

**ANNUAL REPORT  
HONORS PROGRAM AND VISITING SCHOLARS COMMITTEE  
2014-2015**

The Honors Office has three distinct divisions: the Honors Program; National Fellowships; and Pre-health professions advising.

## **HONORS PROGRAM**

### **A. Eligibility Standards**

The standards of eligibility for students to participate in Honors Program course work continue to be the same for 2014-2015: Incoming students must have earned a high school GPA of 3.4 or higher, and a combined SAT score of 1100 or higher in Critical Reading and Mathematics (or an ACT composite score of 24 or higher). Sophomores, juniors, and seniors must have earned a 3.3 GPA to remain eligible (up from 3.2). Under special circumstances, these requirements may be modified with permission of the Director.

For freshmen entering in the fall of 2015 we changed the standards to: students who meet the following eligibility requirements will be invited to participate in Honors once admitted to the university:

- By earning a cumulative high school GPA of 3.80 or higher **or**
- By earning a cumulative high school GPA of 3.50 or higher **AND** a combined SAT score of 1200 or higher in Critical Reading and Mathematics (or the ACT equivalent score of 27).

We decided on the dual eligibility criteria because SAT scores are highly correlated with family income; we wanted to be sure we were not excluding first generation and Pell eligible students.

We anticipated this change would result in approximately 25% of the entering class meeting the eligibility requirements, down from approximately 30% for Fall 2013 and Fall 2014 to approximately 25% of the admitted class. Our goal was approximately 825 Honors eligible admitted students for 2015, but the result was 975. The number of admitted Talent Development students increased from 1 in Fall 2014 to 19 in Fall 2015.

Accepted students

2013: 1036 (14.7% identify as from underrepresented groups)

2014: 1066 (12.7% identify as from underrepresented groups)

2015: 975 (15.6% identify as from underrepresented group)

### **B. Advising and Early Registration for Honors Program**

Demand for advising services is a good indication of student engagement with the Honors mission, as such advising often seeks to ascertain how Honors courses and experiences can be integrated into a student's major and minor programs of study.

In addition, participation in Early Registration advising suggests a means by which to assess student commitment to completing the Honors Program. Early Registration advising requires both student completion of a form detailing their progress toward meeting program requirement and their signature on a statement confirming their intention to complete the entire program.

1. *Individual Advising for First Year and UC Advising (N. Caronia and C. Foster):*

**a. AY 2014-2015: 655 Students**

i. Breakdown: Fall 2014: 360 Students

ii. Breakdown: Spring 2015: 295 Students

**b. Summer 2015 Orientation and other individual advising: 150 Students**

**c. AY Fall 2015 (through Nov 30): 402 Students**

Nota Bene: These numbers do not include group, email or, telephone advising, all of which are increasingly used by students.

2. *Early Registration:*

**AY 2014-2015: 871 students**

3. *Group Advising:*

**Summer 2015 Group Orientation: Approximately 650 students**

4. *Special Events:*

**a. Fall 2014 Meet and Greet for First Year and Transfers: approximately 150 students**

(Optional social occasion where students interact with Honors faculty and staff and have the opportunity to meet with an Honors advisor.)

--Nota Bene: In contrast, **Fall 2015's event drew almost 300 students**

**b. Spring 2015 Welcome Days: 1,800 prospective students and their families** (While not a strict advising day, this event is the deciding factor in a student's commitment to URI. The Honors Program Welcome Days emphasize numerous items from class size and subject matter to the ability to receive individualized advising from an Honors Advisor.)

## **C. Courses and Enrollment**

During the Fall 2014 semester, the Honors Program offered forty-seven Honors courses (in addition to Honors Projects, Honors Directed Study and Administrative Internships).

In the Spring 2015 semester, we offered thirty-seven Honors courses (in addition to Honors Projects, Administrative Internships and Honors Directed Study).

### **Class Enrollments**

2013-14: 1372 (1177 gen ed)

2014-15: 1599 (1314 gen ed)  
For Fall 2015 we are 99 seats above Fall 2014.

#### **D. Faculty and Staff**

The Honors faculty is drawn from seven of the University's colleges. See Appendix A for a list of those who taught Honors courses in 2014-2015. Over the past several years we have consciously attempted to increase the disciplinary diversity of our course offerings. We intend the Honors Program to be the premier interdisciplinary teaching site on campus.

#### **E. Honors Colloquium**

The 2014 Honors Colloquium, Cybersecurity & Privacy examined cybersecurity and the loss of personal privacy in the digital age. The Colloquium was coordinated by Professors Lisa DiPippo, Vic Fay-Wolfe, Ed Lamagna, College of Arts and Sciences and Yan Sun, College of Engineering, with the assistance of Deborah Gardiner of the Honors Program. Harry Lewis, Gordon McKay Professor of Computer Science, Harvard University; faculty associate, Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University; and co-author, *Blown to Bits: Your Life, Liberty, and Happiness after the Digital Explosion*, was the opening speaker for the Colloquium and discussed *Too Much Information?* The colloquium closed with a presentation by Bruce Schneier, computer security and privacy specialist, chief technology officer at Co3 Systems, and author, *Carry On*.

The Fall 2015 colloquium, *The Power of Humor*, coordinated by Rachel DiCioccio (Communication Studies, Harrington School of Communication and Media), and Brian Quilliam (Pharmacy), has had record attendances. Speakers have gotten many laughs while addressing the philosophy, psychology and history of humor from the perspective of health, politics, and the cultural context of cartooning.

The Fall 2016 colloquium, *Inequality and the American Dream*, coordinated by Jill Doerner (Sociology), Kristin Johnson (Political Science), Erik Loomis (History), and Liam Malloy (Economics) has begun planning an exciting program that will coincide with the Presidential elections.

In addition to financial support from the Honors Program, sponsors in support of the Fall 2014 Honors Colloquium were:

URI Office of the President; URI Office of the Provost; The Mark and Donna Ross Honors Colloquium Humanities Endowment; The Thomas Silvia and Shannon Chandley Honors Colloquium Endowment; URI College of Human Science and Services; URI Talent Development; URI Multicultural Center; URI College of Arts & Sciences; URI Harrington School of Communications and Media; URI John Hazen White, Sr. Center for Ethics and Public Service; URI College of Pharmacy; URI College of Engineering; URI College of the Environment and Life Sciences; URI College of Nursing; URI College of Business Administration; URI Division of Student Affairs; URI Department of Communications and Marketing; URI Department of Publications and Creative Services; URI ITS Instructional Technology and Media Services.

2014-2015 was the fifth year that the Colloquium was web-streamed live on the URI homepage. This will continue, as will archiving of most public lectures for more widespread use. The URI Department of Communications and Marketing and the URI Publications Office also wonderfully support the Colloquium.

For Spring 2015, we offered three Honors Colloquia: *Classroom without Borders*, directed by Rob Widell, Assistant Professor of History; *Why People Collect Things: Constructing a Cabinet of Curiosities*, directed by Cheryl Foster, Professor of Philosophy and Cate E. Morrison, Communication Studies; and *Flipping the Script*, directed by Naomi Mandel, Professor of English.

## **F. Awards and Endowment**

The Honors Colloquium has two endowed lectures thanks to the help of Tom Zorabedian and Dean Winnie Brownell. We are working with Katherine Flynn, Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations at the URI Foundation, to increase external support for the Honors Colloquium.

## **G. Visiting Scholars**

We supported several faculty proposals to bring visiting scholars to campus. We also worked with Vice Provost Laura Beauvais to award grants for international distinguished visiting scholars. Four scholars visited the campus for weeklong visits over the course of the academic year. We will work with the Provost's office in developing and evaluating this program.

## **H. Honors Project Conference**

Honors Projects were presented at the eleventh annual Honors Project Conference on May 1, 2015. The student conference scheduled poster presentations and oral presentations throughout the day for humanities, social science, natural science, and professional college projects in Lippitt Hall. Each student completing a project also contributed an abstract to the conference program, available in the Honors Program office in Lippitt Hall. Presenters and titles are listed in Appendix B along with faculty sponsors. Associate Director Carolyn Hames serves as the primary advisor to students completing the Honors Program and is the main organizer of the annual Honors conference.

I want to express sincere appreciation to these faculty sponsors who devote their time to mentoring the students completing their Honors Projects. Their contribution is particularly remarkable in that fifty-five of these faculty members were not teaching an Honors course in 2014-2015. Together with the sixty-four faculty teaching Honors courses, this brings the total number of faculty participating in the Honors Program during 2014-2015 to one hundred-nineteen (119).

We continue to assist Karen Markin of the Division of Research and Economic Development on the Undergraduate Research Initiative for Artistic and Scholarly

Projects. This program, generously funded by Vice President Gerald Sonnenfeld and Provost Donald DeHayes, provides support for undergraduate research across the University, irrespective of participation in the Honors Program. I also wish to thank Provost DeHayes for his continued commitment to supporting student research in the Honors Program.

### **I. Spring Honors Celebration and Awards Ceremony**

The Spring Honors Celebration and Awards Ceremony was held after the annual Honors Project Conference on May 1, 2015 in Lippitt Hall.

### **J. Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee 2014-2015**

The members of the Honors Program and Visiting Scholars Committee during the past year were: Associate Professor Lynne Derbyshire, Communication Studies, and Director, Honors Program; Professor Jose Amador, Natural Resource Science; Associate Professor Librarian Mona Niedbala, University Library; Professor Arthur Spivack, Graduate School of Oceanography; Skye Leedahl, Human Development and Family Studies; Professor Lisa DiPippo, Computer Science and Statistics; Professor Diane Kern, School of Education, and Coordinator of Colloquium *ex officio*; Alexis Carlson, undergraduate student representative; Victoria Kern, undergraduate student representative; Maris Gourd, graduate student representative.

### **K. Honors Housing**

Housing is available to qualifying upper class Honors students on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the Garrahy apartments. There is generally significant excess demand for the 54 beds on that floor. For AY 2015-16, working with Housing and Residential Life we added sophomore housing for 50 students in Coddington Hall.

### **NATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS**

Led by Assistant Director Kathleen Maher, Honors supported student applications to prestigious external fellowships and scholarships

For awards requiring formal institutional nomination, 60% of our nominees (9 of 15) became awardees, finalists, honorable mentions or alternates. The 2014-2015 awardees hail from the colleges of Arts & Sciences, CELS, Engineering, HSS and Pharmacy. Five of the six who went on to win scholarships were Honors Program participants or alumni.

- MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIP: Honors student **Morgan Breene** (BA History & Anthropology '14, GIS certificate '15) became the first University of Rhode Island student in the history of the 61 year old program to be named as a Marshall Scholar. Only thirty-two students were selected nationally for this honor in 2015. The award provides two years of funding for scholars to study in the United Kingdom. Breene will use her award to pursue a master's degree in maritime archaeology at the University of Southampton and another master's in European history at University College London.

- FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT GRANT: **Michael Roderick** (MA Elem. Ed '15; BA History & Political Science '13) was selected for a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant (ETA) to South Korea.

Three other URI applications to the Fulbright US Student Program made it through the national screening committee, one of which was selected as an alternate for a research grant to Nicaragua (Hilary Lohmann, graduate student in Marine Affairs).

- BOREN SCHOLARSHIP: Honors student **Alexandra Azevedo** (BA Philosophy '16 & BS Biological Sciences '15; Pre-Med) received full funding for intensive Portuguese study through the Boren African Language Flagship Initiative. First through eight-week language boot camp at the University of Florida, followed by a semester in Mozambique. Just this month Alexandra's grant was extended for a second semester for an award total of over \$25K.
- GOLDWATER SCHOLARSHIP: Two students received Honorable Mentions in the Goldwater Scholarship Competition in 2015: junior Honors student **Meagan Hamblin** (BS Pharm Sciences '16) and sophomore Honors student **Jamie Schicho** (BS Ocean Engineering '17)
- UDALL SCHOLARSHIP: Sophomore Honors student **Vanessa Garcia** (BS ENRE '17) received Honorable Mention in the Udall Scholarship Competition
- Gilman Scholarships: While Gilman Scholarship applications are processed through the Office of International Education and Enrollment Services/Financial Aid, Honors assists in the promotion of the Gilman and critiques applications for Honors and Pre-Health students. Twenty URI students were awarded study abroad scholarships ranging from \$2500 to \$8000. (Of those twenty five declined their awards.) An additional three URI students were named as alternates.

In addition to awards requiring institutional nomination, the Office of National Fellowships supports students applying for many other nationally competitive awards, the most significant of which are noted below.

- NOAA Hollings Scholarship  
Two Honors sophomores were named as Hollings Scholars this year: **Jamie Schicho** (BS Ocean Engineering '17) and **Jessica Freedman** (BS Marine Bio '17). These are the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> URI students to be awarded the scholarship since its inception in 2005.
- Critical Languages Scholarships  
Two URI students were awarded Critical Languages Scholarships for the summer of 2015:
  - For Chinese: freshman **Jackson Sugar** (Chinese Flagship and Ocean Engineering)
  - For Indonesian: Geosciences PhD candidate Laura Schiffman (*declined award*)
- Metcalf Scholarship:  
Honors students **Charlie Santos** (BA Philosophy '17) and **Hannah Masse** (BS Nutrition and Dietetics '15)

- DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Scholarship: Junior, Sarah Rheault (German IEP with Industrial and Systems Engineering)
- Demers Foreign Language Fellowship:  
In this fourth year of the Demers program, URI students received **all 18** Demers Foreign Language Fellowships, for a **combined total of \$222,000**. 83% (15 or 18) of the awardees utilized services of the Office of National Fellowships (attended workshop, essay review, or both).
- African Federation of Emergency Medicine (AFEM) Fellowship:  
**Jennifer Pigoga** (CMB '15, Bio Sci '15 pre-med) is the third Honors student from URI to win this prestigious 1-year fellowship to South Africa, which includes a fully funded masters degree from the University of Cape Town as well as an internship with AFEM.
- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP):  
URI undergraduate degree holders (alumni), three students were awarded fellowships and three received honorable mention. Among current URI graduate students, another three fellowships were awarded, as well as three Honorable Mentions.

## PRE-HEALTH PROFESSIONS ADVISING PROGRAM

Assistant Director Kathleen Maher chairs the Health Professions Advisory Committee (HPAC), which assists students in preparing for application to graduate level professional programs in the human health sciences. The volunteer committee puts students through a series of group and individual interviews and provides critical feedback on their draft applications and personal statements. A committee letter of endorsement is then prepared for each qualified student who has completed the process. The 2014-2015 members of the HPAC were faculty members: Brenton DeBoef (Associate Professor, Chemistry), H. James Harwood (Adjunct, Cell and Molecular Biology Honors), Niall Howlett (Associate Professor, Cell and Molecular Biology), and Andrea A. Rusnock (Professor, History).

Through the Brown---URI Early Identification Program (EIP), two Honors Program sophomores received early contingent admission to The Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University: Haran Mennillo (Biological Sciences and Philosophy) and Ethan Snow (Biological Sciences and Psychology).

In addition, under Kathleen Maher's leadership the Pre-Health Professions Advising Program finalized a formal articulation agreement between URI and the Johnson & Wales University (JWU) Center for Physician Assistant Studies, the first PA program in the state. In collaboration with the URI Office of the President and URI Office of the Provost, the Pre-Health Professions Advising Program and HPAC hosted URI, JWU, and community constituents at a ceremony to formally launch the agreement in September 2014. This articulation agreement guarantees an interview for all URI candidates who meet the admissions requirements, reserves up to six spaces each year in the JWU PA program for URI applicants who meet certain requirements and apply through this agreement, and establishes a URI-JWU Early Identification Program (EIP), whereby URI students may apply in the spring of their sophomore year for a space in the JWU PA program following their 4th (senior) year of study at URI.

The following health professional graduate schools offered acceptances to the URI students during the 2014-15 application cycle (for fall 2015 matriculation):

Medical Schools

Hofstra University

Boston University

Brown University

SUNY Downstate

University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine

Dental Schools

Dalhousie University Faculty of Dentistry (in Nova Scotia, Canada)

New York College of Dentistry

Tufts University School of Dental Medicine

Optometry Schools

New England College of Optometry (NECO)

Salus University College of Optometry

**Shayla Minter** was one of only 24 students nationally admitted into the inaugural class of the Brown University Warren Alpert Medical School's new Primary Care – Population Medicine program.

The Pre-health Professions Advising Program regularly promotes and assists students in applying for both summer and post-baccalaureate enrichment programs. To give a few examples:

- Two May 2015 graduates, Honors student **William Law** (Biological Sciences and Spanish) and **Kyle Sexton** (Biomedical Engineering), both pre-med students, were selected for the National Institutes of Health Intramural Research Training Award (NIH IRTA).
- Junior Honors Student **Jasmine Miller** (Biological Sciences) was selected to participate in the University of Connecticut Health Disparities Summer Research Fellowship Program at the UConn School of Medicine.
- Our AY 2014-15 medical school acceptance rate was 57%, low for us but exceeding the national average, and for optometry 100%.
- For AY 2015-16, to date, there are 17 applicants; of those 7 have received acceptances, and 7 have interviews scheduled.

**Appendix A** Honors Teaching Faculty, 2014-2015

The following faculty members were selected to teach Honors Program courses during the 2014-2015 academic year:



**College of Arts & Sciences:** Bret Anderson, Assistant Professor, (Economics); Kristine M. Cabral, Lecturer (Communication Studies); Nancy Caronia, Lecturer (Honors Program); Charles Collyer, Professor (Psychology); Mark Comerford, Associate Professor (Mathematics); Betty Cotter, Lecturer (Writing and Rhetoric); Lynne Derbyshire, Associate Professor (Communication Studies); Rachel Dicioccio, Professor (Communication Studies); Lisa Dipippo, Professor (Computer Science); Caroline Druschke, Assistant Professor (Writing & Rhetoric); David Faflik, Associate Professor (English); Victor Fay-Wolfe, Professor (Computer Science & Statistics); Cheryl Foster, Professor (Philosophy); Pauline Getzoyan, Lecturer (Honors Program); Allison Harper, Lecturer, (Ad Hoc, Kinesiology); Wayne Wenchao He, Professor (Languages); Mary Healey Jamiel, Professor (Film Studies); Ling Hsu, Lecturer (Languages); Xiaoyan Hu, Lecturer (Languages), Galen Johnson, Professor (Philosophy); Heather Johnson, Lecturer (Ad Hoc, Writing and Rhetoric); Katrin Jomaa, Professor (Political Science); Jennifer J. Jones, Associate Professor (English); Leonard Kahn, Professor (Physics); Edmund Lamagna, Professor (Computer Science); Joann Lisberger, Associate Professor (Gender and Women's Studies); John McCray, Professor (Africana Studies); Arthur Mead, Professor (Economics); Kendall Moore, Associate Professor (Journalism); Catherine Morrison, Lecturer (Communication Studies); Sara Murphy, Lecturer (Honors Program); Nikolaos Poulakos, Lecturer (Ad Hoc, Communication Studies); Tracy Proulx, Lecturer (Ad Hoc, Communication Studies); Ian Reyes, Assistant Professor (Communication Studies); Amanda Redinger, Lecturer (Honors Program); Rebecca Romanow, Lecturer (Ad Hoc, Film Studies); Elizabeth Russell, Lecturer (Honors Program); Loren Spears, Lecturer (Honors Program); Judith Swift, Professor (Theatre & Communication Studies); Michael Tammaro, Lecturer (Physics); Kathleen Torrens, Associate Professor (Communication Studies); Rachel Walshe, Lecturer (Honors Program); Rob Widell, Assistant Professor (History); Qingyu Yang, Lecturer (Ad Hoc) Languages; Halyun Zeng, Instructor (Languages); Li Zhou, (University Affiliate) Languages; Thomas Zorabedian, Professor (Film Media & Communication Studies).

**College of Business Administration:** Chet Hickox, Professor.

**Cancer Prevention Research Ctr:** Andrea Paiva, Assistant Professor Research

**College of the Environment and Life Sciences:** Jessica Frazier, Assistant Professor Visiting (CELS--NRS); Marian Goldsmith, Professor (CELS--BIO); James Harwood, University Affiliate (CELS--BIO); Jason Kolbe, Assistant Professor (CELS--BIO), Roger LeBrun, Professor (CELS--PLS).

**College of Engineering:** Yan Sun, Professor

**College of Human Science & Services:** Jay Fogleman, Jr., Associate Professor (Education); Blaire Gagnon, Assistant Professor (Textiles, Fashion Merchandise and Design).

**Center for Nonviolence & Peace Studies:** Thupten Tendar, Visiting Buddhist Geshe Scholar.

**College of Nursing:** Carolyn Hames, Associate Professor (Nursing).

**Graduate School of Oceanography:** Arthur Spivack, Professor.

***College of Pharmacy:*** Jeffrey Bratberg, Associate Professor Clinical; Brett Feret, Associate Professor Clinical.

***Charles T. Schmidt, Jr. Labor Research Center:*** Scott Molloy, Professor.

**Appendix B** Honors Project Conference, 2014-2015

# HONORS PROJECTS

**IMAN ABERRA (Pharm.D.)**

*Sponsor: Lisa Cohen (Pharmacy Practice)*

Risk perception of developing type 2 diabetes mellitus in healthcare related majors at the University of Rhode Island

**JENNY ADELSTEIN (Nursing)**

*Sponsor: Alicia Curtin (Nursing)*

Cultural humility: A lifelong process for professional nurses

**JANELLE AMOAKO (Nursing)**

*Sponsor: Delores Walters (Nursing, AHEC)*

Embracing the asset of cultural identity for URI nursing students

**MORGAN ANDERSON**

**(Communicative Disorders)**

*Sponsor: Karen McCurdy (Human Development and Family Studies)*

Internship impact in Early Intervention

**SHELBY ASHWORTH**

**(Pre-Vet; Biological Sciences)**

*Sponsor: W. Michael Sullivan (Plant Sciences and Entomology)*

A survey of horse training in New England

**ALEXANDRA AZEVEDO**

**(Biological Sciences; Philosophy)**

*Sponsor: Sara Murphy (Honors; Thanatology)*

Examining the role of consciousness and the Absurd in suicide

**MIKE BADZMIEROWSKI**

**(Environmental Science and Management)**

*Sponsor: W. Michael Sullivan (Plant Sciences and Entomology)*

The effects of silicon applications on wear and drought stress of cool season turfgrass

**KRISTINA BISCHAK**

**(Biological Sciences)**

*Sponsor: Joanna Norris (Biological Sciences)*

Phenotyping Cesa4KO mutants in *P. patens*

**EMILY BISHOP (Marine Biology)**

*Sponsor: Carol Thornber (Biological Sciences)*

Herbivore impacts on the invasive marine alga *Grateloupia turuturu*

# HONORS PROJECTS

**ERIN BOHAN**

**(Communication Studies)**

*Sponsor: Kim White (University College for Academic Success)*

The major dilemma

**CONRAD BUKOSKI (Nursing)**

*Sponsor: Jennifer Fuvich (Nursing)*

Impact of prior healthcare experience on self-reported confidence and competency among third year clinical nursing students

**AMANDA J. BURGESS (English)**

*Sponsor: Jody Lisberger (Gender and Women's Studies)*

"The Woods Ate Them": A hybrid novella-memoir

**ALEXIS CARLSON**

**(Secondary Education; English)**

*Sponsor: Jay Fogleman (Education)*

Pairing technology with effective literacy strategies

**CATHERINE CHATOWSKY (Pharm.D.)**

*Sponsor: Bongsup Cho (Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences)*

Periodontal disease: Molecular visualization through computer modeling and 3D printing

**PETER COLLINS (Marketing)**

*Sponsor: David M. Mitchell (Business)*

The purchasing power of tomorrow: An analysis of the buying habits of children ages 6-15

**ALLISON COSTA**

**(Health Studies; Biology)**

*Sponsor: Sheila Mitchell (Health Services)*

The dangers of the "no pain, no gain" exercise mentality

**MEAGHAN ROSE COSTELLO**

**(Psychology)**

*Sponsor: Grant Willis (Psychology)*

The psychology of cyber bullying as seen through the University of Rhode Island

**CONNOR DAIGLE (Finance)**

*Sponsor: Tong Yu (Business)*

Is America still free?

# HONORS PROJECTS

**MARC DIMARTINO (Philosophy)**  
*Sponsors: Cheryl Foster (Honors; Philosophy)*  
& *Lutz Hamel (Computer Science)*

The Square of Opposition:  
Innovations in teaching logic

**BRITTNEY EASTER (Psychology)**  
*Sponsor: Diane Kern (Education)*

Significance of mentoring  
students in public schools: A  
literature review and naturalistic  
observation of academic & socio-  
emotional implications

**MEGAN FLEMING**  
(Health Studies; Psychology)  
*Sponsor: Mary Greaney (Health Studies;*  
*Kinesiology)*

Associations between perceived  
family functioning and adolescent  
health behaviors

**ASHLEY M. GEMMA**  
(Political Science; History)  
*Sponsor: Richard McIntyre (Economics)*

Diplomatic normalization  
between the U.S. and Cuba in light  
of recent changes in U.S. foreign  
policy more generally

**KEEGAN GLENNON**  
(Philosophy; Psychology)  
*Sponsor: Silvia Dorado-Banacloche (Business)*

The financial lives of low-income  
Rhode Islanders: Challenges and  
opportunities

**AMANDA L. GRATTAN (Film/Media; Art)**  
*Sponsor: Annu Palakunnathu Matthews (Art)*

*Walking Alone at Night*

**MEAGAN HAMBLIN**  
(Pharmaceutical Sciences; Biology)  
*Sponsor: David Rowley (Biomedical and*  
*Pharmaceutical Sciences)*

Combating infectious diseases  
in aquaculture with an original  
probiotic product

**OLIVIA HARRISON**  
(Biological Sciences)  
*Sponsor: Gary Richman (Art)*

The autistic child: Developmental  
diversity in the early childcare  
classroom

**PAUL HESSLER, JR. (Nursing)**  
*Sponsor: Judith Swift (Communication*  
*Studies)*

Manipulating the mass  
distribution of a golf putter

# HONORS PROJECTS

**EILEEN HOLOVAC (Pharm.D.; French)**  
*Sponsor: Angela Slitt (Biomedical and  
Pharmaceutical Sciences)*

Evaluation of BDE-47 and -99  
lipid modulating effects in HepG2  
human carcinoma cells

**CHLOE HWANG (Pharm.D.)**  
*Sponsor: Jessica Gören (Pharmacy Practice)*

Clinical judgment of  
differentiating the diagnosis and  
treatment of schizophrenia and  
schizoaffective disorder

**CASEY JOHNSEN**  
**(Communicative Disorders)**  
*Sponsor: Leslie Mahler (Communicative  
Disorders)*

Dysarthria: A study of effects on  
communication

**STACEY JOUBERT (Kinesiology)**  
*Sponsor: Allison Harper (Kinesiology)*

Are cycling and running  
comparable metabolic physical  
activities?

**VICTORIA B. KERN**  
**(Gender and Women's Studies)**  
*Sponsor: Helen Mederer (Sociology)*

Marriage and gender: A history  
through letters

**LAUREN KIDD (Nursing)**  
*Sponsor: Phil Clark (Gerontology)*

Bridging the generational gap:  
Where we were, where we are, and  
where we are going

**WILLIAM LAW**  
**(Biological Sciences; Spanish)**  
*Sponsor: Jodi L. Camberg (Cell and  
Molecular Biology)*

Persister cell control mechanisms  
in uropathogenic *Escherichia coli*

**AINE LEHANE (Health Studies)**  
*Sponsor: Dina Proestou (Fisheries, Animal  
and Veterinary Science)*

Examination of polymorphism  
in the serine proteinase inhibitor  
gene in the Eastern Oyster,  
*Crassostrea virginica*

# HONORS PROJECTS

**MELISSA LICHTMAN (Dietetics)**

*Sponsor: Linda Sebelia (Nutrition/Dietetics)*

Identifying education needs and conveying related information on nutrition topics for pre-school age children by educating parents through written communication

**FIONA MACKECHNIE (Marine Biology)**

*Sponsor: Carol Thornber (Biological Sciences)*

Chemical warfare in Narragansett Bay: Determining the allelopathic effects of *Ulva*

**BAILEY MALLON (Cell and Molecular Biology; Biological Sciences)**

*Sponsor: Kathryn Crisostomo (Academic Enhancement Center)*

Experts as teachers: Can we abate the disconnect between expert and student?

**BINTOU MARONG (Nursing)**

*Sponsor: Kyle Kusz (Kinesiology)*

Weight of gender

**MELINDA MAROTO**

**(Applied Economics; French)**

*Sponsor: Liam Malloy (Economics)*

The effects of discrimination in public goods games

**EMILY MARTELL**

**(Pharmaceutical Sciences)**

*Sponsor: Angela Slitt (Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences)*

The effects of Rhein and Thymoquinone on obesity and diabetes in diet-induced obese mice

**SAMUEL MCCAUGHEY**

**(Philosophy; Political Science)**

*Sponsor: Rob Widell (History)*

Thriving, not just surviving, on food stamps

**MEGAN MEDEIROS**

**(History; Philosophy)**

*Sponsor: Michael Honhart (History)*

English national identity in English colonial and imperial literature: Eighteenth century to early twentieth century

**SARAH MOFFITT**

**(Health Studies; Sociology)**

*Sponsor: Maureen Moakley (Political Science)*

Improving Rhode Island's health care system: Lessons from the Cuban model

# HONORS PROJECTS

**STEPHANIE O'NEIL (Nursing)**  
*Sponsor: Kathy Paquette (Nursing)*

The cost of caring: Compassion fatigue in Hospice nursing

**LAUREN PAGANI**  
**(Finance; Applied Mathematics)**  
*Sponsor: David M. Mitchell (Business)*

Cars for a Cause

**KEVIN PAJARO**  
**(Communication Studies)**  
*Sponsor: Lynne Derbyshire (Honors; Communication Studies)*

Understanding the construction of difference: Cultural competency as a tool of consciousness and social justice

**VICTORIA PARTYKEVICH**  
**(Public Relations)**  
*Sponsor: Regina Bell (Communication Studies)*

A critical analysis: Infusion of social media and traditional media strategies and tactics in the recipe for success for local, Main Street USA restaurants

**JORDAN PATTERSON (Pharm.D.)**  
*Sponsor: Joan Lausier (Pharmacy)*

Top 10 medicinal plants and their groundbreaking impact on modern medicine

**STEPHEN PETERSON (Theatre)**  
*Sponsor: Rachel Walshe (Honors; Philosophy)*

*The Last March*: Theatre of the Absurd for a modern audience

**SEAN PIEREL (Biological Sciences; Communication Studies)**  
*Sponsor: William Johnson (Biological Sciences)*

HumAn: A cat dissection tutorial

**JENNIFER PIGOGA (Cell and Molecular Biology; Biology)**  
*Sponsor: Annie De Groot (Institute for Immunology and Informatics)*

The role of safety net clinics after the implementation of Obamacare

**MATTHEW QUAINOO**  
**(Africana Studies; Political Science)**  
*Sponsor: Norman Barber (Africana Studies)*

The theology and agency of love as the substance of Kingian non-violent philosophy and activism



# HONORS PROJECTS

**MIKAELA REISMAN (Anthropology)**  
*Sponsor: Kristine M. Bovy (Anthropology)*

How has the domestication of dogs impacted native North American culture and way of life?

**LAURA ANN RICCIO (Biological Sciences)**  
*Sponsor: Niall G. Howlett (Cell and Molecular Biology)*

The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA): Breast and ovarian cancers

**SARAH ROBINSON (Marine Affairs)**  
*Sponsor: Amy Cabaniss (Outreach Center, College of the Environment and Life Sciences)*

The Learning Landscape: An assessment of state science standards and application in a URI Outreach Center youth education program

**LAURA SALINAS (Accounting)**  
*Sponsor: Karen de Bruin (Languages)*

Setting fires: Literary women blazing trails for contemporary women

**HANAA SHIHADAH (Biological Sciences)**  
*Sponsor: Joel M. Chandlee (Cell and Molecular Biology)*

History and recent advances of stem cell biology and the implications for human health

**JESSICA SIMONELLI (Biological Sciences)**  
*Sponsor: Steven Irvine (Biological Sciences)*

Cloning of the SOX2 gene from *Diplosoma listerianum*

**CLARISSE SULLIVAN (Marine Biology)**  
*Sponsors: Joel Chandlee (Cell and Molecular Biology); Rachel Parsons (Bermuda Institute of Ocean Science)*

Elucidation of the microbial consortium of the ubiquitous shore sponge, *Tedania ignis*

**EMILY THOMESSEN (Pharmaceutical Sciences; Biological Sciences)**  
*Sponsor: Carolyn Hames (Honors; Nursing; Thanatology)*

Sexual and gender based violence in post-conflict Uganda

# HONORS PROJECTS

- KAYLA TOOLE (Psychology; Sociology)**  
*Sponsor: Christine Zozula (Sociology)*  
They tried to make me go to rehab: A study of rehabilitation in United States Corrections
- ARJUN UGHREJA (Pharm.D.)**  
*Sponsor: Jessica Gören (Pharmacy Practice)*  
Clinical judgment of differentiating the diagnosis and treatment of schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder
- KATHLEEN MAE UY (Kinesiology; Biology)**  
*Sponsor: Matthew Delmonico (Kinesiology)*  
Effect of an exercise and dietary intervention on the cognitive function in obese older women
- ELIZABETH-ANN VISCIONE (Psychology)**  
*Sponsor: Patricia Morokoff (Psychology; Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences)*  
An investigation of correlates to compliant sex in college students
- SAMANTHA WALKER (Environmental Science and Management)**  
*Sponsors: Hope Leeson (Natural Resources Science) & Peter August (Coastal Institute, College of the Environment and Life Sciences)*  
Propagation methods for growing *Spartina alterniflora* for salt marsh restoration
- HOLLY WILLIAMS (Animal & Veterinary Science)**  
*Sponsor: Katherine Petersson (Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science)*  
Development of an *in vivo* exsheathment assay of infective L3 *Haemonchus contortus* larvae in fistulated sheep
- ETHAN A. ZAWATSKY (Economics; Political Science)**  
*Sponsor: Richard McIntyre (Economics)*  
Diplomatic normalization between the U.S. and Cuba in light of recent changes in U.S. foreign policy more generally

*Completed 2015 Honors Project materials will be archived, along with previous years' projects, at <http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/srhonorsprog>.*