

THE ECLECTIC

The Honors College Newsletter Spring 2004 Volume 9, Issue 3

December 2003 Graduates With Honors



Jana Pierce, Dean Patricia MacCorquodale,
Mary Katherine Adams, Carin Geary and
Mark Melamed

On December 11, 2003 the Honors College, along with members of the Honors College Board and Honors Advisory Board, family and friends, recognized our students graduating "With Honors." We would like to acknowledge Mark Melamed, recipient of the Outstanding Senior Award; Mary Katherine Adams, Sheila Contapay-Tabilin and Carin Geary, who received the Academic Award of Excellence; Cory Messing and Jana Pierce, who received the DaVinci Award and congratulate all of those graduating "With Honors."



Prof. James Todd (center) speaks to
students after the
Pre-Commencement Ceremony.



Academic Award of Excellence recipients
Carin Geary (left) and Mary Katherine
Adams(right) with Dean Patricia
MacCorquodale

Mary Katherine Adams
Mark Anderson
Amy Artates
Rebecca Blake
David Brown
Clinton Carroll
Marisa Chattman
Sheila Contapay-Tabilin
Rachel Diaz De Valdes
Michael Durando
Shayna Feldman
Lacy Gамbee
Carin Geary
Candace George
Sharlot Hart
Michael Henry
Matthew Johnson

Michele Karplak
Cheryl Liu
Melanie Martin
Lilly McElroy
Mark Melamed
Cory Messing
Rosetta Mui
Jamison Noenickx
Kathryn Payne
Jana Pierce
Amy Sherry
Katherine Stevens
Leah Tatum
Rogina Taylor-Stevens
Erwin Wong
Adam Wuollet
Mei "Michelle" Yang

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Edited by Erin L. Carlson

Mark Melamed is the Outstanding Senior for Fall 2003



Mark, pictured with Patricia
MacCorquodale, Dean of
The Honors College

In selecting the Outstanding Senior, the Honors College seeks to identify a student who exemplifies the mission of the college. This includes academic excellence and a passion for learning, leadership and civic engagement that demonstrate social responsibility, and the courage to take risks, to stretch and to grow. Mark Melamed, the Outstanding Senior for fall 2003, embodies all these characteristics. Mark graduated from Gilbert High school. He has received many awards for his academic achievements. He came to the UA as a National Merit and Flinn Scholar. While he was here he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, won the Mark Finley Beginning Journalism competition and was awarded two National Security Exchange Program (NSEP) awards. This highly prestigious award is difficult to win once. Rarely do we have students who are successful twice in this competition.

Mark sees his college experience as a continual search for interesting and challenging adventures. He spent a semester in Washington, DC, has studied abroad on three separate occasions and visited nearly 20 countries in the process. His trip to Poland was particularly significant in solidifying his interest in International Studies, his major, and testifies to his energies, intellect and maturity. Mark studied how globalization was affecting Poland, why some Eastern European countries have adapted more easily and quickly to the post-Cold War era, and what progress there is toward democratization. This journey also involved learning Polish and led to a State Department internship in Warsaw.

Mark is thoughtful, respectful, even-tempered and good with both the “big picture” and detailed work. On his journey, he has learned both from his own experiences, insights and analysis and from his intense interactions with others. Mark describes his journey saying “Whether marveling at the flowers and candles spontaneously left outside the US Embassy in Warsaw following the September 11 attacks, wandering alone in the streets of St. Petersburg trying to teach myself Cyrillic, nonverbally communicating with Turkish police officers and doctors after an unfortunate, and embarrassing, moped mishap, or climbing a volcano in Chile, I have seen and done things that even today, defy my best attempts at description. I have learned more about the world and about myself in late night conversation with complete strangers I met in a hostel ... than in 16 years of formal education. Looking back on the last four and a half years, these are the stories and experiences I most remember and of which I am most proud.”

Mark has the patience to think issues through carefully, the civility to engage in quality discussion and the intellectual flexibility to change his mind when necessary. He’s smart enough not to commit to a given career too early, but he will be successful practicing law, entering the US foreign policy community, or becoming an academic leader. The Honors College congratulates Mark Melamed, our latest Outstanding Senior.

Many parts, a variety of scenes, challenging roles, comedy and drama make The Honors College Players Spring’s production “an actor’s dream”.

The production includes five scenes from Neil Simon’s “The Good Doctor”; Sir James M. Barrie’s “The Twelve Pound Look” and concludes with a scene from Maxwell Anderson’s “Elizabeth the Queen”

“The Good Doctor” is fun; “The Twelve Pound Look” is an observation of marriage—at least of some marriages; “Elizabeth The Queen” offers a very powerful scene, one of the most beautiful scenes written in the English language.

Come out for an evening of theatre on March 3, 4, 5 or 6. It will be a night you won’t soon forget!

An Actor’s Dream

Kassondra Silva, Carmen Batista, Dan Howarth, and Emily Wilson were among the handful of undergraduate authors who won \$200 and first prize at Student Showcase 2003. Their poster, "Anything you can do I can do better: Associations between competitiveness and intellectual self-esteem among University of Arizona honors students" is part of a larger project the Honors College is conducting. The Paladins Project investigates factors that enhance first-year honors students' adjustment, academic performance, and persistence during the often challenging transition to college. A select group of 83 students are participating in the project this year. Kassondra, Carmen, Dan, and Emily co-facilitate Paladins' bi-weekly group discussions.

Approximately 70 student-authored academic posters were displayed under huge canvas tents on the Mall on homecoming weekend as part of Student Showcase 2003. The graduate-student-run Student Showcase included presentations from all across campus, in a wide variety of disciplines, rendering it the only event of its magnitude in the United States. Both graduates and undergraduates were invited to present their research at this event. Many graduates typically do research, but Showcase is an important venue for undergraduates to present as well. An estimated 15,000 people including fellow students, alums, parents, faculty, staff, and members of the Tucson community came out to see the research and ask the students questions. Participants competed for over \$10,000 in prizes by presenting their work to judging panels that included one faculty representative, one community member, and one student.

Kassondra, Carmen, and Emily will go to UA Pride Night at the state capitol in February to present their winning research to legislators and regents. In April they will present another poster entitled "Does high school GPA predict intellectual self-esteem among first-year honors college students?" at the Western Psychological Association's 2004 Phoenix Convention.

"As long as children and young men and women find pleasure in study, they will continue studying throughout life – and upon that depends their happiness."

- L. Ron Hubbard

The Vice President for Research commits \$40,000 each year to the undergraduate research fund to expand educational opportunities for undergraduate students. Undergraduates can apply for a stipend or other expenses needed for a personalized research endeavor. The amount of an individual grant typically is around \$1,300 with the possibility of an additional \$200 allocation for supplies and other expenses when justified.

Proposals must have the support of a faculty member. The faculty member co-signs the proposal and commits to serve as a research mentor and advisor. A review committee composed of faculty and students judges proposals. Applications are encouraged from all disciplines within the University. Student researchers may not receive a grant and also obtain academic credit for the project, and applications for instructional projects are not considered. Research culminates with an undergraduate research forum in the spring following the summer in which the research is undertaken. The forum is conducted like a scholarly meeting and provides student researchers with a stimulating and memorable experience of publicly presenting their findings. Research projects are begun as early as June 1 and projects should be concluded in summer or early in the fall semester.

Applications are available from the Honors College. Proposals are due on March 3 and the judging committee meets in early April to decide which proposals will be funded.

Honors Students Win First Prize at Student Showcase

Undergraduate Research Grant Program

Honors Forum Luncheon Schedule Spring Semester 2004

Thursday, January 29, 12:30 pm

Pierre Deymier, Professor
Materials Science and Engineering
Professor Deymier will describe how he and his colleagues in the UA nanotechnology research group use proteins from living cells to “grow” wires for microchips.

Tuesday, February 17, 12:30 pm

Vance Holliday, Professor
Anthropology and Geosciences
Professor Holliday presents an update on his research program aimed at finding early sites in the southwestern United States so as to understand in a better manner the timing of the first peopling of the Southwest and the environmental conditions at the time.

Wednesday, March 24, 12:00 noon

Mary Peterson, Professor
Psychology
Professor Peterson will give a brief account of her research that examines What Happens Unconsciously in Visual Perception, studies that are behavioral indices of the complex processes involved in object perception and recognition.

Monday, April 19, 12:00 noon

Roxanne Mountford, Professor
English
Professor Mountford reflects on her recent book that explores the relationship between bodies, spaces, race, and gender in rhetorical performance and American Protestant culture.

Reservations are required and must be made using this online reservation form

<http://www.honors.arizona.edu/opportunities.html#forum>.

Regrettably, seating is limited, so we can only accept the first 35 students and 35 faculty/staff reservations for each luncheon.

Undergraduate Research Forum

What Do These Ideas Have In Common?

Banded Rock rattlesnakes
Seawater forests
Measuring time
Small-scale helicopters
Lost Boys of Sudan
Tai Chi and hypertension
Mesquite dye making

Answer: They are the topics of
Undergraduate Research
projects from this year's forum

On Wednesday, February 11, 2004, from 10:00am to 2:00pm, The Honors College will host the 17th Annual Research Forum. The forum will be held in Bear Down Gym.

This gathering will offer the undergraduates of this year's grant program an opportunity to display their work and discuss its implications with other students, faculty and campus visitors. Projects will be displayed in “poster format” and the topics of research will range from studio art to biochemistry. The forum is open to the University community, and everyone is invited to come in and look at the projects.

Please complete the independent study form, which you may get at The Honors College or at: <http://www.registrar.arizona.edu/forms/IndepStudy.pdf>, and obtain signatures of approval BEFORE registering. Return the form to the main office of the department that is administering the independent study. This form is for department records and is used to assign a grade at the end of the semester. You must also complete a Registration/Change of Schedule Form and submit it to the Office of Curriculum and Registration, Administration Building, Room 210, to be officially enrolled.

New Guidelines for Independent Study Sign-Up

"The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives."

- Robert Maynard Hutchins

Nationally competitive scholarships, prizes awarded to some of the top undergraduates and recent graduates around the country, represent wonderful opportunities for undergraduates at the University of Arizona. These scholarships, which range from the Rhodes, Marshall, and Gates Cambridge (which fund graduate study in the UK) to the Goldwater (for students in math, science and engineering) to the Udall (for students with environmental interests, or Native American students with interests in tribal policy), to numerous others, are open to UA students who are eligible and, more importantly, who have the right mix of experience, educational background and goals, and future plans. The Honors website provides a complete listing of these scholarships, as well as descriptions and links to each scholarship's webpage (<http://www.honors.arizona.edu/national/intro.html>).

Applying for a nationally competitive scholarship – or two – is not for the faint of heart. The process is rigorous and competitive, and students must go through both an on-campus nomination process and, if nominated, a national competition. Some scholarship competitions are more daunting than others, with thousands of students applying for only a small number of scholarships. Other competitions have better odds, though the process of applying is challenging.

Why would you do it? Why would you apply for one of these scholarships? Depending on where you are in your undergraduate journey, you may not be eligible for some scholarships, but you may be eligible for others. No one person is the right fit for every scholarship, but many Honors students have what it takes to be competitive for at least one of these opportunities. No one is guaranteed to win a scholarship just because he or she applies; nonetheless, the process of applying is valuable in terms of helping an applicant think about future plans, reflect on past experiences and how those have affected one's intellectual and personal journey, and prepare for future opportunities.

The Honors College can help you as you consider whether to apply for one of the nationally competitive scholarships. From initial conversations to assist you in thinking about whether you should apply, to working through written drafts of application essays and preparing for interviews, we are here to support and guide you. Contact Dr. Karna Walter (621-6546; karna@u.arizona.edu) to initiate the scholarship consideration process.

Although most scholarship deadlines have passed for this year's competitions, it is none too soon to think about whether applying in the next year or two is the right thing for you to do. Preparing to apply requires lots of lead time, so the sooner you decide to apply, the better off you will be. The Honors College will host several scholarship workshops after spring break, so be sure to attend one of those sessions for more information about the scholarships.

Nationally Competitive Scholarships: Should You Apply?

Five Star Faculty Award Nominations Now Being Accepted

The time to determine the Five Star Faculty Award winner of the year is here again! Each year, students at the University of Arizona honor their top professor with the Five-Star Faculty Award, the only teaching prize at the UA where nominees and winners are chosen by students. The award comes with a \$1,000 prize and a plaque. If you have a professor whom you believe to be an excellent educator, please nominate him or her on the following website: <https://www.honors.arizona.edu/cgi-bin/5star.htm>. Remember to reward those instructors who have made a significant impact upon your educational experience. Write a couple of paragraphs that explain why you believe that this individual deserves to be the Five Star Faculty Award winner of the year.

Undergraduate Research Grants Require Written Proposals!

An information session will be held Tuesday, February 10 at 3 pm to assist students who are preparing their proposals for undergraduate research grants. Anyone interested in applying for this grant should attend this information session to be held in the Slonaker House Living Room at The Honors College. Grant applications are available at Slonaker House, 1027 E. Second Street, and are due by March 3 at 4 pm.

Short a few Honors credits for First Level Honors or Graduation with Honors? Having trouble finding Honors classes in your major? Consider contracting a class for Honors credit. You put a little “something extra” into the class and in return you receive Honors credit.

Contracting for Honors Credit

The first step is reviewing your class syllabus and meeting with your professor to determine if the class may be contracted. To complete the on-line contract form you must already know the details about your “something extra” before you open the form — “extra paper” or “extra project” will not be approved for Honors credit! General education classes should have the contract terms in the syllabus, and may even 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?) or outline how decisions are to be made (is any topic okay or must the professor approve it first?). Describe how you will summarize and evaluate your Honors experience. Go to the Honors website at www.honors.arizona.edu to get ideas about what other students have done.

Just a reminder: You may not contract a class taught by a graduate student. Read the form carefully for the other restrictions.

The on-line form is available at: <http://www.honors.arizona.edu/cgi-bin/contract.plx>. You must have updated to use the form, and you must use the on-line form to contract a class unless you are in a class with a pre-approved group contract. Print the form, obtain your instructor’s signature and turn in the form and a copy of the class syllabus to the front desk at the Honors College no later than **February 10**.

Please call 621-6901 for any contracting questions.

THE FREDERICA HEARST PRIZES FOR LYRICAL POETRY
(rhymed or unrhymed verse)

First prize \$300

Four runner-up awards of \$50 each

THE JOHN HEARST PRIZES FOR POPULIST POETRY
(poetry of the people, of the common person)

First prize \$300

Four runner-up awards of \$50 each

Contest rules:

1. Poems must be original compositions of undergraduates currently matriculated for baccalaureate degrees at The University of Arizona. Poets must not have any undergraduate and/or graduate degrees.
2. Applicants may submit only one poem, typed or printed legibly. Applicants cannot submit works in both categories.
3. Each entry must contain one cover sheet and five (5) copies of one poem.
4. The cover sheet must include:

name of applicant
student identification number
University enrolled: University of Arizona (UA)
year in school
current address
current telephone number
title of poem
category of poem (lyrical or populist)

5. Each poem sheet must include the title of work, the category (lyrical or populist), followed by the poem itself. The author's name must not appear on the poem sheet.
6. **Deadline** for receipt: **Friday, February 13, 2004, 4:30 P.M.** Entries may be mailed to "Hearst Undergraduate Poetry Contest," Honors College, Slonaker House 106, PO Box 210006, The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721-0006, dropped into the "Hearst Undergraduate Poetry Contest" box in the Honors College, or mailed to Aliaa Abdel-Gawad, The University of AZ College of Medicine, Dept. of Surgery (GS&T), PO Box 245063, Tucson, AZ 85724-5063.
7. Neither late entries nor those who do not follow guidelines above can be considered. Poems will not be returned.

Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the Hearst Undergraduate Poetry Awards Reception to be held on Monday, March 22, 2004, 4:30-6:30, DuVal Auditorium, Arizona Health Sciences Center to which all applicants and their guests will be invited.

Queries may be directed to "Hearst Undergraduate Poetry Contest" information at 626-6118 or aliaa@email.arizona.edu.

The Frederica and John Hearst Prizes for Undergraduate Poetry 2004

"Education comes from living life, following passions, accessing information, observing, reflecting, and being inspired by wise and courageous elders in the community."

- Claire Aumonier

Directions for Updating via Our Web Page

This semester Updating will begin on **January 12 and continue through to February 10**. If you have an Internet provider, this is easy. You can update from your own home. If you do not have a computer, you may update from anywhere on campus. Visit your Internet provider at home or at University labs and type in the Honors College web address www.honors.arizona.edu. Now that you are on The Honors College web page, double click on the "Update Your Honors Status Today", enter your student id and press enter. The form is self explanatory. This updating process allows us to have your local address, local phone and e-mail address. Good luck. If you have any questions, please call 621-6901.

Honors Advising

Honors academic advising is offered at Slonaker House and also in over 100 academic departments. Honors advisors work with students to plan schedules, discover research and study abroad opportunities, and set goals for beyond graduation. Juniors and seniors can get assistance in finding a Senior Thesis advisor or to prepare for graduate fellowships. Students should call our office at 621-6901 for advising appointments with Honors College staff. Honors students who have not yet selected a major can meet with Diana Rix for advising. Special faculty advisors for Honors students, in most departments, can be found on The Honors College website at: www.honors.arizona.edu/facadvisor.html

SOE 2004 : Be a Peer Advisor

The Honors College is looking for energetic, responsible, and caring students to serve as Peer Advisors for A Summer of Excellence, mid-May to mid-August. SOE is UA's premier pre-college summer program for academically talented high school sophomores and juniors.

Duties include: helping and mentoring students, planning activities, ensuring safety and compliance

Benefits include: a rewarding experience, free rent, the development of valuable life skills, a sizable stipend

If you're up for the challenge, please consider applying now to be an SOE 2004 Peer Advisor! Application materials will be available at The Honors College the end of January. For more information please contact Stephanie Adamson at 621-2626 or adamsons@u.arizona.edu.

Important Dates

2/10/04	Last day to drop course resulting in deletion of course enrollment from record; last day to Update Honors Status; last day to contract course for Honors credit
3/1/04	Deadline for priority service for 2004-2005 Financial Aid application
3/9/04	Last day to drop class with grade of "w" (if passing) or change to/from audit grading with instructor signature
3/13/04-3/21/04	SPRING BREAK- NO CLASSES
3/27/04	Begin priority registration for seniors
4/3/04	Begin priority registration for juniors and all Honors College students
5/5/04	Senior thesis due; last day of classes
5/6/04	Honors College Pre-Commencement Ceremony
5/7/04	Finals begin
5/13/04	Finals end
5/15/04	Spring Graduation/Commencement; Residence halls close