
Honors College Newsletter



The Plazow Memorial at the Plazow-Krakow Concentration Camp in Krakow, Poland, during the study abroad experience titled, "A Holocaust Journey." Photo by Luisa Donoso.



This is our third annual Honors College newsletter – and it just gets better and better! Honors student interns have produced the newsletter both last year (Noah Vetter: Crown Scholar, Business Honors, University Honors) and this year (Jordan Brusso: University Honors; and Holden Derrick: Crown Scholar, Business Honors). I am grateful to them all for their innovation and dedication.

In these pages you will find the latest Honors College successes, including our move into the beautiful new Levine Hall, the founding of yet another full-ride merit scholarship program, new departmental honors programs, honors students winning highly competitive national and international scholarships, significant undergraduate research accomplishments, cool study abroad, our first hosting of the state honors conference (NCHA), an honors alumnus who has returned to UNC Charlotte to teach honors, and our upcoming celebrations of the 50th anniversary of honors education. Pretty amazing!

Growth is our middle name, and you are an essential part of that. Whether you are a donor, an administrator, or a professor, student, or staff member, if you are reading this newsletter you most likely have supported the Honors College in some way. We need your support, and we are grateful for it. High achieving students on this campus deserve the opportunities that you help make possible, and they do great things with them that, in turn, help make progress on some of society's most intractable problems.

I hope you enjoy our third issue, and please do be in touch with me about anything honors!

Malin

WHAT'S IN THIS ISSUE?



50
YEARS OF
HONORS
1968-2018

Save the Date! April 20-21, 2018

Join the Honors College in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of honors education at UNC Charlotte. We will be holding events in conjunction with *Alumniner Weekend*, as well as at the annual Honors College Awards Ceremony, where we will celebrate alumni, students, faculty, and honors at UNC Charlotte.

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Levine Hall is Now Open



This past year provided a lot of new opportunities for the Honors College. In January, Levine Hall opened, becoming the new residence of honors students and home to the administrative wing of the Honors College and the Levine Scholars Program. The \$38.5 million project allows us to better serve our students with more seminar and meeting space, advising offices, and study rooms. The University hosted a dedication ceremony on April 13, 2017, to honor the building's namesakes, Leon and Sandra Levine. "Like Sandra and Leon Levine, the top scholars who reside in Levine Hall enrich this campus and inspire us all to achieve more. They take their talent into the greater community and help make the Charlotte region a better place," said Chancellor Philip L. Dubois.



Leon Levine, Esteban Mendieta, senior Levine Scholar, and Dr. Diane Zablotzky, director of the Levine Scholars Program, join in the excitement of the Levine Hall dedication ceremony in April.



Vincent Cahill and Addison Goff, now graduates of the Levine Scholars Program, share their thanks for the generous donation that funded the Levine Scholars Program.

BEGINNINGS

First Year of the Martin Scholars Program

Thanks to the generosity of Demond and Kia Martin, class of '97 and '98, respectively, the Honors College established its third merit scholars program in as many years. The Martin Scholars Program was formed to support high achieving students in their pursuit of academic excellence and personal development through faculty mentoring, while also providing advising and support from Honors College staff. A major merit scholarship program, the Martin Scholars Program is the first in the Honors College to focus on relieving financial need among its students.

Dante Gil Rivas, one of the seven students who have joined the program since its inception, commented: "Being a Martin Scholar has opened multiple doors for me, like being able to live in the honors dorm and being part of an honors program for my college and architecture major." He added, "The program also has a team of devoted professors in support of us on our academic journey to achieving a higher education, a helpful resource to have."



Martin Scholars with Demond and Kia Martin at City Club, September 13, 2017.

New Departmental Honors Programs



- Africana Studies
- Health Systems Management
- Social Work



Nemah-Allah Saleh and Tess Overton

TWO HONORS STUDENTS WIN GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIPS

This year two of our honors students, Tess Overton and Nemah-Allah Saleh, were recipients of prestigious Barry S. Goldwater scholarships for their research and studies in STEM fields. Overton, a Crown Scholar and member of the University Honors Program, and Saleh, a Biology Honors student, are just the second and third students in University history to receive the award.

“We are so proud to have two outstanding honors students win Goldwater scholarships,” said Dr. Malin Pereira, Executive Director of the Honors College. “It is a testimony to their hard work and to the role honors programs can play in building the sort of profile needed to win highly competitive national scholarships.”

Both Overton and Saleh were mentored by Karen James, the Associate Director for Scholars Advising. With guidance from Ms. James, both students were able to compile outstanding portfolios combining their rigorous coursework and laboratory research with compelling essays. Ms. James joined the Honors College four years ago after a long career at UNC-Chapel Hill advising high-achieving students as an Honors Carolina Advisor and in director positions at Kenan-Flagler Business School and the Morehead-Cain Foundation.

Ms. James practiced law for ten years before switching to working with students. “Law at its heart is very adversarial,” she said. “I enjoy building people up rather than tearing them down.” She loves mentoring the best and brightest to help them focus on their goals and pursue activities during their undergraduate years to help them attain these goals. One of her favorite quotes is from Robert Jenkins, one of her current advisees, “When you leave her office, you feel you can achieve anything!”

Nemah-Allah Saleh participates in x-ray crystallography research, inserting a loop inside of the diffractometer. Crystallography is the experimental science of determining the arrangement of atoms in crystalline solids.



Nemah-Allah Saleh

“Winning the Goldwater Scholarship has motivated me to achieve a high personal standard for professional and academic success. Without proper guidance from the Honors College, I wouldn’t hold the honor of being a Goldwater Scholar,” said Saleh. “Ms. James’ guidance has been instrumental in the application process. The guidance received from the Goldwater has built a strong foundation of knowledge for my current graduate school applications and other prestigious scholarships.”

After Saleh completes her degree in biological sciences with a minor in biotechnology and in chemistry, she plans to work towards a Ph.D. in biochemistry or molecular biology and continue researching the “central compound necessary for life: the protein.” Overton, who is double majoring in biology and chemistry, is planning to pursue a Ph.D. in molecular biology before following her passion of conducting government research.



Tess Overton

CONFERENCE PART I



Photos by Sheridan Starnes & Jennifer Tisdale

Honors students volunteering at the Undergraduate Research Conference (URC).

Undergraduate research is one of the pillars of the Honors College. We continuously promote experiential learning in our classrooms, along with sponsoring conference participation for our students to share their research on local and national platforms. From Charlotte to Asheville to Orlando to Los Angeles, honors students and merit scholars have traveled the country to present solutions to issues in our society. Some of our students and the conferences they traveled to this year are:

Sigma Tau Delta Honors Society Convention — Kelly Brabec, Sara Eudy, Tayler Green, Shelby LeClair, Maria Lignos, Chelsea Moore, Thomas Simonson, Carissa Wilbanks

African American & African Diaspora Studies (CACE) Conference — Sara Eudy, Thomas Simonson

American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) — Erica Cherian

Gordon Research Conference in RNA Nanotechnology — Morgan Chandler

International Studies Association Conference — Isaac Setliff

National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) — Casey Aldridge, Elvira An, Quinn Barnette, Eileen Jakeway, Sarah Riegel, Thomas Simonson, Jamie Smith, Megan Woody

Quest for Orthologs — Lambodhar Damodaran

SETAC World Congress/SETAC North America 37th Annual Meeting — Daniel Smith

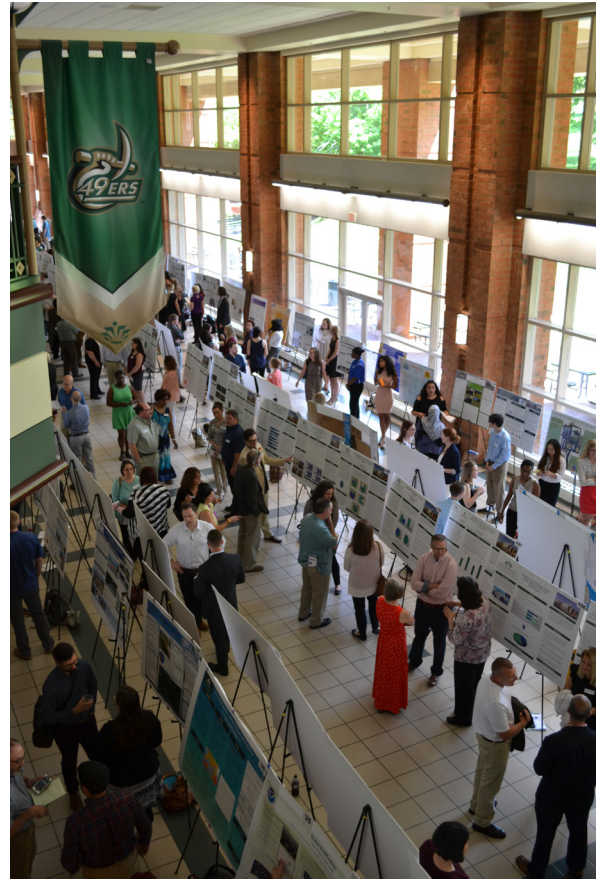
Society for Affective Science Conference (SAS) — Katherine Bernero, Alexis Mitchell, Samantha Tracy

Southern Regional Honors Conference (SRHC) — Morgan Karlok, Kenia Rios, Elizabeth Witham

American Public Health Association Conference — Megan Woody



Student giving oral presentation at the URC



Undergraduate Research Conference event on April 21, 2017.



Michelle Nguyen giving a poster presentation at the URC.

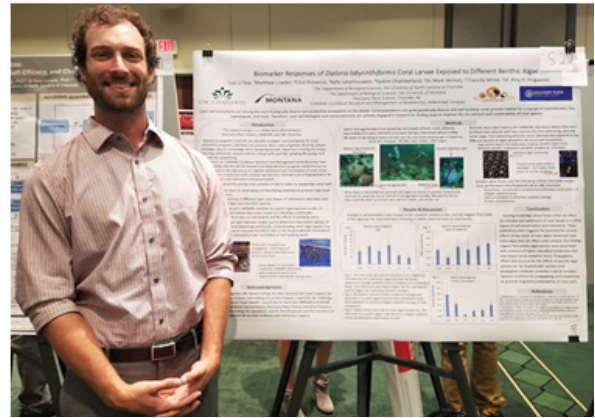
CIPATION

Honors Student Coral Reef Research

As the health of coral reefs around the world has gained significant media attention, one UNC Charlotte undergraduate student spent the summer studying how we can conserve — and even restore — the coral reefs today.

Joel O’Dea, a Biology Honors student, traveled with Amy Ringwood, UNC Charlotte associate professor of biology, to the Caribbean to work with SCORE, a conservation organization, and the Caribbean Research and Management of Biodiversity team to study various algal species and their effects on the health of coral reefs.

While in Curaçao, Joel was able to participate in field work specifically studying samples of brain coral larvae



Joel O’Dea presents his research at the Summer Research Symposium July 26, 2017.

and their response to different benthic algae. The goal was to identify specific species of algae that may cause sublethal toxicity and negatively affect the long-term success of the corals. Studies like Joel’s are essential for improving coral larval reproduction and continuing success in coral restoration and conservation programs.

To take full advantage of this rare and unique opportunity, Joel had to be prepared at all hours of the day and night to work with the schedules of the delicate coral larvae. His work could help scientists understand what is needed to help reverse the decline of coral reefs. “Determining which species have the most deleterious effects on the larvae, and which ones the corals can compete with, will allow conservationists to create healthier and more successful coral colonies and reef systems,” said O’Dea.

Joel was the 2017 recipient of the Delbridge Narron Travel Award from the Honors College, which helped fund his field work and research with Discovery Place Science as part of a Research and Education Expedition, led by Elliot Provance, UNC Charlotte alumnus (’03). Joel also won a UNC Charlotte Alumni Association Scholarship for the 2017-18 academic year.

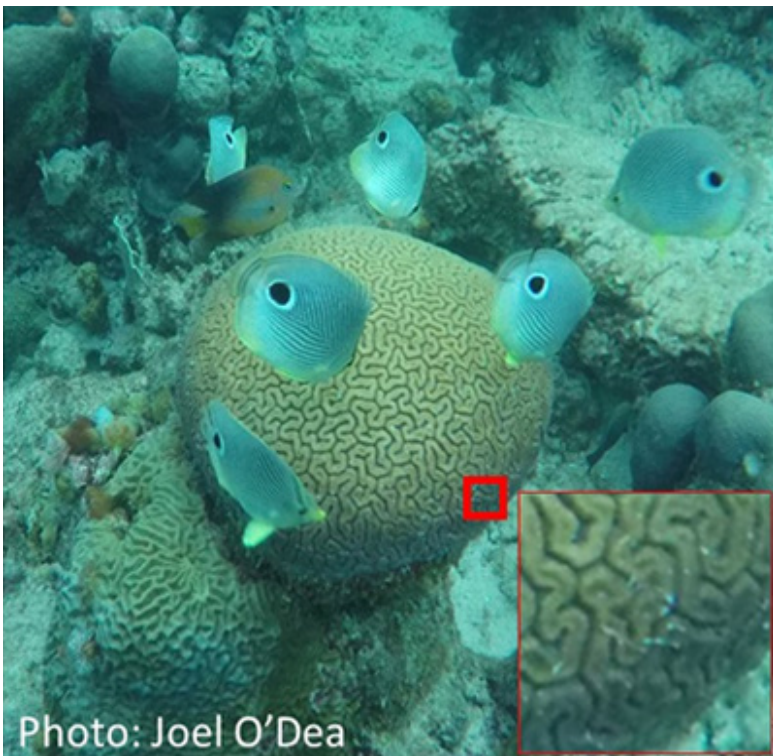


Photo: Joel O’Dea

ADVENTURES ABROAD



Misty Morin spent the Spring of 2017 in Santander, Spain.

Each year, students in the Honors College enhance their education by studying abroad, traveling the world, and enjoying new experiences and cultures. This past year, our students scattered across the globe to visit a variety of countries and bring their stories and journeys back to Charlotte. Some students traveled within the Americas, visiting places like Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador, and Canada. Others headed to European destinations like Spain, France and Italy, and a few even experienced the cultures of Asia while in South Korea and Japan. Wherever they go, students of the Honors College use their experiences to develop a deeper understanding of the world around us, allowing them to grow as scholarly students and model citizens.



Sarahan Moser and Eileen Jakeway in Japan for spring break.



Sarah Crawley studied in Kyoto, Japan, for an entire year.



Sarah Riegel in Ecuador over the summer of 2017.



Josh Sun in Jerusalem for the Mount Zion Dig, summer of 2017.



Maria Garcia studying in France, Fall of 2016.

"Iceland was a fantasy to me. We saw grasslands flattened by glaciers next to towering mountains that flank the sides..."



We swam outside in remote thermal pools, played on beached icebergs, and even saw the northern lights! It was an unforgettable trip."

-Jeffrey Manchester, *Crown Scholar & UHP*

FULBRIGHT SPOTLIGHT

By: Luke Lowry, *Mechanical Engineering 2019*

This summer, I was selected to be part of a Fulbright Summer Institute in Glasgow, Scotland, along with nine other students from around the US. We partnered with two host institutions, University of Strathclyde and Glasgow School of Art, and studied the themes of Creativity, Innovation, and Technology during the three-week program. I first heard about the Fulbright Summer Institute from Ms. Karen James, the Associate Director for Scholars Advising in the Honors College. She gave a presentation on all of the available postgraduate awards such as the Fulbright, but also on the Fulbright Summer Institute, designed specifically for freshman and sophomore undergraduates. I decided to apply, so I met with her and decided which program I would best be suited for. After that, I began the application process. It was very rigorous and involved several essays, letters of recommendation, and answering various questions. I was able to meet with her throughout the process for advice, which was an invaluable resource. After applying, I heard back that I had made it to the interview stage. I conducted a Skype interview with the program directors, and I was told a week later that I had been accepted.

During the trip, we were included in many amazing lectures and events organized by both of the host institutions. At these, we were able to see the technological innovation going on in both schools. For example, we were able to tour the School of Visualization and Simulation at Glasgow School of Art where we saw virtual and augmented reality being used for medical applications, the Advanced Forming Research Centre at Strathclyde which serves as a liaison between academia and manufacturing industry, and the Department of Biomedical Engineering.

While our focus was technology, we studied it not only directly but also through a broader historical and cultural lens. The goal was to understand what happened throughout the course of Scottish history to bring it to its current state as a modernized nation. We had sessions about Scottish history and the Enlightenment, public health issues, politics, and city planning. Additionally, we were able to see so much outside of these two schools. We had a chance to meet the Glasgow City Council, tour the BBC Scotland headquarters, visit the U.S. Consulate in Edinburgh, and tour the Scottish Parliament, among other things.

After coming back from Scotland, I have realized how misconstrued my views about Scotland initially were. I thought it was a rural, antiquated country full of castles, kilts, and bagpipes. While there, I saw my fair share of castles and even toured a whiskey distillery. However, Scotland is not exclusively those things: it is actually a modern nation at the cutting edge of many industries. By being a part of the Fulbright Summer Institute, I was able to experience this first hand in a way I could not have by simply being a tourist. The trip gave me an understanding of another culture which I plan to use in the future as I pursue not only a career but also growth as an individual.



It was undoubtedly a once in a lifetime, paradigm-shifting trip, and I am indebted to all of the people in the Honors College and outside of it who helped me get there.

2017: BY THE NUMBERS

3 new merit scholars programs: Crown + Albert + Martin =

120

TOTAL MERIT SCHOLARS
IN THE HONORS COLLEGE
(HIGHEST # IN UNCC
HISTORY)

→ **1** Fulbright Summer Institute student,
2 Goldwater winners and
1 Ertegun scholarship recipient

518 total
honors
students

*with Levine Scholars, 593 students!



38% of departmental awards
(URC) won by honors students

All **5** Atkins Library Awards
(URC) went to Honors students

50 Honors students travelled to
present at research conferences

Highest number of honors students

297

presented at the Undergraduate
Research Conference (URC)

44% GROWTH IN # OF HONORS
GRADUATES SINCE 2015-16

NCHA C



OMES TO CHARLOTTE

This year, we were fortunate to have the opportunity to host the annual North Carolina Honors Association Conference, titled “Crossing Borders. Building Bridges.” Across two days, students and faculty gathered to discuss honors education and share their research projects at North Carolina’s urban research university. Led by Dr. Cherese Childers-McKee, the Honors College conference committee welcomed 166 participants from 22 colleges and universities to Charlotte for a weekend full of critical thinking and experiential learning.

“Crossing Borders. Building Bridges” is a theme that has been instilled in our Honors College through our Executive Director, Dr. Malin Pereira. “Whether we are talking about interdisciplinarity, diversity and inclusion, intellectual breadth, or global awareness, crossing borders and building bridges are necessary 21st century skills we strive to foster in our honors students,” she added.

One of the bridges that the Honors College looks to build is between transfer students and honors experiences. During the conference, our administrators hosted a “Transfer to UNC Charlotte Summit”, exploring how to bridge the gap between two-year community college honors programs and UNC Charlotte honors.

Dr. Pereira has been at the forefront of working to expand our Honors College opportunities to transfers to UNC Charlotte. “The transfer summit provided a terrific opportunity for honors leadership at UNC Charlotte to hear what honors programs at two year colleges are like, and for directors at community colleges to see what honors pipelines for transfers might be possible here,” added Pereira. “Given that almost

half the undergraduates at the University are transfers, it’s important for us to find a pathway into honors for the high achievers.”

The summit included presentations from the South Piedmont Community College Honors Program and the Wake Technical Community College Honors Program, along with the UNC Charlotte University Honors Program, the UNC Charlotte Business Honors Program, and the UNC Charlotte Transfer Center.

Our keynote speaker for the conference weekend, Dr. Brenda Tindal, a UHP and UNC Charlotte alumna, is no stranger to crossings borders and building bridges. Tindal returned to the University after graduate school to teach courses on global social reform movements, and currently serves on the Advisory Council for the UNC Charlotte Women + Girls Research Alliance and the Advisory Board for the Honors College.

She is Historian and Senior Vice President of Exhibits and Education at the Levine Museum of the New South, where she conducts research, plans and curates major exhibits, and develops and delivers educational programs. In 2005, Tindal was part of the curatorial team that developed “Courage: The Carolina Story that Changed America,” an exhibit on the region’s role in the landmark school desegregation case, *Brown v. Board of Education* (1954), which won the National Award for Museum Service — the highest honor given to museums and libraries in the nation. These various experiences have helped Tindal cross borders and build bridges within the Charlotte community throughout her career.

Learning does not just happen in a classroom or research lab but also in our

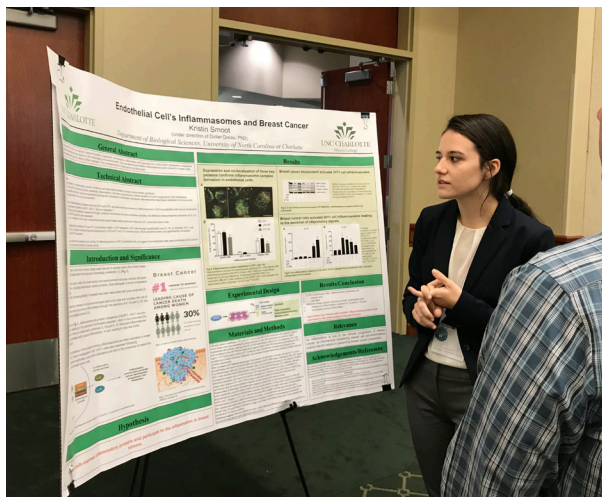
NCHA COMES TO CHARLOTTE

community. Conference participants were given the opportunity to venture through the city of Charlotte, explore the four wards of the Uptown area and learn about the history of our city through the City as Text™ program. This interactive learning experience allowed students to investigate issues in our community, while fostering critical inquiry and integrative learning across disciplines. Group experiences like City as Text™ help provide a complete perspective on a place in an engaging environment.

Along with these unique events we included this year, the main focus of the conference is the presentation of research that honors students have been completing all year in their various fields. From UNC Charlotte, 14 of our Honors College students presented at the conference.



Henry Weaver receives his research award from Dr. Malin Pereira.



Kristin Smoot presents her research at the conference.

These are the UNC Charlotte students who presented research throughout the weekend:

Brianna Thurman — “Bell Jars, Physics and Jumping Off Cliffs: An Exploration of Adolescent Depression in the Coming of Age Novel”

Shelby LeClair — “Serious Matters: How Humor Functions in Young Adult Literature about the Holocaust”

Nephdarlie Saint-Cyr — “The Construction of Minority Identities in Video Games”

Chelsea Moore — “A Country that Hath yet her Maidenhead: Representations of Landscapes as Female Bodies in Spenser’s The Faerie Queene and A View of the Present State of Ireland”

Nicole Kaufman — “Race, Gender, and Publishing: Policing Public Perception in Zora Neale Hurston’s Dust Tracks on a Road”

Allie Knuckles — “Building the Bridge from You to Inclusivity”

***Henry Weaver** — “Identifying Novel Plasma Membrane to Endosome Fusion Machinery using Fluorescently Labeled Alpha-factor”

Susanna Parkhill — “Eye Contact Across Gender and Culture”

Zachary Osborne — “Population Governance in the People’s Republic of China: Outcomes from the One-Child to Two-Child Policies”

Rachel Jones — “Investigating the Role of Global Medical Brigades in Developing Sustainability through Community Engagement”

***Kristin Smoot** — “Endothelial Cell’s Inflammasomes and Breast Cancer”

Nicholas Osborne — “Macao’s Political Awakening”

Benjamin Osborne — “China, Africa’s New Colonial Power: Myth or Reality?”

Jaylon Smallwood — “Hushpuppies: A Defining Food of the South”

*Kristin Smoot and Henry Weaver are two of our students who received honors research awards at the conference.

NCHA COMES TO CHARLOTTE

Our first time as hosts, the 2017 North Carolina Honors Association Conference was successful thanks to the vision of Dr. Malin Pereira and the leadership of Dr. Cheresse Childers-McKee. Thank you to Darby Ford, Alana Hadley, Allie Knuckles, Afra Mahmood, Kenia Rios, Janessa Schwallie, Noah Vetter and Dr. Stefani Thachik of the Business Honors Program, who all served on the NCHA Conference Committee and helped ensure the successful planning and execution of the conference. Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2017 NCHA Conference. Your research continues to drive the success of honors programs throughout the state of North Carolina. Lastly, thank you to Mrs. Shannon Zurell-Carey, along with everyone else in the Honors College, who contributed significant time and effort into the conference. We would not have been able to do it without the assistance of everyone: the committee, faculty, staff, and student volunteers. From the beginning stages of planning until the last day of the conference, they exemplified the theme of “Crossing Borders. Building Bridges” and created an event fit for all honors programs across North Carolina.



Dr. Brenda Tindal delivering the keynote address at the UNC Charlotte Center City Campus.



Conference attendees enjoying the banquet at Center City before Dr. Tindal's address.



Dr. Cheresse Childers-McKee accepting her new position as 2017-2018 North Carolina Honors Association President.

Olympic Medal Designer Creates New Graduation Medallions



Jamie Franki in his office.

Just as this year has been a year of new beginnings with our new home, new honors programs, and new merit scholars programs, new graduation medallions are being designed for the University Honors Program and the Albert, Crown, and Martin Scholars. Students from the programs met to collaborate on ideas that represented the values and mission of their individual programs and the Honors College as a whole. We are fortunate enough to be working with a well-recognized and highly respected artist on the new designs, Jamie Franki. Mr. Franki serves as the Associate Chair of the Department of Art + Art History at UNC Charlotte. Some of his past work includes the Order of IKKOS Medal for the United States Olympic Committee, several medals for the American Numismatic Association, and the Jefferson Nickel. We are thrilled that he is helping us create these new medallions for the Honors College!

New & Re-Appointed Honors Faculty

The Honors College is continuously growing as we add more honors and scholars programs at the University. With this growth, the need arises for more faculty to support honors and work with our high-achieving students. Listed below are the new and re-appointed faculty who joined or re-committed to Honors Faculty governance this year.

CLAS	Arrigo, Bruce	Professor	Criminal Justice
CLAS	Bennett, Jeanette	Assistant Professor	Psychology
COB	Bodkin, Charles	Professor	Marketing
CLAS	Diemer, John	Professor	Geography and Earth Sciences
CLAS	Eastin, Matthew	Associate Professor	Geography and Earth Sciences
COAA	Frakes, Jim	Associate Professor	Art and Art History
CLAS	Harris, Kim	Associate Professor	Math
CHHS	Hatcher, Schnavia	Director	Social Work
COAA	Hartley, Andrew	Distinguished Professor	Theatre
CHHS	Howden, Rueben	Associate Professor	Kinesiology
CLAS	Jones, Dan	Associate Professor	Chemistry
COE	Khire, Milind	Professor	Civil and Environmental Engineering
COB	Khouja, Moutaz	Professor	Operations Management
CLAS	Leak, Jeffrey	Professor	English
CLAS	Lewis, Janaka	Assistant Professor	English
CLAS	Lorenz, Tierney	Assistant Professor	Psychological Science
CLAS	Magi, Brian	Assistant Professor	Geography and Earth Sciences
COAA	Makas, Emily	Associate Professor	Architecture

COED	Matthews, Michael	Associate Professor	Special Education
CHHS	McCarter, Susan	Associate Professor	Social Work
CLAS	Mckenzie, Mary	Senior Lecturer	Sociology
CLAS	Ogundiran, Akinwumi	Chair and Professor	Africana Studies
CLAS	Pereira, Malin	Professor	Honors College/English
CCI	Perez Quinones, Manuel	Associate Dean	Computing and Informatics
CHHS	Peters, Amy	Senior Lecturer	Social Work
COED	Pilonieta, Paola	Associate Professor	Reading and Elementary Education
COED	Putman, Michael	Chair and Professor	Reading and Elementary Education
CLAS	Rauch, Alan	Professor	English
CCI	Shehad, Mohamed	Associate Professor	Software and Information Systems
COED	Shore, Rebecca	Associate Professor	Educational Leadership
CLAS	Smail, John	Professor	History
COE	Smelser, Ron	Senior Associate Dean	Engineering
CLAS	Stokes, Ashli	Associate Professor	Communication Studies
COB	Swartz, Carol	Clinical Professor	Economics
CLAS	Thorsheim, Peter	Professor	History
CLAS	Toscano, Aaron	Associate Professor	English

HONORS CAPSTONES

As our students come to the culmination of their experience in the Honors College, they will complete capstone projects/theses within their respective fields of study. Capstone projects allow them to present new work and ideas, and give them the opportunity to demonstrate the knowledge and skills they have gained during their college career. These are some of the honors capstones that our senior students completed 2016-17:

Name	Program(s)	Title
Lucas Flint	Arts + Architecture Honors	The Ethics of Inclusive Restroom Design: An Architectural Response to HB2
Molly Schonert	Anthropology Honors	Mayan Figurines: An Archaeological Investigation of Gender among the Social Classes of Petén, Guatemala
Morgan Chandler	Biology and University Honors	Functionally Interdependent, Shape-Switching Nucleic Acid Nanoparticles
Vincent Cahill	Business Honors and Levine Scholar	An Oncological Survey of the Hispanic Paradox
Marshall Howington	Chemistry Honors	Design and Synthesis of Trinuclear Metal Chalcogenide Molecular Clusters and Coordination Ligands for 2-D Materials
Alexus Wall	Communication Studies Honors	The Rhetoric of Protest and Confrontation: A Critical Look at How Frames Shape a Digital Social Movement and Its Success
Kimberly Burchard	Education Honors	Assessing Elementary Boys' Interest in Texts Within the Classroom Library
Samuel Dunbar	Engineering Honors	Skateboarding, Energy Engineering, and the Peristaltic Compression of Tubes
Brianna Thurman	English Honors	Bell Jars, Physics and Jumping Off Cliffs: An Exploration of Adolescent Depression in the Coming of Age Novel
Matthew Veasey	Geography and Earth Science Honors	Establishing Seasonal Variation in a Stream's Response to Rain Events via Hydrograph
Philip Hinson	History Honors	Defining the "Feeble-minded" for the "Public Good": Sterilization in North Carolina
Carlie Coates	Kinesiology and University Honors	The effects of isometric exercise on immediate post-isometric exercise glucose tolerance
Layton Hall	Physics Honors	Quantifying Uncertainties in Maximum Entropy Estimation for Small Random Samples
Gabrielle Clunie	Political Science Honors	Analysis of U.S. Media Framing Effects on Disease Outbreak and U.S. Travel Policy Preference of the American Public
Ansley Black	Psychology and University Honors	Spirituality and Locus of Control as Related to Perceived Impact of Illness in Chronically Ill
Casey Aldridge	Religious Studies Honors and Levine Scholars	Prometheus Bound to Eurocentric Error: Christ and Exteriority in Latin American Liberation Theology —or— The Problems of Exporting Proletarian Self-Emancipation
Nadezhda Draga	Sociology Honors	Religion and Generosity in Slavic Immigrant Churches

COMING FULL CIRCLE: AN INTERVIEW WITH BEN STILL

Ben Still graduated from UNC Charlotte in 2013, holds affiliation with Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, and is an alumnus of the Arts + Architecture Honors Program. He has competed in numerous national competitions as a classical saxophonist and attended graduate school at Texas Tech University, where he received his Master of Music degree and is completing his Doctor of Musical Arts degree. Currently, Mr. Still is an instructor of saxophone here at UNC Charlotte and will be teaching an honors course in the spring of 2018.

Tell us about your honors experience as a student at UNC Charlotte.

I came in as a student in 2009, just after the College of Arts + Architecture had been founded in 2008. I didn't know a lot about the Arts + Architecture Honors Program, but Dr. Grymes encouraged me to apply anyway. I've always wanted to challenge myself, and being one of the first students in the program, I loved the idea of a personalized honors setting. Having small, intimate classes was a great benefit of the program, especially the seminar courses that provided more attention from professors. Students in Arts + Architecture Honors are given so many opportunities to collaborate across disciplines. I had friends in music, but honors gave me the opportunity to work with other students in dance, theater, art and architecture.

Are there some opportunities you feel that you gained by being a student in a honors program?

As an honors student, I had the chance to take some honors liberal studies (LBST) classes, and the difference between a normal section and an honors section was incredible. The classes I was able to take encouraged so much more critical thinking and helped me explore as a student. I'm passionate about exploring the city, taking in all the beautiful art and architecture, and seeing some great theatrical performances, which were all required or encouraged for our students.

Going out into your career, were you better prepared because of the Honors College?

One of the things that helped me the most with the Honors College is that it made me open up more to new perspectives. While in graduate school at Texas Tech, I was also teaching music to middle school kids in the local school district. In Arts + Architecture, we had students in all sorts of disciplines, so we had to work together to find common ground, and that experience helped shape my ability as a teacher. The kids I was working with all come from different backgrounds and have various learning styles, so I definitely felt better equipped to teach all different types of students because of my honors experiences.

In the spring, you'll be teaching an honors course on the history of jazz music and its influences. What motivated you to "come full circle" and contribute to honors now?

I was fortunate enough to come back to the school this fall and fill in for Dr. Campbell while he is on sabbatical. I've been able to teach saxophone studio and saxophone quartet, and Dr. Grymes was generous enough to offer for me to continue teaching in the spring. I'll hopefully have finished up my Doctor of Musical Arts (DMA) by then, so I think it's exciting to translate the things I've learned along the way into teachings for students now. Working with the Honors College Faculty and Curriculum Development Coordinator, Dr. Cherese Childers-McKee, we've designed an honors course on the history of jazz music, what I believe is "beautifully broken" music that tells a story about our society. It's something I've always been fascinated by, and I'm looking forward to sharing this with the students.



PEOPLE OF THE

The Honors College Advisory Board serves as a fundraising and advisory board for the Honors College. Members are drawn from community leaders and UNC Charlotte Alumni. The Advisory Board meets twice per academic year, once in the fall and once in the spring. In 2016, the Advisory Board successfully fundraised for the Al Maisto Scholarship, in recognition of former director of the University Honors Program and Associate Dean of the Honors College, Dr. Al Maisto, a long-time Professor of Psychology. The Honors College Advisory Board looks forward to continuing its support of honors!



Delbridge Narron

Advisory Board Chair
Senior Vice President, General
Counsel and Corporate Secretary
at Springs Global US, Inc.



Hilary Davidson

Sustainability Director at Duke
Energy Corporation

UNC Charlotte Alumna (M.S.C.E.
1991)



Brian Zapata

Project Manager at Zapata
Incorporated

UNC Charlotte Alumnus (B.S.C.E.
2003, M.S.C.E. 2007, Ph.D. 2012)



Alan Smith

Senior Private Client Advisor at
Park Sterling Bank

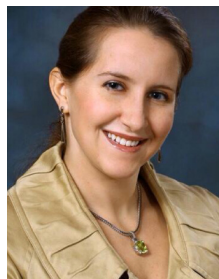
UNC Charlotte Alumnus (B.S.
1998)



Brenda Tindal

Senior Vice President at the Levine
Museum of the New South

UNC Charlotte Alumna (B.A.
2004, University Honors Program)



Jennifer Paules

Senior Vice President at Bank of
America

UNC Charlotte Alumna (B.A.
2001, University Honors Program)



Harry Creemers

Counsel at CapDev
UNC Charlotte Alumnus (M.U.A.)

(Former Director of Development,
Honors College)

HONORS COLLEGE



Lex Miller



Maiah Dixon

During any visit to the Honors College offices you will be greeted by one of our University Professional Internship Program interns. This year, Lex Miller is our Alumni and Community Outreach intern, Maiah Dixon is our Social Media intern, Ryan Detig is our Membership intern, Alana Hadley is our Events and Programming intern, and Noah Vetter is our Head intern.



Ryan Detig



Alana Hadley



Noah Vetter

Holden Derrick, our Public Relations intern, and Jordan Brusso, our Marketing and Outreach intern, worked hard to put this newsletter together. In about a month, they were able to compile all of the content and design every element you see here. We hope that you have enjoyed reading this newsletter and would love to hear your feedback on it. Feel free to call the front office at 704-687-7197 and let us know how we did or what you would like to see in our next issue! We appreciate your time and hope to continue to help grow the Honors College and the community therein.



Holden Derrick and Jordan Brusso posing in front of one of the over \$40,000 worth of art donated to Levine Hall.

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