



THE CURRENT

University of Louisville Honors Program Newsletter

Honors Calendar At-A-Glance:

April 30	Last Day of Finals
May 8	Honors Convocation
May 10	Commencement
May 11	Summer Term I Classes Start
June 2	Summer Term II Classes Start
July 8	Summer Term III Classes Start
August 24	Fall 2015 Classes Begin

Make sure to stay in touch with Honors when The Current starts publication again in August!

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Congratulations to all of our graduating Honors students! This issue of The Current celebrates the accomplishments of Honors students who are graduating from the Honors program this May.

LUKE BUCKMAN: OUTSTANDING ADVISOR



Luke Buckman stands alongside fellow award winner, Dr. Rhonda Buchanan, and the Provost, Shirley Willihnganz at the 2015 Provost's reception.



Luke Buckman, looking majestic as always.

Honors is extremely proud to announce that one of our own advisors has received the Certificate of Merit from the National Academic Advising Association! Luke Buckman was recently given the Provost's Award for Exemplary Advising at UofL, which put him in the running for the national Certificate of Merit award. Luke will be honored at an Awards Ceremony and Reception at the annual NACADA Conference in Las Vegas this upcoming fall as part of the 2015 Annual Awards Program for Academic Advising. Big congratulations Luke, and we're so proud to have you as a part of our team!



HONORS GRADUATES

Arts & Sciences Senior Honors Thesis

Taylor Beisler, *summa cum laude*
Albert Bragg, *summa cum laude*
Paige Brewer, *summa cum laude*
Yi Ling Chan, *magna cum laude*
Sara Deurell, *summa cum laude*
Lashawn Ford, *summa cum laude*
Lauren Grant, *summa cum laude*
Sarah Handlon, *magna cum laude*
Erica James, *summa cum laude*
Nicholas Lynch, *summa cum laude*
Grant McKenzie, *summa cum laude*
Marianna Michael, *summa cum laude*

Carli Mosby, *summa cum laude*
Lindsay Nason, *summa cum laude*
Anna Neikirk, *summa cum laude*
Sadmira Ramic, *summa cum laude*
Lora Danielle Robinette, *summa cum laude*
John Slack, *summa cum laude*
Sean Southard, *summa cum laude*
Austin Stethen, *summa cum laude*
James Thompson, *summa cum laude*
Megan Ward, *summa cum laude*
Samuel Whittaker, *summa cum laude*
Tessa Withorn, *summa cum laude*

Graduating Honors Scholars

Joseph Albrecht
Nneka Amadife
Taylor Beisler
Paige Brewer
Dillon Bullock
Alana Cahill
Charlotte Campbell
Eleanor Castro
Yi Ling Chan
Abigail Chin
Taylor Cook
Josephine Degler
Hanna Demarcus
Elizabeth Edrington
Sabine Eid
Isabella Emanuele
Lashawn Ford
Jennifer Fredley

Alexandra Funk
Devon Gaines
Allison Grant
Sarah Handlon
Arsh Haque
Moriah Haworth
Erica James
Cecily Kennedy
Maryam Khan
Adam King
Sophie Knight
Rebecca Layman
Nathan Lentz
Lila Lutfi
Nicholas Lynch
Taylor McFadden
Grant McKenzie
Jessica McQuaide

Megan Mercer
Marianna Michael
Brittany Miller
Carli Mosby
Lindsay Nason
Anna Neikirk
Melody Niemann
Nicholas Ostertag
Nishant Patel
Morgan Pike
Indraneel Reddy
Ashley Reinhart
Rachel Richard
Lora Danielle Robinette
Maddison Rokosh
Aaron Schultz
Rebecca Sears
Tori Seasor

Shaina Smoger
Meaghen Sorrell
Sean Southard
Cody Sterling
Austin Stethen
Heather Stewart
Elizabeth Terlep
Maria Tipton
Richard 'Ethan' Tomlinson
Megan Ward
Jessica Williams
Aaron Wilson
Tessa Withorn
Rebecca Wuestefeld
Hayley Wyman
Benjamin Zickel

HONORS ADVISING

HONORS ADVISING LIAISON LEAGUE (HALL) SUPERHERO SPOTLIGHT

The Honors Advising Liaison League (HALL) was established in the spring of 2014 as a network of professional advisors across the University who act as our University Honors Program champions in their respective advising centers. The members of HALL meet monthly to share information and network in an attempt to provide the best professional advising experience possible for our Honors students across the University.



SUPERHERO SPOTLIGHT:



Matt Church – Advising Coordinator for College of Arts & Sciences Center for Advising and Student Support Services

HONORS: Where are you from, originally?

MC: I was born in Louisville.

HONORS: What degrees have you earned and from where?

MC: I have a BA in History from Bellarmine, a MA in History from U of L, and a MA in Higher Education from U of L.

HONORS: How did you arrive at academic advising as a career?

MC: I actually found it through a graduate assistantship at U of L. At my undergraduate institution, we only had faculty advisor and I did not know that there professional advisors at other institutions. A position opened up in 2004 and I applied and have been an advisor since. It is the greatest job in the world.

HONORS ADVISING

HONORS: What do you love best about advising students?

MC: I love being able to help students find ways to not only use their undergraduate courses to reach their goal, but also to help them to explore subjects and courses that they may not have previously considered. U of L has a myriad of options and sometimes courses that students may not have enjoyed in high school, can become courses they really enjoy in college. To help students find courses they enjoy and to develop as both individuals and lifelong learners is a something I particularly enjoy. I am also somewhat jealous of all the course opportunities students have to select from at U of L.

HONORS: Why did you join the Honors Advising Liaison League?

MC: I joined because I am a big believer and support of the honors program and hope to help honors students make the most of their experience at U of L. Honors is a wonderful program and has such great opportunities. Everything from the honors volunteer council to Honors Roundtables to travel seminars, it is a great experience and I hope to be able assist students to find ways to take advantage of every opportunity afforded them by honors membership.

HONORS: What is your number one hope for the Honors student experience at UofL?

MC: My number one hope is that students take full advantage of all opportunities within the honors program, but particularly the seminars and honors thesis. The seminars are excellent course options and provide students not only the chance to take an interesting course, but to also get to know faculty members. Additionally, the honors thesis is great for students going on to graduate school and a great program for students to work with a faculty member to explore a topic in which they have a particular interest. My other hope is for students to consider joining the U of L Quiz Bowl team, I am one of the coaches, it is a great deal of fun and if you are interested in playing or attending a practice, please e-mail me.

HONORS: What's your favorite interest/pastime?

MC: My main interest is my family. My wife Kelly and I have two wonderful boys, Sam and Tony, and my favorite pastime is spending time with them. Aside from that, I do like to read and am a big U of L and Detroit Lions fan.



NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Nationally Competitive Scholarship Winners



Amanda Allen: Harry S. Truman Scholarship

A junior at UofL, Amanda is a political science and communication major. She serves as the Executive Director of the Engage Lead Serve Board, which oversees service and leadership programs and organizations at UofL. As Executive Director, Amanda works with campus and community partners to not only assist the community, but to challenge students to be conscientious and active citizens through service leadership. Amanda also volunteers as a mentor at Shawnee High School. With the Truman Scholarship and upon completion of her Bachelor's degree, Amanda plans to pursue a joint Master's in Education and a Juris Doctorate to enhance

education systems across the country.



Zerlina Bartholomew: Fulbright Research Grant to Morocco

Zerlina is a graduating senior with a double major in French and Political Science with a minor in Middle East and Islamic Studies. She has been involved in a number of on-campus organizations including SGA, honor societies, Model UN, and her sorority. She also enjoys tutoring English to immigrants and refugees at the English Language Conversation Table held at Iroquois Public Library. In Morocco, she will be conducting an individual project on Sub-Saharan migrants and their integration in Moroccan society. During her time there, she will be working with a local organization

that promotes cross-cultural interaction and engagement. Afterward, she intends to continue her interest in the Middle East/ North African region, pursuing a graduate degree in international affairs with a focus on migratory policy.



Morgan Blair: Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Turkey

A 2014 undergraduate of UofL, Morgan majored in English/Humanities with minors in Latin/Philosophy. She is currently studying 20th Century American literature through the Master's program at Brandeis University. While at Brandeis, her tutoring experiences with non-Native English speakers in the University Writing Program have complemented her literary study. She is looking forward to the ways in which the Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Turkey will challenge her to rethink my writing pedagogy and open her up to a new (Turkish) literary perspective. When she returns to the U.S., Morgan will take

a Teach for America position teaching high school English in Mississippi, and she will also continue exploring PhD. options and ESL teaching opportunities upon return.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS



Paige Brewer: Critical Language Scholarship for Russian and Fulbright to Kazakhstan

Paige grew up in Northern Kentucky and attended Notre Dame Academy in Park Hills, Kentucky. She is a McConnell Scholar at the University of Louisville majoring in Political Science with a minor in Russian studies. Throughout her college career, she studied abroad for a semester in Poland and a summer in China. She has served on the Student Orientation Staff and as an intern for the Center for Health Equity, World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana, and Emerge Kentucky. She will graduate in the Honors Scholars program and has successfully completed a senior thesis: "The Mankurt Remembers: The Politics of Language in Kazakhstan."



Hanna DeMarcus: Critical Language Scholarship for Russian

A senior undergraduate at UofL, Hanna studies English, Humanities, and Russian. She is the Co-Editor in Chief of the White Squirrel literary magazine, is active in the Honors Scholars program, and has volunteered at Kentucky Refugee Ministries, Crescent Hill Baptist Church, and other programs throughout her undergraduate career. She has been studying Russian for three years, and hopes to apply for graduate programs in Russian literature and language. Through the Critical Language Scholarship Program, she will be studying in Vladimir, Russia for two months this summer. CLS places students with host-families, matches them with a native language partner, organizes cultural outings, and provides intensive classroom study of the target language each day. Hanna's aim is to reach fluency in Russian, in order to work with literary texts in their original language as well as possibly work in literary translations.



Lashawn Ford: Fulbright Study Grant to the United Kingdom

Lashawn is both a Cardinal Covenant and Woodford R. Porter Scholar, and she will graduate summa cum laude with a B.S. in Justice Administration and B.A.s in Sociology, Psychology, and Philosophy. She has completed her senior honors thesis on the Consequences for Children of Incarcerated Parents. An active mentor and leader for at-risk youth in the Louisville Metro area, Lashawn has dedicated her time to organizations that work with disadvantaged youth. She uses her past experiences and academic training to encourage students to seek a better life through education and professional development. She received a 2015-2016 U.S. Fulbright Award to the United Kingdom, where she will complete her Master in Criminology at the University of Kent in England. Then, she intends to earn a J.D. with an emphasis in Juvenile Law. To this end she completed internships at the state and federal level with the ultimate goal of becoming a juvenile court judge.

Allison Fried: English Teaching Assistantship to Spain

Allison received her Bachelor's Degree in World Politics and Foreign Languages from Hamilton College in 2013. She will have a M.A.T. from the University of Louisville in May '15, and she currently is in her second year as a Spanish Teacher at Valley HS in JCPS. Allison hopes to learn from Spain's implementation of bilingual public education and to gain a global perspective on best practices and the potential of public education to provide opportunities to all learners. While in Spain, she will work as an English Teaching Assistant at a bilingual secondary school in Madrid and conduct research on bilingual schools and international public education. She plans to use the lessons learned in Spain to pursue a career in alternative public education and education journalism.



Madeleine Loney: Critical Language Scholarship for Arabic

A native of Hebron, KY, Madeleine will graduate from the University of Louisville in May 2015 with a degree in Psychology and a minor in Middle Eastern & Islamic Studies. She received the Brown Fellows Scholarship at the University of Louisville, which provides a full scholarship and additional stipend for summer enrichment projects. Her international experience includes two summers volunteering in Nepal and a year abroad in Meknes, Morocco. She also attended the University of Texas' Arabic Summer Institute, where she completed a year of Arabic in one summer (2014). She received the Critical Language Scholarship to study Arabic in Ibbi, Oman during summer 2015; she also will participate in Qatar University's Arabic for Non-Native Speakers program from 2015-2016 on a full scholarship.



Lila Lutfi: Fulbright Research Grant to the United Arab Emirates

A Political Science major, Lila will be studying legal pluralism in the UAE. This opportunity will allow her to gain professional and academic legal experience abroad before she attends law school to pursue International Trade Law. She looks forward to working with international professionals by interning at a law firm in Dubai and with academics by taking two law courses in Arabic. While abroad, she will also learn about the UAE by volunteering at a museum and she will hone her Arabic to a professional capacity. Her interests include legal studies, political research, the Arabic language, International Affairs, and Middle-Eastern culture and politics. In her spare time, she attends the Louisville Committee on Foreign Relations lectures and volunteers as an Arabic tutor once a week. She is also the founder and president of Cards For Humanity – a student group at UofL that engages students in local and international community service projects.



Ariel Stenger: Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Thailand

Studying Economics at U of L, Ariel found the potential for international business experiences enthralling. It was through working with the freshman Camp 100 course as a TA that she was inspired to pursue an international management student exchange in Warsaw, Poland. Her time in Poland became a foundational experience that led to a year studying international markets in Osaka, Japan. Upon returning to Louisville, Ariel stayed connected to the international community through the study abroad office. Currently, Ariel is teaching at the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota through Teach for America, and her time there has sparked her interest to return to Asia. Moving to rural Thailand to teach English as a Fulbright Scholar, she plans to explore Thai culture through teaching and internships that use the skills she has learned from Teach for America and the University of Louisville. Ariel hopes that this opportunity will open the door to a career in the foreign services.



Adeline Wilson: English Speaking Union Scholarship to Scotland

A junior at UofL, Adeline is a double major in English and Communications. She is currently serving as the prose editor at U of L's student literary publication, called The White Squirrel after the well-known critters on campus. She also works as the news editor for the campus student newspaper, The Louisville Cardinal. Through the ESU scholarship, she will spend time studying at the University of Edinburgh this summer. After she graduates from UofL, she hopes to pursue a career in children's and young adult book publishing.



Sirena Wurth: Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Bulgaria

Sirena graduated Magna cum Laude and as an Honors Scholar from the University of Louisville in May 2013 with a Bachelor's of Science in Political Science and minor in Communications. Currently, she teaches high school Spanish and Civics in New Orleans, Louisiana through Teach for America. During the past two years in the classroom, she has experienced first-hand the complexities, challenges, and joys that are intertwined in education, and she is eager to now dive into international education through a Fulbright ETA. Aside from being a huge Louisville sports fan, during her undergraduate years at UofL she was involved in Student Orientation Staff, Chi Omega, Student Government, raiseRED Dance Marathon, First Year Initiatives, and various mentoring programs at the university and in the community.

Nationally Competitive Scholarships & Honorable Mentions



Philip Dennison: Alternate for NSEP Boren Scholarship to Kyrgyzstan

A senior at the University of Louisville, Philip majors in Political Science and French and minors in Russian Studies. He also works third shift at UPS as a package handler and teaches private music lessons at Flying Hands School of Music. With a second degree black belt in American Kenpo, he is an assistant instructor at Bluegrass Martial Arts. He applied for a Boren Scholarship to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan to study the Russian language and the politics, culture, and history of Russia and Central Asia. If he is granted the Boren, he plans to use the skills he gains during his time abroad and the subsequent year of service to pursue a career as a political analyst for the Central Intelligence Agency.



Markita Helton: Alternate for Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to South Korea

Markita will graduate in May with a B.S. in Early Elementary Education and a concentration in Spanish, Summa Cum Laude. Interested in reforming schools to build cultural gaps, she devoted herself to the education of at-risk youth in various after school programs. This summer she hopes to be a math teacher for the third time in the program, Summerbridge Louisville, to combat learning loss among such youth. Her strong commitment to her community led her to serve on the executive board of the African Student Union for four years at UofL, become a Power Member at the Network Center of Community Change, and join the Healing Possible Quorum of 100 Louisvillians appointed by the city to combat racial health inequity.

Conrad Smart: Honorable Mention for the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

A sophomore at UofL, Conrad is a Grawemeyer Scholar and a Brown Fellow. He is currently studying physics and mathematics and will eventually pursue a Ph.D. in Physics to conduct research. He serves as the Community Outreach Chair in the Society of Physics Students (SPS) and he is a member of the library student advisory board. His current projects involve working with Dr. David Brown's High Energy Physics Group on an experiment at Fermilab National Laboratory that will eventually be looking for direct muon to electron conversions and with Dr. Shudun Liu examining the growth dynamics and nucleation of nanoclusters. He applied for the Goldwater scholarship in order to continue to refine and expand his current nanocluster growth simulation.

Mariam Williams: Alternate for Fulbright Research Grant to Trinidad & Tobago

Mariam Williams is pursuing an MA in Pan African Studies with a certificate in Women's and Gender Studies. She is also the program coordinator at the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research. Mariam is interested in the intersections of race, gender, and religion among women of African descent. She applied for a Fulbright research grant to study these intersections among women who follow traditional African religions and who were involved in Trinidad's Black Power Movement. She was designated as an alternate.

Internal Scholarship Winners



Brandt Coleman: Etscorn International Summer Research Award to the Riviera Maya

Brandt Coleman is a Jones Scholar and 2015 Clinton Global Initiative Scholar studying environmental science, conservation biology and underwater archaeology through an Individualized Major at the University of Louisville. He is a member of Mortar Board Honor Society Pallas Chapter; National Society of Collegiate Scholars; Founding Father and Community Service Officer of Alpha Tau Omega Kappa Omicron; Volunteer with Louisville based Bluegrass Honor Flight and Floyd's Fork Environmental Association and a Commissioned Colonel in the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels. Through the Etscorn International Summer Research Award, this summer Brandt will be interning with Spotted Drum Expeditions and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico, as a research diver in the Yucatan peninsula performing marine studies about anthropogenic effects on cenotes and the biodiversity of artificial reefs. He is a certified scuba Divemaster and Rescue diver and will pursue graduate studies in Marine Conservation Biology.



Stephanie Dooper: Etscorn International Summer Research Award to the Netherlands

Stephanie is a rising senior majoring in Political Science and Liberal Studies. With a love for adventures and traveling, she has studied abroad in Spain (and even went to the annual Running of the Bulls!), conducted research in Chile on multi-cultural education, and is excited to spend this summer conducting research on urban planning and governmental policy in The Netherlands. This award will greatly advance her goal of pursuing a graduate degree in Urban Planning and help her explore and discover innovative techniques in that field--all the while soaking in the true Dutch experience.



Megan Ward: Mary Churchill Humphrey Scholarship to the United Kingdom

Megg is graduating this May with a B.S. in Theatre Arts and a dual-degree B.A. in Humanities and Liberal Studies: Communicating History. She has performed in ten shows and worked as a costume stitcher and props manager with the University theatre department over the past five years. She also works as the Creative Director for The Louisville Cardinal. This fall she will attend the University of Birmingham in England to study in the Shakespeare and Creativity MA course, where she hopes to learn the skills necessary for making Shakespeare engaging for modern audiences.



FROM OUR FRIENDS

MBA Information Session

As a University of Louisville honor student and future leader, are you ready to take the next step and learn about the most innovative MBA in the country? If so, don't miss the May 6, 2015 MBA Information Session. This event will be held from 5:30pm-7:00pm at the University Club and Alumni Center. Prospective students will hear from the Dean of the College of Business, as well as current students and Alumni, and the Admissions team. During this session, learn about the Full-Time MBA program designed for recent graduates as well as the benefits of the program! Refreshments are served. Register today at www.uoflmba.com Under events!