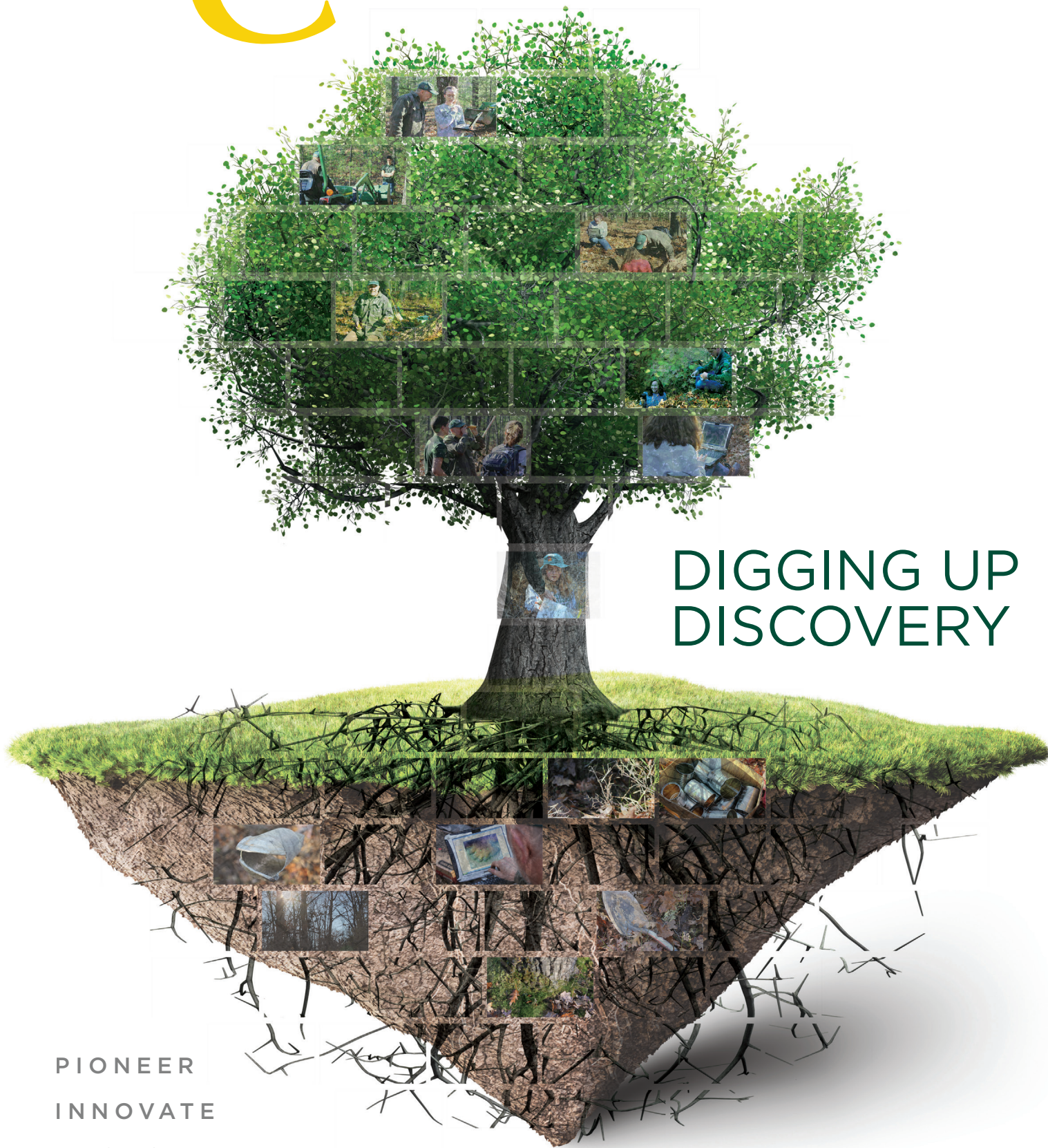


HConnections

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY HONORS COLLEGE | 2018



DIGGING UP
DISCOVERY

PIONEER
INNOVATE
ENGAGE



I was standing at the podium in the Kellogg Center about to give a speech to the first set of prospective students assembled for the Alumni Distinguished Scholarship (ADS) program. It was late January, just 10 days after survivors of Larry Nassar's sexual abuse had started telling the world in their own words what had gone on for far too long.

I was at the ADS program, as I have been the past 11 years as Honors College dean, to talk about all the things Michigan State University has to offer bright and talented students. But before getting to that, I had to acknowledge the turmoil going on at that very moment and share my outrage, concern and heartache at the headlines we were all reading. Around this time, I reached out to Honors College alumni and friends of the college, sharing that administrators, faculty, researchers, staff and other constituencies had an obligation and an opportunity to learn from the failures that had allowed abuse to persist. I wrote that there were paths that could help bring truth, healing, wholeness and restoration for the survivors, first and foremost, as well as the MSU community. I shared my hope that we as a university had the wisdom and courage to choose wisely.

In the months that have followed, myself and other members of the Deans Council had many conversations around what actions we could take to help foster a better MSU. We chose to focus on a series of initiatives surrounding diversity, equity and inclusion;

LETTER FROM **THE DEAN**

leadership; health; and communications. While much of our work is ongoing, I felt, as my colleagues did, that we must do something. You can find updates at deans.msu.edu.

I would also share that many of our student leaders have taken an active role in transforming the culture at MSU — Honors College students like Anna Cumming, who served as president of the Sexual Assault Crisis Intervention team, a registered student organization that works with the MSU Sexual Assault Program to provide support, empathy and information to survivors of gendered violence.

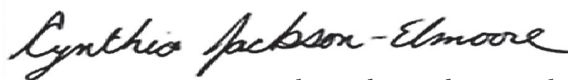
Honors College faculty have stepped up. Nancy DeJoy, an associate professor in the Department of Writing, Rhetoric and American Cultures and an Honors professor for the Red Cedar Undergraduate Research Journal (ReCUR), created a poem out of the stories survivors of sexual abuse shared with her. That poem became an art installation on display in the Broad Art Lab.

We've also had alumni and donors speak up, sharing their frustrations, but also providing insights to me and other campus leaders that are part of this transformation. One example of this is Honors College alumna Teresa Sullivan, a former president of the University of Virginia, who is serving as an advisor to the MSU presidential search process.

Simultaneously, a multitude of broader changes have been made at MSU. While there are far too many for me to list here, please know they are available to read at msu.edu/ourcommitment. In the midst of the changes already made and those yet to come, let us stand firm in a united commitment and dedication to working toward continued healing for the survivors and their families.

Now, as I write this letter nearly a year later and am heading to another ADS program, I know our transformation is not over. Our values of quality, inclusion and connectivity should continue to drive discussions and actions going forward.

In the coming year, we hope to welcome a new university president who will no doubt shape our tomorrow. We can all look forward to this next chapter in the university's history and what role the Honors College community will play in shaping it.



Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, PhD
Dean and Professor, Honors College

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Thank You

During the *Empower Extraordinary* capital campaign, the Honors College received more than \$10 million in gifts from nearly 6,765 donors. This was the largest amount ever raised for the college.

The money has been used to expand existing programs, such as the Honors College’s week of service HC IMPACT, create new opportunities and increase student scholarships — including 31 additional scholarship endowments that have supported nearly 100 students.

\$1.5M gift will support Debate team’s longevity at MSU

An alumni couple’s \$1.5 million gift to Michigan State University’s debate team – the team’s largest gift ever received – ensures the nationally competitive program will enjoy ongoing scholarship and funding support for years to come.

The majority of funds from the new endowment will be used to support student scholarships for members of the debate team.



“This gift is a game-changer for the debate team, allowing us to expand our opportunities to innumerable future students,” said Casey Harrigan, director of the debate program. “Equally important is the legacy piece, ensuring that MSU Debate remains a permanent and significant institution at MSU forever, locking in all of the efforts and hard work of our alumni and staff over decades.”

A demanding activity requiring long hours of research, argument development and tournament travel, MSU has fielded debate teams off and on since the 1920s. An

MSU debate team has qualified for the National Debate Tournament for the past 22 consecutive years and teams earned national championships in 2004, 2006 and 2010 – making MSU’s debate program one of the nation’s most elite.

“Developing critical thinkers could be higher education’s most vital mission, and few activities forge such skills as sharply as does competitive debate,” MSU Interim President John Engler said. “The Spartan debate team for many years has been a bright point of pride and we are grateful for the generosity of these donors, whose gift ensures our students will continue to enjoy such opportunities to excel.”

The donors wish to remain anonymous, but one competed in high school debate and in MSU Debate for a year. Her husband was not a debater, but has a strong liberal arts background. Both view debate as something that benefits participants long after graduation, no matter what their major or career path.

“The benefits of being on the debate team extended into my professional life in the banking industry,” the alumna said. “The ability to present ideas clearly and persuade others all stems from my debate experience.”

Along with the competitive team schedule, the debate program sponsors a high school tournament every December, the Spartan Classic Debate Tournament, and a high school summer camp, the Spartan Debate Institute.

“We are grateful the donors wanted to invest in the lives of students for generations to come,” said Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, dean of the Honors College. “This gift is a testament to the importance of high-impact educational experiences, many of which happen outside the classroom. The analytical and persuasion skills that debaters develop and hone serve them well beyond their time on the team.”

Thank You



“One of the things that really came to mind when I was thinking about what the campaign allowed us to do was that it allowed us to share with donors, alumni, friends, and even the broader campus, the excellence that is embodied in Honors College students and supporting the kind of students who are the best and brightest.”

Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, PhD
Dean and Professor
Honors College

“Scholarships allow me to get the most out of my college experience and truly embrace being a Spartan. Knowing that alumni care enough about MSU to donate back to current students speaks to how special of a place it really is. It is inspiring to know that at one point these alumni were in my shoes, and one day I hope to be in a position like theirs.”



Scott Piper
Junior — Biosystems Engineering
Honors College, College of Engineering



“I’ve been given so much by MSU — by the faculty, by donors. The Honors College allows me to have a lot of flexibility with the classes I’m able to take...so I’m able to spend more time on things I’m passionate about.”

Demi Yang
Senior — Supply Chain Management
Honors College, Eli Broad College of Business

“Thank you so much for investing...it plays a huge role not only in my future, but also the society I’m trying to impact.”



Devin Vogel
Senior— Chemical Engineering
Honors College, College of Engineering



Two days after the midterm election, Pat Geoghegan ('69) is having breakfast with a small group of Honors College students, discussing how important it is to vote, to read a newspaper and always put the date on a piece of paper.

That last tidbit was something Geoghegan picked up when she was a Michigan State University student working in the Library archives.

Geoghegan told the students she always wanted to have a prosperous and interesting life and found that her interest in tax law – and law

firms always needing tax attorneys – lined up.

The students asked her about going to law school and her career – the majority spent at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP in New York City as a partner, retiring as co-head of the tax department and head of the firm's executive compensation group.

The students also asked her about her time in Washington, D.C. when she worked for the U.S. Department of Treasury's Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), overseeing implementation of its compensation rules.

During the *Empower Extraordinary* capital campaign, Geoghegan made

a \$100,000 gift to the Honors College.

Geoghegan's career and philanthropic efforts earned her a 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award.

She visited East Lansing in November to accept the award.

"It's a great privilege to get this (award), but the best part is the two days I get to spend on campus getting to talk to students," she said.

Geoghegan, who has helped raise money for MSU, Yale Law School, the Academy of the Holy Angels, and YWCA of New York City, said giving to the places she received an education just comes naturally.

“SENDING A GIFT OF ANY AMOUNT IS VOTING FOR YOUR SCHOOL.”

Honors College Earns Award for Diversity, Inclusion Initiatives



Ongoing efforts to promote diversity and inclusion in the Honors College earned the college the unit award for Excellent Progress Toward Diversity Collaboration at the 2018 All-University Excellence in Diversity Awards held in February.

“Diversity and inclusion is embedded in the fabric of who we are structurally as an Honors College. From who we have hired, to the work they are tasked to do, to what people bring to the table and what the students and alumni believe in,” said Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore, dean of the Honors College.

“For the Honors College – a place that people might perceive as being exclusive – it is especially important to embrace diversity and inclusion,” added Assistant Dean Bess German.

Some established examples of Honors College diversity and inclusion initiatives include: the Mowbray Scholars Program, a 25-year old enrichment program named in honor of the first African-American graduate of Michigan State University; MOSAIC, an 18-year-old multicultural student organization; and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Advancing Inclusion through Research Award, an eight-year old collaboration with MSU’s residential colleges.

The Honors College has not rested on its laurels and has continued with new initiatives – including its first-ever Diversity Research Showcase held in November 2017.

The goals of the showcase are to increase the visibility of diversity research conducted by MSU undergraduate students, connect students with a peer and the faculty community invested in diversity research and encourage broad sharing of scholarship through the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) and participation in regional and national conferences.

The Honors College also launched the Research Scholars Program – modeled after the Professorial Assistantship (PA) Program and Honors Research Seminars – focused on underrepresented groups of students in research. This program includes students eligible for federal work study, students from urban high schools and students admitted to the Honors College through the campus-based admissions process.

Additional efforts in admissions included changing the selection criteria for the Academic Scholars Program by offering admission to high-achieving Pell Grant-eligible and first-generation college students. Also as of this past fall, Academic Scholars Program students are now eligible for automatic admission into the Honors College pending successful completion of a revised, intentional one-year pathway program. Participants in the previous two-year program were reviewed for admission through the traditional campus-based admissions process, but not guaranteed admission.

Additional diversity and inclusion initiatives include:

- First-generation college students in the Honors College were invited to community events, professional development opportunities and peer mentoring through the First Generation Honors Association.
- With funding from the Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives, the Honors College created the Youth Scholars Program, which allowed high-achieving low-income and first-generation students to attend MSU's summer academic and research pre-college programs. Additionally, the Honors College expanded outreach to MSU's key enrichment programs through specific informational sessions and gave additional consideration for admission to students demonstrating engagement in enrichment activities.
- International students have also been a focus of the Honors College's diversity and inclusion initiatives. The college has seen a nearly 40 percent increase in its international student population, leading to the creation of the International Scholars Advisory Board. The board provides mentoring and professional development and hosts events.



WATCH THE VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J9SAFP9fstE>



The Honors College is grateful for the feedback from alumni, donors, students, faculty and staff received during the college's 60th Anniversary celebration in 2016-2017.

The college continues to make strides in areas discussed during the anniversary, including:

MENTORSHIP



A mentor can influence a student's trajectory. Because of this, the college launched a new digital mentoring platform, Honors Connect, for students to find mentors and get career advice from members of the Honors College alumni community. Alumni can also use the website to engage with their peers. We want to acknowledge the Honors College Alumni Association Executive Board for its assistance with this initiative.

FACULTY ENGAGEMENT



Having more MSU faculty understand and engage with the Honors College and its students is critical to student success. Honors College staff have focused their efforts to engage with faculty and new communication materials have been created to facilitate further interactions.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION



Access to education abroad can be a life-changing experience. In order to help more students make education abroad part of their MSU education, the Honors College created planning grants, which include advising and mentoring, co-curricular activities and up to \$5,000 to defray the cost of an approved education abroad program. Eligible applicants must be first-year Honors College students who are first-generation college students or those with financial need.



Food science and human nutrition associate professor named recipient of Honors College Award for Distinguished Contributions to Honors Students

Jenifer Fenton, an associate professor in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is the 2018 recipient of the Honors College Award for Distinguished Contributions to Honors Students.

Since its initiation in 1999, this award recognizes outstanding contributions by Michigan State University faculty and staff to Honors teaching and Honors students and demonstrates a deep commitment to Honors' student education.

"There are conversations ongoing about how to assess teaching excellence and how we value one-on-one mentoring. For me, this award signals that students and faculty highly value the unique and intimate role of research mentoring," Fenton said.

Fenton has mentored 20 Honors College students in her research lab, including nine through the Professorial Assistantship (PA) Program since 2002.

Many of these students have published their research or presented at the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) or national conferences.

In addition, Fenton has taught Honors students in a graduate level course, Human Nutrition and Chronic Disease Prevention, and supervised Honors Option projects in an undergraduate level course, Contemporary Issues in Human Nutrition. An Honors Option is more extensive or more advanced work than is required of all students in a regular course. Fenton has also taught Honors students participating in a Freshman Seminar Abroad.

"(Research) is another way that we teach and touch the lives of students and their future careers, not just in the classroom."

IN MEMORIAM **Leanne Carol Trebilcock** ('64) died on February 27, 2018. Among her many philanthropic efforts was the creation of the Honors College Award for Distinguished Contributions to Honors Students.

Student researches how to counteract the spread of Lyme Disease

Can the introduction of a small animal predator curtail the spread of Lyme Disease in humans?

Honors College senior Jeremiah Eaton spent the summer in Cleveland, Ohio researching that question.

More than 200,000 people every year contract Lyme Disease in the United States. The tick-borne illness causes a rash and flu-like symptoms, and left untreated, can cause facial palsy and other more serious symptoms, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Eaton, a zoology major in the College of Natural Science, was part of a group of graduate and undergraduate researchers that trapped and then tagged the ears of small animals – mainly deer mice – scanning them for ticks in parts of the Cleveland Metroparks. The group set out a fox decoy and fox urine to study whether the introduction of a predator to the deer mice would have any effect on their movements.

“In theory, if these predators make the small animals move less, these animals are less likely to pick up ticks and infect them and then that will lower the risk of Lyme Disease in humans,” Eaton said.

The data collected by the group is part of the Research on the Ecology of Carnivores and their Prey (RECaP) Laboratory at Michigan State University. The lab, which operates under the direction of Associate Professor Robert Montgomery, studies predator-prey dynamics in urban settings, skin disease in giraffes, how wire snares affect the African Lion and more.

“I think the process of discovery is one of the best things, for me, personally,” Eaton said. “The lab itself is pretty diverse, which I really like.”

During the fall semester, Eaton took an independent study to learn the coding software used to analyze the data collected in the field.



He said while understanding research can be daunting at first, it is well worth the time to learn about it, especially as he prepares for graduate school.

Eaton credits the Hymen and Miriam Stein Scholarship he received through the Honors College for enabling him to participate in the summer research project in Cleveland, Ohio. The scholarship funds a student’s living and research expenses and provides funding during their senior year.

“I wouldn’t have been able to go down there if I didn’t get the scholarship,” he said.

Genevieve Gillette Fellowships Recipients: Mayank Jayaram and Joshua Zhao received the Genevieve Gillette Fellowships in 2018, which cover summer living expenses for students planning to produce a senior thesis or equivalent project. Jayaram studied breast cancer and Zhao studied speech patterns.



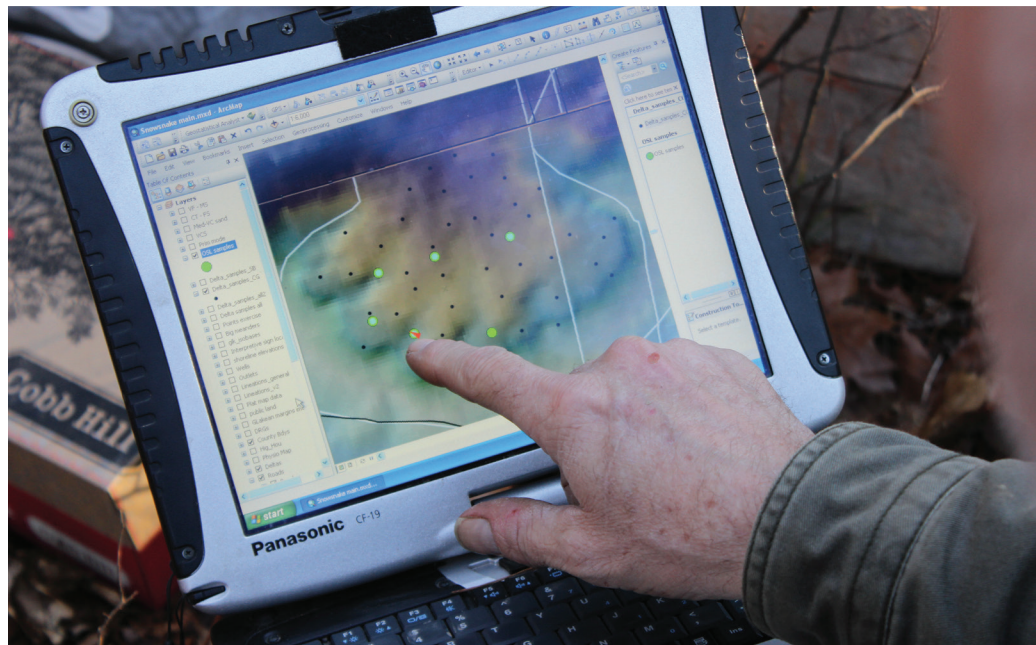
Digging up
discovery

Students in an Honors Research Seminar took sediment samples and discovered glacial deltas near Higgins Lake that are 7,000 years older than previously known.



The findings from 2015 were published in the scientific journal *Geomorphology*. The paper was written collaboratively between Honors College students and Randy Schaetzl, a professor in the Department of Geography, Environment, and Spatial Sciences.

With some additional field sampling and collaboration, Schaetzl and a team of researchers from three other universities were awarded a \$349,000 grant from the National Science Foundation in 2018 to study the area further.



“None of this would have been possible without the initial support of the Honors College, and the work of all those students almost four years ago,” Schaetzl said.



WATCH THE VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AyzyaxYQcAQ>



Alumna pursues new challenges, cutting-edge solutions in corporate world

Alyssa Harvey Dawson ('91) likes to analyze problems and find solutions.

These are skills she honed at Michigan State University studying journalism, then as a Georgetown University law student and then as an attorney for companies like Netflix, Harman and now Sidewalk Labs.

“[While at MSU,] I thought I would pursue a graduate degree,” Harvey Dawson said. “The law seemed appealing to me because part of it is...it’s similar to what you are supposed to do as a journalist – dig through the issues and understand the arguments.”

After taking a business law class at MSU, Harvey Dawson said she knew, “I wanted to do something that could have an impact on a business.”

And she’s made good on that aspiration.

Harvey Dawson is general counsel and head of legal, privacy and data governance for Sidewalk Labs, an urban innovation company that is comprised of city planners and technologists re-imagining what urban life could look like.

The opportunity at Sidewalk Labs to work through many leading-edge corporate issues, including how to better embed privacy and data protections throughout a project, excites Harvey Dawson.

Prior to her work at Sidewalk Labs, Harvey Dawson was vice president of global intellectual property and licensing at Harman International Industries – a company focused on car technology connectivity and engineering lifestyle audio innovations. At Harman, she restructured the strategic intellectual property program, integrating the function more with the business, technology and products teams, resulting in, among other things, increasing the patent and patent pending portfolio for the company by 33 percent.

She also started a technology licensing business focused on getting additional value from Harman’s intellectual property, including its trademarks and audio technologies.

Harvey Dawson said her goal at Harman was to create a tight alignment between “what we build, what we protect, how we do our brand (and) how we do our contracts.”

Her work captured the attention of her peers and earned her a spot on IAM magazine’s list of the world’s top 300 intellectual property strategists in 2016 and 2017.

“How much Harman was actually innovating – I wanted to bring attention to that,” Harvey Dawson said. “It’s always nice when your peers recognize what you are doing.”

Harvey Dawson’s career has now included work on broadcast and communication deals at private law firms, serving as senior corporate counsel for Autodesk and getting in at critical moments at some of Silicon Valley’s most famous start-ups – including helping Netflix while it was transforming into the streaming media company that it is today.

“These days there are lots of lawyers out there and the profession has many different tracks it can take,” she said. “Go for what interests you. Don’t necessarily go for the name. Go for the business – who you want to work around.”

Working for a company with a smart, dedicated team and set of values is the biggest draw, Harvey Dawson added.

Family is another key component to her success. Harvey Dawson and her husband moved to the East Coast (she grew up in New Jersey and now lives in Connecticut) so their son could be closer to family.

Harvey Dawson enjoys family bike rides, teaching her son card games, watching him play baseball and soccer and playing the recorder with her third grader.

“No matter where you are now or want to go in your career, it is always necessary to keep your perspective, value learning from others, hold onto your integrity and find ways to keep family and friends engaged in what you are doing,” she said. “There are going to be some ups and, if you are pushing yourself, some downs. Learning from all of it and having a support network there with you keeps you moving along and capable of appreciating and tackling the next opportunity.”

Having a strong belief in the value of experiential learning opportunities, Harvey Dawson recently created an endowed scholarship for Honors College students who are majoring in the College of Communication Arts and Sciences.





International relations, German studies provide foundation for alumnus' work at Boeing

After an interview with Boeing, Justin Kuxhaus ('05) was at the airport and about to fly back to Michigan when he was asked to return to the aerospace company for an impromptu second interview.

The interviews went well and he landed a job.

"I'm still wondering how that happened," said Kuxhaus, who graduated with a degree in international relations from James Madison College and an additional major in German from the College of Arts & Letters. "I think you learn as a liberal arts field graduate how to read, how to write, how to think critically and you learn how to ask questions and those are great skills in the contract management profession."

Kuxhaus has lived in Seattle, Washington since leaving MSU, holding jobs within Boeing with progressive responsibilities. He currently is a member of the commercial contracts team for the Boeing global services division. He is also a member of the Seattle MSU Alumni Club.

Noting the Victory for MSU line "fighting with a vim," Kuxhaus said, "I'm very passionate about the work that I do because Boeing's products and services truly span the globe."

Kuxhaus credits the Honors College, which he entered after his

first semester at MSU through the campus-based admissions process, for helping him be well-prepared when it came time to find a job. Through the Honors College, he crafted an individualized academic plan that weaved together his two majors and completed Honors Option projects. These collective Honors experiences allowed him to demonstrate how he was going above and beyond in the classroom as he interviewed for jobs at the beginning of his career.

"That's a really great benefit of the Honors College, in my opinion; you can personalize your academic program and demonstrate excellence in what you are doing to future employers," he said.

Having a supportive Honors College adviser also was beneficial, he said.

"She took a personal interest in each of the student's academic aspirations," Kuxhaus said of former advisor Sally Spaniolo. "It doesn't mean she didn't challenge me, which she certainly did. She helped me develop and execute a rigorous action plan to be admitted to and be successful in the Honors College, which also helped me successfully begin my career."

Kuxhaus said he continues to challenge himself by learning new skills and improving on the things he's good at as his career evolves – advice he offers to Honors College students.

"You never know where or when your opportunities will arise," he said.



Former MSU debater studying entertainment marketing

Kaavya Ramesh ('14) was always searching for information to craft her arguments as a member of the Michigan State University debate team, and like her fellow Honors College alumni, her thirst for knowledge hasn't ceased.

After graduating with three degrees – Chinese from the College of Arts & Letters, comparative cultures and politics, and international relations from James Madison College – Ramesh headed to Washington, D.C. and into the world of think tanks. It was a world with which she was familiar, having worked as an intern for the Institute for Energy Research prior to graduation.

As a senior communications associate for the American Enterprise Institute, Ramesh worked on marketing and communication

products, revamping newsletters and developing a new strategy for the institute's Twitter account. She thought she'd be working on policy issues the rest of her life, but that quickly changed.

When a position with Bono's ONE — a campaign and advocacy organization — opened up, Ramesh jumped at the opportunity. She was hired as a marketing coordinator, pitching entertainment companies and Hollywood talent on one of the organization's main campaigns, which aims to get education to the 130 million girls around the world who aren't in school.

She quickly found herself dipping her toes into the entertainment waters, bringing the girls' education campaign to a Disney/Marvel Studio's "Black Panther" event during New York Fashion Week; the VIP room of U2's Washington, D.C. concert and Paramount Pictures'

Corporate Day of Service in Los Angeles. She worked with agencies and focused on getting entertainers such as Oprah, Reese Witherspoon and Chadwick Boseman to sign onto the women's economic empowerment campaign.

It was this new field that has spurred her latest endeavor – studying entertainment marketing as a graduate student at UCLA's Anderson School of Management.

While there might be pressure to figure out what you want to be when you grow up, Ramesh says, "I think it's important to spend time figuring out what you want to do and where your heart and your skill set combined would fit best."

She is looking forward to finishing her studies and using her creative and analytical skills to market the entertainment brands of which she has been a lifelong fan.

VIEWPOINT:

MSU RHODES SCHOLAR

When I first arrived at Oxford, I was amazed by the history evident in the ancient stones of the architecture around me.

The city is beautiful and it felt like I had stepped into a time machine, transported to an unspecified earlier time when there was just a little more mystery in the world. It seemed like I was peering through a window into the past.

Now that I've had a couple of months to settle in, my thoughts have shifted. I don't think of the past as a separate time, distantly removed from my own life. The past and the present come together in Oxford and you can feel that connection everywhere you go.

Eating lunch in my college's dining hall with the portraits of the founders gazing down at you, it's easy to imagine young students of the past chatting about their studies and cracking jokes over a warm meal. Our academic gowns swish in a timeless fashion when we travel as a group down narrow cobblestone streets.

In the chapel, the whispers of students waiting their turn to sign a ceremonial tome could be from any century. I feel like a part of history here – history that is deeply rooted in the past and that extends far into the future. I want to make every moment count, and I'm very grateful for the opportunity to do so.



Clara Lepard is an Honors College alumna who graduated with a degree in zoology from the College of Natural Science and became a Rhodes Scholar in 2018. She was the 18th student from MSU to earn the recognition.

Lepard, who's from East Lansing and graduated from East Lansing High School, is pursuing a doctorate at the University of Oxford and researching the behavioral ecology of large carnivores, specifically lions in East Africa, along with working on community conservation efforts.

While at MSU, Lepard worked in seven different laboratories on separate areas of zoology and wildlife management. One summer, she worked with the Research on the Ecology of Carnivores and their Prey (RECaP) Laboratory studying how carnivores impact their surrounding species and ecosystems in Uganda under the direction of Associate Professor Robert Montgomery.

In 2015, Lepard earned a first-place award at the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF) for her research on the long-term effects of lampricide application on the metamorphosis of sea lamprey. She also participated in Professor Kay Holekamp's Behavioral Ecology of African Mammals education abroad program in Kenya in 2016.



Mitchell Scholar chosen from MSU

Celia Hallan, an Honors College graduate with degrees in international relations from James Madison College and environmental geography from the College of Social Science, was one of 12 students in the country selected for the Mitchell Scholarship.

The Mitchell Scholarship pays for graduate study in Ireland and Hallan is the 4th Mitchell Scholar selected from MSU since the scholarship program began in 2001.

Hallan is from Minneapolis, Minnesota and graduated from Southwest High School. She came to MSU on a full-ride scholarship as a University Distinguished Scholar.

“Becoming a Mitchell Scholar means pursuing the best graduate education possible for my interests and career goals,” Hallan said. “Ireland is a world leader in generating energy from intermittent renewable sources like wind; studying there for a year will help me grow personally and professionally as I work with leading geographic scholars addressing the challenges of advanced renewable energy transitions. Nothing will prepare me better for a career in the environmental non-profit sector.”

Hallan worked as a lab assistant for Professor Joseph Messina in the Department of Geography, Environment, and Spatial Sciences.

In that capacity, she worked on the assessment of land-use classifications from Malawi. She authored and co-authored two papers that were published in the *Journal of Science Policy and Governance* and *Journal of International Wildlife Law and Policy*, respectively.

She also interned with the Environmental Law and Policy Center, where she collaborated on a report about the clean energy supply chain in Illinois and monitored air quality in Chicago to identify areas of high diesel pollution.

Hallan was a co-founder, campaign manager and internal vice-president of the Spartan Sierra Club. She was also a leader of Students for Social Justice and the Environment on campus.

In addition to the Mitchell Scholarship, Hallan was a finalist in 2017 for the Truman Scholarship.

Honors College student earns national STEM scholarship

Gabriel Moreau, an Honors College senior majoring in physics in Lyman Briggs College and music in the College of Music, was named a recipient of the nationally competitive Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship.

The Goldwater Foundation seeks scholars committed to a career in science, mathematics, or engineering who display intellectual intensity and who have the potential for significant future contribution in their chosen field, providing them with funding for undergraduate tuition and living expenses.

Moreau is the 44th Goldwater Scholar from MSU since Congress established the scholarship program in 1986.

Moreau holds U.S. and French citizenship and graduated from Lycée Vauvenargues in Aix-en-Provence, France.

He is a research assistant at the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory and previously worked as a research assistant for Professor Oscar Naviliat-Cuncic in the Department of Physics and Astronomy. Both were related to research in nuclear physics.

“The Goldwater Scholarship is not only an incredible honor – it is an immense opportunity for me,” Moreau said.



Honors College student earns Beinecke Scholarship

Grant Burton, an Honors College senior majoring in psychology in the College of Social Science, was selected when he was a junior to be one of 18 students across the country to receive the Beinecke Scholarship. – a competitive award that pays for graduate studies in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

He is MSU's 4th Beinecke Scholar since 2011, which is when the university was invited to be a nominating institution.

Burton is from Weidman, Michigan and graduated from Chippewa Hills High

School. For more than two years, he has worked as a research assistant for the MSU Clinical Psychophysiology Lab, which is run by Associate Professor Jason Moser in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience Program. Burton previously worked as a research assistant in the MSU Expertise Lab and presented research about the brain and how it processes emotions at the University Undergraduate Research & Arts Forum (UURAF).

Burton also participated in the Social Science Scholars Program.

“I would like to thank my research mentors: John Waller, Jason Moser, and Amanda Flaim. Without their enthusiastic assistance throughout my college career, I could not have achieved the great honor of becoming a Beinecke Scholar,” Burton said. “I would also like to thank Kristin Janka for facilitating the application process and providing invaluable feedback on my application materials. Finally, I could not have made it to college in the first place without the love and support of my parents.”

The National/International Fellowships & Scholarships (NIFS) Office, administered by the Honors College, helps interested undergraduate and graduate students pursue major national and international opportunities by providing information and direct support throughout the competitive application processes. More information is available at nifs.msu.edu.

HONORS

DEDICATED TO RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HONORS COLLEGE STUDENTS, FACULTY, STAFF AND ALUMNI OVER THE PAST YEAR.



Scott Bales

Excellence on the judiciary

Scott Bales ('78), chief justice of the Arizona Supreme Court, was named by the American Judges Association as the 2018 recipient of the Chief Justice Robert W. Holmes Award of Merit, which recognizes "a judge for outstanding contributions to the judiciary." Bales was also selected as the 2018 recipient of the Ernest C. Friesen Award, which the Judicial Management Institute annually presents to an individual who has demonstrated vision, leadership, and sustained commitment to the achievement of excellence in the administration of justice.

Education abroad

Linlan Cai, Nicole Gross, Evan Haase, Emily Hatch, Asif Iftekhhar, Ben Kessler, Briana Magin, Katarzyna Maria Purzycka and Haylee Sieg presented at the 2018 MSU Learning Abroad Conference.

Top undergraduate

Greer Clausen was named top undergraduate finance student by Financial Executives International – Detroit Chapter.



Illuminating Survivor Voices

Nancy DeJoy, Honors professor for the Red Cedar Undergraduate Research Journal (ReCUR), received the College of Arts & Letters 2018 Summer Faculty Research Fellowship for her project "Illuminating Survivor Voices." This is a poetry sculpture that expresses some of the main calls for change embedded in survivor statements that DeJoy read and in those expressed to her personally by survivors of sexual abuse. The sculpture appeared on organic LED light panels and was exhibited in the Broad Art Lab.

National Sales Competition Award



Heidi Surdyk won the individual championship of the 2018 National Collegiate Sales Competition in Kennesaw, Georgia, the oldest and most prestigious university sales competition in the world. She was also part of the Michigan State University team that won the overall team championship.

Adia Alli ('14) plays Danielle in the web-series *Seeds*.

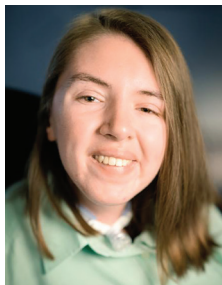
Abigail Barrett was part of a faculty-student team awarded a grant from the Michigan State University Knight Center for Environmental Journalism to produce an environmental documentary on teachers as agents of change.

Isaac Constans ('18) is reporting on government and technology for the online networking website GovLoop.

Jessica DeClercq received the 2018 Schoenl Family Undergraduate Grant for Dire Needs Overseas.

2018 Homecoming Court

Lauren Bernhardt, Katie Frayer, Jessica Gonzalez, Shavonna Green, Jan Mecano and Katherine (Cookie) Rifiotis were all members of the 2018 Michigan State University Homecoming Court.



Board of Trustees highest scholastic awards

The following Honors College students received the Board of Trustees' Awards for having the highest scholastic average at the close of their last semester in attendance at Michigan State University: Maleeha Ahmad, Allison Aigner, Silvia Aluia, Jacob Archutowski, Minseo Baik, Alexa Baylis, Tyler Beck, Claire Bogrow, Gino Caruso, Nicholas Chargo, Olivia Child, Alexander Decker, Gurveer Deol, James Doman Jr., Ziwei Fan, Sarah Fillwock, James Finch, Sabrina Fowler, Christopher France, Hannah Gloede, Rachel Grimmer, Celia Hallan, Madison Hardy, Nathaniel Hawkins, Joseph Herbst, Zachary Ireland, John Italiano, Raghav Jain, Dan Jian, Hannah Jones, Julianna Joseph, Noah Keppers, Audrey Koutny, Marco Lin, Morgan Linn, Peyton Longlet, Megan Makela, Emily Matthews, Madison McKinley, Lindsay Mensch, Tyler Miksanek, Elizabeth Miller, Sydney Miller, Sean Murray, Marianne Nezych Common, Cassidy Nieves, Christopher Occhiuto, Shaina Opperman, Logan Otter, David Pegouske, Tabitha Rose, Jason Sammut, Katherine Schlafhauser, Daniel Seeds Jr., Alexa Seeger, Abigail Shotwell, Caleb Sokolowski, John Stathakios, Madalyn Steffen, Heidi Surdyk, Emma Treiber, Maximilian Volk, Marilyn Werner, James Wortman and Kayla Zydeck.



Honors Giving Back Competition and Colloquium

Claire Gapare won the grand prize in the Honors Giving Back Competition and Colloquium for her project titled, "Promoting Reproductive Health Among Zimbabwean Girls." Eric Locker took second place for "Handchime Choir for All Abilities" and Emily Banach took third place for "Rainwater Collection for a School in Tanzania." Arhin Acheampong and Harshita Das received honorable mentions.

Career and educational achievements

Nana Abena Anti was selected to speak at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) in Phoenix, Arizona in November.

Katie Edwards participated in the EuroScholars Research Abroad Program through the Honors College.

Yvette Efevbera ('09) defended her doctoral dissertation in August at the Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

Hamza Kaakarli co-authored a paper titled, "Assessing Changes in Alcohol Use and Alcohol Use Disorder Prevalence in the United States" that was published in *JAMA Psychiatry*.

Julian Liber co-authored a paper published in *ISME Journal* titled, "Mortierellomycotina as model organisms to investigate the interaction between Mycoplasma-related endobacteria and their fungal hosts."

Joseph Longo was awarded a U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarship to study Chinese.

Craig Pearson ('14) defended his doctoral thesis at the University of Cambridge, which investigated how altering the molecular environment of cells in the optic nerve improves their ability to regenerate after injury. The findings were published in an *eLife* paper. He is now pursuing his medical degree at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri.

HONORS



Scholar athletes

Lexi Baylis, Kayla Janevski, Nicole Marek, Rachel Minarick ('18), Logan Otter ('18), Michael Sharp ('18), Emily Steffke, Matthew Thomas and Kristina Zalewski ('18) received scholar-athlete awards at the 2018 Spartan Academic Excellence Gala. In addition, Sharp and Zalewski were the recipients of the President's Award, which is given to student athletes with

the highest cumulative GPA in the Athletics Department among graduating seniors.

Taylor Arnold, Anna Coronel, Phillip Meffert, Nehemiah Mork, Scott Piper, John Saczawa, Mitchell Strahlman, Joseph Szczupakiewicz and Elise Turke were named Academic All-Big Ten honorees for the 2017-18 winter sports season.



Staff accolades

Honors College Academic Specialist/Advisor Erika Trigg Crews presented HC IMPACT, the service-learning program for incoming first-year Honors students, at the 2018 Great Lakes Regional Student Success Conference in Detroit, Michigan; the 2018 National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Region V Conference in Columbus, Ohio; the 2018 MSU Student Success Summit in East Lansing, Michigan; and the 2018 NACADA Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona. She is the recipient of the Michigan Academic Advising Association (MIACADA) Professional Development Grant and one of three nationally to receive the NACADA New Advisors Annual Conference Scholarship.

Honors College Dean Cynthia Jackson-Elmoore was invited to serve on the External Advisory Board for the Lewis Honors College at the University of Kentucky. She was also selected as a mentor for MSU's Academic Advancement Network 2018-19 Leadership Fellows Program.



Scholar award

Lindsay Tighe ('07) was one of 100 doctoral students to receive the \$15,000 Scholar Award from the P.E.O. Sisterhood, a philanthropic educational organization dedicated to supporting higher education for women.

Keith Ashmus ('71) was honored at the inaugural *Crain's* Cleveland Business C-Suite Gala for his work as board counsel for Vocational Guidance Services.

Jessica Gonzalez was selected to join Campus Compact's 2018 cohort of Newman Civic Fellows.

A complex of buildings at Kansas State University has been named after Elizabeth Unger ('61).



Studying water crisis

Sara Hughes ('04), a professor at the University of Toronto, was awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Canadian government to study urban water management and politics in Midwestern cities in an effort to learn from the mistakes of the Flint water crisis.

University posts

Katy Luchini Colbry ('99) has been selected as the assistant dean for Graduate Student Services in the Michigan State University College of Engineering.

Judith Stoddart ('84) was appointed associate provost for university collections and arts initiatives at Michigan State University. She continues in her roles as senior associate dean of the Graduate School and as associate professor in the Department of English.



Children's book author

Janet Halfmann ('67) had a new children's book published titled, "Midnight Teacher: Lilly Ann Granderson and Her Secret School." Before becoming a children's author, Halfmann was a daily newspaper reporter, children's magazine managing editor and a creator of coloring and activity books for Golden Books.

Advancing inclusion through research

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Advancing Inclusion Through Research Award second place went to Peyton Del Toro for "A Queer Reclaiming of the Chicana Ego." Florence Rhodes earned third place for "Teaching Intersectionality."



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