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2014

Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College Annual Report 2013-1014

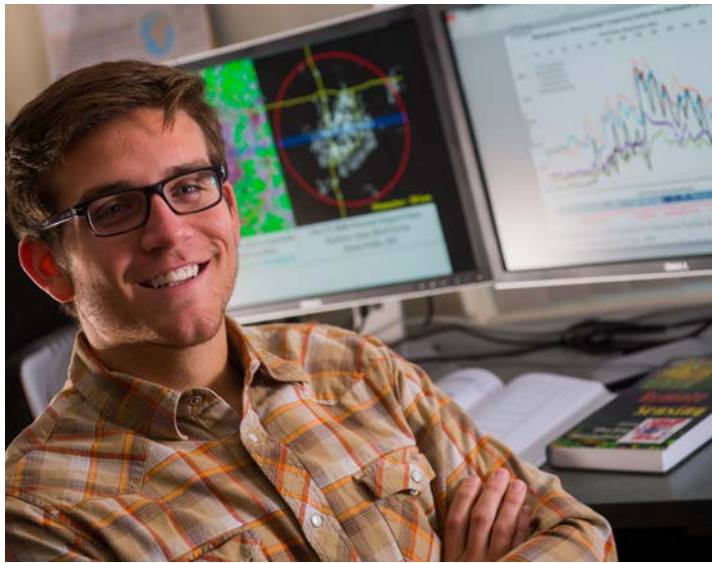
Timothy J. Nichols
South Dakota State University

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VAN D. AND BARBARA B. FISHBACK HONORS COLLEGE

South Dakota State University
Annual Report 2013-2014





The Honors College at South Dakota State University was named in honor of benefactors Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback of Brookings during a beautiful celebration in September, 2013.

The college's mission is to provide talented, motivated students with a personalized, engaging, distinctive academic and enrichment educational experience that positions them for success as lifelong learners and leaders. Our vision: Through the quality and diversity of its students, faculty, curricular and programs, the college is a positive, dynamic, innovative, 'value added' presence in the South Dakota State University community. We attract, retain, and provide extraordinary educational experiences to be the best and brightest students of the region.

The 2013-2014 academic year, our first as a named college, has been one of historic growth, change and development. This annual report summarizes the college's key achievements, tells some of the Fishback Honors College story, and looks to the future, aware of our challenges, but affirmed in our commitment to meet them. We are and will continue to be an engine of opportunity to elevate, enrich, and enliven the student experience at South Dakota State University.



South Dakota
State University

Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback
Honors College

Honors Hall 119, Box 2705
South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD 57007
Phone: 605-688-5268

June 5, 2014

Dear Friends:

Publishing the first Annual Report for the Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College at South Dakota State University is cause for celebration!

We celebrate because of the transformative leadership and generosity of the Fishback family, and an expanding list of donors to the Fishback Honors College. Their contributions have fueled our growth and made our aspirations a reality.

We celebrate because of the transformative work of our Honors faculty whose above-and-beyond efforts have engaged our students' minds, hands, and hearts. Whether developing a new colloquium on *The Work of Creativity*, a course on *Revitalizing Intellectual Culture*, mentoring student researchers exploring new cancer treatments, accompanying students in regional and national presentations, or facilitating a life changing course in Honors Speech, our faculty are the best! They are making a difference.

We celebrate the transformation of the Fishback Honors College's facilities and the opening of our beautiful new home in Honors Hall. Again, we are deeply grateful to the generous donors who made this model living/learning community possible. It is a joy to come to work here every day! Indeed, space matters.

We celebrate the collaboration with colleagues on-and-off-campus which has been so critical to our success. Strong university support has brought breadth and depth to the Honors curriculum. Off-campus partnerships have brought meaning to service-learning experiences with local veterans, and, most recently, to an American Indian cultural immersion experience on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, just to name a few examples.

We celebrate because of the transformative impacts the Honors College is having on the lives of our students. In so doing, we celebrate their compelling, meaning-filled student stories. These, too, are stories of transformation, and despite our growing numbers, we celebrate whole-heartedly with each of them, one at a time.

You're invited to join in the transformative work of the Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College—that is to elevate, enrich and enliven the student experience at South Dakota State University. Join the celebration!

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Nichols, Ph.D.
Dean

IMPACT 2018 STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT

STRATEGIC GOAL 1:

Provide academic excellence through quality programs, engaged learners and an innovative teaching and learning environment.

Key accomplishments:

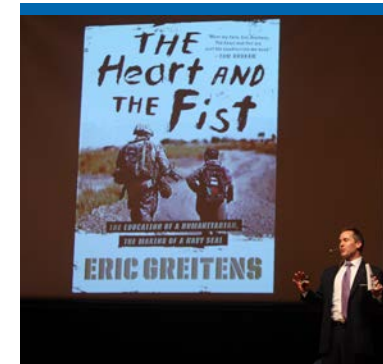
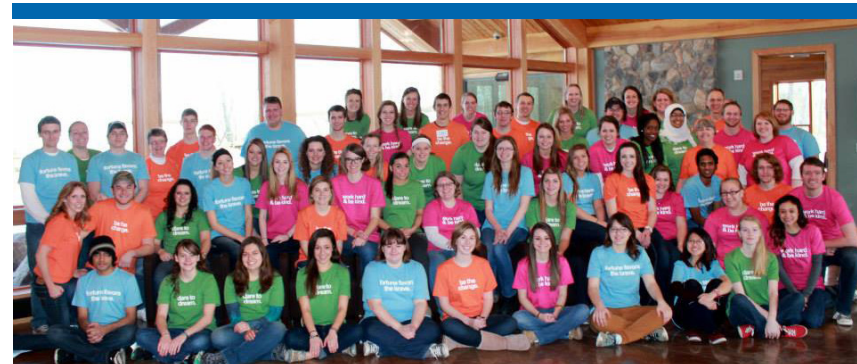
- Honors course enrollment: 793
- Student pursuing graduation with Honors College distinction: 573
- Honors College courses offered: 47. This included eight first time offerings.
- Graduates with Honors College distinction: 51
- Fully furnished and functional Honors classroom
- Opened Honors Hall, SDSU's first residential college, to 95 percent capacity

STRATEGIC GOAL 2:

Generate new knowledge, encourage innovations, promote artistic and creative works that contribute to the public good and result in social, cultural, or economic development for South Dakota, the region, nation, and world.

Key accomplishments:

- Approximately 50 Fishback Honors College students received undergraduate research funding
- More than 100 students exhibited at Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Day
- 43 students and faculty attended and presented at 2014 Upper Midwest Honors Conference at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa.
- 16 students and faculty attended and presented at 2013 National Collegiate Honors Council meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Honors College Student Organization was recognized with the South Dakota Board of Regents Student Organization Award for Academic Excellence.
- Faculty published in *Journal of National Collegiate Honors Council*.



IMPACT 2018
A STRATEGIC VISION FOR
South Dakota State University®

STRATEGIC GOAL 3:

Extend the reach and depth of the university by developing strategic programs and collaborations.

Key accomplishments:

- Strengthened collaboration with academic colleges; developed structured pathway for Honors College students in the College of Nursing.
- Developed Honors advising resources, including major-specific academic guide sheets, and the first *Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College Student Handbook*.
- Successfully implemented campus/community common reading program featuring *The Heart and the Fist* (Greitens, 2011). More than 2000 students and community members participated. In addition, seventh graders at Mickelson Middle School, and a book club at the Brookings Boys and Girls Club read a young reader's edition, *The Warrior's Heart*. The collaboration continued with campus and local veteran's groups, the Brookings Human Rights Committee, the Veteran's Administration Hospital in Sioux Falls, and the Spring 2014 Great Plains Writers Conference: *War, Healing and Coming Home*.
- Led two cohorts of sophomores through LEADSTATE – a targeted leadership development program built around Strengths-Based Leadership and The Social Change Model for Leadership Development. Program components include retreat, small group service projects, and individualized leadership coaching. Partners included Brookings-based service clubs and agencies including United Way, Boys and Girls Club, Rotary, Kiwanis, Optimists, and the Brookings County Youth Mentoring Program.
- Facilitated collaborative American Indian cultural immersion experience with the Center for American Indian Research and Native Studies on the Pine Ridge reservation.

STRATEGIC GOAL 4:

Secure human and fiscal resources to ensure high performance through enhanced financial, management and government systems.

Key accomplishments:

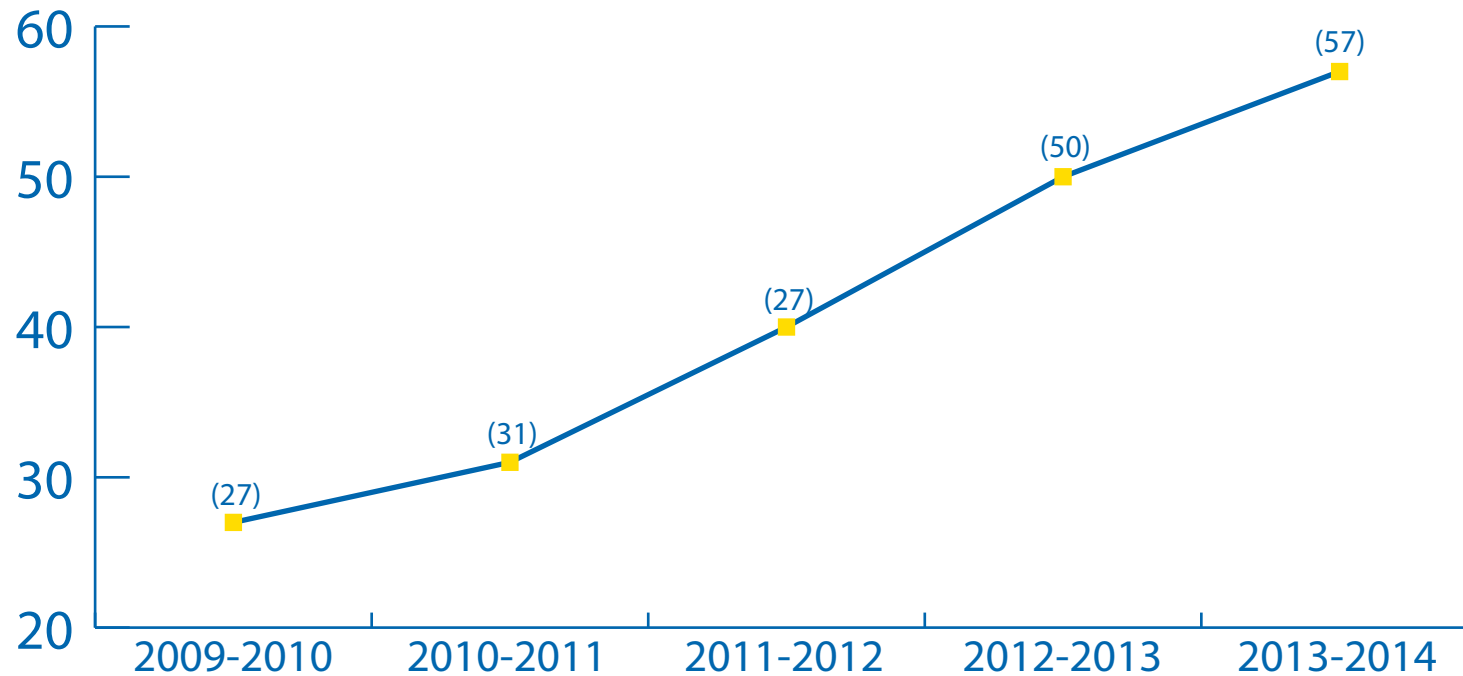
- Secured FTE for first part-time Honors College graduate assistant, filled by SDSU Honors alumni, Hanna Larsen.
- Approximately 20 undergraduate students engaged as undergraduate teaching assistants.
- Successfully concluded \$138,000 *Honors in Agriculture* grant from the United States Department of Agriculture's Higher Education Challenge Grants Program.
- Earned supplemental internal resources through Academic and Scholarly Excellence grants for LEADSTATE, common read, and undergraduate research.
- Secured private gifts in excess of \$400,000 in support of Honors Hall construction, including the following named spaces: Administrative Suite, Dean's Office, Conference Room, Library, and Classroom. Launched Fishback Honors College Medallion sponsorship program (23 sponsorships in 2013-2014).

FISHBACK HONORS COLLEGE BY THE NUMBERS

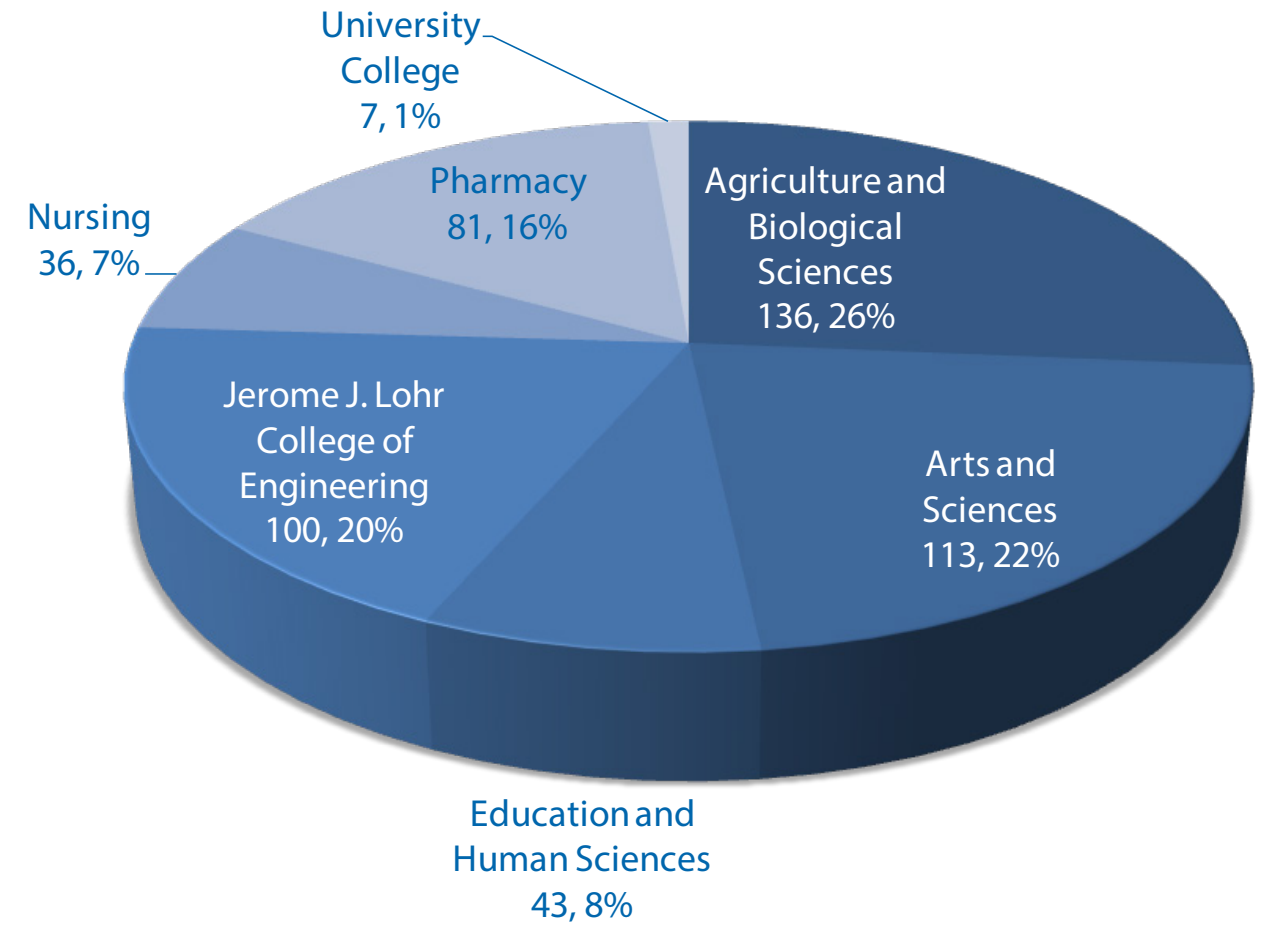
HONORS COURSE ENROLLMENT



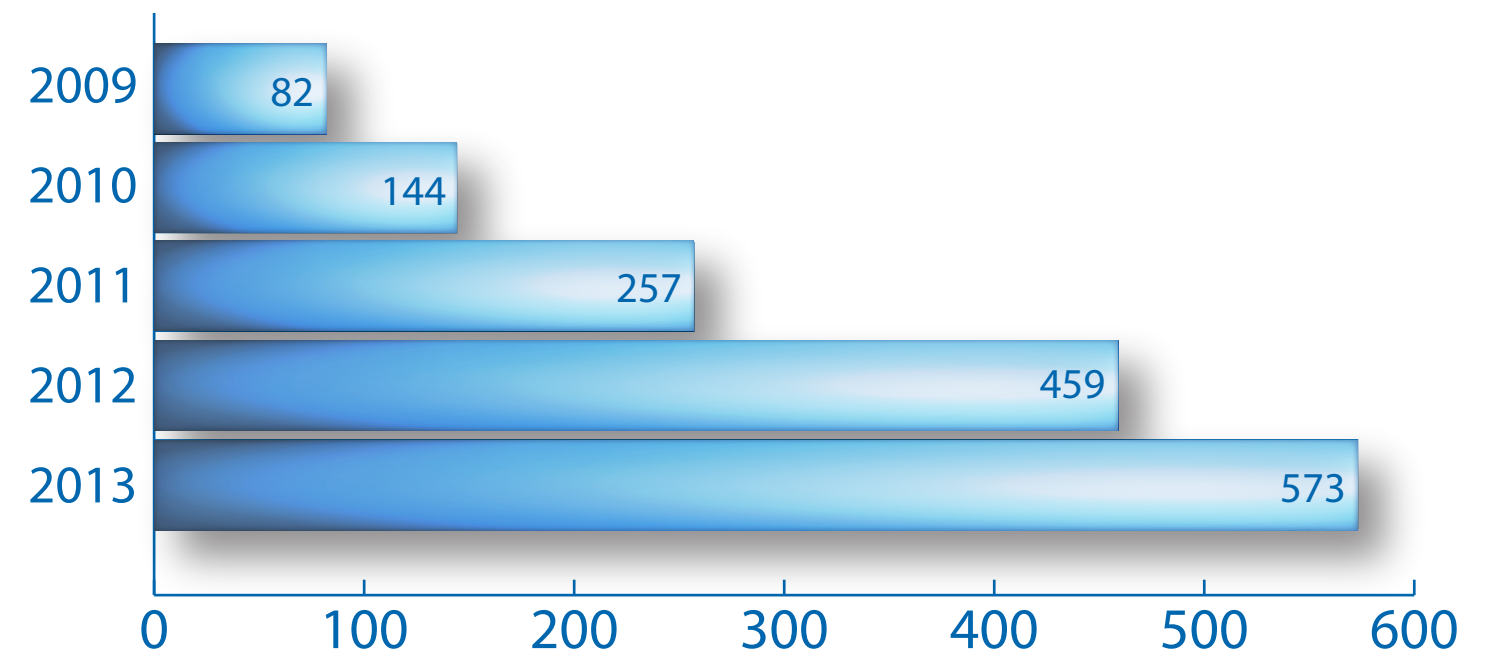
NUMBER OF HONORS SECTIONS



HONORS ENROLLMENT BY DEGREE-GRANTING COLLEGE

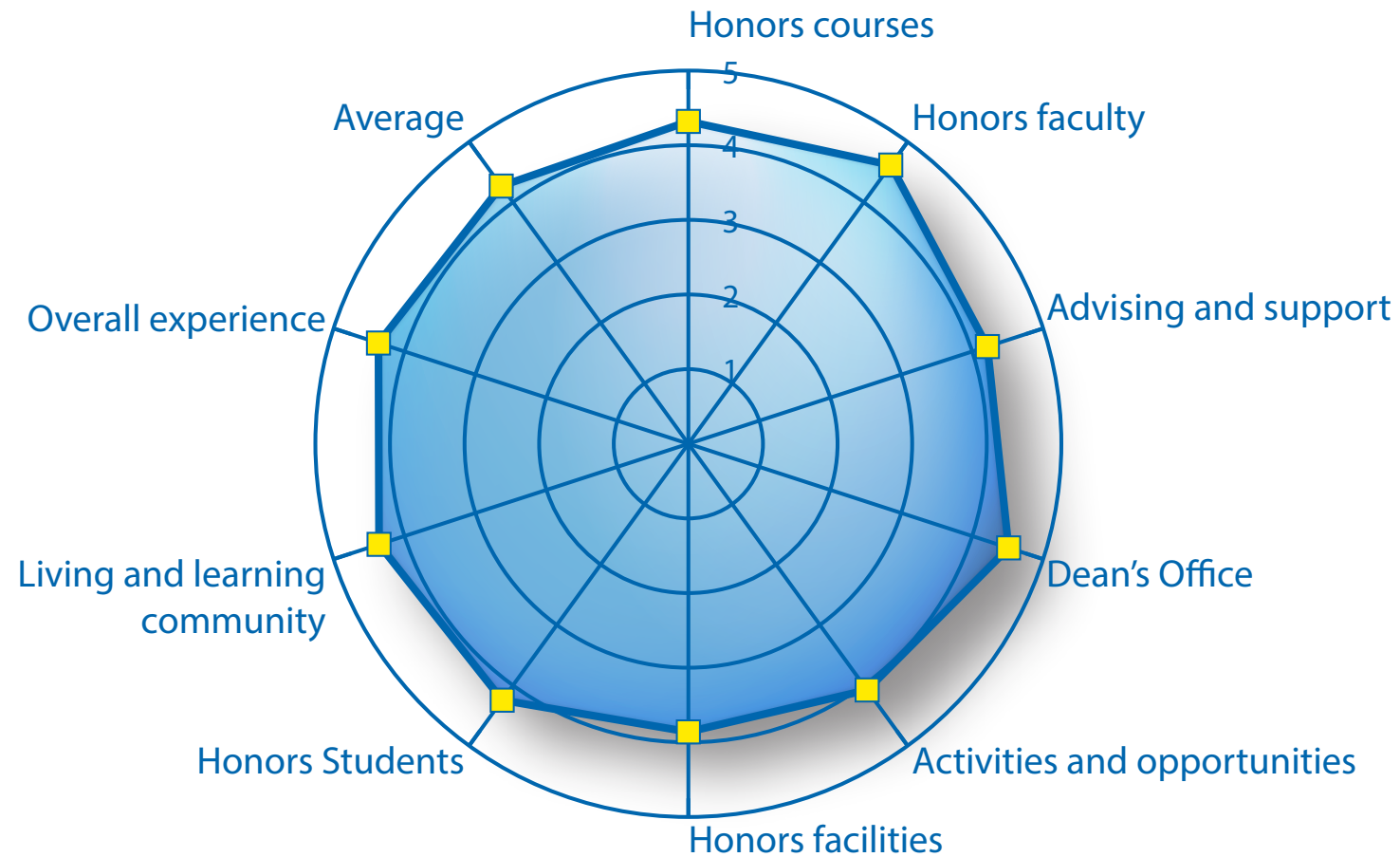


STUDENTS PURSUING GRADUATION WITH HONORS COLLEGE DISTINCTION



FISHBACK HONORS COLLEGE SATISFACTION SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Student's Reported Satisfaction with Their Honors College Experience



SPOTLIGHT COURSES

Among the educational innovations in the Fishback Honors College are a diverse and compelling series of Honors courses delivered by a cadre of passionate committed faculty members. New courses in this year's Honors curriculum included:

- *Reinvigorating Intellectual Culture*: Paul Baggett
- *One Health—Human, Animal, Environmental and Economic Perspectives*: Jane Christopher-Hennings, Bob Thaler, and Evert Van der Sluis
- *Numeracy – Making Sense of Numbers in the World*: Donna Flint, Dan Kemp, Mary Kay Helling, Kuo-Liang “Matt” Chang and Howard Wey
- *The Global Ecosystem: What Role Do We Play?*: Carter Johnson
- *Leadership and Service*: Hanna Larsen, Tim Nichols, and Ben Stout
- *Food, Ethics, and International Development*: Greg Peterson and Evren Wiltse
- *Love*, Tim and Laurie Nichols
- *The Work of Creativity*: Christine Stewart

EXCELLENCE IN THE FISHBACK HONORS COLLEGE: 2014 HONORS CONVOCATION AWARDS

- Friends of the Honors College: Provost Laurie Stenberg Nichols and Jim and Dorothy Morgan
- Teacher of the Year: Scott Pederson, Biology and Microbiology
- Outstanding Departmental Leadership and Support of Honors: Volker Brozel, Biology and Microbiology; Kurt Cogswell, Mathematics and Statistics; Jason McEntee, English
- Outstanding Faculty Creativity: Christine Stewart, English
- Outstanding Faculty Scholarship: Kuo-Liang ‘Matt’ Chang, Economics
- Honors College Student Organization Award of Excellence: Jacob Ailts and Terra Klima
- Academic Excellence: Christopher Galbraith, Jennifer Grassel, Andrew Robison, Alyson Schwebach
- Research Excellence: Emily Endres, Kate Kondratuk, Allison McEldowney, Spencer Schreier
- Land Grant Student Excellence: David Monnens
- Service Excellence: Mackenzie Klinkhammer and Wiphawi ‘Mo’ Phifer
- Excellence in Athletics: Drew Kraft and Jessica Taylor
- Excellence in the Arts: Casey Goodmund
- Renaissance Man: Michael Preheim
- Excellence in Professional Preparation: Michael Carlson, Mollie Sloat, Ethan Snow, Stephanie Vedvei
- Campus Champions: Alex Heard, Casey Janisch, Denielle Meyerink
- Excellence in Leadership: Loretta Bartosh, Kyla Larsen, Joe Schartz
- Honors Ethic Award: Jonathan Mochel
- National Collegiate Honors Council Student of the Year: Ben Stout



FISHBACK HONORS STUDENTS ON CAMPUS, IN THE COMMUNITY

One measure of the impact of the Fishback Honors College is its presence on campus and in the community. Fishback Honors students provide meaningful service and leadership which spans the breadth of South Dakota State University.

- Approximately one half of SDSU Admissions Ambassadors and New Student Orientation Leaders are Fishback Honors students.
- A significant portion of Students' Association Senators, including 2013-2014 President Ben Stout, are Fishback Honors Students.
- Fishback Honors students lead campus Faith-Based Organizations including the Newman Center, University Lutheran Center, Oasis, Navigators, Campus Crusade for Christ and Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Honors students also provide leadership for the campus Secular Students' Organization.
- Honors students are involved in Intercollegiate Athletics and Intramural Sports. More than 20 student athletes compete for the Jackrabbits, including graduating seniors Cynthia Bartha (Equestrian), Mary Helfer (Rugby), Ryan Jorgenson (Track and Field), and Fawn Weihl (Swimming and Diving).
- Dozens of Honors students contribute to musical groups on campus, including Women's Choir, Statesmen, Concert Choir, Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, and the Pride of the Dakotas Marching Band, whose new drum major is Fishback Honors student Tyler Youngquist.
- Honors students contribute in State University Theater productions, including Joe Schartz, SD Student Regent, who was cast as the lead in *Zombie Prom*.
- Many Honors students provide leadership to departmental clubs including the Math Club, Pre-Professional Students Association, American Medical Students' Association, the Society for Women Engineers, Engineers Without Borders, Academy of Student Pharmacists, Dance Club, Model United Nations, and others. Students in the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences elected Honors junior Loretta Bartosh as their Ag-Bio Advocate.
- More than 20 Fishback Honors College students serve the Office of Residential Life as Community Assistants; they also hold leadership positions in SDSU's expanding hall governments and the Residence Hall Association.
- Fishback Honors students are well represented in Greek System, including Intrafraternity Council and Panhellenic Presidents, Taylor Thooft and Matilyn Kerr.
- Approximately one-half of the undergraduate students who provide tutoring, Math, Chemistry, and Writing Center help, and who support supplemental instruction on campus, are pursuing graduation with Fishback Honors College distinction.



NCHC STUDENT OF THE YEAR BEN STOUT

Ben Stout has come a long way from his family's ranching operation near Kadoka, South Dakota. He's served as President of the SDSU Students' Association, was an Honors College Campus Champion in 2012, and was named South Dakota State University's National Collegiate Honors Council Student of The Year for 2013. Ben has made numerous presentations at regional and national Honors meetings. Along with fellow Fishback Honors students Loretta Bartosh and Drew Kraft, Ben was the driving force behind the 2013 Rancher's Relief

Dinner which raised some \$12,000 for western South Dakota cattle producers suffering the impacts of the devastating Atlas Blizzard.

Ben describes his favorite Honors course as the colloquium on

"I'm proud to be part of the Fishback Honors College because it's helped me become who I am today."

Agriculture, Food and Society. He says, "I look at the world completely differently after taking that course. The course investigated multiple issues and helped me draw

connections between them. For example, the relationship between hunger on the global level and local issues around production and consumption was made clear. After volunteering at the Brookings Backpack Project and Harvest Table, I realize there are hungry people right here in my own community. Most importantly, I now understand I am better able to make a change, and to make life better, if I continue to work hard."

Ben describes his Honors experiences as helping him develop skills and accomplish goals. 'I'm proud to be part of the Fishback Honors College because it's helped me become who I am today.'



SDSU PRESENTATIONS AT NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL MEETING

- Ailts, Jacob, and Kyla Larsen (2013). *Social Success! Idea Exchange.*
- DeNeui, Jessica, and Michael Preheim (2013). *Mathematics and the Card Tricks of Bob Hummer and Norman Galbraith.* General Session.
- Flint, Donna, Kemp, Daniel, DeNeui, Jessica, and Michael Preheim (2013). *Magic and Mathematics.* Idea Exchange.
- Flint, Donna, DeNeui, Jessica, and Michael Preheim (2013). *Honors Mathematics Students Creating Videos.* General Session.
- Kemp, Dan (2013). *What's Different About Honors Mathematics?* Roundtable Discussion.
- Kleinjan, Barbara, Kerr, Matilyn, Larsen, Kyla, Nichols, Jordan, and Ben Stout (2013). *The Connections and Disconnections of Social Media: How the Virtual World Impacts Relationship Development Among Honors Students.* General Session.
- Klima, Terra (2013). *Transformation of Honors Students Through Service.* Idea Exchange.
- Kondratuk, Katherine (2013). *Characteristics of Bovine Neutrophils Exposed to Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus.* Student Poster Session.
- Nichols, Timothy, and Kuo-Liang Chang (2013). *Researching Us: Using Student Data for Honors Strategic Planning and Program Improvement.* Idea Exchange.
- Nichols, Timothy, and Hanna Larsen (2013). *Being Honorable: The Role of Ethics in Honors Education.* Roundtable Discussion.
- Nichols, Timothy, Larsen, Hanna, and Ben Stout (2013). *Developing Transformative Honors Student Leaders: Who? What? When? Why? How?* Roundtable Discussion.
- Nichols, Timothy, Larsen, Hanna, and Ben Stout (2013). *Honors Senior Seminar Challenges Students to Find Their Place in This World.* Faculty Poster Session.
- Stout, Ben (2013). *Teaching and Learning in Honors.* Student Fishbowl Session.



FISHBACK HONORS STUDENTS ENGAGE PINE RIDGE CULTURAL IMMERSION EXPERIENCE

Ten Fishback Honors College students had ‘the experience of a lifetime’ when they traveled to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in western South Dakota for an American Indian cultural immersion experience during May, 2014. The students and Dean Nichols spent four days learning about the history, culture and language of the Lakotas. Dr. Craig Howe, enrolled tribal member, adjunct SDSU faculty member, and director of Wingsprings and the Center for American Indian Research and Native Studies led the instructional experience. Students read and discussed, *He Sapa Woihanble—Black Hills Dream*, edited by Howe.

Activities during the week included a land allotment exercise, learning traditional Lakota greetings, visiting Wind Cave and Badlands National Parks, and the site of the Wounded Knee massacre. Students also spent a day visiting contemporary reservation schools and businesses, and watched and discussed the films *Reel Injuns*, and *In the Spirit of Crazy Horse*. The experience culminated with a traditional inipi (sweat lodge) ceremony and buffalo stew dinner.

Program assesment indicated students learned from and enjoyed the experience. Comments included:

‘I learned so much about the Lakota culture; the history was completely new to me.’

‘I loved being able to incorporate the history and philosophy with real places...the Wind Cave experience was awesome!’

‘This experience helped me think about systemic racism in a new way, and to see the reservation in a more positive light.’

‘Being able to participate in the sweatlodge was one of the best experiences of my life.’

‘This experience changed me in many ways. It gave me new friends, a greater sense of Lakota culture and history, and a greater sense of myself in relationship to the world around me.’

Support from the Fishback Honors College endowment made the experience possible.



FISHBACK HONORS COLLEGE EARNS SUPPORT FROM NEW STRATEGIC REINVESTMENT FUND

The Fishback Honors College earned critical budget support as part of the university’s new strategic reinvestment fund. These include:

- \$25,000 to support a new staff person for the Fishback Honors College. This new position will be developed and filled - 2014-2015
- \$15,000 to support hiring undergraduate Honors students as teaching assistants for Honors courses.

Undergraduate teaching assistants will be hired beginning in fall semester, 2014. The new staff person will be hired by summer, 2015. Both of these positions are identified as key college priorities in the college’s IMPACT 2018 Strategic Plan. As per requirements for strategic reinvestment fund proposals, awards will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, with support from the College. Funds from the Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College endowment will make this possible.

HONORS HALL: A HOME OF OUR OWN

Honors Hall, SDSU's first residential college, opened its doors for the first time in fall, 2013, and housed almost 200 students during the 2013-2014 academic year.

In addition to modern, spacious housing for Honors College students, the hall is home to the Honors classroom, administrative suite, conference room, floor lounges and study spaces, an outdoor courtyard, and basement family room which includes an internet café and printing station, piano, full kitchen, pool tables, study spaces, and televisions/gaming stations.

Honors Hall has become a dynamic hub for Honors faculty and student interaction, learning, community building and engagement. Staffed by an all-Honors student team of Community Assistants, and led by a strong Honors student government, the hall has provided enhanced leadership development opportunities for Honors students. The Honors Student Leadership Huddle now meets regularly with representatives of the Hall, Honors College Student Organization, and the Dean's Student Advisory Council.

Innovative programming in the Hall's first year included a monthly series of 'faculty firesides', a Thanksgiving student-faculty potluck, Dad's Weekend breakfast, and Mom's Weekend open house. Students also held a faculty-student town hall meeting, Halloween (costume) and holiday



parties, a creative writing competition, quiz bowl and talent show. Intramural teams, and wellness center work-out groups, and group study sessions were also popular among residents.

The Hall, which houses predominantly first and second year students, is already full for fall 2014.

Dean Nichols describes the Hall as a 'game changer' for the College. 'Having a home of our own has been wonderful! The Hall provides our students and faculty with the excellent space they deserve.'

Honors Hall reported the highest grade point average and retention rate of all the residence halls on campus. Student satisfaction in the Hall's first year was exceptionally high. Most reported that living in Honors Hall significantly enhanced their academic performance, campus involvement, and overall university experience.

Private support has made the academic spaces and integration of living and learning possible, according to Dean Nichols. Major donors to the Honors Hall project have spaces named for them. These include:

- Jim and Dorothy Morgan Family Honors College Administrative Suite
- Wes and Lois Tschetter Family Honors Classroom
- Tim and Laurie Nichols Family Honors Library
- Bob and Donna Burns Family Honors Conference Room
- Jim and Nona Nichols Honors Dean's Office
- Sioux Falls Construction Floor Lounge/Kitchen/Study Room

Remaining naming opportunities include the Hall's outdoor courtyard/plaza, basement 'family room', and additional floor lounges/kitchens/study rooms.

LARGEST EVER CLASS OF HONORS GRADUATES 2014 MEDALLION CEREMONY

The Spring, 2014 Medallion Ceremony saw the largest ever class of graduates from the Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College. 55 students earned Honors College distinction between fall 2013 and spring 2014. More than 300 attended the celebration, which was held for the first time at SDSU's Performing Arts Center.

Medallions were also awarded to Honors faculty Donna Flint, Mathematics and Statistics, and Barb Kleinjan, Communication Studies and Theater. More than 20 medallions were sponsored by donors.

Certificates of appreciation were presented on behalf of Honors graduates to faculty and staff members who had been especially strong supporters of their university experiences.

Speakers at the ceremony included Honors College Student Organization President Jacob Ailts, Honors faculty Charles Woodard, Distinguished Professor of English, and 2009 Honors alum Chris Daugaard. Dean Nichols and Provost Nichols presided over the ceremony.



CONTACT US:

Timothy J. Nichols, Ph.D.
Dean, Van D. and Barbara B. Fishback Honors College
South Dakota State University
SHON Box 2705, Honors Hall 119
Brookings, SD 57007
(605)-688-5268
Timothy.Nichols@sdstate.edu

Keith Mahlum
Vice President for Development
South Dakota State University Foundation
Lohr Building
815 Medary Ave.
Brookings, SD 57006
(605)-697-7475
Keith.Mahlum@SDStateFoundation.org



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