



The Current

University of Louisville
Honors Program Newsletter

**GRADUATION
EDITION**



Quick Calendar

5/10	Convocation
5/11	Commencement

In This Issue

Honors Graduates.....	02
National and International Scholarships.....	05
Honors News.....	09
Honors Student Council.....	10
Editor's Note.....	12

Spring 2019

Honors Graduates

HONORS PROGRAM OUTSTANDING GRADUATES



Noah Smith

Cultural Anthropology Major • LGBTQ Studies & Social Change Minors

Honors Scholar • Trustees Scholar • Etscorn Scholar • Magna Cum Laude • 2018 - 2019 Honors Student Council (HSC) President, Former HSC Executive Vice President, Special Events Chair, and Freshman Representative for the Special Events Committee • TA for Honors Service Living Learning Community • Presenter at Kentucky Honors Roundtable conference • Participant in the Woodcock Travel Seminar to New Orleans

Noah has been selected for the first-ever cohort of **Lead for America** fellowship recipients. LFA is a nonpartisan two-year paid fellowship program for recent graduates dedicated to building community through strengthening and transforming local government institutions. Fellows serve in cities and towns across the country, providing service to a community that currently struggles to attract and retain talent. After a five-week training institute, Noah will return to their hometown of Versailles, Kentucky to work full time in the city's government. Noah's area of focus is the issue of food insecurity.

Elizabeth Peña

Communication Major • Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies & Political Science Minors

Honors Scholar • MLK Scholar • Magna Cum Laude • 2018 - 2019 Honors Student Council (HSC) Executive Vice President, Former HSC Diversity and Inclusion Committee Vice President and Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair • TA for Honors Service Living Learning Community • Presenter at Kentucky Honors Roundtable, Southern Regional Honors Conference, and the National Honors Conference • Participant in the Woodcock Travel Seminar to New Orleans

Elizabeth Peña is a Communication major with minors in Middle Eastern & Islamic Studies and Political Science. She received an **Etscorn Summer Development Award** and a **Gilman Award** in 2018. After graduation, Elizabeth plans to pursue a career in government and/or the nonprofit sphere. When asked about Honors, Elizabeth says "My time in Honors was filled with endless support and opportunities. I will always be grateful to the faculty and staff in Honors for their constant encouragement, assistance, and wisdom."



Honors Graduates

ARTS & SCIENCES SENIOR HONORS THESES

Noela Botaka, *magna cum laude*
Jason Bush, *summa cum laude*
Shelby Carter, *summa cum laude*
Amy Cherry, *summa cum laude*
Anna Davis, *summa cum laude*
Rebecca Davis, *summa cum laude*
John Desmarais, *summa cum laude*
Emily Dickey, *magna cum laude*
Isaac Feinn, *summa cum laude*
Lance Gibson, *summa cum laude*
Matthew Hill, *summa cum laude*
Mohammed Hindi, *summa cum laude*
Samir Kusmic, *summa cum laude*
Molly LaPorte, *summa cum laude*

Jacob Lawson, *summa cum laude*
Bayne Lutz, *summa cum laude*
Macey Mayes, *summa cum laude*
Katelyn McDowell, *summa cum laude*
Rakhi Patel, *summa cum laude*
Liam Resener, *summa cum laude*
Jessica Riley, *summa cum laude*
Seth B. Sereff, *summa cum laude*
Sarah Simon, *summa cum laude*
Devin Stephens, *magna cum laude*
Joshua Stewart, *summa cum laude*
Shayla Thompson, *summa cum laude*
Rachel Trimble, *summa cum laude*
Skyler VanMeter, *magna cum laude*

BEST THESES

NATURAL SCIENCES

Congratulations to **Mohammed Hindi!** Mohammed's thesis was selected as the Best Thesis in the Natural Sciences. Mohammed's thesis is titled "Reactive Glutamines and a Binding Site Region Contribute to FXIII Substrate Specificity for Fibrinogen α C" and was overseen by his mentor Dr. Muriel Maurer, professor of Chemistry.

HUMANITIES

Congratulations to **Devin Stephens!** Devin's thesis, entitled "The Delphic Plague: a Study in Athenian Oracular Rejection as Evident in the Oedipus Tyrannus" was selected as the Best Thesis in the Humanities. Devin's thesis project was overseen by his mentor Dr. Robert D. Luginbill, professor of Classics.

RUNNER-UP IN THE NATURAL SCIENCES

Congratulations to **Seth Sereff!** Seth's thesis was selected as the runner-up in the Natural Sciences. Seth's thesis is titled "Relationships of Protein Biomarkers of the Urokinase Plasminogen Activator System with Expression of their Cognate Genes in Primary Breast Carcinomas" and was overseen by Dr. James L. Wittliff.

Honors Graduates

HONORS SCHOLARS

Benjamin Anderson	Madeline Dyer	Macey Mayes	Jessica Sanders
Rachel Armstrong	Madison Eckels	Rachel McDonald	Elizabeth Schaaf
Kathleen Ash	Isaac Feinn	Katelyn McDowell	Andrea Schmidt
Mara Louise Atherton	Nicole Fielder	Sarah McQuaide	Peggy Schnell
Callie Bailey	Jeffrey Fox	Hallie Nicks	Seth Sereff
Alyson Boles	Lance Gibson	McClain Owens	America Silva
Stephanie Bolin	Claire Gothard	Kirsten Parker	Noah Smith
Manuela Botaka	Sydney Greenwell	Rakhi Patel	Kiara Smith
Noela Botaka	Rebecca Guan	Elizabeth Peña	Elshadai Smith-Mensah
Matthew Bradshaw	Balsam Hindi	Owen Powell	Victoria Snavely
Kurt Brown	HeeJue Hong	Abigail Proffitt	Joshua Stewart
Alexa Burke	Joshua Julian	Emma Radulski	Brandon Swift
Sam Charley	Mary Kalinyak	John Rhodes	Kara Thomas
Amy Cherry	Ashley Lanham	Audrey Riggs	Shayla Thompson
Sidney Cobb	Joshua Lanning	Jessica Riley	Rachel Trimble
Marcus Corbett	Molly LaPorte	Mary Robinson	Briana Williams
Easton Depp	Jacob Lawson	Kendall Ruber	Taylor Hinna Williams
Medha Desai	Bayne Lutz	Diana Rudic	
Lekha Devara	Miranda Mason	Mark Ryan	

ARTS & SCIENCES OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS

The University Honors Program would like to congratulate the following College of Arts & Sciences Award winners:

Woodcock Society Medal: Jessica Riley

Omicron Delta Kappa Outstanding Graduating Senior: Noela Botaka

Phi Beta Kappa Outstanding Student: Jason Bush

CONGRATULATIONS!

National & International Scholarships

2019 - 2020 UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE FULBRIGHT RECIPIENTS

The U.S. Student Fulbright Program, a federally sponsored international, educational and cultural exchange, recognizes academic merit and leadership potential. The program promotes mutual understanding between U.S. residents and people in more than 155 countries worldwide. Fulbrights are among the most prestigious awards in higher education.

ENGLISH TEACHING ASSISANTSHIP

Ben Anderson, who is graduating with a degree in Political Science, is a Muhammad Ali Scholar, Porter Scholar, and Brown Fellow. He was selected for the Public Policy and International Affairs Junior Summer Institute, and has earned a Critical Language Scholarship to study Mandarin abroad this summer, followed by a year in Taiwan as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.

Seth Drake is a Political Science, Latin American and Latino Studies, and Spanish major. Seth is a Trustees Scholar and will spend next year in Spain as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.

Macey Mayes is a Political Science major with minors in Humanities and LGBTQ Studies. She is a McConnell Scholar and received a 2017 Etscorn Summer Research award for study in Thailand. In 2018 Macey earned a National Security Education Program David L. Boren Scholarship, and participated in the Special Flagship Language Initiative in Indonesia next year. She will teach English in Malaysia next year as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.

Natasha Mundkur has earned degrees in Political Science and Marketing, and is a McConnell Scholar who received a Critical Language Scholarship in 2018 to study Hindi in India. Natasha will return to India next year as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.

Ethan Pelletier is graduating with majors in Political Science and Asian Studies, and will travel to Taiwan next year as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.



Chelsea Flint graduated with majors in Anthropology, Latin American & Latino Studies, and Spanish and will travel to Colombia as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.

RESEARCH AWARDS

Noela Botaka is a Biology major and a Martin Luther King scholar; she has been awarded a Fulbright Research Award and will spend the next year in Belgium, where she will be researching the effects of prenylation on jasmonate response at Ghent University.

Eric Hahnert is a Brown Fellow and Vogt Scholar who graduates this spring with degrees in Chemical Engineering and Biology. Eric has been awarded a Fulbright Research Award, and will spend next year at Aalto University in Finland, where he will research nano-cellulosic systems for energy-autonomous water contamination monitoring.

Samir Kusmic graduates this spring with majors in Physics and Mathematics, and will spend next year at the University of Heidelberg in Germany, with a Fulbright Research Award to study gamma-ray emission properties.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
THE FULBRIGHT RECIPIENTS!**



National & International Scholarships

CHARLES B. RANGEL INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FELLOWSHIP

The **Rangel Graduate Fellowship** is a program that aims to attract and prepare outstanding young people for careers in the Foreign Service of the U.S. Department of State in which they can help formulate, represent and implement U.S. foreign policy and supports them through two years of professional development activities.

Zerlina Bartholomew is an alum of UofL who graduated in 2015 with a B.A. in French and Political Science with a minor in Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies. She was a Porter Scholar and a 2015 - 2016 Fulbright Research scholar. She is one of 30 Rangel Fellows named this year, and is one of two from a Kentucky institution.

ROTARY GLOBAL GRANT

Rachel Mahubani is a recent alum of UofL and received her B.S. in Biology in 2018. The Rotary Foundation, which seeks to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty, has awarded Rachel a grant to pursue an MSc in Public Health at the University of Edinburgh.

BOREN SCHOLARSHIPS

NSEP awards **Boren Scholarships and Fellowships** to America's future leaders - undergraduate and graduate students committed to long-term, overseas immersive language study and to public service. Boren Scholars and Fellows receive funding to study the languages and cultures most critical to our nation's security. In exchange, they agree to utilize those skills within the government by seeking and securing federal employment for at least one year.

Madison Pumphrey is an Industrial Engineering student who has received an **African Flagship Languages Initiative** through the Boren Scholarship. She will study in Mozambique.

Dave Thomas is a student at the UofL Medical School who has received a **South Asian Flagship Languages Initiative** through the Boren Scholarship. He will study in India.

CRITICAL LANGUAGE SCHOLARSHIPS

The **Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program** is an intensive overseas language and cultural immersion program that includes language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences. CLS plays an important role in preparing students for the 21st century's globalized workforce and increasing national competitiveness.

Ben Anderson has earned a **Critical Language Scholarship** to study Mandarin abroad this summer, followed by a year in Taiwan as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.

Madeline McCloud is a Grawemeyer Scholar studying Neuroscience. She has earned a **Critical Language Scholarship** to study Mandarin in China this summer.

Gzeonie Hampton is a McConnell Scholar, Porter Scholar, and Hershberg Scholar. She has earned a **Critical Language Scholarship** to study Arabic abroad this summer.

Taylor Hinna Williams is graduating with a degree in English. Taylor is Martin Luther King Scholar, Porter Scholar, and a recipient of a **Critical Language Scholarship** to study Japanese language this summer.



National & International Scholarships

GOLDWATER AWARDS

The **Goldwater Scholarship Program** is one of the most prestigious national scholarships in the natural sciences, engineering and mathematics in the United States. It supports college sophomores and juniors who show exceptional promise of becoming the next generation of research leaders in their fields.

Praneeth Goli is majoring in Chemistry and intends to obtain an M.D./Ph.D. in integrative physiology after she graduates in 2020.

Garrett McGrady is majoring in Electrical and Computer Engineering and intends to obtain a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering after he graduates in 2020. Garret is currently a Grawemeyer scholar.

MARY CHURCHILL HUMPHREY SCHOLARSHIP

Lance Gibson is a graduating English, French, and Humanities major who received an Etscorn Summer Development Scholarship in 2016 and a Critical Language Scholarship to study Arabic in Morocco in 2018. This year, Lance has also received the **Mary Churchill Humphrey Scholarship**, which will allow him to complete one year of his graduate degree at the University of Manchester in Manchester, England. Lance is pursuing a graduate degree in Education.

ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION SCHOLARSHIP (KY BRANCH)

Hannah Bishop is a History and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality major who has received the **English-Speaking Union Kentucky Branch Scholarship** to study Medieval History at Cambridge University for one year. The English-Speaking Union of the United States (ESU US) is a non-profit, non-political, educational service organization whose mission is to promote scholarship and the advancement of knowledge through the effective use of English in an expanding global community.

SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR HEALTH MANAGEMENT AND POLICY

John Rhodes will receive his degree this spring from the School of Public Health and Information Science. John is a Martin Luther King Scholar and was selected to spend last summer at the **University of Michigan Summer Enrichment Program for Health Management and Policy**.

ETSCORN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to **Macey Mayes**, **Lance Gibson**, and **Elizabeth Peña**! The scholarship is awarded to students who propose their own rigorous plans of international study or research that go beyond what UofL can offer. With the award, Macey traveled to Thailand, Lance to Morocco, and Elizabeth to Jordan to complete their summer programs.



National & International Scholarships

THE 2019 - 2020 FULBRIGHT CYCLE IS NOW OPEN!

Now is the time to start thinking about your Fulbright application for Fall 2019! We are looking for outstanding seniors, graduate students, and recent alumni who are ready to work with us to submit highly competitive applications for Study/Research grants and English Teaching Assistantships (ETAs) to countries around the world. For more information about this amazing opportunity, check <http://us.fulbrightonline.org/>.

If you would like to find out more about what Fulbright options might be a good fit for you, you can schedule an appointment by emailing Bethany Smith at bethany.smith.1@louisville.edu.

IT'S TIME TO THINK ABOUT THE "BIG BRITS"

Are you ready to compete for a scholarship for graduate study in the United Kingdom or Ireland? Check out the four opportunities below and contact Bethany Smith, bethany.smith.1@louisville.edu, to schedule an appointment with the Office of National and International Scholarship Opportunities if you are interested.

GEORGE J. MITCHELL SCHOLARSHIP

One year of graduate study in any discipline in the Republic of Ireland (but NOT in Northern Ireland), with extensive programming to connect young leaders from the U.S. to the island of Ireland, while recognizing intellectual achievement, leadership, and a commitment to public service. Seniors, graduate and professional students, and alumni are eligible to apply. Must be under the age of 30 and a U.S. citizen.

For more info: <http://www.us-irelandalliance.org>

RHODES SCHOLAR PROGRAM

One to three years of study leading to a degree at the University of Oxford in England. Rhodes Scholars are chosen not only for their outstanding scholarly achievements, but for their character, commitment to others and to the common good, and for their potential for leadership in whatever domains their careers may lead. Seniors, alumni, and graduate or professional students are eligible to apply. Rhodes also has an exciting new initiative that involves students pursuing a second bachelor's degree at Oxford. Candidates must be no older than 23 when applying.

For more info: <http://www.rhodesscholar.org/>

MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP

One to three years of graduate study at a UK institution, in any field of study. Seniors, graduate and professional students, and alumni are eligible to apply within two years of their undergraduate graduation. Candidates must be U.S. citizens with an undergraduate GPA of at least 3.7. Up to 40 young Americans of high ability, with leadership potential and a lasting understanding of British society, are selected each year. This award opens up the possibility of all top universities in Great Britain, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland.

For more info: <http://www.marshallscholarship.org>

GATES-CAMBRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP

One to four years of study leading to a degree at Cambridge University, England. Seniors, graduate and professional students, and alumni are eligible to apply. U.S. and non-U.S. citizens are eligible. Applicants must initiate the process by applying directly to their intended department at Cambridge and filling out a supplemental portion of the Cambridge application form to be considered for the Gates Cambridge Scholarship. This award does not require institutional nomination.

For more info: <http://www.gatescambridge.org/>

Honors News

THANK YOU, HONORS HOSTS!

The Honors Host program, coordinated by Andrew Grubb, provides prospective students with the opportunity to meet current Honors students and gain insight into the benefits of participating in Honors, the requirements for admission to Honors, and the overall student experience at the University.

Without the support of our Honors Hosts, Honors would not be able to make it through all of our recruiting events. They are an amazing group of student volunteers and we want to offer our sincere thanks to each of them for their outstanding efforts throughout the past year. They all have done great work meeting with prospective students and we are truly fortunate to have such a great group to represent the Honors Program and the University. Thank you!

Amy Cherry
Spencer Cox
Cierra Craft
Samantha Charley
America Silva
Ryan Crowe
Taylor Young
Emilie Cornett
Kayla Payne
AnneMarie Fetick
Rebecca Duncan
Andrew Parker
Braedan Merriman
Molly Emdee
Walker Loving
Isabel Ilari
Calen Johnson-Miller
Blakeley McCalister
Savanah Kennedy
Rebecca Myers
Reese Bergschneider
Sean Woods
Sarah Draud
Paige Workman
Miranda Mason



Honors Student Council

2019 - 2020 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Congratulations to the following Honors students for their election to Honors Student Council executive positions for the 2019 - 2020 school year.

President



Danielle Graves

Executive VP



Emily Behr

Secretary



Allison LaRoy

Treasurer



Emily Moore

Social Media



Cay Johnson-Miller

Academics



Hannah White

Diversity



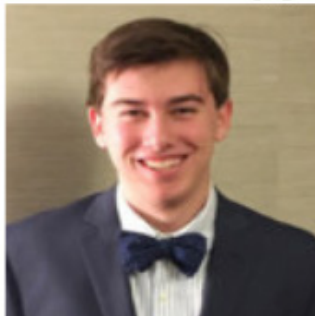
Thailan Franklin

Outreach



Sydney Fischer

Philanthropy



Spencer Cox

Service



Liz Turner

Social



Hinzee Smith



Honors Student Council

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

BAMS IS COMING BACK!

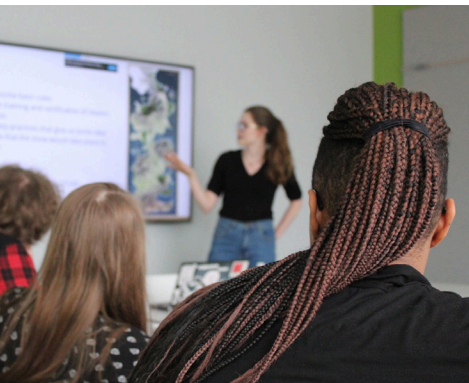
Honors Student Council's bi-annual Book and Media Sale (BAMS) is coming back in the Spring 2020 semester. Do you have gently-used books, DVDs, video games, records, and/or CDs that you'd like to part with? Not sure what to do with them? Consider donating them to HSC! The proceeds of the sale will benefit a local nonprofit organization.

If you want to get involved with BAMS or have any donations, please email us at honorsBAMS@gmail.com or call the Honors Center at (502) 852 - 6293.



HSC: A BRIEF REVIEW

As always, Honors Student Council has had a busy year! The committees - Academics, Diversity and Inclusion, Outreach, Service, and Social - tackled new events and brought back some old favorites for University students and the public alike. HSC discussed politics at REDTalks, danced the night away at a Stranger Things-themed Snow Ball, explored the relationship between pop culture and academia at PopCon!, devoted countless hours to service projects at local organizations, and more! Keep an eye out for more HSC events starting in the fall!

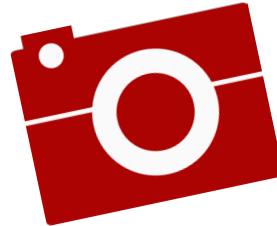


Facebook: @UofL_HSC • Twitter: @UofLHSC

STAY CONNECTED WITH HONORS!



Follow Us!
@UL_Honors



Tag Us!
@UL_Honors



Like Us!
[facebook.com/LouisvilleHonors](https://www.facebook.com/LouisvilleHonors)

A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Hello, readers of *The Current*! My name is Emma Radulski. I had the pleasure of working with Alex O'Keefe, the previous editor of *The Current*, during the 2017 - 2018 school year and am very pleased to bring it back to you after a year of dormancy.

I am a Spring 2019 graduate of the University of Louisville with a B.A. in Women's and Gender Studies and minor in Sociology. I will begin working full-time for the Honors Program in the role of Academic Coordinator at the end of May! The Honors Program has been part of my University experience since my first year, when I participated in the Service Living Learning Community. Since then, I served as Executive Secretary for Honors Student Council for two years, formatted the 15th and 16th editions of the *White Squirrel Literary & Arts Magazine*, presented on queer representation in *Star Trek* at the Kentucky Honors Roundtable conference, and took many fun seminars as an Honors Scholar. Outside of school and work, I love to read, draw, cook, embroider, and dream of the day I can have a few chickens in the backyard. My caffeinated drink of choice is a chai latte. My cat's name is Opal. I don't believe there's such a thing as too many plants, books, socks, or mugs. I loved the Honors Program as a student and am excited to contribute as an employee - I can't wait to meet and work with everyone in the Honors community this coming school year!

