“Anyone who conducts an argument by appealing to authority is not using his intelligence; he is just using his memory” wrote Leonardo da Vinci. I have long maintained that argumentation should be the primary form of discourse at a university. When in New York I saw the play *Freud’s Last Session* by Mark St. Germain and Leonardo’s dictum was made immediate on the stage, where Sigmund Freud debated the existence of God with C. S. Lewis. It was a battle of wits that elevated arguing to the art form it should always be in the academy. Here at the University of Tampa we have faculty, teaching across disciplines, that are seeking students to share in the joy of arguing principles, seeking truth and shattering the status quo, through inquiry, creative expression and applied knowledge. You’ll find them listed on pages 9-12 of this Newsletter. These faculty members have volunteered to be research mentors for Honors students pursuing Undergraduate Research Fellowships.

The value of research and creative activity in your undergraduate career is incalculable. Undergraduate research sets you apart from your peers, markedly enhances your résumé, and can open doors to the best schools for graduate study and sets you on the pathway to a rewarding career.
Another pathway to success that is available to you as an Honors student is the Oxford Semester Abroad. “A life-changing experience,” is how recent UT Honors attendees have described there semester at Oxford. The OSAP (Oxford Study Abroad Programme) places you at the oldest university in the English-speaking world, where you study via tutorials with prestigious Oxford dons. Right now we are accepting applications until the deadline of 5:00 PM on March 6. Students who meet the deadline will be competing for the chance to be one of the three students that Honors is sending to Oxford in the fall of 2015.

Congratulations to the eighteen Honors students who braved the freezing blizzard and went up to Boston last month for the Harvard Model United Nations representing the nation of Viet Nam. Congratulations also to the twenty-eight Honors students [Wow! A record number for us!] who presented at the Florida Collegiate Honors Council Conference in sunny and warm Miami last week. Check the pages of this newsletter for pictures.

For the eight students who will be attending the Southern Regional Honors Council conference in Greenville, South Carolina, mark your calendars for the conference: March 19 - 21.

I hope you are up to the challenge of pursuing all that your Honors Program has to offer, not only for this semester, but for next academic year as well. The application deadline for applying for an Honors Undergraduate Research Fellowship is Friday, March 20, at 5:00 PM. The deadline for applying to be part of the Harvard Model IUN delegation team in 2016 is also Friday, March 20. (Warning alert! This is the Friday after Spring Break). Application forms can be obtained in the Honors Program Office, Plant Hall 307 or at Honors Bb.

I hope you will be having a safe and sane Spring Break and will come back to Honors refreshed, reinvigorated and ready for the challenges ahead.

Gary Luter
Director, Honors Program

Directors message continued
Hello UT Honors Students!

I hope everyone is having a good start to their semester. I know everyone is looking forward to Spring Break. Just a reminder, any UT Honors student is welcome to join the Honors Council in Vaughn 219 every Tuesday at 6pm. As always we have information on each upcoming event, networking opportunities with your fellow honors students, and of course pizza!

The Honors Council has started our own peer edit speaker series. Anyone is welcome to present their research and findings each week, and have the Honors Council as a whole peer critique the presentation. If you are interested please contact me at Jimmy.Uteg@spartans.ut.edu. We have had a few presentations already, and I can’t wait to see even more great ones to come.

With March upon us, the many students that have gone to the Florida Collegiate Honors Conference have presented their work and did an awesome job representing UT in Miami. Also, I want to congratulate and wish the presenters that are going to South Carolina for the Southern Regional Collegiate Honors Conference good luck and safe travels! I know everyone will do amazing.

The Honors Council is looking forward to having some great social and academic events in the future, so either come to meetings, or check us out on Facebook and Org-Sync for dates and times. We are also fundraising by selling cool HC T-shirts. If interested in buying one come by a meeting, or get in contact with me. Finally, look for us at the pool on hot days selling ice pops and water to cool you from the heat that is to come.

Most recently, we registered for Relay for Life and will have a team representing HC at the event. Our theme for this year is “Around the World in 80 Days” following the overall theme of “Around the World”. Look for us, we will have lots of fun with games and giveaways.

I look forward to everything coming up this spring and I hope you are too. If you have any questions or comments about Honors Council feel free to contact me at Jimmy.Uteg@spartans.ut.edu.

Stay smart and safe over Spring Break.

With Spartan Pride,

Jimmy Uteg III
IN THE NEWS


Students Represented Vietnam

Good times with the group
IN THE NEWS


UT's showing their countries flag

More pictures of Vietnam's Flag
-IN THE NEWS-

FCHC 2015, Miami Florida

Off to FCHC

Nicole Lampe and Maggie Poling receive awards for outstanding writing

Cailean Bakley and Lianne McCarthy Poster Presentation

Allison Johnson Poster Presentation

At the Awards dinner Dr. Alisa Smith and Dr. Luter with Honors Students
-IN THE NEWS-

FCHC 2015, Miami Florida

Poster Presentation

Dressed to Present

Honors Council Battle of the Bras

Hanging out
Timothy M. Smith Winner is
Griffith Guinta

Griffin plans on traveling to Dublin, Ireland, this summer where he will befriend homeless Dubliners and gather and record their stories for publication.
THE DEADLINE FOR APPLYING FOR AN HONORS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IS **MARCH 20.**

APPLICATIONS CAN BE FOUND ON-LINE AT HONORS Bb OR OUTSIDE THE HONORS OFFICE, PLANT HALL 307.

APPLICANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING INQUIRIES:

- Description of planned research and your role in the research.
- Value of the research to the professor, to your development, and to the community.
- Evidence of your ability to work on this kind of research.
- Probability of presentation or publication.

“A list of Honors Research Fellowship opportunities follows”
Honors Research Fellowships Opportunities

Each year, the Honors Program sponsors up to eight Honors Undergraduate Research Fellows who receive fellowships of up to $1,000 each. These Research Fellows work under the mentorship of faculty members, assisting them on research and producing a research paper or project themselves for presentation to the University community (and often to scholarly conferences also).

A list of faculty who have expressed interest in being mentors for Honors Research Fellows (and their areas of research interest) appears below. Feel free to contact faculty with whom you would like to do a research fellowship, even if their names are not on the list, to see whether they might be willing to sponsor you.

The application form for an Honors Research Fellowship award is on-line at UT Blackboard or may be obtained outside PH 307.

**Dr. John Stinespring - Economics**
The impact of corporate income tax cuts on the U.S. economy with a focus on the impacts on savings, work effort and government revenues. The impact of tax cuts and public capital expenditures on the rate of economic growth. The impact of fiscal and monetary policy on the stock market (focusing on the link between Tobin’s q theory of investment and macroeconomic variables).

**Dr. Patty O'Grady – Education**

**Dr. Raymond Papp – ITM**
Areas of research: Business and technology management.

**Dr. Teresa Pergola – Accounting**
Areas of research: Corporate governance, specifically the monitoring effectiveness of large shareholders. Specific research responsibilities would include accumulation of proxy statements, extraction of specific information from proxy statements, classifying large owners according to the model and possibly helping with the statistical tests of the data.

**Dr. Natasha Veltri – ITM**
Social networking websites such as Facebook, MySpace, hi5, Friendster, LinkedIn. Understanding cultural and individual differences, users perceptions of privacy and what attracts or prevents users from taking advantage of this pervasive technology. This project will involve exploring issues associated with social networking and collecting and analyzing survey data from users of social networking sites.

**Dr. Mary R. Anderson - GWA**
American politics (broadly defined). Public opinion and survey research. Human rights.

**Dr. Kathryn Branch – Criminology and Criminal Justice**
Areas of research are: Sexual assault. Secondary effects of sexual assault. Family violence. Intimate partner violence. Women's use of aggression.

*Continued on next page*
Honors Research Fellowships Opportunities

Dr. Stephen Blessing – Psychology
Areas of research: learning, memory, or problem solving.

Dr. Anthony LaRose – Criminology
Areas of research: police, police values, international policing, comparative criminal justice, community policing, the “CSI: Effect”, Mexican policing and student retention.

Dr. Steve Geisz – Philosophy
Chinese philosophy. Philosophical theories related to democracy. Moral psychology (i.e., the intersection of ethical theory, philosophy of mind, and psychology). Philosophy of mind. Other topics in philosophy

Dr. Beth Eschenfelder – Communication
Organizational communication and anything related to organizational strategy. Nonprofit organizations. Community and/or service learning. Government/community relations. Social problems and how people, groups and government attempt to address them. Public relations, especially crisis communication and corporate social responsibility. Employee communication.

Dr. Susan Brinkley - CRM
Areas of research: the Slovakian and Czech prison systems (he changing paths that these two countries have taken since the break-up of Czechoslovakia.

Dr. Bella Galperin - MGT
Areas of research: Organizational behavior and international management. Specifically, counterproductive work behavior (deviance), leadership, constructive deviance and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Kevin Fridy - GWA
Areas of research: African politics and development issues.

Dr. Elizabeth A. Littell-Lamb - History
East Asian history, culture and society (primary focus China and Japan). Comparative women's history. Comparative and transnational feminism.

Dr. Erica Yuen - Psychology
Areas of research: Clinical Psychology (Anxiety and mood disorders, wellness interventions, attitudes toward psychological disorders, service dissemination using technology).

Dr. Cynthia Gangi - Psychology
Areas of research: The stigma of mental illness (with a focus on whether or not the stigma “sticks” even when there are signs of recovery). The cognitive and affective underpinnings of prejudice. Health psychology research, specifically in the area of health persuasion.

Dr. L. Michael Carastro – Chemistry/Biotechnology
Areas of research: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology; Molecular Oncology (Cancer Research).

Dr. Angela Angeleska - MAT
Dr. Eric Freundt - BIO
Areas of research: Virology and Microbiology.

Dr. James Lopez - Spanish
Areas of research: Latin American Literature or Film; Latin American History and/or Culture; Creative Writing in Spanish; Spanish Language.

Dr. Scott Witherow – Biochemistry
* Determination of protein-protein interactions involved in signal transduction in coral larvae.* In brief, we hypothesize that coral larvae sense color in a mechanism similar to that in which humans see. Larvae are drawn toward bright substrates and therefore preferentially adhere to healthy, bright coral reefs. The exact mechanism for this color sensing isn’t known, and this is the research my lab is focusing on. By performing standard genetic and biochemical assays, we are attempting to elucidate this mechanism in terms of how individual proteins interact and function within the coral. 2) *Characterization of an enzyme for the production of biodiesel.* Biodiesel can be generated through an enzyme catalyzed process. We are currently characterizing an enzyme that has undergone directed evolution to optimize its activity for this biodiesel production. Students are currently working to determine kinetic parameters of the enzyme and optimal conditions for the production of biodiesel from oils.

Dr. Mary Martinasek – Public Health/ Health Sci. and Human Performance
Areas of research: Social behavioral aspects of electronic cigarettes, hookah smoking and also asthma among college students. I am also open to any public health research.

Dr. J. C. Andersen – Health Sciences and Human Performance

Dr. Abraham Miller- Health Sciences and Human Performance
Areas of research: Scorpion behavior, ecology and phylogenetics. Interested in having students: Work in the lab observing behavioral experiments and measuring scorpions through dissecting scopes. Partake in field collecting and measuring abundance or scorpions and their prey. Be involved with molecular work, sequencing genes of the scorpions (this is a limited possibility).

Dr. Jason Sumerau -- Sociology
Areas of Research: Studies exploring sexualities, gender, religion, and/or health utilizing qualitative (e.g., historical, ethnographic, Interview, or media content based data) methods and techniques.

Dr. Cagdas Agirdas -- Economics
Areas of research: Health Economics.

Dr. Mary Keener -- Accounting
Areas of research: Accounting, specifically capital markets financial accounting research

Dr. Andrew DeMil – Languages and Linguistics
Areas of research: Linguistics, Language Learning, Second Language Learning
Honors Research Fellowships Opportunities

Dr. Rebecca Wagget —
Areas of research: Plankton ecology; examining the dynamics of harmful algal blooms up through the food web to zooplankton feeding and escape behavior; examining predator prey interactions among planktonic organisms and higher trophic levels and the biomechanics that facilitate successful escape reactions; high speed video analysis of freshwater crayfish escape behavior; examining larval red drum behavior; life history analysis of the local gelatinous plankton including the ctenophore *Mnemiopsis leidyi*. Interested students can visit Dr. Wagget’s website: [http://utweb.ut.edu/rwaggett/research.html](http://utweb.ut.edu/rwaggett/research.html)

Dr. Joseph Letter — English and Writing
Areas of research: Nineteenth-Century American Literature and Culture; Composition Studies and Pedagogy

Dr. Kacy Tillman — English and Writing
Areas of research: 18th century American literature, literature of the American Revolution, Loyalists, Quakers, early American life writing (letters, diaries, commonplace books), American Feminism, sentimental and/or domestic fiction of the 18th century

Prof. Santiago Echeverry — Art
Areas of research: video art / video installation; history and theory of new media; interactive media; digital art; performance art

Dr. Michael Carastro — Chemistry/Biotechnology
Areas of research: Molecular Oncology

Dr. Marcus Arvan — Philosophy and Religion
Areas of research: Applied Ethics (Business ethics, Biomedical Ethics), Morality of Warfare, Philosophy of Law, Human Rights, Metaphysics

Prof. Ina Kaur — Art
Areas of research: Contemporary Drawing- concepts and techniques; Critical theory with the art; The basic philosophy of Aesthetics; Printmaking (Fine art studio practice) Going beyond the matrix; Hands on interdisciplinary approach in fine/studio arts

Dr. Enilda Romero-Hall — Education
Areas of research: computer/web-based instruction [multimedia instruction]; using social media to support instruction/learning, simulations, and educational games; physiological measures (EEG) to assess learning, and online/distance learning.

Dr. Liv Coleman — GWA
Areas of research: International organization; global governance; and politics of the digital age.

Dr. Gary Luter — Speech and Theatre
Areas of research: Acting and Directing, Dramaturgy, Theatre History, Censorship of the Arts and Gay/Lesbian studies.
Students who are interested in studying at Oxford in the upcoming fall semester should pick up an application outside Plant Hall 307 or find one online at Honors Bb.

Honors Program students wishing to apply for Honors at Oxford must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.5 and have status as a junior or senior in the term for which they are applying.

The deadline for applications to attend Oxford in Fall semester 2015 is due by

March 6, 2015 by 5 PM
Honors Symposium Series 2015

Professor Kristen Foltz, UT Department of Speech
Tuesday, March 3 at 12:00 noon in Library Room AV2

*Student Perceptions of Tattoos*
Historically, there was a shift in the discourse about tattoos as they are now referred to in a more palatable manner as "body art". Even though body art is considered more mainstream in society than ever before, there are extreme biases against tattoos in the corporate work place. A questionnaire of business speech students investigated whether students were aware of these stereotypes and generally what the current generation of college students entering the work force thought about tattoos in an employment context.

Dr. James Lopez, UT Professor of Spanish, Language and Linguistics
Thursday, March 19 at 4:00 pm in Library Room AV2

*Mistaken Cosmologies: European and American Mappae mundi Before and After the Discovery*
Maps often reveal more about the people and cultures that create them than they do about the universe that surrounds us. The European invasion of the Western Hemisphere in the 16th century transformed the way Americans and Europeans alike viewed their place in the cosmos. This process can be traced visually in the mappae mundi, or world maps, produced during this period. Dr. James Lopez will follow this process by viewing and discussing European and Native American mappae mundi created before and after 1492.

Dr. Joanne Stevens, UT Professor of Nursing,
Monday, March 23 at 11:30 am in Library Room AV2

*Peer Active Learning Strategy (PALS) for Clinical Education: A User Friendly Model for Health Care*
This presentation offers a peer active learning strategy (PALS) approach consisting of a cognitive model and an educational design to promote critical thinking during clinical experiences. The model and design were developed for clinical instructors and preceptors who teach nursing students and new RNs, but can easily be used in allied health professions and the human service sector.

Dr. Andrew DeMil, UT Professor of Spanish, Language and Linguistics
Monday, April 6 at 5:00 pm in Library Room AV2

*The Radical Shift in Language Learning: What's IN, What's OUT*
In the early years of second language teaching, teachers' observation and experience lead to the belief that in order to promote language learning, mechanical repetition and practice of linguistic rules were necessary. Since Second Language Acquisition (SLA) research began, many studies have demonstrated that what students need is the opportunity to discover meaning by themselves, thus developing their own capacities. This presentation offers examples of why everything we thought about language learning was wrong, and how a radical shift in teaching is turning the classroom on its head.
Shulamith Koenig, United Nations Human Rights Prize Recipient
Saturday, April 18 at 12:00 noon on the 9th Floor of Vaughn Center
**UT Fourth Annual Human Rights Conference Keynote Speech**

Shulamith Koenig is the Founding President of PDHRE, People’s Movement for Human Rights Learning, which she founded in 1988 with the goal of creating, in the words of Nelson Mandela, a new political culture based on human rights—and to enable women and men alike to participate in the decisions that determine their lives, and live in community in dignity with one another, moving from charity to dignity guided by the holistic human rights framework. She has advocated and facilitated, in more than 60 countries, dialogue and meaningful grassroots discussions to effect societal change through learning about human rights as a way of life, as relevant to people's daily concerns, and enhance critical thinking and systemic analysis within the holistic human rights framework that leads to action for social and economic justice, and invigorates social responsibility.

Dr. Scott Husband, UT Professor of Psychology
Wednesday, April 15 at 4:00 pm in Library Room AV2

**The Roots of Religion & the Believer’s Brain**

Religion appears to be a cross-cultural human universal, profoundly influencing the lives of billions of people in what they eat, whom they have sex with, how they raise their children, and how they structure their societies. Voltaire famously said, "If God did not exist, it would be necessary to invent him." Why DID humans invent God(s)? Dr. Husband will discuss evolutionary approaches in identifying the roots of religion, as well as how neuroscience is exploring brain systems that underlie the cognitive, affective, and social functions of religion.

Honors Undergraduate Research Fellows
Thursday, April 23 at 4:00 pm in Trustees’ Room, 9th Floor of Vaughn Center

**Celebrating Honors: Undergraduate Research Fellows Presentations**

Join this past year’s recipients of Honors Undergraduate Research Fellows as they present their research findings as part of “Celebrating Honors Day.” Also, meet the new 2015-2016 Honors Research Fellows.

Dr. David Reamer, UT Professor of English, with AWRH201 students
Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 pm in Library Room AV2

**Ethical Arguments about Disciplinary Controversies**

Selected Honors AWR 201 students will present their research on current controversies within their fields of study. Presentations will highlight ethical dilemmas faced by stakeholders in fields such as medicine and business, as well as the students' own research and argumentation strategies.
Dr. Pattie Johnston and Professor Merrie Tankersley, UT Department of Education, with Education students
Monday, May 4 at 6:30 pm in Crescent Club, 9th Floor of Vaughn Center

B.E.L.I.E.V.E. (Becoming Engaged Leaders by Inspiring Education Values and Exploration)

B.E.L.I.E.V.E. is an elite program created to foster leadership skills in targeted education majors by participating in community service projects, writing research based articles, presenting at conferences, and experiencing other opportunities that go above and beyond the curriculum of The University of Tampa Department of Education. During this symposium, BELIVE counselors, Dr. Pattie Johnston and Professor Merrie Tankersley, along with members of the BELIEVE organization will speak about their various projects and experiences.

May be subject to change, check with Honors Program Office for updates.
phone: 813-257-3545 . email: HONORS@UT.EDU
Student Perceptions of Tattoos

Historically, there was a shift in the discourse about tattoos as they are now referred to in a more palatable manner as "body art". Even though body art is considered more mainstream in society than ever before, there are extreme biases against tattoos in the corporate workplace. A questionnaire of business speech students investigated whether students were aware of these stereotypes and generally what the current generation of college students entering the workforce thought about tattoos in an employment context.

Kristen Foltz,
Visiting Assistant Professor, Speech
Mistaken Cosmologies: European and American Mappae mundi Before and After the Discovery

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James Lopez,
Associate Professor, Spanish, Language and Linguistics
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A User Friendly Model for Health Care

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Joanne Stevens
Associate Professor of Nursing
The Radical Shift in Language Learning: What’s IN, What’s OUT

In the early years of second language teaching, teachers’ observation and experience lead to the belief that in order to promote language learning, mechanical repetition and practice of linguistic rules were necessary. Since Second Language Acquisition (SLA) research began, many studies have demonstrated that what students need is the opportunity to discover meaning by themselves, thus developing their own capacities. This presentation demonstrates how researchers are attempting to revolutionize second language teaching.

Andrew DeMil
Assistant Professor Spanish, Languages and Linguistics
Critical Dates for Honors Students

3
Symposium featuring Professor Kristen Foltz, Student Perceptions of Tattoos, Library AV 2, 12 noon

6
Oxford Study Abroad Applications Due by 5 PM

19
Symposium featuring Professor James Lopez, Mistaken Cosmologies: European and American Mappae mundi Before and After the Discovery, Library AV 2, 4 PM

19-21
Southern Regional Honors Conference, Greenville, SC

20
Honors Undergraduate Research Fellowship Applications AND Harvard Model United Nations Applications Due by 5 PM

23
Symposium featuring Professor Joanne Stevens, Peer Active Learning Strategy (PALS) for Clinical Education: A User Friendly Model for Health Care, Library AV 2, 11:30 AM

Honors Council Meets on Tuesdays at 6 PM in Vaughn Center 219