Laurels and Hardy

To compete with the best universities in the nation, the Centennial Honors College must continue to recruit and develop outstanding undergraduate scholars. Recently, our charge was significantly enhanced with the establishment and implementation of the Centennial Honors College Scholarships.

Beginning in Fall 2012, Centennial Honors College Scholarships will be awarded to 25 incoming students, who have ACT scores of 28 or higher and grade point averages of 3.5 or better. Each scholarship covers the cost of tuition, fees and residence hall room for up to four years, equaling $61,000 over a four-year period!

WIU President Jack Thomas was the driving force behind these scholarships; they are part of his vision to enhance the reputation of Western Illinois University by making the Honors College a centerpiece of our academic enterprise. The Centennial Honors College Scholarships are the most far-reaching scholarships in our university’s history. They will enable WIU to attract the brightest high school graduates and compete with the very best institutions in the nation. Within four years, the Honors College will include 100 Centennial Honors Scholarship recipients, a critical mass for building upon an already solid foundation.

The Centennial Honors College Scholarships are intended to augment, not replace our other praiseworthy scholarships, such as the WIU Foundation Honors Scholarships, Keith Webb Memorial Scholarship, Paul M. Nollen Honors Biology Scholarship, and Martin Dupuis Leadership Award for Historically Underrepresented Communities.

We are grateful to Vice President Brad Bainter and his staff at the Foundation Office who continue to work tirelessly to recognize and cultivate Honors College donors. We also appreciate the enthusiastic support of Dr. Andy Borst, WIU’s new admissions director, and Mr. Michael Jones, our new development officer. Together, we can expect great things in the future.

Brandon Kutmas is selected Honors College Scholar and Convocation Student Speaker at the Fall Honors Convocation

Brandon is graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology in December 2011. He minored in Law Enforcement and Justice Administration.

While at Western Illinois University, Brandon has been involved in the WIU Psychology Club and Active Minds in addition to working as a career counselor for the 724th Transportation Company in Quincy, as a classroom facilitator for WIU Technology, and as a research assistant in the Department of Psychology. Throughout his academic career he earned membership in Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Chi, and Psi Beta honor societies. Phi Kappa Phi is the United States’s oldest and largest honor society that is open to high achieving students in all disciplines, while Psi Chi and Psi Beta are Psychology honor societies.
Lincoln Academy of Illinois Student Laureate

Laura Ann Baker Lins

The Lincoln Academy of Illinois selects one student in each of Illinois’ four-year degree-granting institutions as recipient of the award. Students are chosen not only for their academic achievements but their extra-curricular activities as well. The Centennial Honors College congratulates Laura for receiving this prestigious award.

Brandon Kutmas
Franck Olivier Nijakou Njeunje
Kevin J. Ross

Three honors students have been selected and will be recognized as College Scholars on December 16th. Brandon Kutmas is the Centennial Honors College Scholar, Franck Njeunje is the Arts and Sciences College Scholar, and Kevin Ross is the Business and Technology College Scholar. All three are graduating as Honors Scholars. Congratulations Brandon, Franck, and Kevin.

Featured National Grant or Scholarship Opportunity

The Truman Scholarship

The mission of the Truman Scholarship Foundation is:

- To find and recognize college juniors with exceptional leadership potential who are committed to careers in government, the nonprofit or advocacy sectors, education or elsewhere in the public service; and
- To provide them with financial support for graduate study, leadership training, and fellowship with other students who are committed to making a difference through public service (http://truman.gov/about-us).

Students applying for the Truman Scholarship:

- Must be full-time students pursuing a bachelor’s degree with junior-level standing or have senior-level standing in your third year of college enrollment.
- Must be U.S. citizens (or a U.S. national from a Pacific Island) or expect to have citizenship by the date the Scholarship is awarded.
- Must want to be a “change agent” and work to improve government agencies, nonprofit organizations, or educational institutions that serve the public. And be interested in completing a master’s, professional degree, or doctorate in law, public administration, public health, social work, education public policy, or international education.
- Must have a history of community service and grades appropriate for admittance to a first-rate graduate institution.
- Must have values and goals consistent with the goals and purpose of the Truman Scholarship Foundation. They must be able to articulate and present themselves in ways consistent with the goals and purpose of this fellowship of scholars.

The amount of the scholarship award is $30,000. Interested students should check the truman.gov website and read the directions for candidates about “How To Become a Truman Scholar.”

Dr. Keith Boeckelman, Chair Department of Political Science is the Truman Scholarship representative on campus. Contact Information: E-mail: KA-Boeckelman@wiu.edu   Phone: 309-298-1055
In and Around the Campus

Take a break from studying for one of these School of Music Concerts. All concerts start at 7:30 pm and are held in the COFAC Recital Hall. Best of all they are all FREE and open to the public!

- Wednesday, Dec. 7 WIU Jazz Band Concert
- Thursday, Dec. 8 WIU Wind Ensemble Holiday Concert
- Friday, Dec. 9 WIU Orchestra Concert
- Saturday, Dec. 10 WIU Steel Band Concert

For more information contact: Joanie Herbert, 309.298.1843, JE-Herbert@wiu.edu

Honors Student Highlights – Fall 2011

Two honors students were represented on the Homecoming Court during homecoming weekend September 30th through October 1st

- Jordan Liles was crowned as Homecoming King. Jordan is a senior Biology major, and was sponsored by Delta Upsilon/Alpha Sigma Tau/Pi Kappa Alpha.

- Trey Dhabalt was elected to the Homecoming Court. Trey is an LEJA major and was sponsored by Sigma Chi.

Students in Dr. Jennifer McNabb’s GH 299 - Witchcraft course held a witch trial on October 10th. Honors students in the course played different members of a fictitious village in early modern England. During the trial different villagers were accused of witchcraft. Testimony was given, and the entire village voted to acquit or convict the accused. Professor McNabb served as the judge.

October 25th through Nov. 7th - Drs. John Hemingway and Richard Hardy, along with thousands of WIU students and numerous faculty and staff representing 25 departments across Western Illinois University participated in the mock election “The Road to the White House Starts at Western Illinois University.” This five-night event held over a two and a half week period highlighted the process of electing the President of the United States. The first night consisted of state caucuses and primaries, the second and third nights simulated the National Conventions and included speeches and the adoption of national platforms by the Republican and Democratic parties, third parties met on the fourth night, and on the fifth night the presidential campaign came to an end and the Electoral College voted. Participants learned the ins and outs of political campaigning and civic engagement and were able to meet and hear from a number of local and national political leaders. Our thanks to all who participated in this massive undertaking! Spoiler alert...President Barack Obama was elected to a second term.

Wise sayings often fall on barren ground, but a kind word is never thrown away.
- Arthur Helps
Congratulations to all December 2011 – Honors Scholar Graduates

Adrianna Bennett  AmberPearl Cruz  Jessica Fabiano
Claire Gursh    Cassandra Horn  Nicholas Jackson
Brittany James  Brandon Kutmas  Kristyn Lepek
Laura Lins     Shufang Liu     Crystal Loyd
Eden Malone    Lori McLean    Gerald Scott
Franck Njeunje  Kevin Ross    Kathalene Willis
Jennifer Turn  Ryan Vance

Student Honors Association (SHA) News

PIZZA companies aren't the only organizations that deliver...SHA can deliver and pick up! We can bring book boxes to your office for filling and pick up the boxes once full.

Mission and Core Values

Better World Books is a global bookstore that harnesses the power of capitalism to bring literacy and opportunity to people around the world.

Core Values

WE ♥ BOOKS
Respect the book: read often and help others to do the same.
FLABBERGAST OUR CUSTOMERS
Seek out opportunities to make a difference with value, service & selection.
INVEST WELL. WASTE NOT.
Choose wisely; consider the return on your efforts & the impact in your actions. Reuse, reuse, reuse…. then reduce & recycle.
LEAD THE MOVEMENT
Take a stand; share your enthusiasm and build momentum through human connections.
SPEAK THROUGH ACTION
Put your ideas to work; play to win but never fear failure.
BE PASSIONATE
Wear your heart on your sleeve; stand up for what you believe.
PURSUE GROWTH & LEARNING
Challenge yourself; make a point to try new things.
BE GENUINE
Keep it real; be honest with others and true to your quirkstastic self.
EMBRACE CHANGE
Adapt to circumstances; help others find ways to succeed in our evolving world.
RESPECT OUR TEAM
Be humble; welcome diversity and recognize that shared success is the only kind that matters.


Let us be grateful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom. -Marcel Proust