Introduction

The IUPUI Honors College offers a challenging academic environment for high-ability students. Entering Honors Scholars have completed a rigorous program of study in high school where they maintained a GPA of 3.75 (on a 4.0 scale) or better, and had an ACT composite score of 28 or an SAT critical reading and math combined score of 1250 or higher. All Honors Scholars are required to maintain a specific overall GPA, complete 24 hours of Honors credit, complete an Honors Experience (e.g., honors course, approved international study, internship, or experiential learning) every semester, and complete at least 10 hours of volunteer service hours per year.

The IUPUI Honors College, located in the IUPUI University Library, completed its fourth year as a College. The 2013-2014 academic year was marked by Honors Scholars’ successes, continued implementation of best practices in Honors advising and co-curricular activities, development of a new study abroad Honors program in Swaziland, staff recognitions, and continued growth in Honors enrollment. New school-based programs were added to expand admission into Honors for transfers and upper division students. All point to significant contributions to the success of our students.

The Success of our Students

Growth in Honors College Enrollment

Excellent academic programs coupled with competitive Honors scholarships continue to feed the growth of the IUPUI Honors College. In addition to the Bepko Scholars and Fellows Program, the Herbert Presidential Scholars Program, and the Plater Distinguished Scholars Program, IUPUI added an admission-based Chancellor’s Scholarship to the College in 2011-2012. As a result, the IUPUI Honors College continues to grow in enrollment and academic profile. In Fall 2013, Honors new student enrollment reached 236. This was our most talented and diverse Honors class to date. Fall 2014 new student enrollment is projected to be 251, with a College enrollment of 936. The Honors College graduated its first four-year class (the Class of 2014) of 109 Scholars in May 2014.

http://news.iupui.edu/releases/2014/05/first-honors-grads.shtml

Awards and Recognitions

IUPUI Honors Scholars continued to be recognized for civic engagement, academic excellence, and service to IUPUI and our community:
Eight IUPUI Honors Scholars were recognized as 2014 IUPUI Plater Medallion Recipients. The William M. Plater Civic Engagement Medallion has been established to recognize graduating students who have demonstrated exemplary commitment to their communities during their years as an IUPUI student:

Ryan Eldridge  Kelley School of Business
Emily Potts  School of Liberal Arts and Science
Joshua Van Goey  SPEA
John Fierst  School of Science
Sarah Flores  School of Science
Vinayak Gupta  School of Science
Kaylee Shirrell  School of Science
Leah Van Antwerp  School of Science


Devon Bready, School of Science and Honors College, was the second IUPUI student awarded the prestigious Goldwater Scholarship, presented to the country's most promising undergraduate college students in math, science and engineering. The IUPUI Honors College coordinates this nomination process.


Honors Scholar Ben Judge, School of Science and Honors College, was selected as the 2014 Top Male Student at the 2014 IUPUI Top 100 Students event. Over half of the 2014 IUPUI Top 100 juniors and seniors recognized for scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities on campus, and civic and community service, are IUPUI Honors Scholars. Of the Top 10 Male Students recognized in 2014, six are members of the IUPUI Honors College. Of the Top 10 Female Students recognized in 2014, seven are members of the IUPUI Honors College.

http://alumni.iupui.edu/top100.html

Lindsey Keener, School of Nursing and Honors College, was selected as the IUPUI Honors College Chancellor’s Scholar for 2014. The Chancellor’s Scholar Award is presented annually to the student who has the highest college GPA and who demonstrates a commitment to the university and the communities it serves.
Laura Masterson, Assistant Director, Honors College, was selected as a National Advisor of the Year by the National Academic Advising Association. Laura advises Chancellor’s Scholars, and Bepko Scholars in the IUPUI Honors College. She has led the Honors Peer Mentoring initiative as well as coordinated service learning opportunities for the college.

http://news.iupui.edu/releases/2014/04/academic-advising-award.shtml

**Honors Advising Best Practices**

Staff of the IUPUI Honors College continued to identify, implement, and share developmental academic advising and co-curricular programming best advising practices for high-ability students.

- The IUPUI Honors College Honors Ambassador Program which utilizes our current Scholars to assist with recruiting and support of IUPUI Honors College events was expanded and enhanced in its third year with additional training.

- The Honors Peer Mentoring Program, matching current scholars with incoming scholars, was enhanced and expanded for its third year to include all incoming Scholars Fall 2014. Mentors receive in-depth training from a variety of campus resources to prepare them as Honors Mentors. On-going assessment of this program indicates that it is successful in providing leadership experiences to current scholars and assistance in making a successful transition to college for incoming scholars.

- The Fourth Annual IUPUI Academic Bowl was held in November 2014 with 22 teams from across campus competing in this day-long event. Sponsored by the IUPUI Honors College Student Council, this event showcases teams of four in a competitive, nationally-sanctioned competition. Winning teams then competed in the regional competition in Chicago.

  http://news.iupui.edu/releases/2013/11/academic-bowl-four.shtml

- An Honors web-based database was developed through IU HELPNET to record and track Honors Scholar information critical to the four-year developmental advising plan in 2013. Built around the IUPUI RISE initiative, this database coordinates academic progress, co-curricular activities, service, international, and leadership information for use and analysis by Honors Advisors. In 2014, this database was expanded to include entering school-based honors programs.

The IUPUI Honors College continued development of advising best practices for high-ability students, implemented through our holistic, four-year development plan for students. This dynamic plan focuses on the IUPUI RISE Initiative, advising strategies, and retention plans. Ongoing assessment indicates that regular and intentional contact between Honors Advisors and Scholars is key to its success.

The Honors International Experience developed in Costa Rica as an alternative spring break program continued for the third year in 2014 with increased participation. The Costa Rica program provides Scholars with service learning experiences in community and government organizations in the Cartago area. This experience serves Honors Scholars seeking the Service designation (S) of the RISE initiative through an international experience.

A new Honors International Experience was developed and implemented in 2014 in Swaziland. The Healthcare in the Kingdom of Swaziland program is a three-week summer service learning program based in the cities of Manzini and Mbabane, Swaziland. This Honors College program is offered in cooperation with the Fairbanks School of Public Health and IU School of Nursing, providing field placements at community organizations with direct connections to healthcare and organizations that highlight the importance of healthcare access in the Kingdom of Swaziland. Students also have the opportunity to learn about the culture, history and wildlife of the Kingdom of Swaziland through tours and excursions scheduled throughout the program. This experience serves Honors Scholars seeking the Service designation (S) of the RISE initiative through an international experience.

The Fourth Annual IUPUI Honors College Showcase was held in April 2014. Examples of Honors Scholars’ research, scholarship, international experiences, civic engagement, and leadership were presented to the IUPUI community and prospective scholars in an engaging, interactive showcase.

The Honors College Staff conducted a one-day retreat focused on identifying our contributions to the IUPUI Strategic Plan, success of our students, career advising, and best practices for high ability advising.

The Honors Residential Learning Community in the Riverwalk Apartments was expanded, becoming the Honors Upper Division Residential Community in Fall
2013. Two floors of University Tower were developed for our First-Year Scholars’ Honors Residential Community in Fall 2013. These communities offer co-curricular leadership and service opportunities to our 200 residential Scholars, as well as class appropriate programming aimed at enhancing the success of our students.

http://housing.iupui.edu/explore/residential-learning/honors-house/index.shtml

- The IUPUI Honors College worked with a number of Schools at IUPUI to develop upper division school-based programs coordinated under the IUPUI Honors College in 2014. In addition to the Kelley School of Business, SPEA, and the School of Nursing, four new programs are joining Honors in Fall 2014. Informatics and Computing, the School of Science, the School of Liberal Arts, and the School of Engineering and Technology will begin programs in the Fall 2014. Additional School programs are in development.