On the Honors Program

A letter from UHP Student Hannah Montrose

The Honors Program has given me many experiences that I otherwise would not have had. One of those experiences was being an Honors mentor. I was a mentor for both my junior and senior year and I didn’t realize how much time and effort went into making the incoming freshmen feel at home at ISU. I’ve met a lot of great people through the mentor program, both mentors and mentees. With such a small group of mentors, we really got to know each other through bi-weekly meetings that spanned two semesters and the summer. I’ve learned a lot of communication and leadership skills as well. There is also something to be said about how rewarding it is to see your mentees gain their footing here at ISU and develop their independence and find their place. If you have the time, I would definitely recommend being an Honors mentor.

This past fall was the first Honors Rendezvous, and I had the opportunity to present some research about it. It was a great opportunity to network with alumni who knew vaguely what I was talking about and inform others on some of the projects going on at Idaho State University. The project was something I had started working on in Fall 2020 and continued to work on over the summer as well. Research was an amazing experience and I am finishing up this semester with my thesis defense. As someone who’s only draw back to going for degree was the presentation/defense part of the thesis, I would recommend going for it. It seems nerve wracking but you will learn a lot along the way.

I also love that the Honors classes offer unique opportunities that regular classes do not. An example of this would be in my Honors Organic Chemistry lab. The last week of the lab, dead week, all of the regular lab sections were taking a final exam. Instead, we were applying the knowledge we learned in both the lab and the lecture to make different scents of perfume. We didn’t get to take any of them home with us, but it was a really cool exercise in applying knowledge learned in the course in a way that wasn’t just taking another exam. Another example is a contract I did for a Spanish course. Instead of doing more busy work, my project was to interview a physician assistant in Spanish about his profession. This was extremely beneficial because not only did I get more experience conversing in Spanish, but I also got to interview someone in one of the professions that I am thinking about applying for.

The biggest piece of advice I have for current students would be to work hard, but don’t forget to take time to enjoy the experience as well. This
was something I struggled with my first couple years and spent way more time in my studies than I did having fun. I know we’re all paying to be here and education is really important, but it isn’t the only thing. Take the time to make friends in your classes and do things both on and off campus. Take a crazy elective. You never know, you could be making life long friends or discovering a new passion.

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**Special Event with General Motors (GM)**

Do you have an interest in the automotive industry and all things car-related? Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work for a major corporation such as General Motors (GM)?

To kick off National Women’s Month, join us on Monday, February 28th at 5:30 p.m. for pizza in PSC 140. ISU alum and GM Senior Information Technology Business Analyst Bonnie Hill will be speaking at 6:00 p.m. (via Zoom) about her career in the automotive industry. She will also talk about her involvement with the interest group GM Women and exciting initiatives that GM is pursuing toward a cleaner, safer, and more inclusive future.

Additionally, GM is hiring (including several positions with remote work flexibility)! A representative from GM will join Bonnie to describe career opportunities and to answer questions from the audience. Please join us!
**Honors Scholarships Updates**

**Scholarship Extension**
The deadline for the Lookout Credit Union Scholarship for Excellence in Business has been extended to March 1.

You'll be asked to submit a 1-3 page statement on your career goals in business as well as a letter of reference from a staff member in the College of Business.

**Honors Research Scholarship**
Keep an eye on BOSS for open scholarships for Honors students, including the Honors research scholarship. This will be awarded to students engaged in research activities in the fall semester.

**I Applied for the Owl-portunity Scholarship. What Do I Do Now?**

The Owl-portunity scholarship is unique to the Honors Program. Applying for the scholarship is the first step.

Now, you get to pull out all of your crafting skills and create an owl ornament to hang on an Owl Tree at An Opportuni-Tea. Donors will have the opportunity to select and sponsor individual Owl-portunity Scholarships online and during the UHP annual fundraiser, An Opportuni-Tea.

There will be two Honors Club activities in March where you can make your owl ornaments:

- **March 7 and March 15**
- **7:00 pm**
- **Honors Lobby, Rendezvous 3rd Floor**

Making your owl is an important step to receiving the scholarship, so make sure to mark your calendar!

**Who Do You Think Should Join Us at An Opportuni-Tea?**

An Opportuni-Tea is a perfect time for friends and family to see what the Honors Program is all about and to learn more about how they can support the amazing students in the Honors Program.

If you know someone who would like to attend - family, friends, faculty advisors and mentors - we have seats available for purchase. Seats will be at a table for four and can be purchased for $75. Contact miriamdance@isu.edu for seat reservations.
Do you want to inspire your fellow grads?
Are you proud to be a Bengal? Are you looking for an opportunity to give your college experience the perfect ending? Speaking at commencement is a great opportunity to share your experience with your fellow Bengals.
Submit your application by April 1 at isu.edu/commencemen/studentspeaker

UHP Club Events

February

28  Special Event with GM | 5:30 PM | PSC 140
Pizza at 5:30 p.m. and a special guest from GM at 6:00 p.m.

March

1  UNO Night | 7:00 PM | Wood River Room in the SUB
Join in the UNO tournament to win awesome prizes!

7  Owl Activity | 7:00 PM | Rendezvous, 3rd floor - Honors Lobby
Make your owl for the Owl-portunity scholarship. These will be displayed at An Oppotuni-Tea for donors to sponsor student scholarships.

15  Owl Activity | 7:00 PM | Rendezvous, 3rd floor - Honors Lobby
Make your owl for the Owl-portunity scholarship. These will be displayed at An Oppotuni-Tea for donors to sponsor student scholarships.