



CUM LAUDE



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Honors College

ABOUT THE COVER

HONORS COLLEGE STUDY ABROAD PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Study Abroad experiences enable Honors scholars to explore international and personal boundaries through a variety of different programs.

While abroad, these scholars capture wonderful images, focusing on people who touch their lives, interesting cultural traditions, and the natural beauty of people and places they visit.

The Study Abroad Photography Competition gives students the opportunity to share these photographs and provide stunning glimpses into the boundaries that the students crossed and the lives of those encountered on their journey.

Winning photographs are displayed for one year in Slonaker House.

This page:
“Eye Shadow”
London, England
2016 Best in Show
Jeannie Wilkening

Cover photo:
“Studying Abroad Rocks”
Wiltshire, England
Jeannie Wilkening

Jeannie Wilkening ('16, Chemical Engineering) spent a semester abroad in London and captured her transformative experience through her amazing photos. Despite many visits to popular tourist spots, Jeannie had to make a trip to the London Eye before returning home. Her favorite part of the view from the top? While most people are in a crowd overlooking the Thames, she liked the opposite side for a more unconventional view that showed this attraction in a new way. Jeannie is now in Cambridge to get her Master's Degree as a recipient of the Churchill scholarship.

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ENGAGED SCHOLARS



Elliott Cheu
Interim Dean
University of Arizona Honors College

Welcome to the latest edition of Cum Laude. In October of 2016, I was given the opportunity to build upon the legacy that Dr. MacCorquodale created in the Honors College. We plan to use this coming year to envision an Honors College that speaks to the aspirations of our 21st century student population. I expect that the changes we hope to achieve over the next few years will elevate the UA Honors College to become a model for honors colleges nationwide. I encourage you to let us know your thoughts and concerns as we move forward during this transition period.

Over the past few years, the Honors College developed a comprehensive program of engagement for Honors students. These engagement activities allow our students to apply ideas and skills learned in the classroom to practical applications such as internships, research, and community service.

Engagement activities showcased throughout the year include:

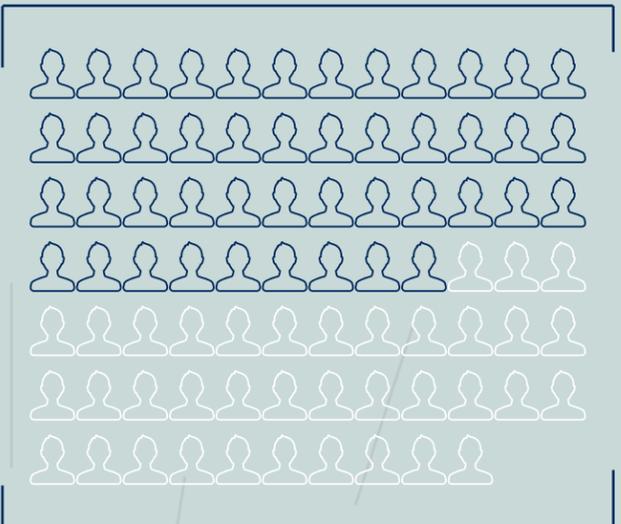
- 82 students earned the Engaged Honors Scholar designation at our spring commencement by completing an internship, a leadership opportunity, research, community service project, or study abroad within the Honors College.
- 66 freshmen presented research at the First Year Project Showcase. Best in show was awarded to Samuel Celaya for his project Re-configurable Hybrid Exploration Drone.
- 100 scholars participated in the first Honors Engagement Expo.
- Civic Engagement Teams presented their work with partner community agencies.
- Xtreme Discovery Team members demonstrated math and science games they use in middle and high school classrooms.
- Students undertook Internships ranging from the effect of how temperature affects basalt rock weathering, computer modeling of rainforest droughts, to the impact of family policies on immigrant mothers with citizen children.

These and many other activities highlight the success that our Honors students are achieving at the University of Arizona. I encourage you to learn more about the exciting programs in the Honors College, and join me and the rest of the staff in the Honors College as we embark upon a new and exciting journey.

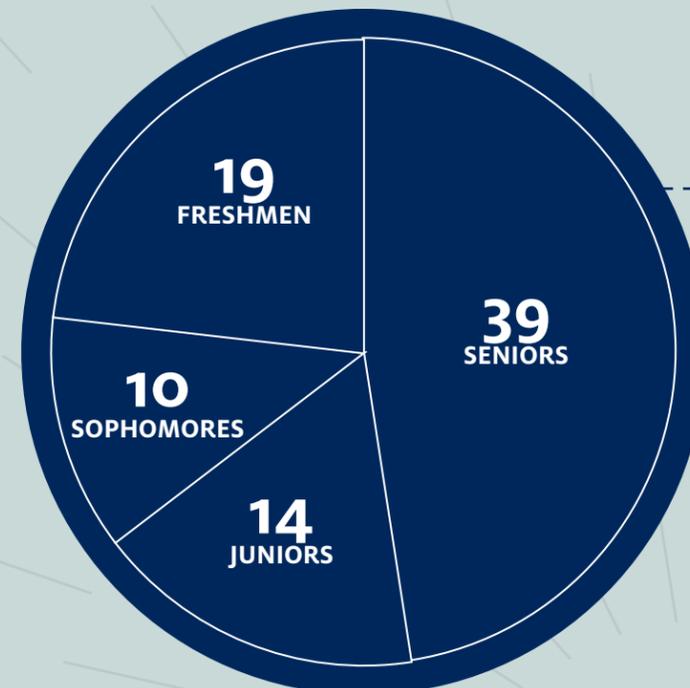
In 2016, we launched the Inaugural Honors Student Engagement Expo (HSEE). The event showcased a cross-section of Honors students who participated in a range of engagement experiences, including first year projects, senior theses, internships, civic engagement experiences, Honors Alternative Spring Break trips, Honors student club experiences, and more. Students gave media and poster presentations and spoke with their own engaged audiences. What we learned is that Honors scholars are not just very engaged, they are everywhere.

In addition, 2016 was the first time that The University of Arizona Honors College awarded graduates, who participated in qualifying Honors engagement experiences, with its Engaged Scholarship Award. Nearly 20% of Honors graduates received this distinction. And this is also the first year that The University of Arizona recognized qualifying engagement experiences on all student transcripts. More than ever, students, faculty, administration, and even employers, are looking for a more holistic, engaged academic experience. It is important to apply what is learned in the classroom outside of the classroom, to engage with community, and to develop those real-life and leadership skills before stepping into a career. Honors students have always pushed boundaries and done more than they had to. Now, we are just seeing it all come together in one room on one day. If you are in town May 3rd, 2017, join us for the next Honors Student Engagement Expo and see how Honors scholars are engaging on academic, local, and even global levels.

FIRST HONORS EXPO



82 HONORS STUDENTS
45 MAJORS



FULL CIRCLE



Allison Titcomb has been engaged with Honors since 1985 when she graduated with a degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. First she was an Honors scholar, then an alumna, and is now a professor teaching in the Honors Civic Leadership Academy course.

As a student, she took Honors courses, completed student-faculty dialogues every semester, conducted a 3-semester-long course evaluation as part of her Honors thesis, was on the Student Planning Board, and helped develop the Five Star Faculty award.

"I recall lively discussions during Student Planning Board meetings and with friends in the Honors study lounges, the process of working on my Honors thesis project, learning from faculty during 5-Star faculty award interviews, and the great friends I met in Honors classes," she says. "All of these experiences set the course for my life and career. My undergraduate experience would definitely not have been as full and I would not have gained the same level of skills and knowledge I still use today if it had not been for Honors."

After graduation, Allison stayed committed and connected to Honors as an alumna. She valued "the meaningful connections and feeling part of this thriving community of scholars."

Now an Honors professor who teaches Leadership, Advocacy and Community Building, a 300-level course that is part of the Honors Civic Leadership Academy, a four-course leadership program culminating in a certificate, Allison is inspired by



"seeing current Honors students engaged in their passionate interests and taking on these challenges with gusto to make our world a better place."

Because of Allison's experience working with United Way, she is a perfect fit to teach community-based leadership. She uses discussions and practical activities that include systems thinking, reflection, evaluative-thinking and decision making, and facilitation techniques.

"I try to make it rich with extensive opportunities for students to connect with the community of Tucson," Allison says. The course is a reflection of how engaged Allison and so many Honors scholars and alumni are with their community.

Allison is also inspired by the many ways alumni influence the Honors community. She points to how they "join the Honors College Alumni Club, mentor or offer internships for Honors students, or donate to support travel opportunities, the Civic Leadership Academy, or any of the other amazing aspects of the Honors College."

Just as there are so many new, different ways that alumni remain involved with Honors, things are different for students today, too. "There are even more and different ways for students to be involved and to learn through Honors experiences today," Allison says. "I would have loved to complete the Civic Leadership Academy and internships."

But not everything has changed. "What is still the same," she says, "is that it is up to the individual to make the choice and commitment to take on these fabulous opportunities." And when it comes to Honors scholars, they usually do.



The Margaret M. Breihl & Dennis T. Ray FIVE STAR FACULTY AWARD



Dr. Anders Peterson
Department of Spanish and Portuguese

Dr. Anders Peterson is dedicated to his students and highly motivated to help them succeed. He sees his classroom and students as a community and takes time to get to know students, learning each of their names and parts of their lives that they share with him. He uses an interactive style and is open to new ideas, and his students apply what they are learning by giving a professional speech, creating a video about the Tucson community, or visiting the Mexican Embassy. He conveys an enthusiasm for Spanish and a deep and sincere passion for education, and his students are inspired by stories he shares about his family and life experiences growing up in Ajo.

Peterson's inspiration for teaching is drawn from his own experience as an undergraduate at the University of Arizona. "Many years ago," he says, "I was a full-time undergraduate student who looked up to several outstanding professors, but now the roles have reversed and I am a professor that looks up to several of my undergraduate students. I strive to be the kind of educator that I would have respected deeply."

Peterson is also committed to the community. He has taught and directed the program for heritage learners and his outreach experiences range from working on youth conservation in the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge to translating and interpreting informational materials for Spanish-speakers.



INTERNSHIPS ABROAD

Most Honors College internships are located in Tucson, but one of the great opportunities Honors students have is doing an internship abroad.

Honors students Brian Zimmerman and Addison Kaufmann spent this past summer cultivating their professional futures and developing as global citizens by working as front-end web developers for Tech Gap Italia in Milan, Italy, where they helped build a mobile website for a product called Trust.

"I have always wanted to study abroad and of course I also wanted to visit Italy. At the same time, I wanted to use the summer to get an internship and gain experience writing code," Zimmerman says. "This internship was a great opportunity to weave those two opportunities together."

Sharon Overstreet, the Honors College Internship Coordinator, oversees a program that provides valuable internship opportunities to Honors students. Many of the opportunities are available exclusively to Honors students through corporate or organizational partners of the Honors College. These internships are tailored to meet the needs of an Honors student, and students can gain credit by participating. If students choose to do an internship elsewhere, Overstreet helps them explore those options as well.

According to Overstreet, it is more important now for students to do an internship than ever before. "Most

employers are looking for students who have done two or three internships by the time they begin applying for jobs," she says. "Whereas in the past maybe a student waited until their junior or senior year to begin even thinking about an internship, now it is important to begin the internship process in your first year or two on campus."

It is also an opportunity to help people. According to Zimmerman, Trust, the product that he and Kaufmann developed, aims to provide consumers with "everything they could possibly want to know about how their food was raised and prepared, and giving farmers a way to share that information."

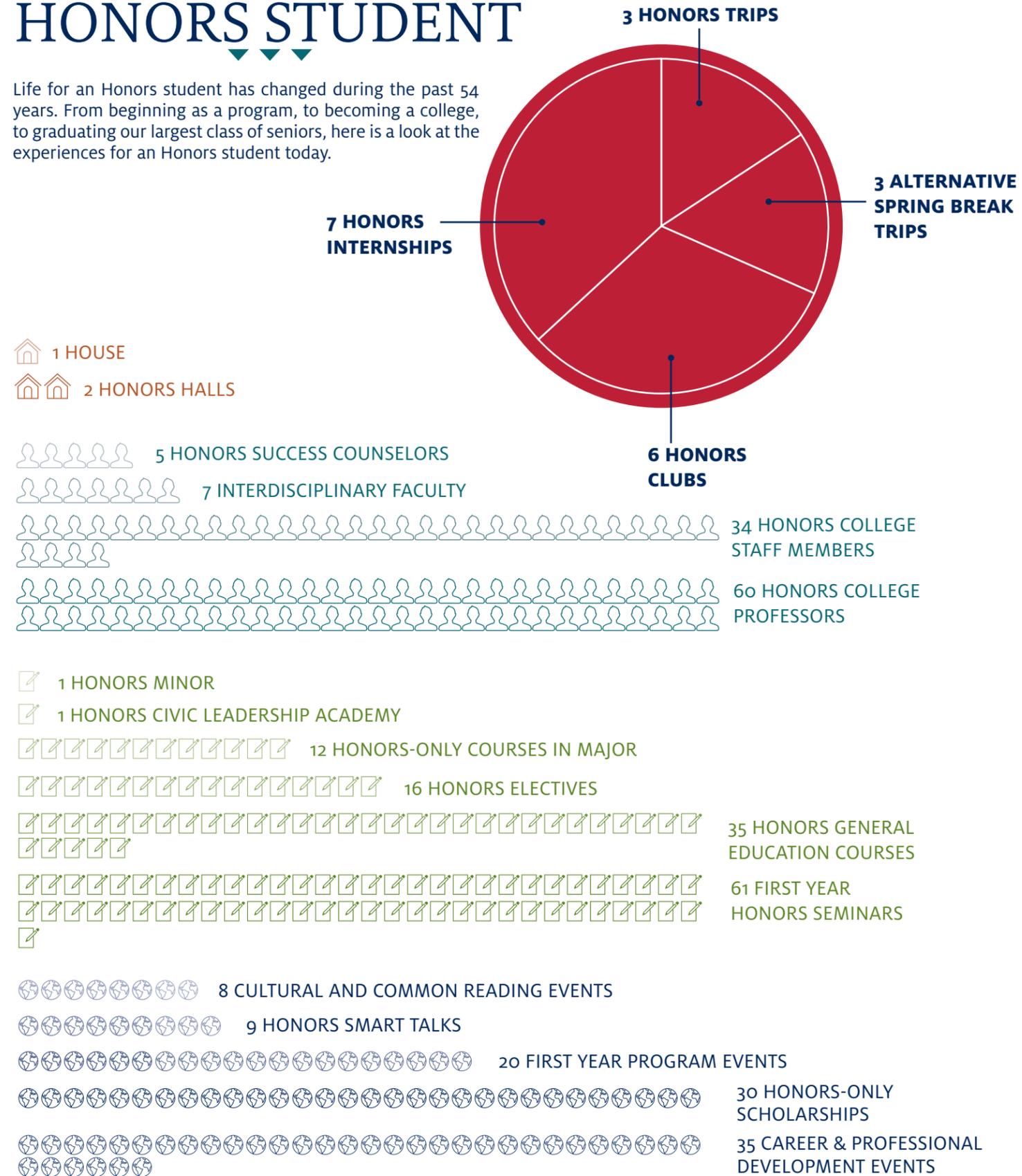
Kaufmann used the experience to learn new skills. She envisions herself working with technology in the future, even if she is uncertain which direction she wants to go in.

"I plan to go into technology, but beyond that I'm not sure which field. Web development is certainly an interesting option, but there are many different fields. I would also like to explore biotechnology applications, as I am getting a minor in biochemistry," Kaufmann says.

Both students recommend the experience to fellow Honors students, and when new students show interest, the Honors College will continue being a great resource to provide assistance and opportunities.

LIFE OF AN HONORS STUDENT

Life for an Honors student has changed during the past 54 years. From beginning as a program, to becoming a college, to graduating our largest class of seniors, here is a look at the experiences for an Honors student today.





MARISSA SAINTS & DSENYO

Marissa Saints (International Studies, '03) was first captivated by Malawi during her time as an Honors undergrad in the International Studies program.

Dr. Wayne Decker, 2016-2017 Honors College Advocate for Education Award winner and dean of the International Studies program at the time, infected Saints with a passion for Malawi that would lead her to form Dsenyo, a fair trade organization that produces fair trade goods that are handcrafted by women and artisans working to build a better life and inspire social change in their communities.

After getting her bachelor's, Saints and her husband participated in a 10-month Fulbright Scholarship in Malawi working with Decker. "(Decker's) knowledge, intrigue and passion for the country was contagious," Saints says.

Saints volunteered in schools and the community with various local and international organizations and got a close look at international development and aid projects. When she left, she was determined to return and do more.

"I left Malawi to return state-side passionate about creating jobs and not hand-outs for women in Malawi," Saints says. She began thinking about what she could do to help and realized that she could combine a few of her goals into a fair trade organization.

"I realized that my biggest goal was to find a way to merge what I've always viewed as varied and scattered interests – art/design, international development, and business. Another goal was to help Tamala Banda, a dear friend in Malawi, find a stable job to be able to provide for herself and her daughter."

Then just 25 years old, Tamala had just lost her mother to

AIDS after already losing her father to the disease. She was also a single mom of a two year old.

"I noticed that there was a gap that could be filled and that was connecting small-scale producers with the global market," Saints says. "It clicked. Why don't I hire Tamala and other women to make the handbags I had been designing and export them here for sale?"

Two years later, Dsenyo was helping women like Tamala improve their economic situation. Today, 90% of the women Dsenyo partners with can afford to send each of their children to school.

"Some have even managed to send their kids to college," Saints says. "We see improved food security, access to health care and improved social standing due not only to their increased earning power but the confidence and empowerment that comes with learning new skills and contributing to the family."

While Saints is proud of the impact Dsenyo has had on Malawian women, she believes its full impact stretches beyond Malawi and demands our attention.

"One of the biggest tools we each have to create the positive change we want to see in our world is where we choose to direct our dollars. By choosing to spend our money with companies that are transparent about their relationships and ethics with producers is one step in the right direction."

Thanks to Saints' willingness to engage with this community, Malawi, women like Tamala, conscious consumers, and even Saints herself, are in a better position – and that really is all one can ask for.

THEN AND NOW

They enrich the student experience by cultivating an inclusive community that develops leaders, promotes the wellness of the student body, and unites students under one cohesive, strong voice.

At the helm of this leadership group is the student body President who acts as Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Spokesperson for students. Responsibilities include overseeing committees, programs, services, projects, and various task forces. The student body president is involved with every legislative decision and oversees all ASUA operations.

Many honors scholars are natural leaders, so it is no surprise that we have multiple alumni who have fulfilled this top leadership role on campus.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LEADER

The Honors College encourages scholars to engage with their campus community through clubs, activities, and leadership opportunities. These experiences help develop leaders who not only influence the world after graduation but the University community during their time as a scholar. Members of Associated Students of the University of Arizona (ASUA)—U of A's student government—are a great example.

MICHAEL PROCTOR ('83)
Vice President
Office of Global Initiatives
The University of Arizona



"As a student, leadership meant listening, learning about and respecting complexity, engaging others in the solution, fearlessly admitting when you are wrong, and making decisions. The student experience was a training ground for the leadership opportunities I've had since."

BENJAMIN DRIGGS ('96)
President
Honeywell Latin America



"Self-awareness is not something you hear a lot about as being a key to a happy life but the more I experience – the more I realize its importance. True inquiry and learning demands that we are acutely aware of our own natural tendencies, weaknesses, and biases. If we get to know ourselves we will be much more effective in working with others to achieve our goals."

ANTHONY TRUJILLO ('95)
Shareholder
Gallagher & Kennedy Law Firm



"My most memorable experience about being in the Honors College is the tremendous amount of support the professionals gave me. If I had a problem or needed assistance, I could always find a resource."

MANUEL FELIX ('16)
Cryptologic Technician
US Navy Reserve



"There is nothing I like to do more than to help others, and I felt being in student government is the best way to do so—especially as president. I am putting the entire student body before myself, and I think that it is one of the most selfless things I could do. At the end of the day, nothing puts a smile on my face more than knowing I was able to help." students in any way, even if it was just one student."

F. DANIEL SICILIANO ('93)
Associate Dean,
Faculty Director, Professor
Stanford Law School



"I conducted an empirical research project and linked the results to an ongoing national policy debate related to maternal health care. That "research to policy" connection positively colored the rest of my undergraduate career (including some decisions as ASUA President!) and opened the doors to everything from the Truman Fellowship to my current academic position."

DEREK LEWIS ('95)
Chairman and Co-Founder
Castleray



"Pick a subject you are passionate about, and learn everything you can about it. Then let your observations and a solid moral compass drive a positive and constructive agenda to improve your chosen field."



STUDY ABROAD ENDOWMENT

In celebration of her dedicated service and leadership, the Honors College was proud to name its study abroad awards endowment in honor of Dean Patricia MacCorquodale. After more than 23 years in Honors, she has returned to teaching in the department of Gender and Women Studies. She will be remembered for the many ways in which she created interdisciplinary opportunities for Honors scholars and nurtured and supported these students throughout their time here at the UA.

Study abroad is an integral component of Dean MacCorquodale's legacy and encouraging students to become world citizens has always been a priority. She studied in Guatemala and Colombia, and lived in various countries across of the globe. These experiences influenced her as an educator, and gave her a clear understanding of the value of a global education.

Dean MacCorquodale created the study abroad endowment for the Honors College's 50th anniversary, raising more than \$100,000. Now, at another milestone, we seek to increase the endowment by \$150,000, in her honor, to make study abroad accessible to everyone.

Study abroad allows our Honors scholars to experience places and cultures outside their comfort zone, and gain practical skills in a relevant international context. These experiences will shape our students' futures, their interests, and career goals. Study abroad gives students a valuable perspective on life and education that broadens their critical thinking and promotes well-rounded, globally sensitive work.

Dean MacCorquodale has touched the lives of countless thousands of students. Please consider a gift in her honor to the MacCorquodale Study Abroad Endowment. Checks should be made payable to UAF/MacCorquodale Study Abroad Endowment, and mailed to UA Honors College, PO Box 210006, Tucson, AZ 85721-0006. Donations may also be made online at: www.honors.arizona.edu/give.



UA HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT AWARDS '15-'16



OUTSTANDING SENIOR (FALL '15)

REYNA ARAIBI

Reyna Araibi graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Public Management and Policy and a minor in Spanish Language. She is a native of Tucson, AZ, a writer, political activist, and founding member of the Colibrí Center for Human Rights, an award-winning national nonprofit organization based in Tucson. Reyna and her colleagues at the Colibrí Center have been featured in a number of international press, including the BBC and TIME Magazine.

Reyna completed her honors thesis on the politics of dehumanization used to deny undocumented migrants human rights on the U.S./Mexico border. Driven and empowered by her undergraduate studies and professional experience, Reyna plans to complete her law degree and practice law within the field of international human rights.

OUTSTANDING SENIOR (SPRING '16)

TRAVIS SAWYER



Travis Sawyer graduated with Honors in Optical Sciences & Engineering and a minor in Mathematics. In his years at the University, Travis excelled in his academics and research. He has contributed to three different UA labs, and also conducted optical design research at the University of Stuttgart in Germany. While in Europe, he also traveled to Holland to use optics for the analysis and authentication of priceless pieces of art, a technology he hopes to apply toward medical diagnostics. Travis also taught himself computer programming and developed his own software company, which is now operating on an international level.

Travis received the Goldwater Scholarship, has twice been awarded the Astronaut Scholarship, and most recently received the Churchill Scholarship, an award given to only 15 students across the county each year and which will allow him to complete his Master's degree in Physics at the University of Cambridge. He will return to the University of Arizona in Fall 2017 to complete his PhD in Optical Sciences, using a significant and prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship to support his doctoral studies. Travis plans to spend his career researching and developing optical technology in order to benefit the lives of others.

DEAN'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE (FALL '15)

JOEL ROSE



After receiving a GED, Joel Rose spent years performing labor-intensive work with two water companies and opened a gym and a personal training business. Personal challenges led him to attend Pima Community College (PCC), where he graduated with the highest honors and was awarded the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Scholarship to attend the University of Arizona as an Honors College student.

As an Honors student, Joel pursued a degree in Environmental and Water Resource Economics and a Pre-Law minor. He has been involved with a great amount of research, including field research in Namibia. Joel's perseverance, dedication to the field he loves, and the impact he has had on those around him are the qualities that earned him the Dean's Award of Excellence. In the future, he plans to attend Law school to further his passion and knowledge in the field of water and environmental policy and conflict resolution.



DEAN'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE (SPRING '16)

CHINA RAE NEWMAN

China Rae Newman graduated with Honors in English, and also completed a double major in Biology as well as a minor in Gender & Women's Studies. During her time at the University, China Rae participated in scientific and medical research, and recently completed a project funded by an Honors College Undergraduate Research Grant. Since her first semester, she was a member of the Music & Medicine Club and an Honors College Ambassador. She also works at Clinica Amistad, a free clinic that provides medical care to Tucson's uninsured population, and in the Banner University Medical Center as the Emergency Department Volunteer Coordinator. She has been a member of the Blue Chip Leadership Program since her first year at UA. China Rae will continue her work at Clinica Amistad on a full-time basis in the upcoming year, before pursuing medical school admission for Fall 2017.



DEAN'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE (SPRING '16)

JOSHUA PAREE

Joshua Parea graduated with Honors in Neuroscience & Cognitive Science and minors in Biology and Spanish. Joshua was co-President of the Honors College Ambassadors, a club he had been actively involved with since his freshman year. He also worked as a Resident Assistant in Árbol de la Vida for two years. Joshua also excelled in his academic pursuits. He studied the underlying molecular mechanisms of ALS in the Zarnescu Lab, and previously worked in the Restifo Lab through the Department of Neurology. He also served as a preceptor for three semesters, teaching and mentoring students in Chemistry and Molecular & Cellular Biology. Joshua will spend the upcoming year working as a medical scribe, and will then enter medical school in order to pursue a career in pediatric emergency care.

COMMENCEMENT AWARDS

ROBERT LOGAN NUGENT AWARD

DANA KRALICEK

ROBERT LOGAN NUGENT AWARD

FABIO MIRE

MERRILL P. FREEMAN MEDAL

SHIVANI MISRA

ROBIE GOLD MEDAL AWARD

TRAVIS SAWYER

PROVOST AWARD

CHRIS JABCZINSKI

UA HONORS COLLEGE ALUMNI AWARDS '15-'16

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALUMNA AWARD

COURTNEY COOPER ('04)



Courtney Cooper is a career public servant who currently serves on the White House National Security Council staff as Director for Afghanistan, where she works to develop, implement, and advance U.S. foreign policy in South Asia, as well as support and brief our nation's senior-most leaders including the President, Vice President, and National Security Advisor. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Honors College with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Studies and she later earned a Master's degree in International Affairs from George Washington University. Over the last ten years, she has worked to advance U.S. interests in various capacities within the government on international trade, development, and national security issues. Driven by her interest in global issues, Courtney has traveled to more than 60 countries in professional, academic, and personal capacities.

Isabel Sepulveda, her nominator, says, "Courtney has demonstrated courage by supporting U.S. efforts in complex environments, and has consistently proven herself willing to take risks to better serve those around her. Her accomplishments are undoubtedly only a preview of her future achievements."

We bestow this award upon alumni whose meritorious service to their community demonstrates a commitment to promoting social responsibility throughout their lives. This award reflects Courtney's professional and social achievements and contributions on a national and global level.

YOUNG ALUMNA AWARD

HEATHER HISCOX ('99)



Heather Hiscox is a social entrepreneur passionate about creating communities focused on assets, abilities and abundance, not scarcity and powerlessness. Heather graduated from the Honors College with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology with an emphasis on African Studies and social inequality. She earned a Master's in Public Health in Health Education and Behavioral Sciences with an emphasis on health disparities.

Heather is the co-director and co-founder of the Nonprofit and Social Impact Core of Moves the Needle, a company that teaches how to use lean innovation to create social change. She is also the creator of Wish List Hero.org, a website that unites nonprofit needs and the community, as well as owner of Seven Degrees Consulting which provides nonprofit fundraising and business development counsel. She is the co-founder of Start-up for All, which delivers entrepreneurship education to women, older adults, and people of color. Heather also publishes the greatest wishes of nonprofits each week in the

Arizona Daily Star and co-founded Women of Purpose, a Tucson-based Lean In Circle for female nonprofit professionals and entrepreneurs.

Heather has received numerous awards for her leadership and commitment to the community and was recognized as a 2015 TEDx Starr Pass Women Local Leader, was the Greater Tucson Leadership, Class of 2014 Ronald L. Kurth Awardee, and, in 2013, was recognized as a 40 Under 40 and Inside Tucson Business Up and Comer.

SPIRIT OF INQUIRY ALUMNUS AWARD

DR. ZEB HOGAN ('96)



Dr. Zeb Hogan graduated with a B.S. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. He was a Flinn scholar, a participant in the Undergraduate Biology Research Program, and received a Fulbright scholarship to investigate the impact of 12 proposed dams on the Mekong River's migratory fish species. Zeb earned a Ph.D. in Ecology at the University of California, Davis, completed a post-doc at the University of Wisconsin. Today, he teaches at the University of Nevada-Reno.

Zeb is an aquatic ecologist passionate about research, science, and exploration that aids endangered species and the livelihood of people who share these habitats. He has had a decades-long research focus on migratory fish ecology, multi-species fisheries management, the status and conservation of giant freshwater fish, endangered species issues, and conservation genetics.

His research has been published in Nature, Science, Conservation Biology and the Environmental Biology of Fishes, as well as popular publications including Time Magazine and National Geographic Magazine. He has traveled from Mongolia to the Pacific Northwest to find, study, and protect the world's largest freshwater fish. Partnering with National Geographic, Zeb documents his travels on the National Geographic Television show "Monster Fish."

Allison Titcomb, his nominator, says, "Zeb Hogan is inspired by his passion for discovery and learning. He is a person who loves research, science, and exploration. His motivation for his projects is to be able to combine the three things he loves and convey that excitement to others in order to motivate them to take action."

ALUMNA OF THE YEAR AWARD

HEATHER LENKIN ('76, '79)



Heather Lenkin received a Bachelor of Science in Interior Design in 1976, and a Bachelor of Architecture with Honors in 1979. She furthered her education and gained international experience through studies at the Grand Lycée d'Antibes, France, and at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Heather is a leader in the landscape, interior, and architectural design fields, and her designs have garnered numerous awards and international recognition. She is the first two-time recipient of Garden Design magazine's "Golden Trowel" award that recognizes America's Best Gardens. Her own garden, 'Lagunita Heaven,' was selected as "One of the Top Ten Gardens in the United States" by Great Gardens magazine and as "One of the Ten Most Romantic Gardens in the United States" by Cottage Living magazine. Her life's work was honored with a Lifetime Achievement award by the Pasadena Museum of History, and Tom Carruth of Weeks Roses created and named a rose for Heather in 2006.

Heather's love of history is evident in her work with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Institute for Classical Architecture, and The World Monuments Fund for which Heather is a member of the Board of Trustees. Heather and fellow architectural experts are currently working on a complete conservation program for the ceiling, stucco, and decorative wall finishes in the Carracci gallery at the Palazzo Farnese in Rome, Italy. Once the project is completed, the gallery will become accessible to the public more regularly, following years of restricted access to this cultural treasure.

Heather has truly bestowed honor on the UA Honors College. She embodies the mission of the college through her courage, sense of responsibility to serve others, constant striving to achieve at the highest levels, and commitment to lifelong learning and intellectual engagement.

RESEARCH IS WHAT MAKES US GREAT

Spirit of Inquiry Research Program – Dr. Karna Walter

Think about what makes the University of Arizona great. Champion athletics, a beautiful campus, and world-class research. As a tier-1 research institution, research is a strength and a priority for the University and the Honors College.

If you were engaged in research as an undergraduate Honors student, you had the chance to work closely with faculty who gave you insights about the value and importance of research, as well as how to do it right. The skills and confidence you gained as well as the knowledge you developed were likely important to you, and your contributions offered something new to our collective understanding of the world.

There were – and are – ample opportunities for Honors scholars to dig deeper into research across the swath of available disciplines and interest areas. Some scholars delve into research in a particular major or area of interest. Others look for intersections between disciplines. Regardless of the focus, Honors scholars bring intellectual ability, interdisciplinary insights, and genuine curiosity when conducting research.

For years, UA scholars participated in our Undergraduate Research Grants (UGRG) program. This program ended in 2016, which presented an opportunity for the Honors College to develop something new that would encourage Honors scholars with varying interests to take on a research project.

The Honors College developed the Spirit of Inquiry Research Program (SIRP), a program enabling Honors scholars across all disciplines to take on substantial research. Spirit of Inquiry participants, selected by an interdisciplinary set of faculty, Honors staff, and Honors scholars, receive up to \$1500 in support.

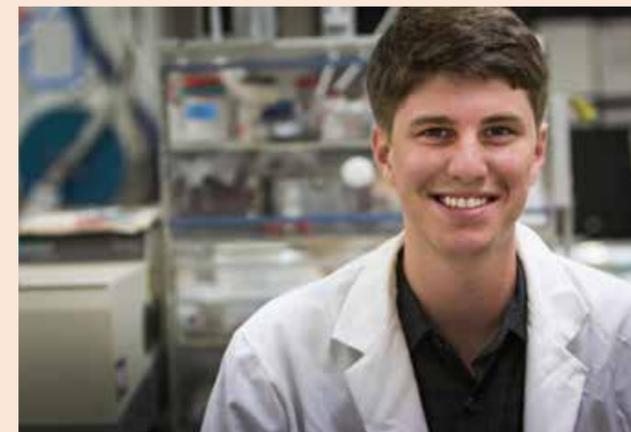
Inaugural SIRP participants are busily completing their research now, undertaking a wide array of projects with titles such as:

- The Effects of Circulatory Inflammation of Exploration and Decision Making
- Medicinal Plants in Antiquity
- The Re-configurable Hybrid Exploration Drone
- The Socioeconomic Consequences of a Natural Disaster in Chile

We are excited about this program as an opportunity for Honors scholars to deepen engagement with research. SIRP carries on the legacy established through the Undergraduate Research Grant program, offering top scholars the change to tap one of the key strengths of our university.

You have the opportunity to learn more about their research when they present the results in the spring of 2017 as part of the Honors Student Engagement Expo.

HONORS INTRODUCES A NEW MEDICAL MINOR



The Honors College has just welcomed its first cohort of students into the Health and Human Values Minor. Each year, twenty students will be selected to join this unique and customized educational opportunity, geared toward undergraduates who are majoring in the sciences and planning a career in the health professions.

The minor, was created in response to the changing Medical School Admissions Test, and a growing consensus among medical school faculty that students require greater preparation in the humanities and the social sciences. Designed collaboratively by scientists, humanists, and social scientists, the new minor is expected to boost student scores on the MCAT and increase admissions to medical school. All honors students are welcome, but most students have a major in the sciences or in public health.

The key concepts for the Health and Human Values minor are: applied learning, problem-solving skills, and thinking across disciplines. The introductory course is co-taught by a literature professor and an anthropologist. They teach in a collaborative classroom, where project and problem-based learning is the design. The minor is completed with a distinctive capstone course in which students first identify a problem in the “real world” of health care, are trained in innovation practices in health care, consult with outside experts, and work in small teams to design a solution. Every student does an internship in the community. They may participate in studies of health practices in a border clinic (to give one example), or work at an institute for Traditional Chinese Medicine. Elective courses in the minor are various, including Medical Anthropology, Science and Science Fiction, and Evidence-based medicine, to name a few.

“I feel as if I know a new way of thinking!” one student said, while another remarked, “This is definitely going to help me as a doctor. It has already changed the way I think about medicine.”

There are few programs around the country which match the flexibility and quality of ours, and only one other honors college has a medical minor (Medicine, Literature and Culture at UNC Chapel Hill). But there is no other program in the country which emphasizes interdisciplinary work to the extent that we do, or that includes the unique capstone, internship, and innovative introductory course.

BECAUSE OF YOU

You have seen how engagement opportunities enhance the Honors experience. Internships, research, and study abroad take scholars beyond the classroom to complete a holistic university experience. Without them, our scholars lack a critical part of the process that makes them and our alumni unique.

These engagement opportunities don't simply happen. Faculty and staff design them, students bring the energy and smarts to complete them, and, in the end, someone has to fund them. In many cases, that's you. Our alumni. Our friends.

If you are among those who have given, thank you, from all of us at the Honors College, and from our fully engaged students. If you want to make a gift to keep our scholars engaged, please consider one of the following:

Dean's Fund for Excellence

Honors College Internship Fund

Honors College Research Fund

MacCorquodale Study Abroad Endowment

MAKE AN IMPACT

The Honors College Alumni Club is looking for members. Joining the club is a great way to:

Meet and network with fellow alumni

Plan engagement opportunities in Tucson and Phoenix

Organize service and professional development opportunities

The club meetings locally in Tucson, but we encourage alumni who live afar to join, too. We are always looking for ambassadors who can help us increase the Honors presence in other cities.

For more information contact Lisa Powers Fahey at powersla@email.arizona.edu or 520.621.8278

HONORS COLLEGE 2017 EVENTS:

First Year Project Showcase- April 18

Honors Expo- May 3

Spring Commencement- May 11

SIGNATURE EVENT IN ITS 6TH YEAR!

The Alumni Author Reception continues to be a wonderful event for Honors alumni and students to talk about books over wine and cheese. Last year's visiting alumni authors Thomas Cobb, Alaina Levine, Adam Rex, and Jacqueline Soule provided us with wonderful conversations and updates on their current works. We even witnessed a pinky promise between Thomas Cobb and one of our Honors students.

Save the Date for next year:

March 9, 2017

4:00pm-6:00pm

Slonaker House Living Room

If you are an alumni author and will be in town for next year's festival please contact us.

Contact Lisa at powersla@email.arizona.edu

THANK YOU

Your support of Honors College scholars is a powerful investment in our shared future.

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