

UHP NEWS



MSUB Honors Program

March 2016

Dear Honors Programmers,

Quite a March this year with its two breaks. As a result, we have less news for this newsletter, but no less busyness, something that I suspect you are experiencing as well. As we look toward the end of the semester, we will have our first UHP members to earn the Interdisciplinary Honors Minor and the designation University Honors Graduate. Also for the first time, the graduate's honors designation will be announced from the stage at commencement. Yea!! But I am getting ahead of myself.

- **Courses** – We have updated our list of honors courses for the fall. Also, the university is moving to designating courses and course times a year ahead, and so we are working on the honors spring 2017 courses as well and expect to share them, at least, in preliminary form for the next newsletter.
- **Survey** – The Student Advisory Committee and I invite your thoughts on some things that have come up in our deliberations: honors housing, advising and improving advising, and possible honors courses and professors for the future. We hope that you will share your thoughts with us via the survey and/or, if you prefer, in person.
- **The Research and Creativity Conference** – We are co-sponsoring the event again this year. Its first year, the event had 56 participants, last year 88. Participation provides a good occasion to showcase interesting work that you have done inside or outside class. [Applications are due this Wednesday, March 30](#). We also need volunteers to help us to set up, run, and clean up (Friday, April 22); please let Jenay or me know if you can help.
- **Semesterly Appointments, Honors Minor, and Stuff** – If you want to earn the honors minor in the future, you need to register for it. Doing so would also be a good occasion for your semesterly conference. (The advising worksheet can now be found on the [MSUB website](#).) As for the stuff part, that is another thing for which semesterly conferences are good.
- **Gulick Scholarship Congratulations** – Congratulations to Joseph Walters who was awarded this year's Gulick Research Scholarship. Joseph is working with Dr. Lynn George on the disease Familial Dysautonomia, a neurodegenerative disorder. This award was begun and is funded by Dr. Walter Gulick, one of the people responsible for starting the UHP. Dr. Gulick saw research as being one of the most important opportunities ought to offer its students.

All good wishes for this coming April, with the coming spring (ideally a warming and welcoming one), its end of semester rush (ideally whose demands we all handle well), and a successful conclusion to the academic year (the 20th anniversary for the UHP).

DC

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

April 22: Research & Creativity Conference

Contact honors@msubillings.edu if you can help with setup/teardown, the sign-in desk, time keeping, handing out booklets, etc.



Recently Added Fall Courses

LANG 292-001 Language, Culture and Identity – Elena Petroska

3 cr. This course is an exploration into the interaction of language, culture and identity. We will explore how language shapes and is shaped by identity, and how individual's identity is constituted through a variety of different factors, including the social, cultural and ethnic contexts, and issues such as bi- or multilingualism. There will be discussion on how individuals and social groups distinguish themselves on the basis of language in the different regions in the world and the USA.

WRIT 101-005 HON College Writing I – Professor Bernard Quetchenbach

3 cr. Provides instruction in writing competencies expected of college students. Pays special attention to writing as a problem-solving process, patterns of organization in personal and informative writing, and logical thinking style in argumentative/persuasive writing.

EDU 105-001 HON Education and Democracy – Professor James Strecker

3 cr. Explores what it means to be an educated person in a democratic society. Although schooling is generally the primary formal means whereby societies educate citizens, this course focuses on education broadly to examine a) the ways people create and share knowledge, b) society's responsibilities to provide the rich and varied opportunities needed by all citizens who would be educated, c) the consequences of disenfranchising anyone from those opportunities, and d) the critical link between democratic society and education.

