Happy Holidays All,
As we close out the semester and enter the holidays, our announcements are mostly of the look ahead to next semester variety.

- **Western Regional Honors Conference** – This conference offers another chance to present your research or creative work. The Montana State University Honors College has asked us to co-sponsor the WRHC conference in 2015 or 2016. So I would like to send some of our members to learn more about the conference and to have the opportunity to connect with students from other honors programs. For more details, see the announcement below.
- **Recap of the Honors Council* Meeting** – The Council began work on a plan that would result in 4 or 5 honors General Education courses offered every semester. As importantly, the plan is to develop options in more of the General Ed categories. Currently, we only offer courses in 3 of the categories. The Council also began work on securing 3 upper-division seminars for next year.
- **More Words about Semesterly Conferences** – If you didn’t have your conference with me this semester, I hope that you will do so early next semester. As I learn more about you individually and collectively, I also learn more about how to make the UHP a value creating experience.
- **Semester Abroad Experiences** – There are a number of semester abroad experiences for honors students, most sponsored by other honors programs. While the costs are typically higher than the costs of a MSUB semester, we would work with interested students to see we can help to defray them.

With all good wishes for joyous, bountiful holiday seasons,

David Craig

*The Honors Council is the group of faculty members who serve as our advisory board and approve our curriculum and other things of similar importance. We still need student representatives for this year, and so, if you are interested in serving, please let me know.

---

**Studies Abroad Opportunities for Honors**

Enjoy the opportunity of a life time by participating in The Abby Experience in the fall semester of 2014. Explore European destinations, villages, culture and citizens while earning 15 Honors credits in Liberal Arts. Scholarships available through the Henry Douglas Mackaman Scholars program. Learn more about the experience at [www.theabbeyprogram.org](http://www.theabbeyprogram.org).
This year’s Western Regional Honors Council Conference will be held in Denver at Metropolitan State University of Denver conference center from April 14th -12th. One of the features of the conference is student presentations of their research and creative projects. The organizers invite oral presentations, posters, or group presentations. Visit www.msudenver.edu/honors.wrhc to learn more.