

2023 ARETÈ

"SHOWCASING STUDENT EXCELLENCE SINCE 1999"



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LETTER FROM THE DEAN



LETTER FROM THE DEAN OF THE HONORS COLLEGE

HELLO. MY NAME IS DR. EILEEN FAULKENBERRY, AND I AM THRILLED TO BEGIN MY JOURNEY AS INTERIM DEAN OF THE HONORS COLLEGE AT TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY. I AM COMPLETING MY TENTH YEAR AT TARLETON, AND MY 20TH YEAR IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN TEXAS. I CAME TO TARLETON AS AN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS IN 2013, AND WAS AWARDED TENURE AND PROMOTED TO PROFESSOR IN 2017. I BECAME ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NOW THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS) IN JANUARY 2022.

AS AN UNDERGRADUATE AT HENDERSON STATE UNIVERSITY IN ARKADELPHIA, AR, I PARTICIPATED IN THE HONORS COLLEGE: ATTENDING SEMINARS, LIVING IN THE HONORS DORM, AND COMPLETING HONORS COURSES. SOME OF MY MOST FAVORITE MEMORIES OF MY TIME IN COLLEGE REVOLVE AROUND MY EXPERIENCES AS AN HONORS STUDENT. I KNOW THAT THE SKILLS I LEARNED IN THOSE COURSES, PREPARED ME FOR SUCCESS IN GRADUATE SCHOOL AND BEYOND.

AFTER GRADUATING WITH HONORS FROM HENDERSON, I CONTINUED MY STUDIES AT OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY WHERE I RECEIVED A MASTER'S DEGREE IN MATHEMATICS AND A PH.D. IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION. I ALSO MET AND MARRIED MY HUSBAND, DR. TOM FAULKENBERRY, WHILE WE WERE GRADUATE STUDENTS. TOM IS NOW THE DEPARTMENT HEAD OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES AT TARLETON. WE HAVE THREE AMAZING CHILDREN, EMILY, ELENA, AND WILL, WHO DELIGHT US AND KEEP US ON OUR TOES.

IN MY TIME AT TARLETON, I HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF WORKING WITH MANY HONORS STUDENTS. I ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAG ALONG WITH THE STUDENTS ON THE STUDY ABROAD TO URBINO LAST SUMMER. I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING MORE INTEGRALLY INVOLVED IN PROMOTING RESEARCH, FINDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE STUDENTS TO PRESENT THEIR RESEARCH, AND HIGHLIGHTING THE SUCCESSES OF OUR STUDENTS. I KNOW THAT OUR HONORS STUDENTS ARE SOME OF THE BEST AND BRIGHTEST, AND THE HONORS COLLEGE AT TARLETON CAN PROVIDE THE FOUNDATION NEEDED FOR THEM TO SOAR TO GREAT HEIGHTS.

BEST REGARDS,

DR. EILEEN FAULKENBERRY

LETTER FROM THE OUTGOING DEAN



A LETTER FROM THE OUTGOING DEAN OF THE HONORS COLLEGE

GREETINGS ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE HONORS COLLEGE,

I'VE RECENTLY BEEN LOOKING OVER THE HISTORY OF HONORS AT TARLETON. DID YOU KNOW THAT THE PRESIDENTIAL HONORS PROGRAM STARTED IN 1985 WITH 15 STUDENTS? AND THAT NOT TOO LONG AFTER THAT, THE HONORS DEGREE PROGRAM, NOW OFFERING HONORS SECTIONS OF MOST CORE COURSES, GOT OFF THE GROUND. IN THE FALL OF 2013, 576 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN THE HONORS COLLEGE, AND IN THE FALL OF 2022 THAT NUMBER GREW TO AROUND 1,000 STUDENTS. ALMOST 2,000 STUDENTS HAVE GRADUATED IN THE HONORS COLLEGE.

AND OF COURSE ALL OF US, STUDENTS AND FACULTY ALIKE, ARE HAPPY TO BE BACK IN THE CLASSROOM AFTER SURVIVING SEVERAL SEMESTERS ON ZOOM. WE HAVE ALSO RESUMED FACE-TO-FACE CULTURAL ENRICHMENT EVENTS—TRIPS TO BASS HALL FOR A MUSIC EVENT, TOURS OF THE KIMBELL AND AMON CARTER ART MUSEUMS, AND THE HONORS COLLEGE ALUMNI DAY, TO NAME A FEW.

THE HONORS COLLEGE PROVIDES A CHALLENGING EDUCATION THAT PREPARES STUDENTS NOT JUST TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THEIR CAREERS, BUT TO BECOME THE LEADERS OF OUR COMMUNITIES. THOMAS JEFFERSON UNDERSTOOD THAT GREATER TALENT IMPLIES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY, AND THAT CONCEPT IS CENTRAL TO THE EDUCATION THAT HONORS STUDENTS RECEIVE.

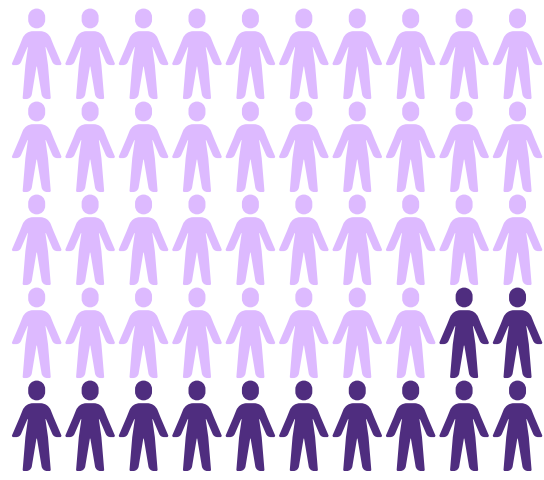
I'M ALSO HAPPY TO REPORT THAT AFTER A TWO-YEAR HIATUS BECAUSE OF COVID, 48 HONORS STUDENTS STUDIED THE LITERATURE, PHILOSOPHY, ART, ARCHITECTURE, AND HISTORY OF THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE IN URBINO, ITALY, LAST SUMMER, AND 25 STUDENTS WILL STUDENT THERE THIS COMING SUMMER.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE HONORS COLLEGE, A SHINING CENTER OF EXCELLENCE. THE MOTTO OF THE HONORS COLLEGE IS THE ANCIENT GREEK FOR TRUTH AND EXCELLENCE, AND THE NAME OF THIS PUBLICATION IS THE GREEK WORD FOR EXCELLENCE.

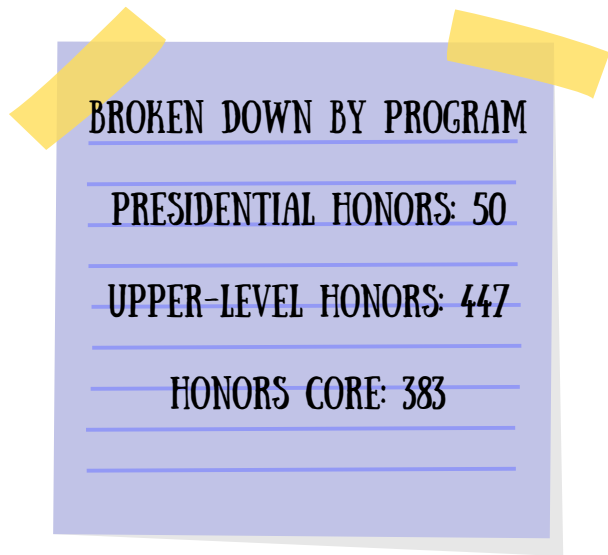
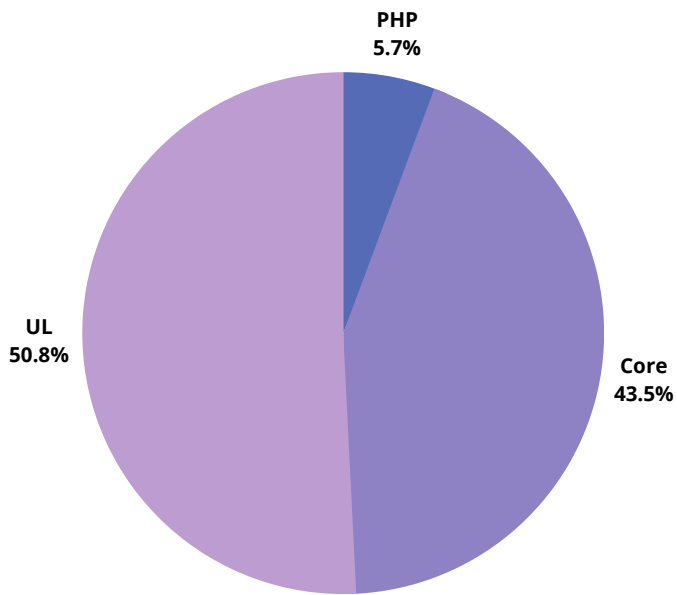
BEST REGARDS,

DR. CRAIG CLIFFORD

HONORS BY THE NUMBERS



906 HONORS STUDENTS
79.03% FEMALE
20.97% MALE

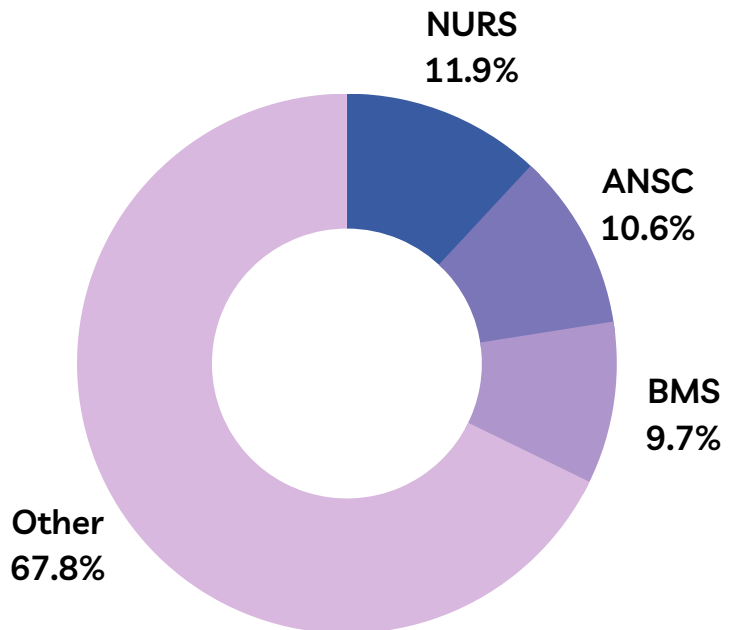


Top 3 Majors:

NURSING

ANIMAL SCIENCE

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

JAMES THANG



ELDRED POPLAWSKI

Eldred Poplawski is a junior History major with a Spanish minor from Cisco, Texas. Eldred is currently an intern in the honors office and is involved in many organizations such as presidential honors program, the history club, and the sociology club.

During her time here at Tarleton, Eldred has maintained academic excellence in the presidential honors program. This program includes seminars, 15 hours of academic courses per semester, and the expectation on providing leadership and service to the University and community, including an independent research project senior year.

This summer Eldred also took part in the Honors study abroad to Urbino Italy where she studied Italian Renaissance art, the beginning instruction in Italian language and the literature and philosophy of the Italian Renaissance. Eldred's favorite experience from Urbino was "learning all of the history and being able to see the things that they were learning about in class in person. That experience ingrained a lot of things to memory in the best way possible."

After completing her undergraduate degree at Tarleton, Eldred plans to pursue at least a master's degree in History. She plans to become a museum curator in the future, where some of her future responsibilities will include managing collections, developing and planning exhibitions and overseeing educational programs within the museum. Thank you, Eldred, for your continuous hard work!

James Thang is a junior Biomedical science student in the Pre-Med pathway. At Tarleton James is heavily involved in many organizations on campus including the Tarleton Transition Mentor Leadership team, Honors Mentor program, the pre-health organization on campus, AED, and Phi Kapp.

As a transition mentor, James led incoming first-year students through duck camp, a three-day experience to participate in activities to learn campus traditions and explore Tarleton's core values. This year James is returning to the TTM program for a second year to be a part of the Leadership team where he will help organize Duck camp, lead current transition mentors and take part in the Orientation staff.

James has also been a Tarleton Honors mentor for the past 2 years.

When he is not studying for classes, he helps his group make connections, obtain academic resources, offer academic support and social connectedness by sharing his experiences and planning meetings or events.

When James is not on campus, he volunteers at the local Texas Health Hospital to gain more experience in healthcare. After his undergraduate degree at Tarleton, he plans to become a physician assistant in pediatrics where he will examine, diagnose, and treat patients under the supervision of a physician. Thank you, James, for everything that you do!



A HUGE THANK YOU
TO

DR. CRAIG
CLIFFORD

DR. CLIFFORD HAS INVESTED COUNTLESS HOURS OF TIME AND EFFORT DURING HIS TIME AT TARLETON AND PARTICULARLY WITH THE HONORS COLLEGE. HIS DEDICATION TO TEACHING AND PASSION FOR TRUTH AND EXCELLENCE HAS INSPIRED AND CHALLENGED STUDENTS ACROSS GENERATIONS TO PUSH BEYOND THEIR PERCEIVED LIMITS. HIS ENCOURAGEMENT, GUIDANCE, AND SUPPORT HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN SHAPING THE INTELLECTUAL GROWTH AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF HUNDREDS OF STUDENTS. HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN THERE TO PROVIDE VALUABLE FEEDBACK, ADVICE, SUPPORT, AND ENCOURAGEMENT. HIS UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO HIS STUDENTS AND WILLINGNESS TO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND TO ENSURE THAT THEY HAVE THE RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SUCCEED WILL HAVE A LASTING IMPACT ON HIS LEGACY AT TARLETON. HIS TEACHING HAS BEEN TRANSFORMATIVE, AND WE ARE HONORED TO HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN AND GROW WITH HIM.



"Most people have a professor that they will always remember. And for me that person is you. Thank you for being such an incredible role model and for making my time at Tarleton so much better"

-Diana Perez

"Thank you for being one of the coolest deans around. We're all going to miss your great stories and jokes. It will not be the same without you"

-Eldred Poplawski

"Dr. Clifford is more than just an educator and scholar he is a good person. His kindness, compassion, and generosity never fail to inspire those around him. Thank you for all that you have done for the countless students, faculty, and staff whose lives you have impacted. Your legacy will continue to inspire and shape future generations of learners and leaders."

-DR. Jericha Hopson

"It has been an honor and privilege to work with you for the last 20 years. Your dedication to our students is shown in everything that you do from being a valued mentor and giving sage advice to showing them the best place to get gelato in Italy. You helped me grow in this position and learn how to advocate for our students to provide the best honors experience possible. The honors faculty, staff, and students will miss you!!"

-MS. Betti Cryer



A HUGE THANK YOU

TO

DR. MALLORY
YOUNG



DR. MALLORY YOUNG IS REGENTS PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF ENGLISH LITERATURE AND SERVED AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONORS PROGRAM FROM 1988 TO 1992. SHE JOINED TARLETON IN 1983 AND HAS JUST RECENTLY RETIRED AFTER NEARLY 40 YEARS OF SERVICE! HER PASSION FOR EDUCATION, ENTHUSIASM FOR TEACHING, AND DEDICATION TO HER STUDENTS HAS TRULY INSPIRED ALL THOSE WHO HAVE HAD THE PLEASURE OF LEARNING FROM HER. HER ABILITY TO CHALLENGE AND MOTIVATE OTHERS TO DO THEIR BEST HAS HELPED MANY REALIZE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL. AS DIRECTOR OF THE HONORS PROGRAM, DR. YOUNG ESTABLISHED TARLETON'S HONORS DEGREE PROGRAM, PROVIDING THE FIRST HONORS COURSES IN THE UNIVERSITY'S HISTORY. SHE HAD THE DISTINCT HONOR OF TEACHING THE FIRST OF THESE COURSES, AN HONORS INTRODUCTION TO ENGLISH. THERE ARE, IF WE'RE FORTUNATE, A FEW PEOPLE IN OUR LIVES WHO PROVIDE US WITH SOURCES OF ENDLESS INSPIRATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT. FOR MANY THAT PERSON HAS BEEN DR. YOUNG. FROM HER SEEMINGLY BOTTOMLESS PATIENCE AND WISDOM TO HER GENUINE INVESTMENT IN THE SUCCESS OF HER STUDENTS DR. YOUNG IS A SHINING EXAMPLE OF WHAT IT TRULY MEANS TO BE AN EDUCATOR.



"I'm grateful I had the opportunity of having you as my professor.
You're a great inspiration to me and always will be."

-DIANA PEREZ

"Thank you for for helping me find my love of reading again, your
class will always be a memorable part of my Tarleton experience"

-Ali Balk

"Honors Backgrounds of Western Literature with Dr. Young is the
reason I stopped feeling like I was 'too dumb' to understand Dante just
because I am dyslexic. I know that without this experience I would have
never been confident enough in my abilities to finish my undergraduate
degree let alone my Ph.D. Thank you, Dr. Young."

-DR. Jericha Hopson

THE HONORS EXPERIENCE

DIANA PEREZ

GRADUATING THIS MAY IN THE CLASS OF 2023, DIANA PEREZ HAS FINALLY COME TO THE END OF HER LONG UNDERGRADUATE JOURNEY THAT SHE BEGAN IN AUGUST OF 2019. THIS OUTGOING LEGAL STUDIES MAJOR CERTAINLY HAD A FULL PLATE THROUGHOUT HER TIME AT TARLETON! PEREZ TOOK PART IN A MULTITUDE OF ACTIVITIES SUCH AS THE HONORS MENTOR PROGRAM, HONORS INTERNSHIP, HONORS AMBASSADOR PROGRAM, HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT ASSOCIATION, AND TARLETON PHILOSOPHY SOCIETY. SHE EVEN FOUNDED THE TEXAN LEGAL ASSOCIATION! PEREZ CONTINUOUSLY SHOWS THAT SHE IS NEVER AFRAID TO TRY NEW THINGS AND EXPLORE. IN THE SUMMER OF 2022, SHE TOOK PART IN THE HONORS STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM DURING WHICH SHE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL TO ROME AND VENICE!

WHEN ASKED THE BURNING QUESTION OF WHY THE HONORS COLLEGE, PEREZ LAUGHED AND SAID, "I ENJOYED THE IDEA OF SMALLER CLASSES AND THE OVERALL GOOD FEELINGS I GOT FROM THE PEOPLE THAT I MET LIKE DR. CLIFFORD AND MS. CRYER. I'M SO GLAD THAT I TOOK THE CHANCE TO JOIN! I'M REALLY GRATEFUL FOR THE CONNECTIONS I'VE MADE, AND IT'S DEFINITELY BEEN AN EXPERIENCE I WON'T FORGET. THE PEOPLE I'VE MET THROUGHOUT MY JOURNEY HAVE PUSHED ME TO BE A BETTER PERSON, AND I'M PROUD OF THE PROGRESS THAT I'VE MADE AND THE PLACES I'VE BEEN." - DIANA PEREZ



IN THE FUTURE, PEREZ PLANS TO ATTEND LAW SCHOOL AFTER A GAP YEAR. SHE IS NOT ENTIRELY SURE WHERE SHE WANTS TO GO, BUT SHE KNOWS THAT SHE WANTS TO TRAVEL. "I THINK I COULD EVEN GO LIVE IN ITALY! MAYBE BECAUSE OF MY CONNECTIONS, I COULD GET A JOB WITH THE PEOPLE RUNNING THE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM THERE," SHE JOKED.

DIANA HAS UNDOUBTEDLY BEEN A JOY TO HAVE IN HONORS. HER LIVELY PERSONALITY AND HARDWORKING ATTITUDE MAKE HER A WONDERFUL ROLE MODEL FOR ANYONE. TO SAY SHE WILL BE MISSED IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT. WE ARE EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS AND WISH HER THE BEST!

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

HONORS AMBASSADORS



THE HONORS AMBASSADORS PROGRAM
ALLOWS CURRENT STUDENTS TO
VOLUNTEER FOR VARIOUS EVENTS AND
ACTIVITIES, FROM TEXAN TOURS AND OWL
CAMPS TO RECEPTIONS. IT'S A GREAT WAY
FOR STUDENTS TO GIVE BACK TO THE
HONORS COLLEGE.

HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

THE HONORS COLLEGE STUDENT
ASSOCIATION IS A STUDENT
ORGANIZATION THAT PROMOTES
INTELLECTUAL LIBERTY, FRATERNITY
AND EQUALITY AMONG ITS MEMBERS,
AS WELL AS, PROMOTE THE GENERAL
WELFARE THROUGH SERVICE.



MENTOR PROGRAM



HONORS MENTORS :

SOFIA ALOISE, CRISTO CASTILLO, ALANA COOPER, KYLIE CUMMINGS, JOSIE PENNA, KACI JACKSON, ISABELLA SALADA, GAVIN LATHAM, JAMES THANG, DIANA PEREZ, VALKYRIE MYKLBUST, MOLLIE ANN PARKER, JESSICA DANGELMAYR, BLAIR PHILLIPS, JOSHUA GRIMSTAD

HONORS MENTORS ARE RETURNING HONORS STUDENTS THAT ARE DEDICATED TO AIDING FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS IN THE TRANSITION INTO COLLEGE LIFE. THIS PAST SUMMER THESE STUDENTS HAVE HELPED LEAD OWL CAMP, A ONE DAY EVENT TO BRING MENTOR GROUPS AND STUDENTS TOGETHER. THIS CAMP INVOLVES ACTIVITIES, A SCAVENGER HUNT AND A PINNING CEREMONY TO SHOWCASE THE START OF A COLLEGE STUDENT'S JOURNEY IN HONORS. THROUGHOUT THIS YEAR THE HONORS MENTORS HAVE PROVIDED THEIR TIME, RESOURCES AND ADVICE TO THE INCOMING FRESHMEN THROUGH MENTOR APPOINTMENTS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS GAME NIGHTS! THEY EACH MENTOR 20-25 NEW INCOMING HONORS FRESHMEN.

HONORS INTERN PROGRAM



HONORS INTERNS (PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT)

ASSOCIATE INTERN: ELDRÉD POPLAWSKI

SENIOR INTERN: DIANA PEREZ

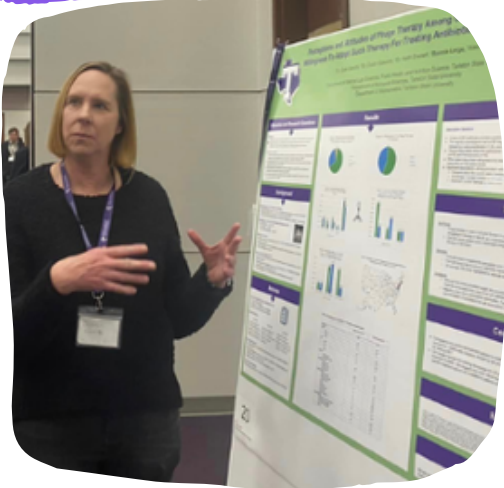
ASSISTANT INTERN: SOFIA ALOISE

THE INTERN PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFIES AS AN ALE (APPLIED LEARNING EXPERIENCE) INTERNSHIP. THE BEST PART IS THAT THE PROGRAM BENEFITS BOTH STUDENTS AND THE HONORS COLLEGE. INTERNS WORK IN POSITIONS RELATED TO THEIR ACADEMIC CURRICULUM AND ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE PROMOTED TO HIGHER LEVELS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND PAY AS THEIR EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE LEVELS GROW,

THE HONORS COLLEGE INTERN PROGRAM PROVIDES THE INTERNS WITH MANY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AS THEY WORK CLOSELY WITH THE HONORS ADMINISTRATION TO HELP ENSURE OTHER STUDENTS ARE TAKEN CARE OF BY KEEPING GOOD COMMUNICATION, WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES FOR EVENTS, AND MAINTAINING THE FRONT DESK, WELCOMING ALL WHO WALK IN.

STUDENT RESEARCH

Bonnie Large



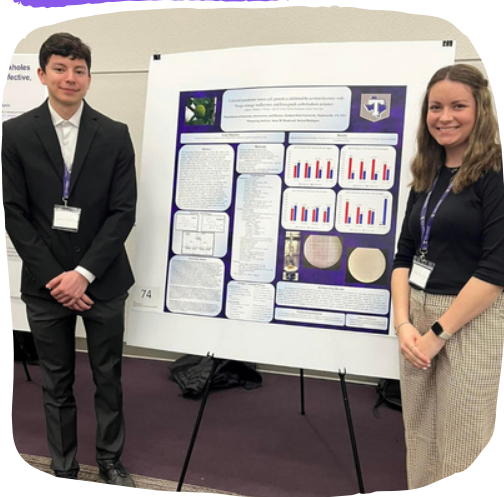
Perception and Likelihood of Phage Therapy Adoption Among Primary Care Providers: A Cross-sectional Study

Antibiotic resistance in bacterial pathogens presents a substantial threat to the control of infectious diseases underscoring the need for innovative therapies to treat bacterial infections without causing significant adverse reactions in humans. Despite the pressing need, the development of new classes of antibiotics has slowed in recent years due to cost and market profitability pressures. The present study aimed to understand the awareness, perception, and willingness of phage therapy among US primary care providers.

Cultured pancreatic tumor cell growth is inhibited by co-transfections with Osage orange isoflavones and Fenugreek carbohydrate polymer.

The Osage orange (*Maclura pomifera*) is a species that is native to the Bosque River Valley in Erath County. The mature fruit of this species contains significant amounts of two isoflavones called osajin and pomiferin. Osajin has been demonstrated to inhibit the growth of prostate cancer cells while pomiferin has been demonstrated to inhibit the growth of breast cancer cells in culture. The fruit of Osage orange were obtained from trees growing in Stephenville, TX and were processed by solvent extraction using diethyl ether or ethanol. The mixtures of osajin and pomiferin were then purified by column chromatography to obtain pure fractions of solid osajin and pomiferin (greater than 95% pure). These compounds were then dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide and the solution was added to the media for cultured panc cells (human pancreatic tumor cells). At a concentration of 5×10^{-6} M (5 micromolar), osajin exhibited very little efficacy of killing panc cells; however, with the added carbohydrate copolymer (obtained from fenugreek) there was significant increase in cell death. Pomiferin (at 5 micromolar) exhibited some tendency to kill cultured panc cells; however, the efficacy was greatly improved when the carbohydrate copolymer (from fenugreek) was added. The use of these isoflavones together with the carbohydrate co-polymer derived from fenugreek may offer a low toxicity approach for inhibiting the growth of pancreatic tumor cells in culture. Pancreatic tumors are particularly difficult to treat with conventional chemotherapeutic agents. There is a need for anti-tumor compounds that have low toxicity to normal human cells but are effective at destroying pancreatic tumor cells.

Anne Marie Wood



STUDENT RESEARCH

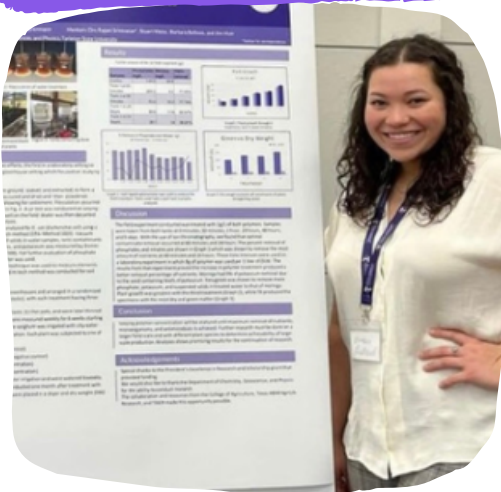
Cristo Castillo



Voter List Management in Texas Counties

Election security rose on the public and political agendas following the 2016 U.S. presidential election. Subsequently, Help American Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) renewals in 2018 and 2020 increased federal funding for election administration made available to Texas state and county governments, providing resources to be used for voter list management. During the 2021 Texas 87th legislative session, four new or amended laws pertained to voter list management, including imposition of civil penalties or withholding of funds for counties out of compliance. Increased concern about election security, federal fund availability, and new state laws affect voter registration list management in all Texas counties. This study investigates voter suspension or removal from Texas county registration lists before and after the most recent legislative session.

Amber Leotaud



Study the Effect of Plant Based Polymers as Treatment Agent for Dairy Lagoon Water and Its Reuse in Plant Irrigation and Soil Characteristics

Dairy farms produce large amounts of manure waste which ultimately affects environmental cycles due to the presence of high solids, nutrients, pathogens and antimicrobial bacteria. Solutions that are currently being developed include biochar and composting which have been proven to reduce antibiotic resistance in soils. Recently plant-based polymers are gaining popularity as an effective treatment method to remove contaminants such as solids, nutrients, pathogens, and antimicrobials, from various water sources. The organic biopolymers used to study treatment of dairy lagoon waste (DLW) include fenugreek and moringa. These polysaccharides were extracted from their seeds, dried and powdered. These powders were used for treatment. DLW was collected from the Southwest Dairy Center in which TDS and TSS are analyzed by gravitational methods of vacuum filtration. The membrane filtration modified m-tech method was used to examine Escherichia coli pathogens at different stages in treatment. The water is agitated after the polymer is added to facilitate flocculation of aggregates. Cations and anions such as phosphates and nitrates were analyzed using Ion Chromatography to see the removal efficiency. Laboratory experiments showed significant removal of above-mentioned contaminants. Based on the results the experiments were scaled up and run in big tanks located in the farm. The treated water and raw water were then be used to fertilize the plants grown in the greenhouse as part of this research. The effects were evaluated on both soil and the plants.

DISCOVERING URBINO

TO LIVE A MONTH IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY IS A DREAM FOR EVERY CURIOUS MIND. BECAUSE OF THE AID AND GUIDANCE OF THE HONORS COLLEGE, MANY STUDENTS ARE ABLE TO MAKE THIS DREAM A REALITY. WITH A HOME BASE IN THE UNESCO HERITAGE SITE OF URBINO, STUDENTS WERE ABLE TO INDULGE IN WHAT ITALY HAS TO OFFER SUCH AS THE FOOD, HISTORY, AND COMPANY. ALONGSIDE THE NATURALLY OCCURRING LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES, CLASSES WERE ABLE TO FURTHER ENRICH TRAVELERS' MINDS. THE FOCUS ON THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE LED TO A DEEPER APPRECIATION OF ITALY'S INFLUENCE ON THE MODERN WORLD. THE DECLINE IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ALLOWED THE SUMMER OF 2022 TO BE AN EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME FOR A WHOPPING 48 STUDENTS, THE BIGGEST GROUP THE PROGRAM HAD SEEN!



HONORS EVENTS

CULTURAL

MUSEUM TOURS



Kimbell Art Museum and Amon Carter Museum of Art

This year the Honors College had the wonderful opportunity to tour these facilities with the guidance of Dr. Punch Shaw. The Kimbell offered a visual feast with art of many eras ranging from Ancient Egyptian sculptures to impressionist paintings from the nineteenth century. Luckily, the group that attended also got a taste of the limited edition exhibit of East Asian art that contained painting, sculpture and pottery! The Amon Carter, on the other hand, provided an exemplary look into the mosaic of personal collection. The museum houses a fantastic introduction to the world of contemporary art that flows gracefully to captivating art depicting the once Wild West. These museums are perfect for those beginning their journey into the world of art!

A TRIP TO HARLEM



A Trip to Harlem presented by the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra

In the fall semester of 2022, honors students had the chance to attend a fantastic musical performance at Bass Performance Hall. Works of Bernstein, Ellington, Gershwin, and Douglas J. Cuomo gave listeners quite a treat! The music allowed a look into both the past and another culture. The homage to classical jazz and pieces played concocted an emotional look into one of history's most soulful music. As always, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra delivered their best!

CAREER

SHELBY BRADLEY



Honors graduate and practicing lawyer Shelby Bradley came to shed some light on what to expect in law school and beyond. Though her target audience was prospective lawyers, she offered advice that would undoubtedly help any student in their educational journey!

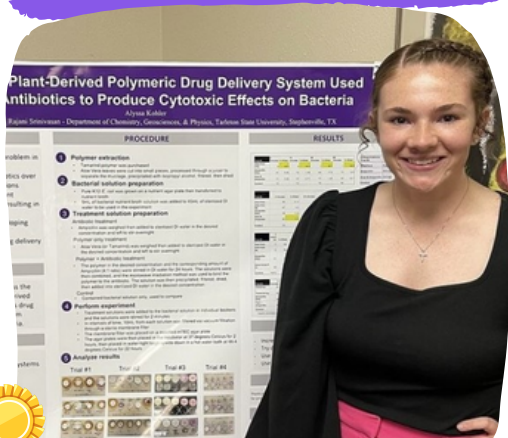
COURTNEY BROWN



Honors graduate and practicing veterinarian Courtney Brown visited to give insight into the world of vets. Providing useful information as well as a recourse to those who wish to attend vet school, she absolutely helped those who needed it!

GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE

Alyssa Kohler



John Brit Poster Award

The Efficacy of a Plant-Derived Polymeric Drug Delivery System Used to Deliver Antibiotics to Produce Cytotoxic Effects on Bacteria

Antibiotic resistance is an emerging problem in healthcare and occurs when a bacterium evolves to be resistant to certain antibiotics over time, which can manifest into intractable fatal infections in humans. Pharmacological research shows that utilizing polymer based drug delivery systems may be the future method for effectively delivering drugs in a manner that is cost-efficient and non-toxic. Certain plant-derived polymers, such as Aloe Vera, Tamarind, and Fenugreek, naturally possess antibacterial properties and it is hypothesized that they would be the most effective non-toxic polymeric drug delivery systems. This experiment evaluates the use of extracted Aloe Vera, Tamarind, and Fenugreek, non-toxic plant-derived polymers, as a drug delivery system for ampicillin, a frequently used β -lactam antibiotic, to produce cytotoxic effects on non-pathogenic K12 *Escherichia coli* bacteria. Preliminary data analysis of the toxicity of the drug delivery system with ampicillin revealed promising results and future experimentation will be done to determine the best inhibitory concentration. Once a polymer-based delivery system for antibiotics is determined to be capable of producing cytotoxic effects on non-pathogenic bacteria, future experimentation can be done to test the antibiotic and polymeric drug delivery system on pathogenic and antibiotic resistant bacteria species.

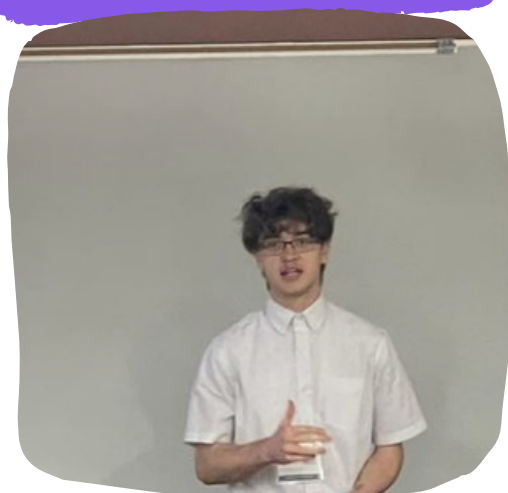
Caylin Watson



More Than A Picture

In the article "Photography as Performative Process," Richard Shusterman discusses the process of photography and how the photograph yielded is only a fragment of what photography truly entails. He claims that "there is more to photography than the photograph," referencing the artistic elements that are commonly overlooked when people think of what photography is, such as the bodily actions taken to maneuver the camera angle, the pose and confidence of the model, and the background conditions of which the photograph will include (Shusterman 68 to 72). Shusterman's article addresses the artistic process of taking a photograph, but it does not account for the development of editing softwares and other digital aspects common in today's photography. This paper is going to explore the following question: Is the growth of digital photography redefining the art of "traditional" photography?

Addison Anderson

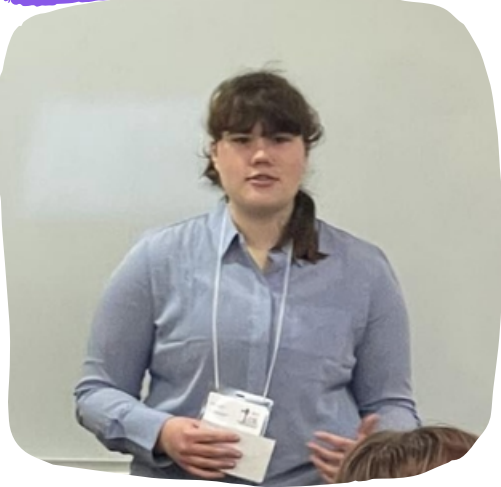


Hydrogels and Determination of Correct Concentration and Methods

Hydrogels are three-dimensional network structures able to imbibe large amounts of water. Hydrogels do not typically dissolve due to chemical or physical cross-links and chain entanglements.¹ The research's primary goal was to develop plant-based delivery systems for the therapeutic use of bacteriophages. The research includes synthesis of the delivery systems and the characterization followed by studying their toxicity/safety on biological systems through a series of tissue culture experiments. As well as, the experiments done throughout the semester have been trying to see the best concentration of substrates and how they will react when heated and introduced to bacteriophages. The bacteriophages being a part of the gel and being able to move within the gel freely is one of the most important aspects; as needed, the formation of plaques is necessary to show that the bacteriophage can move and kill the bacteria. The gel used for research is currently a 10:10 Tamarind Powder, Green Tea Extract with 20mL of DI water, and more research is needed on the highest temperature range the gel can take. Lastly, research is required on whether when the bacteriophage enters the bacteria cell and the cell lyses, the cell releases water, and that's why there is water in the agar plate or what is causing that issue.

GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE

Megan Fleitman



The Relationship between the Amygdala and the Prefrontal Cortex in Social Anxiety Disorder

Social Anxiety Disorder affects many people, and it usually lasts a lifetime if the disorder goes undiagnosed and untreated. This disorder is characterized by the anxiety experienced from social situations in which a person feels negative evaluation from others. The anxiety that negative evaluation causes a person can lead to the development of safety behaviors in order to combat this feeling. The brain functioning of the amygdala and the prefrontal cortex dictate SAD, for individuals with SAD experience a hyperactivity of the amygdala when faced with stressful social situations and a lack of connection between the amygdala and the prefrontal cortex. The lack of information exchanged between the amygdala and the prefrontal cortex results in the ineffective regulation of these brain components. Thus, brain functioning plays a crucial role in the development and maintenance of SAD where certain symptoms characterize fear responses to social situations.

Brecklyn McMinn and Reagan Lytle

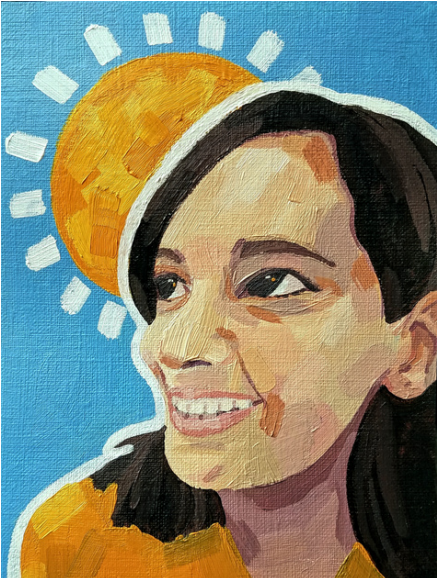


Italian Study Abroad Experience

The oral presentation will include two presenters: Reagan Lytle and Brecklyn McMinn. These students will speak about their individual experiences on their study abroad trip to Urbino, Italy with the Tarleton honors college. They visited places such as Rome, Florence, Venice, Ravenna, Fabriano, Gubbio, and Gradara while studying the Italian language and the art history, philosophy, and literature of the Italian Renaissance. Both students introduced themselves, their majors, and why they chose to go on this trip. Reagan will speak about how she was able to explore her passion for the arts despite being a biomedical sciences major. She discussed how she was enrolled in advanced placement art classes and participated in art competitions in high school, but never thought she would have the opportunity to study art in college. She specifically highlighted her experience seeing the Sistine Chapel and how it was a lifelong dream of hers. Following her, Brecklyn spoke about how the trip unexpectedly pertained to her major, mechanical engineering. She elaborated on how influential artists of the Italian Renaissance were also some of the greatest engineers of the time. Her focus was specifically on Filippo Brunelleschi, with his engineering of the dome for the Cattedrale di Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence.

STUDENT SUBMISSIONS

THE REAGAN LITTLE COLLECTION:



"ALEXA"



"BETTA FISH"



"DAD"



"LIVANA"



"AHH!"

Reagan Little

STUDENT SUBMISSIONS



"JACK & JILL"
Elisha Taylor



"A SUMMER IN URBINO"
Diana Perez



"EXISTENTIAL"
Josie Peña



"SELF-PORTRAIT"
Eldred Poplawski

2022 ARETĒ

Aretē is the classical Greek word for "excellence" or "virtue."

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