



## Letter From the Dean: Paying It Forward

by Dean Kimberly Engber

Thank you to Dorothy and Bill Cohen for sharing their vision of a university that sustains a community of lifelong learners. This is the community imagined by faculty from across campus who gathered only about two years ago in a room nestled behind the anthropology exhibits in Neff Hall to talk about and to plan for the future of Honors at Wichita State. They asked first: Why this university? Why now? And, most importantly, what does and what can it mean to be an Honors student at Wichita State? And they ultimately answered with four qualities: it means striving to be intellectual and innovative, professional and transformational.

We thank Dorothy and Bill Cohen for a gift that supports the core of the university by supporting student and faculty development. For the student who wants to study music in Ireland, the student who knows that experience in Africa will lead to better understanding of the conditions facing refugees, the student driven to research causes behind female terrorism, or the student who plans to work in the public sector but who needs to earn money over the summer, this gift will have an immediate impact. The Cohens have chosen to make aspirations a reality for these students; to inspire future students to seek out opportunities, and to support faculty in preparing students with problem-based coursework, critical and creative thinking skills. This gift is also challenge to this university to seek out student potential and nurture it and a challenge to students to serve their community on campus and beyond.

We are challenged to become what nineteenth century writer Ralph Waldo Emerson famously calls the American scholar: "Man thinking, man living and improving his life and that of his fellows by the use of his intellectual powers." These words of Emerson were quoted on this campus in 1963 when then President Emory K. Lindquist gave his speech "The Idea of a University" to announce the establishment of Wichita State University, a new name for the Municipal University in Wichita. A new name signals a new opportunity *and* the continuation of the great idea of the university.



Left to right: Eddie Sandoval, Brae Bigge, Dorothy Cohen, Bill Cohen, Bridget Carroll, and Tracia Banuelos pose during the naming of the Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College.

Picture by WSU Foundation

Thank you to Dr. Elizabeth King for her commitment to this university and for her personal commitment to this gift and a strong partnership with Dorothy and Bill Cohen. Thank you to President Bardo for supporting the future of Honors at this university, to First Lady Deborah Bardo for her work in this community, and to Vice President Vizzini for his belief in student and faculty potential that helped to shape this gift. Thank you to our Emory Lindquist Honors program alumni including Dr. Trish Self, Dr. Elaine Bernstorf, Dr. Eric Sexton, Krissy Archambeau, and Sarah Jane Crespo— who serve the campus as faculty and staff and remind us of the tradition we uphold as we look to the future. There are many faculty and students who have given time, energy, and imagination to ensuring the future of Honors, to teaching over and above assigned courses, to taking courses just because. This gift is in your hands and is a testament to your work. You are challenged to pay it forward.

### Congratulations Graduates

Graduates of the Honors program this year carry on the tradition of WSU Honors begun in 1957 with extraordinary creative talents such as Mary Joan Waid. They upheld the principles of Honors through the many changes of the past four years from a small, determined program to an aspirational, highly visible college. They are our founders who led the way by example. I am proud to know you will represent Wichita State Honors and the Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College in the community beyond the boundaries of Hillside and Oliver.

Looking  
Ahead



### Fall 2015 Induction

Beggs Ballroom

Wednesday, August 26

3:30pm

### First Monthly Meeting

Shocker Hall Multi-Use Room

Wednesday, September 2

4pm

## Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College Graduates Spring 2015

### Elisa Acosta

#### *Aerospace Engineering*

After graduation, I'm going to compete with the Wichita State Rowing Team in Gainesville, GA, for the American Collegiate Rowing Association Regatta. I'll also take a week or two to travel before starting my job at Spirit Aerosystems as a Composites Engineer in Materials and Processes Engineering. Hopefully, I will eventually start working on my MBA or Master of Arts in Teaching.

### Yarizett Azpeitia

#### *Biochemistry - Pre-med*

After graduation, I plan on attaining a Ph.D. in either Cancer Biology or Biochemistry. I will then pursue my dream of becoming a full-time research scientist.

### Lauren Berry

#### *Communication Sciences and Disorders minors in Special Education and Psychology*

After graduation, I plan to begin Wichita State's Speech-Language-Pathology graduate program this fall. I am excited to continue my education here at WSU!

### Tyrone Boswell

#### *Aerospace Engineering minors in Mathematics and Physics*

I am graduating with a Bachelor's of Science in Aerospace Engineering with a double minor in Mathematics and Physics. My plans after graduation are to work for NASA Marshall Space Flight Center as a Spacecraft Propulsion Engineer. I plan to go to graduate school in the future, but I want to get real world experience before doing so. Wichita State University helped me grow and I am glad to see that the university is expanding and succeeding!

### Sarah Carlson

#### *Communications minor in Spanish*

After graduation, I will be exploring Europe with my sister during the month of June. I just accepted a public relations internship for a local company that will lead to a full-time position once I return from my summer travels. Eventually, I hope to move to Oregon and live and work near the coast.

### Emma Crabtree

#### *Psychology minors in Sociology and Spanish*

After graduation, I am joining the Community Psychology Doctoral Program in the Fall of 2015.

### Matthew Darrah

#### *Economics minor in Math*

### Katelyn Doherty

#### *Business Administration, Marketing*

I am planning on pursuing a career in Marketing after graduation. Someday, I would like to be directing marketing activities on a global scale. I am eager to learn more as a professional and possibly attend Graduate school to work towards an MBA.

### Tyler Gillen

#### *Computer Science*

### Jordan Haas

#### *Business Administration, Political Science*

### Allison Holeman

#### *Business Administration*

### Sarah Jack

#### *Biology, Chemistry - Pre-med minor in Political Science*

Next year I will be attending the University of Iowa College of Law in Iowa City, IA on a full tuition scholarship. I plan to pursue a career in patent law.

### Erica Klunder

#### *Psychology*

After graduation, I will get my masters in school counseling at Wichita State.

### Riley Krehbiel

#### *Anthropology Minor in Biology*

### Brianna Long

#### *Chemistry Business*

Next year, I will be attending KU School of Pharmacy.

### Nathan Miller

#### *Management Information Systems minors in Economics and Philosophy*

After graduation, I will be working for Cargill as an IT Business Analyst while tagging along while my wife pursues her Masters of Fine Arts in Theatre.

**Nick Steffes**  
*Marketing  
 minor in Psychology*  
 I plan on graduate school after graduation.

**Rachel Tuck**  
*Forensic Sciences, Criminal Justice,  
 Biology*  
 After finally graduating with Forensic Science, Criminal Justice and Biology degrees I will be pursuing forensic dentistry.

**Jacqueline Weber**  
*Biology  
 minors in Chemistry, French,  
 Psychology*

**Chandler Williams**  
*Communications, Spanish  
 minor in Music*  
 After graduating, I will be getting my masters in communication at Wichita State University. I am also getting married in September.

**Corissa Wright**  
*Communication Sciences and  
 Disorders, English Language  
 Literature  
 Minor in French*

**Maria Valverde**  
*Bioengineering, Finance*

Our gratitude to Dorothy and Bill Cohen for recognizing the Honors College's efforts in *joining knowledge and innovation to grow visionaries.*

**The Vision: A Review of URCAF by Stephanie Rogers**

On April 7, 2015, 35 undergraduate students from across five academic colleges at WSU set up posters, prepared PowerPoint presentations, and cleared their throats for a day of sharing the results of their faculty-mentored undergraduate inquiries with faculty, staff, administrators and peers at the Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities Forum (URCAF).

Every year, a group of faculty in the Undergraduate Research Creative Activities' faculty senate host URCAF in the spring, and it grows each year. Students submit posters, oral and performance presentations under the categories of Natural Sciences and Engineering, Social and Behavioral Sciences, or Creative Activity and Performance. Faculty judges circulate the poster room and listen to competitive oral presentations to determine winners based on quality of scholarship and presentation. Winners received cash prizes.

Lauren Berry, an Honors College senior in the department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (CSD),



Dr. Elaine Bernstorf and Lauren Berry

Picture by Chelsea Nemeth

*...continues on page 4*

**Note From the Editor**

In recognition of her tireless efforts and unrelenting vision for Honors students, the Honors College Undergraduate Fellows respectfully dedicate the Cohen Honors College library to Dean Kimberly Engber.

Thank you for believing in us.

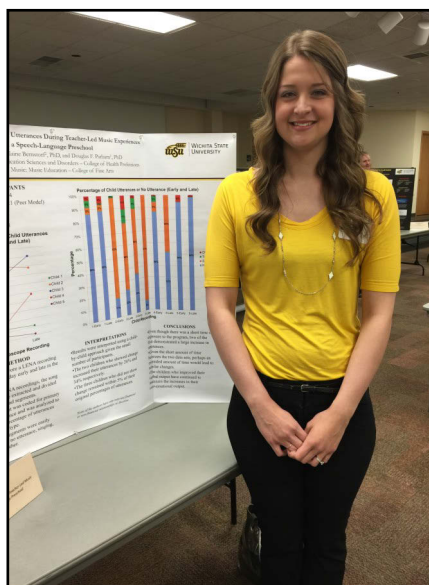
“Unscrew the locks from the doors!  
 Unscrew the doors themselves from their jambs!”

— Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*



Dean Kimberly Engber

Picture by WSU Foundation



Lauren Berry

Picture by Elaine Bernstorf

### *Review of URCAF continued from page 3*

completed a project for her department Honors track under the mentorship of Dr. Douglas Parham in CSD and Dr. Elaine Bernstorf in the Department of Music Education.

Berry measured differences in speech output when students are exposed to various preschool music curricula; her project was titled, “Characteristics of Child Utterances During Teacher-Led Music Experiences in a Speech-Language Preschool.”

Berry’s project led her to present at URCAF. Her experience with the forum was a great way to end her project. “At URCAF, I’m able to interact with faculty who normally wouldn’t see the project, and it’s a good way for me to learn about what else is going on in undergraduate research across campus,” Berry said.

Furthermore, Berry’s project was investigated a subject that crossed two different disciplines – Speech-Language Pathology and Music Education. This interdisciplinary experience exemplified the types of questions that can be asked when Honors students are able to inquire outside of their own discipline and reach new conclusions that have not yet been discovered. Berry’s results could open new doors to investigating best practices in speech-language preschools across the state.

Look out, fellow scholars, researchers, and performers, for next year’s URCAF submission call in early- to mid-March! If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity or about the research experiences open to undergraduates, email [undergraduateresearch@wichita.edu](mailto:undergraduateresearch@wichita.edu).

## Our Roots: Mary Joan Waid

This year, the Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College celebrates its inception year. In 1957, the Honors Program at the then Municipal University of Wichita offered its first Honors class. One of the founding members of the Honors Program was Mary Joan Dawson Waid.

Currently, Waid works as a visual artist in Vermont and New York City. In the past, she has worked in art galleries and as an unpaid community organizer, but her most significant work was as an artist and as a wife and mother. “I was married at 20,” Waid says, “had first son at 21 and second son at 24. Early on those circumstances guided my life into a ‘responsible’ path. While college friends went the way of hippies on the West Coast, my husband I were in New York, living hand to mouth, he pursuing a singing career and working part-time, me a stay at home mom/wife, painter and manager of limited finances.”

Waid says of her work as an artist, “Art has been a guiding force in my life since my college days. Not only has art allowed me to explore and interact with the world around me, it gave me a way to express my innermost thoughts nonverbally. The challenges and focus change from time to time but exploring the world still engages me to this day. My pastels and paintings are a concrete record of that engagement.”

According to Waid, one of the initial goals of the Honors Program was interdisciplinary education. “It was a different kind of education. It was a way of using the liberal arts college to unify

people from different fields.” The first Honors class was by invitation only. There were about 20 students who gathered together to take a seminar course. Waid says, “I think it’s a really excellent way to go because the students really had a lot of input during class. I thought that the seminar was a great way to break the ice with all the students. When the teacher is standing in front and delivering a lecture, then the students aren’t participating in such an active way.”

The Honors Program at that time did not have a wide variety of activities or student groups. Occasionally, professors would have students in their home for casual lectures. Waid says, “The professors chosen to guide the new program were finding their way. I was outside the development process. It appears in hindsight the formal structure was being explored both inside and outside of the classroom. It seemed that everything that happened within our student group happened spontaneously. The Honors group really got behind student government elections one year. In that instance, the action was all student initiated without any superimposed structure” says Waid.

The Cohen Honors College has come far from that first seminar class in 1957, but the things that Waid treasures about her time in the program still hold true today. She says, “In retrospect, I most appreciate the interaction with intelligent and articulate students from many diverse colleges—a very special counterpoint to the tunnel vision in my chosen field.”

The Dorothy and Bill Cohen Honors College is located in Shocker Hall on Wichita State University’s main campus. Originally inspired by the 1963-1968 President of WSU and Rhodes Scholar, Emory Kemper Lindquist’s commitment to others and the common good, Honors emphasizes high achievement, and innovative problem-solving to create lifelong, passionate learners.

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