

The Ampersand

UIC Honors College

April 2000

Important Upcoming Dates

Finals Week	May 1 - 5
Completion Forms Due	May 5
Honors College Convocation	May 6
University Commencement	May 7

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- ...and much more!




A Message from the Dean

The end of the year brings a lot of excitement and joy. For many, it is the culmination of years of undergraduate study and the impending beginning of a new stage, either in a professional school or in a job. For others, it marks a well-deserved pause after a hard semester that started in the cold season.

To all of you, congratulations on your achievements. We at the Honors College wish you a wonderful vacation, wherever you may find yourself. We remind the members of the graduating class: "You are our ambassadors to your new school or job, and we will value your interest in your home at UIC."

We invite other students to enjoy their summer and to return in August full of energy and determination for a successful new academic year.

Lansiné Kaba



Honors College graduating senior **Rajeev Garg** has been selected to be this year's student Commencement speaker at the University's commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 7th. Congratulations, Jeevs!



Senior **Mike Hofkamp** looks ready to dig in at the recent Honors College spring luncheon. For more photos, visit the Honors College web page: <http://www.hc.uic.edu>

Congratulations!

Honors College students were well represented at the recent Honors Day convocation ceremony, held on Monday, April 24th in the Illinois Room. Honors College Dean Lansiné Kaba introduced Interim Chancellor Sylvia Manning, who gave the welcome address. After the students received various awards from the Scholarship Association, the Honors College, and their colleges/departments, English professor Michael Lieb gave the keynote speech, entitled "Reflections on a Liberal Education." Provost Elizabeth Hoffman gave the closing remarks, and the honorees and their guests enjoyed a reception immediately following the ceremony.

Additionally, at the Scholarship Association Awards Program on Tuesday, April 25th, several Honors College students received Association Awards from the Scholarship Association.

Listed below are the winners and the awards they received. Congratulations to all the recipients!

Endowed Awards

Rajat Batra: Joseph J. Galassini Memorial
Heather Benjamin: Stanley O. Ikenberry
Vanessa Brown: Norman Nachtrieb Memorial
Alejandro Castro: Chicago Bar Association Entertainment Committee Theater
Terry Chiganos: Norman Parker
Kenneth Desouza: Ralph L. Westfall
Lacy Foy: Judith L. Ikenberry
Dawn Fuller: F. Gaylord Cox/Pi Alpha Tau
Rajeev Garg: Donald and Leah Riddle
Georgia Giannakopoulos: Violet Bergquist Redding
Jeong Hye Hwang: Joy and Bob Harnack
Jennie Jacobson: Stanley O. Ikenberry
Susan Jo: Stanley O. Ikenberry
Chih Kang Lin: President's
Renuka Malik: Peter and Elsie May Klassen Memorial
Haley Naik: Donald and Patricia Langenberg
Monica Oberoi: Jeri Parker
Mark Perrecone: Harold Simon Memorial
Gail Reed: Kathy Hill Cawthon Memorial
Mi Le Tran: Fred Garcia Endowed
Sonja Veile: Chicago Bar Association Entertainment Committee Criminal Justice Undergraduate

Association Awards

Kartika Bajaj, Amanda Bentley, Danielle Brandstetter, Elizabeth Garrido, Kimberly Glemkowski, Virginia Guzman, Nakisha Harris Angelo Lambropoulos, Maria Lee, Charles Lopresti, Rachel Maddalone, Angela Meen, Jennifer Moore, Phong Nguyen, Akinwunmi Ojo-Carons, Anne Panek, Rena Patel, Michelle Prestidge, Kristin Rylko, Daniel Swartz, Esmeralda Vasquez, and Sofiya Yaschuk

International Student Services Award

Natalija Jovanovic & Olga Sayenko

J. Watamull Award

Noor Merchant

College and Departmental Awards

HONORS COLLEGE

Honors Council Awards

Irma Ayala
Osedebamen Omoike
Danielle Brandstetter
Cherie Ryoo
Astrid Herard
Nirali Shah
Natalija Jovanovic
Sarah Unterman
Christopher Kowal
Nicole Wane

John Curtis Johnson Award

Grace J. Lee
Anju Paul

Special Recognition

Peter Moschovis
Jennifer Solheim

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Dean of Medicine Award Bartho Caponi

Art and Design

James Axeman Memorial Award
Holly Ulasovich

Art History

McNee Prize
Holly Ulasovich

Biological Sciences

Mark A. Wyatt Memorial Award
Haley Naik

Biochemistry

Edward G. Rietz & Stanley K. Shapiro Award in Biochemistry
Caitlin A. Hamill-Thompson

Chemistry

General Chemistry Award
Jonathon Sensinger
Jane Jih

Merck Award
Traci E. Blatt

Benjamin B. Freud Award

Cherie Ryoo

Edward G. Rietz Award in Chemistry
Nirali N. Shah

Electical Engineering and

Computer Science

EECS Senior Scholarship Award

Rajat Batra
Rufo Calimlim
Christopher Gonzales

EECS Merit Award

Mark B. Mozolewski
Natalya Jovanovic
Gabriel Wierzbicki
Noor Merchant

William L. Everitt Student Award

Rajat Batra

Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science

Louise Hay Mathematics Prize
Jay Shah

Physics

Larry Abels Award

Michele Sumstine
Alex Prociuk

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Naik Named Goldwater Scholar

Senior Biochemistry major **Haley B. Naik** has been named as a prestigious Goldwater Scholar. Named as one of 309 scholarship recipients nationwide (out of 1,176 nominees), Naik's career goals include obtaining her MD/PhD. in Molecular Genetics/Oncology. She plans to conduct laboratory research and clinical practice in search of particular genetic mutations responsible for the onset of malignancies.

Goldwater Scholars receive scholarships covering the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of \$7,500 per year.

Congratulations, Haley!

Phi Eta Sigma: A Delightful Ceremony

by Tara Mythri Raghavan



On March 22, 2000, exactly seventy-seven years after its original inception in 1923, about two hundred freshman and their families attended the Phi Eta Sigma Induction Ceremony. These freshmen were chosen to be a part of this prestigious organization based on their first semester grades (a GPA of 4.5 or better).

Psychology professor Dr. Linda Skitka was the keynote speaker. She stressed the importance of getting involved in research and other programs, suggesting that the freshmen start on this quest to find some outside interests early in their undergraduate career. Her remarks were extremely inspirational to the students in the audience.

After Dr. Skitka's speech, the officers started the Induction Ceremony. This year's officers were President **Tara Mythri Raghavan**, Vice President **Jibby Chittet**, Treasurer **Nirali Shah**, and newly appointed Secretary **Deepak Mitra**. The newly inducted members of Phi Eta Sigma promised to exemplify three important qualities, namely vigor and discipline of mind; care and respect for the body; and above all, nobility and generosity of character. With this promise, they received membership certificates and keys to the organization.

Another highlight of the ceremony was the awarding of two \$1,000 scholarships. Senior biochemistry major **David Limsui** and sophomore marketing major **Anne Panek** were the recipients, and both thanked the organization in their brief remarks.

A reception followed the ceremony. Inductees and their family members mingled through the crowd, talking about their future plans.

See the Phi Eta Sigma link on the Honors College web page - <http://www.hc.uic.edu> - for some photos of the induction ceremony. Following on page 4 is a list of Honors College freshmen who were inducted at the ceremony

Junior **Abraham Groner** won a Washington Internship for the summer of 2000 from the Orthodox Union's Institute for Public Affairs.
Congratulations!

Phi Kappa Phi Welcomes New Honors College Members

The following Honors College students were recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi:

Alin Abraham, Adam Andersen, Lloyd Aragon, Ilke Arslan, Jessica Augustyn, Sarah Baker, Artemis Bakopoulos, Heather Benjamin, Scott Beyda, Erin Brown, Albert Chan, Lucy Chen, Victor Chen, Jibby Chittet, Kenny Choe, Dani Cohen, Scott Cordell, Pamela Curran, Jennifer DeGuzman, Sally Dowlatshahi, Eric Dubrowski, Christina Floreani, Jason Florin, Brian Fort, Lee Foss, Jason Georgoulakis, Bradley Goebbert, Marsha Gonzalez, Nicholas Gowen, Sharanya Gururajan, Marliese Hines, Michael Hofkamp, Eric Holton, Grant Hsing, Richard Hsu, Pooja Jain, Eric Jakubowski, Sridevi Jampala, Tommy Jankowicz, Robert Johnson, Justin Joyce, Shimoni Kadakia, Frances Kim, Bryan Kim, Mark King, Jeffrey Kochikaran, Kristin Kuldaneck, Angelo Lambropoulos, Andrew Liaw, Staci Liker, Anagha Loharikar, Renuka Malik, Chanpreet Mehta, Jeffrey Meier, Julie Miller, Naila Mohsin, Rachel Morris, Siu Ngai, Phong Nguyen, Osedebamen Omoike, Agnieszka Osuchowskaq, Maria Padron, Anne Panek, Joanna Pawlowska, Brenda Peters, Kristina Petrelis, Arun Reddy, Gail Reed, Tamara Rose, Cherie Ryoo, JoAnne Rzadzki, Sheri Safranski, Demetra Samiotakis, Mitchell Sandy, Amanda Schneider, Kristi Schultheis, Julie Schulting, Radu Serban, Jennifer Marie Solheim, Benjamin Stull, Daniel Swartz, Kimberly Szczepaniak, Tonya Tonyan, Jenie Umana, Rocio Verastegui, Magdalena Wadowska, Donald Wood, and Lawrence Yuen.

Congratulations to all the new members!



Honors College Students Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa

On Monday, April 17th, the following Honors College students were inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation's oldest and most prestigious undergraduate honors organization. Congratulations to all the new inductees.



Michelle S. Adorjan, Communication, **Joseph Y. Ahn**, Biological Sciences, **Shrujal S. Baxi**, Political Science, **Heather L. Benjamin**, Psychology, **Harit K. Bhatt**, Biological Sciences, **Vanessa K. Brown**, Biochemistry, **Bartho Caponi III**, Psychology, **Albert B. Chiang**, Biochemistry, **Naketa A. Conley**, Political Science, **Sagun N. Desai**, Biological Sciences, **Andrew J. Fabiano**, Biological Sciences, **Rajeev K. Garg**, Biological Sciences, **Nicholas A. Gowen**, Political Science, **Manu S. Goyal**, Bioengineering, **Allan J. Hazlett**, Philosophy, **Sheila C. Johnson**, English (Writing) & Biological Sciences, **Kevin C. Jones**, Mathematics, **Chris E. Keh**, Biochemistry, **Vandana Khungar**, Biological Sciences & Political Science, **Vijay Krishnamoorthy**, Biological Sciences, **Chong Won Lee**, Biochemistry, **Grace J. Lee**, Biological Sciences, **David Limsui**, Biochemistry, **D. Anthony Mazzula**, Biological Sciences, **Adriana Milewska-Hadlaw**, Biochemistry, **Scott Millington**, Mathematics, **Deepak Mitra**, Mathematics and Computer Science & Chemistry, **Martin T. Moran**, Teaching of History, **Peter P. Moschovis**, Philosophy, **Steve P. Mullooly**, History, **Haley B. Naik**, Biochemistry, **Ajay K. Nemani**, Physics, **Mary E. O'Brien**, Spanish & Economics, **Margaret A. O'Toole**, History, **Nupoor K. Panchal**, Economics, **Boyan D. Petrovic**, Biology, **Tamara J. Rose**, Sociology, **Alejandro R. Ruiz Elizalde**, Economics, **Jonathan C. Sanders**, English, **Bimal D. Shah**, Psychology, **Jay D. Shah**, Mathematics & Computer Science, **Nirali N. Shah**, Teaching of Chemistry, **Steven R. Svetlik**, Teaching of Mathematics, **Kevin K. Tao**, Biology, **Anna Tartakover**, Biochemistry, **Kunal H. Thakkar**, Biological Sciences & Psychology, **Seanna M. Tully**, LAS General, **Sarah E. Unterman**, English Writing, **Ankur V. Vaghani**, Biological Sciences, **Aimeelee B. Valeroso**, Sociology, **Sonja V. Veile**, Psychology, **Serena L. Viturawong**, Biological Sciences, **Russell L. Willingham**, Applied Psychology Option, and **Eric H. Yang**, History.

Phi Kappa Phi Fellowship/Grant Winners

Graduating senior (Philosophy) **Peter Moschovis** has been awarded a Phi Kappa Phi Graduate Fellowship worth \$7,000. Selected as one of 50 recipients nationwide, Moschovis was the UIC chapter of Phi Kappa Phi's nominee for this highly competitive fellowship program. In addition to his monetary award, he also receives an Active-for-Life membership in the Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

Additionally, graduating senior (English literature) **Jennifer Solheim** is the recipient of this year's Phi Kappa Phi Research Grant. Solheim's grant proposal detailed her plans to travel to Paris to translate the works of the late French feminist writer Yolaine Simha.

Moschovis and Solheim were recognized at the recent Phi Kappa Phi induction ceremony on April 18th. Congratulations and best wishes in the future to you both!



Honors College Phi Eta Sigma Inductees

Frederick Bernardo, K. Bhat, Ankita Bhavsar, Samata Bhavsar, David Boren, Elizabeth Bradshaw, Sabina Brkic, Ryan Cekander, Bobby Chan, Brian Chang, Daniel Chang, Christopher Chen, Juliana Choi, Steven Ciciora, Raul Crisan, Dimple Damani, Jacob DePew, Laura Friedman, Gaurav Gaiha, Seema Gandhi, Ananya Gangopadhyaya, Michelle Gentile, Debasree Ghosh, Daniel Giles, Nicole Gregory, Ramakrishna Gumidyala, Shiraz Gupta, Andrea Heckman, Chandra Hong, Belisa Jackson, Diana Jung, Andrea Karrick, Natasha Kasbekar, Stephanie Kay, Amina Khan, Edina Kim, Joann Kochikaran, Jennifer Korinek, Grace Lee, Talia Lifsics, Saugar Maripuri, Smita Morker, Robert Nowak, Rajiv Patel, Vishal Patel, Niral Patel, Nachiket Patel, David Peters, Laura Porro, Urrooj Rehman, Jennifer Reich, Julie Sadhu, Manan Shah, Michelle Sharpe, Adit Shetty, Ryan Smith, Michael Sochor, Sweta Soni, Anchal Sud, Rosemarie Tan, Francis Tan, Divya Tiwari, Sara Tyska, Sheraz Uddin, Brent VerHeecke, Jennifer Vilas, Tomasz Widel, and David Yang.

Congratulations to everyone!

London-Bound Honors College Students

The following Honors College students have been selected to participate in this year's Great Cities London study-abroad program:

David Boren, Inna Burdein, Allison Cirone, Sridevi Jampala, Yasha Kadkhodayan, Alice Kim, Mohammed Nasiruddin, Mona Oberoi, Ilya Parizkshy, Ninan Shah, Kevin Tao, Vinit Varu, and Matthew Wang.

Under the guidance of Urban Planning and Policy Professor Raffaella Nanetti, the group will depart for London on Saturday, May 6. Once in London, the group will live in flats in a residential area of the city. Attending lectures by members of Parliament, conducting independent research, and taking part in group field trips will take up the group's next four weeks.

The students will be comparing and contrasting various urban issues between Chicago and London. This year's group plans to focus on health care, economics, housing, and various other concerns. Upon completion of their projects, the students will take part in a group presentation and turn in a detailed paper.

For more information on this unique program, visit the Study Abroad web site and go to the Great Cities London link: http://www.uic.edu/depts/spec_prog/studyabroad/



Brains & Brawn Honored

Who says jocks can't be brains, too? Several Honors College students were recognized recently for their ability to successfully combine both athletics and academics.

At the UIC Student-Athlete Awards Banquet on April 20, sophomore **Boyan Petrovic**, who is on the Flames swim team, was named Male Student-Athlete of the Year. He was also named as his team's athlete of the year.

Others honored as team student-athletes of the year were: **Thor Solverson** (men's basketball), **Brad Goebbert**, (men's baseball), and **Joe Stanfa** (men's gymnastics).



Flaherty Scholarship for Study Abroad Recipients

The following Honors College students have been named as recipients of the Flaherty Scholarship for Study Abroad.

Following each student's name is his or her study abroad destination. **Allison Cirone** (London), **Rannu Grewal** (Lyon, France), **Susan Jo** (Barcelona, Spain), **Anne Sromek** (Vienna, Austria), **Kevin Tao** (London), and **Matthew Wang** (London).

Congratulations and safe travels to all!



Honors College Advisory Board Election Results

For the first time, the balloting and voting for the Honors College Advisory Board was conducted entirely on-line. Students submitted ballots and voted through the Honors College web site. Thanks to Honors College Computer Lab consultant **Mike Fang**, and senior **Eugene Sadhu** for their help in setting up the balloting and voting and tabulating the election results.

Best of luck to all the newly elected board members!

President:	Anisha Shetty
Vice President:	Vidhya Viswanathan
Treasurer:	Sachin Jain
Secretary:	Julie Sadhu

Members-at-Large:	Raul Crisan
	Christina Ebey
	Stephen Hong
	Alice Kim
	Jeffrey Meier
	Sam Puzzo
	Cherie Ryoo
	Cherie Siu
	Anchal Sud
	Dan Swartz
	Derrick Tung
	Matthew Wang



Additionally, the following Honors College student-athletes were awarded the Avery Brundage scholarship for their outstanding achievements in both scholastics and amateur athletics: senior **Justin Joyce**, senior **Vijay Krishnamoorthy**, and junior **Renuka Malik**.

Congratulations to all the student athletes!

A Wish Come True

by Anchal Sud

Months of planning, preparing, and worrying came to a close on the evening of March 4, the night of the Honors College Charity Ball. As guests arrived at the beautiful Midland Hotel, the Honors College Advisory Board knew that this was the evening that we had all been waiting for. The night was filled with great music, dancing, and lots of pictures. More than 200 people were present, and the dance floor was never empty. Faculty, students, and alumni all helped to make the night one to never forget. Excited winners of the many raffle prizes and those who had attended the ball in previous years all agreed that this event was a tremendous success. Though countless hours were spent fundraising, deciding on the menu, choosing the location, decorating, advertising, but mostly worrying about the Ball, the magical evening was definitely worth all the effort.

Early in the school year, the Honors College Advisory Board decided to support the Make a Wish Foundation of Northern Illinois with its first charity ball. The Make A Wish foundation grants terminally ill children their wishes. After all the proceeds from the Ball were counted up, HCAB was able to donate more than \$2,000 to this worthy organization.

Though HCAB set a new precedent with the first ever charity ball, the event would not be possible without the support of the Honors College staff, who provided us with guidance and help whenever possible. Dean Madia, our faculty advisor, always gave us direction and advice in planning the evening, Jennifer Kosco gladly assisted us in preparing the beautiful programs, and Dean Zillmer organized our funding. No matter what we needed done, the Honors College staff always supported all of our endeavors. We would also sincerely like to thank all our sponsors, whose generous support helped us fund the entire event.

Though the tradition of the Honors College Annual Ball will continue, this year's ball will never be forgotten. As a first year student, I learned about the tremendous amount of dedication and effort needed to organize such a major event. However, each obstacle we met over the months before the Ball helped us to grow as individuals and seek alternate routes to achieving our goals.

(cont'd. on page 7)

UIC Holds First Undergraduate Research Symposium

by Sagun Desai

On Friday, April 7th, 2000, UIC hosted an event that would stand in this University's history as the first of its kind. UIC's First Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, URS 2000, allowed for undergraduate research to receive the importance that it is often denied. In this landmark event, faculty and students came together to display the benefits of an education "aside from the classroom."

Ideas for such a symposium at UIC had been floating around for quite a while, but it was not until this year that such ideas were put into action. Members from the Undergraduate Student Government, Sigma Xi, and the Honors College came together to make this event a huge success—one that would set a precedent for years to come. The URS 2000 Steering Committee had many logistical details to work through; starting with the basics such as setting a date, time, and location for the event, and then proceeding to figure out the details by which the day itself would run. The date and location—April 7th, 2000 in the Cardinal Room of CCC—were decided early this semester. A call for abstracts was sent out towards the end of February, and acceptances were announced just before spring break. A total of twenty-five students whose projects covered a variety of disciplines were selected to present. After these selections went out, the more intricate details needed to be sorted through. Standards for the poster presentations needed to be set, allocation of awards had to be decided, and most importantly, the presentations had to be categorized and judges needed to be selected. Finally, an overall schedule for the day needed to be established.

Participants and faculty members enjoyed all the formalities of the symposium which could not have been possible without help from all of the sponsors of URS 2000: Chancellor Sylvia Manning, Provost Elizabeth Hoffman; Dean Stanley Fish, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Dean Gerald Graff, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Vice Chancellor Michael Landek, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; Arun Reddy, Student Member, Board of Trustees; Honors College; Undergraduate Student Government; and Sigma Xi. Their time, funding, and services all contributed to the success of URS 2000.

The event started promptly at 9:30 a.m. with registration and poster set-up. Opening remarks were delivered by Dr. Robert Paul Malchow, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences; Manu Goyal, a senior in the College of Engineering; and Dean Jeff Lewis, Associate Dean of the Honors College. The day proceeded with about an hour of judging, followed by a full lunch for all the participants and faculty, and resumed with another hour of judging. The judging was grouped into three distinct categories: Physical Sciences and Engineering, Life Sciences, and Humanities and Social Sciences. For each category, a panel of three to four judges was selected that fairly represented all disciplines of their respective categories. The judging for each presenter lasted approximately fifteen minutes. These sessions allowed for students' poster presentations and the judges' questions. Salil Ginde, first place award winner in the Life Sciences, had presented at two symposia prior to this one in the form of talks. He said that he really enjoyed the poster presentation format of this symposium because "it allowed for a discussion with the judges."

(cont'd. on page 6)

Moschovis Wins Fulbright

Peter Moschovis has been selected as a grant winner by the Fulbright Scholar Program. Moschovis, a senior Philosophy major, plans to study in Greece next year, researching refugee public health issues. Upon his return, he plans to begin his studies at UIC's College of Medicine towards an MD/MPH.

The U.S. Congress created the Fulbright Program in 1946, immediately after World War II, to foster mutual understanding among nations through educational and cultural exchanges. Senator J. William Fulbright, sponsor of the legislation, saw it as a step toward building a peaceful, constructive alternative to armed conflict.

Congratulations and best of luck, Peter!

Once all of the judging was completed, Dean Gerald Graff, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, delivered the Keynote Speech. Dean Graff stressed that a common problem at universities is a split between research and teaching, with one emphasized at the expense of the other. Furthermore, he addressed the "self-defeating" notion of research commonly being regarded as the sole territory of faculty. "A much more productive way to overcome the gap between teaching and research is to teach our research, to invite undergraduate students to be co-researchers, and thereby partners of the faculty rather than alienated outsiders or adversaries," argued Dean Graff. He hopes to see even broader student participation in upcoming years. With this idea in mind, Dean Graff ended his speech with the exact sentiments of the Steering Committee as it chose to undertake the planning of the symposium. He stated, "Undergraduate research is an idea whose time has come, and UIC can and should take the national lead in this revolutionary development."

Following Dean Graff's eloquent words was the presentation of the awards. Dean Stanley Fish, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, presented nine awards—first, second, and third place in each of the three categories. The award winners for each category are listed below.

	<u>Life Sciences</u>	<u>Physical Sciences & Engineering</u>	<u>Social Sciences & Humanities</u>
1st Place	Salil Ginde	David Limsui	Sofia Mohammad
2nd Place	Klaudia Urbaniak	Junaid Mansuri	Peter Moschovis
3rd Place	George Nijmeh	Alexander Prociuk	Aaron Berkowitz

Angel Alvarez, a sophomore in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Matthew Wettergreen, a junior in the College of Engineering delivered the closing remarks. They served as the culmination of a day that had been months in the planning.

Ideas have already started rolling for next year's symposium. Matthew Wettergreen will head the Steering Committee for URS 2001. Plans for next year's symposium, as outlined by Matthew, point directly to expansion of this year's event. He would like to double the number of poster presentations, and even extend the presentations to high school students. He believes that doing this will "further accentuate the importance of research at the non-graduate level." Matthew would also like to incorporate student talks as well as a student/faculty panel discussion with a focus on the topic of undergraduate research. Furthermore, with hopes to raise attendance for the event, he hopes to find a keynote speaker outside the university. All of these ideas will contribute to Matthew's ultimate goal of having this symposium receive national recognition.

In conclusion, after speaking to many of the student participants, the general consensus was that URS 2000 was definitely beneficial to them and a worthy endeavor for the university as a whole. It allowed students to gain experience in presenting—something you can "never get enough of" according to Salil Ginde. Furthermore, in preparing for their presentations, students were forced to carefully review all of their work, and in doing so, gained an accurate understanding of the projects and their various implications. Peter Moschovis, one of the student presenters reflected the thoughts of many of his fellow participants in saying, "I think it's a really good experience for young researchers to have. It builds momentum, encourages new ideas, and gives one a sense that others are part of this endeavor as well." Finally, students and faculty alike agreed that they genuinely enjoyed the opportunity to interact with other students and mentors. Looking back on the symposium, Dr. Tejal Desai, one of the judges for URS 2000, recapitulated, "It was an excellent event. I was impressed by the scope and quality of the independent research carried out by the se undergraduates. It was a wonderful opportunity for faculty to interact and learn from students. I hope this is just the beginning in term of undergraduate research forums at this university."



A Fond Farewell

by Tara Mythri Raghavan

I have been a member of the Honors College for the last four years. In this time, I have been a student worker, a member of the Honors College Advisory Board, and a student consultant for incoming freshmen. After participating in these different Honors College venues, I find it hard to leave. It was in the Honors College that I met friends who could understand my concerns. It was through the Honors College that I was able to conduct research with my fellow Professor Richard Kosobud on emissions trading. It was through the Honors College that I was able to do papers and get tutoring help. It was through the Honors College that I became a person. I am unable to say goodbye without thanking a few people.

I would like to thank Dean Kaba for helping me decide my future. Thanks to Dean Madia for supporting my efforts on the Honors College Advisory Board and being an extremely encouraging advisor. I would like to thank Dean Lewis for supporting the students. Thank you to Randi Zillmer and Stacie Williams for helping me with budgets and lists. I would like to thank Jennifer Kosco for helping me scan my homework and working with me as President of Phi Eta Sigma. Thanks to Nancy Cunov who taught me a lot about Current Issues. I would like to thank Johnette Foster who gave me a chance to work in the Honors College. Thank you to Professor Richard Johnson for helping me cement my political beliefs. I would like to thank Professor Richard Kosobud for being the best fellow and nicest person in the world.

I would like to thank those who have served with me on the Honors College Advisory Board. You have made my years here at UIC fantastic. It has been a blast! Special thanks go out to Joanna, Vandana, and Rajeev for sticking it out one more year. I would like to thank my friends in the Lounge over the past four years for keeping me sane or insane.

Finally, I would like to thank my family for being supportive of my involvement in the Honors College. It has been a wonderful four years and although the rest of my life is in front of me, I will never forget the memories that I gained here at UIC and in particular the Honors College. I wish all those graduating with me "Good Luck". For those who I have met over the years, I give one piece of advice, "Get involved in the Honors College."

Wish Come True

(cont'd. from page 5)

Though the evening eventually came to a close, the memorable occasion continues to remind us of the success possible if all of us work together for a common cause. This year, HCAB not only achieved its expectations but also soared to new heights by planning such a successful event.

If you haven't already done so, check out more pictures from the Ball (like the one below) on the Honors College web page: <http://www.hc.uic.edu>




Rajeev Garg, Jeff Meglin, Boyan Petrovic, Shimoni Kadakia, Nirali Shah & Renuka Malik



Society of Future Physicians Announces New Board

The Society of Future Physicians recently held their general elections. The following students have been elected to serve on next year's executive board:

President:		Jeff Meglin
Vice President:		Shimoni Kadakia
Secretary:		Gaurav Gaiha
Treasurer:		Sandeep Bhatia
Volunteering Chair:		Shuchi Patel
Activities Chair:		Toral Shah

Congratulations and best wishes to all.

Sophomore **Gaurav Gaiha** has been selected as one of five undergraduate fellows to participate in the Chemistry Van program intervention in the Chicago high schools. The fellowship carries a \$5,000 reward payable over nine months.

Sweet Memories... Alternative Spring Break 2000

by Anisha Shetty

Here's the true story of 14 strangers who decided to travel hundreds of miles crammed into a van, live in a church in North Carolina, and spend their week volunteering on family farms. See what happens when people have their eyes opened to the world around them and gain memories of a lifetime... Alternative Spring Break 2000.

The Alternative Spring Break trip that I went on to Madison County, North Carolina was absolutely unbelievable. It's crazy how in just one week you can feel so close to people you had hardly known before, and how new experiences can change the way you view the world forever. As the fourteen of us entered the county that we were going to live in for the week, we could immediately tell that it was going to be so different from the bustling city of Chicago that we were all used to. Located near the Appalachian Trail in the Smoky Mountains, the scenery was beautiful, the town was quiet, and our surroundings were simple in a quaint, peaceful kind of way. We were going to live in a 200-person town where everybody knew each other and where generosity and kindness were a way of life.



The group who travelled to North Carolina over Spring Break became very close, as you can tell from this photo!

The families that we worked with were giving in every way. Whether we were working in the greenhouse transplanting plants, building a greenhouse, sowing tobacco seeds, throwing rocks onto a truck, pulling weeds, sorting cups, or putting together hanging baskets, each family really took an interest in teaching us about farm life, agriculture, and nature. Through the stories they would tell us about their life and about their families, we could immediately tell that their culture and values were so different than ours and what we were used to. Many of them would work 10+ hour days out in the fields making sure that all of their crops, their income, were healthy and strong. There was always something that needed to be done, and with the 14 extra pairs of hands that they were given for a day, we were able to help push them forward by almost three weeks with all of our help.

Even though we would come back to the church each evening tired from all of the hard work that we had put in that day, working definitely wasn't all that we experienced. The days were packed with so much fun in some of the simplest ways. Through riding four-wheelers through the mountains, feeding cattle, playing with baby sheep and baby lambs, riding a tractor, eating out at Barley's, playing cards, hiking through the Appalachian Trail, listening to folk music, making s'mores by a bonfire, dancing in the church with students from the University of Virginia (UVA), painting graffiti on (with washable paint!) UVA's van before we left North Carolina, singing (in perfect harmony, of course) at the top of our lungs during the 12 hour van rides, or just talking until the late hours of the night, the week flew by way too quickly.

The 13 other people that I left Chicago with, many of whom I had never even really met before the trip, became my family, my brothers and my sisters... people who I trusted very much and cared about very deeply. While each of us was so different in our own special ways, we somehow bonded instantly, which made the week extra exciting. After giving each other nicknames and writing down crazy quotes people had said in our group journal, I knew I had made friendships I was really going to cherish.

Now, as I sit in my room sweetly smiling at the memories, I honestly can't wait until next year to go on my third Alternative Spring Break trip. I can't wait to form more friendships and gain memories that I know will last me a lifetime.

For more information about ASB, visit their awesome website at: http://www2.uic.edu/stud_orgs/service/asb/index.html



Honors College graduating seniors were recently asked about their post-graduation plans. Here are their responses. We wish them well in their future endeavors!



Shirin Ahmed

I am graduating with a Bachelors in Science, majoring in Biology. My future plans are to attend Finch University for a Doctorate in Physical Therapy. I have been accepted and will be starting there after I graduate.

Shrujal Baxi

I wish I had excitement to add here but I am starting medical school in the fall at UIC. YEAH.... more work...ahhhh.... but I wish I were traveling the world (if wishes are worth anything in this survey!)

Bart Caponi

After graduating, I will be going to med school under the auspices of the GPPA program. I do not yet know which campus I will be attending.

Victor H. Celis

I will be obtaining a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting, this May. I have accepted a full-time position at CNA Insurance Company in the ubiquitous Accounting Rotational Business Associate (ARBA) Program. There are three eight-month rotations. I am extremely excited about my first position, which will be in the Corporate Computer Risk Management Department. CNA will also be generous enough to provide complementary admission into a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) Review course of my choice. I also plan to prepare for the CPA Certification Examination this November. Wish me luck!

Albert Chiang

I plan on working for the first half of the summer then heading over to Taiwan to relax for a month and half before starting med school in the fall at UIC. That's it in a nutshell!

Naketa Conley

Starting in the fall of 2000 I will be attending Washington College of Law in D.C. concentrating on International Human Rights and Reparations for African-Americans. I recently was elected to Phi Beta Kappa and Pi Sigma Alpha Honorary Societies. In the meanwhile, I plan to travel abroad and get a jump-start on tort law, civil procedure, and property law.

Martha Espinoza

After graduation, I will be going to Europe for three weeks. On June 6, I begin working at the Chicago Historical Society under Olivia Mahoney in the Global Communities Project. This job continues until the end of August. Afterwards, I may apply for another full-time position at the CHS, at another museum, or with a publishing company or magazine. I plan to go to graduate school, but I haven't decided between an MFA in writing and illustration, or pursuing Public History.

Delisa Glover

I will be working at Motorola on cellular technology that serves Europe.

Brad Goebbert

I'll be working at Arthur Andersen Technology Solutions beginning in June.

Bradley Gose

I am planning on attending Ross medical school in Dominica.

Nicholas Gowen

I will be in law school at U. Illinois-Urbana in the fall.

Manu Goyal

I will be beginning my work towards a DPhil this fall at Oxford University in neurophysiology under Professor Colin Blakemore.

Kimberlee Guenther

This summer I plan to continue working for the Chicago International Children's Film Festival, where I interned this semester. In the fall I'm headed to the University of Connecticut, where I'll be a graduate assistant while pursuing my Master's degree in Sociology.

Vipul Gupta

After I graduate I am getting a job in Tanzania as an ecological research assistant with a team of scientists.

Caitlin Hamill-Thompson

I'll be attending graduate school in Neuroscience (PhD program) at Northwestern University.

Allan Hazlett

I will be attending the Philosophy PhD program at Brown University in Fall next year with a University Fellowship.

Kevin Jones

After graduating, I'll be attending Urbana-Champaign in their mathematics Ph.D program.

Vandana Khungar

I am going to Oxford next year, probably for an Msc (I am not sure yet whether it will be an Msc or an M.Litt) in Public Health. After that I am going on to medical school.

Vijay Krishnamoorthy

I will be attending the UIC College of Medicine at Chicago.

Grant Lee

I'll be graduating this May. Yeah!!! My plan so far after graduation is go travel to Greece, Hong Kong and Shanghai, China. I'll be hunting for a job right after I come back from my trip. I haven't thought of going to graduate school for my MBA. Maybe I will do it once I get a job that's willing to pay for my tuition.

David Limsui

I'll be starting medical school at UIC this fall. Plan to continue to seek out opportunities to improve myself like ASB, but I'll probably tone down my busy schedule during the first year, just to see how much I can handle and still focus on doing well in class. But most importantly, I'm looking forward to gain more maturity, enjoying the love of my dear family and friends, and hopefully finding that special someone who'll bring out the best in me.



Congratulations!



Julia Medvin

I plan to start my new career as an actuary at a wonderful new actuarial consulting firm.

Julie Y. Miller

I will be a financial adviser for Waddel and Reed, Inc., and I will get an MBA in 2 years.

Peter Moschovis

The tentative plan is to go to Greece for a year doing Fulbright research (refugee public health), and then off to med school (joint MD/MPH).

Joanna Mueller

I will be entering Pharmacy School at UIC in the fall.

Nevin Naguib

I am graduating this semester with a B.S. in chemistry. I am going to graduate school here at UIC, at the mechanical and material engineering department, and then I'll get my MBA.

Osedebamen Omoike

I will be leaving to go on a cruise and then return to study for my Boards. After that, I want to work at U of C Hospital as a registered nurse. I'm glad it's over – boy, did it fly!

Pooja Pathak

I'll be going to grad school in chemical engineering at MIT or Stanford.

Trini Perez

I will be attending law school starting this fall semester.

Michelle Prestidge

My post-graduation plan is to buy a chaise lounge chair in which I am going to lay for an entire year with two big, gorgeous men to fan me and feed me grapes!! And after that I think I will be refreshed and ready for graduate school.

Gail Reed

I'll be starting as a grad student in mathematics here at UIC in the fall.

Tamara Rose

I will be doing research in sociology on youth and religion in Chicago. In addition, I will be working in a drug and alcohol rehab center. After the summer, I hope to spend up to six months in Colombia. Then, in Jan. or Aug., I hope to go to grad school to get a degree for counseling people who have substance addictions.

Sabeena Shafaq

I am graduating this May with a B.S. in Biochemistry. I am currently looking for a job as a chemist, and I plan to go to DePaul University in the fall to get my Masters in E-Commerce Technology.

Jennifer Shen

Next year I'll be at med school in Champaign, then Peoria.

Inna Shyshynova

I have been accepted to the Ph.D. program at Molecular Genetics Department (Medical college, UIC). I am starting Fall 2000.

Jennifer Solheim

Starting this fall, I'll be translating two of the texts of Yolaine Simha, a French feminist/essayist/poet who passed away last year. I will be receiving funding from her estate and just received word that I won a Phi Kappa Phi research grant as well.

I will also be recording and touring with my band, Minim, for which I play bass and sing. We are planning to have an LP out by early 2001. An east coast tour is in the works for fall 2000.

Marc Taylor

I will be searching for a job as a high school history teacher.

Kunal Thakkar

I will be graduating after the Spring 2000 semester and will attend UIC Medical School at Chicago in Fall 2000.

Sarah Unterman

My post-graduation plans are to attend the University of Illinois College of Medicine at the Chicago campus to pursue a degree in medicine. I will also continue working in the Emergency Department at the University of Illinois Hospital.

Ankur Vaghani

I will be attending medical school next fall after graduating from UIC. I still have not decided which school to attend but I am debating between University of Pennsylvania, Emory University, and UIC-Med.

Anita Vijayakumar

I finished in December. I took a month off and traveled around Europe—Italy, France, and England—with the European friends I'd made while I was at the University of Manchester last year. Now I'm working at a start-up Internet company and will be working here till med school starts in August.





Advice from a Graduating Senior

by Nirali Shah

As a graduating senior who has had a wonderful experience here at UIC, there are a couple of things that I would like to share with those of you just beginning your education.

First of all, be an active learner. There's a big difference between being a student who attends lecture everyday, and being a student who not only attends lecture, but also really makes an effort to go above and beyond the reading. A student who is passive about what he/she is learning, will not get the greatest benefit, but a student who is active about the learning, will gain so much more above and beyond the lecture, that it will truly stay with them throughout life. Take learning to the next level, and challenge yourself. Find your own potential— don't limit yourself to only what goes on in the classroom.

Continuing with the idea of going beyond the classroom, my second piece of advice is simply to be active. Do something else, other than school. Some of my greatest memories from my time at UIC come directly from the extracurricular activities I chose to be active in. True, you could spend most of your time studying... but don't underestimate the learning experiences you gain from being involved and working with others. Being able to work with other people, and learning and teaching one another is one of the greatest skills, and often the most difficult to really ever get a grasp of. In addition to all this, you have to remember that often it is the extracurricular activities that bring the most fun (combined with a lot of hard work) to your life.

Lastly, and probably the most importantly, I would have to say is follow your heart. Do what you're truly interested in, because it is only then that you will experience true success. Whenever you make a decision to do something, be it choosing a major, or joining an organization, you always do better if it's something that you're interested in. Likewise, if you make the decision to do something purely because you feel that it is something you "should" do, or something that everyone else is doing, then you are shortchanging yourself. Of course, it's important to keep an open mind and to try out different things so that you can find what you like. However, it's within this idea that you should not be afraid to challenge yourself to higher levels and go after what it is that you are really enthusiastic about.

So to end, I just want to say good luck, and also congratulations. I hope that when you do graduate you are proud of what you have done and accomplished here at UIC, and more importantly, that you are proud of yourself and who you have become.

Making A Difference

by Rajeev Garg

On the early morning of Saturday April 1st, everyone on the Honors College Advisory Board got up to the sound of their early morning alarm clocks for HCAB's Make A Difference Day volunteer project. At the beginning of the year, HCAB agreed that part of its role as an organization of the Honors College was to organize events that would give back to the community. It was in that spirit that HCAB decided to sponsor an After-School Field Day at a public inner-city elementary school for grade schoolers. Using funds donated by Wal-Mart and from our bake sales, we raised over \$500 in order to sponsor the event. After calling several public schools, we were finally able to set a date with William Daniel Hale Elementary School. Along with several volunteers from the Society of Future Physicians and Alpha Phi Omega, we piled in two cars and a van (over 30 of us) and headed over to the school to set up.

We designed the Field Day to engage the students in an interactive manner that would be both entertaining and educational. We also hoped that an event like this would encourage leadership amongst the children. The Day started with two physical activities: 'Simon Says' and 'Red Light-Green Light,' which were coordinated by **Sagun Desai**, who was dressed like a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle. After the games, the children were broken up into small groups with assigned volunteers and sent to one of four main corners. Each one had its very own theme. The Artsy corner was involved with making various types of arts and crafts. The Tower of Power was where the children learned about the food pyramid through a mini lecture given by **Deepak Mitra**. The grade schoolers then had an opportunity to build their own types of food with various items from the food groups. We also had the Game Corner, which had various types of games such as Bozo Buckets, Hot Potato, and Hoop Loop Competition. These allowed everyone to compete for toy prizes, which HCAB purchased with its funds. Next was the Science Corner, where **Nirali Shah** and **Cherie Ryoo** performed a Chemistry Magic Show and instructed an Origami workshop. We also had a snack station where the children could take a break or sugar up with fruit punch or gummy bears.

Although our plans were to rotate each group after forty minutes, we eventually realized that children just like to do their own thing and that was perfectly fine with all of us. The whole day lasted from setup at 9:00 to clean up at 2:00. By 1:00, everyone was dead tired. The children were so happy, however, that they continued playing the games, making the food, and pouring paint all over the floor!

All in all, we had over 70 elementary school children who participated. At the end of the event, however, it felt like 150 kids. Paint was all over the place, food was on the floor, and many of the coke bottles from the science show had exploded. The clean up seemed to take a lot longer than set up. Along the way, several HCAB members had some extra fun by trying to get paint on certain individuals. Although they did succeed, those painted did get their revenge (i.e. Vidhya Viswanathan and Tara Raghavan) HAHHAHA! Anyway, when everything was said and done, we put away the mops, took some more pictures, and headed home for an evening of rest and relaxation—for some it took the entire weekend! Everyone agreed, however, that our Make Difference Day Project truly brought the child out in all of us.