During the 2016-2017 academic year, the University Honors Program (UHP) took significant steps to enhance its curriculum, facilities, and staffing. We began development of a fifth Honors Symposium, which will be titled “Who Owns the Past?” and offered in conjunction with the university-wide Saul O. Sidore Memorial Lecture Series. A Symposium on “Engaging Addiction,” a topic of critical importance to communities throughout New Hampshire and the nation, is being offered for the first time in the fall of 2017. I would like to thank the UNH faculty members for their new and interesting course offerings.

Another important achievement concerns Honors facilities on campus. A feasibility study for a proposed Honors Center wing at Hubbard Hall was completed in March of 2017. The facility would include academic counseling and administrative offices, a small seminar classroom, and be attached to the existing Hubbard Hall. Hubbard’s residential rooms would be upgraded. On May 8th, the Faculty Senate voted overwhelmingly to support establishing an administrative and residential center for the Honors Program on the Durham campus. The establishment of such a center would provide UNH Honors students with a facility reflective of national best practice standards in university honors education.

The retirement of longtime administrative assistant Lee Calderone was a great loss to the program, but also provided an opportunity to restructure the Honors staff by hiring a new education program coordinator, Kristen Butterfield. This change increases our ability to provide academic counseling to Honors students.

As we look ahead to the 2017-2018 academic year, I have set three primary goals for the Honors Program at UNH.

1. To obtain increased financial support for a new Honors Center on campus.
2. To continue the development of new Honors courses that are timely and relevant for students and the state of New Hampshire.
3. To complete a formative assessment of the Hamel Scholars and Hamel Scholarships Program staff and student activities.

Finally, I would like to welcome about 200 University Honors students who are starting this fall. We look forward to your energy and insights in our UNH classrooms!

Sincerely,

Jerry D. Marx, Ph.D.

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**Honor Roll**

The University Honors Program thanks the following generous donors for their support in 2016-2017. Donor contributions enable us to provide special experiences and support for UHP students. Gifts of all amounts are welcome at unh.edu/give or by calling (603) 862-3928.

- Casey Otis
- Geoffrey Cardner
- Robin Neilio
- Edward Katze
- Natalie Duval
- Edna Gabriel
- Stanton Otis
- Jennifer Hall
- Michael Fleming
- Edwina Vanderzanden
- Linda Gould
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- Estelle Playdon
- Debra Laskarzewski
- Nancy Lowenberg
- Jennifer Sweeney
- Nicole Wallace
- An Anonymous Donor
University Honors Program News

Staff Changes

The UHP said goodbye this July to Lee Calderone, who had served UNH for 30 years, with more than 20 in the Honors Program. Lee is enjoying her well-earned retirement, continuing to teach yoga and pilates, and happy to have plenty of time to visit her children and grandchildren.

We are happy to announce that UHP alumna Kristen Butterfield '08 has joined us in the role of Program Coordinator. Kristen was active in the founding of the Peer Mentors program as a student, and earned a Masters in Counseling Psychology from Columbia University's Teachers College after leaving UNH. Prior to joining the Honors Program, she worked in the UNH admissions office for four years.

Alumni Award

Geoffrey Cardner ’08 received the third annual Honors Alumni Award at a reception in April. “My Honors thesis got me my first job,” he told a group of graduating Honors students, gathered for a senior reception and award presentation. After doing research on a NH banking crisis for his Honors thesis in Business Administration, he was well prepared for a job at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. (His thesis advisor, Professor Ahmad Etebari, attended the award presentation.) He later moved to Sun Life Financial, holding positions in both the United States and Hong Kong, and earned an MBA from Babson College. He is currently the Director of Federal Tax Audits at Sun Life. Married to a fellow UNH graduate, he has two children and lives in Massachusetts.

Since graduating with Honors in Business Administration, Mr. Cardner has supported the Honors Program, initiating LinkedIn and Facebook groups, and volunteering to connect with current students as well as through financial contributions. “Connect with me on LinkedIn,” he offered, and concluded by advising the graduates to keep in touch with the UNH community, and to give back when they can.
The Honors Classroom:

The core of the University Honors Program is its roster of high-level, discussion-based courses. Students can fulfill their Discovery (which replaced General Education) and major requirements with honors-level alternatives that feature motivated, high-achieving peers, exceptional faculty, and a focus on participation and engagement. For the past several years, the UHP has been raising the bar for Honors courses. Now, all Honors Discovery courses are defined by Honors-only sections, either for the entire course (in most cases) or for a special Honors recitation or lab. This policy keeps the Honors experience unique and high-level.

Inquiry Seminars:
The original Honors courses

For over 20 years now, the Honors program has offered Inquiry Seminars that explore important topics in depth, from a variety of perspectives. These courses, capped at 20 students, have been so effective that UNH adopted them as a pillar of the Discovery Program. Now all students at UNH have the opportunity to take Inquiry courses, but the Honors Inquiry Seminars remain special experiences.

2016-2017 Seminars

- Controversial Issues in Biology
- Athens, Rome, and the Birth of the USA
- The Right to Be Disabled in the Extreme Makeover Society
- Plague: Literary Histories of Epidemics
- What Is a Criminal?
- Society and the Arctic
- On the Roads to Equality
- From Mona Lisa to Romeo and Juliet
- Biotechnology and Society
- Meaning of Entrepreneurship
- Bionics
- Living and Doing with Technology
- Global Citizenship

Honors Options
Enriched versions of common requirements

While Seminar and Symposium courses are key to the Honors experience, the program also offers smaller, discussion-based versions of courses that frequently crop up on student requirement lists or are popular choices for fulfilling Discovery requirements.

- Studio Calculus and Studio Physics (double course)
- Introduction to Microeconomics
- Introduction to Macroeconomics
- First-Year Writing
- Principles of Biology I: Molecular and Cellular Biology
- Principles of Biology II: Biodiversity, Ecology, and Evolution
- Principles of Chemistry
- Introduction to Drawing
- Survey of Music History
- Contemporary Conservation Issues
Honors Symposia  
Interdisciplinary, multi-course experiences

Since 2016, the Honors curriculum has included Honors Symposia, available only to members of the UHP. Each Symposium is comprised of 3-5 different courses, all addressing a common theme. The courses are small (capped at 20 students), but several times during the semester they meet together with the full Symposium to form a larger intellectual community of students and faculty. These meetings, called Plenary Sessions, might include special guest speakers, group projects, debates, or other activities designed to spark conversations between disciplines that are often kept separate. A rotating selection of new and repeated Honors Symposia keeps the content fresh and the themes relevant.

Current Honors Symposia

Reckoning with Race and Justice  
Theatre and Social Justice ♦ On Race ♦ Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Struggle for Racial Justice ♦ Global Justice

Engaging Addiction  
Drugs and Addiction in World History ♦ Hooked: Narratives of Addiction, Recovery, and Redemption ♦ Communication, Identity, and Addiction ♦ Addiction and Society

Reinventing Healthy Communities  

Being Human  
The Human Brain ♦ Humanism and Dehumanization ♦ Citizens and Persons ♦ Who Are You?

Who Owns the Past?  
That Belongs in a Museum! ♦ Islam and the Past ♦ From Digging to Digital ♦ Saving Culture: Heritage Management
Members of the Hamel Scholars Program, now numbering close to 100, are selected for their exceptional skills and achievements in academics, service, and leadership. The majority of the program’s members are New Hampshire residents. Each year a small number of exceptional Juniors, who may come from any state or country, is added to the group. Events and activities throughout the year help Hamel Scholars build connections and develop their potential to be New Hampshire’s future leaders. In 2016-2017 the program’s accomplishments included:

- Volunteering at the local food pantry at the Waysmeet Center, organizing and handing out food to those in need
- Donating and sorting clothes at Echo Thrift Shop in downtown Durham, NH, benefiting Friends in Action
- Continuing an ongoing relationship with Woodman Park Elementary School in Dover, NH, to provide afterschool activities and mentorship for local elementary students
- Eric Schwarz, cofounder and CEO of the College for Social Innovation, discussed his experience in mission-driven entrepreneurship and how students can find their own paths to innovation
- UNH Theatre professor David Kaye led a discussion on the role of the arts in social change
- A networking event in Manchester, NH included a tour of the Autodesk headquarters and a Q&A with a panel of successful UNH alumni, including UNH Manchester Dean Mike Decelle ’81; Velcro Americas president Scott Filion ’87; NH entrepreneurship director Elizabeth Gray ’00; and Joseph Riley ’78, regional president of Eastern Bank, as well as leaders from local companies Dyn/Oracle and Geneia. The day finished with a visit to Manchester’s renowned Currier Museum of Art.

Looking forward to a banner year

Thanks to the generosity of the Hamel family, UNH was able to offer the Hamel Scholarship to 35 incoming freshman for the fall of 2017; the previous maximum had been 20. The new students are coming from many different cities and towns across New Hampshire, and will be the largest incoming class of freshman in the program’s history.
In the spirit of improvement and innovation, the Paul College for Business and Economics recently overhauled its Honors in Major programs. University Honors Program students still take at least 4 Honors courses at the Discovery level. At the end of the Sophomore year, they apply to be part of a selected cohort that travels together through four high-value Honors experiences.

**Course Designation Workshop**  Students pick a course to designate as honors and work with the professor to create a special Honors project related to the course. The Designation Workshop brings together Honors students to share, build upon, and ultimately present their designation work.

**Consulting Project**  Designed to broaden perspective and build a bridge to the real world, the Consulting Project pairs students with small businesses across New Hampshire. With the help of the Small Business Development Center, the program identifies real-world projects and gives students a chance to apply their learning.

**Research Seminar**  Dedicated to preparing students to write their Honors Thesis. The thesis process is broken into steps and students complete a thesis proposal. Students also discuss faculty research presented in the Paul Scholars series.

**Honors Thesis**  The culminating experience of Paul Honors. Students apply what they have learned and undertake their own research with the help of a faculty mentor.
Envisioning the Future of Hubbard Hall

For many years, Hubbard Hall has been a preferred residence for University Honors Program students. With a convenient location near the Freshman dorms and the Philbrook dining hall, as well first-floor common space that is among the best on campus, Hubbard has offered residents a warm, friendly place to live, study, and socialize.

Hubbard has never been Honors-exclusive (students who choose the “Making the Grade” housing theme also live there), and Honors students have always been able to choose different housing options. While these factors have helped maintain the flexibility and diversity we prize at UNH, they have made it difficult for the Honors Program to create a sense of place and community.

This year, the UHP asked local architecture firm Manypenny-Murphy to help us imagine how Hubbard could be transformed into a true Honors Center, with a new wing that would include offices and classroom space as well as residences. This design would bring together students, staff, and faculty in a shared space, creating more opportunities for interaction among the Honors community.

A feasibility study and cost estimate for the project have been completed. UNH administration is currently considering fundraising options and how the Hubbard expansion may fit into the broader campus plan.

We hope to share progress on this initiative in next year’s annual report.

### Top Majors

1. Accounting
2. Communication Sciences and Disorders
3. Nursing
4. Occupational Therapy
5. Finance
6. Marine, Estuarine, and Freshwater Biology
7. Chemical Engineering
8. Health Management and Policy
9. Biomedical Science
10. Mechanical Engineering

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**The UNH Honors Class of 2017**

- **103** total graduates
- **50** from New Hampshire
- **53** from elsewhere
- **13** states
- **3** countries
- **81** women
- **22** men
- **3.83** average GPA

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The University Honors Program of the University of New Hampshire
unh.edu/honors-program • honors.program@unh.edu • (603) 862-3928