



University of South Florida Honors College State of the College Report April 14, 2017

Prepared by the Dean: Dr. Charles Adams

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## **MISSION:**

To develop tomorrow's leaders by providing first-rate educational opportunities to the most highly motivated, intellectually curious, and academically accomplished students at USF.

We strive to create a tight-knit intellectual community by:

- Providing an honors residential experience
- Offering a distinctive interdisciplinary honors curriculum featuring small classes taught by engaged and creative faculty
- Sponsoring co-curricular opportunities in community development, global studies, and leadership
- Supporting student achievement with expert individual advising and a highly successful Office of National Scholarships
- Encouraging each student to pursue a significant and rewarding research experience that takes advantage of USF's resources as a Top-30 Public Research Institution



### 2016-17 ACHIEVEMENTS:

These are some of the outstanding achievements of the College in 2016-17.

- Three new full-time Instructors joined our teaching staff, bringing the total number of
  dedicated Honors College faculty lines to five. Our new colleagues hold terminal degrees in
  Architecture, Urban Planning, and Applied Physics; their expertise significantly expands the
  range of coursework and mentoring available to our students. We continue to be less reliant
  on adjuncts as we place more dedicated instructors and tenured/tenure-track USF faculty in
  our classrooms.
- Searches were successfully conducted to recruit three more Instructors for the 2017-18 year, two in medical humanities and one in ethics. Like those appointed this year, these incoming faculty will hold terminal degrees from excellent institutions, including the University of Texas, the University of Virginia, the University of California San Francisco, and the University of New Mexico, and the University of South Florida.
- The College exceeded its fund-raising goal of \$1M by more than \$2.6M, or 261%, for a total of \$3.612M.
- A new 7-year combined B.S./Pharm.D. degree program was approved in collaboration with the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Pharmacy. The first cohort will enter the program in the fall of 2017.
- The first cohort of a new Guaranteed Admission Program agreement with the USF School of Physical Therapy entered the Honors College.
- Agreements were signed with the Lake Erie College of Medicine in Bradenton, offering a pathway to a D.O. degree that complements our 7-Year program with the Morsani College of Medicine, and with the LECOM College of Dentistry.
- A new Student Ambassador program was inaugurated, providing vital support for our recruiting efforts and employing a dozen students who might otherwise work off-campus and delay progress toward graduation.
- A Dean's Council was established, composed of successful Honors College alumni and friends of the College, in order to raise awareness of the College's accomplishments, improve recruitment of high-ability students, and build a stronger financial basis to support student opportunities.

- The College hosted a site visit by a team from the Committee on Qualifications of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and significant step forward in the highly rigorous application process to shelter a chapter of this distinguished honors society on campus.
- The inaugural cohort of recipients of the Genshaft Global Presidential Scholarship joined the Honors College. This scholarship will provide this group of fifteen very high ability students, and future classes of fifteen to twenty each, extraordinary study abroad opportunities.
- Daniel Ruth was named the first Honors College Professor of Professional Practice. Mr. Ruth, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, organized a series of conversations for Honors students with elected officials and other successful public figures to explore various dimensions of citizenship and democracy. Representatives Crist, Ross, Castor, and Jolly appeared, and political consultant Adam Goodman held a "debate watch" event.
- The Office of National Scholarships once again assisted many students to compete successfully for national awards. The final tally is not available at the time of this report, but we are on track to win at least fifty such awards this year. Notable achievements so far include three Frost Scholarships, ten student Fulbrights, and three Goldwater Honorable Mentions.
- New study abroad programs were established, bringing the total number of Honors College programs to nine. A leadership academy was created in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth in St. Lucia, and a new medical humanities program to the Dominican Republic was begun. The foundation was laid for a tenth program, a community development project in Vietnam, slated for the summer of 2018.
- New community engagement programs were instituted, including the Connections program with the Tampa Museum of Art and a patient-shadowing program in collaboration with the Emergency Medicine division of Tampa General Hospital. The former engages our students in an art therapy program for individuals with cognitive disabilities, in cooperation with the USF Department of Psychiatry and the museum; the latter focuses on communication and care issues in the ER of a busy urban hospital.

#### **LEADERSHIP:**

The Honors College leadership team is committed to an academic environment characterized by a focus on student success, in and out of the classroom.



**Dr. Charles Adams** joined the Honors College as Dean in August 2014 from the University of Arkansas. He graduated from Tulane University with a B.A. degree in English and Philosophy, and completed his Ph.D. in English Language and Literature at the University of Virginia. He holds the rank of Professor of English at USF, and teaches in the USF in London program each summer.

**Dr. Shawn Bingham**, a member of the Sociology faculty, serves as the Honors College Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs. Dr. Bingham graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Sciences from Flagler College before going on to receive his Master's in Education from the University of Maryland at College Park. He earned a Doctorate in Philosophy from American University with concentrations in disability sociology and macrosociology.





**Dr. Sayan Basu** joined the Office of National Scholarships (ONS) as its new director in May 2016 from the University of the Pacific in California, where he was faculty in Physics and the Honors College. Dr. Basu is a theoretical physicist and has published on quantum physics, and on the physics of black holes for more than a decade. He experienced a global education, including in India, at the University of Cambridge UK, and at the University of California, Davis, where he obtained his Ph.D.

Mrs. Cayla Lanier serves as the Director of Advising after spending the last eight years as an Honors College advisor. She has a passion for connecting with students to help them discover their potential, refine their goals, and find their purpose. Ms. Lanier directs the College's Peer Mentor and Tour Guide programs, and has also led five study abroad trips to Costa Rica. She completed her B.A. in Marketing, with Honors College Distinction, here at the University of South Florida, and M.A. in Marketing at the University of Texas at Austin.





Ms. Judy Kane leads the development effort for the Honors College as part of the USF Foundation advancement team. Ms. Kane connects individuals with a passion for supporting education to Honors College priorities including academic scholarships, studying abroad opportunities, and research projects. In addition, Judy directs the Mentoring Institute at the USF Foundation to cultivate a community of colleagues collaborating to enrich their skills, learn from subject matter experts, and mentor each other. Prior to returning to her alma mater in the fall of 2005, Ms. Kane worked for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay for 15 years as Vice President of Development.

Mrs. Amy Harroun, serves as the Communications and Marketing Director for the Honors College. She oversees the College's communication initiatives and serves as a liaison for key community stakeholders. Mrs. Harroun has more than a decade of professional communications experience, including work in business, nonprofit, and higher education communities. She holds a B.A. in Mass Communications from the University of South Florida and a M.A. in Business Administration from St. Leo University.

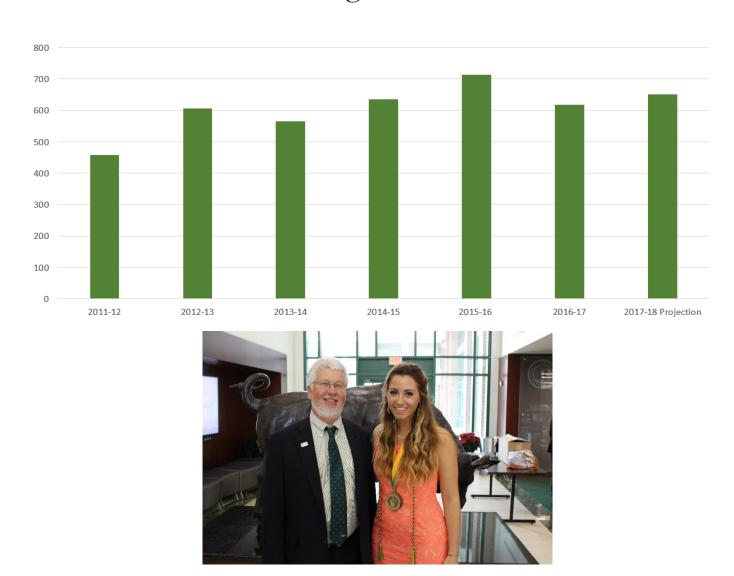


#### **ENROLLMENT AND GRADUATION:**

In the fall of 2016 we enrolled 620 new first-year students with an average high school GPA of 4.36, an average ACT score of 30.5, and an average SAT of 1367. This strong entering class is 35 percent larger than the 2011-12 cohort. The current total enrollment of the College is approximately 2,300; these students maintain an average GPA of 3.65.

During the 2016-17 academic year, approximately 315 students will graduate from the Honors College. Graduates continue to receive acceptances to the very best graduate and professional programs, nationally and internationally. They find employment opportunities within Florida and in major cities across the country. Honors graduates work in both the private and public sectors.

# Honors College Enrollment



Dean Adams poses with Stephanie Radu, USF Outstanding Graduate (Fall 2016) at the Honors College Commencement.

#### **COURSES:**

Honors Courses continue to be a highlight of the College. Not only are the courses valued for their rich intellectual content, they are also desired due to their small class sizes.



The following are some special courses among the 164 sections we offered this year.

- Dan Ruth, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist: "Post-World War II America Through the Camera Eye"
- Congressman Gus Bilirakis: "The Role of the Legislative Branch in a Constitutional Republic"
- Tampa Innovation Alliance Director Executive Director Mark Sharpe: "The Concept of the Creative Economy"
- Michael Cross, Honors College Instructor, with members of the Institute for Advanced Discovery and Innovation: "Get Innovative: The Habits of Mind That Foster Creativity"

Other Honors College faculty taught a wide range of innovative courses this year:

- Dr. Catherine Wilkins: "Mental Healthcare, Community Engagement, and Art", in collaboration with the USF Dept. of Psychiatry and the Tampa Museum of Art
- Dr. Alan Bush: "Geographies of Transformation: Ecosystem Resilience and the Built Environment
- Dr. Benjamin Young: "Doctor Who? Bioethics, Medicine, and the Human Condition"
- Atsuko Sakai (AIA): "Design Formula: Human/Nature/Objects/Ideas"
- Dr. Jeremy Gordon: "Harry Potter and the 'Dark Arts' of Justice"

Additionally, USF faculty taught a number of interdisciplinary courses, including:

- Dr. Fred Steier: "Design Thinking and Community Development"
- Dr. Kevin Mackay: "Science Fact, Science Fiction"
- Dr. David Frankel: "Theatre and Society"
- Dr. Arthur Bochner: "Authenticity, Vulnerability, and Truth"
- Dr. Jacqueline Dixon and Dr. Steve Murawski: "Frontiers of Science: Marine Systems"

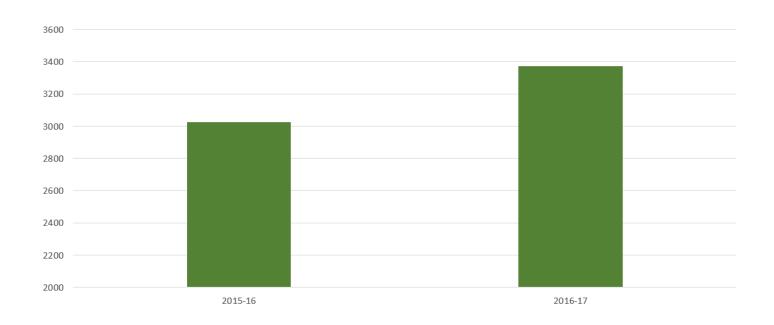
#### **ADVISING:**

Academic Advising is one of the key components of the Honors College Community. Our team of eight highly-trained advisors is able to provide academic, career, and developmental advising to students across all majors throughout their time at USF. Appointments generally last 30 minutes and cover information related to degree progression, as well as goal setting, navigating campus resources, research graduate programs, and building resumes to prepare for success in the future. There is always a "walk-in advisor on duty" to answer quick questions, usually with less than a ten minute wait time. Students are also able to make special appointments for mock graduate school interviews or reviews of personal statements.

Honors College advisors interact with students outside of the office as well, by hosting programs in the Living Learning Community, leading service breaks, teaching classes, and travelling abroad. These advisors are often seen attending concert recitals and athletics events, eating lunch in the residence halls, serving as marshals at University commencement ceremonies and attending other student events. Since Honors College advising offices are in the same building as classrooms, students benefit from increased access to advisors.

During the 2016-17 academic year, Honors College advisors held 3,371 appointments, that's an 11 percent increase from the year prior. Many of these appointments were walk-in appointments.

# Number of Honors College Advising Appointments



#### PROVOST'S SCHOLARS PROGRAM:

The Provost's Scholars Program (PSP) began in 2011. It is an accelerated program in which students who enter the university as freshmen with 18 or more college credits from high school and high scores on national exams can earn a bachelor's degree in only eight consecutive semesters (or about three years).

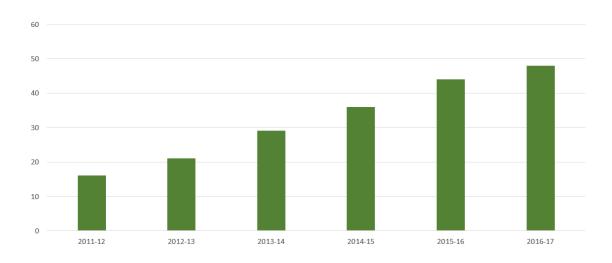
As opposed to other accelerated programs, PSP is designed to provide an enriched education. Students are required to live in the Honors LLC during their first year. They must also study abroad, complete a significant service experience, and finish a research project. To help them accomplish their varied and impressive workload, PSP students receive enhanced advising and mentoring.

During the 2016-17 academic year 48 new PSP students were admitted, that's a 30 percent increase from just two years prior. In addition, 35 PSP students graduated from the university, which is more than double the numbers from two years prior. The 2017 entering cohort is expected to exceed 50 students. Thus far, this cohort has an average SAT score of 1331 and ACT score of 30.7.

PSP students have participated in a regular series of seminars with faculty and off-campus guests, including the Mayor of Tampa. Students also have attended educational dinners with the Provost and a reception with an ambassador.

The PSP program is managed in the College by Ms. Alicia Jones, an Honors College advisor, and her graduate assistant.

# Students Entering the Provost's Scholars Program



In Fall 2016, the College sponsored a Provost's Scholars Dinner. The guest speaker was Dr. Elizabeth Hordge-Freeman, from the USF Department of Sociology. She spoke to the students about the importance of international education, drawing on her own experiences as a Fulbright Scholar in Africa.

In Spring 2017, the College sponsored a second Provost's Scholars Dinner. The guest speaker was Mr. William Sutton, Director of the Sports Marketing program at the Muma College of Business. He spoke about the importance of discipline, focus, and flexibility in pursuing one's goals in both life and work.

PSP students also participated in Relay for Life on April 8, 2017. The team raised more than \$1,690 for the American Cancer Society to help fund Cancer Research. Their fundraising efforts exceeded their goal by almost 70 percent.



Provost's Scholars brought together a team to raise money for this year's Relay For Life event.

#### **SPECIAL MEDICAL PROGRAMS:**

The Honors College hosts two accelerated and one guaranteed admission medical program.

• Seven-Year 7-Year B.S./MD Program: First-time in college USF students who have been admitted to the Honors College have the opportunity to complete a BS and Medical degree in just seven years. Students must meet initial eligibility criteria for the Seven-Year Track, receive admission to USF's Morsani College of Medicine (MCOM), and continue to meet all the benchmarks of the program, including a successful interview with MCOM.

In the past two years, 23 Honors College students have matriculated into the MCOM.



7-Year students received special Honors College hangers for their new white coats.

- 7-Year B.S./PharmD Program: First-time in college USF Honors College students who are interested in attending pharmacy school have an opportunity to receive admission to USF Health's College of Pharmacy (COP) and complete a doctorate in pharmacy (PharmD) in seven years, provided that the student continues to meet all the benchmarks of the program, including a successful interview with COP.
- Doctor of Audiology Guaranteed Admission Program: First-time in college USF students who have been admitted to the Honors College and are interested in a career in audiology are offered a guaranteed admission pathway to USF's College of Community & Behavioral Sciences (CBCS), Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders to complete a Doctor of Audiology (AuD). Students must meet all the benchmarks of the program, including a successful interview with CSD.

#### LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY:

The Honors College Living Learning Community (LLC) is completing its 30th year. 377 students live in the LLC, studying, socializing, and learning together.

The LLC hosted several events during the 2016-2017 academic year. We are particularly thrilled to report that the newly begun Late Night Tutoring Program has been a success with our residents. This program employs four LLC residents as tutors in several subjects, including Chemistry, Physics, and Writing, and has been a useful tool for providing residents tutoring for key subjects at opportune times.

In addition, we began a new event series called C3: Chat. Connect. Collaborate. This series invites local Tampa Bay area professionals in a variety of fields to chat and connect with students over a small group dinner. The goal of these dinners is to facilitate opportunities for further collaboration, such as shadowing and internships. This year, we had two dinners: one with a pharmacist from the USF Moffitt Cancer Center and one with a software developer from AgileThought. Both events went very well and the students look forward to further such events.

The Honors LLC has also partnered with Honors College instructor Dan Ruth to host prominent politicians, including U.S. Representative Kathy Castor and former Florida Governor Charlie Crist, for conversations with students.

Annual events, such as the Welcome Back Event and International Tapas Night, continued with great success. Honors LLC residents were welcomed at the beginning of the semester at a Welcome Back Lunch that fosters conversation between students, faculty, and staff through Q&A games. International Tapas Night featured eight Honors College Education Abroad programs, six of which will depart this spring and summer. Students reported that the event was useful in educating them about various programs and connecting them with leading faculty members.

As the Honors LLC ends it's time in Juniper and Magnolia Hall, we look forward to future years in our new home, Summit Hall. This hall will open in August 2017 to welcome our inaugural class.



Honors Staff tour the new Summit Hall during its construction.

### HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT COUNCIL:

Honors College Student Council Mission Statement: The mission of the Honors College Student Council is to promote a sense of community within the Honors College and enable the personal growth and academic success of all Honors students.

Honors College Student Council Vision Statement: We are the welcoming liaison providing direction to connect Honors College students with the university.



Our Student Council remains active and plans events to "connect" students with one another, as well as alumni. Here is just a sample of the many events they have had this year. All programs are design to foster a sense of community with the College.

- B.Y.O.B. (Bring Your Own Blanket) Relaxation Event
- AOK Film Festival
- Honors Improv Showcase
- Fall Honors Concert
- Mobile App Showcase Presentations
- Walt Whitman Poetry Night
- Lunch with the Deans

- Bulls Against Ebola Student Conference
- Dinner with a D.O.
- Star Wars Night
- So You Want to be an Intern?
- Panama Service Trip Event
- Journaling Workshop Series
- Shakespeare Movie Night
- Weekend Trip to St. Augustine
- Honors Latin Dancing
- Honors Alumni Meet 'n' Mingle
- Tapas Night
- Leadership Series
- International Human Rights: The Problem of Modern Day Slavery Lecture
- Eco-Friendly Honeymoon Island Beach Trip
- So You Want to be an Engineer?
- Trivia and Treats
- Wrap-Up & Study Abroad Sendoff
- Art Show
- Financial Responsibility Workshop
- Juniper Nation
- International Film Series
- Ice Cream Social

**HCSC Leadership Mission:** It is the goal of HCSC's advisors to help the HCSC Executive Board develop into holistic leaders. This mission is completed through:

- Weekly one-on-one meetings with the Graduate Advisor and E-Board members
- Fall and Spring Semester Evaluations
- Competency Assessments: Competency assessments are completed in September, January, and April to track students' holistic development progress during their time on HCSC's E-Board
- Semester Goals

The E-Board meets regularly, often with the Dean in attendance.

#### **INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS:**

This year more than 200 Honors College students studied abroad, with 171 going as a part of Honors College courses to Panama (20), Dominican Republic (40), Argentina (15), Peru (20), London (40), Australia (10), and Germany (26). Each student was provided a scholarship to help with the costs associated with studying abroad. Study abroad experiences are generally embedded within Honors courses, a "best practice" in Honors education. Many trips are interdisciplinary by nature, including the Panama trip which resulted from a partnership with USF Health.

The College also offers study abroad service learning trips during the students' winter and spring breaks. These short trips allow students to travel abroad at a very affordable price and the service activities they perform are valuable to both the recipients and the students.

Students participating in our travel abroad programs have been generously funded through travel scholarships that pay for airfare and some program cost. Our Germany International Experience course received a \$26,000 grant from the Max Kade foundation to help fund 26 students with \$1000 travel grants. Additional generous travel scholarships were provided through the Genshaft/Greenbaum International Honors Study Abroad Scholarship Fund, the McCorkle Study Abroad Scholarship, and the Terrell and Neva Sessums Regents Scholarship.



Honors College students pose while studying abroad in Germany in 2016.

#### **OFFICE OF NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS:**

The Office of National Scholarships (ONS) is dedicated to providing guidance, mentorship and support for USF's high achieving students as they compete for nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships across all disciplines. The scholarships and fellowships are for creative, engaged, academically strong students who are leaders inside and outside of the classroom.

ONS identifies, recruits and mentors the high achieving students who apply for prestigious scholarships and fellowships such as the Rhodes, Marshall, Truman and Fulbright. Advisors also work with faculty members to recruit candidates, provide strong letters of recommendations, review applications and essays and provide mock interviews for applicants. This process ensure that students' applications are of the highest caliber and reflect the students' academic and extracurricular excellence.

# The 2016-2017 year has been a very successful one for ONS thus far. National Scholarship winners and finalists this year include:

\* Please note that the recipients of the Gilman (both summer and fall), Boren, Fulbright UK SI, FSU Summer Law Program, TRIALS, and Hollings scholarships have not yet been announced.

#### Critical Language Scholarship (CLS)

-Samantha Creel – Arabic

-Joseph McElroy — Russian

-Cathleen Modlin-Jackson — Arabic

-Echo Thomas — Korean

A program of the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Program offers intensive language institutes overseas in thirteen critical need foreign languages.

# DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) RISE (Research Internship in Science and Engineering)

-Matthew Kastelic

-Teresa Kee

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is a publicly-funded independent organization of higher education institutions in Germany. RISE stands for Research Internships in Science and Engineering. RISE Germany offers undergraduate students the opportunity to complete a summer research internship at top German universities and research institutions.

#### Department of State Student Internship Program

-Joshua Glow – Puerto Rico

The U.S. Department of State Student Internship Program is an internship with the opportunity to work in U.S. embassies and consulates throughout the world, as well as in various bureaus located in Washington, D.C. This program is designed to provide substantive learning experiences in a foreign affairs environment.

#### Freeman-ASIA Scholarship

-James Baker

-Javecia Lewis

-Cami Wilson

The Freeman-ASIA program is designed to support U.S.-based undergraduates with demonstrated financial need who are planning to study abroad in East or Southeast Asia. The program's goal is to increase the number of U.S. citizens and permanent residents with first-hand exposure to and understanding of Asia and its peoples and cultures.

#### Frost Scholarship Programme

-Shane Clark

-Razanne Oueini

-Luis Regalado



Razanne Oueini, Shane Clark, and Luis Regalado were all awarded Frost Scholarships in 2017.

The Frost Scholarship Programme funds current students of the State University System of Florida (SUSF) and the University of Miami, to study one-year, full-time Master's courses in science, technology, engineering and mathematics ('STEM' subjects) at the University of Oxford. The Programme is supported by the generosity of the Philip and Patricia Frost Philanthropic Foundation.

#### Fulbright US Student Program –

-Kathryn Ashmore – English Teaching Assistantship to Germany

-Clarisse Barbier – Research Grant to Burkina Faso

-Samantha Creel – English Teaching Assistantship to Bahrain

-Dalia Elmelige – Study Grant to the United Kingdom

-Claire Gorey – Research Grant to the Netherlands

-Carmella Guiol – English Teaching Assistantship to Colombia

-Natalie Kass – English Teaching Assistantship to Macau

-Kevin Orner – Research Grant to Costa Rica

-Anne Shaughnessy – English Teaching Assistantship to Colombia -

-Pedro Zamora – English Teaching Assistantship to Macau

The Fulbright US Student Program is sponsored by the US Department of State. It is the largest US international exchange program offering opportunities for students to undertake international graduate study, advance research, or teaching in elementary and secondary schools worldwide.



Dalia Elmelige – Fulbright to UK

#### Fund for Education Abroad

-Valencia Briseus — Japan

The Fund for Education Abroad (FEA) was establiashed as a 501 (c) (3) organization in 2010 to address the need for an independent study abroad scholarship provider. Applicants from groups underrepresented in study abroad and those destined for non-traditional locations are given preference, in an effort to make the demographics of the US undergraduates studying abroad reflect the rich diversity of the US population.

# Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship

-Cortney Alleyne – Ghana

-Jenifer Earing – Greece

-Jose Flores — Russia

-Sierra Francis – Russia

-Peter Kivuva — United Kingdom

The Gilman Scholarship provides awards for U.S. undergraduate students who receive funding from a Federal Pell Grant. This congressionally funded program is sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.

#### Goldwater Scholarship Honorable Mention

- -Anthony Curtis
- -Osniel Quintana
- -Sanim Rahman

The Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Program was established by Congress in 1986 to honor Senator Barry M. Goldwater. The purpose of the program is to provide a continuing source of highly qualified scientists, mathematicians and engineers by awarding scholarships to college students who intend to pursue careers in these fields.

#### Roy W. Likins Scholarship

-Joseph Capodice

-Kevin Orner

The Likins Scholarship is a part of the Florida Section American Water Works Association. It will annually award up to \$2,500 scholarships or more per student to eligible students pursuing a degree relating to the drinking water industry. Scholarships will be awarded in both undergraduate and graduate categories.

#### McKnight Doctoral Fellowship Program

-Isabel Rivera

The McKnight Doctoral Fellowship program is designed to address the under-representation of African American and Hispanic faculty at colleges and universities in the state of Florida by increasing the pool of citizens qualified with Ph.D. degrees to teach at the college and university levels.

# National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program

- -Shamara Engram
- -Fiona Kearns
- -Kema Malki
- -Alfredo Peguero-Tejado

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Fellowship helps ensure the vitality of the human resource base of science and engineering in the United States and reinforces its diversity. The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited United States institutions.

# National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention

- -Shannon Burns
- -Michelle Henderson
- -Tyler Henderson
- -William Serrano

The National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Fellowship helps ensure the vitality of the human resource base of science and engineering in the United States and reinforces its diversity. The program recognizes and supports outstanding graduate students in NSF-supported science, technology, engineering, and mathematics disciplines who are pursuing research-based master's and doctoral degrees at accredited United States institutions.

# National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST-SURF) Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship

- -Matlock Mennu
- -Willie McClinton

The SURF Program is designed to inspire undergraduate students to pursue careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) through a unique research experience that supports the NIST mission. Since 1993, SURF students from across the country have had the opportunity to gain valuable, hands-on experience, working with cutting edge technology in one of the world's leading research organizations.

## P.E.O. (Philanthropic Educational Organization) Scholar Award

-Isabella Chan

P.E.O. Scholar Awards are competitive, merit-based awards for women of the United States and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral level degree. In addition to recognizing and encouraging excellence in higher education, these awards provide partial support for study and research for women who will make significant contributions in their varied fields of endeavor.

#### **ALUMNI:**

Building a larger and more active alumni community continues to be a priority in the Honors College. Efforts to engage with our alumni and to connect them with our current students continued throughout 2016-17. These interactions have both strengthened alumni ties to the College, and brought added value to current students. Some examples of this engagement during the 2016-17 school year include:

- A Dean's Council, composed mainly of alumni, was created in order to reconnect successful alumni with the College and to expand awareness of College activities across our alumni network. Dean Adams met individually with these alumni, in addition other friends of the College, to invite them to join the Council:
  - o Brian Fender, Partner at GrayRobinson, P.A.
  - o Lisa Provenzano, Principal Software Developer at The Nielsen Company
  - o Juan Baso, senior scientist at Florida Worldwide Citrus Inc.
  - o Patrick Mullen, current M.D. candidate at Morsani College of Medicine
- Dean Adams served as the faculty representative at two USF Alumni Association events in Jacksonville and Orlando.
- During Homecoming Week, Honors College staff arranged special events for Honors Alumni and current students to meet and network.
- An Honors College Alumni email newsletter and Facebook page were created to increase communication with Alumni.year the Honors College staff coordinate events and programs that allow alumni to become involved in the success of current students. Some examples of these programs which were held during the 2016-17 academic year include:

## Mentor Program

Interested Honors alumni are matched with a current Honors junior or senior for a one-year mentoring relationship where mentors can provide information, support, and advice on a variety of topics. This program does not require in-person meetings so it is a great opportunity for alumni far from Tampa to get involved.

#### **Alumni Career Events**

We have hosted events such as a "So You Want To Be An Engineer?" alumni panel and "Dinner with a D.O." We have received positive feedback from students who find these events very valuable and we will continue sponsoring such events on an occasional basis.

### **Alumni Speaker Series**

An opportunity for alumni to speak with current students on a topic related to graduate study, career, travels, leadership experiences, etc. One very popular such event this year was a conversation with Ms. Sarah Thacker, a film maker from Los Angeles with a rising reputation.



#### DEVELOPMENT

During the 2016-2017 academic year, Honors College staff exceeded their annual fundraising goal of \$1,000,000 by more than \$2,612,626 generating more than \$3,612,626. Fundraising priorities include developing the Dean's Strategic Fund for Excellence, and the continued growth of endowed and in-use scholarship programs to assist qualified students in reaching their full potential. The generated funds allow exceptional students the opportunity to develop the thinking, reasoning and writing skills that will help them make contributions to society on a global scale - as inventors, discoverers and the creators of the future; meeting the goals of the Honors College at USF to prepare students to lead thoughtful, fulfilling lives as engaged citizens of the world.

- This year the Genshaft Global Presidential Scholarship was established to provide support for international education and assist with recruitment of very-high-ability students.
- This year the College received the fifth gift in four years to the Genshaft/Greenbaum International Honors Study Abroad Scholarship Fund.



USF System President Dr. Genshaft and Steve Greenbaum pose with Dean Adams and the recipients of the Genshaft/Greenbaum International Honors College Study Abroad Scholarship in January, 2017

• This year the College also established the K.M. Kundlas Family Endowed Scholarship and the Provost Scholars Program Housing Assistance Fund

# Endowed scholarships assisting Honors students, include:

- \* Aboly-Frederick Lykes Endowed Scholarship
- \* Siede Research Awards

- \* USF Alumni Association Honors/Ethics Scholarship
- \* Terrell and Neva Sessums Regents Scholarship
- \* Carl Riggs Endowed Memorial Honors Scholarship
- \* J.O. DeLotto and Sons, Inc. Endowed Scholarship
- \* George and Bobbe Karpay Endowed Scholarship for Excellence
- \* John and Grace Allen Endowed Honors Scholarship Program
- \* Helios Education Foundation STEM Scholarship
- \* Herbert & Elaine Gimelstob Scholarship
- \* Dr. Stuart Silverman Endowed Scholarship
- \* Florida Grocery Manufacturers Representatives Endowed Scholarship
- \* Shaukat & Antonina Chowdhari Endowed Fund in Honors College
- \* Mohammad Al-Jallad Memorial Endowed Scholarship
- \* Chowdhari Family Endowed Honors College Book Fund
- \* Beltran Brothers Honors College Dental Scholarship
- \* Honculada Family Endowed Scholarship in the Honors College
- \* Esther and Sam Momberg Endowed Honors College Scholarship
- \* Rasmussen Family Endowed Scholarship
- \* Genshaft/Greenbaum International Honors Study Abroad Scholarship
- \* General Portland, Inc. Endowed Scholarship
- \* W. Paul Hoenle Foundation Scholarship
- \* K.M. Kundlas Family Endowed Scholarship
- \* Kenneth B. Wittcoff Memorial Scholarship
- \* Vincent & Heidi Bekiempis Endowed Honors College Scholarship
- \* Salins Family Honors College Scholarship
- \* Highlander Endowed Scholarship

## Non-endowed support includes:

- \* Honors College Gelin Scholarship
- \* Max Kade Foundation
- \* McCorkle Academic Scholarship
- \* McCorkle Study Abroad Scholarship
- \* Herman and Jean Kane Memorial Book Scholarship
- \* Joseph and Anne Garcia Honors Scholarship
- \* Sara R. Jordan Graduate Admissions Assistance Scholarship
- \* Provost Scholars Program Housing Assistance Fund
- \* Honors College Dean's Strategic Fund for Excellence
- \* A.S. Gill Family Honors College Scholarship
- \* Genshaft Global Presidential Scholarship
- \* New Honors College Building Planning Fund

• The Honors College continues to be the academic home of the Jenkins Scholars, Brad and Terry Holcombe First Generation Scholars, and the Ableidinger Scholars programs.



Honors College donor Claudia McCorkle poses with her 2016 Academic and Travel scholarship recipients and Dean Adams.

Honors College students also continue to benefit from the generous gift of USF Foundation Board Member Dr. Shaukat Chowdhari and his wife, Dr. Antonina Chowdhari. Their endowment allows students with financial need to have access to a free Medical College Admissions Test (MCAT) prep course, which usually costs about \$3,000 per student.



Honors College Donor and USF Foundation Board Member Dr. Shaukat Chowdhari poses with students enrolled in the free MCAT prep course, their instructor, and Dean Adams



4202 E. Fowler Ave.

John & Grace Allen Bldg ALN 241

Tampa, FL 33620

Phone: (813) 974-3087

Fax: (813) 974-5801