

With Honors

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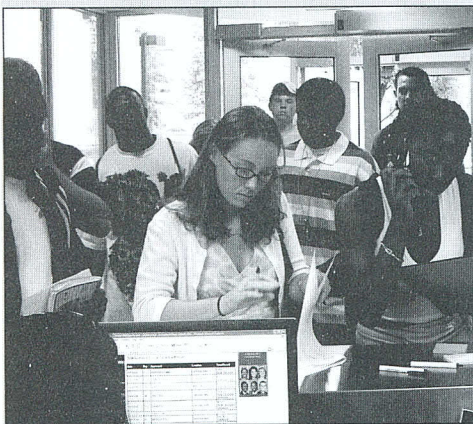
The University of Louisville UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

Winter 2005

Etscorn Center Delights Honors

The Irvin F. and Alice S. Etscorn Honors Center opened in time for the new school year in August 2004.

With two walls of glass, the Etscorn classroom is a virtual out-of-doors facility with a roof. The east and west walls give full views of grass and trees. It has the feel of an open-air seminar room of typical college literature with a difference -- it has AC and heat, not to mention a full range of high-tech teaching resources.



Early-bird Honors students lined up at the new Etscorn Honors Center to sign up for appointments as advising for spring classes began.

The Etscorn classroom seats 30 students in its classroom mode, and seats up to 60 as a guest-lecture venue.

South of the classroom, a sleek student study area, Honors academic counseling offices and the director's office help double the space now available for Honors use. The Etscorn Honors Center provides nearly 3,000 additional square feet of geographic space to enhance Honors resources.

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Members of the 2004 spring Overseers International Seminar "Traditional Japan in the 21st Century," taught by Dr. Julie Bunck and Dr. Mary Ann Stenger, shown here at Miyajima (Itsukushima Shrine) during the subsidized fieldwork segment of the course.

The Land of the Rising Sun

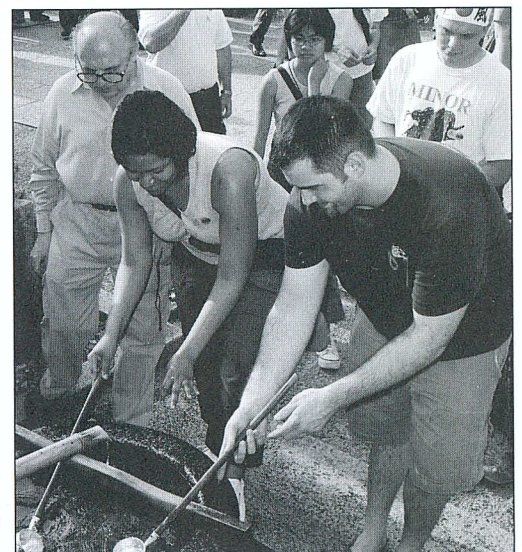
Unlike Any Other

By Erik Glowark
History

The course examined the juxtaposition of the traditional and modern in contemporary Japanese society including religion and art, economics and politics, gender and class, and the complex relationship between state and society.

For some of us in the international seminar, traveling to Japan fulfilled a life-long curiosity and desire. Although the program, consisting of a semester-long course entitled "Traditional Japan in the 21st Century," served academic purposes, the two-week trip following the course bestowed upon each of us something much more important: personal growth and a greater understanding of humanity.

Experiencing Japan through temples,
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Good luck follows those who dip drinking water from this shrine in Kyoto. Seminar members with ladles are Kelli Rollins (political science) and Eric Pope (biochemistry). Behind them, Thao Tran (anthropology, political science) and Erik Glowark (history) await a turn.

Fulbright Association Recognizes U of L's Rising Star

According to information supplied by the Fulbright Association, U of L ranks seventh in the nation -- alongside schools such as Duke University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Northwestern University -- in the number of students receiving Fulbright English teaching assistantships for 2004-2005.

In another Fulbright category -- research fellows -- U of L ranks seventh among schools in the South.

"We've always known U of L had incredibly bright and talented students," says Dr. Patricia Condon, associate director of U of L's Honors Program. "These rankings reflect more on the effort the students and the university have put into competing for the scholarships."

The Fulbright Association is the premier international exchange program in the United States. Sponsored by the Department of State, the program seeks to use international education exchange to promote mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the people of other countries throughout the world.

As national scholarship coordinator, Condon plays a leading role in helping students compete. She and a number of other faculty members help students identify scholarships they want to pursue. Faculty then work with the students to refine their applications and prepare for the competition itself.

"We're here to help any way we can," Condon says. "That may be offering an extra set of eyes to look over an application or helping them prepare for their interviews."

Land of the Rising Sun

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shrines and other remnants of the culture's past invoked intellectual stimulation and allowed us to relate what we had learned in class to modern society.

The free time that the program afforded allowed us to experience the everyday culture of Japan. Quite different from studying in a classroom environment, interacting with the Japanese not only gave us an invaluable sense of a society unlike any other, but it also allowed us to reexamine ourselves and the bond that binds humanity together.

On one particular day, a group of us decided upon renting bikes and subsequently immersed ourselves in the city life of Kyoto. While nothing exceptionally eventful occurred, it was nonetheless one of our favorite days in Japan. Riding around the cultural capital of Japan was an invaluable form of communication with Japanese society. For a day, we felt as though we were a part of the city; understanding the daily com-

mute that its citizens have to face, tasting their traditional foods and conversing to the best of our ability with street vendors and shopkeepers.

Although a few of us already had ideas of applying for the JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching) Program before coming on the trip, our days in Kyoto enticed several students to toy more with the idea.



Alicia Paez (political science) and Jennifer O'Reilly (political science) dressed in cotton kimonos head for a public bath near the hotel in Hakone not far from Mt. Fuji.

While visiting the Heian Shrine in Kyoto, a group of us separated from the tour and fell in with a group of junior high school students. In time, each approached us with their school-issued phrase books and asked us in broken English, "May I please ask you your name?" Of course, all of us were eager to reply and they jotted our answers down

in their notebooks in order to gain credit in the classroom. It was such a brief experience, and yet it was one of the most fun events of the entire trip.

We returned from the trip with all the academic goals fulfilled, and yet, we also came away with our own internalized understanding of a culture unlike any other.

Perhaps most importantly, we had fun. This may be the most lasting experience that the trip afforded us. Discovering a foreign city on your own via bikes is fun. Meeting school kids of another culture and finding that even the most simplistic conversation can be enchanting is fun. In fact, simply interacting with humanity and trying to understand other people's perceptions and cultures is fun.



While not working diligently on this article, Erik Glowark (history) posed with some of the high school students Honors seminar members met during Japan field study. From the center to right are seminar members Thao Tran (anthropology, political science) Erik, Chelsea Paterson (English) and Kelli Rollins (political science).

U of L School of Medicine Academic Dean Meets with Freshmen Pre-Meds



Early in their first semester, over fifty freshmen pre-med students met with Dr. David Wiegman, academic dean of the U of L School of Medicine. Dr. Wiegman discussed pre-med preparation, provided an overview of the application process as well as answered questions.

Non-Traditional Student Discovers The Honors Program

By Kira Hazelwood
Communications

As a non-traditional student I have spent much of my time on campus attending class. However, I was unable to find the time in my busy life outside of school to notice that I was missing out on one important University of Louisville asset. I viewed getting involved in campus programs as a complication in my life rather than an advantage. Then I discovered the University Honors Program and learned of the many valuable benefits offered to all students, whether they are traditional or non-traditional students.

The first benefit to spark my interest was early registration. Many semesters, as I waited for my turn in the rotation to register, I missed out on desirable classes and time slots. Trying to fit a class schedule around work and family schedules can be quite a frustrating experience. As an Honors student you are offered the privilege of early registration, increasing the availability of courses and time slots to choose from.

Early registration is only one of the advantages of the program. Another attraction is the small class sizes and interaction with faculty and students of similar interests. Personally, I welcome the idea of smaller classes. Although some students prefer larger classes, I have often felt minimized in large lecture halls and overcrowded classrooms throughout my educational career. The ability to contribute in class discussions on topics of interest is appealing. Getting to know and interact with faculty also enhances the college experience.

Other positives of the program include personalized service from a devoted and skilled Honors staff. A welcoming atmosphere is always present at the Honors House and the Etscorn Center. It is a place where you can stop by to use a computer, have a cup of coffee, or just see a friendly familiar face.

I recommend that non-traditional students stop by and check out the University Honors Program. It might be the smartest move of your academic career.

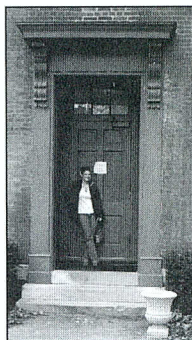


Seminar members head down the street of a Japanese traditional shopping-market area. The trip included visits to traditional districts as well as modern shopping areas.

A Very Brief History of the U of L Honors Program

U of L is fortunate to have a long-established, carefully developed University Honors Program. With the opening of a new facility, we find ourselves reflecting on Honors' history and remarkable growth. Originating in the College of Arts and Sciences in 1982 as an outgrowth of departmental honors programs in English and political science and individual honors courses in chemistry and mathematics, by the fall of 2004 the Honors Program has become a university-wide program with over 1,200 students enrolled.

In 1998 Dr. John F. Richardson (chemistry) began his service as Honors Program director. Among academic program offerings added since then are increased coursework and Honors advising as well as Honors-associated programs such as Honors Scholars and the National Fellowship and Scholarship Office. There has also been notable facility and equipment growth and student participation since 1998.



Ashley Sartaine (English) stands in the Honors House entrance.

In the 1988-89 academic year, the Honors Program achieved a new status with a landmark event, the establishment of a Board of Overseers fund to furnish and supply what is now the Overseers Honors House. The Honors House, a townhouse built in the 1870s, one of a row of period residences on what was then First Street, provided a desirable new location and facility for the program. Before beginning life as the Honors House, the building was used for many years to teach art, including a period as fine arts annex for the Art Association of the Louisville School of Art. When Honors moved to the Honors House it was located in a building constructed as a dining hall for the Navy V-2 program during World War II.

With the naming of nearby Threlkeld Hall as the Honors Program residence hall in 2002, Honors facilities now cluster at the center of campus. The opening of the new Etscorn Honors Center in the public area of Threlkeld in the fall 2004 semester marks another significant shift in Honors resources, expanding the physical resources to make way for increasingly enriched academic development.

The first director, Dr. William G. Bos (chemistry) was appointed in April 1982 by Dean Lois Cronholm and charged with the responsibility for developing the honors curriculum proposed in the Arts and Sciences Faculty Assembly document. Succeeding Bos as director were Dr. Charles W. Brockwell Jr. (history), 1983-86; Dr. Dale B. Billingsley (English), 1986-89; and Dr. John H. Flodstrom (philosophy), 1989-98.

In 1987 Honors began its initial expansion when Provost William Dorrill established a University Honors Committee, charging it to look at the potential for a university-wide undergraduate honors program. The committee's report in July 1988 recommended enhanced implementation of the Arts and Sciences model on a university-wide basis, as well as further exploration of honors opportunities.

What Do Honors Students Do When They Graduate?

What do Honors students do when they graduate? Certainly one answer is they do everything and they do it everywhere. A 2004 graduate is a business Fulbright in Mexico; another studies epidemiology at Cambridge University in Britain (see page 6). Students go on to many new experiences and studies.

Large numbers enter professional schools in Kentucky and other states. In 2003 *The Wall Street Journal* cited U of L as a top feeder school to 15 of the nation's most elite medical, law and business schools. The following short bio provides one story illustrating the unexpected twists and successes of a U of L Honors graduate from the class of 1990.

During the late 1980s Timothy Hall, a Bowling Green native, was a student at the U of L School of Music and a participant in the Honors Program. At that time the Honors Program was a unit of the College of Arts and Sciences, and there was no "official" way for a music school student to participate. The music school did not have a B.A. degree, only Bachelor of Music degrees, which allowed limited opportunities to take courses outside the music school.

Dr. Dale Billingsley, then chair of the Honors Program, was very flexible and welcoming to Hall and he used most of his elective hours in Honors Program classes. Although Hall feels that the dis-

cipline and analytical skills of a music degree are themselves very good preparation for law school, the Honors Program certainly helped him have a more diverse and well-rounded college education than would otherwise have been the case.

Hall graduated from U of L in 1990 with a B.Mus. in theory and composition, and graduated in 1993 *magna cum laude* from the Cornell Law School in Ithaca, N.Y. He practiced law for a few years before accepting a faculty position at the Salmon P. Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University. In 1998, he moved to Louisville to take a position on the faculty of the Brandeis School of Law, where he works today.

Hall teaches and writes in the areas of mental disability law and contract law -- neither an obvious use of a music degree. But he notes that, a university degree is not meant to be vocational training, and he believes that the rigorous liberal education received both through the School of Music and the U of L Honors Program continue to serve him well professionally.

With Honors is published by the University of Louisville's University Honors Program.

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Editor, Ruth Spangler

Visit our Web site at:
<http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/honors/>

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Etscorn Honors Center Opens

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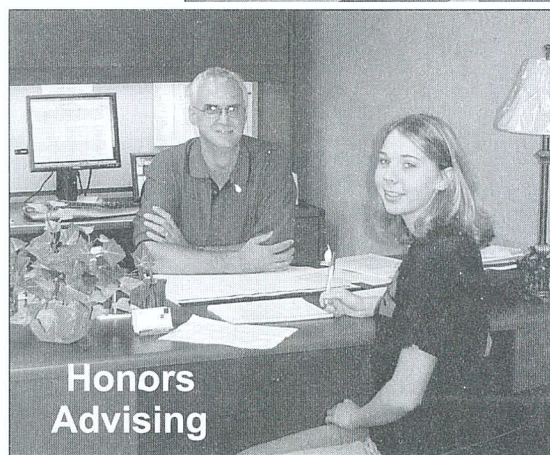
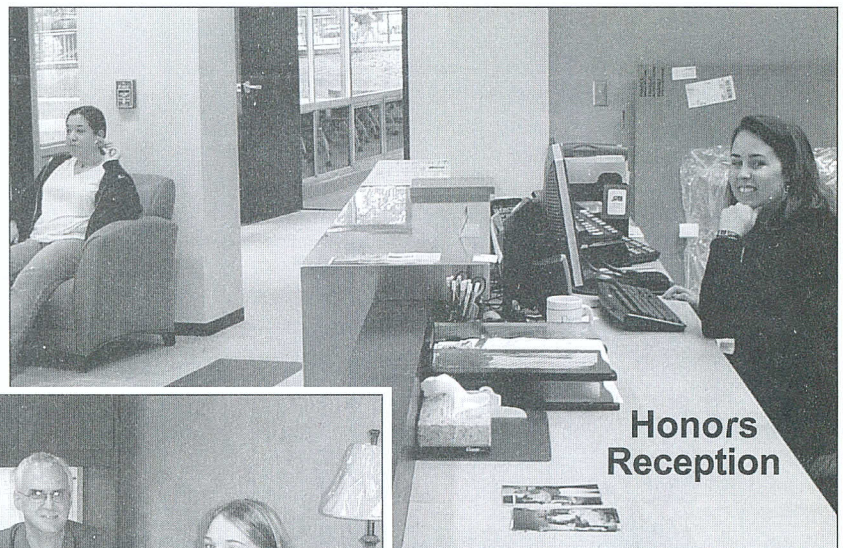
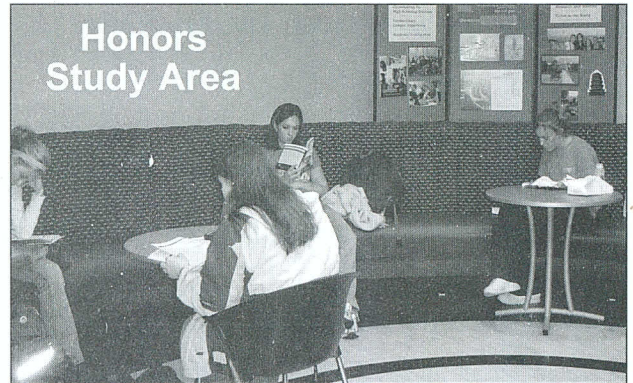
As for imaginative intellectual space, the resources have opened up a whole new realm.

The U of L Honors Program has rapidly grown in recent years, with the number of eligible first-year U of L student applicants doubling to nearly 950. Over 450 of these applicants made U of L Honors their college choice this year. The new Honors Etscorn Center is not only welcome, it is absolutely essential. The Honors Program offers over 100 classes and seminars a year, many of which can now be scheduled for Honors facilities in the Etscorn Center or the Honors House rather than squeezed in other facilities across the campus.

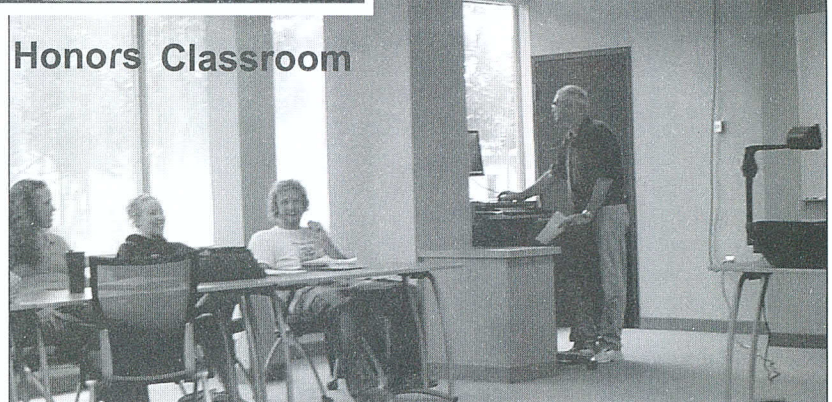
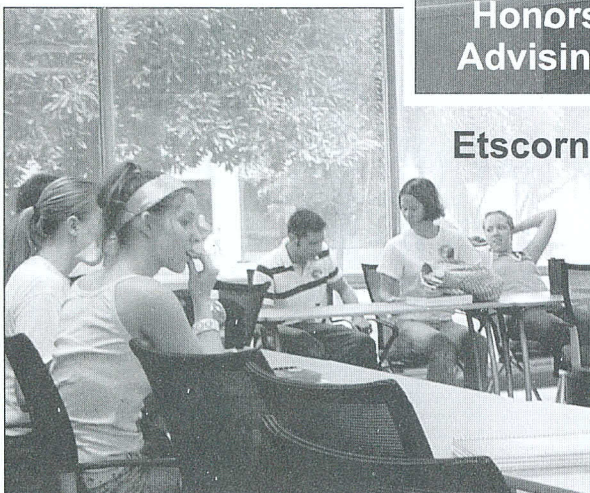
The new center has been in development for several years, and many individuals deserve thanks for helping the new space become a reality. Foremost among them is Dr. John Richardson, director of the University Honors Program, who has worked nearly five years to shepherd the new facility into being.

The Etscorn Honors Center is named for Irvin F. and Alice S. Etscorn. The Etscorn family is a long-time supporter of U of L's University Honors Program providing Etscorn tuition scholarships to deserving Honors students.

Demolition in the space began in late spring 2004 in the previously little-used public spaces of Threlkeld, the Honors residence hall. When classes began Aug. 23, the Etscorn Center was as busy as if it had always been a central part of the University Honors Program's facilities.



The Etscorn Honors Center, located in Threlkeld Hall, is the new reception center for the Honors Program. The information desk, anchored by Kira Hazelwood, is flanked on the north by a student classroom and guest lecture space and on the south by advising offices and study area (top). At left, Dr. Richardson, Honors Program director, during an advising appointment.



Etscorn Honors Center classroom, view to the west

The new Honors classroom in the Etscorn Honors Center has full-wall views of the campus on two sides of the room.

Etscorn Honors Center classroom, view to the east

The Honors classroom has a full range of high-tech resources some of which may be seen at right.



With Honors

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RUTH SPANGLER
UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

Three 2004-2005 National Fellowships Added, One British Award



Leslie Van Howe
Fulbright Award
Mexico

In addition to the four Fulbright awards announced in the spring edition of *With Honors*, we are pleased to announce an additional Fulbright, a Fulbright alternate, a David L. Boren Scholarship and a Cambridge (University) Overseas Trust scholarship for the 2004-2005 academic year.

Fulbrights A Business Fulbright to Mexico for 2004-2005 has been awarded to Leslie Van Howe, a 2004 master's degree graduate in Spanish. She will conduct research at *Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México* as an intern with DuPont. Elizabeth Jones, a 2004 graduate, was named a 2004-2005 Fulbright research alternate to Trinidad and Tobago.

David L. Boren Scholarship Disha Pancholi, a senior in the University Honors Program, was named a recipient of the National Security Education Program's David L. Boren Scholarship to Egypt. Disha, a biology and political science major, also received an Honorable Mention Morris K. Udall Environmental Scholarship.

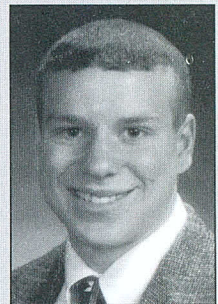
Cambridge Overseas Trust Congratulations go to Jonathan Ballard, recipient of a prestigious Cambridge Overseas Trust scholarship after his admission to the competitive Epidemiology M.Phil. program at Cambridge University in the United Kingdom.



Elizabeth Jones
Fulbright Alternate
Trinidad and Tobago



Disha Pancholi
**David L. Boren
Scholar**
Egypt



Jonathan Ballard
**Cambridge
University**
Overseas Trust Scholar