Welcome back for the spring 2016 semester at UTSA! We hope you had a wonderful vacation and are ready for another fun and challenging semester at UTSA. Dr. Hernandez and family started off our Pancake Breakfast series the day before the semester began and we have a record number of Honors activities scheduled for the rest of the term. Please check out pages 7-14 of this newsletter to learn about all the social events, lectures, and information sessions that we are offering. Keep an eye on your email as well for a master list of all activities. Thanks to our new webmaster, Andrew Sanetra, you can now also always find information about upcoming events on the home page of the Honors College website (scroll down to “Upcoming Dates” on the bottom right).

As many of you are already aware, I am currently serving as Interim Dean while the University is searching for a permanent Dean of the Honors College. Candidates for the Dean position are expected to be on campus in the next month. Students will be invited to meet with each of the candidates in an open forum setting. You will want to keep an eye on your email so that you don’t miss the announcement of the dates of the student meetings with the candidates.

Next month, the Honors College will also host its annual Great Conversation! fundraiser. We still need another 20 Honors College volunteers to assist with the event, which is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23rd from 5:00-9:00 p.m. at the Institute for Texan Cultures. Volunteers have the opportunity to meet and greet prominent members of the community and sit at a table and participate in conversation on an engaging topic with members of the San Antonio community. For more information on how to volunteer and what’s involved, please see page 8 of this newsletter.

In the coming months, we will also be looking for new Honors Peer Mentors to work with students in the “Academic Inquiry” (AIS 1203) classes in the First Year Experience for 2016-17. The process to become a Peer Mentor is competitive. Interested students must apply (applications will be available in the upcoming weeks and are due in early March). Students who are identified as potential Peer Mentors will be asked to interview with University College and the Honors College, and successful candidates will be offered a Peer Mentor position for academic year 2016-17. Although Honors students can work as Peer Mentors for both non-Honors and Honors sections of AIS 1203, the Honors College will choose 8 of the Honors students selected as Peer Mentors (including one from the FAME Program) to work with the Honors AIS 1203 sections. The pay rate is $10 per hour, and Peer Mentors work a maximum of 15 hours/week.

Finally, if you are interested in living in Honors housing next year, please let Alegra know so that she can reserve you a place (Alegra.Lozano@utsa.edu)!

Dr. Ann Eisenberg
Greetings from the Honors College Advising Team!

The summer 2016 schedule is posted in ASAP and registration will open February 29th! This summer, students will be able to choose from six different summer terms: two 4-week terms, two 5-week terms, a new 8-week term, and one 10-week term. Here is a link to the dates those terms will be offered: [http://www.utsa.edu/registrar/reg_materials/reg_calendar_summer.pdf](http://www.utsa.edu/registrar/reg_materials/reg_calendar_summer.pdf)

Because summer registration will open to ALL students on Monday, February 29th by 8:00 a.m. Because the administration wants Departments to respond quickly to student demand for classes, all students are encouraged immediately. Since Honors College students will NOT have priority registration for the summer 2016 term, it is important that you be prepared for registration. Honors course offerings are listed in this newsletter on pages 23-24.

To prepare for summer registration, you need to follow these instructions:

1. If you have a semester-by-semester degree plan that you have developed with your Advisor, use that to plan your summer schedule. You can also refer to Degree Works to verify remaining course requirements for your degree. If you have questions or concerns about the accuracy of the Degree Works plan, please email or schedule an appointment with your Advisor. You can find Degree Works at: [https://dworkswebprod.sis.utsa.edu/](https://dworkswebprod.sis.utsa.edu/)

2. If you have questions about which courses you should take, call the Honors College office at (210) 458-4106 to schedule an appointment with your Honors College Advisor to discuss your schedule options and degree requirements.

3. Check by February 22nd to make sure that all holds are cleared from your account (Library, parking tickets, 45/90 hour advising, etc.).

4. Check prerequisites to verify the courses you wish to take are truly options for you. If you are missing a prerequisite and wish to see if the Department will allow you to take the course without the prerequisite, you may use this form: [https://www.utsa.edu/advise/docs/PreRequisiteOverrideForm.pdf](https://www.utsa.edu/advise/docs/PreRequisiteOverrideForm.pdf).

5. Check your degree plan to make sure the courses are necessary for your degree.

6. If you wish to take an Honors Seminar in the summer, you must have the Honors Advising Office set a permission code for you in ASAP. To request permission to enroll in an Honors course, email your Advisor AND INCLUDE YOUR STUDENT ID!!

Please contact your Honors College Advisor if you have questions.

Diana S. Howard  
[Diana.howard@utsa.edu](mailto:Diana.howard@utsa.edu)

Shun Barrientez  
[Shunverie.barrientez@utsa.edu](mailto:Shunverie.barrientez@utsa.edu)

Stephen Cheney  
[Stephen.cheny@utsa.edu](mailto:Stephen.cheny@utsa.edu)

Kalia Glover  
[Kalia.glover@utsa.edu](mailto:Kalia.glover@utsa.edu)
ATTENTION CURRENT HONORS THESIS STUDENTS

The following is a summary of the important deadlines that Honors Thesis students must meet for their Honors Thesis Course

Wednesday, January 27
Submit the working title of your thesis, a one-paragraph description of the thesis topic, and the names of your two readers. (Thesis Information Form: http://honors.utsa.edu/applications/thesisinformationform.php)

Friday, April 1
Deadline to submit a complete draft of the thesis or thesis proposal to the thesis advisor.

Friday, April 15
Deadline to submit a complete draft of the thesis or thesis proposal to the thesis committee.

Tuesday, May 3
Honors College Undergraduate Research Symposium, 1:00-3:30 pm (poster presentations).

Friday, May 13
Deadline to file the thesis or thesis proposal with the Honors College (signed by the advisor and readers).

Welcoming New Faces

Kalina Glover
Academic Advisor I

Kalina comes to the Honors College Academic Advising Center after almost five years with UTSA Undergraduate Admissions. She is also an alumna of UTSA, having earned both a BA and a Master’s degree in History.

As she settles into her new role as an Academic Advisor in the Honors College, she will focus on students seeking degrees in biology and business. We expect her to start seeing students by February 1.
We’d like to remind all students that the Honors College has a Facebook page!

The Honors Facebook page is a great place to stay up to date on Honors College news and events throughout the semester. It’s also a useful communication tool if you wish to get in touch with other Honors students (selling textbooks, forming study groups, etc.).

If you haven’t already, make sure to go and “like” us: https://www.facebook.com/HonorsCollege.

SAVE THE DATE

Pancake Breakfast with the Deans
Alvarez Hall Community Room

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<th>SUNDAYS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 7</td>
<td>Mar. 6</td>
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<td>Apr. 3</td>
<td>May 1</td>
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Join Interim Dean Ann Eisenberg and Interim Associate Dean Jill Hernandez for fellowship and a scrumptious breakfast. Delicious banana, blueberry, and chocolate chip pancakes will be served.

Please RSVP to honors@utsa.edu
ALL Honors College students are invited to reside in the Honors section of campus housing. Students will enjoy living in the dorm-style Alvarez Hall residence, while building lasting friendships with other Honors College students.

Honors Housing slots fill quickly, so if you are interested in living in the Honors Housing unit, contact Alegra Lozano (alegra.lozano@utsa.edu), Assistant Director of Recruitment and Student Programs, for more information.

In order to be assigned to Honors Housing, students must first apply for housing (utsa.edu/housing). When applying, students can specify Honors housing under special requests. Students will then need to email their name, student ID, and contact information to Alegra Lozano to be placed on the Honors housing list. Students who would like to request a specific Honors student as a roommate will need to send the roommate’s name and contact information along with their email request. Honors students may only submit roommate requests for other Honors students.

Alvarez Hall information: http://utsa.edu/housing/about-arh.html
Archer Center Fellowships

Application Deadline: February 15, 2016

The Archer Fellowship Program is designed to bring top students to Washington, D.C., to pursue an internship of their choice and take courses on policy, leadership and persuasive communication. Students can select from a wide range of internship opportunities -- from government to industry to the not-for-profit sector.

Archer Fellows earn 15 hours of credit at UTSA. Participants are housed on Capitol Hill and receive assistance in finding an internship.

You are eligible to apply to the 2016-17 Archer Program if you: (1) will have completed 60 college hours by the end of spring 2016; (2) have a GPA of 3.0 or higher; and (3) will have completed the Core curriculum requirement in Political Science by the end of spring 2016. Additional information and applications are available on the web at http://www.archercenter.org/archer-fellowship-program.html.

For more information, contact Dr. Ann Eisenberg at ann.eisenberg@utsa.edu
AN HONORS COLLEGE LECTURE SERIES
ACROSS A CENTURY,
BLACK WOMEN’S ACTIVISM, PAST AND PRESENT

Organized by Dr. LaGuana Gray, Department of History
Co-Sponsored by the Honors College, the Women’s Studies Institute, the Department of History, African American Studies, UTSA Libraries, the Sue E. Denman Distinguished Chair in American Literature, & the College of Engineering

February 15: “Black Women and Stress”
Dr. Roxanne Donovan, Departments of Psychology & Interdisciplinary Studies
Kennesaw State University
11:00-11:50 a.m.
MH 2.02.10

March 10: Women’s History Month Panel Discussion
Dr. LaGuana Gray, Department of History, UTSA
Dr. Shannon Frystak, Department of History, East Stroudsburg State University
Dr. Shekira Daniels
10:00-11:15 a.m.
Bexar Room (HUC 1.102)

March 23: “Ethel Payne, the ‘First Lady of the Black Press’”
James McGrath Morris
Author of “Eye on the Struggle”
1:00-1:50 p.m.
MH 3.04.14

March 25: “Femininity among Women Immigrants from East Africa”
Dr. Cymone Fourshey, Department of History & International Relations
Bucknell University
11:00-11:50 a.m.
MH 2.02.10

April 8: Dr. Tiyi Morris
Department of African American and African Studies, Ohio State University
“‘Women are the Humanizers of the Struggle’: Gender and the Civil Rights Movement”
11:00-11:50 a.m.
MH 2.02.10

“Bringing Intersectionality to the American History Classroom (with Black Women’s Autobiographies)”
1:00-1:50 p.m.
MH 3.04.14

Honors students are also invited to attend a luncheon conversation with Dr. Fourshey from 1:00-1:50 p.m. on Friday, March 25th. All lectures are open to the public, but the luncheon is RSVP only. Please RSVP to honors@utsa.edu
The UTSA Great Conversation! is an important fundraiser for Honors Scholarships. The event also increases public awareness about the important cultural and intellectual role that UTSA plays in the City of San Antonio.

Honors students have the opportunity to attend this event as volunteers. The event allows you to give back to the Honors College while you participate in an evening of fun and stimulating conversation. You will meet UTSA faculty as well as prominent members of the San Antonio community.

If you are interested in representing the Honors College and volunteering at this event, please email Dr. Eisenberg at Ann.Eisenberg@utsa.edu.

SAVE THE DATE:
Scholarship & Donor Banquet

Monday, April 11, 2016
4:00 pm
Ballroom 2 (HUC 1.104)

All recipients of Honors College Endowed Scholarships will be expected to attend this event.
Planning on going to Graduate School??

Come to our GRE Preparation Workshop!

The workshop will be offered across three dates:

April 4        April 11        April 18

2:00 pm
MB 1.102

We hope to see you there!

UTSA LEADERSHIP CHALLENGE
INFORMATION SESSIONS

Dr. Robert Lengel & Ms. Cindy Teske
Directors of the Leadership Challenge

February 2
11:45 am-12:45 pm
Honors College Conference
Room (MS 4.01.76)

February 15
12:00-1:00 pm
Honors College Conference
Room (MS 4.01.76)

Come learn about the UTSA Leadership Challenge and how you can earn Leadership Honors when you graduate from UTSA. This unique program is designed to provide an opportunity for the best and brightest students at UTSA to develop their leadership potential through experiential learning and inquiry into the physical, social and moral faces of courage. Students are challenged to test their courage and hone their leadership skills in a community service project called the For the Kids (FTK) Dance Marathon at UTSA. FTK is a yearlong effort to bring together UTSA student organizations, local high schools and businesses in a collaborative effort to provide emotional and financial support to local families battling childhood cancer. Last year, FTK raised over $50,000 for the kids at Children’s Hospital and contributed over 5,000 hours of their time in service. The goal of the program is to create a new generation of caring and mindful leaders.

Pizza and drinks will be provided!
RSVP not required, but preferred (honors@utsa.edu)

Leadership Challenge Priority Application Deadline: April 20th
Honors Bowling Night

February 19
7:00-9:00 pm

University Bowl
12332 IH 10 West
at De Zavala
San Antonio, Texas 78230

Join us for a fun night of bowling with your fellow Honors students! We have reserved spaces for up to 40 students. If you’d like to attend, please contact Alegra Lozano (alegra.lozano@utsa.edu).

BOARD GAME NIGHTS!!!

March 8
7:00-9:00 pm
Mesquite Room (UC 2.01.24)

April 14
7:00-9:00 pm
Bexar Room (HUC 1.102)

This semester, the Honors College will be hosting two board game nights. Come by to one (or both!) and spend the evening playing games and having fun with your fellow Honors students!
KEYNOTE ADDRESS FOR WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

1986 AND BEYOND:
30 YEARS OF EMPOWERMENT THROUGH WOMEN’S, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

March 1, 2016
UC Retama Room
2:30-3:45 p.m.

Please join the Honors College, the Women’s Studies Institute, and the Department of History for the Keynote Address, which will open Women’s History Month for 2016, as the University celebrates 30 years of recognition of women’s history at UTSA. The speakers, Dr. Linda Pritchard, an expert on women and economic development and women and religion in the U.S., and Dr. Susan Smulyan, a cultural historian of the U.S. in the 20th century, founded Women’s History Week at UTSA in 1986. Both have continued to work in women’s history and women’s studies at UTSA and beyond for the past 30 years. The two original founders of the recognition of women’s contributions to history at UTSA will discuss changes in women’s lives over the past 30 years and the work we still need to do in the future to achieve full equality for women.

Honors students are also invited to sign up to attend a luncheon with Dr. Pritchard and Dr. Smulyan from 11:30 to 12:45 a.m. on March 1st. The keynote address is open to the public. Students who are interested in attending the small-group conversation and lunch should email honors@utsa.edu.

Co-Sponsors:
The Honors College
The Women’s Studies Institute
The Department of History
Saturday, March 5th, UTSA Main Campus, 8:00am start time
5K certified course, runners & walkers welcome
Race & festival with food, beverages, music, Rowdy, and
the Spirit of San Antonio UTSA Band

The Honors College is sponsoring an Honors team of Honors
students and staff for the annual UTSA Diploma Dash.

Interested students should email their name,
student ID (with the @), and contact information to
alegra.lozano@utsa.edu.

Space is limited. Participants are accepted on a first-response basis.

Questions? Contact Alegra Lozano at alegra.lozano@utsa.edu.
Dr. Lila will talk about developing functional food ingredients containing bioactive compounds from plants that interact with human therapeutic targets to counteract chronic diseases and/or bolster human metabolism.

Dr. Lila has worked with the US Army and NASA, and in the developing world (Zambia, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation) to validate and deliver these functional food benefits.

Honors students who would be interested in having lunch with Dr. Lila at 11:45 that same day should email the Honors College at honors@utsa.edu.
Call for Honors dancers!
The UTSA FTK Dance Marathon

Dance with the Honors Team
from 9:00 a.m.—9:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 16

Dance Marathon, a high-energy no sitting, no sleeping celebration, is the culmination of our year-long fundraising efforts that allows all supporters of our cause to showcase their commitment. We strive to have the Dance Marathon become a city-wide event that honors the families, recognizes the participants, and shows that, for one weekend, the entire community is united for one cause. This year our Dance Marathon will be on Saturday, April 16, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Convocation Center. $30 per dancer. Register today at danceforthekids.org!

If you have any questions, visit us at http://www.danceforthekids.org or contact the Communications Overall, via email at communications@danceforthekids.org

If you want to participate on the Honors Team and have the Honors College pay your entry fee, please R.S.V.P to alegra.lozano@utsa.edu (with your name, phone #, email address, and shirt size).

NOTE: Being a dancer means making a commitment to stand for 12 hours.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Aguirre</td>
<td>Public Health</td>
<td>Junior</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lydia Alvarez</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Avery Bessette</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Junior</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas Bueno</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adam Burrows</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anastasia Caballero</td>
<td>Anthropology</td>
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<td>Kendrick Cannon</td>
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<td>Diana Davila Elizondo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Doan</td>
<td>Medical Humanities</td>
<td>Sophomore</td>
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<td>Tuoyo Eresanara</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Freshman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steven Farra</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
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<td>Michael Kincaid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackson Korinek</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Lamont</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Freshman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samya Lepko</td>
<td>Biochemistry</td>
<td>Freshman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashlynn Martz</td>
<td>Political Science &amp; Global Affairs</td>
<td>Freshman</td>
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<td>Eric Maus</td>
<td>Finance</td>
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<td>Evan Moore</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cyber Security</td>
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<td>Brianna Wing</td>
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<td>Priscilla Wu</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Zarzar Lee</td>
<td>Finance</td>
<td>Junior</td>
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Melina Acosta Conducts Depression Research with Dr. Christopher Beevers ('95)
-by Nicole Duff

Honors student connects with Honors program alumnus

This summer, an Honors College student had the remarkable opportunity to collaborate with a nationally renowned researcher, who also happens to be an alumnus of the UTSA Honors program.

Melina Acosta teamed up with Dr. Christopher Beevers ('95), professor and director of the Institute for Mental Health Research at UT-Austin to study cognitive bases of depression during the Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) program.

The SURE program is a summer internship program open to undergraduate psychology majors from Texas colleges and universities. Students conduct research under the guidance of a UT-Austin faculty member for a two-month period and receive a $2,500 stipend. Those who live outside of Travis County also receive travel reimbursements of up to $250 and room and board.

Acosta, a trainee in the UTSA Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (RISE) program attended the SURE program to fulfill RISE’s extramural summer research experience requirements. She credits the Honors College with connecting her to the SURE program.

“I wouldn’t have worked with Dr. Beevers this summer, nor would I be composing an undergraduate thesis now, if it weren’t for the encouraging faculty and staff in the Honors College,” Acosta revealed. “The Honors College has enabled me to explore my field in greater depth by conducting research.”

Acosta tested the persistency of individuals suffering from depression to gain insight into whether their thoughts affect how they handle distressing situations. The research provided Acosta with valuable information and ultimately helped her consider ways to help sufferers of depression to alter their negative thoughts.

“I developed a research proposal that would examine the link between cognitive biases and distress tolerance in major depressive disorder,” Acosta shared. “Cognitive biases include attention biases and interpretation biases, which can interfere with depressed individuals’ ability to block out negative information and subsequently increase their tendency to interpret incoming stimuli negatively, while distress tolerance is the ability to withstand psychological distress. My proposal involves comparing the performance of depressed and non-depressed individuals on behavioral measures of cognitive biases and distress tolerance and looking at the relationship between the variables.”

For Acosta, working under Dr. Beevers’ supervision was memorable for many reasons. Dr. Beevers, whose main interests include the treatment of major unipolar depression, wrote his own honors thesis, Depression and the Paradoxical Effects of Thought Suppression, with the late chair of the UTSA Department of Psychology, Dr. Richard Wenzlaff.

A distinguished researcher, Dr. Beevers has received the President’s New Researcher Award from the Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapy and was a Beck Institute Scholar at the Beck Institute for Cognitive Therapy and Research.

“I feel so fortunate to have worked with a top-notch researcher like Dr. Beevers,” Acosta said. “Working with Dr. Beevers to help understand the cognitive bases of depression was a great learning opportunity and change of pace. He provided excellent feedback and cleared up the questions and concerns I brought to him.”
As the founder and president of the UTSA Chapter of Active Minds, an organization which seeks to raise awareness of and eliminate the stigma attached to mental health, Acosta found her research experience with Dr. Beevers to be particularly meaningful, as it explored a topic which hits close to home: depression. After experiencing the tragic loss of her father to suicide in November 2013, Acosta has been devoted to learning more about mental health.

Although initially she felt dejected after this loss, Acosta decided to channel her energy into providing assistance to others affected by mental illness and suicide. She formed the UTSA chapter of Active Minds and began conducting research on depression. She has also been instrumental in helping devise suicide prevention measures with Dr. Augusting Osman at UTSA.

Working alongside Acosta and observing her commitment to research, Dr. Beevers quickly realized that Acosta had a genuine passion for her topic.

“Melina is a very bright and hardworking student who had a nice intellectual curiosity,” Dr. Beevers shared. “She did the project out of genuine interest, like she really wanted to know more, rather than merely going through the motions. If she continues in the field, this is a nice trait for her, as it is a predictor of success.”

Acosta hopes to earn a Ph.D. in clinical psychology and become a mentor, teacher and researcher. She also plans to continue her work to eliminate the stigma attached to mental health issues. She is confident that her experience this past summer will be pivotal in her future success.

“It was really inspiring to be among such bright minds. This summer provided me with an invaluable research experience and lasting connections that will benefit me as I move on to graduate school.”

For more information on Summer Research Opportunity (SROP) Programs, check out our SROP newsletter at: [http://honors.utsa.edu/students/newsletters/2015-December-SROP.pdf](http://honors.utsa.edu/students/newsletters/2015-December-SROP.pdf)
Raul Membreno (senior, Biology) was selected as a recipient of the HENAAC Great Minds in STEM Scholarship for 2015.

Anisha Guda (sophomore, Biology) received a small grant of $445 from the Community Service Learning Program at the UT Health Science Center to support her project, Building a Platform to Showcase the Hidden Talents of Patients. Her project will provide unified arts programs to patients within the San Antonio community. She is partnering with University Hospital, Gemini Ink, and local clinics to establish a pilot project. Anisha also has been accepted to present a social impact pitch at Unite For Sight’s 13th Annual Global Health and Innovation Conference at Yale University in April.

Amber Medrano (junior, Public Health) has been selected to participate in the U.S. Army’s Cultural Understanding Program (CULP). As a CULP participant, Amber will travel to Guatemala for a month in summer 2016 to participate in a humanitarian mission.

Aaliyah Smith (sophomore, Management) received a $1,000 Asia Institute Scholarship from the Academy of International Business Southeast to support her study-abroad trip to Japan with the Honors College.

Saifa Pirani (senior, Psychology) took first place in the Social and Behavioral Sciences category for her paper, Reasons Young Adults Give for Not Killing Themselves: Development and Properties of the Reasons for Living Inventory in Young Adults–II (RFL–YA–II), at the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) in October of 2015.

Hailey Do (senior, Accounting) has been offered an accounting internship with ArchPoint Consulting.

Annie Quillian (sophomore, Undeclared) was accepted into the School of Nursing at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston for spring 2016.

Two UTSA Honors students won District 5840 Rotary Global Education Grants to study abroad in 2016-17. The Rotary Global Education Grant provides recipients with $30,000 to study for a year in one of six Rotary focus areas. Paola Martinez (Public Health, ’15) will pursue a Master’s degree in epidemiology at La Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, where she will focus on maternal and child health and pursue a field experience concentration. Ghada Ghannam’s (senior, Political Science/English) Rotary focus area is conflict resolution. Ghada will pursue a specialized graduate diploma in forced migration and refugee studies at the American University in Cairo.
Pavela Bambekova (senior, Biology) was selected to receive the 2015 Ed Whitacre Leadership Scholarship through the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. Pavi, who will receive $5,000 in spring 2016 and $5,000 in 2016-17, was honored at the San Antonio Chamber of Commerce Gala on Saturday, December 5th.

Chrissa Kozaki (senior, Finance) has been offered and has accepted a position in the credit risk management and advisory division at Goldman Sachs in Salt Lake City, UT. She will start there after her graduation this coming May.

Farhan Ahmad (junior, Biology) and Kavina Patel (junior, Biology) have been accepted into the Clinton Global Initiative University 2016, which will take place at the University of California at Berkeley in the San Francisco Bay Area on April 1-3, 2016.

Jason Guiliany (senior, Physics) has had two articles published in the last six months. He was first author on an article entitled, “Development and Characterization or Carbon Based Electrodes from Pyrolyzed Paper for Biosensing Applications,” which appeared in the Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry and which he wrote with Dr. Carlos Garcia, formerly of UTSA’s Department of Chemistry and now with Clemson University, and several others. He was third author on an article (also with Dr. Garcia) entitled, “Synthesis of CuNP-modified Carbon Electrodes Obtained by Pyrolysis of Paper,” published in Sensors and Actuators B: Chemical.

Sara Dibrell (sophomore, Biochemistry), Travis Kotzur (sophomore, Biomedical Engineering), Cory Nguyen (sophomore, Biology), and America Ruiz (junior, Biology) have been selected to represent UTSA in the 2016 Barry Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education competition. If selected to receive this prestigious national scholarship, they will receive a scholarship of up to $7,500 per year for up to two years. The Barry Goldwater Scholarship Program was created to encourage outstanding students to pursue research careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, or engineering and to foster excellence in those fields. Interested students can learn more about the Goldwater Scholarship at: https://goldwater.scholarsapply.org/yybull.php.

Pavela Bambekova (senior, Biology) won first place in the Honors College “Awakening the Eye” Photo Contest with her photo, Two Views, Same Perspective (pictured right). To view the photos by the other winners, please visit the Honors website: http://honors.utsa.edu/photocontest/results.php.
Seven Honors students were among 11 students who received awards through the Alvarez Special Opportunities Fund in fall 2015. These students and the events for which they won funding are:

- **Pavela Bambekova** (senior, Biology), Archer Fellowship in Washington, D.C.
- **Chirag Buch** (senior, Biology), Archer Fellowship in Washington, D.C.
- **Andre Cleaver** (senior, Biomedical Engineering), 2015 International Conference on the Lens (ICL) in Kailua-Kona, HI
- **Zachary Dunn** (Finance, '15), Archer Fellowship in Washington, D.C.
- **Reem Farra** (senior, Biology), Harvard Arab Weekend Conference in Cambridge, MA
- **Frank Garcia** (sophomore, Mechanical Engineering), Defense Innovation Technology Acceleration Challenge Convention in Austin, TX
- **Anisha Guda** (junior, Biology), 2015 International Conference on the Lens (ICL) in Kailua-Kona, HI

Sonie Johnson (senior, English) won the 2015 McNair Scholars Program “Least Likely to See the Sun” Award, which goes to the McNair Scholar who is perceived as the hardest working student.

Eight students received scholarships to attend the Honors College Study Abroad Summer Program to Japan for summer 2016. **Hailey Do** (senior, Mathematics & Accounting), **Sara Knowles** (senior, Accounting), **Brandie Moser** (junior, Economics), and **Aaliyah Smith** (sophomore, Management) all received COBi scholarships, and **Angela Castillo** (junior, Biochemistry), **Oscar Nila** (senior, Electrical Engineering), **Cynthia Rodriguez** (freshman, Biology), and **Charleston West** (senior, Biology) all received Honors College Scholarships.

Honors College advisor **Shun Barrientez** (pictured left) received the Newcomer Advisor Award at the All-Advisor Annual Meeting in December.
Fall 2015 Graduates

BUSINESS HONORS GRADUATES

Thanya Campuzano
B.B.A. in Marketing
*cum laude*

Bethany Rose Hoecker
B.B.A. in Accounting
Master of Accountancy
*magna cum laude*

Lance Paul Kimbro
B.B.A. in Entrepreneurship
*cum laude* with a minor in Legal Studies

Jennifer S. Marvin
B.B.A. in Information Systems
*summa cum laude*

Bryan P. Morgan, Jr.
B.B.A. in Accounting
Master of Accountancy
*cum laude*

Chandler Sutton Ogden
B.B.A. Finance
*summa cum laude*
with a minor in Management Science
with International Distinction

Tingna Xu
B.B.A. in Accounting

GENERAL HONORS GRADUATES

Ariel Angeles
B.A. in Art
*cum laude*
with a minor in Computer Science
and International Distinction

Evelyn Lizette Argueta
B.S. in Public Health
*magna cum laude*
with a minor in Sociology
and International Distinction

Emily Blakeslee
B.A. in Psychology
*cum laude*

Nicole Nikeeta Duff
B.A. in English
*summa cum laude*

Christopher Gannon
B.B.A. in Management
*cum laude* with Business Honors

Amanda Lamberson
B.S. in Biology
*cum laude*

Merridee Justice Lefner
B.S. in Biology

My-Loan Luu
B.S. in Biology

Enrica Marteki Martey
B.A. in Communication
with a minor in Legal Studies

Robin Paré-Tomai
B.S. in Environmental Science

Salvador A. Soto III
B.B.A. in Marketing
B.B.A in Sport, Event and Tourism Management
with Business Honors
and International Distinction

Caroline Trejo
B.A. in English
*cum laude*
with International Distinction

Glenda Marie Trevino
B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies
*magna cum laude*

LEADERSHIP HONORS GRADUATES

Christopher Stewart
B.P.A. in Public Administration
Fall 2015 Graduates

HIGHEST HONORS GRADUATES

Xabier Basañez  
B.S. in Biomedical Engineering  
*summa cum laude* with a minor Chemistry  
with International Distinction  
“Non-Destructive *Ex Vivo* Tissue Mechanics of the Porcine Aorta: A Feasibility Study”  
with Dr. Ender Finol, Department of Biomedical Engineering

Jennifer Elizabeth Flores  
B.S. in Biology  
with a minor in Chemistry  
with International Distinction  
“The Interaction of Giberellin and Jasmonic Acid in Auxin Mutants of *Arabidopsis thaliana*”  
with Dr. Valerie Sponsel, Department of Biology

Jessica Burch  
B.S. in Chemistry  
*cum laude*  
“Synthesis of O-bromilated Perylenes and Perylene Diimides”  
with Dr. George Negrete, Department of Chemistry

Danielle Gordon  
B.A. in Psychology  
*summa cum laude* with a minor in Community Health  
“Development of the Intention to Use Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Scale for HIV Prevention among Men Who Have Sex with Men”  
with Dr. Phillip W. Schnarrs, Department of Sociology

Alexis Dennise Catalá  
B.S. in Physics  
B.S. in Biology  
with International Distinction  
“Development of Polymeric Nanoparticles for On-Demand Laser Induced Drug Delivery for Treatment of Ocular Disease States”  
with Dr. Kelly Nash, Department of Physics

Tawanda S. Kamucheka  
B.S. in Biology  
*magna cum laude*  
“Protective Immune Responses to *Cryptococcus Neoformans*”  
with Dr. Floyd Wormley, Department of Biology

Raphael Costa  
B.S. in Computer Science  
*cum laude* with International Distinction  
“Usability and Co-Presence in a Virtual Reality Environment”  
with Dr. John Quarles, Department of Computer Science

Christopher Loney Kennedy  
B.S. in Biochemistry  
*cum laude*  
“PEGylation of Bacterioferritin, a Protein Scaffold for Delivery of Toxic Iron to Cancer Cells”  
with Dr. Donald Kurtz, Jr., Department of Chemistry

Zachary P. Dunn  
B.B.A. in Finance  
*magna cum laude* with a minor in Legal Studies  
with Leadership and Business Honors  
“The Effect of Political Outcomes across the United States on Income Inequality”  
with Dr. John Wald, Department of Finance

Paola Jasmin Martinez  
B.S. in Public Health  
*magna cum laude*  
“Applying a Positive Deviance Approach to Identify Childhood Obesity Strategies among Mexican American Families”  
with Dr. Erica Sosa, Department of Health & Kinesiology

Danequa Flemon  
B.A. in Psychology  
B.A. in Sociology  
*cum laude*  
“The Happiness of Military Spouses”  
with Dr. Aida Ramos-Wada, Department of Sociology

Nicole Whitmore  
B.A. in Anthropology  
*magna cum laude* with International Distinction  
“A Survey of Sex-Based and Individual Differences in Spatial Relations and Social Interactions in *Alouatta Palliata*”  
with Dr. Thad Bartlett, Department of Anthropology

Congratulations!
HON 3253.01F  
Honors Seminar: The Making of Modern Science  
Dr. Colleen Witt  
CRN: 35643  
MTWRF 10:00-11:55 am

The 20th century saw the most revolutionary developments in all of the history of science. Newton’s world of absolute space and time was replaced with the radical new universe of Einstein and his mind-bending theory of relativity. Just as the scientific community was collectively beginning to wrap its head around these new concepts of space and time, the quantum revolution exploded onto the scene. The lessons of these golden years of physics challenged (and continue to challenge) our most fundamental assumptions of empirical science and the very nature of reality. This revolution was not restricted to physics; the 20th century also saw enormous leaps in the life sciences. Darwin’s theory was revised and re-packaged into the ‘Modern Synthesis,’ which served as the working paradigm for decades. And while at mid-century the identity, much less the structure, of inheritable material was unknown, just a few decades later, DNA had been discovered, its genetic code had been cracked, and its mysteries unraveled. By the end of the century, the stage was set for an era that would give us the Human Genome Project and the ability to engineer the first ‘life forms’ in a lab.

This course will cover these remarkable developments in 20th century science. In addition to the science behind them, we will explore the social, ethical, and philosophical issues they raise. Although we will make use of primary sources, a scientific background will not be needed for this course. Events and developments will be presented for the general college student while allowing more in-depth analysis into the scientific content, if desired. Therefore, this course is ideal for the non-science major who seeks to develop a better understanding of science in general, while exploring an unprecedented century of discovery. It is also an exceptional offering for the science major who wishes to delve into the history and philosophical implications of modern science. **This course can be used to meet upper-division elective requirements in History for students pursuing a major or minor in History.**

HON 3252.02F  
Honors Seminar: Spanish for Health Care Professionals  
Dr. Norma Martinez Rogers  
CRN: 35642  
TR (Time TBD)

This course is designed to assist pre-professional students in providing patient-centered care for Spanish-speaking patients and families. This course will focus on the verbal elements of Spanish pronunciation, grammar, and terminology to assist interprofessional students in health care communication and interventions with Spanish-speaking patients and families.

HON 3233.02S  
Honors Seminar: Graphic Novels  
Dr. Paul Ardoin  
CRN: 35644  
MTWRF 9:15-10:45 am

This course is an intensive study of selected graphic novels, comics, and other experiments with sequential art. We will take the popular form of comics seriously as an artifact worthy of research and will investigate whether there is such a thing as a literary canon of comics. We will ask whether comic books can be theory or philosophy and will pay close attention to word and image, content and form. Authors will include Alison Bechdel, Alan Moore, the Hernandez Brothers, Scott McCloud, and more. **This course can be used as a Category D course in the English major or as an upper-division elective in the English minor.**
HON 3233.03S  
Honors Seminar: The Civil Rights Movement  
Dr. LaGuana Gray  
CRN: 35645  
MTWRF 11:00 am-12:30 pm  

This course is an examination of the struggle for civil rights in the United States from the conclusion of the Civil War to the present. Particular attention will be paid to the movement by black southerners for equal rights. We will also explore the ways in which the people of the United States collectively remember the movement. This class combines methods from history, film studies, and American Studies. This course can be used as an upper-division elective in American history in the major or minor in History. Students should talk to their advisor if they wish to use the course to meet requirements in the major or minor in American Studies major or the minor in African American Studies.

HON 3233.04S  
Honors Seminar: Multiethnic Science Fiction Literature & Film  
Dr. Ben Olguin  
CRN: 34726  
MTWRF 2:30-4:00 pm  

This course in science fiction film and literature by a wide range of author and filmmakers explores the art and politics of several intersecting “Sci-Fi” categories and sub-genres—Apocalyptic/Dystopian, Biopunk, Space Opera, Time Travel, Cyberpunk, Cholo Fantasy, and more—in addition to select Fantasy and Horror genres. The course will pay particular attention to the dystopian and utopian discourses that undergird these literary and cinematic texts. The course begins with a discussion of foundational elements of science fiction film and literature as a prelude to incisive explorations of multiethnic interventions into science fiction, fantasy, and horror discourses on nationalism and androcentrism as well as key presumptions in science and ethics. Several inquiries guide the course content: What is the nature of race, humanity, and organic life? How has technology transformed theories of humanity? How do imaginative renderings of intergalactic ontologies (theories of being) impact our understanding of terrestrial and extra-terrestrial possibilities? What are the philosophical and political subtexts of these Sci Fi, Fantasy, and Horror genres, and how do they relate to our present condition and future options?

The required primary texts include well-known as well as unique niche and underground short stories, novels, poetry, and films. Select secondary critical and theoretical texts will complement the readings and screenings. The course is designed as a seminar that meets everyday for a five week summer session. There are weekly exams and quizzes, in addition to short weekly reader response essays, and a short research paper produced in sequential precursor assignments. This course can be used as a Category C course in the English major or as an upper-division elective in American literature in the English minor.
SAVE THE DATE!

3nd Annual

April 21th, 2016

UTSA Undergraduate Research & Creative Inquiry Showcase

This campus-wide event will highlight undergraduate research, creative endeavors, and other scholarly activities from all areas of academic inquiry.

10am—2pm
UTSA Convocation Center

See below for the link to apply.

Office of Undergraduate Research
Info/registration at http://research.utsa.edu/academic-research/undergraduate/
UTSA undergraduate students can connect to >10,000 research conferences, journals, internships, scholarships, and more.

It is free, easy to use, & flexible to your interests.

Start elevating your academic & professional development today!

GO TO: http://research.utsa.edu/academic-research/undergraduate/opportunities/
National Institutes of Health
Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Application Deadline: March 14, 2016

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Undergraduate Scholarship Program (UGSP) offers competitive scholarships to students from disadvantaged backgrounds who are committed to careers in biomedical, behavioral, and social science health-related research.

The NIH UGSP offers scholarship support of up to $20,000 per academic year, paid research training at the NIH during the summer, and paid employment and training at the NIH after graduation.

To be eligible to apply, students must:
- be a U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent resident
- be enrolled full-time
- have a GPA of 3.3 or higher
- and demonstrate “exceptional financial need”

To access the application or to learn more about the NIH UGSP, please visit: https://www.training.nih.gov/programs/ugsp.
Caribbean Literature & Culture

A 4-week course taught in San Antonio (2 weeks), Panama (1 week), and Jamaica (1 week), which will explore how the constructions of race, gender, class, sexuality, and The Enslaved influence the literatures, theories, folklore, and cultural ways of the Hispanophone and Anglophone Caribbean.

Please contact Dr. Kinitra D. Brooks (kinitra.brooks@utsa.edu) or Dr. Marco Cervantes for more information.
COLFA Semester in Urbino, Italy

Information Sessions:
January 27, 2016 - 4:00 pm, MB 2.314
September 16, 2016 - 4:00 pm, MB 2.314

Focus: History
- Italian History through Film
- Hunger & Abundance: Italian Food & Culture
- Renaissance Art History
- Culture & History of Italy
- Italian Language

SPRING 2016: Jan. 27-Apr. 29, 2016
Focus: Literature
- Dante, Petrarch, & Boccaccio’s Influence on English Literature
- Shakespeare’s England and Italy
- Renaissance Art History
- Culture & History of Italy
- Italian Language

EXTENDED TRIPS
- Verona & Venice
- Rome
- Florence & Siena

DAY TRIPS
- Mountain hikes
- Castles & towns
- Adriatic coast

$8,000 PROGRAM FEE INCLUDES
- Private room at University of Urbino
- Breakfast (daily)
- 10 meals a week, lunch and dinner (can be “banked”)
- Trips and special events

PROGRAM FEE DOES NOT INCLUDE
- UTSA tuition (most fees waived)
- Transportation to and from Italy

For questions about the program, please contact Dr. Bridget Drinka (bridget.drinka@utsa.edu), or visit the web at: http://www.colfa.utsa.edu/urbino/.
You have the idea, we have the expertise.

LET’S CONNECT!

Applications Open January 11th! SPACE IS LIMITED, APPLY NOW!
Early Admission Deadline - February 29, 2016
Final Deadline - March 14, 2016
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY VISIT: www.ic2.utexas.edu/sein

The University of Texas System’s Entrepreneurship Network and the University of Texas at Austin invite you to become a leader in the entrepreneurship community with training from world-class educators and entrepreneurs. The Student Entrepreneurship Fellowship (SEF) program is an intensive 5-week summer resident opportunity in Austin, TX for 20 two-person student teams from across the UT System to actively explore their entrepreneurial ideas in a collaborative, guided environment. Fellows will utilize evidence-based entrepreneurship methodologies to test their hypothesized business concept for critical product-market fit.

Additional scholarship opportunities may be offered to entrepreneurial teams with a focus on the following fields:

- EDUCATION & LITERACY
- NATIONAL SECURITY
- HEALTH CARE

Email your questions to SEF@ic2.utexas.edu

The Student Entrepreneurship Fellowship is sponsored by the University of Texas System’s Entrepreneurship Network for UT System Students. It is offered by the University of Texas at Austin and implemented through its IC² Institute.
The UTSA Institute for Law and Public Affairs (ILPA) will conduct its annual Summer Law School Preparation Academy (SLSPA), beginning Tuesday, May 31, 2016. The SLSPA encompasses 12 credit hours of coursework in two phases specifically designed to prepare students for the rigors of law school and the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) by emphasizing analytical thinking, critical reasoning, and quality writing skills. Graduates of the SLSPA have been admitted to over 150 different law schools.

The pre-law curriculum is supplemented by twice-weekly plenary sessions featuring law professors, admissions professionals, lawyers, and judges to replicate the law school environment, give insight into the law school admissions process, and share their experiences as former law students and current legal professionals. SLSPA students complete the coursework in two phases. SLSPA Phase I runs from May 31 to July 7 and Phase II from July 8 to August 13, 2016. SLSPA students enroll in Phase I after the sophomore year and Phase II after the junior year or complete both phases over one summer, before their senior year. All Phase II students will take a case-law course and an LSAT preparation course. These 12 credit hours count towards the student’s GPA and legal studies minor and can transfer to most accredited universities.

Students who successfully complete both Phases I and II earn the ILPA’s Certificate in Legal Reasoning. To apply, students should submit the application form, personal statement, resume, and letter(s) of recommendation.

UTSA SLSPA application available at:

Early admission application deadline: March 1, 2016
Regular admission application deadline: April 1, 2016

The ILPA also provides prelaw advice to help students be prepared for law school and the application process. We do not replace the role of the student’s college advisor.

www.utsa.edu/ilpa/

For more information, contact us at ILPA@utsa.edu, by phone at (210) 458-2990, or fax at (210) 458-2993.
Submission deadline: May 2016

Juniors and seniors, as well as 2015 graduates, are eligible to submit papers to the 2016 Undergraduate Awards. Papers from all academic disciplines are welcome.

Each student may submit up to three different papers into three different categories. Winners will be published in the internationally circulated Undergraduate Journal and will also be brought to Dublin, Ireland for a 3-day summit where they will receive their medals and meet with other high-potential scholars.

To register, submit work, or find more information about the Undergraduate Awards, please visit the web at: http://www.undergraduateawards.com/.
SPRING 2016 DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY

1 Alvarez Special Opportunities Fund Deadline
2 Leadership Challenge Luncheon, 11:45 am-12:45 pm, Honors College Conference Room (MS 4.01.76)
7 Pancake Breakfast, 10:30 am, Alvarez Hall Community Room
15 Leadership Challenge Luncheon, 12:00-1:00 pm, Honors College Conference Room (MS 4.01.76)
“Black Women and Stress,” Dr. Roxanne Donovan, 11:00 am-12:15 pm, MH 2.02.10
Archer Fellowship Application Due
International Education Fund Scholarship Deadline (for summer 2016)
19 Honors Bowling Night, 7:00-9:00 pm, University Bowl
23 Great Conversation!, 5:00-9:00 pm, Institute of Texan Cultures
29 Summer Registration Opens, 7:00 am

MARCH

1 Keynote Address: “1986 and Beyond: 30 Years of Empowerment through Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies,” 2:30-3:45 pm, Retama Room (UC 2.02.02)
5 UTSA Diploma Dash, 8:00 am, Convocation Center
6 Pancake Breakfast, 10:30 am, Alvarez Hall Community Room
8 Board Game Night, 7:00-9:00 pm, Mesquite Room (UC 2.01.24)
10 Women’s History Month Panel Discussion, Shannon Frystak, LaGuana Gray, and Shekira Dennis, 10:00 am, Bexar Room (HUC 1.102)
11 Office of Undergraduate Research Scholarship Summer Deadline
14-19 Spring Break, University Closed
15 International Education Fund Scholarship Deadline (for fall 2016)
21 Credit/No Credit Option Deadline
23 Last Day to Drop with an Automatic “W”
23 “Ethel Payne, the ‘First Lady of the Black Press,’” James McGrath Morris, 1:00 pm, MH 3.04.14
25 “Femininity among Women Immigrants from East Africa,” Cymone Fourshey, 11:00 am, MH 2.02.10

APRIL

1 Deadline to Submit Complete Draft of Thesis or Thesis Proposal to Thesis Advisor
Priorirty Registration for Fall 2015 Opens
Office of Undergraduate Research Scholarship Fall Deadline
SLSPA Application Deadline
3 Pancake Breakfast, 10:30 am, Alvarez Hall Community Room
4 GRE Preparation Workshop, 2:00 pm, MB 1.102
6-9 NCUR in Asheville, NC
8 “‘Women Are the Humanizers of the Struggle’: Gender and the Civil Rights Movement,” Dr. Tiyi Morris, 11:00-11:50 am, MH 2.02.10
“Bringing Intersectionality to the American History Classroom (with Black Women’s Autobiographies),” Dr. Tiyi Morris, 1:00-1:50 pm, MH 3.04.14
11 GRE Preparation Workshop, 2:00 pm, MB 1.102
Honors Scholarship & Donor Reception, 4:00 pm, Ballroom 2 (HUC 1.104)
12 “Discovery and Delivery of Bioactive, Health-Protective Compounds in Food,” Dr. Mary Ann Lila, 2:30 pm, Retama Auditorium (UC 2.02.02)
14 Board Game Night, 7:00-9:00 pm, Bexar Room (HUC 1.102)
15 Deadline to Submit Complete Draft of Thesis or Thesis Proposal to Thesis Committee
16 FTK Dance Marathon, 9:00 am-9:00 pm, UTSA Convocation Center
18 GRE Preparation Workshop, 2:00 pm, MB 1.102
20 Leadership Challenge Priority Application Deadline
21 Undergraduate Research & Creative Inquiry Showcase, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Convocation Center
24 Terry Foundation Picnic, 8:00 am-6:00 pm
28 Archer Fellowship Picnic, 4:00 pm, University Room (BB 2.06.04)
30 Last Day of Classes

MAY

1 Pancake Breakfast, 10:30 am, Alvarez Hall Community Room
2-3 Student Study Days: Classes DO NOT Meet
3 Honors College Undergraduate Research Symposium, 1:00-3:30 pm, University Room (BB 2.06.04)
4-10 Final Exams
10 Deadline for Filing Thesis/Thesis Proposal with the Honors College, 5:00 pm
13 Honors Commencement Ceremony, 4:00 pm, UTSA Convocation Center