

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

2004-2005 Academic Year

PURPOSE: The Honors Program provides students with an enhanced track for their lower- and upper-division course requirements. Students and faculty work together in intensive seminars, experimental classes, interdisciplinary courses, writing projects, and special activities. Members of the program earn Honors credit on their transcripts and pursue one of three different Honors degrees.

PERSONNEL: Christie Fox, Ph.D., Director; Danene Dustin, Administrative Assistant; Katherine Shakespeare, Student Advisor; Lisa Ferrara, Student Advisor

HONORS FELLOWS 2004-2005:

Guy Schauerhamer	Honors 1300
Christine Merrill	Honors 1320
Aubrey Eldredge	Honors 1330
Brooke Christensen	Honors 1340
Joel Gillespie	Honors 1350
Amanda Haycock	Honors 1360
Cameron Salony	Honors 1360
Talina Christensen	Honors 2000
Lisa Ferrara	Honors 2000
Julia Squires	Honors 2000

HONORS FELLOWS 2005-2006:

McKenzie Anderson	Honors 1300
James Young	Honors 1320
Brad Mumford	Honors 1330
Brianne Bartlett	Honors 1340
Stephanie Ashby	Honors 1350
Kim Call	Honors 1360
Mannie Marinello	Honors 2000
Erin Turner	Honors 2000
Whittney Olsen	Honors 2000
Kaitlin Neville	Math 1220 (H)

OVERVIEW:

The Honors Program at Utah State was founded in 1964, and has evolved into a growing, thriving Program that helps high ability students—especially first-years—achieve success.

Perhaps the most dramatic change this year was the resignation of David Lancy from the position of Honors Director. After a long tenure as Director, David stepped down to return to a more robust teaching and research schedule. We thank him for his service and tireless dedication to Honors.

Over the summer, the Provost's office conducted an on-campus search for a new Director, and Christie Fox was chosen to become the new Director. This is now a 100% assignment.

The second major transformation is the relocation of Honors. After a four-year search, Honors moved to its new location in Old Main the week of November 7, 2005. An Open House will be held November 17, from 11am-1pm. All faculty and staff are invited.

The Honors Program continues to be attractive to high-ability students. All Presidential scholars are now automatically enrolled in Honors 2000, Scholars Forum, the online orientation to Honors and undergraduate research designed and managed by the Honors Program and taught by Vice Provost Kinkead. Fall 2005 marks the 4th iteration of that course and we've seen the enrollment remain steady despite the overall university enrollment shortfalls (F 03=270; F 04=330; F05=332).

We renamed the fall experience for incoming first-year students A Taste of Honors. A Taste of Honors includes Honors 2000, Scholars Forum; an Honors breadth, Math, or Econ 1500H; and Honors Connections. We continue to get positive feedback about the Honors version of Connections, and in Fall 2004, we offered 6 designated Honors Connections sections, including a section just for Business majors and one just for undeclared students. In addition, we offered 5 "Honors Hybrid" sections that were organized by major (Science and Engineering) and in which Honors and non-Honors students were mixed. Honors students then had an option to complete a "contract" to earn Honors credit. Feedback from this experiment was not positive, and we do not expect to offer "Hybrid" sections next year. We do, however, anticipate offering 10-15 sections of Honors Connections.

The first semester is called A Taste of Honors because students formally apply to the Honors Program in October of their first semester. We started requiring applications in Fall 2004, and found that it created a better match between Honors and the students who are continuing. Approximately 65% of the students who are automatically enrolled in Scholars Forum apply to and are accepted into the Honors Program. We find that students who participate in Honors Connections are far more likely to apply to and be accepted in the Honors Program: 83% from Fall 2004. We have also found that A Taste of Honors vastly increases the likelihood that a student will return for their second year, regardless of whether or not they continue with Honors, thus helping the University meet larger retention goals: 93% of Fall 2004 students in HONR 2000 registered for Fall 2005 or filed a leave of absence. The University-wide first-year retention rate was 73%.

We continue to revise and improve HONR 2100, Honors Inquiry, the course created to create a bridge between first-year Honors courses and Departmental Honors. In Spring 2005, we offered 9 sections, up from 6 in SP04. The one credit class met weekly and focused on integrating students into their major; preparing for Departmental Honors; identifying a research mentor and line of research; and pre-planning for grad school. In short, the class is designed to help students construct a road map for the rest of their travel on the "Honors Pathway" to grad school.

Another new initiative for first-year Honors students is the Scholars Freshmen Interest Group or FIG. The Honors Program sponsors this FIG, and acts in an advisory role to the peer mentors. Housed in the Towers and providing a home for 26 students, the Scholars FIG is part of a national move towards theme housing as a way to engage first year students. Students dine together once a

week and participate in activities that help them succeed and, when necessary, blow off steam. The first year of the FIG has been so successful that Honors and Housing are now talking about an Honors floor for upper-division students.

In December, Kay Gamble left Honors to work for International Student Services. Kay dedicated many years to managing the Honors office and providing “motherly” advice to Honors students and we thank her for her service. With Kay’s resignation and the recent reorganization of the office, the position of Assistant II was upgraded to Assistant IV. Honors was extremely fortunate to hire Danene Dustin, recently in Conference Services. Danene brings strong university experience to the position. She has been very active in registration, advising, and graduation, as well as managing the daily operations of the office.

Katherine Shakespeare continues in her position of Student Advisor and also serves as supervisor of the HONR 2000 online course. This year, she took an active role in selecting and training the new Honors Fellows. Katherine also revamped the Honors website this summer, making it much easier to navigate, as more and more information is distributed via the website.

Katherine’s compatriot is Lisa Ferrara, a senior English major who also “graduated” from Honors Fellow to Student Advisor. Lisa completed an internship in technical writing in the Honors office last spring, and has been essential in the overhaul of Honors forms. She also helped implement the senior exit survey, which will help Honors collect longitudinal data about our graduates.

Although there were no major curricular changes in Departmental Honors, Honors in Art History was added and Honors Students in Business now have the opportunity to do an internship for Honors credit. In response to an increased number of Honors students studying abroad, Honors finalized a plan to allow students to receive Honors credit while participating in study abroad or National Student Exchange.

A new class in Spring 2005, BIOL 4750H Writing in the Sciences, was a successful trial and resulted in an URCO Grant, a Sigma Xi grant, an Eccles Undergraduate Fellowship, a Jack Kent Cooke Fellowship application, and an article in The Statesman. This class will be repeated in Spring 2006, and should have its own course number by Spring 2007.

The challenges facing Honors arise much from our success. With more than 650 students actively participating at the beginning of Fall 2005, Honors has more students than our limited staff can comfortably accommodate. We’ve added classes in the fall, including ECON 1500H, an additional section of HONR 1330; an Honors option for FCHD 1500; and a section of Honors Hiking. We foresee changes in our personnel structure to accommodate our growth and continue to rely on assistance from the Provost’s Office to offer a full complement of classes.

To conclude, Honors partners with all departments on campus in the recruitment, retention and optimization of their best and brightest majors and works directly with the Office of Admissions to help recruit high-ability students. The Program relies on the political support of the campus at large to insure that we have adequate resources to continue to serve the university.

HIGHLIGHTS: 29 Honors students graduated with Honors degrees; 192 filed Department Honors Plans of Study.

Matthew Wright received the Helen B. Cannon Scholarship Award for \$1000. Four Honorable Mentions each received \$200 awards: Brooke Christensen Sorenson, Lisa Ferrara, Guy Schauerhamer, and Tyce Kearn

Honors students received the following recognition:

Sydney Chamberlin Chris Robinson	Awarded scholarship from Physics Department and Civil Air Patrol Internship at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico
Talina Christensen Becky Nudd	Internship at the Epley Institute of Cancer Research in Omaha, NE Founded an interfaith service group comprised of students and non-students; won 2005 Diversity Award
Katherine Shakespeare	Presented at the International Conference for the First-Year Experience in Southampton, England.
Kathryn DuHadway Benjamin Minson & Heather Hunsaker Benjamin Minson	Awarded Eccles Undergraduate Fellowship in the amount of \$7500 Presented papers at the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference at Utah Valley State College Outstanding Student in Professional and Technical Writing Department.
Scott Davis	Awarded an URCO grant to research Greek historians of the fifth century B.C. and took part in the summer study abroad program in Annecy, France for two months.
Grayson Weeks	Spent summer 2005 in Washington D.C. as an intern at the Center for Civic Education
Derek Kent	Represented Utah in the Future Business Leaders of America nationals in Florida
Rebecca Mitchell	Received an Eccles Undergraduate Research Grant

Honors Faculty Awards

Dr. Bonnie Glass-Coffin Honors thesis advisor named as the 2004 Utah State University Carnegie Professor of the Year.

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I. CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, 2004-2005

A. Students in the Honors Program

Entering 1 st -years	Fall 2005	350
	Fall 2004	354
	Fall 2003	271
	Fall 2002	110
	Fall 2001	111
	Fall 2000	131
	Fall 1999	143

Students in Honors Courses	Fall Classes	Fall Contracts	Spring Classes	Spring Contracts
2004-2005	544	143	361	172
2003-2004	372	83	302	93
2002-2003	216	64	174	49
2001-2002	177	62	167	89
2000-2001	175	93	137	65
1999-2000	63	63	202	92
Department Honors Plans	Total	New		
2004-2005	439	192		
2003-2004	209	99		
2002-2003	86	58		
2001-2002	91	64		
2000-2001	117	51		

B. Honors Graduates

Number of students who received Honors degrees in 2004-2005: 29

The names of 2004-2005 Honors degree recipients and the titles of their senior Honors theses/projects appear in Appendix A.

C. Honors Courses

Number of compensated course offerings in 2004-2005: 26 (up from 21 last year)

Note on compensation: The Honors Program compensates courses listed with the HONR prefix, plus ENGL 2010H, and three Math courses per year: Math 1220H, Math 2250H, Math 2210H. In the 1996-1997 academic year, the program began an effort to also compensate faculty for working with Honors students in upper-division course work and on their theses/projects.

A list of 2004-2005 Honors courses and enrollment statistics appear in the Appendix B of this report.

D. Honors Degrees Offered

Students work towards one of three Honors degrees:

University Honors: 27 total Honors credits, comprising lower-division Honors credits from the program's approved course list plus completion of an individually designed upper-division plan (including a senior thesis/project).

Honors in University Studies with Department Honors: 27 total Honors credits, comprising lower-division Honors credits from the program's approved course list plus completion of an approved upper-division Department Honors Plan (including a senior thesis/project).

Department Honors: 15 total Honors credits in an approved upper-division Department Honors Plan (including a senior thesis/project).

E. Faculty Participating in Honors

USU faculty participate in the Honors Program in a number of ways:

- teaching compensated lower-division Honors classes

- working with upper-division Honors students in upper-division classes on a contract basis
- serving on the Honors Advisory Board (Appendix)
- serving as Department Honors Advisors – guiding upper-division students through their Department Honors Plans (see list - Appendix)
- advising students in their Senior Honors Projects/Theses
- serving on Rhodes, Goldwater, and Truman campus committees and advising students in the completion of their applications

Appendix C lists faculty teaching Honors courses; serving as thesis/project advisors; working with Honors students on a contract basis; serving on the Honors Advisory Board; and Department Honors Advisors.

II. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, 2004-2005

A. Fellowships, Scholarships, and Research Programs National and International Scholarship Programs:

The Honors Program serves as an information and processing center for national scholarship programs: Rhodes Scholarships, British Marshall Scholarships, Harry S. Truman, Morris K. Udall, and Barry Goldwater Scholarships. Starting in Fall 2005, the Fulbright Graduate Fellowships are administered through the office of the Vice Provost for International Programs.

We invite faculty to nominate exceptional students for these awards or to encourage qualified students to apply. Our office provides materials outlining each award. In addition, our files contain the application forms students will need for the various programs. The Truman and Goldwater programs provide awards for undergraduates nominated in their sophomore or junior years. Other programs are designed for students proceeding into graduate school.

In 2004-2005, we had seven applicants for the Barry Goldwater Scholarship, which Honors narrowed down to four, matching last year's record. Unfortunately, none of the applications were successful. Applicants included: Tina Andrus, Glen de Guzman, Andrew (Joseph) Spencer, and Thayne Batty.

We had two applicants for the Morris K. Udall Scholarship, Josh Hirschi and Lafe Conner. Josh Hirschi was awarded an Honorable Mention, the University's first.

Two students were nominated for Truman Scholarships: Steve Stoddard and Tyler Buswell.

The following students were nominated by Utah State for The Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship: Marcie Young and Brian Thomas.

In 2004-2005, we had no applicants for the Marshall Fellowship or the Rhodes Fellowship.

Honors Program Scholarships

Through generous donations, Honors established a new scholarship in 2004, named in honor of Helen Cannon and given to the student with the most promising Honors thesis proposal. Matthew Wright was the second Cannon Award winner. Matthew will receive the \$1000 stipend in two installments, \$500 at the beginning of the Fall semester and \$500 at graduation. He was honored at a luncheon with the Cannon family on April 28, 2005. His Cannon Award winning thesis proposal outlines a project that will “examine how Tolkien’s major works, *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*, are translated and adapted into contemporary Chinese and Taiwanese literature, how that adapted literature in turn influences the popular culture climate of these countries, and what a global pop culture means in the context of modernity.”

Four additional students received an Honorable Mention and awards of \$200 each: Brooke Christensen Sorenson, Lisa Ferrara, Tyce Kearl, and Guy Schauerhamer.

B. Last Lecture

Professor of Geology, Jim Evans, was selected by an Honors student committee this year to be the 30th annual lecturer. His topic was “Oil, Milk, and Water in a Land of Plenty (of people).” Professor Evans spoke to a crowded room in the TSC Ballroom on April 14, 2005.

V. APPENDICES

Appendix A.

2004-2005 Recipients of Honors Degrees and Titles of Honors Senior Projects

College of Agriculture

Jonathan Atkin

The Adverse Health Effects of Trans Fatty Acids and Implications for Public Policy

Erin Dearing

Investigation of the Toxic Affect of Manganeseon Ruminant Microbial Digestion and Growth

Brittany Lewis

The Macrobiotic Diet May have benefits in cancer prevention

Rachel Naegle

Cardiovascular Medical Nutrition Therapy Looking at the Dash Trials

Ashley Nielson

Healthcare Resources for Older Adults in a Medium Sized Community

Hilary Spooner
Bariatric Surgery for Obese Adolescents

Heather Wollschleger
The Composition and Comparison of Essential Oils and Their Nutritional Benefits to Enhance and Decrease Risk for Chronic Disease

Saori Endo
Community United Methodist Church: United Methodist Regional Ministry Campus Master Plan

College of Science

Stephanie Chambers
Cardiac Protein RGS2: Structural & Functional Determinants

Sarah Moody
Mathematical Functions: An Interactive eModule

Benson Morrill
Historical Biogeography of Lowland Species of Toads Across the Trans-Mexican Neovolcanic Belt and the Isthmus of Tehuantepec

Brian Thomas
Modulation of L-Type (CAV1.3) Calcium Channels

College of HASS

Jason Betts
United Methodist Church Campus Plan

Greg Boudrero
Martyr's Square & the Grand Axis of Beirut

Paul Drake
Site Context and History of the Orson B. Adams Homestead and Surrounding Area for the Historic American Landscapes Survey

Saori Endo
Identification of Key Genes Required for Abiotic Stress Response

Mark Goble
Benefits of Greenroofs

Jason Harr
Creating Identity within a Residential Community Using Open Space

Nicholas Gordon
The Evolution of US Foreign Policy Towards Cuba

Benjamin Minson
Foundation Stones of Prydian: A Web-Based Bridge Between Welsh Mythology and Lloyd Alexandar's Prydian Chronicles

Kaylen Nelson Nichols
Daybreak Development: The First of its Kind in Utah

Rebecca Nudd
The Evolution of Congress: A Citizen's Ability to Influence Politics Today

Anita Sant
More Than Meets the Ear: The Culture Behind the Music

Ladd Schiess
Analysis of Significance & Integrity: Orson B. Adams Farmstead, Historic American Landscape Survey

Kyle Sessions
David Hume on Miracles

Rachel Lyn Johnson Turk
A Study of social Carrying Capacity in Motorized Recreation Settings

Mandie Zollinger
Orson B. Adams Farmstead-Existing Conditions Survey

College of Business

Rustin Diehl
Changes Between the Intertemporal Relation Between the U.S. and Japanese Stock Markets

Genie Hanson
Characteristics of Firms that Commit Fraud

Mark Brough
Business Valuation of Pass Through Entities

College of Education and Human Services

Johnathan Nelson

The Benefits of Optimism in a Student-Instructor Relationship

Appendix B. 2004-2005 Honors Courses

With Honors sponsorship, 26 courses were offered. These were as follows:

HONR 1300 US Institutions	Denise Conover	F 04
HONR 1320 Civ: Humanities	David Lancy	F 04
HONR 1330 Civ: Creative Arts	Tom Peterson	F 04
HONR 1340 Social Systems and Issues	Sarah Gordon	F 04
HONR 1350 Integrated Life Science	Jeff Motychak	F 04
HONR 1360 Integrated Physical Science	Jim Evans	F 04
HONR 2000 Scholars Forum	Joyce Kinhead	F 04
HONR 2200 Honors Enrichment	Mary Heers	F 04
HONR 3020 DHA Depth Humanities	Brian McCuskey	F 04
MATH 1220H Calculus II	Justin Heavilin	F 04
MATH 2250H Linear Equations	Jim Powell	F 04
ENGL 2010H Intermediate Writing	Mary Heers/Nicole Eyre	SP05
MATH 2210H, Multivariable Calculus	Justin Heavilin	SP05
HONR 2100 Honors Inquiry		
Skousen, Lancy, Jones, Berreau, Straquadine, Dewald, Schreuders, Fox		SP05
HONR 2200 Honors Enrichment	Mary Heers	SP05
HONR 3010 DSC Life/Physical Science	David Liddell	SP05
HONR 3030 DSS Social Science	Peter McNamara	SP05
BIOL 4750 Writing in the Sciences	Jennifer Bowman	SP05

Enrollment Statistics

Fall 2004	Enrollment	Spring 2005	Enrollment
HONR 2000	271		
HONR 1300	52	HONR 2100	210
HONR 1320	46	HONR 2200	47
HONR 1330	74	HONR 3010	23
HONR 1340	23	HONR 3030	21
HONR 1350	43		
HONR 1360	34		
ENGL 2010	17	ENGL 2010	30

MATH 1220	27	MATH 2210	15
MATH 2250	25	BIOL 4750H	10

Appendix C. Faculty Involvement in Honors

Faculty Teaching Honors Courses, Working with Students on a Contract Basis and Serving as Thesis/Project Advisor

Brett Adams	Christie Fox	Jeff Motychak
Stan Allen	Ed Glatefeller	Amy Odum
Janet Anderson	Sarah Gordon	Ross Peterson
Frank Ascione	Cathy Grossel	Tom Peterson
Scott Bates	Jessica Guideri	Gregory Podgorski
David Bell	David Hailey	Paul Schreuders
Lisa Berreau	Justin Heavilin	Noreen Schvaneveldt
Basudeb Biswas	Mary Heers	Susan Shapiro
Dale Blahna	Stacey Hills	Frank Shuman
Lori Brandt	Haiyan Hu	Philip Silva
Jennifer Bowman	Dwight Israelsen	Cliff Skousen
Denise Conover	Phebe Jensen	Larry Smith
Randy Cook	Jinman Jo	Michael Sowder
Don Cooley	Michael Johnson	Roberta Stearman
Kim Corbin-Lewis	Norm Jones	Alexandra Stillman
Mark Damen	Joyce Kinkead	Gary Straquadine
Darryl Dewald	David Lancy	Jon Takemoto
Marti Dever	Caroline Lavoie	Leslie Timmons
Cindy Dewey	David Liddell	Michael Timmons
Melanie Domenech	Mike Lyons	Tamara Vitale
Rodriguez	John MacLaughlin	Paul Wheeler
Scott Ensign	Brian McCuskey	Randall Wiedmeier
Corey Evans	Peter McNamara	Rolayne Wilson
Jim Evans	Susan Mannon	Kamren Winn
Nikole Eyre	Sonia Manuel-Dupont	Scott Wyatt

2004-2005 Honors Advisory Board

Larry Rupp	College of Agriculture
Clifford Skousen	College of Business
Sylvia Read	College of Education
Wynn Walker	College of Engineering
Nicholas Morrison	College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
Susan Mannon	College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
Gene Schupp	College of Natural Resources
J.R. Dennison	Faculty Senate
Jim Evans	College of Science
Joyce Kinhead	Provost's Office
Christie Fox	Honors Program
Danene Dustin	Honors Program
Katherine Shakespeare	Honors student

2004-2005 Department Honors Advisors

College of Agriculture

Animal, Dairy Science	Lyle McNeal
Agricultural Education	Bruce Miller
Bioveterinary Science	Stan Allen
Dietetics	Janet B. Anderson & Noreen B. Schvaneveldt
Food Science	Jeff Broadbent
Interdisciplinary Studies	Lisa Allen

Plants, Soils & Biometeorology

Jennifer MacAdam

Nutrition and Food Sciences

Janet B. Anderson & Noreen B. Schvaneveldt

College of Business

College-wide Plan

Associate Dean Cliff Skousen

College of Education

Communicative Disorders

Sonia Manuel-Dupont

Early Childhood Education

Deborah Byrnes

Elementary Education

Family & Human Development

Ann M. Austin

Health Education Specialist

Eadric Bressel

HPER

Eadric Bressel

Interdisciplinary Studies

Terri Gass

Parks and Recreation

Eadric Bressel

Psychology

Scott Bates

Special Education & Rehabilitation

Barbara Fiechtl

College of Engineering

College-wide Plan

Associate Dean Wynn Walker

Aviation Technology (Professional Pilot)

Kevin Garrity

College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

American Studies

Jan Roush

Anthropology

David Lancy

Art	Alexa Sand
Creative Writing	Honors Director
English	Brock Dethier
History	Sue Shapiro
Interdisciplinary Studies	Mary Leavitt
Interior Design	Tom Peterson
International Studies	Veronica Ward
Journalism & Communication	Penny Byrne
LAEP	Mike Timmons
Languages	Sarah Gordon
Law & Constitutional Studies	Veronica Ward
Liberal Arts & Sciences	Lynne Slade
Music	Nick Morrison
Philosophy	Charles Johnson
Political Science	Veronica Ward
Sociology	Susan Mannon
Social Work	Terry Peak
Theatre Arts	Kevin Doyle

College of Natural Resources

Coordinator	Gene Schupp
Forest, Range and Wildlife Sciences	Gene Schupp
Environment and Society	Mark Brunson
Aquatic, Watershed and Earth Resources	Wayne Wurtsbaugh

Forest, Range and Wildlife Sciences Helga Van Miegroet

Interdisciplinary Studies Maureen Wagner

College of Science

Biochemistry Steve Scheiner

Biology Kim Sullivan

Chemistry Steve Scheiner

Computer Science Myra Cook

Geology Peter Kolesar

Interdisciplinary Studies Richard Mueller

Liberal Arts & Sciences Lynne Slade

Mathematics & Statistics Jim Powell

Physics David Peak

Public Health Kim Sullivan