

The Torch

*Newsletter of The Honors College
Eastern Illinois University*



Dean Lasky

"I am most proud of the hundreds of students, both past and current, whose ability and drive make the Honors Programs vibrant and productive. I leave the University secure in the knowledge that the Honors College will continue to progress and flourish for many years to come."

-Dr. Herbert Lasky

Dean Herbert Lasky Retires After 38-Year Career at EIU

Dr. Herbert Lasky, Dean of the Honors College, announced his retirement effective June 30, 2004 after a 38-year career at EIU. Throughout his tenure, Dean Lasky has distinguished himself as a faculty member in the field of history, as an administrator, mentor to students, and friend of the University. Among his brightest accomplishments was the establishment of the Honors Programs in 1982. During his 22-year span with Honors, Dean Lasky expanded the programs from 56 students to nearly 700 today. In January, 2003, the Board of Trustees recognized the importance of Honors to the University by approving the creation of the Honors College to house the diverse set of programs for academically talented students.

As a devoted advocate for the campus community, Dean Lasky consulted with a series of Presidents and Vice Presidents through the years resulting in many positive influences on academically talented students. Among the programs he developed for academically talented students are: University Honors, a general education program; Departmental Honors, a series of discipline specific requirements; Undergraduate Research, a forum for faculty-mentored student research; and Honors Study Abroad, a program for integrated overseas study. Commenting on Dean Lasky's many contributions, Dr. Blair Lord, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs noted, "Few individuals in the history of the University have had a more significant impact on academic quality than Dean Lasky. The current success of the Honors College is a



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-Dr. Margaret Messer

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Dean Lasky grew up in New York City and earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees from New York University. In 1966, Dean Lasky accepted a position in the History Department at Eastern. Dr. Margaret Messer, Assistant to the Dean, has worked closely with Dean Lasky for the last 11 years. "Dr. Lasky has a magnificent ability to challenge and motivate both students and staff. I have personally benefited from his mentoring and guidance through the years as have many others."

Dean Lasky recently reminisced about his years at EIU observing, "I am most proud of the hundreds of students, both past and current, whose ability and drive make the Honors Programs vibrant and productive. I leave the University secure in the knowledge that the Honors College will continue to progress and flourish for many years to come."

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-Dr. Blair Lord

To honor Dean Lasky, the Association of Honors Students has created a scholarship in his name through the EIU Foundation. The scholarship will recognize students who have made a contribution to the organization.

"Dean Herbert Lasky has made a tremendous positive impact on the Honors College at Eastern Illinois University."

-President Hencken

The Honors College of EIU invites you to a retirement reception in honor of Dean Herbert Lasky in the 1895 Room of the University Union June 29, 2004 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Cards may be sent to Dr. Lasky at: The Honors College - Booth House, 600 Lincoln Ave., Charleston, IL 61920.

New Presidential Scholarship to Attract Academically Talented Students

Louis V. Hencken, EIU President, has announced the creation of the Presidential Scholars Program to support the recruiting of academically talented students. Describing the program, Hencken noted that "The Presidential Scholars Program will provide unique opportunities for the intellectual and personal development of academically talented students at a level commensurate with their abilities."

The program allows twenty incoming freshmen with high ACT scores and top high school grades to receive paid tuition and fees for four years and engages students in a rigorous schedule of academics, research, service and leadership. Students participate in distinctive programming including individualized faculty mentoring and will be candidates for national scholarships to support graduate work, research, and travel.

Commenting on the program, Dr. Herbert Lasky, Dean of the Honors College, noted that "The Honors College is gratified to be able to offer full scholarships and individualized programming to such outstanding students. We have great expectations for their future."

Funded out of private donations, the goal is to raise a \$1.5 million endowment to support the program in the future. Although the financial goal is three or four years away, the first group of incoming freshmen will receive scholarship awards in the Fall 2004.

Ms. Judy Sunderman

HONORS STUDENTS MAKE NEWS

Year after year, Honors students excel in their prospective disciplines and, while doing so make Honors and EIU proud. Here are a few of their accomplishments:

K. Lenee Moseley, junior Communications Disorders and Sciences major from Taylorville, IL is engaged in research on the vocal mechanism with **Dr. Frank Goldacker**. The research focuses on voice disorders involving inappropriate pitch. Research findings will add to the literature on most effective therapy for certain disorders.

Melissa Sender, senior Special Education major from Wheaton, IL turned a summer study abroad program at the American College Dublin into an opportunity to work at the **2003 World Special Olympics** as an International Volunteer. In the summer 2004, Melissa plans to teach in Hangzhou, China.

Jaymie Krone, junior Biological Sciences major from Pleasant Plains, IL, is engaged in research on the *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum* mold that destroys soy bean plants. **Dr. Steven Daniel** acts as faculty mentor.

Michael Cuddy, freshman Chemistry major from Charleston, and **Dr. Barbara Lawrence**, will travel to the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA this summer to study the strength and durability of spider silks. Using NMR spectroscopy, the research will focus on applications to structural engineering.

Amy Buttram, senior Marketing major from Hoopeston, IL will intern with Bandy Carroll Hellige Advertising in their Indianapolis office. She will work as a regional account manager for **McDonalds Corporation**.

Jenny Bauer, junior Management major from Freeburg, IL ; **Kathleen Karch**, junior Management major from Elk Grove, IL; **Janie Davis**, senior Accounting major from Clinton, IL; and **Megan Miller**, senior Accounting major from Charleston will be part of a group of students studying International Business at Maastricht, Netherlands this summer. Students will have the opportunity to meet with business professionals at companies such as **Caterpillar** and exchange ideas with students at other European Universities. **Dr. Christie Roszkowski** and **Dr. Roann Kopel** direct the program.

Cassie Martin, senior Biological Sciences major from Bethany, has earned a research summer internship with the prestigious **National Science Foundation** at the University of Kansas.

Thomas Leslie, senior Education major from Decatur, won the University's highest scholastic honor, the **Livingston C. Lord Scholarship**.

Ryan Ervin, a senior History major with teacher certification from Pawnee, IL is the recipient of the prestigious 2004 James Madison Memorial Fellowship. **Anita Shelton**, Chair of History, announced the winner of this highly competitive national award observing that

Ryan will receive up to \$24,000 towards his graduate education at a school of his choice. Winners from around the country will have the opportunity to attend a four-week Summer Institute on the Constitution at Georgetown university.

Dr. Terry Barnhart, faculty advisor for the fellowship, noted that James Madison Fellows typically take their place as leaders in the field of History and social studies education. "The James Madison Fellowship is a mark of professional distinction signifying academic excellence and a commitment to responsible, civic minded secondary education as model scholars-teachers." Dr. Barnhart congratulated faculty mentors **Drs. Debra Reid, Michelle LeMaster, and Michael Shirley**. "The excellent teaching and advising of these colleagues" Dr. Barnhart noted, "gave Ryan an excellent foundation for a successful application. Faculty mentoring is essential to the entire enterprise."



THE LIVINGSTON C. LORD SCHOLARSHIP

Four Honors students have won Eastern's highest honor, the Livingston C. Lord Scholarship:

- Brendan Aydt, Mathematics and Chemistry Education major from Paris, IL.
- Thomas Leslie, Special Education major from Decatur, IL.
- Heather Robinson, English Education major from Bethany, IL.
- Sarah Sellers, English Education major from Troy, IL.

Congratulations on this high achievement!!

ALUMNI NOTES

1990

Michelle Graham Wright (BSB ACC) is working as the Club Accountant at the Champion Country Club. Michelle and her husband, John Wright ('91), are the parents of a son and daughter.

1991

Andrea Englebright Lau (BS MLE) is a Science and English teacher at St. Patrick's School in Terre Haute, IN. Andrea has received the Most Outstanding Middle School Science Teacher Award at the State Fair. Andrea and her husband, Brian ('91), are the parents of two children, Valerie and Everett.

1992

Amy Parcels Broemmell (BS ELE) is currently an assistant professor of reading education at the University of Tennessee. Amy lives in Knoxville, TN with her husband, Jeff, and her two sons.

1994

For the last 2 years, **Amy Peters Flynn** (BS, '94, BS, '96, DVM, '98) has worked as an Associate Veterinarian at the Walton and Haarmann Veterinary Clinic in Effingham, IL. Amy and her husband Sean ('92, '94) are the parents of 2 children, Bayleign and Donovan.

1995

James Woodruff is currently working as a software developer for Sempra Energy in San Diego, CA.

1997

Maureen Cerven Miller (BS SPE) is living in Fishtail, MT with her husband, Thomas, and her daughter and son. Maureen is on staff at Arrowhead Bible College and Beartooth Mountain Christian Ranch.

Melissa Newhaus Balleydier (BS BUS) lives in Chesterfield, MO along with her husband, Joe. Melissa is the Sales & Retention Manager for Charter Communications in St. Louis.

1998

Jackie McGrath (BA ENG) is currently an Assistant Professor of Humanities at the College of DuPage in Glen Ellyn, IL. Jackie has also received an ABD in English from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

1999

Shara Barlage Kuehl (BS CDS, MS '01) is currently working as a speech language pathologist at Green Tree Elementary in Wentzville School District. Shara lives in Wentzville with her husband, Kevin.

Jessica Nottmeyer Greten (BS MAT ED) is living in Shiloh, IL with her husband Zach.

Michelle Davidson McClelland (BA PSY) is living in Indianapolis, IN with her husband Tony. Michelle received her Masters Degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Indianapolis in 2001.

2000

In May of 2003, **Heather Fuller McPike** (BS PLS) received a JD from the St. Louis University School of Law and is preparing to take the bar exam in both Missouri and Illinois.

2001

Amber Ireland Bartelmey (BS ELE) is currently living in Tinley Park, IL with her husband Keith Bartelmey ('02).

Laurel Bally (BS BIO) is currently at the SIU School of Medicine in a 3rd year residency program in Urology.

Kerri Mauger Matusek (BS ELE) is currently living in Oak Park, IL with her husband Michael.

2002

Brigid Matchen (BA SOC) is currently attending graduate school at St. Louis University. Brigid plans to graduate in Spring of 2004 with a Masters Degree in Social Work.

Currently a 2nd year graduate student at Illinois State, **Kara Lidy** (BA PSY), is working toward her Masters Degree in clinical counseling psychology.

Angela Doss (BS BUS) is currently a Sales and Service Representative for National City Bank in Bloomington/Normal, IL.

While pursuing an MBA at SIU-Edwardsville, **Kerl Wieduwilt** (BS BUS), is working as a financial aid advisor on campus at SIU.

Alumni Update!

On the back page of this Newsletter is an Alumni Information Update form. If you would like your information to appear in The Torch please fill out the form and mail the information to the Honors College.

Please Visit the Honors College website at www.eiu.edu/~honprog/ and check out all the things that current Honors Students are doing.

AWARDS DAY 2004

The Honors College recognized 40 graduates of the University Honors Program, 9 graduates of the Departmental Honors Program, and 10 students in both programs on Awards Day, April 4, 2004.

Dean Lasky presented Honors cords to students graduating Spring, Summer, or Fall semester 2004. Also, several scholarships were presented during the ceremony. The scholarships awarded during the ceremony included the Charles Austin, Jr. Scholarship, the K.C. Summers Buick Toyota Scholarship, the Dorothy Davis Bunge Scholarship, and the Rachael Richardson Scholarship.

The Distinguished Honors Faculty Award

was also given to a member of the Faculty during the ceremony. Each year with the Honors Council's approval, the honors students themselves choose a faculty member whom they think is deserving of this high honor. This year Dr. Vince Gutowski was chosen for this honor. Dr. Gutowski is a professor in the Geology/Geography department.

In addition, during this year's Awards Day the Association of Honors Students presented their scholarship that they created in honor of Dr. Lasky and his years of service to the Honors College.



Dr. Vince Gutowski Distinguished Honors Faculty 2004



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Alumni Information Update

The Honors College and your former classmates want to hear from you! Reply by fax (217-581-7222); phone (888-440-4664); or mail (The Honors College; 600 Lincoln Avenue; Charleston, IL 61920 **OR** cfmkm@eiu.edu).

LAST	FIRST	MI	MAIDEN	
STREET	P.O. BOX	CITY	STATE	ZIP
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HOME PHONE	BUSINESS PHONE	E-MAIL		
DEGREE(S)	GRADUATION YEAR(S)	MAJOR(S)		
	(Y) (N)			
SPOUSE	EIU GRAD	GRADUATION YEAR		

NOTES: