, with several others expressing interest.

Honors Pre-Professional Advising

As part of the academic mentoring program in 2014-15, 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 (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.

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. The



Spring of 2014 brought an MoA with Louisburg College, the first with a private two year college. This past spring, 2015, an MoU was signed with South Piedmont Community 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 2014, the students participated in the Town as Text on the first day of the Freshmen 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 reports, and will be repeated, funds permitting.



Freshmen Welcome Supper

On the first Sunday before fall classes start, the Prestigious Scholarships Program and the Honors College hosted a supper for all of the entering freshmen. Some students were 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 were reminded about drop/add week and to meet with their advisor during that week in case of a scheduling emergency. They were also informed 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. This past year it was closer to 20! These students are essential ambassadors for the Honors College

Freshmen Family Picnic

Each year in September, the Honors College hosted a picnic lunch on the Sunday of Family Weekend. This was 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 started college. It was a chance to meet the classmates and new friends their students had made, and to see the campus more intimately. There were generally over 200 people who attend, including some faculty, and it was a fun way for the students to connect their families with their new home. Unfortunately, Family Weekend was moved in the fall of 2014 to coincide with a football game, and it fell on the first weekend in November. The result was a very cold weekend that required the event to be held indoors. While many still came, it was not a successful event in terms of cost-benefit, and will not be repeated while Family Weekend is held in the colder months.



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 (Inside Appalachian)

There were six days in Fall 2014 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). There was also a seventh event for diversity recruiting.

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 time. Current Chancellor's Scholars participated both

as interviewers and as hosts in the Honors College facilities where we entertained 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 (right) and May (below) 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. In spring 2015, Honors 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 ("ToY") 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. Tom McLaughlin (who was at the Loft and collected his award when he came back to campus). For the third 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. Mark Zrull (left), Psychology. There is also a Special Award given to a retiring Honors College faculty member, which went to Dr. Stan Aeschleman (right), Interim Executive Vice-Chancellor and Provost. The programs are shown.



Honorum Laurus Program	University Honors Candidates
<p><i>Opening Remarks</i></p> <p><i>Introduction of Hosts</i></p> <p><i>Recognition of Special Guest</i> Dr. Leslie "Bud" Gordon</p> <p><i>Recognition of Honors Director</i> Presentation of Honors Medals to the University Honors Candidates</p> <p><i>Closing Remarks</i></p>	<p><i>Listed by Name, Major, Thesis Title, and Thesis Director</i></p> <p>Chase Erickson Biology (Major) / Environmental Science (Minor) Thesis: <i>The Role of the Microbiome in the Gut</i> Thesis Director: Dr. [Name]</p> <p>Ryan Lambert Physics (Major) / Mathematics (Minor) Thesis: <i>The Role of Quantum Mechanics in the Development of the Universe</i> Thesis Director: Dr. [Name]</p> <p>Kaitlin Pratt Psychology (Major) / Neuroscience (Minor) Thesis: <i>The Role of the Brain in the Development of the Mind</i> Thesis Director: Dr. [Name]</p> <p>Alison Tiller Computer Science (Major) / Mathematics (Minor) Thesis: <i>The Role of the Computer in the Development of the Mind</i> Thesis Director: Dr. [Name]</p> <p>Caleb Yohn Psychology (Major) / Neuroscience (Minor) Thesis: <i>The Role of the Brain in the Development of the Mind</i> Thesis Director: Dr. [Name]</p>



[illegible]

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 absolute 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 residence halls comprise the Brad and Carol Wilson Honors and Engagement Community. The space, with its enclosed “bailey” space for students to meet and p warm weather.



Federation for European Neuroscience Societies (IBRO): 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 IBRO conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (see under Students).

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North Carolina Honors Association (NCHA): Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones was the NCHA Past-President for 2014-15. Dr. Wheeler was the only HC member able to attend the 2014 meeting, which was at Mt. Olive College.

National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC): All of the staff (Jones, Wheeler, Waldroup, Yandow, McDowell and Mead) along with two Honors College faculty members (Drs. Rick Klima and Phillip Ardoin) attended the annual conference of the NCHC in Denver, CO. Dr. Jones gave a presentation on “Honors Spaces.” Dr. Mead was an invited participant for a roundtable on Honors Advising.

NCHC International Institute: Dr. Mead attended the NCHC’s *International Institute: Facades and Secrets of Lyon, France*, to learn more about the City as Text® pedagogy and methodology in July, 2014. At the Institute, Dr. Mead, along with other Honors Administrators and faculty, participated in a number of excursions and activities designed both to immerse themselves in reading Lyon as text, as well as how those activities may be translated to on-campus activities and study abroad experiences for Honors College students back at their home institutions. Aspects of the program were applied to the Chancellor’s Scholars “*Voyages*” course trip to Dublin for the freshmen in October, 2014.

NEH Summer Institute: Dr. Heather Waldroup participated in a four-week research institute in NYC on “American Material Culture: 19th Century New York.” She was one of 18 scholars selected for this competitive, federally funded opportunity that took place in July, 2015.

Conference Attendance: Honors College Students

IBRO: Kyle Rossi, accompanied by Dr. Jones, shown here with a co-presenting colleague from UFS in South Africa (Pierre Kriek), presented a poster at the International Brain Research quadrennial conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July, 2015.



Society for Neuroscience (SfN): Nine Honors College students attended the annual meeting of the SfN in Washington, D.C., Nov. 2014, to present a poster on the online journal, 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 two IMPULSE student colleagues from Middlebury College and the University of California, San Diego.



SYNAPSE: Ten students went to Asheville, North Carolina, in March 2015, to present a poster on IMPULSE at the Symposium for Young Neuroscientists and Professors of the Southeast. They are pictured here with Dr. Jones at their poster.



NCUR: There were a large number of ASU students at the annual meeting of the National

Conference on Undergraduate Research at the Eastern Washington University, Cheney, WA, in April, 2015. Among the students presenting there were many Honors students, such as Grayson Bodenheimer, Emily Long, and Hannah Malcolm.

SNCURCS: A number of Honors students attended the 10th Annual State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium at N.C. State University November 22, 2014. Students from across the state delivered 405 research/creative performance presentations, making this the largest SNCURCS conference so far. Shown here are Senior Honors student Tori Placentra (right) along with fellow chemistry major Ashlyn Henson.



Neuroscience Conference of Göttingen, Germany: Dana Cobb went to Germany to present her thesis research on effects of enriched environments on brain function in rats at this European conference.



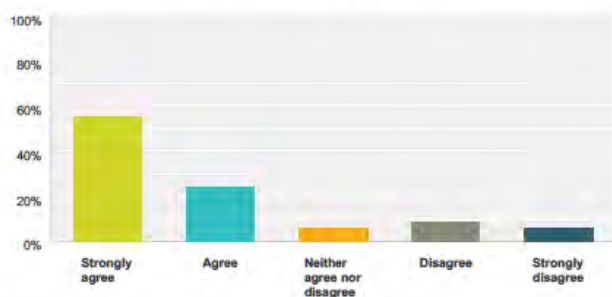
Assessment

Course Evaluations by Students

In the past, Faculty were sent evaluation forms to distribute at the end of the semester so that the Honors College could review the students' responses to the courses. However, in the Fall of 2014, Honors went to an online form and sent the students a link to a Survey Monkey instrument for reviewing the course in the last week of class. While this cost the College financially, the 213 responses out of 319 students in HON classes was a reasonable return rate (67%) and provided much better opportunities for analysis. The

Q13 Overall, I would rate this Honors College course as excellent.

Answered: 213 Skipped: 3

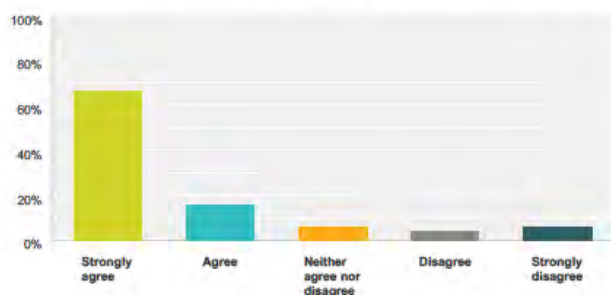


Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly agree	54.93%	117
Agree	23.94%	51
Neither agree nor disagree	6.57%	14
Disagree	8.45%	18
Strongly disagree	6.10%	13
Total		213

overall satisfaction with all HON courses was high, with over three quarters of the students either Agreeing or Strongly Agreeing that the course and the professor were excellent (see graphs). However, there were some courses and professors who were rated quite poorly, and this was useful information for determining which particular instructors were not a good fit for future HON teaching.

Q12 The professor for this Honors College course was an exceptional instructor.

Answered: 213 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly agree (1)	66.67% 142
Agree (2)	15.96% 34
Neither agree nor disagree	6.57% 14
Disagree (4)	4.23% 9
Strongly disagree (5)	6.57% 14
Total	213

In the Spring of 2015, Honors switched to using Qualtrics (freely available through the ASU library). Also, a new set of questions was constructed that were more closely tailored to what HON courses should be accomplishing for Honors students. This proved to be an easy and reasonable platform, but instead of sending the link out in the last week of class, when the paper evaluations were traditionally filled out, the link was sent during exam week. The rationale was that students would now be able to evaluate the entire course, including the exam. The link also was sent to all students who had been in the course from the beginning, so even students who had dropped the course were included, so that reasons for their dropping the course could be included, if it was due to the course being unsatisfactory.

While this meant that even more students were sent the link, even fewer students responded than in the fall. Out of 207 students enrolled in HON courses, only 57 completed the evaluation (27.5%), half the number from the fall. This is thought to be due to the students' unwillingness to take their own time to fill out the survey. They would fill out surveys during class time, and many were willing to do the survey online during the last week of class (as seen in the fall), but most were uninterested in taking time during exam week or after they had left campus to fill out the evaluation. The strategy for Fall 2015 will be to send the link during the last week of class and to ask the faculty to make time, if possible, for students to pull up the link and fill out the survey during class, as in the past.

The results for the 57 spring responses indicated the usual enthusiasm for the HON courses. Over 85% of the students either Strongly Agreed or Agreed that the instructor was exceptional, and 75% either Strongly Agreed or Agreed that the course was excellent. Other data was collected for a more refined look at what the students liked/disliked about the courses, and the responses were generally strongly positive in all areas. Specifically they were asked to evaluate how well the courses improved their skills in: communication, critical thinking, research, and leadership. It also asked for their evaluation of how well the courses expanded their understanding of global issues, interdisciplinarity, and moral reasoning. Interestingly, improving their research and leadership skills were the least positively reviewed.

Faculty Assessment of Students in HON Courses

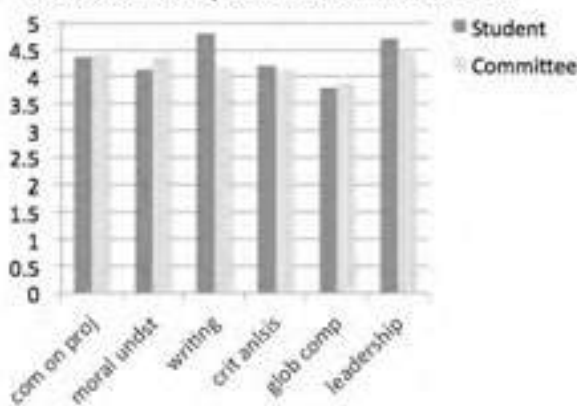
The course assessments by the faculty of the students in their HON seminars in the fall were run through Survey Monkey. The spring course assessment surveys were run on the Qualtrics platform. A five-point scale was used to rate the questions shown at right, with five as best. Results indicate that the faculty rank the caliber of the students as 4.43 and their overall satisfaction with the HON course they taught as 4.38/5. Only a few responses rated anything as a

3 (“average”), and only two areas, “autonomy and independence in course work” and “Evidence of leadership” had two faculty indicating they thought the students were average in those two areas.

Thesis Assessment

In parallel with the instrument for course evaluation, 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 (see figure) with 5 as best. In the 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 than did their committee (similar to the year before, 4.57 vs. 4.2). The same was true about their sense of their leadership skills (students 4.71 vs. faculty 4.44). For the first time, the faculty thought the students were better at

Thesis Assessment by Student & Committee 2014-15



communicating *about* their project than their students felt that they were (4.36 vs. 4.42). The self-assessment on how the students thought they understood the moral and ethical dimensions of their projects dropped a bit (from 4.8 last year to 4.14 this year), while their mentors were nearly at the same level as last year (4.38). Of note, however, is that there continues to be a rating over 4 on every question by both Faculty and Students, with the prominent exception of Global competence. In that category, both groups felt the students were somewhat less competent (3.79 and 3.89, respectively). This has been seen in previous years, though last year the numbers were over 4, so this drop is reflective again of a general sense that they do not know as much as they think they should. See figure at right for comparison of student/faculty assessment across the six indicated areas.

Overall preparedness of the students for your course
Level of student communication in writing
Level of student communication in speaking
Level of student creativity for all assignments
Level of student critical analysis for all assignments
Level of student autonomy and independence in course work
Global competence (how well do students understand the course material in an international context?)
Level of understanding of the moral/ethical dimensions of the course topic area (i.e., are students conversant in current issues in the field? e.g., PSY/informed consent, ART/copyright, TEC/intel property rights, CHE/fraud & fabrication)
Evidence of leadership by students in the course
Level of responsibility of students throughout the course (e.g., attending class, responding to feedback, submission of assignments, etc.)
Level of student course mastery by semester's end (did they meet your expectations as a group?)
Overall rating of the caliber of the students
Overall rating of your satisfaction with the course

Communication ability in writing
Communication ability in speaking
Thesis-specific communication (e.g., music/dance performance, artistic expression, writing, photography, textile/design, marketing plans, research organization, etc.)
Level of mastery of their thesis topic area
Level of critical analysis in the thesis
Level of autonomy and independence in completing the thesis
Global competence (does student understand their major / thesis topic in an international context?)
Level of understanding of the moral/ethical dimensions of their major/thesis topic (i.e., are they conversant in the current issues in their field? e.g., PSY/informed consent, ART/copyright, TEC/intel property rights, CHE/fraud & fabrication, etc.)
Preparation for completing the thesis prior to beginning the work (e.g., research skills, writing ability, ability to be self-directed and self-motivated, performance skills, etc.)
Level of performance throughout the thesis process (e.g., attending regular meetings, communicating with the committee, timely submissions, response to feedback, etc.)
Potential for leadership in future professional goals
Overall rating of the thesis and thesis defense

GoogleAnalytics for Honors College Website

In 2008, the website for the then-Heltzer Honors Program was revised, and four more times since, eventually migrating to a Drupal platform. Data for the July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015, period indicates the usage is still growing globally, and, after being flat last year, has picked up growth at the domestic and state level, as well (see chart). Page views for all 50 states was seen again, with North Carolina having the highest number of hits, of course (31,587, a record, compared to 29,447 last year). The percentage of non-NC hits among US views has increased again from

9.8% in 2011-12, to 25.9% in 2012-13, 28.22% in 2013-14, and now 32.78% this past year. Similarly, the number of world views (non-US) has increased from 3.5% in 2011-12, to 11.9% in 2012-13, to 22.1% in 2013-14, and for 2014-15 was 39.66%, which is a further near-doubling in the percent of global visitors. Non-US views were once again primarily from the Philippines, with >23,000 views, which is triple the number from the year before, which in turn was a doubling from the previous year; these are not random views, as they are >3 minutes/session and >3 pages/visit, indicating serious visitors. This is followed by India, the United Kingdom, Malaysia, Indonesia and Australia, each with over 400 views, which is yet again a substantial increase from the year before, showing the strength of the growth trend.



Country	Sessions	% New Sessions	New Users
	77,887	72.17%	56,210
	% of total: 100.00%	% of total: 100.00%	% of total: 100.00%
	(77,887)	(72,170)	(56,210)
1. United States	46,888 (60.34%)	60.30%	28,195 (50.14%)
2. Philippines	23,007 (29.54%)	91.08%	21,701 (38.77%)
3. India	833 (1.07%)	91.32%	802 (1.43%)
4. United Kingdom	479 (0.61%)	89.80%	411 (0.73%)
5. Malaysia	477 (0.61%)	89.73%	426 (0.75%)
6. Indonesia	462 (0.59%)	92.42%	427 (0.76%)
7. Range	419 (0.54%)	88.31%	370 (0.66%)
8. Australia	389 (0.50%)	89.97%	360 (0.64%)
9. Canada	374 (0.48%)	91.98%	344 (0.61%)
10. Germany	268 (0.34%)	89.21%	226 (0.40%)



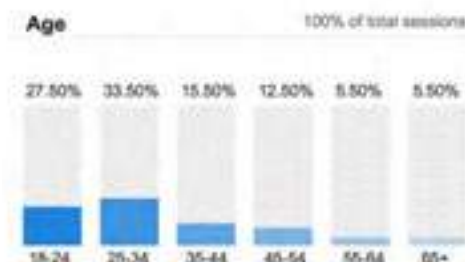


National data (below) showed that Georgia and Tennessee continue to have the most views after NC, and visitors there spent almost as long and visited as many pages as NC viewers. South

	46,990 % of Total (60.20%) (77,886)	59.99% Avg. for View (72.08% (16,753))	28,191 % of Total (36.20%) (77,886)
1. North Carolina	31,587 (67.22%)	50.48%	15,946 (50.38%)
2. Georgia	1,503 (3.22%)	68.60%	1,031 (3.69%)
3. Tennessee	1,376 (2.93%)	64.90%	893 (3.17%)
4. California	1,132 (2.41%)	64.81%	960 (3.41%)
5. South Carolina	1,118 (2.38%)	73.17%	818 (2.90%)
6. Florida	1,115 (2.37%)	79.82%	890 (3.16%)
7. Virginia	827 (1.81%)	78.10%	724 (2.57%)
8. Texas	842 (1.79%)	62.66%	696 (2.47%)
9. New York	799 (1.70%)	86.24%	706 (2.50%)
10. Pennsylvania	548 (1.17%)	86.50%	474 (1.68%)

Carolina, Florida, and California all had over 1,000 visits. States with over 700 visits included Virginia, New York, and Texas, with Pennsylvania over 500. States with over 300 visits included Illinois, New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, and Alabama. Metro regions with the highest visit numbers were again in-state, but Atlanta, New York, Nashville, and Washington, D.C. also continued to poll high numbers.

The detailed data on website usage show that 72% of all sessions were from “new users.” They spent on average 3:07 minutes per view and visited an average of 3.36 pages. The demographics data illustrates that that >27% of the visitors were in the appropriate target age range (18-24), as seen in the graph, while over 54% were male.



It was anticipated that the site would reach saturation at some point, but that this clearly still has not happened. 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 2014-15 year, ASU students served as Reviewers and the essential editorial staff: Dana Cobb as Editor-in-Chief, Kyle Sasser as Executive Editor, Alison Rossi as Managing Editor, Corbin Ester as Executive Associate Editor, and Danielle Russell and Rachel Sledge as Publicity Editors. These students presented posters on the journal at the Society for Neuroscience conference in Washington, D.C., and at the SYNAPSE conference in Asheville; Kyle Sasser presented at the International Brain Research Organization meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The journal can be found at: <http://impulse.appstate.edu>.

IMPULSE - The Premier Undergraduate Neuroscience Journal

ARCHIVE | SUBMISSION INFO | REVIEW TEAMS | ABOUT US | CONTACT | PEER REVIEWERS 2014

EDITORIAL	EDITOR-IN-CHIEF	ASSOCIATE EDITOR(S)	FACULTY ADVISOR(S)	FACULTY ADVISOR(S)
Editorial 2014	Dana Cobb (APP State)	Elizabeth Arts (APP State)	Carlos Alderman, Ph.D. Brown University, USA	Amelie Landman, M.S., Ch.B. University of the Free State, South Africa
ARTICLES	EXECUTIVE EDITOR	Cathy Carley (APP State)	Daniel J. Braker, Ph.D. Carnegie Mellon University USA	Deanna Smith, Ph.D. University of South Carolina, USA
Intensity-dependent effects of voluntary exercise on memory task performance in rats	MANAGING EDITOR	Alexa Clearinko (WPU)	Jeremy Loebach, Ph.D. St. Olaf College, USA	Steven Symington, Ph.D. Salve Regina University, USA
Activation of CB1 receptors may provide an effective treatment or obsessive compulsive disorder	EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE EDITOR	Sara Domarice (Roanoke)	Kim Christie Ph.D. Middlebury College, USA	Victoria Tungen, Ph.D. Furman University, USA
Examining the enhancement drink NeuroBlox(R): Lack of effect on mood and memory in late adolescents	PUBLICITY EDITOR(S)	Elisabeth Giese (St Olaf)	Leslie Sargent Jones, Ph.D. Appalachian State University, USA	
Exploring the relationship between creativity and lucid dreaming	SOCIAL MEDIA SPECIALIST	Dustin Hayden (Brown)	David Nichols, Ph.D. Roanoke College, USA	
Event-related potentials in humans for emotional words versus pictures	Rachel Sledge (APP State)	Drag Irving (Salve)	Jaime A. Friesa, Ph.D. University of California, San Diego, USA	
Assessment of the dual sex bias in Parkinson's research on non-human subjects: a meta analysis	PEER REVIEWERS	Sara Konrich (UCSD)	Wayne Silver, Ph.D. Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, USA	
	Peer Reviewers 2014	Benjamin Kriek (UFS)		
		Benjamin Mansky (Middlebury)		
		Anna Milette (Carnegie Mellon University)		
		Geetanjali Pathak (USC)		
		Jacob Westenberg (St Olaf)		
		Megan Wilner (Furman)		

Reviewer Training Sites

IMPULSE COLLEGE
Middlebury
Roanoke
FURMAN
UFS UV
ST-OLAF COLLEGE
SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY
UC San Diego
WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY
Carnegie Mellon University

The serotonin 5-HT1B
agonist sumatriptan
increases aggressive
behaviors in adult male
rats in a neutral cage
setting (Cover)

NA Shell
NA Core
Cannula Track

Red
Orange
Yellow



2014 PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM (PSP) ANNUAL REPORT

Dr. Dale E. Wheeler, Director

April, 2015

Overview: 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: recruitment through the AIM High program and support for the submission of competitive scholarship applications.

Recruitment - AIM High: In July 2014, ~330 students were invited to participate in the AIM High program. The application can be found at <http://psp.appstate.edu/join-aim-high>. The criterion was 30-60 semester hours and a minimum GPA of 3.65. Ninety-four students (28.5%) completed the online application to participate in the program. Seven meetings were held throughout the fall semester 2014.

Submission - Prestigious Scholarship Support: During 2014, six external scholarship applications were supported, completed, and submitted through the PSP Office.. These included three Fulbright Grant applications, a Hollings Scholarship application, a Goldwater Scholarship application and a Gillman Scholarship application. Of these, 3/6 (50%) successfully received scholarship support. (Note: One Rhodes scholarship application, one Fulbright grant application, and several Gilman scholarship applications were submitted without support from the PSP office.)

AIM High

Rising sophomores with GPAs of 3.65 and higher were invited to join AIM High during the summer 2014. Of the ~330 invitations, 94 students opted into the group, five more than the 2013 group. During these 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. Seven meetings were held through the year.

September 16, Table Rock Room, Introduction to AIM High

September 23, Table Rock Room, Undergraduate Scholarly Opportunities and Faculty Mentors

October 7, Table Rock Room, Professional Conferences and Funding Scholarly Projects

October 21, Table Rock Room, International Experience Opportunities, Study Abroad and Research

October 28, Rough Ridge Room, Preparation for the Senior Thesis and GRE preparation

November 4, Linville Falls Room, Graduate School Applications

November 11, Parkway Ballroom, Program Summary Banquet

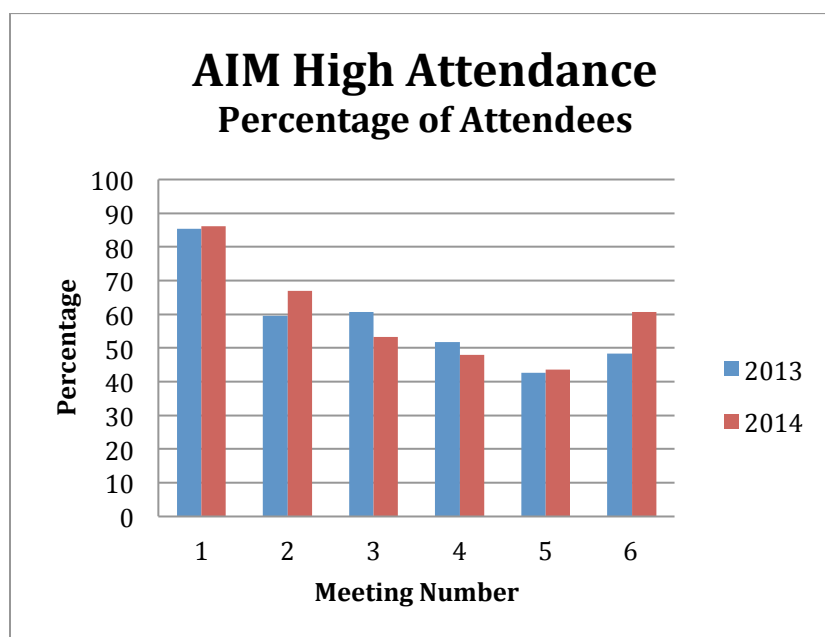
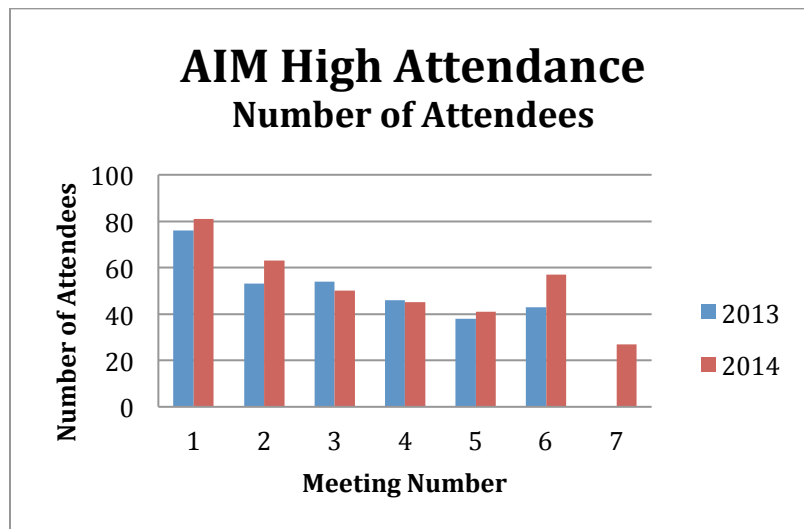
ATTENDANCE (Fall 2014)

Meeting 1September 16	81	86%
Meeting 2September 23	63	67%
Meeting 3October 7	50	53%
Meeting 4October 21	45	48%
Meeting 5October 28	41	44%
Meeting 6November 4	57	61%
Meeting 7November 11 (banquet)	27	28%

Average Attendance 2014 56 59%
(banquet at the end of the program)

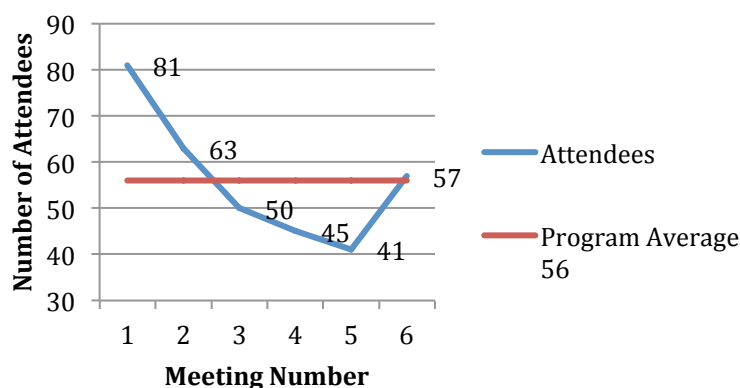
Average Attendance 2013 52 58%
(banquet at the beginning) 47 54%

NOTE: The program attendance was unaffected by whether the banquet was held at the beginning or the end of the program.



Informational Meetings Plemmons Student Union	Meeting Topic	Guest Speakers
Tuesday, Sept. 16 Table Rock Room 6:00 - 7:30pm	AIM High	Dr. Dale E. Wheeler Director, Prestigious Scholarships Program
Tuesday, Sept. 23 Table Rock Room 6:00 - 7:00pm	Faculty Mentors Undergraduate Scholarly Opportunities	Prof. Jennifer Cecile (Chemistrtry) Prof. Becki Battista (Health and Exercise Science) Prof. Heather Waldroup (Art)
Tuesday, Oct. 7 Table Rock Room 6:00 - 7:00pm	Professional Conferences Funding for Scholarly Projects	Prof. Mark Zrull (Psychology) Carys Kunze (former AIM High student) Prof. Alan Utter (Interim Vice Provost - Director, Office of Student Research)
Tuesday, Oct. 21 Table Rock Room 6:00 - 7:00pm	International Experience Opportunities Study Abroad and Research	Prof. Garner Dewey (Executive Vice Chancellor - Academic Affairs) Prof. Alexandra Hellenbrand (Languages, Literature, and Cultures) Dr. Martin Meznar (Associate Dean of the Walker College of Business)
Tuesday, Oct 28 Rough Ridge Room 5:30 - 7:00pm	GRE Information Senior Thesis	Ms. Cama Duke (Director of LSS) Dr. Leslie Jones (Director, Appalachian Honors College)
Tuesday, Nov. 4 Table Rock Room 5:30 - 7:00pm	Graduate School Applications	Prof. Sandra Vannoy (Associate Dean of the Walker College of Business) Ms. Sandra Krause (Director, Graduate Admissions and Recruiting) Prof. Josh Brommen-Falks (Psychology)
Tuesday, Nov. 11 Parkway Ballroom 6:00 - 7:30pm	AIM High Banquet Summary	Dr. Anthony Calamai Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

2014 Program Attendance Trendline



September 16, 2014 - Introductory Meeting - An overview of the program and requirements were presented by Dr. Dale E. Wheeler, Director of the AIM High Program. (81 students attended)

September 23, 2014 - 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. Jennifer Cecile (Chemistry), Prof. Becki Battista (Health and Exercise Science), and Prof. Heather Waldroup (Art). Students were given the assignment to identify a potential faculty mentor. (63 students attended)

October 7, 2014 – Feedback was given by students concerning their experiences in identifying a faculty mentor. Questions and discussion followed. Guest speakers were Prof. Mark Zrull (Psychology), Carys Kunze (former AIM High student), and Prof. 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. (50 students attended)

October 21, 2014 – Guest speakers were Prof. Garner Dewey (Executive Vice Chancellor - Academic Affairs), Prof. Alexandra Hellenbrand (Languages, Literatures & Cultures / Director of the Global Studies Program), 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. Prof. Hellenbrand spoke about her personal experiences traveling with students on study abroad trips to Europe and the importance that all students seek out and participate in 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. (45 students attended)

October 28, 2014 – Guest speakers were Dr. Leslie 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. (41 students attended)

November 4, 2014 - Guest speakers were Ms. Sandra Krause (Graduate School), Prof. Josh Brommen-Folks (Psychology), and Prof. Sandra Vannoy (Associate Dean and the 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. (57 students attended)

November 11, 2014 – End of the program banquet - Guest speaker was Prof. Tony Calamai (Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences). Dean Calamai talked about his undergraduate experiences and the importance of working with a faculty mentor and being involved in creative scholarly projects. He summarized the AIM High meeting topics of faculty mentors, letters of recommendations, scholarly projects, funding opportunities, international experiences, and the submission of a competitive graduate school application through personal antidotes.

Scholarship Applications

Seven students completed and submitted scholarship applications. The PSP staff provided support to these ensure that complete and competitive applications were submitted and all requirements were fulfilled by the posted deadlines.

Spring 2014 / Fall 2014

Corbin Ester*	Goldwater Scholarship
Laura Heinen*	Hollings Scholarship
Marissa Stockstad *	Gillman Scholarship
Mary Feamster	Fulbright Research Grant
Emily Long	Fulbright Research Grant
Sarah Parker	Fulbright Research Grant

*Successfully received their award

Assistance for the Goldwater Scholarship applicant also included a faculty review committee to interview and provided suggestions for improvement. Members of the committee included: Prof. Andy Heckert (Geology), Prof. Claudia Cartaya-Marin (Chemistry), Prof. Dru Henson (Biology), Prof. Brad Conrad (Physics), Dr. Leslie Jones (Director of the Honors College / biology), and Prof. Dale Wheeler (Director of the Prestigious Scholarships Program and Chemistry).

Assistance for the Fulbright Research Grants applicants also included a faculty interview committee to assess applications and provided suggestions for improvement. Members of the committee included, Dr. Jesse Lutabingwa, Director of the International and Education Development Program, Prof. Suzi Mills (Music), Prof. James F. Barnes (Government and Justice Studies), and Prof. Dale Wheeler (Director of the Prestigious Scholarships Program).

Scholarship Informational Meetings

2014 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, I met with four additional students to discuss details about the Fulbright application process.

AIM High Travel Grant Activity

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

Office Assistant

In the Fall 2014, Senior Honors student Anna Coppedge was assigned to help with the Scholarship meeting scheduling and the AIM High meetings. Her primary tasks included correspondence with AIM High students for meeting reminders, correspondence with the AIM High invited speakers, taking attendance at the AIM High meetings and recording this information, printing and sending thank you notes to the AIM High speakers. She was also responsible for organizing data from the AIM High applications for presentation at the first meeting and ordering food through the ASU catering office. She helped print posters for upcoming scholarship informational workshops. Anna also helped with correspondence with Fulbright scholarship interview committee members and the Fulbright student applicants. Anna worked in this position until the end of November 2014.

PSP Website

The PSP website was periodically updated to reflect upcoming events and approaching deadlines. Minor updates were made during the spring semester. Anna Coppedge and Michelle Melton helped with this effort. Anna spent many hours during the Fall 2014 semester checking to make sure that there were no dead links posted on the website and updated them when they were identified. She also created a webpage for the PSP site highlighting the three recent scholarship award winners, Corbin Ester (Goldwater Scholarship), Laura Heinen (Hollings Scholarship), and Marissa Stockstad (Gillman Scholarship).

Chancellor's Scholar's Banquet and Guest Speaker, September 29, 2014

On Monday, September 29 from 6-8 pm in the Rough Ridge Room of the Plemmons Student Union, all current Chancellor's Scholars were invited for an evening of dinner and conversation to honor Dr. Emily DiNatale, and to present her with the 2014 Chancellor's Scholars Alumni Award. A social hour from 5-6 pm in the Whitewater Lounge preceded the banquet. Dr. DiNatalie graduated in 2008 with a psychology degree and her thesis advisor was Prof. Amy Galloway. This was the second year of this event and it is anticipated that the Chancellor's Scholars Alumni Award banquet will be an annual event.

Town As Text, August 13, 2014: Day One of the Honors Freshmen Retreat

Town As Text was created by the Director of the PSP (Dr. Wheeler) as a mechanism to help connect the students with Boone and Watauga county. As part of early move-in for freshman Honors students, 100 students participated in the Town As Text event for the third year for this event. Students selected agencies of interest (see the following page) and were assigned based upon their responses. Students met at 9:30 am for a light breakfast and then were briefed about their specific assignments. All students rode the Applacart 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 were allowed to find a place for lunch and then to create a 3 minute presentation for the entire group. Students gathered in the Rankin Science West Room 182 at 1:30p and presentations started at 2:00p. Every student was part of the presentations and all agencies were represented. The presentations last about 2 hours. Following the presentations, students were free until 7:30p when they were to meet at the entrance of the Horn in The West outdoor drama. 85 people attended the musical theatre presentation lasting 2 hours. Students walked home following the end of 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. During 2014, the PSP Office assisted with the submission of a Goldwater Scholarship application and a Hollings Scholarship application in January, a Gillman Scholarship application in March, and four Fulbright Grant applications in October. Of those, the Goldwater, the Hollings, and the Gillman applications received awards. 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 330 rising sophomores with GPAs of 3.65 and higher to apply to join AIM High and seven monthly meetings were held throughout the Fall semester. The AIM High travel grants 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.

During the year, I have also increased recruiting for prestigious scholarships through discussions with the Honors Council departmental representatives, the Office of International Education and Development, and the departments of Global Studies and Languages, Literature, and Culture. Three Fulbright Grant informational meetings were held in April.

Dale E. Wheeler
PSP Director
ASU Honors College

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 14th.

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

If you have questions about this activity, please contact us at honors@asunh.edu or at (828) 262-2883.

_____ Please purchase a ticket for me to attend the outdoor theater production of *Home in the West* on Wednesday evening, August 13 from 8-10p.

Your Name (print clearly) _____

Please rank your top choices (in 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 to Text is from 9a-4p on Wed, August 13.

_____ 1) Boone Arts Council and Art Gallery	_____ 12) Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture / Blue Ridge Seeds of Change
_____ 2) Watauga County Health Department	_____ 13) Sanitation and Recycling Center
_____ 3) Watauga County Social Services	_____ 14) Watauga County Parks and Recreation Center
_____ 4) Historic <u>Jamula</u> Community	_____ 15) Watauga County Humane Society
_____ 5) Appalachian Business Enterprise Center	_____ 16) Boone Hospitality House
_____ 6) NC Cooperative Extension Office	_____ 17) Watauga County Hunger Coalition
_____ 7) Watauga County Public Library	_____ 18) High Country Local Firm
_____ 8) Watauga County Office of Economic Development	_____ 19) Watauga Democrat Newspaper
_____ 9) Watauga Fire Marshal / Emergency Management	_____ 20) QASIN, <u>Watauga</u> Crisis Intervention Center
_____ 10) Watauga County Sheriff's Office	_____ 21) Daniel Boone Gardens
_____ 11) Boone City Hall	_____ 22) 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 2014-2015 Issues

The ASU Honors College was started in 2010. In 2012 it was awarded First Place for its electronic newsletter by the National Collegiate Honors Council at the annual meeting in Boston, MA.

FALL 2014



SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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 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:

Each fall semester it is a time to reflect on the past year's accomplishments and to look forward to the future. It is a time to celebrate the successes of our students and faculty and to look forward to the challenges ahead. It is a time to reflect on the past year's accomplishments and to look forward to the future. It is a time to celebrate the successes of our students and faculty and to look forward to the challenges ahead.

UPCOMING COURSES FOR SPRING 2015

It is our pleasure to announce the upcoming Honors courses, as we have been proud to offer a variety of Honors courses for many years. We are excited to offer a variety of Honors courses for many years. We are excited to offer a variety of Honors courses for many years.




NEWS

HONORS FRESHMEN RETREAT: MOVE-IN DAY



The Honors College Freshmen Retreat kicked-off with early move-in for all Honors Freshmen on Tuesday, August 12, from 1 - 5 pm. Students, parents, and volunteer upper-class Honors students quickly moved belongings into the students' new home in Cone Hall. Honors College and Residential Life staff were there to welcome them and guide them through the process. Getting settled quickly, students were ready the next day to launch into Retreat activities. The line up included the following, all featured in photo-spreads on the following pages:

Move-in Day
Tuesday, August 12, 2014

Town As Text
Wednesday, August 13, 2014
Followed by *Horn in the West* Performance

Retreat at Broadstone
Thursday, August 14, 2014

Honors College Welcome Supper
Sunday, August 17, 2014

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NEWS

HONORS FRESHMEN RETREAT: TOWN AS TEXT



Move: Students coming out today to spend the morning in the Hall. Honors College and Residential Life staff were there to welcome them and guide them through the process. Getting settled quickly, students were ready the next day to launch into Retreat activities. The line up included the following, all featured in photo-spreads on the following pages:

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Honors College Welcome Supper
Sunday, August 17, 2014

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NEWS

HONORS FRESHMEN RETREAT: BROADSTONE



New Honors students spent Thursday, August 14, at ASU's Broadstone facility in Valle Crucis bonding with sports activities, challenges, and games led by ASU's UREC team.

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NEWS

HONORS FRESHMEN RETREAT: WELCOME DINNER



Rounding out the Freshmen Retreat, Dr. Wheeler and the Prestigious Scholarships Program hosted a Welcome Dinner on Sunday, August 17. Honors Freshmen came together for one last meal before classes got into full swing.

Thanks to Dr. Wheeler for hosting and organizing the event.

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NEWS

THE KNIGHTING OF THE HONORS VANGUARD



Honors students invited to be a part of the Honors Vanguard were knighted by Dr. Jones in an annual ritual taking place in the Honors College. Members of the Honors Vanguard are Honors students chosen for their previous service and academic success. They serve as volunteers in Honors activities and are rewarded with recognition for their contributions.








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NEWS

PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM (PSP) CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARS BANQUET



Dr. Wheeler and the Prestigious Scholarships Program hosted all Chancellor's Scholars at a Banquet (shown in photographs here) held on Monday, September 29, on campus. This was an opportunity for Freshmen through Senior Chancellor's Scholars to get to know each other, share stories, and glean wisdom from one another. Honors College staff and students enjoyed hors d'oeuvres followed by a catered dinner. Alumna and recent Ph.D., Dr. Emily Steinbaugh DiNatale traveled back to ASU to attend the event and join in the festivities. A full feature highlighting her speech at the event follows on page 22 of this newsletter.








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STUDENTS

FRESHMEN CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARS: FALL BREAK TRIP TO IRELAND



The annual Fall Break trip to Dublin for the Chancellor's Scholars was off and a great time was had by all. The trip was a great opportunity for the students to get to know each other and to experience the culture of Ireland. The trip was a great opportunity for the students to get to know each other and to experience the culture of Ireland.







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STUDENTS

CODY MCKINNEY: JUNIOR HONORS STUDENT & VARSITY FOOTBALL PLAYER

Story by Senior Honors Student Kyle Sussner



Being a member of both the football team and the Honors College has tested Cody, but he continues to succeed. He has grown both physically and mentally during his time here at Appalachian, packing on 45 pounds of muscle mass for football, and sustaining a rather impressive grade point average for Honors.

Maintaining both roles requires Cody to be adept at time management. Cody's weekdays start at 8 in the morning. He wakes up to eat breakfast with his teammates and proceeds to sit through back-to-back classes until 2 in the afternoon. On Tuesday and Thursday, he has a break from classes from 11 to 12, but even this is filled by a required lifting session with the team. He then has little time to transition from the focus of academia to that of athletics. At 2:30 it is time to attend the special teams meeting. These sessions, usually rather short, allow him to make the linebacker position meeting at 2:45. After being dismissed from the position meeting, Cody scrambles to complete as many homework assignments as he can in the hour before practice at 4. If the weather permits, the players stay on the field until 6. When practice moves to the indoor stadium, Cody may have to practice well past 6. After practice, the players shower and attend a study session. This typical day in Cody's week is eleven hours of guaranteed, nonstop activity.

Cody's schedule often falls entirely outside of his control. He identifies his greatest obstacle to not being able to get into classes despite priority registration. When only three or four course times are offered and the majority of them conflict with football requirements, Cody is left with few options. This being the case, he has found that taking things one step at a time is the best way to fulfill his honors requirements.

The most important priority is his grade point average. As mentioned earlier, he has proven successful. Studying accounting, he even qualified for induction into Beta Alpha Psi, the honors organization within his major.

This performance has also helped him complete another pending honors requirement, study abroad. Cody was recently informed that he was one of only 24 students to be accepted as candidates for the Holland Fellows Program. Offered through the school of business, the Holland Fellows Program pairs students at Appalachian with an equal number of students from a university in China. Perhaps the most daunting honors requirement left for Cody to complete is the thesis. His focus will be the debate of revenue smoothing, an ethically polarizing topic applicable to the modern business environment.

Despite his humble nature, Cody's performance at the university is quite impressive. Honors is proud. He looks to carry the success he has demonstrated as an undergraduate into ASU's accelerated 4+1 master's program. Whatever future obstacles lie in wait, his innate quality of perseverance will likely result in success as Cody continues to take things one step at a time.

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RESEARCH

CARYS KUNZE PRESENTS

AT THE JUNE REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE COLLEGE MUSIC SOCIETY

Honors student Carys Kunze (Junior, Music Education) traveled to Knoxville, Tennessee this past summer to present at the June Regional Conference of the College Music Society, a professional organization for those who teach, research, perform, and compete in the field of study in the collegiate world. At this conference, Carys presented her original research titled "The Power of Group Research as a Musical Experience" as a poster. This ongoing research examines the relationship between social interaction within choirs and the student learning and musical growth that occurs within these ensembles. Carys has shared this research with a number of choirs both at Appalachian and at other universities in the region and abroad, as part of this project, eventually this research will become her Master's thesis. Although one of this winter's many accomplishments, Carys' research is ongoing. Carys enthusiastically enjoyed seeing many posters, performances, and posters from teaching professors and professionals in collegiate music, as well as experiencing Knoxville's vibrant music and culture.



Below, Carys Kunze is one of her posters she presented at the June Regional Conference of the College Music Society.

RYAN LAMBERT ATTENDS

MEETING OF THE APPALACHIAN REGIONAL SOCIETY OF MUSIC

Honors Student Ryan Lambert traveled to Asheville, Tennessee to attend a meeting of the Appalachean Regional Society of Music. This was his first international experience.

Honors Student Ryan Lambert traveled to Asheville, Tennessee to attend a meeting of the Appalachean Regional Society of Music. This was his first international experience. Ryan describes, "My trip to Asheville was an amazing experience and I would fully recommend it to anyone debating about going. The city of Asheville was beautiful to walk around with its colorful buildings and charming architecture and the people were extremely friendly. I was initially worried that my inability to speak French would be a problem, but the second I stepped out that I quickly English they would immediately begin speaking to me with French. It was a wonderful experience. I've never had the chance to travel outside the country before and I couldn't have asked to go to a more beautiful country."



Below, Ryan Lambert is one of his posters he presented at the June Regional Conference of the College Music Society.

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WINTER 2015 ISSUE!

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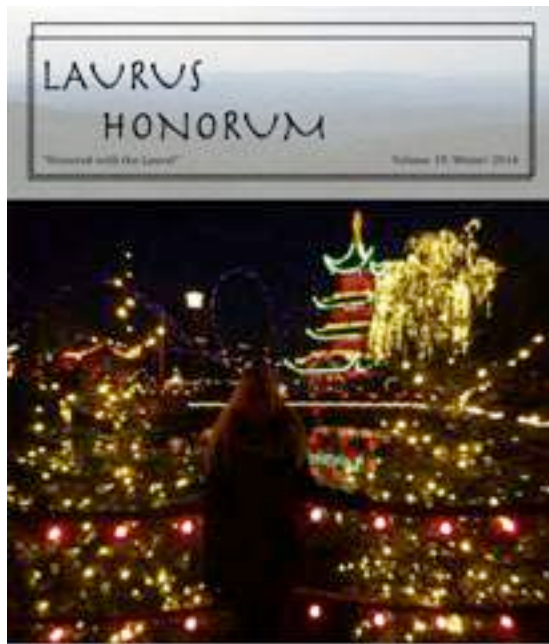
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WINTER 2014



CELEBRATIONS!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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 so let us hear from you! You can find all contact information and updates at:



You can also follow us on social media:



Photo, front cover: Honors student Elyse Lawson in Tivoli, a theme park in the center of Copenhagen.

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WELCOME

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR: EMBRACING THE SEASONS!



Winter has been a bit late in arriving this year, and if not for Appalachian Ski Mountain making snow, I could not have taken out the sled for a little bit of terror on the side slope (photo left)! But other than some disappointment on the weather front, the students in Honors continue to help us recall what the seasons are. The group who graduated in December and their thesis defenses brought us up to graduation and the winter break, and the study abroad reports remind us of who has been gone, and that others will soon be going for spring. There are stories about local events, like the Chancellor's lovely dinner for the Chancellor's and Wilson's Scholars, as well as a fun report on a new Fall course that was a great hit ("Inventing Language"). There are some updates on Honors College Faculty and staff scholarly activities, and a nice group shot of the students who went to D.C. for the Neuroscience conference. As always, we thank those who have donated to Honors to help the cause of educating the best and brightest at ASU, in the state, and from around the globe. Every gift, no matter how small, is deeply appreciated and very helpful. It all adds up! Please take a look at the list of gift options and how an amount you might give can help support students do specific things towards their degree.

DR. BUD GERBER HONORED WITH THE MEDAL

Dr. Leslie "Bud" Gerber has taught Honors courses since the beginning of the Honors Program, and has fond memories of working with students in the old Honors location that was Watauga College in East Hall. His most recent offerings were courses on the millennials, such as "Naming Generation Y" and "The Millennial Generation: Narcissism or Nobility?" He has had a profound impact on many Honors students over the decades of his time at Appalachian, and although we are sad that he is approaching his last semester, as he moves to the retirement phase of his life, it gave the Honors College very great pleasure to honor him at the December Honorum Laurus ceremony. Dr. Gerber provided a wonderful graduation speech for the audience, after being awarded with his own Honors Medal, and was eloquent on the topic of whether the faculty should always be thanked. As one would have predicted, given his innovative teaching methods, he challenged us all to question the value of mere gratitude, and to look for the deeper implications of the intellectual exchanges between students and their mentors.



Thank you, Dr. Gerber, for a great talk, your wonderful courses, and your years of service to ASU and the Honors students.

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YOU CAN HELP HONORS STUDENTS:

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\$20	• Binding and shipping of one Honors thesis.
\$50	• Thesis research supplies.
\$85	• Student membership to a professional organization. • The registration fee for a national conference.
\$135	• One student's passport needed to go abroad to conduct research, study abroad, or attend an international conference.
\$195 - \$250	• The cost of the GRE, GMAT, or another graduate school exam for one student.
\$275	• The cost of the MCAT, DAT, LSAT, or other professional school exam for one student.
\$500	• The December Honorum Laurus graduation ceremony. • Materials for community outreach and service learning.
\$750 - \$1,200	• Travel for one student to present at a national conference.
\$1,500	• Airfare for one student to go abroad to conduct research, study abroad, or attend a national conference.
\$2,000	• The May Honorum Laurus graduation ceremony.
\$2,500	• The Honors Freshmen Retreat.
\$5,000	• One student to study abroad for a semester.
\$350,000 endowment	• One full-ride, endowed scholarship.

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NEWS

HONORUM LAURUS CEREMONY

DECEMBER 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 are officially "honored with the laurel." The medal design reflects the logo of the Honors College, which in turn incorporates the mountain songbird of the Appalachian State University wordmark. Our graduates have now taken flight giving song to the world; we wish them success and will follow their bright futures with pride and great interest.

On December 12th, the Honors College hosted the Fall 2014 Honorum Laurus ceremony. Only those most dedicated students, graduate with University Honors. In this ceremony, we celebrated the accomplishments of five esteemed graduating Honors Students. Their hard work culminated with the completion of their Honors Thesis projects, which included the topics of video game maps, end-of-life care, stellar activity, and groundwater contamination. To see the Honors Thesis abstracts of our graduates, visit our website: www.honors.appstate.edu/academics/thesis-examples.



Left: Four of the five graduating Honors students from left to right are Caleb Yeison, Chase Erickson, Ryan Lambert, and Alyssa Tyler. Missing was Kaitlyn Plant who was finishing her student teaching.

Above (all photos): Graduates at the ceremony, being mediated by Dr. Jones, celebrating with and thanking their guests.

Above, right column, center: Ryan Lambert with his faculty mentor, Dr. Richard Gray.

Above, bottom right and left: Chase Erickson's parents proudly watch as he is mediated by Dr. Jones.

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NEWS

CHANCELLOR'S DINNER

HONORING CHANCELLOR'S AND WILSON SCHOLARS

On Wednesday, Nov. 19, 2015, Appalachian's new chancellor, Dr. Sheri Everts, hosted Chancellor's Scholars and Wilson Scholars at Appalachian House. This annual event allows all four years of scholars to meet and mingle, getting to know one another. The two scholars' selection committee members, the Honors advisory board members, and members of the Chancellor's cabinet were also in attendance, and students enjoyed the opportunity to chat with faculty and administration. Students and faculty alike relished the great food and even better conversations. Students were sharing their research, creative endeavors, coursework, and international experiences with each other, and with the special guests in attendance. There were also many selfies taken with Chancellor Everts and with the trophies representing ASU's athletic successes. Fun was had by all, and we look forward to our dinner celebrating the many successes of our wonderful students again next year!

A big thank you to Dr. Everts for hosting this event.



Above and right: Student scholars, faculty, administrators, and staff enjoy the great food along with engaging conversations.

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NEWS

FRESHMAN FAMILY PICNIC



On Sunday, November 2, the Honors College staff welcomed Freshman parents and families to our Annual Freshman Family Picnic hosted on Sunday afternoon of ASU's Family Weekend. Honors college freshman enjoyed showing their families the Honors College and introducing them to their new Honors College community. Upperclass Honors students, who have already completed the international requirement, came to share their experiences. Freshman and their families benefitted from the insight and advice they shared. Many were inspired by the variety and positive experiences ranging from semester study abroad, faculty-led summer trips, and Honors College pre-health clinical programs.



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INTERNATIONAL

ERIC BURTON: STUDY ABROAD EXPERIENCE IN PERU

Story by Eric Burton



Above: View of Machu Picchu from Montaña Machu Picchu

This past July, I set out for Peru with twelve other students and three faculty members from Appalachian. Over the two and a half week journey, we studied Andean cultures and environments and had several once-in-a-lifetime experiences along the way.

After a full day of travel, we arrived at the hostel in Cusco that would be our base of operations for the trip. We explored the city, and then traveled

down the sacred Urubamba Valley to Machu Picchu, the natural beauty and cultural richness of which I will never forget. The second and main part of our trip consisted of a 10-day trek in the Cordillera Vilcanota. This is where the material that we had been reading all summer and subsequently discussing on the trip came to life. We saw the environments that are being affected by climate change, and we walked alongside, and on top of, the tropical glaciers that were one of the main focuses of the coursework. The trek culminated in an ascent to Ojello Anate at over 18,000 feet to service a weather station, from which we could see the world's largest tropical glacier and the site of critical paleoclimate research, the Quelccaya Ice Cap. Walking through these landscapes that I had spent so much time studying was the most rewarding educational experience of my life, and the trip as a whole is one that I will not forget.



Above: View of Laguna Sibinacocha with the Quelccaya Ice Cap, the largest tropical glacier in the world, in the background



Left: Servicing the weather station on Ojello Anate at over 18,000 ft.

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INTERNATIONAL

AYAKO NAKANO: A SEMESTER AT KANSAI GAIDAI UNIVERSITY

Story by Ayako Nakano



Above: Ayako (right) in front of "Kinkakuji" or The Golden Pavilion in Kyoto, the ancient Capital of Japan. Kansai Gaidai University is located between and easy commuting distance to Osaka and Kyoto.

I am a Japanese-American, and I studied abroad this past fall semester at Kansai Gaidai University which, each semester, hosts nearly 400 foreign exchange students from all over the world! Students take classes in English across a variety of disciplines all focusing on East Asia and Japan. Students also have the option of taking Japanese language classes. By the way, Dr. McDowell spent the first semester of her junior year abroad at Kansai Gaidai while a student at Rhodes College. Ask either of us about our amazing experiences (20 years apart)!

As a history major, I learned a lot about the history and politics in the Pacific. While abroad, learning opportunities are not limited to classrooms, and exist everywhere. Whether you take a stroll downtown, go to the supermarket, or go to a local festival, there is always something new to discover and from a different perspective. Being surrounded by people from Europe, Asia, North America and Australia gave me the opportunity to look back to the US with a new set of eyes.

This experience, most importantly, helped me think critically about my own identity. There are many factors shaping how people identify themselves including: race, religion, or a geographic origins. Most in the U.S. affiliate as American but the nuances of identity are unique and complex, easily overlooked in our everyday lives.

We are all also citizens of the world; I think it is important we each see our American identity from a global perspective. I strongly urge Honors students to take advantage of the opportunity to go out and explore our planet. It is a privilege!



Above, top left: Dango Festival in Osaka, a city for boundless exploration. Above, top right: This under water temple on Miyajima island is 45 minutes outside of Hiroshima.

Above, bottom left: To reach Kiyomizu Temple you must walk up hill for 30 minutes, but you will be rewarded with a beautiful view of Kyoto. Down the hill, there is also a district known as Gion, where Geishas still provided entertainment at high-end traditional restaurants.

Above, bottom right: Shibuya Crossing in Tokyo, right outside Shibuya Station, is famous for being the busiest pedestrian crossing in the world.

Left, top: The A-Bomb Memorial Park in Hiroshima honors those who lost their lives. It is an enormous park space and museum dedicated to global peace.

Left, bottom: The A-Bomb Memorial Building, one of the few surviving buildings, has been protected as a visual symbol, a reminder of the devastation and what can be prevented.

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INTERNATIONAL

BENJAMIN GOLDBERG: JUNIOR SEMESTER ABROAD IN LONDON

Story by Ben Goldberg



Above: Ben in front of Chirk Castle in Wales.

I spent this past fall semester, the first of my junior year, studying at Kingston University in London, United Kingdom. I am a Pre-Law, Political Science major in the Honors College. While in London, I studied human rights, criminology, and international relations. Studying in London was a valuable experience in which I learned about other cultures, and became immersed in British life and society. Kingston University provided me with a learning experience that allowed me to meet and study with students from all over the world.

During my semester abroad, I traveled throughout Europe. I visited Wales and Liverpool to see where my grandparents grew up. I traveled to visit family in Albania and Romania. I also toured Dublin, Amsterdam, and Paris. This experience allowed me to gain perspective on cultures that were different than mine, and ignited a passion for travel. Due to this incredible experience, my career goals were affected. I plan to pursue further studies abroad, and hope to one day live again in London.



Above: Ben at Bran Castle in Romania.

I was drawn to the Honors College partly due to the international education requirement. I encourage others to take full advantage of the opportunities available. Any student who studies abroad has a once in a life-time opportunity to gain a unique perspective on the world.



Right: Ben up in the London Eye, a giant Ferris wheel on the South Bank of the River Thames in London.

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INTERNATIONAL

KYLEE MROZ: ADVENTURES IN THE LAND DOWN UNDER

Story by Kylee Mroz

There are only a few things in life I have wanted more than to go to Australia, so when the chance arose for me to spend over four months there, I signed up in a heartbeat. In June, I found myself enrolled as a student at Southern Cross University in Lismore, New South Wales. Though there were some cultural differences, I found it quite easy to adjust to the Aussie lifestyle. The University was about the size of Appalachian, but I never walked passed wallabies, koalas, or echidnas on my way to class in Boone. I could talk for days about my Australian adventures, but there are two experiences that stood out the most. The first was volunteering at Friends of the Koala, a koala rescue center located on campus. Here I would spend a few hours a week working with some of the funniest creatures I have

Above: Kylee holding Buttons, a koala at Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary in Queensland.

Above: Kenny was a patient at Friends of the Koala and was released after several weeks in care at the center.

Photos from the field camp including: my professor Dr. Ross Golding holding a carpet python found near camp (above), a bush rat being marked before release (top right), and a microbat caught overnight in a harp trap (right).

ever met; it was like a dream come true. The other experience was a field camp I attended for my Wildlife Conservation class. This camp allowed me to assist in the completion of a wildlife survey for the National Parks Service by teaching me several surveying techniques. Both experiences will encourage me as I work towards a career working with wildlife. Though there are so many places I want to see in the world, I know I will find my way back to Australia once more.

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INTERNATIONAL

ELYSE LAWSON'S YEAR IN COPENHAGEN

Story by Elyse Lawson

This year, I'm studying abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark, with the Danish Institute for Study Abroad (DIS). I am loving it all, living in the city with my host family, hiking to school every day, and trying my best to pronounce Danish words correctly. As the first semester comes to a close, I'm so thankful for this opportunity. I'm learning inside of the classroom and out, with professors who set amazing goals and put so much heart into making sure what we are learning is applicable beyond the course, final paper, or test. I've taken trips with my classes to Sweden, London, and Istanbul, and through these experiences apply what we've learned in the classroom to real-life. This has allowed us to broaden our horizons beyond our American and Scandinavian viewpoints. I can't wait to see what is in store for me this next semester!

Left: Preparing to swim in the canals of Copenhagen in an annual open water swim, Christiansborg Rundt.

Above, top: Sailing on the Bosphorus in Istanbul, Turkey.

Above, bottom: Hiking and sea kayaking outside Göteborg, Sweden.

Below: The Rainbow Panorama, and exhibit by Olafur Eliasson at ARoS in Aarhus, Denmark.

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STAFF

DR. WALDROUP PUBLISHES THE COLONIAL GAZE: BEATRICE GRIMSHAW IN THE PACIFIC

Associate Director Heather Waldrup has an article forthcoming entitled, *The Colonial Gaze*, in which she analyzes the life and work of Beatrice Grimshaw, a journalist, novelist, and travel writer who worked in the Pacific in the early 20th Century. Dr. Waldrup's article is to be part of an anthology on early photography in Australia edited by Anne Maxwell of the University of Melbourne.

Left: Front page of the article, *The Colonial Gaze*, with text introducing Beatrice Grimshaw's life and work.

Below: Interior page of Dr. Waldrup's article, with a photo attributed to Beatrice Grimshaw.

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FACULTY

DR. ANDY HECKERT RESEARCH SABBATICAL IN ARGENTINA

Honors Faculty member, paleontologist, and Professor of Geology, Dr. Andy Heckert, spent this past fall semester conducting research in Argentina. What follows is his report from the field.

My trip had several components—I studied specimens in museums, went in the field, and attended the International Paleontological Congress (IPC) in Mendoza. My principal collaborator in Argentina is Dr. Julia Desjo of the Museo Argentino de Ciencias Naturales.

I traveled to Buenos Aires, San Juan, and Tucuman to study in museums, visiting a world-class museum in La Plata (photograph above), as well. In the museums I focused primarily on fossils of acoelosaurs—heavily armored Late Triassic reptiles that one can think of as a bizarre hybrid of an armadillo and a primitive crocodile. Right now, I am putting the finishing touches on one manuscript and am about halfway through another paper on the growth of their armor.

The field work component (photos left) was a two-week trip prospecting and collecting in the Middle Triassic Chahares Formation in Talampaya National Park. The Chahares are world famous—vertebrate paleontology legend A.S. Romer and his crews made many spectacular discoveries here in the 1960s, and in many ways this trip was the most amazing collecting trip I have ever been part of...I was able to field test some new screenwashing techniques and improve the yield of small specimens they collected.

I also attended the IPC in Mendoza, co-authoring one poster presentation on acoelosaurs with Dr. Desjo and her student, and giving a talk on microvertebrates. I took field trips to Triassic rocks and a day in Mendoza to tour into the Andes Mountains, catching a glimpse of Aconcagua, the highest peak in the southern hemisphere. The road, which connects Argentina to Chile (along a route Darwin traveled ~180 years ago) included some of the most spectacular geology I have ever seen.

Above: Dr. Heckert (far left) the only North American with Dr. Desjo's crew.

Below: Dr. Heckert hanging out with a model of Zapaysaurus, a predatory dinosaur from the Triassic of Argentina.

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STUDENTS

STUDENTS INVENT LANGUAGE & SOCIETY IN HONORS SEMINAR

In a junior level Honors seminar, "Inventing Language(s)," one of seven HON 3515 seminars offered this past fall in The Honors College, Honors students created a language and related society. The language they created, "suramatat" means "the traveling people talk." The students also developed a history of the society that spoke the language and its culture, location, legends, and music, and created a tree community called "ruhwat." The course was taught by Dr. Donna Lillian, Honors Faculty member and a linguist in the Department of English.

The course's focus on constructed languages explored what language is and what it takes to create a new language. "One goal of the class was to help students understand enough about the structure of language that they could not only talk about it but create a new language," according to Dr. Lillian.

The class comprised 17 students, each with a different major. As with all Honors seminars, the interdisciplinary nature contributed to the success of the course, Dr. Lillian said. "We had students from political science, history, psychology and criminal justice, for example, who all brought different perspectives to the class. I think that's why we could do some of the things we did." Students, like Jessica Rinker, agreed that the diverse range of majors in the class added to her experience. "From everyone's different (academic) major viewpoints, we were able to collect enough information and words we would need and different viewpoints on how we could create our imaginary society."



The students hope to create a university club based on the class and continue meeting and expanding the language and developing their "community."

Photos: The end-of-the-semester presentations followed a festival format that included poetry, song, stories, and history. (Top left) Ryan Hellenbrand reads the history of the "ruhwat," written in the created language of suramatat, which means "the traveling people talk." (Top right) Communication and public relations major Olivia Easley, left, and psychology major Brian Froeb wrote and performed a "song of the elders" in suramatat. (Bottom left) Jake Chesney, a history major, reads stories from *Aesop's Fables* that he translated into suramatat. (Bottom right) Jessica Rinker wrote and illustrated a children's book in suramatat. Jessica said the seminar allowed her to combine her interests in English, children's literature, and art.



Management and entrepreneurship major Niko Gibson created this artistic rendering of the tree community "ruhwat."

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RESEARCH

SOCIETY FOR NEUROSCIENCE CONFERENCE



Above: Students are all from ASU unless indicated: (front row, l to r) Hannah Johnson, Elizabeth Johnson, Alison Rossi, Dana Cobb, Sarah Kimminich (UCSD), Rachel Sledge; (back row) Corbin Ester, Danielle Russell, Walker Stevens, Ben Maresky (Middlebury), and Kyle Sasser.

Nine ASU Honors students were joined by Middlebury and UCSD colleagues to present a poster on the use of IMPULSE, the premier undergraduate journal for neuroscience, in teaching neuroscience to undergraduates. The poster was presented both at the annual Society for Neuroscience conference, held in Washington, D.C., and the concurrent Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience meeting. Sophomores through seniors had the chance to discuss neuroscience and how it is taught with faculty from institutions around the world at this conference with an attendance of over 30,000.

Most had attended the conference in 2014, but there were five who experienced the madness of this neurosensory overload for the first time. While in D.C. several took advantage of nearby schools and research sites to make visit and do interviews for the future. Corbin Ester spent Monday at NIH, where he will be doing a post-baccalaureate research year after graduation this spring, while Rachel Sledge scheduled a visit to George Washington University's DPT program. Look for a reprise of half these folks in Chicago next fall, while a new group joins them on the team. There will be also presentations this spring at the annual SYNAPSE conference (this year in Asheville) and at the quadrennial International Brain Research Organization conference in Rio de Janeiro.

'TIS THE THESIS SEASON!



These seven students successfully defended their Honors theses in December: (left to right, top to bottom) Carys Kumas, Ryan Lambert, David Marvel, Chase Erickson, Alyssa Tyler, Rebecca LaMare, and Caleb Yelton. For thesis titles and abstracts, go to: <http://honors.appstate.edu/academics/thesis-examples>

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ALUMNI

RONALD TROGDEN SHARES HIS EXPERIENCE PURSUING GRADUATE STUDIES ABROAD

ASU Honors Alumnus ('10), Ronald Trogden, came to speak to current students in the Honors College on Tuesday, January 13, 2015. Ronald is currently a tutor and Ph.D. candidate in the Department of English Studies at The University of Durham in the United Kingdom. Ronald is also the Editor of Book Reviews for the journal *Kaleidoscope*, and Resident Warden in the University College at The University of Durham. In his talk, "Pursuing Graduate Studies Abroad" Ronald shared his experience and strategies for success. Students and staff of the Honors College benefited from Ronald's insight and enjoyed seeing him back on campus.

Right: Ronald giving his talk to students and staff in the Honors College.

Far right: Ronald in his traditional attire at The University of Durham.



RACHEL GOODING AT UNC ASHEVILLE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



Rachel Gooding, ASU Honors Alumnus ('11), is currently attending the UNC Medical School in Asheville. As she describes, she is thriving: "I enjoy the variety of my week, covering all disciplines of medicine as I shift from obstetrics and gynecology on Mondays to psychiatry on Fridays. I enjoy that my preceptors and I have been able to get to know one another, forming relationships of education, collaboration, and trust. I enjoy checking in on 'my' patients whom I follow wherever their health care needs take them, whether it be to their annual physical exam, med checks, specialty appointments, or hospitalizations. And although it's tough on those days that I have to be at the hospital at dawn, I especially enjoy being able to look out the window and see the sun rising over the beautiful Appalachian Mountains of Asheville."

Story and photo source:
<https://www.med.unc.edu/med/asheville/student-bios/student-bios-2013-2014>

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UPCOMING

SPRING BREAK, HON 3515 SEMINAR TO STUDY KING ARTHUR IN BRITAIN

The story of King Arthur has been shaped by the geography of Great Britain, even as the country has shaped the story over time. Over Spring Break (March 7-15) this semester, the students in HON 3515: *King Arthur*, taught by Dr. Hellenbrand (and accompanied by Dr. Mead), will travel to Great Britain. The class will explore Arthurian sites that figure prominently in the course literature (medieval and modern): Stonehenge (right top), Tintag-el (left bottom), Caerleon, Glastonbury, Winchester Castle and the Round Table. The program thus serves as a "laboratory" for the course, since we will use these visits as a way to study "the story in its place."



SPRING 2015 THESIS SEASON PROMISES TO BE JAM-PACKED

SCHOLARS DAY

By Invitation Only

On February 21, 2015, **Scholars Day**, prospective students have the opportunity to interview for the most prestigious merit scholarships at Appalachian State University. The Honors College, home to Chancellor's Scholars, looks forward to the interviews and meeting the candidates.

The deadline for thesis applications for Spring 2015 semester has passed. We have received a record number of 85 (and counting) applications and proposals. Interdisciplinary thesis projects range from art installations, chemistry lab work, to proposals for staging fictitious political campaigns. Keep an eye out on the Honors College calendar, as these defenses are scheduled later this spring.

Come out and watch Honors students transformed from knowledge consumers to producers. These events are some of the most exciting in the life and community of the Honors college!

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SPRING 2015 ISSUE!**

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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!

**THE HONORS COLLEGE
NEWSLETTER**

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SPRING 2015



RESEARCH ABOUND

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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, so let us hear from you! You can find all contact information and updates at:



You can also follow us on social media:



Photos, front cover: Honors Seniors Madison Frink (top left), Jane Bowers (top right), and Kristen Content (bottom right) presenting their thesis research. Dana Cobb (bottom left), Honors College Partnership Board Research Award winner, travels in Germany presenting her research at a conference.



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WELCOME

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR: SPRING IS HERE (FINALLY)!



Spring has been slow to arrive, but it is finally, soggly, here! If the weather does not remind us of that, all the thesis defenses certainly do! You will be reading more about those this summer, but in this issue you can learn about everything from spring break alternative service trips, class trips, and study abroad adventures. There are some HC faculty reports (from The Explorers Club!), staff travel (for Fulbright and Boren Scholarships), and some early news about post-graduation plans, such as NIH research and dental school. A few alumni have checked in with their updates, and there is an exciting new part of the Honors College Family: the Partnership Board. Please enjoy the news, and check the Honors College website for current items that are added each week to keep up with the activities until the next issue!

HONORS COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP BOARD RESEARCH FUND

This past year, the Honors College has been working to create a Partnership Board with friends and alumni who can help identify and recruit donors to contribute to the Honors College and its students. Thanks to the Founding Board Member, Dr. Johnny Waters, an example of the type of gift and what it can accomplish was inaugurated this January: the Honors College Partnership Board Research Fund. This gift was put in place and implemented in less time than it takes to say the name! Dr. Waters donated to support the research for eight students, which included sending some to conferences to present their findings.

The winners and their awarded proposals are:

Daniel Anaso: travel to NC schools for music education research
Dana Cobb: travel to Göttingen, Germany, conference to present her neuroscience research
Michael Judge: materials for plant molecular biology research
Sarah Lackey: travel to Chicago conference to present her political science research
Tibor Nagy: materials for inorganic synthetic chemistry research
Alex Prevatte: travel to UDLAP (Mexico) for research with an appropriate technology collaborator
Travis Tabor: materials for organic chemistry research
Kelley Whittaker: materials for cancer molecular biology research

Congratulations to our winners, and many, many thanks to our generous donor and Partnership Board Founding Member, Dr. Johnny Waters!

PAGE 3

NEWS

SCHOLARS DAY

On February 21, 2015, **Scholars Day**, prospective students had the opportunity to interview for the most prestigious and academically competitive merit scholarships at Appalachian State University. The Honors College, home to Chancellor's Scholars, facilitated and hosted the interviews. Honors Faculty, current Chancellor's Scholars, and Honors College Staff enjoyed meeting the candidates.

Left (top and bottom): Current Chancellor's Scholars from all four cohorts had time to network and relax together between mingling with prospective candidates.



Right (from left to right): Dr. Waldrup, Dr. Toub, Ms. Yandow, Dr. Bergman, and Dr. Mead take a breather after the last round of interviews.
Bottom Left: Interview committees consisted of Honors Faculty and current or Alumni Chancellor's Scholars. Shown (left to right) are Dr. Crespo, Dr. Hellenbrand, and Laurel Rame.
Bottom Middle: Current Chancellor's Scholar Corbin Ester (left), Dr. Waters (center), and Dr. Dubino (right) review their notes after an interview.
Bottom Right: (Left to right) Dr. Runner, Dr. Anderson-Parson, Chris Waldon, and Dr. Dale



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STUDENTS

HON 3515: QUEST TO FIND KING ARTHUR

Story by Dr. Angela Mead

In March, Dr. Alexandra Hellenbrand and Dr. Angela Mead led 16 students in the Honors "King Arthur" seminar to the United Kingdom on a quest to find Arthur in modern Britain. As you can see from the photos below, we succeeded! We found the supposed grave of King Arthur and his queen, Guinevere, at the ruins of Glastonbury Abbey (photo right), and then climbed the very tall hill that houses the Glastonbury Tor, rumored to be the entrance to Avalon, where Arthur was taken to heal from his wounds in his last battle (photo left shows climb down). From our home base in Bath, we explored other Arthurian-linked sites, including viewing a replica of the famous round table at Winchester, which was updated by King Henry VIII, who had his own face painted onto the table in King Arthur's place. Although not related directly to King Arthur, we also were able to see the Magna Carta on its 800th anniversary, as it was signed by King John of Robin Hood fame in 1215, and it served as a precursor to the US Constitution and Bill of Rights many centuries later. We also visited Caerleon in Wales, a Roman fort that is believed by some to be the actual location of Camelot (photo right). Of course, no trip to England can be complete without visiting Stonehenge in Salisbury (photo below), which myth holds was built by Merlin. Those little ant-like objects in the Stonehenge photo are actually visitors, showing the impressive achievements of either ancient Celts or Merlin, depending on which story you believe.



Students prepared by reading from Tennyson, Mallory, and Geoffrey of Monmouth among others. With this foundation, students were prepared to view these cities and sites as an additional texts in their quest for Camelot and King Arthur. Afterwards, students are continuing their study in myth and history, within the geographic context they experienced first-hand.



Students and faculty alike returned from our whirlwind week abroad exhausted, exhilarated, and excited to share our experiences!

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PAGE 5

STUDENTS

ERIC VICKERS: GRADUATING SENIOR WINS COMPETITION AND LANDS HIS DREAM JOB!

Senior Honors student Eric Vickers is set to defend his thesis entitled, *The Future of Managing Terrorism Risk: Industry Challenges & Opportunities*, next week and graduate in May. In the meantime, he has had an eventful senior year, one that assures his future professional success.

This past October, Vickers led the App State Insurance Jeopardy Team to victory in the annual North Carolina Surplus Lines Association competition. Of the experience, Vickers explained "It was a team building experience that helped me very much with my professional development. The team practiced all semester meeting twice a week to run drills with buzzers under the guidance of various faculty from the Risk Management and Insurance program. Being team captain I gained leadership experience of being responsible for organizing the group with different focus areas of study to make sure we were broadly prepared."



Above: Chancellor Everts proudly displays the Insurance Jeopardy trophy won by App State!

This, along with the internship that Eric did in the insurance department at Snyder's Lance in Atlanta last summer, were exactly the training he needed to land his post-graduate dream job! During the internship, Eric had the opportunity to meet and work with insurance underwriters from AIG. Then, when he attended the Southeast Risk Insurance Management Society Meetings in Myrtle Beach in September, he had the opportunity to meet them again and passed them his résumé. Shortly thereafter, he received a call for an interview and by December had a full time job, arranged five months before graduation! Eric starts his new job in June. Of his future plans, Eric shared, "I foresee myself going to graduate school to pursue an MBA, and AIG has already said they would help pay for that. Completing honors, and especially thesis research, will help me stand out from other candidates."



Above: 2014 App State Insurance Jeopardy team with the trophy they won. Team members (left to right) included: Josh Evans, Christian Colangelo, Eric Vickers (Honors student and team captain), and Zach Southern.



Above: Eric Vickers with Dr. Dave Woods, faculty member in the Risk Management and Insurance program, lead faculty training for the Jeopardy competition, and was Eric's thesis mentor.

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STUDENTS

CORNELIUS MARTIN & EMILY HORSMAN: OFF TO DENTAL SCHOOL

Senior Honors Student Cornelius Martin received three offers (ECU, UNC, and Meharry) from dental schools and interviews at five out of the five schools to which he applied. He received some of the highest scholarships available from both UNC and ECU, and it was a fierce competition in the end. As Cornelius reports, "I'm going to ECU! It was a tough decision but I finally decided. It was weird because Chapel Hill started fighting for me at the end. Once I told them I was going to ECU, I started getting phone calls and emails every day, asking, 'Are you sure, are you sure?' And yes, I am sure!"

His final decision boiled down to ECU's focus on special-needs dentistry. As Cornelius describes, he is most passionate about "working with people with Autism, Down Syndrome, those in wheelchairs, in prisons, and those dealing with substance abuse. I also want to work with rural and low income populations. I am from a small town in Mississippi—Cleveland, really Mountain Boy, but that is really tiny so I just say Cleveland. That is where I get my passion for working with people who are struggling." He was most impressed with what ECU has to offer him in working toward and reaching that goal.

Cornelius starts the four year dental program in the fall of this year. After that, if he is able to specialize, he will still have an additional two years of training. He does plan to stay in North Carolina. As he explains, "I want to give back to the state where I have received my education and where I hope to practice dentistry." Eventually, he would like to have a practice somewhere bigger, like Charlotte or Raleigh, but plans to travel 45 minutes or more away to smaller, rural areas to serve more low-income needs. This summer, Cornelius plans to continue the volunteer work he has been doing with the NC Missions of Mercy (NCMM) that supports a free dental care clinic for the underprivileged and under-served in Charlotte and Salisbury.



Cornelius Martin in the Graduate and Professional School Resource Library in the Honors College.



Emily Horsman (14), a Biology and Chemistry double major, will be attending MUSC dental school this coming fall. She was the first student to do a summer dental shadowing program at our partner school, Bishop Heber College, in Tricity, India (see photo). Emily is center flanked by her friends at one of the dental clinics. Emily credits her experience there, and her thesis research in chemistry, as key components of her successful application. **Congratulations Emily & Cornelius!**

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INTERNATIONAL

HONORS STUDENTS LEARN AND SERVE ACROSS THE GLOBE: SPRING BREAK ALTERNATIVE SERVICE EXPERIENCES (ASE)

Honors students Emily Brown, Ashlee Harvey, Emma Labovitz, and Jordan McCraight joined a group of fourteen students and two ASU faculty members on an ASE to Pinar, Ecuador, for Spring Break. As Emily explained, "In Ecuador, it is mandated by the President that all students learn English. Students on the ASE worked with an English camp teaching children ages 5-18. We spent four of our seven days preparing lesson plans and then teaching them to the children, in rotating groups. The whole experience was rewarding because we were able to provide something for a community that they truly needed and that couldn't be provided by just



Above: Honors Sophomore Jordan McCraight (back row left) and her teaching partner, Tamela Queen, with students they taught in Pinar, Ecuador.



Above (left to right): Honors Freshman Emma Labovitz, Junior Natalie Frankie, and Honors Sophomore Emily Brown in the mountains of Pinar, Ecuador.

For her Spring Break ASE, Honors Senior Shannon Wright traveled to Guatemala along with thirteen other ASU students. They stayed in the small town of San Martin and worked in the village of El Quimal (photo left). In addition, the group visited historical and cultural sites in Guatemala City and Antigua. Shannon shared, "Although, I only spent one week in the country, I learned so much! Shannon is headed to George Washington University for her MS in Public Policy.



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INTERNATIONAL

ASE: SUSTAINABLE FARMING IN COSTA RICA

Honors students Abby Woodward and Michael Yonkovik spent spring break in Costa Rica with a group (photo right) of thirteen other students and Dr. Catherine Fountain, an ASE. They spent the week on a sustainable farm run by a man named Javier and his wife Raquel in the mountains of Costa Rica—Villas Mastatal, about 2.5 hours outside of San Jose. The group learned about and practiced sustainable, bio-dynamic farming techniques. In addition to their work on the farm, students took a day to work at the local school (shown right bottom) landscaping, planting a garden, and playing soccer with the kids. As Abby related, "We traveled to the Pacific Coast to spend a day on the beach and clean up a sea turtle refuge area. We also had the opportunity to experience true Costa Rican life through a home stay with the families in Mastatal. With no Spanish knowledge, the language barrier was especially difficult for me and several other students. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to have traveled with students who are so passionate and knowledgeable about sustainability."



Honors Freshman Annie Pharr spent the week of spring break in the Dominican Republic on an ASE working with the organization Service for Peace. As she reported, "We were working in La Represa, one of the five communities making up El Giral about an hour from the capital. The town is surrounded by huge green mountains and a beautiful river that we played in every evening. The majority of the time we spent working on an addition (photo right) to the primary school there, mixing concrete, putting it on the walls, painting, and clearing the area. There was definitely a learning curve to concreting walls, but the Dominicans we worked with were patient and fun to be around. On Thursday we visited a cacao farm run by the women in the community next door as a means of income. They showed us how to take the cacao, get the beans out for roasting, shell them, and mash them into cacao they sold (photo left). The experience was memorable for all of us, and even though we went there with the intention of helping, I think that their kindness, hospitality, and positivity taught me much more than they realized."



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INTERNATIONAL

SEMESTER ABROAD IN MADRID: DILLON HEWITT-CASTILLO & JACK SCHAUFELER

Honors Juniors and Chancellor's Scholars Dillon Hewitt-Castillo and Jack Schaufeler are studying abroad this spring semester at La Universidad Europea de Madrid. The campus is located in the suburbs of Villavieja de Odon; Jack and Dillon are living in apartments in the heart of Madrid. They are thriving in the challenges and having great adventures. Dillon, a finance and banking major, relates, "I took an economics and management course last trimester; I am currently enrolled in an operations and production class, as well as business



Above: Dillon looking at the Madrid skyline from the Palacio de Cibeles.

Spanish. The Spanish teaching methodology here is very different in that the professors maintain a much less formal atmosphere and require many small presentations. We are here from January until the end of June so we have a lot of time for traveling and experiencing Madrid. I am also in the process of acquiring data from the Spanish Wine Trade Observatory for research into my thesis topic on the Economic Impact of Climate Change on the Spanish Wine Industry."

As Jack further reported, "This semester abroad has been an experience unlike any other. In the beginning it's like the first day of college all over again. You go to campus for the first time, attend orientation for international students, and make friends based purely on where you decided to sit in the lecture hall, all on top of being in a completely new country. It forced me out of my comfort zone right away, and I'm glad I did. I have gotten the chance to make friends from around the world. Some of my best friends being from Australia, Finland, Austria, Ireland, Switzerland. The ability to talk to people with different perspectives, hear their life stories and their views on global politics, has taught me more than most classes could. The other part of the semester that has made a huge impact on me has been the ability to travel. We have been to Switzerland, the Netherlands, and Portugal so far; with trips to Italy, the Czech Republic, Turkey, and Morocco planned for the remainder of the semester. I cannot even begin to express how much it has taught me, both about myself and about the world we live in. This semester has taught me how incredible the world is, but it has also made me see how much I love Boone, and how great of a school ASU really is."



Above left: The cathedral in Toledo at sunset. Above top right: People relaxing alongside Lake Zurich. Above bottom right: A view of a canal in crossing one of Amsterdam's many bridges.

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INTERNATIONAL

AMANDA BRYSON SPENDS THE SEMESTER DOWN UNDER

Story by Amanda Bryson



Above: Amanda in front of Twelve Apostles Marine National Park in Victoria.

Wow, Australia has been a whirlwind of fun trips, sight-seeing, and meeting new people! Pretty much every weekend has been spent travelling someplace new.

One of my first trips around Australia was to Phillip and Churchill Islands. I got to see kangaroos, koalas, wallabies, penguins, an emu, and a wombat among other things. And of course, I got the required touristy picture with a kangaroo and koala.

A few weekends later, I travelled to the Great Ocean Road. Among other things, I saw Cape Otway Lighthouse, Loch Ard Gorge, and The Twelve Apostles.

I also spent two weekends visiting an Australian friend whom I met back in the States when she studied abroad at Appalachian. One weekend was spent exploring Bendigo, where she is currently attending "uni." The other weekend, we went to Paynesville in the Gippsland's, where she grew up. Both trips were awesome, as I was able to get away from the big cities and check out smaller towns in Australia.

Finally, over Easter break I spent four days exploring Sydney. Through connections of a friend, we were able to stay with a family who lived in a suburb outside the city. Of course I loved seeing all the iconic sights: the Harbor Bridge, Opera House, Bondi and Manly Beaches, and the Blue Mountains and Three Sisters. But perhaps cooler than any of the sights, was the ability to be a part of a family for a week and to see how the locals live.

Right: Ferry Ride in Sydney with the Opera House in the background

Right Top: Amanda poses with a Koala.



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INTERNATIONAL

KATHLEEN HAINS, ELIZABETH NOLEN, & KEVYN CRESS: ADVENTURES AT KEELE UNIVERSITY AND BEYOND

Three honors students are at Keele University in England this semester. They report great adventures and personal growth. Here we share field reports from Kathleen Hains and Elizabeth Nolen.

First, Kathleen Hains shares, "This picture (right) was taken of me while I was on my three-week spring break from Keele University in England. I was on a day trip from Saleburg to Hallstatt, Austria, a small village located near the Dachstein Mountains (shown behind). It was one of the most gorgeous places I have ever been. I started off the trip in France with my parents before meeting up with two friends in Prague over Easter. We then traveled to Vienna, Salzburg, and Munich. To get to the area where this picture was taken my friends and I had to take a funicular up a mountain. We then had to go even further up to a platform that jutted out over the Hallstatter See. A view like this is just one of the many rewards of study abroad."



Elizabeth Nolen further reflects, "This picture (below) was taken while I was on a hiking trip through the Umbria region in Italy in April of 2015. On this particular day, we hiked from the town of Assisi to Gubbio.



I am standing on Roman ruins at the top of the highest point of the town, a spot we accessed by a bird cage-like funicular. During my three week Spring Break, I was fortunate enough to travel from Keele University in Staffordshire, England, to Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, and Italy. For the first week of this trip I travelled with three other students, and we planned the entire trip on our own. This was a learning experience for all of us, and it showed us that we were capable of anything we set our minds to. I was able to travel to places I had never before and interact with people who spoke different languages and had different cultures than what I was used to. This trip has opened the door for future adventures and is only the start of a lifetime of travel."



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INTERNATIONAL

WESLEY DAVIS: A SEMESTER IN SALAMANCA, SPAIN

Story by Wesley Davis

I never imagined a college career without a study abroad experience, and for the last two months I have studied at Spain's historic University of Salamanca. At Appalachian, I study history, Spanish history specifically, and I have reaped a bounty of wonderful experiences from my trip. Studying history, I believe that it is important to interact with history, to feel it and be surrounded by it. Each day I walk from the modern city surrounding the historic city center, and it is amazing to see the stark transformation that takes place over a couple blocks. Cars and selfie sticks aside, walking through the district is like stepping back in time. Each block is graced



Above: View of the Cathedral from a nearby garden.



Above: Sixteenth-century plateresque facade of the Patio de Escuelas.

with a beautiful sandstone building, the vast majority of them having been built in the early modern period. And this afternoon, on a whim, I decided to tour the Cathedral. I spent nearly three hours wandering through the vast complex, taking time to visit each chapel and read each exhibit. Despite that, I still have not finished. However, in that lies a microcosm of the importance of my visit as a whole—that I am able to take my time and explore Spain's history. For two months, I have found myself challenged by the struggles of living in a non-English-speaking country, and since I arrived here in Salamanca, I have been suspended in a permanent state of awe, and I expect that to continue through my time here.



Above: View of the city's famous Plaza Mayor at night.

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STAFF

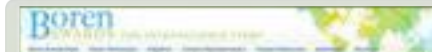
STAFF TRAVEL FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

Dr. Dale Wheeler is the Director of the Prestigious Scholarships Office and an Honors College academic advisor. He traveled to New York City (photo right) March 7-9, 2015, to participate in a Fulbright Grant informational workshop organized by the Institute of International Education (IIE). The program selected Appalachian along with 14 other universities out of 75 institutions. Each has the potential to increase their number of Fulbright applicants. The group learned the history of the Fulbright program, statistics of placements throughout the world, and current initiatives to strengthen the program. A follow-up meeting in NYC is scheduled for December 2015.

Each participant was asked to increase institutional student applications for Fall 2015. Fulbright Grants are 9-10 month experiences and include: round-trip transportation to the host country, room, board, and incidental costs, accident and sickness health benefits, and in many countries, book and research allowances, mid-term enrichment activities, full or partial tuition, and language study programs. Eligible students are seniors in the year they apply.

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, is the largest U.S. international exchange program offering opportunities for participation in international graduate programs or to teach in K-12 and universities. The IIE is the world leader in the international exchange of people and ideas, and U.S. students who study abroad gain cross-cultural knowledge and international exposure required for their future role in an increasingly interdependent world.

The ASU Fulbright application deadline is Friday, August 31, 2015. For more information, contact Dr. Wheeler at (828) 262-2083 or wheelerd@upstate.edu



Dr. Jones has served as a Boren panelist for the past three years, and was in Washington, D.C., this March serving on the STEM selection panel for the 2015-16 academic year. The Boren Program for International Study (AKA the National Security Education Program), funds undergraduate students to study languages for 6-9 months at institutions around the world, preferably in places with unusual critical need languages (Mandarin, Urdu, Arabic, etc.) and with a required interest in a career related to national security. They will also fund STEM (science/math) majors to study in two-three month summer language programs. Selecting the students who apply for these programs falls to the Boren review panels of faculty from universities around the country. It was an exciting day of discussing the applications of nearly 50 students with aspirations of linking their STEM majors to careers in agencies such as NSA, CIA, State Department, DoD, and Homeland Security. No one from Appalachian applied to this particular opportunity, but it is a great way to have a summer or year of language study abroad paid for by Boren!



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FACULTY

DR. JOHNNY WATERS: AN EXPLORER EXPLORES

Dr. Johnny Waters, Honors College Partnership Board Founding Member, Professor of Geology, and Honors College Faculty member is shown in photo (right) attending the 11th Explorers Club Annual Dinner at the American Museum of Natural History. This year's annual theme was *From Dinosaurs to the Stars*, and was held March 20-22. This annual weekend and dinner event is known for pushing boundaries. The food is exotic, the dress (black tie to native) exceptional, the guests extraordinary (like Neil deGrasse Tyson), and the decor unbelievable (dinner under a life-size blue whale).



Dr. Waters has earned the distinction of membership in the Explorers Club having "contributed in broad terms to the cause of exploration and evidencing a sustained interest in some field of scientific exploration and the furtherance of scientific knowledge of the world." Most notably, for the past five years, Dr. Waters along with his colleague Dr. Sarah Carmichael, have been part of a United Nations-funded international group called the International Geologic Cooperation Program (IGCP), which was assembled to improve and build scientific capacity in third-world countries. This groundbreaking climate change research is being conducted through the Devonian Anoxia Geochemistry Geochemistry and Extinction Research (DAGGER) project.



Above: Dr. Carmichael, Dr. Waters, and Cameron Batchelor (left to right). Below: Cameron Batchelor with Neil deGrasse Tyson.



Dr. Waters's Dagger student, Cameron Batchelor '15, won an Explorers Club Youth Activity Award in 2014 to do fieldwork in Mongolia. She was selected to give a talk about her travels and research at the 11th Explorers Club Annual Dinner Gala Weekend (photographs left).



Above (center): Dr. Waters holding a broom for dusting sediment off the outcrop. (Bottom): the field support group at the IGCP 596/580 joint meeting in Ulaan Baatar and Khovd Province, Mongolia, August 2014.

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ALUMNI

ALUMNA CARRIES LESSONS FROM ASU INTO THE CLASSROOM AS A HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH TEACHER

Story by: Sara Little Moore



After graduating from App State, I went on to earn a Masters of Arts in Teaching from Belmont University in Nashville. I taught high school English for four years, and I know that my time at ASU contributed to my success as a teacher. Not only did I have a solid foundation regarding the material, but I also recognize that the excellent professors I had served as my role models in the classroom. The best professors and teachers are passionate about their subject and are also devoted to the well-being and success of their students. This was certainly true across the board at ASU. I have always been very interested in environmental issues, and I took advantage of nearly every environment-themed class that ASU had to offer: Environmental Politics, Environmental Ethics, Environmental History, and on and on. However, one that stands out was a general honors course called American Environmental Writers taught by Dr. Silver. Both the texts and the discussions were so rich, and I was able to carry elements of the course into my own classroom. I am and always will be so proud to be a graduate of ASU!

Click [here](#) for a feature story about Sara in the local Charlotte newspaper.



KENNETH KENNEDY AT UCLA LAW SCHOOL

Kenneth Kennedy, a Vocal Performance graduate is now in his first year of law school at UCLA, and writes that "UCLA has been fantastic. The faculty has been wonderful as have my classmates. The environment here is supportive. Since I've been here I got to meet with the attorney I interviewed for my thesis, and she has given me the contact info of the legal department heads at several of the law schools out here to talk in regards to an internship this summer. Very exciting! I definitely think I've decided on the right school and the right profession. It's been challenging, but the work has been extremely outgiving."

Left: Kenneth Kennedy and Rachel Kate Burkhalter (both class of '14) at the LA Opera.

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RESEARCH

"A DREAM OPPORTUNITY FOR AN ASPIRING CLINICIAN SCIENTIST": CORBIN ESTER AWARDED POSTBAC

After graduating this May, Corbin Ester will begin working as an intern with the Postbaccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award (Postbac IRITA/CRTA) program. Specifically, he will be working in the lab of Dr. Paul S. Meltzer, Chief of the Genetics Branch of the National Cancer Institute, and Head of the Molecular Genetics Section on the intramural campus of the National Institutes of Health, in Bethesda, MD.

After working there last summer as part of the NIH Summer Internship Program (NIH SIP), Corbin decided he wanted to spend a year or two working full time in a research lab, so he started the application process and contacted several principal investigators directly. As a result, he was offered several interviews, and ultimately was offered a position in Dr. Meltzer's lab.

Corbin is interested in pursuing a career in research medicine. As he explains, "I want to not only be treating the patients, but designing the cures for their ailments in the lab as well. Specifically, my research and clinical interests are focused on childhood cancer. Dr. Meltzer is a leader in genome science as it is applied to cancer research, and he is also a trained pediatric oncologist. To be able to work with him and his team of brilliant scientists and clinicians at the NCI for the next few years is a dream opportunity for an aspiring clinician scientist, and I am honored to have this position."

Corbin hopes to use this opportunity and time to prepare his application for MD/Ph.D. programs, while also gaining invaluable training that is sure to catalyze his future career.



SYNAPSE MEETS IN ASHEVILLE

Saturday, March 28, was a snowy day in Boone, but ten intrepid students were on the road at 6 am to make the drive to UNC-Asheville for the annual SYNAPSE undergraduate neuroscience meeting! There were over 150 students and faculty at the day-long conference, and the team made good use of the time to talk about IMPULSE and the opportunities to publish and review for undergrads. There were five freshmen in the group, and they all had a chance to work on their presentation skills, as well learning how upper class students are negotiating the transition to grad and professional schools. Thanks to those students who drove — that first hour was scary!



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SERVICE

HONORS STUDENTS SERVE ALL AREAS OF BOONE

Story and Photos by: Honors students Luke A. Weir and Emma Labovitz

Even with busy schedules, Honors College students still find time to serve the community. Spring semester 2015 is well on its way; students are back in Boone and continuing the unyielding pursuit of learning. With classes, library trips, and club activities, many students' schedules are stuffed enough, but not freshman Honors students Larry Lapushin and Andrew Smith. Both gentlemen give back to the community in different ways.



Andrew Smith (photo, left) is an intern at Climate Voices, "a nonprofit whose mission and vision is to give voice to all aspects of climate stewardship," Smith said. At Climate Voices, Smith is able to serve both the people of Boone and the environment by working to bring clean solar energy to Boone. Smith explains that he became interested in environmental stewardship when he took a school sponsored bus to be one of over 400,000 participants in the People's Climate March in New York City last autumn. Smith says his involvement with Climate Voices allows him to participate in something he loves and wants to be a part of. Smith is also an active shag dancer, runner, and ASU Ambassador.

Larry Lapushin (photo, right) serves the community via the Circle K Club, where he often participates in their bi-weekly visits to the Boone Hospitality House. At the Hospitality House, Lapushin dishes out meals to Boone locals who might not be able to afford the full price of a healthy meal. Lapushin also attends bingo nights at the Brian Estates nursing home, where he helps with bingo and enjoys the company of seniors who witnessed Martin Luther King Jr.'s march on Washington, D.C., and still others who were childhood neighbors with Frank Sinatra. Lapushin also works a job with Food Services, and — like many others — says he is still working on balancing time between his job, friends, service, and schoolwork.



While both Lapushin and Smith have different ways of giving back, both agree that service is an integral part of the human experience. "I love service, it's one of my favorite things, and it can make a pretty big difference," Lapushin said. Smith weighed in with, "there is a variety of service, it's not just volunteering — it's the little things." Lapushin encourages everyone interested in serving others to, "try as many different things as you can, and I bet you'll like anything that you do." Perhaps service should be a slice of more folks' schedules. Sure, catering to the requirements of rigorous coursework is important, but so is taking a step back and serving for the greater good. As Smith revealed, "service is anything that shares the greater message of love." And as the Beatles always sang, "all you need is love."

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WELCOME

BUSY SUMMER FOR HONORS: OFF AND OUT EXPERIENCING REAL LIFE

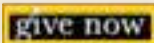
It is summer in Honors, but not the lazy days one hears about! Reports in this issue will catch you up on the recent round of graduates and what some are heading off to do, which is exhausting to keep track of. There are some samples of thesis defenses to give you an idea of that ongoing process (some will graduate in August). Then there is the June Freshmen Orientation, where we welcomed our new, outstanding class of Honors students, so you can read about the students who will come in to replace our outgoing graduates. Of course, there is the usual spate of articles on a few of the many international experiences that Honors students are doing year round, and some staff and faculty reports, as well. There will be many more of these in the fall issue, of course, as we get the updates for the late summer adventures that many are currently doing, so follow us on Facebook if you want to be completely *au courant* with the Honors happenings!



Above: Dr. Jones in Rio in front of the Teatro Municipal (photograph by Dr. Sarah Spencer)

GIFT SUPPORTS

\$50	• Thesis research supplies.
\$85	• Student membership to a professional organization.
	• The registration fee for a national conference.
\$195 - \$275	• The cost of graduate or professional school exams.
\$1,500	• Airfare for one student to go abroad to conduct research, study abroad, or attend a national conference.
\$2,000	• The May Honorum Laurus graduation ceremony.
\$2,500	• The Honors Freshmen Retreat.
\$5,000	• One student to study abroad for a semester.
\$350,000 endowment	• One full-ride scholarship.



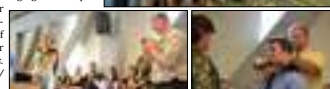
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NEWS

HONORUM LAURUS GRADUATION CEREMONY, MAY 8, 2015

On May 8th, the Honors College hosted the Spring 2015 Honorum Laurus. In this graduation ceremony, the Honors College celebrates those who have completed the requirements to earn the distinction of University Honors. Graduating students are hooded and bestowed the Honorum Laurus medal and with it officially "honored with the laurel." The medal design reflects the logo of the Honors College incorporating the mountain songbird of the Appalachian State University word-mark. Our graduates have now taken flight giving song to the world; we wish them success and will follow their bright futures with pride and great interest.

Only the most dedicated students, graduate with University Honors. In this May 8th ceremony, we celebrated the accomplishments of 75 graduating Honors Students. Their hard work culminated with the completion of their Honors Thesis projects ranging from topics of art to politics to water quality. To see the Honors thesis abstracts of our graduates, visit our website: www.honors.appstate.edu/academics/thesis-examples.



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NEWS

RECENT HONORS GRADUATES SOAR!!!

This is by no means a full report, as many of our recent graduates are still weighing options. What follows will give you a sense of the directions our recent graduates are headed:



Five Honors Grads Off to Medical School

Two May graduates and three alumni are heading off to medical school this coming fall. Beth Payment ('14) will be attending ECU, Carson Keller ('13) will be going to Meharry, and Alex Dezil ('14) is choosing from several acceptance opportunities. Jeff Phillips ('15) has an offer at Eastern Virginia Medical School that he has accepted and Danielle Russell ('15) will be attending the University of South Carolina School of Medicine.

UNC-CH Graduate and Law Schools for Four

Hanna Fox and Olivia Sings (both '15) are taking up their UNC-CH Law School offers for this fall, and will be moving to Chapel Hill this summer. Joining them in rolling down the mountain will be Karson Collins ('15), who will be in the Audiology graduate program at UNC-CH, and Nicole Steyl ('15), who will be enrolling in the UNC-CH Speech Pathology graduate program.

NCSU for Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence

Brian Clee is continuing his studies in computer science and artificial intelligence (AI) at NCSU, where he will be working on his Ph.D. starting in the fall. His Honors thesis on creating a prototype AI program to teach a motor skill is serving as a useful platform for his career path in AI development.

UGA Collects ASU Honors Grads

Michael Judge and Josh Watson (both '15) selected the University of Georgia from their choices for their Ph.D. studies in plant molecular biology. They will be joined at UGA by Audrey Thomas ('15), a History major, who will be continuing her love of history through the Historic Preservation Masters program in Athens.

The Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science

It is a mouthful, but a great place for Kelly Patterson ('15), whose love for cetaceans and marine science in general is well known in the Honors College. After doing an internship with a marine mammal program this past spring, Kelly is pursuing her Master's in Miami so that she can continue studying and serving the creatures she loves best.

Just a Little More Time at Appalachian...

A number of ('15) Honors graduates just cannot tear themselves away from the mountains and will be continuing their graduate studies at ASU. These include David Marvel (Music Performance), Correy Dowd (Clinical Psychology), Haley Goins (Accounting), Dean Cates (English), Katie Reynolds (Speech Pathology), Andrew Graves (Experimental Psychology), and Kristen Content (Biology) (all '15). **Congratulations to all!**

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NEWS

MAY 2015 FACULTY AWARDS

Each semester, The Honors College presents Faculty Members with the following awards announced at the Honorum Laurus Graduation ceremony: Mentor of the Year, Teacher of the Year, and a Special Award for the Retiring

Faculty Member for their contribution to Honors. The Special Award for the Retiring Faculty Member this semester went to ASU's Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Dr. Stan Aeschleman (photo top left). The Mentor of the Year is awarded to the faculty member who mentored the most honors student theses; this semester that award winner was Dr. Mark Zrull, Professor of Psychology (photos below). The Teacher of the Year, or "ToY," is selected by the Senior Vanguard. This year Dr. Thomas McLaughlin, Professor of English, received that award. Though Dr. McLaughlin was at ASU's Loft in New York City for the Spring 2015 semester and missed the Honorum Laurus award ceremony, he was medaled by Dr. Jones (photo left) upon his return to Boone on May 28th. Congratulations to our three faculty award winners for Spring 2015; your service to Honors is deeply appreciated.



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NEWS

Class of 2019 FRESHMEN ORIENTATION

Throughout the month of June, we welcomed new Freshmen to the Honors College during Freshmen Orientation. Each new Honors student attended one of the eleven two-day orientation sessions. In each, students attended Honors and departmental/major information sessions, spent time getting oriented to campus, and met individually with Honors Advisors. Each student walked away registered for a full load of classes for their first semester, as well as an overload of information that they will need to navigate through college life. Throughout their orientation to campus, Honors students were guided by Jonathan Williams (photo right), the Honors Student Orientation Undergraduate Leader (SOUL) and rising Senior Honors student.



Facts about incoming Honors class of 2019:

- Entering Number of Honors Students: 122
- Average SAT (M+V; ACT's converted): 1391
- Average high school class percentile: top 5-10%
- Female:male ratio: 65% female, 35% male
- In-state:out-of-state students: 89%:11%



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STUDENTS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLARS!

Appalachian and the Honors College are delighted to welcome ten new Chancellor's Scholars to campus in fall 2015! The Chancellor's Scholarship is the oldest and most academically-competitive scholarship at Appalachian, and this year's incoming students are a most impressive group of students, with an average SAT math+verbal score of 1506 (ACT composite of 34). There were 1,440 applicants for the ten scholar-ships for the 2015-2016 academic year. With this very intense competition, the committee had to make some difficult decisions. This prestigious scholarship has been awarded to the following ten outstanding students (photographs below are in alphabetical order counterclockwise).

Morgan Coyle

Raleigh, North Carolina, psychology & philosophy major

John Dempsey

Jacksonville, Alabama, computer science major

Emily Fedders

Beckley, West Virginia, environmental science major

Emma Hammond

Morganton, North Carolina, music performance major

Emma Lassiter

Apex, North Carolina, music performance major

Meagan Hain

St. Louis Park, Minnesota, pre-health major

Alexis Jester

Knoxville, Tennessee, psychology major

Alexander Lake

Wilmington, North Carolina, biology major

Katherine Miller

Gatlinburg, Tennessee, interior design & marketing major

Elizabeth Williams

Morganton, North Carolina, graphic design major



This four-year, full-ride scholarship includes tuition, fees, housing and a meal plan, which can also be applied to approved study abroad experiences—nearly \$60,000 for the four years. Freshman Chancellor's Scholars spend their first fall break in Dublin, Ireland, with Dr. Leslie Sargent Jones, Director of the Honors College, and have access to a dedicated meeting and study room in the Honors College. We welcome these students to Honors at ASU, and look forward to highlighting their accomplishments in future editions of the Laurus Honorum newsletter.

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STUDENTS

AMBER DANIEL: HONORS SOPHOMORE AND VARSITY TRACK & FIELD ATHLETE

As a varsity track and field shot put thrower and Honors sophomore, Amber Daniel balances both with a lot of organization and great time management skills. As she explains, "I personally have to make sure that I put all of my practices, classes and study times into the schedule on my phone. It is definitely difficult, but manageable especially with the resources offered on campus. I am grateful that I have two amazing advisors who help me to stay on top of my class work as well as help me to create a balanced schedule that optimizes my time throughout the day."

She further explains that being an Honors student, as well as an athlete has helped make her "a more well rounded student. I think that Honors and athletics can act as an escape for the other when I'm stressed about a class or when I am stressed about an upcoming competition."

Amber's typical day starts pretty early. As a self-described early bird she likes to have as many classes that start at 8 a.m. as possible. After three to four classes a day, normally, and the occasional lab, she heads to practice. Every day except for competition days and most Sundays she has an hour throwing practice followed by an hour or more of weight lifting. After practice, she has dinner with teammates at the dining hall and then heads directly to her dorm to study. She does homework from 7 until her 11pm bedtime. She further explains, "Everyday I do it all over again. I think my day is pretty typical for most ASU students besides the practice and the Honors classes."

Amber adds, "I have definitely built a community here at Appalachian with my teammates and with my Honors classmates. As an Exercise Science major, many of my classes discuss the human body and how it works. These courses not only relate to my life as an athlete by making me more aware of my body and the way my muscles function, but they also coincide with my Honors thesis. For my thesis, I plan to work within my major to do research involving my teammates. In the future, I plan on earning my master's degree and being a physician's assistant. Honors is definitely preparing me well for graduate school with the courses that I have to take as well as the study abroad opportunities. As for athletics, I hope to be a graduate assistant for the track team at the school I attend. The numerous hours that I dedicate to athletics now are definitely preparing me for that. I think that both the strenuous courses that I take in the Honors College and the extensive hours that I dedicate to Track and Field are what create the amazing college experience that I have had so far here at Appalachian."



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STUDENTS

HONORS SENIOR ERIC VICKERS: PART OF ASU STUDENT TEAM WINNING SPENCER-RIMS RISK MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

Honors Senior Alum Eric Vickers, along with three other Risk Management and Insurance (RMI) majors from Appalachian State University, won the national Spencer-RIMS Risk Management Challenge April 26-28. The final presentation rounds were held in conjunction with the RIMS 2015 Annual Conference & Exhibition in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Appalachian State team faced 100 industry leaders plus numerous attendees in a standing-room-only session at RIMS 2015 as they gave their award-winning risk management presentation. Along with their academic advisor, Dr. Karen Epermanis, the successful team of students included Eric Vickers, along with Wesley McDaniel, Bruce Thomas and Grant Jared. Appalachian was among eighteen university teams from across the United States who participated in the competition, which spanned several months. The teams, comprising of undergraduate students in their university's risk management and insurance program, were presented the challenge case for The Walt Disney Company and charged with providing a comprehensive risk analysis of company risks, along with recommendations.



Above: Brantley Risk & Insurance Center Director Dr. Karen Epermanis, second from left, and Appalachian's Joseph F. Freeman Distinguished Professor of Insurance Dr. Dave Wood, second from right, are pictured with the winning students and their trophy.



Above: The winning students, pictured from left, were Eric Vickers, Bruce Thomas, Grant Jared, and Wesley McDaniel.

A panel of risk management professionals judged the teams' submissions, and the top eight teams were invited to present their findings at the National RIMS conference in New Orleans. That group was whittled down to three during the conference, with Appalachian State emerging as the overall winner and receiving a \$4,000 prize. Second place in the 2015 challenge went to Missouri State University, with Temple University coming in third.

Congratulations to Eric and the entire ASU team for this winning performance. Eric will start his first post graduate job in insurance underwriting with AIG in July. We look forward to hearing about much more of his success moving forward!

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INTERNATIONAL

THREE HONORS STUDENTS EXPLORE & LEARN IN INDIA

Dressed in their beautiful new saris, Sarah Irisk (left), Sarah Mbiki (center), and Emily Boaz (right) are shown here in front of their summer home, the International Hostel, at Bishop Heber College (BHC) in Trichy, India. The three students were hosted at BHC for the month of June while they shadowed in obstetric clinics (the Sarahs) or participated in an environmental study counting birds in a neighborhood wetland (Emily).



In addition to four weeks of clinical observation and biology fieldwork, they spent weekends exploring. The first weekend they visited one of the largest Hindu temples of the world, Srirangam in Trichy. In the photo to the left, they are inside one of the temple buildings with their new friend Sri (left in photo). They also visited the iconic Rock Fort of Trichy, climbing to the top for views. Something new for this group was their daring adventure to the former French colony once known as Pondicherry; this was something they planned and executed on their own! Sarah Mbiki (shown photo right at a beach on the Bay of Bengal) wrote in her blog (<http://sarahmbikiblog.blogspot.com/>) that "If you ever find yourself in Pondicherry, the Richard Hotel is an amazing place to stay..." and she has both a restaurant and a bakery recommendation, as well, all apparently places that would lead you to think you were in France, if it were not so incredibly hot.



Emily will recommend her favorite little tea shop in Trichy near her regular wetland birding spot (photo left). There, Manikandan, her welcoming host, will make you whatever kind of delicious tea you need that day as you count birds, pet call noses on the street, and see random antelopes.



Sarah Irisk (right photo, center in a birdi-selfie) has enjoyed her time at two clinics, and the fact that there were additional kinds of surgeries (e.g., cholecystectomy) that she was also able to observe. The indomitable Dr. Devi (shown in right photo) was her unfailingly helpful and welcoming guide into this new world.



Sarah Mbiki (photo left shown with a surgeon, Dr. Johnston) found all of the clinical experiences intriguing. She has collected seven "goodchildren," thanks to all the deliveries she has observed! After an exciting month, they are all more informed about options for their career paths, but, unsurprisingly, since even more doors have opened, their decisions now seem even more complicated! Tune in again next year for an update on where they go after graduation.



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INTERNATIONAL

KEVIN GOSLEN SHARES

THE FIRST DAY OF HIS MANY ADVENTURES IN TRIER, GERMANY



Above: "Porta Nigra," the UNESCO World Heritage Site in Trier.

Kevin Goslen spent this past spring semester in Trier, Germany. Here he shares a story from his adventures—the first day of his semester abroad.

"I woke up for the first time in my new apartment in Trier and decided to explore the city, since none of my scheduled events started until the following day. Starting at the main train station, the only part of town I had seen so far and thus my only reference point, I began navigating the town by heading towards the largest structure I could see, going off of the assumption that large buildings must also be important and would therefore make good reference points to learn the town by. I stumbled upon the cathedral this way and found myself in the market square of town. At the end of the square I can see a looming, black stone archway about 4 stories high. I'm clueless as to what it is, but I take a quick picture anyways. I continue walking, and begin to see signs for something called the 'Porta Nigra,' which I assume is a port on the river that runs through town. Interested in finding the river, I attempt to follow the signs but with no success."

Later, as I stopped at a bench to rest my legs, I began a conversation with a clearly highly-educated older gentleman also seated on the bench, who decided to help me find the Porta Nigra when he heard that it's my first day in town. As we begin walking back the way I came, he pointed out the dark archway I spotted earlier. He began to explain that the term 'Porta Nigra' is Latin for "Black Gate," and that this is the oldest still-standing Roman city gate in existence. I quickly realized my mistake and listened as the man continued to talk about Trier's rich history (it is the oldest city in Germany after all) but in my head all I could think was, "I will never forget the day that I accidentally stumbled upon a UNESCO World Heritage Site."

Kevin continued to explore, learn and grow in his semester in Trier. He reported that the trip had already been life-changing and that he was growing through the challenges he encountered.

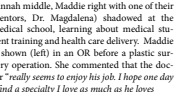
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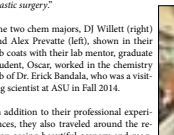
INTERNATIONAL

HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE AT THE UNIVERSIDAD DE LAS AMERICAS PUEBLA, MEXICO

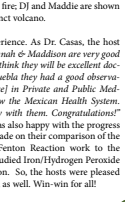
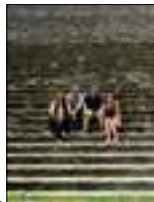
Two Honors pre-meds and two Honors chemistry majors went to Mexico and spent four weeks this past June at the Universidad de las Americas Puebla (UDLAP) in Cholula (near Puebla). Savannah Ray and Maddison Staszewicz, shown right, (Savannah middle, Maddie right with one of their mentors, Dr. Magdalena) shadowed at the medical school, learning about medical student training and health care delivery. Maddie is shown (left) in an OR before a plastic surgery operation. She commented that the doctor "really seems to enjoy his job. I hope one day I find a specialty I love as much as he loves plastic surgery."



The two chem majors, DJ Willett (right) and Alex Pevette (left), shown in their lab coats with their lab mentor, graduate student, Oscar, worked in the chemistry lab of Dr. Erick Bandala, who was a visiting scientist at ASU in Fall 2014.



In addition to their professional experiences, they also traveled around the region seeing beautiful scenery and magnificent, ancient structures. The four of them are pictured (bottom left) sitting on the steps up the Great Pyramid of Cholula, and admiring the neighborhood volcano, Popocatepetl. They took a trip to La Malinche and stayed in a cabin where it was cold enough to require a fire. DJ and Maddie are shown (bottom right) on a hiking trail up the extinct volcano.



The students all had a great learning experience. As Dr. Casas, the host for Maddie and Savannah, reported "Savannah & Maddison are very good students and I think they will be excellent doctors; here in Puebla they had a good observation [experience] in Private and Public Medicine, and knew the Mexican Health System. I was so happy with them. Congratulations!" Dr. Bandala was also happy with the progress Alex and DJ made on their comparison of the cobalt(III) Fenton Reaction work to the more widely studied Iron/Hydrogen Peroxide Fenton Reaction. So, the hosts were pleased with exchange, as well. Win-win for all!

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INTERNATIONAL

HONORS STUDENTS TRAVEL TO ISRAEL WITH THE BIRTHRIGHT PROGRAM

Rising Sophomore Honors students Shaina Katz and Cassandra Silverman were selected to participate in the Taglit-Birthright Israel Program this summer. The vision of this program is "to strengthen Jewish identity, Jewish communities and solidarity with Israel by providing a 10-day trip to Israel for young Jewish people."

Cassandra reports, "Throughout these 10 days, we traveled to all parts of Israel. We spent a few days in the city of Tiberias hiking and rafting. Then, we moved onto Ashkelon to hear the story of an Arab-Israeli woman. In the days following, we journeyed into the Negev desert (photo bottom right) where we learned about the Bedouin culture. Later, we then had the opportunity to travel to Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. Throughout this journey, we became close with the 40 other participants. In essence, our extended Jewish family became closer. During the trip, we learned about how American Judaism differed from that in Israel. We learned about this country and culture as we experienced it while hiking, swimming, eating and volunteering. This trip was a life-changing experience. It has given me knowledge and opened my mind to many new opportunities. I hope to one day go back to this mystical place and be able to give back."



Above: Cassandra (left) and Shaina (right) with Jerusalem in the background.

Right: City of Safed (Tzfat)

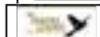
Bottom left: Syrian border

Bottom right: Cassandra (left) and Shaina (right) in the Negev desert



Shaina further reflects, "The first thing people would say to me when I told them I was traveling to Israel was to be safe. But I've never felt safer and more at home than when I was in Israel. I cannot wait to return. It was an emotional and spiritual journey I will never forget. Travelling with 40 other young Jewish people and sharing the same experience, we developed a special bond. We had discussions about what we were experiencing, the conflict, anti-Semitism, and many other current topics we were facing first-hand. It may be cliché but this trip was the best thing that has ever happened to me and I cannot wait to go back to Israel."

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INTERNATIONAL

KIMBERLY BOWMAN EXPLORES THE FLORA AND FAUNA OF AUSTRALASIA

Story by Kimberly Bowman



Above: Kimberly (top photo) snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef

This summer, I participated in the Summer I faculty-led course traveling to study "Flora and Fauna of Australasia." On this trip, we spent a total of twenty five days travelling, all but five of which were in Australia. While in Australia, we went all around the Northeast coast from our launching pad in the city of Cairns. This course, led by ASU faculty in the Department of Biology trip, visited and studied all of the different ecosystems in the area. These ranged all the way from rainforests to fire-managed grasslands. We also visited a number of renowned organizations there, such as the Cairns Tropical Zoo and Toluca Bot Hospital. One of the highlights was snorkeling on the Great Barrier Reef for two days, where we stayed overnight on a boat stationed there.

For the last five days we visited the North Island of New Zealand, which had some of the trip's most amazing scenery. We did many of the same things in New Zealand as we did in Australia. We visited different forest and mountain habitats and learned about what makes the biology of New Zealand so unique. For example, it is home to some of the most unique species of flightless birds in the world because the animal populations have evolved without the presence of mammals. While there, we toured Tiritiri Matangi, which is an entire island that has been devoted as a wildlife sanctuary for the country's native and endangered species. Visiting both of these countries greatly increased my understanding and awareness of biology, and I am incredibly grateful to The Honors College for their support in making this trip possible for me.



Above: Kimberly (left) with two other ASU students in a crane above the Daintree Rainforest in Australia



Right: Kimberly (left) with two other ASU students feeding a koala at the Cairns Tropical Zoo.

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INTERNATIONAL

HONORS STUDENT JOINS FACULTY-LED TRIP STUDYING RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC CONFLICT IN WESTERN EUROPE

Story by Madeline Lippy



This summer, I traveled with Dr. Lippard, Associate Professor of Sociology, and Dr. Behrend-Martinez, Professor of History, to Spain, Ireland, and Northern Ireland studying religious and ethnic conflicts. Before I got into the specifics of the trip, I have to say that studying abroad is such a valuable experience and I am so happy I did it. As Honors students, I know it is a requirement to study abroad; however, that is because students come away from the experience with vivid memories and great friends that they carry back to Appalachian and through the rest of their lives!



In Spain, we traveled to Seville, Madrid, and Bilbao. We took many day trips from those major cities to towns such as Guernica, Segovia, Toledo, and so many more. In Seville and Madrid, we focused on religious conflicts between Muslims, Christians, and Jews. This photo (top) is of a cathedral that has been switched constantly from a mosque and back to a cathedral again as the Muslims and Christians switched control of Seville.

The experience in Ireland and Northern Ireland was very different because conflicts between Catholics and Protestants are much more recent than the conflicts that we studied in Spain! We visited the main towns in these two countries (Dublin, Belfast, and Derry), but we also took day trips to places where the conflict between Catholics and Protestants was still in progress. The photography shown here (above) is an example of the public murals citizens painted throughout these two countries conveying their political ideas.

This is just a very brief overview of the trip, but I have created memories and friendships that I know will last through my time at Appalachian, and beyond!



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INTERNATIONAL

ISAAC CHURCH TRAVELS WITH HON 3515: BUSINESS IN POLAND



Above: Isaac is shown here in front of Wawel Castle in Kraków Old Town.

Honors Senior and accounting major Isaac Church traveled to Poland for the HON 3515: Business in Poland course led by Dr. Albert Harris, Professor of Computer Information Systems. On this 12 day trip and course, the group explored the rich history of Poland and the resiliency of the Polish people. They started in Warsaw, the capital of Poland, where they spent two nights. They then traveled to Poznań where they spent a week interacting with Polish students on a business-related project to better understand the Polish culture and the Polish people's perceptions of the European Union and Polish-US relations. Finally, the group traveled to Kraków, where they visited historic Kraków, Auschwitz, and Berkenau concentration camps, and the Wieliczka Salt Mine.



Left: Isaac trying on a red fox fur hat.



Below: The Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp was one of three (Auschwitz-Birkenau-Monowitz) concentration camps the group toured.



Above: Kopalni Soli Wieliczka or the Wieliczka Salt Mine in Kraków.

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INTERNATIONAL

TYLER RAMSEY: JOINS ASU FACULTY-LED TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA



Above: Sightseeing in Cape Town, South Africa.

Rising senior Honors student, Tyler Ramsey, a chemistry premed traveled to Johannesburg with Dr. Nathan Mowa, ASU Associate Professor of Biology, and seven other ASU students. The group spent May 14-June 8 at the University of Johannesburg shadowing all areas of pre-health and touring the country. The focus of this faculty-led international experience was for students to learn how health care in South Africa is different from that in the United States.



Above: The group toured Netcare Waterfall City Hospital, a private facility where patients pay out of pocket for care. Here Tyler (right in top photo) observed three surgeries.

KAI DES ETAGES SHARES HER EXPERIENCE OF A LIFE TIME: CUBA

"When traveling around the world, you expect to meet people who will challenge your perspective. For me, this trip to Cuba was more of an affirmation that people, no matter their circumstance, can be strong and loving. Our group explored three very different places: the bustling city life of Havana, the laid back mountains and farms of Viñales, and the swamp life of Kormakoo. Each experience was different, but our time at Kormakoo was the most impactful. There were swarms of mosquitos the minute we stepped off the bus and the humidity was so high we were practically breathing water. That took a couple hours to get over, but once we did, we all had an incredible experience. The employees at Kormakoo do art for social change. This ranges from dance and acting to music and lighting. They have it all. Our group had the opportunity to take dance class from them and get a few musical performances, but that wasn't what left the lasting impressions. There was a language barrier—a big one—but somehow we found a way to communicate. We all ate together and, by our third night, we were laughing and making jokes together. One night I had my palm read by one of the actors. Afterward, we hugged and he gave me a gift and told me that 'he loved my soul' and that he 'wished I could stay.' A very important person in my life once told me that it's not about where you are, but it's about the people you're with, and I firmly believe that person was right. The employees at Kormakoo stole our hearts; horseback riding, snorkeling, and dancing the night away in Havana couldn't compare. I came back from this study abroad inspired, uplifted, and ready to share the lessons I have learned. Cuba was an unforgettable experience that threw me out of my comfort zone and allowed me to learn more than I could possibly imagine."



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FACULTY



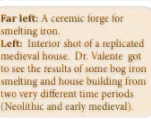
DR. MARY VALANTE: STUDYING POTTERY IN DUBLIN

Honors Faculty member, Professor, and Medieval Historian, Dr. Mary Valante, spent time in May at the School of Celtic Studies library in Dublin working on research studying unwanted and abandoned children in early medieval Ireland.

She also spent time at the Experimental Archaeology Centre at University College Dublin, a center for graduate-level (mostly Ph.D.) study in experimental archaeology. Experimental archaeology is a method of archaeological research in which human lifeways are studied by recreating the tools, techniques and technology of the past to determine the feasibility of ancient humans performing various tasks or feats. In the summer research trip, Dr. Valante had the opportunity to learn about an archaeological dig right in the city of Dublin!

Above: Dr. Valante (center) along with graduate students in the program looks at coarseware pottery ("southern ware") made by modern scholars in an attempt to learn how people living in early medieval Ireland made pottery.

Right: Aidan O'Sullivan (who runs the center) is holding pot sherds. In the close-up, Aidan displays a pot sherd from the early Middle Ages next to a broken pot made and fired in a pit by one of his students. The similarities in texture, color, and cross-section of the two, show they are getting very close.



Far left: A ceramic forge for smelting iron.

Left: Interior shot of a replicated medieval house. Dr. Valante got to see the results of some boy iron smelting and house building from two very different time periods (Neolithic and early medieval).

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FACULTY

DR. THOMAS MCLAUGHLIN RETURNS FROM SPRING SEMESTER AT THE LOFT, NYC

Dr. Thomas McLaughlin, the Honors College 2015 Teacher of the Year (photo right with Dr. Jones), spent the Spring 2015 semester as the Faculty Director of ASU's Loft in NYC. The faculty directorship position is a competitive position available to full-time Appalachian faculty members. As the Faculty Director, Dr. McLaughlin lived in the Loft housing facility and directed operations. The Appalachian Loft is designed to provide a host-type living environment for students, faculty, staff, and alumni who are conducting research in the city, attending conferences or training, traveling with colleagues and classmates for an off-campus learning experience, or participating in internships.



We are proud Dr. McLaughlin had this opportunity but are pleased he has returned to the mountain to receive his ToY award.

"CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON RACISM & WHITENESS": DR. BRANDY WILSON TEACHES SUMMER HONORS SEMINAR



Dr. Brandy Wilson (photo left) is teaching HON 3515: Critical Perspectives on Racism and Whiteness this summer, a trial for the Honors College to offer an honors seminar over the summer semesters. Dr. Wilson's course is meeting once a week and spans Summer 1 and II for the 3rd typical of HON seminar. The course teaches "racial literacy" described as, "a dynamic framework for understanding the ways in which race and racism implicitly and explicitly manifest and function in American society. It entails critically examining and continually questioning how race and racism, power, and supremacy inform our individual and cultural beliefs, practices, and our institutions. This course stands on the belief that in order to change the way racism and supremacy manifest, race has to be directly addressed rather than ignored." This is a timely course given recent events and intensifying racial struggles in the U.S. of late, including: voting rights, police shootings, state flags, and acts of violence at churches.

Thus far, the course is having a huge impact on students who offer resounding applause. Rising Sophomore Honors student Jorge Bautista reports, "I really like it! It is very enlightening. The tools the class gives you go outside of issues of race and have really expanded the way I look at things. The theory of critical perspective is important to my life now. It allows me to look at things holistically and with a worldwide view rather than anecdotal experiences." With this kind of positive feedback, it is likely the Honors College will be able to continue to offer HON seminars during summer semesters.

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STAFF

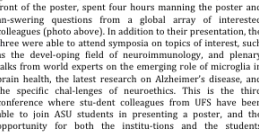
DR. HEATHER WALDROUP PARTICIPATES IN NEH SUMMER INSTITUTE

This summer, Dr. Heather Waldrup is participating in a four-week summer research institute, "American Material Culture: 19th Century New York," sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). She was one of 18 scholars selected to participate in the institute. NEH Summer Institutes are federally-funded programs for university faculty to enhance their teaching and research in the humanities. This institute will use museum and archive collections in New York as a case study to examine material culture, consumer culture, and the fashioning of taste in the late 19th century. Participants will also be introduced to new initiatives in digital humanities, including digital exhibition software and digital publishing. Dr. Waldrup is particularly enjoying working with historical photographs in the New York collections such as those shown here (photographs left).



RENDEZVOUS IN RIO

Dr. Leslie Jones traveled to Rio de Janeiro in July for the quadrennial International Brain Research Organization conference, where neuroscientists from around the world gathered to present and discuss the latest findings in the world of brain research. There she met Honors student Kyle Sasser (photo below on left), the Editor-in-Chief of IMPULSE, the undergraduate neuroscience journal that is hosted through the Honors College at Appalachian. They presented a poster on using the journal as a neuroscience teaching tool. They were joined by co-author Pierre Kriek (photo below on right), the Associate Editor from the IMPULSE Review Team at Appalachian's partner institution, the University of the Free State, South Africa. The two students, shown in front of the poster, spent four hours manning the poster and answering questions from a global array of interested colleagues (photo above). In addition to their presentation, the three were able to attend symposia on topics of interest, such as the developing field of neuroimmunology, and plenary talks from world experts on the emerging role of microglia in brain health, the latest research on Alzheimer's disease, and the specific challenges of neuroethics. This is the third conference where student colleagues from UPS have been able to join ASU students in presenting a poster, and the opportunity for both the institutions and the students involved is invaluable.



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ALUMNI

RECENT HONORS ALUMNAE BECOME EDUCATORS

Three of the most recent Honors College graduates will be joining the ranks of educators having completed degrees in education.

Carys Kunze (photo right), a choral music education major, completed her student teaching at Wilkes Central High School in Wilkes County, North Carolina. While student teaching, Carys worked with students in the various levels of choral, culminating in directing about half of the final choral concert, which was just two days before her own ASU graduation! She conducted almost all of the beginning and intermediate choral pieces, and reports proudly that all the groups did very well. Carys is now considering several possibilities for teaching for next year, and we wish her all the best as she mulls over her future choices.



Rebecca LaMaire (photo left) graduated with a degree in art education. She completed her student teaching at Paisley IB Magnet School in Winston-Salem, NC. Overall it was a very positive experience and she said that she grew enormously as an educator. She particularly enjoyed working with 6th grade students and focused her job search on elementary school art teaching positions. She has accepted a job offer with Durham Public Schools as the art teacher at Holt Elementary Language Academy, and she is currently in the process of relocating to the area and looking forward to the first day of school, July 20th. We're sure her students at Holt will love having Rebecca as their art teacher!



Devon Patton (photo right) just received her special education: general curriculum degree. She will be teaching kindergarten through second grade special education students in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, next year. Devon was the student speaker representing all College of Education undergraduates at the May graduation ceremony. Congratulations, Devon!

We're very proud of all of our students, and commend these three Honors College graduates for choosing education for their future careers.

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RESEARCH

HONORS AT NCUR

Honors students represented Appalachian well at the 29th Annual National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) held at Eastern Washington University, April 16-18. This included research across all areas and the following oral presentations: Grayson Bodenheimer, sociology (photo right) whose talk was entitled, "A Pill for All Ills: A Theoretical Analysis of Antidepressants, Nationalized Society, and the Departure of Human Interaction;" Emily Stewart Long, history (photo left) who presented a paper entitled, "No Selfhood, No Freedom: Martin Heidegger's Radical Definition of 'Transcendence' in 20th Century Europe;" and Hannah Malcolm, history (photo below) who presented "Religion Beyond the Cult of the Supreme Being: Nationalism and the French Revolution." Other Honors students representing Appalachian at the 2015 NCUR included: Cameron Brown, psychology; Anne Carpenter, education; Brian Clew, computer science; Alaina Doyle, religious studies; Jacob Pawlik, chemistry, and Danielle Russell, chemistry.

NCUR is the premiere organization that promotes high-quality faculty-undergraduate collaborative research and scholarly work. It is one way Honors students work to develop their research into the Honors thesis—the stepping-stone to future graduate and professional endeavors. Of her experience presenting at NCUR, Hannah Malcolm explained, "My talk went very well. I got a lot of questions about how it connected to different philosophical and historical perspectives on both religion and violence. I felt that I was able to explain not only my research but my reason for doing it. Listening to the other presenters on my panel also gave me some ideas for how to continue my research as I build towards my honors thesis." Grayson Bodenheimer further noted, "My experience at NCUR 2015 was amazing. It is exciting to have the chance to spend time on a personal research project and to present that research to a group of other enthusiastic students and even professors. One of the best experiences at NCUR is seeing others' presentations and being introduced to what my peers are studying. For the most part, the session moderators, who are local professors, are quite well-versed in the topics discussed, even if some of the sessions diverge from their specific interests. The poster sessions are always fascinating, as well, because they give presenters the chance to speak one-on-one with anyone interested. I enjoyed walking through the posters and finding topics that interested me, even if I did not speak to the researchers themselves. During my session, the moderator was incredibly enthusiastic, gave incredibly thoughtful feedback, and even asked to be updated on my work. I honestly recommend NCUR to any undergraduates who have a passion in their field, whether they plan to continue researching in graduate school or jump into the work force."

We are very proud of all Honors students who presented at NCUR this year and look forward to seeing many more in coming years!

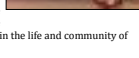
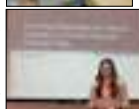
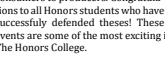
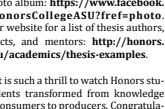
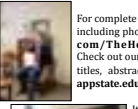


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RESEARCH

'TIS THE THESIS SEASON

We had a record number (over 70) thesis defenses and Spring 2015 graduates. Interdisciplinary thesis projects ranged from art installations, chemistry lab work, to proposals for staging political campaigns. A smattering of photos illustrating the variety from lab research to creative endeavors are shown here.



For complete coverage, see our facebook postings including photo album: <https://www.facebook.com/TheHonorsCollegeASU/?ref=photo>. Check out our website for a list of thesis authors, titles, abstracts, and mentors: <http://honors.appstate.edu/academics/thesis-examples>.

It is such a thrill to watch Honors students transformed from knowledge consumers to producers. Congratulations to all Honors students who have successfully defended theses! These events are some of the most exciting in the life and community of The Honors College.

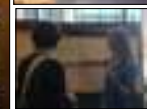
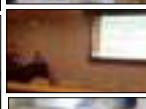
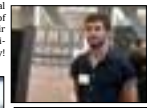


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RESEARCH

HONORS STUDENTS SHINE AT ASU'S STUDENT RESEARCH DAY

Appalachian State University held the 18th Annual Celebration of Student Research and Creative Endeavors on Thursday, April 23rd, 2015 on the 4th floor of the new Plemmons Student Union. A host of Honors students presented posters and gave oral presentations. Research drives towards the Honors thesis and paves the way for graduate work and professional success. Congratulations to all of our students who presented their work across all areas and disciplines at Student Research Day! We are most proud!



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AWARDS

LAUREN ANDERSEN AWARDED NASA'S NC SPACE GRANT



Building on her Honors contract in Spring 2015 semester with her mentor, Dr. Jessica Mitchell, Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Planning, Lauren Andersen (photograph below) applied for NASA's North Carolina Space Grant Undergraduate Research Scholarship. She was awarded the scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 for summer 2015!

The scholarship will support Lauren's continued research with Dr. Mitchell on the Environmental Remote Sensing project. This research project involves the use of a handheld field spectrometer to gather reflectance data for various soil, rock, and vegetation types at local field collection sites in the southern Appalachians. Ground references provide the precise GPS locations where the data is retrieved. The reflectance measurements will be used to build a local spectral library, which will allow for future monitoring and mapping of the landscape composition on a temporal scale by providing scientists with more powerful image analysis techniques. The local spectral library developed in this project will also contribute ecosystem spectral measurements to larger NASA projects in development. The spectral library will ultimately be used to generate new and potentially more accurate land cover maps from NASA airborne and satellite imagery. It is expected that this project will provide updated ground reference data that can be utilized for sensor calibration, target detection, image classification, map accuracy, and uncertainty estimation.

Congratulations to Lauren and Dr. Mitchell on this award! We look forward to seeing this research project come to fruition.



MERRICK MARQUIE WINS W.H. PLEMMONS MEDALLION

The W.H. Plemmons Medallion is an award created to "recognize the time, energy, skills, and commitment of students, faculty, student development educators and staff who exceed their peers in providing leadership that enriches the quality of student life and advances the education of students." On March 27th, the Board of Trustees awarded the W.H. Plemmons Medallion to Honors graduating senior, Merrick Marquie, a W. H. Plemmons Fellow and triple major in economics, marketing and management. Merrick was also a recipient of the William Holland Fellowship for business study in Asia, where he got the idea for his company, Corner Tailors. Corner Tailors is a custom made suiting company that creates made-to-measure suits at prices college students and young professionals can afford. He served as the President to the Appalachian Popular Programming Society (APPS), which plans and promotes campus entertainment. Merrick also works in the technology sector as a management consultant with Accelerence, LLC, and recently accepted a business development position with 5S Technologies out of Cary, NC.



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SERVICE

MAC SHELTON: CONNECTING HONORS WITH ROTC

Rising junior Honors student and business management major McCarthy (Mac) Shelton is also in the ROTC Appalachian program. Both of these require unique and exceptional commitment and dedication. Honors requirements are arduous. The ROTC program requirements are intense and include physical training between 3-5 days a week plus 2-3h of coursework per semester for a full four years. Mac is navigating these challenges by drawing links between the missions of each. Honors emphasizes interdisciplinary perspectives, international experience, and service. In his ROTC extracurricular activities, like the German Armed Forces (GAF) Badge, the Mountain Man Competition (MMC), and Cultural Understanding and Language Program (CULP), Mac is finding these priorities are connected.

In his experience working toward the GAF badge with his battalion, Mac reports, "ROTC Appalachian always wins everything at the GAF." This is, as he further explains, a competition of the highest physical challenges. Similarly, Honors is the highest intellectual challenge and academic success.

In the Mountain Man Competition (photo right), which Mac describes as his "favorite thing he has done with the ROTC," he states, "it is a race for a great cause, the Gold Star Foundation, which supports families of fallen soldiers. We race in support of a soldier running with a banner for the family who attends. Our ASU team won this year's April competition in Gatlinburg, TN."

Finally, Mac had the opportunity through the ROTC to go to Guyana during the summer of 2014 with the CULP program, which is a direct military-to-military exchange that sends US cadets abroad (photos right and below). There were 40 in Mac's group from App State who went to Guyana; they learned about and received training from the Guyanese defense force and Brazilian Special Forces. Mac reports an amazing experience that included: running in the jungle at night, getting bitten by bats, hitting shore targets with AK-47s from a moving boat (Mac's favorite as shown in the photos far right bottom two), surviving on what was available in the environment, and blowing up hot and dry grasslands. This is exactly the type of once-in-a-lifetime experience Honors intends for our students, yet each international experience is unique. Mac worked with Dr. Johnny Waters on an independent study project to fulfill his Honors international requirement. However, Mac reports that though he took diligent fieldnotes throughout the trip for his research, he ended up having to burn them to make a fire on a particularly wet night when all the jungle wood was wet and he had no other shelter. Survival trumped research, but not to worry. Mac still has two years to complete the research for his Honors thesis!



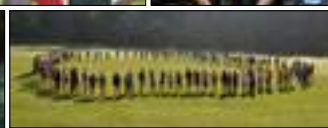
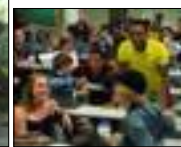
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UPCOMING

2015 FRESHMEN RETREAT

The Honors College Freshmen Retreat (photos shown from 2014) will be on August 12-13, 2015. This annual tradition begins with Move-in Day (photos left) on August 11th. Then the two-day retreat begins with the "Town as Text" adventure in Boone (photos below, second row) followed by a day at ASU's Broadstone Facility (photos below, bottom two rows). Watch for the full story on this year's retreat in the upcoming Fall newsletter!



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FALL 2015 ISSUE!**

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THE HONORS COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

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