

UHP NEWS



MSUB Honors Program

October 2016

Dear Fellow Honors Programmers,

In October, days rush along or, at least to me, it always seems that way as work and assignments pile up. It's too early for it to happen this year, but I hope that the Honors office will become a bit of an oasis to such busyness, a place to stop, catch one's breath, have a snack, and, maybe, a quick chat.

- **Planning Future Honors Classes** – We have included a survey to get your reactions to the proposals submitted for new Honors classes for 2017, but there is also much more planning going on. We also have proposals from professors or departments for converting some of their courses into Honors courses. This set of proposals should enable us to offer a richer set of Honors offerings in 2017-18 than we currently have. The Honors Council is also considering a much more basic question: what makes a good Honors course? If you are interested in helping us with this definitional question, let me know. With this effort, we don't simply want to offer more courses, but also better ones.
- **Semesterly Meetings** – It's prime time for them now. We will be sending out invites for them, but, of course, you can also take the initiative by contacting Jenay or me for an appointment. For students planning on graduating with the Interdisciplinary Honors minor, the meetings can also serve as an occasion to talk about building your portfolio.
- **Our Seminar Room** – This semester's Perspectives and Understanding is our first scheduled class there, and, from what I can tell, the room is making a difference in the class. As one of the class members said a few weeks back, "it feels more like a book club than a class." Indeed in every class so far this semester, every class member has spoken, typically multiple times, and discussions unfold as conversations--in a few cases with me being by far the least vocal participant. I hope that this first class foretells what will happen in the seminar room for years to come, that it will become a place to explore, to question, to hypothesize, a place to think.
- **Cookie and Candy Consumption** – It's gone up a lot this year, and I hope that the trend will continue. There is tea in the kitchen area, and, now that the weather has turned Octoberishly fallish, we'll be adding hot chocolate as well. Feel free to take advantage of these refreshments as well.



CONTRACTS

Course Contracts
are due
**MONDAY,
OCTOBER 17**

I've jotted this letter between meetings, and it's almost time for the next one. Wishing you well as we head into mid-semester.

DC

We're going
BOWLING!

Friday, October 14
@7 pm at Sunset Bowl

(We'll pay for the bowling; any food is on you.)

SCHOLARSHIPS •

There are two honors scholarships available RIGHT NOW.

One is for those involved in research and the other is open to all honors students.

Contact the Honors Program if you have any questions.

Please participate in our

HONORS COURSE SURVEY.

Your vote impacts the honors courses we will be offering in the following semesters.

