

THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA HONORS PROGRAM



2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT
August 31, 2013

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2012-2013 UNIVERSITY OF IOWA HONORS PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

This report covers the activities of The University of Iowa Honors Program during the 2012-2013 academic year, but also includes the 2013 summer session (which technically is part of the next academic year). The approximate calendar dates covered are from August 15, 2012 through August 15, 2013.

Honors at Iowa has activities and involvement in many areas. This report is intended to give the reader an idea of what the program has done in those many areas over the time period indicated.

Just a word on the history of Honors at Iowa: the program began in the College of Liberal Arts in 1958 through its founder, Rhodes Dunlap, Professor of English. It continued as a college-wide honors program until 2005, when it became a university-wide program that was administered through the office of the Provost. The Honors director currently reports to Beth Ingram, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education and the Dean of University College.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Honors Program took a major step in its development this last year with the implementation of its new curriculum. That new curriculum was developed over a period of about a year and a half through a self-assessment of the existing program, surveys of current students and alumni of the program, comparisons with the structure and practices of honors programs at peer institutions, and through synchronization with the basic characteristics of honors programs (as formulated by the National Collegiate Honors Council, the national organization for honors). The process also incorporated feedback from various honors-related constituencies on campus, as well as from students, staff, and faculty who would be affected by the changes in the program.

The result of this nearly year and a half long development process was a curriculum that has a structure and content that are compatible with national standards for honors and in alignment with the university's culture, mission, and vision. This final product was approved in mid-September, 2012, and took effect for the 2013-14 academic year (2013 summer semester). The Honors Program is grateful for the support it was given by the various people and offices on campus in developing its new curriculum.

After the approval of the new curriculum in the Fall of 2012, much time was spent in setting up the framework for the implementation of the new curriculum – e.g., working with the Registrar's Office to enable enrollment and then tracking of honors students in both the existing Honors Program and the new program. The Honors Program is indebted to the various people and offices on campus who made the implementation of its new curriculum possible and in such a short time.

Other changes brought about by the adoption of a new curriculum were:

- A revision of the Honors Manual of Procedures (sometimes referred to as the Honors Program Constitution)
- A revision of our mission statement
- A revamping of job responsibilities that affected most of the Honors staff
- Changes to the Honors Program image – i.e., attention was given to branding that would reflect the new curriculum
- Changes to the general catalog and other sources of information on the Honors Program

We also had several changes in staff during the year, which resulted in a revamping of position descriptions and duties. Details on these and other initiatives and events are found in the report.



Art L. Spisak
Honors Program Director

PERSONNEL OF THE HONORS PROGRAM OFFICE:

The faculty and professional staff of Honors for this last academic year included:

- Holly Blosser Yoder, Director of Honors Advising
- LaShelle Christensen, Director of Student Activities (left employment with the Honors Program on July 5, 2013; replaced on 8/19/2013 by Suzanne Carter)
- Kelly Dauplaise Thornburg, Director of Scholarships and Fellowships
- Robert F. Kirby, Associate Director; Director of the Iowa Center for Undergraduate Research (ICRU); Adjunct Associate Professor of Psychology
- Lindsay Marshall, Assistant Director of ICRU; Honors Program Facilitator
- Art L. Spisak, Director of Honors; Professor of Classics
- Mary L. Uhl, Secretary (went on leave of absence in early August and then left employment with the Honors Program; replaced on 10/09/2013)
- Andy Willard, Director of Experiential Learning

Bob Kirby is the supervisor of the professional staff, and he reports to the director, Art Spisak. Mary Uhl, who is merit staff, reported to both Bob Kirby and Art Spisak.

HONORS PROGRAM BUDGET – Fiscal Year 2013:

	<u>Allocations</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
Professional and Merit Staff Salary	\$587,907	\$571,886
General Expenses	\$29,510	\$33,326
Instructional Budget	43,895	\$40,360
Student Staff Salaries	\$27,888	\$41,003
Student Programs:		
Writing Fellows	\$35,000	\$52,293
Living Learning Community Funding	\$15,000	\$12,015
Mock Trial	\$5,095	\$5,095
Summer Orientation	\$4,780	\$5,822
Carry over (from FY12).....	\$17,258	
TOTALS	\$766,333	\$755,978

[Foundation Net Assets for FY13\$3,039,415]

Spending from Foundation Funds:

Honors Scholarships \$73,000
 Program Events \$11,029
 TOTAL on Foundation expenditures..... \$84,029

TOTAL on all Honors Program expenditures for FY13 \$840,007

Note: The budget for the Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU), although part of the Honors Program budget, has not been included in the above summary since ICRU serves all undergraduate students at the university and not just Honors students. The total budget for ICRU for FY 2013 was \$350,000, all of which went directly to the students in fellowship awards.

HONORS PROGRAM ADVISORY BODIES:

Honors Steering Committee

The Honors Steering Committee advises the Honors director on the business and operation of the program. It includes faculty representatives from all the degree-granting undergraduate colleges, as well as a student representative from the honors program population. It also includes the Honors Program Director, the Honors Program Associate Director, and representatives from the Belin-Blank International Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development and from the Office of Admissions.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Majors or Department</u>	<u>College</u>
Assouline, Susan (Sp sem)	Belin-Blank Program	Education
Barron, Michael	Admissions	
Bentler, Ruth (Sp sem)	Comm Science and Disorders	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Colangelo, Nick (Fall sem)	Belin-Blank Program	Education
Fielding, Linda	Teaching and Learning	Education
Gidal, Eric (Sp sem)	English	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Kirby, Robert	UI Honors Program/Psych	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Maierhofer, Waltraud	German	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Malanson, George	Geography	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Mulder, Pamela	Nursing	Nursing
Solow, John	Economics	Business
Spisak, Art (Chair)	UI Honors Program/Classics	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Todd, Dylan (student)	Biology	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Wilder, David	Biomedical Engineering	Engineering

The Honors Steering Committee met monthly through the Fall and Spring semesters. It accomplished several major tasks:

- It vetted and approved the recommended changes in the Honors curriculum.
- It also revised the Honors Program Manual of Procedures and the Honors Program mission statement.
- Below is the revised mission statement:

Honors at Iowa enriches the educational experience of academically talented undergraduates by engaging them in the process of intellectual growth and self-discovery. Honors students acquire a broad and interdisciplinary knowledge base; they also develop skills through learning by doing, with emphasis on mentored research and creative work. Students as a result grow professionally and personally in a way that contributes to their success in a diverse world. The accomplishments of Honors students are formally recognized by the University of Iowa.

- It continued working through the external program reviewers' recommendations (from the January 2011 report) in order to decide whether and how to implement the recommended changes.

Honors Student Advisory Committee

Selection of the Honors Student Advisory Committee is to represent the general honors student body with consideration given to the four student ranks (freshman, sophomore, etc.) and the undergraduate colleges at the university. It includes the Honors Director and the Honors Associate Director.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>College</u>
Bierwirth, Aubrey	Theatre Arts	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Cook, Riley	Cinema/Theatre Arts	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Gross, Emily	Integrative Physiology	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Jiang, Heju	Actuarial Science/Math	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Kindig, Allison	Industrial Engineering	Engineering
Oskvig, Kyle	Classics/Philosophy	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Rolston, Nick	Physics/Math	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Todd, Dylan	Neuroscience	Liberal Arts and Sciences
Westercamp, Jeralyn	Management/Marketing	Business
Kirby, Robert	UI Honors Program/Psych	Univ College/CLAS
Spisak, Art (chair)	UI Honors Program/Classics	Univ College/CLAS

The Honors Student Advisory Committee met almost monthly through the Fall and Spring semesters. It served as an advisory board for the development of the new Honors curriculum; also for the revisions to the Honors mission statement and Manual of Procedures.

HONORS PROGRAM NEW CURRICULUM:

The new curriculum for Honors at Iowa was developed from the Fall of 2011 through Fall 2012, when it was officially approved by the provost. This new curriculum stems in part from the results of a self-assessment of the program during the 2011-12 academic year that tracked current and past activity of UI honors students. Practices of honors programs at peer institutions and national standards for honors programs also were considered.

The curriculum was formulated by the Honors Program staff with input received from the Honors Steering Committee, the Honors Student Advisory Board, from deans and/or deans' representatives in the undergraduate colleges, and various faculty committees (e.g., the Educational Policy Committee; the Honors Steering Committee).

The new curriculum was submitted to the provost for approval in late August, 2012, and were approved in mid-September. Changes took effect for the 2013-14 academic year, which began with the summer 2013 semester.

Note that the Honors curriculum for students in the College of Engineering was still being formulated after the Honors curriculum for the other colleges had been finalized, and thus was not finalized and approved until late in the Fall 2012 semester.

See Appendix A for the University Honors Program Curriculum for the Colleges of Business, Education, Liberal Arts & Sciences, and Nursing. See Appendix B for the University Honors Curriculum for the College of Engineering.

HONORS ARTICULATION AGREEMENT:

Honors at Iowa instituted an articulation agreement with the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) in the Fall 2012 semester. Honors at Iowa provided feedback on DMACC's proposed Honors curriculum – specifically on how it might mesh with Honors at Iowa. The main points of an articulation agreement were set by the end of the summer with formal approval of an agreement finalized during the Fall 2012 semester.

HONORS STUDENT STATISTICS:

In fall 2012, the entering Honors student population was 1,059 students, and the total Honors population at that time was 6,377 students. We were still under the old curriculum at that time.

The following breakdowns of the total population are by gender, residency, (primary) college, ethnicity, and class. General UI population information for fall 2012 from the Admissions Department website is provided for comparison and context.

Honors Program

59.5% Female
40.5% Male

56.8% Resident
43.2% Non-Resident

67.2% CLAS
15.4% Business
11.5% Engineering
5.8% Nursing

2.9% African American
0.5% American Indian or Native Alaskan
3.6% Asian American
0.2% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
3.8% Hispanic/Latino(a)
4.7% Unknown

19.8% First Year
24.9% Second Year
25.7% Third Year
29.6% Fourth Year

General UI population

51% Female
49% Male

55% Resident
45% Non-Resident

74.1% CLAS
15.5% Business
8.2% Engineering
2.2% Nursing

2.7% African American
0.3% American Indian or Native Alaskan
3.4% Asian American
0.1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
4.8% Hispanic/Latino(a)
1.3% Two or more races

Honors is relatively close to the general population in ethnic distribution and ratio of resident to non-residents. We have higher representation in the Engineering College than the general population and a higher female to male ratio than the general population. The higher female to male ratio is the norm in Honors education.

HONORS RECRUITING:

Honors at Iowa plays a very active role in recruiting. Our efforts are in partnership with the Office of Admissions and extend throughout the calendar year. The entire Honors staff participates in recruiting in some way.

Communication with prospective students (i.e., Honors-eligible) begins in the fall of prospective students' high school junior year with the mailing of information about Honors at Iowa (Honors brochure and a letter). Mailings in an electronic format to this group continue until they are actually admitted and enrolled in the Honors Program.

Campus visits for prospective Honors students. These visits have taken three forms:

1. Visits that are part of Hawkeye Visit Days (regularly scheduled, large group, all-day campus visits):
 - During this past year there were twelve (12) Hawkeye Visit Days with contact with approximately 1,200 people. For each visit there were at least four Honors professional staff participating as well as Honors Student staff and Honors Peer advisors
2. Daily visits to the Blank Honors Center: small group visits that are scheduled by request for the prospective students
 - During this last year the Honors staff hosted a total of 685 prospective students on daily visits; this number does not include the family and friends that typically accompany prospective students.
3. Admissions and Honors instituted a new recruiting program specifically designed to target students who have been offered the Presidential Scholarship (UI's top scholarship).
 - Personalized invitations were sent to the 35 Presidential Scholar winners to visit campus for a private tour.
 - Each student was also called individually in order to enable selection of a day and time of their choosing between March 25 - April 26. Visit options included:
 - an admissions meeting with Laura Goddard (or other senior admissions staff, in her absence)
 - a meeting with a faculty member in the student's area of interest
 - lunch in the halls, hosted by current Presidential Scholars
 - other experiences with current Presidential scholars, such as lab, fine arts rehearsal, class, etc.
 - tours of campus;
 - meetings with Honors staff, both general and research-oriented
 - offer of a \$1,000 research scholarship for their first year
 - 21 of the 35 who were invited visited campus
 - 16 of the 21 who visited campus accepted the scholarship

HONORS OUTREACH & COMMUNITY-BUILDING:

Honors at Iowa worked on outreach this last year in various ways:

Formation of an External Advisory Board

- Research and consultation were done on forming an advisory board
- A list of alumni/ae who have been active while part of the program was compiled, and several persons who were contacted agreed to serve
- Projected date for formation of the board is the end of the 2013-14 academic year

Branding of the Honors Program

- In May of 2013 Bob Kirby and Art Spisak began consulting with Robyn Hepker from Benson & Hepker Design on branding the Honors Program
- The purpose was to develop a consistent look for the Honors Program – one that reflected the mission of the program and would be easily recognizable
- Consultations with Robyn over the summer resulted in a new design for Honors materials, which included a suggested design format, colors, fonts, and possible applications

Formation of the Honors Outreach Team

- What was formerly called the Honors Marketing Team was renamed and restructured to include:
 - four Honors student staffers with interests and skills that relate to marketing
 - four Honors staffers
 - the Honors Director, who chairs the Team and facilitates efforts to brand the Honors Program
- The Outreach Team began meeting on a regular basis in the Fall 2013 semester with branding the Honors Program as its major task

Expansion of our Social Media

- Honors hired a student dedicated to Honors Outreach specifically through social media. This student worked on promoting honors events and information on Facebook and Twitter, with recent additions of Instagram and LinkedIn. We saw a positive response on Facebook and twitter with increases of “followers” and “likes”, which in turn allowed for broader impact of posts and tweets.

Honors@Iowa Newsletter

- The online Honors newsletter, which is produced by Holly Yoder, goes out to over 800 parents, alumni, faculty, administrators and other friends. Fall, spring and summer issues were published during the 2012-2013 year.
- Past issues are archived on the Honors website, accessible with one click from the Home page.

UI Foundation Connection

- Met with Foundation representatives as needed
 - Discussion of a possible reunion for Presidential scholar alumni
 - Recommendations for Honors student speakers for donor events
- Revised the Honors webpage on the Foundation’s website
- Attended various donor-related events; presented at one

HONORS ASSESSMENT:

Assessment Director

The Honors Program hired a new staff member in the role of Assessment Director, Suzanne Carter, who began on August 19th, 2013. Suzanne's primary duty is the monitoring and measuring the success of the program, particularly in regards to the implementation of the new Honors curriculum. Suzanne is currently working on survey development and analysis of the data that we have for this and past years, in order to better understand our population. This new position reflects the increased commitment of the Honors Program to assessment.

HONORS COURSES AND ENROLLMENT:

Summary of Honors Course Offerings

- Honors Courses (fall 2012 semester) 118 sections
 - Total enrollment 1,641 students
- Honors Courses (spring 2013 semester) 62 sections
 - Total enrollment 572 students
- Honors Contract Courses (2012-13 academic year) 284 Contract Courses

The Honors contract option can be used with any course (with the instructor's permission).

Honors General Education Courses

- Honors General Education Courses - fall 2012 semester 47 sections
 - Total enrollment 880 students
- Honors General Education Courses - spring 2013 semester 23 sections
 - Total enrollment 420 students

Most of Honors enrollment is through sections of General Education courses, such as Rhetoric and Chemistry. These provide students the opportunity to interact with their honors peers while completing the basic requirements for their majors and their general education requirements. Below is a breakdown of the various types of honors courses.

Honors Introductory Courses

- **Honors Primetime Workshop** (fall 2012 semester) 13 sections
 - Total enrollment 212 students

Honors Primetime offers first-year Honors students an academic and social orientation as they launch their UI experience with fellow Honors students. This is accomplished over four days

the week before fall classes begin as students join workshops and explore subjects of their own choosing, while learning-by-doing in small teams.

- **Honors First-Year Seminars** (fall 2012 semester) 24 sections
 - Total enrollment 403 students

First-year seminars (fewer than 20 students) are designed to engage students intellectually and thus introduce them to the academic experience.

Honors Seminars

- Seminar-style Honors courses are offered on various topics from different departments, sometimes co-listed with the department, although restricted to Honors students
 - 2 Honors Seminars for fall 2012 37 students total
 - 4 Honors Seminars for spring 2013 55 students total

Honors Studies

- Independent studies arranged with faculty members who certify satisfactory completion of study plans and performance for topics not covered by other UI courses.
 - 2 sections for fall 2012 2 students total

Honors Experience-Based Courses:

Honors Peer Advising

Peer advising is a form of service-learning that's anchored in the Honors Peer Advising class (1-2 semester hours). The Honors Advising Director, Holly Yoder, teaches the class and directs the peer advisor activities.

- Honors Peer Advising (fall 2012) 23 students
- Honors Peer Advising (spring 2013) 15 students

Honors Peer Advisors serve as mentors to other Honors students. Each semester they organize a range of events that give students interested in Honors at Iowa help in pursuing their honors educations.

The Iowa Policy Research Organization (IPRO)

IPRO is a University of Iowa undergraduate student research group based around a two-semester course sequence. Professor Rene Rocha is the instructor for the associated classes and faculty mentor for the research component.

- Problems in American Politics (fall 2012) 9 students
- Honors Policy Research Practicum (spring 2013) 11 students

Participants prepare original policy research reports. Some of these reports are specifically requested by Iowa state legislators or other public officials. All the analyses IPRO students produce are non-partisan and designed to take an objective look at the issues.

Honors Writing Fellows

Students read theories of and research on writing processes, collaborative learning, and writing across the curriculum.

- Honors Writing Fellows: Wr Theory&Pract (fall 2012).....14 students

This program is a joint initiative of Honors and the Department of Rhetoric. Professor Carol Severino teaches the associated class and directs and facilitates the field experience. Each year it employs (writing fellows are paid) some thirty Honors undergraduates to teach as Honors Writing Fellows. Writing fellows receive initial training through a 3 credit hour class. Thereafter writing fellows are assigned to specific classes to assist students in that class with writing assignments.

University of Iowa Mock Trial Association

Although a student organization, Iowa's Mock Trial team ties officially to Honors via course credit and sponsorship. The course teaches legal analysis, argumentation, and performance for University of Iowa Mock Trial. Students take part in all practices and competitions unless arranged otherwise with the teacher. Patrick Ralph taught the associated classes and was the Head Coach for the team.

- Mock Trial (fall 2012).....21 students
- Mock Trial (spring 2013)24 students

Beginning the Fall of 2013, sponsorship for Mock Trial was moved to the University College. This was done because nearly half the students participating in Mock Trial were not part of the Honors Program.

ICRU Research Ambassadors

ICRU Research Ambassadors share knowledge and experiences in research; weekly meeting and interaction with students through presentations, online chat, or other venues to answer questions, provide information, and inform students about undergraduate research opportunities; and provide student perspective on how to navigate research opportunities at The University of Iowa.

- 1 section for fall 20123 students
- 1 section for spring 2013.....4 students

Honors Research Practicum

A major goal of the research practicum is to provide a research experience to help honors students develop research skills by working individually with faculty members on the faculty member's research.

- 14 sections for fall 2012.....20 students total
- 18 sections for spring 2013.....25 students total

Honors Teaching Practicum

The Honors Teaching Practicum awards academic credit, typically three semester-hours, for assisting professors with their instruction of undergraduate students. It may include providing tutorial assistance, conducting review sessions, and aiding course organization, while the professor mentors the student in the relevant teaching duties and principles.

- 9 sections for fall 201215 students total
- 9 sections for spring 201314 students total

Honors Service Learning

Service learning incorporates community engagement into academic coursework. Guided reflection links community-based student experience to course learning goals and objectives.

- 1 section for fall 20121 student
- 1 section for spring 20131 student

Honors Thesis or Project

Culminating project of research or artistic creation done one-on-one (faculty and student); preparation and completion of the final product is associated with graduation with honors in the student's major.

- 1 sections for fall 20121 students total
- 3 sections for spring 20133 students total

Honors in the Major

In addition to taking Honors courses as listed above, 236 Honors students did Honors in their major. This experience, whose requirements are set by the individual departments, usually consists of honors coursework in the department (from 6 to 9 semester hours) and a culminating project – a thesis or creative project (e.g., music recital), depending on what qualifies as research for the specific department.

HONORS ADVISING:

As Honors at Iowa transitioned to the new University Honors curriculum, the Honors Program informed its current population through various means of the changes. Messages on the weekly Honors listserv alerted students to honors advising opportunities. Targeted emails allowed Honors to customize messages to specific populations within Honors.

Below are listed special efforts in advising and orientation as occasioned by the new curriculum.

Advising

- In addition to offering the usual three to five per semester “Getting Started with Honors” group advising sessions for newly admitted current students, Honors Advising Director Holly Yoder reached out to the program’s most active members of the old Honors Program – current

students who already had a baseline level of honors coursework – to alert them to the benefits of joining the new University Honors Program.

- Emailed inquiries, drop-in advising, and appointments increased exponentially with the introduction of the new Honors curriculum. Holly created a second email account, honors-advisor@uiowa.edu, to direct some of this traffic. Thirty Honors Peer Advisors helped professional staff to follow up on student inquiries.
- As before, Honors Peer Advisors offered “roadshow” presentations (including pre-med, grad school prep and professionalism themes) and individual advising, which was advertised through the weekly listserv.

Summer Honors Orientation

- With over 750 new students opting into the new University Honors Program for fall 2013, Orientation attendance was key to properly communicating the requirements and benefits of the new program. New students were required to attend Honors Orientation.
- Eighteen experienced honors students served as Honors Summer Orientation Ambassadors to assist the professional staff during Summer Orientation.

Academic Advising Center

- Honors advising maintained a close connection with the Academic Advising Center through information-sharing with Julie Claus, Senior Academic advisor and liaison to Honors, especially during Summer Orientation.
- Honors staff members (Yoder, Kirby, and Spisak) met with the academic advisors as a group in May 2013 to inform and discuss with them about developments in implementation of the University Honors curriculum, especially in anticipation of Summer Orientation.

Departmental Advisors and Faculty

- With full implementation of University Honors approaching in summer 2013, good relationships with departmental honors advisors and faculty continued as a priority.
 - Honors Director Art Spisak and Advising Director Holly Yoder met with faculty and staff responsible for departmental honors in multiple small meetings of 3-5 during the fall.
 - Presentation about University Honors was also made to the Directors of Undergraduate Studies in April, 2013.

HONORS STUDENT STAFF & PROGRAMMING:

Honors at Iowa employs Honors students as student staff members to staff the Honors Student Center on the third floor of the Blank Honors Center and the fourth floor reception desk. Student staff also plan events, stage activities for the Honors residence halls and Honors students, and help out with Honors summer orientation and registration.

Over the 2012-13 academic year Honors employed fifteen (15) Honors students as staff members and twenty-one (21) summer ambassadors at a cost of \$46,825.

Honors programming fell into categories, as outlined below:

- **Honors Arts:** This program helps Honors students learn by participating in cultural events in the University and the surrounding community.
- **Honors Discourses:** This program enable students to gather for discussion and debate on intriguing topics of the day.
- **Honors Diversity:** Programming in this area offers students opportunities to expand their horizons, meet new people, and encounter new ideas.
- **Honors Gallery:** Designed to display art and present student projects in research and service, the third and fourth floors of the Blank Honors Center house the Honors Gallery.
- **Honors Game On:** This program allows Honors students to gather for the fun and learning available from playing video games.
- **Iowa City Foreign Relations Council (ICFRC):** The ICFRC is a local non-profit organization of community members interested in learning about ongoing events in foreign countries and global affairs. Members meet for a catered luncheon roughly every week while the University is in session. There they hear a distinguished expert on a current topic of international importance.
- **Honors Volunteers:** Honors at Iowa has a tradition of innovation and contribution in community service.
- **Presidential Scholars Community (Fall 2012):** This program encourages community among Iowa's Presidential Scholars through annual traditions and occasional events.
- **Other Activities** staged for Honors students:
 - **Honors Activities Fair** is an Honors at Iowa tradition that uses the first four floors of the Blank Honors Center to showcase Honors co-curricular activities and other opportunities for entering Honors students. This year 47 students attended.

HONORS LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES:

Honors at Iowa had two dedicated residence halls for its population.

Honors House

Honors House is located in the Daum Residence Hall, which is linked by skywalk to the Blank Honors Center. Last year Daum housed approximately 340 students. It is primarily for entering freshmen, although selected students are allowed to return beyond their freshmen year.

Honors House residents had access to programs planned by its Honors student staff coordinators.

Honors Centerstone

The Centerstone building, which features apartment-style accommodations, is a block to the north and east of the Blank Honors Center. It houses Honors students who are past the first year of study

at Iowa — including transfer Honors students. This last year the number of Honors residents was 114.

Centerstone residents had access to programs planned by its Honors student staff coordinators.

Also, twice a year at final exam times the Honors student staff ran a Treat Trolley for both Honors residences.

HONORS SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

Kelly Thornburg, Scholarships & Fellowships Director for Honors, supports current undergraduate students and alumni/ae in the pursuit of national and international scholarships and fellowships. Kelly also coordinates the recruitment, selection, and recognition of Honors at Iowa's program scholarship competition. Below is a summary of student awards for the 2012-2013 academic year:

Scholarships

Honors at Iowa awarded 48 scholarships totaling \$73,000.00 to students across disciplines and at every stage of their undergraduate education once at Iowa.

Fellowships

Kelly supported 29 undergraduate institutional nominees in their pursuit of national scholarships and fellowships, with nine nominees advancing as finalists and eight receiving awards totaling \$363,000.00 for undergraduate and graduate studies and research.

Special Projects

Kelly contributed to the following scholarship-related projects in 2012-2013:

- Honors Program Scholarships Web Application Management – November 2012 through March 2013
- Development of various Social Media & Electronic Resources, including the new website design and content development for scholarships and fellowships
- Fall 2012 Workshops – 10; Presentations - 9
- Spring 2013 Workshops – 6; Presentations – 4

HONORS RECOGNITION EVENTS:

Honors at Iowa hosts two major events to recognize the accomplishments of its students and participates in one smaller scale event, which is hosted by the president of the university.

Honors Recognition Ceremony

Organized by Kelly Thornburg and held on Saturday, April 13th, this ceremony recognized winners of major national and international scholarships and fellowships, as well as Honors scholarships recipients.

The Recognition Ceremony also is used to announce awards going to faculty, staff, alumni/ae, and friends of Honors:

- Scholarships and awards for students
- Award for Honors Advising: Dr. Amanda Owen Van Horne, Communication Sciences & Disorders
- Award for Staff Support: Andrew Beckett, Assistant Dean, University College

Presidential Senior Honors Dinner – May 8, 2013

The University President invites a diverse collection of outstanding Honors seniors for dinner at her home. Students in turn invite a faculty mentor who has contributed greatly to their education at Iowa. Kelly Thornburg facilitates the guest selection. There were nine student guests this year.

HONORS AFFILIATIONS AND SERVICE:

Honors at Iowa has many affiliations with other offices, programs, and organizations both on and off campus. The ones listed below are noted because they have a close connection with Honors education and Honors staff members have provided substantial service to them.

Honors Student Organizations

- Phi Eta Sigma
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars
- Omicron Delta Kappa
- Mortar Board

These four student organizations (listed above) are local chapters of national societies with membership based on high academic standards. They are active in service on campus and in the community. Holly Yoder, the Honors Advising Director, serves as their advisor.

Associated Iowa Honors Students (AIHS)

Description: AIHS provides a community for members of the UI Honors Program to share activities and develop relationships. It also advances common goals of Honors students such as volunteering and networking. Members of this club plan socials and charity events, and have unique opportunities to volunteer and network along with their fellow AIHS members.

The advisor for AIHS is Art Spisak, Honors Program Director, and Honors at Iowa on occasion supplies financial support.

The Mock Trial Team

Description: University of Iowa Mock Trial is a competitive student organization focused on the art of mock trial. The advisor for AIHS is Andy Willard, Honors Experiential Learning Director, and Honors at Iowa provides financial support for the class associated with Mock Trial and for its travel and office expenses.

Sponsorship for Mock Trial was moved to University College in the Fall of 2013.

University of Iowa Programs and Offices

Iowa Center for Research by Undergraduates (ICRU)

Description: ICRU promotes undergraduate involvement in mentored research and creative projects at the University of Iowa. It serves all degree seeking undergraduates at the university across all disciplines of study, staff, and faculty and work to create opportunities, provide support, and share the knowledge that comes from these collaborative efforts.

Bob Kirby, the Associate Director of Honors, is the Director of ICRU. A portion of his time (25%) is spent providing students the guidance and support they require for becoming involved with undergraduate research.

Although ICRU is part of Honors at Iowa (including its budget), its annual report will be separate from the Honors annual report.

Scholarship Programs – Presidential and Old Gold

- These two scholarships involve two selection committees, a staff and faculty committee. Honors staff served on both last year – Kelly Thornburg and Andy Willard on the staff side, and Art Spisak on the faculty side.
- Also, Kelly Thornburg and Art Spisak were part of a provost committee formed in the Fall of 2011 that reviewed the Presidential Scholarship Program. In the process of implementing that committee's recommendations, Thornburg and Spisak worked through the 2012-13 academic year in the development of the 2013 Presidential Scholarship Application and supporting materials.

Formation and Advising of the Presidential Scholarship Program Community

The following steps were taken during the 2012-13 academic year:

- The incoming Presidential Scholars were offered a \$1,000 undergrad research fellowship for their first year and are assigned a faculty mentor in their field.

- All incoming Presidentials were enrolled in an Honors First-Year Seminar that will be taught by the Honors Program director (begins Fall 2013).
- Current Presidential Scholars participated in the recruiting of incoming potential Presidentials through on-campus visits.
- The Presidential Scholars mentoring program was revitalized.

International Programs

The Honors Scholarship and Fellowship Director, Kelly Thornburg, worked with International Programs on fellowships and grants, such as Fulbrights and the Stanley, that take students (including graduate students) abroad.

Belin & Blank International Center for Gifted Education and Talent Development

Honors at Iowa shares a building with the Belin-Blank Center and interaction between the two programs is varied and frequent.

- The staff of the two programs meet for a luncheon on an annual basis to make connections.
- Students from the Belin-Blank Center's China Scholars Program that come to the university are automatically enrolled in Honors at Iowa and live in Honors House.
- Likewise, students from the Belin-Blank Center's National Academy of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering (NAASE) program that come to the university are automatically enrolled in Honors at Iowa and live in Honors House.
- The Honors at Iowa director, Art Spisak, is a member of the Belin-Blank Advisory Board.
- Susan Assouline, the director of the Belin-Blank Center, is a member of the Honors Steering Committee.

Honors Regional and National Organizations

Upper Midwest Honors Council (UMHC)

The UMHC is one of the six regional Honors organizations in the country. Honors at Iowa was a participating member this last year.

- Honors director Art Spisak attended the annual business meeting in Boston, MA (held at the National Collegiate Honors Council conference)
- One Honors staff member and three Honors at Iowa students attended and presented at the regional conference held at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota (April 2013).

National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC)

The NCHC is the national/international Honors organization. Honors at Iowa was a participating member this last year.

- Institutional and professional memberships
- Three staff members and four Honors students attended the annual conference in Boston, MA (Nov 2012)
 - Kirby, Willard, Spisak and three of the students – Kinney, Schorsch, and Minor – presented on the self-assessment done of the UI Honors Program (“Not Your Usual Assessment”).
 - The fourth student attending, Riley Cook, was campaigning for a two-year term on the NCHC Board of Directors and was subsequently elected to serve on the NCHC Board as a student representative.
 - Spisak participated in a panel session on “Honors as a Campus Resource”
 - Spisak was a co-presenter on the topic of “Building a Career in Honors”
 - Kirby and Spisak attended the NCHC business meeting
- Spisak began his first year of a three year term on the NCHC Board of Directors (2012) and attended a board meet in Boston (2012) and another in Denver (June 2013)
- Spisak served on the following NCHC committees
 - Assessment and Evaluation Committee
 - International Education Committee
 - Nominating Committee
 - Ad Hoc Task Force to Define Honors Education
- Spisak applied for and was approved as a recommended NCHC Site Visitor (Nov 2012)

Committee on Institution Cooperation – Honors (CIC+)

The CIC+ Honors is the break-out organization of Committee on Institutional Cooperation, a consortium of the Big Ten member universities plus the University of Chicago. Governed and funded by the Provosts of the member universities, CIC mandates are coordinated by a staff from its Champaign, Illinois headquarters.

- Honors at Iowa is a participating institutional member
- Two staff members, Bob Kirby and Art Spisak, presented at the Honors Education at Research Universities conference, an Honors CIC+ event, on “Housing Undergraduate Research within Honors – The Pros and Cons” at Penn State on 5/13
- Kirby and Spisak also attended the Honors CIC+ business meeting held at Penn State during the conference

Iowa Regent Universities

Spisak spent the business day visiting the Iowa State University Honors Program (May 2013) in order to get a better understanding of its program and facilities, and to strengthen connections between the Iowa State’s and Iowa’s Honors programs. He met with staff and students and toured their facilities.

APPENDIX A – University Honors Program Curriculum for the Colleges of Business, Education, Liberal Arts & Sciences, and Nursing

EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2013-14 ACADEMIC YEAR (BEGINS SUMMER 2013)

Membership: Current students with a UI Cumulative GPA of 3.33 or higher, or students qualify from high school with a combination of GPA and ACT scores:

- GPA of 3.8 or higher with ACT composite of 27 or higher or
- GPA of 3.7 or higher with ACT composite of 30 or higher

Graduation: Students who fulfill the Program requirements graduate with University Honors. University Honors will be recognized at graduation and displayed on the transcript and diploma.

1. STUDENTS QUALIFIED FOR ENTRY MUST OPT INTO THE PROGRAM VIA ACCEPTANCE OF A FORMAL INVITATION.

- a. Attendance at an Honors orientation (during the summer or otherwise) is required of all students regardless of when they enter the program.

2. REQUIRED MINIMUM CORE OF 12 SEMESTER HOURS OF CREDIT THROUGH HONORS COURSEWORK.

- a. This first or foundational level 12 hour requirement emphasizes “building knowledge,” and it applies to all students regardless of how or when they enter the program.
- b. It has the following qualifications:
 - i. It must be completed within 4 semesters of fulltime registration as an Honors student.
 - ii. All Honors admits must take an honors course (or Honors Contract course) in their first semester in the program.
 - iii. Direct Honors admits from high school are required to take an honors first-year seminar in their first semester.
 - iv. Of the 12 semester hours, only one course may be an Honors Contract course
 1. In case of special circumstances (e.g., students who enter the program late in their academic career or enter the university with substantial college credit earned in high school), students may use up to 6 hours of Honors Contract courses.

3. REQUIRED SECOND LEVEL OF 12 SEMESTER HOURS OF HONORS CREDIT OR EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCES FROM A MENU OPTION.

- a. This second or experiential learning level emphasizes “learning by doing,” and it applies to all students regardless of how or when they enter the program. Note that students may begin work at this second level at any time.
- b. Students may satisfy the 12 semester hour or equivalent experiential learning requirement through the following options or combination of options:
 - i. Honors in the major (completely satisfies the second level requirement)¹

- ii. Mentored research (12 semester hours or the equivalent)
- iii. Study abroad for a minimum of two semesters (fall and/or spring) or the equivalent
 - 1. Single semesters of study abroad, including summer and between-semester experiences, may count for up to half of the second level requirement.
 - 2. Requires students to carry out an independent project while abroad and to conduct a poster presentation or write a report on the project
- iv. Internships may count for up to half (6 s.h) of the second level requirement
 - 1. In some cases, internships may count for the entire requirement (12 semester hours or the equivalent).
 - 2. Requires students to carry out an independent project while interning and to conduct a poster presentation or write a report on the project.
- v. Honors coursework (including graduate courses or honors designations/contracts for upper level courses) may count for up to 6 semester hours of the second level.

¹ Note that the Honors Program does not require students to be members of University Honors to do Honors in the Major. The individual departments set their own requirements for Honors in their majors, and these requirements can vary.

APPENDIX B – University Honors Curriculum for the College of Engineering

EFFECTIVE FOR THE 2013-14 ACADEMIC YEAR (BEGINS SUMMER 2013)

Membership: Current students with a UI Cumulative GPA of 3.33 or higher or students qualify from high school with a combination of GPA and ACT scores, e.g.

- GPA of 3.8 or higher with ACT composite of 27 or higher or
- GPA of 3.7 or higher and ACT composite of 30 or higher

Graduation: Students who fulfill the Program requirements graduate with University Honors. University Honors will be recognized at graduation and displayed on the transcript and diploma.

1. STUDENTS QUALIFIED FOR ENTRY MUST OPT INTO THE PROGRAM VIA ACCEPTANCE OF A FORMAL INVITATION

- a. Attendance at an Honors orientation (during the summer or otherwise) is required of all students regardless of when they enter

2. REQUIRED 24 SEMESTER HOURS OF HONORS CREDIT OR EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCES FROM A MENU OPTION

- a. These requirements apply to all Engineering students regardless of how or when they enter the Honors Program. Half the 24 credits (12) must be completed within 6 semesters of full-time registration as an Honors student, and 6 of the 24 hours must be honors coursework (with the exception of the Grand Challenges Program).
- b. All Honors admits must take an honors course in the first semester in the program
- c. Students may satisfy the 24 credit requirement through the following options or combination of options:
 - i. Engineering Grand Challenges Scholars Program
 1. completely satisfies the University Honors requirements for Engineering students
 - ii. Honors coursework (including graduate coursework)
 1. may apply a maximum of 12 semester hour credits
 - iii. Mentored research
 1. may apply a maximum of 12 credits (10 hrs/wk for a semester = 3 credits)
 2. Summer semester research at 20 hrs/wk counts as 6 credits
 - iv. Study abroad for one semester (fall or spring) or the equivalent time in summer and between-semester experiences = 6 credits
 1. all study abroad requires students to carry out an independent project while abroad and to conduct a poster presentation or write a report on the project
 2. may apply a maximum of 12 credits
 - v. A registered internship or co-op

1. 40 hrs/wk for 15 weeks (one semester or the equivalent time in summer and between-semester experiences) = 6 credits; 20 hrs/wk = 3 credits
2. 40 hrs/wk for 10 weeks (summer internships) = 4 credits; 20 hrs/wk = 2 credits
3. may apply a maximum of 12 credits
4. students are required to register their internship with the College and meet the College requirements for reporting and evaluation
- vi. An Engineering community engagement experience²
 1. students must get prior approval for these options and turn in a reflection paper of the experience with the signature of the supervisor or faculty advisor
- vii. may apply a maximum of 9 credits total from all these experiences, no more than 6 from a single area
 1. A leadership experience in college-approved Engineering student organizations: 10 hrs/wk for a semester (or the equivalent) = 3 credits
 2. Engineering Tutor: 10 hrs/wk for a semester (or the equivalent) = 3 credits
 3. Engineering Teaching Assistant: 10 hrs/wk for a semester (or the equivalent) = 3 credits
 4. Engineering Student Ambassador: 10 hrs/wk for a semester (or the equivalent) = 3 credits
 5. Engineering Peer Advisor: 10 hrs/wk for a semester (or the equivalent) = 3 credits
- viii. Honors in the major – counts as 12 credits

² These experiences will be facilitated and verified by the Director of Engineering Honors Programming