

Welcome to the University of Arizona!

**By Dr. MacCorquodale
Honors College Dean**

New Honors Students: Learn to Advocate for Your Education

The Honors College anticipates welcoming nearly 1,000 new students to campus this fall. Although the majority of these students come from Arizona, nearly one in five is from out of state. You new Honors students attended a variety of schools including public high schools, charter schools, private schools, community colleges, four-year colleges and home schools. The incoming class is diverse in terms of their educational experiences, academic interests, social and cultural background. Everyone in Honors looks forward to greeting you in August as you arrive on campus and getting to know you during the semester.

As you may know, very few resources in American public education are devoted to gifted education. State budgets for education allocate approximately twenty cents of every dollar for special education, but less than one penny for gifted education. In many districts, gifted education is a pull-out program that may focus on art or cultural studies, but may not advance students' knowledge of math, science or literature. In order to provide you with a full, challenging educational experience, your parents became advocates for you. That advocacy may have involved getting you a library card, driving you to music lessons, coaching your OM team, or fighting the system so that you could move into more advanced math classes. Now that you are entering college, you need to become an advocate for your own education.

The goal of an Honors education is to provide you with challenging experiences that will enable you to explore ideas in depth, discover new areas of interest, and test your skills and levels of proficiency. The greatest threat to your educational experience is under-achievement. Your challenge is to develop strategies to fully explore ideas related to your classes. One way to do this is to engage the instructor in conversation outside of class. Professors are delighted to talk with students who share their interest in the subject matter and want to learn more. A second way is to enroll in an Honors section of a course. In the Honors section you can expect discussion and in-depth analysis, an opportunity to sharpen your writing and analytical skills, and a chance to learn from and get to know your peers. A third option is to turn a course into an Honors experience through contracting for Honors credit. A contract enables you to work with the

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instructor to determine what your Honors project will be. Details about contracting can be found on the Honors web site.

A fourth option is to get involved in research. Faculty who are looking for students to work on their research projects for credit, pay or on a volunteer basis, often promote those opportunities on departmental or college listservs. The Honors College allows faculty to post research opportunities on our college web site in a password protected site; you will need to officially join Honors to get access to this database.

The most important strategy is to be aware of opportunities. Notice ideas that are interesting; ask yourself how you can find out more about them. Ask your instructor questions in and out of class. Seek out your fellow students for lively debate and discussion. Remember the UA is a research intensive university where faculty, graduate students and undergraduates are actively engaged in discovering new knowledge and applying new ideas. We look forward to seeing what your role in those activities will be!

"The secret of getting ahead is getting started."
Sally Berger

Fall 2005 Honors Forum Luncheons

Thomas Edison's invention of the phonograph and its impact on American culture, the victimization and harassment experiences of minority school-age youth, personal stories that chronicle the impact of the Madrid bombing tragedy on the lives of UA study abroad students, and the biology of mutualism are featured topics in the Honors Forum luncheon series for the 2005 fall semester.

The Honors Forum series brings together faculty, professional staff, and Honors students from all areas of the University to meet informally and share thoughts on a wide array of topics. At each of the Forum luncheons there is a featured faculty guest who gives a brief, 20-minute presentation about some aspect of his or her work which is of interest to a diverse group of Honors students and faculty. The meal, presentation, and brief question and answer period last no longer than an hour, so there is time to get to early afternoon classes or appointments. All Forum luncheons are held in the Student Union Memorial Center.

We hope you will be able to join us sometime this fall for one of these tasty luncheons and informative presentations. There is no cost for these luncheons, but reservations are required and must be made online. Please go to the Honors home page for the link.

The program includes:

Wednesday, September 14, 12:00-1:00 PM,
Tucson Room, Memorial Student Center

◆ Brian Ebie, Assistant Professor of Music
Topic: From Tinfoil to THX: Thomas Edison's Invention of the Phonograph and the Impact of Music on Demand in American Culture

Thursday, October 6, 12:30-1:30 PM,
Ventana Room, Memorial Student Center

◆ Stephen Russell, Associate Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences
Topic: Adolescent Sexual Orientation, Health and School Safety: Linking Research, Programs and Policy

Monday, October 24, 12:00-1:00 PM,
Tucson Room, Memorial Student Center

◆ Melissa Fitch, Assistant Professor of Spanish and Portuguese
Topic: On Silence: UA Study Abroad in Madrid and the Bombings of March 11, 2004

Tuesday, November 15, 12:30-1:30 PM,
Tucson Room, Memorial Student Center

◆ Judith Bronstein, Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Topic: Why Cooperate? The Biology of Mutualism

Contracting for Honors Credit

Are you short a few Honors credits for First Level Honors or Graduation with Honors? Or are you having trouble finding Honors classes in your major? Then you should consider contracting a class for Honors credit. You put a little "something extra" into a non-honors class and in return you receive Honors credits.

The first step is reviewing your class syllabus and meeting with your professor to determine if the class may be contracted. Before opening the contract form online, it's best to have the details about your "something extra" ready, then you can cut and paste from your word processor. "Extra paper" or "extra project" will not be sufficient for approval. General education classes may even have the contract terms in the syllabus, or have a pre-approved group contract. The terms of the contract should make it evident how often you will meet with your professor to discuss your progress.

On the form you should explain how the contract will enrich the subject matter and show that you are incorporating ongoing experiences through the entire semester. Projects likely to be approved may involve discussions outside of class or other practical applications of knowledge or skills that are not offered to other students in the class (such as keeping a journal, reporting on a workshop or event, or conducting interviews). Work that is qualitatively different may include covering topics outside the basic course, using a different analytic technique from the rest of the class, or presenting a project in a different format/mode from the other students. Be as specific as possible about the readings (how many?), topics, presentation formats (how long?). If the details are not entirely decided, outline how decisions are to be made (is any topic okay or must the professors approve it first?). Describe how you will summarize and evaluate your Honors experience. Go to the Honors website at www.honors.arizona.edu/contracting.htm **#previous** to get ideas about what other students have done.

Reminders: You must use the online form to apply. You may not contract a class taught by a graduate student or a class that has Honors sections. Read the form carefully for the other restrictions.

You must have updated to use the form, and you must use the online form to contract a class unless you are in a class with a pre-approved group contract. Call 621-8255 for questions.

Directions for contracting:

- ◆ Go to <http://www.honors.arizona.edu/cgi-bin/contract.plx>
- ◆ Carefully read and fill in the form
- ◆ Print and obtain your instructor's signature

Turn in the form and a copy of the class syllabus to the front desk at the Honors College no later than September 16, 2005.

Paladins: An Inclusive Community for Talent and Creativity

The Honors College is very proud to be Sponsoring the Paladins program again this year. This innovative program is designed to assist small groups of incoming freshmen and transfer students make a smooth transition to the University by strengthening their social, academic and cognitive skills in a one-unit course in the fall semester.

Paladins - champions fighting for a cause - also enjoy opportunities to interact with faculty mentors and receive exposure to academic departments, faculty, and personalized relationships to greatly enhance their college experience and overall academic success.

Students interested in enrolling in one of the Paladins classes for the fall semester can contact Michelle Stribling at mstribling@honors.arizona.edu.

Are you looking to get connected to The Honors College?

Be a Shadowcat!!

Shadowcats are Honors students who volunteer their time to recruit new students to the University and the College. These dedicated and committed students also play an integral role of recruiting top scholars to UA.

What kinds of people are we looking for?

- All undergraduates
- All majors
- Students who want to give back to the University of Arizona
- Students who live on or off campus
- Willingness to share experiences with prospective students

What will you be involved in as a Shadowcat?

- Class visits: you'll take a prospective student to a class with you
- Residence hall tours (on-campus only)
- Overnight visits (on-campus only)
- Lunch or one-on-one meetings
- Phone-a-thons: calling prospective students and sharing your experiences with them
- Other programming that involves recruiting top scholars

How can I get involved?

- Email Michelle Stribling
mstribling@honors.arizona.edu
- Look for the informational meeting posting on the Honors listserv or on-campus (early September)
- Talk to current Shadowcats

Honors Plays: Auditions and Information

The tradition of the Honors Play will continue this fall under new direction.

All students are encouraged to try out for the current production. Auditions will be held Wednesday, August 24, and Friday, August 26, from 7-9pm in the living room of Slonaker House. There are excellent parts for men and women! We hope to see you there.

Honors Student Council Opportunities

First of all, on behalf of the Honors Student Council I would like to welcome all incoming Wildcats to the University of Arizona. I have written this "letter" to inform you and all your fellow Wildcats about an exciting opportunity to help you get adjusted to the large University atmosphere. As many have probably told you, the Honors College gives a small college feel to the rather anonymous campus. What you may not have been told is that within the Honors community are several opportunities for student bonding, one of which is the Honors Student Council (HSC). The Council is an organization that represents Honors students on campus. It works to protect Honors benefits, acts as a liaison between Honors students and University faculty, and promotes fellowship amongst Honors students. HSC has recently undergone some changes and has created several new leadership positions that are available to all Honors students. We hope to expand our active membership in this upcoming year and invite you all to join. For more information, please contact our president, Sarah Smith, at sarahesmith@gmail.com. Good luck with the 2005-6 academic year!

Dave Trautman
Public Relations, Honors Student Council.

Nationally Competitive Scholarship Deadlines Approaching Quickly for Fall 2005

Pursuing a Ph.D. in Physics at Cambridge University ... Conducting archaeological research in Jordan ... Studying the role of youth in public activism ... Learning Chinese in two different regions of China ... Investigating public health issues among Native American people ... Using geophysical techniques to solve engineering problems related to geologic hazards ... Conducting economic research during an internship in Mexico City ... Studying guitar performance in Germany...

The preceding list reflects what some of our recent undergraduate winners of nationally competitive scholarships have done with the scholarship funding they received. Are you interested in finding out more? Follow these easy steps and you could be on your way to applying, whether you are a first semester freshman or a graduating senior.

Step 1: Visit the Honors College website, particularly the pages devoted to Nationally Competitive Scholarships: (<http://www.honors.arizona.edu/national/intro.html>). Read through the information, follow the links to various scholarship websites, and decide which scholarship(s) you'd like to pursue. Some enable students to pursue postgraduate study in the United Kingdom, others support undergraduate study or research right here on campus, others provide funding for overseas research or study, and still others enable students to pursue postgraduate study in the U.S. Some are restricted by field of study and/or future goals, so read the requirements carefully.

Step 2: Attend one of the scholarship info sessions scheduled for the fall semester. These sessions serve as a forum for you to learn more about your options and to ask

questions of Dr. Karna Walter, the Director of Nationally Competitive Scholarships.

- ◆ Thursday, August 25, 12:30 PM to 1:30PM: General Scholarship Info Session Honors College living room
- ◆ Monday, August 29, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM: British Scholarships Workshop (includes the Rhodes, Marshall, Churchill, Gates Cambridge and Mitchell Scholarships) Honors College Room 219
- ◆ Tuesday, September 6, 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM: Fulbright Scholarship Info Session (for prospective applicants) Honors College Room 219
- ◆ Thursday, September 8, 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM. Fulbright Workshop (for this fall's applicants) Honors College Room 219
- ◆ Monday, October 31, 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM: Goldwater Scholarship Workshop Honors College Room 219
- ◆ Tuesday, November 1, 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM: Boren (NSEP) Scholarship Workshop, Honors College Room 219
- ◆ Monday, November 7, 12 PM to 1 PM: Truman Scholarship Workshop, Honors College Room 219
- ◆ Monday, November 14, 12 PM to 1 PM: General Scholarship Info Session, Honors College Living Room
- ◆ Monday, December 5, 12 PM to 1 PM: Udall Scholarship Workshop, Honors College Room 219

Step 3: Set up an individual appointment with Dr. Walter 621-6546; karna@u.arizona.edu if you want to learn more about how to apply for one or more of the scholarships. She will brief you on the specifics of each application process and can help you decide if applying is a good idea for you.

Step 4: Be aware that some scholarship deadlines come quickly in the fall semester. In the case of most scholarships, you will need to observe two deadlines: the local, university deadline, and the national, foundation deadline. Deadlines are listed below:

September 7: UA deadline for the Rhodes Scholarship
October 3: Official Rhodes deadline

September 7: UA deadline for the Marshall Scholarship
October 5: Official Marshall deadline
September 12: UA deadline for the Mitchell Scholarship
October 10: Official Mitchell deadline
September 15: UA deadline for the Javits Fellowship
October 3: Official Javits deadline
September 22: UA deadline for the Fulbright Scholarship
October 21: Official Fulbright deadline
October 3: UA deadline for the Soros Scholarship
November 1: Official Soros deadline
October 3: UA deadline for the Gates Cambridge Scholarship
November 1: Official Gates Cambridge deadline*
November 1: UA deadline for the Churchill Scholarship
November 15: Official Churchill deadline
November 1: UA deadline for the Mellon Fellowship
December 1: Official Mellon deadline*
November 3: UA deadline for the Luce Scholarship
December 5: Official Luce deadline
December 1: UA deadline for the Goldwater Scholarship
February 1: Official Goldwater deadline
December 1: UA deadline for the Truman Scholarship
Early February: Truman deadline*
January 17: UA deadline for the Boren/NSEP Scholarship
Mid-February: NSEP deadline*
February 2: UA deadline for the Udall Scholarship
Early March: Udall deadline*
 *official deadlines not yet set

Step 5: If you are serious about applying for a scholarship in the next year, plan to participate in our Scholarship Preparation Process. The Scholarship Advisory Board, comprised of Drs. Peter Beudert (Theatre Arts), Barron Orr (Arid Lands Studies) and Elizabeth Vierling (Biochemistry), will lead you in a process designed to help you take the steps necessary

to prepare the strongest possible application. We will have sessions on grant writing and interviewing, and you will have the opportunity to prepare an application and participate in a mock interview. Stay tuned early in the semester for the dates associated with this process.

Step 6: Finally, if you are a freshman or sophomore, consider taking Honors 295a in the spring semester. This course, taught by Dr. Walter, is designed to prepare you to apply for one or more of the nationally competitive scholarships. Only a limited number of students may enroll, so stay tuned for information about the time and location of this course.

Honors Advising

Academic advising is offered in the Honors College and also in over 100 academic departments on campus. Advisors work with students to explore majors, plan schedules, discover research and study abroad opportunities, and set educational and career goals.

Students who have declared a major are encouraged to meet with their major advisor at least once a semester. Questions about how to find your major or college advisor may be directed to Advising Resource Center <http://advising.arizona.edu/students/> as well as to the Honors College. Also, Honors major advisors are located within each department to assist students with Honors-specific issues. For a list of departmental Honors advisors please see: <http://www.honors.arizona.edu/facadvisor.html>.

For further assistance in finding a Senior Thesis advisor, preparing for graduate fellowships or for issues specific to graduating with Honors, please schedule an appointment with **Dr. Patricia MacCorquodale, Dr. Karna Walter, Dr. Wayne Decker, or Stephanie Adamson.**

Continued on next page...

Students who are ready to apply for graduation should meet with **Barbara Whittlesey** to discuss their plans for graduating with Honors.

Students who have not yet selected a major or who are interested in exploring different majors and/or their academic and career plans are encouraged to meet with **Diana Rix**.

All Honors College advising appointments may be scheduled by calling 621-6901 or stopping by the Honors College office in the Slonaker building.

Remember to Update!

Please remember to update your Honors status by September 24, 2005. This will let us know that you want to be an active member of the Honors College. This process activates your Honors College benefits, such as extended library privileges, access to the computer lab at the Honors College, and access to the "Research Opportunities" data base, among other benefits. The most important benefit to the updating process is priority registration. If you are a freshman or sophomore, this will allow you to register with the juniors next semester. If you do not update, all of the benefits previously mentioned will be revoked and you will have to nominate yourself for readmission to the Honors College the subsequent semester. Reminders for updating will be posted in the Honors College, the Honors residence halls, on the Honors webpage and on the Honors listserv.

Directions for Updating via Our Web Page

This year updating will begin on August 15, 2005 and continue through September 24, 2005.

Visit the Honors College on the web at <http://www.honors.arizona.edu>.

From The Honors College web page, follow the "Update Online Link", enter your student ID number, and press enter.

The form is self-explanatory. This updating process will allow us to have your local address, local phone and e-mail address, so that we can stay in touch with you.

If you have any questions, please call 621-6901.

Last Day to Update: Saturday, 9/24/05

Graduating with Honors

Graduation with Honors is not automatic. If you plan to graduate in December and have not yet completed an Honors degree check, please call 621-6901 and arrange to meet with Barbara Whittlesey before October 14, 2005. Students planning a May graduation may defer the check to as late as the beginning of spring semester. Please check your registration to be certain that you have signed up for your thesis as "senior thesis 498H," not senior capstone, not 499H independent study (this does not apply to engineers). You are responsible for being certain that all the requirements for graduation with Honors are met: a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or above, the correct number of Honors units, and a completed thesis. Students who are on record at the Honors College as planning to graduate with Honors will be sent title page samples mid-semester as well as information about the required abstract. At the time your thesis is submitted, it must have a title page in the required format that is signed by your advisor and it must be bound in a permanent fashion. (Spiral, velo- or comb bindings are suggested.) Check out the details at <http://www.honors.arizona.edu/thesis1.html>

You must also apply for a degree check with University Graduation Services. For more information about this process visit:

<http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/graduation/whatisgs.htm>.

IMPORTANT DATES

Aug.	12-17	Undergraduate International Orientation
Aug.	15	Financial Aid proceeds delivered (via EFT or check mailed to local address) as available
Aug.	18	Residence Halls Open
Aug.	21	New Student Convocation
Aug.	22	Classes Begin
Aug.	22	Deadline to pay for Fall 2005 without late charges
Aug.	22	First day to file Grade Replacement Opportunity
Aug. 22– Sept. 2		Change of Schedule forms will be collected from 8:30-4:30 in Bear Down Gym and Memorial Student Union
Aug.	29	Last day to add classes for credit from zero units using only a Change of Schedule Form.
Sept.	5	Labor Day no classes
Sept.	16	Last day to drop courses resulting in deletion of course enrollment from record; last day for Honors contracts
Sept.	19	Change of Schedule form with instructor's permission is required to drop a class with a grade of W
Sept.	24	Last Day to Update Honors Status

Edited by Nicky Bauer



The Honors College
University of Arizona
1027 East 2nd Street
Slonaker House
PO Box 210006
Tucson, Az. 85721-0006
(520) 621-6901
www.honors.arizona.edu

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