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During the last twelve months we celebrated the many accomplishments of our students and faculty. Honors College students Keesha Matz and Julianna Brutman both received Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships: the highest recognition for undergraduates in the STEM fields. Since 2013 Honors College students have been recognized 10 times by the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship in Excellence & Education Foundation. We also launched several new programs. In January, the Honors Global Leadership Program included some of our most distinguished alumni including Dr. Michael Scott and Dr. Jeffrey Franks. Mike Scott was one of the scientists on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which received the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize with former Vice President Al Gore. Jeffrey Franks is head of the International Monetary Fund in Europe and Senior Resident Representative to the European Union.

Our students also made significant contributions to world-class research being conducted by our faculty. Keesha Matz, working with her advisor Professor Hector Aguilar, was co-author on the paper “Cytoplasmic Motifs in the Nipah Virus Fusion Protein Modulate Virus Particle Assembly and Egress” published in Journal of Virology. This work is important because Nipah Virus has a mortality rate in humans of 75%. By understanding how these viruses assemble and then leave infected cells, Keesha is hoping her work will lead to the development of new vaccines. Margaux McBurney was first author on the paper “Atrazine Induced Epigenetic Transgenerational Inheritance of Disease, Lean Phenotype and Sperm Epimutation Pathology Biomarkers” published in PloS One. Since its publication in September, Margaux’s paper has already been viewed over 7,000 times indicating its importance to the scientific community.

This year the Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine opened its doors and welcomed its first cohort of medical students. Four Honors College alumni Kyle Geiger, Michelle Heden, Ethan Payton, Christina Street, were in the charter class. We are looking forward to building cross-college partnerships that ensure that the best of Washington’s students can train as doctors to fill critical health care gaps in rural Washington and serve all of our state.

I invite you to read our annual report to see what else has happened in the Honors College over the past year. Please visit our website to learn more about our students and faculty. You might also enjoy looking at our on-line literary arts journal, The Palouse Review. You will find stories, poems, artwork, and musical compositions.

With sincere thanks and warmest wishes,
M. Grant Norton, Dean
Meet the Members of the Advisory Board

Wayne Asmussen ('86), Microsoft Corporation, Carole Butkus ('65), Butkus Consulting, Inc. and Belltown Records, Inc., John Caunt ('68), Hos Brothers Construction, Inc., Ross Cook ('01), Caiman Consulting, Andrew Flanagan ('04), Interface Engineering, Inc., Donna Hamilton ('67), U.S. Department of State (retired), Cassa Hanon ('83), Oracle, Carl Hauser ('75), WSU School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (retired), Janece Herzog ('84), Pacific Surgical, PC, Kris Herzog ('89), Comtech, Ted Herzog ('84), Tonkon Torp, LLP, Diana Kirkbride ('69), North Thurston Public Schools (retired), Lewis C. Lee ('88), Lee & Hayes, PLLC, Dave McGoldrick ('65), Law Firm of Morton McGoldrick, P.S., Lindsay Sandler ('13), The Boeing Company, Colin A. White ('03), Matisia Consultants

Anna King ('00)
Keynote Speaker, May 2017

Thank you, Anna, for serving as Keynote Speaker for the 2017 Honors College Spring Commencement Banquet! Anna is a journalist for Northwest Public Radio and Richland Bureau Chief for Northwest News Network.

Honors College Students at WSU

80% involved in research
80% involved in student clubs
40% participate in intramural, club, or PAC-12 sports
50% enrolled in STEM fields

The Honors College Offers First- and Second-Year Leadership Programs!

The First-Year Honors Leadership Program (F%HLP) provides an enriched and distinct experience that involves team-building exercises, case studies related to ethics and leadership, exploring leadership styles through an analysis of personality types, and engaging with leaders from various professional backgrounds. Support of the F%HLP was provided by The Boeing Company.

The Second-Year Honors Leadership Program (SHLP) focuses on leadership in a global context. The course content invites leaders from industry, government, and academia to present and discuss the importance of leadership in a globalized world. The SHLP is offered annually in spring semester and includes a global case project where WSU Honors students work throughout the semester with Honors students from Southeast University in Nanjing, China. In the spring, students from both universities come together in Pullman to present their cases and address issues to their topic.
What does Honors mean to you?

Vanessa Giramata  
Economics

“I joined the Honors College because I want to expand my knowledge through research, and work with small groups and faculty to attain a personal yet collective development.”

Bogdan “Theo” Mynka  
Music - Voice Performance

“Everyone in the Honors College is extremely helpful, and the students here motivate me to work harder and explore new ideas.”

Andrew Flanagan (’04)  
Associate/Senior Engineer, Interface Engineering
Pictured with wife, Rebecca (’04), and children

“To me, WSU Honors means thoughtfulness and perspective. As a student and alumnus my involvement with WSU Honors prevents knee-jerk reactions to the various situations that life puts me in, and that calmness fuels my confidence to handle any situation.”

Invest in the Honors College

Support for Student Excellence
- Merit- and Need-based Scholarships
- Research Opportunities
- Internships
- Mentorships

Support for Faculty Excellence
- Fellowships
- Distinguished Professorships

Experiential Learning Opportunities
- Study Abroad
- Participation at Academic Conferences
- In-Class Speaking Engagements
- Industry Visits

Visit give.wsu.edu

Linda Infranco  
Director of Development
infranco@wsu.edu | 509-335-7801

Since joining the WSU Honors College in 2016 I have been in awe of the incredibly talented young people who walk through our halls each day. Conversations about their academic goals, research projects, faculty interactions, study abroad experiences, and personal triumphs create such excitement in me that I want to share their stories with you – our Honors College alumni and friends!

Though our Honors students may come from various backgrounds, they all share several common traits – perseverance to overcome obstacles, ambition to achieve goals, and drive to positively influence the communities in which they live and work.

In fiscal year 2016, the WSU Honors College awarded over $118,000 in scholarships. You will see throughout this report the impact made by every dollar received. Your engagement in the Honors College plays a significant role in the success of our students! Whether you serve on our advisory board, speak in classes, mentor students in the labs or office, open doors at your place of work, or financially invest in student, faculty and programmatic excellence, your investment is making a difference. Your investment in the WSU Honors College allows us to dream big!

Thank you for your support this past year and always. I look forward to meeting you soon in Pullman or your home community. Until then – take care, be well, and as always – Go Cougs!
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*Academic Year 2016-17*

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Stay Connected!

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twitter.com/_wsuhonors

Upcoming Events for 2018

• Wednesday, March 28
  CougsGive 2018 Campaign (cougsgive.wsu.edu)

• Friday, May 4
  Honors Commencement Banquet featuring keynote speaker, Jon Jones (’93), CEO of Brighton Jones LLC, SEL Event Center, Pullman

• Saturday, April 7
  Honors Student Advisory Council (HSAC) Mom’s Weekend Brunch, Honors Lounge

• Stay tuned for announcements of Honors College alumni events near you!