



# Centennial Honors College

Volume 9, Issue 5

January, 2008

## Note from the Director

When does B come before A ? (Other than as an abbreviation for a college degree?)

Some schools once had the tradition of calling the spring semester “A” because it came first on the calendar—beginning in January, so fall semester (or for most students, first semester) was “B” since it came later on the calendar—beginning in September. In opposition to the logic of this lettering, summer sessions were “C” and “D”—but we won’t pursue this part of the calendar. At any rate...



By this reckoning, we are starting the A semester—but also A for Active for the Centennial Honors College.

In January, we will have the annual meeting for students interested in joining the College. The end of January also brings a presentation by the center for International Studies for students interested in study abroad opportunities.

February brings the annual Pre-Law Symposium.

March begins with the annual conference of the Honors Council of the Illinois Region to be held at the Quad Cities Campus. Within a week, the student Honors Association will hold its first-ever Academic Majors Fair.

April brings the annual showcase of campus projects, Undergraduate Research Day.

You can read the details of these and other upcoming events in the pages that follow—and more details will be forthcoming. We hope that you—whether a student or other friend of the Honors College—will attend one or more of these.

More important than any one event is the matrix of opportunity that they represent. From joining the Honors College and listening to peer and staff experts to participating with your own presentations, you can be part of Centennial Honors College events that focus on campus life and the ever-growing world of intellectual discovery.

I hope that our programs this semester will introduce you to new ideas and opportunities. Whether you are just starting at Western, preparing to finish your degree, or helping others to do so, I further hope that every semester for you is an A—for A-1.

Bill Knox

### Honors Council of the Illinois Region Annual Student Research Conference

The Honors Council of the Illinois Region (HCIR) will hold its annual student research conference at the Western Illinois University Quad Cities Campus Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Centennial Honors College students are invited to submit proposals for presentation. Complete information, including proposal forms, can be found at <http://www.eiu.edu/~honicilr/Springcon.htm>. This is great opportunity to meet students from Honors Programs and Colleges from around the state! If you have questions, please contact Bill Knox at 298.2228 or WL-Knox@wiu.edu.

### Pre-Law Symposium

The Seventh Annual Pre-Law Symposium, sponsored by the Centennial Honors College and campus and community organizations, will be held in the University Union Lamoine Room Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. This year the program includes a panel of students and an admissions counselor from Northern Illinois University Law School who will answer questions about admission to and life in law school.

Consistent with this year's campus theme of Environmental Sustainability, keynote remarks by Keith Shank, Manager of the Illinois Endangered Species Consultation Program of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency will address "The Third Wave Paradigm: Understanding the Context of Environmental Law in Illinois." The evening will conclude with a reception sponsored by Flack, McRaven, and Stephens. All interested members of the University community are invited!

### Undergraduate Research Day

The Sixth Annual Undergraduate Research Day will be held at the University Union Wednesday, April 16, 2008. Students are invited to submit proposal abstracts for poster, podium, and performance presentations. Please go to <http://www.wiu.edu/honors/researchday/> for complete information and abstract forms. Hope to see you on April 16<sup>th</sup>!

### Scholarship Reminder

Twenty-one competitive (five sophomore, eight junior and eight senior) \$600 scholarships are available to WIU honors students. This is a reminder to secure a scholarship application either from the Centennial Honors College website ([www.wiu.edu/honors/scholarships](http://www.wiu.edu/honors/scholarships)) or from the Centennial Honors College office. Completed scholarship applications are due February 29, 2008. If you have any questions about these scholarships, please contact the Centennial Honors College at 298-2228.

### Summer G H 299?

What would you think about a Summer G H 299? The Centennial Honors College is considering offering one this year. This could be an opportunity for students who stay in the Macomb area to take a one-credit course this summer. Please contact Bill Knox at 298.2228 or WL-Knox@wiu.edu if you are interested

## SHA Activities

Student Honors Association (SHA) is sponsoring the Departmental Organizations and Majors Fair on Wednesday, March 5, 2008, from 4:00 to 6:00 p. m. in the University Union Grand Ballroom. The two main goals of the fair are:

1. to inform high school and undecided WIU students about the majors WIU offers and the organizations affiliated with them and
2. to spark interest and promote learning among elementary and middle school students in a variety of subjects.

To accomplish these goals, departmental student organizations are invited to host a table with information about the departments major(s) and an interactive activity that engages elementary and middle school children. The registration deadline to host a table is Thursday, February 7, 2008. If you have any questions, please contact Carla Webb and Dr. Martha A. Barclay at Centennial Honors College.

## Student Activities

Autumn Campbell, Brandon Reynolds, Danielle Truitt, and Chrissy Coughlin (Centennial Honors College students) participated in a CSC program to build 2 homes for families in Juarez, Mexico between December 30, 2007 and January 7, 2008. This year 31 students went from WIU. In addition to their travel expenses, the students raised approximately \$12,000 to pay for the building materials. It is such a rewarding experience to be able to turn the keys to a new home over to the families for whom the houses were built.



Autumn Campbell doing stucco



Chrissy Coughlin at the work site



Danielle Truitt and Jared Bohland with their finished



Brandon Reynolds putting on chicken wire

## Did you know that.....

Over 50 % of the Centennial Honor College students support themselves?

Over 50 % of the Centennial Honors College students participate in more than one campus student organization?

Over 50 % of the Centennial Honors College students have served as officers in an organization away from the Western Illinois University campus?

Over 50 % of the freshmen and transfer Centennial Honors College students learned about the Honors College through the Discover Western Programs

At least 25 % of the Centennial Honors College students are the first person in their family to attend a college or university



Centennial Honors College  
Malpass Library  
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### Centennial Honors College Upcoming Events, Spring, 2008:

January 22, 2008	Student Honors Association	5:00 pm	Centennial Honors College
January 23, 2008	Honors Council Meeting	3:30 pm	Centennial Honors College
January 23, 2008	Activities Fair	3:00 to 5:00 pm	Grand Ballroom
February 18, 2008	Pre-Law Symposium	6:00 to 8:00 pm	Lamoine Room
February 20, 2008	Honors Council Meeting	3:30 pm	Centennial Honors College
March 1, 2008	HCIR Conference		Quad Cities
March 5, 2008	Majors Fair	4:00 to 6:00 pm	Grand Ballroom
March 19, 2008	Honors Council Meeting	3:30 pm	Centennial Honors College
April 16, 2008	Undergraduate Research Day		University Union
April 23, 2008	Honors Council Meeting	3:30 pm	Centennial Honors College
May 9, 2008	Honors Convocation	2:00 pm	Western Hall

Student Honors Association Meeting Dates: Read the [Weekly E-Letter](#) from the Centennial Honors College.

Phone: (309) 298-2228

CHC: [www.wiu.edu/honors](http://www.wiu.edu/honors)

WIU-QC: [www.wiu.edu/HONORS/qc](http://www.wiu.edu/HONORS/qc)